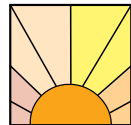




NOAA Weather Weekend Forecast

A chance of showers for the weekend. High 69, low 57.



Back at it

High school sports start this week.



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Mule schedulesPage 3

The Wahkiakum County Eagle

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132nd Year, 16th Issue

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Cathlamet Public Works crewman Troy Gorley, left, and Superintendent David McNally installed two signs marking the area's Chinook tribal heritage. Above, they stand by a sign near the Cathlamet library marking Queen Sally's Well, an important water source. Bottom right, another sign stands at the Elochoman Slough Marina.

Heritage signs honor Cathlamet's Chinook history

By Diana Zimmerman

On Monday, Chinook Heritage signs were installed at Queen Sally's Park, which is located next to the Pioneer Community Center in Cathlamet, as well as near the new viewing deck at the Elochoman Slough Marina.

According to town Council Member David Olson, the design and fabrication of the signs were made possible thanks to a "generous" grant from the Lewis & Clark Trail Stewardship Endowment.

He expressed appreciation for the "cooperation and goodwill of the Chinook Indian Nation including Tribal Chairman Tony Johnson and sign designer Cherie Crowley."

Continued on Page 2

Allipust, a.k.a. Sally, Aunt Sally or Queen Sally

Sally's Well

This important artesian spring, near the original site of Sally's Well, has provided an important source of drinking water for thousands of years. chxi-chako (early settlers), including Cathlamet's founding Birnie family, shared this gift of precious water. The water was a gift from the Creator and nourished all who were thirsty. It was the lifeblood of early Cathlamet and the Wahkiakum (wáqaiqam) Chinook villages that existed here before it. Although no longer supplying the community's drinking water, Sally's Well remains a significant location for the families of all people who used its valuable water.



Sally's house that was situated in front of Sally's Well. It was later occupied by a woman named Teqoa (pictured). Photograph from the Hansen family collection provided by David Hansen.



Covid-19 update

6 new cases reported; total now stands at 195

By Diana Zimmerman

The cumulative number of covid-19 cases rose to 195 this week in Wahkiakum County after two cases were reported last Wednesday, and four more on Tuesday. Of those cases, 23 are considered potentially active. There have been 11 known hospitalizations, and five deaths have been attributed to covid-19.

"With today's cases," Wahkiakum Health and Human Services Director Chris Bischoff said on Tuesday, "August is now Wahkiakum's biggest single month in terms of number of cases with 27."

Bischoff said there were signs that the current wave is peaking in Washington, including the counties surrounding Wahkiakum.

"Typically we have been a little behind our neighbors in starting and ending our waves," Bischoff said. "With school starting we are very concerned that we may see a significant jump in our cases. We have been in close conversation with the schools and daycare/early childhood education centers. We really need to have more people who are eligible get vaccinated and everyone to wear masks and practice social distancing."

Bischoff broke down the demographics of 191 of the cases in Wahkiakum.

By gender, more males have been diagnosed with covid-19. They account for 101 of the cases, while females make up the other 90.

By age groups, the highest percentage of cases, at 31 percent, was in the 40-59 age demographic, which counted 60 cases. People between the ages of 20-39 accounted for 27 percent, or 51 cases. There were 40 cases in young folks between the ages of 0-19, for 21 percent. People between the ages of 60-79 were diagnosed with the virus 27 times, for 14 percent, and 13 people aged 80 and older tested positive, for seven percent of the cases.

By zip code, there were 150 cases in the Cathlamet area, 15 cases in the Skamokawa area, 11 cases in the Rosburg area, 11 cases in the Wahkiakum area that shares the Naselle zip code, and four cases in the Grays River area.

Because much of the country is seeing more cases in younger groups, Bischoff decided to look at more recent numbers to see if there was a similar shift locally.

Over the last month, the 0-19 demographic has accounted for nine percent of the cases, while historically, they account for 21 percent. The 20-39 age group makes up 39 percent of the recent cases, while historically they've accounted for 27 percent. People between the ages of 40-59 account for 26 percent of the recent cases while historically, they are a little higher at 31 percent. In the 60-79 age range, they

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Volunteers step up to raise sunken boat

By Diana Zimmerman

One particular sport fisherman was looking forward to spending the early hours fishing on the Columbia River last Thursday when he stepped out on D Dock at a busy Elochoman Slough Marina to find his 20 foot Northwest aluminum boat in the drink.

It was a rough way to start the day.

Todd Souvenir, maintenance manager at Port 1, was already out on the river hoping to hook something. What he caught was a call, around 7:30 a.m., from the thwarted fisherman.

"I hate to call you and tell you this, but my boat sunk in the marina sometime early this morning," the man told Souvenir.

Souvenir notified the Department of Ecology and made his way back to the marina.

Not much later, Port Manager Jackie Lea arrived. Luckily for all involved, she had been through this before.

She pulled the fisherman aside and gave him his options. They could help him get the boat out of the water, or he could call a salvage team. It's up to you, she said, but it's got to be out today.

Why don't we try, the boat owner replied.

So just like that, port staff, and other members of the community who happened to be there stepped up to help, and a crowd formed around the marina as people tried to get a closer look at the process. Now and again, a drone was heard as it passed by.

Because a spill is always a potential concern, their first bit of business was to set a containment



A sunken cabin cruiser at the Elochoman Slough Marina drew a crew last Thursday to develop a plan to refloat the boat. Photo by Rick Nelson.

boom. Fortunately, at the end of the day, it wasn't needed.

The boat was still tied up, which was good news. Gordy Souvenir, Todd's father and a commercial fisherman, tied a lead line like a noose, and laid it down over a cleat on the boat, about five feet below the surface.

He pulled it tight.

"Sport fishing guys have no idea what a lead line is," Souvenir said. "It's a rope that sinks. It would have been hard to get a rope under the bow to start

unless it was a rope with some weight to it."

They were able to get the bow up by putting straps on it and using a come-along to pull it up slowly, Lea explained.

While they worked, Lea made a call to another commercial fisherman, Larry Holland. He'd been up all night working, and was on his way home from Camas, but he didn't hesitate.

About 45 minutes later, he arrived with his bowpicker.

Continued on Page 2

Vaccination Clinics:

CLOSED Monday for Labor Day OPEN Wednesday:

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30-3 p.m. @ Wahkiakum Health Department

<https://www.co.wahkiakum.wa.us/478/COVID-19-Information>

#Wahkiakumstrong #Wahkiakum100% #Vaccinessavelives

Call
360-849-4041



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Avoiding vaccinations, masks endangers all

By Rick Nelson
The word on Facebook is that

Opinion

people opposing masking and other mandates to prevent the spread of the covid-19 virus will hold a demonstration today (Thursday) in front of the county courthouse to make their feelings known.

I just can't understand the reasoning behind that movement. The covid-19 pandemic is raging all around us, threatening the lives of young and old alike, and masking and vaccinating are the safe, proven methods of preventing the spread of the virus and even quashing it.

According to a report from the Washington State Department of Health dated August 25, 2021, 94.3 percent of the county's covid cases involve people who aren't fully vaccinated. Only five cases have occurred among people who are fully vaccinated; the report says 48 percent of the county's population is fully vaccinated.

Quoting directly from the report:

Context for understanding findings in this report

- More than 92% of all cases, hospitalizations, and deaths in individuals 12 years or older from Washington state can be attributed to individuals who have not been fully vaccinated.
• As of August 16, 2021, 63.3% of those in Washington state who are eligible to receive vaccines were considered fully vaccinated. The percentage of fully vaccinated individuals increased by less than 1% from August 09- August 16, 2021, while 29.2% of eligible individuals had not initiated vaccination.
• Vaccinations save lives. Vaccination prevents severe illness and hospitalization and lowers your risk of dying from COVID-19.
• With the emergence of the Delta variant as the dominant strain in Washington and the U.S., it is more urgent than ever to ensure that everyone who is eligible gets vaccinated.
• The more than 4 million fully vaccinated Washingtonians are avoiding severe illness from COVID-19 variants, including Delta.

The mandates aren't an attack on personal liberty; they're an effort to protect society. People tend to think of themselves as unique individuals, but we're really all members of a world wide society that has world wide social responsibility for one to look out for the other.

Please: Do your part, if you aren't already, get your vaccinations and wear masks when appropriate.

P.S.: Check out the report yourself, https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/data-tables/421-010-CasesInNot-FullyVaccinated.pdf.

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Chinook heritage signs
Continued from Page 1

A dedication ceremony is tentatively planned for November 6, at noon, following confirmation from Port District 1, the Wahkiakum Chamber of Commerce, and the Chinook Indian Nation.

"At that time we hope to recognize and honor living Chinookan descendants associated with Wahkiakum County, including descendants of Queen Sally as well as the Scarborough family," Olson said.

"Thanks to everyone who has helped bring this two year plus process toward a successful and historic conclusion," Olson said. "This includes unanimous support for these signs expressed by the Cathlamet Town Council, the Wahkiakum County Commission and the Chinook Tribal Council."

Corrections/Clarifications

To clarify reporting of the Port District 2 board of commissioners meeting in the Aug. 19 edition, a car port on the Svensen Park site actually belongs to former park hosts. Park hosts have connected their RV's to the park's drainfield, and overflow parking on the drainfield has been the practice at the park since it opened.



To The Eagle

AFLDS are genuine doctors

To The Eagle:

Part 2. Regarding The Eagle's article on the commissioners' meeting about public health and covid-19, Gene Strong and Chris Bischoff mentioned that the county and health department by law must follow the directives of the governor and the state Dept. of Health or the state could revoke its license to practice. For big government to order any businesses to mandate such mask and vaccines to their employees and customers or risk being fired, license revoked or fined with penalties is pure tyranny.

As I said before, for big government to order us to inject foreign substances into our body whether they're safe or not is unconstitutional. Personally, this is not about Covid anymore. Yes, it exists; so does Aids, Ebola, Cancer, etc. We cannot turn our cheek and expect this tyrannical incident to go away. We do that, we lose the USA. We've no doubt big media, big tech, big government are tyrants embedded somehow with the tyrannical regime to brainwash us with fear so they can better control us. What their motives are I have no idea. Power? Greed? Or they like to see if they can put the fear in us out of sheer delight.

We have two choices: you can bend your knee to tyranny or bend your knee to our Higher Power, the US Constitution and Freedom. It's up to us to

let big government know they are employees and we are not afraid and will not tolerate tyranny or they risk impeachment and being replaced with "Robin Hoods."

AFLDS are genuine doctors with various medical degrees. They worked in hospitals and with patients. The real quack is Fauci. From what I've researched, he does not work in a hospital. He worked in a lab with petri dishes, rodents, foster children and aborted babies. From time to time, he spews out yo-yo information. In my opinion, he looks at us more as guinea pigs than as human beings. Do your research.

Toni Below
Cathlamet

Dumpers of litter shamed

To The Eagle:

To the yahoos in the red truck who dumped a load of used tires on Altoona-Pillar Rock Rd. Shame on you!

Ann Dunkin
Rosburg

Off Page 1

Sunken boat . . .
Continued from Page 1

He didn't have much to say about that, but he was quick to praise other people involved.

"Billy Peek started making phone calls and getting pumps," Holland said. "He quit driving dump trucks just to go down and help. He got in there, he was diving down, hooking lines up. He did a really good job on it."

Lea clarified a bit more. Peek was diving in the water to loop the straps around the stern of the sunken vessel. The straps were then hooked to Holland's boat, she said, and Holland used the net reel to pull up the stern of the sport fisherman's boat.

Peek wasn't the only one to get in the water. Port employee Jerry Nakonsky did some diving as well, helping out any way he could.

Once they were able to bring the vessel level with the water, the volunteers started pumping the water out with all the pumps they could find. Meanwhile, Tom Merz, a fireman who was assisting, went to the fire station to get a trash pump so the boat could be pumped out faster.

The work completed, Holland towed the boat to the launch, where the owner pulled it onto his trailer and

headed to Portland for repairs.

People speculated about what caused the boat to capsize.

"Everybody was betting that he didn't put his plug in," Lea said.

What really happened?

"The fish well pumps water into it to keep fish fresh," Lea said. "Somehow the wiring got shorted and it continued to pump water into the vessel."

One doesn't have to spend time on the river to know about the sometimes deep seated animus between commercial fishermen and sports fishermen, but that day, it wasn't present.

"It was cool to see commercial fishing guys helping sport fishermen," Souvenir remarked.

"The guy needed help, and we all chipped in and helped him out," Holland said. "I'd seen the boat around before, but I'd never met the guy. It all worked out for the better."

It also speaks volumes about the remarkable crew at the Elochoman Slough Marina, who were able to help a fisherman out on one of his worst days, all the while fielding calls and solving problems for other customers during the busy fishing season.

Nakonsky heard someone say, "If I'd known it was like this over here, well, I'm going to start fishing over here more often, you guys stick together."

Hundreds protest Inslee vaccine mandate

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) -- Hundreds of people gathered at the state Capitol in Olympia last Saturday to protest Gov. Jay Inslee's vaccine mandate.

The mandate, which Inslee announced in early August, requires most state workers, healthcare workers and school employees to be fully vaccinated by Oct. 18 or face losing their jobs. Inslee has said that getting people vaccinated is essential for getting Washington past the pandemic.

Organizers of the rally warned that a large segment of state workers, including many firefighters, sanitation workers and bus drivers, won't get the vaccine -- as much as 30% to 40% statewide, they said. It wasn't clear what that estimate was based on.

"If the Governor refuses to rescind his mandate, it will mean that multiple areas of the state will be severely reduced or shut down completely," Tyler Miller, of the group Liberty, At All Hazards, said in a news release. "The Governor is unnecessarily threatening the genuine safety and well-being of the citizens of Washington if he forces his mandate to stand."

Inslee spokesman Mike Faulk defended the need for the mandate.

"Employees are losing their lives to COVID. Hospitals are filling up. Communities are stressed by the pandemic's impacts. The safest and most effective way to get beyond these tragic circumstances is vaccination," Faulk said in a statement.

The Washington Federation of State Employees on Aug. 26 sued to block the mandate in Thurston County Superior Court, saying the state failed to bargain over the

issue in good faith. The lawsuit says allowing the mandate to take effect without an agreement with the union would harm the rights of the union's members. Inslee's office says he disagrees.

"Our union's top priority is health and safety -- for staff and the public we serve," union President Mike Yestramski said in a news release. "That is why we need the state to make a good faith effort to bargain and to really think through how they're going to implement this mandate in a safe, fair and consistent manner."

That includes coming up with processes for how workers can qualify for exemptions for religious or medical reasons and for dealing with staffing concerns, he said.

Inslee's mandate is among the strictest in the country. It does not allow for employees to show proof of negative COVID-19 tests in lieu of getting vaccinated.

In Oregon, an outbreak at a long-term care facility in Springfield began with an unvaccinated worker, public health officials said. That outbreak resulted in dozens of infections and five deaths.

In California, public health officials said Friday that 22 children contracted COVID after an unvaccinated elementary school teacher took off her mask to read to students.

Many employers have voiced concerns that the mandate could prompt workers to quit.

Vaccination rates across the state have risen since the mandates were announced, which also came amid a steep rise in cases and hospitalizations caused by the highly infectious delta variant.