

Father & daughter project produces electric car

Schueller’s VW “bug” a labor of love

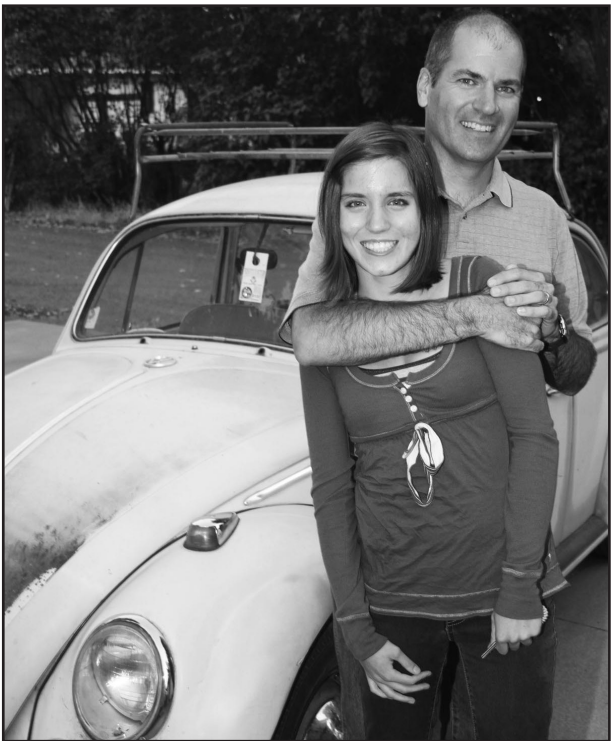
The classic sound of a first generation Volkswagen Beetle is long-gone in Emily Schueller’s “bug” after converting the car to an electric motor this summer. Emily, a 4.0 GPA student and National Merit Scholar semifinalist, is interested in environmental issues and green technology.

She began talking to her father Albert about the possibilities of creating an electric car. They found a 1965 VW bug in Tri-Cities in June and began the project shortly afterwards. They purchased an electric motor conversion kit online. Albert did a lot of the heavy lifting, but Emily says she helped weld, purchase parts and read electrical diagrams. They finished the project in late August and the car can now be seen, but not heard, driving around Walla Walla.

Emily says the car’s top speed is 35 mph and it’s capable of traveling 12 miles per charge. She hopes to paint the car and put a new stereo in it. She says spending time with her dad was the most rewarding aspect of the project.

“My friends get jealous because I don’t have to buy gas. It was fun to spend more time with my dad and I’m proud we were successful.”

Emily Schueller



Walla Walla High School Senior Emily Schueller and her father Albert, a Whitman College Math Professor, converted her 1965 Volkswagen Beetle to an electric car. Emily wanted an environmentally friendly car.

Walla Walla
Public
Schools

Focus on Education

Excellence in Every Classroom

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Hoops fever spreads at local Teen Center

Wa-Hi students land spots on newly formed CCY basketball team



Community Center for Youth “Legends” Assistant Basketball Coach **Cedric Johnson** teaches shooting skills to Walla Walla High School freshmen **Jose Lozano** and **Michael Gonzalez**.

Shooting in the background is freshman **Stephan Cleveland**. The team was formed following a request from the students to play in AAU tournaments. Walla Walla High School Class of 2001 graduate **Antonio Barbosa** is the head coach.

In This Issue

- Citizens for Schools leaders2
- Sporleder leads gang prevention3
- PocketiNet Partnership4
- Hernandez returns to district5
- Big Blue Weekend success6
- Homelink partners with YMCA ...7
- Student builds electric car8

District revamps menu

Home style cooking on up swing

The district revamped its school menus this year to feature more home cooking and a greater array of fruit, vegetables and whole grain products.

The move comes following a listening effort linked to the district’s new strategic plan. The district also reconvened the community Nutrition Advisory Council to find more ways to improve.

- Home style meals are now served four times a week (example: spaghetti and chicken pot pie).
- All school breakfast meals and lunches meet the USDA guidelines for calorie recommendations.
- No fried foods are served in the entire district. Baked products only.
- Desserts are served only twice a week at K-8 schools.

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Remember to Vote!

Tuesday, November 8

(Voter registration forms are at all schools)

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Patron Tours offer up close look at Walla Walla schools

Local realtors **Scott** and **Brenda Williams** tour Walla Walla High School during a recent Patron Tour with Superintendent **Mick Miller**. Guests meet Miller, tour schools and discuss school issues.

Contact Communications Director **Mark Higgins** to attend an upcoming Superintendent’s Patron Tour: mhiggins@wwps.org or 509.526.6716.

Our Core Values
are more than mere words;
they’re our business!

Quality | Integrity | Accountability | Respect
Courtesy | Diversity | Innovation



Mick Miller
Superintendent

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Replacement levy helps fuel local economy

I love autumn! The weather is turning a bit cooler, leaves are about to turn color, football season is upon us and school has started. It is the final item that excites me the most. For 45 of my 50 years of life, I have been privileged to return to school in the fall. As I begin my 29th year in education, I am as excited as I have ever been about a school year due to the incredible support our children and District receive from our community. On their behalf, thank you!

Our year has gotten off to a terrific start. Enrollment is strong; we have nearly 6150 students enrolled in our district, equating to over 5995 full-time equivalent students. Enrollment growth continues to be steady in Walla Walla Public Schools, which is significant in these economic times, as our primary funding source is state apportionment based on a set dollar amount per student.

However, another important funding source is our Replacement Levy. This levy is paid by local taxpayers based upon property value and it represents almost 20 percent of our funding. In February, voters will be asked to replace the levy which was approved in 2008. I look forward to having the opportunity to inform our patrons of the uses of these tax dollars and how the district contributes to the local economy, as well as how we are educating our community's children.

Many thanks to the Safe Travels Alliance, Walla Walla Police and Sheriff's Departments for all their work in helping raise awareness around school zones. With so many children walking to and from school, we need everyone to be extra diligent and keep our kids safe.

It is such a privilege to have the opportunity to serve as superintendent of Walla Walla Public Schools. We have so many wonderful kids, staff members and programs. The district is also a vital part of the local economy. Please check our website regularly to see some of what is going on in our schools. Also, I would love to hear from you. If you have a question, concern, comment, criticism or compliment regarding our district, please let me know. My direct number is 526-6714 and email is mmiller@wwps.org.

Best wishes for a wonderful school year.

Bogley and Swant to lead Citizens for Schools organization



Community members **Shauna Bogley** and **Peter Swant** have volunteered to chair Walla Walla Citizens for Schools. Bogley and Swant will focus their attention on the district's 2012 Replacement Levy set for February 14, 2012.

Their efforts will help educate the community on the replacement levy which funds nearly 20 percent of the district's general fund budget or approximately \$10 million annually.

Levy dollars fund teachers, support staff, learning programs, extra-curricular activities and much more.

For more information about Citizens for Schools:

- Shauna Bogley: bogleyhouse@charter.com
- Peter Swant: pswant@cbfr.biz

Homelink partners with YMCA

In order to foster deeper collaboration between agencies and provide additional enrichment opportunities for students, Homelink has entered into a partnership with the Walla Walla YMCA.

The program is in the infancy stages, thus enrichment offerings will be made available based on student, staff, and parent input along with the Y's ability to support those offerings. Currently the program operates on a two-day model with students in grades 1-4 participating on Mondays and Wednesdays and kindergarten and grades 5-8 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. At the YMCA, students have the opportunity to experience rock climbing, archery, technology, team sports, creative movement, and art. Homelink students also participate in science, math, language arts/communication/humanities, art, physical education, and other academics at their Berney School location.

Homelink is a Parent Partnership Program with approximately 130 students in grades K-8. Students can either attend classes on campus two days per week for a maximum of nine hours or complete their educational hours entirely at home with weekly meetings.

For more information about Homelink or to enroll your child, call **Connie Taylor-Randall** at 509.526.8538.

Extra police patrols in school zones



Motorists should be on the look out for extra law enforcement patrols in school zones. City and county law enforcement officers continue to increase patrols to help keep students safe. Special thanks to area firefighters for their presence near school zones at the start of the school year to promote safety and community involvement.

Community Connections



District 16 Representative **Maureen Walsh** visited Lincoln High School and the Lincoln Health Center this fall to learn more about these programs. Walsh says she supports educational programs which offer vast choices to meet student needs.

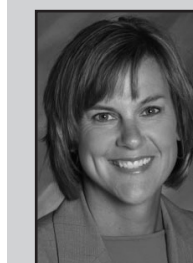
Walsh praised the Lincoln High School staff for making positive connections with students and graduating more students.

"Friends" Program comes to Blue Ridge

Walla Walla Public Schools is teaming with the Friends program to offer an after-school program. The "Friends Blue Ridge ABC Program" asks volunteers to commit to just one hour per week for the school-year.

Adult friends meet with students in a safe environment on the Blue Ridge Elementary school grounds after school. Children range from grades 1-5 and enjoy spending time participating in diverse activities, including reading, board games, sports, tag, and art projects.

Even though all contact takes place at school, there are no specific academic goals to achieve—the focus is simply on developing a friendship.



Call me today to sign up!

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PocketiNet enhances district tech infrastructure

Improvements allow greater access to online services



PocketiNet Communications is completing a 10 month project with the Walla Walla Public Schools to provide enhanced communication technology through the installation of advanced fiber optics to all Walla Walla schools, the Administrative Office, as well as the Transportation Cooperative and Support Services facility.

The new infrastructure increases data sharing capacity by 660 percent to create a “Mega Super Highway” for information sharing and updated voice services. The project provides advanced fiber optic services throughout the district and represents the latest innovative set of products. Students and staff will now benefit from access to reliable, ultra high speed Internet and voice services which offer an abundance of new learning opportunities.

“Many of the applications at present are still being developed and will most likely come from district educators using this new technology to better the educational experience of the student,” said Todd Brandenburg, President of PocketiNet Communications, Inc.

“PocketiNet is committed to supporting the future of our children and the community where we live so the students of Walla Walla have all the tools necessary to excel in life.”

Todd Brandenburg
President of PocketiNet
Communications, Inc.



Dog visits offer hands-on “show and tell” lessons



Walla Walla High School 11th grade student **Christopher French** prepares Asia, his eight-year-old German Shorthair, for a classroom presentation as part of his Veterinary Assistance class. Students were working on a canine unit in Lindsey Butcher’s class which is offered as a Career and Technical Education option for students.

“Any time you can do a hands on activity it reinforces the learning,” Butcher said. “It also makes learning fun having the dogs at school.”

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High School Football and
Basketball action!

Hernandez to chair new diversity committee

A familiar face has returned to Walla Walla Public Schools to support district efforts to improve communications and involvement with Hispanic community members and parents.

Former Academic Support Programs Director **Sergio Hernandez** is now semi-retired and working part-time with the district on a contract basis to better serve traditionally under-represented students and families. This work is part of the district’s new Strategic Plan goals. Hernandez will chair a broad-based committee developed to bring people together to come up with answers and strategies for these issues. Contact Hernandez if you want to get involved: shernandez@wwps.org or at 527-3000.



Sergio Hernandez

“It is a unique opportunity to embrace the diversity in Walla Walla and utilize the tremendous talent resource that exists within our school district and community.”

Sergio Hernandez
Chair, Diversity Committee

Lincoln High School retreat builds relationships



(L-R) **Ashley Mace, Brandon May, Victorianna Rivas, Maille Price, Dennis Sullivan, Sienna Haley, Cougar Walker, Lindsay Scudder, Ambir Paul, Gabe Salazar and Eternity Biegel** play Tug-of-War during the Lincoln High School “The Weekend” retreat.

The Weekend is a life coping skills camp with an emphasis on building trusting, lasting relationships with peers and teachers. Students go through a series of carefully planned activities, including a challenge course, which pushes them both physically and emotionally.



Students take school zone safety messages to fair

Walla Walla High School freshman **Brelynn Hess** and Pioneer Middle School 6th grade students **Marieke Hess** and **Kendal Tyler** promoted school zone safety at this year’s fair.

The students are part of the Safe Travels Alliance coordinated by parent volunteers **Kathryn Southwick-Hess** and **Katie Christianson**.

The students distributed safety materials, held up signs and interacted with community members as part of their volunteer service. Safe Travels Alliance is now working with the district and City of Walla Walla officials to improve parent drop-off and pick-up areas at area schools.

Hundreds flock to Big Blue Weekend 2011

Message to students: Do no harm to yourself or others...

More than 350 Walla Walla High School students spent an entire weekend working to make their school a better place and reflect on their own behavior as part of Big Blue Weekend held at the Washington Family Ranch in Antelope, OR. Big Blue Weekend was created to break down social barriers and build a positive school community.

Keynote speaker **Stu Cabe** delivered powerful messages using humor as he discussed treating people with respect. Thirty-four Wa-Hi and district staff served as chaperones and 30 parents, staff and community members provided work crew support.

Special thanks to Assistant Principal **Mindy Meyer** and English teachers **Kristina Duncan** and **Carina Stillman** for organizing the event.



Seniors **Jordan Heiser** and **Parker Postlewait** work together during the Big Blue Weekend Olympics team building activities.



Freshman **Bernardo Saucedo** takes laps around the go-kart track. Students could also skateboard, rock climb and take a high speed zip-line ride.



Volunteers **Kim Morasch** and **Greg Knowles** were busy all weekend cooking breakfast, lunch and dinner. Thirty community members and parents volunteered.

“We’re all human at the core. We should always put this first as we navigate through life.

Do no harm: To yourself, to others, to the planet.”



Stu Cabe
Keynote Speaker

FFA students net nearly \$40,000 in sales at WW fair

Walla Walla High School Senior **Megan Wright** and Sophomore **Jaime Quaresma** show off their prize winning lambs at the Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days.

Quaresma won the FFA Champion Market Lamb Award and Wright won Reserve Champion. In the market classes, lambs are judged based on confirmation as it relates to carcass quality.

“Jaime and Megan did an outstanding job preparing their lambs to be shown and sold in the youth market sale,” Walla Walla High School FFA Advisor **Lindsey Butcher** said.

This year 58 students participated in the fair with 41 members selling livestock and netting \$38,182 in sales.

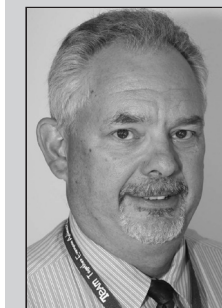


Sporleder leads gang prevention effort

Lincoln High School Principal Jim Sporleder is volunteering to chair the Community Council’s Implementation Task Force which is charged with reducing gang membership through prevention.

Task Force Goals: (Summarized)

1. Form a committee to focus on gang-prevention
2. Develop partnerships in organizing prevention activities
3. Mobilize the medical profession to serve at-risk youth
4. Develop employment opportunities for at-risk youth
5. Establish a teen center in each community
6. Review and study school programs for at-risk youth
7. More law enforcement home visits and parents meetings
8. Adopt parent empowerment models
9. Explore ways to be tougher on gang-related crimes
10. Designate a law enforcement officer for gang work
11. Offer tattoo removal and relocation support



“Research tell us that in order to reach kids, relationships are key. As we approach gang prevention in our city and region, we will be looking at ways to get kids connected.”

Jim Sporleder

Reducing Gang Membership through Prevention Implementation Task Force

Jim Sporleder, Task Force Chair
Julie Reese, Council Executive Director

Task Force Membership

Charlotte Bouta, Tim Copeland, Federico Diaz, Guy Gingell, Mark Higgins, Stan Hughes, Johnny Johnson, Dorothy Knudson, Julia Leavitt, Andy Maheras, Sarita McCaw, Chris McGill, Larry Mulkerin, Eloise Phillips, Jose Quijano, Ted Richerzhagen, Veronica Sandau, Peggy Sanderson, Carla Schettler, Cynthia Selde, Damien Sinnott, and John Turner. (NOTE: This list continues to change during the process.)

Scope of the Project

A Community Council Study Committee met for 27 weeks in 2010-2011 to complete a study on regional gang involvement with a goal of developing strategies for reducing gang membership through prevention. The Implementation Task Force will now focus on putting the recommendations of this year-long study into operation.