

THE Splash

LIBERTY LAKE'S COMMUNITY NEWSMAGAZINE
DECEMBER 2015

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Eat, Shop & Be Merry

Your guide to *local* gift ideas, menu items and holiday tips **Page 33**

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FORGES ITS
ROOTS IN SILVER
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Comprehensive consultation

Dohrn advises city in development deliberations

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

With a resonant voice that seems more suited to talk radio or a play-by-play broadcast, Gregg Dohrn added another layer to this year's riveting discussion of the Liberty Lake sign code. Mix in Dohrn's extensive municipal development background, and his facilitation of the debate was akin to Vin Scully calling a Los Angeles Dodgers playoff game.

Dohrn, an instructor with the Urban and Regional Planning program at Eastern Washington University, is in the first year of a two-year consulting contract with Liberty Lake. One of his duties included playing emcee in the emotionally charged consideration of changes to signage regulations in place since incorporation. He was also asked to streamline the municipal comprehensive plan, a blueprint for development meant to align with community values and ensure adequate city services for residents and businesses over the next 20 years. In 2016, Dohrn will tackle the city's development regulations.

When it comes to Liberty Lake's sign code alterations — electronic changeable message signs will be allowed on the I-90 corridor and by public entities starting next year — Dohrn said he appreciated the feedback from all sides.

"What can be better than people caring about their community?" he said. "I have an old newspaper article from another community on my bulletin board that is a good reminder. The headline states, 'Planning commission meeting moved to high school gym, sign code on the agenda.' The planning commission and the City Council worked very hard at finding the right balance for Liberty Lake, and they are to be commended for not backing down or walking away from a tough issue."

Dohrn is no stranger to discussions of planning and land use on the municipal level. He served as director of community development in the westside cities of Edgewood, Kenmore and Burien and spent time on the public works side in Tacoma during the early part of his career. From 1982 to 1989, Dohrn served as assistant director of the Washington state Department of Community Development. He launched his own consulting company, G.R. Dohrn and Associates, in 2005 and has taught at EWU since 2010.

A native of Renton, Dohrn grew up



A Cup of Joe

Newsmaker Q&A

the oldest of five kids. He graduated from Hazen High School in his hometown before moving on to the University of Puget Sound, where he earned a degree in urban studies. By 1978, he had a master's in urban planning from Portland State.

In high school, Dohrn was part of a project that mapped out a design for a regional park and sports complex. When it came time to declare a major in college, urban studies offered him the opportunity to take classes in interdisciplinary subjects like history, political science, economics, sociology and environmental science.

A popular lecturer on the regional government circuit, Dohrn has presented to a wide variety of groups, including the Washington Economic Development Association, the Washington State Association of Realtors Conference and the Washington State Department of Transportation. He also facilitated a recent appointment process involving applicants to the Spokane Valley City Council.

Q. How and when did you first begin working with the city of Liberty Lake?

A. Earlier this year we began work on a two-year process to update the city's comprehensive plan and development regulations in accordance with the provisions of the Washington state Growth Management Act. Even though it is a requirement, I think it's always a good idea for the leadership in a community to periodically reflect on all that they have accomplished to discuss what they hope to accomplish in the future. I've had the unique opportunity to work with many of the recently incorporated cities throughout the state, and I must say that I am thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to work with the leadership in Liberty Lake and to get to know and appreciate the community.

Q: What were some of your initial impressions of the city's comprehensive plan and development code?

A: My initial impressions were very positive. I was impressed by the clarity of the

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NEWS

DOHRN

Continued from page 2

community's vision for the future and the thoroughness of the regulations. As we reviewed the comprehensive plan with the mayor and City Council, the planning commission, city staff, local service providers, business leaders, developers and the public, it became very clear that there was a high degree of satisfaction with the path that the community was taking, which made our job easier. As a result, we were able to focus our efforts on streamlining the plan and making it more user-friendly. As they say, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!" In this case, a little less was best and we were able to reduce the number of goals and policies and the size of the document without reducing the focus of the vision.

Q: From an urban planning standpoint, what are some of the features that make Liberty Lake unique?

A: While the community has deep roots, much of the building and development is relatively new, and it has been very well-planned and built. I think that a lot of credit should go to the development community and those involved in the incorporation efforts who recognized the unique opportunity that the community had and made the most of it. The walkability of the community is probably the most defining feature. It is great to see so many people out walking, jogging, pushing strollers, riding bikes, driving golf carts and taking a minute to stop and visit with their neighbors. The preservation of open space is another great attribute, not just the golf courses, but the parks, the pocket parks, the trails and the greenways. The integration of the parks into a comprehensive system of recreation opportunities is also noteworthy. Liberty Lake looks, feels and functions like a well-planned community, and it is.

Q: The comprehensive plan is probably not a document that most citizens of Liberty Lake have picked up for recreational reading. Why is it so important?

A: A comprehensive plan is a blueprint, a game plan, a decision-making tool. It really



SPLASH PHOTO BY CRAIG HOWARD

Gregg Dohrn began working for the city of Liberty Lake as a consultant earlier this year. The instructor at Eastern Washington University helped streamline the municipal comprehensive plan and served as facilitator of a discussion that resulted in changes to the sign code.

is the foundation of a community. It defines the character of the community and the features that distinguishes it from other communities. It describes what the community would like to accomplish and is used to guide the allocation of resources and to help make decisions. The first assignment we give our students majoring in planning at Eastern is to read the comprehensive plan from their hometown. It is always interesting to hear their reaction. The assignment tends to be a real eye-opener and gives them a whole new appreciation for their community and the practice of governance. It's tough to beat a well-written novel or reading the lessons of history, but a comprehensive plan should not be overlooked; it really is an invaluable document.

Q: Mayor Peterson commended you at

a recent council meeting for helping the city update its comprehensive plan earlier than any jurisdiction in the region this year. What were some of the keys to that process and how do you feel the plan is different than it was before?

A: The credit in this case really goes to Mayor Steve Peterson, the City Council, (City Administrator) Katy Allen, and (Planning and Building Services Manager) Amanda Tainio. It is my experience that priority things get done. Simply stated, they said that updating the comprehensive plan was a priority and was to be taken seriously, and it was. They allocated the resources and time and made it happen. My job was to listen and to help give voice to what I heard. One of the keys is that the plan isn't different than it was before. We heard very clearly

that the community likes the way it is and that there is a strong desire to continue going in that direction. The plan provides an excellent framework to address some of the important opportunities in the community like the design of the upcoming improvements to Liberty Lake Road and the design of the improvements for the Town Square Park/community center, which will be a great legacy project.

Q: What have been some of your impressions of working with city staff and council?

A: I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. I have had the wonderful opportunity to work with elected officials and staff from communities all over the state, and it is so much fun to work with leaders that have a clear sense of what they want to accomplish, that clearly express themselves, and that work well together, even when taking on tough issues. Katy Allen is a graduate of Eastern and was recently featured in our alumni magazine and appropriately so. She is great to work with. In addition to the high degree of professionalism, what has impressed me the most is how polite and well-mannered everyone is. It really is rewarding both professionally and personally.

Q: Is it a challenge to juggle your duties as a college professor with your consulting work?

A: Not at all. In fact, it is just the opposite; they are very complementary. My primary responsibility is to our students and to bring real-world planning experiences into the classroom and to create opportunities for them to apply what they have learned in the classroom, so that upon graduation they can hit the deck running. That is one of the things that really distinguishes the Urban Planning program at Eastern from other universities and degree programs, the emphasis that we place on hands-on, community-based learning experiences. As a practicing planner, I have over 37 years of experience in the fields of community and economic development to draw upon, and continuing to work with communities keeps me current and enables me to create even

See DOHRN, page 7

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NEWS

August vote targeted for community center/pool

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

On a night when ballots were tabulated throughout Spokane County, the discussion at Liberty Lake City Hall focused on an election well into next year.

City Administrator Katy Allen provided City Council on Nov. 3 with an outline of plans for a proposed aquatic facility/community center at Town Square Park, including the potential of a bond vote next August. Allen said the cost for the project has been estimated at \$12 million.

The city will find out on Dec. 3 if the state Project Review Committee — which considers “design-build” proposals like the Town Square plan — has given its stamp of approval to the Liberty Lake project. While the idea could move forward without the committee’s endorsement, the support would be a boon to the city’s cause and, in Allen’s words, “mean putting more money toward construction and less to fees and services.”

In September, council voted unanimously to retain a project manager for what is being called “Town Square phase II.” At the first council meeting of October, the governing board agreed to a project management contract with OAC Services Inc., while Thaxton Parkinson PLLC was approved as legal representative for the project.

Cost of the project manager has been pegged at \$50,000, an amount already set aside in the 2015 budget. Allen has also brought up future expenditures of \$125,000 that would include a design-build contractor, program development, design concepts, a construction estimate, building schedule and a contingency cushion.

Allen acknowledged that a public vote next summer represented “a pretty aggressive timetable.” If approved by the required supermajority, or at least 60 percent, construction would move forward with a completion goal of November 2017.

Allen said she would be meeting with representatives of a Community Facilities Task Force on Dec. 8. The group compiled a detailed report for council on options for a community center/pool that recommended the project be built on city-owned property along Meadowwood Lane that is the site of Town Square Park and a Fallen Heroes Circuit Course station. In 2009, a proposed city center/library at the same location was rejected by over 61 percent of voters.

Gary Bernardo of Bernardo/Wills Architects, who served as a consultant to the task force, told council in September that a design-build approach represented “the lowest risk and most reliable, accurate method” for projects like the one being considered.

“With this approach, you have a very

IN THE BOOKS, ON THE DOCKET

A look back and ahead
at news from City Hall

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

In the Books (November)

- City Engineer Andrew Staples gave an overview of two transportation projects scheduled for next year, starting with a major renovation of Liberty Lake Road. The upgrade will include new pavement, medians, lighting, additional turning lanes and widened sidewalks. A roundabout at the intersection of Mission and Molter is also on deck for 2016. The city is awaiting word on a grant application to the state Transportation Improvement Board that would cover approximately 65 percent of the overall cost.

- Terri Capozzo of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network of the Inland Northwest accepted a proclamation from the mayor designating the city’s participation in World Pancreatic Cancer Day on Nov. 13. Capozzo, who lost her husband to the disease, said the day and events surrounding it “provide hope” to patients and their families.

- Wendy Smith of Greater Spokane Inc. and Ian Von Essen of Spokane County gave a presentation on GSI’s Regional Economic Site Selector 3.0 update. The economic development website originated in 2007 as a resource for businesses considering relocation in the greater Spokane area. Liberty Lake is part of a consortium along with Spokane, Cheney, Spokane Valley, Spokane County and Avista involved in the project.

strong certainty that what you’re showing to the public you can actually afford,” Bernardo said.

Allen pointed to Feb. 2 as the date council would vote on the design-build concept. She said public outreach would begin in May and lead up to the bond vote in August.

“I want to make sure to give voters enough time to learn about this project,” Allen said.

Mayor Pro Tem Cris Kaminskas suggested that the city talk to the task force about forming a political action committee (PAC) that could raise funds and get the word out about the vote. Mayor Steve Peterson said the city would consider a 30-

- City Attorney Sean Boutz told council that a recent court decision specified that phone and text messaging by public employees can be considered part of the public record if the information pertains to city matters. The regulation, Boutz said, is intended “to make sure everything is open and transparent.”

- Council confirmed the mayor’s appointments of three residents to the municipal planning commission. Lynn Diddens will replace Mike Kennedy as a voting member while Jesse Fox and Richard Siler will be added as adjunct members.

- Pam Almeida, executive director of Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels, gave a presentation to council emphasizing the increased need for senior nutrition amidst funding challenges. Almeida oversees a nonprofit agency that serves 3,500 clients and provides 275,000 meals annually. The program’s presence in Liberty Lake includes home delivery and a communal lunch site at Talon Hills known as the Silver Café.

- Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District Commissioner Steve Skipworth told council that Liberty Lake is at its lowest water level in 57 years. Skipworth said the unusually dry year serves as another reminder of the importance of wise water practices.

- The regularly scheduled council meeting on Nov. 17 was cancelled due to the severe windstorm that swept through the region. The meeting was rescheduled for Nov. 24, after publication of the December Splash. As usual, a report from the meeting will be posted shortly after the meeting at www.libertylakesplash.com.

- City maintenance crews cleaned

streets and pathways and restored street signs following the windstorm. The crews did not address damage on private property.

- The Liberty Lake Library has been designated as a warming center during harsh winter weather.

On the Docket (December)

- The city will recognize the 1 millionth visitor to the HUB Sports Center at the council meeting on Dec. 1.

- Mayor Steve Peterson will present his appointments to the Lodging Tax Advisory Board — Ranjit Gara, owner of the Best Western Peppertree, and Jason Fierst, general manager of the Quality Inn — for council approval.

- Council will consider approval of an interlocal agreement between the city and the Port of Seattle on Dec. 1.

- Council will consider approval of municipal recreation service agreements for next year on Dec. 1.

- A memorandum of understanding between Spokane County, Spokane Valley and the Central Valley School District regarding the Sportsplex project will be presented for a council vote on Dec. 1.

- Council is expected to approve a contract with Gregg Dohrn of G.R. Dohrn and Associates for a review of development regulations in 2016.

- The city will present the annual awards to municipal employees on Dec. 15.

- Council will vote on a second read ordinance adopting the 2016 budget on Dec. 15.

- A holiday social will take place at City Hall at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 15 prior to the 7 p.m. City Council meeting.

year bond to pay for the project.

Council to vote on property tax rate

Finance Director R.J. Stevenson provided an overview of the city’s property tax history on Nov. 3 as a prelude to a council vote that could raise the toll 1 percent for 2016.

The city has the option to increase property tax or “bank” the 1 percent hike for a future year. If approved, the new rate would mean an additional \$4 per year on a home valued at \$250,000, Stevenson said. The adjusted fee of \$1.74 per \$1,000 of assessed value would still place the city’s rate lower than surrounding jurisdictions like Spokane Valley, Cheney,

Spokane and Millwood.

Stevenson pointed to Liberty Lake’s rise in assessed value — overall property worth now hovers around \$1.2 billion — as a reason for the city’s drop in property tax rate over the years. In 2003, with assessed value at approximately \$481 million, the rate stood at \$2.03 per \$1,000.

The city’s highest property tax rate since incorporation in 2001 was \$2.08 in 2005, while the lowest rate checked in at \$1.51 in 2009. Revenue from property tax is set aside for public safety and the library. The overall property tax rate — including portions paid to the Spokane Valley Fire Department, Spokane County Conservation Futures and five other taxing entities — will run just over \$14 per \$1,000 in 2016.

NEWS

■ ■ ■ News Brief

County appoints new CEO

Spokane County commissioners voted at the end of October to offer the job of County CEO to Gerry Gemmill, a former county manager who was in line to replace outgoing CEO Marshall Farnell.

He was offered the position on a 2-1 vote of the commissioners. An employment contract was finalized in early November, and he is scheduled to officially begin the first week of December.

Gemmill started working for the county in 1975 as a heavy equipment operator and put himself through college earning both his bachelor's and master's degrees. He then worked his way up through several management positions at the county and the city of Spokane. His most recent position was as vice president of finance and administration at Whitworth University.

Gemmill's contract is good through June 2019. For more, visit www.spokane-county.org.

DOHRN

Continued from page 4

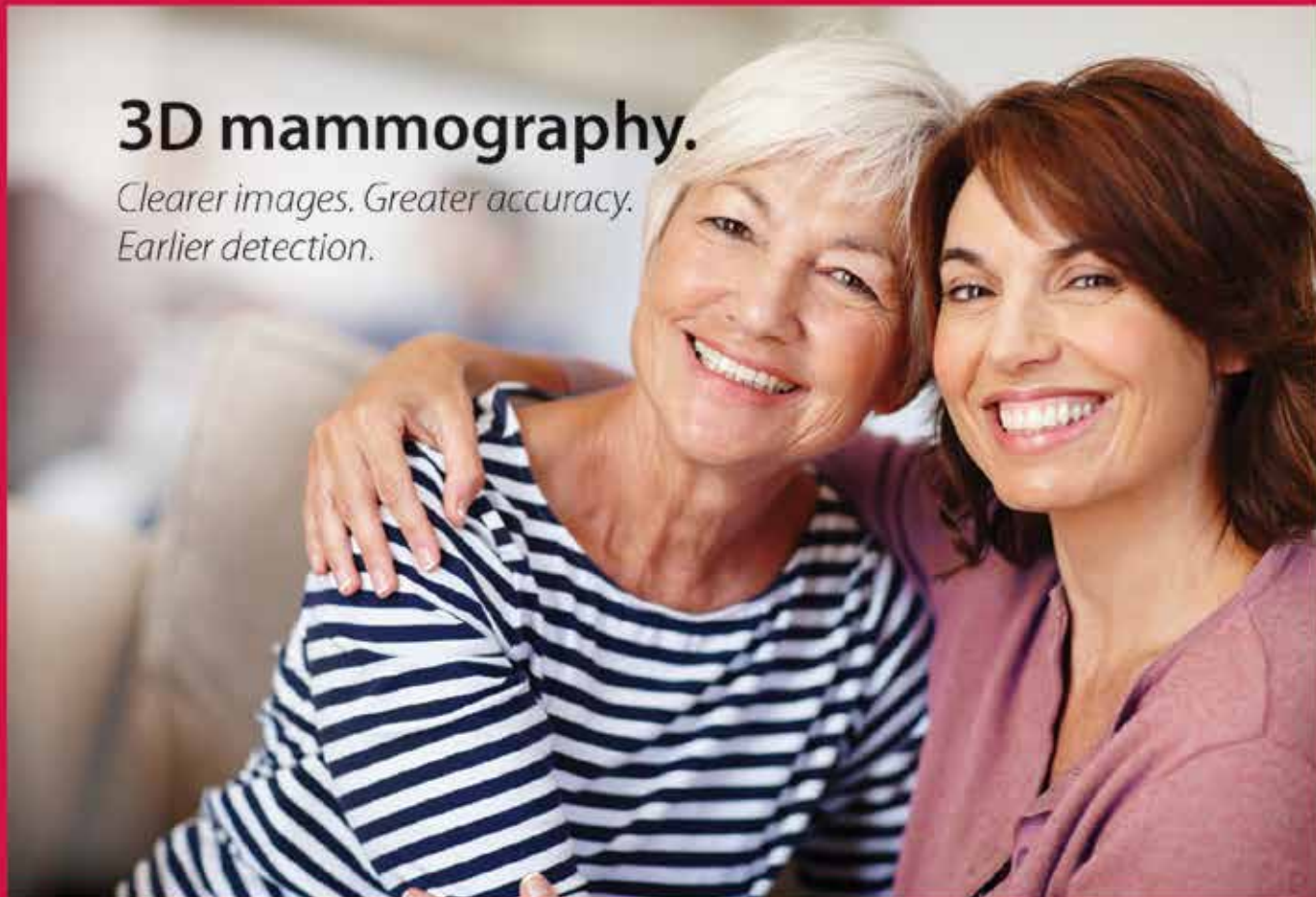
more opportunities for our students. The students really appreciate learning about real-life situations. In addition, because we are so well connected with communities and the professional planning community, we have students involved in wonderful internships throughout the state as well as many community-based planning projects.

Q: Finally, how do you see Liberty Lake developing as a community in the years to come?

A: That is a very good question. In one sense, the die has already been cast. Master-planned developments for the rest of the residential areas in the community have already been approved, so the community knows how much growth and development they can expect and be reassured that they can continue to expect high-quality building and development, so there's a degree of certainty in that regard. I think that the focus then will be on further refining the vision for the area in and around the downtown area as it continues to evolve and new investment decisions are made. The improvements being designed for Liberty Lake Road will be a very nice addition, especially if it includes the undergrounding of some of the overhead power lines. The most exciting opportunity is the planning under way for the Town Square Park/community center downtown. That is a real legacy project and that will define the character of the downtown and provide a tremendous focal point for community gatherings and events. It's really a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the community and a real opportunity to make a difference.

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*Comparative data using 3D and 2D mammography to detect invasive cancer, BreastCancer.org, June 2014.

NEWS

After the storm



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Michael Hassett of Liberty Lake snapped this shot of damage sustained at Trailhead Golf Course during the Nov. 17 wind storm that impacted the Inland Northwest. Hundreds of Liberty Lake residents were left without power — some for multiple days.

Dunne defeats Beckett to earn re-election to council



First reported at
libertylakesplash.com

By Craig Howard
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Dan Dunne will return to his accustomed seat on the Liberty Lake City Council after defeating former council colleague, Josh Beckett, in Tuesday's general election. Dunne garnered 61 percent of the vote through Wednesday's second day of ballot counting to earn another four-year term.

"I'm grateful to all of my supporters and look forward to continuing the work of building our community," Dunne said after the victory. "I will continue to engage businesses, residents and our neighboring jurisdictions to strengthen our regional leadership and build on our future."

A former member of the city's planning commission, Dunne ran unopposed in the fall of 2011 and was the only representative of the governing board to face a challenger on the latest ballot. Council Members Shane Brickner and Bob Moore along with Mayor Pro Tem Cris Kaminkas were ushered in without opposition on Tuesday, as was Mayor Steve Peterson.

Dunne ran ads and posted yard signs leading up to the Nov. 3 vote while Beckett took a lower key approach. In September, Beckett said his campaign would consist of "face-to-face interaction."

"The voters decided to retain Dan, and I fully appreciate and respect the vote," Beckett said after the ballots were tallied. "I want what's best for our community, and I'm honored to have had the opportunity to have served."

Beckett and Dunne were split on a number of key municipal issues, including the utility tax. Beckett maintained that the city installed it during a turbulent economic time and should consider repealing it. Dunne characterized the tax as a vital source of road maintenance funding.

Beckett defeated Kaminkas in the 2009 general election and served through 2013. He opted against re-election and was replaced by Hugh Severs, who edged out Jeff Sitton two years ago. Beckett ran against Peterson in 2011 for mayor, falling by a large margin.

In other ballot measures relevant to Liberty Lake, Kottayam V. Natarajan Jr. ran unopposed for re-election to the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District Board of Commissioners. He will rejoin Commissioners Tom Agnew and Steve Skipworth on the LLSWD board.

In the vote for Central Valley School Board, Cindy McMullen (District 1), Debra Long (District 3) and Keith Clark (District 4) all ran alone on the ballot. Former CVSD Superintendent Mike Pearson defeated challenger Kristopher Pockell to remain on the Spokane Valley Fire Department Board of Commissioners. SVFD Commissioner Joe Dawson ran unopposed.

Spokane County Proposition 1 — which would have increased the number of seats on the Spokane County Board of Commissioners from three to five — failed after only receiving 46 percent approval.

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1142 N Tanglewood Ln • \$199,700 <i>Listing & Selling Agent</i>	711 N Lancashire Ln • \$550,000
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24014 E Broadway Ct • \$366,250	23421 E Broken Lance Ln • \$465,000
24163 E Dreamwood Cir • \$395,000 <i>Listing & Selling Agent</i>	75 N Legacy Ridge Dr • \$469,850
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NEWS

SVFD Report

A total of 76 emergency calls originating in greater Liberty Lake* were reported by the Spokane Valley Fire Department between Oct. 22 and Nov. 18, as follows:

Emergency medical service calls	59
Motor vehicle accidents	4
Fires	2
Service calls	1
Building alarms	2
Power line	1
Unauthorized burning	2
Dispatched and cancelled en route	5

**This report reflects the service area for SVFD Station No. 3 in Liberty Lake, which includes areas inside and outside of city limits*

Highlights

- **Motor vehicle accident** — SVFD crews responded to a two car rear-end accident at 3:30 p.m. Oct. 30 in the 1600 block of East Appleway Avenue. There was moderate damage to both cars. The two drivers and two children were wearing seat belts. There were no injuries and no leaking fluids.
- **Unauthorized burning** — Just before 10 p.m. Nov. 3, SVFD crews were dispatched to the 19200 block of East Boone Avenue in response to a possible illegal burn. Crews found a legal recreational fire and made contact with the calling party to advise of current burning rules. Citizens may use campfires, fire pits, portable outdoor fireplaces, backyard barbecues, chimineas and other patio/deck warmers, as long as approved fuel is used and other requirements are satisfied. Visit www.spokanevalleyfire.com for details. The outdoor burn ban was lifted on Oct. 23.
- **Wall fire** — SVFD crews responded to a reported fire in a bathroom wall in a single-story home in the 20200 block of Baldwin Avenue shortly after 8 a.m. Nov. 7. The residents and their dog were advised to evacuate. Crews found a small smoldering fire in the wall near the junction box. Avista was alerted, and crews stayed on the scene to clear smoke from the home.

About SVFD

The Spokane Valley Fire Department serves the cities of Liberty Lake, Millwood and Spokane Valley and unincorporated areas of Spokane County, including the communities of Otis Orchards, Pasadena Park and the area surrounding Liberty Lake, with a combined population of 125,000 across approximately 75 square miles. In 2014, SVFD firefighters and paramedics responded to more than 13,800 emergency calls. Established in 1940, the department operates 10 stations providing fire suppression, emergency medical services, technical rescue, vehicle extrication, hazardous materials response, swift water rescue, fire investigation, fire prevention, commercial property inspection, CPR and fire safety training. For more information, call 928-1700 or visit www.spokanevalleyfire.com.

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If your symptoms worsen or you believe you are experiencing an emergency, please call 911 or go to the nearest Emergency Department as soon as possible.

ROCKWOOD

NEWS

Police Report

The following items were among those reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department from Oct. 19 to Oct. 26 and from Nov. 1 to Nov. 16. Reports from Oct. 27 to Oct. 31 were not available. The report is listed in chronological order.

Incidents and arrests

• **Malicious mischief** — At 6 p.m. Oct. 19, LLPD responded to the 1700 block of North Cavalier Court for malicious mischief. Complainant reported the rear window of his vehicle had been broken out some time Oct. 17. The estimated cost to replace the window is \$300.

• **Theft** — At 12:30 p.m. Oct. 20, LLPD responded to the 23000 block of East Broadway Avenue for a theft. Complainant reported a package containing car parts totaling \$3,750 had not been delivered, though the shipping company was reporting it had. The complainant was instructed by the shipper to file a theft report to be reimbursed in case the item was stolen from his porch.

• **Argument** — At 2:05 p.m. Oct. 20, LLPD responded to the 1400 block of North Aladdin Road for an argument. Complainant reported there were people yelling at the end of the road. An officer arrived and spoke to the two individuals who were arguing over children's toys. It was verbal only and the parties agreed to be peaceful.

• **Malicious mischief** — At 2:59 p.m. Oct. 22, LLPD responded to the 700 block of North Molter Road for a malicious mischief. Complainant reported a male at the skate park was spray painting a ramp. An officer arrived and the male had left the location in a vehicle registered to an address in Liberty Lake. The officer attempted to make contact, but no one was at the location. The incident was forwarded to the detective for follow-up.

• **Suspicious circumstance** — At 6:19 p.m. Oct. 22, LLPD responded to the 1400 block of North Caufield Court for a suspicious circumstance. An officer made contact with a subject who painted a four-square box in the roadway for her children to play with. The subject reported she hadn't thought about potential problems until after she'd painted it and would scrub it off the next day.

• **Argument** — At 10:12 p.m. Oct. 22, LLPD responded to an argument at the 21000 block of East Courtyard Lane. Complainants heard yelling and screaming near the location. Officers responded to find a female subject outside the location who reported the male and female at the residence refused to give her keys to her. After speaking to all parties involved, it was learned the subject was highly intoxicated and assaulted the male after he would not give her keys to her so she

could drive home. The subject then started rummaging through the garbage and throwing things on the floor. The male involved stopped her, and she proceeded to scratch and hit him at which point he pushed her outside and locked the door. Screaming ensued. Because the male involved didn't wish to press charges, a taxi was called for the subject.

• **Suspicious circumstance** — At 9:48 p.m. Oct. 23, LLPD responded to the 24000 block of East Mission Avenue for a suspicious circumstance. Complainant reported juveniles were hanging out late at night near the city barn at Rocky Hill Park. An officer arrived and found marijuana and paraphernalia hidden under a rock at the location. The items were taken to the police department and checked into property for destruction.

• **Found property** — At 12:16 p.m. Oct. 24, LLPD responded to East Country Vista Drive and North Whitman Lane for found property. Complainant provided an officer with keys to a vehicle and a license plate he found on the roadway. The officer was able to locate the owner of the license plate, and the keys were checked into found property.

• **DV arrest** — A man was arrested at 6:13 a.m. Nov. 2 at the 1600 block of North Oakland Street for domestic violence assault. Complainant reported she was grabbed by the arm by the man after a struggle for her phone. He was booked into Spokane County Jail after a witness to the event came forward to corroborate the events.

• **Burglary** — At 8:51 a.m. Nov. 2, LLPD responded to the 19000 block of East Cataldo Avenue for a burglary. Complainant reported that a unit had been opened and three televisions taken from inside. Other items were also taken during the burglary. The incident was placed under investigation. Total loss was estimated at \$1,610.

• **Burglary** — At 9:17 p.m. Nov. 2, LLPD responded to the 24000 block of East Spotted Owl Lane for a burglary. Complainant reported his home was broken into and items were moved around. Officers arrived at the location and observed no forced entry. The doors appeared to have been locked and nothing from the residence was missing.

• **Theft** — At 4 p.m. Nov. 3, LLPD responded to the 22000 block of East Appleway Avenue for theft and a hit and run. Complainant called to report a vehicle had stolen gas from the location and proceeded to drive into another vehicle while trying to flee. The vehicle then continued into Idaho. Idaho law enforcement was advised.

• **Accident** — At 6:20 a.m. Nov. 3, LLPD responded to a traffic accident at East

Calls for service	
Alarm	1
Animal problem	1
Attempt to locate	1
Burglary	2
Citizen assist	5
Citizen dispute	2
Domestic violence	3
Fugitive	5
Harassment	1
Lost or found property	4
Malicious mischief	2
Not classified	4
Property theft	3
Recovered stolen property	1
Suspicious person/circumstance	7
Traffic accident	1
Traffic offense	11
Citations	
Assault	2
Commercial license required	1
Defective light	1
Driving without license with ID	1
DUI	1
DWLS	13
Expired registration	6
Failure to stop at red light	1
Failure to wear safety belt	1
Following too close	1
Liability insurance	7
Making false statement	1
Negligent driving	1
No mirrors	1
No splash aprons/fenders	1
Passing in no passing zone	1
Speeding violation	11
Texting while driving	1
Use of cell phone	1
— Reported by the Liberty Lake Police Department, Oct. 19-Nov. 9 (this report was not available for the week of Nov. 10-16)	

Appleway Avenue and Spokane Bridge Road. Complainant reported a deer ran across the road in front of her vehicle.

• **Found property** — At 8:57 a.m. Nov. 4, LLPD received found property at the 23000 block of East Mission Avenue. Complainant reported finding a debit card along Settler Road. The banking agency requested the card be destroyed as the owner was the victim of a theft.

• **Vehicle recovered** — At 3:41 p.m. Nov. 5, LLPD responded to the 1700 block of North Madson Road for a recovered stolen vehicle. Complainant reported that he had originally reported his vehicle stolen to another agency and had since put an update on Facebook informing people his vehicle had been stolen. He later received a message from an unknown

See POLICE, page 13

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Thanksgiving Pumpkin Pie Recipe

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 2 large eggs
- 1 can (15 oz.)
- 1 can (12 fl. oz.)
- 1 unbaked 9-inch pie crust
- Whipped cream

Instructions

Mix sugar, cinnamon, salt, ginger and cloves together in a small bowl. Beat eggs in a large bowl. Stir in pumpkin and sugar-spice mixture. Gradually stir in evaporated milk. Pour into pie shell.

Bake in preheated oven at 425°F for 15 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350°F; bake for 40 to 50 minutes or until knife inserted near center comes out clean. Cool on wire rack for 2 hours. Serve immediately or refrigerate. Top with whipped cream before serving.



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NEWS

POLICE

Continued from page 11

person identifying the vehicle and giving a location to where the vehicle could be found. The complainant went to the location, recovered his vehicle, and informed the police department there were \$80 in items missing from inside.

• **Harassment arrest** — A 40-year-old Spokane Valley man was arrested at 6:37 p.m. Nov. 5 at North Grady Road and East Mission Avenue for DUI, DWLS and a warrant — as well as malicious harassment after threatening to kill the officer and the officer's wife and children. He was booked into Spokane County Jail.

• **Agency assist arrests** — At 1:11 p.m. Nov. 6, LLPD responded to an agency assist at Burns and Wellesley. Officers detained two suspects involved in a theft near the location, identified as transient males, ages 25 and 19. Both men were arrested on outstanding warrants.

• **Burglary** — At 7:45 a.m. Nov. 7, LLPD responded to a commercial burglary at the 19000 block of East Cataldo Avenue. Complainant reported that sometime during the evening, a flat screen television was stolen from inside an RV. Estimated loss is \$750. Damage was also done to fencing around the property, where a

piece had been cut out to gain access to the property.

• **Arrest** — A man was arrested at 11:18 a.m. Nov. 7 at westbound Interstate 90 on a warrant for second-degree theft, DWLS and making false statements.

• **Domestic violence** — At 12:08 a.m. Nov. 9, LLPD responded to the 700 block of North Knudson Street for a malicious mischief domestic violence. Complainant reported someone looked to be damaging a neighbor's vehicle. When officers arrived, a male from the location was running after the suspect vehicle. An officer made contact with the vehicle and identified a 16-year-old female as the suspect. The female was found to be the juvenile male's ex-girlfriend, and admitted to spraying the truck with a black substance that you could "peel off." Damage to the vehicle is estimated at between \$1,500 and \$2,000. Charges have been forwarded to the Juvenile Prosecutor's Office.

• **Attempted burglary** — At 4:07 a.m. Nov. 10, LLPD responded to the 19000 block of East Cataldo Avenue for an attempted burglary. Complainant reported there was a male cutting the fencing along the building in order to gain access. Officers arrived but the male had already left the location.

• **Vehicle theft** — At 4:53 p.m. Nov. 10,

LLPD responded to a vehicle theft at the 22000 block of East Country Vista Drive. Complainant reported her vehicle had been taken from the location. The vehicle was discovered Nov. 12 at a local grocery store.

• **Officer accident** — At 6:11 a.m. Nov. 11, an LLPD officer struck an elk on Idaho State Highway 41. The officer was unhurt. However, the patrol vehicle was damaged upon impact.

• **Arrest** — A man was arrested at 3:51 p.m. Nov. 11 at Corbin and Greenacres for robbery domestic violence and resisting arrest. A witness observed two people in a vehicle physically fighting as the vehicle was proceeding at a high rate of speed on the interstate. An officer was able to locate the vehicle and conducted a stop. After investigation, it was determined the man became upset when the female party involved grabbed her purse and the vehicle swerved. The female then tried to pull her purse back and the man became upset and struck himself twice. The man was determined to be the aggressor and was booked into Spokane County Jail.

• **Agency assist** — At 4:53 p.m. Nov. 13, LLPD responded to an agency assist at East Country Vista Drive and North Eagle Bend Lane. Complainant reported a vehicle was driving erratically down the

roadway and was now stopped at the intersection. The complainant had taken the keys from the ignition. Upon officer contact, the subject was determined to be driving under the influence of prescription medication and was arrested by another agency for DUI.

• **Theft** — At 9 p.m. Nov. 14, LLPD responded to the 22000 block of East Appleway Avenue for a theft. Complainant reported that someone had stolen his wallet from the event taking place at the location. Upon arrival, officers made contact with two subjects who the complainant thought were responsible. Both agreed to a search of their persons and a vehicle. Nothing was found.

• **Stolen vehicle** — At 2:44 p.m. Nov. 15, LLPD responded to the 1400 block of North Caulfield Court for possession of a stolen vehicle. An officer in the area identified a vehicle parked near the location as being recently stolen. Contact was made with the resident at the location who reported a subject had borrowed the vehicle from a friend and was going to work on it. The subject had apparently left the location. The incident was placed under investigation.

• **Juvenile DV** — At 6:28 p.m. Nov. 15, a 16-year-old male was arrested in Liberty Lake for domestic violence assault. He was booked into Juvenile Detention.



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...and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God,
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Isaiah 9:6

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Sunday Evening	6 pm	
Wednesday	7 pm	

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Calendar of Events

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Nov. 26 | Thanksgiving

Dec. 2 | Spaghetti Feed 5:30 p.m., Central Valley High School, 821 S. Sullivan Road, Spokane Valley. This fundraiser for the CVHS wrestling program will feature dinner, raffles and matches between the team. Cost is \$10. For tickets or more: www.gofundme.com/vran32pg or cvbearsrestling@gmail.com

Dec. 2 | Grange potluck and meeting 6 p.m., Tri Community Grange, 25025 Heather St., Newman Lake. A potluck will be followed by a 7 p.m. meeting for this community-based service organization. For more: 481-7447 or geje2@yahoo.com

Dec. 3 | Holiday cards and wrapping paper craft 6 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Get a head start on your holiday cards by making personalized cards and wrapping paper. The library will provide all the supplies; registration is required. Hot drinks and cookies provided. To register or for more: 232-2510

Dec. 5 | Breakfast with Santa 8 a.m. to noon, Tri Community Grange, 25025 Heather St., Newman Lake. Donations will be accepted for this pancake breakfast sponsored by the grange and fire auxiliary. Pictures with Santa are \$2, and there will be a holiday shop for kids to purchase gifts for their siblings and parents (nothing over \$3). Proceeds benefit the Grange and the Newman Lake Volunteer Fire Department. For more: 723-6064

Dec. 5 | Stem-tacular Saturdays: Flashing tree ornament 1 to 4 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Kids ages 10 to 14 are invited to learn how to solder to make a flashing Christmas ornament. Each registered participant will receive a soldering tool to keep. Cost is \$10; kids must be accompanied for a parent. To register or for more: www.libertylakewa.gov

Dec. 10 | Star Wars party 5 to 7 p.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. This night geared for the entire family will include games, trivia, costume contest and treats. For more: 232-2510

Dec. 16, 18 | Polar Express pajama storytime 10:30 a.m., Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. For more: 232-2510

Dec. 8, 12 | Hour of Code, Star Wars: The Force Awakens 4 to 5 p.m. (Dec. 8) and 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. (Dec. 12), Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. Learn to program droids and create your own Star Wars game in a galaxy far, far away. Those ages six and up are invited to bring a laptop or tablet and join in for the second annual Hour of Code event at the library. For more: 232-2510

Dec. 19 | Blessings Under the Bridge Winter Event Noon to 3 p.m., 4th and McClellan, downtown Spokane. This 9th annual event will provide brunch, hot beverages, clothing, winter gear and more to the area's homeless. The non-profit 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. For more: 922-4422

Liberty Lake Lions Club Noon on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, Barlow's Restaurant, 1428 N. Liberty Lake Road. For more: 869-7657

Liberty Lake Municipal Library 23123 E. Mission Avenue. Toddler and preschool story times, Create space for kids, Baby lap-sit story time, Lego club, Knitting Club, kids crafts and more. For times and more: 232-2510

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

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network 6:30 p.m. the first Monday of each month, Liberty Lake Municipal Library, 23123 E. Mission Ave. For more: www.pancan.org or 534-2564

Senior Lunch 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 6:45 p.m. the first and third Thursdays of every month, Lakeside Church, 23129 E. Mission. This supportive critique group welcomes adult writers. For more: 570-4440

MUSIC & THE ARTS

Nov. 27, 28 and Dec. 5, 12, 19 and 21 | Christmas Gift Art Workshops 1 to 3:30 p.m. (Nov. 27, Dec. 5 and 12) and 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Nov. 28, Dec. 19 and 21), The Art Chalet, 23106 E. Melkapsi St. These workshops for ages 5 and up cost \$30. For more: 255-9600 or www.theartchalet.com

Dec. 2-5, 9-12 | "A Christmas Carol" 7 p.m., Central Valley High School Performing Arts Center, 821 S. Sullivan Road, Spokane Valley. The nationally award-winning CVHS Theatre Department is proud to present this Charles Dickens class. Tickets range from \$8 to \$12. For more: www.cvtheatre.com

Dec. 4 | Craft Fair 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Valley Hospital, 12606 E. Mission Ave., Spokane Valley. There is free admission to this event that is being held in the Health Education building.

Dec. 10-19 | "Every Christmas Story Ever Told & Then Some" Liberty Lake Community Theatre, 22910 E. Appleway Ave. Tickets cost \$12 for this family holiday show. For more: www.libertylaketheatre.com

Celebrating the Season

COMMUNITY GROUPS HOST HOLIDAY EVENTS

HOLIDAY BALL

Dec. 5 at 5 p.m.
Davenport Hotel (Spokane)

Tickets cost \$75 for the fundraiser for summer concerts, movies and events hosted by Friends of Pavillion Park. The night includes dinner, dancing and auctions. For more: pavillionpark@yahoo.com

HOLIDAY THANK YOU AND TREE LIGHTING

Dec. 15 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.
Liberty Lake City Hall

Community members are invited to come socialize with elected officials and other citizens in this holiday variation of past Winter Festivals. Carolers will perform, and refreshments will be provided. For more: 755-6700

WALK TO BETHLEHEM

Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

The community is invited to join together for a walk from City Hall to Pavillion Park where a brief reenactment of Luke 2 of the Bible will be performed. Along the way, participants will have the opportunity to sing carols and listening to musical presentations.

SATURDAY WITH SANTA

Dec. 19 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Liberty Lake Municipal Library

Local children are invited to meet Santa! Professional photos will be available for purchase; parents are also welcomed to bring their cameras. Starting at 10 a.m., the library will host holiday activities for children as they wait. For more: www.libertylakewa.gov

THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

Dec. 24 at 2 and 4 p.m.
Liberty Lake Church, 704 S. Garry Road

For more: www.libertylakechurch.com

FIRST CHRISTMAS

Dec. 24 at 3 and 5 p.m.
UpLift Church, 23424 Swing Lane

For more: www.upliftchurchll.org

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Christmas Gift Art Workshops @The Art Chalet

Friday, November 27: 1 - 3:30 p.m.	Saturday, November 28: 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Saturday, December 5: 1 - 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 12: 1 - 3:30 p.m.	Saturday, December 19: 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Monday, December 21: 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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COMMUNITY

CALENDAR

Continued from page 14

Recurring

Spokane Valley Camera Club 7:15 p.m., third and fourth Monday of the month (September through April), Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District building, 22510 E. Mission Ave. All levels of ability—students through experienced photographers—are invited to learn. Social events include field trips and workshops. For more: 951-1446 or www.sv-cc.org

— Next meetings are Dec. 21 and 28

CIVIC & BUSINESS

Nov. 27 | U-Cut Christmas Trees available 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, Carver Farms, 9105 N. Idaho Road, Newman Lake. Enjoy free coffer, cider and hot cocoa while selecting your Christmas tree. For more: www.carverfarms.com

Nov. 28 | Small Business Saturday

Dec. 1-13 | 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, a Father Christmas sculpture or a Victorian dollhouse. For more: www.symphonyassociates.org

Dec. 3 | Christmas Celebration 4 to 7 p.m., Balanced Wellness and European Diva

Studio, 1328 N. Stanford Lane, suite 101. The public is invited to this free event with refreshments, door prizes and more.

Dec. 3 | Salon Capello Holiday Celebration 5 to 8 p.m., 21950 E. Country Vista Dr., suite 300. The public is invited for food, win, product drawings and customer appreciation sale. For more: 924-2204

Dec. 5-6 | SCRAPS open house 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 6815 E. Trent, Spokane Valley. This holiday event will include photos with Santa, pet treats and giveaways, door prizes, raffles, refreshments and activities for kids. For more: www.spokanecounty.org/scraps

Dec. 8 | Women Executives of Liberty Lake (WELL) 12:45 to 2 p.m., Liberty Lake Portal Building, 23403 E. Mission. The group’s annual Christmas party will feature a lunch and gift exchange. For more: 928-0454

Dec. 18 | Chamber Business Connections Lunch: Stories of Good Will 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Mirabeau Park Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan Road. The public is invited to this special holiday-themed lunch featuring stories of lives changed for the good by non-profit organizations as well as the charitable support of local businesses. Cost is \$35 for members and \$45 for future members. For more: www.spokanevalleychamber.org

Recurring

Central Valley School board 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 Library Foundation Noon the first Wednesday of each month, 23123 E. Mission Ave.

Liberty Lake Merchants Association 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Liberty Lake Portal, 23403 E. Mission Ave., Suite 120. For more: 999-4935

Liberty Lake Municipal Library board 10:30 a.m. the first Thursday of each month, 23123 E. Mission Ave.

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

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

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

HEALTH & RECREATION

Nov. 26 | Turkey Trot 8 a.m., Twisp Café & Coffee House, 23505 E. Appleway. Join the Liberty Lake Running Club for a run on Thanksgiving morning. The group will be accepting donations for Blessings Under the Bridge. For more: 954-9806

Dec. 6 | Crank it Up: Adult Volleyball Tournament 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. This ERVA sanctioned event is for co-ed teams

of six. Cost is \$150 per team; space is limited. For more: www.facebook.com/events/1698077030412793/

Dec. 10 | Baseball Allocation Meeting 1 p.m., City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Dr. Anyone interested in reserving field times for the 2016 season can attend this meeting. For more: 755-6700

Dec. 13 | Ugly Sweater Volleyball Tournament 9 a.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. This tournament is for co-ed teams of six. Cost is \$75 per team; registration deadline is Dec 7. For more: <http://www.teamsideline.com/sites/spokanecounty/program/2795/2015-Ugly-Sweater-Volleyball-Tournament-Winter-2015>

Dec. 19-20 | AAU Santa Slammer Tournament 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. This mid-season tournament is for boys and girls in 4th through 8th grades. Cost is \$295 per team. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

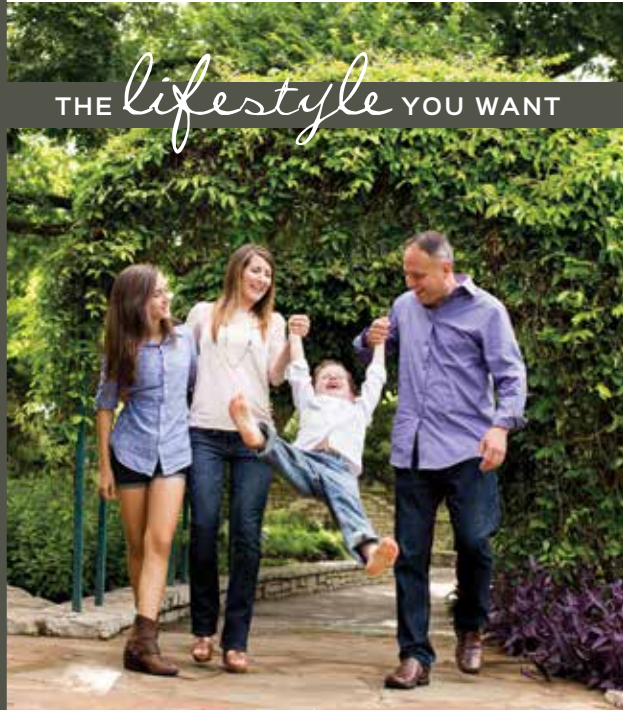
Dec. 21 | Ugly Sweater Pickleball Tournament 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Players are invited to wear their ugliest sweaters for this blind draw, round robin tournament. Cost is \$35 to enter; registration ends Dec. 14. Proceeds will benefit Blessings Under the Bridge. For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Dec. 21-22 | ESS Futsal Fun Camp 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Cost is \$90 for half day (9 a.m. to noon)

See CALENDAR, page 17



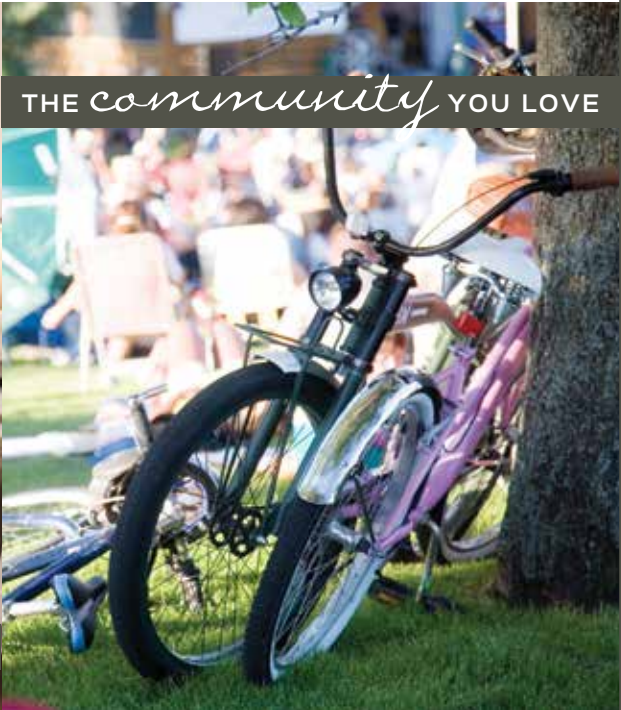
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COMMUNITY

Community Briefs

City holds canned food drive

The city of Liberty Lake is collecting donations for Second Harvest Food Bank Dec. 1-31. Donations of cash or non-perishable items will be accepted during the Dec. 15 Tree Lighting Ceremony or during normal operating hours at City Hall, Liberty Lake Municipal Library or Trailhead Golf Course.

For more, visit www.libertylakewa.gov.

Entries being accepted for holiday decorating contest

The community is invited to be part of a free home decorating contest held by the city of Liberty Lake. Those wishing to participate need to submit a registration form to City Hall by Dec. 11. The Mayor's Choice Award winner will be announced after the first of the year at www.libertylakewa.gov and will receive a yard sign and a place on the award plaque at City Hall.

All registered homes will be added to the Christmas Holiday Light Tour list which will be available Dec. 18 at the city's website and at City Hall. For more, visit www.libertylakewa.gov.

Community members invited for Walk to Bethlehem

Members of multiple faiths within the Liberty Lake community will be joining together for a Walk to Bethlehem at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 15.

Following the city's Tree Lighting Ceremony, a group will walk from City Hall to Pavillion Park where a brief reenactment of Luke 2 from the Bible will be performed by local youth. Along the way, participants will have the opportunity to sing Christmas Carols as well as listen to two musical performances.

The walk and reenactment will take approximately 30 to 45 minutes. Participants are encouraged to dress warmly and bring a flashlight.

Liberty Lake woman to compete in pageant

Anita Eylar was recently selected as Mrs. Spokane County and will compete at the Mrs. Washington America Pageant to be held next summer in Wenatchee.



EYLAR

Eylar will attend events as Mrs. Spokane County throughout the state, mainly in Eastern Washington, until the pageant on July 9, 2016. This pageant is a preliminary to the Mrs. America and Mrs. World competitions.

Eylar, who is an IT Director and involved in community service, resides with her husband Michael in Liberty Lake.

and fitness program offers classes in dance (ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop), gymnastics and cheerleading for girls and boys ages three and older. For more: 953-7501 or www.kidfitspokane.com

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

- *Badminton open gym: 7 to 9 p.m. Tues., \$5/person*
- *Basketball open gym: Noon to 1 p.m. Tues. and Thurs., \$4/person*
- *Pickleball drop-in: 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Mon. through Thurs.; 7 to 9 p.m. Sun. \$2/seniors (\$4/non-seniors)*
- *Table Tennis: 7 to 9:30 p.m., Mon. and Wed.; \$3/player*
- *Classes including Keno Karate, Modern Farang-Mu Sul, Wing Chun Kung Fun and Zumba Aerobics. See website for cost and times.*

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.

CALENDAR

Continued from page 16

or \$160 for full day option. Teams who register together can receive a discount. For more: www.elitesportsskills.com/winter-camps/

Dec. 23 | Drop N' Shop 4 to 7 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. Parents are invited to let kids in grades 1 through 6 play while they finish their Christmas shopping. Activities include basketball, volleyball, soccer, capture the flag, kickball, handball and more. Cost is \$10 if pre-registered (\$15 at the door). To register or for more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Dec. 28-29 | Snowball Shootout Futsal Tournament 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. This 5 aside futsal tournament is for boys and girls U7 through high school. Registration is \$250 per team if received by Dec. 4 (\$275 until Dec. 18). For more: www.hubsportscenter.org

Recurring

KidFIT Spokane HUB Sports Center, 19619 E. Cataldo Ave. This children's movement

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— Agnieszka N., ME, CAC
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www.libertylakesplash.com

www.edwardjones.com



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COMMUNITY

LLCT stages 'Every Christmas Story'

Far-ranging play takes audience on nonstop holiday romp

By Valerie Putnam
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Ebenezer Scrooge, Charlie Brown and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer join Frosty the Snowman, the Nutcracker and other holiday icons for "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some)." The local theatrical production of this show opens Dec. 10 at Liberty Lake Community Theatre.

Described as "an outrageous look at yuletide traditions we all remember, some we never knew and a few we'd like to forget," this nonstop holiday romp takes the audience through a menagerie of Christmas classics.

"The show opens with three actors beginning to perform 'A Christmas Carol,' but it soon turns into these three trying to perform every Christmas story they grew up with," Director Tom Sanderson said. "I think this is a very appealing play for anyone who has ever watched Christmas shows."

In under two hours, the three actors — played by JP O'Shaughnessy, Luke Faser and Ron Ford — with the help of Santa, take the audience through a "slightly irreverent look" at many beloved holiday classics.

"They run through a litany of characters from the Grinch to George Bailey," Sanderson said. "Sometimes, there is more than one story going on at the same time."

The actors' interpretation of stories, carols and television specials unfolds into a hilarious holiday tour de farce.

"My favorite thing about this show is that three guys play all the roles, so seeing the versatility of each actor is very satisfying for me," said Nick Kittilstved, vice president of the Liberty Lake Community Theatre and show producer. "The best thing to look for and enjoy is the creative ways they find to transition from one story to the next."

The Liberty Lake production of "Every Christmas Story Ever Told" is Sanderson's directorial debut. He began acting in Sandpoint two years ago and has performed in productions at Stageleft, Civic and Ignite Theatres.

"I couldn't have asked for a better cast to be working with on this show," Sanderson said. "These guys make it easy."

Additional members of the production crew include Stage Manager Tyler Degenstein and Rebecca Bolster managing the props, costume and set design. Lighting and sound roles are yet to be determined.

EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD

& then some

WHERE

Liberty Lake Community
Theatre, 22810 E.
Appleway Ave.

WHEN

7:30 p.m. Dec. 10-12
and 18-19 (doors open
at 7 p.m.)

TICKETS

\$12 at the door
or purchased online at
www.libertylaketheatre.com

CAST

JP O'Shaughnessy,
Luke Faser and
Ron Ford

CREW

Tom Sanderson,
director; Tyler
Degenstein,
stage manager;
Rebecca
Bolster, props,
costume and
set design

Written by Michael Carleton, Jim Fitzgerald and John K. Alvarez, with original music by Will Knapp, the madcap comedy was first performed in Cape May, N.J., in 2003. The authors played themselves during its initial production.

"The script itself is really funny and clever," Sanderson said. "And frankly, watching these three talented actors as they show

off their versatility and how they present our favorite Christmas characters is worth coming out for."

Sanderson noted the show would appeal to any age but added a disclaimer that for those that "still believe," there could be a spoiler or two.

"I don't want to be responsible for ruining anyone's childhood," Sanderson said.

Illuminate for Literacy this Christmas

The Liberty Lake Community Theatre is hosting the third annual "Illuminate for Literacy" program, with ready-to-light luminaria available for purchase by Dec. 21 for \$15 per dozen.

All the funds raised go toward the Theatre's plays, musicals and reader theater performances.

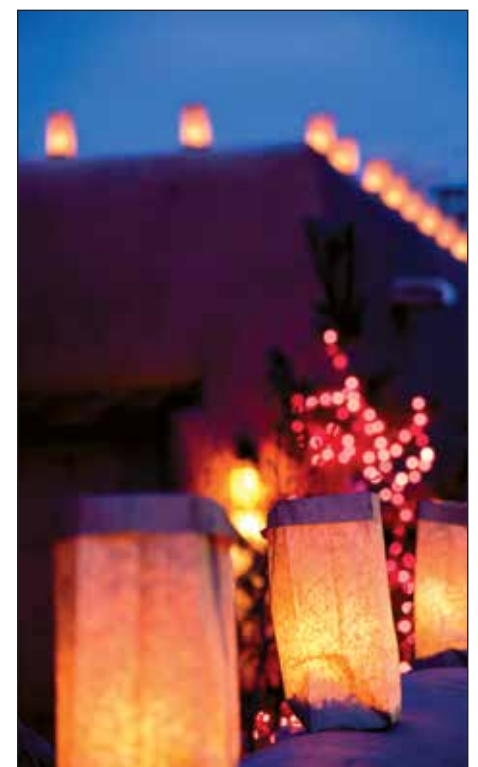
The luminaria can line driveways, porch steps, walkways or other outdoor areas. The candles last up to 16 hours and can be used more than once.

"Our goal is to sell 100-125 dozen luminaria," Liberty Lake Community Theatre volunteer and fundraiser lead Charmaine Peterson said. "We hope to raise about \$1,500 to \$2,000."

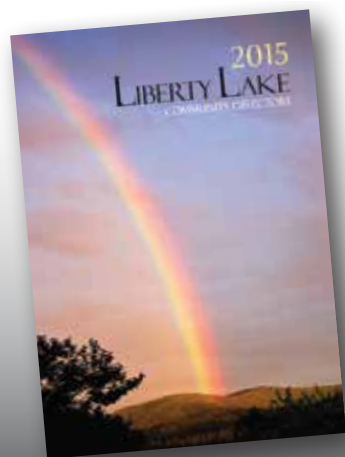
The luminaries will be delivered in time for Christmas Eve.

"It is so beautiful to drive around on Christmas Eve and see areas lit up by the soft luminarias," Peterson said. "It has been our goal to have entire streets purchase them so one would have the full effect."

Contact Peterson at charmainepeterson@mac.com or 255-4100 for more information or to place an order.



Luminaria are used to line driveways, porch steps, walkways or other outdoor areas. The fundraiser is in its third year in Liberty Lake.



Liberty Lake residents: Are you new to the area?

Have you moved recently or changed your home phone number?

To make sure you're listed correctly in the 2016 Liberty Lake Guide (formerly known as the Liberty Lake Community Directory), email your residential phone number and address to guide@libertylakesplash.com.

LIBERTY LAKE
The Guide

Does my mom have options besides dentures?

A patient of mine who wore dentures once told me how she chose what to order from a restaurant menu. Her question was not, "What looks delicious?" It wasn't even, "What would be healthy for me?" Instead, she was looking to order the few limited items that she knew she could chew. Her life changed dramatically when we were able to replace her dentures with dental implants instead. While dentures give you about 25% the chewing power of normal teeth, implants provide an actual replacement for natural missing teeth and restore over 90% chewing power. Secured in the gum or jaw, this method of placement makes them the most natural tooth replacement system. In short, they look and feel like your own teeth. You even care for them as you would your natural teeth. While dentures can be initially more affordable, their removable nature not only makes them less reliable, but less functional as well. Dentures require maintenance and care that is both time-consuming and potentially costly over time. We would be happy to visit with you or your loved ones about whether dental implants are right for you.

— Dr. Timothy J. Casey
Liberty Lake resident
Member, American Dental Association

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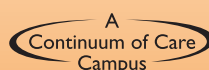
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Taylor invests decade helping LL ‘have a Ball’

Annual event is sole fundraiser for FOPP Summer Festival Series

By Staci Lehman
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

While many people are starting to dream of a white Christmas, Marcy Taylor is dreaming of a green summer.

As a long-time volunteer with the Friends of Pavillion Park Holiday Ball committee, Taylor is always looking forward — forward to a busy schedule of events that most communities don’t have, a schedule that relies on the Holiday Ball for funding.

This year marks the 17th annual Holiday Ball as well as Taylor’s 10th year volunteering her time to make it a success.

“A friend started in it and kind of got me involved,” Taylor said. “She has since moved away, and I’ve been involved ever since.”

Taylor continues to give her time because she loves all the events that take place in the summer, which draws quality people to the community and makes Liberty Lake a great place to live. The Holiday Ball is the only fundraiser for all the movies, concerts, Shakespeare in the Park, the Liberty Lake Loop and other activities that take place each year. It also pays for a scholarships for local college students.

“I think it’s important for people to realize that if you like going to those events in the summertime, they need to support the Ball,” Taylor said. “If we have a bad year, those events don’t happen next summer.”

If Taylor’s energy has anything to do with it, every year will be a good year. Laura Frank, Friends of Pavillion Park board member and Holiday Ball committee chairwoman, said that for this year’s event



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The 17th annual Friends of Pavillion Park Holiday Ball will be held starting at 5 p.m. Dec. 5 at Spokane’s Davenport Hotel. Above, a band performs at a past Holiday Ball. At left, longtime FOPP volunteer Marcy Taylor pauses long enough to get her picture taken at a past Ball. The money raised at the event provides funding for summer concerts, other activities and scholarships.

most of the silent auction each year.

“In the early years, we didn’t get to enjoy it at all but now we have it down to a science,” Taylor said. “The first couple years I didn’t even buy a dinner ticket. But now I get to sit down and enjoy the live auction.”

Dancing follows the auction.

While the Liberty Lake Holiday Ball is a formal affair, Taylor said not to let that scare you off if you don’t own a ball gown or tuxedo.

“People do dress up but a lot of people also come in a suit or nice slacks and a tie,” she said.

Taylor also said not to be intimidated if you’re not part of a couple. Some people come with friends or as part of corporate groups. Taylor herself makes the event an annual girl’s night out with friends.

Beyond the fun of going out for the night with her girlfriends, Taylor loves what the Holiday Ball does for the community, with 100 percent of proceeds directly benefiting Liberty Lake.

“I love the sense of community and everything that goes on here in the summer months — Farmers Market, golf courses, trails,” she said.

And then there are the concerts and movies at the park.

“If you love going to those events, help out,” she said. “We need support. Buy a ticket or donate an auction item.”

alone, Taylor helped out with invitations, auction item procurement and is leading the check-in committee as well as helping to organize the youth volunteers in the silent auction room. When the Ball actually starts, Taylor will be one of the people greeting attendees, getting them checked in and getting their program numbers. She usually works 10 to 15 hours on the day of the Ball alone.

“Her dedication to the community and this event specifically is amazing,” Frank said. “She comes each year enthusiastic to help with all aspects of the planning, invitations to procurement, event set-up, to volunteering the night of the event. She has been an enormous contributor to the success of the event.”

Because of her work, Taylor misses the Holiday Ball’s champagne reception and

IF YOU GO ...

Liberty Lake Holiday Ball

5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5

The Historic Davenport Hotel, Spokane

Purchase tickets for \$75 online at www.pavillionpark.org or by sending cash/check to Friends of Pavillion Park, P.O. Box 325, Liberty Lake, WA 99019

Master of Ceremonies: Tom Sherry, Liberty Lake resident KREM weather personality

Band: AlgoRhythms, also of Liberty Lake

Attire: Formal (suit or tux for men and cocktail dresses or gowns for women)

ABOUT FOPP

Friends of Pavillion Park is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the sense of community in Liberty Lake by providing safe and affordable opportunities for recreation, education, entertainment and the arts.

FOPP was established by volunteers in 1992. Land and development contributed by The Schneidmiller Family, Greenstone Corporation and other community and government grants helped to establish the park, build the pavillion and raise funds for events. The community of Liberty Lake has continued to generously support Friends of Pavillion Park, both monetarily and through the gift of time. Its board of directors and committees are composed of volunteers, continuing to create vibrant and fun activities for Liberty Lake residents and the surrounding areas.

In addition to providing scholarships each year to local high school seniors, each summer FOPP sponsors the Liberty Lake Loop Fun Run and a variety of performances by local, regional and national acts. The Summer Festival culminates on Labor Day weekend with the Lud Kramer Memorial Spokane Symphony Concert.

2015 Executive Board

President Joe Frank, Vice President David Himebaugh, Treasurer Sara Gile and Secretary Tom Specht

2015 Board Members

Laura Frank (Holiday Ball Committee Chair), Bob Schneidmiller, Chris Apted (Concert Chair), Kim Wells, David Lewis, Josh Schluter, Jennifer Camp

profiles:

MARCY TAYLOR

Age
51

Profession
Client service representative

How long in Liberty Lake
Since 1999. Before that she moved to Seattle for a year but came back because her family missed it so much.

Hobbies
Any outside activities. Would like to learn to golf because the Liberty Lake golf courses are so great and inexpensive.

Favorite Liberty Lake Events
The Farmers Market, movies in the park

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Dr. Stephen D. Craig, Liberty Lake resident



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Shutterbug Snapshots



Rich Semler shared photos from the fall colors as well as Liberty Lake Creek.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Area shots of tundra swans, a sharp-shinned hawk and a red-breasted nuthatch were captured in November by Michael Hassett.



CALLING ALL SHUTTERBUGS...

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

The winner's photo, along with other selected images, will be featured inside the newly rebranded 2016 Liberty Lake Guide. Prizes will be awarded as well, so be sure to shoot and share local photos with the Directory!

- Photographers (amateur or professional) age 16 years and older are eligible to enter.
- Deadline is January 15, 2016. Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners.
- Visit www.liberty-lakesplash.com for a complete set of rules.



Peridot
PUBLISHING LLC

Peridot Publishing, distributor of The Splash and The Current community newsmagazines is sponsoring this contest.

509-242-7752
guide@libertylakesplash.com



Jack Baratta shot this photo from the west side of Liberty Lake facing southeast.

LOCAL LENS

Visitors honored at CVKC



SPLASH PHOTOS
BY TAMMY KIMBERLEY

Students decorated hats, sang patriotic tunes and honored veterans during the annual Flag Raising Ceremony Nov. 10 at the Central Valley Kindergarten Center.

At left, Elizabeth Corder from Mrs. Pecha’s class gives a hug to her father Joe Corder (Air Force).

Splash Travels



Seth and Renée Fogelman took along The Splash for a little light reading while on their honeymoon in Fiji and New Zealand.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Engagement announcement



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Brian Bergman and Jennifer Ophardt recently announced their engagement. Brian works for Huntwood, and Jennifer works for John L. Scott Real Estate. No wedding date has been set yet.

Local Lens

Share your snapshots for The Splash’s photo page. Email photos@libertylakesplash.com with scenes from around town, community events and Splash Travels.

These are a few of your favorite things ...

SHARE FAVORITES • HONOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS • ENTER TO WIN

Our annual publication, the 2016 Liberty Lake Guide, is landing April 2016, and we want to incorporate your favorites into this year’s publication. How can you be involved?

STEP 1:

Choose at least 10 of the categories below, and send in your “favorites” (and, as much as you are able, WHY they are your favorites) to **favorites@libertylakesplash.com** by **Jan. 15**.

You can also mail your entry to PO Box 363, Liberty Lake WA 99019, or fill out the survey at www.libertylakesplash.com/surveys, if you prefer. And yes, you can answer all 20 if you want to, you overachiever!!

STEP 2:

Look for your answers to be interspersed throughout the new 2016 Liberty Lake Guide. (Hint: This is a great way to give a public “tip of the cap” to local people and other standouts. We plan to cram as many “favorites” into the publication as possible.)

STEP 3:

Include your name, city of residence, email address and phone number with your entry, as each person who responds by the deadline is entered to win a \$100 gift card to a local business of your choice. (That’s a lotta lattes — or whatever you choose to spend the dough on.) Winner will be contacted by Feb. 1.

We will only use your phone number or email address to contact you if you win the drawing — they will not be shared or reproduced publicly.

My local favorites:

1. Neighbor
2. Teacher
3. Nonprofit or community organization
4. Community member or volunteer
5. Business person or employee
6. Medical/dental care provider
7. Government official or employee
8. Event
9. Business
10. Place to be pampered
11. Coffee shop order
12. Thing to order at a nearby restaurant
13. Hike
14. Running route (or bicycling route)
15. Natural landmark or scene
16. Place to play (park, recreation area, golf course, etc.)
17. Exercise amenity (a place, partner or thing)
18. Lake activity
19. Item of local trivia or nostalgia
20. Thing about living here

By sharing your favorites with us, you acknowledge that your name and favorites may be published in our 2016 Liberty Lake Guide.



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The Fountain

About and for Liberty Lake seniors

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SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

Bikes, cameras and nature

Man finds outlet for his passions in Liberty Lake

By Staci Lehman
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

From reading The Splash or The Current, you would think that Mike Hassett's biggest passion is photography. But he is quick to say that it's actually bicycling, followed closely by living in the north-west.

"I'm like a kid in a candy store living here," Hassett said of Liberty Lake and the surrounding area.

Hassett is the man behind many of the pictures published in the "Local Lens" section of this paper. From woodpeckers to otters, elk to moose, and many other birds, mammals and sunsets, Hassett has photographed it if it's in nature and close enough to get a good shot. Being extremely humble though, Hassett will be the first to tell you he's no professional photographer.

"I never thought they were all that neat," he said of his photos. "But then someone wrote a letter to The Splash saying they liked my pictures, and it was great to hear that."

Luckily for him, Hassett's hobbies — bicycling, bird watching and photography — all work together. Foremost, he considers himself a bicyclist. While working for AT&T in southern California, Hassett commuted by bike to work every day for 40 years. When he retired six years ago, he was ready for new scenery. Hassett's daughter and her family were moving to Liberty Lake from Montana, so he and his wife came up to check out the area. They liked it so much they



SPLASH PHOTO BY STACI LEHMAN

Mike Hassett shows a picture of a moose he took on the Little Spokane River. Riding his bicycle throughout the Inland Northwest has provided an outlet for wildlife photography.

moved here, as did their other two adult children and grandchildren.

After retirement and the move, Hassett didn't quit his bicycling habit. With more time and freedom on his hands, he heads out every day to explore his community. Hassett particularly likes to ride in the Saltese Flats, Newman Lake and Hauser Lake areas. He isn't the type to put his bike in the car and drive to those destinations. One of his favorite things about the area is that connections to everything are nearby. He's close to the Centennial Trail trailhead, the Saltese Flats area and the trails in the hills above Liberty Lake.

Because he sees so much wildlife on his explorations, Hassett started carrying a small camera with him on his rides several years ago. He has since upgraded to a nicer camera but is limited in what he can carry on a bike. He wears the camera around his neck so as to be ready anytime he sees something photo-worthy. This helps him catch some of those amazing shots — which are even more amazing when you consider that he doesn't use zoom lenses or other photography equipment.

Being on a bike, Hassett says he doesn't necessarily need fancy equipment. A photo of an elk that hangs in his living room was taken from about 50 feet away. He initially saw it in the distance and quietly worked his way toward it on his bike while the animal ate.

"That's the advantage of a bike," Hassett said. "They're quiet and you can sneak right up on wildlife."

He also points out that people are less aware when driving versus riding.

"If you're in a car, you don't notice these things," he said.

Some of Hassett's favor photo subjects are birds. He's always been a bird watcher and is discovering all kinds of birds in our area he wasn't familiar with in California. For three years, he's been watching a nest of great horned owls in the Saltese area that he first spotted while riding his bike. Each year he's been there to photograph the baby owls when they come along. He also likes taking pictures of the hooded mergansers on area lakes. One of his

See HASSETT, page 25

Give Back

Spotlighting timely needs
our community can meet together



To our friends and neighbors in the greater Spokane Valley:

The holidays are a time of celebration, and Spokane Valley Partners works hard every year to share this celebratory spirit with the food bank clients served.

Specifically, the organization provides "holiday food baskets" for Thanksgiving and Christmas to help all of our neighbors celebrate this special season.

As with everything Spokane Valley Partners does, these efforts are only as successful as the many partners who contribute to the cause. Would you consider making a special effort to focus on donating food basket items like instant mashed potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy, green beans, corn, muffin or cornbread mix, fruit, dessert mixes or other similar holiday items as Spokane Valley Partners gears up for the holiday season?

Donations can be dropped off at 10814 E. Broadway Ave., or call Spokane Valley Partners with any questions at 927-1153.

Thanks for joining us in helping to make this season bright for our entire community.

Sincerely,

The Arger Family

Investing in Spokane Valley since 1979

Local owners of Evergreen Fountains, sponsor of The Fountain senior spread in The Splash and The Current

— King Crossword —

Answers

G	O	V		A	S	S		G	A	B	S
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COMMUNITY

Beverage sets and price guide

Collecting by Larry Cox
KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

Q: I have a seven-piece beverage set in pink: a pitcher with six goblets in the "Tea Room" pattern. I have examined it carefully, and I think it is in near perfect condition. It is not a reproduction and has been in my family since the 1940s. I have been offered \$100 for the set, but thought I would check with you before I agree to the sale. — *Betty, Ogden, Utah*

A: The "Tea Room" pattern is popular and desirable. It was introduced in 1926 by the Indiana Glass Company of Dunkirk, Ind., and production continued

until 1931. The pattern was issued in four colors: amber, crystal, green and pink. According to Warman's Depression Glass: A Value and Identification Guide by Ellen T. Schroy, your pink pitcher is worth about \$135 and the goblets about \$65 each. The offer you received is about \$400 short of the set's value, per Ellen T. Schroy, an expert in antique glassware who has written several guides.

Q: Although I am not a serious collector, I enjoy going to estate sales and occasionally buy an item or two. Can you recommend a good general price guide that you trust? — *Connie, San Diego*

A: There are dozens of price guides available, but one I find most helpful is The Antique Trader Antiques & Collectibles price guide edited by Eric Bradley and published by Krause Books. The 32nd edition has just been published.

Trivia Test

- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** When did Thanksgiving become a national holiday in the United States?
- TELEVISION:** What TV show featured neighbors named Lenny and Squiggy?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Which of the Great Lakes is located entirely within the United States?
- MOVIES:** What 19th-century novel was the movie "Clueless" loosely based upon?
- MEASUREMENTS:** What measurement is used to determine the height of a horse?

- SCIENCE:** What instrument is used to measure atmospheric pressure?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What is a baby turkey called?
- FAMOUS QUOTATIONS:** What sci-fi character once said, "Do. Or do not. There is no try"?
- MUSIC:** Which Christmas carol begins with the lyric "City sidewalks, busy sidewalks, dressed in holiday style"?
- MEDICAL TERMS:** What is the common name for aphthous ulcers?

— 2015 King Features Syndicate Inc.

HASSETT

Continued from page 24

favorite pictures, though, is a moose he and a friend spotted while canoeing on the Little Spokane River. That photo was taken on a camera he had dropped in the water the previous weekend, then dried out, so he wasn't too sure how the picture would turn out.

If you're interested in seeing more of Hasset's photos, continue to read The Splash and The Current. Most months, he submits at least one picture. And Hasset says he will continue to do so because he's found a treasure trove of photo topics in our area.

"In southern California, there's nothing to take pictures of," he said. "I see things every day here I'd never see there. I'm so happy to live here."

King Crossword

ACROSS

- State leader (Abbr.)
- Donkey
- Talks on and on
- First victim
- Homer's interjection
- Lecher's look
- Had on
- Make a mistake
- Greek vowel
- Skewered entree
- Swerve
- Namely (Abbr.)
- Paid escort
- Shameless hussy
- Andrea — (ill-fated ship)
- Tiny particle
- Fix the soundtrack
- -do-well
- Horses' neck adornments
- Ardent
- Laundry whitener
- Female sheep
- Cowardly one in Oz
- Work
- Game played on horseback

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59					60					61	

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 53 Charged bit | 6 Unspoken "I dunno" | 30 Region |
| 55 Reprehensible | 7 Taking time off, GI-style | 31 Light (Sp.) |
| 56 "The Good Earth" heroine | 8 Past | 35 Spelling contest |
| 57 Take to court | 9 Diner order, for short | 38 Biol. or bot. |
| 58 Paradise | 10 The Red or the Black | 40 Puncturing tool |
| 59 Rim | 12 "Get lost!" | 42 Jack up |
| 60 Explosive letters | 19 Baby's meal-time garb | 45 3-Down's counterpart |
| 61 Drunkard | 21 Disencumber | 47 Actions at auctions |
| | 23 Londoners' last letter | 48 Bread spread |
| | 25 Sandwich cookie | 49 Tenant's expense |
| | 26 Stead | 50 Macabre author |
| | 27 Rowing tools | 51 On in years |
| | 28 Door-frame part | 52 Trail behind |
| | 29 List-ending abbr. | 54 Trawler need |

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Answers to Trivia Test

- 1863
- "Laverne & Shirley"
- Lake Michigan
- "Emma," by Jane Austen
- Hands (one hand equals four inches)
- Barometer
- A poult
- Yoda, in "The Empire Strikes Back"
- "Silver Bells"
- Canker sores



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STAR WARS AT THE LIBRARY!

Celebrate the upcoming release of "Episode VII: The Force Awakens" at the library this month with special events!

Hour of Code

4 to 5 p.m. Dec. 8

OR 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Dec. 12

Grab your laptop or tablet and join us for our second annual "Hour of Code" event! Learn to program droids and create your own Star Wars game in a galaxy far, far away. For kids ages 6+

Star Wars Party

5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 10

Games, trivia, costume contest and treats – join us in celebrating all things Star Wars. Fun for the whole family!

ALSO AT THE LIBRARY

Stem-tacular Saturdays!

Beginning 1 to 4 p.m. Dec. 5

December's project will give kids ages 10 to 14 an opportunity to learn how to solder as they make a flashing Christmas tree ornament. Because of the nature of this project, kids must have a parent accompany them. Sign up at the city's recreation page at libertylakewa.gov. Cost is \$10 per kid. Each registered participant will also receive a soldering tool to keep. Limited to 10 kids.

Holiday Events and Hours

For more info, see content elsewhere on this page

The library has a variety of holiday-themed events in December, from a cards and wrapping paper craft for adults (Dec. 3), to a Polar Express pajama storytime (Dec. 16 and 18), to a visit from Santa Claus himself (Dec. 19).

Adjusted hours for December:

The library will open at 2 p.m. Dec. 10 and 1:30 p.m. Dec. 17. It will close at noon Dec. 24 and be closed all day Dec. 25-26.

Liberty Lake Municipal
LIBRARY

www.libertylakewa.gov/library
23123 E. Mission Ave. Liberty Lake • 232-2510

Give the gift of reading this season

Compiled by Tammy Kimberley
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

What do you get for that person who seemingly has everything? With literally millions of selections available in a variety of formats (paper, audio and e-books, to name a few), books can provide the perfect answer to your present dilemma. Whether you're looking for humor or history, murder or mystery, the gift of reading can be crafted uniquely to the recipient's interest and reading level.

Liberty Lake Municipal Library Director Pamela Mogen recently shared some reading recommendations for adults, while Jandy Humble shared selections geared toward youth that could serve as great gifts for the holiday season.

Adult book selections

"Madison's Gift: Five Partnerships That Built America" by David O. Stewart

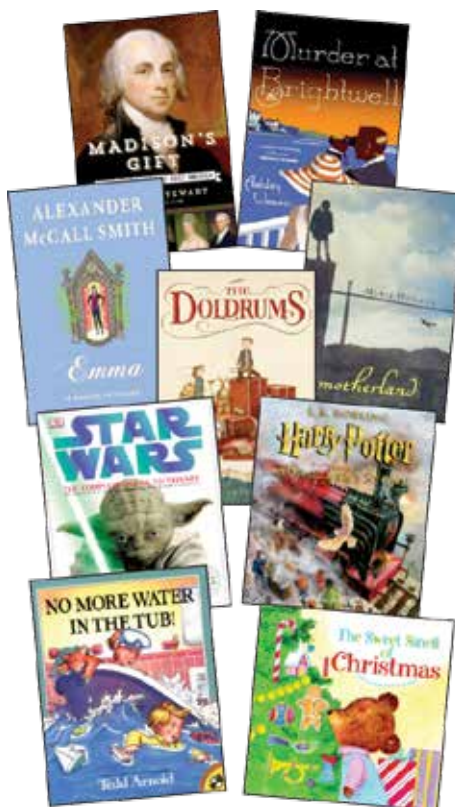
For the non-fiction reader in your life, this biography follows the life of James Madison, a brilliant writer and skilled negotiator. The author, David Stewart, discusses Madison's work with five collaborators — his wife Dolley, George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, James Monroe and Thomas Jefferson.

"Murder at the Brightwell" by Ashley Weaver

In an unhappy marriage, Amory Ames teams up with her friend and ex-fiancé to save her sister from a similarly ill-fated marriage. However, things become more complicated when a murder occurs and Amory starts to investigate. Even more surprisingly, her husband shows up to help.

"Emma: A Modern Retelling" by Alexander McCall Smith

Set in the 21st-century, Emma Woodhouse works at an interior design consulting business and plays matchmaker, all while maintaining the character and circumstances of the "Emma." Jane Austen's fans have come to love. This witty book will entertain non-Austen fans as well!



"Motherland" by Maria Hummel

This book is based on letters from the author's father and his German childhood. German surgeon Frank Kappus is drafted into medical military service, leaving his new wife, Liesl, with three stepsons to care for. When one child is declared "mentally unfit," Liesl must prevent him from being sent to Hadamar, the infamous hospital for unfit children. This novel would appeal to fans of the book, "All the Light We Cannot See," while presenting flawed characters, difficult moral dilemmas, and the fateful choices made by Third Reich families during the devastating final days of war.

Youth reading recommendations

"The Doldrums" by Nicholas Gannon

Archer B. Helmsley wants an adventure. Adventure is in his blood. His grandparents were famous explorers until they

disappeared on an iceberg in Antarctica. When a mysterious package arrives from his supposedly deceased grandparents, it is all the motivation Archer needs to hatch a plan to rescue them.

"Star Wars: The Complete Visual Dictionary" by David West Reynolds

From characters like Darth Maul and Yoda, to places like Naboo and Dexter's Diner, to creatures like Jabba the Hutt and Ewoks, this book chronicles every character, weapon, starship, droid, creature and alien in the Star Wars universe. This book features more than one thousand stills and digitally rendered pictures, making this the ultimate collector's item for every Star Wars fan.

"Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone: The Illustrated Edition" By J.K. Rowling and illustrated by Jim Kay

The beloved first book of the Harry Potter series is now available in an illustrated edition. Artist Jim Kay created over 100 stunning illustrations that bring the wizarding world to life in a new and exciting way. This book is the perfect gift for children being introduced to the series for the first time, as well as dedicated fans.

"No More Water in the Tub" by Ted Arnold

William is getting ready for his bath when the faucet breaks, sending him and his tub surfing through the building! On his wet ride, he collects a strange fleet in his wake, from Uncle Nash who sits in the trash, to Little Dottie who sails the potty. This is a fun bath time or bedtime story to share with little ones.

"The Sweet Smell of Christmas" by Patricia M. Scarry

Can you smell Christmas coming? Follow Little Bear as he explores all of the sweet smells of Christmas. The book includes six wonderful scents for the reader to smell from hot chocolate and apple pie to oranges and peppermint. This is a classic Christmas book to add to your collection of holiday stories.



Celebrating the holidays at the library ❄️❄️❄️

Create your own cards, paper

Get a head start on your holiday cards by making personalized cards and wrapping paper during this adult craft event 6 p.m. Dec. 3. The library will provide all supplies, as well as hot drinks and cookies.

Registration is required. For more, call 232-2510.

All aboard the Polar Express

A Polar Express pajama storytime will be held at 10:30 a.m. on both Dec. 16 and Dec. 18.

Santa stops at library

Santa Claus can visit with children on Dec. 19 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the library. Bugaboo Images will also be hand to take professional photos for a fee, but parents are also welcome to bring cameras to take pictures.

Starting at 10 a.m., the library will have activity stations for kids to make a Christmas card, create a North Pole picture, sing Christmas songs and color pictures as they wait their turn. Santa will begin to see kids

at 11 a.m. and, due to his schedule, no one arriving after 1:30 p.m. will be seen.

Build a gingerbread house

For those wanting to try to make a gingerbread house this holiday season, the library has two baking kits available for check out.

Simply add your own gingerbread recipe and use the instructions and baking forms included to create a unique holiday decoration. Gingerbread house kits are available to be checked out for one week.



A special section
just for kids

Brought to you by



Turning out confidence

Ballet dancer performs fourth season in The Nutcracker

By Tammy Kimberley
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

If your shoe falls off, keep dancing.

That's just one lesson that Grace Anderson, 11, has learned — due to experience — in her years of performing at The Fox Theater as part of the cast of "The Nutcracker."

As she recounted some of the unexpected things that can happen onstage, Grace also shared the things she is looking forward to in her fourth season with the production.

"I really like everything — the audience, the costumes, the routines," she said. "It's all just really fun, especially hanging out with the other dancers backstage."

Amy Anderson, Grace's mom, said her daughter had given soccer a try when she was younger but it didn't seem to be her thing. When she took Grace to attend a ballet recital of a friend, Amy said her daughter leaned over halfway through the first act

and said, "Mom, this is my thing."

That was five years ago, and Grace has been involved in ballet ever since.

Amy said that while it seemed an intimidating step to try out for The Nutcracker, Grace has always had a drive to push herself to get better.

"She wants to impress her teacher and is very determined to get in her pointe shoes," Amy said. "But the coolest part is seeing how much confidence ballet has given her."

Grace auditioned for this year's show the first weekend of September in front of representatives from State Street Ballet, the company that provides the professional dancers, as well as local rehearsal assistants.

Emily Grizzell, rehearsal assistant, said students from all over the area and a variety of dance schools audition for parts.

"Children who audition for The Nutcracker and are chosen to perform pick up the choreography quickly and execute the steps while performing with what we call stage presence," Emily said.

Grace found out that day that she landed a role as a small angel, and weekly practices began in mid-September. Local dancers practice to music on a CD until the week of the show. That's when the State Street Ballet dancers will come to town and join local dancers with live music performed by the Spokane Symphony.

During rehearsals, Amy said the instructors will often slow down or speed up the CD music to help dancers prepare for how the conductor might direct the music.

"The dancers develop an ear for how fast or slow the music is, and they have to adjust to that," Amy said.

Grace said she won't see her costume until the week of dress rehearsals, when costumes are individually tailored to each dancer. Grace said the head pieces change a bit from year to year.

While there are the hazards that come with ballet — such as being poked with giant hair pins while putting her hair in a bun or the occasional roll of a foot — Grace said she has enjoyed meeting new people, making friends who share her same passion for dance and interacting with professionals.

In addition to Nutcracker rehearsals, Grace currently takes lessons at Spokane Ballet Studio twice a week. She's appreciated the different instructors she's had, each with their own unique way of teaching. She's



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Grace Anderson is performing as a little angel for the second time in "The Nutcracker" this December. In the past, she's also played the role of a bon bon (left).



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY
SCOTT MARTINEZ PHOTOGRAPHY

The Wave profiles:

GRACE ANDERSON

Age

11

Family

Parents, Mike and Amy Anderson; brother, Grant

Pets

Dog, Penny, and cat, Charlotte

Favorite holiday movie

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (2000 version with Jim Carrey)

Christmas tradition

Receive new PJs each Christmas that she tries to wear all day

Role in The Nutcracker

Little angel

See NUTCRACKER page 30

IF YOU GO...

"The Nutcracker"

7:30 p.m. Dec. 3-5
and 2 p.m. Dec. 5-6

Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox
1001 W. Sprague Ave., Spokane

Local dancers will share the stage with 20 professional dancers of State Street Ballet in this 37th production with live music by the Spokane Symphony. For available tickets and prices: 624-1200



Elementary kids who live or attend school in Liberty Lake are encouraged to enter this contest for the 2016 Liberty Lake Guide by following three simple steps:

- 1 Draw, color or paint a picture of what it means to play in our community, whether that be a place to explore, experience nature or enjoy time with friends!
- 2 Drop off your artwork by **JANUARY 15** to the Splash office (23403 E. Mission, Ave, Suite 102) with your name, age, school, grade and contact info.
- 3 Discover if your picture is featured in the Guide coming out in April 2016. Prizes from community businesses will also be awarded to top entries.

Draw. Drop off. Discover.
It's that simple, so get creating!

Questions?
Contact 242-7752 or guide@libertylakesplash.com

SPONSORED BY:

Dr. Scott Ralph
ORTHODONTIST

The Art Chalet

THE Splash

COMMUNITY

Compiled by Tammy Kimberley
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

Kids are surrounded by loads of images associated with the season this time of year. From commercials to songs to holiday decorations, you can't go long without seeing signs of the holidays.

To find out more about some of the symbols associated with December holidays,

read the descriptions below and match up with your best guess. Answers can be found at bottom of page 29.

Sources: www.whychristmas.com/customs; elev8.hellobeautiful.com/292095/top-8-symbols-of-the-holiday-season-and-their-meanings/; www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/christmas/christmas-symbols/

SYMBOLS OF THE SEASON

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. Advent wreath | A) Sir Henry Cole is credited with creating the first of these at Christmas in the mid-1800s |
| 2. Candy cane | B) Candles are placed on this and are lit the four Sundays leading up to Christmas |
| 3. Candles | C) This symbol originated in Germany over 200 years ago as a straight, white sugar stick |
| 4. Christmas cards | D) A top used to play a popular game during Hanukkah |
| 5. Dreidel | E) Based on a real person who delivered presents to children and needy people |
| 6. Kinara | F) An item associated with Jesus' birth and often placed on top of Christmas trees |
| 7. Mistletoe | G) This symbol is typically set upon a mat made of straw during Kwanzaa |
| 8. Poinsettia | H) St. Nicholas supposedly threw gold coins down a chimney that landed in these |
| 9. Santa Claus | I) An ambassador to Mexico first brought this to the U.S. |
| 10. Star | J) Originally a Nordic tradition, the custom of burning this goes back to medieval times |
| 11. Stockings | K) These are used in Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa celebrations |
| 12. Yule log | L) Custom dictates that people standing under this can kiss |



COMMUNITY

What you need to know about The Nutcracker

Compiled by Tammy Kimberley
SPLASH STAFF WRITER

"The Nutcracker Ballet" is a two-act ballet based on E.T.A. Hoffman's story "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King." Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky wrote the music for the ballet in 1892, but it did not become truly popular until the late 1960s.

This ballet tells the story of a young girl who helps break the spell on her wooden nutcracker and transforms him into a handsome prince who then takes her to an enchanted land. Unscramble the letters below to reveal some common terms connected to The Nutcracker. Answers can be found at the bottom of the page.

1) The holiday on which The Nutcracker takes place
SAMSTRICH VEE

2) The name of the boy who breaks the head off the Nutcracker doll
RITFZ

3) Godfather Drosselmeier's occupation
LODL KRMAE

4) The Nutcracker's enemy
USOME GINK

5) Place the Nutcracker Prince takes the girl after the spell is broken
DALN OF EETSSW

6) Name of the fairy in The Nutcracker
GUSAR LUMP

7) A ballerina's skirt
UTUT





8) A ballroom dance in triple time
TWZAL

9) The person who chooses and arranges the steps of a ballet
PHGROREOAERCH

10) Term for when a ballerina stands on the tips of her toes or shoes
NOTEPION

11) Ballet turn when the dancer turns around completely on one foot
ETTEUPIRO

12) Tightly knit, form-fitting garment worn by both men and women in ballet
TARDEOL

Sources: www.jhodance.com/docs/JHONutcrackerTeacherGuide.pdf;
www.funtrivia.com/en/Music/Tchaikovsky-17709.html

Answers to "Symbols of the Season": 1) B; 2) C; 3) K; 4) A; 5) D; 6) G; 7) L; 8) I; 9) E; 10) F; 11) H; 12) J
Answers to Nutcracker Trivia: 1) Christmas Eve; 2) Fritz; 3) Doll maker; 4) Mouse King; 5) Land of Sweets; 6) Sugar Plum; 7) Tutu; 8) Waltz; 9) Choreographer; 10) On-pointe; 11) Pirouette; 12) Leotard

Kids Tell It Like It Is

If you could make a gift magically appear for someone during this holiday season, what would it be?

Compiled by Tammy Kimberley at Liberty Lake Elementary School



"\$28,000 for myself."
Pace Greenup, 8



"A horse for me."
Melodi Clark, 8



"A dollhouse for my friend, Emmalee."
Eve Christophersen, 7



"A Lego roller coaster for me and my mom."
Thatcher Hemphill, 8



"A friendship necklace for Lizzy because me and her are best friends."
Ella Score, 7



"I would get my brother another turtle to go with the one he already has."
Sienna Shadd, 7



"I would take my family on a trip to Paris and go to the top of the Eiffel Tower."
Jordan Renken, 7



"A new house for my parents."
Haedyn Siegel, 7



"A hundred million pieces of candy for my dad 'cuz he always steals mine."
Ethan Nilsen, 7



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Be a part of this new Liberty Lake tradition, and make our neighborhoods glow on Christmas Eve while supporting our local community theatre.

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STEP 2: On Christmas Eve, line your driveway, walks, porch steps or other outdoor areas with the luminarias, and light up your neighborhood! (Tip: Luminarias are traditionally placed two to three feet apart to maximize visual impact.)

STEP 3: Take pride in knowing you are supporting worthwhile local causes. All proceeds benefit the Liberty Lake Community Theatre.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact Charmaine Peterson at 255-1400 or charmainepeterson@mac.com, Jeanette Nall at 389-3630, or visit www.libertylaketheatre.com/support/luminaria

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Directed By Mikayla Ludiker

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Brereton's investment in community still felt

Liberty Lake matriarch influenced many

By Greg Tichy and Karen Johnson
LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Debbie Macomber, the No. 1 New York Times bestselling author, wrote a book called "God's Guest List." In it, she shares a parable about a woman at the pearly gates who was given a tour of heaven. She convinced St. Peter to show her a locked room which held millions of gifts wrapped in "all the colors of the rainbow and tied with all the colors of heaven." These were the gifts sent to people on earth, but, as St. Peter sighed, "Many people on earth don't recognize God's gifts and fail to open them." Macomber explained that these gifts are often the people in our lives. They "don't always come gaily gift-wrapped" and are "not always easily recognized. Some even initially come looking like challenges." Macomber encourages readers to think of these people as "guests" in our lives who influence us, either as encouragers who bless us or as difficult people who develop our strength and resilience.

In this month where many give and receive gifts, the challenge stands: the goal is to seek, not miss, the gift of people in our midst — positive or negative — and handle their influence rightly. One of Liberty Lake's earliest matriarchs, Mildred Brereton, was one such positive gift. She loved on people, but she also challenged those who were privileged to find her on their life's "guest list."

Born in 1909, Mildred was the youngest child born to Gage and Floy Neyland. She and her four brothers worked at the family's Liberty Lake resort business, Neyland's Grove. She later married Master Sergeant John "Jack" Brereton, and they settled their family of three girls and two boys just around the bend from Neyland's Grove. In 1947, when housing was scarce, Jack, an army recruiter, took the old recruiting slogan seriously, "Join the army and build yourself a \$15,000 home." So he began building their dream home, "large enough to accommodate all members of the family — and then some." The caption under a 1947 picture of their house in the Spokane Daily Chronicle read, "This is the house that Jack built."

Mildred was the type of person that made every day exciting. A 1957 Chronicle article entitled, "Keyed-Up Mouse is Evicted," highlighted Mildred. On a particular cold January morning at work, Mildred, an office secretary, was surprised by a "Spokane Valley mouse" who had installed a soft bed (stripped typewriter felt) inside her electric typewriter. The mouse had wrapped itself in typewriter ribbon to keep warm, then laid atop the bed inside



PHOTO COURTESY OF
THE LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Longtime Liberty Lake residents Mildred and Jack Brereton left a lasting influence on their community.

the encasement. Mildred called a repairman and told him there was a mouse in her typewriter. The man showed up with his oil can to get rid of the squeak (communication between men and women is always worth a laugh)! He took the rear plate off the typewriter, the mouse jumped out, and so jumped Mildred!

Mildred was fun. Her smile won people to her. But the thing that set Mildred apart is the way she touched our lives.

Deena Smick, like her grandmother Mildred, is a late night person as well as an early riser. She recognizes that's likely in her genes, but she also credits that time with her grandma greatly influenced her. Deena and her brothers occasionally spent a week at Jack and Mildred's. Mildred would get everyone up around 5, then set about "scrubbing their heads" while singing loudly: "Ri-se, and Shi-ne, and give God the glory, glory ..."

Deena loved that and would join right in. "My joy in the morning is from having mornings with her," laughs Deena. "But I don't think my brothers felt the same way!"

Deena, who works with special needs children, says she has a huge heart for them because she watched her grandma's example of loving on "everyone — no matter who they were!"

Some of those people Mildred would love on — no matter who they were — were those who simply call themselves her "kids," not because we wished we were, but because we knew we were — adopted kids, if you will. We were the proverbial dreaded junior/senior high Sunday school class at

Liberty Lake Community Church; she was the undaunted lover of our souls. We were skilled at being teenagers back in the '60s; she was just entering her 60s. Mildred did not act like a teen, but she did act like "one of us." She was full of energy, full of life, full of fun and full of love. She was our gift!

She often accompanied Pastor Ray Ruef chaperoning us on our annual, week-long, Flathead Lake summer camp. We had a blast! She expected us to be respectful, and though she threatened some of the boys with "the stick" if they got too goofy, we all knew she delighted in being with us! She was genuine; she laughed with us, she teased and enjoyed being teased — like when a group of guys picked up her car and hid it across the church parking lot. She encouraged us always and in all ways, whether in the community, at our sporting events, in school and with our grades. Our love and respect for her came naturally, and because she instilled a sense of community among us, love and respect naturally flowed for one another as well.

Mildred and Jack threw parties for their "kids" at "the house that Jack built." We never wanted to miss them because it was more fun there than the CV hangout. When we came home from college, they'd throw another party! Like the gift of a guardian angel, Mildred embedded in us good common sense — especially to live the golden rule, of which she was a shining example. They attended our weddings and our Tupperware parties; they always made time for us, and somehow also for everyone else! Mildred was a confidant to whomever needed one — probably because she exuded wisdom. She was a joy to be with and a joy to remember.

Most of all, her love for God was magnetic and contagious. When she talked about him, it was experiential, not contrived. She made the Bible come alive through her words and her actions. By doing so, she prepared us for life. How? Perhaps simply by deciding to love us and share what she'd been given.

If we are to be gifts to one another, we don't have to be a clone of Mildred. Gifts come in all sizes and shapes and personalities. We may be good gifts or bad, depending on how we give ourselves as well as how we're received. Being a gift may sometimes come naturally, but often it requires lending a hand, adjusting an attitude, forgiving someone or dying to self. Invited or not, our mere proximity to one another puts us on each other's guest list, wrapped in whatever we choose to invest. Mildred knew the secret — she invested well because she invested her heart.

Greg Tichy and Karen Johnson are life-long Liberty Lake residents who both enjoyed time as "guests" of Mildred Brereton.



Neighbors & Neighborhoods

A 2015 SERIES PRESENTED BY THE
LIBERTY LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DID YOU KNOW?

- There was a building materials shortage about the time Jack built their "\$15,000" house. He couldn't get the right kind of lumber, couldn't find hardwood flooring, nor buy the plumbing he wanted. Although his neighbor finagled some lumber through the black market, Jack "just let the house set. I didn't want to cut corners and use substitutes. This was the house I always wanted. And I stuck it out." Good thing. Though he wouldn't sell, he was offered \$25,000 even before it was completed.
- Jack estimated that in 1950 he could retire from the army and collect \$260 a month. The Chronicle reported, "That's enough to take life easy in a home earned while he served his country."
- Mildred loved Liberty Lake. In 1951, Mildred and Evelyn Foedisch wrote "Memories of Liberty Lake," a publication which continues, at times, to be circulated. She was also an active member of the Spokane Valley Pioneers and stayed busy through the years serving Liberty Lake and the greater Spokane area hosting and speaking at various events.
- Mildred's granddaughter Deena still keeps mementos of Mildred in special places around her home. Every once in a while, her family says it's time to let go of things, in particular the plastic, pull-on, orange troll feet that once graced Mildred's feet. Though they don't fit Deena, she is standing firm. The feet stay!
- In 1939, Mildred's father, Gage, sold half of Neyland's Grove to his brother, Grant. Grant named his half Wayside Beach Resort. Later, a portion of Wayside was sold too and became Ted Weeks Resort. Meanwhile, Mildred's brother Homer developed Sandy Beach Resort, which opened in 1940.



Happy Holidays, Liberty Lake!

Welcome to “Eat, Shop & Be Merry,” our guide to celebrating the holidays in Spokane Valley, Liberty Lake, Millwood, Rockford and the surrounding areas.

One of our favorite projects on the calendar, this special section was designed to be both a holiday road map and a community celebration.

Road map: The articles and advertisements in the pages that follow are intended to inspire you with great gift ideas, practical tips and some succulent dining options to help you pave a path through the holiday season and into 2016. Do you know where to find a great prime rib special to close

Merry Christmas!



out a crazy week? It's in here. Want to shop local but short on ideas? We did the work for you: There are dozens of local gift ideas included.

Community celebration: It will serve as no surprise to our readers that we live in a fabulous slice of the world. From the natural beauty to the incredible people we call our friends and neighbors, life in the greater Spokane Valley is worth celebrating.

This section is not some corporate or dot-com guide to the holiday season, but something that could only be put together face to face by people who live in your community. As such, we hope that the anecdotes, the traditions and the ideas shared in the pages that follow will make

you nostalgic for our shared home during this special season.

Indeed, it's worth noting that you, the reader, helped make this section possible. To come up with ideas and content, we solicited the help of local readers, leaders and businesses. A massive thank you to the many who contributed to the content shared on the following pages.

As such, there will be no plugs on the following pages for shopping on the web. While online commerce has its place, we always encourage readers to support local merchants, restaurants and organizations first. As neighbors, we share a common goal of maintaining and building upon what we have in this amazing community. It would behoove us all,

therefore, to remember how important supporting one another is to that pursuit.

There is a reason these next few weeks are immortalized as the “most wonderful time of the year.” May it be that for you, and may this special section play a small role in adding to the spirit of a great season.

On behalf of our team, Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and (since it will be here before we know it) Happy 2016! May it be for you a season of wonder, joy, peace and love — and perhaps some local food and gifts enjoyed along the way.



Josh



Josh Johnson
Publisher, The Splash

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For details and full schedule of events, go to www.spokanesymphonyassoc.org

Shop local for these great gifts

By Valerie Putnam
FOR EAT, SHOP AND BE MERRY

We've made our list — now it's your turn. Welcome to our 2015 Holiday Gift Guide, full of hidden local gems to give — and get — this holiday season. All our finds are from locally owned and operated businesses. Most are easy on the wallet, though we included a few for those wanting to splurge a little.

Hand-made Pottery

The Pottery Bug, 4707 N. Harvard Road, Suite 2, Otis Orchards

Customize your own Christmas platter, meaningful mug — or make a Seahawks snack tray, for that matter. The point is: Pottery offers a simple way to find a gift for anyone on your list that is unique, affordable and heartfelt. The added bonus here is the ability to make some memories and unwind with a loved one while doing some artistic “shopping.”

Poinsettia

Plant Farm, 14208 E. 4th Ave.

Brilliant red floral foliage makes this a holiday favorite, and Plant Farm has more than 30,000 of these festive blooms on display every year. Both inexpensive and easy to care for, poinsettia are a great gift for anyone on your list. A 6.5-inch poinsettia sells for \$8.99 or add some personal touches for \$10.49.

"As We Forgive Those"

**Charles F. Finck,
www.forgivingprayer.com**

The second release of this book by Finck, a Liberty Lake author and counselor, encourages readers to consider a present more important than anything you'll find under the tree — the gift of forgiveness. Built around a simple prayer, the book's mission can be found in its subtitle: “How to forgive others, ourselves and God.”

Holly Jolly Party Time Gift Basket

Simply Northwest, 11806 E. Sprague Ave.

The Holly Jolly Party Time holiday-themed gift basket is filled to the rim with selections such as gourmet popcorn, soft peanut brittle, triple cherry nut mix, candy cane caramels, peppermint shortbread cookies, chocolate graham crackers, chocolate covered pretzels and an assortment of candies. Baskets range from \$35 to \$150.

Journey to the North Pole

**Coeur d'Alene Cruise,
www.cdaresort.com**

Give the gift of holiday spirit with a gift certificate for the “Journey to the North Pole” cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene (\$6 for



EAT, SHOP & BE MERRY PHOTO
BY KELLY BREAKIE

Christmas is in the air at Trellis Marketplace, 4102 S. Bowdish Road, which was already fully entrenched in the season in time for its holiday event Nov. 13-14. The shop is brimming with seasonal gifts such as those pictured above and featured on the cover.

children 6-12, \$20.75 for adults; \$19.75 for seniors). The cruise runs through Jan. 3 and features more than 250 displays and over a million lights. Children will delight as Santa calls their names from his North Pole workshop, and nightly fireworks highlight every cruise.

Chocolate Port Truffle

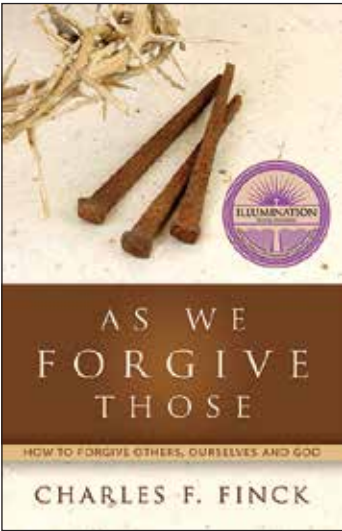
**Chocolate Myacles,
11616 E. Montgomery Drive, Suite 23**

This award-winning chocolate delicacy is born from the famed Criollo bean. Close your eyes as you savor the smooth, rich finish with delicate notes of fruit. Choose a five-piece gift box for \$17.25.

Fontanini Nativity Sculptures

**Trellis Marketplace,
4102 S. Bowdish Road**

A timeless Valley tradition returns to The Trellis. Formerly sold at Halpins, the beautifully crafted Fontanini Nativity sculptures are available to gift the collector on your list. Price ranges from \$12 to \$50.



www.forgivingprayer.com



Simply Northwest



Chocolate Myacles



The Trellis Marketplace

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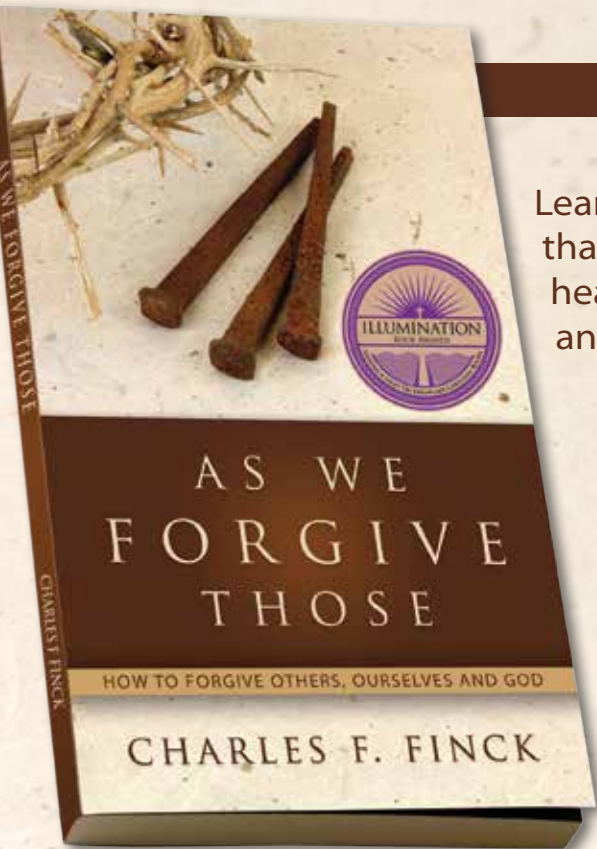
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Charles F. Finck, M.S. has been counseling and teaching for over 30 years, specializing in individual and marriage and family counseling. In the fall of 2001 he founded Liberty Cross Ministries.

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GIFTS

Continued from page 34

Washington Bottle Opener

Jensen Handcrafted,
www.jensenhandcrafted.com

Cleverly marketed as a “timeless and stylish hand tool celebrating the upper left, the WASomePNW,” these state-shaped openers are handcrafted by Spokane Valley resident Josh Jensen. Starting at \$40, the pricing depends upon your selection of the 12 species of wood used for the handle.

Rewards Credit Card

STCU, www.stcu.org

Who says you can't give a gift to yourself, too? STCU recently introduced MasterCard options that emphasize rewards, rewards, rewards. These programs are designed to maximize the reciprocal benefits from all those holiday dollars being spent — something worth considering before any spending spree.

Hot Air Balloon Ride

Avian Balloon, Spokane Valley

A scenic hot air balloon ride is a great gift idea for the person who has everything. The balloon goes “wherever the wind blows” for a 2 ½- to 3-hour experience starting over the Spokane Valley. Call Avian Balloon at 928-6847 or email forey@avianballoon.com.

All Better Butter

Green Girls,
squareup.com/market/green-girls-llc

A perfect stocking stuffer, All Better Butter is an all-natural cream for cuts, scrapes and dry skin. It is made locally from all natural ingredients, including local beeswax. The local business (you may recognize them from the Liberty Lake Farmers Market) also offers face serums formulated for three different ages and stages of life, made with therapeutic grade essential oils and edible base oils.

Goat's Milk Lotions

Golden Gem Mercantile,
18805 State Route 27, Rockford

Used as healthy skin care for centuries, goat's milk lotion is a natural gift idea for the woman who cares about what she puts on that all-important organ ... the skin. Goat's milk is packed with essential vitamins and natural nutrients, including vitamin A, known for its ability to repair damaged tissue and reduce wrinkles.

Specialty Nails

Serendipity Salon, 21101 E. Wellesley Ave., Suite 101, Otis Orchards

Looking for a perfect pedicure? Can't find a salon that specializes in IBD hard-gel nails? Serendipity Salon has your answer. Give the gift of professional, beautiful nails to your loved one this season!



Jensen Handcrafted

Massage

Spokane Spine & Disc, 2207 N. Molter Road, Suite 250, Liberty Lake

A one-hour massage for a mere \$20? That's the holiday offer at Spokane Spine & Disc for new clients. (Hint: It can be purchased in the form of a gift certificate.) Or how about turning it into a gift that keeps on giving, with their monthly membership program that offers continued discounts at up to 50% off the regular value.

Hand-crafted Teas

Winterwoods Tea Co., Spokane Valley

Tea lovers will enjoy savoring the flavor of three glass jar tea samplers. Choose from a variety of teas such as Trailhead Huckleberry, Homestead Peach or Rose City Chocolate. All are made from 100% organic Fair Trade herbs and hand-crafted in Spokane Valley. Find out more at winterwoodstea-company.com; also available at Simply Northwest and Trellis Marketplace.

Kitchen Composter-Worm Factory 360

Marlé Worm Growers,
24411 E. Joseph Ave., Otis Orchards

This is the gift for the individual on your list who is concerned about his carbon footprint. Composting with worms allows you to turn kitchen scraps, paper waste and cardboard into nutrient-rich soil for your plants. The entire process is simple to set up and operate. Its compact design makes it perfect for use in any household.

iFetch

Pawpular Companions, 21950 E. Country Vista Drive, Suite 100, Liberty Lake

The award-winning interactive dog toy, iFetch, launches miniature tennis balls 10, 20 or 30 feet. iFetch saves the day — and your arm — when you're too tired or busy to keep playing. It keeps the most enthusiastic fetch-loving dog entertained for hours.

The personal energy-saving design retails for \$115.

Raffle Tickets

North Idaho College Foundation,
www.nic.edu/rbr

The 23rd annual Really Big Raffle includes, as a grand prize, a \$270,000 home. Runner-up prizes include a car, boat, vacation and shopping spree. Tickets are \$100, and only 5,500 are sold. The raffle funds scholarships and other needs at NIC, so there's built-in value in that present already. But the chance you are giving your loved one a new home? Like the name says, that could be “really big”!

Ellena's Sangiovese

Latah Creek Wine Cellars,
13030 E. Indiana Ave.

Whether grabbed as a gift on the go or a delicately chosen offering for a connoisseur, a bottle of wine from a local cellar is elegant and easy. Ellena's Sangiovese from Latah Creek is a popular choice. Add a little water, one of Latah's mulled wine space bags, brown sugar, then heat through and you've got a special holiday treat. The wine sells for \$18 and spice bags for \$3.99. A special holiday 2-pack is \$30.

Other local wine stops include: Arbor Crest Wine Cellars, 4705 N. Fruit Hill Road; Vintage Vines, 106 N. Evergreen Road; Hal-letts Market & Cafe, 14109 E. Sprague Ave.; Bottles, 3319 N. Argonne Road, Millwood

Telescoping Flag Pole

Uncle Sam's Flag & Gift,
14109 E. Sprague Ave., Suite 6

This specialty of store owner Lance Johnson has unsurprisingly been one of his store's most popular items for many years now. Telescoping from 15 to 25 feet, the flagpole is rated for 100 mph winds, carries a seven-year warranty and is made locally in Idaho.



Badass Backyard Brewing



Spiceologist

Stainless Steel Growler

Badass Backyard Brewing, Millwood

Give that beer connoisseur a taste of local with a stainless steel growler filled with Black Stout, brewed in our own backyard. Characteristic of a porter, this deep rustic malt offers a smooth finish. If dark isn't your cup of brew, choices include Raspberry Wheat and an IPA. Growlers are \$20, with \$12 for fill of beverage. Open twice a month or by appointment at badassbackyardbrewing@yahoo.com.

Spice Rubs and Blends

Spiceologist, spiceologist.com

These rubs aren't just for the BBQ. In the oven, on the stove top or under the broiler, the cook in your life will love to experiment with four best selling spice rubs and blends, including Smoky Honey Habanero, Chile Margarita, Greek Freak and Black Magic. Spiceologist is based in Spokane.

A Furry Friend

SCRAPS, 6815 E. Trent Ave.

Dozens of dogs and cats are always available for adoption at SCRAPS. A great time to visit the shelter would be during the Howliday Open House from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 5-6, featuring treats, giveaways, games and much more. Current pet owners, pick up a SCRAPS license while you're there.

See GIFTS, page 38

GIFTS

Continued from page 37

Beverages that Benefit

Double J Dog Ranch,
www.doublejdogranch.org

Show your support for one of the Inland Northwest's most unique and special charities by purchasing coffee or wine that benefits Double J Dog Ranch. Certified organic wines of all kinds and a dark and light roast of organic free trade coffee (Barnaby's Bark Roasted Blend and Bunny's Breakfast Blend) are available for purchase.

Authentic Mink Eyelashes

Zenaida Spa & Studio, 23801 E.
Appleway Ave., Liberty Lake

Whether a gorgeous gift to that special someone — or a holiday treat to yourself, a full set of 100 percent authentic mink lashes is on sale in December for \$79 (regularly \$150).

Star Wars Armada

The Gamer's Haven, 2114 N. Pines Road

Fight for the fate of the galaxy in Star Wars Armada, a two-player miniature game of epic Star Wars space battles. With the release of "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," Star Wars merchandise is a must for those feeling the force this Christmas. Other



pansypoguepaintings.com

games include Star Wars Imperial Assault and X Wing.

Robin Johnson
Original Artwork

Simply Northwest, 11806 E. Sprague
Hurd Mercantile & Co., 30 S. 1st St.,
Rockford

The first in a series of "The Girlfriends," "Whistling Wanda, The Happy Camper" was introduced in November by local artist Robin Johnson and can be purchased as an original art piece or 5x7 note cards. The cards are available individually or in a set of six. Learn more about Johnson's artwork at pansypoguepaintings.com.



Polka Dot Pottery

Hand-blown
Christmas Ornament

Glass Gods,
2302 N. Argonne Road, Suite F

Each hand-blown icicle ornament is hand-crafted by a master glass blower and sells for an average of \$5 each. In addition to ornaments, jewelry and beads, you can also find novelties and original art pieces available for gifts. Glass-blowing lessons or



Glass Gods

custom pieces are also a gift option. Imagine it and they will help you make it a reality.

Personalized Ornaments

Polka Dot Pottery, 118 S. Pines Road

Hand-made ornaments give that personal touch. Choices include over 50 different ornaments to paint and personalize for that special someone.

Staff writer Josh Johnson contributed to this report.

Give a unique gift while
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About Double J Dog Ranch

This special place, located in beautiful Hauser Lake, is the Inland Northwest's premier sanctuary and re-homing center for dogs with special needs. At Double J Dog Ranch, our program focuses on the unique needs of each dog. This includes specialized vet care, nutrition, training, therapies, acupuncture, end-of-life care and nourishing their souls.

Learn more about how you can support our mission with your tax deductible year-end gift!

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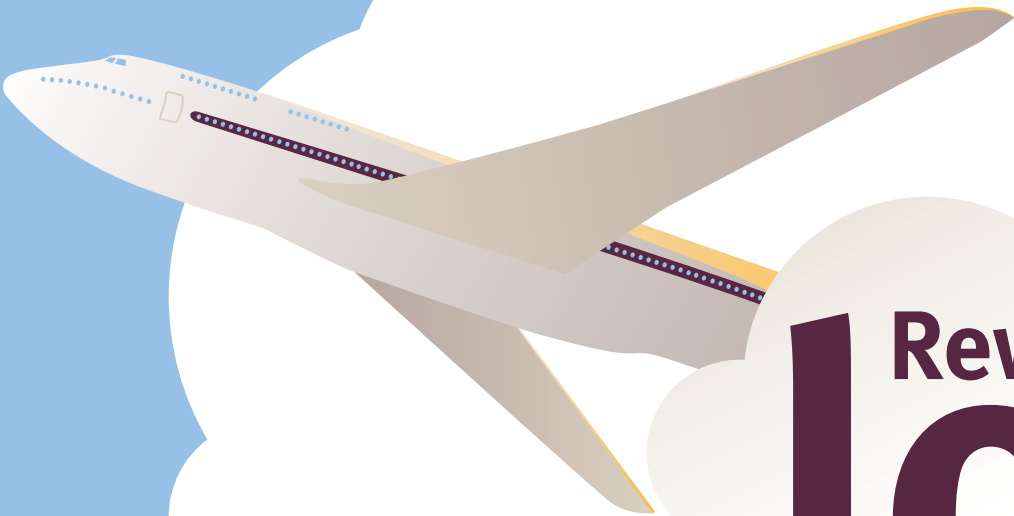
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EAT, SHOP & BE MERRY PHOTO BY SARAH BURK



EAT, SHOP & BE MERRY PHOTO BY STACI LEHMAN

If you need inspiration for creative gift wrapping, look around the house for paper and supplies. A map or sheet music can be used to dress up gifts for your favorite traveler or music lover.

At left: Wire, craft accents, floral items and stamps all can be used to add flair to typical gift wrapping. For children, use coloring pages along with a handful of crayons to keep them busy prior to opening time. Mismatch those small scraps of leftover wrapping paper in coordinating colors or patterns to cover boxes.

Wrap up your shopping – creatively

By Staci Lehman
FOR EAT, SHOP & BE MERRY

It's the thought that counts when giving a gift, as the saying goes. But how you present the gift can be almost as nice as the thought behind it. While store-bought wrapping paper is classic, if you want to wow that loved one, score some points with a client or mollify the neighbor after a particularly loud holiday party that went way too late, try something a little more creative this year.

From maps and sheet music to photos and fabric, if you've got it in your house, you can find a way to make it look good on a gift. And you don't have to be Martha Stewart or own stock in Pinterest to achieve the looks below. In fact, most are so easy, a child could do it.

The best part: While you can spend almost as much money on wrapping as you did on shopping, it's definitely not a requirement, as we demonstrate here.

Wrap jobs on a budget

If you spent a little too much on gifts this year, you can take some pressure off your budget by *not* buying wrapping paper and bows. For a colorful package for your favorite traveler, wrap a travel-themed gift in free road maps from rest stops or those old maps from your glove box. You're not using them anyway since the smart phone came along.

Dress them up with a bow, ribbon or any other kind of thread or cord you have around.

Have a musician in the family? Along the

same lines as maps, you can repurpose sheet music as wrapping paper. If available, use a seasonal tune, such as "Jingle Bells" or "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," to add that extra holiday touch.

If you have a rag bag or old clothes or shirts destined to be used to wash the car or change the oil, use a piece of the (clean) fabric to wrap your gifts. You can also use a holiday dishtowel.

To literally "dress up" your package wrapped in fabric, clean out old costume jewelry from your jewelry box and stick a brooch or two on top for flair instead of a bow. This not only results in a creatively and attractively wrapped gift, it also tastefully re-gifts items you're not using. If you don't have a brooch you're willing to give away, hit the thrift shop; they're cheap and readily available.

Most people have tons of wrapping paper scraps that aren't quite big enough to wrap an entire present and are headed for the trash can. Don't throw them away and buy more — mix and match them! If women can do it with their clothes this season, you can do it with your gift-giving. Use two or more different, but color- or pattern-coordinating, papers. The key here is to overlap or fold seams under for a neat effect. Another option is to use a mix of pages from magazines, maps or other printed materials that appeal to you.

Personalized gift wrapping

We all have favorite pictures of friends and family members that bring back great

memories. Personalize their gifts by making that photo into wrapping paper. If you want it to look professional quality, you can send your photos to Walmart or another photo printing store online to pick up later, but keep in mind that the paper is probably going to get ripped, so you may not want to spend a lot of money on this.

Your other, less expensive option is to print photos yourself. All you need is a printer hooked to your computer, and it's no big deal if it's not a color printer. Black and white photos make a strong impact, especially when tied up with a colored ribbon or bow.

First there were chalk boards, then there was chalk board paint and now there's chalkboard paper. Chalk board paper lets you dress up a gift any way you like, and, if you mess it up, you can erase your picture or message and do it again. Chalk board paper can be found on Etsy, Zazzle, Amazon and other websites for anywhere from \$4 for three 8 1/2" by 11" sheets to \$12 for a 30-foot roll. If you want an all-chalkboard theme, there are also chalkboard gift tags available.

Recruit the kids

The holiday break is known for shopping, family time and kids home from school driving you crazy. Keep them busy with a roll of brown shipping or butcher paper from pretty much any all-purpose or craft store and a metallic paint pen. Have them draw pictures or designs on the paper (with a pencil first then trace over it with the paint pen), then wrap your gifts in it. Now grandma and grandpa don't just get a gift, but one

wrapped in a work of art!

Alternatively, you can set the kids free with paper and glitter glue and use what they come up with as wrapping paper.

Recycled (or up-cycled)

If you don't have the time or motivation to make alternative gift wrap, we get it. You're busy and your creativity is often limited by everything else you have to accomplish every day. Wrap your gifts in good old wrapping paper then slap a bow on it. Done.

Wait, no bows? No big deal. Most households have a container of lost/mismatched buttons that will never grace the front of a blouse or the cuff of a shirt again. Stack different sized buttons and glue them together to make a tiered "bow" for the top of your package.

You can also use dried or paper flowers, ornaments, wine bottle corks glued together and a plethora of other household items to dress up the tops of your presents. And don't stop there. You probably have a house full of other items that can be used to make your gift wrapping incredible this year. Don't hold back, go with your imagination and the spirit of the season for gifts that will wow even the biggest Grinch.

Sources: www.countryliving.com/diy-crafts/how-to/g1053/gift-wrapping-ideas; www.personalcreations.com/blog/creative-gift-wrapping-ideas; ideas.hallmark.com/christmas-ideas/creative-gift-wrapping-ideas/; www.etsy.com/www.realsimple.com/holidays-entertaining/gifts/wrapping/unique-gift-wrap-ideas



Frosted with cream cheese vanilla icing and topped with toasted walnuts, the carrot cake at Rocket Bakery is the establishment's most popular dessert.

EAT, SHOP & BE MERRY PHOTO BY SAM MCGHEE

Your pick of the menu

Try these standout orders at local restaurants

By Valerie Putnam
FOR EAT, SHOP & BE MERRY

The holidays are here. Their arrival means different things for different people, but one custom seems universal — enjoying good food.

Preparing you for the arrival of family and guests, we have compiled a list of memorable dishes and desserts to enjoy when dining out this holiday season from local restaurateurs.

Carrot Cake

A delicacy since the store opened in 1992, this three-tier round cake is made from scratch using fresh carrots and pureed pineapple. Frosted with cream cheese vanilla icing topped with toasted walnuts.

Place your order: Sold either by individual slice (\$3.75) or the whole cake (\$40) from Rocket Bakery, 3315 N. Argonne Road, Millwood.

The After Burner Burger

Hot and spicy — these words aptly describe this ‘flamin’ hot burger. Jalapenos, peppered bacon, pepperjack cheese and

Flamin’ Joe’s Hot Code 6 sauce may just overload your senses.

Place your order: Available for \$13.99 at Flamin Joe’s, 11618 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane Valley.

Seafood Cobb Salad

Not your typical cobb. Grilled gulf prawns, langoustine and blackened ahi tuna sit atop mixed greens, avocado, bacon, chive, gorgonzola, cucumber, tomato and hardboiled egg. Finished off with gorgonzola vinaigrette.

Place your order: Enjoy this unique salad for \$16 at Hay J’s Bistro, 21706 E. Mission Ave., Liberty Lake.

Thai Garlic Delight

Choose your meat sautéed in a homemade garlic sauce to be served on a bed of steamed broccoli, zucchini, carrots and cabbage.

Place your order: Available for \$13.99 at Thai Bamboo, 12722 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane Valley.

Fish and Fries

Touted as the best fish and chips in the area, this entrée features three pieces of hand-cut hand-battered fish served with French fries and a choice of coleslaw or

chowder, served in this small neighborhood diner near the state line.

Place your order: Available for \$10.45 (other prices available depending upon quantities) at Pryor’s, 24706 E. Wellesley Ave., Otis Orchards.

The Spicy Hawaiian Pizza

Liberty Lake’s newest pizzeria offers a spicy twist on a Polynesian style pie. Topped with roasted Jalapeno, roasted pineapple, felino, and provolone and mozzarella cheeses spread on top of a rich tomato sauce.

Place your order: Available daily for \$15 at Piccolo Artisan Pizza, 21718 E. Mission Ave., Liberty Lake.



Spicy Hawaiian Pizza, Piccolo Artisan Pizza

Latte Art

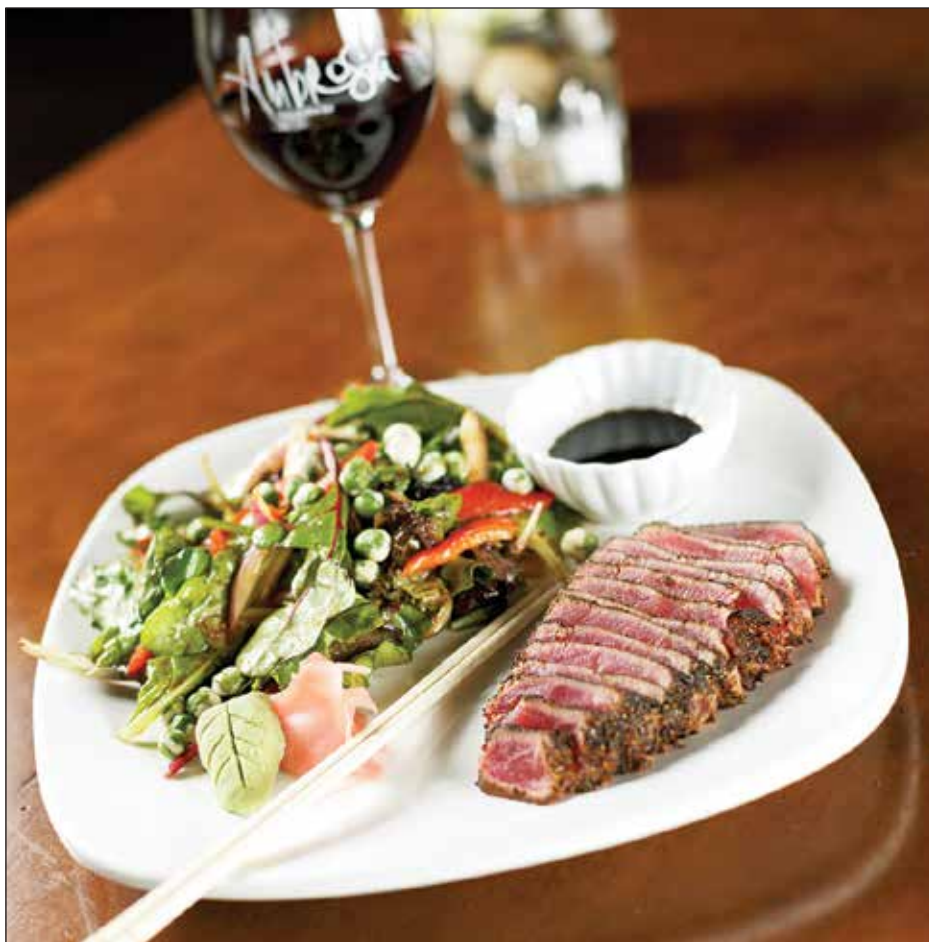
The Tasa Mocha is dessert in a cup. It combines the tastes of white chocolate sauce, toasted marshmallow syrup and Tiramisu syrup.

Place your order: A 16-ounce version runs \$3.50 at Country Brewed Coffee House, 5 S. 1st St., Rockford.

See MENU, page 43



Tasa Mocha, Country Brewed Coffee House



Ahi Tuna Salad, Ambrosia Bistro

MENU

Continued from page 42

Ahi Tuna Salad

This seared togarashi crusted ahi has been on the menu since opening day. It is served with mixed greens tossed in a hoisin vinaigrette and topped with red onions, red bell peppers and wasabi peas.

Place your order: Available for \$15.99 during lunch and dinner at Ambrosia Bistro, 9211 E. Montgomery Ave., Spokane Valley.

Chicken Taco Bowl

Shredded chicken cooked in home-made chipotle adobo sauce, served over cabbage slaw and topped with avocado and feta cheese provide a popular holiday option.

Place your order: Available at lunch and dinner for \$10 at Vintage Vines, 106 N. Evergreen Road, Spokane Valley.

The King's Omelet

A well-made omelet is a thing of culinary beauty. The King's Omelet brings that beauty to life with six eggs folded over diced ham, green peppers and onions mixed with cheddar and Swiss cheeses. Served with a choice of cottage fries or hash browns and toast.

Place your order: Available for \$10.95 at Cottage Café, 6902 E. Appleway Ave, Spokane Valley.



Chicken Taco Bowl, Vintage Vines



Prime Rib Special, True Legends Grill

Prime Rib Special

The prime rib takes center stage Fridays, with a week-capping lineup included a vegetable and potato choice, dinner salad and the "Truly Legendary" cheese bread.

Place your order: Friday special is \$18.99 for an 8-ounce and \$21.99 for 12-ounce at True Legends Grill, 1803 N. Harvard Road, Liberty Lake.

See MENU, page 44

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IS HARD.

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Great food, fine wine and special friends ... what else is there?

A large advertisement for True Legends Grill. It features a glass of beer with a Santa hat on top. The text "EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY!" is written in large, bold, red letters. Below it, "CALL TODAY TO BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY" is written in white. The True Legends Grill logo is at the bottom, with the tagline "MORE THAN JUST A SPORTS BAR". The address "LIBERTY LAKE AND I-90 AT THE ROUNDABOUT" and phone number "509-892-3077" are listed, along with the website "WWW.TLG.IM" and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Google+.

EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY!

CALL TODAY TO BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY

True Legends
GRILL

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Soup and Salad, Forza Coffee Company

MENU

Continued from page 43

Soup and Salad

Nothing warms a soul more than a bowl of steaming homemade soup. Soup selections rotate daily, served with Forza house salad and focaccia bread. The house salad is mixed greens with slivered almonds, cranberries, blue cheese and poppyseed dressing.

Place your order: Available for \$8.99 from Forza Coffee Company, 325 S. Sullivan Road, Spokane Valley.

Pastrami Burger

This all-American classic burger provides a little extra with two slices of American cheese, grilled pastrami, lettuce topped with Thousand Island dressing and served with a choice of soup, salad or endless steak fries.

Place your order: Available for \$9.79 at Otis Grill, 21902 E. Wellesley Ave., Otis Orchards.

Unforgettable Sandwich

Bacon, turkey, cream cheese, mayo, tomato, sprouts and avocado served on fresh 12-grain bread earns this sandwich its “unforgettable” name. Served with a homemade chocolate chip cookie.

Place your order: Available for lunch for \$7.99 at High Nooner, 523 N. Pines Road, Spokane Valley.

Hot Bacon Dip

Need we say any more? This dish blends bacon, caramelized sweet onions and Point Reyes blue cheese, served with kettle chips.

Place your order: Order for \$9 off the starter menu at CorkHouse, 1400 N. Meadowwood Lane, Liberty Lake.

Arroz con Pollo

Starting with a bed of rice, this dish is loaded with chicken sautéed with mushrooms, tomatoes and green onions then smothered in melted jack cheese and special Mexican sauce. Served with tortillas.

Place your order: Dinner menu price is \$12.95 at Palenque Mexican Restaurant, 1102 N. Liberty Lake Road, Liberty Lake.



Bacon Avocado Florentine Benedict, Little Euro

Bacon Avocado Florentine Benedict

Smothered in hollandaise sauce, this unusual benedict entices the most discriminating taste buds with its unique combination of spinach, bacon, tomato, and avocado on an English muffin. Served with fresh hash browns.

Place your order: Available for \$11.99 at Little Euro, 517 N. Pines Road, Spokane Valley.

Chan's Chow Mein

Bring your favorite holiday chop sticks and dig into fresh pan-fried Udon noodles with hand-cut vegetables stir fried in a home-made clear garlic sauce.

Place your order: Choose from beef, chicken, pork or tofu for \$10.99 or prawns for \$2 extra and a seafood combo for \$4 extra at Chan Bistro, 1409 N. Argonne Road, Spokane Valley.

Grilled Mac & Cheese Sandwich with Extra Cheese

Bacon makes this twist on the mac and cheese sandwich worth taking a shopping break. Grilled on French bread and served with Buffalo ranch dressing.

Place your order: Available for \$5.99 at Halletts Market and Café, 14109 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane Valley.

Szechuan Scallops

Heat up a cold winter day with this hot, chef-recommended dish. The meal includes large scallops with peppers stir fried in hot garlic sauce.

Place your order: Available for \$16.95 at Ding How, 1332 N. Liberty Lake Road, Liberty Lake.

Voodoo Pasta

Awaken your taste buds with Andouille sausage, Cajun cream, red bell peppers with choice of prawns or grilled chicken makes this dish magical.

Place your order: Max at Mirabeau, 1100 N. Sullivan Road, Spokane Valley.



Chan's Chow Mein, Chan Bistro



Grilled Mac & Cheese Sandwich, Halletts Market and Café

Did You Know?
Holiday Food Edition

- Carp is a common item on the Christmas dinner menu in the Czech Republic. But guests who dine on traditional fish soup and carp should beware: lore says if there aren't an even number of guests at the table, the person without a partner will die after the New Year.
- Europeans baked fruitcake with nuts at the end of the nut season and saved them for one year, to be eaten at the beginning of the next harvest for good luck. Apparently, eating fruitcake was prohibited other than on special occasions because it was "sinfully" rich and delicious.
- A German custom dictates that good luck or an extra present goes to the first one to find a glass pickle ornament hidden on a Christmas tree. There is an annual

Festive food facts and figures

12 Courses that Ukrainians prepare in a traditional Christmas Eve meal

\$188,906,668 Average cost each year to feed cookies, milk and carrots to Santa and his reindeer on Christmas night

1646 The year England's Long Parliament banned mince pie, Christmas pudding and Christmas dinners of more than three courses. These laws were never repealed, so technically they are still in effect.

466 Weight in pounds of the largest gingerbread man, baked by The Gingerbread House in Rochester, Minn., in 2006

1.75 million Candy canes sold around the world during the Christmas season

23 December day that Oaxaca, Mexico, residents celebrate the Festival of the Radishes

Sources: www.foodreference.com/html/fchristmas.html; patch.com/washington/woodinville/10-weird-facts-about-christmas-foods-woodinville

December Christmas Pickle Celebration in Berrien Springs, Mich., with a Pickle Parade lead by the Grand Dillmeister.

- Mince pies are commonly made of fruit today. But when they originated in Medieval times, the Christmas Eve treat was made of chopped beef, nuts and spices with dried plums, according to FoodReference.com.
- Wassail comes from the Old Norse "ves heill" which means to be of good health. This evolved into the tradition of visiting neighbors on Christmas Eve and drinking to their health.
- It is a British Christmas tradition that a wish made while mixing the Christmas pudding will come true only if the ingredients are stirred in a clockwise direction.

Sources: patch.com/washington/woodinville/10-weird-facts-about-christmas-foods-woodinville; <http://www.corsinet.com/braincandy/xmastrivia.html>



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*Comparative data using 3D and 2D mammography to detect invasive cancer, BreastCancer.org, June 2014.

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12 Gifts of Christmas

Turn materialism into generosity this season



By Chad Kimberley
EAT, SHOP & BE MERRY COLUMN

I love Christmas music.

I love that some radio stations start playing Christmas carols Nov. 1, despite the argument that an elf kills a baby reindeer each time a carol is played before Thanksgiving.

I love the kid-like jingles and imagining mom kissing Santa Claus (and truly hoping that it is dad and not the mall Santa) and grandma being run over by a reindeer. I love the classics and listening to Bing Crosby and Nat King Cole along with all the odd releases like Guns N' Roses and Alvin and the Chipmunks.

Despite the literally thousands of different Christmas carols out there, the one I always come back to, for purely selfish reasons, is "12 Days of Christmas." You see, when I was a kid I always imagined that song being my personal Christmas gift list. I wanted 12 new Star Wars action figures (I never did get Admiral Ackbar), nine posters of Alyssa Milano for my walls (you know nine is the ladies dancing), seven new Nintendo games (I played Contra for hours), four boxes of baseball cards (still bitter my mom threw them all out) and one trampoline (asked for it every year — never got it).

I see now that the whole aiming to get 78 gifts each Christmas may seem a bit selfish (OK, a lot selfish), but now as an adult with three kids who all have their own Christmas wish lists, I have come to realize the importance of teaching a bit of balance and selflessness. After all, this is a season that becomes a bit materialistic.

So let's turn that same song around. Instead of giving our first loves (friends and family) tons of gifts, how about we show some love to those in our community who could really use the gift of our generosity this season. I think the new song may start a bit like this ...

"On the first day of Christmas I gave my community ..."

12 Dollar Bills

One of the best things you could do this Christmas season is keep a plethora of dollar bills (at least 12) in your car so that each time you stop at the grocery store or the department store you can drop a dollar into the red kettles that the Salvation Army has out and about throughout this holiday season. The Salvation Army helps over 4 million people in the United States each year through those red kettles each Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

11 Cans of Food

There are many groups doing food drives throughout the holiday season, and you can pick from multiple organizations you want to help. One group I have volunteered with and given to is Second Harvest, who in turn partners with lots of groups in our community. Second Harvest distributes over 2 million pounds of free food each month throughout Eastern Washington and North Idaho.

10 Pairs of Gloves

Gloves, blankets or even hand warmers would be a great donation to Blessings Under the Bridge, who will then distribute them to folks in need who are out on the streets or struggling to find consistently warm places to sleep and stay. We can all relate to be freezing cold, but most of us can remedy that situation quickly. Let's help those who can't this holiday season.

9 Hours of Time

Perhaps making a donation isn't possible this season, but many organizations all over the Valley would love to have you show up to donate time to help them meet needs. Whether it is one of the organizations mentioned in this column or another group that you are passionate about, please take an hour a day to make a difference.

8 Holiday Voices

Grab together a few friends and head out to a local retirement or nursing home and bring some holiday cheer by singing out a few Christmas carols or stopping in for a great conversation. Put a smile on someone's face, make a new friend and spread some Christmas joy.

7 Clothing Items

Teen Closet is an organization that aims to help boost the confidence of teens in foster care by providing contemporary and fashionable clothes. Teen Closet looks for items that are brand new or gently used, suited for a current teenager and have no stains or holes in the clothing.

6 Tree of Sharing Gifts

Spokane Valley Partners is a local organization that provides various services, including a clothing and food bank for local families. During the Christmas season,

the organization has a Tree of Sharing that provides gifts for nearly 100 families in the Spokane Valley community. Make a commitment to provide six of those gifts this holiday season.

5 Toys For Tots

What would the Christmas season be without toys? Yes, it is important to help provide basic needs like warmth, food and shelter, but for a kid it does make for a special Christmas when you get a brand new toy. Toys for Tots aims to deliver a new toy at Christmas, and more importantly a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters and lets them know someone, somewhere cares.

4 Bags of Dog or Cat Food

It is not just kids and adults who might need some help during the Christmas season, but it is also our four-legged friends. SCRAPS is the only animal protection agency for Spokane County and could use donations to help meet needs. One of the big needs is quality puppy or cat food — and preferably Purina One brand food. You may not be able to adopt a new pet this Christmas season, but you can help some furry critters stay healthy until someone else can bring them home.

3 Packages of Diapers

Inland NW Baby is an organization trying to help families who struggle to provide clothing and diapers for those in need. One of the largest needs is diapers, so this Christmas season make it a point to pick up some diapers each time you do some Christmas shopping and be able to help bless local families this winter.

2 Tickets To "White Christmas"

By picking up two tickets to the show "White Christmas" at the Spokane Civic Theater on Dec. 16, you will be participating in a fundraiser for Hearth Homes in Spokane Valley. Hearth Homes is the only transitional home in the Valley for women recovering from domestic violence, chemical dependency and other traumas. Not only do you see a great show, you can participate in a silent auction and impact lives.

1 Happy Camper

It is easy to get caught up in the chaos, busyness and potential grumpiness of the Christmas season. Make a commitment to yourself and others to be a happy camper this holiday season, and greet one and all with a smile and some joy.

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



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Celebrating the season

Local personalities create meaningful moments through holiday traditions



"My holiday traditions include gathering with children, grandchildren, family and friends; making Christmas cookies; reading holiday books and decorating the tree with grandchildren; going to a holiday movie; sharing memories; favorite foods and holiday cheer. And, of course, skiing if there is snow!"

— **Joanne Comer, principal, Liberty Lake Elementary**

"For a few years now, we have decided to give our children three Christmas presents: something they want, something they need and something to share. It's been fun to keep it simple and purposeful, while still taking the opportunity to spoil them a little bit — hopefully somewhere short of 'rotten.'"

— **Josh Johnson, publisher, The Splash & The Current**

"My favorite holiday tradition began the year we moved to the Spokane Valley. After much searching for a tree at Greenbluff, we found a tree at Huckaba Christmas Tree Farm. Every year since, our entire family makes the return trek to Huckaba's and painstakingly chooses the best Christmas tree on the farm. Ultimately, it isn't the tree that is the most important part of the tradition ... it's the togetherness and the stories created and retold year after year that makes this such a cherished family tradition."

— **Ben Small, superintendent, Central Valley School District**

"For our family Christmas dinner, every member randomly draws a course that they must decide what to prepare and serve. There are no rules except for any allergy restrictions. As you can imagine, we have had very interesting meal combinations including crab mac-n-cheese for dessert, a mashed potato appetizer, and garlic bread as the main dish."

— **Mike Hittle, principal, Central Valley High School**

"In our first year of marriage, my husband and I took time on Thanksgiving to fill a notecard with things we had to be grateful for during the past year. We continued the practice as kids entered the picture, and they now get a kick out of going back through 20 years worth of notecards each Thanksgiving to see how our lives have changed."

— **Tammy Kimberley, general manager, The Splash & The Current**

"Passed down from my great grandparents, every Christmas Eve the kids open their first present - a new pair of warm winter pajamas. This serves two purposes. It's easier to get the kids ready for bed because they can't wait to wear their new pajamas, and they look great in the pictures the next morning."

— **Jennifer Ophardt, president, Liberty Lake Community Theatre**

"Our community is strong because of the connections between people. In our family, we select an early December Saturday evening and share hospitality with our friends and neighbors. Some would call it a house party, but I like to think of it as a gesture, an open welcome to people who have been a part of our lives during the year gone by, to recognize we appreciate them and what they mean to us. I like to boldly greet everyone as they arrive and welcome them with a warm, 'Merry Christmas.'"

— **Dan Dunne, council member, City of Liberty Lake**

"On New Year's Eve we have pizza, watch movies and play games. It's a great time for our family to share with each other all we are thankful for in the last year and celebrate the start to a new year!"

— **Randy Russell, superintendent, Freeman School District**

"Our tradition is to decorate the Spokane Valley Museum with the historic Christmas bells that were used at the old University City Mall to celebrate the season as well as put lots of lights on the building. The bells are large and red and a lot of people recognize them."

— **Jayne Singleton, director, Spokane Valley Heritage Museum**

"Traditions change as our adult children have children and other family members to share the holidays with, but our traditions seem to revolve around food — Christmas Eve dinner of crab or seafood chowder, cookies that we have made for weeks — followed by the evening church services. We reconvene on Christmas Day with dinner, presents and hopefully outdoor snow activities!"

— **Peggy Doering, executive director, Valleyfest**

"My wife and I received an advent calendar from my grandmother when we got married. It has little doors to open with mini-ornaments inside to hang the calendar on which tell the Christmas story. As we had children and introduced the advent calendar to them, it's become one of their favorite things to do in counting down to Christmas day, waking each other up in the morning so they can do it before school."

— **Phil Champlin, executive director, HUB Sports Center**

"Although it is not a traditional holiday setting, we've made a tradition of spending the holidays at the beach. We don't have a white Christmas, but palm trees decorated with Christmas lights and hoping to see Santa riding a surfboard is something we all look forward to. Mele Kalikimaka!"

— **Lindsay Ehlers, principal, Greenacres Elementary**

"Growing up, my parents started a tradition of gifting my brother, sister and I with an ornament to hallmark a special event that occurred in the year — a hot air balloon for my first marketing internship with the Lake CDA Balloonfest; a Christmas package for my first job as a gift-wraper at Troutman's Emporium; a piano for my childhood passion for music. My tree is now filled with treasured memories that serve as a great reminder of the beautiful life I'm blessed to live surrounded by loving family and friends."

— **Katherine Morgan, president and CEO, Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce**

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■ ■ ■ In Biz

Yoke's reaches preliminary deal to purchase Haggen store

Haggen, the bankrupt grocery chain that moved into the Liberty Lake market in May, announced this month it has a preliminary sale agreement in place to sell its Liberty Lake property to Yoke's Foods. Yoke's submitted the prevailing bid in a Nov. 11 bankruptcy auction for the store at 1233 N. Liberty Lake Road. The sale agreement requires formal court approval.

Yoke's is an employee-owned chain of grocery stores based in Spokane.

Haggen originally announced plans to close the location Sept. 23, and it has been liquidating its inventory in recent weeks. It was part of a request made through bankruptcy court to close 100 stores it obtained earlier this year from Albertsons and Safeway in the wake of the grocery giants' merger.

A year ago, Haggen had 18 stores in the Pacific Northwest before purchasing 146 throughout the west coast through the Albertsons-Safeway deal. The Liberty Lake location was the only Eastern Washington store that was obtained in the agreement.

Accra-Fab honored

Liberty Lake-based Accra-Fab recently received one of two AFA Company of the Year awards for its commitment to aerospace growth in Eastern Washington and its further commitment to the environment. The honor, given by the Aerospace Futures Alliance of Washington, was presented at the Governor's Aerospace Summit Oct. 7-8. AFA provides workforce training programs and legislation support in order to meet the demands of the growing aerospace industry.

"We have made a substantial investment and commitment to building manufacturing and supply chain efficiencies that benefit the aerospace sector," Accra-Fab President Greg Konkol said. "It is an honor to be recognized for the efforts and accomplishments of the Accra-Fab team."

Konkol has held a seat on the board of INWAC (Inland Northwest Aerospace Consortium) for the past several years and was elected to serve as chairman in the early spring of this year.

The company has continued to expand its capabilities to meet the specific needs of the aerospace industry and has opened a satellite office in Seattle.

European Diva Studio moves to LL

In September, European Diva Studio relocated to 1328 N. Stanford Lane, suite 101, within Balanced Wellness Medical Clinic.

Owner and Liberty Lake resident Agnieszka Niczyporuk said the new office

serves as a more central location for her clients than her previous studio in Spokane Valley. She sees clients by appointment Monday through Saturday.

European Diva Studio provides advanced clinical skin care services including acne treatments, facials, chemical peels, lash and brow tinting, microdermabrasion, non-invasive LED light therapy, Biosonix ultrasound and more.

The studio and Balanced Wellness Medical Clinic are holding a Christmas celebration 4 to 7 p.m. Dec. 3. The event is free and will include refreshments and door prizes. For more, call 951-0506.

Gravity Jack recognized

Entrepreneur Magazine recently honored Liberty Lake-based Gravity Jack as one of the best entrepreneurial companies in America for the year 2015 in the group of "best practitioners."

According to an article in the magazine, best practitioners "tend to be in rapid growth industries and are mostly national and international in focus, rather than local or regional."

Open Eye donates to food bank

Throughout the last week of October, employees of OpenEye donated food and money to Second Harvest Food Bank. OpenEye matched contributions, which brought the final donation total to \$1,062.

According to a press release, the donations will provide more than 5,300 meals to Inland Northwest families in need.

Dentist offers insurance alternative

Dr. Paul Fawson, a Liberty Lake resident who practices on Spokane's South Hill, recently announced an alternative to dental insurance.

With monthly plans beginning at \$27 per month, the Fawson Dentistry Loyalty Savings Program provides an option for families and individuals to receive preventive dental care and discounts on restorative, cosmetic and elective dental procedures. For more, visit www.FawsonDentistry.com.

Small completes SBA program

Jeanne Small, co-owner of Quantum Northwest in Liberty Lake, was one of 15 recent graduates from the U.S. Small Business Administration Emerging Leaders program.

Described in a press release as a mini-MBA training initiative for local businesses on the brink of growth, the SBA Seattle District Office provided the seven-month executive education series that included 100 hours of classroom time, creation of a three-year growth action plan and connection to a network of industry experts and peers.

BUSINESS

Friendship, inspiration launched Roots of Silver

By Treva Lind
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

A Liberty Lake business turns vintage silverware into hand-crafted jewelry and gifts, a brainchild of two women who stay rooted in friendship.

Co-owners Anna Henry, 52, and Terry Rathbun, 57, are neighbors and friends who started Roots of Silver about two years ago. Both work from their homes to craft pieces cut in custom fashion from intricately designed flatware to make them into pendants, bracelets, earrings, keychains and wine bottle tags, among other items.

Henry and Rathbun often further hand-cut within the flatware's design to bring out its features and patterns. Roots of Silver merchandise is sold through Etsy, Amazon Handmade and occasionally at shows.

"We do what we can to bring these pieces into the future," Rathbun said. "Otherwise, they get left in a drawer and forgotten. People don't set tables like that anymore."

Added Henry, "I love the vintage nature of silverware. If you look at the artisan work, it's just beautiful."

The friends laugh frequently when describing their start and steep learning curve. A visit to The Farm Chicks Show in Spokane gets some credit for inspiration, although Rathbun wasn't too sure about attending.

"She promised me a hot dog," Rathbun joked.

At the show, Henry bought a vintage fork stamped with "Happy Birthday," and Rathbun suggested the pair could do that on their own. But after some stamping misadventures, their efforts soon shifted mainly to crafting jewelry. They still do a bit of stamping.

"It wasn't jewelry at first; it was an attempt at stamping," Henry said. "So we go to Harbor Freight and we bought big mallets and an anvil, armed and dangerous."

"And that's not how you do it, FYI," added Rathbun.

"We kind of morphed," Henry said. "I suck at stamping. There was nothing left, so I said, 'OK, there has to be a way.' So I cut it. Terry said, 'Really, you did that?'"

Rathbun joked about early on getting impaled by a drill bit.

"I thought I did, but I didn't," she said, adding that a tiny piece of metal got in her eye and later came out without injury. That's when a neighbor gave her a heavy-duty apron.

"Now, I wear full-body armor: a safety mask like welders wear, the apron and



SPLASH PHOTOS BY TREVA LIND

Anna Henry, left, and Terry Rathbun are the women behind Liberty Lake's Roots of Silver business. The pair work together to custom fashion flatware into pendants, bracelets, earrings, keychains and various other items.

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work requires taking it and you hand-cut around the patterns. When I take a piece and work on it, my husband says, 'How did you see that in that?'"

Added Rathbun, "The trick is seeing the patterns, and then cutting them. We say, how can we modify this to make people see how beautiful this pattern is?"

Early on, the pair started a Facebook page under the name Slightly Tarnished.

"We had a group of people who followed us with that name, but our business name is Roots of Silver," Henry said. "There was already someone with Slightly Tarnished as a business name when we started on Etsy."

The owners primarily work with silver-plated flatware, and a few sterling silver pieces. Typically, the flatware has a silver layer over a metal.

heavy gloves," she said. "Metal gets really hot when you cut it."

Today, Roots of Silver sells items that range from elaborate pendants to writing pens that are crafted from the handles of knives. Even antique sugar tongs get renewed life in their hands.

"It's not just a matter of dividing a piece up and calling it good," Henry said. "The

"It can be nickel, brass, sometimes it's over zinc," Rathbun said. "It depends on what part of the world they're from."

They've worked with flatware originally made in Russia, Poland and Sweden, among examples. Swedish designs tend to have intricate swirls. European pieces are typically electroplated nickel silver, they said.

Henry and Rathbun came to Roots of Silver with different work backgrounds. Rathbun retired from Charles Schwab the end of 2013. Henry still works in a separate business she owns doing technical writing, marketing and communication. They met originally at a neighborhood block party and learned how much they have in common, including both of their husbands are named Mark.

"We do bounce ideas off each other," Henry said. "We look at things similarly, but opposite. If we were each given the same piece, it would look totally different. That's kind of the fun of it."

She and Henry find flatware at estate sales, vintage stores and some thrift shops. Certain ones date back to the 1800s, but Rathbun added that they mostly look for any flatware that has interesting patterns. Roots of Silver does some projects by request for families.

"I'm doing pieces for a family in Seattle, so they'll all wear them as pendants made from their grandmother's vintage spoons," Rathbun said.

Roots of Silver has almost tripled sales on Etsy when compared with its launch about two years ago. The business just started listing items at Amazon Handmade.

"I don't think you'd know it was silverware," Henry said. "The hard part is when you really love a piece and someone buys it."

"People are slightly wary of us at dinner parties," Rathbun added, with a laugh. "Don't bring out the good stuff."

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Globally experienced coach takes reins at CV

Shaun Williams selected to replace wrestling mentor, John Owen

By Mike Vlahovich
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

If a journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step, Shaun Williams expended copious amounts of shoe leather before reaching his destination as Central Valley's new wrestling coach.

Williams' odyssey began some 10,000 miles away when he left his native South Africa and arrived at North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene to further his mat career. A circuitous route that followed eventually brought him back to CV, where he had assisted John Owen for two years a decade ago.

When Owen retired, said Williams, the opportunity to return was too good to pass up.

"Actually, I met John at North Idaho the first year I wrestled there," he said. "John has always been a mentor to me."

Born in Pretoria 39 years ago, Williams' wrestling resume is as extensive as the mileage. He finished second and first nationally in the late 1990s while at NIC

and was a two-time NCAA qualifier for the University of Oregon at 125 pounds.

He returned to South Africa, where he had been a national team member prior to college, medaled three times at the All-Africa Games, won bronze in the 2002 Commonwealth games and was South Africa's lone competitor at the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

"I figured it was better to me (to return to South Africa) to pursue my Olympic dream," Williams said.

After returning to the United States, he attended college initially to pursue an urban planner degree before switching to education.

Williams coached in Arlington, Moses Lake and Hermiston, Ore., where his teams won the last three team state championships.

"Spokane and Coeur d'Alene were kind of my home away from home," said Williams of his decision to abandon the powerful program and take the CV post. "I got married here, had a son and that was part of that."

How Williams found his way to the U.S. and became a citizen last December is a story in itself.

See **COACH**, page 55

Volleyball caps season 7th at state



By Mike Vlahovich
SPLASH CONTRIBUTOR

Ten senior volleyball players on Central Valley's veteran team ended careers by leaving their marks on the program that could be tough to duplicate.

They were part of a Bears team that earned successive trophies in state with a school-best seventh place effort in mid-November to go with their regular season Greater Spokane League championship.

The thrilling end to the season included second place district and regional finishes behind Mead, a team they played three times in matches that went to five games.

The penchant for five-game drama continued in state. CV drew eventual tourney second place finisher Emerald Ridge in its opener and took a two games to one lead, but eventually succumbed 15-12 in the decider.

The Bears gained momentum, winning their next three for the trophy. The first was another five-game match, but they gave up just one game in their next two, winning 25-23, 25-17, 25-16 over Jackson and 19-25, 25-18, 25-15 and 28-26 over Tahoma.

The GSL swept three regional berths against Mid-Columbia Conferences foes — Mead finishing sixth in state, University going 0-2. West Valley and Eisenhower from Yakima of the Big Nine also competed in state, top-ranked WV placing third.

A number of seniors played big roles during postseason — middle **KeAnn White**, the **Rockwood** twins, setter **Jade** and libero **Meghan**, defensive specialist **Taryn Ungaro** and middle **Hannah Reiman** among them.

Others to be missed will be outside

See **NOTEBOOK**, page 54

Sports Briefs

Field meeting to be held

Those interested in reserving field times in Liberty Lake for 2016 baseball activities are encouraged to attend a baseball allocation meeting 1 p.m. Dec. 10 at City Hall, 22710 E. Country Vista Drive. For more, call 755-6700.

Marathon registration open

Registration is underway for the 8th annual Windermere Marathon that will be held 7 a.m. June 5, 2016.

The marathon course, which is USATF certified and a Boston qualifier, starts at Rocky Hill Park and ends in downtown Spokane. The certified half marathon course begins in Mirabeau Park in Spokane Valley.

The fee for marathoners is \$75 (\$70 for half marathoners) if registered by Nov. 30. Entry fees will go up after that time. To register or for more, visit www.windermemarathon.com.

LL water skiers help win team trophy for WWU

Liberty Lake residents Charlie Kienbaum and Matthew Kienbaum helped bring home a D2 trophy to Western Washington University from the 2015 National

Collegiate Waterski Championships.

Held in Houston in mid-October, the three days of competition saw the WWU squad skiing in slalom, jump and trick events and ending up with the first place trophy. According to Paul Kienbaum, the national title has never before been held by a Pacific Northwest college.

The well rounded WWU championship squad consisted of five men and five women, of which the Kienbaum brothers were #1 and #2 among the men's squad. Matthew skied a tournament personal best in slalom and jump.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Charlie (second from left) and Matt (third from left) Kienbaum celebrate their recent win with parents Juli and Paul Kienbaum.

An undefeated squad



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Central Valley High School girls C squad soccer team went undefeated this season. The team is coached by Aaron Gruis.

Boo Ball 6th grade champs



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Wolf Pack went 4-0 to win the 6th grade girls Boo Ball Championship at the HUB Sports Center in early November. Pictured are Talia Emmerson, **Christa Elliott**, Kyra Johnson, Olivia Stewart, Josie Durgan, Nevaeh Sherwood, Sydney McLean and McKenna Reggear. (Liberty Lake resident is in **bold**.)

Contagious compassion

By Michelle Silva
SPLASH GUEST COLUMN

Whitworth University has been a PACE partner since its inception. Every September, classes at this university are cancelled for the better part of a day in order for students to take part in service projects throughout the community. The following is my reflection on the traits of caring and compassion as they apply to my life and experience at a local elementary school on Community Building Day.

I have always found happiness in helping others. All throughout my high school career, I involved myself in volunteering opportunities within my community. And with all of my different, unique experiences, nothing touches my heart more than being able to help students in need. Since I have a passion for education and supporting financially unstable students, Community Building Day meant a lot to me.

I come from a family that struggled with money. I'm not ashamed about it at all. Although my parents couldn't provide me with a lot of funds while growing up, I was able to see the bigger picture. I always knew I had hundreds of resources surrounding me whenever I stepped into my school. The education system does such an amazing job of giving students equal opportunity. Yet not all kids see that. I was lucky enough to attend a high school where my teachers truly cared about me.

My school taught me the definition of compassion. We all helped one another in different ways, as much as possible. I felt comfortable talking to staff about certain problems I'd be having whether they be mental, physical, financial, academic and more. It was an unexplainable feeling knowing that I had people there who were

so willing to look out for me. Personally, the one moment I have experienced the biggest sense of compassion was when my school raised the largest amount of money in our whole school district to donate to a local sick child in need. The best part about it was that we are ranked as the "poorest" school in our district. In my opinion, that's the definition of compassion. It's feeling the need to help people no matter what the circumstance is.

For Community Building Day, Whitworth chose to come together and make this day happen. I'm so fortunate that I got to experience this opportunity with my class. Kids who have no confidence in the education arena due to their financial situation are close to my heart. I can't stand the thought of money getting in the way of a child's future.

Even though we don't know their stories or their home lives, I believe that a large portion of the students we spent time with aren't in the best situations. It felt good to provide them with tips and encouragement to attend college in the future. When I looked around and saw all the Whitworth students having conversations with the kids, I got goosebumps. I hope that in the future these young students realize the compassion and love that they are surrounded by. I hope they know that people care about them. I hope they continue to share this compassion with their peers in their near future, too.

Michelle Silva is a sophomore at Whitworth University majoring in communication and minoring in Spanish and coaching. She is on the Whitworth Pirates softball team. She wrote this as part of a series on the PACE character traits of the month. The trait for December is "caring."



About the Opinion Page

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

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

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.

Letters to the Editor

Kudos for creation, stewardship of LL's community vision

I was born and raised in Spokane Valley and attended McDonald Elementary, Bowdish Jr. High and Central Valley High. We now live in The Vistas at Liberty Lake. When I was a kid, we watched herds of elk and deer close to where my home is now; in other words, Liberty Lake as we know it today was totally undeveloped land and beautiful.

When the master development plan was first contemplated some 25 years ago, the people who had the vision to create what we get to call home were brilliant. Every time I drive by our parks, outdoor amphitheater, walking trails, golf courses, new baseball fields, etc., I can hardly believe the beauty and integration of quality of life of the master plan and vision of many years

ago. When you blend that with the many high-tech, high-quality employers with beautiful landscaped acreage in Liberty Lake, we really have one of the most desirable quality of lives anywhere on the planet!

To today's City Council, mayor's office and city department heads including police, parks and others—my hat is off to you! Thanks for being great stewards of our forefathers' vision.

Ron Anderson
Liberty Lake

Keep LL litter free

I was running on the Liberty Lake trails last week and came upon Mayor Steve and his wife Char. They were walking for exercise and simultaneously picking up litter on either side of the trail.

In case people don't know, there are lit-

ter bags and dog waste bags strategically located along the trail. Have one or the other (or both) with you. Then simply toss them into the available receptacles.

If 50 people reading this letter would take it upon themselves to keep our area litter free, we would indeed have an all-American city. If the other 99 percent would just respect this request, mission accomplished.

Thank you Mayor Peterson and Char for setting a great example.

Frank Sell
Liberty Lake



SPORTS

NOTEBOOK

Continued from page 52

hitters **Stephanie Howard** and **Morgan Ness**, right sides **Emma Smith** and **Shelby Frank**, and defensive specialist **Ashley Blew**.

Finding replacements to join four returnees — outside hitter **Sydney Johnson**, sophomore middle **Paige Wollan**, plus setter **Elise Peck** and outside hitter **Paige Van Matre** — will be the order of business for **Laurie Quigley**.

The rookie coach set a high bar for herself.

Football in final 16

The season may have ended with a 42-3 loss to Richland, but it will be one the Bears can look back on with pride.

They compiled an 8-3 record, finished second in the Greater Spokane League and reached the State 4A round of 16 for the first time in three years with a blend of veteran and young football players.

After losing their season non-league opener, CV won five straight games before defeat against Gonzaga Prep, which was unbeaten in 11 games heading into the state quarterfinals.

The Bears won three more, including over rival University, and defeated

Chiawana 24-13 before being ousted by Richland 30-3.

Gage Connole, **Alec Doyle** and **Tanner Sloan** will be seniors missed along with lineman **Scott Peck**.

Connole led the team in rushing in the GSL with 408 yards on 91 carries and overall gained more than 600 yards. Doyle added nearly 400 yards on the ground, with 297 of them coming on 79 attempts in the GSL.

Sophomore **Jase Edwards** caught 21 passes for 247 yards had had over 400 yards in receptions for the season.

Quarterback **Tanner Sloan** was fourth in the league with 104 completions in 188 attempts and 1,037 yards in the GSL and exceeded 1,600 yards overall.

Cross country teams at state

Central Valley's young boys and girls cross country teams ended their seasons with return state trips. Both had five underclassmen out of seven runners.

The boys team finished ninth at state, the girls 10th.

Sophomore **Gabe Romney** was the Bears top boys finisher taking 23rd in 15 minutes, 55.5 seconds. Freshman **Ryan Kline**, junior **Isaac Nicholls** and sophomores **Fielding Demars** and **Will Grassl** followed. They were separated by about 29 seconds.

Senior **Briegan Bester** finished 18th in her final state race, timing 18:40.3. Junior **Kearan Nelson** timed 18:45.4. **Gabrielle Ford** and **Ashley Beard** are juniors; **Taylor Brunnet** a sophomore and **Alexis Beard** a freshman.

Soccer ends in district

Central Valley's young soccer team's season came to a close in district competition, winning once and losing twice. Two of the matches ended in shootouts, including over eventual champion and state semifinalist Gonzaga Prep following a 0-0 stalemate.

The first came in a 3-2 decision over Mead in loser out competition to advance against the Bullpups.

Freshman **Madylyn Simmelink** and **Kaite Van Etten** scored goals in regulation. Van Etten also had a penalty kick goal as did sophomores, season scoring leader **Kaelyn Barnes** and **Ann Hilbert**, and junior **Natalie Cabiad** to decide it.

In the regional qualifier, CV lost to rival University 2-0.

Of CV's 20-player roster, four — **Cassie Peterson**, **Marissa Terry**, **Olivia Fielding** and **Van Etten** are seniors.

Eight freshmen, four sophomores and four juniors return.

Next up: Basketball, wrestling and gymnastics begin the first week of December.

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