

North Central WASHINGTON

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Plug in

Your connection to community events through tomorrow

TODAY

Government

- ◆ **Eastmont Metropolitan Park District:** 6:30 p.m., Clovis Point Intermediate School, 884-8015
- ◆ **Pateros City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 923-2571
- ◆ **Omak City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 826-1170
- ◆ **Waterville City Council:** 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 745-8871

Schools

- ◆ **Cashmere School Board:** 7 p.m., district office, 782-3355

TUESDAY

Government

- ◆ **Douglas County Commission:** 8:30 a.m., courthouse, Waterville, 745-8537
- ◆ **Okanogan County Commission:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 123 Fifth Ave., Okanogan, 422-7100
- ◆ **Chelan County Commission:** 9 a.m., courthouse, 667-6215
- ◆ **Okanogan County Public Works:** 10 a.m., 1234-A Second Ave. S., 422-7300
- ◆ **Link Transit Board:** 4 p.m., 2700 Euclid Ave., Wenatchee, 664-7611
- ◆ **Okanogan City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 422-3600
- ◆ **Oroville City Council:** 7 p.m., City Hall, 476-2926
- ◆ **Quincy City Council:** 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 787-3523
- ◆ **Omak School Board:** 6:00 p.m., Omak High School, 826-0320

Body identified as Wenatchee man who jumped from bridge

CRESCENT BAR — The Grant County Coroner's office has identified a body found Friday in the Columbia River near here as Greg Bowman, 45, of Wenatchee.

Bowman had been missing since Feb. 10 when a teenager saw him jump from the Columbia River pedestrian bridge in Wenatchee.

The cause of death was drowning and the death was ruled a suicide, the coroner's office said in a Sunday news release.

— Ryan Feeney, World staff

READER REP

Have a question about the paper or community?

Contact our reader representative. This week it's news editor Vanessa McVay, and she'll do her best to get an answer for you.

If the question is of broader interest, our representative may write about it on this page in a few days and share the information with other readers. If you just need a private, personal response about a newspaper matter, we can do that, too.

Contact the reader representative by calling 661-6388 and leaving a detailed voice message and phone number. Or e-mail your question to: mcvay@wenworld.com



CORRECTIONS

The Wenatchee World strives for accuracy, but when errors occur in print, we want to correct them as soon as possible. All corrections appear on this page, regardless of where the errors occurred. If you believe information printed in The World is incorrect, please call 665-1161.



World photos/Don Seabrook

It tapes a village. As Rosie Morris, 15, directs the construction of her and 14-year-old Heather Weirich's, cardboard sleeping area, Weirich brings tape to secure their hut. Building cardboard villages was one of the first jobs during the Africa Unveiled project at Icicle River Middle School in Leavenworth on Friday night.

48 hours: Africa

Students endure two days of hunger to learn about life in rural African villages

BY ALICIA GOODEN
World staff writer

LEAVENWORTH — The pulsating beat of the drums and their hypnotic power. The care-free dance in sarongs.

The cheers from the crowds. The tears. The smiles.

And then it was over Sunday for 14-year-old Diana Davies, a student at Icicle River Middle School.

She'll go back to her family and the comfort of their home in Leavenworth.

But from Friday through Sunday, she and dozens of other Icicle River Middle School and Cascade High School students participated in African Cuisine: 48 Hours of Hunger.

The project was sponsored by Africa Unveiled, a Leavenworth-based nonprofit of middle and high-schoolers whose mission is to build homes and sustainable farmlands for families in Kenya.

From Friday night to Sunday morning, the students slept in cardboard boxes on the floor of the middle school gym and ate ugali, a cornmeal mush, for breakfast, lunch and dinner to try and understand what life is like for starving children in rural Kenyan villages whose lives have been ravaged by poverty and HIV and AIDS.

"It (ugali) was shocking ... kind of hard to get down," said Blaine Dawson, a 15-year-old freshman at Cascade High School, whose African name was Diara, which means gift.

"How can they eat this three times a day? It certainly opened my eyes up."

The students immersed themselves in the African culture, taking on African names, learning African storytelling and dance, and drew inspiration from Peter Awilo Kithene, a 23-year-old University of Washington pre-med student from Kenya.

Kithene was orphaned at 12 and was one of 150 students to receive a need-based scholarship to high school in Nairobi out of 20,000 applicants across the country. American sponsors paid for him to come to the United States for college.

Kithene has started the Mama Maria clinic in Muhuru Bay, Kenya. His plans are to open up several clinics in the rural villages of his homeland.

"I'm starting these clinics because I am tired of seeing people dying of diseases and conditions like diarrhea, which don't have to be fatal, but can be in the villages when there is no doctor nearby," he said.

He applauded the organizers and students who participated in the program.

"Somebody helped me, and I think it's great that there's this



Peter Awilo Kithene



Rosie Morris, 15, inside the box, and Heather Weirich, 14, get ideas for making their village. Students were given cardboard to make living quarters.

program that helps students understand how little it takes to change people's lives ... it's an eye-opening event," he said.

The experiment seemed to work for many of the students, sparking a greater appreciation for the life that they have here.

"I was in my cardboard bed and thinking that they (African children) can't get out of this in two days. I can," said Davies on Saturday, whose African name was Deshae, which means sprouting tree. "I wonder how they can live that life and be so happy?"

Later on Sunday, she and Mika Nelson, whose African name was Kokumo, said that while it was difficult at times, they were glad that they did it.

Organizers Marlene Blossom, who is president of Africa Unveiled, and Shannon Armstrong wanted to raise awareness of the plight of African children in Kenya who are often orphaned because their parents have died from AIDS and the abject poverty of the region.

"If the children are doing this, they will see how much they have and become more aware that there are needy children outside of their world," said Blossom. "The more I started

On the Web

www.africaunveiled.org
www.mamamaria.org

working with them, I noticed that they became more confident in themselves and it gave them a sense of purpose."

The students also want to raise \$6,000 to build a house for a woman in Kenya with 14 children — most of whom are her two sisters' children left orphaned when their mothers died from AIDS.

Africa Unveiled has already bought the land for the house.

A crowd of parents and supporters stopped by Sunday to see the finale of dance, poetry and artwork done over the weekend. Armstrong said that the students were courageous to get out of their comfort zones.

"They put themselves out on the line," she said. "And they did it with no Pepsi-Cola, no McDonald's, no Snickers ... no bed. They did it because they saw a cause that they thought was worth the 48 hours."

Alicia Gooden can be reached at 665-1181 or gooden@wenworld.com

THE WORM Pies on parade

Parade of pies: For a first-time event, apple pies took the cake. The number of pies — 21 — entered in the Washington Apple Blossom Festival's first ever Stemilt Growers Ultimate Apple Pie Bake-Off held Sunday May 8 actually outnumbered floats — 18 — in the Stemilt

Growers Grand Parade held the day before. Festival Administrator Darci Waterman said the declining float participation was in part due to the fact that some communities



Darci Waterman

only attend the Grand Parade every other year. The increasing expense of building a float and transporting it to festivals are other reasons, she said. Twenty-one floats were in the parade last year and 27 floats the year before that.

But the number of homemade pies in Sunday's contest — won by Becky Krawczyk of East Wenatchee — was awesome, Waterman said. The new contests for pie making and pie eating — also held Sunday — are definite keepers, Waterman said. And don't be surprised if you see a few pies on wheels in next year's parade if float numbers continue to decline.

Adventure spurred by death: Seattle resident Erden Eruc was with his friend, famed adventurer Goran Kropp when Kropp fell to his death climbing pinnacles at Frenchman Coulee near Vantage last year. Since then, Eruc, a native of Turkey, has made his lost friend's spirit of adventure a model for his life. So far he's ridden his bike from Seattle to Alaska, climbed Denali, and ridden his bike to Miami, Fla. He plans next to row a boat from Miami to Ecuador, ride a bike to Argentina and climb 22,841-foot Aconcagua. His future itinerary includes rowing across the Pacific Ocean, biking to Nepal and scaling Mount Everest, as Kropp did. He'll use his adventures as an educational tool in schools.

"That (accident with Kropp) killed the drone in me," Eruc recently told a writer for the magazine Outdoors NW. "I had a choice to hide in the corner or come out swinging."

No good stuff: Joel Teeley, manager of the Peshastin and Icicle irrigation districts, used an interesting analogy in describing his job at a drought management seminar in Cashmere last Tuesday. In emphasizing that he works for two, separate, three-member boards, he said, "It's the equivalent of having six wives without any of the good stuff. Does anyone want my job?" People laughed. Later, he said, at times it's not funny.

The Worm was compiled by World staff writer Rick Steigmeyer. Have a tip? Mail it to: P.O. Box 1511, Wenatchee, WA 98801

THE WENATCHEE WORLD

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