

CLASS OF 2020 School board to finalize graduation plans

*Petition circulating
to hold ceremony
for Weiser grads in
June at football field*

by Steve Lyon

Weiser School District trustees will finalize plans for the 2020 Weiser High School graduation ceremony at a special meeting on Wednesday.

A committee made up of district and WHS administrators, trustees and parents has been working for more than a month on details for graduation.

School districts across the state have had to come up with alternatives to traditional graduations due to restrictions placed on public gatherings during the coronavirus pandemic.

WHS administrators have previously said they plan to keep Sunday, May 17, as the graduation date for the 124 seniors in the Class of 2020.

At the same time trustees are discussing a graduation plan, an online petition started by some WHS seniors seeks to scrap the May 17 date and hold an outdoor graduation ceremony at Memorial Park in June.

The petition, which as of Tuesday had collected nearly 500 signatures, said the graduation date should be pushed back to allow seniors to wear caps and gowns and walk across the stage to receive their diploma.

A commencement ceremony in June could comply with the governor's multi-stage reopening plan to gradually ease restrictions and allow public gatherings.

"The class of 2020 has been through enough and deserves a graduation," the petition states.

Superintendent Wade Wilson said district administrators and trustees are aware of the petition to postpone graduation until it can be held outdoors.

Wilson said school districts across the state have had to be creative in how they organize commencement activities for graduating seniors.

Some are keeping their scheduled May dates and finding alternate ways to celebrate their graduating class, while others are delaying commencement to a later date when in-person events can be held.

Similar to what the petition seeks to do at WHS, the hope in postponing commencement is that the state will continue to progress through the four stages

see **GRADUATE**, Page 8

Businesses reopen as restrictions ease Gov.'s multi-stage plan seeks rebound from coronavirus closures

by Steve Lyon

Some Weiser businesses reopened last week as the governor's stay-home order to slow the spread of coronavirus was replaced by the "Stay Healthy Order" and a multi-stage plan to gradually reopen the state over the next two months.

CaseyGirl Designs owner Casey Hopkins opened the retail portion of her business on May 1. It's not the busiest time of year, but she had a couple of visitors in the home furnishings and decor shop on State Street in downtown Weiser.

The upholstery side of the business was considered essential and stayed open by appointment, she said.

She moved some displays around to provide more room for customers to browse prior to reopening. There is also more space between the counter and customers. The store hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Just a couple of doors down, members of the morning coffee crowd were sipping coffee while practicing social-distancing out in front of Pepper's.

The popular downtown coffee shop continues to serve lattes to go while the indoor seating is closed for now.

According to the governor's plan, 90 percent of businesses were allowed to reopen on May 1, more than a month after a statewide order directed non-essential businesses to close.

The list of businesses that can reopen include retail stores, churches, daycares and organized youth activities as long as they follow protocols, which include physical distancing, sanitation, and other safety measures.

The Weiser Subway restaurant opened for takeout on May 1 after it voluntarily closed for a month as a coronavirus precaution. Dine-in won't happen until the next stage in the Idaho Rebounds plan for reopening businesses.

Restaurant operators should develop plans to reopen for dine-in starting on May 16 when stage two of the state reopening schedule starts.

The Weiser Chamber of Commerce last week emailed out forms provided by Southwest District Health that restaurants must fill out to comply with protocols.

The WICAP thrift store in downtown Weiser doesn't have plans to open yet, coordinator Steve Morningstar said. Although retail was allowed to open in stage one, he has not received instructions from

WICAP officials on when to proceed with a store reopening.

Mayor Randy Hibberd said the city will do its part to follow the stages during the business reopening and will monitor what is going on in town.

As they reopen, businesses like dine-in restaurants will need to follow the protocols that have been developed.

see **REOPEN**, Page 8

Business association donates computers to Weiser schools to assist distance learning

by Steve Lyon

A statewide business association recently donated 40 laptop computers to the Weiser School District to help students participate in distance learning while classrooms are closed.

The Idaho Business for Education has collected and refurbished hundreds of computers for Idaho students through its statewide Community Activation Project.

The IBE, which counts 242 businesses as members, formed seven teams across the state to help local school districts and students in April.

The two goals of the project

are to get devices into the hands of thousands of students across the state that do not have them and provide connectivity at home so all students can do their online learning.

Representatives of the IBE and partner organizations, including Delta Dental, dropped off the laptops, powercords and equipment at the Weiser School District main office last week.

"We appreciate your donation," Superintendent Wade Wilson told the visitors.

Wilson said he reached out to the IBE and requested the 40

see **DONATE**, Page 8

Alishia Jonas, a spokesperson for the Idaho Business for Education association, was part of a group that recently dropped off laptops for Weiser students to use. Photo by Steve Lyon





Aria Lo, 9, was one of two bike winners in the *Weiser Signal American* Easter coloring contest. The third-grader at Pioneer Elementary School completed her entry with a coloring set she received for her birthday. Dave Coleman, owner of Pioneer Express, and Sheri Smit, advertising director at the *Weiser Signal American*, presented Aria with her prize.



Dylan Dickerson, 7, a first-grader at Pioneer Elementary School in Weiser, was pretty thrilled when he heard he won a new bike for participating in the *Weiser Signal American* Easter coloring contest. Dylan likes to play soccer, football and also wrestles. Pioneer Express owner Dave Coleman and Sheri Smit, with the *Weiser Signal American*, congratulate Dylan for his excellent artwork.

Easter coloring contest a hit with Weiser kids

Two grand prize winners each receive a new bike from Pioneer Express

by Steve Lyon

The annual Easter coloring contest sponsored by the *Weiser Signal American* and local businesses is always a big hit and once again attracted numerous entries from local kids.

The coloring contest was open to children up to the fifth grade. The young artists were allowed to enter as many colored pages as they wished in the contest. The pages were sponsored by local businesses.

The judges had the difficult task of picking the two grand prize winners – a boy and a girl – from dozens of entries. The entries were judged based on use of colors and creativity and effort.

Dylan Dickerson, 7, was one of two grand prize bike winners. The first-grader at Pioneer Elementary School is the son of Drew and Kristin Dickerson of Weiser. He has two sisters, Koryn and Kinsey.

A sports enthusiast, Dylan said he likes to play soccer, football and wrestle.

He was thrilled that his entry was picked by judges. He spent quite a few hours working on the coloring book, completing all the pages but one, his mom said.

“He loves those coloring contests,” his mom said.

The judges really liked his use of colors and the close attention he paid to staying within the lines, which required a lot of concentration.

The second bike winner was Aria Lo, 9, a third-grader at Pioneer Elementary School. She is the daughter of Jonathan and Kayla Lo and has two siblings, Addy and Benson.

Aria said she ran around her room in excitement when she learned that her coloring contest entry had been selected as a grand prize winner.

She said it took her about 20

minutes to complete her entry, a colored Easter egg which featured the use of bright, complementary colors. She received a coloring set for her birthday and used that to color her entry for the contest.

She likes to play outside and loves to play soccer.

The winners and their parents picked up their new bikes on Thursday at Pioneer Express store. Both Dylan and Aria were excited to receive their brand new sets of wheels.

Pioneer Express owner Dave Coleman has sponsored the grand prizes for the past six years as part of the *Weiser Signal American*’s Easter coloring contest. The newspaper also sponsors a Christmas coloring contest.

Coleman said he likes to buy bikes to give away so that the coloring contest winners can get outside and have some fun.

Kids have been spending a

lot of time indoors during the coronavirus pandemic doing their coursework through remote learning with Weiser schools closed

“These kids need to get outside and get some exercise,” Coleman said.

There were a few unanticipated hiccups this year with the local impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. The governor’s stay-home order made it a little more challenging for kids to turn in their entries at businesses around town. The contest was extended to accommodate all of the kids who wanted to participate.

“Both grand prize winners really worked hard on their colorful entries and did a great job,” *Signal American* Editor Steve Lyon said. “It was great to see so many local kids show off their artistic skills.”

Weiser Signal American General Manager Sarah Imada said

the Easter coloring contest is a favorite of local kids and has been for many years, along with the Christmas coloring contest.

“We are so grateful to Dave Coleman from Pioneer Express who has sponsored the two bikes for the grand prize drawing over the past six years. The artistic talent of this year’s entries was phenomenal and made for a very difficult decision. The coloring contest is always a fun event for the children and businesses,” she said.

The businesses who participated in this year’s contest included Weiser Signal American, Dille Dental, Campo’s Fast and Easy, Les Schwab Tire Center, McDonalds, MTE Communications, Peoples Furniture, Dog N Cat Wellness Clinic, Cook Shack on 7th, Jim Pike Co., Pepper’s, Weiser Classic Candy, Wells Fargo, Weiser Branch, K Hardware, and Pioneer Express.

Death Notices

Karen L. Schaeffer

Karen L. Schaeffer, 65 of Weiser, Idaho, formerly of Boise, Idaho, passed away May 4, 2020 at her sister’s home in Weiser. Arrangements are under the direction of Haren-Wood Funeral Chapel Payette, Ontario.

Clara R. Glascock

Clara R. Glascock, 98, of Nyssa, Ore., died May 4, 2020 at a local assisted living facility. Arrangements by Lienkaemper Chapel, Nyssa.

Roger Alan Fox

Roger Alan Fox, 82, of Vale, Ore., died April 23, 2020 at home. Arrangements by Lienkaemper Chapel Vale.

Patty Ronneburg

Patty Ronneburg, 65, of Ontario, Ore., passed away April 27, 2020. Arrangements are pending under the direction of Haren-Wood Funeral Chapel, Ontario.

Gerald N. Cochran

Gerald N. Cochran, 75, of Weiser, Idaho, passed away April 15, 2020 in Weiser. Arrangements under the direction of Thomason Funeral Home.

Elva Stella Simpson

Elva Stella (Fenn) Simpson, 92 of Adrian, Ore., died April 30, 2020 at a local hospital. Arrangements by Lienkaemper Chapel, Nyssa.

Shelly M. Goodfellow

Shelly M. Goodfellow, 67, of Fruitland, Idaho, passed away April 29, 2020 at the Fruitland St. Lukes ER. Arrangements are under the direction of Haren-Wood Funeral Chapel, Payette.

Betty V. Marcroft

Betty V. Marcroft, 79, of Payette, Idaho, passed away April 27, 2020. Arrangements are pending under the direction of Haren-Wood Funeral Chapel, Payette.

Noemi Velasco

Noemi Velasco, 37, of Ontario, Ore., died April 25, 2020 at home. Arrangements by Lienkaemper Chapel, Ontario.

Coming Ups

Hillcrest Cemetery District commissioners to meet May 11

The Hillcrest Cemetery Maintenance District will have their regular meeting on Monday, May 11 at 3 p.m. at the district office located at 215 E. Indianhead Rd.

The meeting is open to the public, and the meeting agenda will be posted at the cemetery district office. You are welcome to attend.

give blood, give life

Wednesday, May 6, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. • Vendome Events Center



A recent sunny early May day brought out the golfers at Rolling Hills Golf Course in Weiser. Season pass holders don't even have to go into the clubhouse. They can sign up and hit the links. There are some safety precautions in place to protect the public during the coronavirus pandemic. Photo by Steve Lyon

Rolling Hills Golf Course under new management

The Weiser Golf Association takes over operations at nine-hole public course

by Steve Lyon

The Weiser Golf Association is overseeing operations at the nine-hole Rolling Hills Golf Course after parting ways with the former general manager, according to a board member.

The golf association let the general manager go and closed the restaurant on April 15, board member Angie Soulen told the *Weiser Signal American* in an email. The golf course is owned by shareholders and the restaurant, pro shop and grounds upkeep are overseen by a five-member board.

The board appreciated the general manager's work to improve the greens and grass last season. The food was good in the restaurant, and the board was sad to close that portion of the business, Soulen said, but it wasn't fiscally responsible to continue.

"The financial losses are the reason for the change in management," she said.

The restaurant is currently closed for dining, but the golf course is open to the public. Golfing has been one of the few activities open during the governor's stay-home order, which was implemented to curb the spread of coronavirus and expired on May 1.

The board members are managing the course with the help of several volunteers and a few staff members. All golf tournament events are on hold at this time due to the coronavirus pandemic, although officials hope that class reunions scheduled to be held at the course in July and August can take place.

Soulen said that during the coronavirus crisis, the staff is vigilant about disinfecting carts after every rider, wiping down surfaces, door handles and cleaning bathrooms frequently as safety precautions.

There are about 17 acres of fairways so social distancing hasn't been a problem while out on the course. Rolling Hills is not like a large country club in Boise that may have hundreds of members and lots of season pass holders showing up on a daily basis, she said.

Since the golf course implemented its own COVID-19 precautions, the facility

has not seen a lot of visiting golfers in the clubhouse on any given day. On sunny weekend days, the parking lot fills up with mostly season pass holders.

Season pass holders don't even have to go into the clubhouse if they don't want to. They can sign in to play a round outside and hit the links. Most drive their own private golf carts.

"We are doing our best to keep our valued employees with a job, respect the safety of the public, and keep the facility operating in the black through this challenging situation," Soulen said.

The golf course is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. The course is open to the public and no membership is required.

The clubhouse offers non-alcoholic beverages, coffee, ice-tea, and a full bar. Drinks can be ordered by phone or inside and taken out on the course. There are plenty of grab and go snacks available at the clubhouse.

Once the reopening is completed and COVID-19 precautions are over, the entire clubhouse will be open to the public. The board is working on plans to make the kitchen and seating areas available for events.

Customers will be welcome to bring their own food or order food from one of the restaurants in town that delivers and enjoy a meal on the clubhouse patio or inside. The clubhouse also plans to offer quick and easy food like chips and salsa and hot dogs.

Rolling Hills offers highly reasonable daily greens fees and season passes. There are special rates for adults, couple, juniors and a special for first-time buyers.

A round of nine holes costs \$12 on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Hit the course for nine holes for \$10 on Tuesdays. The prices goes up to \$14 for a round of nine holes on Saturday and Sunday. Carts are \$10 to rent for nine holes and \$14 for 18 holes.

Golfers under age 18 can play nine holes for \$7 every day. The driving range is open every day. Rent a bucket of balls for \$3 for small, \$6 for medium and \$8 for large.



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I'm Lyndon Haines and I am asking for your vote on election day. If you give me your trust and your vote, I will work hard to do what's best for our community. I want to give back to a community that has given me so much.

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In light of the recent Coronavirus outbreak, we have taken many measures to help the families we serve. While keeping our funeral homes safe and clean is important, it is equally important to find creative solutions for families who cannot meet with us in person.

As many of our community members are beginning to limit their time in public spaces, we are making changes to help every family make arrangements and gather from wherever they feel safest and most comfortable. **We are prepared to help you make arrangements online, via video call or over the phone. We can even live stream memorial services for family members that cannot attend.**

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FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

First step accomplished in containing coronavirus

We have been extremely fortunate during this pandemic. As of Monday morning, there have been 100 tests given locally. Of those, 99 results have come back, still with only 1 of those being positive.

You have done what was needed to be done to prevent the spread of the nasty, ugly, pernicious COVID-19 virus. You are to be commended!

Still, I have one huge concern. All of us are anxious for life to get back to normal. We want to have the contact with others that we all enjoy and makes life worthwhile.

However, that nasty bug is still out there, lurking, waiting, hoping for the opportunity to take advantage of contact to pounce and spread itself around to do its ugly deeds.

This is especially true with the influx of visitors we have from outside of the area where the virus has more prominence. All of the information points to this virus continuing to be among us for the foreseeable future.

Until a vaccine is developed, it will continue to be a deadly threat to you and your loved ones.



Mayor Randy Hibberd

What we need to do, rather than going back to “normal,” is to continue to use the new habits we have developed over the last several weeks.

What we have been doing works. Remember, the only thing that has changed is that we have accomplished the first goal in dealing with this virus, flattening the curve.

So, we need to continue to:

- Maintain your distance.
- Wash your hands.
- Limit the trips to the store.
- Wear a mask when appropriate.
- Touch as few surfaces as possible when out and about.

You have accomplished the hardest part of conquering this virus. Now, we just need to persist in doing what we have already shown we can do in order to complete the task.

Cathy and I have been able to visit with our kids and grandkids. We just visit outside in the yard and maintain our distance. When the kids come inside to use the bathroom, surfaces are wiped down and sterilized.

It is not as much fun as hugging and playing with them, but it beats not seeing

them at all.

In city news, I was amazed and pleased at the impromptu response to the drive-by parade to the four Weiser care-centers last Friday.

What was supposed to be a small drive-by show of affection for residents from their families turned into an hour-long parade of decorated cars.

There were over 100 vehicles involved. The residents and their families were very appreciative. The people of this town are great!

In other news, on Thursday, May 7, the power will be down to residents on West Galloway Street west of West 9th Street. Idaho Power will be doing some work on their lines from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. which will require these lines to be shut down during this time.

In a few weeks, sewer lines on East 4th Street north of Hanthorn will be upgraded as well as two blocks of water main on Liberty between State Street and East 2nd Street. This is part of the upgrade program to replace aging infrastructure.

Kudos to those who have had the foresight to structure the city’s finances to replace this infrastructure, some of which is over 100 years old. It is nice to have the resources to do this on a planned vs. emergency basis.

Well, that’s it for this week. Enjoy yourselves, but be careful out there.



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LETTERS POLICY

We strive to cover all the news and entertainment important to the people of Washington County, Idaho. Our entire staff takes part in the decision-making process of what appears in these pages and all content is locally generated. If you have a story idea, please contact any of the people you see here.

The personal columns and letters appearing elsewhere on this page, and others, represent the opinions of single individuals and do not necessarily reflect the position of the newspaper. The WSA welcomes and encourages your Letters to the Editor. We will print all signed, original letters of local interest. Letters should not be more than 350 words long and be typed. Please provide a phone number for verification.

We will not publish letters that are libelous in nature and reserve the right to edit all material for spelling, grammar, length and content. Letters of thanks are offered at a reduced price in our classified section.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Incumbent is the best candidate for county commission

Editor:

In the near future we in Washington County will be electing county commissioners.

We are taking this opportunity to endorse our incumbent Lisa Collini. She is what we consider to be the best candidate for this important and responsible position.

The job as county commissioner requires time and experience.

With the lockdown, our county government has had to work in ways that were not foreseen nor predicted.

At this time, a commissioner dedicates on average 40 to 50 hours a week to facilitate the county needs. (This is a low average.) When life is what we call “normal” the job calls for approximately 25 hours a week.

It is a full time job in itself. Being a good leader requires dedication, life skills that come with time, and having the courage to make decisions that aren’t always popular with everyone and their agendas. Ethics and experience are required.

Being a good leader doesn’t make you popular with everyone all the time. One has to have courage and resolve. You cannot say you will support everyone in all ways. A good leader has common sense.

Lisa Collini has proven she has what it takes. She is available and experienced to lead and supervise.

Lisa is tried and true in her responsibility and job. She has a 100 percent attendance record and is running because she wants to, with no agenda other than serving the citizens of Washington County.

Cathy and Mike Kaech
Midvale

Lyndon Haines will bring clear vision to commission

Editor:

I am writing in support of Lyndon Haines for Washington County Commission.

I have had the opportunity to listen to and ask questions of Mr. Haines and found him to be a very informed, attentive and compassionate candidate for Washington County.

He seems very sincere in his desire to serve the county that he was raised in.

In our conversations, Mr. Haines has been very open to listening to all opinions and ideas. I believe that he will take everyone’s thoughts and ideas into consideration as he makes decisions for our county.

Mr. Haines does not seem to have any agenda in his campaign for county commission other than his desire to help bring Washington County up to our full potential.

While re-electing someone who has had years of government experience may seem the logical choice, I feel that having a fresh view of the issues in Washington County will be of a much greater value.

That is what Lyndon Haines will bring to the commission. New ideas and a clear vision for Washington County, not clouded by years of continuing to support misguided ideas because that’s the way they have always been done.

Please join me in supporting Lyndon Haines for Washington County Commission.

Jim Felton
Weiser

Who is the real conservative in commission race?

Editor:

It’s amazing what people reveal about themselves to those of us who pay attention.

Anna Stark penned a letter moralizing on the company one keeps and how it affects one’s reputation.

She states “Lyndon, as well as his supporters, seem to act in a transparent, educated, informed way.”

The key word here is seem. As far as my research takes me, I have seen no conservative philosophy regarding public policy coming from Haines’ lips.

The supporters of Mr. Haines are several well-known Democrats advocating fellow Dems to switch party registration to vote Mr. Haines in office.

If you only pretend to be something you are not, how can you take the “moral high ground?”

Public servants are voted in based on their vision, their moral code and phi-

losophy that they espouse.

We need candidates for public office to be honest about who they really are, and the voters will then make their decision.

Yes, Anna, you are known by the company you keep.
Ron Lawrence Sr.
Weiser

Now is the time to take back county for all residents

Editor:

The firing of Chad Brock was not what woke up the residents of Washington County. It was just the final straw that broke the camel’s back.

I personally became aware of the pressure and control that the chairman of the county commissioners Mr. Chandler was exerting on our county employees before the firing.

I went to the courthouse to do some research on the ordinance that covers animals in the county. I was told I would need to talk to Commissioner Chandler to have the animal ordinance defined.

The county has a county prosecutor who we employ to define and clarify the “law.”

Mr. Chandler has been pushing his personal agendas and it is then rubber-stamped by commissioner Collini.

We have attended commissioner meetings, and the input and discussion by

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Your Faith

It's a good time for a change

Church of the Redeemer

Being a suburbanite most of my life, I admit I don't know much about farming, but I understand the necessity to rotate the type of crop planted to regenerate the soil for a healthy yield. Research has also taught me this practice minimizes the development of certain pathogens and pests that tend to build up when the same field is used continuously in production of the same crop.

My family moved about the country during my tween and teen years. I was well acquainted with change. It was hard. But, moving around – meeting a diversity of new people, experiencing unfamiliar cultures, lifestyles, regional language and foods – was like a continual rotation of crops, enriching the soil of my life to ensure a healthy yield of “me.” Hindsight is 20/20. Change has been very good to me.

A worldwide pandemic has thrown a wrench into all life. Change. Could it be, through this, the soil of our souls are being tilled and conditioned to eradicate the pathogens and pests developed in our previous life? To make ready a different, yet beneficial, crop for a season of new life?

After witnessing His crucifixion and

death, confused and thinking all was lost, imagine how everything the apostles knew to be reality changed the moment Christ revealed Himself to them alive by the power of Heaven. By a new and steadfast faith, crystallized by the resurrection life of their Savior they knew without doubt to be the very Son of God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, they left their sleepy towns and simple professions to follow Jesus to fulfill His command for them to go make disciples of all nations in His name no matter what the cost. Change was the name of their new game.

Meeting and abiding in Christ is like the ultimate crop rotation. Whether watered with gentle cleansing rains or tumultuous storms of trial, no matter where it leads, life in Him will yield a bumper crop every time. Change ... in Christ, it's all good as He is good – Jody R. Goode, redemerweiser@gmail.com.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB) - Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Church of the Redeemer is adopting a “better safe than sorry” approach and will continue virtual worship until further notice.

Re-opening takes time (always has)

St. Luke's Episcopal

by Carolyn Wesner

We all miss our regular activities such as employment, school, volunteering, going to fitness gatherings, and attending church. However, things are looking up as our state is in the process of gearing up to re-open. It's hard to be patient; trying to safeguard our own and others' health while getting back to earning a living and our normal routines. It all seems to take more time than we thought.

We're not the only ones! In Old Testament Bible times, about the middle 700's B.C., the great King Solomon had constructed a fabulous building dedicated to the worship of God. It stood for over 160 years until the Babylonians came, laid siege, and destroyed it all in 587 B.C.

Most of the people left were hauled off as captives so rebuilding just wasn't possible for at least 50 years. The new temple foundation stone was put in place about the year 535 (thanks to a big management change in Babylon). Still, there

were lots of slow-downs: lack of manpower and resources, time out to settle building permits, arguing with the neighbors, local politics, etc. – nothing went as fast as anyone hoped.

“Why is this taking so long? We want to get back to our normal lives!” said the people. The grand re-opening ceremony didn't happen until 516, and even then the structure wasn't as nice or as good as everyone wanted. They just had to adjust; it was the New Normal.

Maybe patience and slowly rebuilding are not strong points for humanity, though sometimes we can and should respond quickly and make some fast moves! Here's hoping that with care and systematic action our family life, jobs, homes and economy can rebuild and safely reopen soon.

We at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Weiser are hoping to resume services in May; still thinking of you and praying for the safety of our communities. God bless, and listen for the bell on Sundays.

Just something to think about

It is nearly Mothers Day. I am thankful that I was fortunate enough to be a mom. I am also thankful for those wonderful women that were like mom's to me.

My 4-H leader's, Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Watson, that taught me to cook and sew. Mrs. Clark that gave me lessons on the piano when I was in second grade.

My Sunday school teachers, school teachers and those other wonderful mentors that helped me as I was a

nurse's aides.

I hope that I have been that helpful woman that has been a “mom” to those around me as they grow and learn.

The Bible says that the older women are to teach the younger women.

What a privilege.

May God bless all of the “other” mothers...whether they have children or not.

Just something to think about.

C. Shaw

Why does God allow coronavirus?

Riverside Baptist

I am often asked this question. Is coronavirus the judgment of God? People that ask this are usually thinking about one of the many corruptions of our current culture. They usually are pointing their finger at someone else. Jesus asks and answers this question in Luke 13 in ways that we don't expect.

Jesus is teaching the people and there is a discussion about some Galileans who were murdered by the ruler Pilate. Jesus adds to their discussion by telling a story about an accidental tragedy. Jesus then asks if these people were worse sinners than anyone else. The implied answer is no.

Jesus says, “unless you repent.” We don't like the word repent but it is simply a Biblical word used to describe a change of heart. It means to make a change in direction. Repentance means to stop trusting ourselves and to start depending on God. We change our priorities to value God more than we have. Repentance doesn't begin with those outside the church but those inside. God has used the coronavirus to change our priorities.

Jesus says, “unless you repent you too will perish.” The perish he is talking about is not physical death but spiritual death and separation from God. We are preoccupied with avoiding physical death. Jesus says

that being eternally lost is a worse fate.

People are having a change of heart in what is important in life. Jesus is becoming more treasured and trusted. We are not just thinking about this life but about eternal life. This is why God has allowed the coronavirus.

I owe some of my thinking for this article to the book “Coronavirus and Christ” by John Piper. You can download it for free at desiringgod.com.

If you have any questions about this article, the Bible, or our church please feel free to email us at rb-cweiser@gmail.com. Our church website is riversidechurchweiser.com.

Pastor Ian Ross



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Spring Sports Spotlight...



The Weiser High School varsity softball team, pictured above, from left: Hannah Swank, Macy Moore, Mecarte Olsen, Shalee Huggins, Erika Tyree, Jakaela Ruiz, Makaela Ruiz, Tobie Noyer, Whitney Cordes, Kali Branstetter, Alex Bittinger, Madison Phillips, Alexa Lunstrum, Macy Maloney, Ivy Morris, Lindsey McConnell and Grace Swank. Members of this year's graduating class are Macy Moore, Alex Bittinger, Shalee Huggins, Madison Phillips, Makaela Ruiz, Jakaela Ruiz and Erika Tyree.

Weiser High School's spring sports teams gave it their best in the short season they played this year.

The impact from the coronavirus pandemic has been unprecedented, especially for the seniors on Weiser's ball teams who hoped to have their best season yet.

There will be no trips to state for baseball or softball teams in the season that really never was.

Varsity baseball coach Bowe von Brethorst said there is a

consensus among Weiser's coaches that this was the most talented team of Wolverines they have seen in their eight years of coaching young ball-players.

"Most of these student-athletes were baseball first, meaning if they had to pick their most loved and played sport it would be baseball," von Brethorst said.

The three seniors on the varsity squad played all three games of this abbreviated season. They went out like most

seniors do and competed like it was going to be their last game. In fact, the third game was their last, the coach said.

"They competed the Wolverine way," he said.

Varsity softball coach Brad Cordes praised this year's squad for their dedication to a sport all loved and wanted to play.

"All the girls have been a great group and there are some really great leaders on this team. They are always willing to go the extra mile."



The junior varsity team from left, Sam Keith, Lindsey McConnell, Alexa Lundstrum, Macy Maloney, Rhianna Solis, Hannah Swank, Hannah Samson, Jaylene Millan, Josie Cervantes, Jenifer Juarez, Kassidi Wall and kneeling, Grace Swank. Not pictured: Hannah Wade, Sarah Strange, Zierra Salinas, Emilie Ixta, Chloe Eastis.



The Weiser High School baseball team, pictured above, back row, from left, Matt Morris, Willy Shirts, Dayton Turrentine, Nathan McDaniel, Tyler Pope, Ray Calley, Brett Spencer, Payton Albertson, Seth Caviness, Dillon Turrentine, Ammon Caviness, Clayton Beesley and Cole Busch. Front, Ammon Kegan, Rusty Cantrell, Kooper von Brethorst, Brady Edwards, Jack Burke, Levi Swank, Malakye Scott, Tanner Colvin, Daniel Glaspie, Spencer Maxa, Noah Irigoyen, Robby Hendersen and Jarret Mink. Senior members graduating this month are Brady Edwards, Matt Morris and Nathan McDaniel.

The crew at Weiser's Les Schwab Tire Center dedicate this page to the WHS softball and baseball teams (in place of their business spotlight)

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The graduating class at Weiser High School has been greatly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, with the school closed, sports cancelled and students doing coursework by distance learning. Administrators and staff wanted to honor seniors like Addison Gomez, above, and bought congratulatory signs for the Class of 2020. Photo by Sarah Imada

Each senior in Class of 2020 receives yard sign

WHS staff wants to make sure seniors are celebrated
by Nicole Miller

We will all remember the spring of 2020 for many reasons. Whether you ran out of toilet paper, worked from home for the first time, or served on the frontlines working overtime as an essential worker, life has changed for everyone. One group that has been uniquely affected by COVID-19 has been the graduating class of 2020.

Senior year at high school is meant to be fun and memorable. While planning for their futures, seniors enjoy their last few months with their childhood friends, playing their final seasons of high school sports, attending senior prom, and enjoying celebrations like the senior breakfasts, scholarship awards assemblies, and of course commencement ceremony and graduation parties.

With the stay-at-home order, and traditional school cancelled for the rest of the year before spring break, all of those senior celebrations are either cancelled or drastically changed. The senior class went to their last dance, played their last games, and walked down the halls of Weiser High School all for the last time without even knowing it.

While commencement is still scheduled for May 17, it will look different than it ever has, and the parties and celebrations will be smaller with out of town guests absent and friends and family attending those celebrations will be limited due to stay at home and gathering guidelines.

The Weiser High School staff and administration is working hard to recognize

the graduating class of 2020 and let them know that they are still being celebrated and honored. Graduation is being planned carefully to make the event special and meaningful while still safe for everyone involved.

Weiser High School Principal Dave Davies shared that as a result of one of the many discussions of ways to recognize the senior class, one idea was brought up to create a unique gift for each senior to let them know their teachers and administrators were thinking of them and supporting them.

The staff worked with Idaho Custom Designs to create special yard signs and delivered them to each member of the senior class.

Each yard sign says “We love our WHS 2020 senior” and was delivered by volunteers from the high school staff to the homes of every senior on the evening of Tuesday, April 21.

“We wanted to help the seniors know that they are on our minds and that we want to do all we can to make their senior spring the best it can be in light of the difficult circumstances,” Davies said.

The gifts meant a lot to the students and families. Senior class president Branson Ward shared that this little surprise and the support that is represented by each sign made a big difference to the senior class.

“It just makes me happy to realize that we have such a supportive school. Our teachers are incredible, and it’s very comforting to feel the support they have for us,” Ward said.

Hang in there. It’s not over yet

by Joanne Braden

Once again, here we are with no real new news!

However, Washington County can be proud of itself because the residents for the most part have and are doing their job in helping to guard against the coronavirus.

That, people, is a major accomplishment, but be aware that it’s not over by any means, and we have to be vigilant and keep doing our part. It’s a real blessing that we have had only one case in our whole county.

I have a couple of grandkids that have proven positive with it this past week and a half. They live in Colorado and have four children, including a 6-month-old baby. I appreciate your prayers.



So far, although they say they are doing well, they tell me it is a truly miserable sickness. Thank goodness for Facetime. I don’t have to take their word for it. I can see how it’s affecting them.

As I said last month, there is not a lot going on at the center. They are still doing a great job of delivering food every weekday through Meals on Wheels and take-out meals.

If you need or want to use these services, please call (208) 414-0750 by 9 a.m. so they can know how many meals to fix for that day. Donations are appreciated.

We are saddened by the loss of one of our dear ladies last week. It grieves us deeply when one of our members or friends passes on because we are a family. I was just getting to really know her better, both at the center and on Facebook, and will miss her pretty smile and attitude.

I will leave you with a virtual hug as I have to keep my 6-foot foot distance.

Joanne writes the senior center news.

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Toothfully
Speaking
by Dr. Bryan Dille



Cold Sores

Cold sores are the red, crusty, painful blisters, which most commonly appear on the lip. Anyone that has ever had one knows about the tingling sensation that first alerts them that they are about to have an outbreak.

These lesions are technically referred to as herpes. Herpes are caused by the Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV). HSV -1 is most commonly found above the waist and HSV-2 is more common below the waist, but in about 10% of cases they can be found in both areas.

HSV is made out of a single stranded DNA strand. When HSV enters the body it lays dormant next to the nerves. HSV will stay dormant until something triggers it to start like

sunlight, trauma, stress, immunosuppression, dental work, menstruation, fever, or illness.

There are antivirals like acyclovir, if taken after the tingling sensation starts, which can reduce the duration and size of the outbreak. Unfortunately, there is not a cure for HSV.

If you are having an outbreak, avoid contact with the area because it is contagious to others and can also be spread to other areas. Herpetic lesions can be found on the lips, in the mouth, on fingers, in eyes and many other areas.

If you have a topic for an article send us an email at dilledental@gmail.com, or better yet, stop in at our office. We love to talk about teeth and we will be happy to answer your question(s) in future columns.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CONTINUED: PRIMARY ELECTION

Collini is minimal to absent.

A county commissioner should not work to push forward their personal vendettas. They should serve to analyze, judge, and make decisions to direct the growth of the county for all residents.

Our roads are a disgrace and getting worse. Washington County has a planning and zoning commission made up of citizen volunteers, no pay.

They meet to discuss, analyze and work diligently to help direct the growth of our county.

The above two county commissioners attended the meeting and took over the meeting and when it wasn't proceeding as they wanted they adjourned the meeting.

We now have Mr. Chandler campaigning for Lisa Collini to maintain his control of Washington County and its citizens.

Now is the time to step up and take Washington County back for all the residents.

We have a candidate with an exceptional background and a very analytical mind, and he has no personal agenda.

The man believes that growth is coming to Washington County and that we need to prepare for the challenges.

He is a member of the volunteer fire department and very involved in the community. We have attended Republican meetings here in Washington County, and were present when Lyndon Haines introduced himself and presented the fact that he was running for county commissioner.

Lyndon engaged in a discussion with everyone present who wished to participate. The only negative comment that was presented was you are too young.

Well, folks, how old do you think Thomas Jefferson was when, as governor of Virginia, he wrote the Declaration of Independence? He was 33 years old.

Should we go back and remove from our history the Declaration of Independence because the man who wrote it was the same age as Lyndon Haines.

Call the county clerk's office at 208-414-2092 to request an absentee ballot and vote for Lyndon Haines.

Robert Patrick Weiser

Why did county offer employee a settlement?

Editor:

If Chad Brock's firing was based on solid grounds, solid evidence of wrongdoing, to the extent that a long-term, loyal employee required termination, why did the county commissioners offer Chad a monetary settlement for their decision?

If Chad was not wrongfully terminated, why would the county commissioners offer taxpayer money to Chad to make the whole thing go away?

Vote for change. Vote for Lyndon Haines.

Rob Dickerson Weiser

Does candidate plan to juggle job, commission duties?

Editor:

This is my first "Letter to the Editor" as I have, at this point, now been incensed to write such.

Election season, usually statewide and nationally, typically brings out the worst in people.

In reading letters to both the *Weiser Signal American* and Living In the News, this bad form seems to have descended upon the populace right here in Washington County.

Candidate supporters have intimidated and outright stated that people not possessing the proper Washington County pedigree need not apply.

Age discrimination, asking to change party affiliation (temporarily, of course) and the ability to procreate are also good requirements.

"I'm not backing an ex-freelance court reporter from San Diego, Calif., to run our county...They screwed up the state they were in then ran to ours... I think we let our own people run our own county....

"...being retired is not a qualification...

"...ask for a Republican ballot...changing your registration for the short term, if necessary...

"...he's young and energetic...

"...a young family man..."

It is beyond disgraceful that supporters of one candidate would seek to exonerate another. You should hire out as national cam-

paign consultants.

As a resident of Washington County, I can tell you that I was not born here. I have lived in Idaho for a mere 23 years – though not always within the confines of Washington County (by the way, those boundary lines on a map do not exist in real life).

I have lived in many towns and states in my life. You will want to know that in case I want to run for office. I am older, I have no children, happen to have been born in the Presidio, San Francisco, Calif., as my father was in the United States Navy and that's where he was stationed at the time.

By the way, I am also "an ex-court reporter." I will not need to change my registration.

I do, however, vote – you indigenous peoples, you will let us county immigrants vote, right – as do so many of the other good people who also were not born here but moved here because they thought it would be a nice place to live...

Now, I know that the commissioners have a weekly meeting that lasts about six hours or so on Mondays. I also know that each commissioner is a voting member on other county boards.

Nate Marvin votes on the WICAP and Southwest District Health; Lisa Collini votes on SREDA and Weiser Economic Business Development and Kirk Chandler votes on the Soil Conservation Board.

In addition to those, I know that there are other boards they sit on or attend as Washington County Commissioners.

They also attend annual state conferences and district conferences, that are four days long. The amount of time these commissioners spend in their job is at least 30 hours a week and that was before this whole coronavirus thing. Now it has gone to 40-50.

People often make the tongue in cheek comment that ministers only work on Sunday. Though I haven't had any sort of pastoral vocation myself, having been friends with pastors and pastors' wives, I am acutely aware that this is far from the truth.

Sunday services, mid-week prayer meetings, pastoral visitation and other responsibilities within the church mean that there

are few busier people than the gospel minister.

For a man in the gospel ministry to add a similarly demanding role such as political office to his schedule surely gives rise to the question, can both roles be filled adequately?

There is a quote, "If God calls you to be a missionary, then you should not stoop to be a king."

As a Christian, I know that believers are essential in all levels of government and engaged in every kind of public policy debate.

I also know Jesus said that "His kingdom was not of this world." It is my solemn belief that Christians need to remember that we are ambassadors for Christ on earth.

A commissioner for the county is a full-time job. Anyone who tells you it isn't either isn't familiar with its demands or isn't doing it correctly.

My question is, knowing that one of the candidates has a full-time job as the leader of a church, full time family, volunteers at the fire department, rec center, and as a chaplain; which of these is going to get the least attention?

I wish to ask Mr. Haines directly – because it is a possibility and I may just not be aware – will you be giving up your position as a pastor of a church to become a full-time politician?

"The work of preaching is the highest and greatest and most glorious calling to which anyone can ever be called" (Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones).

Lori Walla Weiser

2 commissioners pursue agenda of special interests

Editor:

I have listened to hours of tapes of county commissioner meetings.

I have verified commissioner statements with the state attorney general's office, Forest Service, county prosecutor, county sheriff department and county employees and done a "Freedom of Information Act" with the Forest Service.

One of our county commissioners has done the following:

–Proposed getting rid of Planning and Zoning Commission, and suggested not having a county building

inspector.

–Proposed getting rid of Planning and Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector/Building and Grounds Supervisor.

–Terminated the county employee that did those three jobs well – with 40 years experience in building/construction, 12 years employed by Washington County, with commendations regarding work excellence.

–Proposed Washington County "supervise and oversee" management of Forest Service and BLM land in Washington County.

–Sent out emails to officials with Forest Service, BLM, locally and nationally, regarding this "county's intention" to manage/supervise federal lands in Washington County.

–Directed Delton Walker, county prosecutor and legal adviser, to investigate possibility of doing so, taking hours of his time away from his work. His 30-page response was that it was "not legally supportable."

–Ignored county prosecutor's legal advice, on several subjects, and continued to promote/propose this "county oversee federal lands position" to Idaho Attorney General's office, state officials.

–Never met with county sheriff to determine if his department was physically/financially able, willing to provide law response over Forest and BLM lands in the county.

–Repeatedly declined to open three public meetings to citizen's comments, when there is a large audience.

Commissioner Nate Marvin spoke on the record that he was no longer going to allow this "waste of time, taxpayer money, use of county prosecutor's time and advice" for the interest/focus of the other two commissioners regarding oversight/management of federal lands that cannot benefit the majority of the county residents but only "some small special interest group," to the harm of the rest of the county residents and taxpayers.

If Ms. Collini disagreed with any/all of the above, she did not speak a word on the record.

Two of our county commissioners have:

–Not yet fully replaced the terminated county em-

ployee, five months later, which caused building permits and fees to be raised to cover a "contracted building inspector," eliminated free plan reviews, added extra costs to county for medical, retirement for 2.5 people vs 1.5 people.

–Been negotiating a legal financial settlement with the terminated employee, at a cost to taxpayers.

–Regularly met privately with a small group, an elected official, a commissioner from another county, in order to plan/write up proposed ordinances and codes for Washington County.

–At the last P&Z meeting, went on record that they had never yet met with Weiser City Council/Weiser Mayor to coordinate and create positive and supportive relationships for the future growth and planning for this county, (Midvale and Cambridge came to meet on their own with the County Commissioners at a P&Z meeting.)

Ms Collini has given an "automatic second" to every single motion made by the commission chairman!

If you do not take a stand and speak up, you are part of the problem.

If Ms. Collini disagreed with any/all of the above that occurred in public meetings, she did not speak a word on the record.

BTW – Ms Collini stated she has been a County Commissioner for two years. Sworn in 1/2019 to today. That makes 15 months. She states she has never missed a meeting... look up minutes for January 6, 2020. Absent. Truth is the truth. Not a half truth. Not a convenient truth.

Why are four experienced past County Commissioners and two County Clerks supporting Lyndon Haines for commissioner?

I am also supporting Lyndon Haines. He is transparent, accessible, has no "group agenda" to answer to, has the ability and intelligence to research on his own, brings positive ideas, energy and leadership for the benefit of the county, is focused on working with city officials, economic development, state and federal officials in a respectful and supportive/cooperative manner.

Join me in voting for Lyndon Haines to help take back our county.

Jeri Soulier Weiser

from page 1

Idaho business association donates 40 laptops to Weiser School District

laptops after the district fell short of being able to provide enough devices for families who have several students in the district.

Additionally, not all students have the necessary camera or speakers on their home computer to participate in remote learning lessons.

Some computers are running browsers that are too old to get on to education websites like

Math Facts. All of the donated laptops are up to date and can run the required programs, district officials said.

Weiser High School principal Dave Davies said the school district has checked out 430 district-owned devices to students.

The district has been issuing tablets, iPads, Chromebooks and other computers to students and their families since classrooms

closed following spring break.

Students in the Weiser School District, like all schools across the state, have been receiving coursework by remote education since April 1 when the State Board of Education initiated a "soft closure" of all schools as a coronavirus safety precaution.

Alishia Jonas, a member of the IBE's Treasure Valley team, said the call went out to businesses

to donate used computer devices once the Community Activation Project got started last month. The need is great, with an estimated 3,000 students without a computer in 33 school districts in the Treasure Valley.

Jonas works for Kendell Ford, which is one location where donated computers are collected and cleaned.

The devices are wiped clean of

data and sanitized by volunteers at collection sites. The computers and power cords are wrapped so volunteers know which ones have been refreshed and are ready to give to school districts.

"We all want the same thing. We all want to positively impact the lives of students," Jonas said. "This is just the beginning. We hope to make more trips back to Weiser."

Planning for county fair moves forward, with contingencies

By late July, state will hopefully ease coronavirus precautions to allow gatherings

by Steve Lyon

With the Washington County Fair still three months away, officials with the fair board and the University of Idaho Extension Office in Washington County are crossing their fingers and moving forward with the planning required for the event in Cambridge.

The hope is that the restrictions on public gathering associated with the coronavirus pandemic won't be an issue by then and the governor's staged reopening will allow 4-H and FFA participants and visitors to attend the week-long fair. The county fair is scheduled for July 27 to Aug. 1.

Extension office officials are not taking any chances, however, and if there are still restrictions in place on the number of people that can gather in one place due to coronavirus safety measures there needs to be alternatives in place to hold fair events.

"Right now, we're going ahead with the idea that in July maybe we will be able to have the fair just like normal, but we need to have some contingency plans in place for that, so the kids don't feel let down or pressed at the last minute," extension educator Mary Ridout said.

In an update for county commissioners on fair planning, Ridout said there is some concern about what the situation will be with coronavirus precautions



Kyle Long shows how well trained his dog is as they run the obstacle course and compete in the agility competition at City Park in Weiser. The dog agility and obedience trials are always the first events to take place during fair week. They are held in Weiser, while the fair is in Cambridge.

and guidelines on large gatherings when the fair rolls around in late July.

"There is the question of whether things will ease enough that we can have that big of a gathering or whether we have to adjust and compensate in some way," Ridout said. "We're looking at the different options. We'll be talking about those options with the fair board as a contingency."

Fair organizers will get some guidance from state 4-H officials later on this summer as it gets

closer to fair time across southern Idaho. There may be ways to hold some fair events remotely and reduce the numbers, if that is required as a coronavirus precaution.

The governor has unveiled a four-stage reopening schedule that would allow events that involve crowds of more than 50 people to resume by the end of June, if criteria are met and the state experiences no major coronavirus outbreak or spike in cases.

Ridout said everyone in-

cluded in the fair and 4-H want to make sure the kids can go through with their projects and feel like they have accomplished something.

"We want everybody to be able to finish their projects. That's our primary goal," Ridout said.

The 4-H and FFA members have already started on their animal projects and will put in months of effort to raise their poultry, rabbits, pigs, steers, goats, sheep and more. Winning a grand champion ribbon

for their animal is pretty special at the fair. They will get paid for their investment of time and money on the final day of the fair with the livestock sale.

The market beef weigh-in took place at the Kerner Cattle Company feedlot in Weiser in early March before the coronavirus pandemic appeared in Idaho. The weigh-ins for other project animals were canceled.

During the governor's stay-home order, which was first implemented on March 25 and then extended to April 30, when it expired, some 4-H clubs in the county were able to meet remotely.

"We're pretty proud of them for keeping going and rolling with it," Ridout said.

There are eight 4-H clubs in Washington County with about 175 kids enrolled. Due to the unprecedented circumstances, some 4-H projects may be extended even beyond the fair so kids can complete all the requirements.

"There's going to be a lot of adjusting this year in terms of our 4-H programming, but I think it will work out in the long run," Ridout said.

Commissioners allocated \$74,000 for the fair in this year's budget. They asked to be kept in the loop on fair planning and expressed optimism that events will be opened up by the time the fair arrives.

Young bear sighted east of Weiser on Cove Road

by Steve Lyon

The Washington County Sheriff's Office responded to a call last Wednesday morning about a bear on the loose near Cove Road and Unity Lane east of Weiser.

Along with a sheriff's deputy, a whole bunch of spectators also wanted to see the bear. When it was first reported at about 10:30 a.m., the bear was on the move. It then found a local tree to climb on Cove Road, where it stayed for an hour or more, attracting an audience of onlookers, before it relocated to another tree farther away from the road.

Sheriff Matt Thomas said the black bear was a young animal, maybe a year or two old.

The sheriff's office receives occasional reports of bear sightings around the county and it's not uncommon. Usually, bear sightings do not require a response from law enforcement.

There were no conservation officers from page 1

with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in the area at the time the bear was sighted.

Usually, the best course of action is to leave the animal alone and not bother it. A deputy who went out to the area asked people if they would leave and give the bear plenty of room.

"It will go where it needs to go," Thomas said.

Conservation officer Mark Sands, a supervisor with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game based in Nampa, said he heard about the Weiser-area bear, which possibly could have been a yearling.

The deputy was able to move everyone away from the area and it eventually came down. If it continues to stay in the area, fish and game will try to relocate it, he said.

He said there are likely a few bears that travel the Weiser River corridor. It was not known where the young bear came from.



This young bear was spotted near Cove Road and Unity Lane last week. It climbed a tree as spectators arrived to have a look. Eventually, once people left the area, the bear took off. Photo courtesy of Washington County Sheriff's Office.

Weiser High graduation

of reopening as outlined by the governor, and that large gatherings of people will be allowed on the date that they choose.

Under the guidelines released last week for Opening Up Idaho, the Weiser district doesn't believe it could hold a public gathering at Memorial Park in any of the early stages of reopening, Wilson said.

However, if the state progresses through each stage without any setbacks it does appear that a public ceremony could occur in stage 4 (which is set to begin on June 13) so long as social distancing requirements are adhered to, Wil-

son said.

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the district this spring, starting with the closure of all schools on April 1 and switching to distance learning. That was followed by the cancellation of all high school spring sports.

"The impact has been magnified for our current seniors who are closing out their K-12 careers and preparing to move on to new endeavors as young adults," Wilson said.

"We feel terrible the pandemic has forced a change to experiences typically enjoyed by students who are graduating."

Business reopening plan

"It is the governor's orders and we have to follow that," he said.

Gov. Brad Little said Idaho will follow a data-driven approach to opening up Idaho's economy.

The approach reduces the risk of COVID-19 to Idaho's most vulnerable population and preserves capacity in our healthcare system, while opening up businesses safely, according to a statement.

From an economic standpoint, Idaho's rebound from COVID-19 starts with employee and consumer confidence, which leads into business stability and growth and

eventually promotion and attraction.

For businesses that have been economically impacted by the recently expired stay-home order, Little announced a plan to distribute \$300 million in Idaho Rebound cash grants as the state enters stage one of reopening.

Cash grants of up to \$10,000 will be available to small businesses. Businesses will be eligible if they have not already received an SBA-backed Payroll Protection loan or received less than \$10,000 in a loan.

The criteria and process to apply for grants was released on Tuesday.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Primary Election and Weiser Memorial Hospital District Bond Election will be held in Washington County, Idaho, on May 19, 2020 by Mail Out Absentee Ballot ONLY. Absentee Ballots Requests must be received by the Clerk's Office by 8:00 p.m. May 19, 2020. All ballots must be returned to the County Clerk's Office by June 2, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

No Polling Places will be open for this Election.

WITNESS MY hand and seal this 5th day of May 2020.

Donna Atwood
Clerk of the District Court

19-1S

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Count three medium size words to the line. Include address and phone number in count.

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Must be at least 16 years of age, have current lifeguard and CPR certifications. Duties will include but not limited to watching over swimmers, keeping up on pool maintenance, and working with the public. Applicant must have the ability to lift 50 lbs, work weekends, work holidays, and have a flexible work schedule. Applicant must be able to follow written and verbal directions. This position is seasonal for approximately 3 months. Hours per week will vary. Starting wage is \$7.25 or depending on experience. Closing date is 5:00 p.m. on May 8, 2020. Applications are available at the Weiser Recreation Department. The City of Weiser is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

THE CITY OF WEISER IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR A STREET DEPARTMENT UTILITY WORKER

NATURE OF WORK:

Works under the direction of the Street Supervisor, and performs construction and maintenance work on city streets, alleys, and storm drain system as part of a crew. Also works as a crew member on construction repair of city facilities as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK:

- Operates city heavy maintenance equipment such as Dump Trucks, Loader, Street Grader, Backhoe, Street Sweeper and Leaf Vacuum.
- Works as laborer on city streets, alleys and snow removal.
- Works on construction projects as catch basin and manhole construction.
- Works in shop doing maintenance on equipment.
- Works in city parks mowing lawns, weed eating, cleaning bathrooms, trimming trees, and maintaining equipment.

MANDATORY QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:

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- Valid Idaho Drives License.
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- Obtain Class B CDL within 12 months from date of hire.
- Follow written and oral instructions.
- 1 (one) year introductory period.
- Must show ability to possess positive working relationship with supervisor, co-workers and the public in general.
- Must be motivated self starter.
- Must have flexible work schedule, weekends and holidays.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS:

- Operating knowledge of heavy equipment.
- Knowledge of hand tools and material used in construction and equipment maintenance.

Applications are available at Weiser City Hall, 55 West Idaho Street Monday – Friday during regular business hours or at our website cityofweiser.com. Closing date is 5:00 pm, May 22, 2020. The City of Weiser is an equal opportunity employer. The City of Weiser provides veterans preference.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	5			9			4
7				3			9
		8	1		5		
	4			6			3
		6	7			1	
9				5		4	
8			4				6
	3			8			2
		7			2	9	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Super Crossword

TWO-CHANNEL
CONNECTION

ACROSS

1 Old Glory, for one
5 Up in smoke
11 Refluxes of tides
15 Ankle-knee connector
19 I, to Greeks
20 "Speak up!"
21 Ark captain
22 Chipotle item
23 "Great job, play more!"
25 Be sweet on
26 Wilson of film
27 One half of a 45
28 Eat
29 Stingy type
30 Get a B, e.g.
31 Mauna
33 Sharp rise in new findings?
36 Napoleon's birthplace
40 Gem, e.g.
41 Writer — Jackson Braun
42 — out (supplement)
43 Ice melter
45 — word (coinage for one occasion)
48 Throbs
49 Perpetual pampering?

53 Country singer Evans
55 Born, to Gigi
56 Gridiron gp.
57 Repulsive
59 Fienness or Macchio
62 Fishermen, often
65 "Hear No Evil" star
67 Really move on the dance floor
71 Round of applause all for oneself?
73 Company symbol on a container of breathing gas?
75 Capital of Croatia
76 Scrape the bottom of
78 Flushes
79 Antipasto bit
81 Loved by
83 "— Beso" (1962 hit)
84 56-Across stats
87 Old phone part
89 Distinctive feature of blasting material?

93 Is on hold, say
96 Spanish for "silver"
98 Draft-eligible
99 Item in a pod
100 Congenital
102 Bands of three
105 Most morose
107 Quaint theater where everyone hung out?
111 Post-it note abbr.
112 Soccer immortal
113 Change formally
114 Slugger Willie
116 Evade artfully
120 "Woe is me"
121 — de foie gras
122 Alternate title for this puzzle
124 Madison Avenue prize
125 Hens and cows
126 Bright-shining
127 Appellation
128 Composer Jerome
129 Acoustic pair

130 Pint-size
131 Otherwise

DOWN

1 Small lies
2 Actress
6 Cherished
7 Intelligible
8 Hunky guy
9 Most scant
10 Before, to Kipling
11 Spices up
12 Idaho city
13 Cake creator
14 Singer Crow
15 Cork up, as a bottle
16 Maui native
17 Emulate Tara Lipinski
18 "Baloney!"
24 Certain woodwind player
29 Early hi-fi format
32 Berry rich in antioxidants
34 See eye to eye (with)
35 Sis, say
36 Frame of a cartoon
37 Japanese island
38 Calling the shots
39 Nearly
44 WJM anchor
46 Pop singer
47 Chunk of history
50 Animal at "una corrida"
51 East — (Asian nation)
52 Spotted, as money
54 Playwright Edward
58 Ad catchphrase
60 Little lake
61 Texas — (poker game)
62 Singer Scaggs
63 Stunt legend
64 Very zealous
66 Put out
68 Freaks out
69 Tunes out
70 Canon — Rebel
72 Best possible
74 Bad-pun responses
77 Keep waiting
80 Mr. Big
82 However, briefly
84 Pair of identical products sold as a unit
85 Writer Steel
86 "Babbitt" author Lewis
88 White Rabbit's woe
90 Tree flutterer
91 New royal of 1981
92 Kit —
94 Confronts
95 Canonized Fr. woman
97 Walked (on)
101 Slip away
103 Electrical resistance measure
104 Subject to legal action
106 Singer Warwick
108 Large city in Nebraska
109 Ward off
110 Ordinance
115 Withered
117 "You're on!"
118 Mouth parts
119 Lightish sword
122 Salary ceiling
123 Actor Bruce

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House on Olds Ferry Road heavily damage in fire

State fire marshal assisting Weiser Area Rural Fire District in investigation into cause

by Steve Lyon

The Weiser Area Rural Fire Department was busy on Friday responding to back-to-back calls for a car fire and a house fire.

Firefighters were on their way to a vehicle fire at the Weiser Sand Dunes at about 3:30 p.m. when a house fire on Olds Ferry Road was reported just a few minutes later.

While one wildland fire brush truck continued on to the sand dunes, another fire engine turned around at Eaton Road to respond to the house fire, assistant fire chief John Stuart said.

Because the fire engine was already in the area, firefighters were able to respond to the burning home at 1117 Olds Ferry Road in minutes. The bottom floor of the house was fully involved in flames when firefighters arrived on scene. Flames were coming out of the front of the older home and acrid smoke filled the air.

A resident of the home was able to get out of the burning structure with no injuries, Stuart said.

A mutual aid call went out to Weiser

City Fire and Rescue for additional equipment, which brought an engine, water tender and a rescue vehicle with equipment capable of filling breathing apparatus for firefighters. Payette fire also sent a water tender.

The home had been significantly remodeled in the past and it was difficult to get to the fire in the attic. The fire caused structural damage and that made it unsafe for firefighters to try to get to the fire from the roof, Stuart said.

“It (fire) was hard to chase it through there,” Stuart said. “We spend a lot of time just putting out hot spots.”

The home was severely damaged in the fire. The cause of the fire has not been determined. The state fire marshal is assisting WARFD with the investigation into the cause and was at the scene on Saturday.

Rural fire crews were at the home until about 7:30 p.m. making sure there were no hot spots left. The rural fire department dispatched two engines, two water tankers and support vehicles to the fire.



Flames can be seen shooting out of a house on Olds Ferry Road on Friday afternoon. The Weiser Area Rural Fire District tackled the blaze with assistance from Weiser City Fire and Rescue and a water tender from Payette Fire. A resident in the home got out safely. Photo by Steve Lyon





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