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District Stories

School board public work session and board meeting Tuesday, Oct. 18

- 5:30 p.m.: Public Work Session (Replacement Levy discussion)
- 6:30 p.m.: Regularly scheduled school board meeting
- Location: Walla Walla Public Schools Board Room (364 S. Park Street)
- Both meetings open to the public

Public tours of Lincoln and Walla Walla High Schools next week via Superintendent's Patron Tour program

Superintendent Mick Miller is continuing his Superintendent's Patron Tour program Thursday, Oct. 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Guests will visit 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. 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

Superintendent's Patron Tour Schedule

- Thursday, October 20
- Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon
- Location: District Office (364 S. Park St.)
- Tour Walla Walla High School and Lincoln High School
- Lunch with Superintendent Miller

Sporleder guest speaker at Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Luncheon

The Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce will host its third quarterly luncheon for the year on October 19 at the Marcus Whitman Hotel and Conference Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The topic for this event is "Public Safety and Its Impact on the Business Community."

Guest Speakers include Walla Walla County Sheriff John Turner, Walla Walla Police Chief Chuck Fulton, and Jim Sporleder who is the Chair of the Implementation Committee of the Community Council's Task Force on Gang Prevention. Attendees will get a thorough briefing on the current state of public safety in the valley, the impact of increasing gang activity on the economy, and its relevance to the Walla Walla Valley business community. The luncheon is sponsored by Inland Cellular. Tickets are \$25 for Chamber members and \$30 for non members. Tickets must be reserved no later than October 14 by contacting the Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce at 509-525-0850.

Realtors "Care and Share" Food Drive in full swing this weekend - By Chair Peter Swant

The Walla Walla Association of Realtors are proud to announce Walla Walla Public Schools is partnering with the Realtors Association for the annual "Care and Share" Food Drive. Donations go to the Blue Mountain Action Council Food Bank to support those in need.

This weekend hundreds of people will be going door to door hanging orange bags for non-perishable food donations. Please get a little extra at the grocery store this week to help those in need.

Tomorrow district school buses will also be at area grocery stores from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the "Fill the Bus" campaign. We still need volunteers to staff these sites. Just go to Plaza Safeway, Harvest Foods, Super One or Albertsons during these times to help out.

Thank you for supporting the Walla Walla Association of Realtors "Care & Share" Annual Food Drive. You are making a difference for our community.

Citizens for Schools Meeting - Thursday, Oct. 27

Citizens for Schools chairs Peter Swant and Shauna Bogley are scheduling a Walla Walla Citizens for Schools meeting Thursday, Oct. 27 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Whitman College in Memorial Room 328. This meeting is open to the public.

The mission of this non-profit, community organization is to ensure Walla Walla Public Schools have the resources and support necessary to provide essential educational programs and activities to Walla Walla children. Bogley and Swant will focus their attention on the district's 2012 Replacement Levy. Their efforts will help educate the community on the levy — which funds nearly 20 percent of the district's general fund budget.

Citizens for Schools Meeting:

- Thursday, Oct. 27
- Whitman College Memorial Building - Room 328
- 6:30 to 8 p.m.
- Front door will be open
- Those wishing to volunteer are encouraged to attend

Voter registration materials at all district schools

Parent and Walla Walla community members may pick up voter registration forms in both English and Spanish at all district schools and the district office. Voter turn out for residents with school-aged children remains low in Walla Walla. Contact a school secretary or Communications Director Mark Higgins for more information about receiving voter registration materials.

Friends school-based program comes to Blue Ridge Elementary

Opportunity to mentor a child in a school setting

Walla Walla Public Schools is teaming with the *Friends* program to offer a school-based mentoring program. The “*Friends* Blue Ridge ABC Program” requires adult volunteers to commit to just one hour per week for the school-year.

Volunteers meet with their young friends in a safe environment on the Blue Ridge Elementary school grounds during lunch or after school. Children range from grades 1-5 and enjoy spending time with their adult friends engaging in diverse activities, including reading, board games, sports, tag, and art projects. Even though all contact takes place at school, there are no specific academic goals to achieve—the focus is simply on developing a friendship.

Program Summary:

- *Friends* school-based program now offered at Blue Ridge Elementary
- Three sessions available daily: lunch time, 3 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 5 p.m.
- 18 student program (ages 6 to 11)
- One hour per week time commitment
- Two hour (one-time) training requirement
- Adult volunteers must be at least 18 years old

Program Contacts:

Dr. Mark G. Brown, Friends Executive Director
(509) 527-4745
www.wallawallafriends.org

Kim Doepker, Blue Ridge Principal
509.527.3066 / kdoepker@wwps.org

Superintendent Miller conducts first Calendar Committee Meeting

Wednesday night Superintendent Mick Miller held his first district Calendar Committee meeting. Miller explained the purpose of the committee is to help identify priorities for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school year calendars. Committee members reviewed packets of past calendars and conducted group activities to list and report their top priorities. Miller will use this information to mock up calendar options for review and discussion.

Committee members will share these options with their contacts and obtain feedback. Miller has scheduled the next meeting for Wednesday, Nov. 2 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the district office. He hopes to take a recommendation to the school board prior to the winter break.

If you would like to share your ideas or priorities regarding the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school year calendars, contact Superintendent Miller at 526-6714 or mmiller@wwps.org or Communications Director Mark Higgins at 526-6716 or mhiggins@wwps.org.

Retired Educators Association announces scholarship opportunity

- (Two) \$1000 scholarship from the Walla Walla-Columbia County Retired School Employees Association
- Given to prospective teachers or candidates in other school related fields who will student teach or do an internship experience in an educational setting
- Applicants must be a high school graduate in Walla Walla or Columbia County
- Student teach/internship between September 2012 and June 2013
- Applications available November 1, 2011 and must be submitted by April 1, 2012
- Contact: Mardel Bierwagen at: 525-6117 or gbierwagen6117@charter.net

New secretary to the Director of Special Education named

Congratulations to Marianne O'Leary who has accepted the Secretary to the Director of Special Education position. She replaces Kim Locken who recently accepted a position in the Curriculum Department. O'Leary will report to Karen Lehman.

District partners with The Moms' Network for free Parent Workshop Series

Your Child's Health

- Wednesday, November 9 @ 7 p.m.
- YMCA
- Dr. Trent Rogers, Pediatrician, Walla Walla Clinic
- Free child care and translation services available

Reserve your spot by contacting Beth Swanson at 509.301.7471 or beth@themomsnetworkww.com

School Stories

Senior football players go above and beyond for Care and Share Food Drive

Congratulations to Simon Quackenbush, Joel McClure, Rob Frenz, Richard Jimenez and Matt Rothstrom for collecting their own weight in canned goods for the Walla Walla Realtors Association Care and Share Food Drive. These outstanding senior football players gathered more than 1,000 pounds of food for the event.

"We can be proud of the young men for their efforts to give to those in need," said teacher Shelley Mann who is serving as the Walla Walla High School coordinator for the Care and Share Food Drive.

Walla Walla High School Culinary class supports Italian Heritage Dinner

Students in the Walla Walla High School Culinary class, with the assistance of many student volunteers, successfully cooked and served dinner Saturday evening for more than 450 people at the annual Italian Heritage Dinner.

Students began the preparation through an internship experience at Jacobi's Cafe with the assistance of Vince Cannone and his staff. Final preparations were done at the Senior Center and Walla Walla Fairgrounds Community Center.

"This year was the ninth year the culinary class has worked on the event," said teacher Barbara Buttice. "Each year the numbers of ticket sales has increased. This year the dinner was sold out by Wednesday prior to the event. The Culinary students would like to thank the Walla Walla School District and the community for all the support given to them to make this experience possible."

Freshman earns Walla Walla High School Cadet of the Month honors

The Walla Walla High School JROTC "Blue Devils" Cadet Battalion has selected its "Cadet of the Month" for September 2011 and rewarded his achievement with an immediate promotion. Cadet Private First Class Jose Romo, a 15 year old freshman, was promoted to this new rank after he won the top spot with a total score of 72 points, according to the presiding official on the board.

The top Cadet was selected from three candidates who were inspected and examined in oral interviews by a board of four advanced cadets, according to Lt. Col. Bill Bialozor, Senior Army Instructor for the Walla Walla High School's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program. Romo said that he joined JROTC because he wants to prepare for service in the Army. He plans to go to college and then enlist in the Army after he graduates.

"His strongest competitive category was his self confidence," said Cadet Command Sgt. Maj. Malachi Matthews. "This Cadet of the Month was a close match, since the cadets' performances were outstanding."

First runner up was Cadet Private Salvador Rubio, a 14 year old freshman, whose strongest suit was knowledge. He came in second with 60 points.

Second runner up was Cadet Private Jerome Samson, a 14 year old freshman whose strongest suit was his bearing. He came in third with 54 points.

"After the board tallied the points and the winner was clear, we held a ceremony to promote the winning cadet one rank higher, to recognize him for his hard work and personal success," said Bialozor.

Wa-Hi JROTC cadets participate in the program to develop leadership skills and to strive to be better citizens in society. Many cadets compete with drill, marksmanship, and physical training teams as well as attend the class. These cadets get to travel to and compete in drill meets at 16 other schools in the Cascade Division that include Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Navy cadet programs.

Choral Department presents "Music of the Civil War Era"

The Walla Walla High School Choral Department will present a Fall Concert on Thursday, October 27 at 7 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. The program will feature "Music of the Civil War Era." Music will include African-American Spirituals, Folk Songs and songs of War and Remembrance. Compositions include Stephen Foster's "Nelly Bly," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "Ride On, King Jesus," Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier," "Tenting on the Old Campground," "Shenandoah," "Ride the Chariot," "Goober Peas," and "The Drinking Gourd." Emily Schueller, violinist, will be featured on "The Ashokan Farewell."

Choirs will include the Concert Choir, Chansons, Chamber Singers, Treble Ensemble, and WaHi's newest ensemble: Belles Voix (French for "Beautiful Voice"). This group is comprised of 16 Junior and Senior young women. This program will also feature some singers from the community. The choirs are under the direction of Norbert Rossi and accompanied by Melissa Cadieux.

More than 100 families participate in Blue Ridge Celebration of Learning event

Last week 123 families attended the Blue Ridge Celebration of Learning event. Families were treated to dinner and a presentation by Principal Kim Doepker. The presentation entitled, *Blue Ridge, Our Story* included information about the Dual Language Program, Platooning, Morning Exercises, and a break-down of test scores—all to illustrate to parents and families the steps the staff at Blue Ridge are taking to ensure success for all students. During the dinner, which was served by volunteers from the Wa-Hi Latino Club, Lincoln High School, and Whitman College, several raffles were held and winners took home beautiful Autumn flower arrangements as well as Blue Ridge t-shirts.

After dinner, students, siblings, and parents visited classrooms to meet and conference with teachers. In each classroom staff provided hands-on activities such as math games, and science experiments for families to enjoy as they awaited their turn to meet with teachers and set goals for student progress for the 2011-12 school year. Each student was able to select a free book to take home.

Prospect Point 5th grade students lead World Arthritis Day awareness activity

The PALS students at Prospect Point recently organized a wear “BLUE DAY” October 12 to celebrate World Arthritis Day. World Arthritis Day is dedicated to increasing the awareness of the 100 plus forms of arthritis and how it impacts the lives of so many friends and family members. Students wore blue because the color of arthritis is blue.

PALS stands for Peer And Leadership Support. The group is made up of a select group of 5th grade students. The mission of PALS is to make new students feel welcomed into the school and to make Prospect Point a more kind and friendly environment. PALS is organized and run by 5th grade teacher Kate VanCleve.

Walla Walla High School band students selected to honors festival

Congratulations to the following Walla Walla High School band students for being selected to the 2011 Western International Band Clinic (WIBC) honor band festival in Seattle Nov. 18-21. The students were selected by MP3 audition. The festival features four concert bands of approximately 165 students each or a total of 660 students. These outstanding musicians were selected from a group exceeding 900 entries from students all over the U.S. and Canada.

Honor Band Recipients:

- Reilly Beckstrand freshman french horn (1st time)
- Sam Gentzler junior clarinet (2nd time)
- Hannah LaPier junior clarinet (1st time)
- Michelle Ruzicka junior clarinet (3rd time)
- Rachel Schueller junior flute (2nd time)
- Ashley Taylor senior trumpet (2nd time)
- McKelle Wilwand senior flute (2nd time)
- Amy Ueckert senior clarinet (4th time)

Trunk-or-Treat offers safe and fun Halloween experience

- Trunk-or-Treat is sponsored by Key Club

- Trunk-or-Treat from cars that Wa-Hi clubs have decorated

- Monday, October 31 from 5 to 7 p.m.

- Wa-Hi Science Parking lot

- Haunted Barn sponsored by FFA

- Admission is two cans of food for donation to the Christian Aid Center Food Bank

Parents of Walla Walla High School seniors invited to Senior Presentation Information Nights

These nights will help parents understand the Senior Presentation requirements, schedule and deadlines. All parents who have a Walla Walla High School senior are encouraged to attend.

- Tuesday, October 25 at 6 p.m. in the Commons
- Monday, November 14 at 6 p.m. in the Commons

For more information:

- Mark Pickel, Assistant Principal
- Phone: 509.527.3020 ext.8602
- Fax: 509.527.3034
- Email: mpickel@wwps.org

Walla Walla High School and Washington State University GEAR UP host College and Career Family Event

- October 17
- 5:15 to 7:30 p.m.
- Free pizza dinner

Walla Walla High School and WSU GEAR UP are hosting college representatives and career resource representatives from across Washington State in a College and Resource Fair at the Walla Walla High School Commons Monday, Oct. 17 from 5:15 to 7:30 p.m. Along with the career and college readiness resources there will also be three breakout sessions with information for parents and students.

Breakout Sessions

- Advance Placement vs Head Start
- WOIS Connecting Interest to College and Careers
- AVID Parent Advocacy

Event Schedule

College and Career Family night will begin at 5:15 p.m. at the Walla Walla High School Commons and will end at 7:30 p.m. A pizza dinner will be provided for all attendees, Monday evening.

Daytime Presenters and College Fair attendees:

- Central Washington University
- Eastern Washington University
- University of Washington
- Washington State University Tri-Cities
- Walla Walla University
- Walla Walla Community College

Evening College Fair attendees:

- Washington State University - Pullman
- Whitman College
- St Martin's University

About GEAR UP

Washington State University GEAR UP, which is located on campus at Walla Walla High School, involves a variety of innovative partnerships and initiatives to support students in college and career readiness skills.

For more information contact the GEAR UP office located at Walla Walla High School:

Becky Waggoner
509-526-8621
bwaggoner@wwps.org

Community Stories

Return to the River Salmon Festival Saturday at Walla Walla Community College

The 3rd annual Return to the River Salmon Festival will be held Saturday, October 15 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the William A. Grant Water & Environmental Center at Walla Walla Community College. The event celebrates the return of salmon to the Walla Walla River Basin. For nearly 80 years, salmon did not return to the Walla Walla River because of low stream flows and physical barriers. As a result of the efforts of many, salmon have been returning for the last several years. The event is presented by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) and Walla Walla Community College. Corporate sponsors include Pacificorp Company and the Wildhorse Foundation.

Return to the River includes interactive exhibit booths, “FIN” the 25’ salmon, a tepee, and a colorful salmon tent. A barbecue salmon luncheon will be served from noon to 1:30 p.m. with a tribal dance performance. Cost for the luncheon is \$10 for salmon and \$5 for hotdogs (children’s menu). All other activities are free.

Six watershed symposiums will be presented. From 11 to 11:45 a.m., Eric Quaempts, Director of CTUIR Department of Natural Resources will present on “First Foods: A Cultural Approach to Management of Natural Resources” and Cathy Schaeffer, Executive Director of the Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership will present on “Water Issues: Local Water Management and Water Rights Innovations.” From 1 to 1:45 p.m. Brian Burns, Project Manager with Tri-State Steelheaders, will present an update on “Mill Creek In-stream Work Project” and Carl Scheeler, Wildlife Program Manager at CTUIR, will report on a “Big Game and Cougar Research Project.” At 2 p.m. Brian Mahoney, fisheries biologist for CTUIR, will report on local fisheries research and Lynn and Bob Tompkins of Blue Mountain Wildlife will present on birds of prey and their role in the environment. They will bring live raptors.

K-12 outreach staff of the Water & Environmental will be running a children’s corner to allow parents with children to attend the watershed symposiums.

For more information go to: www.returntotheriver.org

Friends of the Library present the “Books and Baubles” sale

- October 27-29 (Thursday - Saturday)
- 1 to 5 p.m.
- Walla Walla Public Library Board Room (228 E. Alder)
- More than 50 autographed books from a nationally known author available
- Premium candy, candles and special blend coffee
- Profits help support the Walla Walla Public Library

Walla Walla Police Department plans Prescription Pill Take Back event

The City of Walla Walla Police Department is partnering with American West Bank for the Prescription Take Back Day / Shred Event Saturday, October 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: American West Parking lot at 3rd and Rose St (across from City Hall 15 N. 3rd)

- Drive up and Drop off service...
- Drugs accepted NO questions asked!
- No needles, sharps or syringes!
- No mercury thermometers!
- No oxygen containers!
- No pressured canisters!
- No chemotherapy/radioactive substances!

Vicki Ruley, Crime Prevention Coordinator/Crime Victim Advocate
509-524-4409

Walla Walla Police Department offers free shredding of sensitive documents

Protect your identity by shredding sensitive documents!

- Old bank statements
- Old canceled checks and bank statements
- Tax and medical records
- Anything with your personal information
- Limited to two grocery bags or two legal size boxes.

Also, donate your cell phone to the 911 cell phone bank so a victim of domestic violence and or a senior citizen may call for help!

Vicki Ruley, Crime Prevention Coordinator/Crime Victim Advocate
509-524-4409

Sheriff Turner promotes Walla Walla County Reserve Deputy Sheriff program

- Informational meetings: Tuesday, Oct. 25 and Wednesday, Oct. 26
- 7 p.m.
- Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office (240 West Alder Street)
- Learn more about Reserve Deputy program and how to apply
- Both meetings will be held at the Sheriff's Office, 240 West Alder Street, Walla Walla (Alder & 4th).
- Feel free to invite family or friends who may also be interested

John A. Turner, Walla Walla County Sheriff
(509) 524-5400
jturner@co.walla-walla.wa.us