

Community supports BHFS coach during cancer fight / A2



Boundary County Museum This Week In History



Local Girl Scouts launch the cookie sale season / A3

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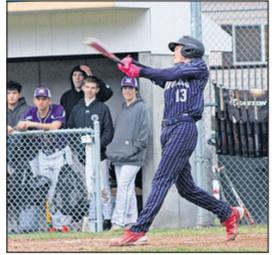
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SPORTS

■ **SPRING SPORTS PREVIEW:** Get up to speed on this spring's local high school teams / B1

Waterways Board to hold public meeting on FY27 grant projects

The Boundary County Waterways Board is seeking public input on a handful of possible grant projects.

The meeting is set for 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 29, at 6821 Riverside St., Bonners Ferry.

The meeting will focus on fiscal year 2027 grant proposals for several projects, including a new Copeland Dock, a new Riverside Park paddle launch, a new Rocky Point parking lot and a new Rocky Point erosion control project.

The Copeland Dock replacement project would request \$133,000 from the Waterways Improvement Fund, with a \$7,000 county match. The project would reconstruct the dock with approximately 1,000 square feet of composite decking, new floats, four support piles and a safer aluminum gangway, improving safety, accessibility and long-term durability for boaters and recreational users.

The Riverside Park paddle launch project would request \$44,000 through the Recreational Trails Program, with a \$11,000 county match. The project includes construction of a 200-square-foot floating kayak launch dock, a stair system with an easy-slide ramp and ADA-compliant railings and access from the shoreline, providing a dedicated and accessible launch for nonmotorized watercraft.

See GRANTS, A7

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Fia Wagner: International award winner

By NOAH HARRIS
Staff Writer

BONNERS FERRY — There is a stereotype of the starving artist. Fia Wagner does not fit that mold.

On St. Patrick's Day, two third graders and one fifth grader in Bonners Ferry found out that they won an international contest and with it, prize money. The Fraternal Order of Eagles, a nonprofit

charity with approximately 700,000 members across the United States and Canada, announced the winners of its 2026 children's art contest.

Out of hundreds of entries from grades 3 through 6, Bonners Ferry third grader Fia Wagner won the grand prize. In addition, fifth grader Declan Armistead finished second in his age group, while Ava Kasper placed third in the third-grade category.

"We were jumping up and down," Fia's mother, Tamara Wagner, said. "We were very happy when we found out."

Members of the Eagles in Bonners Ferry were ecstatic when they learned Fia, Declan and Ava all placed in the top three. The Bonners Ferry chapter was tied with Ottawa for the most winners.

See FIA, A2



Photo By TAMARA WAGNER

Fia Wagner, the third grader who won a drawing competition, with entries from across the United States and Canada.

Eighth graders explore careers through annual presentations

By NOAH HARRIS
Staff Writer

BONNERS FERRY — Doctors, lawyers and librarians were just a few of the careers eighth grade students at Boundary County Middle School presented on during the school's annual career presentations.

Since early February, students have been working to prepare a slide presentation on a possible career path they may want to pursue. The process involved shadowing someone for at least two hours and researching what it takes to enter that profession.

The career presentations began several years ago and are intended to help students better understand who they are and what they may want in their future careers.

Eighth grade teacher Kelly Hinthorn, who helped organize this year's event, said those early introductions to life beyond middle school are important for students, especially with few nearby college options for Boundary County students.



Photo By NOAH HARRIS

From left to right: eighth graders Emily Hart, Gwen Marshall and Paisley Gross, who all participated in career presentations in front of community members.

See CAREERS, A2

Get to know the next four DYW participants

By JENNIFER WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Aspen Graham — Participant No. 5

Bonners Ferry Rotary is happy to sponsor Aspen Graham. Aspen is the daughter of Forest and Jenny Graham. She has one sister, Willow.

After graduation, Aspen would like to pursue post-secondary education with a focus on entrepreneurship.



Graham

Extracurricular activities she enjoys include volleyball, Track and Field, TPUSA, and car detailing. Aspen is interested in modern personalities Riley Gaines, Spencer Barbosa, and Bethany Hamilton. She is interested in historical personality Amelia Earhart. For her talent, Aspen will be showcasing a vocal performance.

When asked what makes Aspen most proud of her generation, she states, "Our consciousness. We are aware of the world and

the challenges ahead of us. We take our future very seriously."

Sadie Newhouse — Participant No. 6

The Bonners Ferry Rod Benders club is delighted to sponsor Sadie Newhouse. Sadie is the daughter of Adam and Julie Newhouse.

She has one sister, Janey, and two brothers, Jay and Rick. After high school, Sadie would like to attend



Newhouse

Brigham Young University — Idaho to pursue psychology or architecture. Outside of school, she enjoys pottery, crocheting, and painting with acrylic. Sadie is interested in modern personality Ryan Reynolds and historical personality Marilyn Monroe. For her talent, Sadie will be showcasing her skills in creating pottery.

When asked what makes Sadie least proud of her generation, she states, "Our reliance on technology and AI to do simple tasks."

See WOMAN, A3

County landfill adds grinder, incinerator

By NOAH HARRIS
Staff Writer

BONNERS FERRY — White smoke rising from the Boundary County landfill is not a declaration of a new pope. Rather, it is the result of one of two new pieces of equipment added to the landfill in recent weeks, both intended to improve the facility.

See LANDFILL, A7

Pickens challenges Little for governor's seat

By JACK FREEMAN
Hagadone News Network

SANDPOINT — Democratic candidate for Idaho governor Terri

Pickens, who is challenging incumbent Gov. Brad Little, made her way up north for a meet-and-greet March 21.

Pickens, a fourth-generation Idahoan, works in law under her own practice, Pickens Law P.A., of Boise.



Pickens

See PICKENS, A7



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