



Newly elected Coulee Dam leaders stop for photos after being sworn into office Dec. 23, in a small ceremony at the town hall. U.S. Attorney Michael Ormsby, right, swore in Greg Wilder as mayor and Gayle Swagerty as councilmember; Dana Cleveland, left, of the Office the Reservation Attorney in Nespelem swore in Duane Johnson.

— Scott Hunter photo

Three swear oaths of office in Coulee Dam

by Roger S. Lucas and Scott Hunter

A new mayor and two new council members were sworn in at Coulee Dam last Monday.

Mayor-elect Greg Wilder, and council members-elect Gayle Swagerty and Duane Johnson all took their oaths of office at a ceremony at town hall with U. S. Attorney Michael C. Ormsby, United States Attorney from the Eastern Division of Washington, and Dana Cleveland of the Office of the Reservation Attorney at the Colville Indian Agency, officiating.

Over 60 persons showed up for the official swearing-in process.

Wilder and Swagerty were sworn in by Ormsby, and after being introduced by Wilder as the “first Native American” to win a Coulee Dam council seat, Johnson was sworn in by Cleveland.

The three had won handily over their opponents in a race that attracted a lot of attention from Coulee Dam voters. The election attracted challenges in the three positions due to controversy over a planned \$4.92 million wastewater treatment plant upgrade.

Swagerty defeated incumbent Councilmember Karl Hjorten, and Johnson defeated Councilmember Andy Trader.

Wilder has promised a more “open” form of gov-

ernment and has said he plans several changes to the way meetings are conducted.

Wilder said he ran “to try to re-engage the community in actively participating with what we do as a mayor, as a council, with what we do to represent you folks. ... I’m going to have an expectation from you folks, as well, that you get involved.”

Swagerty said “We’re going to really work towards ... getting everybody in participation at every level that we can,” Swagerty said, “so join us.”

Johnson said he didn’t run with a political agenda, but had simply decided it was time to serve the community he grew up in.

“I find it a blessing, too, in regards to the tribe, that we’re a blended community and I’m just glad to see all of us start to come together more.”

Wilder has already advertised for a new town clerk and a records clerk.

Wilder and the new council members will face their first meeting Wednesday, Jan. 8.

“I’ve got quite a few things on the agenda that are going to make a difference,” Wilder said. “The more people in the room to help make that difference by your support, the better.”

Committee: Personnel issues require more investigation

Commission accepts one recommendation, rejects another

by Scott Hunter

A committee formed to try to heal a critical breach between health care providers and administration at Coulee Medical Center recommended hiring a consultant to investigate what the committee heard from staff and community members over the last five weeks.

Commissioners Jerry Kennedy and Kris Hare reported at a regular meeting Dec. 26 that many had shared concerns in confidence and were afraid to speak critically of administrators for fear of job consequences.

“Many of the personnel concerns expressed require additional investigation, more investigation than two commissioners have the time or expertise needed to research,” Kennedy said, reading from a prepared statement he said had been vetted by legal counsel “to make sure that things

we said wouldn’t be damaging to anyone’s reputation.”

The report was delivered near the end of the meeting, after an executive session called to discuss personnel issues and consult with an attorney on possible litigation.

Even so, it seemed none of the standing-room-only crowd had dispersed by the time the open meeting resumed.

Several had made their views known during a public comment period in which applause followed every speaker who said their doctors should stay, but the administration could go.

“I just can’t imagine not keeping the personnel we have,” Betty Davis said. “Maybe we’re top heavy.”

“The administrator can go, I want our doctors to stay,” Carolyn Haven said.

Not all accepted that prevalent attitude.

Mike Bjorklund cited improving patient satisfaction surveys and a financial turnaround to contend that CEO Scott Graham was doing the job the commission selected him to do — lead and guide the hospital.

“Up to this point it doesn’t seem like there’s been anything

that has led anybody to believe that he hasn’t been successful in that role,” he said.

Bjorklund didn’t name him, but was also critical of Dr. Jacob Chaffee’s public airing of his criticisms of administration in a Star interview, calling it “bullying” and “irresponsible.”

Several urged the commission to re-open communications between the two sides.

“It doesn’t matter who leaves and who stays,” Tim Campbell said. “If they can’t talk, they’re not going to fix their problems. And the board should hold them accountable to sit down and figure this out, and us as the public hold you guys accountable to make that happen.”

The personnel committee recommended the commission take four steps:

“1. Have the committee formed 11/18/13 continue as a full personnel committee intended to work toward resolution of personnel issues.

“2. Authorize the committee to engage or authorize the engagement of consultants to help investigate and make recommendations

See CMC page 2

Four nominated for 2013 volunteer of the year

Community will choose whom to honor

by Scott Hunter

Four individuals with records of service to the community have been nominated for the annual

volunteer of the year honor, and the community will now choose.

It could be a difficult choice, but the one chosen will ultimately serve as an example, as do all nominees, of how individuals can follow an ideal, a philosophy of helping others.

Jerry Birdwell, Heather Downs, Fern Blaylock and Jan Erickson each have passionate supporters

who appreciate their good work in the community. Their letters nominating these individuals have all been published in The Star’s letters section and will appear again at the end of this story in the online edition at grandcoulee.com.

The selection will be made by the community. That can be done with a slip of signed paper delivered to The Star, or via an online

See VOLUNTEER page 2

Remember 2013? Look at the Star’s Year in Review for 2013

January:

• The Nez Perce Longhouse burned in a fire in Nespelem the day after Christmas. An electrical malfunction was the initial cause reported. The longhouse had been a part of the community since 1975 when it was built as part of a bicentennial project.

• Grand Coulee’s Council settled pay issues with Police Chief Mel Hunt by buying his 787 compensatory hours for \$42,922.50.

• The public was invited to view the final plans for the new K-12 school complex.

• Elmer City was divided about what to do regarding Coulee Dam’s proposed wastewater treatment plant, to which they are a major contributor.

• Dan Foster was named new superintendent of Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area.

• A local man wanted for a November robbery of the Smoke Shop in Coulee Dam was arrested over the weekend in Spokane, where he was allegedly involved in a gang-related double shooting.

• Rayne Rabe, 27, of Coulee Dam started a local roller derby team. Rayne and her husband Josh had recently moved here from California where she participated in derby under the name “Chick Norris, Derby Raynger.”

• Greg Wilder, 69, of Coulee Dam announced that he planned to file for election to the office of mayor in May. Wilder had been at odds with Mayor Quincy Snow and the town administration for the past two years over the proposed waste water treatment plant.

• Electric City council continued to look into allowing chickens within city limits. Community members from both sides of the fence continued raising concerns and supporting the issue at council meetings.

February:

• Two men were arrested for first-degree burglary. Brenchley’s shop sustained \$6,200 in damages and both men were taken to jail.

• Electric City’s arsenic treatment plant went into operation. The goal was to bring the arsenic level in drinking water down to seven parts per billion.

• A 300-pound safe was stolen from the Banks Lake Golf Course. It contained about \$2,800 that the port district intended for fertilizer for the golf course.

• George Kohout and the Ridge Riders took home the Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce’s Business of the Year and Achiever of the Year awards in a ceremony and dinner.

• Coulee Medical Center made a major accounting adjustment and took a \$1.9 million loss for November 2012.

• Poachers killed five whitetail deer near Rosenberg Ranch. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is investigating.

• Orrin Gross, senior at Lake Roosevelt High School, won the state wrestling championship at 145 pounds in the 2B tournament.

• USBR continued tree removal in the area by cutting down a 100-year-old cottonwood on the shores of Banks Lake.

• A public disclosure request for documented overtime hours by police officer Sean Cook was discontinued at his own request.

• Foss Maritime Company of Rainer, Ore., started construction on the structure at Crescent Bay that would soon house sections of the new Keller ferry.

March:

• The battle over the wastewater treatment plant in Coulee Dam continued with a rehash of the proposal and citizen confrontations. Value Engineering was the topic of choice and the council would look into it.

• Sequestration became the law of the land as of March 1. The Grand Coulee Project was uncertain of the effect it would have on area employees.

• An explosion at the Right Power House shut down the plant. No one was injured but work would be delayed

for weeks until the cleanup was complete.

• Two bids came in for the construction of the new school, both from Spokane. The bids were over \$22 million.

• A family in Electric City lost everything in a house fire. The Whybark home in North Shore Acres was a complete loss.

• Two local women proposing a day care on Main Street were stopped by Grand Coulee zoning laws. They said they would keep looking for a location because the service is needed here.

• The Colville Business Council voted to spend \$40 million on a new administration building.

April:

• Federal cuts would affect local tourism. Shorter operating hours, fewer tours and a lack of summer employees would be the major factors for the Grand Coulee Dam.

• The new laser light show’s debut was pushed back again, its new date for release in mid-July.

• Disc golf was proposed by Josh Rabe for North Dam Park. Rabe proposed a nine-hole course and each hole would cost an estimated \$370 apiece.

• A thief struck again at the golf course, this time taking \$763 worth of gas.

• A popular local teacher was arrested and was facing deportation. Spanish teacher Guillermo Guzman faced charges of forgery and identity theft after being arrested by Coulee Dam Police and Border Patrol agents. A student and community support campaign release of the teacher immediately started. Guzman pleaded not guilty in his arraignment hearing.

• The Coulee Dam treatment plant saga continued this week after a grant from IHS was denied and the council decided to go forward with a smaller plant plan.

• Lake Roosevelt teacher Ralph Rise received a statewide award as an example for educators across the state. He received the award from the Pacific Science Center for his science education advocacy.

May:

• Bank of America announced that it would be shutting the doors of the Coulee Dam branch Aug. 23.

• Lake Roosevelt Principal Brad Wilson announced he would be taking a position as principal at Chelan School District and leaving here after 11 years of teaching, coaching, and being athletic director and principal.

• Elmer City advised the town of Coulee Dam that their agreement on the wastewater treatment plant, in effect since the mid-1970s, was over. Elmer City was considering building their own treatment plant.

• Charlie Knight’s senior project to raise awareness of domestic violence became a reality when 164 walkers joined her in “Walk for a Fight.”

• Three local students received the Gates full-ride scholarship. Johnny McCragie, Kendall Piccolo and Charlie Knight were three of the 1,000 students country wide that received the honor.

• Once again the golf course safe was burgled. This time about \$300 was taken from the safe itself and about \$200 from other various locations. Thieves entered the same way they had before and the investigation continued.

• A runaway truck smashed into Jack’s 4-Corners Service Station causing major structural damage. No one was hurt but the station would have extensive repairs to make.

• Dozens of local candidates filed for election. Numerous races for council seats and mayoral seats would be contested. Quincy Snow would be challenged by Greg Wilder and Shawn Derrick. Mary Jo Carey would be challenged by Gail Morin.

• Coulee Dam voted for a smaller sewer treatment plant. The vote did not make anyone happy. Citizens and council members all had objections to the project.

June:

• Fire gutted the Electric City home of Mike Lowry. Fire departments from all cities and towns responded.

• Gordon Proctor retired after 40 years as an educator.



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Medical challenges continue for child

by Roger S. Lucas

The problems an Elmer City couple are having meeting the medical care needs of their 2-year-old girl continue to pile up.

The couple, Daniel and Stephanie Detwiler's daughter, Victoria, was born with brain damage and eyesight problems.

In addition to the task of taking Victoria to Omak twice a week for treatment and to Spokane four times a month for treatment and testing, they found out the limited insurance they have doesn't pay for eyeglasses.

Stephanie said this week that they need to get glasses for Victoria so she won't poke herself in the eye. The little girl has about 10 percent vision.

"I am hoping that someday they will come up with a plan to treat Victoria's optic nerve so she will be able to see," Stephanie stated.

The eyeglasses would help protect her eyes, she explained, so there wouldn't be additional

damage to her eyes.

The constant care, medical trips, and all the things connected to caring for a little two-year old with the kind of problems Victoria has is wearing the couple down.

They put out a plea early in December in an effort to get some help with their gas and other treatment bills, and, Stephanie stated, "Some donations came in, and it helped."

Right now the eyeglass problem heads the list. The glasses could cost anywhere from \$150 upward, she stated.

In addition to their other woes, the couple does all this driving in a 1996 van that could quit anytime.

Stephanie calls Victoria her "intelligent little girl." Stephanie added, "She has taught me so much."

Victoria can say six words, "and we are trying to teach her how to say her brother's name," Stephanie stated. She has both an older brother and sister.



Victoria Detwiler

The couple has set up an account at North Cascades Bank in Grand Coulee where people who want to help can send donations to the

Grease fire put out by homeowner

by Roger S. Lucas

Ten firemen and EMT personnel turned out to assist in the extinguishing of a grease fire at the Goodlance residence at 213 2nd Street in Grand Coulee during the early morning hours Sunday.

Fire Chief Richard Paris stated that the homeowner had put a pan of grease on the stove to cook some french fries and then briefly left the room. The report stated that when the homeowner returned, the grease had caught fire.

The man put the lid on the pan and then spread baking soda on the surrounding area to put the fire out, a smart move

Paris said the quick action of the homeowner probably prevent-

ed a more serious fire. He noted that water should never be used to fight a stove fire.

As it was, the damage to the stove and paneling behind the stove was estimated at \$5,000 by fire personnel.

The fire call came in at 4:30 a.m. and when firemen arrived they found smoke and fire damage to paneling.

Firemen helped strip paneling off the wall to make certain that the fire hadn't reached the interior wall or ceiling, and used an infrared camera to look for hidden heat.

All four members of the Goodlance family got out safely and there were no injuries.

Firefighters were on the scene about 30 minutes.

CMC Continued from front page

on how to resolve these personnel concerns.

"3. Require that CMC staff cooperate with personnel committee investigations.

"4. Confirm that staff providing information to the Personnel Committee or Board will not be retaliated against for doing so."

The commissioners voted unanimously to accept the committee's recommendation.

But the commission divided over another issue.

To address public complaints about stopping a popular discounted lab test week, commissioners Kennedy and Geary Oliver had served as a committee to look into obtaining independent legal counsel for the board to get a second opinion on the matter.

Instead, they recommended a complete change to a Spokane firm already familiar with CMC, retaining the current firm for more specialized legal needs.

Kennedy reported that the recommended lawyer charged \$200 an hour, while the Seattle-based current counsel charges \$500, resulting in a \$25,000 bill for October alone.

Commission President Greg Behrens was adamantly opposed to that, citing ongoing issues that Foster Pepper, the current firm, is working on. He argued the idea could be revisited in three months, but an immediate change would cost the district a lot.

Kennedy said it would not present a problem, but would be very good for the district.

Kennedy and Oliver voted for the move. Behrens and Hare voted against it.

Graham reported that the hospital had made a financial gain in November of more than \$90,000, bringing a year-to-date loss down to \$18,000, a figure that had reached about \$400,000 in June.

Volunteer Continued from front page

poll at grandcoulee.com.

You can drop a signed slip of paper at our office at 3 Midway Ave. in Grand Coulee, or mail one to P.O. Box 150, Grand Coulee, WA. 99133.

Your choices will be accepted until Jan. 8.

The Star will announce the honoree in the Jan. 15, 2014, issue.

Time to work for golf course improvements

by Roger S. Lucas

Now it's time to put some meat on the bones.

A golf crowd met Dec. 12, to come up with what they would like to see happen at Banks Lake Golf Course so a grant could be pursued.

Frank Andrews Jr., a planner and grant writer for the Colville Tribes, had met with Port District commissioners earlier and volunteered his services to write a grant. Andrews explained his interest: "I'm a golfer," he told the commissioners.

At the public meeting, attended by some 40 people, officials developed a priority list of improvements they thought should be made on the 18-hole golf course.

Thursday, Andrews said that it is now time to develop information that will support the items on the priority list.

He called for another public meeting, Thursday, Jan. 16, at 6 p.m., at the golf course to develop volunteers to help assemble the material needed to write the grant.

The grant application is due in

May, 2014.

Also attending the December meeting was Brian Clark, an architectural engineering professional who works for the Bureau of Reclamation.

Clark spoke of putting in time to help develop engineer drawings for the respective parts of the priority list.

The priorities as developed by the public group are:

- 1) water features, such as irrigation lines, sprinkler heads and pumps;
- 2) equipment;
- 3) clubhouse improvements;
- 4) improvements to the fairways;
- 5) greens improvement; and
- 6) development of a proposed RV park near the clubhouse.

Andrews said a study would need to be done on what sections of the irrigation system needed to be replaced and what the cost would be, as well as support information for the other prioritized items.

That would be the purpose of the Jan. 16 meeting — to develop study groups for the various items.

The grant application would go to the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The maximum grant would be for \$500,000 and would require half the grant amount in either contributions or in-kind help, such as volunteer labor or use of equipment.

The Banks Lake Golf Course has been managed by the Port District the past two years.

Grand Coulee Eagles #2577

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OPINION

Consider volunteer of the year

Several people have taken the time to write out some great explanations as to why they believe their particular nominee deserves to be recognized as the 2013 volunteer of the year.

We hope readers will take time to review those nominations and help select the honoree by writing us a note on their choice or going to the online poll at grandcoulee.com

So much needs to be done in any community to keep it moving in a good direction. Volunteers who work for the good of all simply because it's the right

thing to do make progress possible. Honoring one to honor all of them, we think, is the least the community can do thank them and encourage more volunteerism.

Your votes will be accepted until the date turns to Jan. 8.

The Star will announce the the honoree in the Jan. 15, 2014 issue.

Scott Hunter
editor and publisher

Letters to the Editor

Fern Blaylock for volunteer of the year

We are nominating Fern Blaylock as a belated acknowledgement of the countless hours she serves our communities with her support of the local food bank, the needy, and the students in our schools. Fern is the inveterate volunteer, helping people of all ages in our area.

Fern has managed the Grand Coulee Dam Area Food Bank for the past 12 years. During that time she has overseen a large growth in families served each week. When she started, the Food Bank served about 10 families with a few items, and now serves up to 160 with several bags. That means she has had to supervise the corresponding increase in volume of donations, commodities, storage, and equipment. She also supervises the volunteers from the community and the Coulee Dam Area Ministerial Association, who pick up, stock, bag, distribute, and deliver from the various sources to the recipients, throughout the year. In order to do this, Fern has to coordinate with various food programs and participate in regional food bank associations. That means keeping up with ever changing government rules and regulations. Her former business and government work experience is an asset for dealing with the various agen-

cies. Locals requiring community service time can count on Fern to provide them work and supervision. Although Fern sometimes receives a pittance for her job at the food bank, she works countless hours over and above what is required, despite physical limitations and pain.

Through the Grand Coulee Dam Area Charities (a community of churches), Fern manages a funding and referral process to help the needy in our communities with such things as: food, clothing, utility bills, housing deposits, gas, or even a hot meal or warm place to spend the night.

Fern has volunteered for the children of the Grand Coulee Dam School District for more than a decade. She has worked with all grade levels from kindergarten to seniors in high school. She has tutored students in reading, math, and writing. She has supported and volunteered in the PTA, Americorp, and SHARP Kids programs and most recently the Colville Tribal Foster Grandparent Program. As a school mentor, she helps struggling students and those needing to fulfill their community service requirements. She has even ridden the morning and afternoon buses to help supervise and reinforce safety and student compliance to the bus rules.

As a Foster Grandparent volunteer, Fern has spent the last six years working with the kindergarten class in the morning and the first-grade class in the afternoon. She tutors and helps students complete their work, and individually tests them in order to help teachers monitor progress. Fern is known by all the kids in the school and many call her "Grandma Fern."

The Tribal Foster Grandparent Program nominated Fern for a Washington State Volunteer Service Award. On April 25, in recognition of the 2013 Volunteer Appreciation Week, Governor Jay Inslee presented her with one of 44 awards during the Ninth Annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards at the governor's mansion in Olympia.

Fern is truly a treasure who does all she does because she loves people and children and wants them to have the best in life. For many area students and teachers, Fern is their "Volunteer of the Year" every day, and they love her.

Thank you, Fern, for all the people you help!

Kevin Lind, Jan Erickson, Mary Jane Bailey



We all need a fresh start in 2014

The New Year is traditionally a time for reflection and renewal. A shiny new year lies ahead, full of promise.

The New Year is a time when people pledge to change their lives: lose weight, stop smoking, be a better parent, work harder, work less. Regardless of your situation, the New Year holds the opportunity for a fresh start.

Our nation needs a fresh start. We are now entering the fifth year of the economic "recovery," the slowest on record since the Great Depression. While there have been sporadic fits and starts of improved numbers, economic growth and job creation remain painfully slow.

When the recession began in 2008, an unemployed person was jobless for an average of 16 weeks. Today, the average is nine months, with many people out of work for two years or more. While the official unemployment rate has dropped to 7 percent, the "real" rate, including the millions who have given up looking for work, is double that.

U.S. economic policy needs a fresh start in 2014. It's time for a change.

Another change? We need to stop the avalanche of regulations that are slowing our recovery. The Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI) reports that government agencies issued more than 3,300 new regulations in 2013 with compliance costs of \$1.8 trillion per year.

Reasonable regulations are necessary of course, but there are already more than one million federal regulations on the books. And the pace of new regulations is relentless – one every two hours and nine minutes, 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, for the last 20 years.

In testimony before Congress, George Washington University Law Professor Jonathan Turley warned that unelected regulators are becoming a powerful "fourth branch" of government.

We need to take a fresh look at overregulation in 2014.

Perhaps the most high-profile regulation slowing our recovery is the Affordable Care Act – Obamacare – rushed through Congress in 2010 at the president's urging.

Obamacare is causing widespread market disruption and uncertainty. Millions have lost their coverage and as many as 80 million more may take a hit when the employer mandate is triggered. Many small businesses have deferred hiring, and millions of people have been reduced to part-time work. It will cost people and our economy trillions.

In an attempt to avert a voter backlash, President Obama has delayed the employer mandate, added exemptions, extended deadlines, changed eligibility rules – all without Congressional approval. Multiple lawsuits challenging the ACA are working their way through the courts. Both political parties agree: it's a mess.

This confusion and uncertainty must not continue for another year. Health insurance reform needs a fresh start in 2014. Washington state would also benefit from a New Year's re-evaluation. Gov. Inslee is moving forward with California-like climate change regulations, but because Washington is much cleaner than California, we don't need – nor would we see much benefit from – such disruptive and costly regulations.

At the same time, the Department of Ecology is pursuing new water quality regulations for public and private water treatment facilities that DOE officials admit are literally impossible to meet – and may be for decades to come. A recent study projects this impossible standard could cost ratepayers and employers billions of dollars with no hope of compliance and little environmental benefit to show for it. The City of Bellingham says the regulation could push a family's monthly sewer bill from \$35 to \$200 or more.

As we approach the New Year, it's time for our elected officials and state regulators to re-evaluate the path they're on.

Individuals, families, employers, politicians and policymakers – we all need a fresh start in 2014.



Don Brunell
President
Association
of Washington
Business

The Star reserves the right to edit for length, spelling and grammar, but every effort is made to keep the writer's intent.

Libelous material and UNSIGNED LETTERS WILL NOT BE PRINTED. A writer's name may be withheld by request but only after editorial board review.

Please include a daytime phone number so we can contact you if we have questions.

Send letters to The Star, Letters, P.O. Box 150, Grand Coulee, WA 99133.

Fax to (509) 633-3828 or e-mail The Star at: star@grandcoulee.com

Looking into a New Year

You have heard of New Years Resolutions. Well, I have never believed in making these statements when I know in my mind I am going to break them. So I am going to look into the future.

Yes, I am putting on my red wizard's hat and holding the envelope up to my head and looking into the 2014 tunnels of a new year. Oh, here come the first images from 2014.

I see a local fisherman, on a rickety old boat. Fog has packed in the lake and it is bitter cold. Wait a second, I see something else, too. But it's too foggy to make out. The fisherman's got a bite. He is reeling in feverishly, it's something big. The old fisherman is really having a hard time getting whatever it is in the boat. It's breaking the water. Oh my, it's a sturgeon and – wait a minute – it has something in its mouth. Its, its a safe. Oh my, the sturgeon has a safe in its mouth. Wait, it has something printed on the side of it. It says Coulee Business's Stolen Safes.

Hmm, all the stolen safes in the area are either being robbed by a Big Fish or they are being dumped in the water. I wonder if there is an HVAC System, a propane tank and other stolen stuff down there.

OK, that was a weird prediction. Lets look into the next envelope.

I see sunshine. I see a beautiful neighborhood. Wait, I see people moving out. What? They are moving medical equipment into big trucks. Oh, these are doctors and nurses and hospital staff. They are wearing tee shirts saying, "We don't bluff." They are leaving the area. Oh wait, there are people moving in, too. In suits and driving expensive cars and smiling with fat rolls of money in their hands. They have name tags that say "Administration." Hmm, wonder what that all means.

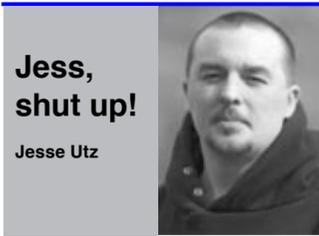
OK, next envelope. I see the biggest gift being given this next year is a large set of Craftsman tools. I see happy people. But wait, there is a disclaimer in the bottom of the tool box. It says, "Warning, only use these tools on your own personal property, failure to do so will result in fines and prosecution. Failure to take these warnings seriously will cause strife and discontent. Work at your own risk."

I am picking up the next envelope and I immediately see Colorama 2014. It is the biggest yet. The rodeo is winning their third straight

award. People have packed the streets and are having a grand time. The music in the park is the best ever. The vendors are new and diverse and there are lots of them. Toys, trinkets, clothing, and food. The parade is loaded with floats, bands, horses and community members. Smiles abound on kids faces. The reason behind all this fun and enjoyment? Two reasons: The local governments gave the local Chamber the hotel/motel tax they requested and the lack of a hound dog in the park this year.

Oh my, now I see the new school. It's complete and the kids and staff are happy. There are more kids coming than ever before. Wait, there are too many kids now. They can't fit them all in. There are so many kids that we must now build an expansion to fit them all in classrooms. We are hiring new teachers too. What's this? I see championship banners hanging in the gym, too. We are excelling in all categories of education. In a statement being given outside the school to members of the press and dignitaries, the speaker says, "If we give the students a clean, safe environment and encourage them to take care of themselves and their surroundings, they start blooming into something we have not seen around here in a long time. They take responsibility for the halls and their hearts. They start taking pride in work and grades and teams. In return we all become winners."

Happy New Year! May you all be blessed and all your wishes come true.



Jesse,
shut up!
Jesse Utz

THE STAR

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Ten Years Ago

An electrical fire destroyed Carol Clark's home in Elmer City last Sunday.

Lady Raiders were perfect this week with wins against Omak and Wilbur Creston. Tiffany Barry was the Player of the Game against Omak with 15 points and 9 rebounds. Jessica Loe was the Player of the Game against the Wildcats with 14 points and 13 rebounds.

Twenty Years Ago

Slick roads this week caused five accidents. Highway 155 between Belvedere and Nespelem was so slippery with ice from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. it was almost impossible to drive.

Senior Kevin Hannahs earned the championship at 178 pounds at the Segel Memorial Wrestling Tournament Saturday.

Lady Raiders had one win and a loss this week and the boys lost two in a row. The ladies lost to Tonasket 55-49 and beat Chelan 59-46. The boys lost to Chelan 79-60 and Tonasket 76-70.

The National Honor Society at Lake Roosevelt inducted new members and officers this week. The new members are: Elizabeth Avey, Jackie Jackson, Jamie White, Steve Hansen, Marty Malone, Heath Wisener, Scott Zlateff, Bubba Parker, Lawrence Achord,

Jeff Mintle, Kelli Ayling, Mackenzi Caple, Patsy Gould, Emily King, Kristen Sherman and TeRay Warnecke.

Thirty Years Ago

Grand Coulee Police Department hired a new patrolman this week. Gary W. Martzell was hired and will be filling the vacancy left by Don Potteiger.

Many ice skaters can be observed out on Banks Lake and most likely along the shore line where the ice is safe. But there is a danger spot along the causeway south of Electric City, especially along the east side where springs are flowing.

Forty Years Ago

New Trooper Myron Malone has been assigned duty here in the Grand Coulee Dam Area as of Dec. 17. Trooper Malone comes from Waterville.

Basketball Coach Jerry Riggan's Raiders broke open a tight game last Friday night against Okanogan winning 56-43. Chuck Desautel and Norris Palmanteer led a balanced attack with 12 points apiece and Richard Wippel corralled 12 rebounds.

Grand Coulee Dam School District announced this week that a series of energy conservation cutbacks will have to be made this week. Classroom temperatures

will be dropped from 72 degrees to 68, public use of school buildings after hours will be reduced, security lighting will be reduced, the number of rooster buses going to away games will be reduced and half of the bus stops will be eliminated. This is all due to a conservation statement that was handed down by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Fifty Years Ago

The issue of the Star was dedicated entirely to telling the story of Jesus and Christmas in an issue called "THEY CAME TO BETHLEHEM."

Sixty Years Ago

Another in a growing list of auto related tragedies hit close to home Monday evening when three local teenagers died when the car they were riding in rolled and they were thrown. Walter Howell, 17, of Electric City, Joan Beatrice Bombard, 16, of Coulee Dam and Merla Pierce, 15, of Electric City all were declared dead on the scene due to their injuries. Three others in the car received minor injuries. The accident occurred at 4:45 p.m. on the Bridgeport Highway eight miles east of Bridgeport.

Obituaries

James (Pete) Arbaugh

James (Pete) Arbaugh passed away Saturday, Dec. 15, 2013, at the Crescent Bay boat launch.

He was doing what he loved; fishing, but his heart failed him.

He was born in Arkansas in 1945. His family moved often.

He leaves behind Christie, his beloved wife of 30 years.

Pete is also survived by one of his 6 brothers, Bill and his wife Bobbi as well as a sister-in-law, Esther. Plus too many younger relatives to list.



Pete was in the Navy during the Vietnam War but was fortunate to be based in Maine. He has been cremated and there will be no services at his request.

Pete spent his recent years fishing, boating, swimming and going to garage sales.

Until age caught up to him, Pete enjoyed long hikes in the Cascades and loved snowmobiling.

His entire life, his passion was to make people laugh and take care of the people he loved. He will be dearly missed.

Mildred "Micki" Smith

Mildred "Micki" Smith, 72, passed away in her Delano, Wash., home the morning of Thursday, December 19, 2013, following a courageous battle with cancer.

Micki was born May 16, 1941, in Yakima, Wash., to Richard and Carol Sipe. She was the oldest of four siblings.

Having first met in George, Wash., a 20-year-old Micki married Lloyd W. Smith (Smitty) on November 22, 1961. Micki worked alongside her husband



A woman of many talents and hobbies. Micki enjoyed beading, woodworking, sewing, bird-watching and gardening.

About 10 years ago, with the companionship of her loving friends, she started into quilting, soon becoming a devoted quiltmaker, winning many ribbons for her new passion.

All of Micki's family and friends will surely miss her caring, loving heart and great enthusiasm. She will be remembered with much love and admiration.

Micki was preceded in death by her husband Lloyd W. Smith; daughter Teresa A. Ragan; father Richard A. Sipe; mother Carol Fillinger; stepfather Clarence Fillinger and stepmother Velma Sipe.

She is survived by her son Ernie Smith; two daughters: Sherri Young and Jerri Smith; stepson Leslie Smith; brothers: Richard Sipe and Larry Fillinger and sister Teddy Weaver; 14 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

At her request, cremation has taken place with a private gathering to occur at a later date.

Family and friends are invited to sign Micki's on-line register book at www.mem.com. Sticklin Funeral Chapel of Centralia, Wash., is honored to be assisting

There is a \$50 charge for obituaries published in the Star. This includes a photo and up to 500 words. Reminders for Celebrations of Life and Death Notices are \$25. Articles must be either e-mailed, faxed or dropped off at the Star office. They will not be accepted over the phone. The deadline to submit an article is Monday by 5 p.m. For more information, call 509.633.1350 or go to our website at www.grandcoulee.com



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November was drier and cooler

The joy of working with computer recording software unsurprisingly leads to a bit of frustration. Here at the home weather station we have a gap of eight days lost – the last eight days of November.

For November reporting purposes, I'll be using data from another local recorded weather station.

Temperature ranges were as follows: the low for the month was 14°F (Nov. 21) and the high was 56 (Nov. 1). The all-time low for November was -10°F in 1985, while the all-time high was 69°F in 1989. November temperatures were below the mean low by 1.5°F and below the mean high by 1.1°F. Precipitation was below the mean (1.24 inches) as well as only 0.81 inches. Looking at past recent weather records shows that we've had a mix of snow or not for the month of November.

Yes, the problem with my recorded weather data seems to be mended and we are recording once again – I'm a happy weather hobbyist.

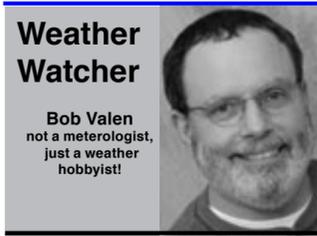
I had a call from a reader asking about the appearance of a strong reflective glare around the sun. The person said it looked like two suns in the sky. This is called parhelion or sun dog. Sundogs generally appear as a colored patch of light to the left or right of the sun.

They are seen around the world during any season. Sundogs are best seen and are most noticeable when the sun is low and it's cold. If the horizon is flat and clear you will likely see two reflections — one to the left and one to the right. Here's an explanation of the cause: "Sundogs are

commonly made by the refraction of light from plate-shaped hexagonal ice crystals in high and cold cirrus clouds or, during very cold weather, these ice crystals are called diamond dust, and drift in the air at low levels. These crystals act as prisms, bending the light rays passing through them with a minimum deflection of 22°.

If the crystals are randomly oriented, a complete ring around the sun is seen — a halo. But often, as the crystals sink through the air, they become vertically aligned, so sunlight is refracted horizontally — in this case, sundogs are seen." (Source: Wikipedia)

If you are watching the evening sky, Venus is visible near the horizon to the southwest and very bright. As Venus sets, to the east is Jupiter. These are two planets visible in December — like night lights at the opposite ends of the night sky room. Our full moon occurred on Tuesday, Dec. 17.



Meetings

No Chamber This Week

The Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce will not be meeting this Thursday, Jan. 2 due to the holiday. The next meeting is set for Jan. 9 at noon at La Presa in Grand Coulee. Happy New Year!



Fiber Network Wholesale Rate Hearing, Tuesday, Jan. 14, 1 p.m. in Commission Room, 30 C St. SW, Ephrata WA

Grant PUD commissioners will hold a hearing for our Wholesale Fiber Network Rate Schedule 100 during its regularly-scheduled public meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 14, at 1 p.m.

For more information, call (509) 754-5032. www.grantpud.org

Church Directory

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Welcomes you
Everyone's invited.
Pastor Adrian Harris
2 miles east of Hwy 155 on Hwy 174
Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Children's Caravan 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Community Youth Group
Sundays 4-5:30 p.m. at GCD Middle School.
For middle school/high school students
Church office 633-2186

BANKS LAKE BIBLE CHURCH

25 School Avenue, Electric City, 633-0670
Affiliated with I.F.C.A./N.I.C.E.
Pastor Bill Williams
Everyone Welcome!
Sunday School, all ages 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship 10:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Prayer Wed., 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study Wed., noon

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Welcomes You for Worship & Praise
103 Continental Heights, Grand Coulee
Church (509) 633-3030
Saturday Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Children's Bible Story Time 10:30 a.m.
Saturday Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
All Church Fellowship 12:30 p.m.
Midweek Bible Study Wednesday 6 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST

Modeling our ministry after the New Testament
405 Center St., Grand Coulee
Certified Lay Ministers
Tom Poplawski & Monty Fields
EVERYONE WELCOME!
Church Office 633-0980
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Join us every 3rd Sunday for brunch and fellowship following worship service.

ZION LUTHERAN

PASTOR SHAWN NEIDER
348 Mead Street, Grand Coulee
Church 633-2566
Coulee City Bible Study 8:00 a.m.
Coulee City Worship 9:00 a.m.
Zion Worship 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study and Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
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Legal Notice

Inland Cellular (Inland Cellular is the trade name of Eastern Sub-RSA Limited Partnership, Washington RSA No. 8 Limited Partnership, and Inland Cellular LLC) has been a local cellular telephone provider in eastern Washington and northern Idaho since approximately 1990. In Washington, Inland Cellular's designated service area is the eastern half of Grant County and the majority of Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, Lincoln, Whitman, and Walla Walla Counties and a minor portion of Franklin County. In Idaho, Inland Cellular's service area covers the majority of Clearwater, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce Counties and the northern portion of Idaho County.

During the intervening years, Inland Cellular has worked hard to build a cellular system that would provide high quality telecommunications services to the communities we serve, for both residential and business customers, at attractive and affordable rates. Inland Cellular has done this notwithstanding the higher cost of serving rural areas, and Inland Cellular is always striving to provide even better service. Although our designated service areas cover portions of eastern Washington and northern Idaho (as listed above - our Home Network calling area), all current Inland Cellular calling plans now offered include Unlimited incoming calls on Home Network, Unlimited Inland Cellular mobile-to-mobile calling on Home Network, and Unlimited Nights and Weekends on Home Network.

The basic services offered by Inland Cellular in the aforementioned Home Network calling area are comprised of several components. At a minimum, these include:

- Voice grade access to the public switched network
- Local Usage
- Dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent
- Single-party service or its functional equivalent
- Access to interexchange service or its functional equivalent
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers
- Single-party, voice grade access to the public switched network utilizing SS7 signaling through the network, shortening call set-up time
- Monthly Calling Plan Charges*

• **Individual Calling Plans** – Range from \$29.99 (unlimited Home Area minutes) to \$240 (unlimited nationwide minutes, texting, and 30GB of data) per month. All Individual Plans include free voicemail. Included minutes may be used for non-Home Network calling, roaming and/or long distance, except on the Home Only Plan(s).

• **Family Calling Plans** – Range from \$85.00 (unlimited minutes with 1GB of data) to \$250 (unlimited nationwide minutes with 30GB of data) per month. All Family Plans include two lines of service, free voicemail, and unlimited nationwide minutes. Included minutes may be used for calling non-Inland Cellular customers, roaming and/or long distance.

• **Business Calling Plans** – Range from \$50.00 (unlimited minutes and texting) to \$240 (unlimited nationwide minutes with 30GB of data) per month. All Business Plans include free voicemail. Included minutes may be used for non-Home Network calling, roaming and/or long distance.

*Calling plans vary based on customer preference and any additions (e.g. minutes, texting, data, etc.) to the basic plans listed above will increase the monthly charge.

- Access to emergency 911 services – There is no additional charge by Inland Cellular to end user customers for the ability to access emergency 911 services.
- Access to operator services – There is no additional charge by Inland Cellular to end user customers for the ability to call the operator. However, the call may involve a charge depending on the service requested and the rates of the company whose operator handles the call, as well as location of the call origination.
- Access to Directory Assistance – Standard Directory Assistance calls to Inland Cellular's Directory Assistance service is \$0.99 per call; additional charges may apply for Operator completed calls. There is no additional charge by Inland Cellular to end user customers for the ability to call the Directory Assistance. However, while roaming, the call may involve a Directory Assistance charge, the amount of which depends on the area called and the rates of the company whose operator is accessed, as well as location of the call origination.

Lifeline and Link-Up Programs: **DO YOU QUALIFY FOR ASSISTANCE?** Inland Cellular participates in the Federal Lifeline and Link-Up programs. These programs are available to our Washington residents within our service coverage area. In Idaho, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission has permitted Inland Cellular to offer these programs and the Idaho Telephone Assistance Program to Idaho residents residing in Qwest or Verizon wireline service areas within Inland Cellular's service coverage area.

What is Lifeline Support? Lifeline support lowers the cost of basic, monthly local service. An eligible customer may receive the Lifeline discount on either a wireline or wireless connection, but the discount is available for only one telephone connection per household. Lifeline does not apply to taxes, surcharges, and mileage charges.

What is Link-Up Support? Link-Up support reduces the one-time cost associated with initiating service and line extension to the consumer's residence. Eligible consumers also qualify for a deferred payment schedule for any remaining costs of up to \$200. Link-Up discounts reduce the cost of either wireline or wireless service, but do not offset the cost of purchasing a wireless phone. Link-Up does not cover the cost of wiring inside a home. A consumer may only receive the Link-Up discount once, unless that consumer moves to a new residence; consecutive discounts at the same address are not allowed. Qualifying non-tribal consumers are eligible to save 50 percent on installation fees, up to \$30. Qualifying tribal consumers living on tribal lands, as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.400(e), are eligible for an additional discount of up to \$70 to cover 100% of the installation charges between \$60 and \$130. However, tribal customers must still pay 50% of the first \$60.

You may qualify in WASHINGTON: If you participate in the following programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance / Section 8;
- Medicaid;
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF);
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP);
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP);
- National School Lunch Program (free lunch program only);
- or, If you are Income eligible:
- Total household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

You may qualify in IDAHO: If your total household income is at or below an amount determined by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare; qualifying is done through this agency.

- Residents of federally (BIA) recognized TRIBAL LANDS may qualify if they participate in one of the following programs:
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance;
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section 8;
- Food Stamps;
- Head-Start Program (Income eligible);
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP);
- Medicaid;
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch program;
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Tribal TANF.

In addition, a tribal consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guideline.

Under these programs, Inland Cellular offers to qualifying low-income customers a discount off of the monthly rate for one basic residential service* and a discount off of the non-recurring charge to install that basic residential service*; if applicable. The Lifeline Program enables qualifying low-income consumers to save at least \$9.25 per month and up to \$12.75 per month. The amount varies depending on a number of factors, including whether a state has a matching Lifeline program. Moreover, under the Lifeline Program, qualifying low-income consumers living on tribal lands, as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.400(e), may qualify for an additional monthly discount of up to \$25.00. Please ask our Customer Care Representatives for details.

- i. You are required to provide proof of eligibility.
- ii. Applicable Federal, State, County and municipal taxes and surcharges, including any federally mandated end user surcharges, are additions to monthly charges.

Inland Cellular Customer Care offices:
• Lewiston: Business Office, 1332 G St, Lewiston, ID, (208) 798-0245 or (800) 248-8822
• Lewiston: 2612 Nez Perce Drive Suite A, Lewiston, ID, (208) 798-0245
• College Place: 1605 SE Meadowbrook Blvd, Suite 7, College Place, WA, (509) 527-0516
• Dayton: 151 E. Main Street, Dayton, WA, (509) 629-0789
• Moses Lake: 1035 N. Stratford Rd, Suite H, Moses Lake WA, (509) 765-6670
• Moscow: 960 W. Pullman Rd, Moscow, ID, (208) 882-4994
• Orofino: 11250 Highway 12, Orofino, ID (208) 827-0225
• Grangeville: 126 E. Main St., Suite 2, Grangeville, ID (208) 983-0160



Wrestlers take fifth at Cashmere

by John R. McNeil II

Against tough competition, Raider wrestlers took fifth place at a Cashmere tournament Dec. 21. Lake Roosevelt placed higher than Reardan, Cascade (Leavenworth), and Omak. It was sweet revenge for the Raiders, who had lost a dual meet with Omak four days earlier.

That dual at home ended with the final score of Omak 54-LR 24. The Raiders had to forfeit to the Pioneers at six weights, giving them many easy points. Of the 11 matches wrestled against the Pioneers, the Raiders won five.

Alexia Hanway, at 112 pounds, won both her matches against Shyanne Steele and Randi Sam by pins.

James Monaghan (126) pinned his opponent in a match in which he was the dominant force the entire time.

Oscar Pakootas won the 132-pound category by taking his time to find the right position to place the winning move.

Octavio Alejandro wrestled Michael Quezada, the Omak 220 pounder, as their 285 did not wrestle. Quezada was intimidated by Alejandro and did not want to get close enough for Alejandro put a move on him. Alejandro became flustered and was charged with roughing when he placed a good palm hit on Quezada. Finally Quezada tried to put a move on Alejandro who then proceeded to dominate the match, winning by pin.

"We seem to wrestle better in a tournament format rather than

a dual," Head Coach Steve Hood said, "mostly because we don't have the team members to dual with another squad weight for weight."

Hood said that at the B level, most teams do not dual. "They instead do mix and matches with three or more teams and tournaments," he explained.

At Cashmere, with only seven wrestlers competing in the tournament and one more wrestling in an exhibition match, LR was one of the smallest squads in attendance.

The bus was cold even with all the heaters set on full blast.

"Reminded me of winter campouts in the Scouts when I was a kid," Hood said with a laugh.

At 120, James Monaghan swept the field. He defeated Garcia of Quincy and Reyes of Chelan. In the championship match, Monaghan met Weber of Kittitas who fought hard, but Monaghan came away with the victory and the tourney championship, winning 11-4.

"James made a huge improvement on how he handles matches," Hood noted.

Coltin Williams came away with second place at 126 for the Raiders. Williams defeated Thompson of Cashmere and the other Reyes of Chelan before facing Marin of Kittitas. Marin had finished fourth at State B at 126 last year, behind Oscar Pakootas. Williams did not back down from the fight. In the end, Marin was able to defeat Williams to take first.

Pakootas was successful in his

first two matches of the day, defeating Keith of Medical Lake and Guzman of Quincy by pins. In the championship match, Pakootas faced Gallegos of Kittitas, who put on more moves and won 9-2. Pakootas finished second for the day.

At 138, Gabe Moses was 2-2 on the day, beating Peterson of Medical Lake and Wallace of Quincy by pins.

Teddy Sharr could have wrestled for fifth or sixth at Cashmere, but the other coaches decided to hurry up the tournament and head home by deleting the those matches. Frustrated, LR coaches Hood and Largent both argued for the matches. "Call us wrestling junkies, but we are here to wrestle, not to hurry up and go home," Hood said.

Kodie Horn swept the field at 152 taking first.

Alejandro won his first match. In his second, against Montes of Chelan (fourth last year in State 1A), he lost by the slimmest of margins, 2-1 after four overtimes. Alejandro did not stay down for long as he came back and won the rest of his matches by pins to take home third at 285.

Raider wrestling on Saturday competed in the Powerhouse Tourney at Gailord Nelson Gym. Over 10 teams participated from around the region and as far away as Rainier and Noxon, Mont.

LR hoped to field a larger squad at the tourney as some who were short on practices for Cashmere would be eligible for the home tourney.

On Jan. 4, the Raider wrestling squad travels south to Warden.

Review

Continued from front page

big trees at Mason City Park, which had been part of the area for decades, were blown over.

The Coulee Pioneer Museum found a home in the old feed store building in Electric City. The museum will continue to search for grants to help preserve area history.

September:

A local young man died in an accident in Kansas. Dakotah Holt, a 2011 graduate of Lake Roosevelt, died when the power pole he was working on fell. His death was felt throughout the community and more than 300 attended his services.

The governing body of the Colville Tribes amended its law to recognize same sex marriages. "This change is keeping with the tribal values, and in recognizing the special place that the Two-Spirited Peoples hold within the tribal community," stated a press release.

The City of Grand Coulee approved its latest contract for law enforcement at Grand Coulee Dam at a special meeting. Coulee Dam Police also had bid to extend their contract but did not get accepted.

Triathletes hit the water, pavement and pedals again during the 10th and final annual Grand Columbian Triathlon.

Grand Coulee's mayor and council received a tongue-lashing again from local resident Becky Billups, who complained about the enforcement of ordinances in her neighborhood, specifically the upkeep of property and putting drug offenders away.

Two local businesses complained to the Grand Coulee City Council about a mechanic working out of his home, without a business license and in an area not zoned for business.

The Center Lodge Motel was robbed of \$2,000-plus, taken from an overnight drop box. The cash register was also taken. The person was caught on camera but police were unable to recognize the suspect.

Firefighters responded to the Senior Manor where a sprinkler head had been activated in an apartment. The fire seemed to have started on the stove and there was smoke and fire damage on the cupboards above it. No injuries were reported.

October:

Coulee Dam was losing officers and Grand Coulee gaining them due to their contract status with Grand Coulee Dam. Coulee Dam was negotiating with USBR officials to get their contract extended.

Tribal Police were investigating the death of an inmate who hung himself in

his jail cell. Aaron J. Swan was found dead, hanging in his cell by a bed sheet, on Sept. 24.

Liability issues put a dampener on a program proposed by a local horse rescue group for the Grand Coulee Dam School District. The district's insurance carrier said liability would be a huge factor in getting the program running.

Nespelem eighth graders received new MacBook Airs purchased by the school district as a push to move their students toward the 21st century in the education process. The district bought a dozen laptops for \$16,738.08.

Grand Coulee banned marijuana for six months, declaring a moratorium on any type of marijuana business in the city limits.

A handful of citizens from Faith Community Church held a "Blessing of the Steel" at the new Grand Coulee Dam School building currently under construction.

The feud between Grand Coulee and Coulee Dam police departments continued with a Coulee Dam police lock-out of Grand Coulee officers. Contracts with the USBR to provide law enforcement were extended for Grand Coulee but not for Coulee Dam, causing officers to be let go at Coulee Dam and hired at Grand Coulee. Coulee Dam continues to try and get a contract negotiated with USBR. The regional director of the Bureau of Reclamation stepped in to try and solve the issue.

A school bus was rear-ended in Elmer City, only minor injuries were reported.

Local area candidates responded to questions from The Star. Most candidates responded and got their views on issues made public.

A dam explosion got the attention of Coulee Dam residents, who reported hearing and feeling a loud boom. No one was hurt in the incident, when a shock wave came as a 230-kilovolt line went to ground through water spilling from an overflow outlet.

Mayoral challenger Greg Wilder filed a complaint against incumbent Quincy Snow with the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission, contending that Snow used his office and town resources to support his own campaign.

November:

A crowd at Coulee Medical Center had a lot to say to the board. Upset about the removal of a blood screening program, the high turnover of employees and recent cutbacks, community members took the floor and made sure the hospital commission heard their complaints. The commission voted to form a

compliance committee. A few weeks later after a closed session, Commissioner Geary Oliver moved for a vote of no confidence in CEO Scott Graham. That died for lack of a second, and a new committee was formed to look in to a vote of no confidence by the doctors and employee complaints.

Greg Wilder was elected mayor of Coulee Dam and Gail Morin mayor of Elmer City.

Tribal police were investigating the death of a 29-year-old woman who was found dead in Nespelem. Maria Victoria Sanchez's body was found on the old School Loop Road not far from where she once lived.

The mechanic that had been at the root of controversy regarding him working out of his home is scheduled to appear in court soon. He was served a citation by Grand Coulee Police telling him to cease working vehicles from his home garage in violation of city ordinances.

Daniel McCulloch, 54, was flown to Harborview Medical Center after an explosion at Grand Coulee Dam that disabled the pump-generator plant. McCulloch reportedly burned over much of his body, was listed in serious condition.

Jaci Gross was named teacher of the month by Eastern Washington University and KHQ-TV. The fifth-grade teacher at Grand Coulee Dam Middle School was nominated by her former student, Taylor Holman.

An eventual contract for law enforcement services between the USBR and local agencies would probably look like this - Grand Coulee four officers, Coulee Dam two officers and two officers from Colville Tribal Police. Discussion continues but no date has been set for a final decision.

December:

Tension between doctors and administration at Coulee Medical Center remained high. Health care providers vowed to quit if the hospital's chief executive officer did not leave. Commissioners hope to sit down with CEO Graham to talk soon.

A small group of parents formed a group to address bullying in the school district. At a meeting and online, many testimonies of recent bullying in the district were told and became a hot-button item for the area.

A dry cement truck wrecked at the bottom of the Coulee Dam hill, stopping traffic for hours. The driver stated that his brakes failed and he diverted the truck to the side of the road to avoid hitting cars up ahead. The driver was taken to CMC by ambulance where he was treated and released.



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2010 Dodge Ram 2500 BigHorn Mega Cab 4x4 Diesel



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Grand Coulee-Creston Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Public Meeting Notice

You are invited to attend one of two open house meetings to review and comment on BPA's draft environmental assessment for the proposed Grand Coulee-Creston Transmission Line Rebuild Project between the cities of Coulee Dam in Grant County, Wash., and Creston in Lincoln County, Wash.

The draft environmental assessment describes the project and why it is needed, discusses the environmental impacts the project would create, and lists the mitigation measures that would lessen or eliminate those impacts. The proposed project would include replacing all wood pole structures and conductor, improving existing access roads, developing temporary access roads and removing vegetation within the existing right-of-way.

Project team members will be available at both meetings to take your comments and answer your questions about the proposed project:

BPA involves the public during environmental reviews to meet its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act. Public comments will help BPA refine the environmental analysis and decide whether to build the project. Comments will be accepted through Feb. 3, 2014.

To learn more about the project or submit comments online, visit www.bpa.gov/goto/CouleeCrestonRebuild. You may also contact Andrew M. Montaño, project environmental lead at 503-230-4145 or email him at ammontaño@bpa.gov. For general project information or for Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations, please call toll free 800-622-4519.

Project team members will be available at both meetings to take your comments and answer your questions about the proposed project:

Tues., Jan. 7, 2014, 4 to 7 p.m.
Coulee Dam Town Hall
300 Lincoln Avenue
Coulee Dam, WA 99116

Wed., Jan. 8, 2014, 4 to 7 p.m.
Wilbur Community Center
5 SW Railroad Avenue
Wilbur, WA 99185

Project team members will be available at both meetings to take your comments and answer your questions about the proposed project:

C L A S S I F I E D S

Deadline for Advertising is Monday at 5 p.m. • 509-633-1350 • FAX 509-633-3828 • Enter ads online at grandcoulee.com (click on Classifieds at the top of the page) or email ads@grandcoulee.com
Cost is \$6.15 for first 15 words; 10¢ for each additional word - Yard Sale ads are \$8.00 for the first 15 words, includes two free yard sale signs.

Jobs

CULTURE/LANGUAGE COORDINATOR
JOB DESCRIPTION: Will create, implement, and recruit facilitators for culturally-relevant programming, including language, ceremonies, celebrations, etc. Will organize community celebration events, create a place of belonging for all community members, organize, and implement community cultural education and outreach sessions. Will lead and mentor staff and volunteers.

JOB REQUIREMENTS: -Must have knowledge & experience with Native American Culture Activities & Events. -Must have the ability to work well with kids.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS: AA Degree or pass Washington State PRAXIS TEST
HOURS / DAYS / SCHEDULE: Full-time position for the 2013 - 2014 school year.
SALARY / WAGE / BENEFITS: Rate of pay \$15.50 per hr.
CLOSING DATE / DEADLINE: Open until filled.

HOW TO APPLY: To apply, mail a resume to Mr. John Adkins, P.O. Box 291, Nespelem, WA 99155 or phone 509-634-4541, on line application www.nsdeagles.org

NATIVE TRADITIONAL DANCE Coach. Stipend Position of \$1,500.00 for the 2013-2014 school year

The Native Traditional Dance Coach will create a schedule for implementation and recruitment of students for cultural dance group, teach scheduled dance lessons, coordinate field trips, manage student regalia, organize and manage annual Pow Wow (Fall/Spring) for the school and community.

-Must have a AA degree or have passed the Washington State Praxis Test
 -Must have knowledge & experience with Native American Culture Activities & Events

This position is opened until filled. Applications are available on The Nespelem School website www.nsdeagles.org or call 634-4541

Jobs

UTILITY CLERK/OFFICE ASSISTANT.
 Salary: \$17.50 - \$21.42 / hour DOE. Two years of applicable municipal or private-sector experience in accounting, bookkeeping, accounts receivable, or office management. A 2-year college degree/certification or an acceptable combination of work-experience and education. Excellent public relation skills and the ability to work effectively with other staff and officials is necessary. This is an "at-will" position. Submit a letter of interest together with your resume via email to: F. Gregory Wilder, mayor-elect (Coulee Dam) at fgwilder@msn.com. 509-633-9722 (C12-23-2tc)

REGISTERED NURSE
JOB DESCRIPTION: Duties include assessing the health needs of students, developing emergency care plans, incorporating input from parent and or physician, comply with the laws relating to students health including parent/guardian consent, providing appropriate care for ill, medically fragile or injured students, provide health information and serving as a resource to parents, teachers, staff and administration, identifying problems with health, social/emotional development, and cases of abuse for referral for proper treatment.

JOB REQUIREMENTS
 Graduate & Licensed from a Registered Nursing Program, Certification in CPR & First Aid.
 -Must pass a pre-employment background check & finger printing.
 -Must have a current Driver License.
 -Must have the ability to work well with students.
HOURS / DAYS / SCHEDULE: 24 Hours per week Tuesday-Friday; 2013-2014 School year
SALARY / WAGE / BENEFITS: Depending on experience
CLOSING DATE / DEADLINE: Open until filled.
HOW TO APPLY: To apply, mail a resume to Mr. John Adkins, P.O. Box 291, Nespelem, WA 99155 -or- phone 509-634-4541.

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TOWN CLERK/TREASURER. Salary: \$3,969-\$4,800 / month DOE. Three years of experience and an applicable 4-year degree or an acceptable combination thereof. Must be highly organized and have excellent public relation skills. This position works closely with the mayor, town council, staff, and other agencies. This is an "at will" position and FLSA exempt. A "draft" position description is available. Submit a letter of interest together with your resume via email to: F. Gregory Wilder, mayor-elect (Coulee Dam) at fgwilder@msn.com. 509-633-9722

RECORDS SPECIALIST. Salary \$14.75 - \$17.31 / hour DOE. Two years of applicable clerical support experience, a 2-year post-high school degree/certification or an acceptable combination thereof. Experience using a computer and traditional word processing, database, and spreadsheet applications. A "draft" position description is available. This is an "at-will" position. Submit a letter of interest together with your resume via email to: F. Gregory Wilder, mayor-elect (Coulee Dam) at fgwilder@msn.com. 509-633-9722 12-18-3tc

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