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- District staff and students featured in local play *The Hobbit*
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- Baker Boyer Ducky Derby welcomes Relay for Hope child abuse prevention event

## **May is Partners in Learning Month**

*District names "Partners of the Year"*

Tuesday night Superintendent Mick Miller and members of the school board paid tribute to area businesses and agencies as part of Partners in Learning Month. School Board President Max Carerra read a proclamation and thanked the more than 100 district partners. They will also receive a thank you letter and proclamation from the school district.

The district also honored three Partners of the Year. This year the Washington State Penitentiary, Total Office Concepts and the YMCA were named the 2011-2012 recipients.

"We want to take time to offer a special thank you to three of our valued Partners in Learning who help the district achieve Excellence in Every Classroom," Superintendent Mick Miller said. "Each of these partners offers unique experiences and opportunities for our students and staff. It is the continued support of these partners which ensure all Walla Walla children have opportunities for success. Our vision is Excellence in Every Classroom and these partners help us put this statement into practice."

Washington State Penitentiary: Steve Sinclair, Superintendent

- "Great Pumpkin" deliveries to area schools each October
- Back to school supplies drive
- Coat drive to help keep our kids safe and warm
- Offer community outreach for Lincoln High School's homeless students
- Creek beautification project near Pioneer Middle School

Total Office Concepts: Mark Carlile, Owner and President

- Manages the district's copiers through the state's contract
- Provide exceptional and timely customer service and competitive pricing
- Recently donated thousands of pieces of paper to the district

YMCA: Randy Grant, Executive Director

- The Walla Walla YMCA offers students and staff fitness programs
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade swimming program helps ensure our students learn to swim
- Homelink program was invited to use the YMCA facility this year
- The Citizens for Schools levy rally was held at the YMCA
- Senior party will be held at the YMCA in June

## **Walla Walla teachers earn national certificates**

Walla Walla Public Schools teachers Anne Bickelhaupt (Walla Walla High School), Kerri Tucker (Walla Walla High School), and Brandi McIntire (Lincoln High School) earned certification through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBTPS). Walla Walla Public Schools has 43 teachers nationally certified. There are nearly 4000 statewide.

"I have a huge support system around me which I'm very thankful for as I wouldn't be where I'm at today without it," McIntire said. "I will continue to be very reflective in what I'm doing each day to make sure I'm meeting the needs of all my students."

Source: NBTPS

National Board Certification is an advanced teaching credential. It complements, but does not replace, a state's teacher license. It is valid for 10 years. The assessments include four portfolio entries that feature teaching practice and six constructed response exercises that assess content knowledge.

## **Snow Make-Up May 11, 2012**

Reminder! School will be in session Friday, May 11. This is a make-up date for the January 18 closure due to an ice storm. Friday, May 11 will be a full day of school. All after school activities will be on a normal school day schedule as well.

### **Garrison and Wa-Hi receive state achievement awards**

Tuesday night, Education Service Director 123 Superintendent Dr. Bruce Hawkins presented Garrison Middle School and Walla Walla High School 2011 Washington Achievement Awards.

In February, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education announced this year's recipients. The awards aim to celebrate top-performing schools which have made improvements over time and in multiple categories.

#### 2011 Washington Achievement Awards

- Garrison Middle School: Improvement
- Walla Walla High School: Extended Graduation Rate

"It is gratifying to have schools and programs receive acknowledgment for their improvement," said Superintendent Mick Miller. "Our staff members deeply care for their kids and are working to help improve the achievement of each student."

### **Personnel Report (from May 1, 2012 school board meeting)**

#### Employment

(Certificated)

Russell Carroll, Bilingual Second Grade, Blue Ridge Elementary

Rachelle Cristobal, PE Specialist (Temp.), Pioneer Middle School

Diane Gray-Chamberlain, Choral Music (.5FTE), Pioneer Middle School

Mario Uribe Saldana, Bilingual 5th grade, Edison

(Classified)

Jennifer Avina, Para-Educator, Blue Ridge Head Start/ECEAP

#### Resignation/Retirement

(Certificated)

Jeanne Bailey, Learning Specialist, Green Park, 1 year

*(resignation effective at the end of the 2011-2012 school year)*

Alicia Quackenbush, School Psychologist, Special Programs, 4 years

*(Alicia is resigning a .4 FTE and will continue as a .6 FTE School Psychologist)*

Julie White, School Psychologist, Special Programs, 8 years

*(resignation effective at the end of the 2011-2012 school year)*

(Classified)

Michael Lorang, Custodian, Pioneer Middle School/Wa-Hi, 9 years

*(resignation effective April 20, 2012)*

Karen Shafer, Nutrition Services Assistant, Wa-Hi, 7 years

*(resignation/retirement is effective at the end of the 2011-2012 school year)*

#### Leave of Absence

(Certificated)

Jeremy Hubbard, Math Coach, Blue Ridge Elementary, 11 years

*(Leave from his third grade teaching position for the 2012-2013 school year to continue as Math Coach)*

Mary Schumacher, English, Walla Walla High School, 23 years

*(For the 2012-2013 school year)*

(Classified)

Renee Gaytan, Para-Educator, Sharpstein, 4 years

*(For the 2012-13 school year)*

#### Staff Transfer:

Barbara Casey will transfer from Green Park to Prospect Point as a Special Education teacher beginning with the 2012-2013 school year.

## School Stories

### **District celebrates Cinco de Mayo**

Several schools and clubs are planning celebrations for Cinco de Mayo. The district values diversity and strives to promote cultural awareness.

#### Green Park Cinco de Mayo Event

Green Park Elementary Spanish Teachers and PTA are hosting a Cinco de Mayo celebration on Friday, May 4. Principal Mr. Lambert has organized a Mariachi band to perform and then during recess there are seven stations set up for students including; salsa making, tortilla making, salsa dancing and soccer. The Spanish teachers Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs, Mrs. Razo, and Mrs. Bess have organized classroom parents to help at the stations. At the school's Family Fun Night on Tuesday April 24 with PictureLab, students, parents and staff decorated piñatas for each class that will be broken during the class recess time.

#### Sharpstein Cinco de Mayo Event

Sharpstein students and staff have worked hard over the last three weeks preparing for today's event. The students have created colorful costumes for the celebration at 1:30 p.m.

#### Walla Walla High School hosts Cinco de mayo Celebration

Saturday May 5

Walla Walla High School Commons

4:30 to 10 p.m.

On Saturday, May 5, the Walla Walla High School Latino Club, AVID and WSU Gear Up are sponsoring a Cinco de mayo celebration in the Walla Walla High School Commons area. The festival will feature a career and activity fair as part of the celebration. The fair will include many community partners, colleges, universities, and school clubs.

Dinner will be provided by El Sombrero for the first 500 people who attend the event. Music will feature music by Mariachi Huenachi and will include performances by local groups and school programs with additional music provided by Luz y Sonido Elegante. The activity fair will include information tables and activities that families or children would enjoy. Those activities will be from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

### **Walla Walla High School student invited to University of Washington Math Academy**

Walla Walla High School junior Kelsey Gabel was selected to attend the highly competitive University of Washington Mathematics Academy. This month long program is sponsored by the university Engineering Department. Gabel received one of 30 slots for program which will be held this summer on the campus of the University of Washington. Gabel wrote two essays and submitted several teacher and counselor recommendations as part of the application process.

“Kelsey is an outstanding student at Walla Walla High School who has earned a 3.93 grade point average,” said Jeanne Ruecker, Walla Walla High School school counselor. “He has excelled in math and science and has taken the initiative to pursue his interests outside the classroom. Kelsey has taken numerous Honors and Advanced Placement courses and is a member of the high school orchestra, the Walla Walla Youth Symphony and the National Honor Society. He hopes to become an aerospace engineer.”

More information about the UW Math Academy program is available online:

<http://www.engr.washington.edu/alumcomm/mathacademy.html>

Gabel has also applied for the week long Washington Aerospace Scholars Program. He will learn later this month if he is accepted.

More information about the Washington Aerospace Scholars Program is available online:

<http://www.museumofflight.org/was>

### **Walla Walla High School students named Washington Scholars**

Walla Walla High School seniors Gregory Heller and Kyle Jameson were named Washington Scholars. The Washington Scholars program recognizes the accomplishments of four high school students in each of the state's 49 legislative districts, three Washington Scholars and one Washington Scholar-Alternate.

Principals of in-state public and private high schools nominate the top one percent of their graduating class for Washington Scholars recognition on the basis of academic achievement, leadership, and community service. Because of reduced state revenues, the state's biennial budget does not include monetary awards for new Washington Scholars in 2011 and 2012.

**Kyle Jameson – Walla Walla High School**

- Parents: Kirk and Lori Jameson
- 4.0 GPA
- National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalist
- Advanced Placement Scholar (advanced courses in Calculus, Chemistry, Physics and US History)
- Student athlete (football, basketball, track & field and rifle)
- Boy Scout and president of the 4H Club
- Professional interests: electrical, civil engineering, computer science
- Post Secondary: Air Force Academy (will participate on the academy precision shooting rifle team)

**Gregory Heller – Walla Walla High School**

- Parents: Cheryl and Stan Heller
- GPA: 3.99
- National Merit Commended Student
- Advanced Placement Scholar
- AP classes: Chemistry, English Language and Comp., Calculus AB, Psychology, US History, Physics, Calculus BC, - - English Literature and Comp.
- Activities: Boy Scouts, church youth group, middle school math tutor, Future Business Leaders of America, Cross Country, Track, Band, National Honor Society
- Post Secondary: Bates College to study economics and engineering

### **Prospect Point students win bikes from Bicycle Barn**

More than 100 children participated in Prospect Point's Bike Rodeo, on Saturday April 28. Students rotated through a course that was designed to focus on a variety of bicycle safety skills including controlled braking, balancing, and the use of correct hand signals. The children were also able to gain valuable on-the-road experience. Once completing all ten stations, students were entered to win one of two bicycles from the Bicycle Barn. Winners of the bikes were Chase Braunel and J.P. Huntsman.

Thank you to the Bicycle Barn, Whitman College's Cycling Team, Fire District #4, the Walla Walla Police Department, YMCA, BMAC- AmeriCorps, Walla Walla County Works, and Prospect Point's parents and staff. Without their support, this event would not have been possible. This activity was an element of Prospect Point's education plan requirement for the Safe Routes to Schools grant Walla Walla County received to improve Reser Road.

### **Wa-Hi Boys Track team takes conference title**

This week the Walla Walla High School Boy's Track team defeated Wenatchee 72-73 to complete an undefeated season and claim their 6th league championship in the last seven years and 9th in the last twelve years.

"It was an exciting meet with some outstanding clutch performances by our athletes," said Don Wilkins, district athletic director. "Our girls team also defeated Wenatchee and Davis to finish the season in second place. Congratulations athletes and coaches on a great season."

### **Walla Walla High School seniors place second in national WordMasters program**

Two teams of students representing Walla Walla High School recently won highest honors in this year's WordMasters Challenge, a national competition for high school students requiring close reading and analysis of many different kinds of prose and poetry. Participating with 548 school teams from all across the country, the school's ninth graders tied for seventh place in the nation in the year's fourth meet, held in April. At the same time, its twelfth graders placed second in the nation.

Students who achieved outstanding results in the meet included freshmen Bryn Chacon, Emily Prull, Mattie Bialozor, Kaitlyn Calhoun, Jennifer Cho, and Lara Smith; junior Peter Tucker; and seniors Marisa Huffman, Emily Schueller, Alexander Brittain, Meth Meyer, Amanda Price, and Ashley Taylor. Peter Tucker, Marisa Huffman, and Emily Schueller all earned perfect scores, while in the entire country only 40 eleventh and twelfth graders did so. More than 54,000 students from across the country (and from four foreign nations) participated in the meet. The students were supervised by Lori Dohe.

The premise behind the WordMasters Challenge is that attentive reading and sensitivity to language are among the most important skills students acquire in school. The texts students must analyze for the Challenge can range from short fiction by Eudora Welty or John Steinbeck to poetry as old as Shakespeare's or as recent as Margaret Atwood's, and to essays as classic as E. B. White's or as current as a Time opinion piece by James Poniewozik. Though the texts vary widely in voice, subject, tone, and length, they have one thing in common: style. All use language skillfully to convey layers and shades of meaning not always apparent to students on a first or casual reading. Like the questions on the verbal SAT I, the SAT II in English Literature, and the Advanced Placement exams in both English Language and English Literature, the questions posed by the WordMasters Challenge ask students both to recognize the emotional and/or rational logic of a piece of writing and to notice the ways in which a writer's style shapes and shades his meaning. Because the WordMasters Challenge is a classroom activity and not a college-entrance exam, however, it can be a learning experience, not just a high hurdle. After completing a Challenge, classes are encouraged to talk about the texts and the answers to the multiple-choice questions, and are also given additional topics for open-ended discussion and/or written response.

The texts for the fourth Wordmasters meet this year were a poem by John Updike paired with a prose piece by Verlyn Klinkenborg for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders and a short story by Graham Greene for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Now that all four of the year's meets have been completed, medals and certificates will be awarded to those who achieved and/or progressed the most in the course of the year.

### **Whitman College professors and students enhance science education at Blue Ridge**

Professors and students from the Science Department at Whitman College have been working with Blue Ridge teacher Kristen Garcia's 3rd and 4th grade science classes this spring to enhance learning opportunities.

Kurt Hoffman, Professor of Physics, was in the classroom on May 1 and today to conduct hands-on physics activities with students. Mark Juhasz, Professor of Chemistry, plans to visit her classroom on May 14 to make liquid nitrogen ice cream. Zach Schierl and Andrew Patel, both senior Geology students, will be in her classroom on May 7 to study rocks with the students..

Delbert Hutchison, Professor of Biology, spent the day at Blue Ridge Monday with his pet lizard and snake. Nathaniel Paust, Professor of Astronomy, went to Blue Ridge earlier this year to talk about his career in astronomy.

"Kristen contacted us this past summer asking for visiting scientists and the faculty have been very excited to be involved," said Mary Burt, Whitman College School Science Outreach Coordinator. "I was very impressed by her classes. Everyone of her students said that they 'love science' and were very excited to show me their lab notebooks and explain the investigations they had undertaken during the year. Kristen is doing an amazing job!"

### **Lincoln High School Choir to perform locally**

The Lincoln High School choir will be performing at the school board meeting May 15 at 6:30 p.m. and on June 6 at the WWCC China Pavilion at 6:30 p.m.



### **Shafer and McMenemy to lead public library mural improvements**

Walla Walla Public Library and Walla Walla Public Schools are partnering with Jeanne McMenemy and Vicki Shafer to redo the Public Library Mural

Youth Artists needed!

If you would like to be one of the artists and you are a public school student in 1st to 8th grade, please sign up for one of the following classes:

Berney Homelink Art Room (Instructor: Vicki Shafer)

Wednesday, May 9 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 16 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 23 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

To sign up, please contact Lisa Davis, secretary at Berney Elementary at 526-853. If you have any questions, you can contact me Vicki Shafer through email - [vshafer@wwps.org](mailto:vshafer@wwps.org) or ph.520-8286

### **Chamber Singers and Treble Ensemble vocal groups receive “Superior” ratings at regional festival**

The Walla Walla High School Chamber Singers and Treble Ensemble participated in the Columbia Basin Community College Choir Festival April 20. The festival included choirs from across the Northwest competing in several divisions. The festival featured an “Honors Showcase” concert.

Treble Ensemble received a “Superior” rating and took First Place in the “Non-Mixed Division” for the second year in a row. They were selected to perform in the Honors Showcase for their rendition of “My Johnny’s a Soldier.” “This performance demonstrated excellent choral fundamentals coupled with expressive communication of a powerful text,” according to judges Frank Eychaner and Nathan Lansing.

Chamber Singers also received a “Superior” rating for their performance. They were also selected to perform in the Honors Showcase by judges Janet Reiter and Reginald Unterseher. Chamber Singers were asked to perform “Esto les digo” by Kinley Lange and “Lebenslust” by Franz Schubert because “They demonstrated creative placement of singers, and included an example of the standard classical literature as well as singing in multiple languages.”

“Our students did an outstanding job at this festival. Their hard work and dedication are indicative of the kind of people they are,” said director Norbert Rossi. The groups were accompanied by Melissa Cadieux.

### **Walla Walla High School Drama and Music Programs Present: Rogers and Hammerstein’s *‘The Sound of Music’***

Tickets are on sale at the Walla Walla High School Performing Arts Box Office. Get them now! Many have already been sold in large blocks, so make sure to give yourself choices by getting them early.

Box Office Hours: 4 to 6 p.m. weekdays and one hour prior to shows. (Box Office phone: 509.526.8613)

(Please note: All tickets reserved in ‘Will Call’ need to be picked up 24 hours prior to the show date)

‘Sound of Music’ Show Dates:

May 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 @ 7 p.m.

May 5 & 12 matinees @ 2 p.m.

During *The Sound of Music*’s Broadway premiere season 45 years ago, which starred Mary Martin, one critic wrote, “The new Rodgers and Hammerstein show has a warm-hearted, unashamedly sentimental and strangely gentle charm that is wonderfully endearing.”

After being transformed into a Hollywood classic starring Julie Andrews, which celebrates its 47th anniversary this year, the original musical by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II became even more popular. Children and adults continue to fall in love with Fraulein Maria as she wins over the Von Trapp family. Families will delight in *The Sound of Music* classics “Do-Re-Mi,” “Sixteen Going on Seventeen,” “Edelweiss” and “Climb Every Mountain.”

**Walla Walla High School and Alternative Education Programs (WWCC) seniors receive Exchange Club of Walla Walla Youth of the Year awards**

Congratulations to Alternative Education Program (located at Walla Walla Community College) senior Christopher Neal and to Walla Walla High School senior Emily Schueller for receiving Exchange Club of Walla Walla Youth of the Year Awards for the 2011-2012 school year.

These students each receive \$1,000 college scholarships. They will now be entered into the district-level competition against students from throughout the Northwest.

The 2011-2012 Youth of the Year Theme:

“All Aboard! Today’s Youth, Strengthening America One Community at a Time.”

Youth of the Year Selection Committee

- Doug Case
- Kim Armentrout
- Tina Bradbury
- Jim Bock
- Rich Eagon

(Committee Chair: Mark Higgins)

Christopher Neal: Alternative Education Program – Walla Walla Community College

Chris Neal is the son of Michael and Terri Neal. He will graduate with Honors from the Alternative Education Program this June with both an AA degree and his high school diploma. Chris plans to transfer in the fall to Eastern Washington University and pursue a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice.

An outstanding student, Chris made the President’s and Vice President’s List every quarter. He is an active member of the 2012 All-Washington Community College Academic Team. While in the Alternative Education Program at WWCC, Chris was nominated for the Neil M. Palmer Outstanding Research Paper Award and accepted to the Sherwood Trust Community Leadership Program.

Emily Schueller – Walla Walla High School

Walla Walla High School senior Emily Schueller is the daughter of Laura and Albert Schueller. Schueller maintains a perfect 4.0 GPA and is a National Merit recipient. Emily is an Advanced Placement Scholar having taken advanced courses in History, Government, Biology, Physics, Spanish, Calculus and Literature.

She participates in music and drama programs at Walla Walla High School and has been playing the violin since age seven. Schueller is on the school’s tennis team. She volunteers for the Blue Mountain Humane Society by helping cats get ready for adoption at the local Petco store. She also helps her mother organize and support the Elementary Math-a-thon contest.

Emily plans on attending USC to study environmental engineering to design new green technology.

**Walla Walla Public Schools Senior Party**

- Theme: “Welcome to the Real World”
- Friday, June 1 following Walla Walla High School graduation
- 9:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. at the YMCA
- All seniors encouraged to attend!

Families are encouraged to donate \$35 for their student’s party. Make checks payable to “Senior Party” and mail to or drop-off at Wa-Hi (800 Abbott Road) or Lincoln High School (421 S. 4th). Tickets will be available in the Wa-Hi and Lincoln High School office the week of graduation. Contact Judy Peasley with any questions or if you are interested in helping with the party. ([gjpeas@charter.net](mailto:gjpeas@charter.net))



**Head Start/ECEAP Preschool now accepting applications for the 2012-2013 School Year**

Walla Walla Public Schools Head Start/ECEAP Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2012-2013 school year. The program provides free preschool classes for qualifying families living in Walla Walla County. We accept children who will be 3 or 4 years old by August 31, 2012. Some of the services the program provides include transportation, disabilities, meals, health, dental and developmental screenings, parent education, family activities and goal setting.

Head Start and ECEAP are federally and state funded programs that promote school readiness of children from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development. The program's learning environment supports children's growth in language & literacy, cognition & general knowledge, physical development & health, social & emotional development, and approaches to learning.

The role of parents as their child's first and most important teacher is emphasized by the program's structure and activities. We strive to build relationships with families that support family well-being and positive parent-child relationships; families as learners and lifelong educators; family engagement in transitions; family connections to peers and community, and families as advocates and leaders.

Applications are available at Blue Ridge Elementary, located at 1150 W. Chestnut. For more information, please contact the Blue Ridge office at 527-3066.

**High School students encouraged to register for summer Business Week Camps**

Registration is now open to all current 9th and 12th grade students who are interested in attending one of Washington State's Business Week Camps where students get a complete hands on approach on how to operate in a business environment. Registration packets are available in the Walla Walla High School library. Pre-Registration is DUE May 4. GEAR UP will pay all expenses for up to 84 students, including graduated seniors. These camps are incredible opportunities to develop leadership skills and gain real world business skills.

Learn more online at: [www.yourcollegeandcareer.org](http://www.yourcollegeandcareer.org)

**Business Week Program**

Western Washington University (Bellingham) June 24-30

Gonzaga University (Spokane) July 8-14

Central Washington University (Ellensburg) July 22-28

Pacific Lutheran University (Tacoma) August 5-11

**Advanced Business Week Program (returning campers only)**

Western Washington University (Bellingham) June 24-30

**Healthcare Week Pathway**

Gonzaga University (Spokane) July 8-14

Pacific Lutheran University (Tacoma) August 5-11

**Get AMPT! Manufacturing Week Pathway**

Western Washington University (Bellingham) June 24-30

**Energy Week Pathway**

Central Washington University (Ellensburg) July 22-28

**Agri-Business Week**

Central Washington University (Ellensburg) July 22-28

**Information:**

Becky Waggoner, Washington State University GEAR UP Program Assistant

509-526-8621

[bwaggoner@wwps.org](mailto:bwaggoner@wwps.org) / [bwaggoner@earlyoutreach.wsu.edu](mailto:bwaggoner@earlyoutreach.wsu.edu)

### **Proceeds from Mr. Wa-Hi event to fund senior gift**

- May 21 at 7:30 p.m.
- Wa-Hi Auditorium

Mr. Wa-Hi is a mock beauty pageant for high school boys. The students will display a talent, model both sportswear and tuxedo, participate in a group dance routine and answer questions. Participants must be in good academic standing, well disciplined and represent Wa-Hi well. Mr. Wa-Hi is a fundraiser to raise money for the Wa-Hi's senior gift.

### **Blue Devil College Cup activities**

Kick Like a Pro Week: May 8-11 during lunch at Walla Walla High School

- Students and staff will attempt to kick a soccer ball the fastest and raise money for scholarships.

Blue Devil College Cup Staff vs. Students Soccer Match

- May 23
- 5 to 6 p.m.
- Wa-Hi soccer field, (students vs. staff soccer match).

Information: Miriam Garber, AVID Club Advisor (503) 348-1608

### **Wa-Hi Cadet of the Month earns on-the-spot promotion**

Cadet Benjamin Brown has been selected as the Walla Walla High School JROTC "Cadet of the Month" for April 2012 and earned an immediate promotion to Corporal. This is the second time this school year that Brown has earned that title.

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. Cadet Corporal Brown is a 14-year-old freshman from Charlie Company. Brown said that he joined JROTC because he is interested in military service after high school. He plans to attend college after high school, and then enter the military. He enjoys hunting, playing the guitar, and building models.

"His strongest competitive category was the interview portion" 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 Corporal Timothy Howard, a 15-year-old sophomore from Bravo Company, whose strongest suit was his reporting in procedure. Second runner up was Cadet Private First Class Guse, a freshman from Alpha company, whose strongest suit was personal appearance.

"This was one of the closest Cadet of the Month competitions this year. Cadet Brown narrowly edged out his closest competitor by two points and earned his promotion," 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.

### **Walla Walla High School students named Dell Scholars**

Walla Walla High School seniors Erika Torres, Chelsea Cavazos and Itsel Corona recently received notification they received Dell Scholarships. Dell Scholars receive \$20,000 each to complete their higher education over the course of six years.

In addition, the Dell Scholars Program provides its students with technology, a private scholar networking community, resources, and mentoring to ensure they have the support they need to achieve their college degrees. Learn more at: [www.dellscholars.org](http://www.dellscholars.org)

The Dell Scholars program, an initiative of the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, recognizes students who have overcome significant obstacles to pursue their educations. In turn, these scholars serve as positive role models and change the trajectories for their siblings, friends and their communities. Annually, 300 Dell scholarships are awarded.

## Community Stories

### **AcroKnights performance takes guests to Gilligan's Island**

AcroKnights will set sail for A Three Hour Tour on Saturday, May 19 and Sunday May 20 for their annual AcroKnights Show at Walla Walla University. Students from Walla Walla and College Place will perform acrobatic stunts using people as their props instead of equipment.

The entire gym will be transformed into Gilligan's Island. There will be music, lights, action, and thrills for the whole family. It's a must-see. Tickets are available at: Book and Game, The Chamber of Commerce and Walla Walla University Bookstore.

### **American Association of University women honors high school females**

The American Association of University Women—Walla Walla Branch recently honored area senior high school females for their academic achievement in Science, Technology, and Mathematics at the Walla Walla Public Schools' Board Room. Mary Burt, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Science Outreach Coordinator at Whitman College was the featured speaker. More than 50 family members, AAUW members, and local educators filled the Board Room during the reception.

The AAUW High School Scholars program recognizes outstanding senior female high school students in the areas of Science, Technology, and Mathematics. These are areas where women are traditionally underrepresented and we are working to encourage young women to explore these fields, including Engineering, as viable options for their future careers. High Schools in our branch area include: Walla Walla High School, Lincoln, Prescott, Touchet, WWVA and DeSales. The following young women received award certificates and gift certificates to Earthlight Books at the reception in the following areas: De Sales High School—Bethany Konen (mathematics) and Annie Higgins (technology); Walla Walla Valley Academy—Sierra Lepiane (mathematics), Amanda Birney (science), McKenzie Cosaert (technology); Lincoln High School—Heidi Schoessler (technology); Touchet High School—Nicole Brown (mathematics) and Veronica Solis-Martinez (science); Walla Walla High School—Emily Schueller (science) and Madison Nelson (technology).

AAUW is The American Association of University Women. It was founded in 1881 to promote education and equity for women. The Walla Walla Branch was chartered in 1921. Membership is open to men and women who hold a two year degree or higher from an accredited college or university. We currently have over 135 members. Our branch has won the prestigious AAUW 21st Century Recognition Platinum Award for 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005, largely due to our very active participation in the Walla Walla community.

“These young women were nominated by staff at their high schools. We are excited to honor them for their accomplishments. We also want to inspire them to explore Science, Technology, Engineering and Math as possible career fields,” said Michelle Higgins, AAUW High School Scholars Chairperson.

### **District staff and students featured in local play *The Hobbit***

Walla Walla High School teacher William “Bill” Calhoun is playing Gollum in *The Hobbit* at the Little Theater starting this week. Don't miss seeing Calhoun in a unitard and loincloth. Wa-Hi teacher Terry Wilcut's son, Brad, is also in the production. Three Wa-Hi students are in the play as well; Colin Pummel, Sara Beko, and Brelynn Hess.

- The Hobbit @ The Little Theater

Directed by: Cheryl Sutlick and Robert G. Randall (Assistant Directed by Gloria Schille)

Performances: May 4, 5, 6\*, 11, 12.

\*May 6 is a 2 p.m. matinee, and all other shows start at 8 p.m.

Visit the Little Theater web site for more information: <http://www.lttw.org/>

**Free public events focus on early detection of children's mental health issues**

The Children's Home Society, The Mom's Network and Children's Resilience Initiative are hosting two free public events to educate parents and educators on children's mental health issues. More than 15 million children have a psychiatric or learning disorder in the United States alone, and less than half of them will ever get help.

On average, it takes a parent two years to contact a mental health professional after troubling behaviors, emotions, or barriers to learning are first noticed. The stigma, lack of awareness, and misinformation surrounding most psychiatric and learning disorders prevent many parents and teachers from getting kids the care they need. But the truth is, psychiatric and learning disorders in children and adolescents are real, common, and treatable.

"When to Worry about your Child's Worries"

- Monday May 7, 10:45 a.m. to 12 noon

- The Mom's Network Library Open House (Walla Walla Public Library)

This event helps adults recognize when their child's—or student's—worries are actually signs of anxiety or mood disorders that can be treated. This presentation will provide an introduction to several types of anxiety disorders common in children and teens, as well as their signs and symptoms.

"Managing Problem Behavior: Strategies for Parents and Teachers"

- Tuesday May 8, 6 to 8 p.m.

- St. Patrick's Church 'Blanchet Hall'

This talk will provide resources and teach parents and teachers about the most effective ways to manage (and minimize) problematic behavior in the home or classroom.

**Baker Boyer Ducky Derby welcomes Relay for Hope child abuse prevention event**

*Tickets on sale now: See Mark Higgins for tickets*

The Baker Boyer Ducky Derby is Saturday, May 19 at Walla Walla Community College. Tickets are on sale now. This event is presented by the Exchange Club of Walla Walla. All proceeds stay local to support the HomeTeam Parent Aide program and for positive youth activities. This year the Baker Boyer Ducky Derby invited the HomeTeam's Relay for Hope Event to join the festivities. Relay for Life features 5K run/walk, free Columbia REA Family Fun Festival and Kid Olympics.

May 19 Event Schedule

- 8:30-11 a.m.: Relay for Hope-5K run/walk or 5K family friendly stroll along Mill Creek

- 11:30 a.m.: Kids Dash will kick-off the Baker Boyer Ducky Derby

- 11:30-3:30 p.m.: Columbia REA Free Family Fun Festival and Kid Olympics

- 2 p.m.: Baker Boyer Ducky Derby Race Begins

Registration Fee for Relay for Hope 5K run/walk

- Cost: Individual \$15; Family \$25; Team \$10 per team member (participants receive a t-shirt and water bottle)

- Proceeds: All proceeds support the Walla Walla HomeTeam Parent Aide Program (parent mentoring program)

- Become a corporate sponsor, form a team, pledge or sponsor someone to walk

Baker Boyer Ducky Derby Ticket Outlets:

- Baker Boyer Bank
- Walla Walla's Harvest Foods
- Safeway
- Super 1 Foods
- Any Exchange Club member

Ducky Derby tickets:

One ticket = \$5

Five tickets = \$20