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Moses Lake Roundup 2021 Queen Mykiah Hollenbeck poses for a picture with 1962 Roundup Queen Kathy Graff during the annual Senior Picnic Thursday at the Grant County Fairgrounds.

# Fun hats, box lunches

Senior Picnic draws crowd for drive-thru

By CHERYL SCHWEIZER  
 Staff Writer

MOSES LAKE — It was a perfect day to be out and about, and Kent Rukke said the beautiful weather was a good reason to drive to the Grant County Fairgrounds for the annual Senior Picnic.

"That and a free lunch," Rukke said.

The seventh annual Senior Picnic was Thursday and drew a crowd of seniors, lined up around the parking lot at the Grant County Fairgrounds. Normally it's a sit-down affair, but because the COVID-19 virus is still hanging around, organizers opted for a drive-thru event.

"A Day at the Races" was the 2021 theme, and participants were encouraged to wear their best Kentucky Derby hats. Ladies wore big hats, small hats, hats decorated with flowers and scarves.

"I made my hat, and I love it," Nancy Bromily said of her hat festooned with bright red and pink flowers.

Seniors waiting in line said it was a great day to be outside.

"We're here for the fun. Fun and games and beautiful day," said Diana Myers.

Picnic sponsors included Samaritan Healthcare, Assured Home Health and Hospice, Confluence Health, the Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce, KDRM Radio, Summer Wood Alzheimer's Special Care Center, Avamere of Moses Lake, Pioneer Village Senior Apartments, Aging and Adult Care, Moses Lake Senior Center, Brookdale Hearststone and the Columbia Basin Herald.

The box lunches were prepared by a crew

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"We're here for the fun. Fun and games and beautiful day."

— Diana Myers



Pat Simmons shows off her Kentucky Derby chapeau during the annual Senior Picnic Thursday in Moses Lake.



Jodi Montoya, of Avamere of Moses Lake, hands off lunch to Tilden Smith during the annual Senior Picnic Thursday at the Grant County Fairgrounds.

# Tragedy in Moses Lake: Motorcyclist dies after jump try

By CHARLES H. FEATHERSTONE  
 Staff Writer

MOSES LAKE — Motorcyclist and stunt rider Alex Harvill died from injuries he suffered when he attempted a world record motorcycle jump Thursday at Grant County International Airport.

Harvill, 28, was rushed to Samaritan Hospital Thursday morning after a bad landing during a practice run sent him flying over his handlebars without his helmet, which flew off his head.

According to a statement from Grant County Sheriff's Office spokesperson Kyle Foreman, an autopsy would be done on Friday to determine the exact cause of death. Foreman said he wasn't told whether Harvill died at the hospital.

Harvill was trying to break the world record for a jump from a moveable, pre-built ramp to a dirt ramp

at 351 feet, according to Guinness World Records. He was making the jump as part of this year's Moses Lake Airshow.

Harvill was making his first practice jump and got what appeared

to be a good takeoff when he landed short of the downward slope on the landing ramp. The bike stopped moving, but Harvill didn't.

His helmet flew off, and he flew

over the handlebars, twisting at least once before hitting the ground around 20 feet away.

Paramedics and members of Harvill's family responded quickly, though it took some time before emergency workers decided how best to load him on an ambulance.

A crew with Lifeflight, attending the air show as part of a "static display," started its helicopter, but Harvill was instead taken to Samaritan Hospital by ambulance.



Alex Harvill

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# Inslee announces incentives for military to get vaccine

By JOSEPHINE PETERSON  
 The News Tribune/TNS

Gov. Jay Inslee announced further incentive programs on Thursday to encourage more Washingtonians to get vaccinated.

Any military members, their families and veterans who get immunized against COVID-19 are eligible for cash prizes of \$100,000, Amazon gift cards worth \$250, or state parks gift cards worth \$100.

There will be weekly drawings for three weeks starting July 20. The final week's drawing will be a \$250,000 cash prize.

"This promotion is separate from our other incentive programs, and we're calling it 'A Heroes Thanks,'"

a press release from Inslee's office said. "It applies to military, military staff and their family members who were vaccinated through the Department of Defense, the VA, or the National Guard."

The Department of Defense has not provided the state with names of active duty personnel who have been immunized, so names must be submitted to be entered into the state lottery. Inslee said the final prize for military members is less than the \$1 million prize for civilians, because there are fewer entries.

"You have a lot better chance of winning," Inslee said. "It's a smaller pool than the pool for the whole state."

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# Weather

## AccuWeather® 5-Day Forecast for the Columbia Basin

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TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Hot with plenty of sun	Mainly clear and mild	Partly sunny and hot	Abundant sunshine and pleasant	Partly sunny and hot	Partly sunny and very hot
<b>High: 94°</b>	<b>Low 61°</b>	<b>92° 64°</b>	<b>90° 65°</b>	<b>92° 63°</b>	<b>99° 65°</b>

### Precipitation

Ephrata	Wednesday	0.00"
Year to date		1.83"
George	Wednesday	0.00"
Year to date		3.72"
Moses Lake	Wednesday	0.00"
Year to date		1.65"
Quincy	Wednesday	0.00"
Year to date		2.22"

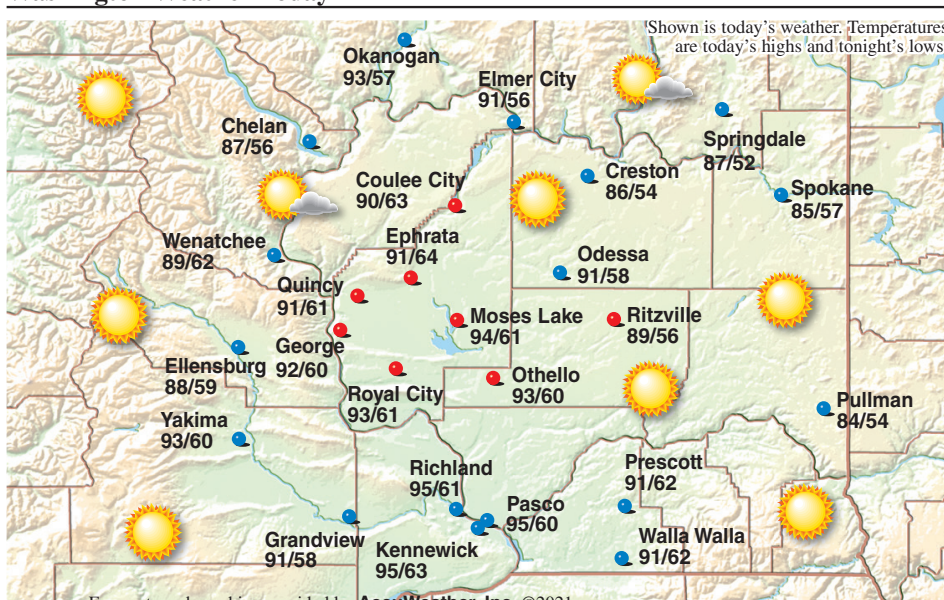
### Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	5:01 a.m.
Sunset today	8:56 p.m.
Moonrise today	1:33 p.m.
Moonsset today	1:37 a.m.

### Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
June 24	July 1	July 9	July 17

### Washington Weather Today



## Mattawa council discusses hiring new police chief

By RACHAL PINKERTON  
For the Columbia Basin Herald

MATTAWA — The Mattawa City Council recently discussed replacing former chief of police Joe Harris, who was fired in April for reasons undisclosed by the city.

Moses Lake Police Capt. Mike Williams, who is filling the position of Mattawa police chief for 90 days, suggested using Prothman, a company recently used by Grant County Fire District 8 to hire its new fire chief.

"The advantage of using a network is that they have a much wider net for qualified candidates," Williams said.

Williams and City Attorney Katherine Kenison said there were two different service options with Prothman the city could choose from, one which includes having Prothman involved in the process from start to finish. The other option only has the company involved in finding qualified candidates.

The difference between the two options is approximately \$11,000. Williams estimated if the city went with the full service option, it would cost \$25,000, once all travel costs and other expenses were paid. Without the add-ons, the service costs \$17,000. For the candidate search only, the city would have to pay \$6,000, with the possibility of additional expenses.

Several council members expressed they liked the idea of accessing a wider pool of candidates. But the council stopped short of deciding on whether to use Prothman until it could figure out how to pay for it.

Council member Vicente Acosta agreed, saying while it is important to look at the finances, the city also needed professionals and hiring the wrong person could be a costly mistake.

Williams wrote up a job description for the next chief, which the council approved, but no hiring timeline was discussed.

Williams said the police chief is the first

line for officer issues and discipline.

"You need to have a chief who is engaged in the community," Williams said. "Our chief (Kevin Fuhr, Moses Lake Police Department) goes out, helps other officers and builds rapport. Your chief needs to be focused 75/25 on administrative tasks and needs to be able to handle any calls that come in. They need to let the sergeant and officers handle the patrol side of things."

Included in the job description is a line stating the new police chief "serves at the will of the mayor and is terminable within the bounds prescribed by law and city code." Previously, Mattawa police chiefs have been subject to civil service rules. But in a city council meeting on May 20, the council voted to remove future police chiefs from civil service protection.

The removal was submitted to council by Kenison who said she submitted an ordinance for the same purpose in 2010, but the council at the time rejected it. According to Kenison, a city of Mattawa's size could legally do without ramifications from the state, and other towns had done so long ago.

"The hiring process is not through civil service," Kenison said. "Discipline and termination are not through civil services. They don't have the right to an appeal."

Kenison said since the city was in-between police chiefs, it was an "ideal time" to change the way things were done.

However, Harris has appealed his firing with the Mattawa Civil Service commissioners.

Attorneys for the city and Harris have until Monday to file requests to disqualify the commissioners who are scheduled to hear an appeal of Harris' firing.

The three commissioners, Jesse Chiprez, Amanda Perez and Olga Sanchez, declined to disqualify themselves during a June 1 commission meeting, as they said they were unbiased.

## Basin briefs: What's happening in our communities

### Traffic detoured, possible injuries in semi collision

Traffic was detoured Thursday afternoon after a semi hauling hydraulic oil rolled and spilled its contents onto the median and southbound lanes of U.S. Route 395, 19 miles south of Ritzville in Adams County.

Emergency crews responded at about 1:15

p.m. to the collision, but it was unclear at press time whether there were any injuries or other vehicles involved.

The southbound lanes were fully blocked until about 4:45 p.m., but a detour remained at state Route 21 after that. Offloading was expected to take 3-4 hours, according to the Washington State Patrol, which was on scene.

The Department of Transportation and fire-

fighters also responded. The Department of Ecology was advised of the spill.

— Staff report

### ML man injured in collision

VANTAGE — A Moses Lake man was flown to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle after his motorcycle veered off the road Wednesday night, about five miles

west of Vantage.

Gerald J. Brooks, 67, was driving west on Interstate 90 at about 8:30 p.m. in the far left lane, when he ran off the road and into the center dirt embankment, the WSP said. Brooks was ejected from the motorcycle, and he and the bike came to rest in the far left lane.

Brooks was wearing a helmet. Drugs or alcohol didn't appear to be a factor.

— Cheryl Schweizer

## TRAGEDY

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"Everyone was already here for him in case this happened," said Grant County International Airport Director Rich Mueller. "Obviously we didn't want to see him crash today, but we were ready for it."

Before the jump, Harvill's wife, Jessica, said she was used to the risks her husband took. "It's a little scary from time to time, but you've gotta trust that he knows what he's doing," she said. "I've been around it so long it's kind of just normal in a way, even though that sounds weird, because it's totally abnormal."

Jessica Harvill, who was at the air show with their children Willis, 5,



Charles H. Featherstone/Columbia Basin Herald

**First responders lift motorcyclist and stunt racer Alex Harvill into an ambulance Thursday morning after Harvill crashed during a landing while attempting to set a motorcycle jump record for the Guinness Book of World Records.**

and newborn Watson, said Alex was preparing for these jumps for the past two weeks, but

during that time he never jumped the ramp prior to Thursday's first attempt.

Charles H. Featherstone can be reached at cfeatherstone@columbiabasinherald.com.

## Law enforcement: Reports from MLPD, jail

**Moses Lake Police Department, June 15**  
Report of vehicle prowling in the 1100 block of West Marina Drive. Unknown suspects took a wallet with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Report of theft from a business in the 500 block of South Pioneer Way. Suspect concealed items and left the store.

Report of gang graffiti on a fence at a residence in the 1300 block of West Bonneville Street.

**Ephrata Police Department, June 15**  
Report of burglary at a business in the 2200

block of Basin Street Southwest. Reporting party said the storage unit was burglarized overnight.

**Grant County Jail June 1**  
Obed Campoy Hernandez, 51, of Moses Lake, was booked on fourth-degree assault – domestic violence.

**June 2**  
James William Hutton, 53, of Soap Lake, was booked on violation of a

no-contact order – domestic violence.

Jose Manzano Rodriguez, 20, of Moses Lake, was booked on possession of a stolen firearm, possession of less than 40 grams of marijuana, and malicious mischief by way of painting.

**June 3**  
Antonio Gudina Ramos, 24, of Warden, was booked on second-degree assault – domestic violence.

Sergio Torres Perez, 25, of Moses Lake, was booked on felony harassment and fourth-degree assault – domestic violence.

Jose Manuel Oliva, 38, of Quincy, was booked on a Grant County Superior Court warrant relating to failure to register as a sex offender – two-plus convictions.

Jessica Hope Hagadorn, 31, of Ephrata, was booked on fourth-degree assault – domestic violence.

**June 4**  
Rikkiann Elisa Garcia Lalk, 26, of Moses Lake, was booked on theft of a motor vehicle.

Nicole Mendoza, 32, of Moses Lake, was booked on a Grant County Superior Court warrant relating to first-degree possession of stolen property.

Victor Orlando Velasco, 32, of Moses Lake, was booked on a warrant from Texas relating to parole violation – tampering with physical evidence.

**June 5**  
Edward Alejandro Ramos, 26, of Moses Lake, was booked on DUI.

**June 6**  
Jesus O. Juarez Gutierrez, 33, of Othello, was booked on attempting to elude and DUI.

Matthew Simon Garouette, 37, of Mattawa, was booked on Grant County Superior warrants relating to failure to register as a sex offender, second-degree theft, possession of stolen property and vehicle prowling, as well as on a Department of Corrections secretary's warrant.

## Lotto

Thursday's numbers

**Match 4:** 5-7-10-13

**Pick 3:** 0-3-9

**Hit 5:** 12-31-34-36-41

**Keno:** 6-8-12-18-27-29-30-34-40-45-49-54-59-60-61-74-75-77-78-80

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