

The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

Concrete Herald

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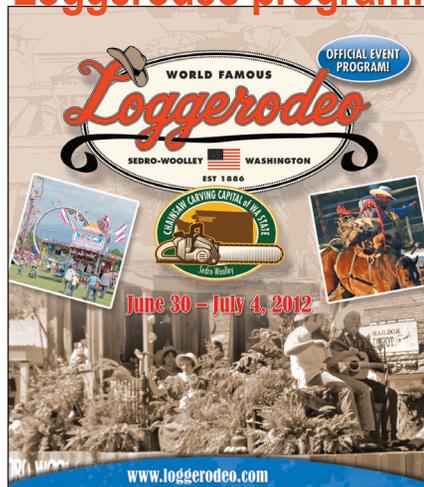
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The Concrete High School class of 2012, hanging out on the iconic faux boulders that line Superior Ave. at the school. *Photo by William Howard.*

What's next for our seniors?

Concrete, Darrington, Sedro-Woolley Class of 2012 graduates look to the future. *Page 13.*

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Concrete Herald

The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

Jason K. Miller, publisher and editor 360.853.8213 / editor@concrete-herald.com

Concrete Herald owes its success to volunteer contributors from Sedro-Woolley to Diablo. **Contributors:** Kathy Henderson, Aimee Hirschel, Elaine Kohler, Bill Mueller, Melissa Norris, Dan Royal, Gladys Silrus, Marla Skaglund, Kris Voigt, Tammie Werner, and many more. **Cartoonists:** Joyce Harris, Stig Kristensen, Jonathan Carter; **Proofreading:** Katy Tomasulo; **Ad Production:** Lynn Jefferson; **Bookkeeping:** Upriver Bookkeeping Services. **Local contributors are welcome:** call or e-mail Jason Miller at 360.853.8213 or editor@concrete-herald.com.

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Editorial

Thank you, Mr. Archuletta

After four years of pro bono service to Concrete, Eric Archuletta of Community Stew is moving on to help other communities realize their potential.

Eric came to town in 2008 as a graduate student from Antioch University, studying Concrete on an academic level. He talked to town officials and business owners, oldtimers and newcomers. He pestered me until I carved out some time for him. He asked me what I thought Concrete needed. At the time, I thought it needed a townwide visioning workshop, but I told him I didn't feel I had the skill set to organize and facilitate that type of event.

"I do. I can," he said, and the rest is history. Eric facilitated the first Imagine Concrete workshop in April 2009, and guided the Imagine Concrete steering committee through the second one, in April 2011. Since then, he has been a key player in many of the

See Editorial, p. 39

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Opinion

Letters to the editor

Respect for fellow citizens is common sense

I am speaking out with the hopes that patrons of a specific business on Main Street in Concrete would strive for a higher level of social decency.

What sticks in my craw is the rising frequency in which I step out of my vehicle unsuspectingly into a puddle of vomit. Also, it's extremely disheartening (all right, downright maddening) to see the huge burn mark that a negligent smoker left in the carpet at the front door of our shop recently. Is it any wonder more and more of us nonsmokers will move to abolish public smoking altogether?

It would be greatly appreciated if these offending individuals could be directed to move their activity toward an area that is not frequented by retail patrons—like Bear Square. There is ample seating for smokers to relax and there's a garbage can close by that over-indulgent drinkers could "toss their cookies" into rather than retching where others walk. Seriously, how thrilled would one of these patrons be if they had to walk through vomit in order to get a drink? I'm pretty sure they'd be as repulsed as I am and as repulsed as the other business patrons of Main Street are!

Being respectful of other people and surroundings just takes a little more common sense. Let's rise to the occasion, OK? Thank you.

*Sherrill Coville
Concrete*

Youth Dynamics volunteers lead by example

On a soggy Monday night in May, a group of Concrete High School students showed up at the Children's Garden within the Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete and showed their peers what it means to engage in one's

community.

The group of nine young people wielded shovels, rakes, and wheelbarrows, and dug in the last of the beds there, filled them with dirt, laid down landscape fabric in the paths, and filled the paths with wood chips. In less than two hours, these hardworking youth essentially finished the Children's Garden's primary components, leaving Marla Reed and I largely cosmetic work. What an amazing effort! What a display of selfless behavior!

Big thanks goes to YD volunteers Dennis Dorgan, Rebecca Torheim, Kylee Warner, Jake Massingale, Aidan Walsh, Angela Janda, Shelby Lloyd, Zach Allard, and Josh Philipens, as well as YD coordinators Kevik Rensink and Matt Williams, and Darrel Reed.

*Marla Reed, Jason Miller, co-managers
Angele Cupples Community Garden
Concrete*

Farmers grateful for community

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to this wonderful community for all their support during our recovery from our house fire. With the community behind us,

See Letters, p. 38

Letters policy

Letters of 200 words or fewer may be e-mailed to letters@concrete-herald.com or sent to Concrete Herald, P.O. Box 682, Concrete, WA 98237. Writers must include their name and town or community for publication, plus a daytime telephone number for confirmation purposes. Concrete Herald reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity, accuracy, spelling, grammar, and potentially libelous statements. So be nice.

Corrections

The May issue of *Concrete Herald* incorrectly spelled Ralph Prissel's last name in a letter to the editor from Barbara Hoover. My apologies to Mr. Prissel.

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From left, Tanner Wilson and his mother, Crissie, a current Emergency Medical Technician with Aero Skagit, and Mike Kempkes, who spent 14 years as an emergency responder for Aero Skagit and now serves on the Aero Skagit Board of Directors.

Commentary Emergency Medical Service: a family affair

By Liz Loomis

Mike Kempkes of Concrete doesn't remember slumping over the conference table during a meeting at work five years ago. In fact, now he laughs about it and says that some of his co-workers thought he was taking a nap. Actually, he was having a heart attack.

A co-worker at the meeting happened to be an employee of Aero Skagit, the area provider for emergency medical service (EMS), and recognized what was happening. He started CPR on Kempkes, while another person ran to get a portable defibrillator. Two shocks later, Kempkes was alive.

Kempkes makes light of his experience, but is somber when talking about the day his grandson Tanner Wilson, just two days old, went into respiratory failure. Several emergency personnel with Aero Skagit responded to the call and provided constant CPR and medical attention to the child before he could be airlifted to Children's Hospital in Seattle.

"Our family is an example of how the EMS levy saves lives," said Kempkes. "Tanner and I wouldn't be here if it weren't for trained emergency personnel, the right medical equipment, and ambulances."

Aero Skagit is one of three ambulance providers, 18 fire districts, and five cities and towns that provide a countywide EMS system—called Skagit EMS—for 117,000 residents. The Kempkes family wanted to share their story after learning that the EMS levy is up for renewal this August.

Like other providers, Aero Skagit has

been struggling to respond to higher call volumes—a 23 percent increase in the last 10 years—with less revenue. At 25 cents, the EMS levy rate has been the same since 1974, but costs to provide service have increased. In addition, the federal government has reduced reimbursement rates for Medicare and Medicaid.

Aero Skagit's Agency Supervisor Judy Coffell also was one of the people who cared for Kempkes' grandson when he went into respiratory arrest. She remembers the event from 13 years ago like it was yesterday.

"We still call him our 'miracle boy,'" she said. "Without the levy, we wouldn't have been there to help."

Levy renewal numbers
 The EMS levy renewal is for six years at 37.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, or \$75 per year for the owner of a \$200,000 home. The current levy, at 25 cents, expires this year. The cost difference between the old and the new levy rate is 12.5 cents or \$25 per year for the owner of a \$200,000 home—a little over \$2 per month.

The EMS levy funds emergency medical service for county residents, as well as replaces ambulances and life-saving equipment that is needed to treat victims of heart attack, stroke, and other medical emergencies. For example, Aero Skagit is scheduled to replace a 16-year-old ambulance, one of three that covers 1,000 square miles of eastern Skagit County.

For more information, go to www.skagitems.com.

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High-speed Internet coming to Upper Valley

The promise of high-speed Internet access is about to be realized in the smaller, rural communities of the Upper Skagit Valley.

In April, Frontier Communications began installing fiber-optic lines from Sedro-Woolley to Concrete. When those lines are in place, many more Upper Valley homeowners and small businesses as far east as Marblemount should have access to a high-speed DSL line. The new infrastructure should deliver speeds up to 7 MB, depending on where customers live and what Internet access package they choose. Frontier General Manager Henry Van told *Concrete Herald* the telecommunications company should be able to start selling high-speed Internet access in July or August.

"It's a pretty exciting undertaking for East Skagit and a huge project for Frontier," said Van. "We'll soon have a very robust network to support large circuits and connectivity options."

High-speed Internet access has been a stumbling block for the smaller communities along SR 20 ever since the Internet came into wider use in the early 1990s. With lower, more spread-out populations, the east county communities weren't an attractive target for expensive infrastructure upgrades from Frontier or its predecessor, Verizon.

Van said when Frontier bought Verizon two years ago, part of the sale conditions were to expand broadband infrastructure to more than 80 percent of households in Washington. The company began a three-year plan to do that, and in Skagit, Whatcom, and Island counties—which

Van manages—they'll be above 85 percent by the end of the year. "We wanted to get up to Hamilton and Lyman, and we cover about 85 percent of Concrete, but no Rockport, no Marblemount. It was a tough business case to make, because of the number of households."

That changed when AT&T Wireless told Frontier it wanted circuits for its Upper Valley towers. Then other customers in the area started expressing an interest in needing bigger circuits and significantly faster transmission speeds—up to 20 GB.

"With regulatory commitments and commercial interest from larger customers, such as AT&T Wireless—that was enough to throw us over," said Van. "It began to make sense from a business case. It was one of those perfect storms of great things lining up, and I think it's going to be great for that neck of the woods."

Frontier will spend almost \$1 million to enhance fiber-optic lines and structures from Sedro-Woolley to Concrete. It will then install equipment along the SR 20 corridor so that DSL technology will be available to homeowners and small businesses in Lyman, Hamilton, Rockport, and Marblemount. Prices should run in the \$50 to \$60 range for those customers.

Van said equipment hubs will be set up in the central cores of each community; customers living within three miles of those hubs likely will qualify for high-speed service. In Lyman the hub will be near the town center area. In Hamilton it's near Willie's Hi-Lead. And it's near the Post Office in Rockport and Marblemount.

Anyone wishing to talk to a local Frontier representative about prices, timing, or other related questions is asked to contact local sales coordinator Kerry Leatherman at 360.770.0401 or kerry.leatherman@ftr.com

—J. K. M.

Cascade Mountain Lodge to reopen this summer

The 14-room Cascade Mountain Lodge on SR 20 just east of Grasmere Village should open its doors to guests again sometime this summer.

Bellevue attorney Sonny Shin has been renovating the facility for the past few months, and although he declined to name a firm date for reopening, he indicated it shouldn't be much longer.

Shin, family members, and sub-contractors have been busy bringing the once-popular motel back to its former

glory. The guest rooms are now strikingly cozy and clean, with new carpet, fixtures, beds, linens, furniture—"new everything," said Shin. According to Shin, the facility's plumbing was the element most in need of repair and replacement.

Room rates have not yet been firmed up, but Shin said he intended to make a night's stay at the lodge "affordable. We won't be gouging anyone."

Shin isn't biting off more than he can chew at the outset. He said he'll open the lodge first, then the restaurant at a later date.

—J. K. M.

In The Service



Josh Thomas, CHS '06, recently was awarded "Marine of the Quarter," then competed against the other military branches on his base and was named the Joint Service Junior Enlisted of the Quarter. He is finishing up his language school requirements in Monterey, Calif.

Thomas is the son of Rob and Kathy Thomas of Concrete.

Spc. Samuel Torset, an Army Infantry Team Leader in the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, recently earned the NCO and Soldier of the Year title in the 2012 NCO and Soldier of the Year Competition.

Torset is the son of Lynn and Carol Torset of Sedro-Woolley. He is currently stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky. He will progress to the next level in the Army-wide competitive competition in June.

Concrete Herald

The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society to celebrate 25th anniversary

BURLINGTON—The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society (SVGS) will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Sat., June 23, with an open house reception from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Burlington Library, 820 E. Washington Avenue, in the Hillside Conference Room.

Members of the public are invited to attend the reception honoring the founding members of the society. The society's history and major accomplishments of the past 25 years will be highlighted.

SVGS contributes hundreds of volunteer hours each year, produces research publications of genealogical and historical significance, hosts monthly educational programs and public seminars, and maintains a growing genealogy library as part of its mission to educate, preserve, and promote genealogical research.

For more information, contact Dottie Chandler at 360.757.0966, send an e-mail to genealogy0715@gmail.com, or go to www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasvgs.

Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings May 14 and 29. Following are summaries of those meetings. Complete minutes for every council meeting are posted on the town's Web site at www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php.

May 14

- Two Latino men with possible gang affiliation tattoos were seen in town checking out security cameras and buildings. Mayor Wilson will talk to Sergeant Clark about this.
- Cody Hart of Reichhardt & Ebe Engineering gave a status update on the East Main Waterline project, reporting that Carman's Construction would make connections tomorrow and hydroseed on Wednesday. Hart stated that the project was coming in under budget.
- Hart reported that Interwest Construction was finished and that the hydroseeding was a success in the June Alley Demolition project. Hart stated that this project also had come in under budget.
- Hart discussed the pros and cons of USDA Loan Funding vs. the Public Works Trust Fund, stating that he believed the Public Works Trust Fund would better suit the town's needs.
- Hart stated that the Burpee Hill Rd. project was completed by H. O. Stafford and came in under budget.
- Hart reported that the Main Street reconstruction project will take place in August. He stated they should be ready to advertise in July, with construction occurring in August after Cascade Days.
- Hart reported on the TIB/DOT grants his office is working on. He believes that the Cedar Ave. project is a DOT grant and would be a 100 percent grant, and the West Main Street sidewalks would be a TIB grant with a 5 percent match.
- Hart reported on an application to Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) that he and Town Planner Jeroldine Hallberg have been working on. He reported this grant would pay for the engineering and right-of-way purchase for the paving of the second access to the school. He also reported this is only a portion of the project, which will also include the widening of Superior Ave. S. and adding a bike lane from Main Street to the school. Hart requested the council's approval to submit the application for this grant. The grant would be for

\$112,000 with a 12.5 percent match. Hart is checking to see if we can get part of that match from contributing agencies.

David Pfeiffer stated that the written description of the project in the handout did not match what Hart was stating or what had been discussed previously. The description of the property stated that this would be a main access road to the airport. It also stated that Superior was the only access to the airport. Pfeiffer felt that this was a misrepresentation of the facts. Pfeiffer stated that there has always been a secondary access to the airport; the town just chose to gate it. Hart explained that the gravel road in its current state could not be considered access. He also stated that the information handed out was only a draft and that the incorrect information would be corrected. He stated that the road was to be an emergency access only and would be gated until needed. Discussion ensued on whether or not we needed a second access.

Jack Mears stated that he was totally against the second access, as were other people, and he would fight it to the end. Pfeiffer stated that he agrees with access, but not with the draft document. He does not believe that we need a large, paved, open roadway; he would like to see it gated.

Hart stated that this is a three- to five-year project and that this is just the beginning of it. He is only asking to pursue funding for engineering and right-of-way purchase.

Marla Reed commented there is a possible economic impact with getting this road paved: It would help to encourage development in this area. Mears stated that developers would never come to Concrete because of our high water and sewer connections. Discussion of the town's fees ensued.

Hart stated that this grant also would cover water and sewer connections, which would benefit developers. Mears stated that if developers want to develop up there they should pay for their own access road and water/sewer connections. He also stated that if the school wanted a secondary access, then they should pay for it, not the town. Jason Miller explained to Jack that this was not a loan, that it was a grant.

See Council, p. 19

"River Ride" aims to raise funds for Backcountry Horsemen

A new annual fundraiser has been created to support Backcountry Horsemen of Washington (BCHW).

The Ken Wilcox Skagit River Ride will be held the weekend of June 30 and July 1 at Cedar Springs Center, 31459 Barben Rd., Sedro-Woolley.

The event will begin Saturday at 9 a.m. Planned activities include a prize ride, a "Leave No Trace" clinic, a horsemanship class, hay rides, swimming, and pony rides. A dinner dance with live music will be held that evening.

Attendees can bring their families just for the day on Saturday, or camp for the night and enjoy a potluck cowboy breakfast on Sunday morning.

The cost for attending on Saturday alone is \$20 per family. The cost for the dinner dance is \$25 for adults and \$10 for children under 18.

Weekend camping for rigs is \$20 for the weekend; tent camping is \$10. A private room in the lodge for families is available for \$60 per night.

BCHW is a nonprofit organization with 34 chapters across the state. The

At a glance

Ken Wilcox Skagit River Ride
a fundraiser for Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

When: Sat. and Sun., June 30 and July 1
Begins at 9 a.m. on Sat.

Where: Cedar Springs Center
31459 Barben Rd., Sedro-Woolley

Cost: Saturday only, \$20 per family
Saturday dinner dance: \$25/adults
\$10/children under 18
Camping: \$20/weekend for rigs,
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July 7

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Concrete Theatre fundraising nears \$14K mark

In early June, six weeks after the start of its fundraising campaign, Concrete Theatre had pulled in almost \$14,000, about a quarter of what theater owners Fred West and Valerie Stafford will need to pay for a digital projection system.

"We are gratified by the overwhelming support of the community and our customers," said Stafford. "It's great to see so many people pulling together to keep the theater alive."

Those "people" include local Bill Pfeifer, who formed a fundraising committee that already has thrown a car wash and is busy planning a series of further efforts, including a concert, spaghetti dinner, and fashion show. That group meets twice monthly; contact Pfeifer at billpfeifer@yahoo.com for details.

Elementary school teacher Mary Janda's 7th and 8th grade students received \$150 to donate as they wished for their efforts in a Skagit Prevention Council contest, "Power in Numbers." Yes, you guessed it: They gave it all to the theater.

"It was [the kids'] idea," said Janda. "They chose the theater because they enjoy having it operating."

Other fundraising efforts include special screenings of "Where the Yellowstone Goes" (June 22-24) and "The Mountain Runners" (July 22), plus a Celtic concert by Puir na Gael on June 28 at 7 p.m. A portion of ticket sales from these events will go toward the digital campaign.

For more information, to donate, or to suggest fundraising strategies, contact Valerie Stafford and Fred West at info@concrete-theatre.com or 360.941.0403.

—J. K. M.

Concrete steps up ordinance enforcement

Town of Concrete will intensify enforcement of a few key ordinances during 2012, according to its Code Enforcement Officer, Rich Philips.

Nuisances

Concrete Municipal Code 8.04.30 places constraints on land owners, including owners of vacant lots, regarding elements that are not allowed on any property. Some of these elements include junk, discarded lumber, broken or neglected equipment, hazardous trees, and junk vehicles in public view.

Any property owner found to be in violation of the Nuisance ordinance will be given a warning notice and then fined upwards of \$100 if the nuisance is not addressed appropriately.

Loose dogs

In light of the June 1 dog attack in town, a reminder is in order regarding how pet dogs must be registered and maintained within town limits:

- 6.04.07: All dogs within town limits must have a current dog license.
- 6.04.130: It's unlawful to harbor or permit a barking dog whose barking is bothersome to persons on adjacent property.
- 6.04.140: It's unlawful for dog

owners to allow their dogs to run at large within town limits.

Dog owners found to be in violation of these or other dog-related codes likely will get a warning first, then may face removal of their dog(s), a fine, and impound fees.

Parking

Particularly in Concrete's Town Center, unlawful parking is an issue that doesn't seem to go away, according to Philips.

The biggest issue is how long a person is allowed to park in a given space. Unless otherwise posted, parking along Main Street in the Town Center is limited to two hours. Twenty-three-hour parking is available in the municipal parking lot at Bear Square.

Discharge of firearms or weapons

In 2011, Concrete began getting assistance from the Skagit County Sheriff to enforce its ordinance pertaining to unlawful discharge of firearms or weapons within the town limits. It remains unlawful for any person to fire a gun or dangerous weapon within the town limits.

The town's ordinance was clarified by Undersheriff Wayne Dowhaniuk in late 2010. The changes cleaned up the definition of "dangerous weapon" and "firearm," and gave Sheriff's deputies authorization to enforce the ordinance.

Fireworks

Setting off fireworks within town limits is illegal.

Town of Concrete earns WellCity award

The Association of Washington Cities (AWC) announced recently that Town of Concrete had met the AWC Trust's WellCity standards, thereby earning a 2 percent discount on its Regence/Asuris medical premiums in 2013.

Town of Concrete's efforts earned it the WellCity Award of Excellence, the program's highest level of recognition. In order to achieve that level, the town

needed to fulfill a number of requirements and earn the award for three consecutive years.

Town of Concrete is one of 84 employers in Washington that earned the WellCity Award, for which it received a plaque and certificates for its members. The town was recognized in AWC publications and will be named at the organization's annual conference in June, at its Member Services Expo in August, and at a Healthy Worksite Summit in October.

THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

This year's **Cement City Street Fair** is slated for Sat., July 28, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Concrete Town Center. The free event emphasizes healthful family fun. Besides the street fair, look for the fourth annual Cinder Shins Fun Run (see ad, p. 9), kids' activities, health screenings, free movies, and food vendors.

Be part of the fun for only \$15 per booth space for businesses and free to nonprofit organizations. Vendor application forms are available on the Concrete Chamber Web site. Sign up by July 1 to guarantee a great spot on Main Street.

For more information about the event, contact United General Hospital at events@unitedgeneral.org.

SW Community Troop Support is looking for volunteers to participate in its entry in the SW Loggerodeo July 4 parade. Motorcycle riders are needed for its formation; walkers also are needed to help hand out Community Care cards. Want to help? E-mail info@swcommunitytroopssupport.com. Individuals and families are welcome to participate.

Eagles In Flight, Concrete's intensely cool motorcycle sales and service shop at the corner of SR 20 and Dillard Ave. in Concrete, celebrated its two-year anniversary on May 12. Congratulations to the Tygret clan for their resolve and contributions to the Concrete business community.

Northwest Garden Bling will celebrate six years of business with an open house June 9-10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Refreshments and a few door prizes are on the agenda. Find this eclectic local business at 44574 SR 20 (Grasmere Village), in Grasmere.

Morgan Gravley, SWHS class of 2000, is running for mayor of Hawai'i County.

You read that right. Gravley, who moved to the big island in 2009 and now lives in Kurtistown, Hawai'i, has decided to throw his hat in the ring to lead "basically the entire island of Hawai'i." He'll be running in a field of eight contenders.

Primaries are in August, with the general election following Nov. 3. Good luck, Morgan!

Congratulations to **Kymbr Self** and **David Bricka** for their winning efforts during the Blast from the Past jump rope competition. Next year ... next year ...

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Sports



Track team brings home state championship medals

Filtz captures second in women's javelin, men's 100m relay team takes eighth.

By Jason Miller

Eight Concrete athletes headed to the WIAA State Track & Field Championships in Cheney, bringing home 2nd- and 8th-place medals.

Leading the way was junior Jessica Filtz, who grabbed second place in women's javelin with a personal-best throw of 123 feet, 4 inches. Filtz's record going into the meet was 116 feet, 2 inches.

"My main goal was to PR (break her personal record) in my events," said Filtz, who also competed in the shotput and long jump, but didn't make it into the final rounds in those events. "Javelin—I knew it was going to be a struggle. But just making it to State was a big move. That's pretty exciting in itself."

Matthew Williams coaches Filtz in javelin and wasn't surprised she eclipsed her PR by 7 feet.

"What a lot of people don't see is the work she puts in outside of track practice. She's one of the few kids who stays after practice and lifts weights, for example."

Filtz's inner drive is evident and it gets results. Out of more than 1,700 women throwing the javelin statewide this season, she ranks 37.

But is she satisfied? Filtz was bested in the javelin competition at State by Pe Ell's Sami Robinson (also a junior this year),

who threw the stick 127 feet. "I'm very happy with second place," said Filtz. "But I'll go harder and faster next year, and I'll get that first place."

The men's 4x100m relay team from Concrete was composed of Andy Aiken, Hayden Holbrook, Clay Nelson, and Josiah Martin, with Ben Lamb and Matthew Holman traveling with the team as alternates.

With Aiken and Martin fighting injuries, the team still managed to scramble into the finals and ended the day with a time of 45.53—good enough to hang 8th-place medals around their necks.

High jumper Xyomara Ramos set a PR at State with a jump of 4 feet 6 inches, but was unable to jump into the finals.



A smaller group headed to the WIAA State Track & Field Championships in Cheney this year, but Concrete's track athletes represented their school honorably. Shown after the tournament are, front row, from left, Jessica Filtz and Xyomara Ramos; second row, from left, coaches Matthew Williams, Megan Parker, Vanessa Williams, and Ashleigh Howell; back row, from left, Matthew Holman, Andy Aiken, Hayden Holbrook, Clay Nelson, Josiah Martin, and Ben Lamb.



Concrete junior Jessica Filtz throws the javelin during the WIAA State Track & Field Championships in Cheney May 26. Her effort of 123 feet, 4 inches won her a second-place medal.



Hayden Holbrook hands the baton to Clay Nelson during the men's 100m relay at the State track championships. The Concrete men ran with injuries and still managed to make it into the finals. The four-man team of Holbrook, Nelson, Andy Aiken, and Josiah Martin ran the finals race in 45.53 seconds and left Cheney with eighth-place medals around their necks.



Concrete's Dallas Newby scrambles back to the bag May 8 as the Tacoma Baptist third baseman attempts a tag. Newby made it, and the Lions pulled off a 7-6 win.

Concrete baseball season ends in playoffs

By Dallas Newby

The League Champions Concrete Lions had three games in May and saw their season come to a close during yet another run into the WIAA state playoffs.

May began with a district playoff game against Tacoma Baptist. The Crusaders were able to jump out to an early 2-0 lead after the first two innings. In the third inning, the Lions scored two runs off hits by Tyler Clark and Jordan Clontz.

Tacoma Baptist bounced back the next inning and was able to score two of its own. In the next half inning, the Lions had five hits and put three runs on the board. The score was then 5-4.

During the next two innings, the Lions held the lead at the start of the inning,

only to have the Crusaders tie the game each inning. Josh Rogge scored the winning run again in the bottom of the 6th on a bad throw back to the pitcher to give the Lions the lead. In the 7th inning, Tyler Kales pitched a 1-2-3 and the Lions came out with a 7-6 victory. Kales pitched the whole game and had five Ks, while seven of the nine starters notched hits in the game.

On May 12 the Lions traveled to Stanwood for the district championship game against Seattle Lutheran. This game was a defensive showdown. Neither pitcher gave up a hit until late in the

See Baseball, p. 19



Lion catcher Gibson Fichter rounds third and heads for home during the May 8 game against Tacoma Baptist.

Athletes of the Month



Athletes of the Month are Alyssa Wahlgren and Andy Aiken

Senior Fastpitch catcher Alyssa Wahlgren was named First Team All-League this year, voted Team Captain by her teammates, and honored with the Betty Torgerson Award by her coaches. "Alyssa showed me early in the season what a great team leader she was. She was invaluable to the team in all aspects on and off the field," said Head Coach Britt Howell. Senior Andy Aiken logged impressive numbers all season in the 100m sprint, 4x100m relay, long jump, and triple jump, and was named Most Valuable Teammate. Aiken competed through a late-season leg injury that followed him to State, said Coach Vanessa Williams. "He never complained; he worked through it," she said. "He's so coachable, so humble."

Wahlgren and Aiken were selected by Concrete Lions Booster Club members for their leadership, being team players, and demonstrating sportsmanship and character.

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“Mariners” claim Little League tournament with 7–3 win

Josh Fichter has coached his Cal Ripken Little League team for five years, now. He has three 2nd Place trophies and one 3rd Place trophy. This year, however, his players brought home the greatest honor: a 1st Place trophy.

Fichter’s “Mariners” played a total of 14 games in regular-season and tournament play, and won every one. Their final test—a rain-soaked tournament match against Coach Arthur Sanchez’s “Phillies” on May 20—ended with a 7–3 Mariners win.

“The kids just came together as a team,” said Fichter. “We fell behind 3–1 after the

first inning, but then we came back and held them.”

A perfect storm of experience and confidence combined to drive the young players to victory, said Fichter.

“We had a lot of returning players this year; that helped us with maturity—and it helps the younger players too, since they’re coming out of the coach-pitch environment,” he said. “But once they get that first hit off a real pitcher, you can see the confidence building in them. It’s good to see them understand what’s going on, and contributing.”

—J. K. M.



The young “Mariners” team took the Cal Ripken Little League Tournament this year, beating the “Phillies” 7–3 in the tournament game. The Mariners enjoyed a no-loss season, ending their efforts with a 14–0 record. *Photo by Shelley Shepherd.*

WOMEN'S FASTPITCH AWARDS

First Team All-League: Alyssa Wahlgren; **Second Team All-League:** Sarah Spaeth; **Honorable Mention:** Jonnie Rohweder, Kalysta Becker; **Offensive MVP:** Jonnie Rohweder; **Defensive MVP:** Danielle Pringle; **Team MVP:** Kalysta Becker; **Most Improved:** Katelyn Pritchard; **Team Captain:** Alyssa Wahlgren; **Betty Torgerson Award:** Alyssa Wahlgren.

MEN'S BASEBALL AWARDS

Gold Glove: Tyler Kales; **Coaches' Award:** Jordan Clontz; **Most Valuable Player:** Tyler Clark, Tyler Kales; **Most Improved:** Forest Barned; **Best Defense:** Tyler Kales; **All-League First Team Outfield:** Tyler Kales, Jordan Clontz; **Big Stick:** Tyler Clark; **All-League MVP:** Tyler Clark; **All-League Honorable Mention, Catcher:** Gibson Fichter.

TRACK AWARDS

Most Valuable Teammates: Andy Aiken, Jessica Filtz; **Coaches' Award:** Hayden Holbrook; **Most Dedicated:** Aiden Walsh; **Most Inspirational:** Xyomara Ramos.

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

Concrete Heritage Museum is open for the season. If you haven't been to the museum in some time or have guests coming to visit this summer, plan a Saturday afternoon to visit us from noon to 4 p.m.

You still can make an appointment to visit the museum or do research in our library. Simply call Robin at 360.826.3075 or e-mail us at concreteheritagemuseum@stumpranchonline.com.

Monthly meetings are held year-round on the second Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m. at the museum. All meetings are open to the public.

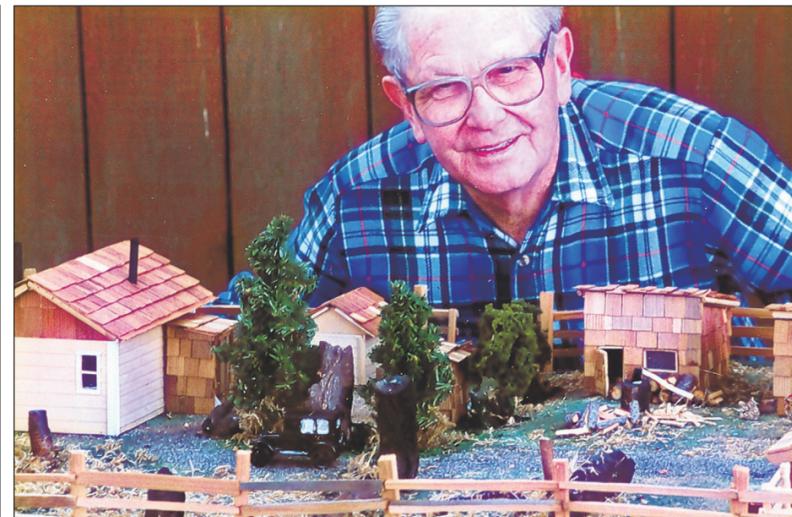
Our annual **Bow Hill Rest Area Bake Sale** is scheduled for the weekend of June 29 through July 2. We could use more volunteers to help staff the booth, all in support of your local museum. If you can help, give Robin a call at her phone number above.

NEW EXHIBIT! On loan and in conjunction with the Skagit County Historical Museum for one year: the **Stump Ranch diorama**. See article, this page.

The Centennial reprint of *So They Called the Town Concrete* is still available. The new edition features enhanced photographs and a more readable font. New cover graphics were done by Philip Johnson. Copies are available at Albert's Red Apple (at the lottery counter; please pay for it there) and the museum. An order form also may be printed at our Web site: www.stumpranchonline.com/concreteheritagemuseum.

WANTED: New Museum Association members! Support your local historical museum.

—Dan Royal



Howard Royal poses with a diorama he created of the original “Stump Ranch.” *Photo by Dan Royal.*

“Stump Ranch” diorama on display at Concrete Heritage Museum

By Dan Royal

“The Stump Ranch” has come to town. In a featured exhibit brought to Concrete in cooperation with Skagit County Historical Museum, the Concrete Heritage Association will tell the story of The Stump Ranch for the next several months at the Concrete Heritage Museum.

The exhibit explains the history of Stump Ranches in Skagit County, shares the story of the Tom and Mabel Royal family's experiences, and features a diorama of the original Stump Ranch, created by Howard Royal.

The exhibit opened May 26 and runs through the summer. The Concrete Heritage Museum is open Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. and is located at 7380 Thompson Ave., Concrete. Appointments to visit the Museum outside of normal hours can be made by calling 360.853.7041.

Only stumps

Stump Ranches, so called by early settler families because it looked like the only thing growing were stumps, were plots or acres of property that had been logged off by the early logging companies and sawmills. These properties were available to buy fairly cheaply. The left-over slash piles of log debris or stumps in the ground made for land that was less than desirable by a farming family. They preferred land ready to plow and plant.

Stump Ranches were far more affordable to some lower-income families willing to

work a lot harder to prepare the land for functional use.

In the case of the Royal family, their stump ranch was bought in the Birdview area in 1925. Mabel Boyd Royal, having had enough of following her logger husband, Tom Royal, to logging camps around the Pacific Northwest with her brood of five children, decided to set down roots at the community of her birth on just such an acreage. An 80-acre parcel of land owned at the time by the school district was pointed out to her by her sister, Grace Boyd Pape, and Mabel went to Mount Vernon to make a bid on it. She was the only bidder at the appointed time.

In later life, Mabel wrote of her adventures. Along with her children, she built the house and outbuildings, farmed for food, and raised cattle for milk and sustenance. She wrote of the time on the family Stump Ranch, “There is one remarkable thing about starting from scratch on a stump ranch, and that is everything that one accomplishes is done by hard work, and when it is done there is a sense of elation and thankfulness; where there is so many things to be done, each task accomplished results in a sense of pride.”

“Now and then a few dollars were spared for some dynamite to blow some of the stumps, especially the smaller ones. It

See **Stump Ranch**, p. 39



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Middle School track shines at Finals

The Concrete Middle School Track traveled to Oak Harbor May 23 for the Finals competition—and didn't come home empty-handed.

Hurdles: Ashlee Gilbert, 5th place; Jasmine Hopfield 3rd place; Robert Nevin, 6th place.

Long jump: Josh Gentry, 5th place; Chloe Stidman 4th place.

100m sprint: Chloe Stidman 2nd place; **200m sprint:** Chloe Stidman, 2nd place; Randall Beacham, 6th place.

800m: Kevin McLaughlin, 6th place. **1600m:** Kevin McLaughlin, 4th place.

Shotput: Chloe Stidman, 2nd place; Robert Nevin, 2nd place; Riley Pritchard, 6th place; Elijah Smith, 6th place.

Discus: Kayla Anderson, 2nd place; Riley Pritchard, 3rd place.

The 4x100m girls relay team placed 3rd with runners Destiny VanBibber, Kiana Wright, Ashlee Gilbert, and Kayla Anderson.

The 4x100m boys relay team placed 4th with runners Donovan Dellinger, Elijah Smith, Randall Beacham, and Robert Nevin.

Congratulations to the entire team!
—J. K. M.



The 2012 Concrete Middle School Track team. Way to rock the toilet paper, Josh. Stylin'. *Photo by Elizabeth Lentz.*

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK AWARDS, GIRLS

Team Spirit: Jasmine Hopfield; **Most Improved Runner:** Chloe Stidman; **Most Improved Thrower:** Riley Pritchard; **Most Improved Sprinter:** Chloe Stidman; **Most Improved Jumper:** Destiny VanBibber; **Best Complainer:** Brook Barned; **Highest Energy:** Destiny VanBibber; **Leadership Award:** Cassidy Cargile; **Loudest:** Destiny VanBibber; **Best Sportsmanlike Behavior:** Cassidy Cargile; **Most Athletic:** Chloe Stidman.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK AWARDS, BOYS

Team Spirit: Dawson Bass; **Most Improved Runner:** Kevin McLaughlin; **Most Improved Thrower:** Elijah Smith; **Most Improved Sprinter:** Dawson Bass; **Most Improved Jumper:** Randall Beacham; **Best Complainer:** James Suit; **Highest Energy:** Donovan Dellinger; **Leadership Award:** Josh Gentry; **Loudest:** Donovan Dellinger; **Best Sportsmanlike Behavior:** Kevin McLaughlin; **Most Athletic:** Kevin McLaughlin.

At the Upper Skagit Library

Summer Reading begins June 18. There are weekly performers or activities lined up to make things interesting. This year we are using different themes. For those pre-school through 5th grade, the theme is “Dream Big READ!” For teens the theme is “Own the Night.” Everyone is encouraged to attend the activities and see the performers.

Performers this year include juggler Jason Quick, and ventriloquists Andy Locke and Cowboy Buck & Elizabeth. The Reptile Man will be the grand finale act. Watch for the dates on the Web site (www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us) or pick up a schedule at the library.

Weekly Early Learning activities are planned for Tuesdays, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. beginning June 5. Potential activities include water play, learning colors, arts-and-crafts, planting mini gardens, and story time. Beginning June 20, on Wednesdays from 2 to 3 p.m., we will have activities for 5- to

12-year-olds, including arts-and-crafts, chess and other board games, chalk drawing, and more.

Friends of the Upper Skagit Library offers **scholarships** to pay for cards for children living within the town limits. Please ask for an application form at the library. Did you know that they earn the money for the card scholarships through membership dues, the book sales, and bake sales? In addition to the scholarships, the Friends have donated money for the amazing performers each summer and purchased the supplies necessary for the summer reading programs. The group's annual membership fee is only \$1! Don't you think that's a bargain? If you cannot afford the dollar, you could help set up for the book sales or help tear them down, or help cart books to storage, or bake for the bake sales. Membership cards are available at the library.

—Aimee Hirschel, director

June at the Darrington Library

- Baby & Me Storytime, Thur., June 7, 14, 10:30 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime, Fri., June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 11 a.m.
- Summer Reading Kickoff: *Sweet*

Dreams and Moon Beams, Wed., June 27, 2 p.m.

For more information on these and other programs offered by Darrington Library, go to www.sno-isle.org?ID=1194.



Academics



Graduation ceremonies at Concrete, Darrington, Sedro-Woolley

Concrete High School

June 7: Senior Dinner, Community Bible Church, 5 p.m.
 Baccalaureate, CHS gym, 6:30 p.m.
 Scholarships and awards, CHS gym, 7:30 p.m.
June 8: Senior graduation practice, CHS gym, 9 a.m. (must be at practice to walk in the ceremony).
 Graduation, CHS gym, 7 p.m.
 Questions regarding graduation ceremonies should be directed to the high school at 360.853.8143.

Darrington High School

June 6: All-senior field trip to Wild Waves, all day.
June 7: Traveling supper, 4:30 p.m.
June 8: Graduation practice, Bluegrass

Grounds or Community Center, 8:30 a.m.
June 9: Graduation, Bluegrass Grounds (Community Center in inclement weather), 1 p.m.
 Questions regarding graduation ceremonies should be directed to Lynn Haywood at 360.436.1140.

Sedro-Woolley High School

June 5: Baccalaureate, Trinity United Presbyterian Church, 7 p.m.
June 6: Dress-up Day begins with breakfast at S-W Community Center at 6:30 a.m.
 Moving-up Ceremony, SWHS, time TBD
 Senior Awards Ceremony and Dessert Reception, SWHS auditorium, 6 p.m.
June 7: Senior Hootenanny
June 8: Graduation, SWHS football field, 7 p.m.
 For questions regarding graduation, call 360.855.3510.



A Paris-themed Concrete High School Senior Prom was held May 5 this year. Prom royalty this year were, from left, Cody Corn, Thea O'Brien, Ben Troka, Mercedes Ramos, Jacob Massingale (King), Jocelyn Hernandez (Queen), Adrianna Canales, and Andy Aiken.

Summer feeding program in Concrete

Concrete School District will sponsor the Simplified Summer Food Program for all children ages 18 and younger this summer. Meals will be made available at no charge at the following location and time(s) Mondays through Thursdays, July 9 through Aug. 9:
 Concrete Elementary School Cafeteria
 7838 S. Superior Ave., Concrete
 Breakfast: 7:30 to 8 a.m.
 Lunch: 11:30 a.m. to noon

Cascade Days organizers need log donations for the August event. Cedar or spruce logs are sought for chain saw carvers during Concrete's signature summer event. Can you help? Contact Cascade Days President John Burmaster at 360.853.8024.

Concrete School District opens kindergarten registration

Concrete K-8 is accepting 2012-13 kindergarten registrations. Students must be 5 years of age by Aug. 31, 2012, to be eligible. The child's birth certificate and immunization records are required. Students are required to attend a scheduled kindergarten activity day on Aug. 22 or 23. Parents will choose an appointment time for the kindergarten activity day at the time of registration. Register in the Concrete K-8 office from Mon. through Fri. between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.
 Questions regarding the kindergarten registration process should be directed to the Concrete K-8 office at 360.853.8145.
 —Submitted by Concrete School Dist.

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What's next?

Concrete, Darrington, Sedro-Woolley Class of 2012 graduates look to the future.

Concrete Herald asked this year's graduating seniors to share their post-graduation plans. Here's what they said.

"I'm going to be rich and have a hot trophy wife that leeches off of me for my money. Enough said."
Dustin Brigham, Concrete

"I am going to Washington State University in the fall to pursue a pre-vet major, then hopefully become a veterinarian and work with horses and other large animals."
Sophie Matterand, Sedro-Woolley

"I will become a successful underwater archeologist and achieve my happiness through life."
Laura Blasutto, Concrete

"I'm going to Skagit Valley College to get my counseling license."
Mikahla Aschim, Sedro-Woolley

"I plan on attending Skagit Valley College in the fall to earn my prerequisites for its nursing program. My plan at the moment is to earn my RN degree and someday specialize in pediatrics."
Emily Ogle, Concrete

"I'll aspire to learn all I can in my short life span, to build a beautiful story

Darrington Elementary seeks additional Reading Corps member

Megan Kost helps struggling readers at Darrington Elementary School improve their reading ability. She's part of the Northwest Washington Reading Corps (NWWRC), a team-based Americorps program that works within Skagit, Whatcom, and Snohomish counties. The only problem is, Kost is a little lonely at her post. While most elementary schools have two Reading Corps members working at each school, Darrington was unable to fill the second position during the 2011-12 school year. Kost hopes someone will step up to help her at Darrington Elementary. Applicants age 18 and up may apply, and they don't need to be college graduates, although it's an enticing path to take if they are, she said.

of experiences out of my small-town foundation, never forgetting where my roots are."
Willow Goforth, Concrete

"I'm going to Skagit Valley College for law enforcement, then transferring to Western Washington University."
Amanda Gentry, Darrington

"I will be known to everyone with a lyrical soul, looking for inspiration across the globe and being as successful, careerwise, as my heart desires, while also succeeding in my personal life."
Adriana Canales, Concrete

"Going to Skagit Valley College, doing CNA and RN while being a full-time mom."
Alishia Chory, Concrete

"Attending Eastern Washington University to obtain a degree in Wildlife Biology in hopes of acquiring a position as a game warden."
Boyce Johnson, Sedro-Woolley

"Going to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., for basic training in the United States Army."
Lonna Lloyd, Concrete

"I'm attending Western Washington University to study Environmental Science and Education!"
Kassandra Barnedt, Concrete

"I'll be going to Skagit Community College for Physical Education."
Alyssa Wahlgren, Concrete

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June 25th–29th, 2012

The SmileMobile:

- Provides dental care to children (birth through high school) with limited family income.
- Accepts State of Washington Services Card (Provider One) and sliding fee scale based on family income.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, please call the **East County Resource Center at (360) 853-7009.** Appointments must be scheduled before June 22nd.



The SmileMobile is operated by Washington Dental Service Foundation in partnership with Seattle Children's Hospital.



Clear Lake



Historical Assn annual reunion honors Matterand family

On May 20, John Matterand stood in the Clear Lake Historical Association Hall and pointed to a 1919 photo of his grandfather, Aaron Matterand, taken during a road trip from Washington to Salt Lake City.

"They didn't go by miles back then," he said. "They went by how many tires they went through."

Aaron Matterand started the long trek with a visit to his sister in Seattle, then continued his journey. It took several weeks to reach his destination.

"He drove till he ran out of money, then he'd stop in whatever town and work odd jobs," said Matterand.

The story was one of many told that day during the historical association's 25-year anniversary reunion, during which the Matterands were the honored family.

Anyone having anything to do with Clear Lake, past or present, was invited to the event, one of the few times the general public is able to view the vast photography and memorabilia collection held by the association.

John Matterand came to the event loaded for bear, with a display of old photos and an iPad running a slide show of more photos. Another display held a backpack and shoes made from what appeared to be birch bark—a gift from the local Indians to John Matterand's great-grandfather, Ole Matterand.

Speaking of bear, John's Dad Cliff's beloved teddy bear (named, appropriately, "Teddy") was on display, along with a 1927 photo of a very young Cliff clinging to the stuffed animal.

The Matterand family's patriarch, Ole Matterand, emigrated to Stanwood from Norway in the 1870s. Ole's son, Aaron, came to Clear Lake in 1920. Aaron's son, Cliff (John's father), grew up in Clear Lake and attended the reunion too.

The CLHA plans major fundraising this year to replace siding on the south side of its hall in Clear Lake.

—J. K. M. and Sylvia Matterand



A roomful of Matterands paused for a photo during the Clear Lake Historical Association reunion honoring the family. Front row, from left, Louise Matterand, Mildred Matterand Jensen, Cliff Matterand, Sophie Matterand. Back row, from left, John Matterand, Ann Jensen White, Dana Matterand Smart, Sylvia Matterand.



John Matterand points to a scan of an old family photo from a slide show playing during the reunion.



Flags installed by local Scout Zach Schmidt lined Highway 9 through Clear Lake throughout Memorial Day weekend. Photo by Barbara Rumsey.

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Community Calendar

JUNE

- NOTE: High school graduation-related events for Concrete, Darrington, and Sedro-Woolley are listed on p. 12.**
- 6 Basic Medicare insurance information seminar, East County Resource Center, Concrete, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.; free admission; info and reservations at 866.733.5111
 - 9 Benefit Chili Feed for Wounded Warriors in Action, Howard Miller Steelhead Park, Rockport, 2 to 6 p.m.; see article, p. 24; info at 360.853.9801 or johnguidesvc@hotmail.com
 - 9-10 Free fishing weekend, courtesy of WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife: Fish for free; no license required; info at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/free>
 - 9, 16, 23, 30 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Center, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; info at 360.391.7957
 - 12 Whooping Cough Vaccinations at East County Resource Center, 12:30 to 3 p.m.; free for low-income folks, up to \$25 sliding scale for others; \$78 up front for insured folks, then billed to insurance company; info at 360.853.7009 (call to add your name to the list)
 - 15 Skagit County offices and departments closed, including Sauk Transfer Station and Clear Lake Compactor
 - 16 Community Contra Dance, Mansford Grange, Darrington; potluck at 5:30 p.m., dance instruction at 7 p.m., dance at 7:30 p.m.; \$7 requested donation; info at mriggen64@yahoo.com
 - 22-23 Lyman Community Yard Sale, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; see article, p. 18; info at 360.826.5111, 360.826.3818, or oney_brat@yahoo.com
 - 22-24 Town of Concrete Clean-up Days, east of Skate Park on Main St., Concrete, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Concrete residents only, present flier from Town of Concrete upon arrival; info at 360.853.8401
 - 22-24 "Where the Yellowstone Goes" screens at Concrete Theatre; part of admissions proceeds goes to theater fundraising effort; 7:30 p.m. showing on June 22; info at 360.941.0403 or www.concrete-theatre.com
 - 28 Celtic Concert at Concrete Theatre, 7 p.m.; info at 360.941.0403 or www.concrete-theatre.com
 - 30 Skagit Bluegrass and Country Music Association Show 2012, Evergreen Elementary School, 1007 McGarigle, Sedro-Woolley, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., admission price varies; info at 360.856.1058 or 360.855.1564
 - 30-7/1 Ken Wilcox Skagit River Ride, Cedar Springs Center, 31459 Barben Rd., Sedro-Woolley; begins at 9 a.m. Sat.; see article, p. 5; info at 360.661.4063 or mohappy@cedarsprings.org
 - 30-7/4 Loggerodeo, various locations in Sedro-Woolley, see program insert in this issue or go to www.loggerodeo.com

JULY

- 1 Skagit Bluegrass and Country Music Association Gospel Show, Evergreen Elementary School, 1007 McGarigle, Sedro-Woolley, 1 to 4 p.m.; admission by donation; info at 360.856.1058 or 360.855.1564
- 4 Concert at Glacier Peak Winery, 5 to 9 p.m.; see ad, p. 2
- 7 Lyman Car & Craft Show, Lyman
- 19 Concrete Youth Activity Day, Silo Park, Concrete, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.; free admission; info at 360.419.3307 or 360.336.9406
- 22 "The Mountain Runners" screens at Concrete Theatre, Concrete Town Center, 7 p.m.; \$10 admission (part of proceeds goes to theater fundraising effort); info at www.concrete-theatre.com or 360.941.0403
- 27-29 Concrete North Cascades Vintage Fly-In, Mears Field (formerly Concrete Municipal Airport), info and schedule at <http://skagitaero.com/calendar/concrete-north-cascades-fly-in>
- 28 Cement City Street Fair, Concrete Town Center, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; info at events@unitedgeneral.org

*Community Calendar is updated daily at www.concrete-herald.com/calendar

Community meetings

Concrete American Legion Post and Auxiliary meet the second Tue. of each month, Sept. through May, at 5:30 p.m. in the American Legion Building. 360.853.8940.

Concrete Chamber of Commerce meets the second Thur. of each month at 8 a.m. Meetings usually are held at Concrete Center in Concrete. 360.466.8754 or concretechamber@mac.com.

Concrete Heritage Museum Board meets the second Thur. of each month, at 7 p.m. at the museum. Meetings are open to the public. 360.826.3075 or concreteheritagemuseum@stumpranchonline.com

Concrete Lions Club meets the first and third Wed. of each month, at Annie's Pizza Station, Concrete. Social at 6 p.m.; meeting at 6:30.

Concrete School Board will meet June 28 at 6 p.m. in the high school Commons. The board will hold a workshop on June 25, at 6 p.m. in the high school Commons. 360.853.8141.

Concrete Theatre Fundraising Committee meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at the East County Resource Center on Main St., Concrete (enter through far west door). billpeifer@yahoo.com

Concrete Town Council meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at Town Hall, 45672 Main St., Concrete, at 7 p.m. 360.853.8401 or andrea@concretewa.gov.

Darrington Area Business Assn (DABA) meets the third Wed. of each month, 7 p.m., at Cascade Senior Center, 1115 Darrington St., Darrington. 360.436.2167.

Darrington Town Council meets the second Wed. of each month at Town Hall, 1005 Cascade St., at 7 p.m. 360.436.1131 or darrcityhall@glaciereview.net.

Forest Park Cemetery District No. 5 meets the second Wed. of each month at the cemetery office on Compton Lane in Concrete, at 8 a.m. 360.708.3656.

Friends of Upper Skagit Library (FOUSL) Board meets the third Tuesday of odd-numbered months at the East County Resource Center in Concrete, at 1 pm. Public

welcome to attend. uslfriends@gmail.com. May 15 meeting to include planning for Book & Bake Sale on May 26.

Hamilton Town Council meets the second Tue. of each month at Town Hall, 584 Maple St., Hamilton, at 7 p.m. 360.826.3027.

Imagine Concrete meets the second Wed. of each month in the Pilots' Lounge at Mears Field in Concrete, at 6 p.m. 360.853.8213 or goodwords@frontier.com.

KSVU 90.1 FM meets the last Thur. of each month (except Nov. and Dec. 2011) at portable classroom B near the Concrete Elementary School campus, at 4, 5, and 6 p.m. (the 4 and 6 p.m. meetings are identical). 360.416.7711 or rip.robbins@skagit.edu. Studio orientations and trainings for all interested people are held every Wed. from 1 to 4 p.m.; call Joseph McGuire at 360.416.7001 for details.

Lyman Town Council meets the second Tue. of each month at Lyman Town Hall (Minkler Mansion), 8405 S. Main St., Lyman, at 7 p.m. 360.826.3033 or clerk_lyman@msn.com.

PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) Skagit County Chapter, meets the second Monday of each month at The Safe Haven Room, Central United Methodist Church, 1013 Polte Rd. Sedro-Woolley, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. 360.856.4676, www.pflagskagit.org.

Saukrates Cafe meets the first Thur. of each month at Annie's Pizza Station in Concrete, at 6 p.m. Conversation topics are posted at Upper Skagit Library and <http://saukratescafe.wordpress.com>.

Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce meets the second and fourth Wed. of each month, at 7 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 325 Metcalf St. 360.855.1661.

Sedro-Woolley School District Board meets June 11 at the Support Service building and June 26 at the Support Service building, at 7 p.m. 360.855.3500 or miller@swsd.k12.wa.us.

*To add your organization's meeting to this list, e-mail editor@concrete-herald.com or call 360.853.8213.

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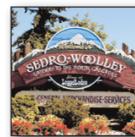
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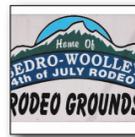
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COUNTRY STORE 915 Moore Street, Sedro Woolley • 360.856.6567



Sedro-Woolley



It's time for Loggerodeo

World-famous July 4 party returns to Sedro-Woolley June 30 through July 4.

Washington's oldest continuous Fourth of July celebration will kick off its 126th year this month.

Loggerodeo events will fill Sedro-Woolley's streets, parking lots, and, of course, the rodeo grounds from June 30 through July 4. The week-long event prides itself on including activities for every age group. Here's just a sample of what's on tap for this year's celebration:

- Sedro-Woolley Riding Club Rodeo, call 360.770.3383 for times.
- July 4**
- Kids' Pancake Breakfast at the Senior Center, 6:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- Grand Parade, 11 a.m.
- Bisbey Logging Show at Masonic Field, 2 p.m.
- Sedro-Woolley Riding Club Rodeo, call 360.770.3383 for times.
- Fireworks display at dusk

Chainsaw carving competitions will be held at State and Murdock July 1-4. Watch for quick-carve competitions at 10:30 a.m. on July 1-3. Carving auctions will be held at 5 p.m. on July 1-3, and 1 p.m. on July 4. The carnival will open at 11 a.m. and run into the evening on July 1-4. For more information, including complete schedules and other details, see the Loggerodeo program insert in this issue or go to www.loggerodeo.com.

Loggerodeo

Where: Sedro-Woolley, various locations
When: June 30 through July 4
Cost: Varies; see program insert
Info: www.loggerodeo.com

June 30

- Beard Contest at the Sedro-Woolley Museum, 1 p.m.
- Firemen's Muster, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Good 'ol Days Antique Car Show and Barbecue, noon to 4 p.m.
- Kiddie Parade at Lemley Chapel, 4 p.m.
- Bluegrass Jubilee at Evergreen Elementary, 6:30 p.m.

July 1

- S-W Eagles Pancake Breakfast at the Eagles building, 9:30 a.m.
- Bluegrass Gospel Show at Evergreen Elementary, 1 p.m.

July 3

- Historical portrayal of the wives of John Adams and John Morton, 1:30 p.m.
- Street Dance at Hammer Heritage Square, 7 to 10 p.m.



Soroptimist International of Sedro-Woolley 2012 college scholarship recipients gathered recently for a photo. *Submitted photo.*

Soroptimists announce scholarship recipients

Soroptimist International of Sedro-Woolley has announced the recipients of its 2012 college scholarships, totaling \$10,000.

- Concrete High School senior Clara O'Brien, daughter of Celia Unsell, will attend Pacific Lutheran University.
- Sedro-Woolley High School seniors Carly Stewart, daughter of Kenneth and Elizabeth Stewart, will attend Eastern Washington University.
- Caleb Bradford, son of Emanuel and Kelly Bradford, will attend Washington State University.
- Rachel Jennings, daughter of Craig Jennings, will attend Santa Barbara Community College.
- Brennan Spinnie, son of Dennis and Kristi Spinnie, plans to attend the University of Pennsylvania.
- Ming Wagoner, daughter of Keith and Wen Wagoner, will enter the U.S. Air Force Academy.
- Russell Moser, son of Thomas and Zita Moser, plans to attend Washington State University.
- Emilie Moser, daughter of Michael and Michelle Moser, will attend Pacific University.
- Baylee Ostrom, daughter of Ryan and Sheila Ostrom, will attend Washington State University.
- Danae White, daughter of Daniel and Dori White, plans to attend Green River Community College.

Locally, Soroptimist International of Sedro-Woolley owns and operates the Walnut Tree Thrift Store in Sedro-Woolley. Thrift store proceeds are used for numerous community service projects and college scholarships.

Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization for business and professional women, working to improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world. For more information, go to <http://sisedro-woolley.blogspot.com>.

Concrete Herald
The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

Local clothing company celebrates love of the arts

Locally owned and operated clothing company Genius Evil Productions launched its new spring clothing line in April. Inspired by his passion for the performing and visual arts, Genius Evil founder and owner Graham Howell is making a name for himself with original designs that depict a personal love for making music, visual arts, and the snowboarding lifestyle.

Genius Evil Productions, which was originally launched in 2010 from an unfinished band room behind Howell's house in Sedro-Woolley, follows a business model intended to help others find their happiness through unique, thought-provoking designs.

"Style, intelligence, and character will always win out over flash and lack thereof. Heart and dedication can't be bought," said Howell. "I firmly believe that the only true currency in life is happiness, and I try to share that mindset with those who wear my designs through images that depict pure, attainable contentment."

It took Howell nearly two years to earn and save the capital needed to purchase the silk screen printer and to create the original designs for the company's first print run in 2011. He maintains the same, original equipment that he did upon start-up and continues to hand print each design. With each run, he strives for 100 percent customer satisfaction.

"I'm not in this business for the money. Like with many things in life, it's about the journey and the end result," Howell continued. "Each design represents me, my sense of style and humor, as well as my hard work and determination. It feels good to see others gravitate toward my art. Their happiness and the pride they exude



Sedro-Woolley clothing designer Graham Howell creates original designs that showcase his love for making music, visual arts, and the snowboarding lifestyle. *Submitted photo.*

when wearing my designs are worth so much more than money."

Made with environmentally friendly inks, all Genius Evil designs are hand-drawn, original works of art, and custom screen printed in the Skagit Valley. Men's and women's designs, focusing primarily on T-shirts, are printed on fitted 100 percent cotton tees. All original designs are available on sweatshirts, thermal tops, and hats upon request. Merchandise ranges in price from \$24 for tees to \$48 for sweatshirts.

For more information, contact Genius Evil Productions at frontman@geniusevil.com, online at www.geniusevil.com, on Facebook, and on Twitter @lyfsbuteful.

—Tina Lea McNealey

Save the date: SW Community Troop Support Yellow Ribbon Poker Run coming July 28

Sedro-Woolley Community Troop Support plans its 3rd annual Yellow Ribbon Poker Run for Sat., July 28.

Registration cost for the event is \$20 per bike and rider; a passenger is an additional \$15. The entry fee includes breakfast, end party and lunch, and one hand of poker.

The first 50 paid registrants will receive a Biker Gift Bag full of prizes, including a family pass to Skagit Speedway valued at \$38 and a raffle ticket to a special prize only available to first 50 paid participants.

An end party will be held at Eagles in Flight in Concrete with a catered lunch provided by The Sissy Bar and live music donated by Paid N Full.

Registration and route details are posted at www.swcommunitytroopssupport.com. All proceeds raised go toward the Christmas care packages the organization sends out each year. This event is the main fundraising activity for the group's effort.

—Tammie Werner

Briefly ...

Admit it: You can't wait till **Community Bowling Center** opens in Sedro-Woolley. Business partners Kelsy Rising, Jeff Ritter, Shannon Davis-Tolbert, and Tammy Roberts say it's tough to name an opening day date, but they're eyeing mid-June. Do what I do and lurk on Facebook for details: www.facebook.com/bowlsedro.

A second benefit concert is planned for the **Sedro-Woolley Skate Park**, so mark your calendars for Fri., June 22, at 6 p.m. The concert will be held at the Sedro-Woolley Community Center at 703 Pacific St. Just \$6 gets you in the door for the all-ages show featuring Bowlcut, So Adult, and Skipping Victor. All proceeds will go toward helping to build the best skate park in Skagit County. Yeah.

THE SEDRO-WOOLLEY MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP

Museum open after July 4 parade

725 Murdock St. | 360.855.2390
www.sedrowoolleymuseum.org

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Located at the 4-Way stop on Hwy 530 & Mt. Loop Hwy in Darrington 360-436-1029
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Concrete Theatre

SAVE CONCRETE THEATRE!

Donate to Digital Campaign!

The movie industry will convert to digital in 2013. Concrete Theatre won't be able to show new movies unless it converts to a digital system --a \$50,000 hurdle. **Please donate to help keep Concrete Theatre alive!**

- Donate at the theater during weekend movie times
- Mail a check payable to Concrete Theatre to: Concrete Theatre, P.O. Box 954, Concrete, WA 98237
- Make a credit card or PayPal donation at www.concrete-theatre.com
- Donate at Columbia Bank in Concrete (designate check for "Digital Projector Fund")

For more info on ways to help, call 360.941.0403 or e-mail info@concrete-theatre.com.

*Advertisement paid for by an anonymous donor.

Cascade Dental

"Experience The Most Comfortable Dental Visit Possible."

Dr. John Matterand and Dr. Larry Forsythe are welcoming new patients to their dental practice, conveniently located at 2261 Hospital Dr., Ste. 101, in Sedro-Woolley, at the corner of Collins Rd. and Hospital Dr.

Call for an appointment today!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Dr. John Matterand Dr. Larry Forsythe

360-856-6011
www.cascadedds.com



Lyman



Townwide yard sale coming June 22–23

Lyman's 9th Annual Community Yard Sale will be held on Fri., June 22 and Sat., June 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration forms are available at Town Hall or online at www.facebook.com/lymanyardsale.

A \$5 fee is required to be on the map for the event and included in advertising. Maps can be picked up at Town Hall at 8405 S. Main Street, Lyman Post Office, Lyman Baptist Church, and at 31098 W. Main Street. Entry fees will be used to purchase something for the community, and suggestions are welcome. Past fees have been used for the Lyman Sharing Library, rhodies for the trail, community bulletin board, Angel Tree, and more.

The entry fee can be dropped off at Town Hall or mailed to Tammie Werner, P.O. Box 1372, Lyman, WA 98263. Checks must be made payable to Tammie Werner. Deadline for registration to be included on the map is June 18.

Lyman Baptist Church will serve donuts and coffee, open up its restrooms for the public, and hold a sale as well, giving all their proceeds to the Ray of Hope charity. For more information, contact Patty Cook at 360.826.5111 or Tammie Werner 360.826.3818 or oney_brat@yahoo.com.

—Tammie Werner

Save the Date!

Lyman Car & Craft Show is coming July 7!

Rick Lemley

Chuck Ruhl



1008 Third St.
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284
www.lemleychapel.com

Office: 360-855-1288

Fax: 360-855-1868

Email: info@lemleychapel.com

Council summary

The Lyman Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on May 8. Following is a summary of that meeting.

- Mayor Heinzman invited Skagit County planner Kirk Johnson to present Envision Skagit 2060 information to the council. Commissioner Dillon also was present. After the presentation Mayor Heinzman asked for citizen comments and discussion. The Q&A period was closed at 7:50 p.m., and Mayor Heinzman thanked Johnson and Dillon for coming to the meeting.
- Mark Kitchen reported that the alleys are done. He ask about the Bantas again. Mayor Heinzman asked the clerk to invite them to the next meeting to discuss the parking in front of their house.
- Kitchen also reported that his computer is shutting down when he tries to send or look at files. Councilmember Eddie Hills made a motion to contact Steve Anderson at Affordable Computers, with a limit of \$800 for computer and printer. The motion passed unanimously.
- A letter from the State Auditor's office giving the deadlines for getting

on the ballots was given to council. Councilmember Mike Swanson asked how the annexation into Dist. 8 was going. The clerk reported that they were still waiting on a legal description of the Town of Lyman. Swanson made a motion to set aside \$1,000, if it comes down to hiring an engineer to get it done. Swanson said he thought that Skagit Surveyors should have most of the information already. The last annexation was in 1994 or 1995, and he thought that SS&E had been the firm that had managed the annexation. Hills said he would contact them and see what he could find out. Motion passed unanimously.

- A letter to the State Auditor from Tim Holloran asking for meetings with the mayors, was presented. The purpose of the meetings is to better understand the function of the Elections Office. Mayor Heinzman said she was going to make the time to go.
- Two new volunteer hold-harmless agreements were passed unanimously. The forms are for the occasional volunteer or someone who has a few community service hours to fulfill, such as students doing senior projects. Kitchen can use whichever form is more appropriate for the job.

Grand Marshal nominations sought

Lyman Elementary's Back to School Parade is seeking nominations for Grand Marshal for the coming 8th annual Back to School parade in September.

Please submit nominations to organizer Tammie Werner at oney_brat@yahoo.com or at www.facebook.com/LymanSchoolParade. Include the nominee's name and why you think they would be a good choice for Grand Marshal.

—Tammie Werner

Lyman Library tales

By Elaine Kohler

We have changed the hours for the library. Since there is very little use on Tuesday, we will be open on the following days:

- Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturdays, noon to 3 p.m.

Gardens are beginning to show all over the neighborhood. For our gardeners

Puget Sound Energy urges everyone to call 811 before digging

BELLEVUE—Puget Sound Energy reminds everyone to call 811 to schedule a free utility locator service before beginning any work that involves digging, even if only shovels or hand tools are to be used.

In 2011, PSE logged 850 incidents related to accidental dig-ups of the utility's 25,000 miles of underground natural gas lines and 300 incidents involving the utility's 10,000 miles of buried power lines—down 5.5 percent from 1,214 total incidents in 2010. Nearly 90 percent of the damage to PSE's underground natural gas lines was caused by residents, contractors, and other excavators.

PSE advises anyone who may have damaged natural gas pipes or electric systems—including merely scratching or denting the pipe, conduit, or plastic covering the wire, or who smell the rotten-egg odor of a natural gas leak, to leave the area immediately. Do not do anything that might create a spark. Move away from the area and call PSE at 888.225.5773 or call 911.



Day Creek



Community notes

The **Relationship Encounter** series continues. Hosted by Dave and Kathy Henderson and Day Creek Chapel, the course material was created by Dr. David Jeremiah. Here's the June and July schedule:

Dates

June 3, 10
July 1, 22
Meetings run from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Bring a notebook and pen. Catch the information on the church readerboard. Questions? Call Kathy Henderson, 360.826.3581. Day Creek Chapel has a very active women's ministry team, **Women of Hope**, and they have been concerned about women of all ages in the eastern part of the county.

A group of women has formed in eastern Skagit County. "**Women Hand in Hand**" is unaffiliated with any specific church, so the group can cross lines without

Baseball, cont. from p. 9

game. The Saints were able to get a runner in scoring position every inning, but Concrete's defense prevented any runs from crossing the plate. The Lions had an off day at the plate and only got one runner into scoring position. The only Lion to get a hit in the game was Clark, who hit the ball into shallow center and a miscommunication by Saints fielders let the ball drop to the ground.

Seattle Lutheran was able to load the bases three separate times, but no runs came in. That changed in the bottom of the 7th. There were two outs and the bases were loaded once more for the Saints. With two outs, Kales got the batter to hit a soft roller to Cody Jarmin, who came up and threw the ball to first a split-second too late. A run came in and the Lions suffered a tough 1–0 loss.

Off Concrete went to the state playoff regional round in Adna, where the players went against Waitsburg-Prescott. The Lions had a good day at the plate, but the fielding was not up to par. Kales pitched once again and just like against Seattle Lutheran, got into many jams, but was able to pitch his way out of it. Concrete had seven hits in the game, but was only able to score one run on a Tyler Clark

proprietary identification.

The group's first event is in the planning stages, with author, speaker, and horse woman Kim Meeder, to be held Sept. 6 in Sedro-Woolley.

Any women's ministry group that wants to be involved with Women Hand in Hand is encouraged to contact any one of the following:

Sylvia Miles	360.826.3696
Sharon Herring	360.661.5037
Bonnie Lintz	360.856.1385
Sue Walden	360.826.3944
Shannon Shipley	360.472.1211
Kathy Henderson	360.826.3581

Join Women Hand in Hand at their barista stand at the following scheduled events:

- Friday Night Lights at 5 p.m.
June 8, 22
July 13, 27
Aug. 10, 24
- SWRC Play Day Shows at 9:30 a.m.
June 23–24

single up the middle in the bottom of the 3rd inning. The Lions kept that lead for two more innings, but in the top of the 6th their defense fell apart. With runners on first and third, a missed throw to first base allowed those two runners to score. Then the next at-bat brought the same result, a missed throw to first that let another run in, bringing the score to 3–1. The Lions were able to get runners in scoring position, but could not score them and two more scoreless innings brought the season to a close with a 3–1 loss.

Dallas Newby is a sophomore second baseman for the Concrete Lions baseball team.

Not advertising in Concrete Herald is like winking in the dark*

***You're the only one who knows what you're doing.**

Call 360.853.8213 today to be seen in Concrete Herald.

July 7–8
Aug. 25–26
Sept. 15–16

- Sedro-Woolley Rodeo
July 3–4

Sedro-Woolley Rodeo Grounds

Kingdom Builders is on the move. Be watching for Donna Pulver and Kathy Henderson as they are out in the community, filling out medical information magnets, and passing out Day Creek Community information packets. They are looking forward to visiting with you.

Are you creative? We need a creative person to make a permanent painted sign to add to the reader board at the entry to Day Creek. The sign will read, "Day Creek."

A **community bulletin board** has been installed at the Day Creek Fire Hall. Community members are invited to post their business cards, coming events, and Day Creek activities on the board—then contact *Concrete Herald* at 360.853.8213

Council, cont. from p. 5

Mike Bartel questioned how many potential residential lots this would open up. Hart said about 120. Pfeiffer stated that Concrete has a 32 percent vacancy rate per Andrea Fichter. He questioned why any developer would come up here when we can't fill the houses already here. It was discussed whether this was an accurate figure.

Pfeiffer asked that this document be brought before council when it is corrected, before it is seen by anyone else. Hart will make changes and have them before the next council meeting.

May 29

- Jason Miller questioned a party that occurred on a weekend around Prom that he had heard took place at a certain adult's home and that this adult either supplied or allowed minors access to alcohol. Deputy Marlow stated he cannot confirm that the party even took place. He stated it was reported to have occurred outside of town limits on private property and he could not confirm the presence of that adult in question or that this adult provided the alcohol.
- More discussion occurred surround-

ing the grant money for engineering the secondary access road from the school and airport. Councilmembers Mears and Pfeiffer remained against the project. Miller and Bartel were for it. Reed stated she could understand both sides of the discussion. Miller eventually made a motion to submit the grant application, and Bartel seconded it. The motion passed narrowly, with Mears and Pfeiffer opposed, and Reed hesitating for several seconds before voting yes.

or editor@concrete-herald.com. The **Day Creek Fire Hall** is looking for a community-minded person to take charge of maintenance. Tasks such as lawn mowing, bee control, pressure-washing, etc., are crucial to the upkeep of the hall. If you're interested, call Travis Arendse at 360.826.5125.

Community Club Potlucks are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at the Day Creek Fire Hall. The next potluck is slated for June 19.

We are looking for **event ideas** that are fun and help to support the Day Creek Fire Hall while letting us all get to know our neighbors better. If you have an idea, call Donna Pulver at 360.826.3003 or Kathy Henderson 360.826.3581.

If you have information for this column, please send an e-mail to winningcircularchapel@gmail.com.

—Kathy Henderson

Community Club Potluck dinners

Community Club Potluck dinners are held the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Day Creek Fire Hall. Come and join the fun!

2012 dinners

June	19
July	17
August	21
September	18
October	16
November	20
December	18



Above: Concrete Elementary School Counselor Renee Kenady (left) accepts an award certificate from Concrete Elementary teacher Mary Janda April 30. Kenady was honored that night at the Skagit Prevent Council's VIPP (Very Important Prevention Person, Project, or Program) Awards Celebration in Burlington.

Kenady's career so far includes work as a youth specialist for the State of Missouri, and founder of two nonprofits: America's Children and East Valley Community Care Team. She recently earned her school administrator credentials.

"I am so glad I get to work with this kind, caring, compassionate woman," said Janda during the presentation. "I feel like I have a partner who focuses on kids the way I do."



Above: A gun salute pierced the silence during a Memorial Day service held at Forest Park Cemetery near Concrete May 28. The ceremony was presided over by members of the Concrete American Legion Post No. 132.

Right: The Love Lyman Sisters (from left, Mim Ambrose, Naomi Rumpff, and Corrine Roos), returned to the Concrete Theatre stage May 20 for "A River Home Companion." The live radio show, modeled after a similarly named show, is a fundraiser for the Upper Valley's community radio station, KSVU 90.1 FM. Hosted by Steve Denzel as "Harrison Wheeler," the show included performances from Joyful Noise on the Skagit, Mason Eger, and Jason Miller.



Below: Country Meadow Village resident Bob Benham honors his cousin Herman Hetzel who died in WWII as program director David Bricka looks on. Benham was one of many participants in the Sedro-Woolley community's Memorial Day service on May 25, which included a procession to the Memory Garden and Fountain to place flags in honor of loved ones. *Photo by Brandi Rigby.*



May in pictures



Above: Town of Concrete welcomed First Gentleman Mike Gregoire for a visit to its Veterans Memorial marker at Veterans Memorial Park on May 9. Standing with the stone are, from left, Concrete Public Works Director Alan Wilkins, Gregoire, Concrete Mayor Judd Wilson, Washington State Dept. of Veterans Affairs Director John Lee, Concrete citizen Paul Rider, and Concrete Town Councilman Mike Bartel. The memorial and the park's renaming were former town councilman Rider's ideas; he is a staff sergeant and photojournalist with the Air National Guard's 194th mission support wing at Camp Murray. *Photo by Nathaniel Martin.*

Below: Bill Pfeifer sprays down the Concrete Heraldmobile during a car wash fundraiser at the New 2 You clothing consignment store lot for the Concrete Theatre May 20. Standing with Pfeifer are New 2 You owner Claudia Marken (left) and employee Samantha Hooper.



Left: From left, Jim Hillman, Adolph Nieshe, John Boggs, and Bill Sullivan (not pictured) broke out the power-washing equipment May 20 to scrub the facades of about half the buildings on the south side of Concrete Town Center. The effort was the first step in the Main Street Painting Project, which aims to repaint as many buildings as possible in the town's small business district.

Local artist Robert McWilliams is developing a suggested color palette that will be shown to each property owner before any work begins. Property owners have the right to refuse any suggested paint scheme.

Work is moving forward to repaint the Concrete Food Bank, The Washington Cafe and Bakery, the Baker River Trading Post, and the American Legion. The men also are talking with the Rohans to discuss a fresh coat of paint on Cascade Supply, which likely will retain its present design.



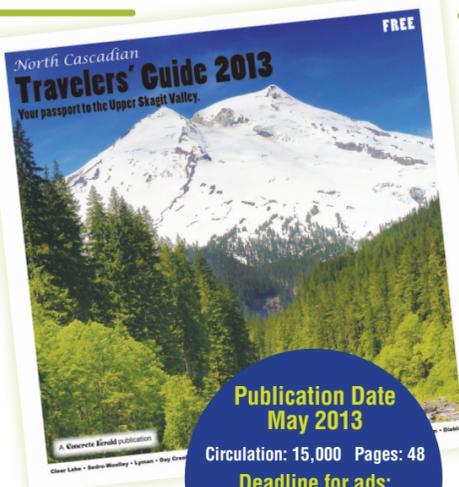
Above: Judges Brewmaster Bill Voigt (left) and Dave Steele taste beer samples during Birdsview Brewing Company's 4th Annual Homebrew Contest May 5. Voigt and Steele were joined by a third judge, Voigt's daughter, Julie Voigt. The three judges pondered entries from three contestants and chose as the winner "Centennial IPA," an India pale ale brewed by Joe Daves of Darrington. *Photo by Ed Giecek.*



Above: John Farmer (left) and Freddy James cranked out the tunes during Darrington Day in Darrington on May 26. *Photo by Marla Skaglund.*

The Travel Guide is back!

Reach visitors to the Upper Skagit Valley by advertising in the 2013 North Cascadian Travelers' Guide.



Publication Date
May 2013

Circulation: 15,000 Pages: 48

Deadline for ads:
Dec. 31, 2012

Deadline for payment:
Jan. 31, 2013

The Travelers' Guide will showcase the history, plus current activities and events for visitors to:

Clear Lake, Sedro-Woolley, Lyman, Day Creek, Hamilton, Birdsview, Grasmere, Concrete, Rockport, Darrington, Marblemount, Newhalem, and Diablo.

A Concrete Herald Publication

For more information or to request an advertising rate card, send an e-mail to editor@concrete-herald.com

Call 360.853.8213

Mark your calendars... Upcoming reunions

Rockport/Marblemount Old Timers/School reunion will be held Sun., Aug. 19 at the Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport. We'll eat around noon. Bring your favorite potluck dishes. For more information, call Penny LaFleur Mitchell at 360.856.6465.

Concrete High School classes of the 1950s will be held Sat., Aug. 18 at the Skagit View Village in Concrete. Eating will start around 1:30 p.m.; bring your favorite potluck dish or dishes. For more information, call Bonnie Drake at 360.853.8233 or Penny LaFleur Mitchell at 360.856.6465.

—Penny LaFleur Mitchell



Hamilton



Council summary

The Hamilton Town Council held a regular meeting April 10. Following is a summary of that meeting.

- John Ravnik from Ravnik & Associates presented council with a schedule for the Railroad Avenue Waterline project. The bids would be opened on Wed., May 2 at 10 a.m., and the project would be awarded at the council's regular meeting on May 8. Projected start of construction would be June 13, with completion near July 4. The construction cost estimate is \$116,174 including sales tax. Council unanimously accepted and chose to proceed with the plan presented by Ravnik & Associates. Council discussed the relocation of fences and removal of trees to proceed with the Railroad Waterline Project. Tom Selin was to remove the fences before the pre-bid meeting.

- The schedule for the completion of construction would give plenty of time for laying the asphalt on Railroad Avenue. Mayor Bates will contact Janicki Industries at a later date to discuss the asphalt.
- Mayor Bates asked Ravnik about the Town of Hamilton Water Plan. Ravnik reported he was working with Cas Hancock. Mayor Bates asked if the cost was still approximately \$60,000; Ravnik stated he was not sure at this time.
- Selin presented two proposals from All Fields Electric, LLC for lighting in the Fire Hall and the shop for the council's information. Both include the rebate from the power company. The savings of the cost of replacement tubes and electric charges would cover the new lighting system in less than a year.
- Water Department: Hancock reported the town's water loss has improved and should be even lower in April. Selin has repaired another large leak.
- Street Department: Selin was working on patching large holes on Pettit Street.
- Council discussed the progress of the demolition of Unimin. It was agreed that the project was almost completed and looked good.
- Councilmember Bonner noted that the town has lost four businesses: Hi. Lo, RV Park, Willie's Hi Lead, Mandy's Hair, and Unimin.
- Selin reported he did the inspections of the recreational vehicles to make sure they comply with the town's zoning, regulations, and ordinances.
- Councilmember Cromley suggested the town should look into an additional Community Notice Board across SR 20 for the residences on Shiloh Lane. All notices currently are posted on the bulletin board outside the Post Office on Maple Street.
- Councilmember Bonner made a motion to accept Resolution 01-12 adding Margaret Fleek, town planner, as a signer on the Town of Hamilton's Warrant Account. Motion passed with Councilmember Moore opposed.
- The clerk presented the council with the 2012 budget position for Q1.

Zach Michaud and the boys wrapping up 14-state tour

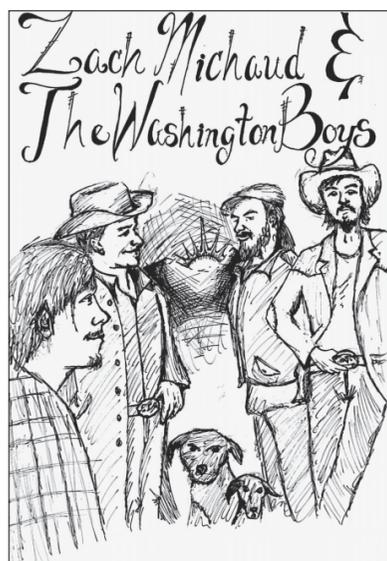
What was supposed to be a two-week venture in Oregon has turned into six months and an incredible journey for a not-your-average-Skagit County band led by a not-your-average Skagit County frontman.

Zach Michaud & The Washington Boys (Matty Con Chatty, Darreck Brown) are finishing up a 14-state, cross-country tour that started last December.

From Washington to Florida and from Tennessee to New York, they have been bringing their signature brand of folk to the U.S. and sending a simple message: "Folk You If You Don't Like the Blues."

Among the many highlights of their trip was a showcase act at the 2012 SXSW Music Festival in Austin, Texas, the largest unsigned act of its kind in the world. With a recording project at Legendary Studios in Port St. Lucie, Fla., and a couple radio plugs — iLibertarian radio (Fla.) and 89.5 WDVX FM (Knoxville, Tenn.) — media attention is growing.

The tour will end in Clarksville, Tenn., at the Bent Wrench Roadhouse on June



8. After the tour, Michaud told *Concrete Herald* he plans to relax and visit family in upstate New York, finish up the new record, and be back on the road by November.

To keep up with the status of Zach Michaud & The Washington Boys, go to www.reverbnation.com/isawzach.

—J. K. M.

Birdsview buzz

Welcome to summer!

June birthdays

- 3 Brian (Cupcake) Krupke
- 6 Andy Stout
- 8 Rachel Lynn Money
- 9 Keith Dexter
- 10 Lou Hillman
- 11 Dane Young
- 12 Sean Larsen
- 17 Suzy Ray
- 19 Rebecca Morse
- 20 Gibson Fichter
- 21 Julian Voigt (favorite 11-year-old grandson)
- Chara Leopard
- 22 Leanne Steinbach
- 24 Sara Voigt (favorite weekend

Birdsview bartender)
25 Patricia Born
27 Spencer Duffy

Our music room at the brewery is pretty much done and has been a big hit for our jams and for the bands that have played. Thanks to Ed Giecek for all the great stencils he's done on the walls. Can't wait to hear all the music that will be played in there. (If anyone is interested in possibly playing, please give me a call.)

Looking ahead, the brewery will be closed Father's Day weekend so the family can take a family vacation to Ocean Shores. Even Nicki and Matt will be coming from New York to join us.

Got news to share? Stop by and let me know.

—Kris Voigt

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Opening for business ChunkAbooks & More

By Jason Miller

Sedro-Woolley native Jannaya Finch has come home. Finch, who used to own D & J's Used Books in Burlington, will open the doors to her new bookstore in Sedro-Woolley on June 15.

ChunkAbooks & More will sell used books, to be sure, but Finch says the store

At a glance:
ChunkAbooks & More

Where: 133 B State St., Sedro-Woolley
Hours: Mon. - Sat., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Phone: 360.630.4139
E-mail: jannayafinch21@gmail.com

name means exactly that. In addition to books, she'll sell tie-dyed items, jewelry, and espresso. The bookstore will have a "relaxed vibe," with places to sit and music in the background.

Finch's book inventory will include fiction and nonfiction titles, but she'll carry antique books too, some dating to the 1800s. "I'll have it all," she says.

Sedro-Woolley's business-friendly regulations drew her to town, says Finch. "It was a better place to be."

Look for ChunkAbooks & More at 133 B State St., next to the laundromat. You'll find homemade bookshelves inside, plus book-barter deals like "Bring 3, Get 1."

The store will be open Mon. through Sat., from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On June 15, bookseller Jannaya Finch will open the doors to ChunkAbooks & More at 133 B State St. in Sedro-Woolley.



Left: On May 3, Concrete Chamber of Commerce Board members and guests toured Lower Baker Visitors Center, Lower Baker Adult Fish Trap, Lower Baker Lookout, Upper Baker Dam, and Upper Baker Fish Hatchery and Spawning beds, and had lunch at the Baker Lodge, all courtesy of Puget Sound Energy. *Photo by Cory Ertef.*

Bottom left: Runners pour down the Cascade Trail in Concrete at the start of the Run for Your Mum 5K Fun Run & Walk on May 12. Sponsored by Pregnancy Choices, the event pulled in more than \$22,000. *Photo by Nathaniel Martin.*

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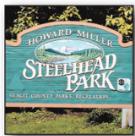
Our Garden needs YOU!

The Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete needs donations in any amount to help pay for its garden shed.

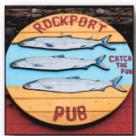
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Call 360.853.8213 or e-mail goodwords@frontier.com to find out how to donate.

*Consult your tax advisor for tax-deductible information.



Rockport



A day on the river for wounded warriors June 9 chili feed to benefit visiting veterans.

By Jason Miller

Four combat-wounded U.S. military veterans will arrive in Rockport this month as part of a program that seeks to reconnect veterans with their peers and American society.

Founded in 2007, Wounded Warriors in Action (WWIA) connects Purple Heart recipients with American sportsmen to provide world-class sporting events. To date, the organization has served more than 100 Purple Heart recipients.

On this end is John Koenig of Rockport-based John's Guide Service, who will take the group on Skagit River fishing trips during their stay. Three veterans from Wyoming, California, and Washington, plus WWIA CEO and war veteran John McDaniel, will get a chance to relax and take in the beauty of the Upper Skagit Valley.

Koenig is enthusiastic about the veterans' arrival. A former Navy man himself, he understands the challenges of serving one's country, then coming home to a society that sometimes can be ignorant and disapproving of those who have fought in support of its freedoms.

"We'll bring the community together to thank these guys, let them know we love them," said Koenig. "There are thousands of military members coming home from the war right now, and nobody knows about them. This is a way to help them reconnect with society, with their peers."

Benefit Chili Feed

The veterans will be in town from June 8–10. On Sat., June 9, a special Benefit Chili Feed is planned to support WWIA. The Chili Feed will be held at Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport, from

2 to 6 p.m. Five bucks will get visitors a bowl of chili, cornbread, and a drink. Other fundraising efforts at the Chili Feed include raffles for rod-and-reel combos, fishing tackle, and other items. An auction also will be held for a trip for two with local guide Cal Stocking.

On June 10 at 4 p.m., Concrete American Legion will host a salmon barbecue at its headquarters in Concrete Town Center, with fish donated by the Upper Skagit Tribe.

What made it click

Koenig said he hadn't heard of WWIA until he went hunting last fall near Mt. St. Helens and met a man who was leading a group of WWIA veterans on a hunt. "The fact that they were all Purple Heart recipients is what made it click for me," said Koenig. He investigated the organization after returning home and decided to get involved.

For more information on the Chili Feed, contact Koenig at 360.853.9801 or johnsguidesvc@hotmail.com.

KSVU 90.1 FM reports fundraising success

April and May found KSVU 90.1 FM hosting numerous fundraising events, all of which were wonderful, great fun, and very successful.

From April 16–21, the community radio station held its first on-air membership drive and added more than 40 new members. It earned \$1,050, which will pay for a month's operation.

On Sat., April 28, the Marblemount Community Hall found more KSVU supporters eating great food and dancing to great music at a benefit dinner and dance. With the Community Hall managers generously donating the rental fee, the station pulled in \$634 that night.

On May 20, Concrete Theatre sponsored another performance of "A River Home Companion" as a fundraiser, netting \$437. Finally, the Concrete Saturday Market has committed to donating proceeds of the June 2 Bake Sale to KSVU.

For more information on how you can support KSVU 90.1 FM, stop by Portable B near Concrete Elementary any Wednesday from 1–4 p.m. or leave a message at 360.853.8588.

—Christie Fairchild

PIONEERING TODAY Heirloom gardening

By Melissa K. Norris

I recently heard a statistic that the average person spends \$70 putting in a vegetable garden and the money saved is \$600. I think those of us who practice pioneering today can do better than that. The secret to that is using heirloom plants so you can save your own seed year to year.

Heirloom seeds are seeds left as God made them, untouched by the hand of science. This means you can save the seed from the plant and it will grow the same plant the following year. That's money in your pocket and independence from the stores.

When going through seed catalogs or packets at the store, you may run across the term open-pollination. Open-pollinated, also known as heirloom or standard, are plant varieties that have stable traits from one generation to the next. Plants that open-pollinate will be pollinated from other plants within a mile radius via the wind and insects.

If you don't want your plant to pollinate with the neighbors, you might have a problem. But you can always cull the plants that start to drift from the "original" or you might end up liking the cross better. And you will still be able to save the seed, as hybrids don't cross-pollinate and are sterile. Beans, lettuce, peas, and tomatoes are self-pollinating, so you don't have to worry about these.

I've always used heirloom Tarheel green beans, but this year, I went all heirloom. I spent \$37 on organic heirloom seeds and bought heirloom organic tomato plants for \$1.25 apiece (I bought four), but the seed cost is a onetime outlay, since I'll save some to replant for next year's garden.

I'll be sharing tips for seed-saving later this year. You can check out more "Pioneering Today" articles at www.melissaknorris.com; I post a new one every Wednesday.

Melissa K. Norris is a Christian fiction novelist who lives in Rockport. For more "Pioneering Today" articles, go to www.melissaknorris.com.



Darrington



Marketing survey kept it simple

From March 1 to April 1, Darrington Area Business Association conducted the Darrington Area Marketing Survey, a half-page marketing survey that asked two questions: "What products, services or businesses would you like to see in the Darrington Area?" and "How often would you use these products, etc.?"

Surveys were available at area businesses and gathering points. While the survey did not receive votes from the Darrington population as a whole, it did offer an insight into what could be. The survey was intended to begin a dialogue between residents and hopefully spark the budding entrepreneur in everyone.

A total of 115 individuals participated in the survey. A sample of the results follows.

- Twenty-eight retail requests, including six requests for a fabric store, four for a thrift store, and three for a variety store.
- A variety of requests including dog grooming can be seen as an opportunity for entrepreneurs. Other requests included knife sharpening, snow removal, and a car wash booth.
- A place to have a meal has been a challenge for the community. A total of 49 requests were made, including 13 for a family restaurant, nine for a brew pub, six for a coffee shop with baked goods, six for a fast food chain, and three each for Chinese and Mexican cuisine.
- Nine votes for a theater and four votes for a bowling alley. Other votes included seasonal mini golf and race car track.
- Six votes for a gym and three for a swimming pool.
- A walking club was also a request, with tours, a park along the Sauk River, and outdoor recreational equipment rental all getting one vote each.
- Accommodations requested included an RV park and a bed and breakfast. The complete survey can be found at www.darringtonareabusinesassociation.com/economicdevelopment/marketing-survey.

—Marla Skaglund

June calendar

Play Days at the Rodeo Grounds, located at 42109 SR 530 NE in Arlington, run through September. Plays start at 10 a.m. and finish when everyone is done with the games. Remaining dates:

June 8–9
July 14–15
Aug. 4–5
Sept. 8–9

Timberbowl Rodeo comes to town June 23–24 at the rodeo grounds, 42109 SR 530 NE, near Arlington (see article, this page).

July events

Mansford Grange Fourth of July Fair begins at noon with a parade downtown that ends at Old School Park for an old-fashioned fair till 3 p.m.

Darrington Rock and Gem Show is slated for July 21–22, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Mansford Grange, 1265 Railroad Ave., Darrington.

August events

Cascade Senior's Spaghetti Dinner, 1115 Darrington St., Darrington, 5 to 7:30 p.m.
—Marla Skaglund

Darrington Day recap

The skies were blue and the sun warm as Darrington celebrated its second annual "Darrington Day," a kickoff to summer fun in the north Cascades town, on Sat., May 26.

Music reigned at Old School Park, lasting from noon till dusk, with local talent and performers from as far away as Bellingham entertaining a large crowd.

Visitors picked up maps at the local IGA to learn more about Darrington on the History and Trivia Tour, which took them to various locations around town.

Crowds gathered at Mountain Loop Books and Coffee to get their copies of Brenda Ballard's book, *The Boy from Granite Falls*, and Aaron Young's *Waterfall World* signed by the authors.

Vendors at the Open Air Market greeted visitors with a variety of handcrafted goods and informational material.

Plans already are in the works for a bigger and better event next year.

—Marla Skaglund

Darrington Timberbowl Rodeo arrives June 23–24

The dust will fly again as the 51st annual Darrington Timberbowl Rodeo gallops into town June 23–24. The fun begins at 2 p.m. both days. Produced by the Darrington Horse Owners Association (DHOA), the event again will be held at the rodeo grounds, located at 42109 SR 530 NE near Darrington.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children, seniors, and military members.

Rodeo Director Nick Bates said the program will stick with the changes made for last year's rodeo; specifically, they'll hold off on roping events in favor of Western Ranch Saddle Bronc riding, bull riding, barrel racing, sheep riding for the kids, businessman cow milking, and kids' games. The line-up should prove to be as popular as it was last year.

The DHOA was the first to bring Western Ranch Saddle Bronc riding to Washington state, said Bates, who also is the DHOA president. "It started in California and spread up here," he said.

Western Ranch Saddle Bronc riding differs from saddle bronc riding in that it uses a special saddle with no horn and the stirrups set differently. "Essentially, you have to have a saddle like they used 100 years ago, what ranches used to break a horse—the kind of saddle you'd use every day," said Bates.

This year's rodeo is ready to go, with a full line-up of bronc riders, bull riders, barrel racing, and other contests. The kids' games, such as sheep riding and stick pony races, are always a crowd favorite. A

saddle raffle, with proceeds going to rodeo royalty, should keep things interesting.

Bates said his approach to businessman cow milking is more humane in that instead of tying a rope around the cow's neck, they'll use a halter, which will prevent choking the animals.

The Timberbowl Rodeo is unique in that all entry fees go into the "pot"—and back to the winning contestants. DHOA puts up another \$5,000 on top of the rodeo proceeds to sweeten the pot.

"We pay out six places, we don't keep entry fees; they go back to the riders," said Bates.

This year, those riders are coming from as far away as Wyoming, Oregon, Utah, and California. One winning cowboy who dominated an Amarillo, Texas, rodeo last year should show up too.

Look for the Rodeo Cowgirls from Whatcom County, an all-mounted drill team that will perform a high-speed drill on horses. The Cherry Valley Riders from Duvall will handle the flag presentation at the beginning of the rodeo.

A rodeo breakfast is planned for Sat. and Sun., from 7 to 10:30 a.m., on rodeo grounds. Concessions and a beer garden also will be available.

Finally, keep an eye peeled for rodeo clowns Scott Wagner and Robert Bond, who will donate their services for a great cause. "The money we'd pay them goes to the Fraternal Order of Police Officers," said Bates.

—J. K. M.

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Sedro-Woolley

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Marblemount



Marblemount Diner reopens with new owners

Jim and Charlene Mullen have traded the hustle and bustle of Everett for the relative calm of Marblemount—at least during the winter.

The Mullens will head into the busy tourist season as the new owners of Marblemount Diner, taking over the aprons of Alan and Lori Goerd, who sold the property to the Mullens last year.

Marblemount Diner opened under its new management in May. Locals will be glad to hear the Mullens don't plan drastic changes to the diner or its menu.

"Maybe some décor changes, maybe open up the parking area a bit. But the house is really something to take care of, not go in and change. Half the reason for being there is to join the community and help make a difference," Jim Mullen said in a February interview.

The Mullens own a cabin between Rockport and Marblemount, and were regular customers at the diner prior to deciding to buy it. After spending "the better part of 33 years" in the aerospace industry—the couple recently sold their controlling interest in Tyee Aircraft—they were looking for a change of pace. Now that their daughter has graduated from high school, the Upper Valley community should see a lot more of the Mullens.

"The locals have come to expect a certain menu and a certain quality, so our goal is to keep things mostly the same," said Mullen.



Jim and Charlene Mullen are the new owners of Marblemount Diner in Marblemount. *Submitted photo.*

Open for business Marblemount Diner

Mon., Thur., Fri., 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sat., Sun., 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Breakfast Buffet on Sat. and Sun.,
8 a.m. to noon

60147 SR 20, Marblemount
360.873.4503
Find the diner on Facebook



Pass-opening matriarch Tootsie Clark of Marblemount poses with National Park Service Ranger Katie Crowley and one of Tootsie's famous cinnamon rolls before the May 10 opening of the North Cascades Highway. *Photo by Scott Kronk/NPS.*

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest opens campgrounds

EVERETT—The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest opened most of its campgrounds before Memorial Day weekend.

Find a forest campsite and check availability with the campground concessionaire, Hoodoo (www.hoodoo.com), or contact Rob Ralph for more information at 360.691.1841 or rob@hoodoo.com.

Reserve a campground on the National Recreation Reservation System (www.recreation.gov). Check current trail and road conditions (www.fs.fed.us) before visiting the forest. Local ranger districts and public service centers can provide more information on camping, hiking, and access:

- Mt. Baker Ranger District, 360.856.5700
- Glacier Public Service Center, 360.599.2714
- Darrington Ranger District, 360.436.1155
- Verlot Public Service Center, 360.691.7791

Volunteers needed: Mountain Stewards protect Mt. Baker ecosystems

EVERETT—Volunteers are needed on the Mt. Baker area trails. Mountain Steward volunteers train in low-impact recreational skills, natural history, and back country management. Volunteers work on the lower segments of the trails interacting with day hikers, backpackers, and climbers for three daytime shifts during the summer.

Volunteers must be 18 years or older with hiking and outdoor recreation skills. Volunteers attend training July 14 and 21, and commit to work three weekend days between July 15 and Sept. 9. A third optional training is available Aug. 4 for those who will volunteer at Heather Meadows.

Interested persons must apply by June 29. Find applications online at www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mbs/workingtogether/volunteering/?cid=fsbdev7_001678 and e-mail to brichey@fs.fed.us or mail to Mt. Baker Ranger District, Mountain Stewards, 810 SR 20, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284, or fax to 360.856.1934. For more information, call 360.854.2615 or e-mail.



Newhalem



North Cascades Highway opened May 10

This year it took a full seven weeks to find the North Cascades Highway beneath what, in places, added up to 60 feet of snow. Crews and drivers celebrated at noon on May 10, as both east and west side gates swung open just in time for a sunny spring weekend and Winthrop's annual 49'er Days festival.

Washington State Department of Transportation crews began the clearing process on State Route 20 on March 26, two and a half weeks earlier than La Nina allowed crews to start last year. Despite eight more feet of total snow this winter and an extra day of clearing work, crews met their target opening date.

The noon reopening allowed crews necessary time to "sweep" the entire 37-mile winter closure zone for sand, rocks, and debris between milepost 134—seven miles east of Diablo Dam on the west

side of 4,855-foot-high Rainy Pass—and milepost 171, nine miles west of Mazama below 5,477-foot-high Washington Pass. "Opening the gates at noon gives us the margin we need so the first drivers over the passes make their trip safely," said Don Becker, WSDOT Twisp Maintenance Supervisor.

On opening day, the first drivers on the North Cascades Highway found the road conditions bare and dry or bare and wet across the entire route, with high temperatures in the 60s and a freezing level of 6,500 feet.

The May 10 reopening is the fifth latest since the highway first opened 40 years ago, on Sept. 2, 1972. Last year's May 25 reopening was the second latest on record. The latest reopening was recorded on June 14, 1974. In 2010 crews opened the road on April 16 after only three and a half weeks of clearing work.

The highway typically opens between the last week in March and the first week in May. The earliest opening ever was March 10, 2005. In 1976, it remained open all winter.



Upper Valley icon Tootsie Clark reprised her role again this year on May 10, swinging open the eastern gate on State Route 20 to mark the opening of the pass. WSDOT officials say this year's opening was the fifth latest in 40 years. *Photo by Bill Young.*

Active military offered free entrance to all national parks

To show appreciation for those who serve in the U.S. Military, on May 19—Armed Forces Day—the National Park Service began issuing an annual pass offering free entrance to all 397 national parks for active-duty military members and their dependents.

"We all owe a debt to those who sacrifice so much to protect our country," said North Cascades National Park Complex Acting Superintendent Charles Beall. "We are proud to recognize these brave men and women, and although this national park does not have an entrance fee, we are excited to offer this pass to encourage active-duty military members and their families to unwind, relax, rejuvenate, and just have fun in their national parks."

Active-duty members of the U.S. military and their dependents can pick up their pass at park information and visitor centers in Sedro-Woolley, Marblemount,

Newhalem, and Stehekin. For locations of these facilities and their hours of operation, go to www.nps.gov/noca/planyourvisit/visitorcenters.htm.

This military version of the America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass also permits free entrance to sites managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Forest Service.

For more information about the series of passes available to active-duty military members, go to www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm.



Active U.S. military members can obtain a free annual pass to all 397 national parks.

Car-camping in NCNP

The North Cascades National Park Service Complex contains four car-accessible campgrounds. All are located along State Route 20, the main road through the park. Facilities and prices vary to accommodate a variety of visitors. Camping for most campgrounds opened on May 18, except for the north loop of Colonial Creek Campground, which opened on May 25.

Goodell Creek Campground

Located on the south side of SR 20 at milepost 119, the campground is situated in lush, old-growth forest on the banks of the Skagit River. With a capacity of 19 sites, Goodell Creek is appropriate for tents and small RVs. The fee is \$10 per night, first come, first served.

Newhalem Creek Campground

Located south of SR 20 at milepost 120, this campground is conveniently located between the town of Newhalem and the North Cascades National Park Visitor Center on the banks of the Skagit

River, near many natural and historic destinations. A series of short walks and interpretive trails link the campground to the natural and historic destinations. There are 111 sites, some of which can be reserved either online at www.recreation.gov/ or by phone at 877.444.6777. The fee is \$12 per night.

Gorge Lake Campground

Located just outside the town of Diablo, north of SR 20 at milepost 126, this free campground lies on the bank of Gorge Lake, next to the cascading Stetattle Creek.

Colonial Creek Campground

Located off SR 20 at milepost 130, Colonial Creek Campground lets visitors camp in old-growth forest at the base of the glaciated Colonial Peak on the shore of Diablo Lake. There are 142 sites, and the fee is \$12 per night. The campground includes a fully accessible fishing pier and boat launch on Diablo Lake. There are hiking opportunities for various levels of ability on Thunder Creek, Thunder Woods Nature Walk, and Thunder Knob trails.

—J. K. M.



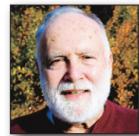
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For more info on ways to help, call 360.941.0403 or e-mail info@concrete-theatre.com.

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Seniors



Coffee Break Summer dreams

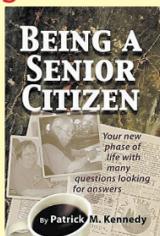
By Patrick Kennedy

Summer is the best time to dream about pleasant things and make those dreams come true. The air is full of electricity and it powers the visions of the joy of life after a lifetime of work. It's just around the corner because summer is near.

It is time to prepare for that happiness. Don't put that notepad and pen away. Start to make a list of the things you've always wanted to do. No, you can't do them all in one summer, but it is fun to imagine some you may do later, and to do others tomorrow. It's just a pretend list that may come to life some day—maybe with the next sunrise.

It is best to start with what summer is. It is that warmer part of the year that extends from the June solstice to the September equinox. It is the opposite of this bummer weather we have been experiencing lately. "Sun things" is at the top of the list. If your summer reflects Mark Twain's "The coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco," then get out as fast as you can.

Being a Senior Citizen



Order your copy of
Patrick M. Kennedy's book

<http://funwithretirement.com/BeingSenior.htm>

Swimming, boating, camping, trips, sports and recreation, or hiking: Dust off that RV or SUV or pickup truck, air out the camping tent, polish the golf clubs, and get a head start on the sun. Or, just as good, oil up the bike and hit the streets and trails.

Mark up those maps and create some dreams. Plan a timeline from here to there, and even a budget. Close your eyes and drive from here to there and experience the fun of it. Make that dream a reality.

Many of us can't do all or any of these activities because of physical or financial limitations, but a warm attitude can be achieved for internal joy. Unfold the lawn chair that has been sitting in storage and put it outside on the deck or in the backyard in the comfy sun. Let your eyes close and imagine the smell of the ocean or mountain air.

If you have a small strip of dirt next to the house, why not plant seeds for a small garden with a few flowers or tomatoes or string beans—something to watch over and tend during the warm months. If you don't have that strip of dirt, then a few clay pots filled with rich soil can work just as well sitting in the sun; water them every day.

It is often noted that in the bigness of it all, the sun is an ordinary star. That's true in the sense that there are many others similar to it. But it is ours for the summer and its energy can create nice flowers and trees, as well as rejuvenated energy in the old bones of humans. "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them," said Walt Disney.

Patrick M. Kennedy is the author of *Being a Senior Citizen*. Find it at www.funwithretirement.com.

Way Back When

80 years ago

June 9, 1932: Funeral services were held in the Presbyterian church Monday afternoon for Magnus Miller, the original owner of most of the land now comprising the town of Concrete. Mr. Miller, who moved to Seattle about 10 years ago, died at his home in that city last Thursday night following a short illness from complications from old age.

Miller was a native of Denmark and was 81 years old at the time of his death. He came to the U.S. as a young man and worked for a few years in the Midwest before coming to Washington in 1883. He came to Skagit County in 1890 and purchased a piece of land near the Baker River, building a house near where the Eagles' office building is now located.

About the time the Washington cement plant was built, Miller platted the town of Baker, which now comprises the business part of Concrete, and later added other plats to the west. He donated the ground for the first school building—now the Concrete Library building—which included the site of the present grade school. He also gave the site for the Presbyterian church and manse. He moved to Seattle in 1921.

Miller was laid to rest in Grasmere Cemetery.

70 years ago

June 4, 1942: Civilian Defense came into its own yesterday with the bombing of Dutch Harbor, Alaska. The war is now in our

own backyard, and all the military experts predict that other parts of the West Coast will be under attack before the summer is over.

With this in mind, the Civilian Defense organizations are buckling down to the task of carrying out their duties as planned.

Locally all defense preparations are pretty well organized as far as the defense workers are concerned. The general public, however, will have to brush up on its air raid rules and precautions.

60 years ago

June 12, 1952: William Edwards, proprietor of Bill and Grace's Tavern in Hamilton, was being questioned this week in connection with the death of Andrew Jack Phillips, 38, of Lyman, who died as the result of a fight between the two men at the tavern Saturday night.

The autopsy on the body of Phillips shows that he suffered two broken ribs and died from brain hemorrhages from blows on both sides of the back of his skull.

According to witnesses, the men became involved in an argument and Phillips wanted to fight. They went outside, and it was about a minute before witnesses noticed what was happening. The men were seen struggling and Phillips suddenly slumped to the ground.

50 years ago

June 28, 1962: Blue sky and a hot sun brought hundreds of upper valley residents flocking to the Plaza of the States at the [Puyallup] Fair Saturday to be present for the honoring of the State of North Carolina. For the home folks, it also meant honoring the Concrete High School Band, selected by the Tarheel State to

See **Way Back**, p. 29

Concrete Center June 2012 Activities

Lunch served
Mon. – Fri., noon

Mondays

9:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
9:30 a.m. Beginning quilting
9:30 a.m. Men's group
11:30 a.m. Couponing
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo

Tuesdays

9:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
10 a.m. Dominoes
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo

Wednesdays

9:30 a.m. Advanced quilting
9:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo

Thursdays

9:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Wii Sports play
10 a.m. Open studio
watercolors
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo

Fridays

9:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
10 a.m. Movie (viewers' choice)
12:30 p.m. Dominoes

Special Events

6/7 9:30 a.m. Foot care
6/8 11 a.m. Food handlers' test
(for nutrition volunteers)
6/13 11 a.m. Advisory Board meeting
6/13 11 a.m. Blood pressure checks
6/13 12:30 p.m. Bingo
6/18 12:30 p.m. Farmers Market vouchers
6/26 12:15 p.m. Leap of Faith
6/27 12:30 p.m. Bingo

Closures

6/15 Furlough Day

Continue the cycle
Please recycle
this newspaper

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

represent it musically.

The band, directed by Durward Sobek and guest director Capt. James C. Harper from Lenoir, N.C., did themselves and the home folks proud by providing an outstanding exhibition playing a half-hour concert.

Fair officials reported that the program drew the largest crowd of any state day so far.

40 years ago

June 15, 1972: Concrete school directors tentatively plan to open the high school pool next week for the summer swimming season, according to action at the monthly board of directors meeting this Tuesday evening.

Mike Longbottom, a Skagit Valley College student, was hired as certified swimming instructor; Allison Riehl of Concrete as assistant. Season ticket prices of \$20 for a family or \$10 per person were approved. Arrangements have been made for providing bus transportation on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Marblemount- and Rockport-area youngsters.

Concrete Center offers medical equipment

Concrete Center in Concrete has medical equipment that may be used by anyone in need, regardless of age. Equipment available includes walkers, wheelchairs, and more. Delivery will be provided according to need.

For more information and a list of available equipment, call 360.853.8400.

Medicare seminar June 6

Basic information on Medicare Insurance will be provided June 6, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the East County Resource Center in Concrete.

The free seminar is designed for those turning 65 or anyone needing more information on Medicare Insurance. No selling or specific plan information will take place. Refreshments and handouts will be provided. For reservations, call 866.733.5111. The evening's speaker will be Marsha Neal, a Medicare Insurance Specialist from VibrantUSA.

An occasional comment

By Jeanne Malbrain

Ever notice pricing on items like two for \$8? Does that mean one for \$4? What if you don't need two? Of course, if you do, then I guess the price is right.

If balloons are used to slow down aircraft once they have touched the ground, why can't they be used to slow their decent from the sky when they lose power and are about to crash?

The other day I received a lovely bouquet of flowers via UPS delivery with no mention as to who sent them to me. I have no "significant other." Maybe from my children? I don't know. Something was left out, a detail it would seem, like the name of the sender, and I would surely like to thank him or her. The beautiful yellow and blue tulips grace my dining room table and bring a smile to my face. So thank you a bunch whoever you are.

My daughter is a Metro bus driver. Before she leaves her shift, she goes back through her bus to see if there are things left behind by the passengers. One day there was some money in bills and change left on a seat, so she put them in the "turn in" pouch and turned the pouch into their lost and found. She related this to two other drivers and their comment was, "I would have kept the money."

Her response: "Why should I? It was not my money."

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Sunday School lesson

A day in life

By Bill Mueller

William Jackson Smart was a Civil War veteran, but the biggest challenge of his life, one that would impact him even more than the war, was raising his six kids as a single parent. He moved his brood to Spokane, Wash., and took on the task of caring for them.

His daughter, Sonora, was so affected by her Dad's efforts that as an adult she invented the very first Father's Day celebration. She had wanted it to be on June 5, her dad's birthday, but red tape pushed the event back to June 19, 1910. So it was on that day in Spokane that the first Father's Day was observed. It wasn't till 1972 that Father's Day became a national holiday. This holiday is all because of one daughter appreciating the love and care of her own father.

One wonders if today such a movement to honor fathers could even get off the ground? The state of fatherhood has taken some big hits these days in our country, so much so that the term "Deadbeat Dads" has been coined. This phrase refers to dads who have abandoned their kids and provide no support for them.

The percentage of children who grow up without their fathers present in their lives is shocking. Seems as though the joy of

being a father has fallen by the wayside. Becoming a father is easy, but being one is a lifelong challenge that becomes the best of adventures. Somewhere that sentiment has been lost.

Tucked into the New Testament is a passage that underscores the task of being a dad. Paul is describing his method of ministry and uses the example of a father to communicate how he goes about ministering to people. In I Thessalonians 2:11-12, Paul cites three characteristics of being a dad.

"Encouraging" is a word of motivation. In Paul's times it was used as a term to motivate soldiers in battle. For us it would describe people lining the road to encourage runners in a race. Dads, then, are seen as encouraging their children in the events of life where they need it.

"Comfort" is a term of reassurance, the idea of friendly conversation or the willingness to give a hug and just listen.

"Urging" stresses a sense of imploring, an urgency to respond to some issue or challenge facing the child. This is a "you need to get this done" word to be used when a young son or daughter needs to be challenged to complete some task or take one on.

To summarize, the father's true role is spelled out as one of acceptance and empowerment. Men, it seems, don't understand how significant they are in their children's lives.

See **Sunday School**, p. 38



Beka Thomas poses with Rocío, 9, and Jesús, 5, siblings with whom she spent time during a mission trip to Dominican Republic in April. *Submitted photo.*

A different kind of Spring Break

By Beka Thomas

This past spring break I spent six days in Barahona, Dominican Republic (DR) with 60 other college students serving impoverished Haitian refugees, partnering with the nonprofit organization, Children of the Nations (COTN). We spent the majority of our time laying concrete floors in houses, playing with the children, and building relationships with

the Dominicans and each other. Every day was an adventure, even though they consisted of the same basic schedule: Watch the gorgeous sunrise, eat delicious breakfast, enjoy devotions and worship, bus to the bateyes (villages), play with kids and lay concrete floors, eat delicious lunch at "the Casa" (COTN mission house), play softball in one of the bateyes/play baseball in Barahona, bus to our hotel, swim in the Caribbean Ocean, eat delicious dinner, create friendships, hang out, and gaze at the incredible stars. Not to mention enjoy the beauty of the DR, spend time with amazing people, be filled with God's love, and see His hope in a desolate world.

As much as I wish I could share every experience I had, I will share only a few that greatly touched my heart. I spent two days hanging out with 5-year-old Jesús and his 9-year-old sister, Rocío, and had the time of my life! I was so richly blessed, to say the least. Jesús was the cutest little boy I had ever seen, and if I could have I would have brought him home in my backpack! He had the biggest, cheesiest grin and did not want to stop taking pictures. While I was getting off the bus in Los Robles after returning from lunch that first day, I could hear and see Jesús yelling my name, and my heart just melted. Needless to say, my first Dominican love was with a 5-year-old boy who couldn't get enough of taking pictures and holding my hand. The

See **Spring Break**, p. 39

Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

April 21

A deputy recognized a male as he walked out of a local store. A warrants check revealed an active warrant for the man's arrest. He was taken into custody and given a new court date.

While on patrol in Concrete, a deputy noticed a male smoking a cigarette within 25 feet of the entrance to a building in Concrete Town Center. The male subject disagreed with the deputy and became belligerent toward the deputy causing a scene and drawing a crowd from a local establishment. The crowd told the male that the deputy was just doing his job. He was cited and released.

A caller reported the possible theft of a maple tree on Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. Upon a deputy's arrival, the suspects told him that they were simply clearing the road as the tree had fallen. The deputy found that the tree had actually been cut down by a chainsaw but could not prove it was from the suspects on scene. The cutting most likely occurred the day before. A follow-up investigation is ongoing.

April 25

A resident in the 7000 block of Hwy 9 near Sedro-Woolley reported a burglary to his residence. He said his wife had left the house and was only gone for 40 minutes prior to returning. Numerous electronic items were stolen. Entry was gained through a garage door. Deputies have no suspects, but have a tire tread from the suspect vehicle.

Deputies responded to an accident on Hoehn Rd. near Sedro-Woolley. The driver had been in a domestic dispute earlier in the evening and had run his car into a ditch. Upon investigation it was determined that he was intoxicated and was also suicidal. He was arrested for DUI and taken for observation to the hospital to speak with a mental health professional.

A female caller near Concrete reported that her 81-year-old husband was having difficulty breathing and needed to go to the hospital. She could not take him as they live across Finney Creek and it was very high at the time and not passable. Medical crews responded to the area, along with a deputy. It was determined that Skagit County Search and Rescue would be used to get to the patient. A swift-water team was mobilized and the male was eventually airlifted by a Navy helicopter to the hospital.

April 26

A homeowner in the 26000 block of Burmaster Rd. in Sedro-Woolley reported

a burglary to his residence. Musical instruments, televisions, and other electronics were stolen. Deputies are investigating, but have no suspects.

April 27

A burglary was reported from a residence in the 8000 block of Fruitdale Rd. in Sedro-Woolley. A humidifier was stolen. Deputies have a possible suspect.

A female caller reported missing a large sum of money from her Lyman residence. She had it stored in a bedroom and could not find it. She suspected her roommate; however, deputies spoke to him and the boyfriend of the victim, and it is currently unknown who took the money. Investigation is continuing.

April 28

A Day Creek homeowner in the 31000 block of Morgan Hill Lane reported a large amount of items taken from his storage container. Deputies investigated and found no suspects. The homeowner believes this occurred sometime within the week. Deputies are following up on some leads.

An owner of a vacation residence in the 47000 block of SR 20 near Concrete reported a burglary. Many lawn and garden items were taken, as well as items from inside the residence. This burglary most likely occurred during the winter. Tire tracks were observed in the yard and measurements were taken. No suspects at this time.

April 29

A business in the 400 block of Maple St. in Hamilton was entered. Deputies responded to an alarm and found a broken window and evidence someone had entered. No suspects at this time.

April 30

A female Sedro-Woolley caller reported being assaulted by her aunt. The fight was over accusations made by the victim that the aunt didn't approve of. The victim had marks on her that indicated an assault. The suspect was contacted and admitted to fighting. She was arrested and booked into jail.

A female Clear Lake caller reported being assaulted by her boyfriend's ex-girlfriend in the Mud Lake area. The victim said she was attacked by the female, who hit her with the baseball bat and also damaged a truck in the driveway. She was not seriously injured. Deputies attempted contact with the suspect, but she was not located.

May 10

Homeowners returned to their home in the 43000 block of Dalles Rd. near Concrete and discovered their home had been burglarized. Doors were kicked in and several items were taken. Deputies located some evidence and have leads they are following up on. No suspects have been

Sergeant's corner

By Skagit County Sheriff's Sergeant Chad Clark



Safety for our kids is a priority for all parents. Now that school is coming to a close by June 14, your kids will be out and about much more during the busy daylight hours. Parents, please have a plan for your kids and who will be supervising them. Going to work or running errands on a daily basis is important, but the welfare and safety of your children is also very important.

Highway traffic concerns

Now that the pass is open, there is much more than just local traffic. Not all vehicles will stop for pedestrians who are in our two crosswalks in Concrete across SR 20. Please take caution while using the crosswalks, because there will no longer be flashing lights and a crossing guard as there is when school is starting and ending.

Child supervision

We encourage our children and adults

arrested at this time.

May 11

Deputies responded to a vehicle prowling that had occurred within the preceding 30 minutes at a pullout on Burpee Hill above Concrete. The car owners were hiking in the area and heard their window being smashed out. A backpack sitting near the front seat was stolen. It contained personal information of the victim. It appeared a hammer was used to break in. The only vehicle description they could give the deputies was a blue pickup that was in the area. No suspects were located.

May 12

Deputies responded to a reported fight in progress in the front yard of a home in the 23000 block of Mud Lake Rd. near Clear Lake. A highly intoxicated male had attacked another resident at the house during a party; the victim's wife attempted to help her husband, but was punched by the suspect. The suspect was booked into jail for two counts of assault.

May 14

A male caller reported seeing a small fire near a neighbor's house in the area of Airie Lane in Sedro-Woolley at 2:46 a.m. Deputies responded and located an area of a house that was slightly burned. Evidence of the fire was located. It was determined that the caller had actually started the fire and

See **Sheriff's Blotter**, p. 33

to enjoy the outdoors during the summer season, but please use caution when venturing outdoors. If your child is going for a hike with a friend up on a local trail, they need to be prepared in case they get lost or injured. They will need a cellular phone with an extra battery, extra clothes in a backpack, food and water that will last them long enough in case they have to spend the night in the woods. The most important thing is to have an emergency plan prior to the hike.

Search and rescue

The Sheriff's Office is responsible for all search-and-rescue missions that occur in Skagit County. We have a very large volunteer base that is specialized in searching for and locating lost or injured people. If you become lost or injured while hiking, a call to 911 will notify one of our search-and-rescue deputies, who will in turn notify the proper group for the mission. Last year our search-and-rescue group had 77 missions.

Chad Clark is sergeant for the Skagit County Sheriff's East Detachment in Concrete.

Level 2 Sex Offender NOTIFICATION

The Skagit County Sheriff has released the following information pursuant to RCW 4.24.550 and the Washington State Supreme Court decision in State v. Ward, which authorizes law enforcement agencies to inform the public of a sex or kidnap offender's presence.

Cook, Dennis Michael

Age: 33
Race: W Sex: M
Height: 5' 11"
Weight: 175
Hair: Blonde
Eyes: Blue
Address: 77xx Wilderness Dr., Concrete



Cook recently received a new conviction for second-degree child molestation and third-degree assault of a child in Skagit County. His victims were young females between the ages of 2 and 9.

Lynch is not wanted by the police at this time. Citizen abuse of this information to threaten, intimidate, or harass registered sex or kidnap offenders is a punishable offense and also will result in the removal of the online notification resource.

Source: Skagit County Sheriff

Worship directory

<p>Assembly of God Concrete Assembly of God 45734 Main St., Concrete; 853.8042 Sun. worship: 10 a.m. Tue.: Men's meeting, 8:30 a.m. Wed.: Adult Bible study, 6 p.m. Thur.: Women's Bible study, 6:30 p.m. Bruce Martin, pastor</p>	<p>Hamilton First Baptist Church 797 Hamilton Cemetery Rd. at SR 20 Office: 360.826.3307 Sunday School: 9:40 a.m. Sun. worship: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Ron Edwards, pastor</p>	<p>Free Methodist Day Creek Chapel 31438 S. Skagit Hwy, Sedro-Woolley Office 360.826.3696 Rick Miles, pastor Sun. worship: 10 a.m. Tue.: Women's Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Thur.: Bible study at Mt. Vernon Manor, 6:45 p.m. Fri.: Dinner/Bible study at Miles' 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Lutheran Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 46372 Main St., Concrete / 853.8814 Sun. worship: 10 a.m. Marcus Stroud, pastor</p>
<p>North Cascade Community Church 59850 SR 20, Marblemount 360.873.2504 // www.mmag.net Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Sun. worship: 10:30 a.m. Wed.: Teen Connection, 6 p.m. Women's Ministry, 2 p.m. (2nd, 4th, and 5th Wed.) Thur.: Men's Breakfast, 8 a.m. Dave Nichols, pastor E-mail: pastordave@fastmail.fm</p>	<p>Lyman Baptist Church 31441 W. Main St., Lyman Office: 360.826.3287 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Sun. worship: 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Methodist Central United Methodist Church 1013 Polke Rd., Sedro-Woolley 360.856.6412 / centralumcsw@yahoo.com www.gbgm-umc.org/cumc-sedrowolley Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Sun. worship: 11 a.m. Marilyn Kallshian, pastor</p>	<p>Nondenominational Community Bible Church 45672 Limestone, Concrete; 853.8511 E-mail: cbcofconcrete@earthlink.net Sun. School: 9 a.m.; Worship Svc: 10 a.m. Childcare/Children's Ministries at both Contact church for other ministries Rob Thomas, pastor</p>
<p>Baptist First Baptist Church 12732 Hemlock St., Clear Lake 360.856.2767 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Sun. worship: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wed.: 7 p.m. John Batts, pastor E-mail: pastorjohn@firstbaptistclearlake.com</p>	<p>Catholic St. Catherine Mission Church 45603 Limestone St., Concrete Office: 855.0077 Weekday hours: 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sun. Mass: 8:30 a.m. Father Martin Bourke, pastor</p>	<p>Presbyterian Mount Baker Presbyterian Church 45705 Main St., P.O. Box 246, Concrete Church 853.8585; office 595.0446 www.mtbakerpresbyterian.synodnw.org Sun. worship: 9 a.m. Tom Ross, pastor</p>	<p>To add your place of worship to this directory, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail editor@concrete-herald.com.</p>



Health



SmileMobile coming to Concrete June 25–29

The Washington Dental Service Foundation SmileMobile will be in Concrete June 25–29 to care for children ages 18 and under with dental needs.

Infants through high school-age children with limited access to dental care can be scheduled for appointments by calling the East County Resource Center at 360.853.7009 or 360.853.8767. The SmileMobile will be located at the Resource Center, 45770 Main St., in Concrete.

The SmileMobile is staffed by a clinic manager, a dentist, and local volunteer dental professionals. Staff members will provide examinations on Mon., June 25, and Tue., June 26. Follow-up treatment appointments will be scheduled on a space-available basis for the duration of the SmileMobile's stay.

The SmileMobile accepts State of

Washington Services Card (Provider One) and a sliding-fee scale based on family income as reimbursement for service.

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Say "no" to stress

By Mark Underwood

Stress affects people in different ways. It often creeps up when we feel overwhelmed or feel pressured to accomplish something in a short amount of time.

Stress triggers an alarm in the brain, telling our bodies that something is wrong. The "fight or flight" response calls in the nervous system to respond and hormones to be released, jolting the body into action. Muscles become tense, breathing increases, and pulse quickens.

Heightening the senses during a crisis is essential to survival. This is a natural and important biological response. The body is designed for short bursts of activity in response to stress or danger, but the ongoing nature of daily stress often means that the system is left "on."

Recognize that you can learn how to lead a less stressful life. Recognize too, that when you alleviate the stress, it can help you live a longer, healthier life.

Stress signals

Stress reactions vary from person to person, and can involve mental, physical, or behavioral changes. Headaches and fatigue are common signals that the body is overworked.

While you may have a mild headache because of stress, another person's headache may be so uncomfortable they have difficulty concentrating. A stress-related headache also may mean you have tight muscles or have difficulty sleeping.

Some people experience a combination of stress signals, making it difficult to work and turn off stressful thoughts in their brain while they sleep.

Change the choices you make

Did you realize the choices you make can lead to more or less stress? Try to pinpoint what you're anxious about. Are you feeling stressed because you don't have time to finish a project before its deadline? Are you worried that a friend may have misinterpreted something you said? Or, maybe everything you think about seems to have a worry attached?

Now is the time to use your brain power to tackle these types of stressors. Try adjusting your thinking by asking yourself

if your worries are small, medium, or big problems. How upset do you want to get over it, and for how long? Look at the possibilities around you, not the restrictions.

Nutrition and exercise also play a big part in reducing stress. Most people are exposed to sweets, particularly when they visit friends. Eating too many sweets adds to feeling stressed and run down. Instead, try eating simple foods. Reprogram your thinking so that you enjoy the people around you instead of the food.

Learn to say "no" when something becomes too difficult to fit in your schedule or accomplish during a short period. Listen to your inner voice. If something feels stressful and it keeps replaying as stress in your head, give yourself permission to say no. If you do this more often, you'll enjoy a less stressful life.

Plan to be less stressed: tips for success

- Work on having a positive attitude.
- Try not to worry about things out of your control.
- When feeling overwhelmed by a task, ask yourself: Is this something you enjoy or is it something you think you're supposed to do?
- Problem-solve with people around you. Ask them to help you alleviate stress.
- Eat nutritional food. Decrease the amount of fat and sugar you eat. The easiest way to make sure you don't overeat is to have a plan for dealing with stress before you go to family gatherings or parties. Nutritional stress can drain your energy.
- Maintain a regular exercise program. Exercise releases the build-up of glucose in the muscles and relaxes them, and increases endorphins.
- Rest. Try to get eight hours of sleep a night.
- Play board games or card games with friends. You'll enjoy the benefits of improved brain health.

Mark Underwood is a neuroscience researcher and president and co-founder of Quincy Bioscience, a biotech company located in Madison, Wis.; more of his articles and tips for healthy aging can be found at www.TheGoodNewsAboutAging.com.

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

was booked into jail.

May 15

A female Concrete caller reported that her boyfriend was having a reaction to a tea they had ordered through Amazon. He had become naked and was trying to destroy the inside of the house and was hallucinating. The deputies were at the residence within seven minutes of the call and the suspect had already been detained by neighbors. Medical units were dispatched and transported the male to the hospital. No charges were filed.

May 16

A caller in the 23000 block of Bassett Rd. near Sedro-Woolley reported two suspicious males who came to her home thinking it was for sale. They told her they saw it on the Internet and wanted to buy the home. The homeowner told the deputies that the home

is not for sale or on the Internet. The males had left prior to the deputy's arrival.

Deputies were called to United General Hospital for a gunshot wound to a woman's foot. The woman told the deputies that she lost one of her cats a week ago and today she heard a cat screaming outside of her home in Cape Horn. When she investigated, she noticed a raccoon was attacking the cat. She attempted to load a pistol to protect the cat, but the pistol fired into her foot. She was treated and released.

May 19

A deputy made a traffic stop in the Sedro-Woolley area and could smell an obvious odor of marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. A drug dog arrived and searched the car; a pipe with a green leafy vegetable matter was located. The occupants were cited and released.

May 20

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with the dispute being over a boyfriend. The female was arrested and booked into jail. The victim received treatment at the hospital and was later released.

May 21

Deputies responded to a report from a Day Creek juvenile that she was assaulted by her father. Injuries were observed when the deputy met with her at a different location. Deputies went to the address where the assault occurred, but did not receive an answer at the door. The suspect was later issued a citation through the mail.

A male caller in the 41000 block of South Shore Dr. in Cape Horn reported his neighbor had come to his residence and threatened him. The suspect had numerous warrants for his arrest. Deputies searched the residence and found the suspect hiding in a closet. He was arrested and booked into jail.

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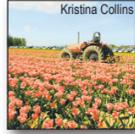
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Out & About



Burlington

Berry Dairy Days headlines June events

The 75th annual Berry Dairy Days in Burlington is slated this year for June 14-17.

Organizers plan fresh local strawberry shortcake, a fireworks show, parades, the Kiwanis Salmon BBQ, an entertainment stage with live music, a nostalgic Berry Cool Car Show, and more.

Berry Dairy Days was founded in 1937 by local volunteer firemen as a fundraiser for new equipment. The celebration included a parade, carnival, and the "World's Largest Shortcake," which served more than 5,000 people. By 1965 the Burlington Chamber of Commerce had become involved with the festival.

Today, Berry Dairy Days is touted as "four days of jam-packed fun for the

entire family."

For more information and a schedule of events, go to www.burlington-chamber.com/events/berry-dairy-days and scroll down the page.

Skagit County

EMS levy renewal on tap

The Skagit County EMS Commission passed a resolution in May to place a levy renewal for emergency medical services (EMS) on the August 7 election ballot.

The levy will fund emergency medical service for county residents, as well as replace ambulances and life-saving equipment that is needed to treat victims of heart attack, stroke, and other medical emergencies.

The levy renewal is for six years at 37.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value.

This would cost the owner of a \$200,000 home approximately \$75 per year (\$6.25 per month). The current levy, at 25 cents, expires this year. The cost difference between the old and the new levy rate is 12.5 cents or \$25 per year for the owner of a \$200,000 home—a little more than \$2 per month.

The maximum that could be levied is 50 cents, but Skagit EMS Commission Manager Earl Klinefelter said that isn't necessary. "We've been successful in working with our providers to keep costs low for taxpayers, but now we're feeling the pinch," he said. "In fact, this would be the first change to our levy rate since 1974."

Skagit EMS funds three agencies that provide basic and advanced life support as part of a county-wide emergency medical response: the Central Valley Ambulance Authority (CVAA), Aero-Skagit, and the Anacortes Fire Department. Klinefelter says that Skagit EMS providers have been receiving less revenue because of a sharp decline in assessed property values. Federal cuts to reimbursement rates for Medicare and Medicaid also are affecting the ability of EMS providers to respond.

CVAA provides EMS to the communities of Burlington, Sedro-Woolley, and Mount Vernon. To cut costs, CVAA had to remove one of its support ambulances from service and change office locations to save on rent. Emergency response times have increased by two minutes for the public as a result, says Jada Trammell, Interim Operations Manager.

"We have done everything we can to reduce costs—frozen salaries, slashed benefits, changed office locations—you name it," said Trammell. "Now we're at the point where emergency response times are increasing and we're worried."

Judy Coffell, Agency Supervisor for Aero-Skagit serving east Skagit County, said that her agency is relying on the levy renewal to replace one of its three ambulances.

"We cover more than 1,000 square miles in Skagit County," she said. "One ambulance is 16 years old and needs to be replaced, but there is no money for that without this levy renewal."

The Anacortes Fire Department provides EMS service to Anacortes, and Fidalgo and Guemes Islands. It has relied on City

of Anacortes reserve funds for the past five years to maintain emergency service levels in its service territory, but those funds have run out. Fire Chief Richard Curtis said they are down one firefighter/paramedic position because of it.

"It's difficult trying to maintain the same level of service with less revenue and increasing costs," said Chief Curtis. "Without the new levy, we will have to reduce the level of emergency service that we provide."

Klinefelter said that Skagit EMS will spend the next few months educating the public about the challenges facing Skagit EMS and its emergency service providers. In the end, the voters will determine whether they want to continue EMS service in the county.

The Skagit County EMS Commission (Skagit EMS) funds all emergency medical service response for 117,000 residents in Skagit County through partnerships with the Central Valley Ambulance Authority, Aero Skagit, and the Anacortes Fire Department. In 2011, Skagit EMS providers responded to 12,391 calls for emergency medical care. In addition to responding to 911 calls, Skagit EMS provides training for emergency service providers in basic and advanced life support, and works with the public on injury prevention and safety education classes.

For more information, go to www.skagitems.com.

Skagit County Planning Commission to hold special meetings

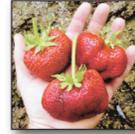
SKAGIT COUNTY—The Skagit County Planning Commission will hold a series of special meetings, in addition to its regularly scheduled meetings, to study and discuss the working draft of the Shoreline Master Program Update. The advisory committee is working to complete its review of the draft document.

All of the special meetings will begin at 6 p.m. in the Skagit County Commissioners' Hearing Room, 1800 Continental Place in Mount Vernon, and will be held on June 19 and July 24.

A regular Planning Commission meeting will be held July 10. For more information, go to www.skagitcounty.net/smp or e-mail betsyds@co.skagit.wa.us.



Home & Garden



12 easy upgrades to enliven your home

By Katy Tomasulo

If your home is feeling a bit down-trodden but you don't have a ton of money to spend, consider making a few small changes (either on your own or with the help of a remodeler) that can have a big impact. Here are 12 easy-to-implement upgrades that won't break the bank.

Simple swaps

Sometimes, all it takes for a house to feel fresh is replacing outdated elements or adding new ones, such as:

- **Faucets, showerheads, hardware:** If your fixtures are brass or overly ornate, swap in a more modern finish, such as brushed nickel or polished chrome. For faucets, opt for a transitional style that's sleek without going too contemporary.
- **Showers:** Replace rusted shower doors, says Laurie March, founder of L.A. construction management and design firm Improvemental. I'm a fan of sleek frameless systems. If your shower has a curtain, replace the straight rod with a curved rod to make the space feel roomier.
- **Light fixtures:** Exchange dated fixtures.
- **Light switches:** Save energy and add control by changing traditional toggles to dimmers.
- **Molding:** A few quick trim additions can up the sophistication of an entire room. Among the suggestions from millwork manufacturer Fypon: Add faux beams, install carved brackets under kitchen countertops, encircle a dining room with chair rail, top interior windows with pilasters, and frame bathroom mirrors.
- **Paint:** A fresh coat of paint can give a dull room a boost; consider a bold color on one wall for an eye-catching upgrade. Remove dated wallpaper in favor of a fresh, modern color.

Get organized

A cluttered house is not a cozy house. Get organized with these strategies:

- **Underutilized spaces:** March recommends adding elegant storage to lesser-used but still convenient areas such as under the stairs or in a corner near the entryway (this is also a great place to set up an electronics charging station).



Fypon's faux beams and a bold color on the ceiling give this kitchen height and visual interest. *Photo courtesy of Fypon.*

- **Kitchen cabinets:** Keep counters clear by installing some of the creative interior storage solutions from cabinet manufacturers, such as tilt-out sink trays, under-cabinet shelving, and slide-out cutting boards.
- **Message centers:** Use chalkboard paint or dry erase paint on a cabinet or pantry door for an instant message center; inside, apply cork board.

Update the exterior

A bit of cleanup outside can do wonders. Along with maintaining your landscaping, target these areas:

- **Front door:** Replace a dated, solid entry with a more modern door with decorative glass and sidelites. It's a bit pricier, but can increase a home's perceived value exponentially.
- **Cladding:** Paint or replace peeling, sagging, or tired siding panels.
- **Trim:** Like the interior, a few millwork additions can make a home feel more upscale. Fypon recommends a crosshead over a window topped with a keystone accent piece, a door surround, and pilasters on each side of the garage door, among others.

Katy Tomasulo has been covering the building products industry for 12 years. Read her coverage of home products and trends at www.productsinsider.com. Portions of this story originally appeared in USA Today's American Life | Home magazine.

Garden Patch

By Gladys Silrus

June is a great time to plant annuals, perennials, and all trees and shrubs. Fruit trees require two different varieties to pollinate properly. Check out clearance sales at garden centers and stay away from sickly or leggy plants.

If you planted lettuce early like I did and it has bolted, pull it out; it's gotten too bitter for good eating.

You can remove yellowed, brown foliage from bulb flowers as soon as it pulls off without resistance—no sooner! If your tulip or hyacinth bulbs performed poorly, now is the time to dig them up and discard. Make a map of where all your bulbs are so in the fall you'll know exactly what to buy and where to plant them and never accidentally dig up other bulbs again.

Now is the time to plant seeds of corn, green beans, squash, cucumbers, and other heat-lovers, once the soil has warmed to 60 degrees F. That's warm enough for you to walk on it comfortably barefoot. Try planting tomatoes under the eaves of your house. It may help keep the leaves drier and prevent late tomato blight.

Deadheading 101

Keep deadheading; that is, pinching off spent flower blooms. For flowers in the tidiest garden, deadhead daily. Take a few minutes each morning, making it part of your daily routine. Roses are going full-tilt; it's especially important to deadhead them to keep the blooms going longer.

Prune spring-blooming shrubs and trees,

like lilacs, forsythia, and crabapples, as soon as possible after bloom. You can prune evergreens till late summer. Snap off the old flower heads of rhododendrons, taking care not to injure new branches emerging just beneath the faded blooms. Shear azaleas by removing the outermost inch of new growth to encourage foliage developing lower on the stem and an overall bushier plant.

Mums: Pinch off the last inch of the branches until July to ensure bushy, well-flowered plants. Cut back asters and other tall, floppy, late-summer bloomers by about one-third once they're a foot or so high.

Be on the lookout for these pests: bagworms, borers, gypsy moths, lacebugs, scale, spider mites, Hemlock woolly adelgid, caterpillars, and Japanese beetles, and treat with *Bacillus thuringiensis* as needed. Keep an eye out for aphids and other small, sucking insects; treat them with insecticidal soap. Continue slug and snail control; the best method involves a cup of coffee and a sharp stick in the morning (the coffee is for you and the sharp stick is for those slimy critters).

Tips on weed killer: Don't apply on newly seeded areas, on windy days, or near the edges of waterways. Don't allow children or pets to play on freshly applied areas; wait for one week. Don't apply if temperatures are above 85 degrees F, and always follow label directions.

Happy gardening!

Got a gardening question? Send it to Gladys for an answer! Call her at 360.826.4848, or write to her at gsilrus@frontier.com or 42002 Pine St., Concrete, WA 98237.

Rain garden, iris workshops in June

Iris, Beautiful Iris

WSU Skagit County Extension Master Gardeners in partnership with WSU-Mount Vernon NWREC present a WSU Know & Grow workshop, *Iris, Beautiful Iris*, on Tue., June 12, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at WSU Mount Vernon NWREC Sakuma Auditorium, 16650 State Route 536 (Memorial Highway).

For more information, call 360.428.4270 or go to <http://skagit.wsu.edu/mg>.

Advanced rain garden workshop

An advanced-level workshop on rain garden siting, design, and plant selection is planned for Fri., June 15, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Includes indoor and outdoor hands-on work designing a rain garden, choosing plants, and more.

The workshop will be held at WSU Mount Vernon NWREC, 16650 Highway 536. Cost is \$30. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 360.428.4270, ext. 0 or register at brownpapertickets.com/event/238093.



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Smile



Dwelleysms

Wit from former Concrete Herald editor Charles M. Dwelley

“Our country is now debating whether to stop shipping money to Denmark because that nation is delivering a new ship to Russia. We must be developing foreign policy at last. Under the old system, we would have given them the fuel to deliver it.”

“Flying saucers are again in the sky. Tired of trying to call people liars, the government is now accepting their presence as possible. When we get as far as a congressional investigation, we’ll know they are real.”

“With all the irritating singing commercials on the air, it is a miracle that the margarine people haven’t come up with a yodeling character called the “Oleo Lady.”

“The U.S. now has the record for speedy ocean crossings by boat. The slowest crossing is still the return trip of the American dollar.”

“The state loyalty oath has been upheld by the Supreme Court. Now all we have to do is elect those who are proud to take it.”

“A new welfare racket is current, in which the fake investigator robs the pensioner. It used to be the fake pensioner who made the grab.”

Off Center

Jonathan Carter



That awkward moment when your mom introduces you to someone you met when you were 2.

“Along with the platform for civil rights they would do well to add one guaranteeing us the right to civil answers.”
—July 17, 1952

“If the average person worried more about where his taxes were going as much as he does about how much he is paying, we might have a change of administration in Washington, D.C.”

“Football season is the only time of year that you can find 11 guys all trying for the same goal.”

“The life of a campaign promise is very sad. It lives an average of six months and then dies without either the voter or the politician mourning it.”
—Sept. 25, 1952

“Traffic arrests for speeding are making a few transients irked at Concrete. We wouldn’t mind the speed so much, but they just won’t quit trying to make city limits to city limits in one bounce.”

“We have been told that a newspaper should tell its readers all about every candidate as a public service. Nope, it’s more exciting to hear them tell it.”
—Oct. 16, 1952

“Ike now has two women on his cabinet, thereby assuring everyone that a change of mind can be possible in at least two departments.”
—Nov. 27, 1952

“Did you forget how wet Washington rain is too?”
—Dec. 4, 1952

Caption contest

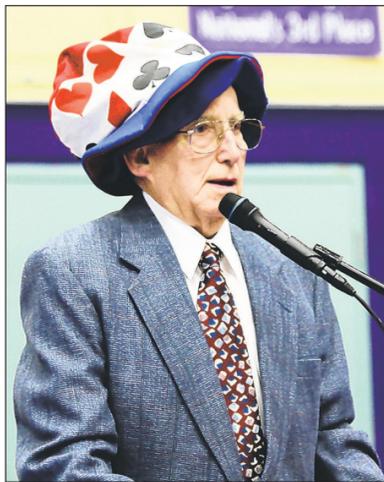
Submit a funny caption for the photo below and you might win a \$25 gift certificate to the Marblemount Diner!

The contest is open only to citizens living in Clear Lake, Sedro-Woolley, and any community east along SR 20, including Darrington. One entry per person; past winners are ineligible unless I’m hurting for entries. E-mail or snail-mail your caption by June 22 to: editor@concrete-herald.com or P.O. Box 682, Concrete, WA 98237. Include your name, mailing address, and phone number.

The winner will be announced in next month’s issue.



Submitted by Jessi Martin.



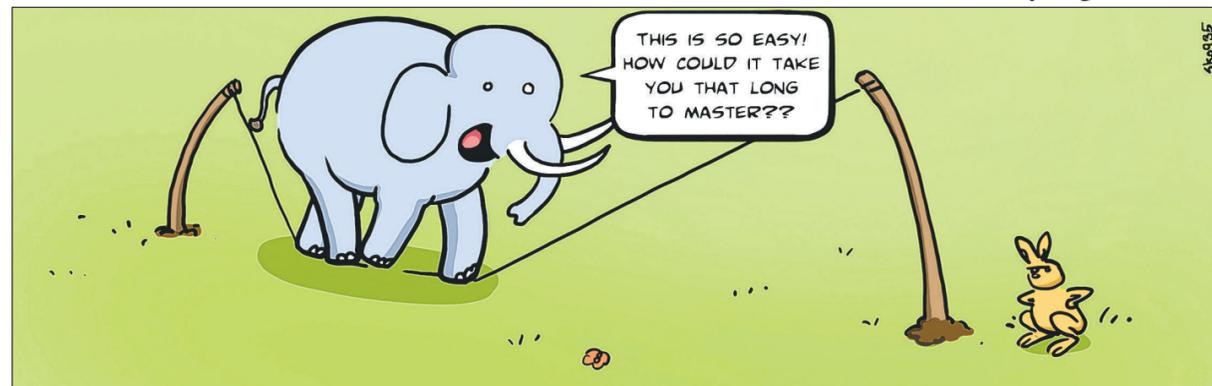
“Excuse me, does this hat make me look fat?”

The above winning caption for the May contest was submitted by Lydia Schoolland of Marblemount, who will receive a night at the movies for two at Concrete Theatre. Congratulations, Lydia!

Cascade Days organizers need cedar or spruce log donations for the August event. Can you help? Contact Cascade Days President John Burmaster at 360.853.8024.

By Stig Kristensen

Public Service Announcement



Crossword: “Case Study”

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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67						68					69			

Across

- 1. Anita Baker, for one
- 5. Dandruff
- 10. Latte locale
- 14. High-five, e.g.
- 15. Hollywood agent “Swifty”
- 16. City on the Yamuna River
- 17. CASE
- 20. Punishes legally
- 21. Sneak
- 22. Microwave, e.g.
- 23. Tree adornment
- 26. Lookout point
- 28. “Welcome” site
- 29. Q-Tip
- 33. Retro car
- 36. Decorous
- 38. Clod chopper
- 39. CASE
- 42. U.N. workers’ grp.
- 43. Merlin, e.g.
- 44. Actor Wesley
- 45. Call to attention
- 47. Atlanta-based station
- 48. Scale notes
- 49. Good-for-nothing
- 52. Kind of battery

Down

- 1. Indian state
- 2. Andean animal
- 3. Accounts
- 4. The Mikado, e.g.
- 5. Pivot
- 6. Art able to
- 7. Action film staple
- 8. Backstabber
- 9. Most musty
- 10. Intrigues
- 11. Long, long time
- 12. At liberty
- 13. Benjamin Disraeli, e.g.
- 18. Moves screen text
- 19. ___ simple
- 24. Pier 1 merchandise

Across

- 25. Bust maker
- 27. Recurrent
- 30. Congressional enforcer
- 31. Bang-up
- 32. Panhandles
- 33. Radar image
- 34. Congers
- 35. Freudian topics
- 37. Cartilage disks
- 40. City near Sparks
- 41. Ailment
- 46. Grin modifier
- 50. Encouraging word
- 51. “South Pacific” hero
- 53. Mrs. Bush
- 54. At full speed
- 55. Found a new tenant for
- 56. Doctor’s abbreviation
- 57. Clash of heavyweights
- 58. Antares, for one
- 60. Assert
- 62. Affirmative action
- 63. Archaeological site

Down

- 1. Indian state
- 2. Andean animal
- 3. Accounts
- 4. The Mikado, e.g.
- 5. Pivot
- 6. Art able to
- 7. Action film staple
- 8. Backstabber
- 9. Most musty
- 10. Intrigues
- 11. Long, long time
- 12. At liberty
- 13. Benjamin Disraeli, e.g.
- 18. Moves screen text
- 19. ___ simple
- 24. Pier 1 merchandise

Sudoku

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, 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.

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

*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 38.

Funny as Facebook

- The following funnies were pulled verbatim from Facebook status updates in May.
- Shaved head, slacks, shirt, and tie, alarm clock set for 6 a.m., and a 10 p.m. bedtime. Work sure can change a man.
 - Never ride a dirt bike while wearing shorts!
 - My to-do list for tomorrow: Moon the mailman, run naked through my neighbor’s garden, chase some butterflies, and throw water balloons at passing cars.
 - How can you pile up two weeks worth of dishes and three weeks worth of laundry in three DAYS of camping?

Concrete Theatre
Established 1923

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Donate to Digital Campaign!

The movie industry will convert to digital in 2013. Concrete Theatre won’t be able to show new movies unless it converts to a digital system --a \$50,000 hurdle. **Please donate to help keep Concrete Theatre alive!**

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- Donate at Columbia Bank in Concrete (designate check for “Digital Projector Fund”)

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in less than two months we found a great place to live in Marblemount, replaced our necessary belongings, and are still dabbling in a few farming ventures. Thank you to everyone again, and may many blessings come your way during this season.

*Brandie Lambdin, Bradley Tremper
 Marblemount*

Art Deco design, colors for Main Street Concrete?

I am a long-time resident of the Skagit Valley area. I am writing to express my concern about a letter I received regarding a building I own in Concrete. The letter was notification that my building had been

selected to have the front cleaned and painted in preparation for a new Art Deco design for the Concrete Town Center buildings. I understand that the decision is being considered to make the Main Street more attractive for visitors and our community. Since then, I've had a brief discussion with Eric Archuletta regarding some of the details of this proposal.

As a building owner, I am very interested in improving the appearance of the buildings. However, I do not believe that an Art Deco design is appropriate for the town of Concrete, as Art Deco is more common in large cities. This area boasts wildlife such as the elk, eagles, and several species of salmon, among others. I believe that a wildlife theme that is more

natural to the Upper Skagit Valley would be a better fit for Concrete.

In my opinion, the community should be given the opportunity to present ideas as to the new look of their town, thereby giving them a voice and a sense of pride in preserving their community.

*Roger Kindler
 Sedro-Woolley*

Angel Tree memorial an honor

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Bonnie Gallagher and her family for choosing the Angel Tree in Lyman as her memorial request. Our deepest sympathies go out to her husband, John, and her family during their time of loss and sorrow. Bonnie's memory will live on in the hearts of all that knew her and loved her as well as the many lives the memorials will touch this coming Christmas.

To date we have received more than \$400 in donations in Bonnie's memory, and we are honored that she supported our efforts every year and wished to continue her support in this manner. Many children and their families will be blessed this holiday season because of Bonnie's wishes. Thank you to each and every one of the donors who sent memorials. Your kindness will continue to spread to others.

*Tammie Werner, Kathy Weston
 Lyman Angel Tree*

Earth Day planting and ivy removal volunteer party a success

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) thanks all the volunteers who came out for our Earth Day project on Sat., April 21. People came from as far away as Oak Harbor and Marblemount to help us remove a massive English Ivy infestation at Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport.

In total, 53 volunteers removed 2,250 pounds of ivy and planted 150 native plants and shrubs! In addition to the great volunteers, this project would not have been possible without our project partners: Skagit County Parks and Recreation, private landowner Karen Marks, the National Park Service, Washington State Parks, and Starbucks. SFEG also thanks Puget Sound Energy for donating earth-friendly giveaways for all the volunteers. Thanks again to all those involved, and we hope to see all of you next Earth Day!

*Casey Costello
 Restoration Technician Assistant
 Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group*

Concrete Herald
 The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

Concrete Harold



By Joyce Harris

NEPHEW! MESSY ROOM! GET ORGANIZED. HAVE A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING WITH EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE!

BUT UNCLE! WHAT IF THAT IS JUST AN EXCUSE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE TOO LAZY TO LOOK FOR STUFF???

OH NO YOU DON'T- NICE TRY THOUGH!

Sunday School, cont. from p. 30

In the 19th century, there was a U.S. senator who one day took his son fishing. Two journals have since been discovered, with entries from that day that give us a glimpse into the impact of a father on the life of their child. The Senator after coming home wrote in his journal, "Took my son fishing, it was a wasted day." Apparently they didn't catch any fish.

The son's journal read a bit differently: "Went fishing with my Dad today, it was the best day of my life." It's from experiences like this that holidays are made.

Bill Mueller pastors in Lynnwood.

Not advertising in Concrete Herald is like winking in the dark*

***You're the only one who knows what you're doing.**

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Sudoku solution, from p. 37

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

Crossword solution, from p. 37

A	L	T	O	S	C	U	R	F	C	A	F	E		
S	L	A	P	L	A	Z	A	R	A	G	R	A		
S	A	L	E	S	U	N	I	T	O	F	B	E	E	R
A	M	E	R	C	E	S	W	E	A	S	E	L		
M	A	S	E	R	T	I	N	S	E	L				
		T	O	R	M	A	T	S	W	A	B			
B	E	E	T	L	E	P	R	I	M	H	O	E		
L	E	G	A	L	P	R	O	C	E	E	D	I	N	G
I	L	O	S	E	E	R	S	N	I	P	E	S		
P	S	S	T	T	N	T	I	S						
		O	T	I	O	S	E	S	O	L	A	R		
A	S	S	O	R	T	M	A	C	R	A	M	E		
N	U	T	T	Y	I	N	D	I	V	I	D	U	A	L
A	M	A	H	V	O	I	L	E	R	I	E			
T	O	R	Y	E	D	G	E	R	R	A	N	T		

Spring Break, cont. from p. 30

following day I was feeling sick, and the minute Jesús' 7-year-old sister Alina heard me say that, she asked a translator if she could pray for me. She proceeded to lay her hand on my stomach and whisper a quiet prayer that I could only understand with the help of the translator.

These two experiences I had, among many others, reminded me of only one word: love. I was the one who came to love and bless the people of the DR, and I was the one who was blessed and loved in return.

These kids also inspired me. The joy that they had despite their circumstances was unbelievable, and the joy never ran out. They were so thankful for the little bit that they had in life, especially the opportunity to love on their "Americanos." All they wanted to do was hold our hands, play with us, ride on our shoulders, braid our hair, or just sit with us. I am so thankful that I could show love to the Dominican children by simply being there for them, and that I was able to see the different ways in which God worked to reveal his love to both the Dominicans and myself. I will always hold this amazing experience close to my heart, and I hope to go back to the DR in the future and continue the relationships that were formed, as well as create new ones.

To see a video I created about my trip, go to YouTube and search on "rthomas Dominican Republic." The video is titled, "Dominican Republic 2012."

Editorial, cont. from p. 2

good changes that locals and visitors have noticed in Concrete. Friends and acquaintances who live elsewhere in Skagit County have told me they see and sense a change in Concrete. They say it's cleaner and more beautiful. They say they've noticed a general mood of hope.

Are these positive changes all because Eric came to town? No—and he'd be the first to dispute such a claim. But the fact remains that he has played a pivotal role in being that point person who has made every attempt to pull the key players in town to the same table and get them talking. He led the Imagine Concrete meetings. He spearheaded the revitalization committee for Concrete Town Center. He held monthly "Coffee Talks" at Washington Cafe and Bakery, where anyone could come and share any topic that was burning in their brain. He connected with everyone who was willing to spend the time and mental energy to discuss Concrete—what it was, what it is,

and what it could become.

For Eric, engaging in the Concrete community was never wholly academic. Even though he lives in Arlington, he became a familiar face in Concrete. He made time to pick up a shovel and join us as we cleaned out the Superior Building. He brought his shovel to the community garden, too, spending several hours there to get that effort off the ground. He showed up for the causes that the people of Concrete had named as priorities. Elected officials like me could do worse than to emulate him.

Now, in his words, it's time for Eric to move on. Other communities are knocking on Community Stew's door, asking for help. And Eric believes that he has done what he can for Concrete; that is, given as many people as possible the right tools to stand on our own and say, "We can." Thank you, Mr. Archuletta.

—J. K. M.

Stump Ranch, cont. from p. 11

was just wishful thinking to even look at the big ones. Tommy did the blasting, and after they were shot, there was a whole lot of grubbing, chopping, and picking up pieces of roots. He seemed to enjoy blasting the stumps much to Ma Mabel's fear and discomfort, as she had always heard that there was great danger in those shiny dynamite caps. But in spite of her fears, nothing happened."

Howard Royal is the last living grandchild of the Lewis A. Boyd family. Lewis came to the Birdview area in 1882 and that is where Howard's mother Mabel was born in 1891. In 1989 Howard decided to build a diorama of the family stump ranch based on his memories, family photos, and his mother's stories. It took a couple of years using mostly blocks of cedar and fir. He and his wife, Jackie, spent a great deal of time scouring stores and shows for miniatures to add to his model.

Howard donated the diorama to the Skagit County Historical Museum in 2,000 and after being on display for a year, the ranch was placed in archival storage. Howard was pleased to hear that with the seasonal opening of the Concrete Heritage Museum on Memorial Day weekend, the Stump Ranch will be on public display again. Along with the diorama, the exhibit will include some family photos, history on stump ranches in general, and a video of Howard explaining how life ran on their property growing up.

Dan Royal is historian for the Skagit County Pioneer Association. He is Howard Royal's grandson.

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