

**BRIEFLY**

**Friends' Wine and Microbrew fundraiser this Sunday**

PRIEST RIVER – Tickets are going fast for the 17th Annual Friends of the Library Wine and Microbrew Tasting and Auction. From works of art to gift baskets to certificates for local goods and services, auction organizers promise something for everyone at the live and silent auctions. Join the Friends on Sunday, March 4 at 4 p.m. at the Beardmore building. All monies go to support West Bonner Libraries.

Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at the Priest River and Blanchard libraries.

For more information, call the library at 208-448-2207 or email library@westbonnerlibrary.org.

**Learn to grow the best garden produce**

NEWPORT – Come learn the secrets of successfully growing garden produce when Pend Oreille County Master Gardeners present "Growing the Best" gardening class on Thursday, March 8, at the WSU/Pend Oreille County Extension Office at 227 S. Garden Avenue in Newport, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. A knowledgeable and experienced team of local Master Gardeners and community gardeners will discuss popular fruits, flowers and vegetables that grow well in Pend Oreille County, including cucumbers, dahlias, beets, beans, onions, corn, carrots, gladiolas, and blueberries. Class participants will also learn about the fun of earning ribbons and, possibly, money by entering homegrown fruits, flowers and vegetables in the Pend Oreille County and Interstate Fairs.

The cost for the class is \$5 for community members (bring a friend, neighbor or spouse for just an extra \$2) and \$3 for Master Gardeners. All funds raised from the class will be used by the local Master Gardener Foundation to provide gardening education programs to the community. Pre-register by calling the WSU/Pend Oreille County Extension Office at 509 447-2401 to provide contact information should the class schedule change and ensure adequate materials for all participants will be available.



Tom Wilbur (left) awards Ed Tomlinson of No-Li the 2018 Brewmaster award.

**Vehr's and No-Li win Iron Sommelier and Brewmaster titles**

PRIEST RIVER – Newport Hospital and Health Services Foundation hosted the 5th Annual Iron Sommelier and Brewmaster Event on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the Priest River Event Center. The event grossed over \$12,400 for the Newport Hospital and Health Services Foundation. Guests voted on wine or microbrew flights paired with six gourmet "small bite" courses prepared by Executive Chef Steven Swanson of Nectar Catering and Events of Spokane. Swanson is a 2002 graduate of Newport High School and a Pend Oreille County resident.

Event newcomer Ed Tomlinson of No-Li Brewhouse of Spokane beat

incumbent Cory Lobdell of MickDuff's Brewing Co. of Sandpoint for the 2018 Brewmaster title with his creative pairings of No-Li's craft brews and the six courses served. As typical for this event, the race for brewmaster was separated by only one vote. Tomlinson and Lobdell's pairings for each course proved to be a tight competition until the last course where an honest mistake truly turned the tables for No-Li. Instead of bringing the chosen Falls Porter to pair with the final dessert course (Lemon Devonshire cream tarts with macerated berries) Tomlinson accidentally brought the Red, White & No-Li

Pale Ale that event-goers actually preferred with that course. The mistake clinched the victory for No-Li.

Charlie Walker of Vehrs, Inc. of Spokane won the 2018 Iron Sommelier title in a race that marks the third consecutive victory for Vehrs. Walker's pairing of the 2014 Antica Primitivo with Swanson's Chorizo and Manchego gorges gave him the greatest lead, edging out competitor and event veteran Starr Jensen of Idaho Wine Merchant for the coveted Iron Sommelier title.

Spokane musician, Kicho Forrest, provided spirited acoustic guitar with country and classic rock vocals. Forrest was accompanied on hand drums by Bret Smith of Newport. A custom, handcrafted metal plaque created by Priest River Lamanna High School metal shop was awarded to Swanson. Twelve Newport High School HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) Club students served each of the six food courses and made over \$900 in tips towards the club's fundraising efforts.

The Iron Sommelier and Brewmaster Event is an annual event and partnership with Jim and Kerri Martin, proprietors of the Beardmore Bistro, Wine Bar and Tap House of Priest River. More information on this and other foundation events is available at www.NewportHospitalAndHealth.org.



Charlie Walker (right) of Vehrs, Inc. is presented the Iron Sommelier award by Newport Hospital CEO Tom Wilbur.



MINER PHOTO/SOPHIA ALDOUS

**That sounds better**

Mike Paul of Twin Lakes, Idaho, tunes the piano at Create Art Center Thursday, Feb. 22. Though he is a percussionist when it comes to playing music, he also learned how to play piano at Washington State University. He's been tuning pianos for 50 years.

**Stolen truck purchased with stolen identity**

BY DON GRONNING OF THE MINER

NEWPORT – Pend Oreille County Superior Court Judge Jessica

Reeves kept a \$50,000 bail for a man held on charges of identity theft, possession of a stolen

SEE THEFT, 6A



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Dr. Peckham is the founder and national director of the Master's Dental Research Foundation as well as the philanthropic Smile Miracles Network providing smile makeovers to wounded veterans, battered women, and other deserving individuals

Nationally recognized and featured on ABC, NBC, CBS, and FOX for his contributions to the art and science of dentistry