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District Stories

No school Oct. 11 and 12 (Conferences)

There is no school for students Thursday, Oct. 11 and Friday, Oct. 12 due to Parent/Teacher conferences. Classes resume Monday, Oct. 15.

School board meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 16

- 6:30 p.m.
- District Board Room (364 S. Park St.)
- Meeting open to the public

Community meeting: Superintendent Mick Miller details plans for modernizing Walla Walla High School

- Walla Walla High School Facilities Improvement Plan Overview
- Wednesday, Oct. 24
- 6 p.m.
- Walla Walla High School Auditorium
- See the preliminary building plans
- Discuss options for modernization
- Review costs & timeline

District joins area Realtors for “Care and Share” Food Drive

- Food Drive Dates: Oct. 19-21

Walla Walla Public Schools is teaming with area realtors to help those in need through the “Care and Share” annual food drive. There are many ways for parents, students and staff to get involved. All donations help the Blue Mountain Action Council Food Bank. Demand remains high. Peter Swant is the project coordinator: pswant@cbfr.biz

Here’s how you can help:

- “Fill the Bus” drive at area grocery stores: Saturday, Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Pick a section of town to distribute bags to area homes and then collect them the following day (Oct. 20 & 21)
- Donate food during Walla Walla High School home football games
- Donate food at all district schools (collection barrels are now in place)

Superintendent’s Patron Tour program invites community members to visit schools

Superintendent Mick Miller is continuing his Superintendent’s Patron Tour program Wednesday, Oct. 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Guests will visit Green Park Elementary, Walla Walla and Lincoln High Schools as part of the program.

Miller’s goal with the program is to build relationships, learn about each other and listen. Please ask your friends, family, neighbors and parents of students to participate. They will value the experience and learn a lot along the way. Patron Tour guests will meet with Superintendent Miller, tour schools and conclude with lunch and a debriefing. If you are interested in participating in a Patron Tour, contact Communications Director Mark Higgins: 509.526.6716 or by email: mhiggins@wwps.org.

School Stories

Trunk-or-Treat offers safe and fun Halloween experience

- Trunk-or-Treat is sponsored by Key Club for all elementary school students
- Candy, treats and other goodies for all
- Wednesday, October 31 from 5 to 7 p.m.
- Wa-Hi Science Parking lot
- Haunted Barn and Auditorium
- Admission is two cans of food for donation to the Christian Aid Center Food Bank

Wa-Hi Debate team plans mock presidential debate

The Walla Walla High School Debate Team will conduct a mock Presidential Debate at the Wa-Hi Auditorium on Saturday, October 27 at 7 p.m. This event is open to the public. A suggested donation of \$5 per person will be collected to help fund the Debate Team.

There will be two teams of debaters: A team supporting Romney's positions and a team supporting Obama's positions. The teams will alternate presenting the candidates' perspectives on different issues, such as the economy or foreign policy. The candidate representatives will have a chance to question each other.

“Audience members will vote to give a prize to the strongest speaker on each team, which team they thought did the best overall and finally, who they think should be the President of the United States,” Debate Coach Jean Tobin said.

Pioneer Middle School teacher and parent volunteer plan trip to China for training

Pioneer Middle School teacher Dan Calzaretta and parent volunteer Kathryn Southwick Hess are traveling to Beijing, China next month to receive training on the Education First Student Travel program. The trip is paid for by Education First Tours. Next June, Calzaretta and Southwick Hess are leading a Walla Walla student trip to Ireland, England, and France in conjunction with Education First tours.

“My goal is to gain information and to have a chance to work with the EF training staff & experienced group leaders in order to safely lead our group of 52 travelers,” Southwick Hess said. “I've traveled with students, but never internationally. This training will cover details of taking care of passports, managing customs and foreign language issues.”

EF offers training tours for first time International group leaders in London, Paris, Madrid, Berlin, Rome & Beijing. Calzaretta and Southwick Hess qualified for the longer Beijing training because the Walla Walla student group is so large.

“I also hope to bring this trip back to the students by sharing the history & culture of this great Chinese city,” Southwick Hess said. “I will also be sharing this experience with the parents of our travelers. They need to know that their children will be well cared for, educated and inspired by our trip next June.”

Wa-Hi football team joins the Fight Against Muscular Dystrophy

Football coaches from Walla Walla High School and Southridge High School will be wearing armbands during the varsity football game Friday night to show their support for Coach to Cure MD and the fight against this terrible disease. Donations will be gathered throughout the game. Kick-off is at 7 p.m.

Coach to Cure MD is a partnership between Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy and the American Football Coaches Association. The goal of Coach to Cure MD is to raise national awareness of Duchenne muscular dystrophy and to raise money to fund research for a cure.

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is a progressive muscle disorder that causes loss of muscle function and independence which includes decline in respiratory and cardiac function. Boys with Duchenne face loss of mobility and wheelchair dependency. Duchenne primarily affects boys. One boy out of every 3500 live male births will be diagnosed with Duchenne.

“There is no cure, but there is great hope and promising treatments on the horizon,” said organizer Amanda Hammond. “There are boys right here in Walla Walla fighting this terrible disorder.”

Contact: Amanda Hammond 208-284-6640

Community Stories

The Moms' Network announces next Parent Workshop with Guest Speaker Mark Thompson

Bullying-prevention specialist Mark Thompson will be discussing strategies for raising boys Wednesday October 17 at the next Moms' Network Parenting Workshop. Thompson will discuss the "Eight Steps of Civility." He will help parents identify signs if their son is a bully or if he is being bullied.

Mark Thompson has raised three boys and is a national speaker and trainer on the topic of bullying and harassment. The event is October 17 at 7 p.m. at the YMCA. The event is a free community event, with free child care and Spanish Translation. For more details please contact Beth Swanson at 509-301-7471 or beth@themomsnetworkww.com

Girl's Council plans 3rd Annual Harvest Moon dinner and silent/live auction

Girl's Council, the non profit organization that brought "Finding Kind" to girls in the Walla Walla Valley in September, is hosting its 3rd Annual Harvest Moon dinner and silent/live auction on October 13 at the Walla Walla Country Club. If you are interested in learning more about Girl's Council, want to lend your support via an auction item, or would like to attend the event please contact Karen Neher, Marci Knauft or Brandi McIntire at 527-3083 for more information. Tickets are only \$40.

Walla Walla Crush Run supports Children's Home Society

Experience the joy of running through the vineyards of the Walla Walla valley while supporting Children's Home Society of Washington. The rolling course consists of paved and dirt roads that loop around and through the vineyards, and you can choose between the 5K walk/run or 10K run.

Proceeds from this event help fund our Walla Walla family support services, child and family counseling, early learning programs, early head start, and parenting classes. Prizes will be given to male and female winners in seven age-group divisions and more than 75 prizes will be given away by random drawing, including fine Walla Walla wines, Brooks Sports shoe certificates, and gift certificates from local businesses. Free post-race refreshments will be also served.

Date/Time: 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012

Location: Pepper Bridge Farms (4013 Peppers Bridge Road, Walla Walla, WA)

Cost: \$15 to pre-register; \$20 for day of the event (Optional T-shirt available only to those who pre-register by Sept. 21)

Registration Closing Date: 11:59 (PST) Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012

<http://www.active.com/running/walla-walla-wa/walla-walla-crush-2012>

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals information session Oct. 22

The Spokane Field Office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will hold an information session regarding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals at the Walla Walla Public Library Monday, October 22. This information session will be in English and Spanish.

Information:

- Diana M. Wolder, Field Office Director

- 509.353.4699