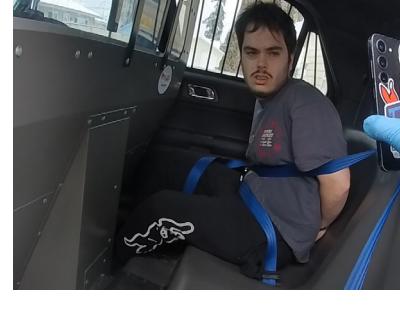




Police say dealer arrested after teen overdose

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PHOTOS:
See critters of a Longview slough up close

PAGE A3

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

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EVENT CENTER UPDATES



NICK MORGAN, THE DAILY NEWS

A Cowlitz County Event Center sign is seen along Washington Street on Monday, Feb. 17 in Longview. Cowlitz Public Facilities District leaders say a new north gateway entrance along this road is being built thanks to a \$500,000 grant, OK'd by the county.

New north gate, RV park to start this year

Nick Morgan
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The Longview City Council heard the latest updates in a more than decade-long effort to modernize the Cowlitz County Event Center as the agency that operates the center asked for the council's support for sharing local sales and use taxes well into the 2060s through a state bill.

Bob Gregory, master plan project manager for Cowlitz Public Facilities District and the event center delved into details during Thursday night's City Council meeting including the latest on a new gateway entrance on the north end of the fairgrounds and a new RV park on the south end as part of a sweeping presentation largely focused on the facilities district's 2024 master plan and Washington House Bill 1109.

The Longview council voted to support the facilities district, as well as HB 1109 following Gregory's presentation. Councilmember Keith Young made the motion, Councilmember MaryAlice Wallis seconded and it passed 5-0. Councilmember Angie Wean was excused from the meeting.

HB 1109 seeks to extend state-shared local sales taxes and use taxes for regional centers from its current expiration in 2042 to a new expiration in 2067. Gregory told the council that the 25-year extension would give the Cowlitz Facilities District — which provides strategic and operational oversight for the event center and the Columbia Theatre for the Performing arts — added bond capacity for later phases in its event center master plan.

What is a public facilities district?

Public facilities districts are municipal corporations with independent taxing authority, according to the Revised Code of Washington. The facilities in Washington state vary, but Gregory said one notable public facilities-run entity is Pike Place in Seattle.

Revenues can include voter-approved sales taxes or admission fees. The Cowlitz County Public Facilities District benefits from two separate sales tax rebates: a 0.033% tax rebate that comes back to fund debt service and operations for the event center and a 0.02% rebate that funds debt service and helps with operational support for the Columbia Theatre.

The voter-approved lodging tax currently nets about \$200,000 per year, according to Gregory. The revenue

primarily is used for operations and marketing expenses.

Gregory said in his presentation to the council that the "No. 1 priority" is service to debt obligations from capital improvement projects. He also described "strong fiscal management" that includes "putting money away down the line for depreciations," emergency maintenance issues, plus the costs of its annual bond obligations.

Plans for RV park, another building

The center adopted its most recent master plan for the event center in April. Gregory highlighted updates from the original 2010 plan that included a goal of building a 40,000-square-foot multipurpose facility at the event center in Phase 2.

Gregory said the plans for that multipurpose facility stem from a desire to accommodate trade shows along with events such as indoor basketball, volleyball and pickleball tournaments.

"If you have kids or grandkids like I do, I've been all over Oregon and Washington and even up and down the West Coast ... that is a huge business," Gregory said.

Please see CENTER PAGE A3

Paperwork error gives Longview man lighter sentence

MATTHEW ESNAYRA
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A Longview man is in prison after admitting to driving under the influence and causing a single-vehicle crash in November west of Stella that injured five passengers, as well as other 2024 crimes.

However, his sentence was lighter than usual due to a paperwork error, according to his lawyer.

Makiah Dalton Voorhees, 28, received a concurrent sentence of one year and one month earlier this month after accepting a deal, which included nine no-contact orders and 18 months of community custody.

Voorhees told Cowlitz County Judge Patricia Fassett during his sentencing that he "learned his lesson," while sitting beside his two attorneys, Stephen Geiger from the Cowlitz County Office of Public Defense and Ted Debray from Debray

Law in Longview.

Fassett told Voorhees that he "went out with a bang," referring to his four run-ins with the law in 2024, culminating in a Christmas Day arrest.

Fassett also said she was "begrudgingly" signing the sentencing documents, because, due to a "major error," he received a "massive benefit" in his sentence, with a range from 22 to 29 months.

The error that Fassett was referring to is a miscalculation of Vorhees' offender score, according to Debray, who represented Voorhees in the Nov. 17 crash.

This mistake was identified after deals were made, meaning several guilty pleas would have needed to be withdrawn, essentially forcing them to start from square one.

Vorhees faced multiple charges, including several counts of felony harassment, assault, reckless driving, and vehicular assault, but all of those were

whittled down to a two felony harassment charges, an unlawful possession of a firearm, three assault charges, and vehicular assault for all five people involved in the November crash.

Latest arrest

Vorhees' most recent run-in with law enforcement occurred on Dec. 25 when officers from the Longview Police Department responded to PeaceHealth St. John Medical Center after a woman said Vorhees made death threats and assaulted her.

As stated in the police report, the victim said Vorhees had an outburst after she confronted him about her missing oxycodone medication, prompting her to flee to a friend's house.

Vorhees also threatened the victim, saying he would "shoot up the house" and she would end up on "The First 48" — the true crime TV show about homicides — if she didn't return to him.

When she did return home, Voorhees threatened her with a knife, the report states.

During an argument, Voorhees grabbed the victim's hand, which had stitches from a previous injury, causing some of them to rip. The victim said she ended up in the hospital after Voorhees bit her wound, causing the scab to come off, according to the report.

November crash

Police records show Voorhees was arrested on Nov. 17 after a single-vehicle crash in the eastbound lanes of Ocean Beach Highway west of Stella, which involved five passengers, two of whom suffered injuries, including a broken nose and skin removal.

He reportedly told the police he and his passengers were heading home after

Please see PAPERWORK PAGE A3

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LONGVIEW
More details of
plans at the Cowlitz
County Event
Center.

Longview man arrested in connection to teen overdose

MATTHEW ESNAYRA
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A Longview man is in custody on suspicion of selling drugs to a teenager who later overdosed and died.

Baylee Sun Garcia, 20, of Longview, was in Cowlitz County Jail as of Monday, and facing charges of controlled substances homicide and possession, among others.

According to a Longview Police Department notice, Garcia was arrested Thursday at his home in the 200 block of 28th Avenue.

During the search, detectives report finding drugs, digital scales, guns, a ballistic vest, and electronic communications related to drug sales.

Garcia came under the radar of the Longview police after a 15-year-old died on Jan. 25 at a residence near the 2400 block of McAtee Drive after ingesting multiple 60-milligram morphine pills purchased from a dealer, who police say was Garcia.

As stated in the police report, authorities obtained surveillance footage from a local business near 20th Avenue, which showed a hand-to-hand sale between Garcia and the teen.

The police say Garcia was selling illegal substances, including morphine, LSD, and psilocybin mushrooms to minors in the Longview area.



LPD, CONTRIBUTED

ABOVE: Baylee Sun Garcia, 20, of Longview, sits inside a patrol car after being arrested on Thursday, Feb. 13, in connection with the death of a teenager.

LEFT: Garcia is seen leaving a residence as he is detained for allegedly dealing drugs to a minor, who later overdosed and died.

Police: Assault, then murder at same Woodland site Assault suspect tells police about alleged murder at rural location

MATTHEW ESNAYRA
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A man is in custody for an assault that allegedly took place in the same rural Woodland location where authorities say a Portland man was murdered.

Jeremy Paul Howe, 44, of Woodland, was in Cowlitz County Jail as of Sunday and is charged with second-degree assault and violating the Uniform Controlled Substances Act.

The assault allegedly took place in October inside Howe's RV in the 1100 block of Whalen Road. Authorities say Cesar Reyes, Jr., 46 of Portland, was shot a month later at the location, and his remains were found soon after on an Ariel logging road.

Joseph Klimas III, 45, of Vancouver is charged with Reyes' murder and his bail is set at \$2 million. He was also in county jail as of Sunday.

Klimas

Klimas sat quietly last week during his court appearance, seated next to his attorney, Ian Maher, director of the Cowlitz County Office of Public Defense.

Senior Cowlitz County Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Carlow said at the Feb. 10 hearing that Klimas shot Reyes "execution-style," with the victim on his knees,

and later dumped the body along a logging road near milepost 42 on Lewis River Road.

Klimas is charged with first-degree premeditated murder, unlawful firearm possession and improper disposal of a human body. His next hearing is scheduled for Tuesday.

According to new information in a police report, Howe told authorities Klimas and another person arrived at the rural Whalen Road residence with Reyes on the morning of Nov. 11 to purchase a gun from Howe.

Howe's RV was located on the site.

Klimas and the other person — who has not been charged in Cowlitz County Superior Court — planned to kill Reyes at the Whalen Road property and feed his remains to pigs, but Howe asked them to perform the crime off the property, the report states.

Klimas said he shot Reyes in the face, Howe told police.

He also reported seeing Klimas sell a large-caliber handgun. An autopsy shows Reyes died as a result of a gunshot wound to his head and neck from a large caliber bullet.

Howe said Reyes was killed for providing information about Klimas to others, though the police report doesn't include details.

Howe

Howe told authorities about the alleged murder while he was in Cowlitz County Jail, court records show.

He has a criminal record dating back to the 1990s, which includes a rape charge, failure to register as a sex offender and a third-degree assault charge.

His trial for assault and the drug charge is tentatively set for March 11, and his bail is set at \$25,000.

According to a police report, the victim reported to authorities that on or about Oct. 12, Howe raped her in his RV, parked at the Whalen Road site.

She told authorities she asked Howe to stop, and that he knew she was under 18. She added that once the assault was over, Howe offered her fentanyl, the report states.

She said she was too afraid to report the assault, but confided to a family member.

When that family member confronted Howe, Howe assaulted him with the burner of a hot plate, the police report states. The family member was hospitalized, and later identified Howe in a photo lineup.

Howe denied all of the allegations to authorities.

Deputies also report finding a baggie of what they suspected to be meth in Howe's pocket, as well as several used and loaded hypodermic needles, smoke pipes and scales, according to the police report.

THE DAILY NEWS

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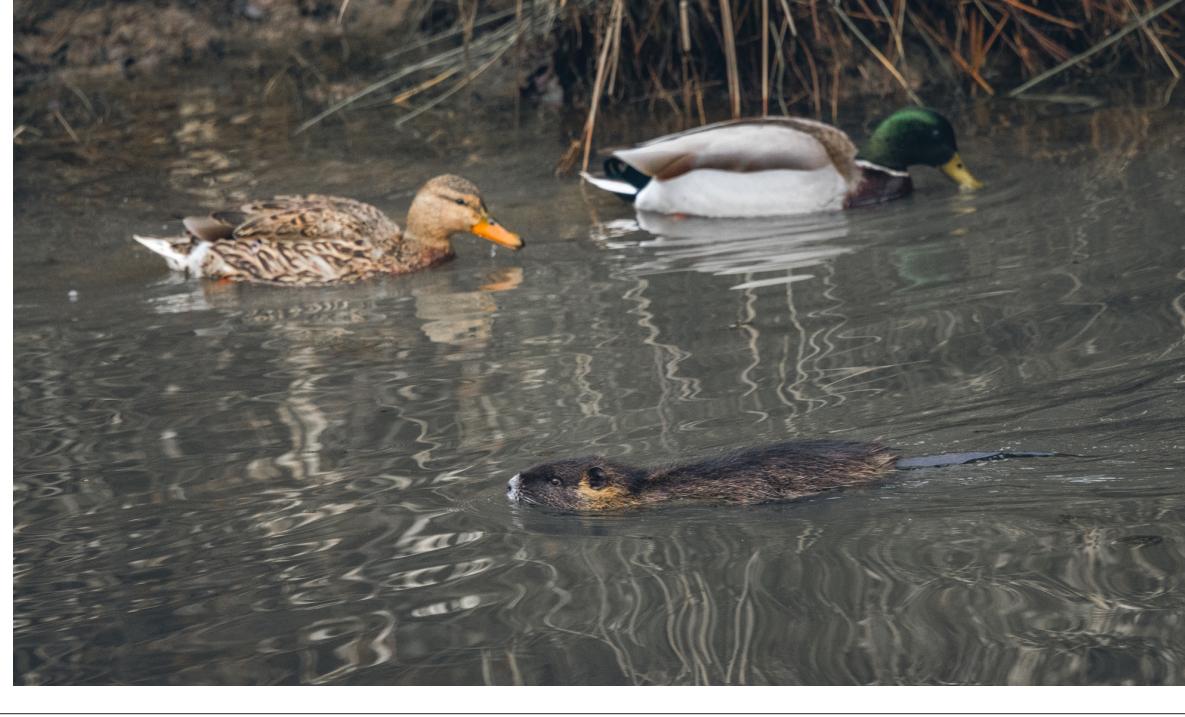
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CREATURES OF THE PACIFIC WAY TRAIL SLOUGH



GREG SELLENTIN, FOR THE DAILY NEWS
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Mallards float in the Pacific Way Trail slough on Saturday, Feb. 15 in Longview. / A great egret prepares to fly off a tree along the trail on Saturday, Feb. 15. Great egrets inhabit freshwater wetlands, according to birdweb.org. / A nutria swims past a male and female mallard on Saturday, Feb. 15 along the trail. Nutrias are invasive to Washington state. They are native to South America, and brought to North America in the 1930s for their fur and to control unwanted aquatic vegetation, according to Washington Fish and Wildlife. / Two nutrias snuggle in the water along the Pacific Way Trail on Saturday, Feb. 15. The state says live-trapped nutrias should be euthanized and not returned to the wild because their burrowing causes erosion, which can lead to bank collapse.

PAPERWORK, from A1

a party near the county line when he lost control of the vehicle, admitting that he was driving 80 mph.

After the crash, he also told police, "I'm not gonna lie, I had a couple," and also admitted to using cannabis, the report states. Police would later discover a prescription bottle for muscle relaxers, which warned the user against mixing the meds with alcohol.

Other arrests

Before the November accident, Voorhees – who was prohibited from possessing or purchasing a fire-

arm – brought one to a car meet in the 3100 block of Ocean Beach Highway, according to a Sept. 13 police report. During the event, he also reportedly got into an altercation with a man.

In June, Voorhees was arrested when he violated a no-contact order by sending messages to a woman and her boyfriend through a mutual friend, which included threats such as, "trust me, my boys will gun him down faster than he can stop."

Another message was sent from Voorhees to the victim saying that he "will break your face," and "I will kill you," a police report states.



CENTER, from A1

The master plan includes a longtime effort with the Longview Public Development Authority to facilitate a public-private partnership towards attracting a developer to build a hotel near the event center.

"One of the big impetuses and drivers for the master plan is we want to put heads on beds and bring people into this community," Gregory said.

Other phases include an expansion and modernization of the equestrian facility, "modest improvements" to the grandstands such as a stage, and a new gateway entrance on the north end of the event center, Gregory told the council.

"We are actually underway with design and construction of the gateway," Gregory said, adding that they've completed a right-of-way agreement with the city of Longview and that the event center received a \$500,000 grant from the county to cover the new gateway through the rural economic development program.

Cowlitz County Public Facilities District is contributing \$300,000 towards the gateway as part of a grant match, and Gregory said construction is

slated to begin this summer.

The district obtained a \$1 million rural economic development grant for the RV park slated for the south end of the event center.

"We'll probably do that in phase improvements," Gregory said. Construction is expected to start this year and "likely to go into 2026."

Gregory told the council that plans for the first phase in the event center's master plan – an expanded and improved conference center and the new north gateway entrance at Southwest Fifth Street – likely would not be impacted if HB 1109 fails to pass. But other projects such as the 40,000-square-foot multipurpose facility in Phase 2 would be in jeopardy.

"That is not funded and we think the extension of this house bill would go a long ways," Gregory said. "The planning level estimate at this point is around \$30 million for the multipurpose building so this extension of authority would probably give us a third to maybe half to do that ... hopefully the Legislature will find a way to extend that authority."

A Cowlitz County Event Center gate is seen along Washington Street on Monday, Feb. 17 in Longview. Cowlitz Public Facilities District leaders say a new north gateway entrance along this road is being built



COWLITZ COUNTY EVENT CENTER MASTER PLAN, CONTRIBUTED

Future planned updates of the Cowlitz County Event Center are seen in the illustration above, as outlined in the space's 2024 master plan.

EVENTS

THE DAILY NEWS

frontdoor@tdn.com

Master Gardeners to give away raised beds

Master Gardeners to give away raised beds

Interested in gardening, but having a hard time with your starter plot? The Washington State University Master Gardeners may be able to help.

The masters gardeners and Kellogg Supply have teamed up to give away 10 raised planting beds to promote vegetable gardening in Cowlitz County. The beds also include soil and plant starters.

Ten applicants will get a bed built for them for free.

To apply, or for more information, contact Gary Fredricks by phone at 360-577-3014, extension 4, or email garyf@wsu.edu. Applications are due on March 15.

2 featured artists at Broadway**Gallery**

Painter Scott McRae and the late 3D gourd carver Diane Springer are the featured guests for The Broadway Gallery in February.

The gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at 1418 Commerce Ave. in Longview.

McRae is a Longview resident and graduate of both Linfield College and Washington State University. He began painting professionally in 1991 and also teaches art, according to the gallery.

Springer, a resident of Battle Ground, was a long-time gallery member, according to fellow Gallery artist Debra Chase.

WA state archives exhibit featured in Kelso

The Cowlitz County Historical Museum has a new temporary exhibit.

The exhibit "Browsing the Stacks: Washington State Archives," a selection of stories on loan from the Secretary of State's office, runs through about the end of November.

The exhibit, according to a museum press release, includes topics from 19th-century loggers to UFO sightings and the Seattle World's Fair, introducing guests to "topics that make our state unique."

During the exhibit's opening, there will be a complimentary "staff picks" section where the staff will share their favorite addition to the museum acquired in 2024. Light refreshments will also be served.

Attendance is free.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Roland Wines to host jazz nights

Roland Wines will be hosting jazz nights on the third Thursday of every month, according to a press release from the Longview venue.

Roland is suggesting a \$10 donation at the door.

On Thursday, Nic Johnson will be on guitar, Colin Corner on bass and Cook will return on drums. March's show will feature Dmitri Matheny's flugelhorn, Steve Christofferson's keyboard, Eric Gruber's bass and Cook's drums. Finally, the April show includes guitarist John Stowell and bass player Dave Friesen, accompanied by Alan Cook on drums.

Love Street Playhouse presents 'The Miracle Worker'

Love Street Playhouse's upcoming theatrical performance "The Miracle Worker" is running at Love Street Playhouse, 126 Loves Ave., Woodland.

"The Miracle Worker" is a historical drama following the growth of Annie Sullivan and her blind and deaf student, Helen Keller.

Showings run Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through March 9. There will also be performances on Thursday, Feb. 27, and March 6. Showings are at 7:30 p.m., except for additional Sunday and Saturday matinees at 2 p.m., a press release by Love Street Playhouse stated.

To view the complete performance schedule, or to purchase tickets, call 800-966-8865. Tickets are \$26 per person, with a \$3 online ticket fee, the Love Street Playhouse website stated.

"The Miracle Worker," written by William Gibson, tells the story of Helen Keller's journey to learning communication as a blind and deaf individual. Teacher Annie Sullivan is hired to tutor Keller. After many weeks, the pair reaches a breakthrough that allows them to communicate. Keller then begins to experience the joys that life with communication can bring, the press release stated.

— *The Reflector*

Woodland library to hold book sale

The Woodland Public Library needs to make some space on its shelves, and you can help by filling yours.

The Friends of Woodland Community Library announced they will hold a bag sale for used books at the new library, at 411 Lakeshore Dr.

The sale will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.



MAUREEN GILMER, TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

WSU Master Gardeners and Kellogg Supply are giving away 10 raised planting beds to help promote vegetable gardening in Cowlitz County

For \$8, you can fill one of the library's provided bags with used books to take home. Genres available include mysteries, westerns, young adult, fantasy, sci-fi, romance, military fiction, crafting, cookbooks, non-fiction and children's books. Proceeds from the sale will support library activities and programs.

For more information, call 360-225-2294.

4-H program offers program for K-8 kids

Cowlitz County 4-H is offering kids the opportunity to go hands-on.

Local kids can join an outreach program, divided into two sets based on ages: kindergarten through third grade, and fourth through eighth graders. Possible project topics include baking or cooking, leather tooling, plant science and container gardening, creative arts, cardboard animals, hand sewing and basic poultry.

The programs will be held from 1-3 p.m. one Saturday a month. Younger kids started meeting earlier this month and will meet every second Saturday of the month through July 12, while older kids start Feb. 22 and meet on the fourth Saturday through July 26.

The program costs \$10 per participant. Kids are encouraged to come to all six sessions, and there is an opportunity for participants to join 4-H, as well as to participate in the 4-H still life (non-animal) division at the Cowlitz County Fair.

Space is limited to 10 kids in each of the two programs. To reserve a space, contact at jleach@wsu.edu or 360-577-3104, extension 4.

Local square dance club to host events

Dust off your dancing shoes; the R Square D Square Dance Club has called their next two dances.

The Boot Scootin' Boogie and Chili Feed is set for 7 p.m. on Saturday. The Shamrock Dance is scheduled to start at 7 p.m. on March 14, St. Patrick's Day. Both events will be at Catlin Hall, located at 106 NW Eighth Ave. in Kelso.

Admission is by donation, and the group is suggesting \$7. The dance will include light refreshments, door prizes and a raffle.

For more information, call Craig Abercrombie at 503-417-5482.

Longview library hosts LongCon

Longview Public Library will host its mini-convention, LongCon, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday.

The free event celebrates comics, graphic novels and related art. It will feature a gaming room, crafts, vendor booths and activities.

Schedule

10:30 a.m.: Panel discussion
11:30 a.m.: Costume contest
1:30 p.m.: Ignite LongCon
3:30 p.m.: Lip sync battle

Northwest Voices to feature author Jane Wong

Award-winning author Jane Wong will be featured at Lower Columbia College as part of the Northwest Voices event.

Wong will lead a writing workshop at room 148 in LCC's main building starting at 2 p.m. on March 4. There will also be a reading at the Longview Public Library at 5:30 p.m. the same day.

The events are free and open to the public.

Wong is the author of the memoir "Meet Me Tonight in Atlantic City," which won the 2023 Washington State book award, and two collections of poetry, "How to Not Be Afraid of Everything" and "Overpour." She is an associate professor at Western Washington University. Wong has won a Pushcart Prize and has also won several fellowships and residencies, including the U.S. Fulbright Program and Harvard University's Woodberry Poetry Room.



COWLITZ COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM, CONTRIBUTED

A model fallout shelter is on display in the Cowlitz County Historical Museum, part of its new temporary exhibit, 'Browsing the Stacks.'



LCC, CONTRIBUTED

Author Jane Wong will be appearing at Lower Columbia College on March 4 as part of the Northwest Voices series.

Registrations open for volunteer fair

The Longview Public Library has opened registration for its second annual community volunteer fair.

The event, which will run from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on March 8 at the library, gives local nonprofits a place to meet people looking to volunteer in the community. While the event is free, space is limited, so the library asks nonprofits to register for a spot at the event.

Volunteers do not need to register, and attendance is free for everyone participating.

Registration for the event closes on Feb. 28. The signup form is available online in the events section of the Longview Public Library's website.

Cabaret Follies of Lower Columbia returns

Cabaret Follies of Lower Columbia returns to Longview this spring to provide

entertainment to locals and donations to a Longview nonprofit.

The performances are scheduled for April 25 and 26 at the Columbia Theatre, but people can meet the director at an event before showtime.

Meet Jaime Donegan at 6 p.m. March 31 at Youth and Family Link, the recipient of the show's proceeds. Youth and Family Link is located at 907 Douglas St., Longview.

According to the nonprofit's website, Director Donegan previously owned his own production company and led Meridian Creative Artist Development Company in New York City.

Cabaret Follies first started in 1949 and holds a show roughly every two years with local volunteers.

For more information, email cabaretfollieslc@gmail.com or visit www.cabaretfollies.org.

OPINION

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ANOTHER VIEW | SEATTLE TIMES

Pope Francis offers helpful view on AI

More deliberation is needed as regulations and policies roll out to protect humanity

It is the stuff of science fiction: artificial intelligence mimicking human thought.

Is that a good thing or a bad thing? Does it portend a future where workers are free of the most mundane tasks or an era of massive unemployment where even poetry, music and art are churned out of data centers?

When it comes to AI, parameters of the debate are hard to define, and much is at stake.

As such, it is worthwhile to review a reflection published by Pope Francis last month titled: "Note on the Relationship Between Artificial Intelligence and Human Intelligence."

Among the observations:

■ As AI models become increasingly capable of independent learning, the ability to maintain control over them to ensure that such applications serve human purposes may effectively diminish. This raises the critical question of how to ensure that AI systems are ordered for the good of people and not against them."

■ "AI is currently eliminating the need for some jobs that were once performed by humans. If AI is used to replace human workers rather than complement them, there is a substantial risk of disproportionate benefit for the few at the price of the impoverishment of many."

■ "Individual users, families, civil society, corporations, institutions, governments, and international organizations should work at their proper levels to ensure that AI is used for the good of all."

Executives at Microsoft — which has invested tens of billions of dollars into AI — joined with venture capitalists to

create a company blog post on the subject just days before the November election.

"Regulation (of AI) should be implemented only if its benefits outweigh its costs," they wrote.

In a later interview with the Seattle Times editorial board, Microsoft President Brad Smith, one of the blog post authors, clarified that the benefits should accrue to the public, not corporations or the government.

The board asked Smith: Is there debate about what constitutes public benefit?

"Every day and everywhere," Smith replied. "But at least that should define the terms of debate — what will benefit the public."

Three days after his inauguration, President Donald Trump signed an executive order "eliminating harmful Biden administration AI policies and enhancing America's global AI dominance," according to a White House fact sheet.

Trump named venture capitalist David Sacks to be the "White House AI and Crypto Czar."

That the Trump administration lumped AI with cryptocurrency seems an odd pairing. Each has its own legal, moral and ethical questions.

Pope Francis and others have rightly called for extensive deliberations as regulations and policies roll out.

As one sci-fi author put it on social media: "I want AI to do my laundry and dishes so that I can do art and writing, not for AI to do my art and writing so that I can do my laundry and dishes."

That aspiration ought to be a goal of all AI technology yet to come.

MY VIEW | MICHAEL RAMIREZ



Americans would pay higher taxes to save Social Security

No partisan divide, no class divide, no intergenerational tug of war — just a universal desire to fund Social Security

which are projected to last only until 2035. At that time, if Congress hasn't acted, all current and future benefits will be cut by an amount sufficient to balance financial projections for the next 75 years, or around 20%.

In its survey, the National Academy of Social Insurance used a method common in marketing called "conjoint analysis," which enables businesses to understand how customers value different features of their product or service. Respondents are given menus of product features to compare, rather than specific features, with a price attached to each menu. By iterating through menu options, respondents reveal their preferences and what they are willing to pay for them.

Now consider a menu of Social Security reforms, where the options are a change to revenue (taxes) or benefits, and the price is the share of the long-term financial shortfall that is closed.

By opting for reform packages, respondents reveal the policies they favor the strongest. The winner by far was to eliminate or increase the taxable earnings cap, which is \$176,100 and rises each year with the average growth in wages. Doing so could address up to 70% of the long-term shortfall. Also strongly favored:

■ Not changing the retirement age.

■ Making the cost-of-living adjustment reflect elderly spending patterns rather than average spending patterns.

■ Allowing people in physical jobs to claim retirement at younger ages with less of a penalty.

■ Raising the payroll tax rate.

Combine these ideas with a few other tweaks to Social Security and the survey revealed a reform package that 82% of Americans favor over the status quo — all while flipping the long-term financing shortfall into a surplus. Not only that, but this solution is favored by 74% of Republicans, 79% of individuals in households with incomes higher than \$150,000 and 81% of individuals aged 21 to 34. No partisan divide, no class divide, no intergenerational tug of war — just a universal desire to fund Social Security.

The results of the conjoint analysis are no fluke, as evidenced by the simple favorability questions included in the same survey. When asked whether they support raising taxes to maintain benefits, raising taxes to increase benefits, or maintaining taxes and cutting benefits, just 15% of respondents aligned with benefit cuts, while 85% were in support of raising taxes — 30% to increase benefits and 55% to maintain them.

Asked about specific tax policies, 68% were in favor of eliminating the tax cap ...

Americans don't view their payments into Social Security as taxes but rather contributions that earn them benefits in the future. There's an element of ownership to Social Security that even transcends America's system of taxation — it's not Congress' program, it's Americans' program. And they are clear about what they want to happen: Fund it, don't cut it.

Edwards is a labor economist and independent policy consultant. She wrote this for Bloomberg News.

Is Musk a Bond villain or America's salvation?

Elon Musk could be either the most dangerous man in America or its savior.

Having failed to convince voters President Donald Trump is the demon who will destroy democracy, progressives are making Musk the target of their renewed resistance movement. Musk, they warn, is the evil genius guiding Trump's dark hand.

Their fearmongering portrays the billionaire entrepreneur as a villain in a James Bond movie, out to use his vast wealth, tech savvy and influence over the president to infiltrate the government and make the United States another subsidiary of his X empire.

I don't dismiss the possibility that Musk is up to something sinister. Nor am I aloof to concerns

it may be self-interest rather than patriotism that is motivating his role as architect of the administrative state restructuring. He's a strange dude, with a questionable world view.

But I also recognize hysteria and hypocrisy when I see them, and both are at work in the left's vilification of Musk.

"Nobody elected Musk" is their rallying cry. True. Only two people are elected members of the executive branch — the president and vice president. Presidents are allowed to appoint advisers to help with the massive job of running the government, and they've always done so.

Nobody elected Hillary Clinton when her husband made her an adjunct member of his Cabinet and put her in charge of overhauling the nation's health care system. Nobody elected the White House cabal who apparently ran the nation during President Joe Biden's incapacitation.

And nobody elected the bureaucrats heading federal agencies who are acting on their own to make policy and spend tax dollars while claiming immunity from accountability.

The Democratic Congress members who are storming empty federal buildings to protest Musk's aggressive cost-cutting have forfeited through decades of inaction their credibility in attacking Trump and Musk for acting.

The dastardly duo is doing what voters elected Trump to do: fixing a broken government.

Cutting the size, cost and power of the bureaucracy is essential to the nation's survival.

The United States will post a

near \$2 trillion budget deficit this year despite a healthy economy.

The federal government now

routinely spends one-third more than it takes in.

The national debt is approaching \$37 trillion. That amounts to

\$107,000 for every citizen and \$323,000 for every taxpayer. Debt payments will consume more than \$725 billion this year.

Congressional Democrats stood on the steps of the Social Security Administration building and warned Musk will strip recipients of benefits. That is happening anyway. Social Security and Medicare will be insolvent in less than a decade if nothing is done. And nothing is what Democrats and Republicans have been doing for decades to head off the coming collapse.

Someone must act to bring fiscal sanity to America. If it's not Trump and Musk, who will it be? Every politician ever elected declares cutting waste and inefficiency as a top priority, yet it never gets done. This time it might.

I am nervous about a legion of juvenile tech nerds roaming unfettered through government files. I also detest any president

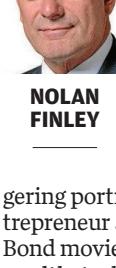
bypassing the regular lawmaking process to govern through executive orders. Trump has a Republican Congress. He should use it to enshrine his agenda in the law, where it will be harder to undo.

And I'll admit to getting weary of Trump's stream-of-consciousness policymaking and inability to establish a hierarchy of urgency. Banning paper straws and the minting of pennies should not make the first 100 days to-do list.

But I also strongly believe that the bureaucracy should not serve itself and its own priorities.

Musk is brilliant. Brilliance is a quality long missing from Washington. If he can help Trump to finally corral a runaway government, our grandchildren will have a shot at living in an America still able to support their dreams.

Finley is the editorial page editor for The Detroit News: detroitnews.com.



NOLAN FINLEY

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Editorial page editor

for The Detroit News: detroitnews.com.

ECONOMY

PRICEY METALS

Tariffs on aluminum, steel are back; they were costly last time

PAUL WISEMAN | Associated Press

President Donald Trump is hitting foreign steel and aluminum with a 25% tax.

If that sounds familiar, it's because he did pretty much the same thing during his first term.

Trump's original metals tariffs gave America's struggling steel and aluminum producers some relief from intense global competition, allowing them to charge higher prices. In anticipation of the new tariffs, shares of steel and aluminum producers climbed. Nucor rose 5.6%, Cleveland-Cliffs jumped 17.9%, and Alcoa ticked up 2.2%.

But the tariffs took a toll last time, damaging U.S. relations with key allies and driving up costs for "downstream" U.S. producers that buy steel and aluminum and use them to manufacture goods.

Bad memories

Timothy Zimmerman, CEO of Mitchell Metal Products in Merrill, Wisconsin, still has bad memories of that time.

"We were significantly impacted," he said. "The challenges we faced were unprecedented — rapid inflationary impacts from domestic steel producers. We saw steel prices rise within a few months about 70% over what they had been.... Our (steel) suppliers simply broke contracts and gave us an option: Take this, or take nothing."

Mitchell Metal Products was

locked into contracts with its own customers — a wide range of businesses from furniture makers to telecommunications firms — that didn't allow it to pass along all or part of the higher cost. His company's profit margins were squeezed, and it ended up losing business to European rivals that didn't have to contend with the fallout from Trump's steel tariffs.

The overall economic impact on the U.S. was limited then — and is likely to be limited again — because steel and aluminum imports amount to barely a ripple in the almost \$30 trillion U.S. economy.

Still, the new taxes on foreign steel and aluminum and Trump's other import tax plans — including his promise to raise American tariffs to match those charged by other countries — are likely "to boost U.S. inflation and weigh on global growth this year," Jennifer McKeown and Hamad Hussain of Capital Economics wrote Monday.

Allies affected

The steel and aluminum tariffs would hit U.S. allies. Canada is the No. 1 supplier of foreign steel and aluminum to the U.S. Mexico is the No. 3 steel supplier, and Japan and South Korea are also major steel exporters to the U.S.

Chinese overproduction flooded the world with steel and kept prices low, hurting steelmakers in the U.S. and elsewhere, but the U.S. uses trade barriers to keep out all but a trickle of Chinese steel. China accounted for less than 2% of U.S. steel imports last year, making it the No. 10 supplier of steel to the U.S., according to the American Iron and Steel In-



NICK IWANYSYH, THE CANADIAN PRESS

Steel coils are seen Feb. 10 at the ArcelorMittal Dofasco steel production facility in Hamilton, Ontario.



EDUARDO VERDUGO, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Employees work Feb. 11 at a steel-tank factory in Mexico City.

stitute, a trade group.

In slapping duties on steel and aluminum nearly seven years ago, Trump pulled out Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. It gives the president the power to impose tariffs on other countries on national security grounds.

The 2018 tariffs — 25% on steel and 10% on aluminum — provoked outrage in Canada and Mexico, U.S. neighbors and allies. The tariffs also drew retaliation as U.S. trading partners hit back with taxes on U.S. exports from Kentucky bourbon to Levi's jeans.

Tariffs proved costly

By making foreign steel costlier, the tariffs allowed U.S. steelmakers to raise prices and encouraged them to keep mills running and invest in new capacity.

But the tariffs hammered downstream businesses like Zimmerman's that had to pay the higher prices. In 2021, production at downstream companies dropped by nearly \$3.5 billion because of the tariffs, canceling out the \$2.3 billion uptick in production that year by alumi-

num producers and steelmakers, according to a 2023 study by the U.S. International Trade Commission.

In 2020, researchers from Harvard University and the University of California, Davis, found the tariffs created 1,000 jobs — but reduced employment elsewhere by 75,000.

When the tariffs hit seven years ago, Mitchell Metal Products employed a peak of 102 workers. It had to cut its payrolls by leaving openings unfilled and weeding out some workers. It now employs about 75 people.

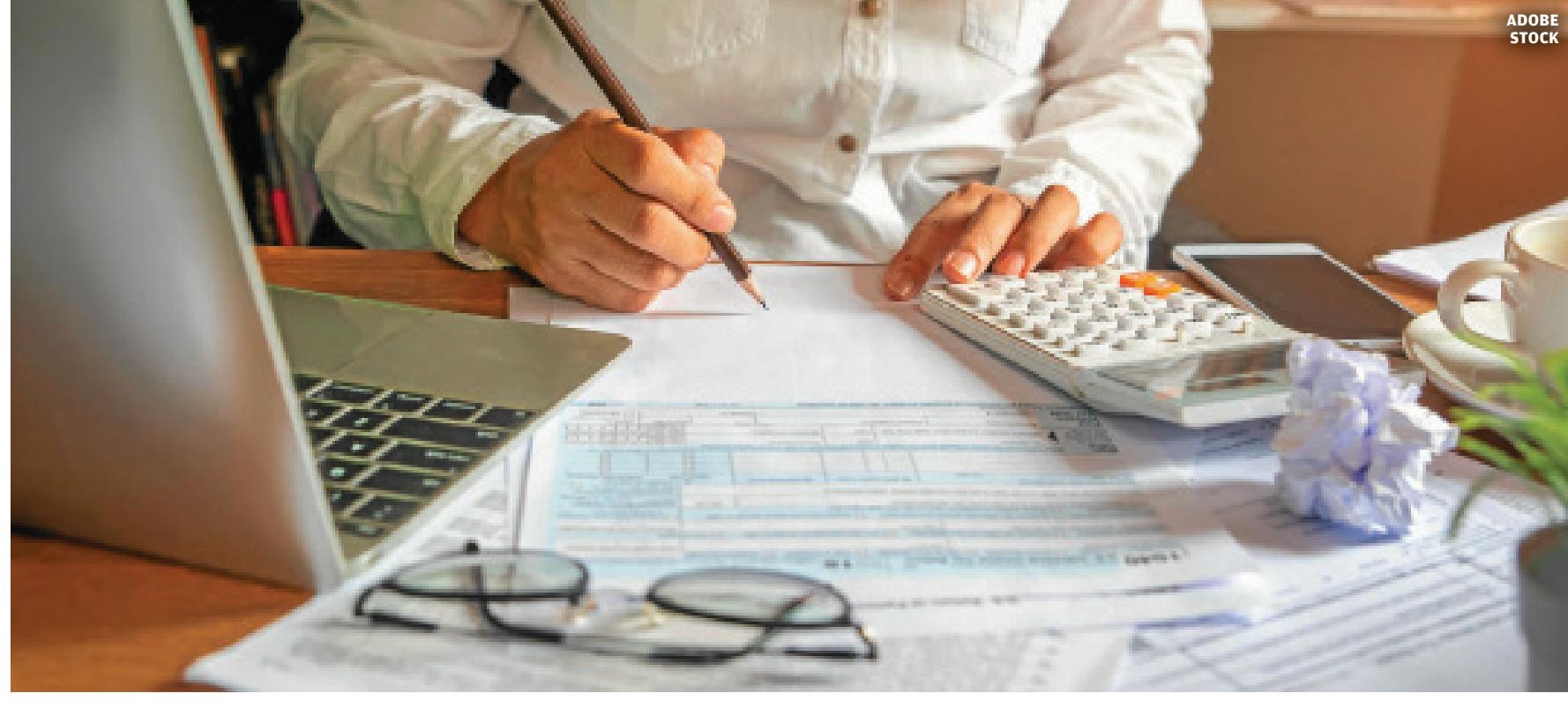
The 2018 metals tariffs were eased. For some countries, they were dropped. For some, they were replaced with import quotas.

On Monday, Trump removed all exceptions and exemptions on the original tariffs and raised the levy on aluminum from 10% to 25%.

"Already last week several large (steel) mills operating in the United States announced price increases in anticipation of the tariffs, not due to increased demand," Zimmerman said.

He said Mitchell Metal Products will seek to be more proactive in getting its customers to absorb some of the higher costs this time.

PERSONAL FINANCE | Q&A



ADORE STOCK

TAX SEASON IS HERE

Here's how and when you'll get your refund

CORA LEWIS
Associated Press

Tax season is underway, and the IRS expects 140 million people will file returns by April 15. The agency also debuted a new online tool to help taxpayers check the status of any refund they may be entitled to.

Here's what to know:

When will I receive my refund?

If you file your tax return electronically, the IRS says it should take 21 days or less to receive your refund. If you choose to receive your refund with direct deposit, it should take even less time.

If you file a paper return, the refund could take four weeks or more, and if your return requires amendments or corrections, it could take longer.

The IRS cautions taxpayers not to rely on receiving a refund by a certain date, especially when making major purchases or paying bills.

How can I check the status of my refund?

Taxpayers can use the online Where's My Refund? tool at www.irs.gov to check the status of their income tax refund within 24 hours of e-filing and generally within four weeks of filing a paper return.

Information related to this tool is updated once daily, overnight. To access the status of your refund, you'll need:

- Your Social Security or individual taxpayer ID number (ITIN).
- Your filing status.
- The refund amount calculated on

For more personal finance advice, point your phone camera at this code, then tap the link for thepennywise.com. NEWSVU

your return. **How do refunds work?**

If you paid more through the year than you owe in taxes because of withholding or other reasons, you should get money back.

Even if you didn't pay excess tax, you may still get a refund if you qualify for a refundable credit, like the Earned Income Tax Credit or Child Tax Credit.

To get your refund, you must file a return; you have three years to claim a tax refund.

Do I qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit?

To qualify for the EITC, you must have under \$11,600 in investment income and earn less than a specific income level from working.

If you're single with no children, your income level must be \$18,591 or below. If you're married filing jointly with three or more children, you must make \$66,819 or below.

To determine if your household qualifies based on your marital status and your number of dependents, you can use the online EITC Assistant tool at www.irs.gov.

What about the Child Tax Credit?

If you have a child, you are most likely eligible for the Child Tax Credit. The credit is up to \$2,000 per qualifying child.

To qualify, a child must:

- Have a Social Security number.
- Have been under 17 at the end of 2024.
- Be claimed as a dependent on your tax return.

You qualify for the full amount of the Child Tax Credit for each qualifying child if you meet all eligibility factors and your annual income is not more than \$200,000 — or \$400,000 if filing a joint return.

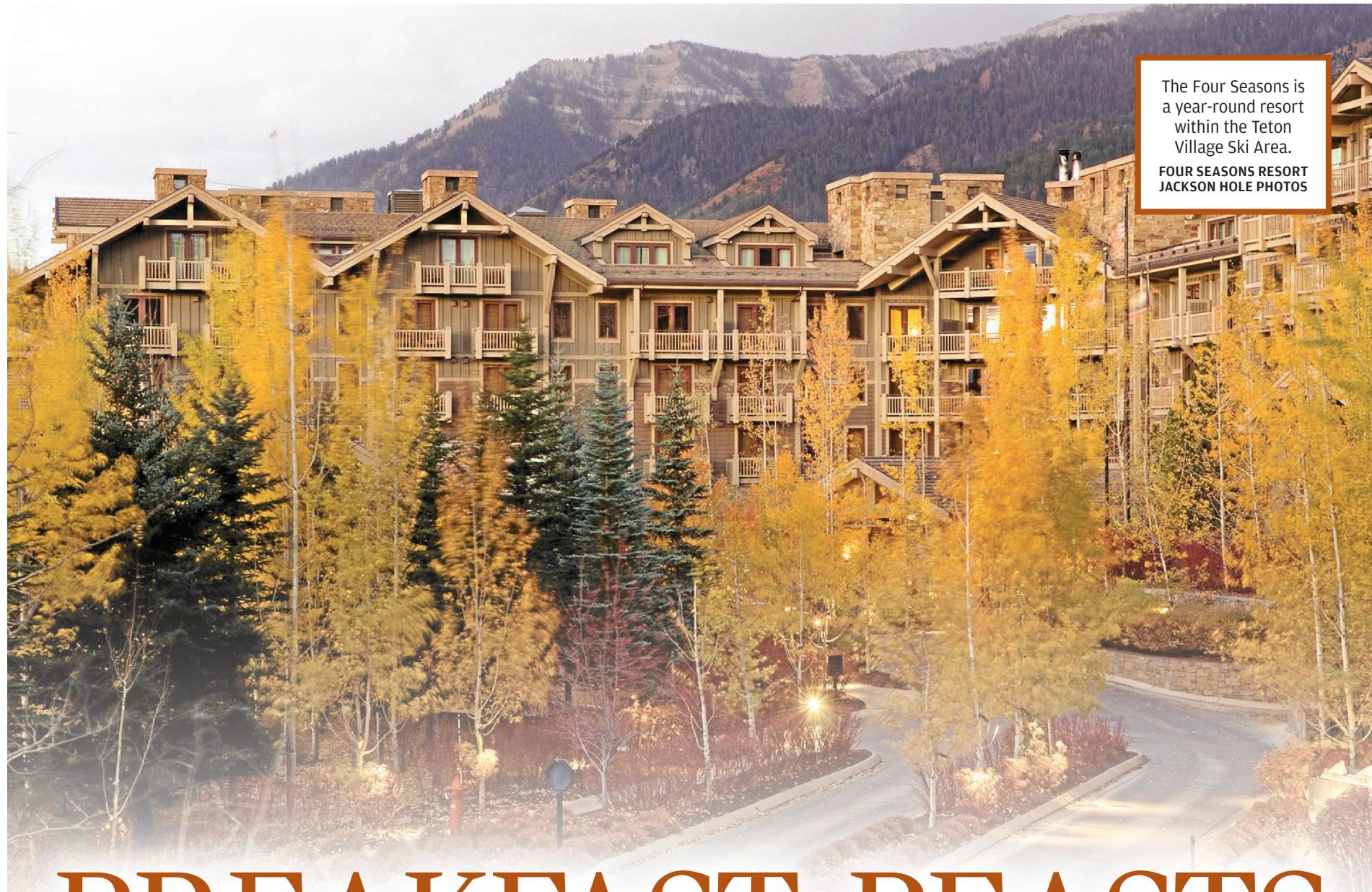
What's different this year?

The IRS expanded a program that allows people to file their taxes directly with the agency for free.

The federal Direct File program, which permits taxpayers to calculate and submit their returns without using commercial tax preparation software, is now available to taxpayers in 25 states, up from 12 states that were part of last year's pilot program.

The program allows people in some states with very simple W-2s to calculate and submit their returns directly to the IRS. Those using the pilot program in 2024 claimed more than \$90 million in refunds, the IRS said in October.

TRAVEL



The Four Seasons is a year-round resort within the Teton Village Ski Area.

FOUR SEASONS RESORT JACKET HOLE PHOTOS

BREAKFAST, BEASTS AND BARSTOOLS

From high-altitude waffles to real-life cowboys, picturesque Jackson Hole has much to discover

PATTI NICKELL
Tribune News Service

'Do waffles really taste different at 10,450 feet above sea level?"

I pondered that existential question as the aerial tram inched its way out of the station at the base of Wyoming's Jackson Hole Mountain Resort for the 12-minute ascent to Corbet's Cabin at the summit of Rendezvous Mountain in the Grand Teton Range.

The mountaintop cabin with its scattering of tables inside and on the outdoor deck is open from mid-May to mid-October, drawing locals and tourists alike who come for the four varieties of mouthwatering waffles.

Once inside — there's usually a waffle line stretching across the mountaintop — I had a hard time deciding whether it would be the Gateway (peanut butter and bacon); Italian (strawberries and Nutella); Englishman (lemon glaze, powdered sugar and whipped cream); or the one I finally settled on — the Trad (for traditional, brown sugar and butter).

Wolfing it down and debating going back for seconds, I understood what all the fuss was about. And, yes, I can vouch for the fact that at this altitude waffles do taste different.

Beyond the slopes

Winter may bring epic snowfalls and the skiers who follow them, but according to tourism officials, the most popular times to visit are summer and fall.

My own visit came during a glorious pine-scented, sun-dappled week in September, leading me to see why.

For starters, there's the 310,000-acre Grand Teton National Park, a tapestry of verdant valleys, mountain meadows, alpine lakes and soaring peaks, dominated by Grand Teton, at 13,775 feet the highest mountain in the range.

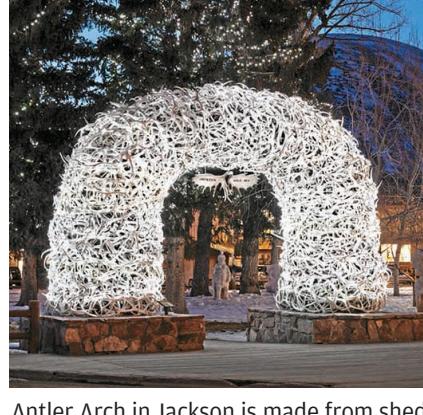
The park offers recreational activities galore — from hiking, biking and backpacking on 250 miles of trails to a 14-mile float on the Snake River; from flyfishing and horseback riding to wildlife safaris that rival anything on the continent.

One place you won't want to skip is the town of Jackson itself. Wyoming is known as the Cowboy State, and it's clear why in this lovely town of just under 11,000 residents.

Sure, there are the ultra-rich whose cowboy hats sport diamond bands and whose custom-made boots would set most people back a month's wages.

But there are the real cowboys, too — those who are familiar with the back of a bucking bronc and whose hats and boots show the wear and tear of their rigorous profession. Both kinds mingle at Jackson's premier watering hole, the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar, on the town's main square.

I moseyed in one afternoon, threw



Antler Arch in Jackson is made from shed antlers from the National Elk Refuge.



See wildlife, like a bear with her cubs, on a safari in Grand Teton National Park.



The Westbank Grill is one of the dining options at Four Seasons Resort Jackson Hole.



In Grand Teton National Park, bison crossing the road have the right of way.

my leg over the saddle-shaped barstool and listened as the barkeep told me the story behind the bullet hole in the bar (just one, I thought).

In more recent years, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Tanya Tucker and Clint Black have all made their way to the bar's stage, with the sound of the spinning roulette wheels serving as background music.

The bar is also the site every October of "Cowgirls at the Cowboy," the nation's only all-female bluegrass and country music festival.



The Four Seasons' 80 Proof Speakeasy features literary-character cocktails.

If you're looking for a great photo op, look no further than the Town Square and its unique archway composed of hundreds of antlers shed by elk from the nearby National Elk Refuge.

Check out the National Museum of Wildlife, or, if you prefer to buy Western art, stop at Gallery Wilde, where 35 artists, most of them regional, display their work.

Should your visit coincide with Labor Day, stick around for the Fall Arts Festival, which starts the day after and continues for two weeks.

Naturally indulgent

Of course, you'll need a place to stay, and there is none better than the Four Seasons Resort. Located in Teton Village, the property combines the Western aesthetic with the elegance that is a Four Seasons trademark.

For an elegant dinner, book a table by the window in WestBank Grill offering a panoramic view of Teton Village and Rendezvous Mountain. A large stone fireplace and open kitchen highlight the decor, and steaks are the specialty, though many guests opt for the sampling menu (\$60 for three courses).

That same panoramic view can be seen from the massive bank of windows at The Handle Bar, the resort's more casual dining option. I found myself returning to a table by the stone fireplace for the smoked Idaho trout dip and the Handlebar burger — always being careful to observe the bar rules, strictly enforced: "There's nothing wrong with drinking before noon"; "If there is ever any confusion, the fuller beer is yours"; and my personal favorite, "Patrons must have fun ... this is not the place for Buzz Killington or Debbie Downer."

Another favorite spot was 80 Proof, a speakeasy whose manager Nick Gatz can best be described as a literary savant. Grab a cocktail and invite Nick over to discuss how his favorite fictional characters became inspiration for his favorite drinks. Try the tequila-based Pedro Romero, named for the fiery bullfighter of Hemingway's "The Sun Also Rises," or the Caraway in honor of F. Scott Fitzgerald's narrator in "The Great Gatsby," described as "bananas Foster in a glass."

Wild encounters

The highlight of my stay was a half-day private sunset wildlife tour, which while admittedly pricey (\$645 for up to two people, \$85 for each additional person) is an adventure of a lifetime.

With my guide, Seth Ames, leading the way, I watched graceful kestrels pirouetting above me, a shy coyote camouflaged among the sagebrush, and pronghorn antelope and bull elk nonchalantly grazing.

One of the most thrilling moments of the four-hour tour had to be getting caught in a traffic jam caused by a herd of bison (there are more than 500 in Grand Teton National Park) who, knowing they were in control, seemed in no hurry to move things along.

I thought that would have been enough, but we weren't through. Seth's sharp eyes spotted a black bear surreptitiously making its way through the trees.

The scene was magic, and convinced me that Jackson Hole has to be the most beautiful spot in America.

Travel well and smart: Point your phone camera at this code, then tap the link for EasyTravel101.com.

NEWSVU

Sports

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

TDN.COM

SECTION B

Tryouts for
Kelso Babe
Ruth baseball
are coming up

PAGE B2



With All-Star
break over,
NBA enters
home stretch

PAGE B7

MONARCHS HANG ON



DAN ROSENFIELD, THE DAILY NEWS

Mark Morris' Dalton Stevens looks for a teammate to pass to in a game against W.F. West on Saturday, Feb. 15 at Bill Bakamus Gymnasium. Stevens finished with 26 points and was recently named the 2A GSHL co-player of the year.

MM survives scare from W.F. West in district quarterfinals

DAN ROSENFIELD
drosenfield@tdn.com

After the Monarchs led 30-27 at halftime on Saturday, the Bearcats took the lead with two straight buckets to start the third quarter, with the latter coming off of an offensive rebound.

Mark Morris coach Ken Kelly saw enough and called a timeout just one minute into the frame.

"I was gonna sub myself in, see if I could get in and block somebody out ... Those 50-50 balls weren't really 50-50 balls," he said. "They were more like 70-30 balls for them, and that just can't happen in playoff basketball."

That timeout got the Monarchs going. Shortly after, they went on an 11-0 run to blow the game against W.F. West open and take a 45-37 after the period.

They continued to pour it on in the fourth quarter, hitting four 3s to stretch their lead out even further and hung on for the 65-51 victory to advance to the district semifinals.

"I think the resiliency ... showed up

again, you know, and I've told them all week that this is not gonna be a game where you're up 20 points at the half," Kelly said. "They're just too tough, they're too big, they're too strong, they rebound the ball too well."

'That's in'

Drew Ibaretta got going with 8 points in the fourth quarter and hit two 3s in the frame. He had three triples in the second half and finished with 16 points.

"I know a couple of times when he got the ball out and went to shoot those threes, I just turned to (Steve) Kloke on the bench like, 'that's in' because you just know it's gonna go in with him," Kelly said.

'Will us to win'

Mark Morris wasn't always in control of the game at Bill Bakamus Gymnasium, however. The team was behind for most of the contest, including 11-6 early in the first quarter and 26-21 with about two minutes left in the first half.

Dalton Stevens, the newly-named 2A

Greater St. Helens League co-player of the year, helped the Monarchs take the lead late in the second quarter at 27-26 after grabbing a steal and throwing down a ferocious fast-break slam followed by hitting two free throws.

"When he's going like that, we're going with him," Ibaretta said. "When he's doing that stuff, it's just like a kind of a spark for us too."

Stevens took over at a crucial moment again in the third quarter and helped spark the 11-0 run and put the Monarchs up 41-37 after a coast-to-coast dunk followed by a fastbreak layup. He finished with a game-high 26 points.

"Dalton does what Dalton does and whenever he gets a rebound, if he sees a lane to punch, he's gonna punch that thing and he's hard to catch, he's hard to stop, he's hard to block ... sometimes he'll just kind of will us to win," Kelly said.

The unsung heroes

Please see MARK MORRIS, Page B3

Crane's 30-piece lifts Jacks

Lumberjacks advance to the semi-finals of 2A District IV Tournament

ANDREW LWOWSKI
alwowski@tdn.com

R.A. Long didn't lose a step.

The Lumberjacks (20-1, 13-1) hardly showed any signs of rust despite having an eight-day break between their last game — a dramatic win over Mark Morris for the 2A Greater St. Helens League title.

The break was the longest the Jacks have faced since the transition into the new year.

But it didn't matter. Behind Joshua Crane's 30-point performance, the Lumberjacks dismantled Washougal 72-47 in the 2A District IV quarter finals Saturday to advance to the semifinals.

R.A. Long swept the Panthers in the regular season, winning 82-53 on Dec. 12 and 68-34 on Jan. 22.

R.A. Long quickly built an early 9-0 lead and held a 22-11 advantage by the end of the first quarter. Between its pesky defense and ability to find the net at the other end, R.A. Long had put the game out of reach by half with a 39-21 lead.



Andrew Lwowski, The Daily News

Joshua Crane (21) stands by the free throw line during the Lumberjacks win over Washougal Saturday, Feb. 15 in the Lumberdome.

Please see JACKS, Page B3

SCORES

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

BOYS BASKETBALL

R.A. Long def. Washougal, 72-47

- Joshua Crane – 30 points
- Cameron Newsome – 13 points

Mark Morris def. W F West, 65-51

Mossyrock def. Toutle Lake, 64-38
Faith Bible / Life Christian def. Clatskanie, 58-37

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Mossyrock def. Toutle Lake, 53-40

Clatskanie def. Faith Bible / Life Christian, 53-21

Kelso def. Thomas Jefferson, 46-40

2A GIRLS WRESTLING

R.A. Long girls moving on to state

- Althea Nichole Walker (125lbs) – 3rd place
- Josephine Sully (130lbs) – 2nd place
- Bailee Graff (145lbs) – 5th place
- Eva Olson (155lbs) – 8th place
- Raileea Campbell (170lbs) – 3rd place
- Madalynn Cauch (235lbs) – 4th place

Mark Morris girls moving on to state

- Alexa Phillips (100lbs) – 4th place
- Liliana Rodriguez-Flores (115lbs) – 5th place
- Liza Lasley (115lbs) – 6th place
- Olivia Sully (135lbs) – 3rd place

BOYS SWIMMING

3A 2025 District IV Championship

- Kelso – 258
- Prairie – 255
- Shelton – 244
- Mountain View – 195
- Evergreen – 26
- Heritage – 6

2A 2025 District IV Championship

- Anakin Isenhart (MM) – 100 Breaststroke, 1:05.50, T-1st Allocates to State Champs
- Zach Pechacek (MM) – 100 Free, 57.58, 3rd Allocates to State Champs
- Keagan Young (MM) – 500 Free, 6:13.09 PR by over 4 seconds
- Conner Johnson (RAL) – 500 Free, 5:57.71 PR by over 6 seconds, 1st time under 6 min
- Noah Moriarty (RAL) – 200 IM, 2:56.27 PR by over 4 seconds
- Adrian Vazquez-Alcaraz (RAL) – 100 Free, 1:07.29 PR by over 4 seconds (Relay lead-off)

NWAC MENS BASKETBALL

Lower Columbia College def. S Puget Sound, 90-78

- Kap Laila – 24 points
- Amir Locus – 20 points

NWACWOMENS BASKETBALL

Lower Columbia College def. S Puget Sound, 67-57

- Lauren Katyryniuk – 17 points
- Reigha Niemeyer – 16 points

BOYS BASKETBALL

R.A. Long def. Washougal, 72-47

- Joshua Crane – 30 points
- Cameron Newsome – 13 points

Mark Morris def. W F West, 65-51

Mossyrock def. Toutle Lake, 64-38

Faith Bible / Life Christian def. Clatskanie, 58-37

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Mossyrock def. Toutle Lake, 53-40

Clatskanie def. Faith Bible / Life Christian, 53-21

Kelso def. Thomas Jefferson, 46-40

GIRLS WRESTLING

R.A. Long girls moving on to state

- Althea Nichole Walker (125lbs) – 3rd place
- Josephine Sully (130lbs) – 2nd place
- Bailee Graff (145lbs) – 5th place
- Eva Olson (155lbs) – 8th place
- Raileea Campbell (170lbs) – 3rd place
- Madalynn Cauch (235lbs) – 4th place

Mark Morris girls moving on to state

- Alexa Phillips (100lbs) – 4th place
- Liliana Rodriguez-Flores (115lbs) – 5th place
- Liza Lasley (115lbs) – 6th place
- Olivia Sully (135lbs) – 3rd place

BOYS SWIMMING

3A 2025 District IV Championship:

- Kelso – 258
- Prairie – 255
- Shelton – 244
- Mountain View – 195
- Evergreen – 26
- Heritage – 6

2A 2025 District IV Championship

- Anakin Isenhart (MM) – 100 Breaststroke, 1:05.50, T-1st Allocates to State Champs
- Zach Pechacek (MM) – 100 Free, 57.58, 3rd Allocates to State Champs
- Keagan Young (MM) – 500 Free, 6:13.09 PR by over 4 seconds
- Conner Johnson (RAL) – 500 Free, 5:57.71 PR by over 6 seconds, 1st time under 6 min
- Noah Moriarty (RAL) – 200 IM, 2:56.27 PR by over 4 seconds
- Adrian Vazquez-Alcaraz (RAL) – 100 Free, 1:07.29 PR by over 4 seconds (Relay lead-off)

NWAC MENS BASKETBALL

Lower Columbia College def. S Puget Sound, 90-78

- Kap Laila – 24 points
- Amir Locus – 20 points

NWACWOMENS BASKETBALL

Lower Columbia College def. S Puget Sound, 67-57

- Lauren Katyryniuk – 17 points
- Reigha Niemeyer – 16 points

SPORTS

UPCOMING SPORTS EVENTS IN THE AREA

TUESDAY, FEB. 18

Boys Basketball

6 p.m., R.A. Long vs Columbia River - 2A Districts / The Lumberdome
6 p.m., Mark Morris vs Ridgefield - 2A Districts / Bill Bakamus Gymnasium

THURSDAY, FEB. 20

Boys Basketball

6 p.m., TBD vs TBD - 2A Districts / Woodland HS
7:45 p.m., TBD vs TBD - 2A Districts / Woodland HS

FRIDAY, FEB. 21

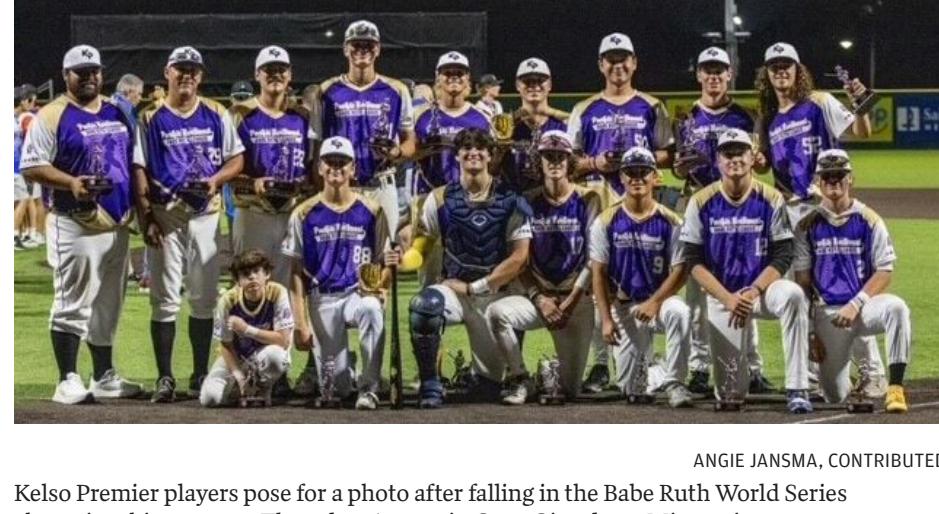
Boys Basketball

8 p.m., TBD vs TBD - 2A Districts - Championship / Kelso HS

Girls Basketball

6 p.m., TBD vs TBD - 2A Districts - Championship / Kelso HS

Babe Ruth tryouts coming



ANGIE JANSMA, CONTRIBUTED

Kelso Premier players pose for a photo after falling in the Babe Ruth World Series championship game on Thursday, Aug. 15 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

ANDREW LWOWSKI
alwowski@tdn.com

Interested in playing baseball? The Kelso Babe Ruth League – for players

looking to continue playing past the age of 12 – starts in March.

Registration for the 2025 season for those ages 13 to 16 years old opened Jan. 1.

Tryouts will be held on Feb. 23 from 1-2 p.m., Feb. 24 from 6-7 p.m., Feb. 27 from 6-7 p.m., and March 1 from 1-2 p.m.

All players aging 13 to 16 years old will be accepted, but must attend at least two tryout sessions. Players must check-in with the

Rister Stadium clubhouse in Tam O'Shanter Park on the day of tryouts.

Draft Day is March 2.

The league is an open district and accepts all players from neighboring cities. All new or returning players must be registered

and pay the \$250 registration fee, which is due by the opening ceremony.

Players, parents or guardians can register at tryouts, on Facebook for Kelso Babe Ruth Baseball, or online at Kelsobabe-ruthleague.spotngin.com.

All 13-, 14- and new 15-year-olds are required to try out while returning 15-year-olds will remain

on the same team, Malanie McMaster of Kelso Babe Ruth Baseball posted on its Facebook page.

Local leagues, such as Kelso's, are independent but operate within the Babe Ruth Baseball guidelines.

The Babe Ruth League is a nonprofit educational league that aims to "make better citizens through proper supervision of regulation of competitive baseball and softball in addition to promoting mental and physical development," according to its website.

‘Big League Stuff’

Freshman from Idaho poised to become the next big star of Oregon State University baseball program

JOE FREEMAN

The Oregonian

CORVALLIS – The future of the Oregon State baseball program was forever changed seven years ago, when a skinny, 12-year-old kid plopped down at a Buffalo Wild Wings and peered up at a television.

The Beavers were in Omaha, barreling their way toward the third national championship in school history. Dax Whitney was in the middle of the summer travel baseball season, and his team stopped by the restaurant for a bite to eat in between games.

Oregon State just happened to be playing in the College World Series that day and Whitney was instantly captivated.

"I'm looking at the TV, and it's 2018, and I'm watching them win the World Series," he said. "And just ever since then – that was like my first taste of college baseball – and it was just like, I like Oregon State. It felt like a dream come true for me when I got my (scholarship) offer here."

The dream will come full circle this week, when No. 7 Oregon State opens the 2025 college baseball season and Whitney makes his Beavers debut.

The 6-foot-5 freshman right-hander is expected to be a key part of the rotation, most likely as the Saturday starter, and has the makeup and stuff to become the Beavers' next pitching star.

The Oregon State staff is young and littered with question marks, but it's also teeming with talent. Ten different Beavers hit 94 mph or higher in the fall. Junior Nelson Keljo, who is expected to be the Friday night starter, is widely considered one of the top prospects in the 2025 MLB draft. The sophomore class is so deep and potentially dominant, pitching coach Rich Dorman said, it could produce as many as eight draft picks.

And then there's Whitney.

Even though he hasn't thrown his first collegiate pitch, D1Baseball ranked him 70th on its list of the top 150 starting pitchers in the nation. Perfect Game considers him the fifth-best freshman in the nation. And he was so dominant in high school, MLB.com listed Whitney as

the 56th-best prospect in the 2024 draft.

"Dax is a young phenom," Dorman said. "I hate putting that phenom tag to him, but he's that talented. He could be very special in three years."

So special, in fact, that it was widely assumed Whitney would be preparing for MLB Spring Training this month rather than the college baseball season. He was one of the top prep prospects in last year's draft and a potential first-round pick.

But when draft day arrived last June, an anxious Dorman called to check in on his prized prospect – and see where things stood – only to discover that Whitney was roaming a golf course in his hometown, Blackfoot, Idaho.

"Most kids are setting up their draft party," Dorman said. "And he's out on the course playing golf. With Dax, I was pretty confident he would make it to campus."

In the end, Whitney said, development, the chase for a championship and the allure of the college clubhouse were worth more than a seven-figure professional contract.

"A lot of it was just me thinking about why I love playing baseball," he said. "It's being able to have a team and go dominate with your teammates. I just worried that if I were to go play pro ball (directly from high school), then I was just working for myself to climb the ranks. I knew that if I was going to come here, I would put myself in the best position to win a national championship."

And, according to team insiders, Whitney's desire to pursue a championship has significantly improved Oregon State's chances of reaching Omaha.

He boasts an overpowering four-pitch arsenal that includes a 98 mph fastball, 12-to-6 curveball, slider and changeup.

A self-described "late bloomer," Whitney's fastball topped out at 91 just two years ago. But it surged as he sprouted and, even though he's been on campus only a few months, there has been measurable growth in other areas, too.

Whitney has gained 26 pounds since arriving in Corvallis. And, he says, his secondary pitches have improved



DYLAN JACOBS, MID-VALLEY MEDIA

Freshman pitcher Dax Whitney knows he will have a step up in competition after dominating the prep ranks in Idaho.

significantly in just a few months, thanks to Dorman's guidance, the depth and competitiveness of the staff – and his first deep dive into analytics.

Using cameras, computer programs and OSU's state-of-the-art technology, Whitney spent the fall tweaking more than one of his pitches and fine-tuning the way he thinks about throwing. He spent bullpen sessions scrutinizing everything from his release angles to the metrics of his pitches, leaning on the data of spin rates and flight trajectory to adjust his mechanics and approach.

Perhaps the biggest adjustment came with Whitney's curveball, which, he says, used to be "kind of even with the vertical and horizontal movement ... more like a slurve." But after a minor tweak to his grip, the pitch has evolved into a knee-buckler, featuring a sharp, 12-to-6 break.

"I was kind of unaware ... what my pitches really did and how to make them play better off each other," Whitney said. "So just getting used to all that stuff and

being able to use it effectively has been the biggest jump for me."

In Blackfoot, a remote town of roughly 1,300 people in southeast Idaho, Whitney was so overpowering, his teammates nicknamed him "King." He went 10-0 with a 0.27 ERA and 130 strikeouts as a senior and was, at times, literally unhittable – he threw a perfect game and a no-hitter. Whitney rarely faced trouble on the mound, but if he did, he knew he could "rip a fastball down the middle" and overpower his inferior competition.

It's been a different story at Oregon State, where the Beavers' loaded lineup – and the discovery of analytics – have forced him to embrace the art of pitching.

"I've actually got to execute, hit my spots, execute my pitches – think about how a pitch is setting up for the next one," Whitney said. "So it's just a whole 'nother level of advancement to where everything plays off each other and having to actually execute perfectly."

MARK MORRIS, from B1

While Stevens and Ibaretta did most of the scoring, other guys such as Carson Bogner, who Kelly named as his player of the game, along with Nathan Stephens and Jadyn Brooks, stepped up and did the intangible duties like boxing out and playing great defense.

Kelly said Bogner, who scored 8 points with 6 coming in the first quarter, did a great job boxing out Grady Westlund and made him tired. Jadyn Brooks scored 10 points and played tight defense, holding Gage Brumfield to just 2 points, while Stephens also played stellar defense and hit a timely 3 in the fourth quarter near the end of the shot clock.

"These guys, they've played together forever and they just know how to win, so more than anything else is just about trying to get them in the most advantageous places, but sometimes you just let these guys go play basketball because they just know what to do," Kelly said.

Big challenge up next

The Monarchs will have to get through Ridgefield to get to the district championship game. They fell to the Spudders 58-53 in December on the road before getting revenge with a 73-61 victory a little over a month later at home.

"They beat us once, they had us down here by 11," Kelly said. "Coming back to beat those guys was tough and it took everything we had. That should be a really good basketball team because I really don't believe the (2A) Greater St. Helens League has three great teams. I think they have four."

Ibaretta missed the first meeting with Ridgefield, but played well in the rematch and has high hopes for the third meeting.



DAN ROSENFIELD, THE DAILY NEWS PHOTOS

ABOVE: Mark Morris' Nathan Stephens dribbles the ball in a game against W.F. West on Saturday, Feb. 15 at Bill Bakamus Gymnasium in Longview.

RIGHT: Mark Morris' Drew Ibaretta dribbles the ball in a game against W.F. West on Saturday, Feb. 15 at Bill Bakamus Gymnasium in Longview.



JACKS, from B1

"I want to execute better and I wanna clean it up a little bit, but our own ball defense was amazing," R.A. Long coach Jeray Key said. "I mean, we got out and stole the ball four, five times in a row to get to a 9-point lead, just picking them in the back court. So I'm satisfied with that."

Takeaways often led to points courtesy of Crane, who shot an efficient 10 of 13 from the field and 3 of 7 from beyond the arc. He had only one attempt from

the charity stripe.

"I was feeling it," Crane said. "(We) haven't played in a long time — little trigger happy. (Just) got out there, put up some shots."

Crane opened the scoring for the Lumberjacks in the second half with a step-back 3-pointer and continued his hot streak through the third quarter.

"When he had the mismatch, we took advantage of it," Key said of Crane's success. "They kept switching defenders on him, but, you know, he's a three-level scorer. ... He's



ANDREW LWOWSKI, THE DAILY NEWS PHOTOS

ABOVE: Lumberjacks' TraMayne Jenkins (11) drives toward the basket against Washougal in the 2A District IV tournament quarter finals Saturday, Feb. 15 in Longview.

LEFT: Jeffrey Rookridge (white) goes up for a contested layup against Washougal in the Lumberjacks 2A District IV quarter finals win Saturday, Feb. 15 in Longview.

just a crafty player."

The Lumberjacks led 61-33 heading into the final frame and Key was then able to empty out his bench.

Key said it felt good to get the win, but wasn't sure how his boys would come out after the hiatus, though he was pleased with their performance and effort.

With Columbia River's 70-60 win over Tumwater, the Rapids (17-4, 11-3) and Lumberjacks will meet for an interconference rubber match Tuesday with a trip to the district finals on the line.

The Rapids and the Lumberjacks split their two regular season meetings, each winning on their respective home courts.

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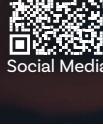
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Small bites, big flavor

How to make Korean fried chicken at home

ALYSE WHITNEY | TheKitchn.com

My platonic ideal of fried chicken is Korean fried chicken. It's ultra-crunchy, juicy and typically glazed with a savory or spicy sauce that sinks into every nook and cranny of the shatteringly crisp crust.

I am a Korean-American adoptee who didn't grow up having fried chicken on the streets of Seoul or made for me at home, but ever since discovering Korean fried chicken more than a decade

ago — post-karaoke at Bonchon in New York City's Koreatown — it's one of my top eats.

This recipe is the result of many trials and errors to find the absolute best way to make Korean fried chicken at home. Pair these chicken bites with a kimchi ranch for dipping and a simple pickled radish for refreshing bites that cut through the decadent fried feast.

Please see KOREAN, Page ZX

Storage, make-ahead tips

If making the fried chicken ahead, do not glaze it. Instead, store the glaze separately and store the chicken bites in a paper-towel-lined airtight container (this will help absorb moisture and grease and keep the chicken crispy).

To reheat chicken, bake or air-fry at 350 F for eight to 10 minutes, and then toss with glaze.

Leftover fried chicken will keep for about four days in the fridge. For longer storage, freeze the chicken in a single layer on a parchment-lined sheet tray that will fit in your freezer, then transfer to a zip-top freezer bag or airtight container and store for up to three months. Add about five minutes to the aforementioned reheat time.

EATINGWELL

Jazz up a can of tuna with this easy recipe

KAREN RANKIN | EatingWell

Silky avocado adds creaminess that's cut with a hit of acidity from lemon and a briny punch from feta cheese. Romaine hearts and cucumber offer a refreshing crunch.

EatingWell is a magazine and website devoted to healthy eating as a way of life. Online at www.eatingwell.com.

 Cook and dine with style: Point your phone camera at this code, then tap the link for TastyRecipes101.com. NEWSVU

Avocado tuna salad servings: 6

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 medium avocados, chopped (about 2 1/2 cups)
- 2 (5-ounce) cans solid white tuna in oil, drained and flaked
- 4 cups chopped romaine hearts
- 1 cup chopped English cucumber
- 1/3 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup toasted sliced almonds
- 1/4 cup chopped pitted Kalamata olives
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

Directions

Whisk oil, lemon juice and salt together in a large bowl; add avocados and toss gently to coat thoroughly. Add tuna, romaine, cucumber, feta, almonds, olives and parsley to the avocado mixture; toss gently to combine.

Serve immediately or refrigerate for up to 1 hour.

Nutrition per serving: 338 calories, 27 g total fat, 4 g saturated fat, 22 mg cholesterol, 10 g carbohydrates, 6 g fiber, 2 g total sugars, 17 g protein, 478 mg sodium, 529 mg potassium, 1,067 IU vitamin A.



GRETCHEN'S TABLE

GRETCHEN MCKAY,
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Citrus tartlets

Yield: Makes one 9-inch tart or 12 individual-sized tartlets

For pastry crust

- 3 tablespoons water
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons white sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon kosher salt
- 10 tablespoons salted butter, cut into slices and chilled
- 2 tablespoons sour cream

For filling

- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup white sugar
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon zest
- 2 teaspoons grated orange zest
- $\frac{1}{6}$ teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 large eggs, plus 2 yolks
- 6 tablespoons heavy cream
- Juice of 2 lemons
- 3 tablespoons orange juice

For crust

In small bowl, whisk together the water and cornstarch. Microwave until set, 30 to 40 seconds, stirring halfway through. Chill in the freezer for 10 minutes.

Once cornstarch mixture is chilled, in a food processor, combine the flour, sugar and salt, then process until mixed, about 5 seconds.

Add the cornstarch mixture, and pulse until ground. Add the butter and sour cream, then process until dough comes together and begins to collect on the blade.

Pat the dough into a 4-inch disk, wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least an hour (and up to 48 hours).

When ready to bake, preheat oven to 375 F with rack in middle position.

On a well-floured counter, roll the dough into a 12-inch circle. Hang the dough over the rolling pin and transfer to a 9-inch tart pan.

Gently ease the dough into the pan. Trim the edges, leaving a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch overhang. Tuck overhang under itself so the dough is flush with the rim of the pan.

Crimp the dough with your fingers or tine of a fork, then chill in freezer for 15 minutes.

Blind bake the crust: Line the chilled crust with heavy-duty foil and fill with enough pie weights to come three-quarters up.

Bake until the edges are light golden brown, about 25 to 30 minutes, rotating pan halfway through.

Remove the foil and weights and bake until the bottom of the crust just begins to color, another 5 to 7 minutes. Let cool on wire rack for 1 hour before filling. (Once baked, crust can be wrapped in plastic and kept at room temperature for up to 2 days.)

For filling

In a bowl, combine sugar, both zest and salt. Rub together with your fingers until fragrant and mixture begins to clump.

Add the eggs and yolks and whisk until pale and slightly thickened, about 1 minute. Whisk in the cream and juices; skim the foam off the top.

Pour the filling into the warm tart shell and bake on baking sheet on the middle rack until set, about 25 minutes. Cool in pan on a wire rack until room temperature, at least 1 hour.

Remove the outer metal ring and serve, or chill completely before serving.

— Adapted from "Milk Street: The New Home Cooking" by Christopher Kimball

ZEST WISHES

Citrus tartlets combine tangy lemon and orange in a buttery pastry

GRETCHEN MCKAY | Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

This easy dessert recipe combines the bright, tangy bite of lemon with the sweeter, mellow flavor of orange in a classic, buttery tart.

The original recipe calls for making one large tart to be cut into slices, but I decided to portion the crust and filling into 12 mini-tartlet pans to make it an easy grab-and-go dessert. I also topped the tartlets with a

dusting of powdered sugar, but you could dollop on a teaspoon of whipped cream.

The tarts are best at room temperature or when slightly chilled (which allows the filling to set). You definitely want to blind bake the pastry (without filling) to avoid the dreaded soggy bottom.

Once assembled, the citrus tartlets should be kept in the fridge. They'll stay crispy for two days.

Korean

From ZX

Korean fried chicken

Servings: 4 to 6

For the glaze

- 10 cloves garlic
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup soy sauce or tamari
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup packed light brown sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup rice vinegar
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon water
- 2 tablespoons gochujang paste
- 2 teaspoons toasted sesame oil

For the fried chicken

- 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs, preferably large
- 2 cups cornstarch, divided
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoons kosher salt, divided, plus more for seasoning
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons ground white pepper, divided
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons baking powder, divided
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1 ($\frac{1}{2}$ -inch) piece ginger
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup cold water
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce or tamari
- 1 tablespoon rice vinegar
- 5 cups canola oil, or another high-smoke-point neutral oil

For serving

- Scallions thinly sliced on a diagonal, toasted sesame seeds (optional garnish)
- Kimchi ranch and pickled radishes (optional, see recipes)

Make the glaze

Finely chop garlic cloves (about $\frac{1}{2}$ cup). Place the garlic and canola oil in a small saucepan over medium-low heat (this allows the garlic to infuse to the oil as it heats up). Cook, stirring frequently, until the garlic is fragrant and lightly golden-brown, 3 to 6 minutes.

Add soy sauce, brown sugar and rice vinegar. Increase the heat to medium high and bring to a simmer. Meanwhile, place cornstarch and water in a small bowl and whisk until the cornstarch is suspended.

Add the cornstarch slurry to the simmering sauce and cook, whisking often, until bubbling and thickened. Turn off the heat. Add gochujang and toasted sesame oil, and whisk to combine. Transfer to a large bowl.

Make the fried chicken

Pat chicken thighs dry with paper towels. Cut into rough 2-inch pieces (about 5 per thigh).

Make the dredge: Place garlic powder, ground ginger, 1 cup of the cornstarch, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of the baking powder, $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon of the kosher salt and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of the ground white pepper in a medium bowl and whisk to combine.

Make the batter: Place the remaining 1 cup cornstarch, 1 teaspoon baking powder, $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons kosher salt and 1 teaspoon ground white pepper in a second medium bowl. Finely grate garlic cloves and place into a bowl with peeled ginger. Add water, soy sauce and rice vinegar. Whisk until combined.

Heat canola oil in a heavy-bot-

omed pot or deep skillet over medium heat until 350 F. (Test if it's hot enough by dropping a bit of the batter into the oil and see if it bubbles immediately, or insert a wooden chopstick and see if bubbles appear.) Meanwhile, line a baking sheet with paper towels or fit with a wire rack. Coat as much of the chicken as you can while the oil heats.

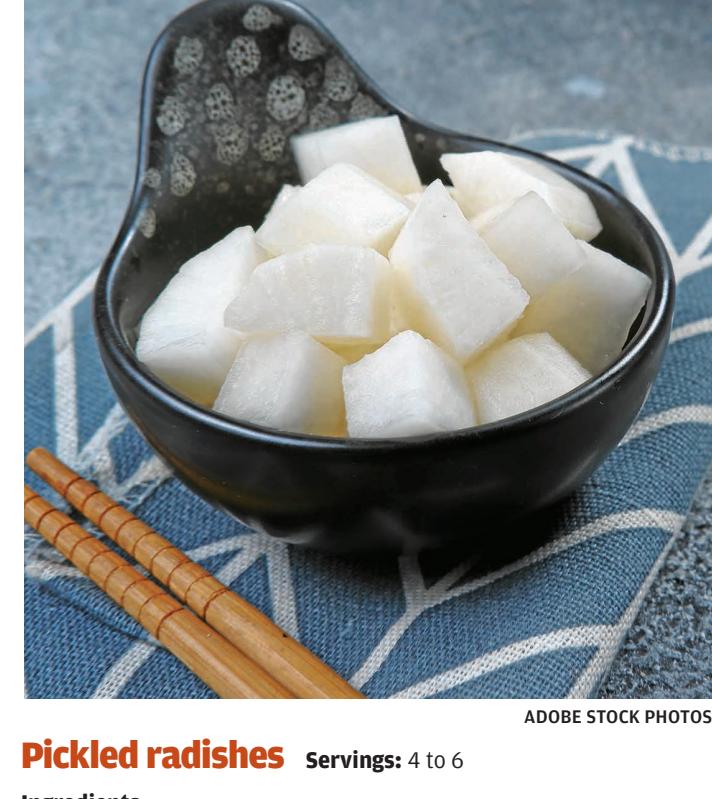
Coat the chicken in batches of 8 to 10 pieces: Add to the dredge and toss until evenly coated. Shake off the excess, then add to the batter and toss. Let the excess batter drip off, then return back to the dredge bowl, pressing the cornstarch mixture into the chicken to help create more craggy, crunchy bits. Transfer to a second baking sheet. Rewhisk the batter occasionally as you're coating the chicken, and add a little water as needed if it starts to get too thick.

Fry the chicken in batches of 8 to 10 pieces: Add one at a time into the hot oil and fry, stirring occasionally, until cooked through and golden-brown, 6 to 8 minutes. Transfer with a slotted spoon or spider to the wire rack or paper towels. Sprinkle with kosher salt.

Toss the chicken in the glaze in batches until evenly coated. Garnish with toasted sesame seeds and sliced scallions, and serve with kimchi ranch and pickled radishes if desired.

Recipe note: The glaze can be made up to 1 day ahead and refrigerated in an airtight container. Rewarm before using.

Gochujang paste



ADBE STOCK PHOTOS

Pickled radishes

Servings: 4 to 6

Ingredients

- 1 cup hot water
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup granulated sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup distilled white vinegar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tablespoons kosher salt
- 1 pound Korean mu radish or Japanese daikon

Directions

Place water, sugar, vinegar and salt in a 1-quart container with a lid (such as a glass jar or deli container). Stir until the sugar and salt are dissolved.

Peel and cut the radish into $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cubes. Add to the vinegar mixture and stir to combine. Cover and refrigerate for at least 12 hours to pickle, but at least 24 hours is even better.

Pickled radishes can be stored for a few months in an airtight container in the fridge, as long as pieces are covered in brine.

Kimchi ranch

Servings: 4 to 6

Ingredients

- 2 cloves garlic
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup drained napa cabbage kimchi
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup buttermilk
- 1 tablespoon kimchi brine
- 1 (1-ounce) packet ranch seasoning powder
- 1 teaspoon granulated sugar, plus more as needed (optional)

Directions

Prepare the following, adding each to the same medium bowl as you complete it: Finely grate garlic. Very finely chop drained napa cabbage kimchi.

Add mayonnaise, buttermilk, kimchi brine and ranch seasoning powder. Stir to combine. Taste and add sugar if desired.

Kimchi ranch can be stored for up to 2 weeks in an airtight container in the fridge — but do not freeze, as the dairy will not thaw to the right texture.

DVD RELEASES



BRAVE A NIGHT OF GOTHIC HORROR

'Nosferatu' tops this week's video picks

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

A remake of a classic early vampire film tops the DVD releases for this week.

A newlywed marriage is torn apart by the obsessions of the vampire Count Orlok in "Nosferatu," filmmaker Robert Eggers' take on the Gothic horror tale.

"Eggers grabs you from the opening sequence, when Lily-Rose Depp's young Ellen calls out at night for someone or something, which, unfortunately for her, proves to be the evil force Nosferatu," writes The News-Herald critic Mark Meszoros in his review. "In these first few moments, Eggers gives us ecstasy, horror and, finally, darkness."

Also new on DVD today

"The Lord of the Rings: The War of the Rohirrim": This animated film uses the voices of Brian Cox and Miranda Otto to tell the story — visually inspired by Peter Jackson's trilogy — of legendary King Helm Hammerhand, who became the namesake of Helm's Deep.

"September 5": Follows the ABC Sports team as they cover

the Munich massacre at the 1972 Olympic Games live. Starring Peter Sarsgaard, John Magara and Ben Chaplin.

"The Order": In this drama, based on true events that took place in the Pacific Northwest in the 1980s, Jude Law plays an FBI agent in pursuit of the leader (Nicholas Hoult) of a white-supremacist terrorist group.

"Weekend in Taipei": Action thriller starring Luke Evans as an undercover DEA agent who mixes love and work during a mission in Taiwan's capital.

"Little Bites": A mother allows a monstrous creature to nibble away at her flesh as she attempts to shield her daughter from harm in this horror flick.

"100 Yards": Set in 1920s China, this action film finds the son and apprentice of a martial-arts master vying for control of his academy following his death.

"Monster High: Season 2": They're still too ghoul for school as the Nickelodeon animated series based on the toy franchise returns for a second season.

"Panda Plan": Jackie Chan, playing himself, stars in this action comedy in which the actor has to rescue a zoo panda that is targeted by an international crime syndicate.

"Last Summer": Janus Con-

temporaries release of French director Catherine Breillat's erotic thriller about a married lawyer who has a torrid affair with her teenage stepson.

Out on digital HD today

"Mufasa: The Lion King": This prequel to "The Lion King" shares the coming-of-age story of King Mufasa and details the rift between him and his brother Scar.

"The Brutalist": Adrien Brody portrays an architect who is a Holocaust survivor in this drama, which earned 10 Academy Award nominations. Brady Corbet directs, and the large supporting cast boasts Felicity Jones and Guy Pearce.

"The Last Showgirl": Gia Coppola, granddaughter of Francis Ford Coppola, directs Pamela Anderson in a tale of an aging Vegas showgirl who faces an uncertain future when her show closes.

"The Seed of the Sacred Fig": Iranian filmmaker Mohammad Rasoulof shot this claustrophobic thriller in secret before being forced into exile.

"Jade": When a hard drive with sensitive Interpol intel threatens to fall into the wrong hands, a woman is forced to brush off her special set of skills and track it down.

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

Madonna making music for 'Confessions Part 2'

Madonna is working on a follow-up to her 2005 album "Confessions on a Dance Floor."

The pop superstar, 66, has confirmed she's been busy recording new music and she's called her latest project "Confessions Part 2," suggesting the record is going to be disco- and electro-pop-themed like its predecessor, which included the singles "Hung Up," "Sorry" and "Jump."

In a post on Instagram, Madonna wrote: "I'm putting my heart and soul into my new music and I can't wait to share it with you!! 'Confessions Part 2.'"

She added a gallery of pictures that showed her in a recording studio alongside producer/DJ Stuart Price, who previously worked on "Confessions on a Dance Floor" as well as several songs for her 2003 album "American Life."

Price also collaborated with the star on tours including the 2001 Drowned World Tour, her Re-Invention World Tour in 2004 and the 2006 Confessions Tour as well as her last trek, The Celebration Tour, which ran from 2023 until 2024.

The new record will mark Madonna's first album since 2019's "Madame X."

BIRTHDAYS FOR FEB. 18

Vocalist **Yoko Ono** is 92. Singer



Travolta

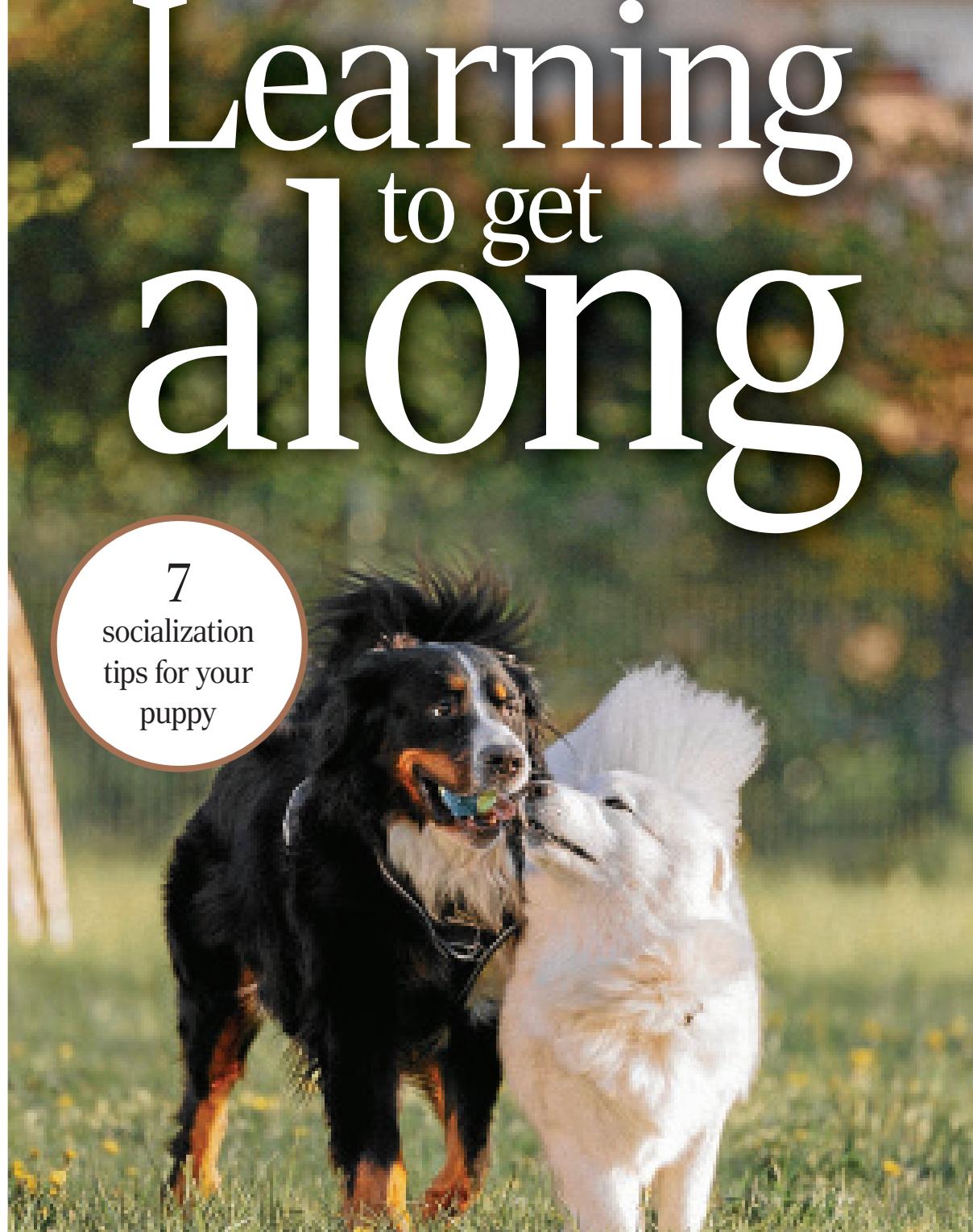


Dr. Dre

Vanna White ("Wheel of Fortune") is 68. Actor **Jayne Atkinson** ("Criminal Minds") is 66. Actor **Matt Dillon** is 61. Rapper **Dr. Dre** is 60. Actor **Molly Ringwald** is 57. Actor **Sarah Brown** ("As the World Turns") is 50. Guitarist-keyboardist **Trevor Rosen** of Old Dominion is 50. Actor **Ike Barinholtz** ("The Mindy Project") is 48.

— Associated Press

PETS | ADVICE



7
socialization
tips for your
puppy

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Socializing your pup is an important part of being a responsible dog owner. Making sure your dog is comfortable and well-behaved around others is critical and should start early on in their training. It is key to start exposing your puppy to new people, places and situations as soon as you can for them to feel happy and confident throughout their life.

The American Kennel Club offers dog owners the following tips to help socialize their puppies.

1 Start slow

Start by exposing your puppy to different people, places and things each day. Slowly build up to taking your dog to the dog park, as their first experience can be overwhelming, especially if your dog is nervous around other dogs.

2 Follow the nose

By nature, when you first bring your pup home, they will start to sniff people and things around them to familiarize themselves with their new environment. It is a good idea to introduce them to different smells. The earlier you start to socialize your dog, the better.

3 Set up a play date

Plan a time to meet someone with one dog at a specific time to slowly introduce your pup to other dogs. Make sure that this dog is well-mannered, polite and calm. This will show your pup what an acceptable greeting looks like. It is a good idea to schedule these meetings after you've exercised your dog a bit to drain some of their energy so they are calm and not overly excited to meet a new friend.

4 Sign up for classes

Group training classes will expose your puppy to other people and dogs in a safe, structured environment. There are classes available for socializing puppies and teaching older dogs basic commands. A dog-training class will help you and your pup develop a successful relationship.

5 Go easy on the leash

Be mindful when your dog approaches other dogs, and try not to restrain them forcefully. This could cause your dog to assume an unintentionally aggressive posture that can be misunderstood by other dogs. Using a harness to reduce pulling can help.

6 Socialize with all types of dogs

Make sure you expose your pup to different types of dogs — big, small, active, loud, quiet, etc. If your dog has only ever met dogs of the same type, imagine their surprise the first time they meet a different breed.

7 Supervise

It is important to always supervise interactions and play time between your dog and others. You want to make sure that your dog and the others are behaving appropriately and no situations arise.



Have more fun with pets: Point your phone camera at this code, then tap the link for Whiskers101.com. **NEWSVU**

The chase is on: NBA enters home stretch

TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

The trade deadline is gone. The All-Star break is about to end. Luka Doncic is with the Los Angeles Lakers. Jimmy Butler is with the Golden State Warriors. Anthony Davis is with the Dallas Mavericks, though it's unknown when he'll play again.

The dust has settled. It's time for the stretch run.

Here comes the fun part of the season. Every club has between 26 and 30 games remaining in this 7 1/2-week sprint to the April 13 finish line, play resuming Wednesday when Charlotte faces the Lakers. And teams will point to recent history as proof that just getting into the playoffs means anything can happen: No. 5, No. 6, No. 7 and No. 8 seeds have made their way to the conference finals in the last two years alone.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge," said the Warriors' Stephen Curry, the now two-time All-Star Game MVP. "It's basically a playoff game every single night, and that usually brings the best out of you."

Some teams can go ahead and start planning for the playoffs.

Oklahoma City and Cleveland are both 44-10, tied for the best record in the league. Defending champion Boston, currently No. 2 in the Eastern Conference, remains on pace to obliterate league records for 3-pointers made and attempted in a season. The Celtics, New York, Denver, Houston and the Lakers all have winning percentages over .600, which is an excellent sign — 132 of the last 133 teams to reach the break with such a record have wound up making the postseason.

"We have obviously a pretty good basketball team," said Oklahoma City All-Star guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, the current MVP favorite according to BetMGM Sportsbook. "We have a little bit more experience. We have an opportunity to, for sure, win an NBA championship. Now we're going to have to earn it."

Then there's the other end of the spectrum, that being the teams that are out of the mix.

Over the last 20 seasons, 98.8% of the teams that have winning percentages under .400 at the break wind up missing the playoffs. If that form holds, that eliminates Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Toronto, Charlotte, Utah, New Orleans and Washington.

So, based on the numbers, that means seven teams are in, seven teams are out, and 16 teams remain in the middle fighting for what will be the last nine playoff spots — five to be clinched on or before the end of the regular season on April 13, four others to be won in the play-in tournament later that week.

"The last 25 to 30 games are really important for everyone," said Miami guard Tyler Herro, the league's new 3-point shootout champion. "We've got a new group, in a sense, and we're going to hit the ground running. It's going to happen fast. Everything is going to matter throughout this next month and a half."

The Heat traded Butler to the Warriors, getting back Andrew Wiggins in return. San Antonio landed De'Aaron Fox from Sacramento, and the Los Angeles Clippers — who have barely had Kawhi Leonard available this season, but he's playing now — figure they're right in the mix to challenge as well.

"I think we got a really good chance," Clippers All-Star guard James Harden said. "We added some shooting, we added some defense and obviously with a healthy Kawhi we've got a chance

to compete with anybody. So, I think for us, it's just finding out how we want to play and attacking it."

Milwaukee added Kyle Kuzma, moving Khris Middleton — a Bucks mainstay for years — to Washington in that deal. And Phoenix didn't trade Kevin Durant, which is a sign that the Suns are hoping their star trio of him,

Devin Booker and Bradley Beal can make a push.

"We're all figuring it out, man," Durant said. "We've got 28, 29 games to go to figure it out. That's the fun part, trying to figure out how to get out of a slump."

Davis' injury obviously isn't great for Dallas, especially with it compounded by a rash of other injuries to the Mavericks' big-man

corps. Doncic is still working his way back into form after a calf issue, so he and James will still likely need some time to figure out the best way for this new star duo to work. Butler went to the Warriors with hopes of being the jolt that gets Curry, Draymond Green and coach Steve Kerr back to title contention.



SCOTT STRAZZANTE, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Team Shaq's Stephen Curry defends Team Chuck's Shai Gilgeous-Alexander during the championship game of the 74th NBA All-Star Game in San Francisco on Sunday.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

Summons Served by Publication. IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF COWLITZ

In re: The United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service or Successor Agency United States Department of Agriculture, Plaintiff, v. The Estate of Melaney J. Guptill; unknown heirs, spouses, legatees and devisees of the Estate of Melaney J. Guptill; unknown occupants of the subject real property; parties in possession of the subject real property; parties claiming a right to possession of the subject property; and also all other unknown persons or parties claiming to have any right, title, estate lien, or interest in the real estate described in the complaint herein; Beacon Water and Sewer, Defendants. No. 23-2-01590-06

SUMMONS SERVED BY PUBLICATION FOR THE ESTATE OF MELANEY J. GUPTILL (60) days SUMMONS SERVED BY PUBLICATION TO DEFENDANTS: THE ESTATE OF MELANEY J. GUPTILL

A lawsuit has been started against you in the above-entitled court by. The Plaintiff in the above referenced case, The United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service or Successor Agency United States Department of Agriculture. Plaintiff's claim is stated in the written complaint, a copy of which was served upon you with this summons. To defend against this lawsuit, you must respond to the complaint by stating your defense in writing, and by serving a copy upon the person signing this summons within 60 days after the Service of this summons, excluding the day of service, or a default judgment may be entered against you without notice. A default judgment is one where plaintiff is entitled to what she or he asks for it because you have not responded. If you serve a notice of appearance on the undersigned person, you are entitled to notice before a default judgment may be entered. You may demand that the plaintiff file this lawsuit with the court. If you do so, the demand must be in writing and must be served to the person signing this summons. Within 14 days after you serve the demand, the plaintiff must file this lawsuit with the court, or the service on you of this summons and complaint will be void if you wish to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your written response, if any, may be served on time. This summons is issued pursuant to rule 4 of the Superior Court Civil Rules of the State of Washington. By: /s/ Bryce Dille, (W SBA #2862) Bryce Dille, Esq. Plaintiff's Attorney, Private counsel I certify /s/ that the foregoing is true and correct in this Declaration, Bryce H. Dille, (WSBA #2862) 1800 Cooper Point Rd SW Bldg 11, Olympia, WA 98502 Telephone No.: (360) 350 - 0270 Email: bdille@schuergerlaw.com Dated: 12/13/24 (c) By Whom Served. Service of summons and process, except when service is by publication, shall be by the sheriff of the county wherein the service is made, or by deputy, or by any person over 18 years of age who is competent to be a witness in the action, other than a party. Subpoenas may be served as provided in rule 45. (d) Service. (1) Of Summons and Complaint. The summons and complaint shall be served together. (2) Personal in State. Personal service of summons and other process shall be as provided in RCW 4.28.080-090, 23B.05.040, 23B.15.100, 46.64.040, and 48.05.200 and .210, and other statutes which provide for personal service. (3) By Publication. Service of summons and other process by publication shall be as provided in RCW 4.28.100 and .110, 13.34.080, and 26.33.310, and other statutes which provide for service by publication (4) Alternative to Service by Publication. In circumstances justifying service by publication, if the serving party files an affidavit stating facts from which the court determines that service by mail is as likely to give actual notice as service by publication, the court may order that service be made by any person over 18 years of age, who is competent to be a witness, other than a party, by mailing copies of the summons and other process to the party to be served at last known address or any other address determined by the court to be appropriate. Two copies shall be mailed, postage prepaid, one by ordinary first-class mail and the other by a form of mail requiring a signed receipt showing when and to whom it was delivered. The envelopes must bear the return address of the sender. The summons shall contain the date it was deposited in the mail and shall require the defendant to appear and answer the complaint within 90 days from the date of mailing. Service under this subsection has the same jurisdictional effect as service by publication. Signed at: WA this 18th day of December 2024. SCHUERGER LAW GROUP, /s/ Bryce H. Dille, (WSBA #2862) Bryce H. Dille, (WSBA #2862) 1800 Cooper Point Rd SW Bldg 11, Olympia, WA 98502 Telephone No.: (360) 350 - 0270 Email: bdille@schuergerlaw.com 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25, 3/4 COL-WA-100651

Probate Notice to Creditors RCW 11.40.030 SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR COWLITZ COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BARBARA J. SMITH, Deceased.

CASE NO. 25-4-00003-08

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against either decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: Feb. 11, 2025

Personal Representative: DEBRA S. SNEATHEN

Attorney for Personal Representative: JACOB D. RAHN WSB#58262 of KEVIN D. RAHN, PLLC

Address for Mailing or Service: 1315 14th Ave Longview, WA 98632

Court of proceedings and Cause Number: IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR COWLITZ COUNTY Case No. 25-4-00003-08

2/11, 2/18, 2/25 COL-WA-100682

Legals

Probate Notice to Creditors Victoria M. Hampf RCW 11.40.030 NO. 25-4-00037-08 SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR COWLITZ COUNTY

In the matter of the Estate of: Victoria M. Hampf, deceased. The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: Aug. 31, 2024

Personal Representative: JOHN HAMPF

Attorney for Personal Representative: SKYLER SCHRADER

Address for Mailing or Service: 1447 3rd Avenue, Suite B, Longview WA 98632, (360) 998-3030

Court of proceedings and Cause Number: Cowlitz County Superior Court, Case #24-4-00332-08

2/11, 2/18, 2/25 COL-WA-100678

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington 61.24, et seq. 108 1st Ave South, Suite 450 Seattle, WA 98104 Trustee Sale No.: WA-24-995902-SW Title Order No.: FIN-24-0008481 Reference Number of Deed of Trust: Instrument No. 3731144 Parcel Number(s): 04691 Grantor(s) for Recording Purposes under RCW 65.04.015: WILLIAM N INMON, A SINGLE MAN, SOLE OWNER Current Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust and Grantee (for Recording Purposes under RCW 65.04.015): Guild Mortgage Company LLC Current Trustee of the Deed of Trust: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION Current Loan Mortgage Servicer of the Deed of Trust: Guild Mortgage Company LLC I. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION, the undersigned Trustee, will on 2/21/2025, at 9:00 AM, to be postponed to 3/21/2025 at 9:00 AM at the Main Entrance of the Cowlitz Superior Courthouse, 312 SW 1st Ave, Kelso, WA 98626 sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder, payable in the form of credit bid or cash bid in the form of cashier's check or certified checks from federally or State chartered banks, at the time of sale the following described real property, situated in the County of COWLITZ, State of Washington, to-wit: LOT 31, BLOCK 38, HIGHLANDS ADDITION TO LONGVIEW NO. 3, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN VOLUME 6 OF PLATS, PAGE 35, RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY, SITUATE IN COWLITZ COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON. More commonly known as: 344 DOUGLAS ST, LONGVIEW, WA 98632 Subject to that certain Deed of Trust dated 3/7/2023, recorded 3/9/2023, under Instrument No. 3731144 records of COWLITZ County, Washington, from WILLIAM N INMON, A SINGLE MAN, SOLE OWNER, as grantor(s), to FI DELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY OF WASHINGTON, A WASHINGTON CORP., as original trustee, to secure an obligation in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS DESIGNATED NOMINEE FOR GUILD MORTGAGE COMPANY LLC, BENEFICIARY OF THE SECURITY INSTRUMENT, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as original beneficiary, the beneficial interest in which was subsequently assigned to Guild Mortgage Company LLC, the Beneficiary, under an assignment recorded under Auditors File Number 3756726 II. No action commenced by the Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust as referenced in RCW 61.24.030(4) is now pending to seek satisfaction of the obligation in any Court by reason of the Borrower's or Grantor's default on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust/Mortgage. III. The default(s) for which this foreclosure is made is/are as follows: Failure to pay when due the following amounts which are now in arrears: \$21,275.29. IV. The sum owing on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust is: The principal sum of \$311,003.31, together with interest as provided in the Note from 2/1/2024 on, and such other costs, fees, and charges as are due under the Note, Deed of Trust, or other instrument secured, and as are provided by statute. V. The above-described real property will be sold to satisfy the expense of sale and the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust as referred to in this Notice of Trustee Sale to be referred to as mediation if you are eligible and it may help you save your home. See below for safe sources of help. SEEKING ASSISTANCE Housing counselors and legal assistance may be available at little or no cost to you. If you would like assistance in determining your rights and opportunities to keep your house, you may contact the following: The statewide foreclosure hotline for assistance and referral to housing counselors recommended by the Housing Finance Commission: Toll-free: 1-877-894-HOME (1-877-894-4663) or Web site: http://www.dfi.wa.gov/consumers/homeownership/post_purchase_counselors_foreclosure.htm The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development: Toll-free: 1-800-569-4287 or National Web Site: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD or for Local counseling agencies in Washington: http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfn/hcc/c/index.cfm?webListAction=search&searchState=WA&filterSvc=dfr. The statewide civil legal aid hotline for assistance and referrals to other housing counselors and attorneys: Telephone: 1-800-606-4819 or Web site: http://nwjustice.org/what-clear Additional information provided by the Trustee: If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the noteholders rights against the real property only. The Trustee's Sale Number is WA-24-995902-SW. Dated: 10/15/2024 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION, as Trustee By: Rodica M Cirstioi, Assistant Secretary Trustee's Address: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 108 1st Ave South, Suite 450, Seattle, WA 98104 For questions call toll-free: (866) 925-0241 Trustee Sale Number: WA-24-995902-SW Sale Line: 1-800-280-2832 or Login to: http://www.qualityloan.com #0224910 2/18, 3/11 COL-WA-100680

Legals

Probate Notice to Creditors Victoria M. Hampf RCW 11.40.030 NO. 25-4-00037-08 SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR COWLITZ COUNTY

In the matter of the Estate of: Victoria M. Hampf, deceased. The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: Aug. 31, 2024

Personal Representative: JOHN HAMPF

Attorney for Personal Representative: SKYLER SCHRADER

Address for Mailing or Service: 1447 3rd Avenue, Suite B, Longview WA 98632, (360) 998-3030

Court of proceedings and Cause Number: Cowlitz County Superior Court, Case #24-4-00037-08

2/11, 2/18, 2/25 COL-WA-100682

Call for Bids

100FTX200FT SCRIM REINFORCED POLYETHYLENE GEOMEMBRANES

The Cowlitz County Department of Public Works will receive sealed bids for approximately Twenty-Eight (28) 100 ft. x 200 ft. scrim reinforced polyethylene geomembranes. Sealed bids will be received prior to 1:30 p.m., on the 10th day of March 2025, at which time all bids received will be publicly opened and read in the training room at the Department of Public Works, 1600 11th Avenue S, Kelso, Washington, 98626. RCW 39.34

allows cooperative purchasing between public agencies in the State of Washington. Other public entities (cities, school districts, and so forth), which have filed an interlocal cooperative joint purchasing agreement with the County, may elect to purchase the material from the Bidder based on the terms and conditions of this agreement, subject to Bidder's consent.

