



## Union surveys point out problems in school district

### Discipline policy, communications and staff training get failing grades

by Roger S. Lucas and Scott Hunter

Members of two Grand Coulee Dam School District unions responding to recent internal surveys outlined a number of complaints dealing with discipline, communication and training issues.

The survey responses provide a glimpse into a district, many of whose workers are disillusioned enough that union leaders felt compelled to ask questions of the membership.

While the survey respondents collectively fell short of painting a no-confidence opinion, several within the two unions stated that they didn't have any confidence in the school administration.

Most dissatisfaction centered around discipline in the schools and a prevalent opinion that administrators don't provide

enough support for paraprofessionals and teachers.

"We are very serious about this, and we hope the administration will be as well," said Aaron Derr, the district's classified union president in an interview at The Star.

Derr said the classified-level survey had been meant to be used internally, and that he had wanted it as a means to present information the administration could act on, "a wake-up call." But he was concerned the results might "paint the district in an uglier light than it really is."

The Star was given a copy of an edited version of it last week as several had reportedly been handed out in the community. Derr said that was the version he had presented to his membership after editing some comments that might have made particular students personally identifiable.

District Superintendent Paul Turner provided the newspaper with the results of the survey of certificated staff.

Forty-three out of 80 members

See **UNION SURVEYS** page 2

## Riffing at graduation

With diplomas waiting in the foreground, Quincy Williams shreds it on an air guitar that sounded exactly like the lead guitar riff in Journey's 1981 epic song "Don't Stop Believin'," which he and the rest of the senior choir sang during the class of 2017's graduation ceremony at Lake Roosevelt Junior/Senior High School Satur-

day. "They like to have fun," Superintendent Paul Turner said as he certified that the students had met the requirements to graduate. To see a list of their awards, see page 5. — Scott Hunter photo

## Old school building of interest to potential buyer

by Roger S. Lucas

There is interest again in the purchase of Center School.

The sale of the old school is among the goals set by the school board for the coming year.

Superintendent Paul Turner advised the board that a person from Moses Lake is pursuing the purchase of the building and adjacent acreage (8.5 acres in all) from the district.

Turner told the board that the party interested had toured the site and was actively pursuing the purchase.

The school was purchased for \$155,000

from the Continental Land Company in October 2015, and has been on and off the market since. Twice the district has gone through the motions of advertising the school property for sale, but had no takers.

Turner stated that details of the intended use, and sale price, have not been established, but the parties are talking.

After the district purchased the property, it spent \$10,000 to have it appraised, with the appraisal coming in at \$190,000.

During the time the school property has been vacant there have been several incidents of vandalism at the building.

Currently the district is planning a giant garage sale of items within the school. Turner said that the sale will likely occur sometime this summer.

Turner also stated that the board has not set a minimum offer that it will accept.

Former superintendent Dennis Carlson is helping with the potential sale.

Decades ago, the Continental Land Company had provided that the school district could use the site for educational purposes, but that when that ceased the site would revert back to Continental Land Company. That's when the district purchased the building and property.

## Bull riding event will feature instant replays

by Roger S. Lucas

The Cleatis Lacy Memorial Bull Riding event this Friday, June 16, will feature an added attraction this year.

Through special arrangements, bull riding fans will be able to see instant replays of all the action on a huge screen.

Fans at the Ridge Rider event, which begins at 7 p.m., will be able to watch all the action — twice — as a large screen will allow them to catch something they might have missed in real time.

The Ridge Riders have made special arrangements with a Montana firm, Lyons Productions, to haul the giant screen on a 27-foot trailer to the site. Instant replays will be the order of the evening, and during breaks in the action, some of the highlights of action so far will be shown.

Marty Lyon, of Lyon Productions, said earlier that he is sending a camera crew of three to Grand Coulee for the event. The giant screen is on a trailer that can be adjusted according to the site requirements.

The Ridge Riders have added \$2,500 to the bull riding purse and \$1,500 to the second feature, a wild horse race.

The Ridge Riders said fans have the Coulee Dam Federal Credit Union to thank for the instant replay addition. Lyon had said that he hopes that by coming to Grand Coulee for the Lacy Memorial, he would be able to come to other events in the area.

Tickets will be available at the arena in Delano at a cost of \$12 for adults or \$10 for students. Children 10 and under can attend for free.

## Koulee Kids Fest to offer free fun Saturday

by Roger S. Lucas

The annual Koulee Kids Fest kicks off this Saturday throughout the area.

The June 17 event begins at 10 a.m. and concludes at 4 p.m.

Kids can get their passports at one of the following places: Grand Coulee Dam Area Cham-

ber of Commerce office, Coulee Hardware, Loepp Furniture or the Grand Coulee Dam Visitor Center.

Once kids get their passports, then it's off for fun and games.

There's free mini golf, pedal boats, face painting, ice cream, kettle corn, a barbecue, chalk art, classic cars, fishing, disc golf, photo cutouts at the Coulee Pioneer

Museum, looking through a fire engine, a Life Flight helicopter tour and learning about building a river and dam.

And it's all free for kids.

The chamber of commerce is adding a 3 p.m. Magic Show at the Visitor Center's indoor amphitheater to close out the day of fun.

## Fireworks show planned for North Dam on Saturday

by Jacob Wagner

This Saturday night, consider heading to the North Dam area to see a

free fireworks show put on by the Northwest Pyrotechnics Association.

Local man Alan Cain, a member of the NPA, brought the event together by getting the necessary permits from the powers that be: the city of Grand Coulee, the fire department, the Coulee Area Park and Recreation District, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclama-

tion. "It should be absolutely awesome," Cain said. "We're hoping that we will surprise people, and that they'll have a good time."

The group will likely start shooting some daytime fireworks as early as 7 p.m., and as it gets darker out, light more colorful fireworks. The group plans to

See **FIREWORKS** page 2



A juggler on a high unicycle entertains the crowd at the first performance of the circus last Thursday.

— Jacob Wagner photo

## Circus full of entertainment

by Jacob Wagner

The Culpepper & Merriweather Circus rolled into town on Thursday, and held two packed shows that night during a heavy

rainstorm.

The circus crew raised the big-top tent in the morning, and a small crowd took the tour, getting close to a lion and two tigers, a clydesdale and ponies, a calf, dogs,

goats and more.

The jungle cats included Francis, a 500-pound lion; Solomon, a 450-pound male tiger; and Delila, a 375-pound female tiger.

See **CIRCUS** page 2



# Union surveys

Continued from front page

of the classified union responded to the survey and 32 teachers responded to the certificated staff survey. "Certificated" employees include teachers holding degrees and state educator certifications. "Classified" employees include all others, from secretaries to bus drivers, custodians and paraprofessionals who help in the classroom.

Dissatisfaction on the support administrators provide in regard to discipline follow-ups has been brewing in the district for some time.

Superintendent Paul Turner, who is just completing his first year on the top job, was assistant junior/senior high principal the year before and was involved in discipline issues then.

He had already outlined a program to deal with discipline for the coming year, when Derr and union Vice President Jess Utz met with him June 1.

"We were pleased to find out that Paul had recognized a lot of these ahead of time ... before I even took the survey," Derr said.

Turner has proposed setting aside seven half-days for the entire staff to get training on how to recognize and deal with those who disturb procedures at the school.

"During this past year, it has been apparent that an escalation of student behavior, lack of staff professional development and better communications are the nucleus of difficulties that need to be addressed at Grand Coulee Dam SD," Turner said in a written statement issued Monday after The Star sought comment on the surveys. "Although the survey was not initiated by the district, the results support decisions and direction that the administration has already been planning for next year."

## Circus

Continued from front page

The cats eat between 10 and 15 pounds of meat each day, and fast for one day a week, much like they might do in the wild. The animals were rescued by the circus from a zoo that closed down due to not taking good enough care of their animals, one staffer said.

The troupe, which scheduled Grand Coulee after the Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce agreed to sponsor the event, performs seven days a week, two shows a day, for 32 weeks out of the year.

Some of the performers were raised in the circus, doing homeschool from the road.

Hundreds of people of all ages filed into the tent Thursday evening and sat on bleachers to watch the show.

Starting off the show, the jungle cats jumped from box to box inside a large protective cage that was later taken down for the acts that followed.

Performers rode unicycles, juggled fire, walked the tightrope and more. Leo, the clown, rode into the ring in a tiny car and clowned around with volunteers from the audience.

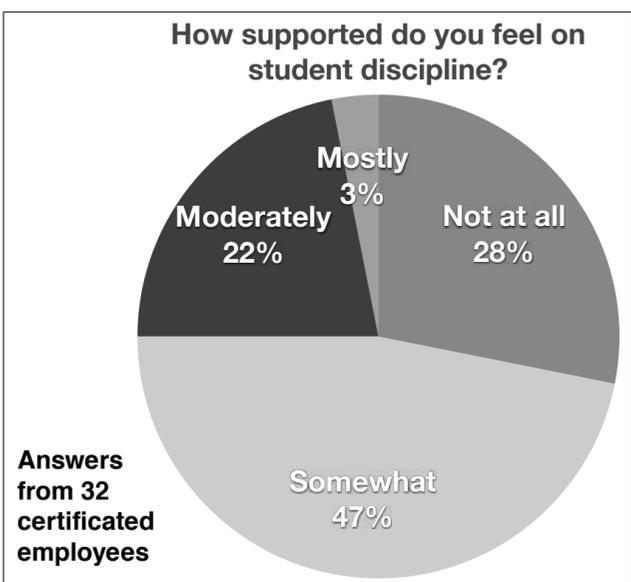
A trapeze artist swung from the ceiling in seemingly impossible positions, flipping and spinning, sometimes holding on only with her neck.

A contortionist bent herself into shapes that would send most people to the chiropractor or the emergency room.

A clydesdale performed alongside a tiny pony to great comic effect, and dogs jumped through hoops and fences, with a little schnauzer climbing a ladder.

The grand finale came when a father-son duo climbed onto a machine which looked like two human-sized hamster wheels on either side of a long metal contraption that spins and spans from floor to ceiling when vertical. The duo spun this "Wheel of Destiny," climbing in and outside of the wheels, jump roping on it, balancing on it blindfolded, and performing flips and tricks in death-defying stunts that made the crowd roar with applause and gasp in moments when it seemed the performers could have lost their balance.

Then they did it all again for a second show.



Among classified staff, nearly 40 percent indicated they felt no support from administrators when they discipline a student, and more than 72 percent answered that question with the lowest three of nine possible responses.

Among certificated staff, 75 percent said they felt "not at all" (6.2 percent) or "somewhat" (28.3 percent) supported regarding student discipline. The rest felt "moderately" or "mostly/very" supported.

"Too many adults are being assaulted this year with little to no consequences being apparent," one classified staffer asserted in one of 139 comments given in the survey. "Tired of hearing 'you don't know the behind-the-scenes infomation' excuse. Then clue us in as to your reasoning and the effectiveness of the consequences you have administered, because there doesn't appear like any to us."

Several similar comments were made, with one staffer describing three students who "live in constant fear" because of a lack of consequences for bullying, and staff members physically injured by a student who was back in

school the next day.

"Problems are swept under the rug, hoping they will disappear, rather than deal with it," said one. "Discipline, or lack of, has become a joke; it is the talking point of almost all personnel," said another.

At least part of the reason for that might be a failure to communicate, Turner's response indicated.

"This past year new laws were implemented that put a limit on school suspensions," Turner said in his statement. "Understanding the implementation of this law was not well articulated and misunderstanding of discipline occurred. This will be addressed this fall."

Unlike in other years, training days will be mandatory for both certificated and classified staff, Turner said, addressing another category of complaints.

Derr said he came away from the June 1 meeting thinking the superintendent would be "proactive" in changing the situation. "We just have to be willing to embrace the changes," he said.

With the coming training and new initiative, Turner said, the "emphasis must be on the whole

child and must shift from disciplining students to changing their behavior. The level of truancies has escalated over the years and was very evident this year. This past year a truancy board was established at the jr/sr high school level. Having to meet with the truancy board has greatly reduced the need to file truancy petitions ... with the county courts. Implementation of a truancy board at the elementary level will be a focus for the fall."

School board Chairman Jette Barry said Monday that she hadn't seen the surveys.

"I think the survey was taken for a good purpose, but not directed correctly," she said.

Barry said she hadn't been briefed and didn't know if members of the board had either.

When asked about the amount of training they have received to do their job, comments ranged from "none" to "only one training in four years."

When asked for any final

## Eden Harbor road section to be paved

The Bureau of Reclamation is paving the 260 feet of Eden Harbor Road nearest Lake Roosevelt in Grand Coulee. The road is expected to be closed until June 20 according to a USBR press release.

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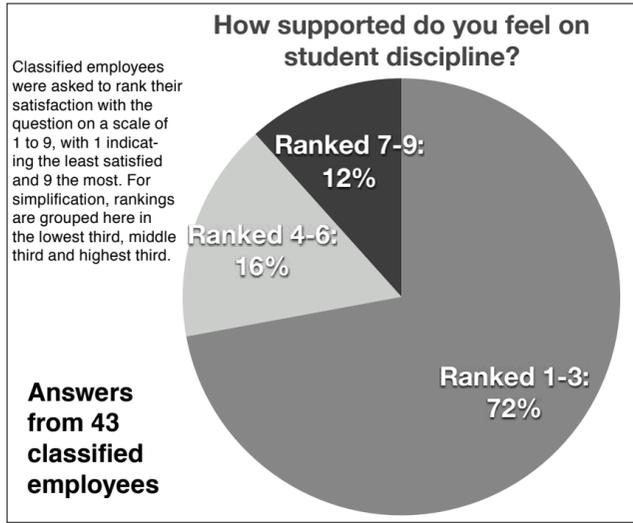
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Classified employees were asked to rank their satisfaction with the question on a scale of 1 to 9, with 1 indicating the least satisfied and 9 the most. For simplification, rankings are grouped here in the lowest third, middle third and highest third.

## Fireworks

Continued from front page

wrap things up around 10 p.m. Dangerously high winds or other disruptive "acts of God" would cancel the event.

Safety workers in orange jackets and helmets will make sure people don't get too close to the launch sites, and a safety boat will make sure that those watching from their boats don't get too close either.

Coulee Playland is offering free boat launching for the event for those who want to see the spectacle from the waters of Banks Lake.

All areas in North Dam Park (below North Dam) and Banks Lake Park (above North Dam) will be great places to see the show, as will the Coulee Playland area.

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# OPINION

## Why we're shedding light on issues that need it

In and of themselves, two surveys of union members in Grand Coulee Dam schools paint an alarming picture of conditions in the schools, but their hues can be softened or sharpened with other factors that add more light.

The surveys, outlined in a front-page story this week, explicitly reveal poor grades for administration by teachers and support personnel, many of whom feel a keen lack of communication and direction in regard to discipline and job expectations.

Less explicit may be the unspoken, but important, factors one might read between the lines.

"Discipline" issues have haunted the district for many years, whether school board members have wanted to recognize them or not. Parents of students have complained, off the record to us, of a lack of consequences for bullying. Some pulled their students from the district, but the exodus was sometimes put down to simple athletic interests or other reasons. Rather than tackle very tough problems, some administrators through the years have chosen to believe parents wanted more playing time for their kids who might shine brighter on teams in a smaller district.

But that's just a perspective from one part of the community. This week's news of discontent comes from the district staff itself. And it paints a picture of perceived inconsistency in discipline issues, a lack of training for them, and a related paucity of communication on the issue.

Consistency in discipline is far more important than severity, so a perception of a lack of it, by staff and by students, leads to more bad behavior and demoralization for all, not to mention safety concerns and an impeded learning environment for the vast majority of students who want to learn.

One of our between-the-lines reads: The current "handbook" that supposedly spells out consequences is likely out of date with actual policy and the reali-

ties of the profession's current best-practice advice, and with the legal landscape in which schools today operate.

That could lead to employees thinking their complaints about misbehaving students go nowhere. And we know of some who have left the job in disgust, partly because of it.

We can't know whether the district plans to update training on its currently used "Positive Behavior Intervention System" and to train staff in "Right Response" and "Restorative Justice" methods will be sufficient. Or how much a laudable new in-school "Truancy Board" this year actually reduced truancy. But it's evident that getting everyone at least on the same page is a critical first step.

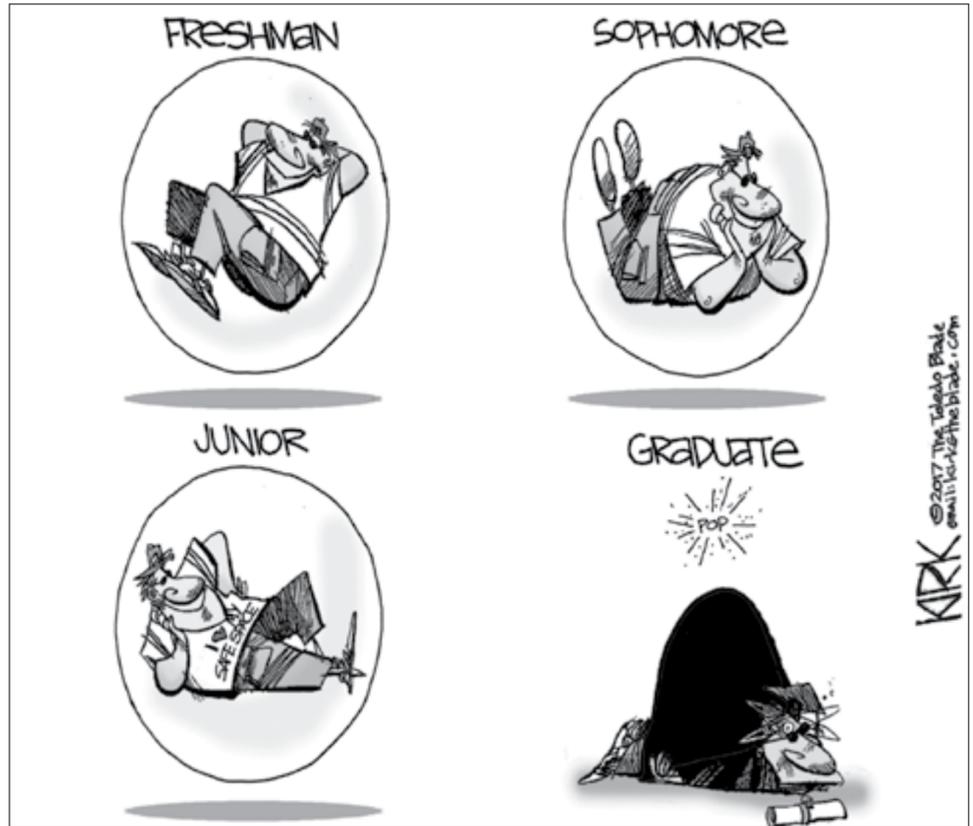
Part of the training problem has been that support staff hasn't been included, a budget consideration. This coming school year, the superintendent wants to include them, mandatorily, and increase trainings from an "ineffective" one-hour every other Monday to seven half days, which the school board approved in March.

Finding the money to accomplish this training is quite a separate challenge, especially in a year when the entire formula for funding education is still up in the air, and the state Legislature is still arguing about it in an extended session.

The good news here is that dialogue on the issues has begun in earnest, and that everyone involved wants to work on the solution.

Although union leadership and several district employees are nervous about this story coming out as contracts are renegotiated, for our part, The Star hopes that added light on the subject will help encourage the work along.

Scott Hunter  
editor and publisher



## The four will be missed

After this year, four matriarchs in the school district will be cuddling grandkids, snow birding, and beach combing. All four have left their marks on the youth of the area, and as the youth turn into adults they will take the lessons learned from these four and apply it to their lives. So let's take a look at the four as they ride into the sunset.

**Kathy Proctor:** Her business instincts and instruction go way back at Lake Roosevelt. She even taught me once, and many of you also. She is ingrained in the Raider Wrestling Program and in local rodeo. She must know what she is doing, too, because she also raised a world champion bull rider. She raised her kids with her husband here in Coulee Country and they are successful in their different arenas. There is so much that Mrs. Proctor is a part of that there is not enough room in the paper to cover it all. Regardless of all that, she will leave a gaping hole in the school district that will probably take many teachers to fill. Happy Trails, Mrs. Proctor, until we meet again.

**Donna Totman:** If ever there was a smell to be missed around the building, then it is the foods class cooking. Mrs. Totman is their leader. With phrases like, "Honey, Sugar Pie," "Darling" and "Isn't that special," all said in her sweet southern charm, she is a hard worker with lots of energy that instilled proper etiquette and charm into her classroom. Sewing, health, cooking and nutrition all became the standards, and it would not be strange to see students taking her classes as many times as they could. Not only will the aroma

of the food be missed, but the no-nonsense charm that followed her will be missed in the halls as well.

**Patty Nedd:** She loves kids. Plain and simple. A lot of the lifers in Coulee Country have either been in her daycare or took kids to her. When that became too much for her, the logical play for her was to follow the kids again and go to school with them. She raised her own kids here too, and she uses those same skills in the classroom daily. Using historically important pieces and learning at the same time the kids do, she is loved by all who come around her. She uses her experiences in life to encourage those around her.

**Nancy Johnson:** Quietly behind the scenes for many years, this lady made the schedules at LR click and work. Part counselor, part secretary, part everything, she molded schedules and classrooms and helped kids with every problem that might arise. She endured the frequent turnover and proved over and over again that she was needed here at LR more than we will ever know. Kids came to her and she fixed things. Staff came to her and she fixed things. Parents came to her and she fixed things. Her impact here will never be measured for sure, but those who know her heart and her work ethic have seen it every day, and we know she left a mark deep on us all.

So goodbye ladies, you will be missed. Enjoy the grandkids and the rodeos and the road trips. They are well deserved. Oh, one more thing. GO RAIDERS!

Jess,  
shut up!

Jesse Utz



## Letters from Our Readers

### Voters should meet candidate and town staff

In a political statement four years ago, Gayle Swagerty talked about getting public involvement. Since taking the position of council person, she has made little effort to get the public involved or even give the public adequate opportunity for comments.

Now, Councilperson Swagerty wants to meet with the public she has pretty much ignored over the past years. All registered voters

should go and talk with Councilperson Swagerty to become informed about her positions and views concerning our town's problems.

In addition, be an informed voter and take the time to talk with our town staff, administrative staff, town maintenance staff, town police officers, and our town volunteer fire chief. These are the real people that make our town.

Day to day, week to week, month to month. They have keen insights, not personal agendas.

Be a well-informed voter. Vote for change and vote for a man who will make a difference and put our Comm-YOU-nity first.

Bruce Bartoo  
Coulee Dam

### Representative representing somebody else

While I would like to hang up my phone and put down my pen and just wait for the U.S. to heal by itself, I just can't sit idle. Participation in the direction of our nation is the basis on which our country was founded. We all recognize the phrase "No taxation without representation." What concerns me more and more is the concept of "representation." It used to be that we would elect representatives who represented us, their constituents. But ever since the Supreme Court upheld Citizens United, Representative Dan Newhouse and his colleagues listen to corporations and big money interests from outside Washington state.

any time on concerns of our District 4 that stretches from the Canadian border down to the Tri-Cities, as far east as Nespelem and Washburn in the south to Yakima, Quincy, Waterville, and Winthrop on the western edge.

Case in point: Washington state has no oil, gas or coal mining, yet Newhouse is co-sponsor of two pieces of legislation, one that protects mining practices that violate federal law, HHR 38, and another, HJR 36, that reverses laws that reduce wasteful oil and natural gas mining on federal and tribal lands.

We may not like regulations, but the real question is, why is this legislation of such concern to Newhouse that he spends time

and staff energy and our money on bills that do not relate to our state and district needs?

The answer? In 2014, 62 percent of Newhouse contributions came from within District 4. In 2016 only 26 percent came from within his district. I hazard to guess that out-of-state contributors with no concern for WA state voter issues want Newhouse to support their mining and oil and gas legislation for their personal and financial benefit.

We need a new representation in Washington D.C. to work for our district and state on issues that affect our lives and livelihood, don't you think?

Gay Northrup

## Letters to the Editor Policy

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.

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## Sixty-nine years ago

Privately owned boats and docking facilities of the Coulee Dam Yacht Club were damaged by the heavy winds of June 9, 1948, which drove driftwood across Lake Roosevelt into the dock area. — June 11, 1948 photo

## Obituaries

### Raymond William Harrington Sr.

Raymond William Harrington Sr., 86, passed away peacefully at his home in Grand Coulee, Washington, on Tuesday, June 6, 2017.

He was born March 20, 1931, in Tacoma, Washington, to Raymond Daniel Harrington and Hazel (Doyle) Harrington. He lived most of his life between Kettle Falls, Washington, and Grand Coulee. Raymond joined the service in July of 1951, and served at Suwon Airbase as a Medic for 18 months.

He married Neva J. Winings on August 10, 1953, shortly after he was stationed at Smyrna, Tennessee Air Force Base. After his military service he worked construction and carpentry at places such as Boundary, Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee Dam, as well as the Bacon Siphon and road construction.

After his retirement, he coached AAU Girls' and Boys' Basketball, ASA Girls' Softball,



high school softball and junior high football. He also was a scorekeeper for many years at local basketball games. His hobbies included fishing, hunting and gardening. One hobby he loved was beekeeping with his son, Tim.

Ray leaves behind his wife of almost 64 years, Neva; his children: Phyllis Harrington, Steve Harrington, Robin (Troy) Sanford, Ray (Donna) Harrington Jr.; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren

and a great-great-grandchild. He was predeceased by his parents; brothers: Donald, Emmett, Francis, Johnny and Robert; an infant sister; his son, Timothy Ray; one grandson; and two great-grandchildren.

Those who knew him know that he wanted to make his wife happy. She has chosen to have a private ceremony at the property that they love, where he will join his eldest son.

### Richard W. Johnson

Richard W. Johnson, 77, passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 11, 2017, at his home in Electric City, Washington. Richard is survived by Hazel, his wife of 55 years; his daughter, Dana Solis (Joe); his son, Scott Johnson (Heather); six grandchildren; and his sister, Elaine.

He retired from the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in 1993 as a Production Shop Planner (welder) after 33 years of service.



Richard always enjoyed hunting, fishing and working outside. Sharing these activities with his grandchildren was his favorite pastime.

The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Grand Coulee Senior Center.

At Richard's request, no memorial service will be scheduled. He will always be loved and remembered.

### David Paul Ruzsa

David Paul Ruzsa, 55, born Monday, March 19, 1962, in Portland, Oregon, to Sandor and Norma Ruzsa, left us much too soon Saturday, June 10, 2017, from Grand Coulee, Washington. A 1981 graduate of Evergreen High School in Vancouver, Washington, David went on to a technical institute in Arizona, where he obtained his HVAC certification and received his AA Degree from Clark Community College in Vancouver. He also achieved his BS Degree and continued to be a lifelong student. From his boyhood years throughout adulthood, David loved spending time in the out-of-doors.

One of his favorite camping and hiking areas was the beautiful sub-alpine area in the shadow of southwest Washington's Mount Adams known as the "Indian Heaven Wilderness." David's family remembers with laughter one such camping trip to "Indian Heaven" during which the mosquitoes were so bad that David's poor dog "Buster" dug a hole in the ground to bury his head to get away from the nasty pests. When David returned home the exposed area at the small of his back between his shirt and beltline was covered with welts from bites.

During Labor Day weekend, Saturday, September 4, 1993, David's life changed forever when he married Raquel Andreason at the Community Center in Camas, Washington. In November of 2007 they moved from La Center, Washington, to Grand Coulee, where David began work at Grand Coulee Dam as an electrician, becoming a power plant supervisor. David loved his job and was honored to work with the high calibre of personnel at Grand Coulee Dam, and also loved being a member of the coulee community.

David loved experiencing life - whether crabbing at the Oregon Coast, boating with family on

Yale Lake in southwest Washington, cruising the Caribbean, traveling to Mexico or simply walking hand in hand with Raquel enjoying a sunset together. Anyone who spent much time at David's house also found out that he was an avid collector of many things, including cameras, and loud/tacky Hawaiian Shirts! Never one to pass up finding a garage sale treasure, David had recently discovered "Vintage Fairs," which he looked forward to with great excitement. A genius when it came to finding solutions to unique situations, David was the go-to "MacGyver" of his family - always able to help. Most important to David, though, was always his family, whom he loved far beyond all else! "David was our constant calm in the storm...our anchor."

David's legacy lives on through his family - the loves of his life: his life partner of 23 years: Raquel Ruzsa; his daughter, Isabella Ruzsa; his son, David "Alex" Ruzsa; parents: Sandor and Norma Ruzsa; brother, Richard (Jackie) Ruzsa; sisters: Catherine Ruzsa (Ed Taylor), Elizabeth (Darryl) Kautz, and Laurie (Victor) Addington; and proudly known as "Uncle Dave" or "Cousin Dave" to his many nephews, nieces and friends.

Please make any donations in David's memory to the charity of your choice.

A celebration of David's life will take place at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 17, 2017, in the Stone Community Church in Coulee Dam, Washington. There will also be a celebration of his life at the Grace & Glory Church in Vancouver, Washington, on Saturday, July 8, 2017, at 11 a.m. At David's request, cremation is taking place.

Please sign his online register book at [www.stratefuneralhome.com](http://www.stratefuneralhome.com). Strate Funeral Home of Grand Coulee, is honored to be



## McCleary/Nagy tie the knot

Trevor McCleary, 2013 Almira Coulee-Hartline graduate married Nicole Nagy of Liberty, Kentucky, May 2017. Both are Senior Airmen/E-4 serving in the U.S. Air Force. Trevor and Nicole met while stationed in Italy. After their current assignments in South Korea, Trevor and Nicole will be stationed in England.

## It's a girl for Pera/Stanczak

Savanah Rose Pera and Derick Lyle Stanczak, of Grand Coulee, Washington, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Payton Mae Pera Stanczak, born Thursday, May 18, 2017, at Coulee Medical Center in Grand Coulee. She weighed 7 lbs., 13 oz., and was 21 inches in length at birth.

Maternal grandparents are Shawn and Jenifer Pera. Paternal grandfather is Mike Johnson.

## Transfer station work will go out to bid

by Roger S. Lucas

The Regional Board of Mayors has asked that needed repairs at the Delano Transfer Station go out for regular bid.

The group's insurance firm, Clear Risk Solutions, had inspected the transfer station earlier this year and came up with an estimated \$20,000 to \$25,000 of needed repairs.

Electric City, which manages the transfer station, had asked for bids from its small works roster since repairs were estimated to be under \$35,000, not meeting the threshold for having to advertise and go out for the full bidding process.

One bid was received from the city's small works roster, and came in at just over \$49,000.

The three mayors present and Coulee Dam Councilmember

David Schmidt, who was sitting in for Coulee Dam Mayor Greg Wilder, asked Electric City Clerk Russell Powers to start the advertising process for the full bidding process so they could get the work done before winter.

Grand Coulee Mayor Paul Townsend wasn't surprised by the high bid. "Contractors are real busy this time of year, and they bid high," Townsend stated.

The bidding process could be concluded in time for the mayors' next meeting.

The repairs included an estimated \$10,000 to \$15,000 for plumbing and drainage problems, electrical work estimated at \$7,500, and miscellaneous repairs of \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Some \$5,000 of small repairs were going to be handled internally. All were cost estimates.

## Only officials attend park plan meeting

by Roger S. Lucas

A meeting last week to discuss Electric City's park and recreation plan failed to attract local residents. However, it did attract a pair of city council members, the city's planner and two members of the community park advisory committee.

Councilmembers Birdie Hensley and Lonna Bussert, both park proponents, city planner Kurt Danison, and park committee members Brad Parrish and Cindy Greely all attended.

The issue went to the council last night to see if members would approve money to move forward with engineering costs for the two proposed new parks.

The council approved spending \$32,000 to design and engineer

the Grand Avenue park (near the arsenic treatment plant), and \$37,000 to design and engineer the proposed park behind the fire station.

The city had recently selected the Robert Droll Landscape Architect firm's proposal to move forward on the parks.

The city now plans a public hearing at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday, July 11, to provide another opportunity for public input before the council officially meets on the plan immediately after that in its regular monthly meeting.

The city already plans to apply to the state Recreation Conservation Office for park funding sometime in 2018. Grants would be available for funding in 2019 if the city's application is successful.

## Meetings & Notices

### CHAMBER THIS WEEK

The Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce will meet at noon this Thursday, June 15, at the Eagles Lodge, Grand Coulee. The Mosquito Control Board will be the program.

### AT THE LIBRARY THIS WEEK

Events planned at the Grand Coulee Public Library for this week include Story Time at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, with the reading program beginning on Monday, June 19. Erik Brooks, popular children's author, will be a special guest at the library on Wednesday, June 21, at 11 a.m. For more information check with the library.



All our love and best wishes to

ALLAN and ALYCE GRAHAM (aka Mom and Dad)

on your 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary June 15, 2017

Mark & Therese

## Church Directory

### CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Welcomes you. Everyone is invited. Interim Pastor Ron Hunter 2 miles east of Hwy 155 on Hwy 174 Adult Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship ..... 10:45 a.m. Church office 633-2186

### FAITH COMMUNITY

A Foursquare Church PASTOR STEVE ARCHER 16 Grand, Electric City Sunday Morning Service ..... 10:00 a.m. KIDS' Church and Nursery Call the Church Office 633-3044 to find out about other regularly scheduled meetings. Come Worship the Lord!

### BANKS LAKE BIBLE CHURCH

25 School Avenue, Electric City, 633-0670 "An Independent Bible Church" Pastor Bill Williams - Everyone Welcome! Adult Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship ..... 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..... 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m. Call for schedule of mid-week events.

### SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Come Worship & Praise With Us 103 Continental Heights, Grand Coulee Church (509) 633-3030 Pastor Eric Chavez - (509) 207-9460 Fit for Life ..... 9:00 a.m. Bible Study ..... 10:00 a.m. Worship Hour ..... 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Meal ..... 12:30 p.m. Mid-week Mannah (Wednesday) ..... 6:00 p.m.

### GRAND COULEE COMMUNITY CHURCH

An Independent Congregation Modeling our Ministry after the New Testament 405 Center St., Grand Coulee Lead Pastor: Monty Fields Pulpit Pastor: Rev. Paul Ashbrook Church Office 633-0980 Contact Number 633-3319 EVERYONE WELCOME! Come Worship and Praise God with Us! Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 a.m. Join us for coffee and fellowship after the 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 Bible Study & Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m. Zion Worship ..... 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Study ..... 7:00 p.m.

Nursery Available NEED A RIDE? CALL 633-2566

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 ★ Baked goods  
 ★ Arts & crafts  
 ★ Commercial items  
 ★ Non-profit fundraisers  
**Every Wednesday**  
**JUNE 21 - SEPT 13**  
**4:00 - 8:00PM**  
**Check out Wednesday Market!**  
**New vendors every week!**

### Sidney Lull

Friends of Sidney Lull: The family requests any donations be made in Sid's memory to: Assured Hospice, 1417 S Pioneer Way, Moses Lake, WA 98837.



## Class of 2030

Kindergarten students of Kim Iverson's recently held a graduation at Nespelem School. They include: Sally Lucei, Sitarah Palmer, April Bigwolf, Alex Vallee, Dorla Selam, and Jase Thomas. — submitted photo

# Educators also honored

Lake Roosevelt Junior/Senior High School Secretary Sheila Darnold, below, was honored as support staff person of the year during the class of 2017's graduation ceremony Saturday. Gretchen Whitelaw was honored as teacher of the year. — Scott Hunter photos



## May students of the month



Third through Sixth grade, from left, front row: Dillan Yazzie, Addy Yonaka, Nautika Brown, Simon Beery, Wyatt Egbert, Blayne Picard, Austin Nanamkin; middle row: Nathan Tonasket, Chante BearEagle, Havana Mori, Pharoah Hudson, Red Elk Williams, Jeremiah Swogger, Cassidy Swogger; back row: Alaki Cawston, Roslyn Downs, Hunter Armstrong, Noah Hunt, Autum Nichols, Sam Amarilla, Lovell Adolph, Reese Hansen, Brody Desautel.



Kindergarten through Second Grade, from left, front row: Mia Tillman, Karlyn Logue, Caleb Nix, Uriel Villafana-Cruz, Arjay Signor; middle row: Mia Robles, Leilani Plamer, Alivia Bjorson, Arlin EagleElk, Kanaan Rogers; back row: Kyloni Bob, Chantelle Pakootas, Kaydence Burda, Riley Adams, Trevor Johnson, Rydor Wilson, Beatrice Tatshama.

## Awards for class of 2017

### 2017 Lake Roosevelt High School Graduation Awards & Scholarships

The Class of 2017 Valedictorian: **Grace Engeseth**  
The Class of 2017 Salutatorian: **Matthew Tillman**

High Honor Roll Students who earned a cumulative GPA of 3.5 to 4.0:  
**Grace Engeseth, Cameron Tillman, Charlie Michel, Matthew Tillman, Jazmine Reed, Hannah Williams, Brooklyn Reichlin**

Honor Roll Students who earned a cumulative GPA of 3.25 to 3.49.:  
**Olivia Arnold, Cristian Ruiz, Marianna Clark, Quincy Williams, Robin Matt**

Bronze Volunteer Service Award winners. Students completed between 100 and 149 hours of community service:  
**Mariah Boyd, Aiyana Picard, Nathaniel Hall, Quincy Williams, Tyrell Kiser**

Silver Volunteer Service Award winners. Students completed between 150 and 200 hours of community service volunteer work:  
**Robin Matt, Brooklyn Reichlin, Mataiya Nachtigal, Cristian Ruiz, Jazmine Reed**

Gold Volunteer Service Award winners. Students completed 200 or more hours of community service volunteer work:  
**Olivia Arnold, Kiana Sam, Grace Engeseth, Hannah Williams, Charlie Michel**

LRHS Character Award. Students receiving this award are being recognized for never receiving any sort of discipline throughout their four years in high school:  
**Robin Matt, Cameron Tillman, Julie Steffens, Matthew Tillman**  
Silver Athletic Awards. Students earned 7 to 9 Raider Varsity letters or medaled as an individual at state:  
**Nathaniel Hall, Cameron Tillman, Tyrell Kiser, Matthew Tillman**

Gold Athletic Awards. Students earned 10 to 12 Raider Varsity letters, were recognized as an All-American athlete, individual state champion or recognized as all-state first team:  
**Tristen Adolph, Kourtney Harrington, William Friedlander, Aiyana Picard**

Central Washington B League Senior Scholar Athlete Award Recipients. Students earned a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above.  
**Charlie Michel, Cameron Tillman, Jazmine Reed, Matthew Tillman**

Trio Upward Bound Students:  
**Grace Engeseth, Kourtney Harrington, Jazmine Reed, Cristian Ruiz**

National Honor Society Members:  
**Grace Engeseth, Jazmine Reed, Nathaniel Hall, Brooklyn Reichlin, Charlie Michel, Matthew Tillman, Mataiya Nachtigal, Hannah Williams**

Support Staff Person of the Year Award:  
**Sheila Darnold**

Teacher of the Year Award:  
**Gretchen Whitelaw**

LRHS Citizenship Award:  
**Charlie Michel, Cristian Ruiz**

Mason City High School Alumni Awards Academic Excellence:  
**Grace Engeseth, Matthew Tillman**

Athletic Excellence:  
**Aiyana Picard, Tyrell Kiser**

John Phillip Sousa Award:  
**Cristian Ruiz**

The Raider of the Year award, in memory of Rob Williams:  
**Jazmine Reed**

### Scholarships Awarded to the 2017 LRHS Graduates

**Will Friedlander:** Steve Breeze Scholarship, \$500.00

**Charlie Michel:** Steve Breeze Scholarship, \$500.00

**Mataiya Nachtigal:** Rotary Club of Grand Coulee Dam, \$2,000.00; GCDEA Scholarship Recipient \$1,000.00; GC Volunteer Fire Department, \$100.00  
Total: \$3,100.00  
Mataiya also received her Associate in Arts and Science Degree from Wenatchee Valley College

**Jazmine Reed:** P.E.O. Sisterhood Scholarship, \$500.00; GCDEA Scholarship Recipient, \$1,000.00  
College Bound Scholarship, \$5,946.00, \$1,500.00. Total: \$8,946.00

**Brooklyn Reichlin:** George Washington Foundation, \$1,050.00; Grand Coulee Dam Lions Clubs, \$1,000.00; Grand Coulee Eagles, \$300.00; Grand Coulee High School Alumni Association, \$500.00; Rotary Club of Grand Coulee Dam, \$2,000.00; Banks Lake Bass Club Scholarship, \$500.00; Grand Coulee Women of the Moose, \$1,000.00; Total: \$6,350.00

**Kiana Sam:** Received her Associate in Arts and Science Degree from Wenatchee Valley College

**Matthew Tillman:** Grand Coulee Eagles, \$300.00

**Hannah Williams:** George Washington Foundation, \$1,050.00, Gailord Nelson Scholarship, \$500.00, GCD Public School Employees Scholarship, \$250.00. Total: \$1,800.00

## Bowling

**WEDNESDAY SENIORS**  
Karen Musser 143+131+139=413  
Scott Elmore 171+186+207=564  
Ray Duclos 160+155+173=488  
Bob Schryvers 135+160+190=494

SPRING LEAGUE		
TEAM	W	L
Team 3	8	4
Team 4	7	5
Team 2	2	10
High Game: Dakota W-B 245; Mae Stensgar 171		

High Series: Scott Elmore 618; Mae Stensgar 468  
Splits: Kota 5-10  
Previous - High Game: Bob Schryvers 234; Mae Stensgar 92  
High Series: Bob Schryvers 666; Mae Stensgar 515

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**Bull Riding**

**Wild Horse Race**

**Barrel Race**

\$2500 added for Bull Ride

\$1500 added for Wild Horse Race

Contact Shane Marchand (509) 631-4156



Friday, June 16, 2017 @ 7 pm

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Cost is \$6.15 for first 15 words; 15¢ for each additional word - Yard Sale ads are \$8.00 for the first 15 words, includes two free yard sale signs.

## Rentals

### PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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## Rentals

LARGE 2 bdrm. apt., Electric City, w/s/g, \$500 per month. 509-631-2039 or 509-928-1805. (N12-28-ftc)

FROM OUT OF TOWN? One bedroom, fully furnished apartments for rent. \$650/mo. includes electricity, water, sewer and garbage. Clean, close to shopping, restaurants, banking and within walking distance to the dam. First, last months' rent and \$500 damage deposit. Favorable background check required through Acranet. Contact (509)633-3167, (509)449-5413. (W2-22-ftc)

OFFICE SPACE for rent: \$550 per month includes electricity, water, sewer and garbage. First, last months' rent and \$300 damage deposit. Favorable background check required through Acranet. Contact (509)633-3167, (509)449-5413. (W2-22-ftc)

TAKING APPLICATIONS for 2 bdrm. mobile home, w/s/g paid. 631-2033. (B4-26-ftc)

2 BDRM. APT., Grand Coulee. \$600/mo; includes w/s/g; (509) 338-0990 or (509) 710-2080 (M6-7-2tpp)

1 BDRM. small cottage for rent. Close to Banks Lake. Available after July 1. Call 633-0434. (H6-14-ftc)

SPECTACULAR luxury home, lake property, lavishly furnished, 4 bdrm., 2 baths, all amenities, 28 minutes to dam, private, for that professional. \$3500 per month. Brad 509-647-5307. (W6-14-1tp)

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## Property

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For Sale: 2766 sq. ft. Single Family Home Okanogan, Wash.



Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath single family home on 2.28 acres with barn for sale. Located at 747 Salm-on Creek Road. Fenced property and yard, deck, vaulted ceiling and propane fireplace in family room, includes appliances. \$160,000 or best offer.

For more information please call 422-7429 or email: [Keith.Kistler@colvilletribes.com](mailto:Keith.Kistler@colvilletribes.com).



## Homes

3 BDRM., 1 bath home for sale. Attached garage, plus large shop. Appliances included. Automatic sprinklers front and back. Upper Electric City. Shown by appointment. (509) 631-2761. (A6-7-2tpp)

FOR SALE - 917 Division St., Grand Coulee, 2 bdrm., 2 bath. Shop 30x40x13+ ft H, new plumbing, new roof, lot 119x119', \$129,000. 633-3805. (P6-14-1tp)

## Property

PROPERTIES FOR SALE: 2 bedroom, 2 bath, mobile home with a large garage, \$125,000; 2 bedroom, one bath, home with storage shed, \$70,000; and 3 bedroom, 2 bath, mobile home with basement apt., \$130,000. Call for more properties for sale. 633-2485 or 631-0135. (F7-27-ftc)

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## RVs

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## Events

### EAGLES LODGE

TACO WEDNESDAY 4-8 p.m. with Karaoke from 7-11 p.m.

BINGO Thurs. & Fri. 6 p.m.

BURGER NIGHT - Sat. 5-8 p.m.

Jack of Spades - Sat. 7 p.m. Pot is \$1239.50

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST Sun., June 18 • 9 a.m. - noon • \$7

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## Sales

**GRAND COULEE GARAGE SALE** - Sat., June 17 and Sun., June 18, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. 314 Van Tyne Ave. Fishing gear, tools, household. MOVING OVERSEAS, everything must go! (P6-14-1tp)

SMALL FAMILY Yard Sale - 06/17/17 8 - 4, 510 Roosevelt Dr. (P6-14-1tp)

**COULEE DAM** 2 FAMILY YARD SALE - Fri. & Sat., 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. 1020 Central Drive. Lots of miscellaneous. (W6-14-1tc)

YARD SALE - Sat., June 17, 8 a.m., 1031 Central Dr. TONS of infant/toddler items. Shoes, clothing for everyone! Early bird gets the worm! (Maybe even check us out Fri. evening as we're setting up.) Items added as we go. (D6-14-1tc)

**Wilbur's Community Yard Sale**  
Saturday, June 17  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Call **Tootsie Keller** at 647-5351 for more info or to sign up and get on the map.

P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) Chapter DG/Coulee Dam will be participating in Wednesday Market beginning June 21 through Sept. 13 from 4-8 p.m. at North Dam Park

We will be selling Baked Goods, Hot Dogs, Chili Dogs, Frito Burritos and Water.

All funds raised will be used to help women pursue their higher educational aspirations through scholarships, grants, awards and loans at the international level of P.E.O. Locally, funds will be used for the P.E.O. yearly scholarship to a senior girl seeking her undergraduate degree.

## Misc

NORDIC TRACK Elliptical E-5.7, used less than an hour. Cost \$650, sell \$450. Call 633-3315. (2-22-ftc)

## Sales

**American Legion Post 157 Annual VET CENTER YARD SALES**  
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# Coulee Cops

Compiled from police files

## Grand Coulee Police

6/5 - A Warden man said that he had parked his car in front of Loepp Furniture and when he came out he noticed a dent in his vehicle.

- A woman living on Goodfellow Avenue in Electric City reported loud music from a nearby apartment. Police increased their patrols in the area.

6/6 - An Ephrata man was arrested and taken to Grant County jail after he was caught trespassing in the pool area at Sky Deck Motel in Electric City.

- Security at Coulee Medical Center's emergency room told police that a man was there and refused to leave. After police talked to the suspect, he said he would wait to be seen by Grant County Mental Health.

- Police removed a dead dog from the roadway at milepost 22 on SR-174. The dog did not have a license tag on it.

- A Coulee Dam woman, stopped for expired tabs, ended up getting a citation for having no mirrors, no insurance and for the expired tabs.

6/7 - A woman on Hill Avenue told police she had been kicked out of her boyfriend's house and that he was giving her things away. Police attempted to contact the man to check on the status of the woman's belongings, but no one was home.

- A Grand Coulee couple told police that an Electric City man had been harassing them. It was suggested that they get a no-contact order from the courts.

- A man digging up a water line on Sunny Drive had called police because he thought he might have some problem with a neighbor. The officer told the man police did not plan to chaperone his project and to only call the police if something occurred.

6/8 - Police are asking the prosecutor's office to file charges after a family dispute broke out at Flo's Cafe in Grand Coulee. A report that someone had pulled a switchblade knife appeared to be a false claim.

- A Coulee Dam woman was ar-



## Off and swinging

The Sons of Pitches defeated the Bear Ass Runners on Monday to start off the season for the local community softball league. Games are held Monday – Thursday on both the upper and lower baseball fields at North Dam Park in Grand Coulee at 6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Seen here, Ann Green gets a base hit for the Bear Ass Runners. — Jacob Wagner photo

rested on a fourth-degree assault charge after a domestic issue on Stevens Avenue in Electric City. The woman arrested had allegedly punched another woman and wrestled her to the ground.

- Police were called to Fifth Street in Electric City, where it was reported that a door of a residence was ajar. Police found that the door was off its hinges and went inside to make sure no one was there.

- Police recovered a large bag found in the bushes at the Grand Coulee library. It was determined that it was a fire bag from the Coulee Dam fire hall, and officials there said they would see that the bag was returned to its owner.

6/9 - An elderly man was found with a stalled car at milepost 22 on SR-155. The report stated that the man was disoriented and from Enterprise, Oregon. The man was taken to Coulee Medical Center, and relatives in Oregon were notified.

6/10 - A wanted woman tried to turn herself in, but Grant County jail was on restrictions and was

not accepting new prisoners. The woman left without incident.

6/11 - A man on Burdin Boulevard was arrested on a domestic violence issue and taken to Grant County jail. The man was intoxicated, the report stated, and had been arguing with his mother.

- Police confronted a man on Electric Avenue in Electric City who was sitting alongside the road yelling at himself. Police suggested that he go home.

- USBR Plant Protection advised police of vandalism at the restrooms in the lower Visitor Center parking lot.

- A man at Coulee Boulevard East, in Electric City, was confronted by police after a report that he was punching trees to let off steam. It had been reported that he was going to kill himself and burn the house down. He recanted this but later called police to say the same thing again.

6/12 - People parked in the lower parking lot at the Visitor Center wanting to take a nap were informed by police that they couldn't sleep there.

## Coulee Dam Police

6/6 - An officer was asked to go to a house on Cedar Street on a civil matter. The party was told to contact the chief the next day.

6/7 - Police checked on a trespass complaint and found a man wanted on a warrant for his arrest. He was taken to Okanogan County jail.

- A woman on Columbia Avenue advised police that someone had been stealing her mail.

- An abandoned car with a flat tire was blocking the entrance to a garage in the alley at Birch Street. A tow was ordered, but the owner arrived to remove the car.

6/9 - A woman living on Civic Way, who reported that someone had tried to run her down, refused to come to the door when police arrived to talk with her.



Like "Grand Coulee Area Weather" or [www.grandcouleeweather.info](http://www.grandcouleeweather.info)

Wed.	Low 50° - 68° High	Partly sunny, light wind
Thu.	Low 52° - 69° High	Cloudy, change of rain
Fri.	Low 50° - 72° High	Partly sunny
Sat.	Low 51° - 74° High	Mostly sunny
Sun.	Low 52° - 78° High	Mostly sunny
Mon.	Low 58° - 86° High	Sunny
Tue.	Low 54° - 87° High	Clear

## Let's Play Tag!



All goats and alpacas to be exhibited at the Okanogan County Fair must be pre-registered at least 60 days before fair (deadline is 5 p.m. on July 9th). Registration forms are available on the website. Paperwork and pictures of the goats and alpacas must be submitted to the Okanogan County Fair Office, 509-422-1621. Goats and alpacas to be sold at the fair will be tagged on Wednesday of fair.



For information call: 509-422-1621 [www.okfair.org](http://www.okfair.org)

## OPEN LETTER TO THE CITIZENS OF COULEE DAM June 11, 2017

Please make time to join us at City Hall the night of June 14 for a regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting. The meeting will begin at 6 pm sharp. Our purpose in attending this particular Council meeting will be to request that our Mayor and Council schedule and plan an Open Public Meeting to discuss the proposal to change the classification of Coulee Dam from Town to that of a "noncharter Code City."

The Agenda for the June 14 Council Meeting calls for discussion by the Town Council concerning the merits and impacts of this Classification, followed by a Resolution that will lead to the re-classification of Coulee Dam as a "noncharter Code City." Mayor Wilder has provided our Council Members with copies of Chapter 35a.12 RCW, a letter from our Town Attorney and other documents to assist our Council while they discuss this proposal. However, Mayor Wilder has not provided any indication that he intends to schedule an Open Public Meeting to allow the Citizens of Coulee Dam the opportunity to direct questions to our Mayor, our Town Attorney and our Council Members before our Council votes on the Resolution and the Ordinance that will result in reclassification of Coulee Dam as a "noncharter code city."

A review of the documentation provided to Council Members prior to the June 14 meeting shows that there are advantages (and potential disadvantages, depending on your point of view) to reclassification as a "noncharter Code City." Our purpose the night of June 14 will not be to debate the advantages and disadvantages associated with this potential reclassification. Rather, it will be to encourage our Mayor and Town Council to schedule an Open Public Meeting at a later date to allow for Public Input before our Council makes the final decision.

Our experience with the Council's decision to commit \$5,000 in Town Cash, \$10,500 in Town Equipment costs and \$10,000 in Town Labor costs to the possible construction of the Candy Point Trailhead Building without scheduling an Open Public Meeting leads us to believe it is necessary to make the request that an Open Public Meeting take place before the decision to reclassify as a "noncharter code city." We understand that ultimately reclassification is a decision for our Town Council. However, we also feel it is the responsibility of our Town Council to provide the Citizens of Coulee Dam the opportunity to participate in the decision process via an Open Public Meeting.

Thank you for taking the time to read this Open Public Letter, giving thought to attending the June 14 Council Meeting, and we hope to see you there at 6 pm or earlier.

Larry Price Marcia Warnecke Timothy Brooks  
Bob Poch Fred Netzel

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General Surgeon and our Chief of Staff

Dr. Hsieh joined the Coulee Medical Center team in August of 2015.

Born in Canada, he graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Ireland. He completed his surgical residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas in June of 2015.

His main focus is on general surgery, including, but not limited to, colonoscopy, gallbladder disease, soft tissue disease, gastrointestinal disease, hernias, thyroid, laparoscopic, vascular, and varicose veins.

Dr. Hsieh is board certified.



**Dr. Sam Hsieh**

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