**School bus driver shortage looms**

By Roger S. Lucas

The Grand Coulee Dam School District is "seriously" short of bus drivers.

Recruiting bus drivers hasn’t worked, and ‘advertising for them the past five years has failed to replace retiring drivers,’’ bus manager Bill Komble said this week.

Former bus manager George Davis, who is now the district’s human resources officer, explained that it’s just the ‘‘situation” the district is in.

Although a driver has to work only 7.5 hours a week to qualify for benefits, only one driver currently works that many hours.

Part of the ‘‘problem’’ was caused after drivers had to travel to only one school campus — the new Lake Roosevelt Schools in Grand Coulee, eliminating former stops at Center Elementary and Grand Coulee Dam Middle School in Grand Coulee.

The union hasn’t pushed the issue by seeking negotiations to find a solution to the shortage, and the district hasn’t responded to the department’s need for bus drivers.

At least two of the drivers have opted to leave over benefits.

“We may have to wait until some routes are not covered for a while,” Davis said.

‘‘Pay rate is not the issue,’’ Davis explained. ‘‘A driver gets $17.44 per hour, and I think that is generous for what they do.”

The district is doing enough driving to cover the routes is getting to be a critical matter, and in the near future we won’t have enough drivers, said Davis.

Who has been in the bus operation for 32 years.

The union hasn’t pushed the issue by seeking negotiations to find a solution to the shortage, and the district hasn’t responded to the department’s need for bus drivers.

Rivers closure planned

A portion of the Columbia River above Vantage Bridge will be temporarily closed to boating traffic on Sept. 28 and 29 and Oct. 3 and 4 while a contractor for Grant PUD performs maintenance to lower levies that cross over the river.

The PUD owns the Granger County Sheriff’s Office river patrol will be enforcing the closures of about a 400-yard corridor of the river’s 2.5 miles upstream from the Vantage Bridge.

The closures are expected to last between 30 to 60 minutes at a time, depending on the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., while the work is taking place.

When the company is in effect, watercraft operated by the Granger County Sheriff’s Office will have their emergency lights on and will be seeking approaching boats before they enter the closed area.

For more information call Grant PUD Public Affairs at 509-754-6032.

---

**Spectacular hike**

Nick Hellman, of Grand Coulee, takes in the view Sunday afternoon from near the top of Steamboat Rock, overlooking two boaters on Banks Lake and the Steamboat Rock State Park campground — Jacob Wagner photo.
Shortage

Ray paid for by the prospective driver of hiring a new driver could cost the district a large amount of money.

“Those holes don’t count towards benefits,” Davis said.

Paving

continued from front page

Continued from front page

came in waves. “They would go through a rigid qualification patch the holes and they would gain entry into the area by cutting through the chain link fence. — Roger S. Lucas photo

Gas thieves drill and drain tanks

Continued from front page

checking hours, in spite of putting in a lot of time on sports and other extracurricular activities. Those hours don’t count towards benefits,” Davis said.

A number of these vehicles have been targeted by fuel thieves who have been drilling fuel tanks. Thieves have gained entry into the area by cutting through the chain link fence. — Roger S. Lucas photo

This fenced car lot on Van Tyne Street, just a block off Midway Avenue, houses vehicles for Jess Ford’s operation.

Halsey (then bus manager) told me to take a bus out to Elmer Halsey went over and got me the license to drive.” — Roger S. Lucas photo

Thieves have drilled while parked across the street from the Ford dealer’s office.

On one occasion, the thieves must have been scared off because they left a gas can, Jess noted.

On one occasion, the thieves must have been scared off because they left a gas can, Jess noted.

After the other, THD would save three of the setup costs by the successful bidder.

The district is so short of drivers that Kemble often has to occasion will drive for us,” Kemble noted.

Thieves would cut the wire on the chain link fence in place to secure the vehicles on Van Tyne. Then they would cover under the vehicle and drill the tanks to get the fuel.

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Reader assertions fact checked

Three endorse Estudillo for judge

This week the class of 1986 from the great halls of Lake Roosevelt will cele-
brate 30 years out in the real world. Classmates will come back to the streets of Electric City, Entiat, Grand Coule-
es and Coulee Dam, their old stomping grounds, to see and be seen amongst friends and reminiscence. But this celebration does not come without some pain, considering the recent loss of their classmate who held more than Raider Spirit than the rest of the class. Danny “Squeaker” Williams, the former president of the “BBA” group (Boys Beating Asbestos) back in high school will be missed greatly by not just classmates but the whole community and the whole area.

Unfortunately, I did not know Danny as well as my wife and the rest of her class, but when I hear the countless sto-
ries being told on Facebook, in person and by for-
ter teachers, it makes me feel like he was a special person. I do remember him asking my wife to dance two-
times, and I could see the twinkle in his eyes then that many of his classmates saw every day while in school. Everyone’s favorite: a lover of Raider sports and a family encourager are the things I keep hear-
ing and remembering about him. Danny was a true survivor and showed more heart through tragedy than some I have ever met. Some might think his story is a sad one, but I don’t. He lived the life that was dealt his with dignity and pride com-
bined. He loved with the biggest love. He showed in his family and everyone he talked with. He was the
true heart of the class of 1986. Danny will forever be remembered around Lake Ross-
ove and the whole area.

At the class comes together in different locations around town, it is past time to remember, to incite classmates of classmates railing punks, who dated whom, and sporting milestones will cause laughter and smile to fill the areas they invade. They will get a peek into their tour of the new school, led by the Voices of the Raiders and by one of their former classmates. Danny “Squeaker” Williams was the true heart of our class. He will always be missed as we all have him in our hearts. We will not forget to look out for each other and to start where we were not.

He’ll vote for Thatcher

Eye brows rose when a young woman not born in Okanogan County rallied more votes than the incumbent, moving on to the District 2 Superior Court position in Grant County.

But the excellence Ashley Thrower has shown in managing her campaign should come as no surprise to those familiar with her. I will now cast my vote for her and would like to share my reason.

As a wildland firefighter for several years, I have been a part of the 
Hot Shot team in the five Washington districts and emergency 
orGANizations, later practicing this training as a squad leader, incident commander, and a smokejumping lead. I have served the state in the roles of a firefighter and in the areas of training and HROs to operate in undergirding a 
civil and political environments.

Commissioners have made public lands private

I think what people may not know about the real closure of the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area from 2001 until the recent Thre 
emerald Mile project is that there is a large number of acres of public land available for purchase by the public.

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

Letters to the Editor Policy

A writer’s name may be withheld by request but only after editorial board review.

Libelous material and UNSIGNED LETTERS WILL NOT BE PRINTED.

We remember ‘86 and more

Senator letters to The Star, P.O. Box 150, Grand Coulee, WA 99133; Fax 509-633-3380

Sixty-seven years ago

A section of rubbie marshaling west wall is completed for the pumping plant parking area and for the grade change in this area. – Sept. 9, 1939.

Scott Hunter  .........................Editor and Publisher

 Hanson, Jeff - Publisher \n
Jesse Utz ..........................Assistant Editor

Letters to Our Readers

Three endorse Estudillo for judge

The three who have over 75 years of experience in the legal field in Grant County All of us have some level of respect for our legal leaders and the Cir-
court commissioner is not exten-sive. According to Grant County

This is absolutely false. According to Judge Estudillo’s campaign funds come from donors residing in eastern Wash-

county. Another 35 percent comes from organizations with a

His decisions are fair and well thought out. He has no problem working on the trial side, a young
donor who gave to school here. He has not put his name in chief of pol-

erate. The mayor wrote him a letter to see if he didn’t qual-
ifY he is a chief of police in North Bend. He is young, so we would have
ahim for this. His home is on Colomba, so he’s not far from the
district and problems there. He is a native and served his county

We have seen the problem, and we pay our police to take care of us. I felt very safe in my home
city; I am a former police officer. I have no reason to want to be in the

town with no services. It’s bad

| The Star reserves the right to edit for length, spelling and grammar, but every effort is made to keep the writer’s intent. |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Letters to the Editor Policy | A writer’s name may be withheld by request but only after editorial board review. | Libelous material and UNSIGNED LETTERS WILL NOT BE PRINTED. | |
Daniel Robert Williams, 47, of Grand Coulee, Washington, passed away suddenly on Monday, September 19, 2016, at 6:30 a.m. at Mid Valley Hospital in Okanogan, Washington. Daniel was born October 6, 1968, in Chicago, Illinois, to Sam and Anne Williams. They moved to Okanogan, Washington, when Daniel was two years old. They lived in the Grand School District that school year. Daniel was preceded in death by his father, Mo. He was survived by his mother, Betty Franks, of Wheat Ridge, Colorado. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bob Valen, of Lincoln County, Washington.

Betty Franks

Betty Franks, 96, of Ohlovia, Washington, passed away on Friday, September 23, 2016. She was born September 30, 1920, in Pasco, Washington, to John and Nola (Fackler) Shanks. Betty was a hardworking woman and a loving mother.

Virginia A. Haney Allen


Okanogan County is celebrating 4-H Week Oct. 3-7

Kevin Talcott

Okanogan County is celebrating 4-H Week Oct. 3-7, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Have all 4-H questions answered, find out what’s new, explore projects and materials.

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Legal Notices

IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

Case No.: CV-CD-2016-39073

A General Election will be held in the below-mentioned districts for the purpose of submitting to the voters for their approval or rejection the following:


The registration deadline for online registrations, mail-in registrations and transfers is October 10, 2016. Any qualified elector who is not registered to vote in the State of Washington may register to vote in person at the Auditor’s Office up to and including October 10, 2016. You can register or obtain registration forms at the Auditor’s Office, on-line at www.vota.wa.gov, and Department of Licensing. The Okanogan County Auditor’s Office, 149 3rd Ave N, Room 104, at the County Courthouse, will be open as voters may obtain replacement ballots, drop off voted ballots, obtain provisional ballots, and use the Accessible Voting Units, at the following times:

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Oct. 20 – Nov 7, 2016
On Election Day only – November 8, 2016 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend and will be given the opportunity to provide written or oral comments at the meeting.

Elmer City Town Hall is handicap accessible.
GARY BENTON, TOWN CLERK
(Publish September 28, 2016)

Notice of General Election
Okanogan County, State of Washington
Tuesday, November 8, 2016

For additional information on the election or regarding voter registration:
vote.wa.gov/okanogan
myvote.wa.gov
Local newspaper, radio, and TV
www.pdc.wa.gov

Meetings of the Okanogan County Canvassing Board are open, public meetings and shall be continued until the activities for which the following meetings are held have been completed. Canvassing Board meetings are held in the Okanogan County Auditor’s Office, 149 3rd Ave N, Room 104, at the County Courthouse, in Okanogan.

Friday, November 11, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. to determine the status of any provisional or challenged ballots.
Tuesday, November 29, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. to canvass the vote casting and certify the election.

This notice is in accordance with RCW 28A.52.52

Dated at Okanogan, Washington this 10th day of August, 2016.
Laurie Thomas, Okanogan County Auditor and Ex-Officio Supervisor of Elections

By Mili M. Jury, Chief Deputy and Certified Election Administrator
Pursue since between September 25 and Oct 5, 2016
(Reject Sept 29, 2016)

Save the Date:

Town of Elmer City
Budget Hearing

The Town of Elmer City will hold a Budget Hearing on Thursday, October 13, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Elmer City Hall.
The Budget Hearing will be held at Elmer City Town Hall, 425 Sraun Ave. Elmer City, WA.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend and will be given the opportunity to provide written or oral comments at the meeting.

Elmer City Town Hall is handicap accessible.
GARY BENTON, TOWN CLERK
(Publish September 28, 2016)

City of Electric City
Notice of Public Hearing

NOTE: This is a weekly public hearing.
The City of Electric City will hold a public hearing to consider revenue sources for the 2017 budget, including consideration of possible increases in property tax revenues on Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at 5:45 p.m. at the Electric City Hall, 10 Western Avenue, Electric City, Washington.

The City Council of Electric City, a Corporate Body of the State of Washington, established by charter dated March 24, 1905, will hold a public hearing to consider revenue sources for the 2017 budget, including consideration of possible increases in property tax revenues. The public meeting will be open to the public and shall be continued until the activities for which the meeting is held have been completed. Any person desiring to speak on the above matter or to request the Disposition of any provisional or challenged ballots.

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633-1350
Lady Raiders lose two

The Lady Raiders volleyball team lost in the tie-breaking fifth set Sept. 20 against Okanogan. “They served, passed, and hit very well. We just couldn’t keep up,” Head Coach Karen Garvin said. “They served, passed, and hit very well. We just couldn’t keep up,” Head Coach Karen Garvin said. Okanogan blocked very well in the second set and took us out of their game, then hit our corner for the remainder of the evening,” Garvin said.

The first eight games for the Lady Raiders this season are non-league games, but the next eight are league games, when things really count. Garvin said she looks forward to improving where they can so she can win the league games coming up.

“Lady Raiders lose two

The Lady Raiders volleyball team lost in the tie-breaking fifth set Sept. 20 against Okanogan. “They served, passed, and hit very well. We just couldn’t keep up,” Head Coach Karen Garvin said. “They served, passed, and hit very well. We just couldn’t keep up,” Head Coach Karen Garvin said. Okanogan blocked very well in the second set and took us out of their game, then hit our corner for the remainder of the evening,” Garvin said.

The first eight games for the Lady Raiders this season are non-league games, but the next eight are league games, when things really count. Garvin said she looks forward to improving where they can so she can win the league games coming up.

“Lady Raiders beat the Bears in chaotic game

The Lake Roosevelt Raiders defeated the Brewster Bears 36-14 in Coulee Dam Friday to go 4-0 for the season and leading the league, the first time LR has had this good of a record since anyone can remember.

There was never a dull moment on the field Friday night. Touchdowns were followed by interceptions which were followed by interceptions, followed by injuries. Two Brewster players were taken off the field on stretchers.

The Raider players all wore the number 32 on the back of their helmets to honor Josiah Desautel, number 32 on the back of their helmets to honor Josiah Desautel.

Flowers running into the end zone again, making the score 20-14 in the third quarter, cashing in Flowers running into the end zone again, making the score 20-14 in the third quarter, cashing in the two-point conversion pass to Kolby Picard. Said Head Coach Loren Redley on Hall: “At running back he is a huge part of this team’s attitude and demeanor.”

The second quarter saw Brewster score a touchdown, but the Raiders answered right back with Flowers running into the end zone again, making the score 20-14 in the third quarter, cashing in the two-point conversion pass to Kolby Picard.

The Lady Raiders this season are non-lightning games. For the remainder of the evening,” Garvin said. “They served, passed, and hit very well. We just couldn’t keep up,” Head Coach Karen Garvin said. “They served, passed, and hit very well. We just couldn’t keep up,” Head Coach Karen Garvin said. Okanogan blocked very well in the second set and took us out of their game, then hit our corner for the remainder of the evening,” Garvin said.

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LR soccer loses one in overtime, wins the next

By Jacob Wagner

The Lady Raiders soccer team played the Bridgeport Fillies on the Lake Roosevelt home field in Grand Coulee Sept. 20, leading most of the game but losing the lead in the final minute — and the game in overtime.

“Our team controlled the field most of the game,” remarked Head Coach Casey Moore. “We had three goals. Middle Toulou scored on a fast break, fighting her way through multiple defenders and around the goalie to score in the first half. Bryn Chaffee had an impressive goal to put the team up by one at the half. In the second half, sophomore and team captain Loryn Moore brought the ball down the left side, cut back to the center and had another long ball shot from just inside the 18.”

With LR up 3-1, Bridgeport came back in the final minutes. A questionable call led to a penalty kick for the Fillies right in front of the net. Bridgeport scored a point there, and in the final two minutes of the game managed to kick another goal to tie things up. 3-3. Bridgeport scored early in overtime for the win.

“The fact that in their first year they were able to make it to overtime says a lot about their heart and drive,” Moore said about her team.

“Maya Milk again played solid defense and Hannah Wapato was a crucial part of our midfield and defense,” Captain Kayla St. Pierre who played mid-field was able to shut down one of Bridgeport’s key players.

The next game, hosting the Okanogan Bulldogs on Saturday, favored better for the Lady Raiders who won 5-2.

“I’m very pleased with the win,” said Coach Moore. “The girls communicated well with each other. They tried to pass and work the ball outward.”

Loryn Moore had three goals and one assist to Maddie Toulou. Bryn Chaffee pushed through several defenders to score “a beautiful shot,” as described by her coach. “Hannah Wapato had an excellent game at midfield,” Coach Moore added.

The Lady Raiders will host the Okanogan Bulldogs at home on Ludolph Field in Grand Coulee (the former middle school) at 11 a.m. Saturday.

**Volleyball**

Continued from page 6

Lake Roosevelt vs. Tonasket Scoring Summary

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>1st</th>
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<td>25</td>
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Lake Roosevelt 5-2

Good Luck, Raiders!!!

Thompson 4 aces, 2 assists, 12 kills, 1 block, 15 digs; E. Hansen 5 aces, 1 assist, 4 kills, 4 digs; Pitner 3 aces, 3 kills, 1 dig; Ludwig 2 aces, 1 assist, 1 kill, 3 digs; A. Hansen 1 assist, 6 kills, 1 block, 2 digs; Abel 2 kills, 5 digs; Williams 1 dig; Obricht 1 kill

Team Stats: 18 aces; 34 assists; 40 kills; 4 blocks; 22 aces; 27 assists; 30 kills; 6 blocks; 19 digs

Pitner 1 ace; Obricht 2 aces, 1 kill; Ludwig 4 digs; Williams 1 dig

**Nespelem School Board Briefs**

Nespelem Elementary School’s board of directors saw new uniforms for the first time Sept. 22, which had been moved ahead from Sept. 26 so that Superintendent Rich Stewart could attend an Impact Aid conference in Washington D.C. from Sept. 26 so that Superintendent Rich Stewart could attend an Impact Aid conference in Washington D.C.

They also approved the hiring of Leslie Moses and Cindy St. Pierre as paraprofessionals. The board approved a first reading of a new nutrition and fitness policy.

The board approved a first reading of a new nutrition and fitness policy.

The board approved a first reading of a new nutrition and fitness policy.

The board also approved the resignation of Lisa Guzman as cheerleader advisor.
**Rental**

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**Mobile**

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2013 Thor Motorhome Furrissima, furnished, on double-space.
2 beds, 1 bath unfurnished.
High speed internet payment to sewer district.

**DOLLAR A BAG SALE**
Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Grand Coulee Community Church
405 Center
Grand Coulee

**RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE**
Sat., Oct. 1
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church
Nespelem
Donations appreciated.
Call Nancy Neely 633-9331

**Ask the Experts**

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155 Executive Dr. Grand Coulee
509-694-8134

**Strate Funeral Home & Cremation Service**
150 3rd Ave. W. Grand Coulee
509-633-1332

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Sale thru Sept. 30, 2016
Save on wood stoves, fireplaces, and fireplace inserts and fireplaces. Safe, efficient, and economical.$150 off all wood stoves, $300 off fireplace inserts, $200 off fireplaces. Large DASY B-250 and mattresses. Call: 509-1345. (509-1945)

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Staff and all diners pictured above agree that pictorial evidence that may someday be used as blackmail! Breakfast: 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

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Thank you to our advertisers who provide this great deal on the Chicken Enchiladas served for our September theme dinner fundraiser! National Hispanic Heritage Month. We all have a family member or friend who could use a little comfort and love, have such great community support.

Thank you to Greg Wilson and Cliff Forry for acting as greengreensponsors. There is potential evidence that they somehow be used as blackmail!

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**The Meals Program**
Staff and all diners pictured above agree that pictorial evidence that may someday be used as blackmail! Breakfast: 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

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Thank you to our advertisers who provide this great deal on the Chicken Enchiladas served for our September theme dinner fundraiser! National Hispanic Heritage Month. We all have a family member or friend who could use a little comfort and love, have such great community support.

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Keeping it beautiful

Roy Hamilton picks up litter along highway 105 at Jones Bay in a burst of fall colors Thursday during an organized Grand Coulee Dam Rotary Club event. Several local groups pick up litter along areas of local roadways. The Rotary Club picks up the stretch along Banks Lake from the entrance sign to Electric City at the state Department of Transportation yard to the Northrup Canyon Road each year, state Department of Transportation yard to the Northrup Canyon Road each year, providing the vests and trash bags. — Scott Hunter photo

Sheelah Kennedy

Okanogan County Commissioner District 1

THANKS YOU!

Sheelah Kennedy and the Committee to Elect Sheelah Kennedy the Commissioner District 1 want to THANK everyone for taking the time to attend our campaign event and get the true facts on issues we face in our county.

The place was packed with a 100% Okanogan County crowd showing a huge support to Re-Elect Sheelah during our fundraising event!

Sheelah is proud to announce we raised $12,125.00 in a single night from LOCAL, hard working businesses and individuals!

Sheelah self funded her campaign $7,000.00 through the Primary Election and decided to changed to full reporting to start accepting financial contributions for the general.

“It is humbling to ask for financial support during the very difficult economic times we are faced with after the 2014 and 2015 state record setting fire storms.”

THANK YOU: Marc Straub, CEO Building North Central Washington, Senator Brian Dansel, Representative Joel Kretz, Representative Shelly Short, Rod Haerler and Don McClure for all the kind words and support, recognizing my leadership skills and my dedication representing the people of Okanogan County.

I also want to express my THANKS to the businesses that donated such great auction items, my friends, supporters, and my Campaign Chair Jeff Brender, the Omak Elks and the hilarious Campbell Auctioneer for making the event so successful. A special thank you to my re-election team for their dedicated work and tireless enthusiasm!