

District Stories

- Patron Tour guest says Wa-Hi ready for facility improvement
- High Schools Facilities Improvement Plan Public Survey deadline - October 31
- "Fill the Bus" event hauls in food for the Care and Share Food Drive
- Health Center at Blue Ridge opens its doors

School Stories

- Walla Walla High School students receive Exchange Club of Walla Walla Youth of the Month awards
- Allison Wanichuk named Honoree of Arthritis Foundation Jingle Bell Run/Walk
- Whitman College students support Berney and Sharpstein projects for Make a Difference Day
- Prospect Point students to help Blue Mountain Humane Society for Make a Difference Day
- Trunk-or-Treat offers safe and fun Halloween experience
- Wa-Hi Debate team plans mock presidential debate
- Lincoln High School plans Fall Festival Halloween event

Community Stories

- Discover the history and traditions of The Day of the Dead celebration
- Staff and students perform in White Christmas at Little Theatre
- The Moms' Network Parent Workshop with Pediatrician, Dr. Trent Rogers
- YMCA's Halloween Spooktacular
- Space travel and tourism expert to speak at Whitman College

District Stories

Patron Tour guest says Wa-Hi ready for facility improvement

Superintendent Mick Miller held his fall Patron Tour Wednesday morning. Guests visited Green Park Elementary, Walla Walla High School and Lincoln High School during the tour. Superintendent Miller established the Patron Tour program to educate community members on school issues and develop positive community relations.

Parent and guest Nicole Redman says her tour of Walla Walla High School helped her see why the district is considering making improvements to the facility.

“It was a very valuable experience and time well spent,” Redman said. “The Wa-Hi visit had the most impact. For the first time I saw 25 to 30 students crammed in a very small space. Today, I really saw the need to update Walla Walla High School.”

The next Superintendent’s Patron Tour is Wednesday, Dec. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Guests will visit Edison Elementary, Walla Walla High School and Lincoln High School. Contact Communications Director Mark Higgins to sign up -- 509.526.6716 or mhiggins@wwps.org.

Patron Tour Guests:

- Susan Prudente
- Krista Davidson
- Jane Kaminsky
- Nicole Redman
- Abby Juhasz
- Katie Christianson
- Josh Gonzales
- Candi Walmsey
- Jeanne Beirne
- Jim Beirne
- Tera Davis
- Lynn Waldron
- Bill Erickson

High Schools Facilities Improvement Plan Public Survey deadline - October 31

Walla Walla Public Schools seeks public input on its high school facilities improvement plan. A survey is now available on the district website: www.wwps.org

The Community Facilities Task Force, chaired by citizen volunteer Dan Reid, has listed Walla Walla High School and Lincoln High School as the top priorities for district facilities improvements. The school district passed a bond for a new Edison Elementary School in 2007 and is now seeking input on Walla Walla High School and Lincoln High School. Both schools have significant facility needs. Improved classrooms, science labs, enhanced technology and outdated heating and cooling systems are among the greatest needs. Your input is highly valued and all responses will be reviewed by Superintendent Mick Miller. Thank you for taking time to learn more about this important issue.

“Fill the Bus” event hauls in food for the Care and Share Food Drive

Saturday’s “Fill the Bus” event netted 4380 pounds of food for the Blue Mountain Action Council Food Bank as part of the Realtors Care and Share Food Drive. Thanks to Lincoln High School teacher Lori Finn for organizing the event.

Albertsons - 1155 lbs

Super One - 1044 lbs

Harvest Foods - 802 lbs

Safeway Rose - 704 lbs

Safeway Plaza - 675 lbs

”Special thank you to the bus drivers who volunteered their time to drive buses, help collect food, and unload at BMAC!” said Finn. “We couldn’t have done this without all our volunteers!”

Health Center at Blue Ridge opens its doors

The Health Center at Blue Ridge opened its doors Thursday to provide supplemental student health care to children attending Blue Ridge Elementary, Walla Walla Head Start, and the Walla Walla Early Childhood Educational Assistance Program (ECEAP).

The Health Center at Blue Ridge will be open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. and serve P-5 students. The staff will share space with the Blue Ridge Health Clinician who provides service to the school during the morning hours. The school currently does not have coverage in the afternoon.

The new, school-based health care program at Blue Ridge is operated by the local non-profit, The Health Center, which also runs a clinic at Lincoln High School. At Blue Ridge, bilingual clinicians conduct visits in the existing school nurse's office, which is otherwise unused in the afternoons. Basic medical, laboratory, social support and case management services are available to all students who have pre-registered with The Health Center.

There is no charge for services, and no insurance or government documentation is required for registration. Stop by the front office at Blue Ridge, or call (509) 526-1798, for a dual-language registration packet and more information.

School Stories

Walla Walla High School students receive Exchange Club of Walla Walla Youth of the Month awards

Congratulations to Walla Walla High School seniors Quinn Anderson and Groover Snell for receiving Exchange Club of Walla Walla Youth of the Month Awards this month.

These students will also be eligible to compete for the Exchange Club of Walla Walla *Youth of the Year Award* and a special \$1,000 college scholarship. 2012-2013 Youth of the Year Theme: "*Youth Volunteerism: Working Magic in Our Communities.*" Mark Higgins is the Youth of the Month program coordinator.

Groover Snell – Walla Walla High School

- Parents: Kelly and Stephanie Snell

Groover has a 4.0 GPA at Walla Walla High School. He is president of the National Honor Society and a member of the school's Politics & Current Events Club. He is enrolled in four Advanced Placement courses this school year and completed four Advanced Placement courses last year. He plans to wrestle this winter. He is a member of the Walla Walla Symphony Youth Orchestra.

He has coached a Blue Mountain Girls Softball Association softball team for two seasons. He has volunteered at the Veterans Benefits Fair at Worksource Columbia Basin for two years and also at the Veterans' booth at the Columbia Cup hydroplane races. He plans to attend a four year college next year.

Quinn Anderson – Walla Walla High School

- Parents: Dina and David Anderson

Quinn has a 4.0 GPA at Walla Walla High School. She has had a 4.0 GPA since middle school. She is enrolled in Honors and Advanced Placement Classes in Geometry, Algebra, Calculus, and English. She is an accomplished musician and plays the cello. Quinn is the Online Editor-in-Chief for the Wa-Hi Journal. She competed at the National Journalism Convention last year.

She volunteers regularly at the PowerHouse Theater and she works at the Walla Walla Foundry. She enjoys traveling, cooking, long boarding and taking care of her 8-year-old Lab and her German Shepherd puppy. She has applied to Gonzaga, University of Idaho, and Eastern Washington to study civil engineering.

Allison Wanichek named Honoree of Arthritis Foundation Jingle Bell Run/Walk

Garrison Middle School student Allison Wanichek has been selected by the Arthritis Foundation to be the Honoree at their Inaugural Jingle Bell Run/Walk in the Tri-Cities on November 17. This morning she was interviewed on KVEW TV to talk about the event and the cause. Allison will be featured in the November/December issue of the Arthritis Today magazine. At age 10, Wanichek was diagnosed with juvenile idiopathic arthritis.

Whitman College students support Berney and Sharpstein projects for Make a Difference Day

Whitman College students will spend part of their Saturday at Berney and Sharpstein Elementary Schools for Make a Difference Day. Whitman students will be painting lines in the playground asphalt areas to support games like four-square and tetherball. At Sharpstein, students will pull weeds and do general campus clean up. Thanks so much to Whitman College for supporting district schools through this community outreach program.

Prospect Point students to help Blue Mountain Humane Society for Make a Difference Day

Saturday morning Prospect Point Elementary students will volunteer at the Blue Mountain Humane Society as part of Make a Difference Day. Teacher David Parodi coordinates the event. Students will be organizing donation areas and helping socialize the animals. All students and parent volunteers will take a private tour of the facility and its operations. Students will also donate items to help the animals, including shampoos, food and collars.

Trunk-or-Treat offers safe and fun Halloween experience

- Trunk-or-Treat is sponsored by Wa-Hi 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

Thanks so much to Key Club Advisor Shelley Mann for her years of service and passion for Trunk-or-Treat. Shelley puts in endless hours to coordinate this amazing community event. She is truly a Wa-Hi hero!

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.

Lincoln High School plans Fall Festival Halloween event

- Safe Trick or Treating event
- Wednesday, Oct. 31
- 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- Lincoln High School (Parking lot on 3rd Street)
- Open to the community
- The event is being coordinated by teacher Lori Finn

Community Stories

Discover the history and traditions of *The Day of the Dead* celebration

Discover the history and traditions of *The Day of the Dead* celebration through stories and folk crafts.

Saturday, October 27

- 2 p.m.
- Walla Walla Public Library (238 E. Alder Street)
- Phone: 527-4550
- wallawallapubliclibrary.org
- Sponsored by Kappa Kappa Gamma of Whitman College and the Public Library

Staff and students perform in White Christmas play at Little Theatre

Based on the beloved, timeless film, this heart-warming musical adaptation features seventeen Berlin songs and a script by David Ives and Paul Blake. Veterans Bob Wallace and Phil Davis have a successful song-and-dance act after World War II. With romance in mind, the two follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters en route to their Christmas show at a Vermont lodge, which just happens to be owned by Bob and Phil's former army commander.

- The show begins at 8 p.m. on Nov. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, & 24
- There will be a 2 p.m. matinee on Nov. 11 & 18
- Tickets are \$15

The four principle actors are all accomplished singers and Wa-hi graduates; Kolton Kolbaba, Richele Loney, Daniel Rose and Shauna Fletcher. Most of the cast and crew are current or former students or employees of Walla Walla Public Schools, including current students Breelyn Hess, Jordan Calhoun, and Kylee Wagner. Wa-Hi Mathematics Teacher William Calhoun will impress you with his singing and dancing, along with recent Wa-Hi graduates Dave Marr and Gregg Bradford.

Other Alumni include Alex Leeper, Eva Katsel, Tom & Veronica Klicker, Becky Hatley, Cate Lyons, Lynn Rose and Barb McKinney. Cari Wilton, Mike Rose and Rich Hinz have all worked in the Wa-Hi Drama Department.

The Moms' Network Parent Workshop with Pediatrician, Dr. Trent Rogers

The Moms' Network will host the final Parent Workshop of the year on Thursday November 8th with Walla Walla Clinic pediatrician Dr. Trent Rogers. The event will be at the Children's Museum of Walla Walla at 7pm. Families are welcome to bring their children during the lecture. The children will be supervised while exploring the museum so parents can participate in the workshop.

Dr. Rogers will discuss the current health status of the Walla Walla Valley and open up the lecture to questions and answers. "An evening with a local pediatrician is our most popular workshop" says Beth Swanson, President of The Moms' Network. "This is a chance to ask questions about your child's health or behavior and also listen to what other families are dealing with. We also thought it is a great way to support the Children's Museum."

The evening is a free community event. For more information contact Beth at 509-301-7471 or beth@themomsnetworkww.com. For more information on The Moms' Network visit www.themomsnetworkww.com.

YMCA's Halloween Spooktacular

- Wednesday, October 31
- 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- FREE community event

Activities include:

- Pumpkin Carving Contest
- Campfire for roasting s'mores and ghost stories
- Photo booth
- Trick-or-Treating
- Haunted House
- Bounce House
- "Brave" Archery Shoot
- Finding Nemo fish tank
- Cookie Walk
- Outside Haunted Scavenger Hunt
- Face Painting
- Much, Much More!!

For more information contact the YMCA at 525-8863

Space travel and tourism expert to speak at Whitman College

Learn more about space travel and space tourism with high-tech pioneer, philanthropist, and space traveler Dr. Charles Simonyi. He will share his personal experiences as one of the first private citizens to fly in space and take questions from the audience.

Space Tourist: Training and Mission

Thursday, November 1

4 to 5 p.m.

Whitman College, Olin Hall 130