

The Voice of Eastern Skagit County Concrete Herald

Vol. 94, No. 7

July 2011



Cement City Street Fair returns July 23

You can be sure it's summer when there's dancing in the streets! On Sat., July 23, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Cement City Street Fair in Concrete will feature everything from a Zumba demonstration and a motorcycle show to poetry reading and blood pressure screenings. Sponsored by United General Hospital, in partnership with the Concrete Chamber of Commerce and local businesses, the fourth annual street fair is

See Fair, p. 7



Lyman Car & Craft Show hits the streets July 9

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Youth Activity Day filled with games, resources

Here comes the fun! This year's Concrete Youth Activity Day will be held July 21 from 12:30 to 5 p.m., at Silo Park in Concrete.

In its fourth year, the free event is aimed at kids and their families. It features a skateboard competition, field games, hands-on activities, live music, food, prizes, a family movie at the Concrete

See Youth, p. 33



Fly-In lands in Concrete July 22-24

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*Published the first
Wednesday of each month*

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Concrete Herald

The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

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Commentary Outside Envision 2060, peering in

By Joline Bettendorf

Editor's note: The following version of this commentary has been edited for length. To read the commentary in its entirety, go to www.concrete-herald.com.

When I was 10 years old, our Sunday school teacher asked us what we thought heaven was like. I said I thought it was just like Skagit County, which ended that conversation. In the intervening 68 years I haven't changed my vision of heaven. Even though Skagit County is not as heavenly as I remember, enough remains to hope for more careful stewardship now and in the future.

Project Envision 2060, sponsored by the county planning department, indicates others are alarmed about the results of past development. A committee of twelve conscientious citizens from diverse backgrounds, guided by the planning department and a steering committee, studied development issues and will soon recommend to the county commissioners policies based on the priorities of the Urban Land Institute. The 2060 Committee's leaders have provided the public with informational pamphlets, presentations by national experts, and solicited participation through community sessions and a Web site (www.skagitcounty.net/envisionskagit). The Envision project will recommend a plan for development and the Commissioners will make policy.

It is in the interest of all Skagitonians to follow this process and speak up about the Committee's proposals even though understanding the issues of development from outside the process is time-consuming and complicated.

The Envision process

It is possible to be dubious about the Envision 2060 process and the committee's recommendations without doubting the sincerity of the effort, but asking for public comments at tightly controlled public meetings came very late in the process, after a favored plan was chosen. This was guaranteed to create mistrust and suspicion that there are manipulators with hidden motives behind the scenes. I am dismayed at the direction in which I see the conclusions and recommendations heading, and that there is no one evaluating the process or the assumptions or conclusions the committee is promoting. There is no reason that the public should accept the committee's assumptions as unavailable fact or to unquestioningly accept the committee's plan.

I'm especially dubious about the hard sell for the trendy concept of small houses on small lots in densely packed towns for this county. Envision 2060's visiting experts (Robert Lang, Bill Kreager, and others connected to the Urban Land Institute), as well as a blitz of pro-development articles and books paint unrealistically rosy pictures of the joys of living in exactly the kind of housing and neighborhoods people my age happily fled. We know that reality. That was all we could afford, and many of us got out as soon as we had a choice, and choice, diversity, and individuality are missing from the "smaller-is-better," "crowded-together-is-better" juggernaut.

These are the assumptions the committee does not question:

1. We must save the agricultural and forest lands and water resources, protect them from the oncoming necessity to develop.

See **Commentary**, p. 38

Opinion

Letters to the editor

ELC silent auction thank you

On behalf of the Concrete Early Learning Center, I'd like to say thank you to all who participated in the silent auction of the baskets that were placed on display within the towns of Concrete and Rockport. You helped raise more than \$430!

These funds will go toward fixing and adding new items to the Concrete Preschool playground.

We received generous donations from Skagit River Guide Service, Rockport Quarry, Albert's Red Apple Market, Eagles In Flight, Que Car BBQ, Birdsvie Brewing Co., Cascade Burgers, Java Zone, Annie's Pizza Station, Birdsvie Burgers, Re Youz Thrift Store, and Marblemount Batista. Even the Girl Scouts helped!

These donations would have been wasted if not for the individuals and families that embraced this idea by making bids on the baskets. I knew Concrete was a small town, but I didn't realize the hearts of the people who lived there were so large. This town really does roar with pride!

Thank you again for making this possible.

*Samantha Hooper
Birdsvie*

County's Plan for future based on outsider influence

The Envision Skagit 2060 project seems to have very little in common with the Targeted Watersheds Initiative—source of the \$1.4 million granted to Skagit County through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Moreover, public participation in the "visioning" process has been reduced to a narrowly focused discussion orchestrated by self-appointed "experts" affiliated with the building and ecosystem services industries.

Technical coordinator Jon Lombard, who hired the out-of-state speakers and authors featured at local venues in recent months, is an outsider himself. Lombard recently promoted a market-based mitigation scheme developed to accommodate local highway projects by allowing destruction of Skagit Valley's natural wetlands.

The unfounded prediction that the county's population will double in 50 years continues to echo from one public meeting to the next. There is no getting around it, they tell us. This line comes directly from the boardrooms of transnational corporations seeking to control water supplies, food production, and public infrastructure in rural America. An Australian corporation—Macquarie—already owns Puget Sound Energy and the Baker River Dam facility.

Demand for locally grown wholesome food products, affordable building materials, and fresh, clean water will undoubtedly accelerate in the coming decades. Skagit Valley's capacity for producing these commodities depends largely upon its rich soils that are among the finest on earth. Subjecting this unique treasure to the pollution generated by 100,000 additional commuters crowded into low-rent districts is unconscionable. What's the sense of planning for growth without first securing our resources?

If local citizens decide a 50-year ban on growth is required to sustain their farms, their forests, their economy, and their rural lifestyle, so be it. To do anything less would suggest an unwillingness to adequately secure Skagit Valley's vital resources for future generations.

*Diane Freethy, president
Skagit Citizens Alliance
for Rural Preservation*

Be like Tim

On behalf of Town of Concrete and the Angele Cupples Community Garden, much gratitude goes to Tim Bridge of Concrete, who spent two days in June installing 13 yard hydrants in the garden. His work gave the infrastructure installation phase in the garden a giant leap forward. Thank you, Tim.

*Jason Miller
Concrete Town Council*

Letters policy

Letters of 200 words or fewer may be sent to Concrete Herald, P.O. Box 682, Concrete, WA 98237, or e-mailed to letters@concrete-herald.com. 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.

www.concrete-herald.com

Project Homeless Connect A day of hospitality, respect, and opportunity

Submitted by Project Homeless Connect Steering Committee

The number of homeless people living in Skagit County has increased 100 percent since 2008. The County's recent homeless count topped 1,100 people who reported living in cars, transitional housing, shelters, abandoned buildings, or outside. Many others are "doubling up" with family or friends.

Roughly one-third of the U.S. population falls within the category of "low income," defined as households earning below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Line. A 2009 study published in the *American Journal of Public Health* found that people with low incomes lose 8.2 years of perfect health. Bad health and decreased life expectancy are just two of the many challenges faced by people living in poverty.

People who are poor, hungry, or homeless are oftentimes blamed and shamed. Yet many are struggling with circumstances beyond their control; they face a conflagration of "inherited" challenges such as generational poverty, violence, and mental illness. Whatever the causes of people's hunger and homelessness, it is part of our social contract to offer them assistance. One could say it is our moral calling—as individuals and as a community—to help lift the burdens of our neighbors.

Unfortunately, there is not one simple antidote to poverty. Multiple internal and external barriers make the journey out of poverty seemingly impossible. However, this does not stop communities across the nation from working tirelessly to lessen human suffering. Here in the Skagit Valley, a coalition of organizations has come together to host the second annual Project Homeless Connect, a one-day event where people who are homeless and low income can receive basic services.

The event will take place Sept. 8 at Skagit Valley College, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Anyone in need of services is invited. Trained community volunteers will escort individuals and families from station to

station, where they can receive haircuts, clothing, toiletries, legal services, food, dental care, glasses, and foot care. Veterans can receive assistance with VA paperwork. Providers of homeless shelters and transitional housing will be on hand to provide information about housing opportunities. There even will be veterinarian services on site, since many homeless people have canine companions.

Last year's event was rewarding not only for the guests who received services, but also for the dozens of volunteers. It takes 200 volunteers to make this day a success. If you would like to join this important effort, go to www.skagitvolunteercenter.org to learn about the variety of jobs, including set-up, hospitality, food service, and troubleshooting. Scroll down to the red Project Homeless Connect icon to fill out the volunteer enrollment form. To be a part of the organizing team now, contact Volunteer Program Manager Quinn Slayton at 360.588.5719.

Just as it takes a lot of people to make this event come to fruition, it also takes money. If you would like to donate to Project Homeless Connect, contact Fund Developer Kira Hansen at 360.416.7588.

Project Homeless Connect is about more than connecting homeless people to vital services. While that is one critical goal, the deeper value lies in the connections made between people. Sadly, expressions of kindness and appreciation are rare for those who are stigmatized and marginalized by society. This can begin to change on Sept. 8, when people in need will receive not only lunch and basic services, but also hospitality, respect, and opportunity.

The whole community is invited to be a part of this wave of compassion.

The Project Homeless Connect Steering Committee is composed of Thad Allen, John Boggs, Lynn Christoferson, Gina Danielson, Kira Hansen, Ross Howell, Emily Nelson, Celia Ponce-Sanchez, Amy Hart, Faviola Lopez, Marie Marchand, Marcela Martinez, Colleen Pacheco, Felicia Rodman, Patti Santagelo, Melissa Self, Quinn Slayton, Larry VanDyke, and Tommie Ytturalde.

School reunion potluck picnic planned

Graduates of the old Lyman and Hamilton schools are invited to attend a potluck picnic at Lyman City Park on Aug. 13 from noon to 4 p.m. Organizers ask attendees to bring their own table service, soft drinks, coolers, lawn chairs, and blankets. A BBQ pit is available. The focus of the event is memories; bring photos, stories, and albums. For more information, call 360.826.3160, 659.9848, or 707.0391.

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Our school levy dollars at work

By Barbara Hawkings

During the last decade, Concrete School District has worked hard to gain the community's trust. We have tried to clearly communicate where we needed levy dollars to support district programs. Because of the continued cuts in education by our state government, we find the need to spend dollars differently than we had originally proposed.

Levy dollars have provided the children with many benefits during the years. We have upgraded curriculum in reading, math, and science. New equipment has been purchased for the kitchen. Additional staff for educational programs as well as technology is currently supported with levy dollars. Last year we purchased a Prius to add to our motor pool and now have a fleet of buses maintained with money from the state. We also use levy funds to provide teachers with additional training to meet the ever-changing needs of our students.

We are not coming to you, the community, for additional dollars to meet our needs because of the state reductions. Instead, we are looking to use dollars differently.

All the departments in the district have made reductions. Staff members are experiencing reductions in salary, loss of hours, and changes in job responsibilities. We are all striving to meet the needs of the children.

The Levy Committee was reconvened to discuss reallocating levy dollars to help support staffing needs. We need to use 14 percent of the levy to cover salaries for positions the state does not fund but mandates us to have to successfully educate the students. The combination of postponing the purchase of new curriculum for social studies, transfer of a portion of the technology allocation, and inclusion of carryover funds enables the district to provide more teaching staff. By redistributing these funds, we feel we will provide the best education for your children.

Our district still strives to meet the needs of our students. The band program continues to grow and flourish. We are providing strong academic programs. Students now have the opportunity to attend a regional Skills Center, as well as Running Start. Our sports programs continue to be a source of pride for the community. The district is a place where people want to work. We need to remember we are fortunate to be in a small district.

Thank you for all your support!

Barbara Hawkings is superintendent of Concrete School District.

Envision Skagit 2060 releases recommendations

After months of analysis and 10 community meetings, the Envision Skagit 2060 Citizen Committee released its draft recommendations to county commissioners and mayors on June 7.

The committee held an open house June 16 in Burlington, during which it invited community members to respond to the recommendations, which are posted online at www.skagitcounty.net/envisionskagit.

The recommendations include:

- Establish a broad-based regional "smart growth alliance" that calls for a unified approach to Skagit County's growth, development, and conservation of natural resources and the environment.
- Modify the Countywide Planning Policy population distribution goals to direct 90 percent of new population growth to urban areas and 10 percent

to rural areas, instead of the current 80/20 split. Half of the rural 10 percent should go toward clustered "conservation developments" and to selected expanded rural villages.

- Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) should not expand into agricultural lands or the floodplain. Existing urban

See **Envision**, p. 26

DEALS! DEALS! DEALS!

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Two arrested after Birdsvie beating

Two male suspects were arrested July 1 in connection with the June 25 fatal beating of a man in his Birdsvie home. The victim, Kenneth “Bob” Wayne Stewart, 54, of Birdsvie, was attacked late that Saturday night as he stepped outside of his mobile home on Wilde Road in Birdsvie, to turn off an outside light.

“Two people jumped him and used a wooden club to beat him,” Stewart’s former wife, Lori Stewart, told *Concrete Herald*. She was in Big Lake at the time of the attack.

The Skagit County Sheriff’s Office said in a release that SCSO deputies arrested 36-year-old Ryan G. Miller at his residence in Arlington. Simultaneously, deputies from the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office and officers from the Marysville Police Department arrested 34-year-old Richard A. Kirkham at his residence in Marysville. Both suspects were taken into custody without incident and currently are being held in the Skagit County jail on charges of first-degree murder.

It appears that at least one of the suspects knew the victim.

—J. K. M.

Small-town specialist to present Aug. 30

Concrete Mayor Judd Wilson has invited entrepreneur and rural economic development expert Becky McCray to speak in Concrete the afternoon of Aug. 30.

Wilson met McCray during the RevitalizeWA conference in Walla Walla in May, where she was the keynote speaker. She owns two businesses in Hopeton, Okla. (population 30), and is the co-founder of Tourism Currents.

Stewart had lived in his mobile home at Timberline Park, about six miles west of Concrete, for about 10 years, said Lori Stewart.

“It’s a gorgeous place, a good place to be,” said Stewart of the RV and trailer park. “This kind of thing can happen anywhere at anytime; it shouldn’t reflect on the location where it happens. I don’t want any damage being done to this place’s reputation.”

After the attack, the injured Stewart found his way to the manager’s office, where he contacted Lori Stewart, who drove him to United General Hospital in Sedro-Woolley. He was transported from there to St. Joseph’s in Bellingham, where he died from severe head trauma.

“When I saw him, I knew he wasn’t going to make it,” said Lori Stewart.

On June 19 another man was beaten at his Anacortes residence by unknown assailants. That assault appears to have been motivated by an illegal marijuana growing operation in the residence, according to the SCSO. The Birdsvie attack does not appear connected. Stewart was not growing marijuana in his residence, nor had he served jail time in the past, as reports in other media first indicated.

She travels once per month to help other small-town businesses thrive in their sometimes limited markets.

McCray will arrive in town Aug. 29 and spend the morning of Aug. 30 touring the town and meeting with local business owners. The venue and time for her afternoon presentation will be announced in the August issue of *Concrete Herald*.

Wilson estimates the total cost of McCray’s visit will be around \$3,500; he is seeking funds from other towns and chambers in the area to defray the cost.

—J. K. M.

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Concrete gains CLG status, wins \$7K grant

May and June were good months for Town of Concrete. In the former, it gained Certified Local Government status through the State of Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. In the latter, it landed its first grant award through the new program: \$7,000 to fund a feasibility study for the Superior Building adaptive reuse project.

The town’s CLG status—which it shares with only one other Skagit County city, Anacortes—carries with it benefits such as technical assistance and training for the town’s fledgling Historic Preservation and Landmarks Commission, and the ability for the town to apply for special grants from the State Historic Preservation Office. Town of Concrete applied successfully for the \$7,000 grant and gained its CLG status almost simultaneously.

The Superior Building feasibility study should indicate with certainty whether the building can be renovated and how much such an effort would likely cost.

The result of an Imagine Concrete idea, the HPL Commission meets monthly to plan and execute efforts to preserve local landmarks like the Superior Building. It is composed of local professionals, plus representatives from town government.

—J. K. M.

Class of ’50s, Old-timers annual picnics planned

Did you graduate from Concrete High School during the 1950s? Your classmates are planning this year’s annual potluck picnic for Aug. 20, 1 p.m., at Skagit View Village. For more information, contact Penny at 360.856.6465 or Bonnie at 360.853.8233.

Looking ahead

The Old-timers picnic in Rockport has been booked for Aug. 19, 2012, and the CHS class of 1950s picnic in 2012 will be held Aug. 18. Mark your calendars for these dates for both years, and pass the information to all who are interested.

Looking for Concrete Herald?

A complete list of distribution points is posted online at www.concrete-herald.com/about-the-herald/distribution-points

THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

Concrete Senior Center is now **Concrete Center**. Coordinator Sarah Pritchard says the renaming is designed to help encourage younger seniors to take advantage of the center’s programs.

Speaking of Concrete Center, that facility desperately needs **volunteer drivers for Meals on Wheels** to deliver meals to homebound citizens in the area.

The Meals on Wheels Program provides noontime meals to senior citizens age 60 and older who have difficulty leaving their home unassisted and who are unable to prepare their own meals.

Skagit County is one of the few programs in Washington State that still delivers hot, nutritious meals to seniors in the community. These deliveries provide daily one-on-one contact that many seniors look forward to every day.

To be eligible for a home-delivered meal, individuals must be 60 years or older and have difficulty leaving their home. There is no financial criteria in order to receive Meals on Wheels. Meals are provided on a donation basis only and no one is denied a meal if unable to donate. Currently, our suggested donation is \$3 per meal; all donations are confidential.

Individuals who are 60 years of age or older who do not meet this criteria may enjoy the same meals at the Concrete Center, Mon. through Fri. at 12:30 p.m.

Anyone with a few hours to spare each week is encouraged to contact Concrete Center Coordinator Sarah Pritchard at sarap@co.skagit.wa.us or 360.853.8400.

Chili enthusiasts! Enter your recipe into the Cascade Days Chili Contest and win great prizes. Enter before July 31 using the application at www.cascadedays.com, or get an entry form by calling 360.826.4848 or e-mailing gsilrus@frontier.com.

Rules are posted on the Cascade Days Web site; entry fee is \$25. Make your chili at Concrete Town Park on Sun., Aug. 21, and you might win one of three prizes. Sponsored by Cascade Supply.

www.concrete-herald.com

Poker Run to raise funds for SW Community Troop Support

SW Community Troop Support is gearing up for its 2nd Annual Motorcycle Poker Run, to be held July 30. This is one of our major fundraisers for sending care packages to soldiers serving overseas during the Christmas season. The recipients’ names are submitted to us by people living and working in our communities!

The July 30 event will start with a 7 a.m. breakfast served by the SW Eagles Club. Bikers will then drop over to the west end of South Skagit Highway and make their way up to Eagles In Flight in Concrete for their second card draw. Then they will visit Cascade Mercantile in Lyman on their way back to Sedro-Woolley, so they can pick up Highway 9 north to the Mt. Baker Highway. They’ll travel to a stop at Kendall Elementary in Kendall. From there they will swing by Sumas and then drop down to Bellingham for a great party with food and live music by “Scratch Daddy,” hosted by Mt. Baker Harley Davidson.

All bikers are invited to this worthy community cause on what is bound to be a beautiful day. Talk to anyone who came to our poker run last year, and you will find out how great it was! Entry fees are \$20 per rider and bike, and \$10 per passenger. This includes the breakfast, the BBQ party

at the end of the ride, and lots of great prizes. Riders are encouraged to get their paid registration in early, because the first 50 to do so will receive a biker gift bags.

If you’re not a biker we still need your help to make this a great success! We have prizes coming from Pacific NW Float Trips, Coho Industries, and a few other places, including the stops along the route, but we need more. They can come from businesses and individuals. Gift certificates for goods and services, themed gift baskets, tools, home décor, mugs, cool T-shirts, yard games—almost anything would make a great prize. Remember, those tough bikers like to win prizes for their ladies too, although we’re unable to accept alcohol.

Anything you would like to contribute will go toward letting our men and women overseas know that we are thinking of them. Last year we raised enough to cover \$1,600 worth of postage for sending the care packages that went out from the local communities. We’d like to be able to do that again this year.

For more information, go to www.swcommunitytroopsupport.com. Donations and inquiries can be mailed to SWCTS, P.O. Box 817, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

—Marilyn Pineda, coordinator

In The Service

Sandy Cockrum of Concrete is excited to have her husband, **James Cockrum** (right), home from active-duty military service.

Cockrum had been away since 2002, serving with the 3rd Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division and recently as a Combat Weapons Instructor with the 191st Infantry at Fort Lewis.

“His only being home four to eight days a month has been a challenge for us and our two boys, Kadin and Nathan, now 8 and 9 years old,” said Sandy. “They are excited to finally have their dad working at Janicki and coming home every day. We just bought a motorhome and we plan to spend every chance we get to go out and play this summer. It’s sort of like starting a new life together. We’re relieved and happy to have him home for good!”

James Cockrum of Concrete has returned from active duty, most recently as a Combat Weapons Instructor at Fort Lewis. “We’re relieved and happy to have him home for good,” said his wife, Sandy.

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Make your reservation now to tour Puget Sound Energy’s largest hydropower operation, located in the beautiful, mountain-rimmed Baker River Valley off the North Cascades Highway. See PSE’s internationally lauded facilities for transporting migrating salmon around the utility’s two large dams. Visit the new PSE-built hatchery for boosting Baker River sockeye salmon runs. Gaze downriver from atop the 312-foot-high Upper Baker Dam. And while you’re in Concrete, take in the annual Cement City Street Fair and Fly-In!

When

- Saturday, July 23 – tour buses depart 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Each tour lasts approximately 3 hours.

Where

- Check-in / bus departure from Concrete Public Schools, 7830 S. Superior Ave., Concrete

What

Tour stops include:

- PSE’s Baker River Visitor Center for hydro-project overview
- Lower Baker Dam overlook to view dam and new powerhouse construction
- PSE’s new upstream Adult Fish Trap
- Upper Baker Dam and Floating Surface Collector (for juvenile fish)
- New Baker River Hatchery and sockeye spawning beds

For reservations:

- Phone: 360-766-5656
- E-mail: tours@PSE.com
- In person: PSE Skagit Service Center, 1660 Park Lane, Burlington
- First come, first seated; limited availability, reservations required

Please note: Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Buses are not wheelchair-accessible. Tour participants with limited mobility are encouraged to bring a friend or relative to assist in getting on and off of the bus.

PSE.com

Training burns coming this summer

If you see smoke pouring from three or four neighboring houses on Division St. and Eriksen Place in Concrete during July or August, don't be surprised—and think twice before you call 911, because it's likely more than one fire department will already be on scene.

The houses at 45897 Eriksen Place and 45852 and 45836 Division St. will be burned this summer as part of training exercises for Concrete, Rockport, Marblemount, Grasmere, and Birdsvie Fire Departments. A fourth house, at 45872 Division St., will be demolished, because it is too close to neighboring houses.

The four houses were condemned and bought by Town of Concrete using FEMA, state, and town funds after a January 2009 slide on the hill west of them wiped out one house at 45888 June Alley, trapping homeowner Diane Bergsma, who managed to escape.

The unstable hill was analyzed by Bellingham-based GeoEngineers, which determined in a report submitted to Town of Concrete that the four now-condemned homes were in a "Life Safety Zone." If another slide occurred on the hill, the

report stated, the inhabitants of those four homes could lose their lives.

Concrete Mayor Judd Wilson and the town's building inspector, Jack

See Fire, p. 39



Left: Assistant Chief Jim Past with the Concrete Volunteer Fire Department lights a smudge fire in a metal oil pan inside a house on Division Street in Concrete June 25. Past created a little flame and a lot of smoke for a training exercise that brought five east county fire departments to town.

Above: Rockport firefighters drag hoses into position before entering a house during the June 25 training session.

Imagine Concrete follow-up workshop unveils ideas

A follow-up Imagine Concrete workshop June 25 in the Commons room at Concrete High School focused on presenting the results from the April 16 workshop, during which participants revisited the ideas that were generated two years ago, brainstormed new ideas, and added them to each of the five initiatives that grew from the first workshop. Top ideas from each initiative included:

Initiative 1: Transform Concrete into a sustainable community/destination

- Analyze use efficiency of Senior Center and Resource Center/Library: Create complex with community/ youth center and all of the above
- Use/reuse vacant downtown buildings; encourage/force absentee landlords to maintain their buildings
- Work with WSDOT to communicate that east county towns are still open when the pass is closed: "SR 20 open to Lyman, Hamilton, Concrete, Rockport, Marblemount, Newhalem."
- Build a single complex that includes a youth center, community center, pool, Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts, karate, bowling alley, roller-skating rink,

See Imagine Concrete, p. 39

Vacation Bible School at Community Bible July 24–29

Attention all kids (Preschool through 8th grade)! Pyramids. The Sphinx. Sun. Sand. Mystery. Intrigue. Journey with us as we travel to Egypt in Vacation Bible School's thriller, *The Egypt File: Decoding the Mystery of Life*.

VBS will run from Sun., July 24, through Fri., July 29, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., with dinner at 5 p.m. The best part is, it's all FREE!

VBS will be held at Community Bible Church, 45672 Limestone St., Concrete. For more information, call Cheryl Werda at 360.853.8095.

Concrete Lions Club Fly-In Breakfast

Sat., July 23, 7 to 11 a.m.
Concrete High School cafeteria

Pancakes, eggs, sausage
coffee & juice

Adults: \$5
Seniors and kids under 12: \$4

PSE offers July tours of Baker River Hydroelectric Project Opportunity to see tall hydropower dams, advanced fish-transport facilities

CONCRETE — Reservations are now being accepted for free public tours on Sat., July 23, of Puget Sound Energy's Baker River Hydroelectric Project, located in and north of Concrete in the picturesque North Cascades.

Travelling by bus from Concrete, tour participants will make stops at both of PSE's large Baker River dams. They'll also visit the utility's extensive facilities for boosting the river's salmon runs.

Tour reservations are required and availability is limited. For more information or to book a reservation, call PSE at 360.766.5656 or send an e-mail to tours@pse.com.

One of the tour's fisheries stops will be at PSE's reconstructed, enhanced fish trap. The highly automated facility attracts, holds, and sorts migrating adult salmon for safe upstream "fish taxi" transport around both Baker River dams. Other tour stops include the fish hatchery built in 2010 by PSE near Upper Baker Dam, and nearby, the utility's refurbished sockeye-salmon spawning beaches.

In addition, tour participants will stop atop Upper Baker Dam to view PSE's 3-year-old "floating surface collector." The apparatus is a 1,000-ton, barge-like structure whose innovative design and equipment safely lure and hold juvenile salmon for downstream truck transport around the Baker River dams.

The Baker River Hydroelectric Project is the largest of PSE's three hydropower facilities in Washington. Lower Baker Dam can generate up to 79 megawatts of power, while Upper Baker Dam can produce 91 megawatts at maximum capacity. Together, the dams can serve the peak power demand of about 130,000 households. This summer, PSE will begin construction of a second Lower Baker powerhouse, with 30 MWs of generating capacity.

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2. Send a friend request to Concrete Herald.
3. Bask in the glow of its friendship.

Fair, cont. from p. 1

designed to bring healthy family fun to eastern Skagit County.

"It's our way of reaching out and working with the community," said Nicole Paterson, communications assistant at United General. "We always look forward to bringing health screenings and resources to Concrete."

The street fair features the Cinder Shins 5k Fun Run at 8 a.m., sponsored by *Concrete Herald* (meet at the Town Center sign on Main Street), Zumba (a Latin dance workout) presented by Encore Fitness, and a motorcycle show sponsored by Eagles in Flight. The motorcycle show is open to bikes of all makes and models, with check-in required by noon and judging taking place at 1 p.m.

Main Street will be lined with arts and crafts booths, and families also can enjoy a children's activity area that includes a display by the Skagit County Children's Museum.

Live music for the fair will be provided by "Detour," a country swing band from Tacoma, and well-known singer Marcia Kester from Mount Vernon. Radio station KSVU 90.1 FM will be broadcasting from the event and will provide information about its new on-air programming and volunteer opportunities.

Activities also will be held at the Concrete Theatre throughout the day, including free tours, cartoons, and a series of rare motorcycle footage in a locally produced documentary titled, "Motorcycles: the Good, the Bad and the

Custom." Also featured at the Theatre is the third annual Cement City Poetry & Music Festival, from 1:30 to 3 p.m., with regional poets and performers.

More information about the event is at www.unitedgeneral.org. Applications for hosting an activity or booth will be accepted until 5 p.m. on July 13.

For more information, or to request an application, contact Lindsey Dostart at United General Hospital, 360.856.7245 or events@unitedgeneral.org.

3-day Fly-In lands in Concrete

It's back! July 22–24 brings the North Cascades Fly-In—a.k.a., Concrete Fly-In—back to town for three days of planes, food, and fun.

Billed as "the greatest little fly-in in the Pacific Northwest," the event is one of Concrete's most popular during the summer months.

This year's fly-in begins on Fri., July 22, at Mears Field (Concrete Municipal Airport), with aircraft judging, fly-bys, and buddy rides. Open-cockpit rides also will be available, according to organizers. The Skagit Aero Museum will be open to the public all three days. At 7:30 p.m., a movie will be shown at the museum. At 9 p.m., weather permitting, there will be a hot air balloon burn. Camping is available at the field; restrooms and showers are at the Pilots' Lounge.

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On Fri., July 23, start the day with breakfast at the high school, served from 7 to 11 a.m. by Concrete Lions Club members. Food vendors will be on site all day. Look for fly-bys and buddy rides again, as well as available open-cockpit rides.

Aircraft awards will be presented in the afternoon. Look for a movie again at 7:30 p.m., and a 9 p.m. hot air balloon burn.

Sunday is typically a "winding down" day, but food is available and the planes will be on display until their pilots decide to take off. Look for fly-bys and, finally, departing planes.

For more information, go to www.concretewafflyin.org. Note to pilots: Fuel is not available at Mears Field.

—J. K. M.

Taco Tuesdays!

3 tacos for \$3

Concrete Eagles, Aerie #1444
Concrete Town Center

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through September

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PEDIATRICS now in Sedro-Woolley

with Brad Berg, MD, PhD



Skagit Regional Clinics is pleased to bring Pediatrics to their Sedro-Woolley office with Brad Berg, MD, PhD. Dr. Berg is a board certified pediatrician providing health care to children from infancy to 18 years. His focus is on general pediatrics, ADHD, depression and developmental disorders.


Pediatric appointments are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every Thursday in the Sedro-Woolley office. To schedule an appointment in **Sedro-Woolley**, please call (360) 856-4222. If we see an increase in demand for pediatric services for Sedro-Woolley we may be able to add additional days.

Dr. Berg also serves the Mount Vernon office which offers Pediatrics Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To schedule an appointment in **Mount Vernon**, please call (360) 428-2500.

Additional services in our Sedro-Woolley clinic include: Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Optometry and Podiatry. Skagit Regional Clinics is committed to providing all of our communities with compassionate, multi-specialty health care.

Dr. Berg's Education:

- MD - University of Rochester School of Medicine (1999)
- RESIDENCY - Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (Pediatrics-2002)
- FELLOWSHIP - Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (2003)



Skagit Regional Clinics
A department of Skagit Valley Hospital

(360) 856-4222 | www.srclinics.org
1990 Hospital Drive, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

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Sedro-Woolley's Outdoor Movies

Presented by: 



July 8th



July 15th



July 22nd



July 29th



Aug 5th



Aug 12th

Live music begins at 8:00pm Corner of Warner & Walley Streets

www.sedro-woolley.com *Friday nights Summer of 2011* **360-855-1841**



Athletes of the Year

Warner, Howell take top honors



Sophomore Kylee Warner was voted women's Athlete of the Year by the Concrete Lions Booster Club. She led the Lady Lions basketball team this season with 178 rebounds, 12 blocked shots, and 66 percent on free throws. She used her height to deliver 53 blocks and 46 kills during the volleyball season.

2010–11 VOLLEYBALL stats and honors

84% serving
19 aces
49 digs
Led team with 53 blocks and 46 kills
Most Valuable Player

2010–11 BASKETBALL stats and honors

21 games played
33% on 2 pt. shots; avg. 7.6 pts. per game
10% on 3 pt. shots
66% on free throws (team leader)
160 total points on season (2nd on team, 19th in county)
178 rebounds (team leader); avg. 8.5 per game
17 assists
28 steals
12 blocked shots (team leader)
Queen of the Boards (most rebounds)
Athlete of the Month

2010–11 FASTPITCH stats and honors

Stats unavailable at publication time
Most Improved; Honorable Mention All 1A/2B League

Kylee Warner believes in pushing herself to be her best, and it shows. “Hard work is its own reward,” she says. It’s one of her favorite quotes.

This past school year, the sophomore snagged the women’s Athlete of the Year honor from the Concrete Lions Booster Club—an unusual accomplishment, given her year in school.

But on the basketball and volleyball courts—and the fastpitch field—Warner proved why she is worthy of the title.

During the volleyball season she used her 5’ 9” height to lead the team with 53 blocks and 46 kills. Her serving percentage topped out at 84 percent, and she racked up 19 aces and 49 digs.

As a forward for the Lady Lions basketball team, she was named “Queen of the Boards” for her team-leading 178 rebounds on the season. She also led the team with 66 percent on free throws, and scored 160 total points—the second highest on the team and 19th in Skagit County.

Not surprisingly, basketball is Warner’s favorite sport. “I like the contact, the physical element, and the fast pace.”

On first base for the Lady Lions fastpitch team, Warner captured an Honorable Mention for the All 1A/2B League team, and a Most Improved award. Next spring, she’ll turn her attention to track.

Warner said she’s already setting goals for the upcoming seasons. In volleyball, “I want to bump my serving up to 85 or 90 percent, but I’m going to have to work for that.” In basketball, “I want to try to get Queen of the Boards again.”

Warner’s father, Eric, says he sees big things in store for his daughter and the teams. “Kylee is very coachable. She listens and works hard,” he said, adding that “there’s a lot of girls deserving of the (Athlete of the Year) honor; she’s looking forward to being part of the team.”

Like most athletes, Warner has room to grow in every sport. But she’s made it clear she doesn’t mind working hard. Just don’t get in her way.

Kyler Howell played three sports during the 2010–11 school year, competing in each one with his trademark ferocity.

He went into the football season with his eyes on the end zone, and soon found himself staring at the possibility of breaking the Skagit County career rushing record.

During a Nov. 4 regular-season game against Darrington, he made history. Heading into the game with only 30 yards remaining to break the record, Howell got the nod on the first play and rumbled 53 yards for a score.

At the end of the season, Howell’s career rushing stats stood at 464 carries for 3,622 yards, eclipsing the previous record held by fellow Lion Eli Sanchez, who racked up 3,414 yards from 1990–93. Howell scored 68 touchdowns total, with 42 extra points for 452 points—another county record. His 220 points on the season made him the first Skagit County player in at least a decade to score more than 200 points. He had three 1,000-yard rushing seasons, even after missing four games last year because of an injury, and missing one forfeited game this season.

Howell brought that drive to the Lions basketball team, scoring approximately 10 points per game and racking up 5 assists per game. His powerful rejections of some opposing players’ shots earned him the title of “Mr. Defense” from his peers.

As the school year wound down, Howell wound up and pitched for the Lions baseball team, as well as playing shortstop. Head Coach Jim Newby called him one of his three “horses,” and with good reason.

Howell logged an impressive .455 batting average, setting a new school record with 117 career hits. He stole 16 bases on the season, and led the team with 91 strikeouts and a 2.08 ERA. He was chosen as an infield player for the All League 1st Team, and was nominated to the EAST/WEST All State Game.

What’s next for Howell? He’ll head to Yakima Valley Community College this fall, and strap on his baseball glove for them.



Graduated senior Kyler Howell was voted men’s Athlete of the Year by the Concrete Lions Booster Club. Howell made news during the 2010–11 school year by setting new county rushing and scoring records during the football season, and being nominated to the EAST/ WEST All State baseball team. This fall he’ll play baseball at Yakima Valley Community College.

2010–11 FOOTBALL stats and honors

Set new county rushing record: 3,622 yards
Set new county scoring record: 68 TDs, 452 points
Most Valuable Player
Northwest/Seatac 2B League All-League Team, League MVP Offense, 1st Team Defense
Nominated to the EAST/WEST All State Game
Associated Press All State Team 2B, Honorable Mention

2010–11 BASKETBALL stats and honors

Approx. 10 pts. per game
Approx. 5 assists per game
Mr. Defense

2010–11 BASEBALL stats and honors

.455 batting avg.
16 stolen bases
91 strikeouts (team lead)
2.08 ERA (team lead)
All League 1st Team infield
Team Captain
Set new school record: 117 career hits
Nominated to the EAST/WEST All State Game

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AWARDS

Mr. Reliable
Simon Marks-Franks
Miss Can Be Counted On
Maryka Gentry
Mr. Clown Toss
Dilyn Stidman
Mr. Mellow
Bradley McGuire
Mr. Bionic
Robert DiLeo Jr.
Miss Management
Seantel Shope
Miss No Questions Asked
Olivia Davis
Mr. Flash
Matthew Holman
Mr. Yell King
Jose Torres
Miss Take One for the Team
Anastasia Zitkovich
Miss Forever Strong
Heather Collins
Miss Sparkplug
Angie Mclaughlin
Mr. Initiative
Aidan Walsh
Miss Ain’t No Mountain High Enough
Thea O’Brien
Miss Wonder Woman
Sarah Spaeth
Miss No ‘I’ in Team
Shelby Lloyd
Miss Mighty Mouse
Samantha Christensen
Miss Achiever
Heather Mitchell
Mr. Team Player
Kellen Russell
Miss In It to Win It
Jessica Filtz
Mr. Good for Another Round
Ben Troka
Mr. Rebound
Nate Long
Mr. Misfortune
Josiah Martin
Mr. In Like a Lion, Out Like a Lamb
Ben Lam
Mr. Stand-up Guy
Hayden Holbrook
Mr. Stagger
Andy Aiken
Mr. Repair Man
Dennis Dorgan
Mr. Heart and Soul
Justin Soule
Mr. County
Kevin August
Mr. Quick like a Cat
Alex Aiken
Mr. Third Time’s the Charm
Colton Maloney
Mr. Irreplaceable
DJ Mitchell
Mr. Musclem
Forest Barnedt
Miss Stitch to Pitch
Kassandra Barnedt
DJ Mitchell’s Captain’s Choice Award
Emilee Fenley
Kellen Russell’s Captain’s Choice Award
Ben Troka
Kevin August’s Captain’s Choice Award
Andy Aiken
Captains’ Choice Award (all three captains)
Hayden Holbrook

cont., next column

Mr. Willing to Learn
Caleb Harrison
Miss Little Engine that Could
Emilee Fenley
Most Inspirational
Kellen Russell
Most Dedicated
Dennis Dorgan
Most Valuable Teammate, Male
Kevin August
Most Valuable Teammate, Female
Jessica Filtz
Coaches’ Awards
Emilee Fenley
DJ Mitchell

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK AWARDS, Girls

Team Spirit
Jasmine Hopfield
Most Improved Runner
Katie Joens
Most Improved Thrower
Juanita Castaneda
Most Improved Jumper
Renay Miller
Best Complainer
Juanita Castaneda
Highest Energy
Renay Miller
Leadership
Jasmine Hopfield
Team’s Loudest
Anjelika Koenig
Sportsmanlike Behavior
Ashten Tygret
Most Athletic
Muriel Troka

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK AWARDS, Boys

Team Spirit
Josh Gentry
Most Improved Runner
Kevin Mclaughlin
Most Improved Thrower
River Lee
Most Improved Sprinter
Dawson Bass
Most Improved Jumper
Josh Gentry
Best Complainer
Seth Shaffer
Highest Energy
Dawson Bass
Leadership
Josh Gentry
Team’s Loudest
River Lee
Best Sportsmanlike Conduct
Sam Holbrook
Most Athletic
Kevin Mclaughlin

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Athletes of the Month are Emilee Fenley and Kevin August

Freshman trackster Emilee Fenley ran the 3200m and 1600m events. “Emilee is one of the most hardworking and dedicated athletes on the team,” said Co-head Coach Ashleigh Howell. “As a freshman, she was less than a second away from State. She never backed down from a challenge and always strived for her best in every race. She will be a force to be reckoned with in the years to come.” Graduating senior Kevin August competed in the triple jump (his favorite), high jump, long jump, and 4x100m relay team. He was named the 2011 Skagit County Champion in triple jump and long jump, and placed second in high jump. “Kevin has consistently been the top point earner for the high school boys’ team all three years he has participated in Track,” said Co-head Coach Vanessa Williams, August’s jumping coach. Fenley and August were selected by Concrete Lions Booster Club members based on their leadership, being team players, and demonstrating sportsmanship and character.

3rd Annual Cinder Shins 5K Fun Run

Sponsored By
Concrete Herald

Saturday, July 23
8 a.m. in Concrete

To register, e-mail your name,
mailing address, and phone number
to editor@concrete-herald.com or
call **360.853.8213**.

It's FREE!
It's HEALTHFUL!
It's FUN for the whole family!

A waiver and race details will be e-mailed or snail-mailed to you.
You must return the waiver to Concrete Herald by July 16 to be eligible to race.

Home Deals!

While Supplies Last!

2/5⁰⁰

Lemon or Fresh Scent Clorox Wipes

617112, 617130 Sale ends 7/31/11

Special Buy!

While Supplies Last!

11⁹⁷

2 Pk. Stainless Steel Solar Lights

517756 Sale ends 7/31/11

Come to Customer Appreciation Day!

Sat., July 9, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Door prizes!

Free pop and chips!

Hot dogs cooked by Concrete Lions Club members!

Special of the Month!

While Supplies Last!

4⁹⁷

Oscillator Sprinkler

724318 Sale ends 7/31/11

Tool Savings!

While Supplies Last!

5⁰⁰

50Pk. Utility Blades or Utility Knife

357544, 354066 Sale ends 7/31/11

45900 Main St., Concrete • 360.853.8811 • Mon.–Sat., 8:30 to 5:30

“A rock with a soft center”

Community mourned passing of CHS teacher and coach Terry Lane

Family, friends, colleagues, and former students gathered May 7 to bid farewell to one of Concrete’s most beloved teachers. More than a hundred guests poured into the Concrete High School gym to remember and honor Terry Lane, who taught and coached at the school for 31 years, from 1978 to his retirement in 2009. A lifelong athlete, Terry coached high school football, wrestling, baseball, and track, and middle school wrestling. Two generations of students went through his classrooms, and on every one he left an indelible mark.

“Mr. Lane taught me for a day,” said Marissa Wallen, 14. “He was a substitute in middle school for Mr. Newby and one day, when my dad died, he saw I was crying and talked to me for an hour. He was the only person who gave me a shoulder to cry on and listened to me for a day. He didn’t even know me, but the next day he came to the middle school and talked to me again. He helped me, and I never got a chance to thank him.

“I saw him before he had a heart attack and he told me to ‘remember that those who leave will always be with you,’” she said.

That heart attack came on Jan. 20 of this year, when Terry was at the high school to substitute for a teacher. Principal Don Beazizo and teacher Ron Rood performed CPR on Terry until the ambulance came. Their actions played a large role in keeping Terry alive for a few more months. A second apparent heart attack claimed his life on March 28.

Through the sadness, Terry’s family and friends remember his character, dedication, and sense of humor.

“He was a very quiet, private person,” said Terry’s wife, Marilyn, in a recent interview. “While he was at the hospital (after the first heart attack), it was very emotional for him to know that so many people were interested in his situation and caring about him. ‘Why is everybody so interested in me?’” he’d ask.

Terry stuck in people’s memories, said Marilyn. “We’d go on vacation in California, and we’d hear people yell, ‘Hey, is that Mr. Lane?’ Even the man who performed the graveside service at Greenacres recognized him.”

At the May 7 memorial, Terry’s character and humor were recalled by



Terrance “Terry” John Lane, 1944–2011.

“Lane-isms”

Terry Lane will be remembered for many things, not the least of which were his original, painfully funny one-liners. Former students shared some of their favorites.

“What’s brown and sticky? A stick!”
Cassandra Rauch, class of ’07

“What has four legs and if it fell out of a tree it would kill you? A pool table!”
Jack Mattingly, ’05

“Why do elephants have such large feet? To stomp out the burning chickens!”
Matthew Williams, ’04

“Why are elephants big, gray, and wrinkly? Because if they were small, white, and round, they would be aspirin!”
“What is purple and flies? SUPER GRAPE!”
Brittany Howell, ’07

“What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh!”
Andrea Fichter, ’95

See Lane, p. 27

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 can make an appointment to visit the museum or do research in our library outside of our regular hours by calling Robin at 360.826.3075 or e-mailing 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.

New donations: Bob Keith’s family donated a model he made of the Rockport ferry and a framed picture of old Concrete. Clarice Tingley donated a 1930 CHS class picture that includes Jack Hoover. She also donated a copy of her book, *Wildcat*, about tugs on the Skagit River.

Cascade Loop: Robin and Gerry from

the Concrete Heritage Museum are among the people featured in a new tourist booklet/CD combo pack.

New cabinets: John donated some new map-type cabinets for the office to store some oversize items from our collection/archives. He is working to publish a file plan for our office files and to separate them from archive material.

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

At the Upper Skagit Library

A very enthusiastic crowd of more than 60 children and adults welcomed **Reptile Man** on June 21. Several reptiles, including a python, a rattlesnake, a tortoise/turtle, and lizards were discussed and displayed. Later, everyone was allowed to get a closer look and to touch (or not!). This was certainly one of the most successful programs in years.

The next program is actually an activity: making **Mexican tin ornaments**, keeping to the multi-cultural theme of Many Stories, One World. The schedule for the performers and activities can be found on the library Web site at www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

The **summer reading program** is off to a great start, with nearly 50 keen readers registered during the first two weeks.

The library recently got a grant to purchase materials for use in **early learning sessions**. These sessions are aimed at 4- to 5-year-olds and their caregivers, whether those are parents or other relatives, babysitters, or day care providers. The purpose is to learn a more interactive approach to reading to young children in order to develop their skills in areas such as math, science, patterns, and

relationships. High-achieving first-graders have been read to more and have seen adults, themselves, reading more than low-achieving ones. Studies of fourth-, eighth-, and twelfth-graders show that those who read for pleasure on their own score between one-fifth and one-fourth higher on reading proficiency tests than those who do not do so. Reading with family often leads to higher gains in test scores than getting extra formal reading instruction in school. The amount of conversation children have with adults directly affects how well they develop thinking skills. Parents with 4- to 5-year-old children are welcome to attend. Dates and times will be posted on library doors and on the Web site at www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

We currently are taking a **user survey**, asking for your comments and opinions on the library. This is available at the front desk. Everyone is invited to fill out the form and to help us figure out what you want or need at the library. Then we have to figure out if we can provide that and how that will be done.

—Aimee Hirschel

Kilroy’s Korner

By John Boggs

We have a tentative agreement with Blade Chevrolet to provide some transportation to the combined Homeless Coalition and Veterans Stand-down event at Skagit Valley College in Mount Vernon on Sept. 8. We plan to run a shuttle service from Marblemount, Rockport, Concrete, Hamilton, and Lyman to the event and back. A schedule will be developed and available next month; space on the van may be reserved by signing up at the East County Resource Center in August. Other riders will be allowed on a strictly space-available basis, so reserve your seat.

We are still working on gathering the support and service agencies for our Veterans Stand-down in Concrete planned for Nov. 5.

Co-pays

If any of the following applies to you, check with your local veterans service officer, who will tailor the specifics to your individual case.

Financial assessments: Most veterans not receiving VA disability compensation or pension payments must provide information on their gross annual household income and net worth to determine whether they are eligible for certain health benefits. Veterans who have income above the thresholds must agree to co-pays, essentially placing them in service Priority Group 8. The VA is not currently accepting any veterans who decline to disclose their financial information, unless they have a special eligibility factor.

VA medical services and medication co-pays: There are a lot of rules and conditions that determine the levels of required co-pays. The service Priority Group and length of hospital stays within any 365-day period is the biggest determining factor.

Extended care: Some extended-care services are also subject to co-pays and require additional paperwork, but range from \$0 to \$97 per day.

Outpatient care: Once again there are a lot of rules regarding this area. A three-tier system is used for all outpatient services. The co-pay for a primary care visit ranges from \$15 to \$50 for some specialized care. Veterans with a 10 percent or greater service-connected disability are exempt from co-pay requirements for in- or

See Kilroy, p. 39

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Celebrations

Barb Hoover of Concrete celebrated her 84th birthday on May 21. Hosted by Barb’s oldest granddaughter, Karissa Sokol, and her husband, Brad, at their home in Mount Vernon, the event drew about 20 family members for barbecue and good times. Another of Barb’s granddaughters, Brianna Jacobs, and her husband, Dane, were in attendance, too, along with Barb’s fourth great grandchild (and the only great-granddaughter), Adia Mae Jacobs, born May 13.

Jonathan Philip Royal and Katelyn Joy Kessler were married June 26, 2011, at Lairmont Manor in Bellingham.

The bride is the daughter of Mike and Pam Kessler of Mount Vernon. She is a 2005 graduate of Mount Vernon Christian School and a 2010 graduate of Western Washington University. She is employed by Macy’s in Bellevue.

The groom is the son of Dan and Maureen Royal of Birdview, and Bobi DuVarney of Reno, Nevada. He is a 2003 graduate of Concrete High School and a 2009 graduate of Western Washington University. He is employed by Auto Nation in Bellevue.

Jon and Katelyn will honeymoon in Maui and plan to make their home in Bellevue.

Kessler, Royal

Perks Espresso & Deli

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Academics

CONCRETE K-8 SCHOOL

The following 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students at Concrete K-8 School received honors for high marks for the last semester. An asterisk before a name denotes a student with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Grade 4 Honor Roll

*Jonathan Akers, Kaden Becker, Michael Booker, Cassie Bridge, Tiana Brookshire, Evan Cleland, *Tyler Coffell, Dylan Darsch, Michael Denny, Marissa Huizar, *Mikayla Johnson, Jasmine Lloyd, *Dalton Newby, Hayden O'Neil, *Dakota Ross, *Danielle Ross, Jaidyn Swanson, Nora Towner.

Grade 5 Honor Roll

Garrett Brimmer, Emma Claybo, *Whitney Claybo, Kaleb Engler, Riley Fichter, Michael Filtz, Conner French, Caroline Gregush, Tyler Hansen, Hannah Haskett, Sabrina Jansen, *Gracie Johnson, *Hailey Johnson, *Erica Knuth, *McKenna Kononen, Cole Meacham, Gabrielle Munday, Jack Perrin, Brandon Pratt, Madisyn Renzelman, Kassiopeia Roberts, Geneva Scherer, *Emily Schmidt, Alan Smith, *Mary Spangler, Jasara Taylor-Temple, Tanner

Tygret, Heather Warner.

Grade 6 Honor Roll

Kayla Anderson, Brook Barnedt, Tessa Coffell, Ashlee Gilbert, Sidney Hockett, *Treyton Howell, Anna Huppuch, Jaycelyn Kuipers, Grayson Luttrell, Kevah Martin, Tate Mathis, Sean Pratt, *Riley Pritchard, Rebecca Ross, Kyra Smith, Chloe Stidman, Destiny Vanbibber, Austin Wenneker, Tanner Wilson.

Grade 7 Honor Roll

Jessica Bridge, Cassidy Cargile, Megan Fenley, Joshua Gentry, Samuel Holbrook, Jasmine Hopfield, *Katherine Joens, *Hannah Kononen, Abigail Martinsen, Cole McLaughlin, Haley McNealey, Donald Olmstead, Amanda Perry, *David Quang, Seth Shaffer, *Tye Thompson, Ashten Tygret, Josiah Werda.

Grade 8 Honor Roll

Kelse Cargile, Madeline Corn, Kathleen Haverstick, Anjelika Koenig, Renay Miller, Chris Quang, Emily Stidman, Muriel Troka, Taylor Warner.

CONCRETE HIGH SCHOOL

The following students at Concrete High

School received a 3.20 to 4.00 GPA for the last semester. An asterisk before a name denotes a student with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Grade 9

Forest Barnedt, Elijah Crosson, Emilee Fenley, Morgan Hazel, Sara Jenkins, Simon Marks-Franks, *Kate McLaughlin, *Dallas Newby, Joshua Rogge, Javon Thrasher.

Grade 10

Arielle Aiken, Olivia Davis, Jessica Filtz, Maryka Gentry, Drake Jansen, Alex Joens, Angie McLaughlin, Christina Prater, Frankie Rohweder, Melia Thompson, Claire Tingstrom, Kylee Warner, Michelle Yarber.

Grade 11

Andy Aiken, Kassandra Barnedt, Adrianna Canales, Tyler Clark, Dennis Dorgan, Arienne Fengler-Nelson, Jocelyn Hernandez, Samantha Miller-Jack, Thea O'Brien, *Emily Ogle, Danielle Pringle, Blaze Rautanen, Sarah Spaeth, Aiden Walsh.

Grade 12

Alex Aiken, Spencer Duffy, Kyler Howell, Cody Mills, Kelsey Mitchell, Megan Rogge, Kellen Russell, Shae Van Wagoner, Miranda Wallen.

Scholarships

Grasmere Fire Department

Dalton Dellinger, Megan Rogge

Sedro-Woolley Rotary Club

Megan Rogge, Shae Van Wagoner

Jack Livie Masonic Lodge Scholarship

Megan Rogge, Shae Van Wagoner

Community Bible Church

Miranda Wallen

Birdsview Fire Department

Chris Phillips, Miranda Wallen, Shelby Lloyd

Concrete Public School Employees

Miranda Wallen, Megan Rogge, Evan Holm

Upper Skagit Valley Education Assn

Megan Rogge, Shae Van Wagoner

Marblemount Fire Department

Ashley Johnson, Chris Phillips, Dalton Dellinger

Eastern Star Scholarship

Megan Rogge

St. Martin/St. Francis Episcopal Church

Miranda Wallen

Concrete Eagles Aerie #1444

Dalton Dellinger

Concrete Eagles Auxiliary

Kyler Howell

American Legion and Auxiliary

Shae Van Wagoner, Megan Rogge

Mount Baker Presbyterian Church

Chris Phillips

Concrete Lions Booster Club

Kyler Howell, Megan Rogge

Hornbeck Memorial

Kyler Howell, Chris Phillips

Concrete Fire Department

Shelby Lloyd, Kyler Howell

Hoggar Doggar Social Club

Dalton Dellinger

Tom Buller Memorial

Kyler Howell

Concrete Lions Club

Alex Aiken, Megan Rogge, Shae Van Wagoner

Hampton Lumber Mills

Megan Rogge

Everett Family

Megan Rogge

Raymond "Ray" Beazizo Memorial

Chris Phillips

Duke University

Shae Van Wagoner

Terry Lane Memorial

Megan Rogge, Shae Van Wagoner

Columbia Bank

Alex Aiken

Brayton/Harshman Scholarship

Kyler Howell

Myran Benton Memorial Scholarship

Megan Rogge

Concrete Saturday Market

Chris Phillips

Albert Frank Memorial

Alex Aiken, Megan Rogge

Please recycle this newspaper!

Garage Sale & Car Wash

to send middle school students to Washington, D.C., with WorldStrides in June 2012

July 23-24
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Concrete Elementary

Donations needed!
Call 360.661.4406
or e-mail
birdiegir19800@frontier.com.

Soroptimist scholarship opportunity

Soroptimist International of Sedro-Woolley offers Continuing Education Scholarships to graduates of Sedro-Woolley and Concrete High Schools who are currently enrolled in their sophomore, junior, or senior year of college. This is not for current high school seniors. Please send a one- to two-page letter describing:

1. Education plans
 2. Career goals
 3. Involvement in community service
- Include contact information, including phone number and e-mail address where you may be reached.

Attach a copy of your most recent transcript and mail application packet to: Soroptimist Int'l of Sedro-Woolley
ATTN: Scholarship Committee
P. O. Box 249
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284
For more information, e-mail Becky Taft at jrtaft@frontier.com.
Application deadline is July 31, 2011.
Applications received after this date will not be considered.

2011-12 Kindergarten registration under way

Concrete Elementary School is accepting kindergarten registrations for the 2011-12 school year.

Students must be 5 years of age by August 31 to be eligible to attend kindergarten. Parents must provide complete copies of their child's birth certificate and immunization records before the first day of school. For more information, call the elementary school at 360.853.8145.

CONCRETE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2011 AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Senior Awards

Phi Beta Kappa Book Award

Shae Van Wagoner

American Assn of University Women of Washington, Excellence in Technology

Megan Rogge

AAUWW Excellence in Mathematics

Seantel Shope

AAUWW Excellence in Science

Miranda Wallen

Cont., next column

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*Information as of December 31, 2010.



Columbia Bank



Clear Lake



Clear Lake Historical Assn to offer walking tour

Story and photos by Sylvia Matterand

History buffs, lace up those shoes. On Tues., July 26 at 7 p.m., Clear Lake Historical Association will once again offer its walking history tour.

This is the second annual history walking tour, which was begun last year and covered the area between Clear Lake Elementary School and Evelyn's Tavern. This year we will pick up where we left off, beginning at Clear Lake Market and heading south.

Clear Lake Historical Association historian Deanna Ammons will show historical photos of former businesses and buildings, describe what is there and what was there, and give attendees a glimpse into the minds of the people who lived

and worked in our community so many decades ago.

Anyone interested in the walking tour is asked to meet at the Clear Lake Historical Association Hall, formerly known as the IOOF Hall, at 12655 Highway 9 in Clear Lake. The walking tour will take about an hour. Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes to enjoy this on-site tour of Clear Lake.

After the walking tour we will convene back at the Clear Lake Historical Association Hall for a business meeting.

For more information about this year's walking tour, contact historian Deanna Ammons at 360.856.6798.



Above and below: Clear Lake Historical Association historian Deanna Ammons (center right, with sunglasses and folder) speaks to a group of participants during last year's walking history tour of Clear Lake. This year's walking tour is scheduled for July 26 at 7 p.m., and will cover the area south of Clear Lake Market. Anyone interested in taking the tour should meet at the Clear Lake Historical Association Hall at 12655 Highway 9 in Clear Lake. For more information, contact Deanna Ammons at 360.856.6798.



Women's Retreat slated for Oct. 7-9

The Upper Skagit Valley Women's Ministries team will hold its annual nondenominational Women's Retreat Oct. 7-9 at the Baker Lake Lodge.

This year's theme is "Choose Forgiveness," featuring speaker Karen Ellison. The event will offer an additional day this year, beginning Friday night and continuing through Sunday morning, including worship services. The new, expanded format allows attendees to make a choice of an extra day of participation.

Registration brochures will be available by mid-June and will be mailed out to all previous participants. Brochures also will be available at various outlets within the community.

The retreat features worship and learning opportunities in a relaxed and casual Christian atmosphere. The group's stated mission is to provide an interlude of inspiration and refreshment for women in east county communities.

Details and a registration form can be found at www.stumpbranchonline.com/upperskagitwomen. Interested women also may call 360.826.3849 or 360.826.6141.

Don't be shy



**Got a story worth telling?
Concrete Herald wants to tell it!**

Contact:

**Jason Miller, editor
360.853.8213**

editor@concrete-herald.com

Concrete Herald



Community Calendar



JULY

- 8 Town of Concrete Community Movie Night, Silo Park (at silos), dusk, weather permitting; info at 360.853.8401 or www.townofconcrete.com
- 8 Sedro-Woolley Outdoor Movie nights begin; see ad, p. 7; info at www.sedro-woolley.com
- 9 Lyman Car & Craft Show, Lyman, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; see article, p. 18; info at 360.855.1280 or 360.661.3954
- 9 Sedro-Woolley High School Alumni Association's annual All-Class Picnic, Riverfront Park, Sedro-Woolley, 11 a.m., lunch at 1 p.m.; \$15 per person; reserve in advance; info at www.swhsalumni.blogspot.com
- 11 SWCTS Combat Flag motorcycle-escorted transport from Lyman Town Hall to KAPS/KBRC Radio Station, Mount Vernon, 9 a.m.; info at 360.202.8128, coordinator@swcommunitytroopssupport.com, or online at www.swcommunitytroopssupport.com
- 11-15 Day Creek Chapel Vacation Bible School; see announcement, p. 19; info at 360.770.1765
- 15-16 Country Carver Chainsaw Carving Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Glacier Peak Restaurant, Darrington; live auction July 16, 4:30 p.m.; 360.913.2779
- 15-17 Darrington Bluegrass Festival, Darrington; see article, p. 25; info at www.glacierview.net/bluegrass, bluegrassdiana45@yahoo.com, or 360.436.1179
- 16 Holy Clothes on Wheels free clothes for those in need, The Reach Church, 720 N. Puget St., Sedro-Woolley, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 21 Concrete Youth Activity Day, Silo Park, Concrete; 12:30 to 5 p.m.; see article, p. 1; info at 360.419.3307 or 360.336.9406
- 22-23 Day Creek Fire Dept. Garage Sale, Day Creek Fire Hall, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Fri.) and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Sat.); see announcement, p. 19; info at 360.826.1155
- 22-24 North Cascades Fly-In, Mears Field, Concrete; www.concretewaflyin.org
- 23 Concrete Lions Club Fly-In Breakfast, Concrete High School cafeteria, \$5 adults, \$4 seniors and children under 12; 7 to 11 a.m.
- 23 Cinder Shins Fun Run, Concrete, 8 a.m. start; see ad, p. 9
- 23 Cement City Street Fair, Concrete Town Center, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; info at <http://concrete-wa.com>
- 23 Puget Sound Energy Baker River Tours, buses leave CHS at 10, 10:30, and 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m.; see article on p. 19 and ad on p. 3
- 23 Grasmere Fire Hall Scholarship Fundraiser Dance, 7-11 p.m.; live band, food, prizes; \$15 per person, \$30 per couple; contact a Grasmere firefighter for tickets
- 23-24 Garage Sale and Car Wash to finance middle school students' trip to Washington, D.C., Concrete Elementary School, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; donations needed, call 360.661.4406 or e-mail birdiegirl9800@frontier.com
- 26 Clear Lake Historical Assn walking tour: Meet at Clear Lake Historical Assn Hall, 12655 Hwy 9, Clear Lake; 7 p.m.; info at 360.856.6798
- 30 S-W Community Troop Support Poker Run; see article, p. 5; info at www.swcommunitytroopssupport.com

AUGUST

- 5-7 Rockport Fire Dept. Community Garage Sale, Rockport Fire Hall on Alfred St., Rockport; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; see article, p. 24; 360.853.7699
- 13 Concrete High School Classes of 1940s no-host BBQ, The Eatery, Marblemount, noon, bring your own chairs; info at 360.853.8942
- 18 Town of Concrete Community Movie Night, Silo Park (at silos), dusk, weather permitting; info at 360.853.8401 or www.townofconcrete.com
- 20-21 Cascade Days, Concrete; info at www.cascadedays.com
- 30 Small-town specialist Becky McCray presentation in Concrete; see article, p. 4; details to come in August issue of *Concrete Herald*

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

Community meetings

Concrete Chamber of Commerce meets the second Thur. of each month at 8 a.m. Meetings usually are held at Hi. Lo. Country Bar & Grill, 7296 Baker St., Concrete Town Center. 360.466.8754 or concretechamber@mac.com.

Concrete Eagles Aerie 1444 holds Aerie meetings the first and third Wed. of each month at 7:30 p.m., and Auxiliary meetings the first and third Tue. at 7:30 p.m., at 45930 Main St., Concrete. tuffenuf1@frontier.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 July 27 at 7 p.m. in the high school Commons. The board will hold a workshop that same night at 5:30 p.m. in the high school Commons. A 2011-12 budget hearing will follow at 6:30 p.m. 360.853.8141.

Concrete Town Council meets the second and fourth Mon. 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@glacierview.net.

Friends of Upper Skagit Library meets annually in Feb. each year. 360.853.8549 or uslfrinds@gmail.com.

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.

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.

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 the second and fourth Monday of each month (no meeting in July) at locations TBA, at 7 p.m. 360.855.3500 or rmiller@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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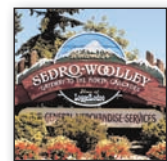
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Sedro-Woolley



United General seeks alliance with PeaceHealth

SEDRO-WOOLLEY — United General Hospital and PeaceHealth announced June 27 they have signed a nonbinding letter of agreement to begin exploring and negotiating a more closely integrated relationship.

“An alliance between United General and PeaceHealth would bring financial stability to United General,” said Greg Reed, CEO/Superintendent at United General. “This is a very positive step that could strengthen our capacity to care for patients in our community.”

“Being invited by United to help strengthen community-based healthcare services in Public Hospital District 304 is an honor for PeaceHealth,” said Peter Adler, Senior Vice President for Strategy, Innovation, and Development. “Responding to United’s request is what our Mission and Values guide us to do—to consider serving broader communities only when invited and only where there is a need for our services. We look forward to exploring this opportunity with United and the communities served by Hospital District 304.”

The letter of intent, the first formal step in the relationship-development process, allows the two healthcare systems to examine integration in greater detail. The two organizations expect to spend six months completing “due diligence” work before deciding if they will move forward with the signing of a definitive agreement, which would require regulatory review and approvals, as well as board approvals by United and PeaceHealth.

One of many scenarios to be evaluated is for PeaceHealth to manage and deliver services at United General. A wide range of possibilities and potential benefits will be researched by both organizations over the coming months.

“We know there are significant health-care changes on the horizon with federal healthcare reform, and critical access hospitals like United must seek innovative ways to expand services while still driving down costs,” said Reed. “Due to the breadth and depth of services offered by PeaceHealth, as well as our very successful and growing existing

relationship with PeaceHealth (including the PeaceHealth Medical Group clinic currently operating on the United campus), we invited PeaceHealth to help evaluate a broader range of alliance options to help maintain and grow the services we provide to our community. We feel strongly about keeping this hospital and our many clinics and community-based services vibrant.”

PeaceHealth is a Northwest-based not-for-profit healthcare system serving multiple rural and urban communities in Washington, Oregon, and Alaska. It operates three critical access hospitals in communities considered either small and/or remote, and is opening a fourth on San Juan Island in 2012. United also is a critical access hospital, a federal designation for healthcare facilities serving geographically isolated areas.

United began its initial discussions with PeaceHealth in early 2009, following an extensive review of several healthcare systems by the hospital’s board. In May 2010, a PeaceHealth clinic was established on the United General campus, staffed by PeaceHealth Medical Group physicians who specialize in pulmonology, gastroenterology, and sleep medicine.

“The PeaceHealth clinic has been met with a great deal of community support and has been highly successful,” said Reed. “It demonstrates how well our two organizations work together.”

“Our focus is on creating networks of care that better serve all residents of our communities, regardless of their ability to pay,” said Nancy Steiger, CEO and Chief Mission Officer for Bellingham, Wash.-based PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center, one of eight PeaceHealth hospitals serving communities across the Northwest.

A series of public meetings is being planned to gather community input; dates, times, and locations will be posted at www.unitedgeneral.org and in local newspapers. For more information, contact Valerie Stafford, director of communications, at 360.856.7323, or communications@unitedgeneral.org.

Briefly ...

The Sedro-Woolley Lions Club recently awarded the Glenn Hall Memorial Academic Scholarship to Dustin Heuterman, son of Karl and Cynthia Heuterman of Sedro-Woolley.

The Stan Omdal / Dick Edelman Memorial Vocational Scholarship was awarded to Michelle Kaufman, daughter of Brenda King of Sedro-Woolley.

The John Hartman Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Lora Suryan, daughter of Mark and Rebecca Suryan of Snohomish.

The Sedro-Woolley High School Alumni Association’s annual All-Class Picnic will be held Sat., July 9, at Riverfront Park in Sedro-Woolley.

A fee of \$15 per person will be charged to help defray the costs of the event. Please reserve in advance by sending a check to: SWHSAA, P.O. Box 509, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

The event begins at 11 a.m., with lunch at 1 p.m. Organizers expect more than 400 former classmates to.

For more information, go online to www.swhsalumni.blogspot.com.

Find Concrete Herald on Facebook!



Alysann VanBeek, 11, of Everson, spins multiple hula hoops after the Blast from the Past hula hoop contest June 4. Alysann won first place in the contest in her age category.

Blast from the Past contest winners

Kids and adults of all ages turned out again for the signature contests of Blast from the Past. Here are the winners in each event.

Hula Hoop, ages 4–7

Rogan Willins, Summer Daniels

Hula Hoop, ages 8–11

Matthew Stephensen, Alysann VanBeek

Hula Hoop, ages 12–15

Austin Frizzell, Keisha Reynaga

Hula Hoop, ages 16 and older

Sean Timens, Jan Crouse

Jump Rope, ages 4–7

Isaac Cameron, Kiersten Waldrop

Jump Rope, ages 8–11

Cameron Moses, Adrianna Kimblin

Jump Rope, ages 12–15

(No boys), Destiny Johnson, Emily Peterson

Jump Rope, ages 16 and older

Mike in the Morning, Erin Kaplan

Pie Eating, ages 4–7

Floyd Dent, Lily Schols

Pie Eating, ages 8–11

Sean Oppe, Adrianna Kimblin

Pie Eating, ages 12–15

Colby Christison, Serrena Moses

Pie Eating, ages 16 and older

Jacob Kaech, Crystal Bullard

Woolley Fiber Quilters 2011 Quilt Show winners

People’s Choice

Category: Theme, Blast of Color

1st: Lisa Anderson, Mount Vernon

“Folded Log Cabin Tablerunner”

Louise Harris, Sedro-Woolley

“Circles Matter”

3rd: Jannette Kramer, Anacortes

“Tulip Fields”

Category: Youth (under 19 years of age)

1st: Ryleigh McComas, Stanwood

“Ryleigh’s Dogs”

2nd: Cody Cunningham, Arlington

“Color Confusion Sudoku”

3rd: Katie Swanson, Lyman

“A Sayonara to my Sister from Japan”

Category: Large (200+ inches in circumference)

1st: Heather Rogers, Sedro-Woolley

“Oriental Winding Ways”

2nd: Elinor Nakis, Sedro-Woolley

“Pansy Frenzy”

3rd: Cheryl Treadway, Burlington

“Blue and Yellow Flowers”

Category: Small (under 200 inches circumference)

1st: Roxanne Freberg, Stanwood

“Roxanne’s Sewing Machine”

2nd: Heather Rogers, Sedro-Woolley

“Fractured Garden”

3rd: Leola Stomieroski, Camano Island

“Dog on a Mission”

Category: Miniature

1st: Roxanne Freberg, Stanwood

“Wash Day”

2nd: Roxanne Freberg, Stanwood

“Watering Can”

3rd: Linda Downing, Sedro-Woolley

“Log Cabin”

Category: Other

1st: Teri Bever, Sedro-Woolley

“Chickens on my Table”

2nd: Noni Moody, Sedro-Woolley

“Mama’s Jacket”

3rd: Teri Bever, Sedro-Woolley

“Travel Ensemble”

Category: Challenge (must include an item from a dollar store)

1st: Jan Sager, Mount Vernon

“Fish the Skagit”

2nd: Bonita Yeager, Concrete

“I Saw What You Did”

3rd: Judy Johnson, Sedro-Woolley

“Teddie in Repose”

Celebrity Judge’s Choice

Judge: David Bricka

Selection: Shawnie Kaminski, Mount Vernon

“Stars and Stripes”

Judge: Debbie Allen

Selection: Kathleen Rathvon, Concrete

“Applique Houses”

Judge: Paul Kelley

Selection: Judy Steen, Bow

“Charming Fractions”

Congratulations to Dennis Jones of Oak Harbor, who won the 2011 raffle quilt: Blue and White Double Wedding Ring. He purchased his ticket at the Sedro-Woolley American Legion. His ticket was drawn by quilter Amelita Smith of Sedro-Woolley.



Amelita Smith, 12, of Sedro-Woolley, displays the monkey sock puppet quilt she created for the Woolley Fiber Quilters 2011 Quilt Show. Amelita was given the honor of drawing the winning raffle ticket this year, with the quilt going to Dennis Jones of Oak Harbor. Photo by Judy Johnson.

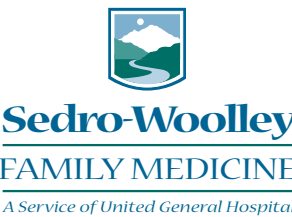


Adriana Amplayo, 5, of Sedro-Woolley, tears into a cup of shaved ice bigger than her head during Blast from the Past in Sedro-Woolley June 4. You go, girl!

Concrete Herald
The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

Choose a Doctor Who Understands Your Needs

Dr. Quek provides general family practice, well patient exams, and nutritional consulting. She is Board Certified in Family Medicine and has a Masters Degree in Clinical Nutrition. Dr. Quek is accepting new patients of all ages at the Sedro-Woolley Family Medicine Clinic, where most all insurance plans are accepted. For your convenience, Dr. Quek also has Saturday hours.



830 Ball Street, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284 (360) 855-1411



Dr. S H Vivien Quek



Lyman



Lyman Car & Craft Show rolls into town July 9

By Nancy Trythall

This year’s Lyman Car & Craft Show will be held July 9, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The show supports the Lyman Park and Cemetery, properties that are not tax-supported and depend on donations for maintenance and improvements. All proceeds from the show are donated to the park and cemetery.

This year we hope to break records with attendance of autos and people. We have 25 auto/truck classes. Our awards are unique each year. Local artist Sheila Torgeson paints a new picture each year for us to use as the artwork for our plaques and T-shirts. This year the picture features three autos and two trucks, with the Skagit River and mountains in the background.

We have a limited quantity of T-shirts for \$20 each, and we also have black-and-white shirts, plus a few tank tops. Shirts are on sale now at Lyman businesses. The last day to purchase a shirt will be the day of the show.

Sonja Haigh of Lyman sold sponsor banners to local businesses; the banners are hanging in town. Local businesses purchased advertisement on the banners, some with their logo and others with a picture of their favorite car. If anyone wants to purchase a sponsor banner for next year’s show, contact Sonja. The response to the banners has been huge and we are limited on the number we can hang in town. Sonja has also been busy signing up craft booths to local artists, as well as artists from other counties.

With the help of Best Buy in Burlington, we are selling raffle tickets for a Samsung

40” 1080p TV. Tickets are \$5 each and only 500 will be sold. We also have our general raffle with more than 50 prizes and a silent auction with some amazing items donated by local businesses.

Papa Murphy’s in Sedro-Woolley has generously donated its pizza again this year. Gail Ganga and her crew will set up their portable ovens and bake the pizza at the show, selling it by the slice.

Cascade Mercantile of Lyman will sell hot dogs and hamburgers; for a dollar extra you can add chili to your order. All proceeds will go to the Lyman Park and Cemetery Fund.

Craft Show a bonus

Last year we had more than 30 craft and specialty booths. Our craft area includes everything from paintings to woodworking, and from jewelry to spray-on tattoos and fresh-baked breads. Java Zone of Concrete will have a booth in our food area too. Speaking of food, feel free to drop off a nonperishable item or a cash donation at the Shepherd’s Heart Food Bank booth.

Another place to visit is the Lyman Tavern. Mayor and owner Debra Heinzman will serve breakfast starting at 8 a.m. The food is awesome, especially the biscuits and gravy.

The response to this year’s show has been very strong. Each year we grow; word on the street is that Lyman has one of the best car shows in Skagit County.

For more information, contact Nancy Trythall at 360.855.1280 or Sonja Haigh at 360.661.3954.



Rick Lemley from Sedro-Woolley brought his 1966 Chevy Nova to last year’s Lyman Car & Craft Show. This year’s event is slated for July 9, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and will include a raffle, tasty food, a craft area with dozens of booths, and, of course, plenty of cars.

Lyman Library tales

By Elaine Kohler

Everyone keeps telling me it is summer, but so far I haven’t seen much of it. The garden is trying and a lot of it is up and going, so I keep hoping. To help us in our gardens, we have several books available to help you with flowers and veggies. Also I always have a few seed catalogs on hand.

This month instead of a Book of the Month, I offer an Author of the Month: Rex Stout. For die-hard “whodunit” fans, this is the man for you. Richard Crerie has donated a lot of his Nero Wolf collection, and it is greatly appreciated. For those who do not know Nero Wolf, he is a very oversized detective who rarely leaves his home, but solves mysteries with the help of his assistant detective, Archie Goodwin. The books are written from Archie’s point of view and sometimes have a lot of twists and turns. If you have never read one of Rex Stout’s books, now would be a good time to give it a try.

The reorganization of the library is coming along well. I am almost done getting things back into some kind of alphabetical order. I get them all under their letter area, and one of my able assistants, Anne Leopard, alphabetizes them. This will make it easier for you to find your favorites. I plan to have a spot to showcase new donations and a place to put returns and donations. Several people have asked about donating books, and I have had to ask them to hold on to them for a little longer. All donations will be welcome, but I am having to limit them to pleasure reading only.

All the books pulled have been donated to the Second Chance Thrift Shoppe in Sedro-Woolley. As the owner of that store donates a percentage of his profits each month to a different school district, we felt this at least would let the excess books serve a good purpose.

Until next month, enjoy the sun when it does come out, and remember to read to your children.



Day Creek



Community notes

Day Creek is looking for **ideas for community events**—for fun and fundraising. These events will help us get to know our neighbors and help support our fire hall too. Coming events include a music and potluck evening, and a firefighters appreciation dinner. Dates for these events will be announced later. If you have an idea, call Donna Pulver at 360.826.3003 or Kathy Henderson at 360.826.3581.

The **District 16 Firefighters Garage Sale** is back! Collection day is July 9 from 8 a.m. till noon at the fire hall. The sale will be held July 22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and July 23 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call Bev Riesland at 360.826.1155.

Day Creek Chapel will host **Vacation Bible School** this year from July 11–15. Mark your calendars! For more information, contact Virginia Learned at 360.770.1765.

Warm Beach Camp will hold a **Kids Camp Out** at Miles’ campground, July 15–17, from noon to noon. For more information, call Virginia Learned at 360.770.1765.

Girl Scout Katie Edelson will share

another presentation of the trip she and her family made to a remote village in Cambodia. The presentation will be hosted by Day Creek Chapel. For more information, including the date and time of the second presentation, contact Kathy Henderson at 360.826.3581.

Knitters, come one and come all. A **knitting club** began in February, with plans to read Debbie Macomber’s book, *Shop on Blossom Street*, and learn to knit the baby blanket in the book. The group meets the first and third Monday of each month at Cascade Christian Church (Township and Wicker in Sedro-Woolley), from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call Hilary Bonnette at 360.540.3978.

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.

“**Kingdom Builders**” meets Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This is a group forming at Day Creek Chapel to reach out to address others’ needs in the community. If you need help or want to be a volunteer, call Kathy Henderson

at 360.826.3581 or Donna Pulver at 360.826.3003.

The ladies of Day Creek Chapel will host a yearly **Women’s Retreat** at Camp Casey. This year’s camp is scheduled for Sept. 23–25. Cost is \$110 for three days; food and lodging are included. For more information, e-mail Sharon Herring at fishclan2@gmail.com.

If you have information you want to share, contact Kathy Henderson via e-mail at winningcircularanch@gmail.com.

—Kathy Henderson

Right: The living room in the Day Creek Chapel parsonage got a fresh coat of paint June 30 as volunteers covered over multi-colored handprints on the walls (the parsonage is used for children’s Sunday School classes). Showing up to wield the brushes were, front to back, Andrew Lohman, 9; Michael GrosJacques; and Zach and Catherine Coggins.



Don’t be shy



Got a story worth telling?
Concrete Herald wants to tell it!

Contact:
Jason Miller, editor
360.853.8213
editor@concrete-herald.com

Concrete Herald

Grasmere Fire Hall
Scholarship Fundraiser dance
July 23, 7 to 11 p.m.

Live Band:
The Sardines
“Tasty Classics”
8 to 11 p.m.

Food:
Kayla’s Kickin’ BBQ
will prepare the main dish
(meat, meat, meat)

Prizes:
Prizes will be given away every
hour until we run out of items

Prizes include:
Fishing trip
2 Hand-built benches
Fishing poles
Photography

Tickets:
Contact a Grasmere firefighter
for tickets:
\$15 each or \$30 per couple

Participation low, but good turnout for annual yard sale

The 8th annual Lyman townwide yard sale was held June 3–4 and raised \$40 for the Lyman Angel Tree.

The money raised came from participants who paid to host their sale, and in so doing support the Angel Tree charity effort. Although the number of paid

participants was down from previous years, it was still a good sale weekend, with beautiful weather.

Each year the money raised goes toward community improvements or events. The money donated will be used for local families in need during the holiday season.

Organizers Patty Cook and Tammie Werner thank everyone who participated this year.

—Tammie Werner



Above left: Concrete graduating senior DJ Mitchell triumphantly indicates the number of years he spent in high school after the commencement ceremony at Concrete High School June 3.

Left: Former eighth-graders River Lee (left) and Kathleen Haverstick are all smiles as they leave their moving-up ceremony at Concrete Elementary June 10.

Above: Three generations of Fichters performed during the Concrete Music Dept. Finale Concert June 1. From left, Josh, Gibson, and Jim Fichter.



Below: A scene from the Watershed Show at Concrete Elementary, June 9. *Photo by Renee Kenady.*



Right: Concrete Fire Chief Rich Philips turned 62 on June 16. His father, Dale, asked John and Corrina Koenig to create the banner behind him on the Fire Hall roll-up door—lettering by Corrina, artwork by John. The banner was signed by firefighters. Happy birthday, Rich!



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June in pictures



Below: Girl Scouts from two local troops march across Henry Thompson bridge in Concrete during a "Bridging" ceremony to mark their graduation from one rank to the next.



Above: Alex Markley (left) and Nick Mauck carefully release four salmon fry into Lorenzen Creek in Concrete June 7. The boys were part of a group of fourth-graders from Mrs. Loomis and Mrs. Gallagher's classes at Concrete Elementary who joined science teacher Mary Janda to release the fish, which they had raised from the egg stage in the classroom.



Left: A barrel racer tries to beat the clock during the Timberbowl Rodeo in Darrington June 25. The two-day event included crowd favorites saddle bronco riding, mutton-bustin', and wild cow milking.



Above: Last year's jump-rope champion David Bricka (right) reacts to his flub that put him out of the contest as barefoot competitor Mike Yeoman reacts to his win during the Blast from the Past jump rope contest in Sedro-Woolley June 4.



Above: "Royal wedding" indeed! Jonathan Royal and Katelyn Kessler were married June 26 at Lairmont Manor in Bellingham. For details, see the Celebrations on p. 11. *Submitted photo.*

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Left and above: John Thomas with Skagit RC put his battery-powered Kadet float plane through its moves at Lake Tyee May 14. A couple dozen club members turned out for the group's first official event for the electric-powered planes, although the group also uses gas-powered craft.

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Hamilton



Council summary

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

- Council voted to approve the interlocal agreement for tourism promotion.
- There was further discussion regarding the property at 642 Hamilton with regard to the RVs and vehicles on the property. Mayor Bates reported there had been some clean up at the property. The clerk reported the town had not received a response to its letter requesting the name of Mr. Thompson’s attorney. It was agreed that the clerk would send another letter acknowledging there

- was some effort being made to clean up, advising them their attorney had not contacted the Town, and that the town was still pursuing the issues.
- Further discussion took place regarding the FEMA Community Assistance Visit Field Report of Aug. 12, 2008. Correspondence continues between the town and John Graves of FEMA. Homeowner Larry Benjamin addressed the council, stating that his flood insurance rates had been increased because Town of Hamilton was not in compliance with its Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. The ordinance states that RVs must be out of the floodway between Nov. 1 and April 1; there was discussion regarding how the town could comply.

Ranger district seeks comments on Komo Kulshan water system repair

The Mount Baker Ranger District of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is seeking comments on the repair of the water system that serves the Komo Kulshan administrative site in the Baker Lake Area. The site is currently used to house the Baker River Hot Shot firefighting crew.

The project area is located adjacent to the Baker Lake Highway eight miles north of Concrete. The proposed work would include abandonment and/or removal

and disposal of existing waterlines and valves within the compound. In addition, the project would install new waterlines, valves, and dry wells, which will require trenching, backfilling, excavation, and driveway restoration.

Don Gay is the project leader and is available to answer any questions that you may have about the proposal. Contact him at 360.854.2632 or dgay@fs.fed.us by July 29.

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Birdsview’s Siebecke graduates from Shoreline Community College

Kelly Siebecke of Birdsview graduated Phi Theta Kappa and as a President’s Scholar (top 10 percent of her class) June 5 from Shoreline Community College. A Concrete High School alumnus, Siebecke now holds a degree as a Speech Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA), as well as a Certificate of Proficiency as an SLPA.

Siebecke’s time at SCC was marked with success. She earned a 3.95 grade point average and, in May 2009, received a Shoreline Foundation Scholarship. After being granted state SLPA certification from the Department of Health in April, Siebecke was hired the same month at Sherwood Community Services in Lake Stevens, where she completed her SLPA internship during Winter Quarter 2011.

Sherwood Community Services is a nonprofit agency that serves the developmentally disabled in Snohomish County. Siebecke’s job includes providing speech therapy and related services for clients. She works in private speech therapy and the TechStep department.



Kelly Siebecke of Birdsview graduated June 5 from Shoreline Community College.

Siebecke is working to develop new programs for TechStep, including summer communication camps and tech-related communication groups for teens and adults.

Birdsview buzz

By Kris Voigt

Happy July! Hope everyone’s summer is going well. It’s great that summer is sort of here, and gardens are growing finally, and soon we’ll be able to eat more local produce.

The Voigt family took a family (and a few good friends) trip to Ocean Shores in June (thanks to Richard and Andrea Frank). There ended up being 13 of us there, plus one crazy hyper puppy. Nicki came all the way from New York, bringing along Matt, a great new addition to our family. Jessie and Jack made the long drive from Spokane, bringing a couple of friends, Gilly and Brian. Julie and Dusty, Sara, Julian and Jaydon, and Bill and I made the journey from Skagit County. The weather cooperated and everyone was sad to see it end. Jason stayed home to watch over things here.

Dan (the man) Brown has finished the school year and is now off the coast of

Oregon somewhere on his tuna boat. Congrats to Bill Howard and Audrey on their wedding last month. And congratulations to Adam and Candan Moser on the birth of their little girl, Kinsley.

This month Brandon and Danielle Moore are getting re-married in a “real” wedding at their house, by Uncle Floyd, who married them a few months ago at the brewery.

- On to birthdays ...
- 8 Anne Bussiere
 - 13 Andrea Frank
 - Our favorite youngest daughter is finally 21! Happy Birthday, Julie!
 - 24 Heidi Bletsch
 - 30 Rhonda Giecek
 - 31 Betty Taylor

July 17 is the brewery’s 5th anniversary. Thank you to everyone who has made it possible. We will have a celebration on July 16. We never could have imagined what the brewery would become.

Have a great month, everyone.

Business Spotlight: Perks Espresso & Deli

By Jason Miller

Corporate life got you down? If you’re Helen Ovenell, you don’t stick around.

After working for Bank of America for 14 years, the Concrete woman got the entrepreneurial bug in October 2009, when she bought Perks Espresso & Deli from then-owner Marla Reed and plunged feet first into the food service world.

It wasn’t as big a leap as you might think. After all, Helen has a degree in

hotel and restaurant administration. And she knew that Perks already had a good name and a reputation to match. So she repainted and fiddled with the décor a little, and adjusted the menu a bit.

Today, Perks offers a full espresso menu, including mocha shakes.

You’ll find baked goods too—some homemade, like the seasonal quickbreads.

Perks’ full breakfast menu includes biscuits and gravy, hash browns, waffles, and pancakes.

For lunch, there are stuffed and grilled sandwiches, plus hamburgers. They’ll make sack lunches for businesses too. Sub sandwiches and chips are a popular item, as are the hard ice cream and homemade cookies, especially during the summer months.

“I’m there for the community, trying to create a place for people to eat at a great price,” says Helen, who employs four locals to help her meet customers’ needs. “It’s a great gathering place in the mornings.”

Helen puts her money where her mouth is. Last July she began to donate 5 cents from every cup



Helen Ovenell, owner of Perks Espresso & Deli in Grassmere Village, donates 5 cents from every cup of coffee or latte to local charities or people in need.

of coffee or latte to local charities or causes. Every quarter, she adds up the nickels and presents a check to the lucky organization. So far, she’s divvied up about \$650 amongst the Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete, Marblemount’s Cathaleen Stewart (who works at Perks and recently underwent cancer treatment), and Pregnancy Choices. In July she’ll present a check to the organizers of Concrete Youth Activity Day. What a delicious approach to charity!

Next time you’re near Concrete, don’t miss the chance to stop at Perks.

At a glance: Perks Espresso & Deli

Where: 44586 SR 20, Grasmere (Grassmere Village)
Hours: Mon.–Fri., 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sat.–Sun., 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Phone: 360.853.9006



United Family Medicine opened on the United General Hospital campus in Sedro-Woolley with a ceremonial ribbon cutting. Dr. William Sanders (center, with scissors) did the honors and was joined at the June 9 event by members of hospital staff and S-W Chamber of Commerce. Photo by Lisa Swanberg.



Cascade Cafe in Sedro-Woolley did the ribbon-cutting thing too, June 9, officially opening its doors in grand style. Owners Juan (with scissors) and Teodora Almaraz were joined by Sedro-Woolley Mayor Mike Anderson, city staff, and members of the S-W Chamber of Commerce during the festive event.



Rockport



Fire Dept. plans annual garage sale fundraiser

Rockport Fire Department will hold its annual Community Garage Sale Aug. 5–7 at the Rockport Fire Hall on Alfred Street in Rockport, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. all three days.

The sale is a fundraiser for the volunteer fire department, said organizer Jessica Moore, who encourages everyone to visit the sale for two reasons: “great deals and support for the department.”

Anyone who can’t attend the Friday-through-Sunday event can still support the group by donating items for the sale. Donation and event inquiries should be directed to Jessica Moore at 360.853.7699.

—J. K. M.

False rumors rampant in Patti Krieger case

Call it Facebook Syndrome, where a mixture of impatience and desire sometimes blend to create a reality that doesn’t exist.

Mid-June found the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office inundated with media inquiries after a rumor started that the office had made arrests in the case of missing Sauk Mountain hiker Patti Krieger. Another version of the rumor said arrests were imminent.

Not true, said Chief Criminal Deputy Tom Molitor in a late-June interview.

Also in June, another rumor flew that a body had been found on Sauk Mountain, and that it was probably—even likely—that of Krieger.

Again, not true, said Molitor, adding that “we have had no new developments in this investigation.”

The Patti Krieger investigation continues, said Molitor.

“Please be assured that were there to be a significant development in this case, we will advise you,” he said in a press release, of the office’s efforts to notify local media.

Krieger went missing in October 2010 while hiking Sauk Mountain with friends.



Rockport firefighter Howard Stafford, right, teams with Grasmere firefighter Donny Olmstead during the Firemen’s Muster at last year’s Cascade Days. *Photo by Jessica Moore.*



Christina See of Rockport entered her colorful quilt, titled “Therapy in Session,” in the Woolley Fiber Quilters 2011 Quilt Show during June’s Blast from the Past event in Sedro-Woolley. The quilt includes squares depicting the soul-soothing activities of sewing and quilting, as well as tongue-in-cheek ones with sassy sayings like “Mend” and “Cook” are four-letter words.”

Youth to survey, remove weeds along Skagit River

Thirty high school youth will spend July 7 rafting a section of the upper Skagit River, surveying for invasive weeds and pulling blackberry bush and bittersweet nightshade.

From 11 a.m. till 8 p.m. that day, the participants with Seattle Parks and Recreation will work through a program aimed at providing outdoor education and recreational opportunities to diverse urban youth. The National Forest Foundation, U.S. Forest Service, and Outdoors for All are other entities involved in the event.

The group will meet at Rockport State Park to begin the day. For more information, coordinate in advance with Stella Torres at 425.783.6096 or storres@nationalforests.org.

Concrete Herald
The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

PIONEERING TODAY

Heritage seeds
By Melissa K. Norris

The pioneer spirit of our early settlers amazes me. To set off from your home into a land unknown, never again to see loved ones left behind, boggles my mind. I have a hard enough time packing for a week vacation. I can’t imagine sifting through my most treasured possessions and only being allowed to take what would fit in the back of a covered wagon. If they didn’t take enough provisions or planned poorly, their lives were at stake. Bringing seeds to grow their own food was a must. Many of us in the Skagit Valley bear the harvest of our early pioneer forefathers.

Tarheel pole beans grace many a garden in our valley. Neither the bean’s seeds nor its harvest can be bought in a store. Originating from the Appalachian Mountain range, its true name is North Carolina Long Greasy Bean. Greasy beans are slick to the touch without the fine hairs. They have a small white bean inside the pod and are lumpy. The taste is phenomenal, sweet and buttery. Add a little fatback or chunk of bacon, and you’ll be hard pressed to find a better dish. They are a heritage (a.k.a., “heirloom”) bean, meaning they haven’t been hybridized by science. Each family or hollow would have its own unique bean and would trade with other families for different varieties.

These beans must be staked or you can plant them on a fence, but they need something to climb.

Tarheel beans produce several pods per plant. They require stringing, but the flavor is worth the extra work. I like to let some of the beans mature. I mix the shelled small white bean in with the fresh snapped green pods. They are excellent fresh, canned, or in true Tarheel fashion, leather britches style: Beans are strung on a string and left to dry. You then soak them when ready to eat and cook as usual. I leave one bush unpicked. Let the beans hang on the vine until they have turned almost white and have started to shrivel. Then shell the beans, allow them to dry,

See Norris, p. 27



Darrington



July calendar full of fun in Darrington

Headlining July events in Darrington is the popular Darrington Bluegrass Festival, slated for July 15–17.

In its 35th year, the festival will be held at its home in the Darrington Bluegrass Music Park, three miles outside of town on Highway 530, next to the rodeo grounds.

Leading the ticket this year are The Grascals and The Larry Stephenson Band. The festival also features Country Current, Queens Bluegrass, The Shuler Family Band, Grapevine, Runaway Train, Panhandle Polecats, Red Desert Ramblers, 5 on a String, Deadwood Revival, Mission Mountain Bluegrass Express, and The Combinations.

Weekend passes after July 1 are \$50. Individual-day tickets are \$15 for Friday, \$20 for Saturday, and \$15 for Sunday. For more ticket information, call 360.436.1006.

Camping is available during the festival for \$25 per RV or tent. Gates will open for camping the weekend prior to the festival: Sat., July 9, at noon. For more camping information, call 360.436.0123.

Pets are welcome during the festival, but must remain in the camping area at all times and must be leashed. Pets are not allowed in the concert area.

For more information about the festival, go to www.glacierview.net/bluegrass, e-mail bluegrassdiana45@yahoo.com, or call 360.436.1179.

Speaking of Bluegrass music ...

A Bluegrass Jam will be held every second Sunday this summer at 1 p.m., at the Darrington Community Center, 570 Sauk Ave. in Darrington. For more information, call 360.436.1217.

Rock and Gem Show and Sale

For lovers of all things igneous and sedimentary, a Rock and Gem Show and Sale will grace the Mansford Grange at 1265 Railroad Ave., Darrington, on Sat., July 16, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call 360.436.2167.

Find Concrete Herald on Facebook!



Above: Kaiden Nelson holds on for dear life during the mutton-bustin’ event at the Timberbowl Rodeo in Darrington June 25–26.



Left: Dave Tremko with the Country Carver Chainsaw Carving Show works on a bear for show host Glacier Peak Restaurant in Darrington during Darrington Day, June 18.



Above: Friends and family of the beloved DHS janitor and coach Roger Jones turned out during Darrington Day June 18 to sell barbecued pulled pork sandwiches. All donations went to the Roger Jones Memorial Scholarship. Shown left to right, Tracie Hoglund, Carly Nations, Sharon Doyle, and Danny McCoy.

Country Carver Chainsaw Carving Show

July 15–16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Glacier Peak Restaurant, Darrington
Live auction July 16, 4:30 p.m.

Questions? Call Debbie Anderson, 360.913.2779

ATTENTION Darrington citizens!

Concrete Herald now includes this Darrington page and is sold at Darrington IGA. Please send Darrington news, events info, and high-resolution photos to editor@concrete-herald.com or call Editor Jason Miller at 360.853.8213.

Questions are welcome too. Welcome aboard!

—Jason Miller, publisher and editor

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Marblemount



Discover Pass now required for state park vehicle access

Want to enjoy a Washington State Park this summer? It'll cost you.

Reacting to budget gaps created by the loss of state General Fund support for parks and state recreation lands, Gov. Chris Gregoire signed a bill in May to create a user-fee Discover Pass program for state parks in Washington.

The pass allows vehicle access to 7 million acres of state parks and recreation lands. Lawmakers hope sales of the pass will generate funding to keep those lands open following the steep state budget cuts.

“We are optimistic that people will support state parks and recreation lands and buy the Discover Pass,” said Don Hoch, State Parks director. “Without the pass to support State Parks, we would have been closing park gates all over the state.”

The annual Discover Pass fee is \$30, and a one-day pass is \$10. A Discover Pass purchased from a recreational license dealer, by phone, or online will cost a total of \$35, which includes the \$30 pass fee, a 10 percent transaction fee, and \$2 dealer fee. A one-day Discover Pass costs a total of \$11.50, which includes the \$10 base price, the 10 percent transaction fee, and 50-cent dealer fee.

Beginning July 1, the pass was required for vehicle access to recreation lands and water-access sites managed by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). State recreation lands include state parks, boat launches, heritage sites, wildlife and natural areas, campgrounds, trails, and trailheads.

There are several ways to purchase the Discover Pass:

- Online at www.discoverpass.wa.gov.
- At nearly 600 sporting goods and other retail stores that sell recreational fishing and hunting licenses. A vendor list is available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/vendors/> or via a link from the Discover Pass Web site.
- By telephone, toll-free at 866.320.9933.
- At state parks, where staff is available.
- From state Department of Licensing vehicle license agents, beginning this fall.
- State Parks headquarters and regional offices.

The Discover Pass must be visible in the front windshield of street-legal motor vehicles on state recreation lands. Holders of certain types of fishing and hunting licenses, registered campers in state parks, and certain others are not required to buy or display a Discover Pass. For details on these and other exemptions, go to www.discoverpass.wa.gov.

There is a \$99 penalty for failing to display the pass as required. For more information, call 866.320.9933.

—J. K. M.

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Envision, cont. from p. 3

- communities should grow up rather than out, become more compact rather than more sprawling, provide a range of housing options, and mix compatible uses to create more complete, walkable communities, rather than continuing to isolate uses in ways that create ever-greater reliance on the automobile to meet basic daily needs. Expand public transit and nonmotorized transportation.
- Establish a new industrial tax revenue-sharing mechanism, to develop a more regional and effective approach to designating and marketing industrial lands, while providing tax revenue benefits in an equitable manner to all participating jurisdictions. Designate 1,600 acres of new industrial land for the future.
 - Allow redevelopment of existing cities in the floodplain, including Burlington and Mount Vernon, into mixed-use urban centers.
 - The cities of Mount Vernon and Burlington should ultimately merge into one, because the strengths of each city address the weaknesses of the other. Discussions to consider logical consolidation of services should begin now.
 - Develop and implement a long-range conservation vision and plan for the entire county.
 - Prioritize the floodplain for purchases and transfers of development rights, with a goal of eliminating as much future residential and commercial
- development in the floodplain as possible.
- Skagit County should strive for no net loss of acreage and total agricultural productivity potential from land zoned for agriculture (Ag-NRL) over coming generations, to help preserve agriculture and food production.
 - Double funding for the Farmland Legacy Program.
 - Seek state, federal, or international designation for Skagit Valley as a Cultural and Natural Heritage Site.
 - Work together collaboratively, in a positive, forward-looking manner, to protect and restore the Skagit River's once abundant salmon and steelhead trout runs, the salmon runs of the Samish River and smaller direct tributaries to Puget Sound, and the shellfish along our shorelines.
 - Maintain the current pace of habitat restoration in the middle Skagit River.
 - Fully contained communities (FCCs) should be avoided in Skagit County unless they can achieve their urban densities strictly through transfers of development rights from rural or resource lands, at a ratio of one-to-one.
- “The essence of our concept is to steer most of the new population into existing cities—90 percent of the new growth—to avoid development in ag lands, floodplains, and forestlands. We cannot preserve what people value by sprawling over it,” the committee wrote in a letter to county commissioners and mayors. The letter also included a plea to “work together more collaboratively toward a common vision for Skagit County.”
- J. K. M.



Newhalem



National Park Service summer kickoff

This year's crop of National Park Service employees and volunteers met June 22 at the visitors center in Newhalem for a day-long series of meetings that were equal parts information and pep talk.

The 2011 Skagit Summer Kickoff event was designed “to foster a feeling of connection and shared purpose among park employees,” according to NPS materials. Upwards of 129 attendees filled a meeting room at the center to learn more about their roles, goals, and safety, safety, safety.

“We operate in a high-risk environment,” NPS Complex Superintendent Chip Jenkins told the crowd as he told cautionary tales of past NPS employees who died on the job because of lack of communication or taking shortcuts.

National Park Service Director John Jarvis also was on hand that day.



Superintendent Chip Jenkins with the North Cascades National Park Service Complex shared opening remarks during the June 22 Skagit Summer Kickoff event for Park Service employees and volunteers.

Lane, cont. from p. 10

family members and colleagues.

“Terry was a rock with a soft center,” said Marilyn's brother, Don Mercer.

Former teacher John Rantschler remembered Lane's homemade jokes, the punchlines to which Terry would tell twice, “laughing each time, and laughing before he finished the joke,” he said.

Fellow teacher Ron Rood told of Terry's impressive physical strength, mentioning a time when Rood and his football players were in the weight room, discussing the game. Terry entered the room, sat down at the bench press, and “benched 325 pounds till we got tired of watching him.”

A committed teacher of math, physics, and chemistry, Terry would bring home students' papers every weekend, take out his red pencil, and grade each one in detail, showing each student where they had gone wrong, if necessary.

“Sports were important, but for Terry, academics were definitely where it was at,” said Marilyn.

His efforts didn't go unrewarded. When he retired, he let his students choose a poster from the many that papered his classroom walls. At his memorial, several students brought their posters back and hung them on the gym walls to honor him.

Even while pouring himself into his students and athletes, Terry gave his children memories of family vacations, walking along the Skagit River, sledding in winter, building a tree house, and books read to them at bedtime.

“He was our rock. I did most of the day-to-day things, but he was such a presence, you just knew that Dad was always there,” said Marilyn.

—J. K. M.

Memorials can be given to the Terry Lane Concrete Scholarship Fund, to honor outstanding students in math and science. Donations may be made at any Wells Fargo Bank branch.

Volunteers sought for Traveling Tribute

The American Veterans Traveling Tribute is coming to Sedro-Woolley in August, as part of a nationwide forum for community members to honor and remember defenders of the U.S.

If you'd like to help with this event in any way, contact event coordinator Shelley Prentice at 360.647.8268 or shelleyhd43@msn.com.

Become a North Cascades steward

North Cascades Institute is launching a revitalized stewardship program focused on connecting people to public lands through service projects. As of spring 2011, the Institute is partnering with public land agencies like the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service, working together to make a difference in local watersheds through three areas of focus: native plant restoration, trail work, and scientific research.

Free pre-registration is needed to attend events, with more information available at www.ncascades.org/stewardship.

Projects this year will be throughout the Skagit Valley and North Cascades regions. July opportunities include:

- Baker Lake Kayaking Trip to maintain backcountry campsites, July 16–17, 10 a.m. Sat. to 10 a.m. Sun. For experienced paddlers only.

Location: Baker Lake Horseshoe Cove Campground, north of Concrete. Bring kayak, paddle, PFD, rescue gear, camping gear, meals.

- Family Day at the Native Plan Nursery in Marblemount, July 16, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free camping is offered to anyone who will help maintain the garden beds at the nursery. Bring clothes that can get dirty, lunch, rain jacket.
- Non-native plant removal at Colonial Creek Campground, July 23, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nature walk and seed collecting to follow; free camping for all participants. Meet at the North Cascades National Park Nursery, Marblemount. Bring work clothes, lunch, rain jacket.
- Anderson-Watson Trail Maintenance Day, July 30, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Meet at Anderson-Watson Lakes trailhead. Bring long work pants, closed-toed boots, lunch, rain gear.

Norris, cont. from p. 24

and store them in a cool dry place for next year's seed. We tried putting some in the freezer this year and they came up fine, but my dad leaves them in a five-gallon bucket in their laundry room with no problems.

Find your nearest local gardener and most likely they'll have a row of Tarheel beans growing. If not, ask around and someone will point you in the right direction. Heritage seed owners are usually happy to share their treasure.

Melissa K. Norris is a Rockport writer and romantic fiction author. Visit her Web site at www.melissaknorris.com and sign up for her free author e-newsletter. E-mail her at melissaknorris@juno.com with questions or suggestions for Pioneer-ing Today. Check out her author Facebook page at www.facebook.com/melissaknorris.

The Skagit General Store in Newhalem is now open seven days a week, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 206.386.4489.

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Seniors



Coffee Break Solitaire

By Patrick Kennedy

Solitaire is usually defined as a single-player card game of concentration and skill. In other cases and other places, there are games that can be played using tiles, pegs, or stones rather than cards. Of course, there are dozens of solitaire games that can be played on your computer. But being a senior citizen can bring another meaning to the word: Being alone, a solitary existence. Your mind wanders through another world of fantasy or wishful thinking as you sit there. There are no distractions: no friends, no dog, no cat. The cable TV has been disconnected, the daily newspaper has been cut off, and the radio plays music from the times long since passed. Memories blur the present and make everything seem normal. This is personal solitaire, a game of visions, played by one person. These are mind games trying to replicate reality. One way out is pretending there is someone else there. You try to please that person with everything you do. You even talk to him/



her, although you don’t expect an answer. You just want to imagine you are not really alone, that there is an important person in your life who cares. But really, you are talking to yourself. Being alone isn’t a unique situation bestowed only on seniors. Others live their lives that way: the “lone wolf,” the Lone Ranger, or a lone scream in the night. OK, they are only fantasies and art, but remember, “A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is reality,” sang John Lennon. This is food for thought for getting out of the doldrums. Of course, on the other side of the spectrum, “It is better to be alone than in bad company,” said George Washington. There are few choices for a difficult problem: Dream alone or dream with others. If you think about it as a game of solitaire with your life, you play all the cards and make all the decisions without any help from friends. So what are the decisions you must make in this situation? The opposite of solitaire is company, people, or better yet, friends. “No road is long with good company” goes a Turkish Proverb. But tread lightly, because ... as Joe E. Lewis advises: “Show me a friend in need and I’ll show you a pest.” Go slow and don’t be a nuisance to those around you. Here’s where you slide out of your lounge chair and go to the local coffee shop or bar and grill, and be with people. You’ll find it an amazing fact, people talk back, and many of them are looking for soundboards just like you. Patrick M. Kennedy is the author of Being a Senior Citizen. Find it at www.funwithretirement.com.

Way Back When

80 years ago

July 23, 1931: For the second time in a few months, two trains met head-on in a collision Sunday night near Marblemount on the city of Seattle railroad, running from Rockport to Newhalem, and eight people were injured, three of them seriously. The trains involved were a two-car special returning to Newhalem and the regular “Toonerville” trolley on its way to Rockport to meet the evening train.

70 years ago

July 17, 1941: On July 12, residents of Birdsvew and their friends from nearby communities gathered at the school grounds to dedicate their newly completed gymnasium, auditorium, and kitchen. The new building replaces the old gymnasium, which was totally destroyed by fire Nov. 11, 1939.

The new gymnasium is completely modern in every respect, with a full cement basement and every convenience from kitchen to shower rooms. The building measures 40x74 feet; the gymnasium floor is 40x58 feet. The upper floor contains the basketball playing floor, with bleachers down one side and a large stage at the end.

60 years ago

July 12, 1951: Dissatisfaction with the present police setup brought about a complete change Monday night when the town council decided to end the combined deputy-sheriff and city marshal arrange-

ment that has been followed for the past year. The change meant the release of William Marine as Chief of Police and the appointment of Jack Williams as full-time officer. Under the (former) arrangement with the county, the local officer also was deputy sheriff for this district, with the two organizations each paying half of the salary, plus mileage. During the past few months, the cost of hiring an extra man to be on duty while Chief Marine was absent on county business brought the cost of local police service to within a few dollars of a full-time man. 50 years ago July 6, 1961: Buttons are in the news these days in Marblemount. Art Bell is now manufacturing them of wood and is piling up orders from retail stores who are clamoring for the beautiful pieces of Black Walnut, Red Cedar, Curly Burl, Birdseye Maple, Myrtle, and Yew. The buttons are made in different shapes and sizes, and are being turned by the hundreds on Bell’s lathe. As fast as they are completed, they are sewn onto cards carrying the brand of “Bell Art.” Jack Wortendyke, also of Marblemount, is selling them on his jewelry and novelty sales route too. What started as a hobby now threatens to become a full-time business, if Jack can get his workshop finished in addition to keeping up on button orders and his strawberry patch. 40 years ago July 29, 1971: A “City Light Golden Jubilee at the Skagit” will be held Aug. 14–15 at Newhalem, marking the 50th anniversary of

See **Way Back**, p. 29

Concrete Center July 2011 Activities

Lunch served
Mon. – Fri., 12:30 p.m.

Mondays

9 a.m. Gray Ladies
Hoop Quilting
1 p.m. Skip Bo
Movie

Tuesdays

10 a.m. Dominoes
11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
1 p.m. Skip Bo

Wednesdays

8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Quilting
11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
1 p.m. Skip Bo

Thursdays

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Wii Sports play
11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
1 p.m. Skip Bo

Fridays

11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
Noon Dominoes

Special Events

7/13 11 a.m. Advisory Board mtg.
7/13 1 p.m. Bingo
7/26 12:45 p.m. Leap of Faith
7/27 1 p.m. Bingo
7/28 Foot care by appt.
7/29 12:30 p.m. Birthday Lunch

Holiday Closures

7/1 Furlough Day:
All Skagit County offices closed
7/4 Holiday

For more information, contact Concrete Center Coordinator Sara Pritchard at sarap@co.skagit.wa.us or 360.853.8400.

Please recycle
this newspaper!

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

Seattle City Light’s first Skagit-area powerhouse. A salmon bake, fiddlers contest, and kiddie parade are among Saturday highlights already scheduled. Carnival rides and concession stands, arts and crafts, and industrial displays also are planned. 30 years ago July 9, 1981: As part of a sweeping, \$5 million budget cut, Barnaby Slough, the State Game Department’s fish-rearing facility south of the Skagit River near Rockport, will close at least for the 1981–83 biennium, the department announced this week. The spring-fed pond covers 27 surface-acres and provides an average of 200,000 steelhead per year. The rearing pond has been in operation since 1960. Senior driver refresher sessions announced SKAGIT COUNTY — The next scheduled sessions of “Getting There Safely,” a senior driver refresher course, will occur through August 2011 on the following dates: • July 7–8 • Aug. 4–5 The class will be held at the Mount Vernon Senior Center, 1401 Cleveland Ave., Mt. Vernon. The eight-hour class, divided into two four-hour sessions, is designed for senior drivers. The sessions will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days. People 55 years of age and older who complete the program will qualify for a modest reduction in their automobile insurance. There is a \$10 fee per person for this class. For details or to enroll, contact Kathryn Bowen at 360.336.9333, ext. 13140#, or through the Skagit County Public Works Department at 360.336.9400, ext. 3140. All participants must pre-register.

An occasional comment

By Jeanne Malbrain

Sometimes I watch the Dr. Phil show, and one interested me particularly. He said he woke up every morning thinking about how he could make Robin, his wife, happier that day. Some happiness is simply a touch on the shoulder, a little kiss on the forehead, a warm little smile to the partner. There are many ways that take only an instant, and require no words. One way that wasn’t practiced very much in my generation is the “hug.” I think that is nice as well. In our case, John and I would look at each other and smile that secret little smile that said, “I love you, and I am so happy we are married to each other.” In other cases, something more physical needs to be met. The secret is to determine what your partner needs and administer to those needs. Life is full of “the fast lane” these days and so we sometimes forget the little innocent things in life that make our partners happy. Those of us who have no partner need to “listen” to the needs of other people and see if we can make their lives a little happier.

So! The women of Saudi Arabia decided to drive their cars, disregarding the rule that says they can’t. They must always be driven by male relatives, such as a father, son, or uncle. Surprise, surprise: Some of the men said, “Good! We are tired of driving these women to shop, to visit, and to pick up and deliver kids at school.” And so the world turns. Careful, or you might fall off.

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Sunday School lesson Unstable

By Bill Mueller

I stood near the return desk at the local Costco when a man walked in carrying a paddle board. I asked him why he was returning the board. His response caught me off guard: “It’s unstable,” he said.

With a paddle board (a.k.a., standup paddle board), that’s the challenge: to maintain your balance on the board while you stand there and paddle.

The man’s board was 10 feet, 6 inches long, and fairly thick. It looked stable to me. I don’t think he understood what the sport is all about. Similar to surfing, it is the art of maintaining one’s balance while riding a wave or paddling across a body of water. In the end he missed out on the fun and challenge of the experience.

Our lives are much like maneuvering a paddle board. Sometimes there are swells we must contend with or wind that fights us. We either face them, learn, grow, and benefit from them, or we scapegoat our way out, tell ourselves it is someone else’s fault or action. We get unstable.

Life is unstable by definition. No one has a totally balanced life where all things are under control and they cruise through on smooth seas. It’s the storms, those unstable times in life that mature us if we are paying attention and facing them.



Sure, we could “escape,” but in the end those escapes do us no good; in fact, they set us back a long way. It’s always best to own up or face into the instability, and regain our balance.

We live in a world that can best be described as unstable. Christians ought to understand that very clearly. There are natural disasters such as killer tornadoes, tsunamis, earthquakes, and floods occurring, it seems, on a weekly basis. Humanity adds to the instability with war, murder, robbery, divorce, drug use, and more. So our world is anything but stable.

Toward the back of the New Testament there is a five-chapter book titled I Peter. This old follower of Jesus gives us some perspective that is very helpful during unstable times. In I Peter 5:6, he shares what should be the first step when faced with the instabilities of life: “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.”

We need to realize that we are not in control of the big-picture stuff. Humility is needed before God, which is to our benefit. It calms us and helps us to understand the responsibility isn’t really ours.

Peter goes on: “Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.”

I used to be a waiter at a nice steak house. Every day we had a staff meeting prior to opening for the evening. The general manager used a phrase every day that has stayed with me: “Leave your bummer at the door.” He meant that people come to the restaurant for a good time, so make sure you provide that. They don’t care about your issues, so make it fun for them. Isn’t this what Peter is saying? “Give up your bummers; let God deal with them.”

At the end of this section, Peter gives a summary of what he has been sharing: “And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast” (verse 10).

No matter how unstable life or the world becomes, we will regain our balance and be able to navigate our way out of whatever challenge faces us—if we heed the words of our brother, Peter. The board is unstable because it is meant to be; that is part of the challenge.

So it is with life in this world. How’s your balance these days? Do you feel a bit unstable? What are you doing about it?

Pastor Bill Mueller has been involved in ministry for the past 30 years, serving several churches on the West Coast as a senior and teaching pastor.

Obituaries

Stephen Anthony Sepos, 59, died Sat., May 21, 2011, at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Bellingham due to complications of Muscular Dystrophy. Stephen was born June 21, 1951, in Seattle, to Dorothy (Greene) and Francis Sepos. He was raised mostly in the Marblemount and Concrete areas, and graduated from Concrete High School in 1969.

His trade was long-haul truck driving, but electronics was his passion. He used to say, “If you can plug it in, I can fix it!”

Stephen was well loved with lots of friends and family, and was a long-time friend of Bill W. for 36 years. He is survived by his wife Diane Sepos; daughters Amanda and Nicole Sepos; son Edwin Sepos; sisters Lenora (Jac) Motan, Audrey Sowers, Hazel (Jim) Townsend, Rose (Marc) Torset; and brother Jerry (Dona) Hinz. He was preceded in death by both of his parents.

A Celebration of Life service and potluck was held June 5, 2011, at the Sedro-Woolley Community Center at 2 p.m. Memorials can be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association or the American Diabetes Association.

Cremation arrangements were under the care of Lemley Chapel, Sedro-Woolley. Share your memories of Stephen and sign the online guest register at www.lemleychapel.com.

Christian conference challenges patriarchy

SEATTLE — Can Christian faith successfully advance justice without challenging the impact of patriarchy in churches, organizations, and relationships? Have you ever wondered why God gives gifts to women, only to exclude women from using them? Are male-only models of authority biblical?

Christians for Biblical Equality’s upcoming conference, “Building Biblical Community: Transforming Sex, Power, and Prejudice” will answer these questions through biblical study of Christian community. Noted scholars, leaders, pastors, and activists will gather in Seattle from July 29–31 to discuss patriarchy, gender, leadership, justice, and what it means to be the body of Christ.

Featured speakers and panelists include Richard Howell, the General Secretary of the Asia Evangelical Alliance and the Evangelical Fellowship of India; MaryKate Morse, a Quaker minister, professor, and author of *Making Room for Leadership: Power, Space, and Influence*; linguist, scholar, and author of *Man and Woman: One in Christ*, Philip B. Payne; and Kanyere Eaton, pastor at Fellowship Covenant Church in the Bronx, N.Y.

For details, go to the “Contact us” page at www.cbeinternational.org. To register for the conference, go to www.cbeinternational.org/?q=content/2011-cbe-conference.

Sheriff’s blotter

May 23

A female caller in Concrete reported she was struck in the head by her boyfriend.

May 24

A Concrete caller reported that they were suicidal and going to harm themselves. Transported to hospital.

May 25

A Lyman caller reported a domestic disturbance between intoxicated subjects. A male subject was arrested for assaulting the female.

May 26

A caller from the Cape Horn area reported her husband was doing meth, and running around Cape Horn.

May 27

A Sedro-Woolley caller reported that he had been assaulted at a Park-and-Ride.

A Concrete caller reported a man slapping a child in front of the library.

A Concrete caller reported subjects lighting firecrackers and bottle rockets.

May 29

A Hamilton caller reported that she has a no-contact order with her ex-boyfriend, and she is now receiving text messages from his current girlfriend.

June 6

A Concrete caller advised a suspicious vehicle in the area may be committing a burglary. Deputies determined there was no crime.

June 8

A Clear Lake caller reported he was moving and during the process his room-mate damaged his trailer.

June 9

A Concrete caller reported a group of juveniles yelled names at his wife as they were walking by.

June 10

A Hamilton caller reported that someone had stolen his dog.

A Sedro-Woolley caller had a boat for sale in her yard and wanted an extra patrol of the area as some juveniles were seen around the boat in the late evening.

June 11

A Sedro-Woolley caller reported a large reel of construction material had rolled out into the roadway, blocking traffic.

June 12

A Marblemount caller advised a friend of a friend had just stolen his vehicle. The caller called back a short time later stating he now has his car and does not want to prosecute.

June 13

A Rockport caller stated his renters had moved out and left behind their dog.

June 14

A Concrete caller advised she had

located charges on her credit card made by someone in Texas.

June 15

A Concrete caller advised someone had broken into his house and taken his wallet. He has no suspects.

June 17

A Concrete caller reported two vehicles had collided near Jackman Creek; no one was injured.

June 18

A Hamilton caller advised that someone had broken the window out of his rental property; he has no suspects.

June 19

A Concrete caller reported two neighbors arguing over the lawn mower shooting rocks on the other’s lawn.

A Sedro-Woolley caller advised someone kept ringing his doorbell and running away. No one was located.

June 21

A Concrete caller reported people doing drugs in the park.

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 when, in the discretion of the agency, the release of information will enhance public safety and protection.

Smith, Shane Russell

Age: 38

Race: W

Sex: M

Height: 5’ 11”

Weight: 195

Hair: Black

Eyes: Brown

Address: 361xx

Orchard Rd., Hamilton

Smith was convicted of first-degree rape of a child in Pierce County in 1995; his victim was a 7- to 9-year-old female neighbor. He was convicted of indecent liberties in Pierce County in 1990; his victim was a 10-year-old male relative. He also failed to register in late 2008, in Pierce County.

Smith 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

AREA FOOD BANKS

Clear Lake

Community Covenant Food Bank

Next to church at 12605 Hwy 9, Clear Lake
For a referral, call Love Inc. at 360.419.7061
between 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.

Concrete

Concrete Food Bank

112 E. Main St., Concrete
Second, third, and fourth Thur. each month,
Noon–3 p.m.
360.853.8505

Darrington

Darrington Food Bank

First Baptist Church
1205 Emmens St., Darrington
First and third week each month:
Wed. and Thur., 10–noon and 1–2 p.m.
360.436.1671

Hamilton

Hamilton Community Food Bank

951 Petit St., Hamilton
Every Tue., 11–noon and 1–3 p.m.

Commodities distributed first Tue. each month
360.826.4090

Lyman

Shepherd’s Heart Food Bank

8334 S. Main St., Lyman
Thur. 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Third Thur. each month till 6 p.m.
360.424.4927

Marblemount

Bread of Life Food Bank

59850 State Route 20, Marblemount
First and third Wed. each month
11 a.m.–5 p.m.
360.873.2504

Sedro-Woolley

Helping Hands Food Bank

250 W. Moore St., Sedro-Woolley
Wed., 10–11:45 a.m. and 12:30–4 p.m.
Commodities distributed first Wed. each month
360.856.2211

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Worship directory

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

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

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

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

Lyman Baptist Church
31441 W. Main St., Lyman
Office: 360.826.3287
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m.

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

Covenant

Community Covenant Church
12605 Highway 9, Clear Lake
360.856.1023 // covenant@wavecable.com
www.clearlakecov.org
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m.
Call for weekly youth group/Bible studies
Tim Hedberg, pastor

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

Lutheran

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
46372 Main St., Concrete / 853.8814
Sun. worship: 10 a.m.
Marcus Stroud, pastor

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

Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church
11982 Martin Rd., Rockport, WA 98283
Church office: 853.8746
Pre-service fellowship: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. service: 10 a.m.
Sun. eve. Bible study: 5 p.m.

**To add your place of
worship to this directory,
call 360.853.8213 or e-mail
editor@concrete-herald.com.**

Worth repeating ...

“Despair is the damp of hell, as joy is the serenity of heaven.”

“For God’s sake hold your tongue, and let me love.”

“He must pull out his own eyes, and see no creature, before he can say, he sees no God; He must be no man, and quench his reasonable soul, before he can say to himself, there is no God.”

“Humiliation is the beginning of sanctification.”

—John Donne



Health



Comfort foods with a healthful twist

Submitted by Karl Mincin

- Use these more healthful substitutions for the following potato recipes:
- Reduce sugar and fat
 - Replace brown or white sugar with whole cane sugar (e.g. Sucanat) or other wholefood sweetener of choice
 - Replace funky fats such as margarine with real butter and/or oil
 - For a nonfat version, all fat (oil or butter) may be replaced with applesauce (unsweetened)
 - Cow’s milk may be replaced with any milk substitute such as nut, soy, or grain milks
 - Eggs may be replaced with 1 tablespoon arrowroot powder or flaxseed meal plus 1 tablespoon applesauce
 - White/refined flour may be replaced with whole-grain or gluten-free flours

Baked Sweet Potato Fries*
4 sweet potatoes (yams)
1/4 cup olive oil
Salt to taste
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cut sweet potatoes into 1/2-inch-thick lengthwise strips and toss with olive oil. Coat a baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray and arrange potatoes on baking sheets. Bake potatoes for 15–20 minutes or until golden brown on bottom. Turn potatoes over and bake about 15–20 minutes or until golden brown all over. Sprinkle with salt and serve. Makes 4–6 servings.
*Created by Louisiana Sweet Potato Commission spokesperson Holly Clegg.

Candied Sweet Potatoes
2 large sweet potatoes
3 tbsp. brown sugar
1 tbsp. reduced fat butter or margarine
1/4 cup orange juice
1/4 tsp. cinnamon and nutmeg
Wash sweet potatoes; peel and slice into 1/2-inch slices. Place sweet potatoes

in baking pan. Arrange slices in a single layer, 1/2 inch apart. Mix brown sugar, orange juice, and spices together. Pour mixture on top of sweet potato slices. Dot sweet potatoes with reduced-fat butter or margarine. Cover and bake at 375 degrees for 30 minutes or until tender.

Cranberry Yam Bread
2 large eggs, slightly beaten
1-1/3 cups sugar
1/3 cup canola oil
1 cup canned yams (sweet potatoes), or 1 cup fresh yams, cooked and mashed
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground allspice
1 tsp. baking soda
1 cup chopped cranberries
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat 9x5x3-inch loaf pan with nonstick cooking spray and dust with flour. In large bowl, combine eggs, sugar, oil, yams, and vanilla. In separate bowl, combine flour, cinnamon, allspice, and baking soda. Make a well in the center. Pour yam mixture into well. Mix just until moistened. Stir in cranberries. Spoon batter into prepared loaf pan. Bake for 1 hour or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Makes 16 slices.

Sweet Potato and Apple Muffins
1-3/4 cups all-purpose flour
1-1/2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. cinnamon
3 tbsp. canola oil
3/4 cup light brown sugar
1 egg
1 egg white
1 (15-oz.) can sweet potatoes (yams), drained and mashed or 1 cup fresh sweet potatoes, cooked and mashed
1/2 cup skim milk
1-3/4 cups chopped, peeled baking apples
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Mix the flour, baking powder, and cinnamon. In another bowl, mix together oil, brown sugar, egg, egg white, mashed yams, and milk. Make a well in the center of the dry ingredients and add yam mixture, stirring until moistened. Fold in the apples. Spoon batter into paper-lined or coated muffin tins, filling about three-fourths full. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until done. Makes approximately 1-1/2 dozen muffins.

Yam Peanut Chocolate Cupcakes
Naturally sweet yam cupcakes perk up with peanuts and chocolate chips in every bite. No icing needed with these delicious loaded cupcakes.
1 (15-oz.) can sweet potatoes, drained and mashed or 1 cup mashed sweet potatoes
1 cup sugar
2 eggs
1/4 cup canola oil
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1-1/3 cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 cup chopped peanuts
1/2 cup dark chocolate chips
Preheat the oven to 350° F. In a mixing bowl, mix together the sweet potatoes, sugar, eggs, oil, and vanilla. In another bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and cinnamon. Gradually add the dry ingredients, mixing only until combined. Stir in the peanuts and chocolate chips. Transfer to muffin paper-lined muffin tins. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until center springs back when touched. Makes 16 to 18 cupcakes.

Mincin Minestrone
Onion, 1 huge or 2 med., diced;
Saute 15 minutes in soup pot
Olive oil, few tbsp.
Add the following:
4 cups water
4 cups vegetable or chicken stock
Celery, few stalks, chopped
Carrot, few, chopped and sliced
Potato, 1 cup, diced
Greens (spinach, chard, kale, etc.) chopped, 2 c
Mixed fresh or frozen vegetables, 2 cups
Lima beans and/or green beans, 1 cup, fresh or frozen
Bring the above to boil, reduce heat, add the following, then simmer for a couple hours:
White beans, 1 can
Zucchini, a few medium-sized, sliced
Mashed potato or potato flakes, 1/3 cup
Tomato paste, 1 small can
Fresh herbs to taste: rosemary, oregano, thyme, sage, bay leaf, garlic
Salt and pepper
Top with fresh grated Parmesan

www.concrete-herald.com
Youth, cont. from p. 1

Theatre and an opportunity to connect with resource providers. Look for booths set up with all manner of materials to help strengthen families and kids.
Last year, 25 agencies participated and more than 400 individuals attended. Families can expect the return of most of their favorite activities, including a chance for kids to paint a birdhouse for the community garden in Concrete.

To volunteer or for more information, call Joelene Meckstroth at 360.419.3307 or Chris Kennedy at 360.336.9406.

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July 2011 • Concrete Herald • 33
New hygienist at Concrete Dental
Concrete Dental has a new dental hygienist. Lisa Pederson joined the team in Concrete Town Center in May. Welcome, Lisa!

Please recycle this newspaper!

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Valerie Stafford
communications director
United General Hospital

5,000 copies circulate throughout Whatcom, Skagit, and Snohomish Counties (and beyond) every month, reaching a largely untapped market of readers, many of whom say they read only Concrete Herald. If you’re not advertising in “The Voice of Eastern Skagit County,” you’re missing thousands of potential customers.

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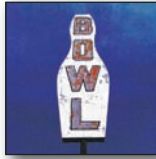
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Out & About



Mount Vernon

Concrete thespians **Trey Hatch** and **Carolyn Travis** are at it again.

This time the couple, who are founding members of **Shakespeare Northwest**, are bringing “Richard III” and “As You Like It” to the Rexville Blackrock Amphitheatre near La Conner for shows running from July 7 through Aug. 6.

The outdoor venue is a new one for the nonprofit group, which started 10 years ago with performances at Edgewater Park in Mount Vernon.

Shows and times

“As You Like It” plays at 7 p.m. July 7, 15, 21, 29, and Aug. 5; and 2 p.m. July 9, 10, 23, 24, and 30.

“Richard III” plays at 7 p.m. July 8, 9, 14, 16, 22, 28, 30, and Aug. 4 and 6; and 2 p.m. July 17.

For tickets and info, call 206.317.3023 or go to www.shakesnw.org.

Rexville Blackrock Amphitheatre is located as 19299 Rexville Grange Rd., Mount Vernon.

Tickets are \$12 and are available at the amphitheatre before each performance. Bring your own chair and dress warmly.

Shakespeare Northwest also has a touring show called “Shakespeare’s Fools,” which will perform back-to-back productions of the two plays on July 30. “As You Like It” plays at 1 p.m., followed by the troupe’s touring show at 4 p.m.

“Richard III” will be performed at 7 p.m.

Tickets to this event are \$30. For more information, call 360.416.7727, ext. 2, or go to www.mcintyrehall.org or www.shakesnw.org.

Cascade Loop

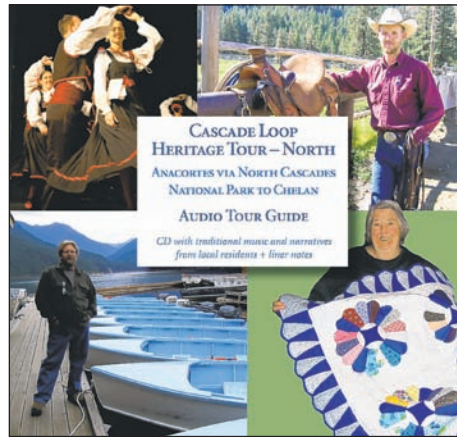
Northwest Heritage Resources announced June 24 the publication of two new **cultural heritage audio tour guides**: “Cascade Loop Heritage Tour – North” (covering the northern half of the Cascade Loop Highway) and “Whidbey Island: Cascade Loop Heritage Tour – West.”

The two new audio tour guides are produced in partnership with the Cascade Loop Association and focus on the northern and western sections of the Cascade Loop Scenic Highway. They cover a widely varied landscape that begins along the saltwater shores of Puget Sound on Whidbey Island and the town of Anacortes, through Skagit Valley farmlands, and then climbs into the spectacular mountain scenery along the North Cascades Highway. From there the northern tour descends into the wide open rangelands of the Methow Valley, travels south through fruit orchards, the Columbia River Valley, vineyards, and concludes at 50-mile fjord-like Lake Chelan.

The guides are a unique approach to the Cascade Loop Scenic Highway, as they present the grassroots culture of the region. The two audio tour guides come with CDs and liner notes that include maps, text, and photos.

The new Cascade Loop tour guides can be purchased at Sauk View Gallery in Concrete or the North Cascades National Park/North Cascades Institute retail store in Sedro-Woolley.

More information about the tour guides and how to order one can be found online at www.washingtonfolkarts.com.



La Conner

The 6th annual **Pacific Northwest Polo Association’s Governor’s Cup** will take place July 30–31, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the La Conner Polo Field, located at 16278 La Conner-Whitney Road.

Twelve teams will compete in this year’s event, hosted by George Dill. Tony Gregg will be back as the announcer. Come and find out what a chucker is, how important the line of the ball is, and why the riders need so many horses to play the game.

Take part in the “divot stomping” at halftime, bring a picnic lunch and your lawn chairs, and join the tailgate party. Or enjoy delicious food catered by Stuart and Joyce Welch, owners of Rexville Grocery.

Admission is \$5 per car for the day. Polo lessons taught by Tiamo Hudspeth from Maui also are available at the polo field on George Dill’s property.

For more information, call 253.732.3111.

Deception Pass

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Folk Arts in the Parks Program invites the public to the American Roots music series at Deception Pass State Park.

Local artists will perform a variety of American music styles in celebration of traditional folk music from the Pacific Northwest.

American Roots music series performances begin 7 p.m. Saturdays from July

16 through Aug. 6 at Deception Pass State Park, 41020 State Route 20, Oak Harbor.

The music series is free to the public, and the Discover Pass is not required for vehicle access to these performances.

All performances take place in the West Beach amphitheater on the Whidbey Island side of the park.

Performers are scheduled as follows:

July 16: A Moment in Time: An African-American a cappella gospel quartet from the Seattle area.

July 23: Northfork: Ranching rhymes and cowboy songs from Central Washington’s Ahtanum North Fork near Yakima by Sharon “Silver” Glenn and George Thomsen.

July 30: Ernest Queen and Queen’s Bluegrass: Traditional bluegrass and Southern Gospel music from the Skagit Valley “Tar Heel” community.

Aug. 6: Juan Manuel Barco & His Conjunto: Original songs and traditional music from the TexMex border and the Yakima Valley.

Bow

On June 23, the Bow home of sisters Makannah (Maria) and Shawnee Soria burned to the ground, destroying all their personal belongings. There also are two children and a young man involved in this devastating event.

Donations of money and material goods are desperately needed for this family. If you can think of it, they need it.

The boy in the family is 15 months old. He wears size 18 months and 24 months, and size 6 shoes.

The girl is 3 years old, wears size 4t and 5t, and size 9 shoes. She needs all clothing items, and everything else a little girl that age would need.

The girls are 22 and 24 years old. They both also need clothes, bath essentials, and more. The girls’ sizes are 5 pants and Medium Shirt, and size 18 or XL.

The young man, Benjamin Watts, wears a size 34 or a medium.

Donations for the Soria family may be made at any branch of Wells Fargo Bank. the account name is: Soria Family Fire Benefit Donation Fund.

For more information, call April Soria at 360.540.5279.



Home & Garden



Concrete’s first community garden started bearing produce even as infrastructure construction continued in June and early July. **Above:** Keith Taxdahl (left) of Taxdahl Construction teamed with friend KC Tonkyn of Lyman to set support columns for the gazebo July 2. The gazebo materials are funded by generous donations from locals Ann Young and Bill and Sally Pfeifer. Taxdahl and Tonkyn are volunteering their labor.

Above, right: Teresa Wilde from Rockport shows off a dandy head of bibb lettuce she harvested from her rented bed in the garden in early June.

Below: Concrete volunteer Tim Bridge makes a final adjustment to one of the garden’s yard hydrants he installed in a two-day blitz, during which he put more than a dozen hydrants in the ground. Bridge got plenty of support from Concrete Public Works staffers Rich Phillips and Dale Angell. By the end of June, the water infrastructure was nearly complete.



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Our Garden needs YOU!



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whether you’re a teen or a senior.**

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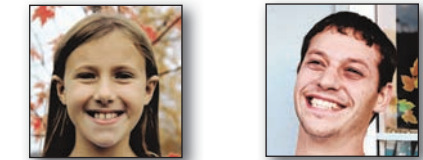
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Smile



Dwelleysms

Wit from the Herald’s former editor

“Financial men have estimated that the average annual wage within 10 years will be \$10,000. It doesn’t take an expert to also figure out that average expenditures will total \$10,500.”

“This has been family week in the valley, as noted in the local items. Could any conclusions be drawn from the fact that when people find time to visit with their loved ones, there just isn’t any other news?”

—Dec. 28, 1961

“For all the people who give the impression that they are saving the world from war, you’d think one of them would hit the solution by accident.”

—Dec. 21, 1961

“The tax department has a new campaign in which they hope to develop honest taxpayers. Might carry it further and develop honest expenditures, honest demands—or even just an honest dollar.”

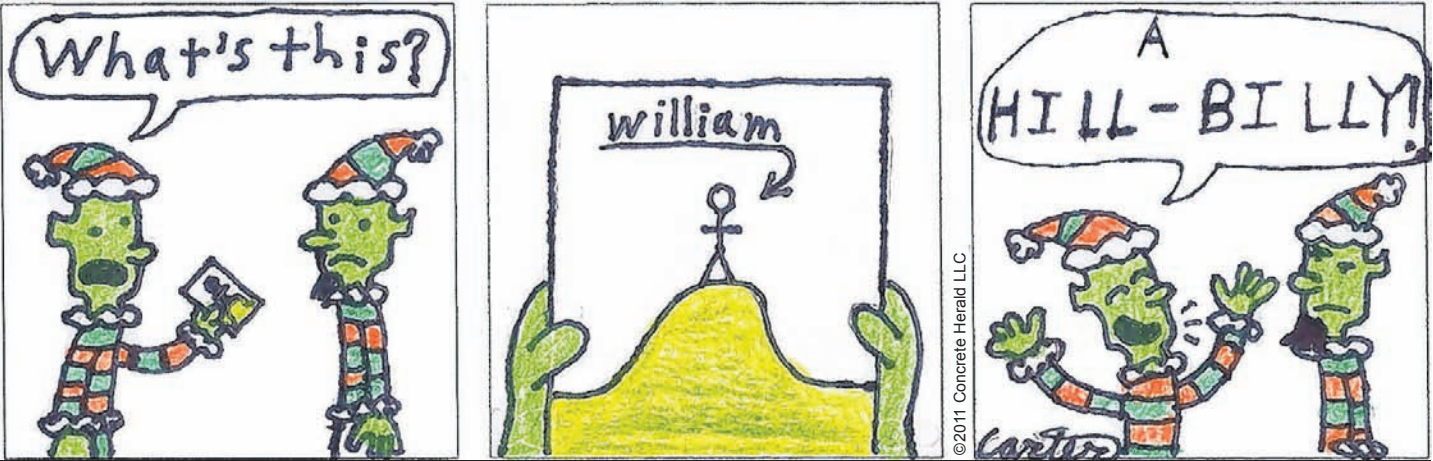
—Dec. 14, 1961

Concrete Harold



By Joyce Harris

An Elf’s Life



By Jonathan Carter

Public Service Announcement



By Stig Kristensen

Don’t mess with seniors

A married couple was traveling by car from Victoria to Prince George. Being seniors, after almost 11 hours on the road, they were too tired to continue and decided to take a room. They planned to sleep for four hours and then get back on the road. When they checked out four hours later, the desk clerk handed them a bill for \$350.

The husband exploded, demanding to know why the charge was so high. He told the clerk although it was a nice hotel, the rooms certainly weren’t worth \$350 for four hours.

The clerk replied that \$350 was the “standard rate.” The senior man insisted on speaking to the manager.

The manager appeared, listened to the elderly customer, then explained that the hotel has an Olympic-size pool and a huge conference center that were available for the couple to use.

“But we didn’t use them,” the husband said.

“Well, they are here, and you could have,” explained the manager.

The manager went on to explain that the couple also could have taken in one of the shows for which the hotel is famous. “We have the best entertainers from New York, Hollywood, and Las Vegas,” the manager said.

“But we didn’t go to any of those shows,” the husband said.

“Well, we have them, and you could have,” the manager replied.

No matter what amenity the manager mentioned, the husband replied, “But we didn’t use it!”

But the manager was unmoved, and eventually the husband gave up and agreed to pay. Since he didn’t have the checkbook, he asked his wife to write the check. She did and gave it to the manager.

The manager looked at the check and raised his eyebrows. “Ma’am, this is only made out for \$50,” he said.

“That’s correct. I charged you \$300 for sleeping with me,” she replied.

“But I didn’t!” exclaimed the manager.

“Well, too bad, I was here, and you could have.”

Lesson learned: Don’t mess with senior citizens. They didn’t get this far by being stupid!

Crossword: “Papa’s Gems”

By Myles Mellor

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17					18					19				
20								21						
				22		23	24			25				
26	27	28	29			30			31					
32				33	34				35	36	37	38	39	40
41								42						
43								44						
					45	46					47			
48	49	50	51	52		53			54	55				
56					57				58		59	60	61	62
63							64	65						
66					67					68				
69					70					71				

Across

- 1. Young salmon
- 6. Kisser
- 10. Droops
- 14. Lowest point
- 15. _____ believer
- 16. Small gull
- 17. 1952 novel, with The
- 20. Split
- 21. Rowboat adjunct
- 22. Not too brainy
- 25. _____ Rebellion of 1857-59
- 26. Twisted
- 30. Hoodlum
- 32. Fuse
- 35. Sniff out
- 41. Author of 17 and 63 Across
- 43. Meager
- 44. Broad view
- 45. Square
- 47. Che or gen followers
- 48. Item with a ladder
- 53. Pastoral poems (var.)
- 56. Wheels for mom
- 58. Lest
- 63. 1929 novel
- 66. Cost of living?

- 67. Ashtabula’s lake
- 68. Exhaust
- 69. Deuce topper
- 70. Turned blue, maybe
- 71. Interesting

Down

- 1. Prig
- 2. French Sudan, today
- 3. Betting data
- 4. Beer garnish
- 5. _____ housing
- 6. “Harper Valley _____”
- 7. Ashes holder
- 8. Logic game
- 9. “La Scala di _____” (Rossini opera)
- 10. Inscribed stone
- 11. Greek moralist
- 12. Artist, with El
- 13. Sinuous
- 18. _____ degree
- 19. “48 _____”
- 23. Yen
- 24. Sang like a canary
- 26. Scores high
- 27. Do the trick

- 28. Doctor Who villainess, with The
- 29. Big Bang matter
- 31. Beam
- 33. Sixth sense
- 34. Peep problem
- 36. “Walking on Thin Ice” singer
- 37. Shrek, e.g.
- 38. Holiday opener
- 39. Weak
- 40. Young falcon
- 42. Lots
- 46. Napa Valley area
- 48. Sting
- 49. Certain inmate
- 50. Empty
- 51. Kind of pool
- 52. “Give It To You” rapper
- 54. Illuminated
- 55. Muzzle
- 57. Blown away
- 59. Hombre’s home
- 60. “Iliad” warrior
- 61. Blue books?
- 62. See
- 64. Go horizontal
- 65. Directed

Sudoku

By Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

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.

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

*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 38.

Quick and painful

Did you hear about the man who bought a dog with no legs? He called it cigarette. He used to take it out for a drag.

Did you hear about the two peanuts that went walking around the Bronx in the middle of the night? One of them was assaulted.

Have you heard about the new shampoo for men who are going bald, called “What’s the Point?”

Good King Wenceslas went out to the pizza parlor and ordered a pizza. The assistant asked, “Do you want your usual? Deep pan, crisp and even?”

—Compiled by Jason “No hate mail, please” Miller

Summer Straw Hats

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Commentary, cont. from p. 2

- At least 100,000 people (double today’s population) are coming to Skagit County in the next 50 years. They cannot be stopped.
- We must accommodate them.
- The model developed by Oregon State University, based on the Urban Land Institute’s (ULI) members’ interests, should guide development policies here.
- People no longer want detached, single-family units with large yards but want to live in densely populated communities in small houses or apartments with no yards.
- We must build in towns and villages or new, self-contained communities to spare natural resource lands from development.

Assumption 1: We cannot allow further building on natural resource lands.

This assumption is endorsed by a majority who participated in the community meetings. It is inarguable that the county should guard the natural resources that protect health and livelihoods—agricultural and forest lands, waters and their sources, and the incomparable, invaluable landscape and wildlife habitats. This is common and economic sense, and what public opinion asserts is valuable about living in this special place.

Assumption 2: In the next 50 years, one hundred thousand people will move here, doubling the population. They cannot be stopped.

People move for three primary reasons: a preferred way of life, inexpensive housing, jobs.

A preferred way of life here for many is rural. We trade the amenities of cities for what is special here: unique small towns separated by farms and nearby open space; access to locally produced food; space for gardens (many Skagitonians are fanatic gardeners for whom a yard is an

amenity, not a burden); space and privacy without isolation; cities within easy travel time.

We are told we must sacrifice these qualities of small-town life or lose the open space; there are no other options.

Inexpensive housing is one way to ensure an influx of population. In other areas, cheaper and larger houses enticed workers to commute long distances, which, in turn, created a demand to accommodate increasingly more cars, roads, bridges, and parking lots. The western United States does not have highly developed public transportation systems, or reasonably expect ever to have them. A huge influx of twice as many residents here will bring pressure for increased room for cars, continuing the cycle of opening land for more buildings, which increases traffic, which brings demands for more roads, which brings more building.

Assumption 3: We must accommodate the newcomers by building more housing.

Why must we? Who will benefit from this influx? Why build to be inviting to this many new inhabitants who will require infrastructure built with tax money and cause more crowded neighborhoods and streets and more commercial building? If there are no jobs and no housing, there will be few incentives to move here and work elsewhere. To paraphrase: If you build it they will come; if you don’t build it, they can’t come.

Assumption 4: The Oregon State University model should guide development here.

The development model being proposed for Skagit County proposes only new buildings. The model is based on developments in urban areas, many in very different parts of the country. Whatever is planned here must consider the uniqueness of this rural county and way of life, not copy some overdeveloped county in the Southwest or other densely

populated areas in this state. Existing developments in the Seattle-Vancouver metro corridor should be evaluated for appropriateness for Skagit.

Assumption 5: Evidence shows retired, single workers, or childless adults no longer want large, single-family units on large lots: They want small units, without grounds to have to care for, and to live in close-knit communities.

It’s not news that you can find a study to prove anything you want. To explore a problem and arrive at a solution, start with collecting all the evidence. To support a conclusion you have already reached, find a survey that will support it. For surveys showing people today prefer to move into small units, others “prove” the opposite, that people are working to create new ways to age in place, or to be able to garden or pursue other hobbies, or to raise their children in small communities, or just to leave urban living.

Assumption 6: Safeguarding natural resource lands and open space can only be accomplished by sacrificing the character of small towns.

The generalization that people actually want to live in small residences in dense communities is a mantra of the real estate and building professions. Their “proof” is that they are building these units and

Crossword solution, from p. 37

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

Sudoku solution, from p. 37

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

people are buying them. I have not seen a study that shows if the residents prefer these units or whether they had no other choice. That more people prefer them is suspect; the evidence is anecdotal or selective and is contradicted by equally anecdotal, selective surveys that “prove” the opposite.

Today, much of the housing we’re told will be good for us—or our only choice, or our duty to live in—while more stylish, come from books of plans of (usually) three styles with standardized landscaping. This lack of individuality, along with rules about kinds of landscaping, housing colors, setbacks, and other standardization is equated with the rigidity of thinking of the inhabitants, with a lack of individuality, with conventionality, and with mandatory rules about private property.

Please do not try to convince me again about the nobility of developers “giving people homes.” And please do not accuse me of NIMBYism (“Not In My Backyard”). I’m not talking about excluding people; I’m advocating saving the natural bounty and healthful life of this county.

What is being proposed for the towns in Skagit County is the least expensive way to build, and we’re being told it’s also moral: “We must provide affordable housing” for future residents. Cookie-cutter, small, multiple-unit dwellings are affordable because land is increasingly scarce and expensive, and assembly-line products are cheap to build. Call them what you will; they are still apartments.

If you visualize how living in Burien, Renton, or Issaquah would change how you live or want to live, or if you have seen the few of these small developments already in the county and can imagine living in them or your town changed by them, you may be as dismayed as I am about the county’s possible future.

On the other hand, we do not have to accept either/or: Either accept this plan as given or be doomed to sprawl and the loss of a small-town, rural way of life. If you respect this little piece of the world, if this county’s future matters to you, find out what is being proposed for you, your friends, your children, this land. Find out how policies being submitted soon to the county commissioners could change the county. Tell the commissioners how you feel. Say something.

Joline Bettendorf was the Sedro-Woolley New Year’s baby in 1933. A graduate of SWHS, she left Washington in 1952 to finish college. She lives now in Mount Vernon.

Kilroy, cont. from p. 11

outpatient care. Veterans with 0 percent service-connected disabilities may be required to qualify financially.

Co-pays are not charged for certain services. These services are generally those obtained at VA health fairs or outpatient visits solely for preventative screenings and/or vaccinations.

Medications: Many nonservice-connected veterans are charged \$8 for each 30-day supply of medications for certain nonservice-connected conditions. For service-connected Priority Groups 2 through 6, there is a maximum amount of co-pay that can be required for medications. The following veterans will not be charged co-pays on medications:

- Those with service-connected disabilities of 50 percent or more
- Those receiving medications for service-connected conditions
- Those whose income does not exceed a certain amount
- Those in service Priority Group 6 under special authority
- Those receiving medications related to sexual trauma while on active duty
- Some receiving special cancer treatments
- Former POWs

Private health insurance billing: The VA is required to bill private health insurance providers for medical care and medications provided for treatment of nonservice connected conditions. Generally, the VA cannot bill Medicare, but can bill Medicare supplemental insurance for covered services. The VA is not authorized to bill a High Deductible Health Plan. All veterans applying for VA medical care are required to provide information on their health insurance coverage.

Reimbursement of travel costs: Certain veterans may be provided travel via wheelchair van/ambulance or reimbursed for travel costs when traveling for approved VA medical care. Reimbursement is paid per mile and subject to some deductibles. Exceptions to the deductibles are travel requiring special mode travel or possible waivers for severe financial hardship.

Veteran eligibility for travel reimbursement:

- Those rated with 30 percent-plus service-connected disabilities
- Those traveling for treatment of service-connected conditions
- Those who receive a VA pension
- Those traveling for scheduled compensation or pension exams
- Those whose gross income is below certain thresholds

- Those in certain emergency situations
- Those whose medical condition requires special mode transportation and who meet financial criteria; prior authorization also is required for nonemergency situations
- Certain nonveterans when related to the care of a veteran (attendants and donors)

Next month: special programs.

Fire, cont. from p. 6

McCormick, condemned the houses and sought FEMA funding to buy them so they could be destroyed.

A path to demolition
Asbestos abatement needs to be done on all of the houses except 45836 Division, according to town treasurer Andrea Fichter.

When the abatement is complete, Concrete’s fire department will use three of the four for training burns, according to Concrete Fire Chief Rich Philips.

On June 25, fire department training began with exercises that didn’t require setting the houses on fire. With the Concrete Fire Department acting as the command and rehab center, fire departments from Rockport, Marblemount, Grasmere, and Birdsvew practiced rapid intervention, ladder training, and water transfer between engines, and experienced a “firefighter down” scenario, which simulated an injured firefighter in a burning house.

The teams also performed “horizontal” and “vertical” ventilation exercises: After setting smudge fires in a couple of the houses, they cut a hole in the roof of one house and opened doors and windows in others to allow the smoke to escape.

Future training exercises will include forcible entry, more search-and-rescue and ladder training, hose streams, pumper operations, and fire extinguisher training, said Philips.

“We’ll practice actual burning and putting it out too, so they can go into a house that has the heat, and not just the smoke,” he said.

Philips said he hopes Skagit County Fire Marshal Kelly Blaine will give firefighters additional instruction.

After the training burns and demolition are complete, future uses of the properties are limited, said Fichter.

“Anything that’s acquired using FEMA dollars has to be removed, and no other structures can be built on that property,” she said. The town is considering creating a park on the site.

—J. K. M.

Imagine Concrete, cont. from p. 6

conference rooms, tutoring rooms, daycare, homework space, and sports courts.

Initiative 2: Clean-up and presentation

- Empty storefronts on Main Street need facelifts (code enforcement)
- Construction of recycling center
- More attractive sandwich boards on SR 20

Initiative 3: Historic preservation

- Reincarnate the Sockeye Express
- Key-in on Concrete history: Educate public with tours

Initiative 4: Zoning and planning

- “Green” community: waste management
- Walkway from elementary school to high school
- Move “gravel mountain” from old middle school site; use for above walkway for kids

Initiative 5: Economic development

- Broadband
- Promote and support local businesses (businesses to meet local needs)
- Boat launch (Baker/Skagit)
- Convert silos into brewery/cafe
- “Buy Local” campaign

Next steps
Imagine Concrete advises the Concrete Town Council, and focuses on ideas that can be realized within the limits of Town of Concrete, for the betterment of the whole of eastern Skagit County.

The most popular ideas will again be brought before the council for approval before task forces begin working to implement the approved ideas.

For a complete list and vote count of all ideas generated during the April 16 workshop, contact Jason Miller at goodwords@frontier.com or 360.853.8213.

—J. K. M.

Classifieds

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GARAGE SALES

Garage sale to raise money for a headstone for Carol Wooldridge-Payne, who passed away April 15. Location: 46612 Baker Loop Rd., Concrete. July 9–10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Nick with questions: 360.853.7675.

PROPERTY FOR SALE



Skagit River frontage: JUST LISTED! Looking to build on your own riverfront lot? \$160,000, 3.53 acres, 220 feet of medium bank Skagit River frontage. Has amazing territorial and river views. Comes with home plans and active building permit! Building site is sunny, dry and out of flood zone. 42819 Rivers Edge Court, Concrete, WA 98237
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George@HomeTourClub.com



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- **Kids Activities Area & Skagit County Children's Museum**
- **Health Screenings, Wellness Activities & Fitness Demos**
- **Food, Raffles, Contests & More**
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