

# THE Splash

LIBERTY LAKE'S COMMUNITY NEWSMAGAZINE  
DECEMBER 2013

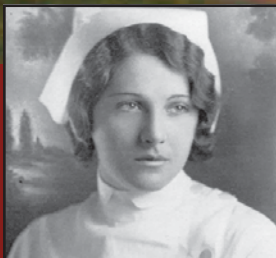
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# 10 to watch

The chatter around 10 key proposed 2014 expenditures as Liberty Lake's budget talks enter final days **PAGE 12**

Likely to be approved with the 2014 budget: \$85,000 to renovate this vintage barn at Rocky Hill Park

A HISTORY  
OF MEDICAL  
CARE IN LL  
**PAGE 22**



CELEBRATING 30  
YEARS TO 'GO  
SEE GEE'  
**PAGE 32**



SIX DON'T-MISS  
EVENTS IN  
DECEMBER  
**PAGE 39**



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# Ready to serve

## Severs enthused about joining City Council

By Craig Howard  
 SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

As a landscape architecture student at Washington State University, Hugh Severs developed a plan for the arboretum near Liberty Lake City Hall.

While another WSU student's design was ultimately selected as the template for the project, Severs garnered valuable experience that would serve him well as his career progressed.

Years later, the Central Valley High School graduate (class of 2004) would emerge as a victor in a different kind of competition — this one a race to join the governing board that represents Liberty Lake, making decisions on how to fund municipal properties like the arboretum.

Severs earned more than 56 percent of the vote in the Nov. 5 general election, pulling away from Jeff Sitton in the bid to replace Josh Beckett for City Council Position 2. Beckett announced earlier this year he would not run for re-election.

"I think there's a strong need for our council to be unified," Severs said after the win. "I didn't think the council was meshing as well as it could have."

Born in Mississippi, Severs' family moved frequently as his father, Jeff, served in the Air Force.

"Home was always considered the South because both my parents are from Georgia," Severs said.

After stops in California, Ohio, Washington, D.C., and Florida, the Severs family arrived in the Inland Northwest in 2001. Jeff Severs took over as president and CEO of SprayCool Inc. (now Parker



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

Hugh Severs, a graduate of Central Valley High School and Washington State University, defeated Jeff Sitton in the November general election to earn a seat on the Liberty Lake City Council. Severs will replace Josh Beckett, who chose not to run for another term, in January.



### NewsMaker Q&A

Aerospace), eventually moving the company from Clarkston to Liberty Lake.

Hugh spent his junior and senior years at Central Valley High School, where he played varsity tennis and was involved in student leadership, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA).

While attending WSU, Severs began **See SEVERS, page 4**


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## NEWS

## SEVERS

Continued from page 2

working for Mead-based Copper Creek Landscaping. He rose to the rank of senior designer, overseeing project management before leaving to forge his way in another field three years ago. Severs now works as a financial advisor, running a financial services business with Northwestern Mutual.

Severs and his wife, Jolene, have lived in Liberty Lake for five years. They are parents to two sons and enjoy boating, fishing and hiking as a family.

The Splash caught up with Severs recently to talk about his election victory, municipal issues and other topics as he prepares to take his place around the dais in January.

**Q.** You actually arrived in this area the same year (2001) that Liberty Lake incorporated as a city. Tell us a little bit about your interest in local politics from that time to the present.

**A.** I've always cared, but I didn't know enough. I definitely didn't take enough of a part in local government. I was aware that Liberty Lake had incorporated. Actually, one of the projects I got to work on at WSU through landscape architecture was the arboretum out here. So, there was quite a bit of research that went into the city at that time. My class from WSU, we all got to do some conceptual design work for that project. I remember thinking it was really great that the city wanted to develop parks and open space. That to me was pretty impressive.

**Q:** At what point did you think you might want to run for City Council?

**A:** It was probably about a year ago. As we watch our kids grow up, I've started to think we want to set down roots and think about what sort of legacy we're going to leave for our kids. I have that conversation a lot in my work right now. What is a legacy? I just felt like I need to serve a little more. There's quote after quote describing how we all owe our part to society. If we all don't do our part, things like our freedom can go away. I never served in the military like most of my family. So, when I started to consider City Council, I thought it was a great way I could serve my community.

**Q:** Did you know when you decided to run that Josh Beckett had decided against re-election?

**A:** I'd actually heard both, that he was going to run for re-election and that he was not. So I really had no idea until the day we put our names in the hat. Jeff Sitton put his name in, then around an hour later I put my name in. Then, it was just kind of wait and see if Josh would too, to see if there was going to be a primary.

**Q:** So it ended up being you and Jeff on the general election ballot. How much did you get to know your opponent?

**A:** Just having the opportunity to meet Jeff through that process was really neat. The more I got to know about him, the more I thought, "If either of us wins, it will be great." He's a very good guy. He earned a lot of my respect. I didn't know this before, but we actually go to the same church.

**Q:** You've been a regular at City Council meetings since announcing your candidacy. Why has it been important for you to be there even though it's not mandatory?

**A:** I think I've only missed two council meetings in that time. That was part of it, just listening, figuring out how a council is run and learning the issues. I scheduled meetings with a few different council members and Mayor (Steve) Peterson and just said, "I'd like to hear what's going on, hear your opinion." I talked to a couple of community leaders before I decided to run to get their opinion to see if I could make a difference and help out. I learned a lot going to those meetings. I think one of my strengths is having foresight and looking at issues at different angles. I realized we have some really smart people on the council and realized that I have a lot of respect for them. I started listening to how difficult some of those issues are. With every issue, I put myself in the shoes of a council member. I read the council packet before the meetings. It was neat to go back and ask some of those council members about their decisions and the issues they raised.

**Q:** After your candidacy was official, what was your campaign strategy? Were you on the doorbelling trail?

**A:** We did some doorbelling, probably not enough. I tried to get out and meet people as much as I could and just went to events and council meetings. We had some brochures and signs. Sometimes it was just text messaging 30 people at a time. I really don't like self-promotion. Even just since winning the election, a lot of people come up and say, "Congrats" to me, but that's not what it's about. I love meeting people, but this is not about me. I want to hear what other people think, what concerns I can take back to the city.

**Q:** Now that you're going to be the newest face on the governing board, how do you plan to integrate with the existing council? Will you sit back and be more of a listener at first or will you be voicing your opinion right away?



## NOV. 5 ELECTION RESULTS

### City of Liberty Lake

#### Council Position No. 1

Debbi J. Haskins 43.17  
Lori Olander 56.13

#### Council Position No. 2

Hugh Severs 56.27  
Jeff Sitton 42.99

#### Council Position No. 4

Odin Langford 53.36  
Mike Tedesco 46.09

**A:** For starters, I have a tremendous amount of respect for everyone on council. There's a great opportunity to learn from all of them, from Odin Langford and Cris Kaminskas, the two most senior people on council, and the others, there's going to be a lot to learn from these folks. I think, as much as anything, I'm real enthused about the opportunity to learn. Getting to tap into some of that knowledge will be neat. As I get to know everyone more, I hope to be a part of that team as much as anything. I don't think it's wise having not sat in a council seat before to go in with

any major objectives without really knowing how things are going to work. On the other hand, now being elected, I think it's very important to speak up when you need to speak up. I think asking the right questions can lead anyone down logical paths. That's what I'll be doing more up front.

**Q:** In five years as a citizen of Liberty Lake, have there been certain municipal topics that you've had more of an opinion on than others? What about the utility tax, for example?

**A:** With the utility tax, in general, my perception of government is that they are very inefficient with our money, with our tax dollars. For that reason, as a citizen, with the utility tax, I'm wondering why are we taxing businesses in particular. But the more I learned, the more I listened, I realized that's a pretty valuable asset to the city, and it's going to be very difficult to get rid of. I'm typically very anti-tax and staunchly for the efficient and strategic use of dollars, especially by the government, but it was a good learning experience for me. I think it was a great idea to dedicate those funds to roads, especially considering that's an uphill battle that if you don't stay ahead of it, there are going to be problems. We don't end up like the city of Spokane. I think it's extremely important to stay up on the roads.

**Q:** What's your take on Townsquare Park finally becoming a reality?

**A:** A town square or city center is really going to start bringing some brand image to Liberty Lake, and it's going to bring in more opportunities for retail, which is going to make the city more self-sufficient. I'm supportive of something along those lines. Whether it's a version of Riverstone (in Coeur d'Alene) or something else like Mill Creek that have put in a concept like Complete Streets where you have pedestrians and bikes and cars, but cars are kind of secondary.

**Q:** How do you think your background

is going to lend itself to your new role on City Council, whether it's the time you spent in landscape architecture or what you are doing now in the financial arena?

**A:** On the landscape side, it was much about running a small business as anything else and working with homeowners on a daily basis. That was a nice start in the professional world. Just the study of landscape architecture is probably going to help me more on the City Council side because you study urban design and planning, running a city government. A lot of it is about community development, economic development. You have to go in and figure out what does parks and open space really do, what does mixed use development really do. A lot of times, they're growing your tax base without increasing taxes. You're generating revenue for a city. In my current role, I sit down with families, business owners and we talk about their finances, life goals, their struggles. I think you learn more from other people than you can ever experience yourself. To me, that's an incredible opportunity and, again, I think it just prepares me to ask the right questions.

**Q:** What do you like most about living in Liberty Lake?

**A:** I think it's just the families, the people who live here. I've lived all over the country, and people here are very involved in their community. They have a really positive attitude about attending events and, at the same time, you have corporate citizens who help put those things on. You just don't see that in other places. It's easy for people to be negative about their community, but people in Liberty Lake have a positive outlook, and I really appreciate that.

## News Briefs

### Planning commission applications sought

The city of Liberty Lake is seeking residents interested in serving on the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission meets on the second Wednesday of each month, with special meetings as needed, and serves as an advisory body to the City Council regarding land use in the city. Applications are available at Liberty Lake City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive, or at [www.libertylakewa.gov](http://www.libertylakewa.gov).

For more, contact Planning and Building Services Manager Amanda Tainio at 755-6708 or [atainio@libertylakewa.gov](mailto:atainio@libertylakewa.gov).

### CVSD seeking substitute supervisors

The Central Valley School District is in need of substitute supervisors, a need that has come up increasingly at Liberty Lake Elementary and other local schools.

Application packets are available at [www.cvdsd.org](http://www.cvdsd.org) or, for more information, call 228-5443.



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## NEWS

## Police Report

The following incidents, arrests, calls for service and citations were among those reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department between Oct. 21 and Nov. 18. The incident report is listed in chronological order.

### Incidents and arrests

• **Stolen vehicle not stolen** — At 9:20 a.m. Oct. 21, LLPD responded to a stolen vehicle at the 22000 block of East Country Vista Drive. The complainant said her vehicle had been stolen from her garage overnight, and an officer took a stolen vehicle report. Later, she called police back and reported her vehicle had been found, as she had forgotten she had parked it in a different part of the parking lot the evening before.

• **Stolen bicycle** — At 9:19 a.m. Oct. 24, LLPD responded to the 19000 block of East Deschutes Avenue on the report that a \$2,750 triathlon bicycle had been stolen from an open garage overnight.

• **Fake gun** — At 2:13 p.m. Oct. 26, LLPD was dispatched to East Country Vista Drive and Pinehurst Lane for a citizen assist. A complainant reported seeing a young man walking down the road with a rifle, so he pulled a pistol on the young man and ordered him to the ground before realizing it was a toy gun. Officers arrived, cleared the scene and contacted the young man's parents.

• **Animal cruelty** — At 5:32 p.m. Oct. 27, LLPD was dispatched to the 1800 block of North Aladdin Road when a complainant reported finding his cat dead in his front yard after hearing two gunshots. An officer found the cat with a small hole near its right shoulder and no signs of an exit wound. Little information could be gained from talking to neighbors, and a report was taken.

• **Night of vehicle prowling** — Several vehicles along Settler, Country Vista and Valleyway were broken into overnight between Oct. 26 and 27, and many items were stolen. In all, LLPD reported 10 vehicle prowling incidents in the week of Oct. 21-28.

• **Delivery mixup** — At 8:11 a.m. Oct. 30, LLPD responded to the 21000 block of East Rockrose Lane after a complainant reported a \$1,200 computer was confirmed delivered to his residence, but was stolen from his doorstep. LLPD investigated and learned that the computer was delivered to the complainant's previous address. The delivery service was notified, and the computer was re-routed for delivery.

• **Hotel theft** — At 8:34 a.m. Oct. 30, LLPD was dispatched to the 1800 block of North Pepper Lane for a theft. A victim reported his window had been broken and an estimated \$850 worth of items taken

from his vehicle, along with an estimated window replacement cost of \$350.

• **Malicious mischief** — At 6:47 p.m. Nov. 1, LLPD responded to the 22000 block of East Country Vista Drive after a complainant reported her vehicle parked in an open and unassigned parking space had received \$500 in damage. The complainant said she had been received notes of a threatening and harassing nature on her vehicle telling her to move from the parking spot. On this day, another note had been accompanied by the damage. Officers took a report, including pictures of the damage.

• **Animal problem** — At 1:04 p.m. Nov. 5, LLPD responded to an animal problem at the 20000 block of East Nora Avenue. A complainant reported his mother was trapped in her shed by two aggressive dogs. When the officer arrived, the woman had managed to escape, and SCRAPS was en route.

• **Vehicle vs. pedestrian accident** — At 8:10 p.m. Nov. 5, LLPD responded to the 22000 block of East Appleway Avenue for a traffic accident involving a vehicle and a pedestrian. Witnesses reported the vehicle entered the crosswalk and hit the pedestrian. The driver reported not seeing the pedestrian until he was hitting the hood of her vehicle. The pedestrian was taken to an area hospital for head trauma.

• **Burglary** — At 1:22 p.m. Nov. 6, LLPD responded to the 200 block of North Chief Garry on the report that a propane heater was stolen overnight from a house under construction. The heater's estimated replacement cost is \$400.

• **Traffic accident** — At 5:39 p.m. Nov. 6, LLPD was dispatched to the 1200 block of North Liberty Lake Road for a traffic accident involving one vehicle, which had become stuck and high-centered on a curb while the complainant attempted to pull out of the Safeway parking lot. There were no injuries or damage done to the vehicle.

• **Agency assist** — At 6:15 p.m. Nov. 6, LLPD responded to the 1200 block of North Fairway Road after receiving information that a possible kidnapping suspect could be hiding out in the area. The resident gave consent for officers to check the home, and after a thorough search of the premises, the resident advised she had been in contact with the suspect via text, but had not spoken to him since.

• **Bomb threat** — At 12:46 p.m. Nov. 10, LLPD was dispatched to the Quality Inn & Suites at the 2300 block of North Madson Road for a bomb threat. A complainant reported that a male called the front desk and said he was going to blow up the hotel. An officer arrived and spoke to the manager, who advised he

did not want to evacuate. The officer and manager conducted a walkthrough of the hotel and surrounding area and did not find anything out of place. About an hour later, LLPD was dispatched to the same location after KXLY news received a call from an elderly woman who said she was going to bomb the hotel. More LLPD officers were called, along with several fire units and a Spokane County K9 unit. The building was evacuated and thoroughly inspected. No explosive devices were found, and the scene was cleared.

• **Burglary** — At 11:37 a.m. Nov. 11, LLPD was dispatched to the 25000 block of East Hawkstone Loop for a residential burglary. A complainant reported a male in his mid 20s entered her residence without permission. He was carrying a large glass bottle, which he struck against the floor while shouting. He proceeded to tell her, "I'm sorry for disrespecting you," before leaving the residence in a truck. The incident was placed under investigation.

• **Theft** — A 24-year-old Spokane man was arrested at 7:09 a.m. Nov. 12 at the intersection of Mission and Holl for theft, two weapons offenses and possession of burglar tools. LLPD contacted the man after receiving a call that there was a suspicious male riding a bicycle next to houses in the area. The officer recognized the man from previous contacts and asked him if he had weapons. He was placed into custody as officer retrieved weapons on his person, including a 12-inch piece of rebar with an axe head on the end, a multi-tool/knife, a crescent wrench, wire cutters and a vice grip. He was then placed under arrest, and responded by telling the officer he was out for a bike ride and was "turning over a new leaf" when he found the tools on the side of the road and was always stopped by officers after he'd picked up such items. He was transported to the county jail, during which time a witness told police a glass vase found in a bag attached to the man's bike had been taken from a nearby porch.

• **Domestic violence assault** — A 32-year-old Liberty Lake man was arrested at 10:19 a.m. Nov. 12 at the 25000 block of East Hawkstone Loop. An officer contacted the man after an anonymous caller reported an argument at the apartment building. The man reported his girlfriend's son had arrived at the apartment and started to physically assault him, a version of events that was disputed by the woman and her son. Officers determined the man to be the aggressor and placed him under arrest for transport to the Spokane County Jail. At 6:13 p.m. Nov. 13, officers were contacted by a complainant reporting several hundred dollars in drugs and drug paraphernalia found in an apartment connected to the

### Calls for service

*Reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department Oct. 21-Nov. 18*

Agency assist	1
Alarm	2
Animal problem	2
Assault	1
Bomb threat	1
Burglary	3
Burglary tools, poss.	1
Citizen assist	8
Citizen dispute	2
Domestic violence	1
Drug paraphernalia	1
DUI	6
Fraud	1
Fugitive	3
Harassment	1
Intoxicated person	1
Juvenile problem	2
Lost or found property	3
Malicious mischief	2
Not classified	1
Property theft	3
Stolen vehicle	1
Suspicious person/circumstance	3
Traffic accident	2
Traffic offense	20
Vehicle prowling	13
Weapons offense	2

### Citations

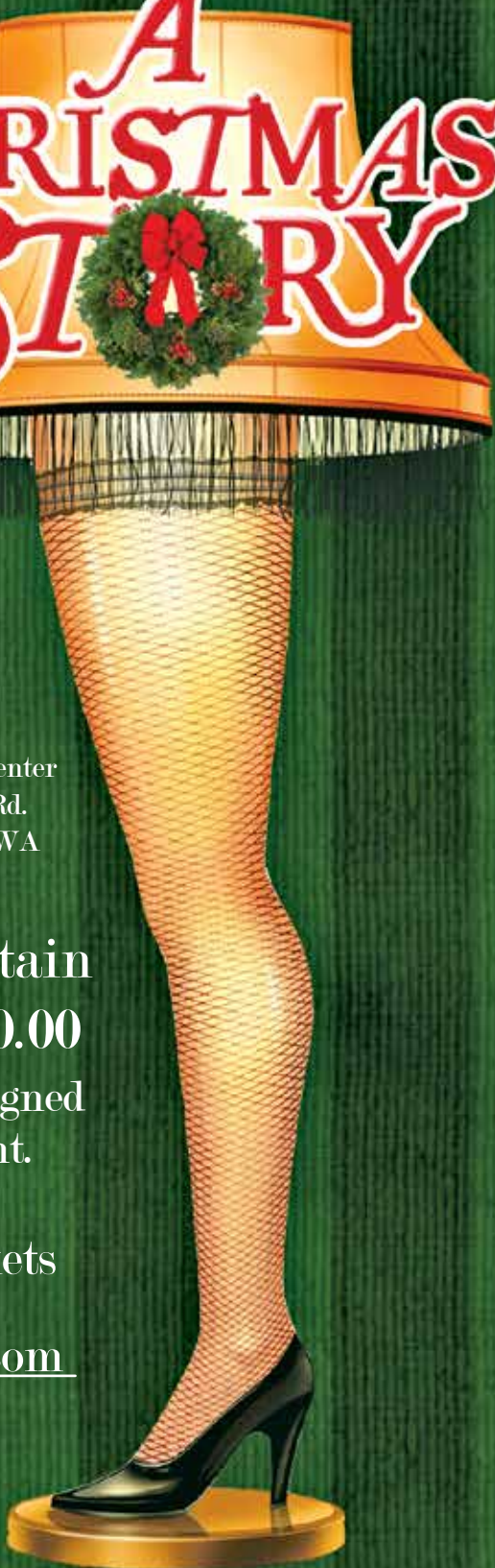
*Reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department Oct. 21-Nov. 18*

Allow unauthorized to drive	1
Assault IV	1
Blocking traffic at intersection	1
Burglar tools	1
Dangerous weapons	2
Defective brake light/signal	1
Driving without license/ID	2
DUI	5
DWLS	23
Expired registration	12
Failure to stop/yield	3
Failure to obey traffic control	1
Failure to wear safety belt	1
Fugitive of the state	1
Ignition interlocks	1
Liability insurance	16
Reckless driving	1
Speeding	16
Texting while driving	1
Theft	1

man who had been arrested the previous day. The complainant advised concern that the man would return for the items while they were seeking a protection order. An officer took the evidence to the police department and booked it into an evidence room, advising the complainant to tell the man where he find his belongings if he made contact.

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## NEWS

# Council revisits, approves contract for ball fields

By Craig Howard  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

On a night when voters weighed in on an array of candidates and initiatives, the Liberty Lake City Council cleared the way for a capital project on a revived ballot.

By a vote of 5-2 on Nov. 5, the governing board approved the base contract for phase one of the Liberty Lake Ball Fields, one week after a split vote had cast an uncertain light on the future of the project. The decision — on the eve of a general election — took up the bulk of a short meeting and included a green light from council on a trio of add-ons that will set aside a total of \$794,258.51 for two baseball diamonds, a parking lot and paved walking path.

Council Member Shane Brickner — who joined Dan Dunne and Cris Kaminskis in voting for the project on Oct. 29 — expressed disappointment in council's stonewalling of the contract a week earlier. Brickner noted that the city has already spent over \$71,000 on the design portion of the fields.

"This just scratches the surface on what we need for sports fields," Brickner said.

Keith Kopelson and Lori Olander joined the majority in approving the contract to KRCI, LLC. Beckett and Langford were in the minority.

Along with awarding the base bid in the amount of \$707,223.94, council approved an expenditure of \$37,055.83 for a concrete sidewalk leading to the diamonds as well as \$11,978.74 for a warning track that will line the perimeter of the outfield fence on the larger of the two fields. A contingency of \$38,000 for unexpected project expenses during construction was also approved on Nov. 5.

"Let's go forth and build the best field we can build," said Langford, who eventually joined the majority in voting for the sidewalk, warning track and contingency.

On Oct. 29, Langford, Beckett and Kopelson all voted to table the KRCI contract, expressing concern with the future of fields built on property the Central Valley School District has discussed as the site for a new elementary or middle school. The city purchased the 20 acres from CVSD last year with the understanding that the district could buy the land back.

Beckett, who chimed in by phone on Nov. 5, continued the argument at that meeting by warning that construction of the fields could present "an extra obstacle" in CVSD's efforts to have funds approved for a new school in Liberty Lake. He added that soccer, not baseball, should be the priority in budgeting for local sports facilities.

Olander voiced her support for the contract on Nov. 5, saying any lingering con-

## IN THE BOOKS, ON THE DOCKET

A look back and ahead at news from Liberty Lake City Hall

By Craig Howard  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

### In the Books (November)

- A weather station has been installed near City Hall providing detailed information on local temperature, humidity, wind direction and other meteorological data. Current conditions are featured on the city's website at [www.libertylakewa.gov](http://www.libertylakewa.gov).

- The annual fall leaf pickup, sponsored by the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District and promoted by the city, generated a record 13,000 bags on Nov. 16.

- Council accepted the phone and IT proposal from Liberty Lake-based Ptera Wireless and authorized the mayor to enter into an agreement with the company.

cerns she had about CVSD not being on board with the project had been alleviated.

"We need both of these fields and more," Olander said.

Council's decision on Nov. 5 also included a budget amendment that will set aside the necessary funds for the sports fields in the 2014 budget. The money will come from revenue generated through the city's real estate excise tax.

The first council agenda in November also included a presentation by Finance Director RJ Stevenson and a brief public workshop on next year's budget. Stevenson noted that the city will launch 2014 with \$7,918,843 in starting cash. Figuring in overall revenues and expenditures — including the cost of the sports fields, townsquare park (\$655,000) and paying off the City Hall bond (\$677,915) — the city's ending fund balance is estimated at \$5,547,793.

### Property tax, utility tax decisions made Nov. 19

At the Nov. 19 council meeting, the governing board bypassed a funding source for the 2014 budget while looking ahead at the opportunity to increase revenue capacity for a rainy day.

Resolution 13-177 included a healthy discussion over the merits of raising the property tax rate in the city by the margin allowed each year of 1 percent. By the

### On the Docket (December)

- A budget amendment will be introduced at the council meeting on Dec. 3 to address \$86,000 in overage costs on the Harvard Road roundabout. The fees were sustained when the construction format changed and additional flagging was required to direct traffic.

- The city is looking at a contract for \$9,700 with Spokane County Regional Animal Protection Service for 2014. Last year, the city logged 259 calls to SCRAPS.

- The salary commission will provide a presentation at the Dec. 3 council meeting regarding recommended pay raises for the mayor and City Council that will take effect in 2014.

- Also on Dec. 3, the council will consider approval of an arborist contract.

### For more city news ...

All of the information on this page was first reported in greater detail on The Splash website, where readers can find stories from Council meetings the morning after they happen. Read past stories and stay connected to future city news by following the link to sign up for e-updates at [www.libertylakesplash.com](http://www.libertylakesplash.com).

time the debate ended, Beckett, Kaminskis and Olander had voted against the tax hike. Langford and Brickner were in the opposition. Dunne and Kopelson missed the meeting with excused absences.

The 1 percent change would have meant a \$3.50 annual increase on a home valued at \$200,000 and generated just under \$20,000 in 2014 for city coffers. Leaving the rate the same means the city can stow away the capacity and utilize it at future date.

Beckett, who led the charge against the tax tack-on said the city is now funding enough "warm and fuzzy projects and should bank the 1 percent capacity for when we need it."

Overall property tax revenue accounts for \$1.88 million annually and comprises 39 percent of the municipal budget.

Langford characterized the vote against the 1 percent shift as little more than window dressing.

"To me, it seems disingenuous," he said. "On one hand, we're spending millions of dollars, on the other hand we're saying 'We're going to save you 30 cents a month.'"

The Nov. 19 meeting featured another conversation about taxes that also ended with a vote for the status quo.

Olander, who has been one of most active critics of the utility tax, raised a motion on Tuesday to decrease the rate for

gas and electricity from 3 percent to 1.5 percent. At the council retreat in August, Olander and Beckett voted against maintaining the utility tax revenue at \$660,000 for 2014. Kaminskis abstained from that vote while Langford, Dunne, Kopelson and Brickner cast their support for keeping the revenue intact.

"I cannot honestly tell people that we've done all we can to reduce the utility tax," Olander said on Nov. 19.

In her case to lower the rate for gas and electricity, Olander said the city should be able to procure \$250,000 from a pair of funds generated through the real estate excise tax to make up for any shortfall. After Beckett gave his second to the motion, Olander asked to remove her motion in order for the city to go over the numbers and return with a budget reflecting the drop in utility tax revenue.

Langford then brought an abrupt halt to the proceedings by arguing that a motion could not be retracted after it has been seconded.

"This conversation is getting old, let's move on," Langford said.

With the motion and second on the floor, the vote to change the rate failed by a count of 3-2 with Olander and Beckett in the minority.

Unlike other meetings involving the utility tax, not a single representative from the local business community spoke out against tax on Tuesday. Also absent from the discussion was the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce utility tax task force, a group that campaigned ambitiously against the tax after it was first installed.

The Nov. 19 public hearing on the 2014 budget included comments from Thomas McLaughlin, a 30-year resident, who urged council to consider countdown signal lights at city intersections. The lights — utilized widely in downtown Spokane — provide motorists and pedestrians with an illuminated countdown prior to a traffic light turning yellow. McLaughlin said Spokane officials had mentioned a price tag of \$90,000 for such lights at 16 intersections.

"I've seen enough accidents on Country Vista," McLaughlin said in his appeal for the devices.

McLaughlin also recommended the city look into the possibility of vintage street lights on Liberty Lake Road similar to those found in Hillyard and Coeur d'Alene. The antique-styled lamp posts could also include promotional banners advertising community events like the Spokane Symphony in Pavillion Park, McLaughlin said.



## NEWS

## COUNCIL

Continued from page 8

Allen said the city would like to pursue additional street lighting on roads like Appleway and Mission as well as solar powered pedestrian crossings at various intersections around town. City officials will meet with representatives of Vivint Inc. on Dec. 2 to address the company's concerns about improving safety for pedestrians crossing Appleway near Vivint headquarters.

Allen referred to a flashing, illuminated pedestrian crossing near Gonzaga University that she said has drastically improved conditions for those on foot and bike.

"We're talking especially about crosswalks at un signaled intersections," Allen said. "If something like that works on Hamilton, I think it would work here."

On the money side, street lights run around \$1,500 each with a corresponding \$20 monthly energy bill. An order of 50 lights would run the city \$75,000 with a \$20,000 annual energy bill. Municipal officials will be talking to representatives of the city of Spokane about the cost and installation of the pedestrian lighting.

# Peterson seeks state rep job

## Says he would maintain mayor's role if chosen to replace Larry Crouse

By Josh Johnson  
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

Liberty Lake Mayor Steve Peterson is seeking to concurrently become State Rep. Steve Peterson, R-Liberty Lake.

The mayor is one of six Republicans who have put their name forward to be considered as a replacement for longtime 4th District State Rep. Larry Crouse, R-Spokane Valley, who is retiring with one year left on his term for health reasons.



PETERSON

Peterson said that if he's chosen, he would have no trouble meeting the obligations of both elected roles, recalling the example of the last state Sen. Bob McCaslin, who also served on the Spokane Valley City Council toward the end of his time in the Senate.

### IF YOU GO ...

**What:** Candidates forum for those seeking to replace retiring State Rep. Larry Crouse

**When:** 6:30 p.m. Dec. 2

**Where:** Spokane Events and Catering Center, 10514 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane Valley

**For more:** 879-4614

"The mayor's job is a part-time job; the Legislature is a part-time job — meld them together to some extent," he said.

Peterson added that during his first term as mayor, he worked a full-time job in pharmaceutical sales at the same time.

"Now I'm basically retired," he said. "I love my job as mayor, and I'm not going to leave my job as mayor."

By state law, the process for filling the remainder of Crouse's term falls first to his party's precinct committee officers in the 4th District. Those officers are scheduled to meet Dec. 7 to vote and narrow the field of six candidates down to three finalists.

Those finalists will then interview before the Spokane County Board of Commissioners, who will select one to serve until they can face election in November 2014.

The six candidates who have expressed interest include Peterson, former Spokane Valley Mayor Diana Wilhite, outgoing Spokane Valley Mayor Tom Towey, Spokane Valley Planning Commissioner and public school teacher Bob McCaslin Jr. (the aforementioned senator's son), Spokane County Jail Medical Director Cris Kennedy and Leonard Christian, a Realtor and retired United States Air Force master sergeant.

Peterson was part of a forum Nov. 18 featuring the candidates; a second will be held Dec. 2 (see breakout box). Peterson said his views distinguished from his opponents at the initial meeting in part because of his focus on the state's transportation plan — and particularly Peterson's support of a gas tax to fund it.

"This is something you can control at the pump," he said. "... We've got to be a part of the solution (to funding transportation projects). You don't just stick your head in the sand and say, 'That tax is bad. No matter what tax comes out, it will probably go to a vote of the people. No one likes taxes, but everybody likes good roads.'"

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**STEP 3:** Take pride in knowing you are supporting worthwhile local causes. All proceeds benefit the Liberty Lake Kiwanis Scholarship Fund and the Liberty Lake Municipal Library.

**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION:**

Contact Charmaine Peterson at [charmainepeterson@mac.com](mailto:charmainepeterson@mac.com) or 255-1400, or visit [www.libertylakekiwanis.org](http://www.libertylakekiwanis.org)



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# Budget bracketology

## Top 10 proposed city expenditures for 2014

By Craig Howard  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Each fall, proposed expenditures in the upcoming Liberty Lake budget soar through the air like bugs on an interstate highway.

Ultimately, some stick and others don't.

There have been certain years when the process has included recommendations that don't quite fly with most residents — like prospective cuts to city institutions. In 2010, with city revenues reflecting the effects of a nationwide recession, Mayor Wendy Van Orman's financial strategy revealed major reductions at the municipal library and Trailhead at Liberty Lake Golf Course. The cutbacks were eventually tempered after a storm of citizen concern. The following year, a key — though embattled — revenue source went through a transition of its own as the utility tax rate was lowered from 6 to 3 percent.

These days, Mayor Steve Peterson uses phrases like “staying ahead of the curve” and “a concisely transparent approach to spending” that defined his first terms at City Hall from 2001 through 2007. Peterson's proposed budget for 2014 includes funds for trademark Liberty Lake features like greenspace, infrastructure and community gathering places.

While the City Council has until Dec. 31 to approve next year's budget, certain expenditures — like \$100,000 for artwork at the Harvard Road roundabout — have already been ushered aside. Other projects, like the Liberty Lake Ball Fields, have experienced some turbulence in the weeks leading up to the final confirmation. Meanwhile, the governing board has seen the

importance of adding dollars in some cases, such as \$130,000 for restroom facilities at a potential Townsquare Park in the middle of the city.

While conjecture over the budget may not match the frenzied speculation that accompanies the college basketball bracket each March, there is always a certain element of spectator sport that surrounds City Hall before the end of the year. This month, instead of the Road to the Final Four, the Splash has mapped out the “Trail to the Top 10” — our picks for the best of the budget in 2014. Only time will tell what items are fortunate enough to be approved and move on.

As with bracketology, opinions and fan support can vary widely.

### 1. Liberty Lake Ball Fields

**BACKGROUND:** City Council voted 5-2 on Nov. 5 to move ahead with the construction contract for two baseball diamonds on property purchased from the Central Valley School District last year. The project was briefly tabled a week earlier when a split council vote (the board was one short of a full quorum) put the bid in limbo. Some on council — including Odin Langford and Josh Beckett — continue to express concerns over what may happen to the fields if and when CVSD reclaims the land. Meanwhile, proponents of the project say the fields will mean a long overdue local venue for community teams.

**TIMELINE:** Construction to begin in spring of 2014, depending on the weather. Contract stipulates 85 days from start to completion.

**PRICE TAG:** The city has already spent \$71,000 on design work. The contract with KRCI LLC consists of \$794,258.51 for the fields, a parking lot, paved walking path, warning track bordering one out-field fence and construction contingencies.

### DECISION TIME

The Liberty Lake City Council is expected to cement its decision on the 10 items featured in this story, and much more during the month of December. While the deadline for approving the 2014 municipal budget is Dec. 31, official passage is expected at the Dec. 3 or Dec. 17 regular meeting.



This scheme shows the proposed layout of the Liberty Lake Ball Fields the city plans to develop in the vacant lot next to Liberty Lake Elementary School.

SUBMITTED RENDERING



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

A long-vacant patch of land that backdrops the Liberty Lake Farmers Market would get its first taste of development in 2014 as Town Square Park, if funds are allocated in the budget.

### CITY HALL CHATTER:

“One of our tenants at the beginning of 2012 was to take brown fields and turn them into green fields — this is one of those success stories.” — Mayor Steve Peterson

“We should wait for the school district to determine if that site will be considered in the 2015 bond before we spend any city resources to construct these fields.” — Council Member Josh Beckett

“Another great partnership project.” Council Member Cris Kaminskas

“Way beyond what any elementary or middle school would need or build if it was on their own dime.” — Mayor Pro Tem Odin Langford

“I'm excited to build something that our community can be proud of.” — City Administrator Katy Allen

### 2. Town Square Park

**BACKGROUND:** The city purchased 6.4 acres along Meadowwood Lane in 2005 for \$1.75 million. Since then, not much has happened on this patch of land that serves as a dusky backdrop to the Liberty Lake Farmers Market. A capital bond that would have generated \$9.8 million for the construction of a community center and library on the site was resoundingly voted down in 2008. Allen presented council with scaled-down plans for the property in September. That presentation morphed into a proposal to add 39 parking spaces, a grass amphitheater, trails and landscaping on 2 of the 6.4 acres.

**TIMELINE:** Construction bid to go out in February or March of 2014; bid to be awarded in April or May with the project to be completed by the end of the summer.

**PRICE TAG:** The budget of \$785,000 would be slightly defrayed by a contribution from the Spokane Transit Authority in the amount of \$80,000. The city's portion would come from real estate excise tax (\$580,000), general fund (\$170,000) and the stormwater fund (\$35,000).

### CITY HALL CHATTER:

“Even though a partial improvement to the 6.4 acres would utilize land that is currently not being used, I am not convinced that we should start a project without planning for the entire property.” — Council Member Keith Kopelson

“There are so many advantages to this project — parking for STA, a park for our residents that live in that area of town who don't have a park right now, Farmers Market and more.” — City Administrator Allen

“With considerable needs within the city like road repairs and lack of street lighting, building this park makes no sense to me.” — Council Member Beckett

“Community response to this project has been very good.” — Mayor Peterson

“Another example of a nice, feel good, but unnecessary project.” — Council Member Langford

See BUDGET, page 13

## COVER STORY



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

The current draft of the 2014 budget calls for \$265,000 in improvements to Pavillion Park.

A second installment of the Fallen Heroes Circuit Course, like this one at Rocky Hill Park, is slated to be put in at Pavillion Park in 2014. The completed course would one day honor veterans from every branch of the United States military.

Trailhead Golf Course could receive driving range and equipment upgrades in the 2014 budget.

## BUDGET

Continued from page 12

### 3. Improvements at Pavillion Park and Rocky Hill Park

**BACKGROUND:** With park use increasing significantly over the past year, the city is turning its attention to greenspace improvements that go beyond mowing lawns and pruning trees. Upgrades at Pavillion Park — now 20 years old — would include lighting, a permanent concession facility, improved drainage and landscaping. At Rocky Hill Park, the main project would involve structurally securing a vintage barn. The renovated building would be used for equipment storage. An engineering class at the Spokane Valley campus of ITT Technical Institute is working on a conceptual design for the barn.

**TIMELINE:** Projects to be addressed in spring, summer and fall of 2014. Some of the work would be done in-house.

**PRICE TAG:** \$265,000 for Pavillion Park; \$85,000 for the barn renovation at Rocky Hill Park and another \$20,000 for signage and additional community garden plots.

#### CITY HALL CHATTER:

“The projects that we have here, they’re not one big, mass project — they’re in their own little silos.” — Mayor Peterson

“The city is growing, and we are increasing the areas that need maintenance.” — Council Member Kopelson

“Needed infrastructure maintenance, something that will impact future parks and ball fields.” — Council Member Langford

### 4. Fallen Heroes Circuit Course at Pavillion Park

**BACKGROUND:** The first installment of this outdoor exercise course premiered at Rocky Hill Park this year and features a salute to

the Marines. The next project will honor the Air Force. Former Marine and current Liberty Lake resident Bob Wiese is the catalyst of a Fallen Heroes committee that will address the logistics and some of the fundraising related to the Pavillion Park installment.

**TIMELINE:** Construction would start sometime in March with completion by the end of May.

**PRICE TAG:** City Council has already set aside \$35,000 for this project. The remainder of the \$39,432 cost will be raised by the Fallen Heroes community committee.

#### CITY HALL CHATTER:

“Great project — looking forward to another great partnership with the community committee.” — Council Member Kaminskas

“I believe these Fallen Hero projects are very important and play an important role in honoring our armed services heroes and providing an excellent community venue to keep or get in good physical shape.” — Council Member Kopelson

“Fallen Heroes honors those who have sacrificed so we can have the freedoms in our communities.” — Mayor Peterson

### 5. Design work for improvements on Appleway Avenue and Liberty Lake Road

**BACKGROUND:** While no street capital projects are scheduled for 2014, the city is hoping to get the ball rolling on future upgrades for two of the most traveled roads in town. In addition to a new layer of asphalt on each surface, the work on Appleway would also address pedestrian safety and lighting.

**TIMELINE:** The conceptual work for both projects would be completed next year. With council approval and sufficient funding, construction could begin in 2015. The cost-effective blend of renovating two ma-

ior roads concurrently would follow in the footsteps of Valleyway and Mission this year. On the money side, the city received good news from the Transportation Improvement Board on Nov. 22 as a grant for \$1,321,742 was awarded for Appleway improvements. Overall cost of the project is \$2,162,000.

**PRICE TAG:** The blueprint phase for these two projects totals \$214,000, with Appleway checking in at \$164,000 and Liberty Lake Road running \$50,000.

#### CITY HALL CHATTER:

“These roads need to be addressed sooner rather than later.” — Council Member Beckett

“On Appleway, we want to look at safety improvements for both motorists and pedestrians. That would include lighting, channelization — those kinds of things.” — City Administrator Allen

“As long as this is for maintenance and improved traffic flow, not a redesign, it’s overdue.” — Council Member Kaminskas

### 6. Equipment purchases, upgrades at Trailhead Golf Course

**BACKGROUND:** Purchased a year after the city incorporated in 2001, Trailhead at Liberty Lake has emerged as a top-flight executive golf course and an increasingly profitable city resource. “We had a very, very good year at Trailhead,” said Allen, when describing annual revenue that has gone from \$165,000 in the venue’s first year under the city to around \$500,000 in 2013. Plans for next year include raising the tee boxes on the grassy area of the driving range, upgrades to fencing and bringing in a new fleet of golf carts as well as an aerator and fairway mower.

**TIMELINE:** Most of the improvements will be made in the spring with some of the driv-

ing range renovation taking place earlier.

**PRICE TAG:** The total for Trailhead is \$150,000, with golf carts (\$55,000) topping the list. A new mower (\$45,000), aerator (\$25,000) and fencing (\$10,000) round out the bill.

#### CITY HALL CHATTER:

“We need to keep it maintained and updated to serve its customers. We want our customers to stay and use the facility as well as attracting new customers.” — Council Member Kopelson

“Trailhead continues to be a significant draw to our city and it’s important that we maintain the course that so many people travel to Liberty Lake to enjoy.” — Council Member Beckett

“OK, if kept within reason.” — Council Member Langford

### 7. Retirement of the debt for City Hall property

**BACKGROUND:** Next June will be the first opportunity for the city to pay off the existing bond for City Hall without paying the full interest. Municipal employees have called the 7,600-square-foot building home since October 2004. At the end of 2012, a budget amendment set aside the necessary funds to retire the bond.

**PRICE TAG:** A \$674,000 payment in 2014 will mean the city saving \$73,000 in interest.

#### CITY HALL CHATTER:

“The nice thing is that we won’t have a payment on City Hall anymore, and it stays in the community.” — Mayor Peterson

“If we have the ability to eliminate debt, I think it important that we take advantage of that.” — Council Member Kopelson

“Looking forward to calling Dave Ramsey one day to say that the city of Liberty Lake is debt free.” — Council Member Kaminskas

**See BUDGET, page 14**

## COVER STORY



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

With growing amounts of green space, the budget for city maintenance crew looks to increase again in 2014.

## BUDGET

Continued from page 13

### 8. Addition of half-a-dozen parks maintenance workers, bringing the total to 20

**BACKGROUND:** Another investment in the city's "Three T" theme of trees, turf and trails. The increase in staff will also help address the care required at the Harvard Road roundabout and two new baseball fields.

**TIMELINE:** Hiring will be staggered and hinge on the weather and corresponding maintenance requirements.

**PRICE TAG:** Approximately \$100,000

**CITY HALL CHATTER:**

"If they are seasonal employees only. Obviously, new projects require additional maintenance, labor and equipment, which needs to be included in overall costs." — Council Member Langford

"If this is what is needed to keep our greenspace well-maintained, then I support it." — Council Member Kaminskas

"We can't just maintain our parks, we want to make them better." — Mayor Peterson

### 9. Reading Garden at Liberty Lake Library

**BACKGROUND:** After the addition of an entryway at the library this year, the construction of a Reading Garden would continue to transform a venue that once stood



SUBMITTED RENDERING

An outdoor reading garden is in the works at Liberty Lake Municipal Library. Private funding and donations raised by the Liberty Lake Library Foundation are expected to help share the \$31,000 price tag with the city.

as a warehouse. The garden would be built on the north side of the entry area near the front of the building and include a mix of stone, concrete and vegetation.

**TIMELINE:** Construction would likely begin in May or June with a 30- to 40-day timeline.

**PRICE TAG:** The city and Liberty Lake Library Foundation would share the \$31,000 cost.

**CITY HALL CHATTER:**

"We have invested a substantial amount of money in the library, and it has been well utilized. The patron counts continue to increase and more space is needed." — Council Member Kopelson

"The library continues to evolve and to offer more and more services to our community, and this garden will provide a nice addition to our library." — Council Member Beckett

"From the Foundation's standpoint, there has been talk about an area where people could enjoy sitting outside and reading. I'm a proponent of anything to do with the library." — Mayor Peterson

### 10. Pay raises for the mayor and City Council

**BACKGROUND:** Compensation for both mayor and City Council has remained unchanged since Liberty Lake incorporated in 2001 with both levels currently trailing most similarly populated cities in Washington. An independent, three-member salary commission concluded this fall that the mayor's salary should be increased from \$750 to \$1,250 per month while pay for representatives of City Council should go from \$250 to \$400 a month.

**TIMELINE:** By state law, the recommendation of a salary commission is automatically included in the budget and cannot be voted on by council. Pay increases will take effect

### OTHER COUNCIL OPINION?

Council members Dan Dunne and Shane Brickner did not respond to requests for comment regarding this story. Council Member Lori Olander sent thoughts in writing on the entire 2014 budget as opposed to discussing the specific projects in the following statement:

"I find it interesting that the amount of utility tax we collect (\$660,000) is about the amount we are now talking about spending on new projects and increased staffing. So, yes we are spending the utility tax on street maintenance, but what we are really doing is freeing up that huge amount of money so we can spend it on other projects. I cannot support that amount of spending. We can easily find enough money in the budget to decrease the utility tax at least by 25 percent. I have suggested dropping gas and electric from 3 percent to 1.5 percent. That would benefit both businesses and residents and bring us closer to the amount charged in Spokane Valley."

in January.

**PRICE TAG:** Taken over 12 months, the pay raises will translate to an additional \$12,600 per year on the council side and \$6,000 for the mayor, totaling \$18,600 for 2014.

**CITY HALL CHATTER:**

"No opinion — when I first applied and interviewed for a council position in 2009, I didn't know there was any pay." — Council Member Kaminskas

"It's time. We are expanding and the time requirements for elected officials are more demanding." — Council Member Langford

"The independent committee gave the issue careful consideration prior to their recommendation, which appears to be modest and in line with similar sized cities." — Council Member Kopelson



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## Calendar of Events

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### Nov. 28 | Thanksgiving

##### Nov. 28 | Free Thanksgiving dinner

11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Otis Grill, 21902 E. Wellesley Ave., Otis Orchards. The restaurant will be accepting donations to help local families who are in need. For more: 922-9136

**Dec. 2-28 | City canned food drive** City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Dr.; Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave; Trailhead Golf Course, 1102 N. Liberty Lake Road. Donations for the 2nd Harvest Food Bank. For more: www.libertylakewa.gov

**Dec. 5 | IT Academy Q & A program** 6:30 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Through a partnership between Microsoft and the State Legislature, the library now has free access to Microsoft information technology training courses that you can complete at your own pace from the library or home. For more: 232-2510

**Dec. 6 | Winter Festival** 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive. City's annual tree lighting ceremony and other festivities including hayrides, live music, games, mini golf, vendors, pictures with Santa and more. For more: 755-6726 or www.libertylakewa.gov/winterfest

**Dec. 7 | Happy Howl-i-day Party** Noon to 3 p.m., SCRAPS, 2521 N. Flora Road, Spokane Valley. During the SCRAPS open house, enjoy cookies, cocoa and a tour of the kennels and cages. The day also includes special treats for cats and canines at 2 p.m. For more: 477-2984

**Dec. 7 | FOPP Holiday Ball** 5 p.m., Davenport Hotel, Spokane. Tickets on sale for this sole fundraiser for summer concerts, movies and events hosted by Friends of Pavillion Park. Dinner and dancing with silent and live auctions. Cost is \$75 per person. For more: www.pavillionpark.org

**Dec. 8 | Youth With a Mission information night** 6 p.m., Lakeside Church, 23129 E. Mission Ave. Presented by YWAM veteran Bo Jones, the public is invited to come learn more about this worldwide Christian mission organization. For more: www.lakesidechurch.cc

**Dec. 14 | Blessings Under the Bridge Winter Event** Noon to 2:30 p.m., 4th and Browne, downtown Spokane. This 7th annual event will provide brunch, hot beverages, clothing, winter gear and more to the area's homeless. The Liberty Lake-based organization welcomes volunteers and donations. For more: www.butb.org

#### Dec. 25 | Christmas

#### Recurring

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

**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 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 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 p.m. Saturdays, kids craft. For more: 232-2510

*The library will open late at 1 p.m. on Dec. 5 and 12 due to training. The library will be closed Nov. 28-29, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.*

**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 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

**December 5-8, 11-13 | "A Christmas Story"** 7:30 p.m. (except for 2 p.m. matinee on Dec. 8), CVHS Performing Arts Center, 821 S. Sullivan Road, Spokane Valley. The CVHS theatre department will showcase this holiday classic about Ralphie's quest for a Red Rider BB gun. Reserved tickets, \$10. For more: 228-5218

**Dec. 6-8, 12-15 | "Tiny Tim's Christmas"** Various show times, Liberty Lake Community Theatre, 22910 E. Appleway Ave. In this continuation of a Christmas classic, Tim finds himself in a similar situation as Ebenezer, but this time Scrooge is the hearty Ghost of Christmas present who leads Timothy through his past, present and future. Cost is \$12. For show times and more: www.libertylaketheatre.com

**Dec. 7, 21, 23 and 27 | Christmas Gift Art Workshops** The Art Chalet, 23106 E. Melkapsi. These workshops for kids ages 5 and older are \$28. For more: www.theartchalet.com

**Dec. 15 | Children's Christmas presentation** 10 a.m., Lakeside Church, 23129 E. Mission Ave. For more: www.lakesidechurch.cc

**Dec. 21 & 22 | "The Perfect Christmas"** 6 p.m. (Sat.) and 10 a.m. (Sun.), Lakeside Church, 23129 E. Mission Ave. With their parents gone, a family encounters multiple disasters as they attempt to recreate childhood memories of the "perfect" Christmas. This one-act drama is free to the community. For more: www.lakesidechurch.cc

**Dec. 24 | Christmas Eve Celebration** 2 and 4 p.m., Liberty Lake Church, 704 S. Garry Road. For more: 255-6266 or www.libertylakechurch.com

**Dec. 31 | New Year's Eve Mirabeau Ballroom Bash** Max at Mirabeau Restaurant and Lounge, 1100 N. Sullivan Road, Spokane Valley. This event will feature the Martini Brothers. For more: www.maxatmirabeau.com

### CIVIC & BUSINESS

#### Nov. 29 through December | U-Cut

**Christmas Trees** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Saturday & Sunday, Carver Farms, 9105 N. Idaho Road, Newman Lake. Enjoy free hayrides, hot cocoa and cider while selecting your Christmas tree. For more: www.carverfarms.com

**Dec. 3-15 | Christmas Tree Elegance** Davenport Hotel and River Park Square, Spokane. Presented by Spokane Symphony Associates, this raffle provides a chance to win a custom-decorated tree and its gifts or Father Christmas sculpture. For more: www.symphonyassociates.org

**Dec. 4 | Inland Empire Nonprofit Summit** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mirabeau Park Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan. The two-hour interactive presentation is for nonprofit professional executives and staff who work with boards and volunteers. It will feature Patrick McGaughey's "157 Rules for Executive Success in Organization Management." For more: 924-4994 or www.spokanevalleychamber.org

**Dec. 7 | Windermere Open House** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1429 N. Liberty Lake Road, Suite A. Enjoy eggnog, hot apple cider, coffee, desserts and gift card drawings while learning about current market trends. For more: 340-8000

**Dec. 13 | Women Executives of Liberty Lake (WELL)** 12:45 to 2 p.m., Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District, 22510 E. Mission Ave. Come for games, food and gifts during the annual holiday party. Light snacks will be provided. For more: www.womenexecutivesoflibertylake.com

**Dec. 14 | K9 Country Club grand opening** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., K9 Country Club, 19223 E. Appleway. Drop by to check out this new facility that offers dog training, hydrotherapy, pet boarding, doggie daycare, pet grooming and supplies. Enter to win free dog food for a year or other giveaways. For more: 893-3543

**Dec. 20 | Business Connections Breakfast: Season of Sharing** 6:30 to 8:30 a.m., Mirabeau Park Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan. This breakfast will focus on area non-profits. Cost is \$25 for members/guests and \$35 for non-members. For more: www.spokanevalleychamber.org

#### Recurring

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

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

**Liberty Lake 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. For more: 230-5152 or 323-8953

**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

## Community Briefs

### Garden donations sought

The Liberty Lake Library Foundation is seeking donations for a reading garden being developed in collaboration with the city.

Plants and plant materials, pavers and concrete work are all being sought, and donors will be recognized in a permanent installation in the Reading Garden. For more, call Randy Long at 939-5101 or Marshon Kempf at 993-2519.

### Dance date set

March 1 has been reserved as the date for the 9th annual Father Daughter Dance put on by the Liberty Lake Kiwanis and K-Kids. Tickets of \$45 per couple go on sale Jan. 1, and this year's theme is "Hollywood Oscar Night."

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

**Nov. 28 | 2nd annual Turkey Trot** 8 a.m., Trailhead Golf Course parking lot. Join the Liberty Lake Running Club for a 3-mile walk/run. Runners are asked to bring donations for Blessings Under the Bridge. For more: 954-9806 or kathyawhybrew@msn.com

**Nov. 30-Dec. 1 | Turkey Shoot-Out Futsal Tournament** HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

**Dec. 2 | Veterans Yoga Project** 1 to 2:15 p.m., The Mat, 21651 E. Country Vista Drive, #B. This free mindful therapy yoga class is for active duty personnel from all branches of the service, veterans from all eras of conflict as well as their spouses or significant others. For more: 939-5433 or slindsay@zagmail.gonzaga.edu

**Dec. 14 | 2nd annual Jingle Bell Run** 9 a.m., Trailhead Golf Course parking lot. Join the Liberty Lake Running Club for a 3-mile walk/run with stops at the Liberty Lake Athletic Club for a candy cane and at Just Chillin' for hot chocolate. For more: 954-9806 or kathyawhybrew@msn.com

**Dec. 14 | Spokane Chiefs Teddy Bear Toss** 7 p.m., Spokane Arena. When the Chiefs score against Prince George, toss bears onto the ice to be donated to the Spokesman-Review Christmas Fund. For more: www.spokanechiefs.com

**Dec. 28-29 | Snowball Shoot-Out Futsal Tournament** HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Boys and girls teams U7 through U14plus high school age are invited for some indoor futsal action. Registration is \$250 per team (if registered by Dec. 6). For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

*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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**At The Davenport Hotel**

Friends of Pavillion Park are preparing for the **2014 FREE Summer Festival events**. Last year they hosted legendary blues artist **Robert Cray** in addition to the annual **Spokane Symphony** concert. This organization relies on **community donations** to keep these free concerts going. So please support them by attending their annual fundraiser, The Holiday Ball at the Davenport Hotel. Tickets are \$75 per person and include a champagne reception, 3 course dinner and live music. **Attend the Holiday Ball and Support live and FREE events in our parks.**

**For tickets and event information go to: [www.pavillionpark.org](http://www.pavillionpark.org)**

# The Wave

A special section  
just for kids

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## Library gets hands-on with technology

By Kelly Moore  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

The Liberty Lake Municipal Library is preparing kids for the future. Young children can take a modern approach to learning with some of the educational games set up on iPads available for play in the children's area. And older youth are also getting a look into Leap Motion technology that allows users to control a computer with hand motions.

"It's great to see kids and their parents working together on some of the games," Library Director Pamela Mogen said.

The three iPads are safely mounted at a table near the entrance to the children's section of the library and available anytime during normal hours. They don't have to be checked out. Children can simply sit down and start playing.

Mogen said the library staff worked hard to make sure the tablets would be well protected and easy to use, but sometimes kids might have to ask for help with adjusting the volume. Internet access from the iPads is not available.

All of the activities are pre-loaded onto the tablets and geared toward toddlers and pre-school aged children. The current games support early literacy and include things like matching pictures to sounds and constructing words.

The iPads are available on a first-come, first-served basis and Mogen said children are encouraged to take turns and share.

"We've seen a really good response so far," Mogen said. "The kids really seem to enjoy the games, and we can tell the iPads are getting a lot of use already."

Mogen also said the library is committed to expanding the iPad program to include options for elementary and middle school students as soon as possible in 2014. To help roll out program, the library is accepting donations of older tablets that could be refurbished.



WAVE PHOTOS BY TAMMY KIMBERLEY

Throughout November, the library also held classes to demonstrate Leap Motion. This technology has a small unit that sits in front of the keyboard and has high-definition cameras to track a user's movements. The unit allows a computer user to do things like click a mouse and surf Web pages without touching anything and only making hand gestures in the air.

"I'm always searching for new technologies and even though this is fairly new — basically in its infancy — there is a lot of excitement surrounding it," Technical Specialist Travis Montgomery said. "I did a little research and got us on the waiting list to order it. It's only been available to

the public for a few months now."

Montgomery compared the technology to the futuristic scenes in movies like "Iron Man 3" and "Minority Report" where characters manipulate information on computer screens.

"It takes a little practice, but it's not too terribly hard to learn," Mogen said. "It's a really intuitive program, and it's fun to try."

Right now the unit is still available at the library for demonstration purposes. Mogen said additional classes in December could be offered if enough interest warrants it.

Three iPads loaded with pre-school educational programs are now available for use in the children's area of the Liberty Lake Municipal Library.

Below: Natalie Rose, 2, plays a game on an iPad after a November story time.

## Santa sightings



Compiled by Tammy Kimberley  
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

If you're hoping to visit with jolly old St. Nick, check this list for a few local places he can be found this holiday season.

### Santa Claws welcomes pets and people

Dec. 1, noon to 2:30 p.m.  
The Lincoln Center Monroe Ballroom (Spokane)

Photos with Santa are \$5. Bring dog and cat canned foods to stock the pet pantry of Meals on Wheels Spokane. For more, find "Santa Claws Event For People & Pets!" on Facebook.

### Pajama Party with Santa

Dec. 3, 10 and 17, 6 to 9 p.m.  
Spokane Valley Mall

Although Santa is available at other times for photos during mall shopping hours, kids are encouraged to come in PJs and bring a favorite stuffed animal or blanket for a special photo opportunity. For more: [www.spokanevalleymall.com](http://www.spokanevalleymall.com)

### Liberty Lake Winter Festival 2013

Dec. 6, 5:30 to 7:45 p.m.  
Liberty Lake City Hall

Kids are invited to take a tour of Santa's Workshop, as well as bring a camera to have one of Santa's elves take a free photo before the tree lighting ceremony. For more: [www.libertylakewa.gov](http://www.libertylakewa.gov)

### Breakfast with Santa

Dec. 7, 8:30 to 11 a.m.  
CenterPlace Regional Event Center

Enjoy a pancake breakfast, games and crafts along with the opportunity to have your picture taken with Santa while telling him your Christmas wishes. Cost is \$5. For more: [www.spokanevalley.org/santabreakfast](http://www.spokanevalley.org/santabreakfast)

### Pictures with Santa

Dec. 1, 8 and 15 (noon to 6 p.m.); Dec. 7 and 14 (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.)  
Residence Inn by Marriott Spokane Valley

A hot cocoa bar and kids craft corner are all part of this event which costs \$10. All proceeds benefit Toys for Tots and Meals on Wheels Spokane Valley. For more: 892-9300

COMMUNITY

# Festive Figures

**254** Millions of turkeys raised in the U.S. in 2012



**7** Number of places and townships in the U.S. that are named Cranberry, a popular dish at Thanksgiving



**38** Percent of Americans who plan to shop this year on Thanksgiving Day



**14** Percentage of people who cut down their own Christmas tree



**10.9** Millions of fake Christmas trees purchased in 2012



**1890** The year Christmas tree lights were first mass produced

**1.76** Billions of candy canes made annually



**15** Billions of cards, letters or packages expected to be delivered by the U.S. Postal Service this holiday season (between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve)



**6** Millions of customers expected to visit Post Offices nationwide on Dec. 16, the day projected to be the busiest for USPS. Up to 600 million postal items could be processed on this day.



**26** Years a fruitcake can still be edible if stored in an airtight tin. You've actually got 60 to 90 days to eat the cake without refrigeration.

Compiled by Tammy Kimberley, Splash Staff Writer.  
Sources: www.realchristmastrees.org, www.census.gov, www.usps.com

# Kids Tell It Like It Is

What are you most thankful for this Thanksgiving?

Compiled by Tammy Kimberley at Liberty Lake Elementary School



"I'm thankful for water 'cuz you can't be alive without it."  
**Roxanne Robison, 6, 1st grade**



"The turkey we get to eat."  
**Brynn Lavelle, 6, 1st grade**



"Having friends who like to do what I want to do, like play football."  
**Andrew Spackman, 9, 4th grade**



"My dog Bentley."  
**Caleb Slye, 7, 1st grade**



"My grandparents because they give me treats on the holidays."  
**Kolby Roche, 7, 2nd grade**



"Coconut crème pie."  
**London Whiting, 6, 1st grade**



"My little brother, Channing, because he's really fun. And we like to destroy stuff."  
**Devin Curtis, 10, 4th grade**



"A puppy we're babysitting right now. I like to wrestle with it."  
**Kacey Silva, 7, 2nd grade**



"I'm thankful that my dad's birthday is the day before Thanksgiving."  
**Jonah Gartner, 9, 4th grade**

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# The Fountain

About and for Liberty Lake seniors

Brought to you by



## Rachael Calvert celebrates 100 years

By Jocelyn Stott  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Rachael Calvert sits in the cozy dining room at Guardian Angel retirement community, daintily eating her breakfast of scrambled eggs with toast. Neatly dressed and attractive, with a gracious presence, her nails manicured and lipstick applied, she considers her morning meal.

"I look forward to breakfast," she says.

Bacon and eggs are her favorite. As Calvert turns 100, she struggles to remember the details of the past century. Tapping the top of her head occasionally, she says, "C'mon head, let's talk!"

When asked how she feels about turning 100, she says, shaking her head, "I don't think I even know it yet — that's OLD."

One thing that is very clear in Calvert's head, however, is the names of those she loves. Her sister, Lucille Parsons, her son Jeff and husband Chester roll off her tongue with ease, and her eyes light up at their mention.

Lucille and Chester have both died in recent years, but several family members still live in the area. Jeff and his wife, Lois, live in Sacramento.

Calvert and her older sister of nearly two years, Lucille Reschke, were best friends growing up in Saskatchewan, Canada.

"We did everything together," Calvert remembers.

They were the first children of their immigrant parents to be born since the family arrived from Ukraine. Her older siblings, Katherine and Alexander, were just small children when the family made the journey.

Calvert's birth certificate says her name was Reil and her sister was Emalia. While still in high school, the family moved to Wenatchee, where the girls finished high school. According to the family story, when Reil and Emalia stood in front of the judge in Wenatchee to receive United States citizenship, he decided their names should be Rachael and Lucille. So it was.

While in her early 20s, Calvert left Wenatchee with a friend to go to Southern California.

"I didn't really like the snow," she says.

She met Chester Calvert when he was working on his family's ranch. They married in 1936 and enjoyed 62 years together until Chester's death in 1998.

"He was wonderful, no one better. He



SPLASH PHOTOS BY JOCELYN STOTT

Guardian Angel resident Rachael Calvert blows out the candles on her 100th birthday cake during a special party held Nov. 22 at the Liberty Lake facility. Friends and family came to celebrate with Calvert, including her son, Jeff, pictured at right. Calvert was born Nov. 22, 1913.

was just born wonderful," she said of her husband. "We were married forever!"

Chester Calvert worked as a federal meat inspector and later consulted with meatpacking houses until the family retired and moved to Liberty Lake.

The Calverts adopted a son, Jeff, in Hollywood.

"He's my love. Although I don't have him often," she says.

Jeff has spent most of his life in Sacramento, but he says he calls his mother each day and he cherishes the time they talk.

"She has such a great outlook," Jeff says.

Behind a chair in her room at Guardian Angel in Liberty Lake, Calvert keeps nearly 100 of Jeff's medals won in swimming



contests as a child.

"She was always there, cheering for me," Jeff says.

As her son grew, Calvert and a friend opened a clothing boutique in Encino, Calif., called The Pink House of Designing Women. The pink-painted shop in a remodeled bungalow featured high-end clothing the pair purchased from the waterfront garment areas nearby. "She was very much into fashion and style," remembers Jeff.

### FAST FACTS

#### RACHAEL CALVERT

##### Age

100 (Born Reil Reschke on Nov. 22, 1913)

##### Hometown

Langham, Saskatchewan

##### Siblings

Katherine, Alexander and Lucille (Emalia)

##### Secret to longevity

Healthy food, positive outlook and exercise

##### Most memorable thing

The family she loves

##### Family

Son and daughter-in-law, Jeff and Lois; nephew, Bob Parsons; grand-nephew, Kasey Parsons

Calvert wore blue jeans and red tennis shoes to her birthday party Nov. 22 at Guardian Angel because Jeff told her she looked youthful. The festivities were attended by several friends and family members who had gathered to honor her. Several bouquets of pink and white roses filled her room, and greeting cards and packages wrapped in pink were stacked about.

Jeff isn't surprised his mother has lived to 100, citing her healthy lifestyle. She is very active, she walked all the time when she was younger — even if she had to be indoors. Calvert has always eaten healthy and has a positive outlook.

"She is very intelligent," Jeff says. "When her eyesight was better, she'd read and watch all kinds of sports. She loved to analyze tennis matches."

### — King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

COMMUNITY

Trivia Test

1. **SCIENCE:** What is the function of the amygdala in the brain?
2. **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** How many member states belong to the United Nations in 2013?
3. **LANGUAGE:** What is a pugilist?
4. **GEOGRAPHY:** What is the capital of Canada?
5. **ENTERTAINERS:** What is Donald Duck's middle name?
6. **TELEVISION:** What was the name of

- the spaceship on "Lost in Space"?
7. **LITERATURE:** Who wrote the 19th century novel "The Pathfinder"?
8. **EXPLORERS:** What was the name of Sir Francis Drake's ship, which he sailed around the world?
9. **SLOGANS:** What company uses the slogan "Imagination at Work"?
10. **MATH:** How many faces does a cube have?

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# China sets don't seem to be selling

'Collecting' by Larry Cox  
KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

**Q:** In 1991, I bought a set of dishes in the Triumph pattern by American Limoges. In addition to place settings, I have platters, covered bowls, and salt and pepper shakers. I would like to know the worth of these dishes. — *Charisse, Fenton, Mich.*

**A:** In our present economy, the sale of sets of china has been extremely difficult. I visit antiques shops and malls on a regular basis, and most china sets sit and collect dust. Typical shop prices for this pattern seem to be 5-piece setting, about \$45; salt and pepper set, \$15; large bowl, \$35; and large platter, \$50. Those are the prices, but as I stated earlier in this answer, this pattern and many others do not seem to be selling. I checked eBay and discovered a set of 36 pieces in your pattern being offered for sale, but alas, no bidders.

**Q:** I have either a copy or an original engraving by Thure de Thulstrup, a leading illustrator during the 1800s. I would like to find out more information about it. — *Zita, Sun City West, Ariz.*

**A:** With artwork, it is always best to hire the services of a certified appraiser to help research the item and then determine its current value. You are near Phoenix, and there are dozens of appraisers available there to help you. As a general rule, it is best to assume that this will not be a free service.

**Q:** While cleaning out a storage area, I found several older Coca-Cola bottles. Can you suggest a club or organization I can contact to find out if any are of any value? — *Steve, Ames, Iowa*

**A:** The Coca-Cola Collectors Club has thousands of members throughout the country, and this might be a good place to contact first. The addresses are PMB 609, 4780 Ashford-Dunwoody Road, Suite A, Atlanta, GA 30338; and cocacolaclub.org.

**Q:** I have several Copenhagen plates from the 1960s and '70s. Where can I go to sell them? — *Joan, Fiskeville, R.I.*

**A:** My advice is to post them on eBay and hope for the best. The market is flooded with "collector plates," including the blue Copenhagen issues.

*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.*

# King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Greet the villain
- 4 Amusement park attraction
- 8 Sail holder
- 12 Grecian vessel
- 13 Jealousy
- 14 Malaria symptom
- 15 Long. crosser
- 16 Too rare
- 18 Swell
- 20 "CSI" evidence
- 21 Complaint
- 24 2012 TV series about a Broadway show
- 28 Cousteau's bailiwick
- 32 Reverberate
- 33 Witness
- 34 Ganges garments
- 36 Charged bit
- 37 One of the brass
- 39 Likely loser
- 41 Razor sharpener
- 43 Long tale
- 44 Upper limit, for short
- 46 Gift of the Magi
- 50 Sap
- 55 Debtor's letters
- 56 Santa's

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		

- |                       |                        |                            |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| laundry problem       | Bovary                 | 35 Part                    |
| 57 Similar (to)       | 9 Past                 | 38 "The Iceman —"          |
| 58 Playground game    | 10 Early riser?        | 40 Shaft of light          |
| 59 St. Louis landmark | 11 Golf gadget         | 42 Standard                |
| 60 Calendar abbr.     | 17 Hosp. staffers      | 45 Opening day?            |
| 61 Commotion          | 19 Honest politician   | 47 Hayworth or Moreno      |
|                       | 22 Birthright barterer | 48 Thoroughfare            |
|                       | 23 Flowerless plants   | 49 "Les Miserables" author |
| <b>DOWN</b>           | 25 Alkali neutralizer  | 50 N.A. nation             |
| 1 Socket insert       | 26 "Get lost!"         | 51 Neither mate            |
| 2 Exam format         | 27 — Kong              | 52 Happy companion?        |
| 3 Aware of            | 28 Works with call     | 53 White House nickname    |
| 4 AP competitor       | 29 Barbershop playmate | 54 Pinch                   |
| 5 Hostel offering     | 30 Antelope's playmate |                            |
| 6 Netflix             | 31 Verdi opera         |                            |

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Answers to Trivia Test

1. The almond-shaped brain portion is known as a "fear center" that tells us whether to fight, flee or be afraid.
2. 193
3. A boxer
4. Ottawa
5. Fauntleroy
6. Jupiter 2
7. James Fenimore Cooper
8. The Golden Hind
9. General Electric
10. Six



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# Medical care in early Liberty Lake relied on neighborhood experts

By Ellen Martin Bernardo  
LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

You had to be resilient to live in Liberty Lake prior to 1969. Medical care was available 18 miles away in Spokane, but the 23 minutes it takes now by car on I-90 versus the road and travel conditions before 1969 were not for the faint of heart. When emergencies arose, getting to medical help for treatment was part of the equation.

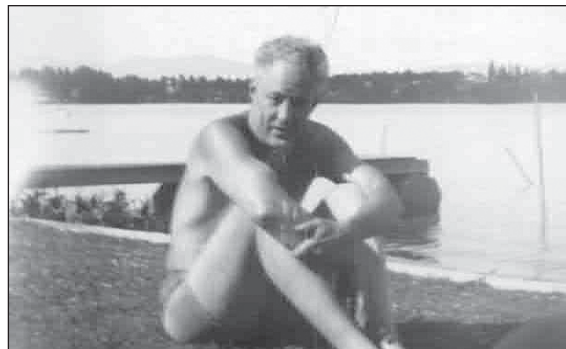
Before that time, if you were in need of care you went to Spokane. Sacred Heart Hospital opened in 1887 and Deaconess Hospital followed nine years later in 1896, and the options for getting there were via the rails or a horse-drawn stage. The much-needed and long-awaited Valley General Hospital opened its doors in 1969, cutting the travel time to reach the closest hospital care in half.

When possible, the patient was brought to the doctor or hospital, but many times the illness or accident made it necessary for the doctor to go to the patient. Liberty Lake has been blessed over the generations to have kind and compassionate medical practitioners right here to help when the need arose. They did it without regard of ability to pay, as none was expected or accepted.

Before the advent of antibiotics in the 1940s, there were limited abilities to treat diseases and illnesses. Homemade remedies and recipes were often counted on to get through illnesses. Not every community had a medically trained doctor, though usually every community had an herbalist who knew which plants and herbs to use to remedy different medical conditions, a person on whom everyone could count for "doctoring" skills.

Early Liberty Lake settlers had Louisa Neyland. In 1902, Daniel and Louisa Neyland came to Liberty Lake and established Neyland's Grove. Louisa Neyland was known for doctoring the residents around the lake. Current resident Denise Coyle has a copy of her great-grandmother Louisa's cures and remedies. In Mildred Brereton and Evelyn Foedish's 1951 booklet, "Memories of Liberty Lake," they wrote:

*"Louisa Neyland was a colorful figure, with her long flowing skirts, hair high on her head wound over what was then known as a "circular rat." She was quite a doctor in her own right, as she administered to everyone who was ill around the lake, whether it was a bee sting or something more serious. She concocted homemade remedies and cough syrups from old herb recipes. Louisa had the power and drive of the typical pioneer woman and was long remembered and discussed after she was gone."*



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

RN Margaret Rademacher provided medical care for local residents of Liberty Lake from the time she moved to the community in 1935. In 1961, Dr. Jack Blair (pictured in front of his Liberty Lake home) became Rademacher's neighbor on Lilac Lane. Both were known for helping sick or injured residents who might otherwise have to make a long trip to Spokane for treatment.

Ron Knudsen, a lifelong resident of Liberty Lake and the son of Sigwell Knudsen, recalled that at Sig's Resort during the 1940s-1960s, if someone was hurt, they would take the person to neighbors Margaret Rademacher or Dr. Blair (if they were home), or they'd call the sheriff to take them to the emergency room or a doctor's office. It was easy to find either of them since they lived on Lilac Lane across the street from each other.

In 1935, Margaret Myette Rademacher (1907-1995) moved from Spokane to Liberty Lake with her husband, Cletus, and their three children, Joan, Sue and John. At 21, she graduated as an RN from St. Patrick's School of Nursing in Missoula, Mont. She was a county health nurse for many years. Her daughter, Joan Guell, recalls her mother nursing the local men who sustained burns while volunteering to knock down the fire above Dreamwood Bay in the 1950s. Back then, many illnesses that are now prevented by vaccines or are mostly eradicated were a part of life. Margaret supplied medical information and treatment for those illnesses, as well as accidents like fishing hooks that were stepped on, sunburns, bee stings and roller skate tricks gone wrong. Craig Guell fondly remembers his grandmother putting butterfly bandages on his cuts. There was nothing that a butterfly bandage could not fix!

Margaret Rademacher never charged for her services, nor expected anything in return. She always remained calm, even when her patient did not. Whenever her name is mentioned, it brings a smile to the face of those who recall her kind and compassionate care.

Karolyn Kosanke, a neighbor of both Margaret and Dr. Blair, remembers Margaret gave Karolyn her allergy shots, all childhood inoculations and, later in life, even sealed up her son Derek's head when he fell off a skateboard.

"She was everyone's nurse out here and a real sweet lady," Kosanke said.

Dr. John E. "Jack" Blair Jr. (1906-1977) went to Harvard and then to Northwestern for medical school. He served as a doctor in the military during World War II in North Africa. Dr. Blair loved fishing, hunting and raising his family in a rural setting. After returning from the service, he and his family lived in Chewelah until he moved back to Liberty Lake in 1961. Jack had his medical practice in the Paulsen Building in downtown Spokane, but it was in his Liberty Lake home that he took care of Liberty Lake locals who were ill or injured. In the basement of the house, Jack and wife Mary built a secret medical room with a table and medical supplies. There he would provide medical care for everyone from laborers to visitors to his neighbors, removing fishing lures, stitching up gashes, and the entire spectrum of medical services, including piercing Karolyn Kosanke's ears and stitching up her brother's cut hand. In 1968, the Spokane area experienced a terrible snowstorm, and the roads into Liberty Lake were closed due to large snowdrifts. Triber's in Spokane Valley lent Dr. Blair a snowmobile to use in case anyone in the Liberty Lake area might need medical care. One lady in particular concerned Dr. Blair, as she was pregnant and ready to deliver. The loaner snowmobile gave Jack the ability to treat her at her home on Garry Road before transporting her to the hospital, where a healthy baby was delivered. From 1969-1977, Jack was the team physician for the Central Valley Athletics Department. Jack was first and foremost a doctor who cared for his patients whether they could afford it or not. He helped many people who lived in poverty without receiving any form of payment. Jack Blair never really retired, as he was always available to care for those at the lake who needed medical attention.

## WHAT WAS OLD IS NEW AGAIN

- Maggot therapy was common until it lost favor when antibiotics came into use. It is now making a comeback to treat skin diseases and infections.

- Leeches were used to treat a variety of common ailments. Nowadays, sterilized leeches may be used after reconstructive surgery.

- Cayenne has been used for thousands of years for pain. Capsaicin, an ingredient in cayenne, is used in topical medications to relieve pain in bone, nerve and muscle.

- Honey has been used as an antiseptic in wounds dating back to the ancient Egyptians.

*This information is presented for historical information only, and is not intended to take the place of qualified medical advice.*

## The DEVELOPMENT of a COMMUNITY

A 12-part series from the Liberty Lake Historical Society, appearing in The Splash 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:	<b>Medical</b>

The face and quality of medicine has vastly changed since Louisa Neyland, Margaret Rademacher and Dr. Jack Blair lived here. This was life before seat belts in cars, mandatory helmets for all sports activities and a time when children played outdoors with minimal, if any, supervision. Whether it was delivering babies or tending to the sick, infirm or injured, the residents of Liberty Lake always pulled together to overcome the challenges that faced them. They were a resilient community of people.

*Ellen Martin Bernardo is vice president of the Liberty Lake Historical Society. She has lived in the Inland Northwest 34 years, 24 of those in Liberty Lake. She wants to especially thank Karolyn Kosanke, Joan Guell, Craig Guell, Denise Coyle and the Blair and Chulich families for contributions to this article.*

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## Shutterbug snapshots



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Clockwise from above: Peter D. Glase took this shot of the serene lake at the north point of Makenzie Bay on the first day of November. Michael Hassett captured a photo of a great horned owl while mountain biking behind Legacy Ridge. He also came upon about a hundred elk near Spokane Bridge while on his bike in early November.



## Ahoy Halloween!



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mr. Conklin's fifth grade class at Liberty Lake Elementary School celebrated Halloween as pirates.

## Scouting for food



SUBMITTED PHOTO

In early November local Liberty Lake Boy Scouts Pack 463 went out to collect food donations for 2nd Harvest.

## Six dozen students who serve



SUBMITTED PHOTO

There are 72 fifth grade students in this year's class of K-Kids from Liberty Lake Elementary. The group is led by Liberty Lake Kiwanis members and teacher advisors Mrs. Spear and Mrs. Morgan.

## Kiwanian of the month



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bob Gamble, 86, was recently presented an award for Kiwanian of the Month of Division 46. He was chosen from over 400 Kiwanians in the area based on his service not only to the Liberty Lake club but to the Liberty Lake community.



LOCAL LENS

In praise of our patriots



PHOTOS BY STACEY ROESSLER PHOTOGRAPHY AND SPLASH STAFF

Students at Liberty Lake Elementary School recognized Veterans Day with a Nov. 8 assembly honoring those who have served our country. Selected first grade students quoted a poem of thankfulness to veterans (above), while ASB officers presented flags to all past and present military members in attendance (at right).



Sweet treats headed to troops



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Great Candy Buy Back was held KiDDS Dental on the day after Halloween where children were able to unload their trick-or-treating spoils for \$1 per pound, a dental goody bag and coupons from local businesses. Contributors to the event included Banner Bank, Dr. Scott Ralph Orthodontics, Roessler Photography, Liberty Lake Children's Academy, Papa Murphy's Pizza, The Pottery Bug, Celebrations Bakery, IHOP, North Idaho Dermatology and Hay J's Bistro.



After the event, 990 pounds of candy was shipped along with toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss and hundreds of letters of appreciation for members of the United States military. The post-Halloween haul was shipped to Operation Gratitude, a charitable organization in California that distributes the treats to soldiers serving their country during the holidays.

...good news of  
**Great Joy!**

Merry  
Christmas



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## COMMUNITY

# Nature shots claim top places in LL directory

## Winning photos to be featured in 2014 edition

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Local photographers submitted a variety of photos featuring the great outdoors, recognizable landmarks and natural wildlife for the fourth annual Liberty Lake Community Directory photo contest. For the contest, the public was asked to submit photos representing Liberty Lake to be considered for use within the directory.

Judges selected 18-year-old Miranda Hill's photo of a barn and fence as the winning photo. The photo, which was taken at Rocky Hill Park, will be featured on the cover of the 2014 directory.

Carolly Struck's photo of a trail in Liberty Lake Regional Park was awarded second place in the contest. A sunset photo

of Liberty Lake taken by Paul Shields received third place.

The top three finishers will receive gift cards to a directory advertiser of their choice. Selected photos from runners up are featured throughout the community and residential sections of the directory.

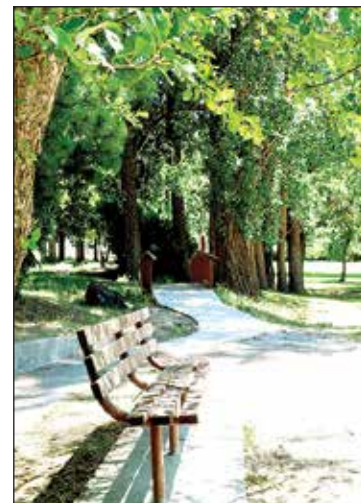
The contest was sponsored by Peridot Publishing, the Liberty Lake-based company that also distributes The Splash newspaper and The Current newsmagazine. The company is also partnering with the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber to produce the new One Valley Business & Community Directory in 2014.

The 14th edition of the Liberty Lake Community Directory will be distributed mid-December by mail to every home with a Liberty Lake ZIP code. Residents who do not receive a copy by the end of the month are asked to contact 242-7752 or [directory@libertylakesplash.com](mailto:directory@libertylakesplash.com).



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY MIRANDA HILL

Miranda Hill's photo of the barn at Rocky Hill Park was selected as the winning image of the 2014 Liberty Lake Community Directory photo contest. Carolly Struck claimed second prize with her photo of a trail in Liberty Lake Regional Park. A lake sunset photo by Paul Shields was awarded third place.



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY CAROLLY STRUCK



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY PAUL SHIELDS

## The Perfect Christmas

An original drama about a wife and mother desperately hoping to create the perfect Christmas while disasters and mishaps rock her world.



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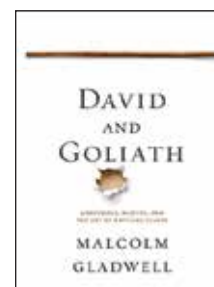
## Book Review

### Conventional wisdom is challenged in 'David & Goliath'



By Daniel Pringle  
 LIBERTY LAKE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

Malcolm Gladwell's best-selling books describe the sometimes counterintuitive facts behind many everyday things and how much of what we accept as true often is not. "David & Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants" offers a great example of this theme, as Gladwell examines situations in which the conventional wisdom proves to be wrong. Situations where, looking at it on paper, we would see disaster, instead triumph emerges. Illustrated in the form of personal profiles, Gladwell distills considerable research into relatable stories of times when the expected outcomes don't play out, when an enviable position actually



confers a deficit, or when those that appear to be at great disadvantage — a humble shepherd facing a warrior-giant — possess an unexpected edge.

For example, consider these statements: children in smaller classes do better; tough three-strikes-you're-out laws deter crime; a top-tier college will set up even mediocre students for post-grad success; dyslexic children can't rise to the top of corporate or professional echelons.

According to Gladwell, not so: too much attention from teachers and peers disrupts the learning dynamic of a classroom; harsh, unfair sentences delegitimize law enforcement; students surrounded by higher-achieving classmates are less likely to follow through on the challenging degree and profession they intended to pursue; some kids with learning disabilities develop strategies that propel them to the top of the medical, legal or entertainment worlds. With characteristic clarity of language and persuasion, Gladwell asks us to question assumptions like these and never count out the little guy.

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



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**Happy  
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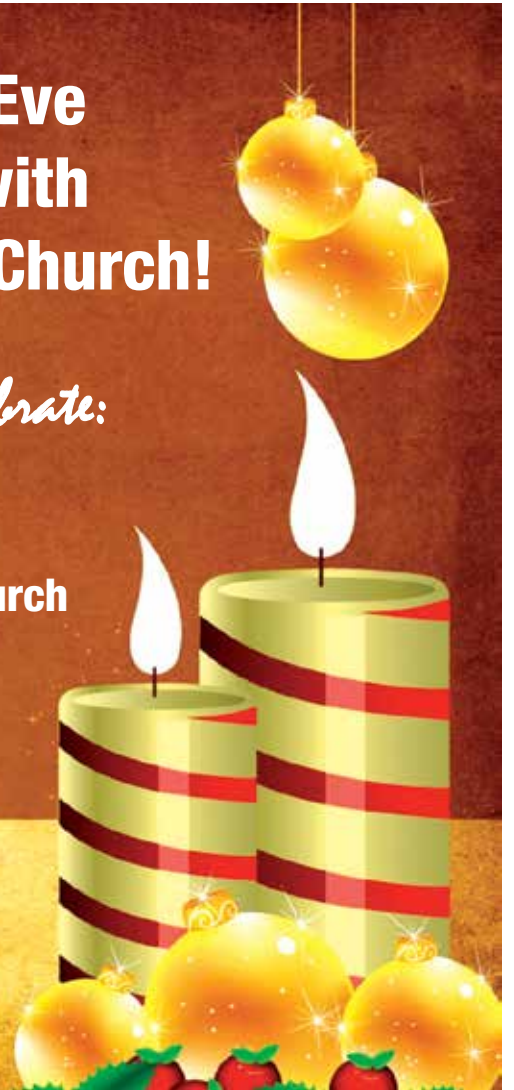
PEMCO Mutual Insurance Co., Seattle, WA

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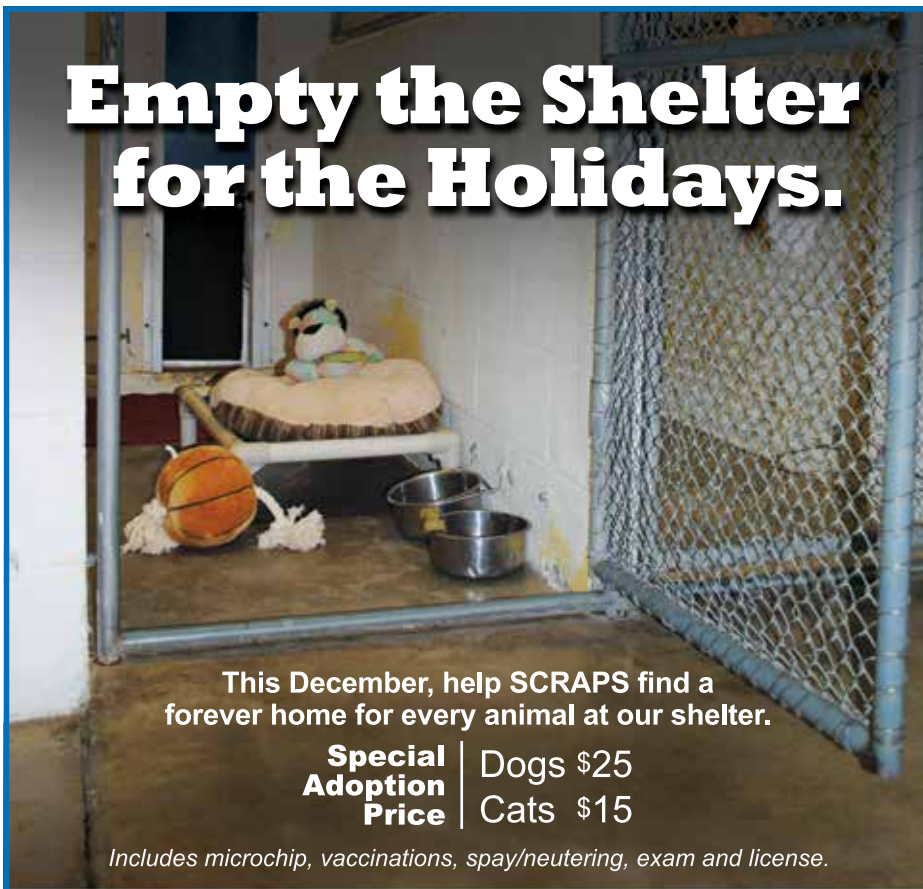


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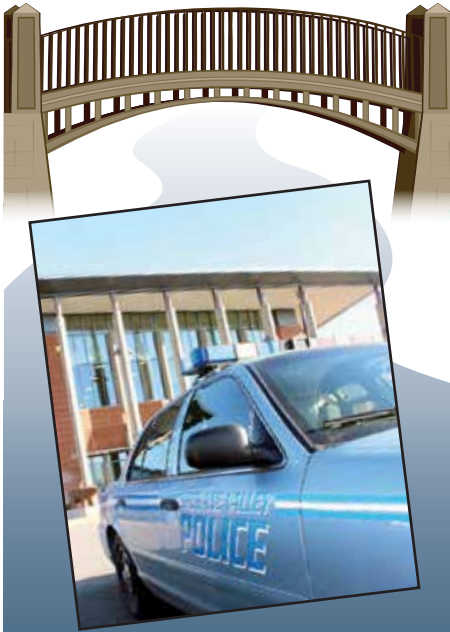


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### STAYING SAFE AT SCHOOL

One year after Newtown tragedy, Valley school districts talk about safety strides made and improvements desired

### THE VALLEY ON HOLIDAY

A look back at how Spokane Valley has traditionally marked the winter holiday season

### A DECADE OF MIRABEAU

Landmark Valley hotel celebrating 10 years as an independent

### BRINGING HOLIDAY CHEER

Meals on Wheels volunteers don't take Thanksgiving or Christmas off when delivering to homebound seniors

### OH CHRISTMAS TREE

The Wave, sponsored in the Valley by KIDDS Dental, checks in with WWSO regarding ornaments to be hung on a special tree — the one at the U.S. Capitol building

### PICKLEBALL PALS

The Valley edition of The Fountain, sponsored by Evergreen Fountains, catches up with a doubles team with a combined age of 168

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# K9 Country Club celebrates opening

## Multi-faceted pet facility opens near SV-LL border

By Valerie Putnam  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

It started with a German Shepherd puppy and a dream.

Today, the dream has been realized with the recent opening of K9 Country Club, a 12,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art pet facility just on the Spokane Valley side of its eastern border with Liberty Lake.

Owners Nick and Jacqueline Lungu opened K9 Country Club as a compliment to the couple's professional dog training and premier German Shepherd breeding business, I-Guard International, which will continue to operate separately.

K9 Country Club features a full pet store, puppy/dog obedience training, doggie day-care area, pet boarding and grooming, as well as animal rehabilitation services with hydrotherapy.

"It's truly a one-stop shop for your dog or cat," Jacqueline Lungu said. "We want to provide services and products you can't get anywhere else."

The Lungus began I-Guard International 12 years ago in Pullman. The couple moved there from Portland to help care for Jacqueline's ailing father.

In the early years, Nick trained a couple dogs on a large lot in Pullman. Purchasing a German Shepherd puppy from a Portland breeder he worked with, Nick expanded into breeding and sold two to three puppy litters a year.

During this time, Jacqueline handled



SPLASH PHOTO BY VALERIE PUTNAM

Owner Jacqueline Lungu stands outside the new K9 Country Club.

the business side of I-Guard while working outside the home.

"This whole thing is Nick's dream and vision," Jacqueline said.

When Jacqueline's father passed away, the couple began looking for a way to expand the business.

"Pullman is a tiny little college town," Jacqueline said. "The population isn't there to support anything like what we are building now."

It took more than a year of searching, but the couple found a home with 5 acres in Otis Orchards and moved in 2009.

Since the move, the couple grew the business from two to three litters a year to eight

### IF YOU GO ...

The grand opening festivities for K9 Country Club are planned for 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 14. Attendees can enter drawings for giveaways, including one providing free dog food for a year.

to 10 litters. The private training grew from one or two dogs to 10 dogs.

"Moving to Spokane really took our business to the next level," Jacqueline said. "It really became something. We always wanted to grow it into something bigger."

Outgrowing the 5-acre facility, the couple decided to expand its services and open K9 Country Club.

"It's been a slow progression to get where we are," Jacqueline said. "There is a demand, and there is nothing like this in Spokane or Coeur d'Alene."

The Lungus spent two years planning the new facility, plus seven months negotiating

**See K9, page 37**

## In Biz



SHILEY

### Shiley named branch manager

Wendy Shiley was recently promoted to branch manager for the Windermere Liberty Lake office located at 1429 N. Liberty Lake Road.

Shiley started in commercial real estate with Kiemle and Ha-good in June 2002 and joined Windermere Valley/Liberty Lake as an agent in 2008.

### Valley Young People's Clinic joins Providence group

Valley Young People's Clinic — a group of pediatricians located in Spokane Valley and Liberty Lake — will join Providence Medical Group effective Jan. 1, Providence announced in a Nov. 22 news release. The group includes six pediatricians and three

nurse practitioners who will continue seeing patients at their two current office locations — in Spokane Valley at 1414 Vercler and in Liberty Lake at 23813 E. Appleway Ave.

### 2nd Watch lands \$23 million from venture capitalists

Technology company 2nd Watch announced recently it secured \$23 million from venture capitalists Columbia Capital and Madrona Venture Group.

According to a press release posted on the company's website, 2nd Watch is a global leader in building, deploying and managing Amazon Web Services (AWS) based IT operations for enterprise customers. It also offers consulting and maintenance services to customers. Customers include Red Lion Hotels, Ecolite and Coldwell Banker.

2nd Watch has offices in Seattle, New York, San Francisco and at 2310 N. Molter

Road in Liberty Lake.

### Valley Chamber holding nonprofit summit

Billed as the Inland Empire Nonprofit Summit, the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce presents "157 Rules for Executive Success in Organization Management" from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 4 at Mirabeau Park Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan Road.

The event features acclaimed business consultant and certified professional facilitator Patrick H. McGaughey as the keynote speaker. Scholarships are available.

Register online at [www.spokanevalleychamber.org](http://www.spokanevalleychamber.org) or learn more by emailing [info@spokanevalleychamber.org](mailto:info@spokanevalleychamber.org) or calling 924-4994.

*In Biz features Liberty Lake-connected business items. Contact The Splash with business news at [editor@libertylakesplash.com](mailto:editor@libertylakesplash.com).*

## Meet Heath and Aurie

They are new in town. Coming to Liberty Lake from Ohio has been a big change. When it was time to update their insurance, they wanted an agent they could trust. Fortunately new friends recommended Lakeshore Insurance. Heath says, "Cheloye came highly recommended, and our experience with her proved that recommendation to be well-deserved. Cheloye is very approachable as an individual, and was attentive to our insurance requests and needs as a professional. She quickly found us the products we eventually selected and saved us money in the process, which is about the best insurance-shopping experience you can hope for. Thanks so much, Cheloye!"



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## BUSINESS

# Go see Gee at 30

Liberty Lake-based auto dealer celebrates three decades

By Craig Howard  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

George Gee first arrived in Spokane 42 years ago with a degree in finance and visions of becoming a banker.

Instead, the Montana native employed a stellar work ethic and exceptional people skills to become one of the region's most successful auto dealers, building a small empire that now includes thriving sites in Liberty Lake, Coeur d'Alene and Kirkland.

This year marks Gee's 30th anniversary, a timeline that began in 1983 with the McCollum Pontiac store on Auto Row in Spokane Valley.

"I came to town to become a banker, but I couldn't afford to become a banker," Gee said. "I had some reservations about the car business at first — I'd never been in the car business and didn't know much about it."

Gee moved his Pontiac/GMC store to Liberty Lake in 2000, an ambitious transition that meant leaving the security of Sprague Avenue for uncharted territory to the east along Interstate 90.

"We had outgrown our facilities there," George said. "We had to move; we just didn't know where."

As with other dealerships under its umbrella, General Motors researched the demographics of the market and determined that Gee would be best situated along the freeway in an area that was ex-

panding. Gee also had concerns about the recent shift to one-way traffic along the Valley's Sprague/Appleway corridor.

"When we got into this business, we decided to become involved in the community," he said. "That's why we were so excited to move to Liberty Lake because it's such a wonderful community."

Gee Automotive Companies maintains its administrative offices in Liberty Lake in addition to a trio of dealerships, featuring Kia, Porsche and GMC/Buick, respectively.

"George was the first occupant of what we now call the River District," said Liberty Lake Mayor Steve Peterson. "Everyone else was on Auto Row. People would hear that phrase, 'Go see Gee in Liberty Lake.' It became a cornerstone."

In addition to being a major benefit to the tax base, Peterson said Gee is recognized as a "tremendous corporate citizen," contributing to programs such as Friends of Pavillion Park and events like the Liberty Lake Community Yard Sales and the annual Kiwanis Golf Tournament.

"George genuinely cares about the community," Peterson said. "With a lot of business owners, it's just about them, but with George, it's not just about selling cars, it's about the positive impact the business can have in the community."

The Gee influence can be seen in other causes, like the Post Falls Food Bank and Coaches vs. Cancer. Gee's wife, Theresa — who worked 15 years at the dealership — served on the founding committee for Coaches vs. Cancer,



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

From left, Ryan and George Gee celebrate the 30th year of the family's namesake auto business in 2013.

which has now raised more than \$6 million in the fight against the disease. Gee also sponsors a benefit golf tournament each summer, which has generated more than \$100,000 for the YWCA and YMCA.

Gee said humble beginnings taught both he and Theresa — also from Montana — the importance of neighbors helping neighbors. Gee's father worked in a smelter, producing metal, and there would be times when Theresa's family would find unannounced deliveries of groceries on their porch.

"We're proud of our heritage and where we came from," he said. "It's been fun and very rewarding to give back."

Gee looks out for employees who may need a boost as well. When Justin Nye, who started with the company this September, was hospitalized after a severe fall

in late October, Gee rallied to his side. Nye's co-workers now wear "Hope for Justin" wristbands, and the business has stepped up to donate 10 percent of total revenue from November to Nye's family.

"He's our employee," Gee said. "We want to help."

Overall, Gee employs around 175 people, many of whom live in Liberty Lake. Gee's son, Ryan, who became president of the company in 2003 and now serves as CEO, says the company's foundation has always been comprised of high-quality, dependable workers.

Even though his name adorns signage outside each of his dealerships — not to mention a road near the three sites in Liberty Lake — George is quick to give credit to folks like Rich Richardson, who helped him get his start at McCollum and Ed Tabish, a

longtime business partner, who now works at Moloney + O'Neill.

"It's been a team effort," George said.

"I'm really proud of what my mom and dad started, but it wasn't their success or mine," Ryan Gee said. "It's our employees. We have just such an incredibly great group of people who work here. We feel like they are family. We've all been in this together."

When the nationwide recession hit in 2008, Gee saw sales fall 45 percent within a year. The company was able to survive the storm without massive layoffs.

"It was a scary time," Ryan Gee said. "We had a facility next door that was vacant, and we had a high amount of fixed costs. We felt if everyone could sacrifice some, we could get through it, and we did."

Business is much better at all Gee locations these days, but both George and Ryan Gee make it clear that regardless of the sales volume, the company will never outgrow its emphasis on integrity and customer service. In the post-sales realm, Gee maintains a client retention rate that is nearly double the national average.

"We'll only grow as fast as we have good quality people to join us," George said.

As he looks back on three decades, the company's most recognized people person says the wheels keep turning because of the character of those who call Gee home.

"That was our priority from the time we first started — to have great people that we were proud to have working for us," Gee said. "That's still the case today. We have people here who started 30 years ago. I'm most proud of our people."



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## YMCA football champs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The CV Bears sixth grade football team went 8-0 for the season in YMCA Grid Kids Football. The league championship team consisted of (bottom row) Colton Arrowsmith, **Ryan Ungaro**, Kyle Parks, Tucker Christensen; (second row) **Alex Knudsen**, **Carson Spence**, Rowen Bowers, Eli Morse, Rylan Simmons, Isaiah Foster, Noah Vincent; (third row) **Coach Russell**, **Conner Russell**, Zachary Loss, **Quinn Johnson**, **Cody Vaughn**, Griffin Keys, Darrian Fleck, Coach Harrison; (fourth row) **Ryan Harper**, Dominic Siegel, Kolton Thielen, Collin Mercer and Ski Chalich. (Liberty Lake residents are highlighted in **bold**.)

## Running to the end



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Several cross country teams finished their season, including some seventh grade boys from Greenacres Middle School and the Central Valley High School senior girls, whose team took fourth at state.



## CCA soccer champs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Classical Christian Academy JV soccer team had an undefeated regular season and recently took second in the Mountain League. Pictured are (bottom row) Mitch Edwards, Hudson Brandt, Jon Bosse, Ricky Thomas, Tristan Schmick, Sterling Crosswhite; (top row) RJ Abbey, Connor Sorenson, Kolton Kotoski, **Austin Huang**, Zach Edwards, Mathew Darrow, Richelle Manson, Heather Norcini, Isaac Hanson and coach Shawn Roberts. (Liberty Lake resident highlighted in **bold**.)

# These *could* be a few of my favorite things

A few ideas to make me even more grateful for life at Liberty Lake



By **Chad Kimberley**  
SPLASH COLUMN

The first year of our married life, my wife started a Thanksgiving tradition that will enter its 18th year this season: gratitude cards. The simplest of traditions has become one of the most meaningful for me. Each year, we take a notecard and write down all the things we are thankful for from the previous year. This yearly activity has, in fact, become a continuing journal or diary of the history of my family.

As I look back on previous years' notecards, I remember friends who made a huge impact on my life during certain seasons. I recall the joy that we experienced as each of our children entered this world along with plenty of nieces and a couple of nephews sprinkled in. I relive again some challenging moments that we made it through with only a few battle scars, celebratory moments that I wish I could experience again and various

moves to different parts of the country.

There are also tons of food items (I seem to really, really like food) and sports memories. I have been thankful for successful Cubs seasons (although there are fewer of those cards), Iowa Hawkeye highlights, kids sports seasons, the ability and health to run, swim and swing, and my various teams I have coached over the years.

I have already started thinking about the things I am grateful for in expectation of writing this year's card. I completed my first half-marathon alongside my wife this past spring, I have been blessed with an opportunity to coach some phenomenal young ladies the game of basketball at Freeman High School, and we have had another great year with our kids in local schools (LLES and GMS) with great teachers.

So this got me thinking about creating a gratitude card for Liberty Lake. But **NOT** what I am thankful for in Liberty Lake, that is too easy (parks and trails, friends and family, businesses and opportunities) but what I **HOPE** to experience in Liberty Lake. What moments, new establishments or new memories would merit consideration into the archives of my family gratitude cards?

Here is what I came up with.

### Liberty Lake zombie run

This would combine two of my newer favorite things: running and zombies. As I have gotten into running this past year, I have covered lots of the neighborhoods

See **GRATEFUL**, page 36

# CV girls soccer brings back state title



By **Mike Vlahovich**  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

The past two years, Central Valley's girls soccer season had ended in disappointment. The dream of reaching the State 4A Final Four had narrowly eluded them.

Until this year, when the girls not only competed in the Class 4A finals in Puyallup, but brought home the state championship after a pair of shootout victories.

Making the quarterfinals the years before, coach Andres Monrroy said before heading to the Final Four, "was a big accomplishment. But the girls like to win, and ending

with that loss was not satisfying."

On the way to the championship match against Issaquah, the Bears faced a familiar foe in Greater Spokane League Mead.

"I'm not surprised," Monrroy said. "The GSL is so competitive. Having both in the Final Four says for itself how tough the league is."

The Panthers handed CV its only loss in 19 matches this year, but the Bears got even with a shootout victory in the District 8 title match. In that match, national age group team member and freshman **Kelsey Turnbow** scored the deciding goal in the penalty kick tiebreaker after tying the score 1-1 in regulation.

The Bears topped Chiawana 3-1 in the  
See **NOTEBOOK**, page 38

## SPORTS

# Daines among returners seeking CV three-peat



SPLASH PHOTO BY MIKE VLAHOVICH

A leader on and off the court, coach Rick Sloan praises Austin Daines as a “work ethic kid.”

**By Mike Vlahovich**  
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Coach Rick Sloan isn't kidding when he says that Austin Daines does the dirty work for Central Valley's basketball Bears.

“He (even) helps the custodians keep the place up,” the dead-serious Sloan said. “He's a very work ethic kid, a leader on and off the court.”

Daines is the unsung guy, the non-scorer who not only does the little things you don't normally focus on at a game — battling on the boards, charged with defending a tough opposing post, scoring when necessary.

The Liberty Lake athlete is also the Associated Student Body president, although he plays down his role, saying that he's a figurehead. It's the vice president who attends the outside-of-school activities. But Daines is active inside the school.

A friend talked him into taking a leadership class. Later in the year, the same friend talked him into running for student body president.

“It ended up working out,” Daines said.

He helps plan Stinky Sneaker activities prior to playing in the rivalry game against University. He is involved with the school's annual food drive and is active in the LDS church.

“I like to stay busy,” said Daines, who plans to work for an uncle in Texas prior to going on a two-year Mormon mission, with college to follow.

What if there's a conflict between his school activities and basketball?

“I'd much rather play in the game,” Daines said. “To be on the court is more exhilarating.”

Like most, he worked his way up through the basketball ranks: YMCA, AAU, freshmen and junior varsity teams before earning a starting spot on varsity with the fourth-place state finishing Bears.

“Last year, I began the season competing with a senior and after a couple of games ended up starting,” Daines said, except for a couple of games. “Due to a surprise vacation at Christmas, I missed practice and lost my spot.”

He regained it and is one of seven state veteran seniors, led by multi-sport stand-outs Adam Chamberlain and Beau Byus, back with the chance to return.

Asked to assess CV's chances, Daines noted that with the graduation last year of Austin Rehkow, it will be up to the returnees to replace his scoring. During the summer, he noted that the seven worked together as a team, a fact Sloan took notice of.

“I think if we can stay healthy, we'll be

solid,” Sloan said.

Along with Daines, point guard Chamberlain and post Byus, A.J. Knudsen returns as the two guard, and Justin Fayant will be one of the best shooters in the Greater Spokane League, Sloan said.

“I'm not as big an offensive threat as Adam and Beau, but I do a little bit of shooting, rebound, get steals and hustle on the defensive side,” Daines said.

“On the court, he's one of our top defenders,” said Sloan. “He always draws a tough defensive assignment and willingly takes it on. He's a competitor and has gotten a lot better as a shooter.”

Don't be fooled; he showed he could

score last year. Daines averaged more than six points a game and scored in double figures three times, mainly in CV's more important games.

After winning two straight GSL titles, Daines said the team's first goal will be to “three-peat” before worrying about district, regionals and state.

Last year, Sloan said, he didn't know much about Daines and didn't know what to expect.

“He kind of emerged,” he said. “He wanted to play and did whatever it cost to play.”

“I don't know if I had expectations of him (then), but I do now.”



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# Put the care in health care — or whatever you do

By Jorge Rivera  
SPLASH GUEST COLUMN



When people currently think of health care, some ideas that come to mind are the Affordable Care Act, doctors, the flu and more. But what many forget about health care is the idea of caring that not only helped construct the definition of the word, but an idea that defines an entire field. According to the dictionary, health care is the maintaining and restoration of health by the treatment and prevention of disease especially by trained and licensed professionals. At my company, the level of care we strive to provide includes this definition, but also goes far beyond it.

One of the ideas the company is based on is to, "Treat every patient as if they were your own family." We've learned that you can't just care for someone's health needs without looking at other aspects of their life. People won't bother getting their flu shot if they don't have a safe, secure place to live. They won't fill their prescriptions if they don't have transportation to the pharmacy. This is why it is so important for us all to come together as a community to serve those who are in need.

One of our recent Community Champions Awards, Spokane native Reese Holford, is a selfless hero who is truly inspiring. For nearly a decade, she has

volunteered at the House of Charity, a homeless shelter for men. As someone who briefly experienced homelessness, she understands what the House of Charity residents are going through. She shows respect, compassion, understanding and even a much-needed sense of humor to the homeless people she helps. Reese demonstrates how caring can make a difference in the life of someone and how simple it can be.

This is what caring is truly about. It's not only a physical act of compassion but an emotional act, such as a smile, someone to talk to, which makes a larger impact than a physical act alone. The health care industry is in a state of change, and I hope that through this change, there will be an increased focus on caring for the patient in a holistic manner.

Leo F. Buscaglia, a man who was also known as Dr. Love, said: "Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."

Caring is simple, so go out there and make a difference in the life of someone today.

*Jorge Rivera is the director of community engagement for Molina Healthcare of Washington. He wrote this column as part of a series highlighting the Partners Advancing Character Education (PACE) trait of the month. The trait for December is "caring." For more on the Spokane Valley PACE program, visit [www.pacecommunity.org](http://www.pacecommunity.org).*

## 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](mailto:editor@libertylakesplash.com) or mailed to P.O. Box 363, Liberty Lake, WA 99019. A full name and telephone number must be included for purposes of verification. A photo of the author must be taken or provided for all Liberty Lake Voices guest columns.

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

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

## GRATEFUL

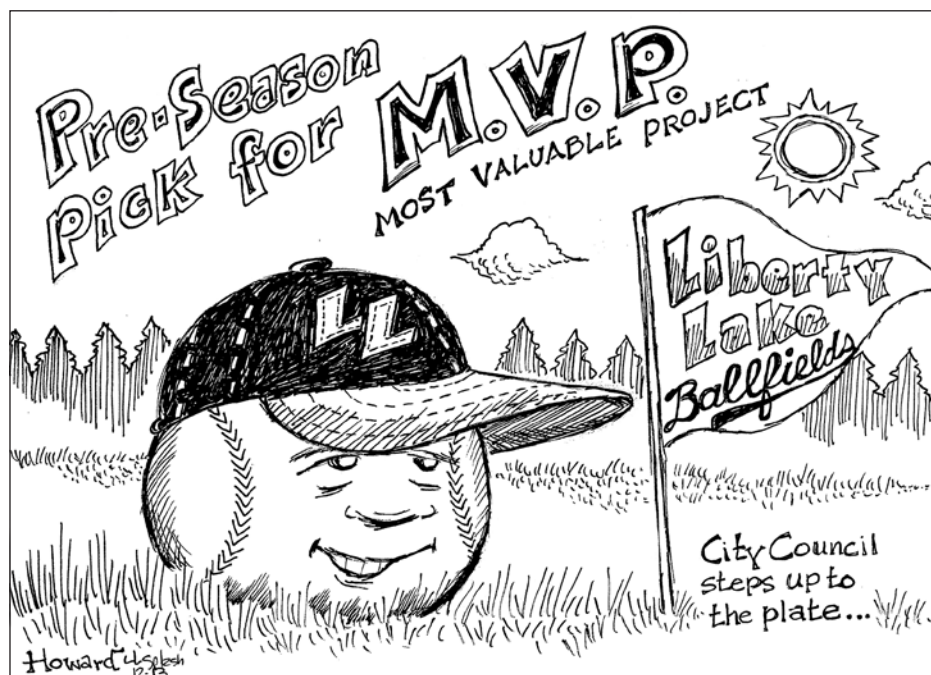
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and trails in and around Liberty Lake and have determined we have a great location for a zombie run. Recent years have seen a boon in alternative races (color run, tough mudder and dirty dash), including a zombie run where racers have to cover a 5K while zombies attempt to "infect" you. "Survivors" reach the finish line healthy and intact. I am imagining a race around the trails, maybe golf courses, the parks or even neighborhoods with a bunch of zombies trying to take a bite out of your day.

### Star Wars marathon at Pavillion Park

I love the movie series presented by Greenstone and Friends of Pavillion Park, and I like to recommend an all-night mov-

## Editorial Cartoon



## Letter to the Editor

### LL raises visibility for pancreatic cancer

It is unacceptable that there is a cancer for which the relative five-year survival rate is still in the single digits at just 6 percent, particularly when you consider that the overall five-year relative survival for all cancers is now 68 percent. Even more alarming, pancreatic cancer is anticipated to move from the fourth- to the second-leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. by 2020. This year alone, this terrible disease will claim the lives of 850 people who live in the state of Washington.

Pancreatic cancer patients and their loved ones cannot wait any longer. It is essential that we make research into pancreatic cancer a priority in this country so that real

progress can be made toward better treatment options, early detection and a cure.

I am a volunteer for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and am grateful to the city of Liberty Lake for introducing an awareness proclamation that recognized November as National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

The proclamation will also raise awareness about this devastating disease and encourage our elected officials to make fighting pancreatic cancer a priority. We must support our fellow citizens who have been afflicted by this disease and advocate for greater awareness and more resources to fight pancreatic cancer.

Terri Capozzo  
Hayden, Idaho

ie binge on the Star Wars trilogy. Now, I admit, I am a bit of a Star Wars nerd and would only view the trilogy as being movies 4-6 of the saga as worthy of an all-night marathon. I can already imagine my son and me setting up our tent, eating nothing but cavity-inducing food and playing with his Lego sets as we watch.

### Culver's in Liberty Lake

This is a pipe dream unless there is an aspiring small business owner out there who wants one very loyal and dedicated customer in Liberty Lake. Culver's is a restaurant that is primarily in the Midwest but has now reached as far west as Spearfish, S.D. Chicken strips, mashed potatoes and a frozen custard with heaps and heaps of toppings on it for dessert make for a great day for me. I would be grateful for days like that in Liberty Lake.

### Community-wide broomball game

We live near and on a lake; we must use this to our advantage. As the lake freezes over, I would be ever-so-grateful for one massive broomball game. I played broomball back in the Midwest, and it is essentially everyone on the ice, using brooms as hockey sticks, a tennis ball for the puck and of course tennis shoes instead of skates. I can imagine about 10 goals sprinkled all over the lake, 100 tennis balls that start in the middle, and nothing but bruises and laughter splashing over the frozen water.

Next year I will write my 19th gratitude card with my family, and boy would I love to add one of these ideas to my list of thankfulness — along with all the other many ways I am extremely grateful to live in Liberty Lake and be a part of this community.

Chad Kimberley is a local teacher and coach. He lives in Liberty Lake.

# THE Splash

Volume 15, Issue 14

## BUSINESS

### K9

Continued from page 30

the purchase of a building and lot at 19223 E. Appleway Ave.

Constructing their dream required taking out a \$1.5 million dollar loan. Landscaping the 2-acre campus cost an additional \$100,000.

Construction began in late May. The K9 Country Club campus houses a 2,000-square-foot pet store in the front of the facility with a wide selection of dry and canned food, toys and other pet products. Jacqueline said they can offer customers solutions to problems with animal diets as they have access to several different brands of pet food.

"We'll have everything for cats and dogs," Jacqueline said. "The level of customer service won't be like anything else. We pride ourselves in providing top-notch customer service. That is what makes us different."

To rehabilitate animals and provide physical conditioning, the Lungus purchased a \$50,000 canine hydrotherapy treadmill.

"The main goal is to provide a place for dogs recovering from any surgery," Jacqueline said. "Swimming is so much easier on the joints. They come and get the exercise they need."

A separate room is designed for the service with a Plexiglas tank filled with water to cover the animals' legs. A 400-gallon tank pumps water in to fill the hydrotherapy tank. The Lungus are asking for veterinarian referrals for animals to use the hydrotherapy machine as the time spent on the treadmill will be per individual vet's instructions.

A 57-dog kennel and cat boarding area is located on the west side of the campus. Having a staff member living on-campus means the Lungus can provide 24-hour care, including providing for late pickup or drop-off.

"This location is perfect because it's close to Spokane and Coeur d'Alene," Jacqueline said. "It's right off the freeway and easy to find."

The one service the new location won't provide is vet services, but the couple plans to work closely with Legacy Animal Hospital in Liberty Lake.

"We're just a mile down the road," Jacqueline said.

The couple's 10-year goal is to have more facilities similar to K9 Country Club, perhaps even franchising the concept.

"We have big dreams," Jacqueline said.

### Correction

Colvico Electric was misspelled in the story, "Dignitaries turn out for roundabout ribbon cutting," in the November issue of The Splash. Colvico was one of the subcontractors that worked on the new roundabout at Harvard and Mission roads.

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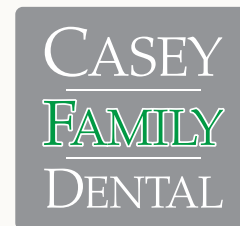
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## THE Splash

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#### 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.

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## NOTEBOOK

Continued from page 34

subregional, **Savannah Hoekstra** scoring twice, and opened state play beating Tahoma 3-1, all goals coming in the second half. Turnbow had two and Hoekstra added in insurance.

In the match to reach the state finals weekend, this time CV left no doubt. The 7-0 romp over Camas assured a trip no other Bears girls soccer team had taken. Turnbow, at her best when it counted, had a hat trick to pave the way. It was the Bears 15th win where the team allowed one goal or fewer.

In the Nov. 22 state semifinal, essentially a rubber match against Mead, the game was scoreless. In the shootout, the Bears made all five shots to Mead's three, with three-year starting goalkeeper **Jesse Kunz-Pfeiffer** coming up with a big save. Kunz-Pfeiffer continued that in the state championship game, stopping two penalty kicks en route to a 3-2 shootout victory.

The win earned CV's first-ever state championship in girls soccer and capped an impressive 18-1 season for the Bears. Hoekstra scored roughly half of CV's goals during the regular season. Turnbow nearly doubled her regular season totals during playoff contests.

But while offense is in the limelight, it was defense, anchored by Kunz-Pfeiffer, which improved as the year went on.

"They have improved amazingly in the

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last month or so," Monrroy said before leaving for the final four tournament. "They were giving up easy goals that they are now not allowing. Jesse has meant more than people know. She's team captain and an amazing leader."

Reaching the soccer milestone, he continued, was the result of hard work in the offseason.

"They wanted it really bad," he said.

## Volleyball

Central Valley's second State 4A trip in three years had its moments and disappointments.

The Bears opened the tournament victorious against Mt. Vernon 25-10, 25-19, 20-25, 25-21. But they lost the next two to finish a win away from a top-six finish.

CV was beaten by fourth place Newport (Bellevue) in a heartbreaker, winning the first two games 25-17, 25-17 before dropping three straight sets. Sophomore middle hitter **Keann White** recorded 14 kills and three blocks.

Their second loss came against fifth place Kentwood, this one in four games. **Kazlyn**

had 10 kills and the **Rockwood** sisters, **Jade** and **Meghan**, halved the assists with 13 each. **Libero Natalie Ford**, one of just two seniors on the team, had 30 digs in the two losses.

The experience gleaned from the players and first-year coach **Amanda Bailey** offers motivation to dive right in next year.

## Football

As the season transitions into winter sports, the Bears will remember their bittersweet football season.

CV finished 6-4, but missed a berth in the postseason on the last Greater Spokane League game of the 2013 season. Lack of depth and defense was a primary culprit, the team finishing seventh in yards allowed out of 10 teams.

Quarterback/basketball standout **Adam Chamberlain** finished second in the league in passing with 1,376 yards. Coupled with 637 on the ground, he was second in total offense with 2,015. He accounted for 18 touchdowns.

**Spencer Miller**, a junior, finished sixth in rushing with 852 yards and scored 10 TDs.

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## State Cross Country

Central Valley boys and girls each won trophies during their 4A races, the defending champion boys placing third and the girls taking fourth.

**Corey Hunter** led the pack with a 15:55.63 time, six seconds faster than he had run last year. Overall, CV's times were not as good as the year before, when they took home the title.

CV's girls had a better team score than the Bears' girls did during their third-place finisher in 2008. Six of seven of this year's runners finished under 20 minutes. All, except for top finisher **Sara White**, ran faster times than did their counterparts five years ago, and she was only eight seconds off CV's No. 1 finisher that year. White's a junior. **Briegan Bester**, **Brielle Crump** and **Kayla Boyer** are sophomores. **Kieran Nelson**, **Sidney Hogberg** and **Olivia Baddeley** are freshmen.

The future looks bright for coach **Den- nis McGuire's** young team.

## WATERSHED WATCH

### leaf pickup phosphorus removal

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# A half-dozen don't-miss events for December

Ask me in July, and I'll tell you life in these here parts centers around summer. The lake, the weather, the Fourth, the steady stream of events at Pavillion Park — it's tough to beat.

And while it would take an awful lot of wintry magic to outshine my summer bias, this December is making a run at it.

Christmas is a trump card right off the bat, but this year a half-dozen Liberty Lake-connected events are joining suit to make the case that this community's best month is right in front of us. Check out the following six don't-miss December events, and judge for yourself.

## 1. Liberty Lake Holiday Ball

Now in its 15th edition, the annual ball has truly become Liberty Lake's signature winter event. And for a guy like me who always has summer near the mind, the Ball is what makes this community's warmer truly season shine. The Holiday Ball is Friends of Pavillion Park's sole fundraiser for putting on the summer festival series at the park.

If you are reading this before the Dec. 7 event, there is a good chance tickets are still available for you to attend, and FOPP lowered the price to \$75 per person this year to encourage more people to attend. The usual dinner, dancing and auctions are an incredible compliment to a night out with neighbors.

Plus, not every opportunity for getting spoiled at the Davenport is associated with helping procure future entertainment on your summer calendar. Liberty Lake didn't get this way without great people supporting it. Support the efforts of FOPP and your Liberty Lake summer with a winter trip downtown.

## 2. 'A Christmas Story'

The Central Valley High School Theatre Department has a reputation for pulling out all the stops for first-class performances. Maybe that's why CV is only one of three theatre entities in Washington, Oregon and Idaho granted rights to the production of "A Christmas Story" this season.

I loved the movie growing up, but CV has plans to make it even better by adding a touch of home to the classic. Scenes from the production will include original animated figures from Spokane's downtown Crescent Building Christmas window from the 1950s, which were discovered in lost storage crates in the building's basement. Plus, real snow will fall on the CV stage as part of the performance.

This is the type of performance where you are mistaken if you think you are going in order to support some second-rate student production. Prepare to be blown away.

By Josh Johnson

SPLASH COLUMN



## 3. 'Tiny Tim's Christmas'

The Liberty Lake Community Theatre is made up of some of the most creative, fun and talented people you'll ever meet. This year, the troupe is taking on a sequel to Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." In this one, Tiny Tim is grown up and in need of a lesson of Ebenezer-like proportions.

LLCT pulls off this comedy/mystery with some new names this time around, but many of them you may recognize from other facets of life in Liberty Lake. Support your neighbors with this community production.

## 4. Winter Festival 2013

This year's version of the city of Liberty Lake's annual tree lighting event isn't your older brother's tree lighting event. When the city started this tradition a few years back, it was all about the cookies, carols, community and lights.

This year, it's still about all of that, plus Snowgusta! What is Snowgusta, you ask? I did too, and I was told it is mini golf like it has never been played before. Add in things like turkey bowling and chestnut roasting, and the city's Winter Festival appears to have raised the bar again this Dec. 6.

## 5. Blessings Under the Bridge

This Liberty Lake-founded outreach to the homeless of downtown Spokane is holding its 7th annual winter event Dec. 14.

Under the leadership of Jessica and Mike Kovac, this event offers a great outlet for your holiday serving energy. Basically, it's all about setting up a brunch with hot drinks, treats clothing, winter gear, haircuts, music and more — all intended to bless a population who don't typically have parties thrown on their behalf.

Donations are needed in advance of the event, and volunteers are needed to help. If you've never been, you may not realize how big of a deal this is in Spokane — and what a great opportunity it is for you or the entire family to get involved in serving the less fortunate.

For more, visit [www.butb.org](http://www.butb.org).

## 6. Illuminate for Literacy

Liberty Lake Kiwanis Club members Charmaine Peterson and Linda Dockrey stopped by the office recently to explain a truly resplendent new tradition they are importing from the southwest. On Christmas



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Liberty Lake Community Theatre is staging "Tiny Tim's Christmas" this month.

Eve, some communities sell luminarias to line driveways, pathways and patios. Why not Liberty Lake?

The Kiwanis Club is donating money raised to both its scholarship fund and the Liberty Lake Municipal Library. The ready-to-light luminarias are \$9 a dozen, and — beat this — they will be delivered to your door before Christmas Eve by a friendly Kiwanian (is there any other kind?).

For more information or to be part of this worthwhile new tradition, visit [www.libertylakekiwanis.org](http://www.libertylakekiwanis.org).

## Bonus round

Allow me to close with six more snippets that may not be connected to Liberty Lake, but have me amped up for December 2013 nonetheless.

1. "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," my personal all-time favorite staple of Christmas theatre, is being performed at Post Falls' Jacklin Arts & Cultural Center the final two weekends before Dec. 25.

2. The last time I saw Sophia Caruso, she was in a Sunday School class I was teaching at Valley Real Life a few years back. Next time will be in primetime on NBC Dec. 5, when this Spokane star will play one of the von Trapp children in a special performance of "The Sound of Music" starring Carrie Underwood.

3. At the time of this writing, my beloved Washington State Cougars football team looks likely to actually be playing in a bowl game in December. If it feels like it's been a decade since Cougar fans could say that, it's because it has been a decade (Holiday Bowl,

Dec. 30, 2003).

4. On Dec. 19, I will be building a gingerbread house with my youngest daughter in her Central Valley Kindergarten Center class. I'm aiming for role reversal from what happened when I did the same thing with my oldest daughter a few years back. This time she gets to be the architect, I get to be the one who eats everything in sight.

5. I have a soft spot for the annual December Business Connections Breakfast put on by the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber, because the theme is always "Season of Sharing," and local nonprofits take the spotlight. This year's event is 7 a.m. Dec. 20 at the Mirabeau Park Hotel.

6. Best of all, this season is filled with connections. I will get to see most of my favorite people in the world this December. I hope your life will be blessed this season with dear relationships, too.

To neighbors and friends in Liberty Lake: Have yourself a merry little Christmas. And while you're at it, have a holly jolly entire month.

*Josh Johnson is editor and publisher of The Splash. Write to him at [josh@libertylakesplash.com](mailto:josh@libertylakesplash.com).*

## IF YOU GO ...

Want to be a part of the items described on this page? Information on tickets, locations and times for most of these listings is available on The Splash calendar on page 16.



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