

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Herald

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August 2016

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50 cents

Clear Lake • Sedro-Woolley • Lyman • Day Creek • Punkin Center • Hamilton • Birdview • Grasmere • Rockport • Van Horn • Darrington • Corkindale • Marblemount • Bullerville • Newhalem • Diablo

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Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



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

Concrete Herald owes its success to citizen journalists and photographers. Proofreading: Katy Tomasulo; Ad Production: Lynn Jefferson; Bookkeeping: Upriver Bookkeeping Services. Local contributors are welcome; call or e-mail Jason Miller at 360.853.8213 or editor@concrete-herald.com.

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From the editor

Cascade Days soldiers on

Concrete's biggest party is on tap this month, Aug. 20–21. In the event line-up you'll find the usual favorites, plus a new event, the Car Bash (see p. 6).

What you won't see, unfortunately, are the Children's Games that typically were held on and near the tennis/basketball court in Veterans Memorial Park. Why? Because no volunteer(s) stepped forward to organize and manage that event.

What a shame. The games were very popular with our young citizens and visitors, who will no doubt be disappointed with their absence this year.

I hope this news galvanizes into action a person or persons who might have thought, oh, somebody else will handle that. Thoughts like that often are exactly what prevent good things from happening. Don't be that person. Step up to the plate, grab a root and growl, and bring back the Children's Games for Cascade Days 2017. To contact the Cascade Days Committee, call 360.853.7867 or e-mail information@cascadedays.com.

—J. K. M.

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Opinion

Letters to the editor

Show you care: Dispose of needles and bottles properly

To anyone struggling with heroin/meth or other substance abuse:

I wish you cared more about this town/valley than to toss your used needles on the ground. My dog and I come across them sometimes when we're out walking. If you don't care about the people here or the land around us, at least think about the dogs that might step on or otherwise come in contact with your discarded needles.

Most of all, I wish you cared more about yourself. You are worth it. Please get help.

Same goes for anyone out there throwing glass bottles on the ground. No one should have to pick glass out of their dog's paws because you couldn't be bothered to find a trash can (or better yet, a recycle bin.)

If you are struggling with substance abuse, help is available. If you don't want to quit, please be considerate enough to dispose of needles and glass bottles in a way that does not affect others—including dogs.

Sandra Hambleton
Concrete

Lyman Car Show still great after 17 years

Last month, Lyman celebrated its 17th Lyman Car Show.

Terry Wilson, who has moved from Sedro-Woolley to Idaho, and Gary Griffith, who passed away several years ago, started the event in 2000, believing it would be great for our small town.

Terry was going to larger shows near Everett and was looking for a new place, and thought they could help out a small town. The cemetery had and still has no tax revenue. Gary Griffith was the owner

of the Lyman Tavern and helped sponsor the show. The car show has been giving donations to the Town of Lyman for the past several years in order to build a new cook shack in the park. (The old one was torn down years ago.) The barbecue pit is old as well, built by the volunteer fire department back in the late 1970s/early '80s.

The car show has helped pay for basic things in the past, including labor, fuel, and tree trimming. It has also helped pay for larger items, such as the niche wall and the park bathrooms.

The car show hands out two memorial awards every year. One is for Gary and the other is for Suzie Wilson, Terry's wife, who passed away a few years ago. The Lyman Car Show had 28 classes and 98 cars/trucks this year. We also had several craft vendors.

My thanks goes to the volunteers who made this year's show a success:

Leah Jones, Julie Clayton, Sean Ganga, Gail Ganga, Mont Heinzman, Debbie Heinzman, Bill Heinzman, Mike Fernie, Matt Jennings, Debbie Boyd, Dan Jones, Tim Shostad, Billie Stormont, Dan Shook, Karen Griffith, Rob Burns (owner, White Knight Entertainment), DJ Jeanne Jensen, announcer Mike Anderson (not the former

See Letters, p. 38

Letters policy

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

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Message from the mayor

By Jason Miller

I'm sad to report that our deputy clerk, **Corrina Hart**, is leaving us. She's accepted a full-time position with Wounded Warriors in Action, so it's hard to begrudge her decision, however. Plus, it's her dream job, so I hope you'll join me in congratulating her and wishing her the best as she forges ahead into this new chapter in her life. Corrina's last day will be Aug. 31, and we will very much miss her competent dedication to Town of Concrete!



The **fly-in** had an impressive number of planes and guests this year. At one point, organizers ran out of places to park the planes! I enjoyed serving as a tour guide on board a shuttle bus that carried visitors to our Town Center and the Grasmere businesses. I was joined by driver and Town Councilwoman Marla Reed, who filled in the blanks and kept things moving when I stalled out or rambled on. Here's a big thank you to PSE, who paid for the shuttle bus, to Marla for piloting it, and to Cheryl Werda, who also served as tour guide on Friday and Saturday. We done good!

I'm excited to see the **Park and Ride** project drawing to a close. In the coming weeks, Public Works staff and Parks Committee members will work together to finish the project by completing some plumbing work in the new restrooms, pouring a couple of concrete pads, and adding the landscaping components. And did you see that we moved Jim Keller's concrete "Silo Park" monolith up near the restrooms? It looks like it's always been there—fantastic!

Finally, a reassurance that **we are NOT tearing down the silos!** Believe it or not, that rumor is still kicking around, apparently. It is not true. The silos are a cultural and historical symbol for Concrete. They are our Space Needle, our Eiffel Tower. Please help me spread the word that the town has no intention of demolishing them.

Concrete Mayor Jason Miller can be reached at goodwords@frontier.com or 360.853.8213.

Commentary

Is Your Pension Safe?

By Claus Joens

In December 2014, the Kline-Miller Multiemployer Pension Reform Act became law. This bill did not come from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, of which Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) is the ranking member, and it did not originate in any other committee. This bill was never brought to debate on the Senate floor. It was added as a last-minute rider when Congress passed the federal budget.

Prior to this bill, the U.S. government guarantees American pensions much like it guarantees American banks. Kline-Miller changed this to where if a pension fund is mismanaged or underfunded and meets certain criteria, your pension can be immediately cut in half, and you are unable to sue the pension plan to recover the balance. Since this bill primarily impacts Teamsters retirees, many Americans are completely unaware of this.

Most of us expect to retire at 65, and rely on both public and private retirement plans. The public retirement plan, Social Security and Medicare, is currently underfunded and expected to run out of funds by 2035. The disability fund is expected to run out of funds by the end of this year. Congress usually moves funds from the retirement fund to the disability fund, so the retirement fund will run out of money well before 2035. Social Security has always exempted the top 10 percent of wage earners, and currently you only pay into Social Security on the first \$118,500 you make. According to research by taxfoundation.org, this underfunds social security by about \$20 billion per year. Unless something is done to change this, there may be no public retirement system when you reach 65.

Private retirement plans have only been around since 1875, becoming popular with the Revenue Act of 1928, which provided tax deductions for employers who contribute to retirement plans. In 1947, the Taft-Hartley Act provided guidelines between employers and unions. According to the Employee Benefit Research Institute, private pensions increased from 15 to 46 percent of the workforce between 1940 and 1980.

Government deregulation began in 1980. By 2012, the Bureau of Labor

See Commentary, p. 39

Cascade Days 2016

"STUCK" in Concrete August 20-21

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Don't miss this year's Dump Run!

Sun., Aug. 21

9 a.m. Signup at Veterans Memorial Park
10 a.m. First wave of runners start
Noon Second wave of runners start

Lorenzen Creek dredging to begin Aug. 9

Town of Concrete is teaming up with local entities to respond to seasonal flooding crisis.

By Haley McNealey

Edited by Katy Tomasulo

As many Concrete citizens are aware, Lorenzen Creek floods frequently in winter months. Filled with silt and dead plant matter, the channel is too shallow to contain the additional water generated by increased precipitation. This month, the town is taking steps to prevent the seasonal hassle.

Dredging of Lorenzen Creek is scheduled to take place Aug. 9, 11, and 16. The project will address the section of the creek from Superior Ave. S. west to S. Park Ave., identified because, as it is relatively flat, the stream moves at a notably slow pace, causing silt to accumulate.

Town of Concrete staff will work with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and volunteers to complete the venture. The project is only permitted to take place during the so-called “fish window”—the

interval during which the fish count is the lowest. This limits operation from August through October, so the town has been under pressure to prepare for and schedule dredging. Another relevant constraint is a cultural monitoring requirement, which mandates an archaeologist be on site to properly address any artifacts discovered while digging.

In early July, Mayor Jason Miller sent a letter to habitat biologist Wayne Watne, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) representative the town has been in contact with in recent years regarding the future of Lorenzen Creek. The letter references an agreement made between the Town of Concrete, WDFW, and Washington Department of Ecology in April 1998. A section of the agreement states, “The Department of Fish and Wildlife shall cooperate and assist the

Town with technical advice, labor, materials and/or monetary assistance as allowed by law and its authorized funding.”

The letter requests assistance from the WDFW in two areas: to employ WDFW staff archaeologist Kat Kelly to fulfill the cultural monitoring requirement and for WDFW to pay the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group project fee. If rewarded, these requests will save the town approximately \$5,000 and \$2,600, respectively.

Town of Concrete Clerk Treasurer Andrea Fichter estimated the total cost for the project at \$10,000 and \$15,000. As of Aug. 1, the requests were pending as the town had not received a response from WDFW. If the project is not completed during the window or funds are denied, the town could be forced to wait for

an emergency situation in order to be permitted to take action; this happened most recently in January 2015.

The dredging will take place in a series of steps. The first step is to block the upstream end so nets can be placed at both the upstream and downstream ends to catch and transport fish out of the work area. Next, the upstream end will be temporarily blocked. After this is completed, water will be pumped around the work area so the stream continues to flow. After digging out and dredging, the pump will be moved and the temporary dam removed, allowing water to flow normally. This process will be repeated each of the three days in three contiguous sections of the creek.

Following the dredging, in September

Lorenzen, cont. from p. 4

or October, elementary and middle school Environmental Club volunteers will plant tree and shrub starts in an effort to eventually shade and crowd out invasive plant species such as reed canary grass and blackberries. Japanese knotweed is another invasive species that has been discovered in the area; it already has been killed off by Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group representatives. Preventing invasive plant species from growing, dying, and falling into the creek should help to limit future concerns strictly to silt in the channel, rather than silt and plant debris.

No culverts will be replaced at this time, but they will be cleaned out.

Ultimately, the dredging is expected to provide approximately three years of relief from flooding. The town is developing a long-term plan to reroute the creek through Silo Park, eliminating the old channel and daylighting approximately 900 feet of the creek, located between Main St. and SR 20, that is currently underground.

Writer Haley McNealey is a 2015

graduate of Concrete High School.

Editor Katy Tomasulo lives in Seattle.

See Lorenzen, p. 5

Concrete Center services update

On July 1, Skagit County and Community Action of Skagit County finalized a contract that provides for Community Action to take over management of the Concrete Center.

The transition has begun, with the intention of completion by August.

To aid with the transition, key staff changes have been made and an additional employee has been added. Claudia Marken has been promoted from Resource Center Coordinator to East County Manager; she'll oversee the Resource Center and the Concrete Center.

Cheryl Cunningham was promoted to Direct Services Specialist; she'll take over most of Marken's daily interactions with local clients. Cindy Lou Shirley is the new receptionist at the Resource Center.

Additional programs are being added to Concrete Center's schedule, most notably the East County Veteran Center, which meets Mon., Tue., and Wed. from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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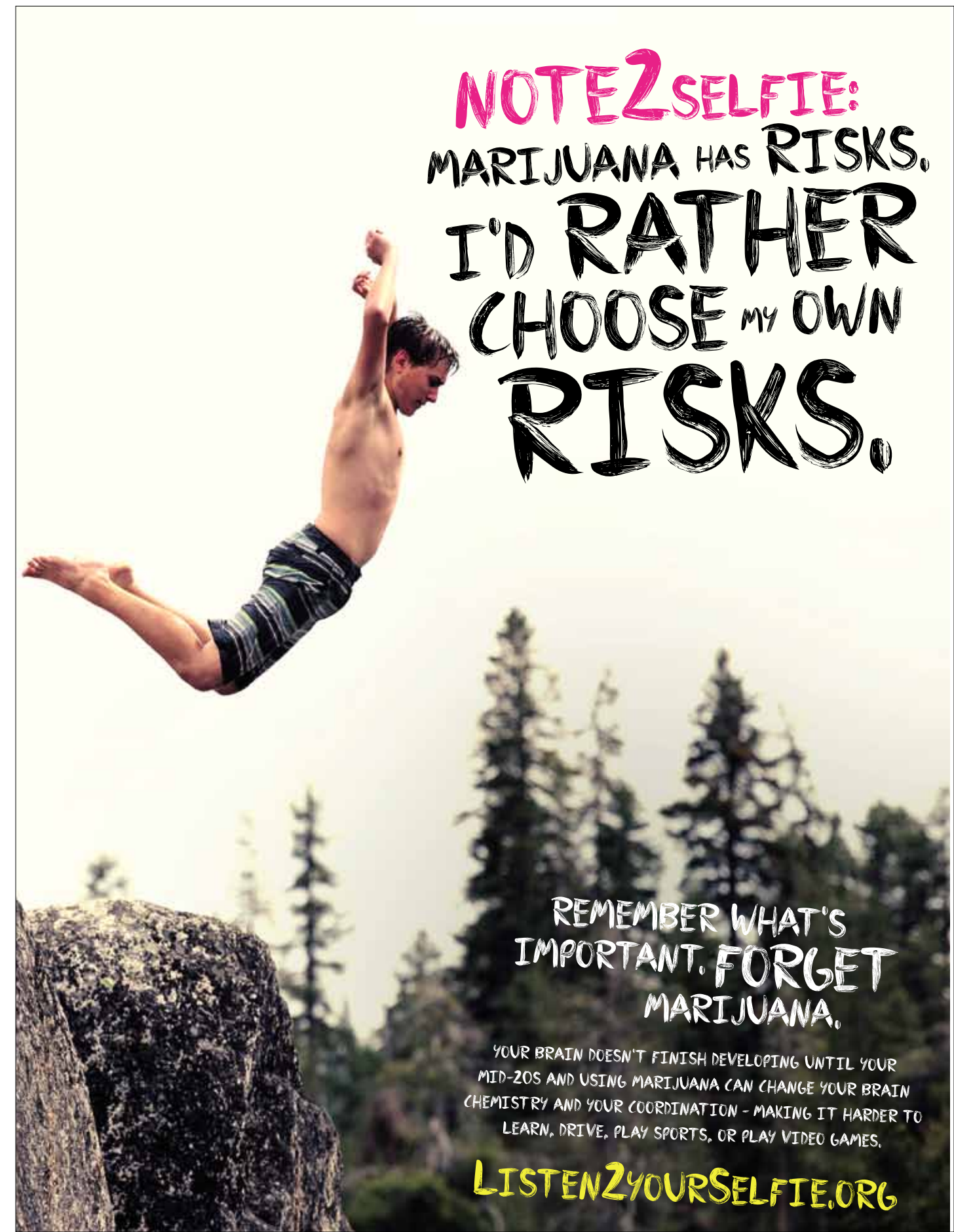
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Boggses named Grand Marshals for Cascade Days Parade

Longtime Concrete-area residents John and Gail Boggs will do the honors at this year's Cascade Days Parade. The couple has been named Grand Marshals for the annual event.

The Boggses have lived in the Concrete area for 20 years and are very active in the community. Both are retired Air Force members; John retired as a major and Gail was a staff sergeant. They both sit on the Concrete Heritage Museum Board, with Gail serving as the secretary, and John—a founding member—serving as project manager. They are members of the Concrete American Legion and the Upper Skagit Library Foundation, and were instrumental in pushing for Town of Concrete to join the Upper Skagit Library District.

John is largely responsible for the outcome of the "Paint the Town" project a few years back, which left the entire south side of Concrete Town Center with a new coat of paint. He's also done census work,

volunteered at the Resource Center, and worked for Annie's Pizza and Cascadian Farms.

Gail worked at Annie's too, as well as Albert's Red Apple Market for nine years. She's also served as an Eagle Festival board member. She retired from Albert's in 2015 so she could become more involved in the community.

"There's always a lot to do around here, and I enjoy doing it," said John. "I enjoy community and working together to accomplish common goals."

The line-up

This year's attendees at Cascade Days will see most of their favorite events returning, plus the addition of a new one: a Car Bash. Head to the tennis court at Veterans Memorial Park on Sat., Aug. 20, from 1 to 3 p.m., to beat up a junker for only a couple bucks per hit.

For more information and a complete schedule, go to www.cascadedays.com.



John and Gail Boggs are Grand Marshals for this year's Cascade Days Parade.

Back to School Blessing returns Aug. 28

Again this year, Concrete area churches are sponsoring backpacks filled with school supplies for the Back to School Blessing program for Concrete School District students.

The backpacks are filled with supplies for each grade level. Organizers are asking for donations of any size to help fill this need in the district, and also for help filling and distributing the backpacks.

Backpacks will be distributed to students at the CCD Center, 45590 Limestone St., Concrete on Sun., Aug. 28, at 1 p.m.

Donations can be made by check to the Mount Baker Presbyterian Church or donation sites at Grandy Creek Grocery in Birdview, Albert's Red Apple, Perks Espresso & Deli, and Cascade Supply in Concrete. Donations also may be made at Concrete area churches.

Volunteers are needed to fill and distribute the backpacks. For more information or to volunteer, contact Karen Stafford at 360.708.4668.

Free home-buying workshop. Everyone welcome. Aug. 27, 11 a.m., at Burlington Public Library, 820 E. Washington Ave., Burlington. Learn everything about home buying and loans, and receive a certificate for downpayment assistance good for two years. Lunch will be served. No pressure! Call Dianne at Hendrickson Realty at 360.421.1112. Just show up!

THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

Cascade Days has launched a contest to determine next year's theme and artwork for Concrete's biggest summertime party.

Cash prizes are involved, with \$100 going to the first place winner and \$50 for second place.

The deadline is Aug. 31, 2016. The winner will be contacted on or before Sept. 31.

Eligible entries received by Aug. 12 will be displayed at Cascade Days 2016 for public comment. Cascade Days Committee has the right not to award a winner if none of the entries are suitable.

Mail entries to P.O. Box 251, Concrete, WA 98237 or e-mail to ember@cascadedays.com. Be sure to include your name and contact information with your entry.

For more information, call 360.853.7867. Entries become property of Cascade Days Committee.

Heart to Heart Charity will host a **Heart to Heart Poker Run** fundraiser on Sat., Aug. 6 for motorcycles. The event will start at Skagit River Produce, located at 19193 SR 534 just outside Mount Vernon.

Registration begins at 11 a.m. with first bikers out at 11:30 a.m. Participants will receive one poker hand and a scenic ride through Skagit and Snohomish counties to collect cards for prizes. The end party will be held at the Lone Star Restaurant & Waterin' Hole at 45930 Main St. in Concrete. The meal is included in registration for participants and additional food or drinks can be purchased; there is a full bar.

Cost for the Poker Run is \$20 for bike/rider and \$30 for bike/rider/passenger. Registration forms can be sent via e-mail to hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com; use same e-mail to request one. First 10 prepaid registrations will receive a biker's gift bag.

Volunteers are needed for this event, as well as businesses that would like to donate prizes. Send an e-mail or call 360.826.3818 for more details. The event will raise funds for the charity's many activities and outreach efforts.

Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on July 11 and 25. Following is a summary of those two meetings. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are posted on the town's Web site at www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php.

July 11 regular meeting

- Public safety:** Sgt. Chris Kading reported on the data he's been gathering regarding fulfillment of the service contract between Town of Concrete and SCSO. He stated the contract requires a 10-minute response time for 80 hours per week. He reviewed a map that showed the response time area. He stated they have been able to track the hours by using the automatic vehicle locators that are installed in the deputies' vehicles. He reported that between May 1 and May 7 they were within the response area for 144 hours and between June 1 and June 7 they were within the response area for 147 hours, with 79 of those hours actually inside town limits. The report received a great response from the council; they thanked him for the excellent data.

- Town engineer Cody Hart reported on the First St. water line project. He stated presentations were held last week and today the town received notice they have been recommended for funding. He stated the recommended funds are less than the town requested; he will discuss with the county the possibility of reducing the original scope so that it falls into the available funding amount.

- Council discussed a sign violation at Mears Field and determined that the crux of the problem was the leaseholder did not fill out the proper paperwork so that the request could go through the proper process. The leaseholder had taken down the sign while the council deliberated, and agreed to complete the necessary paperwork.

- Councilmember and Parks Committee Chair Marla Reed reported that Hart had mentioned possible funding through USDA for the water spray park. Clerk Andrea Fichter stated this would be through its Community Facilities program and not a parks program.
- Public Works:** Director Alan Wilkins

referred the council to a water report he distributed. He stated this report shows tests that have been completed on the town's water supply. He stated there is not any lead in the town's water. He also reported on the lead and copper testing that is also completed. He stated the report shows other items that are tested for the amounts found in the water, if any.

July 25 regular meeting

- Several items regarding the Cement City Swap Meet were discussed, including noise, vendors staying longer into Sunday nights than allowed, and inappropriate overnight stays.

Town planner Marianne Manville-Ailles and Sgt. Kading both expressed support for a "camp host" individual who could spend the night on site and monitor for inappropriate behavior. Property owner George Theodoratus reported that some of the noise might be coming from Loggers Landing. He also reported that he had brought a second porta potty to the site.

- Council approved the Mears Field sign permit discussed at the July 11 meeting.
- Public Safety:** Sgt. Kading reported on a domestic violence incident that occurred on July 13 in Concrete. The perpetrator was very intoxicated and combative. Sgt. Kading stated that during the altercation, a deputy was injured and a window broken out of a patrol vehicle. He stated the individual is currently in jail and a restraining order is in effect so he should not be returning to the area.
- After learning that a site visit by Wilkins and Hart found no visual sloping or sloughing on the side of the roadway, council approved a grant application to fund an overlay for S. Dillard from SR 20 to Benjamin St.
- Council reviewed draft bylaws and draft municipal code section for the Economic Development Commission. A clean copy of each will be provided them at the Aug. 8 meeting.

—Compiled from staff minutes

Keep track of your council

To have Concrete Town Council agendas and meeting minutes e-mailed to you automatically, e-mail your request to andrea@concretewa.gov or call 360.853.8401. Concrete Town Council meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

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A pirate's life for Keith

Keith Kirchgesler of Big Lake, a.k.a. "Captain Seaglass," battled throat and brain tumors—and lived to tell the tale.

In 1991, Keith Kirchgesler of Big Lake snapped a selfie of himself for no particular reason. When he saw the developed photo, he knew something was wrong: bulges and lumps protruded from his throat.

Fast forward to last month, when I sat with Keith in his living room while he told the story. He touches an index finger to seven locations on this throat and head.

"1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 ... 7," he says. "Seven tumors."

The following year would change his life forever. Surgeries to cut away the tumors—one had dug in between his jugular vein and esophagus—and break up the one on top of his brain so radiation could blast it into oblivion. Being told he might not make it to the second surgery,

that he would never eat or speak again. Weight loss from 148 lbs. to 107—dangerously thin for his 6-foot frame.

Now 50, Keith is proving those doctors wrong. His voice is "wrecked," as John Irving would say, but quite understandable, and he can eat some soft foods and liquids, although he still depends mostly on liquid nutrition fed through a port in his abdomen.

"In 1991 my world was turned upside down," he says. "And the surgeries and radiation kicked my butt."

But 24 years later, Keith's still around, giving friends and family in Skagit County a sort of "two for one" deal. In 2010 he began to develop a second persona, a pirate captain who has helped him to heal and overcome his natural shyness, while bringing smiles and laughter to adults and children alike.

Keith got the idea for his pirate persona after meeting a man with an eye patch. They struck up a conversation and the man revealed that he helps children overcome their fear of the patch by telling them he's a pirate. The man noticed the

scars on Keith's throat.

"You'd make a good pirate," he said. And so it began.

Captain Seaglass

Keith started with a pirate hat made by a friend. He added a tattoo. Then another tattoo.

"My wife, Emily, wanted me to stop at a couple tattoos and the hat. But I couldn't stop. I started to develop the persona. The striped socks. The head scarf. I had 17 inches of hair, but it got too hot, so I cut it off and donated it to Locks of Love."

To choose a name for his pirate captain, Keith held a contest on Facebook. Upper Valley resident Frank Knight won with "Captain Seaglass."

The captain began to take on a life of his own, with more tattoos (mermaid, chains, octopus, desert island, treasure chest, cat o' nine tails whip, parrot, cannon), a sword, a pistol and holster, gold hoop earrings, and more. He began to travel to pirate festivals and local events, dressed to the hilt, charming people of all ages. He's won two awards at Cascade Days in



Captain Seaglass shows off his 2015 Cascade Days Parade trophy, which he captured for "Best Novelty Act."

Concrete in the last three years.

Inside his home, which he shares with Emily and daughter Jessica, the décor is predictable and often hilarious. Jigsaw puzzles of pirate captains and tropical scenes on the walls. Glass bottles filled with seaglass. A pirate ship model on top of a bookcase. A plastic skeleton draped over blankets in the attic. A black cat named Comet ghosts through the rooms. In his bedroom, a fishnet hangs in a corner, laden with driftwood, plastic skulls, stuffed parrots (toys), and swords. A sign hangs at the entrance to the bedroom: "Mermaids Welcome."

Outside, a black flag with a skull and crossbones hangs at the front door. In the garage is berthed a riding lawn mower with a bottomless dinghy mounted on top of it, complete with a hole for a mast. You know, for parades.

And the seaglass? The captain must have hundreds of pounds of it, of various colors, some sorted, some not, in buckets and jars and boxes and canisters and cups all over his house. Some of it gleams like gems, like jewelry. Other pieces look like sugar-coated candy. He knows what is worth a little something and what is not. He has favorite hunting grounds (in Anacortes, Port Townsend, Guemes Island, and others). At Jessica's urging, he

Pirate, cont. from p. 8

even has a bottle of seaglass in Seahawks colors.

"I'm not a Buccaneers fan; I'm a Seahawks fan!" he hollers in mock anger.

It's all in good fun, and Captain Seaglass gets plenty of laughs, but it's interesting to note how the captain has changed Keith Kirchgesler.

"Captain Seaglass made a shy, shy

person come out and join the rest of us," says Keith. "When I met my wife, I was very quiet and shy. Now, I like walking in places and talking to people. I like it when people recognize me and want to talk to me. It's like a celebration of what I overcame."

These days, you'll often find Keith at Helping Hands Food Bank in Sedro-Woolley, where he oversees the warehouse. You might remember him as



one of the lead citizen searchers when Patti Krieger went missing (he still keeps a sign up for her in his driveway). And you'll almost certainly see Captain Seaglass if you attend a parade in the Upper Valley or visit a pirate festival within driving distance.

If you do cross paths with the captain, say hi to his friend, Keith Kirchgesler, who's a better man for having met his alternate persona.

"I realize now I have the power to make a change, to make a difference," says Keith. "I like to help people. If you just sit at home, depression is going to find you. Get out and do something. Who knows what you'll do and who you'll meet? It's an adventure. Life is an adventure. Be your own pirate."

—J. K. M.



Captain Seaglass brought a homemade boat complete with sails and skeletons to the Cascade Days Parade last year. He plans to show up again this year, looking the part more than ever. Photo by Jude Dippold.

A sampling of seaglass from Captain Seaglass' private collection. Wave action driving small pebbles against the glass countless times gives it a frosted look.

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Keith Kirchgesler oversees warehouse operations at Helping Hands Food Bank in Sedro-Woolley, a position that requires him to hop on the forklift frequently.

See Pirate, p. 9

DAYLE
PATIENT FINANCIAL ADVOCATE

KATHERINE
BREAST CARE NAVIGATOR

DOMINIQUE
BREAST INSTITUTE MANAGER

PETER
ONCOLOGY SOCIAL WORKER

SARAH
PATIENT NAVIGATOR

Patient Support Services
Facing Cancer Together

We believe everyone should have someone by their side in the face of cancer. At Skagit Valley Hospital Regional Cancer Care Center, we have an entire team to support you physically, emotionally, mentally and financially. From diagnosis through survivorship, we are here for you every step of the way. Compassion in the face of cancer.

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For more information please call 360-814-2146 or visit us online at skagitcancersurvivors.org

Open for Business

Concrete Coins, Gold & Silver Pawn

Filling the void left by Washington Cafe comes Concrete Coins, Gold & Silver Pawn, which opened its doors July 1.

Proprietors Joshua Gonzales and Bruce Frink hail from Texas, and found Concrete while researching locations for their business.

"We stumbled on this, and the price was

right," says Joshua. "We didn't even look at other places; we favored this one."

Joshua and Bruce are eager to welcome you to their shop, where they buy all precious metals, including gold, silver, and platinum. They're looking for coin collections of any size too.

Got any old collectibles, musical instruments, tools, fishing/camping gear, black powder, antique firearms, bows/crossbows, or other vintage items? Give them a call or stop in.

"You never know what we'll buy," says Joshua.

Loans against collateral also are available, regulated carefully by state and federal government laws, so you can be sure you're getting a fair deal. That care flows both ways, though: These men aren't interested in anyone trying to get rid of stolen goods. If you're not willing to give them a thumbprint, don't bother darkening their door. Good for them!

Concrete Coins, Gold & Silver Pawn is located at 45938 Main St. in Concrete Town Center, and is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Stop in and ask Joshua to explain what "numismatic" means. He'll be happy to oblige.



Joshua Gonzales (left) and Bruce Frink opened Concrete Coins, Gold & Silver Pawn in Concrete Town Center on July 1.

Concrete Coins, Gold, & Silver Pawn

"Honest, Fair & Friendly"

Need fast cash? Call 360.399.1302
Walk-ins welcome or call for appointment!

Buying all precious metals, gold, silver, and platinum! Offering competitive prices!
WANTED: COIN COLLECTIONS, ANY SIZE!

WANTED: vintage/antiques collectibles, musical instruments, new/old tools, fishing/camping gear, black powder, antique firearms, bows/crossbows, oddities and rarities.

You never know what we will buy! Call us today to get a loan: 360.399.1302.

Find us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/concretecoins>

Open for Business

JavaZone 2

The little coffee stand in the Loggers Landing parking lot in Concrete has new owners and a slightly different name.

The new faces in the drive-up windows at JavaZone 2 are Elizabeth Fernando and Michael Little, who moved to Concrete in June.

You won't find huge surprises in the line-up of goodies at JavaZone 2, but you'll certainly be greeted by a smiling face, says Fernando.

"I've already figured out the regular customers; I know who wants what when they drive up," she says, and as if to prove her point, gestures toward a truck approaching the stand. "Ice cream for Izzy," she says.

There's plenty to want. The stand offers organic Sono Fresco coffee roasted in Burlington, in all its forms: hot, cold, and flavored. You can get a "bomber" (Red Bull, flavoring, ice), an Italian soda, espresso, milkshakes in all Italian soda flavors, smoothies—even soft-serve ice cream is available.

Fernando says she enjoys getting to meet community members. "The people have been lovely. We're just having a ball."

The stand is open Mon. through Fri. from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sat. from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sun. from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Elizabeth Fernando and Michael Little moved to Concrete in June and took over ownership of the JavaZone coffee stand, renaming it JavaZone 2. Easy to remember!

At a glance:

JavaZone 2

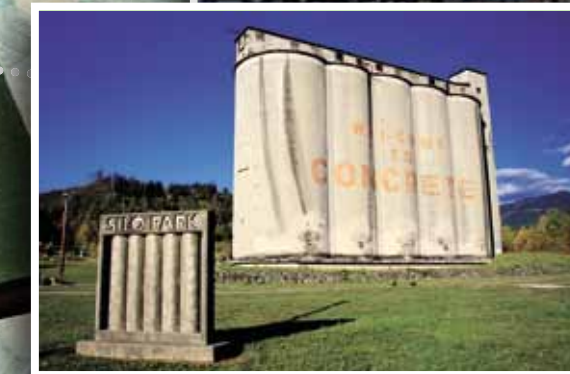
Where: Loggers Landing parking lot, Concrete

Phone: 360.853.8822

Hours: M-F 6 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sat. 6 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

Concrete Welcomes You!

Imagine your new life or business in our great small town!



Come to Concrete and experience small town living in the Skagit River valley. Surrounded by natural beauty and minutes away from the North Cascades and south flank of Mt. Baker, Concrete offers clean air, spring water in your taps, a strong school district, and a town that will do whatever it can to help you succeed in business. The only thing it's missing is traffic lights.

Concrete's historic Town Center offers a variety of buildings and flexible spaces that can be used to develop your unique business. Our housing stock is waiting for people with vision and dedication to help us continue our path toward a vibrant economy and great quality of life.

TOWN OF CONCRETE
45672 Main St., P.O. Box 39
Concrete, WA 98237
360.853.8401

CONCRETE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
45770 Main St., P.O. Box 743
Concrete, WA 98237
360.853.8784

"Come discover why Concrete is the place to be!"

— Jason Miller, Mayor



Here comes the fair

Hundreds of people, thousands of hours behind annual event

By Aric Gaither

This year's Skagit County Fair will again draw thousands to our corner of the world from Aug. 10-13. With a carnival, live music, food, car show, and, of course, live animals in the lineup, this year's event promises to be one of the finest.

It might seem like the Skagit County Fair "just happens," but the team behind its success numbers in the hundreds, and there is an amazing amount of work going on for many months before the four-day event.

The list of critical players is impressive. It includes full-time and seasonal county staff, business sponsors, a dedicated team of volunteers, vendors, entertainers, 4-H and FFA members, and Open Class competitors of all ages. Skagit County Commissioners show their support in many ways, including judging several competitions each year at the fair.

As the fair's coordinator, I take the lead

on the fair. My pre-season work includes such things as booking entertainment and coordinating marketing/advertising campaigns, but preparations go on year-round, with peak staff and volunteer levels from June to September. Off-season office responsibilities include such things as booking rental events and entertainers, and negotiating capital projects such as a new roof.

Other county employees who provide leadership and expertise include Fair Director and Parks and Recreation Director Brian Adams, who offers leadership and big picture planning, keeping an eye on the hottest local bands, and coming up with the fair theme every year.

Mike McCutchin, West County Parks lead, offers his technical expertise as the maintenance supervisor for the fairgrounds, while managing all of the other parks in western Skagit County.

Pauli Mickelson, administrative manager, keeps a watchful eye on the budget and manages ticket sales and gate admissions, along with hundreds of other tasks within the department.

Also involved are full-time Parks employees Erik Rantschler, Scott Perry, Chad Butterfield, and Dave Barber. Seasonal office staff includes Patrick Ulinski, Macklin Hamilton, and Wanda Jacobs. Hamilton will manage the Community Stage and Sherman Anderson Field area, which is made a part of the Fair in partnership with the City of Mount Vernon. Ulinski leads the volunteer coordination, while Jacobs specializes in providing administrative support for the Fair.

Recreation Manager Tony Tewalt holds down the fort at the administration office when staff members are at the fairgrounds during events. Other second-year seasonal maintenance employees are Carlos Perez and Jesus Serrano.

I also tap into professional expertise "in-house," such as Brian Young of the county IS Department, who designs the



Thomas "Tick" Sweet is a fair veteran with one year under his belt. His areas of competition include dogs and rabbits, still life, painting, Lego art, sewing, and canning. This year he will compete with "Cowgirl," a puppy that became part of the family at Christmas. *Submitted photo.*

fair poster, maintains the Web site, and creates other promotional material. Josh Greenberg, county GIS, created a colorful new site map this year.

We also rely heavily on part-time employees, usually four-month employees. Some are in college; some have interned with us in the past. They

See Fair, p. 13



Jesus Serrano is a seasonal "jack of all trades" who keeps the fairgrounds looking great. He's in his second year at Skagit Valley College. *Submitted photo.*

Fair, cont. from p. 12

have great responsibilities, including such things as site maintenance, coordinating volunteers, and running the Community Stage/ballfield area. They often have a lot of logistics to juggle. We ask them to learn and accomplish a great deal in a very short period of time.

We have had some great interns from the WWU Rec Program pipeline. It's always a challenge to find seasonal employees with a passion for this kind of work, who can endure a grueling fair season. We benefit from a natural "buy-in factor" with young students who have chosen to make this their profession.

The fair is a countywide partnership, with financial and support resources from all communities. School district (FFA) organizations involved in the fair come from Mount Vernon, Burlington, and Sedro-Woolley districts. Anacortes often is rich in musicians and artists. Smaller communities such as La Conner and Concrete bring out their cheer teams for "Cheer at the Fair." 4-H participants and leaders come from all corners of the county and are critical to the success of youth programs at the fair.

4-H, FFA, and Open Class leaders serve as superintendents of different departments at the fair, putting in a great deal of time running up to and through the course of the fair. Departments range from 4-H horses to open class sewing, photography, and canning.

Margaret Olsen, an Ag Teacher/FFA leader, serves as superintendent coordinator and livestock expert. She took part in her first Skagit County Fair in 1980, and has been with us in leadership for the past seven years, expertly handling a lot of detailed niches. She coordinates 30 to 40 fair superintendents and administers all fair entries.

Another example of behind-the-scenes work is that of a 10-member team of volunteer veterinarians who examine every fair animal the day before opening. Longtime volunteer Bonita Elfstrom takes the lead in this area. This is Elfstrom's 46th year at the fair.

The fair staff has sufficient knowledge about a wide range of subjects, but it's critical to have the experts on speed dial, and know how to get them to the right spot, sometimes in a hurry. We rely heavily on the expertise of others in areas ranging from animal judging to running the sound on the main stage. We juggle these worlds and more, making many decisions on the fly, putting our best foot

forward to make the fair an enjoyable experience for all.

The arts are a key element of the fair, from classic rock and country music to dance groups (tribal and Scottish dancing this year). Original music is embraced and cover songs are encouraged to engage audience participation.

We have developed a community stage to give our local young talent a chance to perform at the fair in a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere. Past performances have ranged from a Michael Jackson dance tribute to a solo instrumental musical set. Local talent is something we embrace on the Community Stage and as a whole at the fair. It gives them room to perform for a public audience, to grow in experience. Some of these developing performers ultimately end up on our Main Stage.

It fits our overall philosophy of community development and bringing people together. Instead of saying no to young performers, we have a great place for them to play in front of the hometown crowd.

Many are not aware that the fair is self-sustaining. The fair is not subsidized by the county general fund. We have to bring in more than we spend every year, with a goal of producing revenue for capital projects focused on structural improvements/beautification around the grounds.

In addition to ticket sales, key financial contributors are the fair's 40-plus sponsors. Some are financial sponsors, others in-kind.

For example, Dahl Electric has been very generous, contributing equipment, expertise, and elbow grease. Skagit Publishing and local radio stations do a wonderful job of helping us not only to promote the fair, but to report on the action as the fair unfolds. Rallye Auto Sales donated 100 tickets to Community Action for families in need, and there are many more standout examples from our business community.

Other outreach efforts include Family Connections Day and Safety and Preparedness Day, field events that draw organizations ranging from Boys and Girls Clubs and Goodwill to municipal emergency response departments and regional energy companies.

We do the best we can, reaching out to as many demographics as possible, creating a great hometown fair for Skagit County. We excel in our niche, emphasizing local talent and businesses

See Fair, p. 18



Above: FFA is a big part of the fair's success. Elly Pederson (second from left) is excited for her role. "We get to run the Baby Animal Farm with borrowed animals. The kids are excited. They flock to it, and part of our job is to monitor them," she said.



Right: This will be Mikayla Rolfs' fourth year at the Skagit County Fair. Rolfs, who will be a sophomore next fall at University of Washington, will be joined by her goldendoodle, Charlie. Last year, the pair qualified for the state championship, where Charlie came away with honors, including Champion in Agility and Champion in Showmanship. *Submitted photos.*

Nick VanJaarsveld
Financial Advisor

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Visit the North Cascades Vintage Aircraft Museum!



Spend the day with these amazing vintage aircraft from the Golden Age of Aviation. We have one of the premiere collections in the Pacific Northwest and invite you to come take a self-guided tour and see these incredible machines up close and in person!

Open Wednesday - Sunday: 10am-4pm
All other visits are by appointment
<http://www.vintageaircraftmuseum.org>
360.770.4848





Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

In this picture, circa 1910, Elsie and Cora Isaacson are modeling the fashion of their day. Elsie and Cora were the daughters of John Isaacson, who took up a homestead in 1876 where the town of Clear Lake now stands. He built the first cabin there on land where Clear Lake Elementary School is now located. On Nov. 29, 1885, he married Miss

Elizabeth Kimble. Elsie and Cora were two of 14 children in the family.

Photo courtesy of Clear Lake Historical Association.

If you have old photos of Clear Lake and/or Day Creek, please contact historian Deanna Ammons at 360.856.6798.

—Deanna Ammons, historian

New book spotlights Big Lake Valley's big history

A new book published by Big Lake Historical Society tells the tale of a cluster of communities near present-day Mount Vernon.

Big Lake Valley starts at the beginning, with a beautiful lake surrounded by virgin timber, enough for Dr. Hyacinthe P. Montborne to homestead in Big Lake Valley in 1884. He set up a shingle mill at Montborne in 1887, at the same time Hugh Walker was setting up a shingle mill in Walker Valley. With the establishment of the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern Railroad along the shoreline of Big Lake, the valley began to boom.

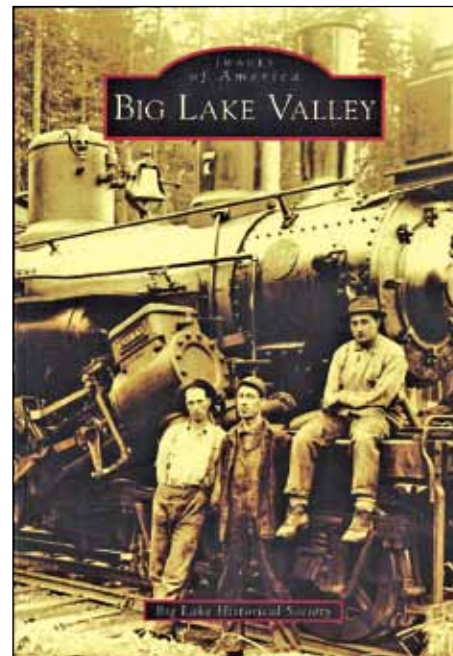
The Day Lumber Company at Big Lake and the Nelson Neal Lumber Company at Montborne each established lumber mills. Their operations were far-reaching into the vast timberlands. With families homesteading near and far, the Finn Settlement, Ehrlich, Big Lake, Big Rock, and Baker Heights joined Walker Valley and the town of Montborne as communities.

The mills are long gone, but the communities in the Big Lake Valley have survived, and generations of families, both old and new, continue to call it home.

Editors Trudi Yarcho Davis and Chris Farrow draw readers into the rich history of the Big Lake Valley with selected writings and more than 200 historical photographs. The book is available on Amazon.com or through the Big Lake Historical Society.

For more information, go to www.biglakehistory.org, send an e-mail to biglakehistoricalsociety@gmail.com, or write to:

Big Lake Historical Society
c/o Melba Hall
23694 DaLacy Lane
Mount Vernon, WA 98274



Big Lake Valley Historical Exhibit

Big Lake School Gymnasium

Sat., Aug. 13
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sun., Aug. 14
1 to 5 p.m.

On display:

- Historical pictures, maps, and artifacts of early Big Lake Valley
- Old school pictures from Big Lake, Montborne, Ehrlich, Baker Heights, and Finn Settlement
- Old classic cars

Big Lake Valley book signing

Sat., 11 a.m.
Sun., 1 p.m.

PowerPoint presentation

Sat., noon
Sun., 2 p.m.

Walking Tours of "Old Big Lake Mill Town"

Sat., 1 p.m.
Sun., 3 p.m.



Community Calendar



AUGUST

- 2 Summer Food Preservation Workshop Series: Pressure Canning, WSU Skagit County Extension, 11768 Westar Ln., Ste. A, Burlington; register online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2564503 or call 360.428.4270, ext. 0
- 4 112th Annual Skagit County Pioneer Assn Picnic and Meeting, Pioneer Park, La Conner; lunch at 11:15 a.m., meeting at 12:45 p.m.; see notice, p. 34
- 5 Sedro-Woolley Riding Club Friday Night Lights Barrel Racing, Sedro-Woolley rodeo grounds; cook shack opens at 5:30 p.m., races start at 7 p.m.
- 5-7 Rockport Volunteer Fire Dept. Yard Sale, Rockport Fire Hall, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. all three days; to donate, call 360.708.8594
- 6 Heart to Heart Charity Poker Run begins at Skagit River Produce, 19193 SR 534, Mount Vernon; registration at 11 a.m., first out at 11:30 a.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 7 Marblemount Community Hall Annual Salmon BBQ Fundraiser, noon to 5 p.m., 60155 SR 20, Marblemount; see notice, p. 26
- 10-13 Skagit County Fair, Mount Vernon; info at www.skagitcounty.net/departments/fair
- 11-14 Summer Meltdown, Darrington Bluegrass Music Park, SR 530 (3 miles west of Darrington); info at www.summermeltdownfest.com
- 13 Concrete Heritage Museum Bake Sale at Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Center, 45821 Railroad St., Concrete, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- 13 Lyman Hamilton School Reunion and potluck lunch, Lyman Park, Lyman, noon start; info at 360.826.3160, 360.659.9848, or rabb@comcast.net
- 13 Concert by local musicians, sponsored by Citipoint Church North Cascade, Marblemount Community Hall, 6 p.m.; free admission; info at 360.873.2504
- 13-14 Big Lake Valley Historical Exhibit; see notice, p. 14
- 14 Marblemount Community Market, Marblemount Community Hall, noon to 4 p.m.; see notice, p. 26
- 18 Annual Summer Museum Potluck, Concrete Center, 45821 Railroad St., Concrete, 6 p.m.; see notice, p. 32
- 19 Sedro-Woolley Riding Club Friday Night Lights Barrel Racing, Sedro-Woolley rodeo grounds; cook shack opens at 5:30 p.m., races start at 7 p.m.
- 19-21 CHS Class of 1986 Reunion; parade, meals, family time, Cascade Days on the agenda; info at 253.651.4700 or forkris@hotmail.com
- 20 Upper Skagit Library Foundation Used Book Sale, Upper Skagit Library parking lot, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 32; info at 360.853.8347 or jboggs@wash@aoob.com
- 20 Big August Hoobajoob, 605 Emens Ave., Darrington, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; see notice, p. 24; info at 360.436.0711
- 20-21 Cascade Days, Concrete; see article, p. 6; info at www.cascadedays.com
- 25 Washington State Parks FREE DAY; no Discover pass needed for Rasar or Rockport state parks
- 28 Back to School Blessing, CCD Center, 45590 Limestone St., Concrete, 1 p.m.; see notice, p. 6; info at 360.708.4668

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Concrete Heritage Museum Yard Sale at Cement City Swap Meet, Concrete; donations accepted from 8 to 9 a.m., sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 32

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

Community meetings

Cascade Days Committee Board of Directors meets the third Mon. of each month at 5:30 p.m., in the Pilots' Lounge at Mears Field, Concrete. 360.853.7867, ember@cascadedays.com, info@cascadedays.com.

Cedar Grove and Skagit Upriver C.E.R.T. Group meets the first Mon. of each month at 6:30 p.m., Concrete Center in Concrete. 360.853.7420 or emergencyresponsecomm@cedargrove-concrete.org.

Coffee Talk with Concrete Mayor Jason Miller meets the third Fri. of each month at 8 a.m., at 5b's Bakery in Concrete. 360.853.8213.

Community Chat, an informal conversation about projects in Darrington, meets the second Sat. of each month at 9 a.m., at Mountain Loop Books and Coffee, 1085 Darrington St., Darrington. 360.436.2167

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

Concrete Elementary PTO meets the second Wed. of each month at 5 p.m. in the Concrete Elementary School library. 425.350.5988.

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

Concrete Heritage Museum Board will hold its annual potluck dinner Aug. 18 at 6 p.m. at the Concrete Center. Meetings are open to the public. 360.826.3075 or concreteheritagemuseum@gmail.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 Resource Coalition meets the third Thur. of each month, at 1 p.m., at the Concrete School District offices (usually in the north room at the eastern end of the building).

Concrete School District Board will hold its next work session on Aug. 22, at 6 p.m. in the high school Commons. The board will hold its regular monthly meeting on Aug. 25 at 6 p.m., in the high school Commons. 360.853.8141.

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

Darrington Strong 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 7 p.m. at Town Hall, 1005 Cascade St. 360.436.1131 or

darrcityhall@frontier.com.

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

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 third Tue. of each month in the Pilots' Lounge at Mears Field in Concrete, at 6 p.m. Open to the public. 360.853.8213 or goodwords@frontier.com.

KSVU station info and host training, second Wed. of each month at Portable B behind Concrete K-8 School, 11 a.m., open to public. Call 360.416.7001 to confirm appointment.

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.

Mansford Grange meets the first Tue. of each month, 7 p.m., at the Mansford Grange Hall, 1265 Railroad Ave., Darrington. 360.436.0711.

Marblemount Community Hall board and staff meet the second Tue. of each month at the hall, at 6:30 p.m. 360.873.2323.

Paranormal Discussion Group meets the last Sunday of each month at Concrete Center, 45821 Railroad St., Concrete, at 7 p.m. 360.630.5143.

Saukrates Cafe meets the last Wed. 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 Town Council 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.

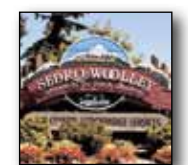
Sedro-Woolley School District Board will hold a retreat on Aug. 2 at 5 p.m. at 16936 Lakeview Blvd., Mount Vernon. 360.855.3500 or kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us.

Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center Board meets the second Tue. of each month, 6:30 p.m., at Annie's Pizza Station in Grasmere. Open to the public. sauksister@frontier.com or www.skagiteagle.org.

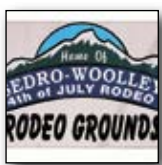
Upper Skagit Library District (USLD) Board meets the second Thurs. of each month at 5 p.m., at the library. Public is welcome. 360.853.7939 or info@upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

Upper Skagit Writers Group meets the fourth Mon. of each month at 7 p.m., at 5b's Bakery, Concrete. Open to the public and all skill levels. cthomas@upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

Parents! Get involved in your PTO!
Concrete Elementary PTO meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month, at 5 p.m., in the Concrete Elementary School library.
For more information, call 425.350.5988.



Sedro-Woolley



Loggerodeo Parade winners announced

The Sedro-Woolley Lions Club has announced the winners of the 2016 Loggerodeo Parade:

Log Trucks

1st Bob Hillier Trucking
2nd Deming Log Show
3rd Leonard Hornbeck

Floats

1st Marysville Strawberry Festival
2nd Welcome to the Carnival
3rd H & H Racing

Marching Bands, Drill/ Marching Unit

1st Sedro-Woolley Cheerleading
2nd Skagit High Schools Marching Band
3rd Sedro-Woolley Dance Team

Equestrian

Darrington Rodeo Royalty

Pooper Scooper

Darrington Rodeo Royalty

Antique Car/Vehicle

Deming Log Show

Antique Tractor/Equipment

Nels & Oscar Lagerlund

Youth Group

Sedro-Woolley Little League
Baseball 10-11

Church/Community Group

Nile Shriners

Port, Janicki discuss economic growth strategies

Port of Skagit and Janicki Bioenergy continue to make progress in the shared vision to develop a technology campus on the Northern State property. The two parties have been discussing ways a public-private partnership will bring living wage jobs and substantial economic growth to the State of Washington.

Port of Skagit commissioners approved a lease with Janicki Bioenergy during a regular meeting of the Port commission on May 16. Execution of the lease begins a process to determine whether the two parties can accomplish a shared goal for redevelopment of the property. The cost to rehabilitate the structures on the campus is far too great for any one entity. Thus, redevelopment of the site is dependent on the willingness of a public-private partnership.

"The goal is to encourage long-term private sector investment and a clear path to local ownership of the property," said Port of Skagit Commissioner Bill Shuler. "We acknowledge that a significant amount of energy and investment will be required to realize this goal. Without question, the port commission, staff, and our partners are prepared to go the distance to make this happen."

Janicki Bioenergy and the Port are planning a redevelopment project on about 37 acres in the southern area of the campus. The remaining 94.5 acres encompasses peripheral open space areas for activities such as parking and staging construction equipment, as well as wetlands, trails, and other areas that are protected from development.

"Having this lease in place to utilize facilities at the North Cascades Gateway Center means that we are finally beginning to realize our vision of revitalizing this great resource in our community," said Janicki Bioenergy CEO Peter Janicki. "We could not be more excited about the possibilities at this site to further develop our technologies, provide more jobs, and work with local universities and schools to create diverse learning opportunities."

"Getting to this point in the project has been no small endeavor. There have been a large number of folks involved in this effort. Our cities, the Port of Skagit, Skagit County, and the State have all worked in cooperation to bring this about, and we are very grateful for their dedication. The ability to use the Northern State property in this new capacity will benefit so many."

In January 2016, the state entered into an initial 60-year lease with the Port of Skagit for a portion of the property. The 2015 Washington Legislature granted Enterprise Services authority to pursue leases for the property for up to 60 years. Under the lease, the Port has begun leasing the campus property from the state in planned phases to ensure a smooth transition over time. The initial lease agreement between the Port and Enterprise Services for 131.5 acres makes up more than 50 percent of the 225-acre property.

The Northern State Hospital site, which was designed by the Olmsted Brothers landscape architecture firm and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has been underutilized since the hospital closed in 1973, and the agricultural land associated with it was subsequently turned over to Skagit County for recreational usage. The facility was reopened on a small scale in 1978 as a Multi-Service Center for the U.S. Forest Service and state Department of Social and Health Services. The Port will use federal standards to prioritize the revitalization of selected structures on the property to preserve the original Olmsted design.

—Submitted by Port of Skagit

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CASCADE MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following 7th and 8th grade students at Cascade Middle School received honors for high marks for the second semester of the 2015-16 school year. An asterisk denotes a student with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Grade 7 Honor Roll

Elizabeth L. Abhold*, Kalin J. Adkerson, Matthew Aguilar-Sanchez, Megan R. Andrews, Magali Antonio Salgado, Trinity H. Arellano, Gabrielle M. Ashton, Katie L. Backstrom, Paula C. Banda, Alexa J. Becerra Torres, Kian Beisler, Noelle G. Belanger, Camryn A. Benham, Lauren A. Benham, Brady O. Biggs, Brian T. Boyd, Diego Bueno, Jayda M. Carter, Megan E. Christensen*, Ashton C. Constantine, Colby W. Constantine, Dalton J. Cook, Eliot S. Cooper, Wyatt J. Covert, James A. Cukierski*, Victoria D'Arienzo*, Erin R. Davis, Kylee N. Dobson, Beau G. Elder, Harmony L. Fetterly, Damien L. Field*, Dakota R. Fox*, Colsen J. Friedrichs, Alexis Frizzell, Shawn Froneberger, Lillian M. Fulford, Bryan Garcia Cervantes, Kylie R. Gibson, Mackenzie E. Grimm, Alysa R. Hall, Savannah K. Halverson, Ethan J. Hasenoehrl*, Leslie C. Hastings, Claire Hindman, Arrora L. Hoelzle, Christopher J. Hoffman, Melissa A. Howry, Meghan N. Hudson*, Trent N. Huntley, Savannah G. Hupp*, Olivia M. Isakson*, Benjamin Johnson, Emily C. Johnson, Madilyn C. Johnson*, Hannah K. Jutte, Laura A. Kester, Curtis M. Klaus, Evan C. Kolb, Brynna K. Lee, Max A. Lloyd, Emma C. Martinson, Zayler R. Mauck, Gabriel Z. Maxson, Noelan T. Melton, Samantha L. Meyer, Isabella M. Moore, Leonel W. Morales, Owen S. Murdock*, Annalee R. Nersten*, Camree L. Nilsen*, Alexis M. Noyes, Karlee M. Nurmi, Riley K. Olin, Troy L. Peterson, Mallory C. Poppe, Jeffrey C. Prestmo, Cameron Queen, Emily M. Redling*, Xander M. Renkema, Madelyn A. Regua*, Isabella G. Rinne, London A. Roberts, Lyric P. Robinette, Cameron D. Russell, Isaak E. Sanders, Connor J. Schneider, Shanoah L. Shanes, Jeffrey Z. Sheridan, Keaton Skiles*, Madesyn C. Skinner, Katelyn S. Snodgrass, Vanessa Soto Lopez*, Seth Sternhill-

Non-native fish species management at McAlester Lake

In an effort to protect native cutthroat trout from hybridization and competition with non-native fish, North Cascades National Park Service Complex (NOCA) will conduct intensive fish and habitat surveys to determine the best options for the removal of non-native rainbow and rainbow/cutthroat hybrid trout from McAlester Lake.

The surveys are scheduled to begin this month. Following the surveys and for the next two years, the park will deploy gillnets in the lake on a monthly basis from July through October. Throughout

Tift, Jenna R. Stevens, Jakob E. Storm, Olivia A. Stormo, Bode J. Stout, Lila Suchsland*, Pedro I. Tamayo, Keyaira L. Taylor, Keely A. Thibodeau, Abigail H. Thomas*, Cassie G. Thomas, Elizabeth N. Thrumer, Gabriella M. Timblin, Mikayla R. Townsend, Layne A. Tucker, Carmen E. Ugalde, Kaylynn E. Vahovick, Amelia R. Vaith*, Isabella C. Vanzanten, Josiah A. Vellegas*, Josie M. Weppeler*, Gracie A. Wesson, Devon M. Whitney, Tess A. Wimer*, Jasan S. Winship, Heidi M. Winters, Allison J. Wood, Gabriel W. Zarate.

Grade 8 Honor Roll

Emma C. Adams, Jonathan R. Adams, Josseline D. Aguirre, Anahy Alcazar Salinas, Maryna Baidak, Courtney M. Bawden, Angelina J. Benitez, Keegan A. Blaine, Lexani B. Brown, Kylee N. Bryan, Lorianna V. Castellanos, Emma L. Cook*, Elleece I. Derby, Colby J. Dills, Camden J. Dowhaniuk, Jasmine J. Evans*, Madelyn R. Farnham, Shauna C. Flores, Megan Friend, Elise C. Gamson, Jens P. Gifford, Amy J. Graber, Isaiah M. Guerero*, Jared C. Gunderson, Mackenzie L. Hamilton, Crista J. Harris, Amber T. Helinski, Karin A. Henderson, Fatima Hernandez-Lara, Madisyn R. Hill, Caleb R. Hoogendam, Gabriel J. Hyder, Chloe N. Hynds, Issac A. Janes, Joseph L. Jennings, Madison A. Lake, Alyssa J. Lecca La Cruz, Jacob N. Lennox, Mark S. Leus, Vladislav P. Leus, Kelsey N. Loop, Israel Lopez Martinez, Marcelino Lopez Martinez, Denisse Lopez Nolasco, Trinity R. Luchi, Alexa D. Lynn*, Emanuel Martinez, Asia A. McDermott, Jennifer Morales*, Rachel M. Neeld, Jacob B. Norris, Mitchell A. Pepper, Makenna A. Peterson, Jerzee Pigford, Grace M. Pohl, Elijah I. Price*, Ariel A. Resnik*, Karsyn T. Rooks, Romel A. Saragena, Dylan J. Scheib, Alyssa J. Scherf, Natalya A. Schwetz*, Hallie J. Simpson, Zoe K. Slabodnik, Tessa C. Smith, Jared J. Snodgrass, Shelly L. Staples, Brandi E. Stewart, Heavenlee J. Strutzel, Liliana Tapia, Natalia R. Taylor, Kaylee M. Thomas, Madisun R. Tobisch, Ian A. Valdovinos, Brent J. VanderVeen, Avery E. Wagner, Roweann A. Wagner, David R. West Jr, Serina E. Wilson, Samantha R. Wise, Mitchell T. Wolkenhauer*, Yasmin Zavala Mendoza.

all of these activities, McAlester Lake will remain open for recreation.

"In partnership with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, McAlester Lake will be restocked with Westslope cutthroat trout that are native to the watershed, at lower numbers to create a better fishing opportunity and greatly reduce the risk to native amphibian and fish communities," said Aquatics Biologist Ashley Rawhouser.

Rainbow trout were stocked in McAlester Lake in 1942 and are a non-native fish species in the Stehekin and Bridge Creek watersheds. Since their initial introduction, these fish have established a breeding population that migrate downstream and hybridize with the native Westslope cutthroat.

—J. K. M.

Children's bereavement program seeks volunteers

The Landing, the children's bereavement program sponsored by United General District 304 Foundation in Sedro-Woolley, is looking for volunteers. Duties include clerical tasks, as well as help with support groups, phone lines, and special projects. If interested, those who qualify may become group facilitators.

A free two-day training will be provided in September. A commitment of seven hours per month for one year is expected. Volunteers must be 15 years or older; teens may be able to earn credit for community service hours at their school.

The Landing is an award-winning program that provides grief support for children and teens, as well as supportive services to families, caregivers, and the community. Trained volunteers facilitate bi-monthly meetings where children can share their experiences as they move through the healing process.

For more information, contact Sandi Sims at 360.420.0775 or send email to thelanding1@mac.com.

—Valerie Stafford

Huggins earns Dean's Award at Colgate

Colgate University Class of 2016 member Hillary Huggins, a Classical Studies major and Sedro-Woolley High School graduate, has earned the spring Dean's Award for Academic Excellence.

The Dean's Award at Colgate is awarded to students with a 3.30 or higher term average.

Colgate University is a highly selective residential liberal arts institution in central New York, distinguished by commitment to global engagement, student-faculty research, off-campus study, sustainable practices, and utilizing technology to enhance the teaching and learning experience.

—J. K. M.

Free home-buying workshop. Everyone welcome. Aug. 27, 11 a.m., at Burlington Public Library, 820 E. Washington Ave., Burlington. Learn everything about home buying and loans, and receive a certificate for downpayment assistance good for two years. Lunch will be served. No pressure! Call Dianne at Hendrickson Realty at 360.421.1112. Just show up!

Come visit our beautiful Home Farm bordering the North Cascades National Park in the Upper Skagit Valley! Enjoy our spacious picnic area, self-guided farm tour, organic berries & more!

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Lyman



Day Creek



Management a priority for mayor

Seven months into his first term, Lyman Mayor Eddie Hills stays focused on issues close to home.

Lyman's 19th mayor is an unabashed home body. Eddie Hills ran unopposed in the Nov. 2015 election and is now seven months into his first term. He says as a part-time mayor, he needs to allocate his time wisely, and has chosen to stay close to home.

"Before I became mayor, I used to attend a lot of county meetings, but the day-to-day is more important," he said. "I figured my time was probably best spent staying here and managing our needs. I like developing relationships with other mayors, but I want to stay closer to home."

Mayor Hills has done exactly that during the first several months at the helm, focusing on realities that directly affect Lyman residents' quality of life.

Task No. 1: the former meat market across from Lyman Tavern. The aged building is beyond repair; its back wall already has collapsed. Hills is working with the property owner to demolish the building.

"It's a safety hazard," said Hills. "I jumped on it right away because I wanted to see it gone. I had a heart-to-heart with the owner; we're going to clean it up and lien the property, then collect on that down the road when he sells the property. In the meantime, we'll have gotten rid of the safety hazard and eyesore factors."

The building should come down by the end of September, after low levels of asbestos have been mitigated.

Task No. 2: the cook shack at Lyman Park. Partially funded by dedicated support from the Lyman Car Show over the years (\$20,000), the town got a boost from state funds, bringing them to \$161,000 for the project.

The cook shack will add another 20x40-foot covered structure, similar to the existing one. Centered on the footprint will be a 12x20-foot enclosed prep kitchen with a 3-bay sink, on-demand hot water, and a shelf with plug-ins (for crockpot line-up). A new barbecue structure also will be included with the same footprint size, but updated—a dedicated barbecue area.

"It's a pretty exciting project," said Hills. "I've signed all the paperwork and we're wrapping up the design. We should be able to break ground sometime this fall, probably after Labor Day weekend. I want to get it done quickly so when the Polar Bear Picnic people show up in February—they might be the first ones to use it."

Task No. 3: traffic calming on SR 20. This one's more of a challenge, since Hills has to work with WSDOT, convincing its traffic engineers that slower speeds are warranted as SR 20 passes through the Lyman businesses that border the scenic byway along its northern edge. Hills points to slower speed designations in Concrete and Rockport to support lowering the speed limit through Lyman, and is in talks with WSDOT to make it happen before fatalities prove his theory.

Task No. 4: New chlorine pumps for the water system are needed in the next couple years. The town has two pumps, so even if one pump fails, a backup is in place. "They're priced out and lined up to go," said Hills. "Hopefully we can do that next year."

Strong staff and council

Hills says Lyman's strengths include its staff and Town Council. Clerk Debbie



Lyman Mayor Eddie Hills took office on Jan. 1 and has since dedicated himself to solving issues close to home. *Submitted photo.*

Boyd is a seasoned veteran, handling BIAS accounting software, permitting paperwork, accounts payable/receivable, and council needs. "If she were gone tomorrow, I wouldn't know how to tell someone to do her job," said Hills.

Matt Jennings handles general maintenance and is the town's backup water operator. He performs all building maintenance and groundskeeping for the town, plus daily water readings and chlorine oversight. The town's water system is managed mainly by Ryan Wynn of Water and Wastewater Services, which Hills calls "a huge advantage," because "as a small town, it's important to keep the water system healthy."

The town's unaccounted-for water percentage has dropped from close to 40 percent down to less than 10 percent,

which is within state parameters. "We're doing great in that department," said Hills. On the Town Council, Hills and Town of Lyman have strong representation with years of experience under their belts.

Mike Swanson and Mike Couch have served on the council for upwards of 20 years. Gail Ganga and Rita Burke are both in their second terms. And Mark Harris returned to the council to take over Hills' seat after serving several years ago.

"Having experienced council members really helps; they work well together and don't butt heads," said Hills.

—J. K. M.

*Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley*

Lyman Hamilton School Reunion Picnic

Sat., Aug. 13, noon, at Lyman Park

Bring a potluck dish!

Questions? Contact 360.659.9848, rabb@comcast.net, or 360.826.3160

Community notes

Save these dates

Mark your calendar for the following events this year:

- Nov. 15: Progressive Dinner

If you have an idea for a community gathering, call 360.826.3003 or 360.826.3581.

Friday night barrel racing

Join the fun of watching barrel racers on a summer Friday night along with enjoying a rodeo burger and visiting with friends. Presented by Sedro-Woolley Riding Club.

The cook shack opens at 5:30 p.m., with warm-up practice. Races start at 7 p.m.

Schedule:

August	5, 19
September	9

Community Block Watch planned

We have been going over a few ideas at the Community Potlucks as we begin to organize a Community Block Watch. Donna Pulver has been looking up plans and Web sites to setting up the Block Watch. There will be a planning meeting in September. There is lots of information to go over and much to plan.

If you are interested in being part of the coordinating team, contact Donna at 360.826.3003 or Kathy at 360.826.3581.

Let's make Day Creek safe and watched.

Friendship House Helping Hand

We are banding together as a community to reach out to the homeless and will be serving a monthly dinner at the Friendship House. Prep will happen at 3 p.m.; dinner at 5 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month.

If you are interested in being a helper,

call Sue Walden at 360.391.1709.

Kingdom Builders

If you know anyone in need this year, please call the numbers below. Kingdom Builders can put together food baskets and gather other needs for kids and families.

Donna Pulver and Kathy Henderson, co-directors of Kingdom Builders, are reaching out to those in the Day Creek community who need help with trips to the doctor, hospital visits, store runs, and more. If you would like to become available to be a community helper, call 360.826.3003, 360.826.3581, or 360.826.3822.

WOMEN HAND in hand

Start to prepare for our fall event with Allison Allen, slated for Sept. 22 in Darrington and Sept. 23–24 in Sedro-Woolley.

For more information and tickets, go to www.womenhandinhand.org. Follow the Eventbrite link to purchase your tickets or call 360.853.3066.

Follow WOMEN HAND in hand on Facebook or at www.womenhandinhand.org. To join, call 360.826.3696.

Day Creek Book Club

The book club is open to new members. Members are welcome to host a book club meeting at their favorite "hang out" spot. Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at Cedar Springs Lodge on Barben Road. For more information, call 360.661.0247.

Community Closet

Free clothes for all ages, from infant to adult, are available at the Community Closet in Concrete, located in Portable A behind the elementary school gym.

The closet is open Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m., beginning Oct. 1. For more

information or questions regarding donations or volunteering, call the East County Resource Center at 360.853.7009.

News and tips should be sent via e-mail to winningcircularchance@gmail.com.

—Compiled by Kathy Henderson

2016 Community Potluck dates

August 16, 6:30 p.m.
September 20, 6:30 p.m.
October 18, 6:30 p.m.
November 15, 6:30 p.m.
December 20, 6:30 p.m.

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July in pictures

Scenes from the fly-in



Above: The Park and Ride project at the west end of Silo Park in Concrete neared completion in July. Crews with Bianchi Construction were expected to complete their work by Aug. 2. *Photo by Nathaniel Martin.*

Below: A prefabricated restroom facility from CXT Concrete Buildings was lowered into place at the Park and Ride site on July 28. The all-concrete building is clad with high-tech molded plastics for a long, low-maintenance life.



This year's North Cascades Vintage Aircraft Fly-In drew hundreds of planes to Mears Field in Concrete. *Clockwise from left:* Pilot Dave Smith stands with his J3-Cub Sport Trainer replica, which he built and flew, after winning the Overall Grand Champion award at the fly-in. *Submitted photo.* Trailing smoke, a plane takes off on a steep trajectory. Upper Skagit Library Director Brooke Pederson oohs and aahs over the massive bubble produced by a young fly-in attendee. Tim Knapp gives his granddaughter, Roslyn, 4, the royal treatment at the fly-in. "We like to come to this fly-in because it's smaller, more personable, said Knapp.



Above and below photos by Jude Dippold.



Right: Betty Seguin smiles while working to beautify the Upper Skagit Library's landscaped area bordering the building in Concrete. Seguin and her partner in stealth gardening, Lesley DeKrey, weeded, planted new seedlings, and spread fresh wood chips at the site. *Submitted photo.*



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Hamilton



Rockport



Birdsview Buzz

Happy August, everyone! Birdstock was early this year, July 23. We decided to move it up a few weeks to combine it with our 10-year anniversary. Yep, it's been 10 years for Birdsview Brewery. We had anywhere between 500 and 700 people during the day, and considering the annual Fly-In was also happening, we felt good. Again, we couldn't have done it without our volunteers, family, and the great bands that donate their time to play.

Thanks to the Brothers Frog, Marcia Kester, Barefeet, Whiskey Fever, and, our closer, Fanny Alger. Thanks, Matt, for doing our sound. The Birdsview Fire Dept. had another successful fundraiser, bringing in about \$4,000. Thanks to everyone who came out and supported

us and the fire department. Our special seasonal 10-year beer should have been called 10-day beer because that's how long it lasted!

During Cascade Days, Barefeet will be playing out in the beer garden and there will be plenty of reunions happening that day as well. Lots going on in Concrete that day. Make your plans now for a fun-filled weekend.

No birthdays that I know of this month. We welcome back Dereck and Jamie Maloney and family to Birdsview. They've been on the eastside (Republic) for the past year. And Christina Jepperson will be on the medical team at the Summer Olympics. Have fun.

Have a great August. Stop by the brewery and give me any news that you want shared in the next Birdsview Buzz.

—Kris Voigt

From the Mayor

Welcome to the hot part of the year! Please remember that water is metered, so if you use it to wash your car, water the grass, or play in, it will increase your bill at the end of the month. Filling a pool can quickly add up to a couple hundred dollars.

A related issue is fire: Please remember the rules of using a proper fire ring, and only for food, heat, or ceremonial reasons. Please be alert if the burn ban sign goes up at the Town sign. A ban means a fire is not allowed for ANY reason. We want to help keep our neighbors safe. There are burn pamphlets at Town Hall if anyone has questions.

There will be a couple of public hearings at this month's Town Council



meeting (Aug. 9, 7 p.m.). This is a great time to give the council your thoughts (about 3 minutes' worth) on a specific topic. The sign codes are being updated, along with the building and fire codes. We also would like to hear your thoughts about where and when RVs are allowed. The Comprehensive Plan, which looks 20 to 30 years down the road, has a housing element. Considering the areas in the flood plain and restrictive rules from FEMA, what would be appropriate use(s) of parcels with and without houses? Can we adjust the rules for zones so that we can actively limit the number of RVs on parcels with houses, and have a way to use parcels that don't have a house? How would you define "living" in an RV? If you can't make the meeting, feel free to e-mail your thoughts to townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com or mail them to P.O. Box 528, Hamilton, WA 98255.

—Mayor Joan Cromley

Native Plant Walk at Rockport State Park

A Native Plant Walk is planned for Sat., Aug. 13, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Rockport State Park.

Led by local naturalist Marlee Mountain, the walk is designed to help participants discover the late-summer bounty of the old-growth forest, and edible and medicinal properties and names of local plants.

The walk will begin at the picnic shelter by the restrooms at the park. Walkers are encouraged to dress for the weather; the walk will commence rain or shine.

For more information, call 360.770.7677.

—J. K. M.

Contest might bring bookmobile to Upper Skagit

The dream of having a library bookmobile in the Upper Skagit may become a reality, thanks to a rare opportunity offered by the Jefferson County Library.

Although their intent to sell their 2002, Thomas Built, 28-foot bookmobile was unsuccessful, the library has decided to donate it to a Washington library community to help bolster their rural services. Thanks to Upper Skagit Library Director Brooke Pederson, upriver residents are writing letters in support of this wonderful idea. A community letter

of support also has been drafted and will be available for residents to sign at the Rockport Pub, Rockport Post Office, Marblemount Post Office, Marblemount Community Hall events, Newhalem General Store, Newhalem Post Office, and the Diablo Post Office. The letters will be available to sign until Aug. 14, because they must be sent in by Aug. 17 for consideration.

Individual letters may be sent to: Merdith Wagner, Director
Jefferson County Library
620 Cedar Ave.
Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Here's to the generosity of Jefferson County Library and to all of us who live farther from Concrete, for this exciting opportunity!

—Christie Fairchild



Walking winner

Dave Button (above, left) has been walking like crazy at Rockport State Park, and now he has even more to show for it than a healthy heart.

Button is the first to cross the 100-mile mark this year, after the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission began hosting "Healthy Hikes," guided hikes through the old growth forest at the park. For his efforts, he was awarded with a custom walking stick hand-painted by Ranger Don Smith, featuring a bald eagle holding a salmon in its talons and the Skagit River winding around the stick.

Several more walkers have since hit the century mark too. Smith reported that as of July 3, five more hikers had logged 100 miles. "It has been a good promotion to get people walking for health and enjoyment in the old growth forest," said Smith. Submitted photos.



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360.826.4090

Concrete

Concrete Food Bank
112 E. Main St., Concrete
Second and fourth Tue. 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.
360.436.9603

Hamilton

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

Lyman

Shepherd's Heart Food Bank
8334 S. Main St., Lyman
Every Thur. 10:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Self-help classes after food bank closes; call
for subjects: 360.853.3765

Marblemount

Bread of Life Food Bank
59850 State Route 20, Marblemount
First and third Wed. each month
11 a.m.–4 p.m.
360.873.2504

Sedro-Woolley

Helping Hands Food Bank
601 Cook Rd., Sedro-Woolley
Wed., 10–11:30 a.m. and 12:30–4 p.m.
Open every Wednesday
360.856.2211

*Changes? Call 360.853.8213.

Council summary

The Hamilton Town Council held a regular meeting June 14. Following is a summary of that meeting.

- Mayor Cromley talked about the delinquent water bills. Council agreed that if a customer has had their water turned off for nonpayment, a deposit of two months' average of previous use can be required and held for one year, to have their water turned back on.
- Mayor Cromley reported on the Sign Ordinance update.

- Mayor Cromley reported the estimates on the Town Hall roof.
- Water Dept.:** Cas Hancock was absent because of an emergency meeting. Mayor Cromley announced that the town was at a 2 percent unaccounted-for water loss.
- Fire Dept.:** Mayor Cromley announced that the Wi-Fi is up and running at the Fire Hall.
- Street Dept.:** The maintenance crew has been doing a significant amount of mowing. The potholes are being repaired and are looking good.

—Compiled from staff minutes

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Yard Sale

Aug. 5–7 ... 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Darrington



Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

July 23

Snohomish County Sheriff's Office announced that John B. Reed, who is suspected of the murders of Oso couple Monique Patenaude and Patrick Shunn, was captured in Mexico by Mexican authorities on July 22. Reed had been on the run from Snohomish County authorities since April 11, the date of the suspected murders. Tony Reed, John's brother, surrendered to American authorities May 16, while in Mexico, and has subsequently pled guilty to two counts of rendering criminal assistance for his part in helping John Reed dispose of Patenaude and Shunn's bodies.



John Reed

According to SCSO partners in the United States Marshal's Office, deputy marshals had been working investigative leads with Mexican authorities from Policia ESTATAL Investigadora (PEI) in Sonora, Mexico, to determine Reed's

location. He was discovered and expelled to the United States by Mexican authorities for violation of immigration laws of the Sovereign Nation of Mexico. He was taken into custody at the border by U.S. officials and booked into the Pima County Jail in Arizona. As of July 23, it was unknown when Reed might be extradited to Washington.

July 25

Snohomish County Sheriff's Office special operations units were busy this past weekend with two rescues: one by air and one by sea.

On July 23 around 2:30 p.m., a call came in via satellite phone that a 53-year-old male had fallen and broken his shoulder while hiking the Pacific Crest Trail near Glacier Peak. SnoHAWK10 located the injured man around 5 p.m. and transported him to Providence Regional Medical Center.

On July 24 around 4 p.m., the Marine Unit responded to an 18-foot pleasure boat "dead in the water" off Mission Beach. The three persons (age, gender, and hometown unknown) aboard the vessel were safely rescued and the vessel was towed to safety around 6:45 p.m.

—Compiled from SCSO releases

Logo design sought for "Ride to Remember Oso" event

As part of the America's Best Communities (ABC) initiatives, Arlington and Darrington will host a bicycle ride next March to commemorate the third anniversary of the Oso Slide.

The event will be held on SR 530 on Sun., March 26, 2017.

Volunteers are currently planning the event. Branded materials are needed to market the event to the community and to place on event T-shirts. The ABC Ride to Remember Committee seeks a graphic artist to design a logo for this purpose. The official name "Ride to Remember Oso" and tagline "Celebration of Strong

Communities" needs to be included in the image.

Artists can submit their sketch design, along with a sample of their work that is in the same style as their proposal. The winner will need to produce a digital image that will reproduce on marketing materials such as posters, banners, and T-shirts. Final selection will be made by the ABC Ride to Remember Committee, which has the right not to award.

America's Best Communities is a competition that is revitalizing small towns and rural communities across the United States. Arlington/Darrington is a finalist.

Deadline for submissions is Aug. 31 at 11 p.m. Top prize award is \$100.

To enter, send an e-mail to Sarah Lopez at slopez@arlingtonwa.gov or call her at 360.403.3448.

—J. K. M.



The Fabulous Kingpins guitarist Jaymz Dence and 12-year-old Gabriella Botamanenko rocked the stage in Old School Park, Darrington, last month. Photo by Marla Skaglund.

Target a new audience.

Advertise in Concrete Herald



Big August Hoobajoob slated for Aug. 20

The 6th Annual Big August Hoobajoob Art Show will be held Sat., Aug. 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the studio shared by artists Holly Cannell, Ron Wolff, and Gordy Beil, 605 S Emens Ave., Darrington.

The show will feature the latest eclectic works from the three Darrington artists.

For more information, call 360.436.0711.

—Marla Skaglund

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Business assistance offered by America's Best Communities

Arlington/Darrington America's Best Communities Community Revitalization Plan is offering no-cost business assistance for Darrington business owners and those looking to create or purchase a business in Darrington and the surrounding area.

Goal two of the Revitalization Plan supports industries and employment. Town of Darrington is partnering with Washington Small Business Development Center (WSBDC) to bring Darrington complimentary business advising services from one of the WSBDCs' certified business advisors (CBA), Jennifer Shelton.

The SBDCs' services include business

advertising, market research, and referrals to needed resources. Shelton will provide business assistance with marketing plans, budget forecasts, strategic planning, human resources, financial analysis, valuations, business plans, and general problem solving to support businesses in achieving their goals. The goal is to provide insight and solutions for development and growth toward the long term success of businesses in Darrington area communities.

It is important to prepare for the first meeting with Shelton by thinking about your own goals, what you would need assistance with, why you are choosing the business, and your long-term business and quality-of-life goals.

Because this is a joint venture for the Darrington/Arlington communities, you will need to set up the first-time consultation by calling the City of Arlington at 360.403.3448. You will need to complete a client form, which can be found at <http://wsbdc.eccenterdirect.com/signup> to bring to your appointment, held Aug. 23 in the conference room at the Arlington City Council Chambers.

—Marla Skaglund

Nick VanJaarsveld
Financial Advisor

Edward Jones
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Marblemount



Newhalem



Community Market in full swing this month

By Christie Fairchild

The height of summer proves to be a busy time in Marblemount. Sunday, Aug. 7 is the annual Salmon BBQ Fundraiser, a delicious and important event to keep the hall's bills paid and our doors open. As a private, nonprofit entity, the Marblemount Community Hall serves anyone and everyone without the benefit of any county or government funding. The land was originally donated by the late Warren Pressentin and the building started its career as a bunkhouse for the workers building the Upper Baker Dam in the early 1950s. It was later moved to its current site and has since been refurbished to host meetings, events, and fundraisers for those living upriver.

The barbecue runs from noon to 5 p.m. and includes fresh grilled salmon filets, sides of salads, baked beans, garlic bread, desserts, and beverages. A hotdog meal and a kids portion meal also will be available.

The following weekend will host two events:

- Citipoint Church North Cascade will sponsor a free concert, featuring a number of local musicians, at the hall on Sat., Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. For more information, call 360.873.2504.
- Marblemount Community Market hosts its third monthly market on Sun., Aug. 14. Look for fresh, local, organic produce; Okanogan fruit; local eggs; artisan jams; handmade arts and crafts, and youth vendors. Anyone under the age of 18 may sell their wares for free (no table fee). This is a great opportunity for youth groups (4-H clubs, Scouts, YD, etc.) to earn some funds for their next project or field trip! We also hope to have young musicians there to entertain shoppers and vendors alike. Vendor applications (required) can be found at www.marblemountcommunityhall.org/

events, or hard copies may be picked up from the mailbox at the hall's front door. Questions? Call 360.873.2323.

Contest might bring bookmobile to Upper Skagit

The dream of having a library bookmobile in the Upper Skagit may become a reality, thanks to a rare opportunity offered by the Jefferson County Library.

Although their intent to sell their 2002, Thomas Built, 28-foot bookmobile was unsuccessful, the library has decided to donate it to a Washington library community to help bolster their rural services. Thanks to Upper Skagit Library Director Brooke Pederson, upriver residents are writing letters in support of this wonderful idea. A community letter of support also has been drafted and will be available for residents to sign at the Rockport Pub, Rockport Post Office, Marblemount Post Office, Marblemount Community Hall events, Newhalem General Store, Newhalem Post Office, and the Diablo Post Office. The letters will be available to sign until Aug. 14, because they must be sent in by Aug. 17 for consideration.

Individual letters may be sent to: Merdith Wagner, Director
Jefferson County Library
620 Cedar Ave.
Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Here's to the generosity of Jefferson County Library and to all of us who live farther from Concrete, for this exciting opportunity!

—Christie Fairchild

Volunteers needed for Fire District 19, Marblemount Fire Department. Stop by the Fire Hall for an application on meeting nights, the second and fourth Mondays of every month at 7 p.m., or call Vanessa at 360.630.3900 for more info. This position is subject to a background check.



A family cast in stone ...

Marblemount sculptor Andre Pomeroy (above, third from right) stands behind his sculpture of a sea lion family he carved from serpentine rock for "Owen's Playground," a new playground at Rotary Park in Bainbridge. Standing with Pomeroy is father Kelsey Marshall (far right) and mother Stacy Marshall, as well as Pomeroy family members and a friend. Son Elliot Marshall, 7, is pictured in the inset photo. The park is named for Owen Marshall, the Marshalls' second son, who passed away at age 6 because of complications from quadriplegia cerebral palsy. The park was dedicated during a July 16 ceremony.

Below: A close-up of the sculpture, showing the four sea lions.



North Cascades Institute celebrated its 30th anniversary with a free picnic and a slew of events and activities at its Environmental Learning Center at Diablo Lake on July 17. Above, paddlers at every experience level enjoyed a trip in the long canoe. Above right, the Upper Valley's Jumbled Pie entertained guests. Other attractions included guided nature walks, boat tours, a spectacular lunch, information booths, and more. Organizers reported more than 1,000 attended the event.

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Seniors



Coffee Break Write or else

By Patrick M. Kennedy

Do you remember when you were younger and Ma and Pa badgered you to write a note to your grandmother or aunt for a Christmas, birthday, or graduation present they had given to you? Do you know that IRS agent you mail apology letters to because your tax payment is late? Do you know the name of the Social Security lady you contact when you have a change of address or a new phone number? You wonder if these letters are even read or are quickly tossed into the round file next to the desk.

You are a little older now and as you scribe letters or greeting cards to distant relatives or old friends you haven't heard from in years, you start to think, if I'm a little older, so is this person, and if I haven't heard from him/her in years, I wonder if they are still there, moved, or still breathing and able to read.

As we all know, writing is a

medium of human communication that represents language and emotion through the inscription or recording of signs and symbols; i.e., scribbling on paper. In most languages, writing is a complement to speech or language.

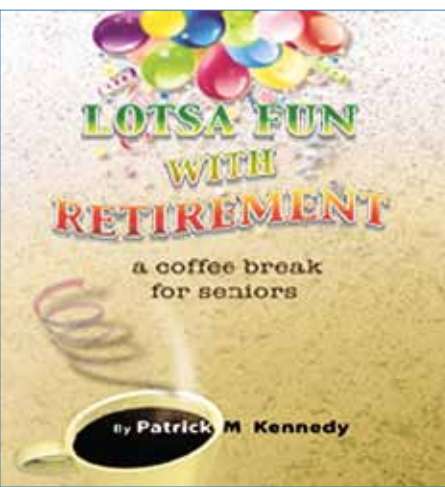
Writing is not a language, but a form of technology that developed as tools developed with human society, and the older society has seen many changes in the meaning and language of communication: "Cool, man," "What's up," "See yah around the corner, pal!" And in different parts of the country and at different ages, it all comes out different.

Write or else you will lose contact with old and new friends, or even those you only know as a name. A pencil on a piece of paper is one method, or a pen on several sheets of stationery will do it ... or even a pencil or pen scribbling in a diary will do.

Of course, all this can be prepared with a typewriter, or getting modern, opening up that machine and poking images on the screen, called an e-mail, which can be sent to anyone, any place in the world.

Expose yourself to yourself and write your thoughts. You can keep them to yourself or share them with others. Sometimes your own words staring back at you from a piece of paper can get the idea programs bursting in your head.

Patrick M. Kennedy is the author of Lotsa Fun with Retirement. Find it at Amazon.com. For more, go to www.funwithretirement.com.



Way Back When

79 years ago

Aug. 5, 1937: Contracts for the Ruby Dam, a long-dreamed-of power project above the Diablo dam on the Skagit River, were let this week by the Board of Public Works to three companies that bid jointly on the project. On top of this encouraging announcement came the news that the contract for cement for the huge structure was awarded to Superior Portland Cement, Inc., whose plant is located in Concrete.

The bid on the cement was \$529,000.60, which was \$50,392.40 lower than the Seattle city engineer's estimate. This amount will provide between 275,000 and 300,000 barrels of cement to be delivered at the dam.

The total bid on the construction of the dam was \$3,967,785 and will be fulfilled by the General Construction Company of Seattle, the J. F. Shea Company of Seattle, and the Columbia Construction Company of Portland.

J. D. Ross, City Light superintendent, says work will begin as soon as the contract is approved by the Public Works Administration.

70 years ago

Aug. 1, 1946: A shooting accident near Marblemount last Saturday was settled to the satisfaction of the county authorities this week after an interview with Bill Cook, employee at the talc mine, whose

shotgun discharged and struck Mrs. Joyce Diermeyer of Mount Vernon.

Diermeyer was picking blackberries near the talc mine and was sitting on the ground at the time. Cook and a companion were a short distance away, out of sight of the woman.

Cook stated that he had taken the shotgun along when he and his companion went out to work because there were reports of a vicious mother bear with cubs in the area. He said that the gun discharged when he tossed it aside on a bank.

The injured woman is recovering from wounds about the head and face. No action has been taken against Cook.

Aug. 22, 1946: One more black mark against the county ferries was chalked up on Friday when another passenger took a dunking in the cold, cold Skagit River and subsequently had to salvage his truck from about 12 feet of water.

The accident occurred when Jim Hillman's garbage truck had the Faber ferry slide out from under it as he was attempting to drive onto the scow. One other truck had already driven on and the ferryman gave Hillman the signal to come ahead. The truck was halfway on the slip when the ferry slid out into the stream and dropped the truck into the water. Hillman just managed to get out of the cab as it went under. The ferry had not been tied to the landing.

The truck was hauled from the river, badly damaged by water and sand, and in getting a line on the machine.

The commissioner for this district

Concrete Center August 2016 Activities

Mon. - Fri., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Lunch served at noon

**East County Veterans Center
meets Mon., Tue., Wed.
from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Mondays

10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo

Tuesdays

10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo

Wednesdays

10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo
12:30 p.m. Bingo, 8/10, 8/31

Thursdays

10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo
12:30 p.m. Pinochle, 8/4, 8/18

Fridays

10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
10:30 a.m. Advisory Board mtg., 8/19
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Dominoes, Skip Bo
Noon Coffee with Commissioner Janicki, 8/12
1 p.m. Watercolor painting

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

placed the blame on Hillman for driving onto the ferry when it was not tied securely.

40 years ago

Aug. 26, 1976: Concrete's fledgling Chamber of Commerce is off the ground this week with first charter memberships purchased by nine area businesses or individuals.

First on the membership rolls was Cascade Supply; followed by *Concrete Herald*; Zona Bookkeeping Service; The Hub Tavern; Lloyd Peterson; Skagit Valley Realty; R. A. Gorman, Builders; Mount Baker Cafe & Hotel; and Royal A. LaPlante.

Temporary officers and trustees, chosen last month to coordinate organizational efforts, have drawn up bylaws and goals for the new community service group.

—Compiled from archives

Verna's Kitchen

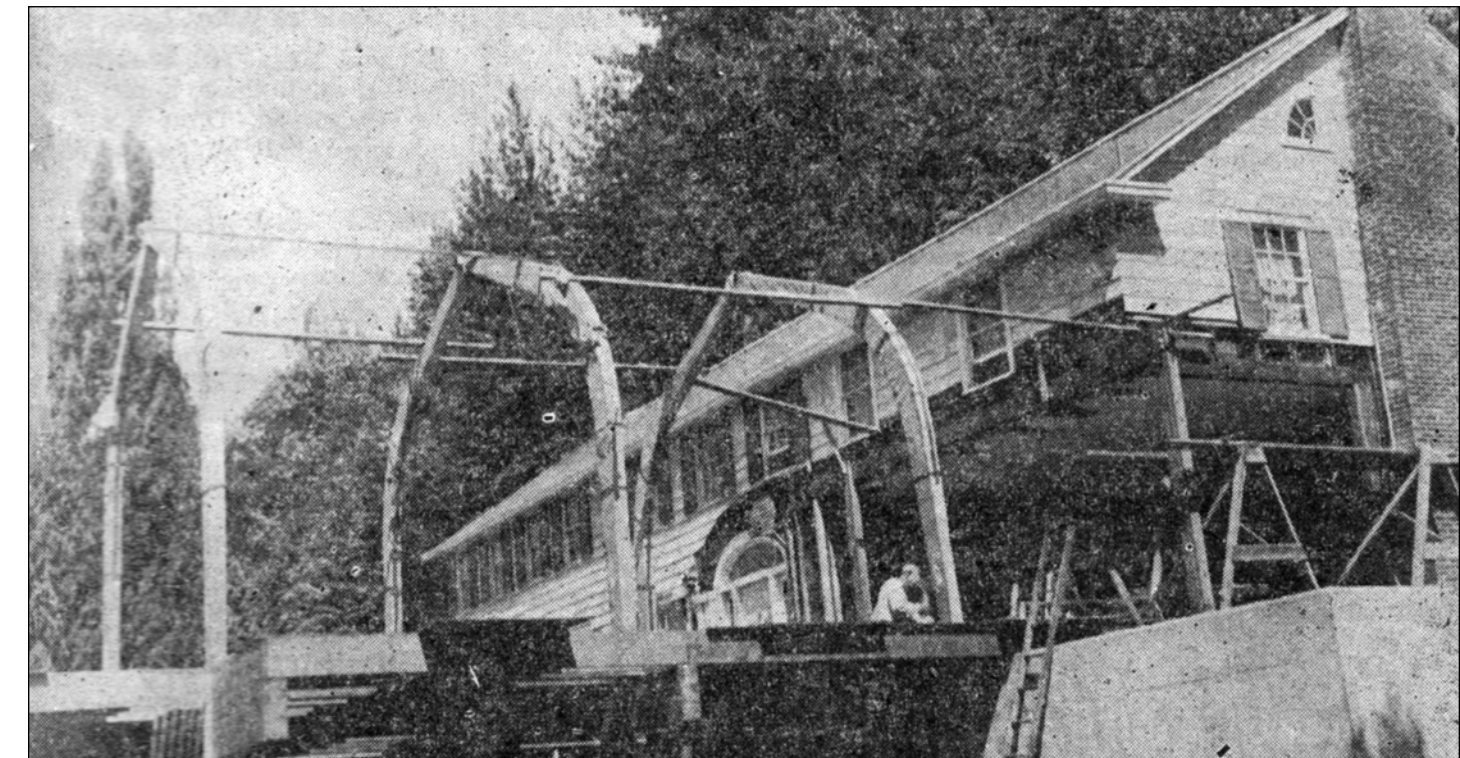
By Verna McClure

This is an old family recipe that is quick and easy, and goes well with other side dishes and salad. I used to make this when I was late getting home from work during the '60s and on.

Goulash

- 1 ½ pounds hamburger
- 2 large onions, cut up
- 2 cups sliced celery

1. Saute the above ingredients in a bit of butter.
2. Cook 1 cup of regular rice according to package directions, then stir into the meat.
3. Add to the meat mixture:
2 cans chicken and rice soup
1 can mushroom soup
3 tablespoons soy sauce
4. Place the mixture in a casserole dish and bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 1 hour.



60 years ago, Aug. 16, 1956: Arrival of the specially designed, laminated wood arches for the main church room of the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church has again moved the job of construction into high gear. The church hall will be an addition to the former building, extending south from the east end of the structure. The room will include the large room that occupied that end of the house. *Archive photo.*

Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

See Way Back, p. 29

Obituaries

David Van Meer, age 65, passed away on April 15, 2016. He was born to Marvin and Christine Van Meer, and grew up in Diablo/Concrete.

Dave served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. He graduated from Western Washington University and continued studying throughout his life. Dave's career choices and hobbies reflected his many interests. He was a book conservator, curator, writer, poet, voice actor, comic and music collector, game aficionado, and storyteller. Dave wrote original scripts and was many voices for the KSVR Radio Theater Project. He retired from the Mount Vernon City Library, where he was "Santa" for the past 18 years. The joy of his life was to bring hope and smiles to children of all ages.

Dave is survived by his partner Kim Streitz, brother Bob Van Meer, and many family and friends. Join Dave's Celebration of Life on Sat., Aug. 6, 2016, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Northridge Clubhouse, 2500 Club Court, Mount Vernon.

Be kind to each other; help those in need; be a good steward of the earth.

Donations to KSVR Radio Theater Project www.ksvr.org; Lighthouse Mission Ministries, Bellingham www.thelighthousemission.org; Skagit Valley Hospital Foundation; St. Joseph's Indian School www.stjo.org.

A special thank you to the doctors and staff at Skagit Valley Hospital, the Palliative Care Team, and Chaplin Gretchen Cohan for their compassionate care and support.



Sunday School lesson

No camping here!

By Bruce Martin

Some years ago a few friends and I were traveling on our motorcycles. Right after work we packed up, jumped on our bikes, and headed out of Seattle and over Stevens Pass on Hwy 2. By the time we dropped into Leavenworth, it was almost dark. The nearest campground was at Icicle Creek a couple miles out of town. As we circled the campground, we noted only one space that had remained vacant. Tired after a long day, we threw out our bags and were asleep in no time.

The next morning as the sunlight woke me up, I discovered I was sleeping under a large sign that read, "NO CAMPING THIS SPACE." We quickly broke camp and made our way down the road.

In our spiritual journey and as we seek God's leadership and blessing in our lives, there are places and spaces where He has placed a NO CAMPING HERE! sign. They are places God does not want us to dwell and places where we should not set up spiritual camp. Let me share four of them that we all face.

God does not want us to camp by our weaknesses. It is natural for us to dwell upon our weaknesses and our shortcomings. We all have them and we all deal with them daily. But what a difference God's forgiveness makes! May we draw upon the grace and power of

the Holy Spirit in our time of weakness and need. The Apostle Paul put it this way for us in Philippians 4:13: "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." It does not matter where we have come from; when we experience forgiveness in Jesus Christ, we become "new creations" empowered with true spiritual strength to face the challenges of this life.

God does not want us to camp by our resentments. Sad to say even people who call themselves Christians may not treat you right. If you and I are going to keep our hearts right and retain the joy of our salvation, we must learn to forgive. Forgiving one another will keep us free and in right relationship to the Lord and others. You and I must choose to forgive. The disciple Peter asked Jesus how many times he should forgive someone who has wronged him. He said the Pharisees say three, Peter generously suggested seven, but Jesus said, "No, I say 70 times 7."

Was Jesus saying that 490 was the right number of times to forgive? No! He was saying that we should forgive in the same way God our Heavenly Father has forgiven us; completely, unconditionally. Colossians 3:13 tells us "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

The Lord does not want us to camp by our failures. The truth is almost everything you and I do well today began with failure. Anything worthwhile is learned by trial and error. In many instances we could say that our failures

are God's true opportunities. God will not always keep us from falling, but He will always help us get up. If God's amazing grace is at work in our lives, we will always learn from our failures. The testimony of God's Word is full of people who failed but who did not give up. In those difficult times, we can draw from God's strength and presence. Jesus said to the Apostle Paul when he prayed for strength and deliverance, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). Paul understood (v. 10) "For when I am weak then I am strong." The principle is simple: When we have exhausted all our own strength, we are most willing to invite the Holy Spirit to flow through our lives in His strength, power and love.

Finally, **God does not want us to camp by our successes.** We are surrounded by people who have built their lives on something that happened many years ago. There are many believers who live their present lives in the spiritual past. God does not want our only experience with Him to be a pleasant memory; it must be a present reality. Our past blessings are not enough to live on today! They were intended to strengthen our faith to trust God in the challenges we are facing now. He is faithful! Let us embrace the strong admonition of the Apostle Paul when he encouraged us to 'forget what is behind and strain toward what is ahead' (Philippians 3:13b).

Not camping by these four things we

See Sunday School, p. 39

Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

July 6

Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers made approximately 211 arrests or bookings of impaired drivers during the July 4 weekend, from 8 a.m. July 1 to 5 a.m. July 5, according to a press release from WSP. By comparison, the WSP made 234 arrests or bookings of impaired drivers in 2015.

Impaired driving was a primary cause in 46 percent of all traffic-related deaths in Washington State in 2015. Impaired driving also includes drug-positive drivers. In 2015, Washington State saw a 14 percent increase in drug-positive-drivers fatality collisions, according to statistics from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission. In 2015, Washington State had 203 fatal collisions caused by drug-positive drivers, compared to 178 in 2014.

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.

Orestad, William Arthur

Age: 51
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 6' 1"
Weight: 185
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Blue
Address: 3xx



Cumberland St., Sedro-Woolley

Orestad was convicted of first-degree rape of a 71-year-old Skagit County female who was not known to him. A controlled substance was involved.

Orestad 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 could result in the removal of the online notification resource.

Source: Skagit County Sheriff

The WSP urges drivers to drive sober and remain vigilant of other vehicles. If you see someone driving erratically, that is an emergency and you should call 9-1-1. It is legal to use your cell phone to call 9-1-1 to report an emergency.

The WSP is working toward Target Zero, reducing highway deaths to zero by 2030.

July 7

A male resident of Cockreham Island near Hamilton reported his wallet missing. It could be anywhere in the greater Lyman area. It's identical to mine: It has no cash.

July 9

A Hamilton caller reported his car stolen. The deputy discovered the car had been impounded by the trailer park and was safely accruing storage fees. The man's girlfriend was booked and released on her warrants.

July 12

A deputy stopped an SUV for expired vehicle tabs on Lyman Hamilton Hwy. in Lyman. The SUV tabs had expired nearly two months earlier. The driver did not have a valid driver's license, as he was suspended for having too many unpaid tickets. He had no proof of insurance for the vehicle, nor any registration for the vehicle. The driver was issued several tickets by the deputy and told to park the vehicle and walk. This driver will likely fail to pay any of his tickets. And so it continues ...

July 13

A Concrete resident contacted the sergeant, asking why the Snohomish County Fugitive Recovery Team was at her house. I asked her if she was possibly housing a fugitive from Snohomish County and she answered somewhat evasively. Based on her non-answer, I explained that they'll likely be back until the man is apprehended, that's how they operate. The man turned himself in a short time later.

A deputy responded to a domestic disturbance in Concrete. Upon arrival, the male resident refused to speak to the deputy, slamming the door and threatening to shoot the deputy. The deputy was able to get the victims out of the house through a window. The man then charged toward the deputy, saying he was going to have to shoot him. The sergeant and another officer arrived to see the intoxicated man was unarmed. The intoxicated man was taken into custody after a struggle. He immediately kicked out the back window of a patrol truck. A short time later he was booked into jail on several felonies, including domestic assault, intimidating a public servant, threats to kill, and

Sergeant's corner

Boating safety

By Chris Kading



The Skagit County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, reminds boaters to play it safe on the water this summer. Here are some safety tips to stay safe:

Know your waterway. Get familiar with your surroundings when first starting out, and file a float plan or let someone know exactly where you're going and when you'll return. Stumps, deadheads, and sand and gravel bars can appear out of nowhere with water depth changes. This is especially important lately with our low levels in the local rivers.

Wear your life jacket. Every boat must have a properly fitting life jacket for each person on board. Life jackets need to be in good shape and readily accessible, not under a hatch or in their packaging. Youth 12 years and younger must wear a life jacket when in a boat shorter than 19 feet long. For nonmotorized watercraft, the same rules apply; however, it is recommended that those operators wear a life jacket at all times while operating nonmotorized vessels such as canoes, kayaks, sailboats,

malicious mischief.

July 14

Deputies have responded to more calls of gunshots in the area of Healy Rd. and the Hamilton Cemetery Rd. area near Lyman. Although shooting is allowed in the county, it must be done in a safe manner, which includes a safe backstop. Shooting at night is rarely allowed, except during certain hunting seasons. If you feel there's shooting occurring in an unsafe manner—or recklessly, such as multiple rapid-fire shots—call the SCSO. We'll look into the issue and try to ensure safe shooting practices are being followed.

July 17

A deputy spoke to the occupants of a car driving slowly in the area of Mill Ave. in Concrete. It seems the female passenger was just explaining to her husband how she'd been assaulted at a residence nearby. The deputy gathered all the appropriate details and contacted the suspect. He admitted a portion of what had been

stand up paddleboards (SUPs), and inflatable rafts. Personal watercraft (PWC) such as Jet Skis, must wear their life jackets at all times and follow PWC-specific requirements for operation of those vessels.

Sit on the seat. It is illegal to ride on the bow, decks, gunwales, or transoms of a motorboat when the boat is under way. Having all passengers seated in the boat while under way will prevent falls overboard and injuries.

Don't drink and boat. Deputies are looking for intoxicated boat operators on the water and at the boat ramps when leaving the water. If arrested for driving a boat under the influence of intoxicants (BUI), a violator could face a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or 364 days in jail. Just remember that safety is a personal responsibility.

Take a safety course and carry your boater education card. All boaters operating boats over 15 horsepower need to have a boater education card. Since 2012, all boaters under age 40 have needed to carry a boater safety card if they operate a vessel of 15 horsepower or greater. If you haven't taken a boater safety course, consider doing so even if you aren't required to have the boater card. Go to www.boatered.org for more information.

Chris Kading is sergeant for the Skagit County Sheriff's Office East County Detachment in Concrete.

alleged and was booked into jail for assault with sexual motivation.

July 18

A Lyman caller reported finding a piece of paper with drug prices listed on it, near the east end of Utopia Rd. If you live in that area, you may be aware that drug activity does occur there. It's a dead end area, off the main road, and is now going to get more attention by the deputies.

July 19

A concerned resident called about a man lying near the roadway on East Main St. in Concrete. A deputy was summoned to check on him, but prior to his arrival, the man awoke and simply left the area. Sore feet make a man weary it seems.

July 20

A 26-year-old male burglar was arrested after he violated a protection order. A female came home with her boyfriend and found the burglar inside her house.

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 30

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.

Citipoint Church North Cascade

59850 SR 20, Marblemount
360.873.2504
Sunday Gathering: 10:30 a.m.
www.citipointchurch.com
E-mail: matt@citipointchurch.com

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.
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.

Lyman 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
Mail: 719 Ferry St., Sedro-Woolley
Office: 360.855.0077
Weekday hours: 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Sat. Mass: 8:30 a.m.
www.svcc.us/scm

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

Episcopal

St. Martin/St. Francis Episcopal Church
55223 Conrad Rd., Rockport
Services: first and third Sunday of each month, noon

Free Methodist

Day Creek Chapel
31438 S. Skagit Hwy, Sedro-Woolley
Office 360.826.3696
Sun.: 9:15 a.m. prayer svc, 10 a.m. worship
Tue.: Women's Bible study, 9:30 a.m.
Thur.: Bible study at Louise's complex, Mt. Vernon, 6:30 p.m.
Fri.: Women's Bible Study at Kathy's in Day Creek, 8 a.m.

Methodist

Central United Methodist Church
1013 Polke Rd., Sedro-Woolley
360.856.6412 / centralumcsw@yahoo.com
<http://centralumcsw.org>
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m.

Presbyterian

Mount Baker Presbyterian Church
45705 Main St., P.O. Box 246, Concrete
Church 360.853.8585; office 360.595.0446
www.mtbakerpresbyterian.synodnw.org
Sun. worship: 9 a.m.

Lutheran

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
46372 Main St., Concrete / 360.853.8814
Sun. worship: 10 a.m.

Nondenominational

Agape Fellowship
Meets at Mount Baker Presbyterian,
45705 Main St., Concrete
Second and fourth Weds., 7 p.m.
360.708.4764

Community Bible Church

45672 Limestone, Concrete; 360.853.8511
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

The RIVER Gathering

720 Puget Ave., Sedro-Woolley
Sun. worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wed. potluck/study: 6 p.m.
Thur. ladies group: 6:30 p.m.
Last Fri./mo. potluck/games: 6 p.m.
www.facebook.com/therivergathering

Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church

11982 Martin Rd., Rockport, WA 98283
Church office: 360.853.8746
Pre-service fellowship: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. service: 10 a.m.
Sun. eve. Bible study: 5 p.m.

Wildwood Chapel

41382 SR 20, Concrete
Sun. worship: 10 a.m.
Bible studies: Call for times
360.708.4330

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

This year we were invited to have a **sales and information table at the Fly-In**. This gave us the opportunity to encourage people to take the shuttle bus into town without giving up their parking places at the airport to see the museum. We thank the Fly-In organizers for inviting us, and Puget Sound Energy for funding the shuttle bus, as well as the town and chamber officials who donated their time to provide a narrated tour of the town during the ride.

A wonderful box of **photos of the old cement plant** were graciously donated by Norman Cunningham. We're still in the process of cataloging and scanning them, but hope to put them on our Web site soon (www.concreteheritagemuseum.org).

The **floor painting project** is about one-third complete. Yes, it's taking longer than expected, but what project doesn't? A special thanks goes to Dan Wybark for heading up the work crew and donating the paint.

Our **new postcards** have arrived and

are selling well at 5b's Bakery and the museum. Look for them soon at other locations. A favorite is a side-by-side photo of Main Street in the early 1940s versus this year. T-shirts with our new logo are also available at the museum.

Our next **bake sale** will be at Concrete Saturday Market on Aug. 13, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Shop early and shop hungry!

Our **Annual Yard Sale** is planned for Sat., Sept. 3, during the Labor Day Swap Meet. Donations will be accepted from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m., with sales from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No clothes, furniture, or trash will be accepted. Any books should be donated to the Upper Skagit Library. Always great bargains.

The **Annual Summer Museum Potluck** will be held at the Concrete Center on Thur., Aug. 18. It will begin at 6 p.m. Bring a dish to share and your appetite; the food is always very good. The public is not only welcome, but encouraged to attend.

—John Boggs

August at the Darrington Library

Children and family programs

- Coloring Time, Mon., Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29; 1 to 3 p.m.; all ages.
- Computer Basics: Cursor, Mouse, and Keyboard, Wed., Aug. 3, 2 to 3 p.m.; for beginning computer users.
- Computer Basics: Internet for Beginners, Sat., Aug. 6, 2 to 3 p.m.; for beginning computer users.
- Professor Miya's Pokemon Day Camp, Sat., Aug. 27, 1 to 2 p.m.; trainers of all ages are welcome; trainers under 6 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver.
- LEGO Robotics, Mon., Aug. 29; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Ages 7 and up.
- Family Storytime, Wed., Aug. 31; 11 to 11:45 a.m.; all ages welcome, caregiver required.

- Explore Summer Finale: Field Day Fun, Wed., Aug. 31, 1 to 3 p.m.; egg races, sack races, and more.

Teen programs

- Teen Advisory Board Breakfast, Mon., Aug. 15, 10:15 to 11 a.m.

Adult programs

- Summer of Authors: Bernadette Pajer at Mountain Loop Books & Coffee, Sat., Aug. 6, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

The Darrington Library is located at 1005 Cascade St., Darrington. For more information, go to www.sno-isle.org; ID=1194 or call 360.436.1600.

—Asheley Bryson, branch manager

At the Upper Skagit Library

Buy books and support the library! The Upper Skagit Library Foundation will host a **used book sale** at Cascade Days, Sat., Aug. 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the library parking lot. Many genres represented. If you would like to volunteer, contact John Boggs at jboggs@washington.com or 360.853.8347.

About 100 kids participated in **Summer Reading 2016!** The library thanks Summer Reading Program supporters and sponsors: Upper Skagit Library Foundation, Friends of Skagit Libraries, local businesses who donated prizes. Thank you, special guests, magician Alex Zerbo and musician Ian Dobson.

Come see us at the **Marblemount Market**, Sun., Aug. 14 from noon to 4 p.m. Check out books, buy used books, get library information, and sign up for cards.

Glass Etching 101 with Brooke is Craft Friday Aug. 5, Upper Skagit Library, 6 p.m. Bring your own glass item. All other materials provided. Open to all ages.

Library Tutor Program is each Friday from 10 to 11 a.m. Get tutored on basic computer skills, mobile device questions, job applications, resumes, and cover letters. Appointment required.

"Get Caching" on a self-guided

adventure through the Town of Concrete. **Cache in Concrete** provides visitors and local residents a chance to explore an outdoor treasure hunt with puzzles associated with the history of the area! Pick up a Cache in Concrete map at the library and participating businesses.

Amazon Prize Wish List is the perfect way to show your support for the library. Follow the link on our Web site (www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us) and click on the item to purchase a prize. Send to: 45770 Main St., Concrete, WA 98237. Kids receive these hands-on and educational prizes by completing activities during library programs throughout the year.

Guitar Class will be Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. at the library by appointment only. Call 360.853.7939 and bring your own instrument.

New on our shelves

In adult fiction, Lianne Moriarty's newest *Truly, Madly, Guilty*. In adult nonfiction, *Tribe* by Sebastian Junger. In children's, *Usborne Very First Reading* series by Mairi Mackinnon.

The next Upper Skagit Library Board of Trustees meeting is Aug. 11 at 5 p.m.

—Cora Thomas, Library Associate

Lions R-O-A-R



Concrete Lions Club will be at **Cascade Days** on Aug. 20, with the barbecue fired up. All donations from the barbecue go back into the community. Hope to see you all there for a fun day in Concrete.

If you have needs that we can help with while we are not having bi-monthly meetings, contact any of our members with your request.

The Concrete Lions Club has access to **medical equipment**, such as wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, and commodes, which can be lent to help those in need. Contact any Lions Club member and we will do our best to help you.

I encourage members of our community to think about and **join your local Lions**

Club. Our club is your club. We are a club to serve you and our community. Our hope for 2016 is to increase our membership numbers times two. We all have friends and family who have seen the outreach of your local Lions Club, so now is the time to give great thought about being a member! For those interested in becoming a member, submitting a request, or just wanting to see what we are about, please feel free to stop in to one of our meetings.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the healing of our Lions Club members.

—Connie Smithhart

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

There was an active protection order in place, prohibiting the man from stalking her. Deputies found the man walking nearby on SR 20. He was booked on several orders, including a felony stalking violation.

July 22

A reported fight at the bar in Hamilton got the deputies to respond. Upon arrival, deputies discovered the parties involved had apparently left the area. No one really seemed to know who was fighting, where they were, or what had occurred. Funny how the memory gets fuzzy when the police arrive.

A man driving his Jeep on Cascade

River Rd. near Marblemount found himself in a precarious position. A car approached him and crowded the center of the road forcing the Jeep driver nearly into the ditch. The Jeep driver requested assistance from a local tow company to keep the vehicle from falling off the edge of the roadway and into an unforgiving ravine. The tow truck assisted in saving the Jeep from certain death.

July 23

Deputies arrested a 28-year-old man from Oak Harbor at Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport. He'd been in a physical altercation with his stepdad. Dad reported the fight and deputies found the younger man lying near the river bank. The soaking wet suspect was booked for

domestic assault. He's also been placed on the no-camping list by his stepdad.

July 24

A caller from the area near the gravel pit on Medford Rd. near Hamilton reported a series of small explosions. It seems some two subjects were shooting a popular exploding target called Tannerite. This type of exploding target is prohibited on DNR lands. These men were apparently unaware of that and released with a verbal warning.

A two-vehicle crash claimed the life of a Canadian motorcyclist. The accident occurred on South Skagit Hwy. near Morgan Hills Lane, approximately 11 miles east of Sedro-Woolley, at approximately 2:56 p.m. An Aprilia

Tuono driven by Noel Graeme Piper, 30, of Vancouver, B.C., crossed over the center line for unknown reasons and struck a Jeep Wrangler driven by Jason Lee Ludwig of Sedro-Woolley. Piper was pronounced dead at the scene; Ludwig was not injured. It was unknown whether alcohol was a factor; no charges were filed.

A 7- or 8-year-old black lab was located wandering near Marblemount. The dog has a camouflage collar and white on its face. The National Parks Office in Marblemount has contact information about the dog. Feel free to contact them if you recognize the pooch.

—Compiled by Sgt. Chris Kading and Jason Miller

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Bookkeeping

UpRiver Bookkeeping Services

360.853.7667 or 360.708.9761
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www.birdsviewbrewingcompany.com

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360.853.8684

Liquor stores

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45895 Main Street, Concrete // 360.853.7149
Monday thru Saturday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sundays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Gifts, Rocks, Tobacco, Cigars, and more!

Pawn shops

Concrete Coins, Gold & Silver Pawn

We buy gold, silver, platinum!
WANTED: Coin collections, any size!
45938 Main St., Concrete Town Center
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily // 360.399.1302
<https://www.facebook.com/concretecoins>

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46276 Concrete Sauk Valley Rd., Concrete
360.770.5380, 9-5 M-F, by appt. weekends.
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Restaurants

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M-F, 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sa.-Su. 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
44586 SR 20, Concrete
360.853.9006

RV Repair

Goldner RV Repair, Concrete

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360.853.8213

or e-mail

editor@concrete-herald.com



Out & About



Home & Garden



La Conner

Pioneer Picnic slated for Aug. 4

The 112th Annual Skagit County Pioneer Association Picnic and Meeting is scheduled for Thur., Aug. 4, at Pioneer Park, near the Rainbow Bridge in La Conner, according to Mike Elde of Burlington.

There will be live music on the grounds, plenty of "old-timers," historic pictures displayed for the Honored Families, an old car show, and historic information available.

The event is open to all people interested in Skagit County history and heritage. For \$12, registered "pioneers" will receive a colorful ribbon, program, historian's memorial pamphlet, and ticket for the complete barbecue salmon dinner,

and will be served by members of the La Conner Civic Garden Club.

Lunch begins promptly at 11:15 a.m. Coffee, tea, and other beverages will be available through the efforts of the 4-H Craft and Critter Club of Anacortes, to raise funds for special projects.

The Skagit County Historical Society will have tables under a tent with historical publications related to local Skagit County history. The staff also can field questions on county history. The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society is sharing those tables with the museum staff to help answer any genealogical questions concerning Skagit County ancestors.

The Business Meeting of the association will be called to order by Maynard Axelson at 12:45 p.m., and will include an invocation, flag salute, and group singing. Brief reports will be made by officers of the Association, and a memorial tribute offered for departed pioneers.

Honored guests will be recognized

for their contributions to the Skagit community and history. This year the Johnson Family of Cedardale will be honored as Pioneer Family of the Year, and Don Wick of Mount Vernon will be honored as contributing to the Pioneer Spirit. Elections for the coming year's officers will also be held.

Attendees are invited to visit the Skagit County Historical Museum in La Conner following the picnic. A Pioneer Picnic allows free admission to the museum from Thur. through Sun., Aug. 7.

The Skagit County Pioneer Association was originally formed in 1891, but with requirements so restrictive that it soon came to an end. In 1904, a concerned group from Sedro-Woolley revived the association under less stringent requirements, and the annual meetings and picnics have been held regularly ever since.

Nonprofit 501(c)(3) agencies or agencies of government that provide mass feeding, emergency shelter, or utility assistance in Skagit County are eligible to apply. To receive funds, an organization must have a volunteer governing board and the ability to track disbursements through a credible accounting system.

Funding distribution is a competitive process determined by the local EFSP board, with representatives from the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Catholic Charities USA, National Council of the Churches of Christ, United Way, FEMA, and members of the community. Funding is limited, and some organizations may not be selected. Prior program participation also does not guarantee funding this year.

Applications can be downloaded at www.unitedwayskagit.org (click on Impact/EFSP) or contact Justin Keefe at Community Action of Skagit County, 360.416.7585. Completed applications must be received no later than Wed., Aug. 17.

Mount Vernon

County board accepting applications for food and shelter funding

The Skagit County local board of the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program is accepting applications from local food and shelter programs through Aug. 17 for the Phase 33 federal funding period.

Dig into fall workshops

A free workshop, "Fall and Winter Gardening," will be offered at Skagit Valley Food Co-op on Tue., Aug. 9, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Presented by WSU Skagit County Master Gardeners and the Mount Vernon City Library, the workshop will explain which varieties of lettuce, kale, carrots, cauliflower, and more can be planted or sown now for harvest in fall or winter.



Before they head into their 7th grade year, several students have been spending a couple hours every Tuesday having fun in the Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete. The photo above shows them harvesting garlic. At right, Orion Edge plants a specialty coneflower whose bloom matches his crimson hair. The students also weeded, tied up tomato plants, and marveled at tiny baby praying mantises.



Volunteer carpenter Chuck Harris pauses for a photo that shows off his handiwork: A brand-new floor for the gazebo at the Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete. The structural components for the floor were funded by a USDA Rural Communities grant; the cedar decking and railings were donated by local cedar provider Ed Rogge. Harris built the floor in two days last month. The gazebo was built by volunteer Keith Taxdahl in 2012.



Concrete Farm 2 School coordinator Rachel Sacco (far left) got quite a pleasant surprise on June 1, when representatives at Cascadian Farm presented her with a \$20,000 "check" representing a large grant from General Mills Foundation. The money will be used to enhance programming for Farm 2 School efforts at Concrete School District. Standing with Sacco are Site Director Ashley Minnerath, organic farmer Mike Peroni, and Office Manager Janine Weyand.



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Friday Nights

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August

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12 - Baby Cakes

19 - Jody Taylor Band

26 - Small Medium at Large

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Smile



Dwelleysms

**Wit from former
Concrete Herald editor
Charles M. Dwelley**

"It takes a good deal of money to enjoy society insecure these days. In hopes of escaping from dreary everyday life, they look at an electric picture that is supposed to entertain, yet keeps harping that the person sitting there blinking is lumpy, has bad breath, poor digestion, jerry-built interior plumbing, inept financial management, a bad complexion and worse hair, poor taste in cigarettes, is a sucker for any gimmick that will take his money away, and on top of all that, he smells and offends everyone."

"A retail survey shows teenagers spend \$15 million dollars a year. That's just what Dad has been saying for years."

—Feb. 17, 1966

"Add to our interesting future prospects the statement by a scientist that Mount Rainier is potentially capable of blowing up and destroying half the state. It seems we have a field of service work that has been seriously neglected. We need an active group to organize and meet once a week to worry about such things. It's gone beyond the sphere of the individual citizen."

"A Mount Vernon firm has adopted the name of 'Concrete Nor'west.' Could speed the day when our city limits take in the courthouse."

"The queen of England receives about \$3 million a year in salary. Who does she think she is, a ball player?"

—March 3, 1966

"If you can make a living doing something you like to do, consider yourself gloriously overpaid. The man who gets mere money for his work will never be paid to his satisfaction."

—March 10, 1966

"Those who decry sex in politics haven't read any history books lately. What do you think all those volumes used for a plot?"

"Withholding taxes will go up for single people on May 1. They have an easy out,

however: They can join the service and get on the other end of the pipe."

"It's easy to carry a grudge. It hangs on without tying up arms that will be needed for the next fight. It takes two willing hands to pack a forgiveness."

—March 17, 1966

"Flying saucers are back and we dread the day one will be apprehended. Somehow it's nice to know there are vehicles yet unlicensed and untaxed."

"A newspaper critic tosses a backhanded compliment to the small town paper. He says they have a precious charm, fast fading from the metropolitan sheets: They don't have to print all bad news on the front page. It has become a rule in larger papers that 'news' is all the terrible things that happened that day. A country weekly often feels quite set up when a lot of bad things happen and its front page is one of black headlines, but for the most part, life deals more casually with such as we. News can be a simple little item of pleasant interest, as well as a notice of tragedy. Luckily, the tragedy is in small proportions. When you say the paper has no news in it, think again. Do you mean big city scare-heads, or items about your familiar, workaday neighbors? About them, your home town paper is the only one who cares. A nice thought."

—March 24, 1966

"Next to being a returning war hero, we'd like to be the first salesman who hits town with a catalog full of all pre-war items for immediate delivery."

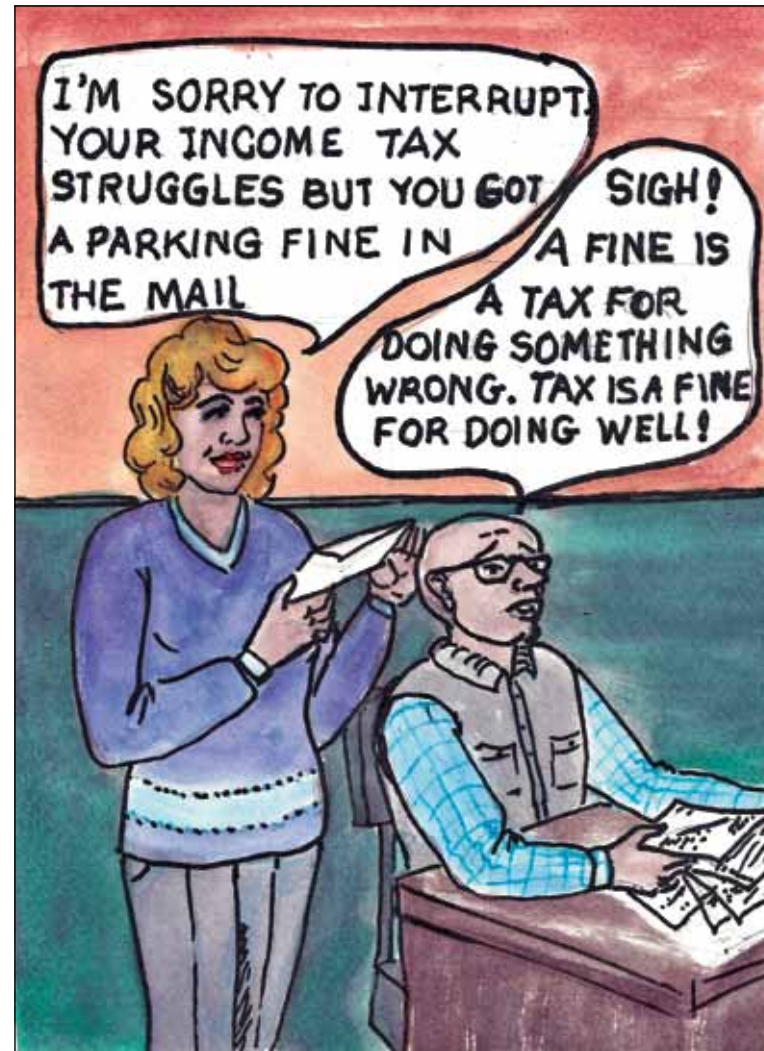
"All we need now is a taxpayer's union and a picket line around the hall of Congress."

"This war sure left a lot of people with inflated egos and short tempers."

—Jan. 24, 1946

Concrete Harold

By Joyce Harris

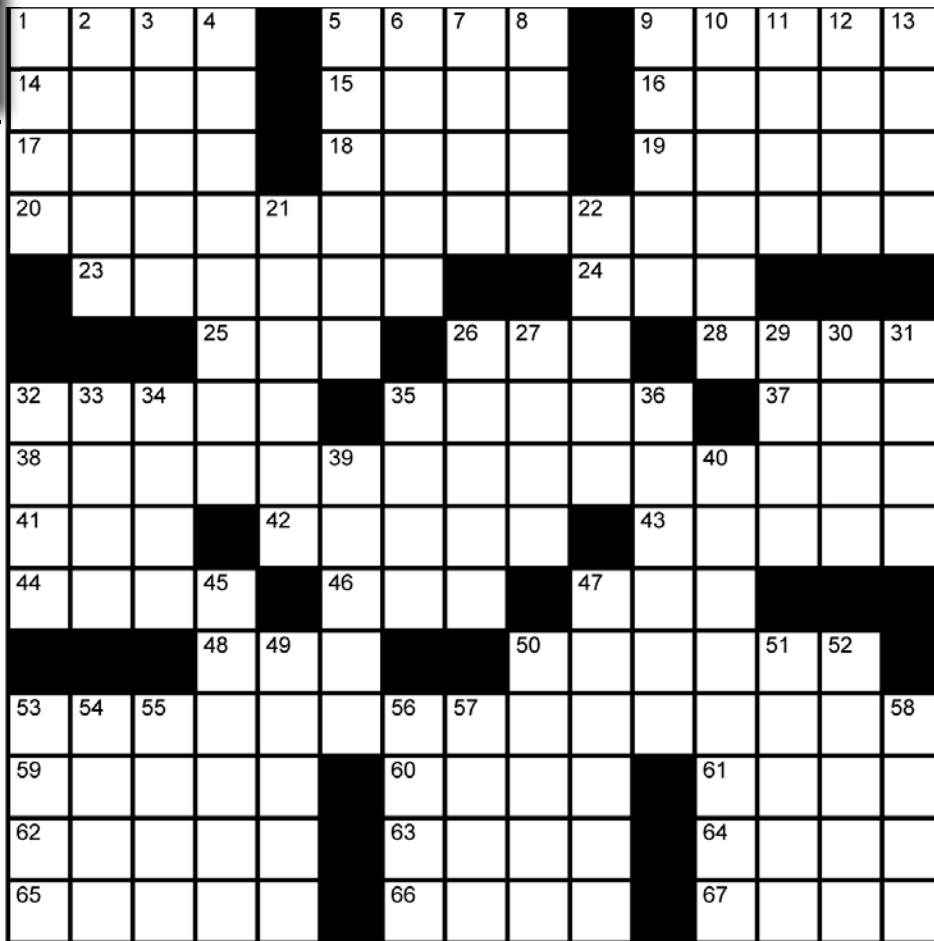


Public Service Announcement

By Stig Kristensen



Crossword: "Very Good"



Across

- Peewee
- Frog or year starter
- Bungle
- Barge ____
- Lady's man
- Assoc. of nations
- Club fees
- Flu source
- ____ fraiche
- Does a mediocre job
- SS ____ Fitzgerald
- Row producer
- Fishing aid
- ____ jacket
- Farm soil
- English rock band
- German municipality
- Sedona maker
- World's largest ocean predator
- Emeritus: Abbr.
- Capture
- Approval
- It may be due
- Boiling blood
- Mont Blanc, e.g.
- Attention

Down

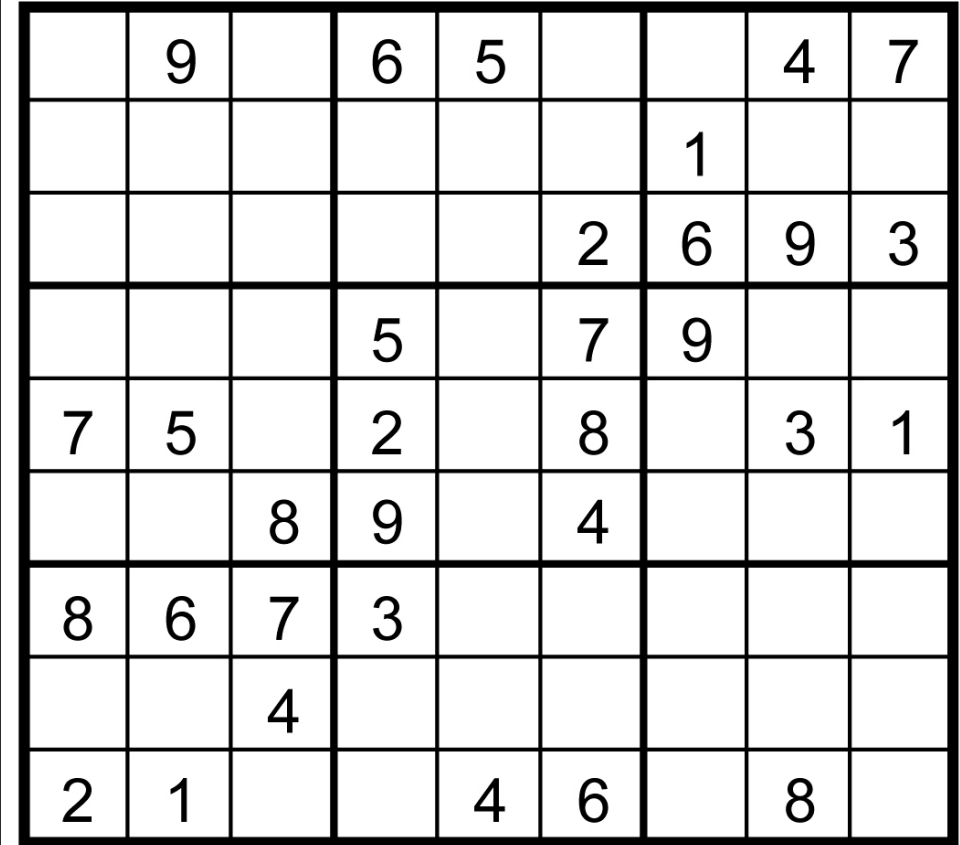
- Skirt style
- Busy
- Extremely
- Condition sometimes treated by hypnosis
- Absorbed, in a way
- Slowly merged (into)
- Mozart's "Madamina," e.g.
- ____ du jour
- Hairy-chested
- Kamakawiwo'ole
- Request
- British title
- Half of binary code
- Invitees
- Tooth type
- Dramatic downturn
- Actress Renee
- Encounter
- Mélange
- City near Düsseldorf
- Constellation animal
- "Charlotte's Web" girl
- Spot check?
- Prepares to be shot
- Like a bird?

Down

- Excelled
- Yellow shade
- ____ meridiem
- Passable
- Haughtiness
- Ocean menace
- Blackguard
- Bailiwick
- Fixes
- Engine sound
- Gauge
- Bizarre
- Leave it alone!
- Movie preview
- Goddess of devotion
- Answer
- Extract
- Edmonton skater
- Wavelike design
- Shot up
- Radio host, to friends
- To be, in old Rome
- Flightless flock
- Prefix with scope or meter
- All alternative

Sudoku

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down, and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.



*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 38.

Funny as Facebook

The following funnies were pulled verbatim from Facebook status updates in July.

- "I just realized I'm the type of person who would consider buying a motorcycle just so he could wave at other motorcyclists on the road."
- "I just had a very nice gentleman bring me my keys that were hanging from the lock in my trunk. Good golly, what a ditz!"
- "I'd like to know why battery packaging is so stupid, and I'd like it fixed. Today if possible. At the very least, they should be molded plastic containers that reseal. Like for deli salads!"
- "I feel like a fly on speed today. Can't stop the cleaning and rearranging. It is my sister's fault she fed me breakfast."
- "Sacred cows make the best hamburger."
- "Had a low moment multi-tasking and wrote damn instead of dam in an email. Hope no one else noticed cause it's too late! Makes me laugh, though."
- "So yeppers, nothing, I mean nothing, is as soothing as the hold music with this particular government agency ... I mean nothing ... wow ... nothing ... it is like being trapped ..."
- "I've somehow entered the check-the-kid's-pockets-for-rocks-before-doing-the-laundry phase of my life."
- "Parenting sleepover pro-tip: When the kids have finally, ever-so-adorably fallen asleep forehead-to-forehead, do not (repeat DO NOT) try to sneak in to take picture, but then accidentally kick a toy and make a bunch of noise and swear under your breath. They will wake up."
- "It is 11 at night and someone is running a chainsaw, in town, a few blocks over from us. In no way does this freak out the '80s kid in me a bit."
- "It isn't officially your furniture until a cat has groomed his butt on it."

Book review

How to Make a Pot in 14 Easy Lessons

Author: Nicola Pearson

By Cora Thomas

From the award-winning Pacific Northwest playwright Nicola Pearson, comes a debut novel steeped in the mossy green of Skagit Valley in Washington State: *How to Make a Pot in 14 Easy Lessons*. Don't be fooled by the book's title; it's not a formal instruction manual, but rather weaves themes of love and relationship building in the process of constructing a clay pot. Pearson uses each step in creating a wood-fired ceramic pot as a metaphor for nurturing the fragile embers of a relationship. This story is loosely based on the author's life in the Skagit Valley, which makes the narrative even more alluring and draws the audience close.

Lucy, an actress from England, falls in love with Joe, a potter who owns a business at the base of a 5,000-foot mountain in the North Cascades. Lucy finds herself in a tricky spot: How does she follow her passion for acting while kindling a relationship in a secluded part of the country? Pearson tickles the funny bone as she interlaces this love story with satirical characters that drift in and out of the scenes, creating a rich narrative that captures Lucy and Joe's day-to-day rural life.

The depiction of Lucy and Joe's relationship is enhanced by careful observation of the purity of making art. The author alludes to being attuned to the creative process and living in the present moment as preparation for a symbiotic romantic relationship. But as the story unfolds, that may not always be the case. The author is quite adamant in capturing

Fair, cont. from p. 13

and a family friendly setting. It's a festive, fun event. Ultimately all of the long hours that go into making it happen are worthwhile as we enjoy the reward of seeing people happy. That's what keeps you going.

Fair participants

For many, it is the young people and volunteers who represent the heart of the Skagit County Fair. The following

the beauty and creative inspiration that the Skagit Valley and the North Cascade Mountains provide. The story's locale morphs into its own character as the author transports the audience with lush and layered descriptions of old growth forests and secluded peaks. Curiosity might lead you to dragging out a map and looking up the places Pearson describes. Although the presence of Lucy's anxieties lurks around the edges of the page, the reader will travel through the character's uncertainties straight to the peaks of contentment and stability. In the midst of compromise, Lucy gains an unexpected epiphany and builds a sense of purpose and strength in the process, discovering solidity in the rock beneath her feet. The mountains that Joe and Lucy climb together are as much figurative as they are literal, and with each summit comes newfound knowledge and understanding.

The passion of love and dedication to art palpitates from the story, muddying the page with pottery clay, and allows the audience to feel the grittiness between their fingers. It's not always perfect, it's brittle at times, and the imperfections add a unique touch. No two pots are exactly alike as Pearson explains, and contain flaws, becoming a true labor of love. Making a pot requires experimentation, patience, and time. And, if you oversculpt, the forced material will collapse miserably. Not unlike an overworked and tired relationship.

The author's writing is poetically rooted to a sense of place, the dedicated artistry of creating wood-fired ceramic pottery, and the evolution of a relationship. Pearson's beautiful but simple metaphors capture the landscape of heart and home with ease, humor, and careful detail. After reading the last chapter I desperately wondered what was next for Lucy? Fans will be happy to know that Pearson is working on the next installment of *How to Make a Pot in 14 Easy Lessons*.

represent some of the hundreds of people who have made the fair a priority, sharing their passions with the community on four fun-filled days of summer:

Shyenne Sweet, 10, is a veteran in 4-H competition at the County Fair. This is her third fair as a competitor with rabbits, chickens, sewing, canning, baking, painting, and performing arts. Her 4-H trophy case includes blue ribbons for Best in Class, Best in Division, and Best in Show.

See Fair, p. 39

Letters, cont. from p. 2

Sedro-Woolley mayor; a different Mike), and Ritchie Phillips.

I also wish to thank our sponsors this year, without whom the Lyman Car Show wouldn't be possible:

Terry Wilson; Janicki; Mont and Deb Heinzman/Oil Well Fast Lube; Mont and Deb Heinzman/Lyman Tavern; Mike Fernie/Fernie Construction; Woods Logging/Jay Lyman; Snelson/Jeff Knapp; Cascade Mercantile/Swaran Singh Gill, Raj Singh Gill, and Lucky Singh Gill; Les Schwab; Rick Lemley/Lemley Chapel; Lyman Baptist Church/Jim Cook; All Valley Storage and Gift/Brian Hanson; Hottie Tottie Deli/Josh and Kerrie Comstock; Cedar Country Lumber/Tom and Kym Kelly; Paul from Columbia Distributing; Starbucks; Eagle Haven Winery/Jim Perkins; Washington Tractor; North Cross Landscape and Materials/Mike Gerdes; Pauls Entertainment/Paul Dotlich; Skagit Valley Signs; Skagit Log and Construction/Bob Halverson and Lincoln Torgerson; E&E Lumber; High Line Racing; Herb's Chevron; CarQuest Auto Parts; Rallye Auto Sales; GMG Properties/Matt Gunther.

Eddie Hills, Mayor
Town of Lyman

Thanks to library landscaping volunteers

Recently a few library supporters offered their time and gardening expertise (without even being asked) to spruce up the landscaping outside the library with beautiful plants. The library staff thanks Betty Seguin, Lesley DeKrey, and other young volunteers for their thoughtfulness and care in making sure the library looks its best for all our visitors. Thank you,

Sudoku solution, from p. 37

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

Town of Concrete, for the wood-chip mulch! Kind gestures like this are what keep a small library like us shining bright. With great appreciation ...

Cora Thomas, on behalf of
Upper Skagit Library staff

Community garden volunteers came through in the clutch

Last month marked the final completion of several projects in the Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete, just in time for a final inspection by USDA Rural Communities, which funded those projects to the tune of \$17,800.

Volunteer retired carpenter Chuck Harris, who built the shed in the southwest corner of the garden, returned to build a floor for the gazebo, which was built a few years ago by volunteer Keith Taxdahl. The shed and gazebo floor foundation were the first two items funded by the USDA grant. The cedar decking for the gazebo, as well as railings, were donated by the cedar man himself, Ed Rogge. Huge thanks to Ed!

The third item was a series of hand tools to be used by anyone who rents a bed at the garden.

Last but not least, we finished installing the polycarbonate panels on the greenhouse at the east end of the garden. Stepping up to assist me with that task were Cheryl and Josiah Werda, Rylan Goett, Mike Bartel, and Alejandra Peterson.

Jason Miller, Co-Manager
Angele Cupples Community Garden
Concrete

Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Crossword solution, from p. 37

1	M	I	N	I	5	L	E	A	P	9	M	I	S	D	13	O
14	I	N	O	N	15	E	A	R	L	16	A	S	E	A	N	
17	D	U	E	S	18	A	S	I	A	19	C	R	E	M	E	
20	I	S	N	O	21	G	R	E	A	T	22	S	H	A	K	E
23	E	D	M	U	N	D	24	H	O	E						
25	N	E	T	26	M	A	27	A	28	L	O	30	A	31	M	
32	O	A	S	I	S	35	W	A	N	N	36	A	37	K	I	A
38	G	R	E	A	T	39	W	H	I	T	E	S	40	H	A	R
41	R	E	T	42	S	E	I	Z	E	43	S	A	Y	S	O	
44	E	A	S	45	T	46	I	R	E	47	P	E	N			
48	E	A	R	49		50	W	I	S	D	51	O	M			
53	G	R	E	A	T	56	D	E	P	R	E	S	S	I	O	N
58	R	U	S	S	O	61	M	E	E	T	62	O	L	I	O	
63	E	U	S	E	N	63	U	R	S	A	64	F	E	R	N	
65	W	H	E	R	E	65	S	I	T	S	67	F	R	E	E	

Fair, cont. from p. 38

Last year, Shyenne's success at the Skagit County Fair qualified her to take part in the State Fair in Puyallup, where she competed in sewing, performing arts, public presentation, educational poster, rabbits, and dogs. She and "Zeb," an Australian cattle dog, will compete at the Skagit County Fair and hopefully on a return visit to Puyallup.

Thomas "Tick" Sweet is also a veteran with one year under his belt. His areas of competition include dogs and rabbits, still life, painting, LEGO art, sewing, and canning. This year he will compete with "Cowgirl," a puppy that became part of the family at Christmas.

Shyenne and Tick's mother Kat Sweet, who grew up in central Texas as an FFA member, has volunteered for three years as a 4-H leader. This year she supervised four young people with dogs. She also led a performing arts group and assisted with still life projects.

"We hold meetings, complete study materials, and, starting in October, we practice hard for upcoming fairs. This is such a positive experience for the kids, I'm more than willing to help out," said Kat.

Amy Lindor of Anacortes is mother of Megan and Christopher. She volunteers as a superintendent in the Home Economics division at the fair.

Eight-year-old **Megan Lindor** is a first-year participant with her bunny, "Poppy," a mixed breed she received the day before Easter.

"I feed and water her every day," she said. "I clean her hay, and I practice carrying her (for competition). I'll be with her the whole time during the fair."

Nine-year-old **Christopher Lindor** and 11-year-old Dominic are partners with chickens "Danica" and "Camber," named to reflect their mutual passion for cars. Like a car detail, the boys will "detail" their Americana chickens for competition, learning along the way to identify and describe to others their chickens' body parts and characteristics.

Like other 4-H members, their year-round responsibilities include food, water, and cage maintenance.

Mikayla Rolfs' passion for dogs led to a coveted role as one of the handlers for UW Husky mascot dog "Dubs." Mikayla, who will be a sophomore next fall at UW, was in state competition last year with her goldendoodle "Charlie" when she and one of the judges got into a conversation. As it turns out, the judge was a former UW dog handler, so when she learned that Mikayla was going to attend the UW, she made

arrangements for her to interview to be part of the mascot team.

Mikayla juggled freshman academic demands with an active schedule accompanying Dubs on adventures ranging from freshman orientation to football games and alumni events. Dubs is also available for booking to private events.

This will be Mikayla's fourth year at the Skagit County Fair. Last year she won the Round Robin competition, which calls for competitors to show other people's animals. She qualified for state as well, where she and Charlie came away with honors including Champion in Agility and Champion in Showmanship. Mikayla is majoring in animal behavior with a minor in physical therapy.

Brendon Roughton, 16, has competed five times at the fair. This year he will compete with "Ace," a four-month-old Champagne D'argent rabbit.

"My first year I had chickens," said Brendon. "Then we went one time to get chicken food and I saw they had rabbits." He quickly decided to shift his attention to bunnies.

"I got first place a couple of times in agility," he said. "My mini-lop was Grand Champion two years ago at an open show in Monroe."

Brendon, who is in the Running Start program at Burlington-Edison High School, said 4-H has given him the opportunity to make friends and gain confidence in competition.

Josh Wiseman, a Burlington resident and recent graduate of Washington State University, is working his second year as a seasonal employee assigned to the fairgrounds and other park facilities. His scope of responsibilities includes landscaping and preparation of barns and buildings. During the four days of the fair, he is kept busy with garbage detail and other assignments as they arise.

"It's cool during the fair to see all of the activity and to be able to say, 'Hey, I set that up.'"

Evergreen State College student **Chloe Ammons** of Bow is also working her second year at the fair. She notes that "off season" storage means a great deal of work as vital fair elements such as stages, pens and displays are moved and set up.

"It's nice when all the work is done and we get to see everyone enjoying themselves at the fair," she said.

Aric Gaither is Fairgrounds lead for the Skagit County Fairgrounds.

Classifieds

MOVIES & EVENTS AT THE HISTORIC CONCRETE THEATRE

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Concrete

Sunday School, cont. from p. 30

have just discussed, nor dwelling in those places that hinder our spiritual growth, will bring God's best for our lives. Let us instead embrace the resources he has freely given us: His presence, His Word, and the rich fellowship of His people. It is then we will find ourselves being built up in our personal relationship to the Lord and one another.

Bruce Martin is pastor for Concrete Assembly of God in Concrete.

CONTRACTOR WANTED

URGENT! Licensed contractor needed to build 1,800 sq. ft. custom home in Concrete. Must be familiar with Modern style design and be able to complete to turnkey finish. Serious bids only. Please call 360-386-9644.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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Commentary, cont. from p. 3

statistics reported this number had decreased to 22 percent, or below pension levels in 1950. Seventy percent of union members had pensions, compared to 14 percent of nonunion employees.

Retirement isn't just about older Americans having enough food, shelter, and medical care; it is also about young Americans—our children—not having to work from cradle to grave.

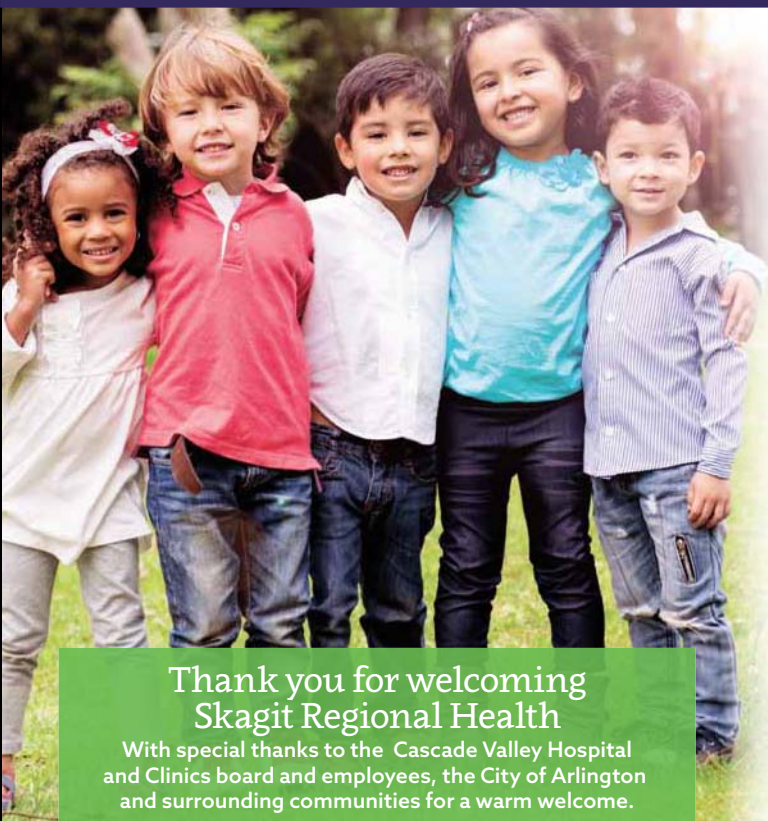
On May 6 the Treasury Secretary rejected an attempt by the Central States Trust to cut the current pensions of some 407,000 retirees from about \$3,500 per month to about \$1,600 effective July 1, 2016, and referred this back to Congress. Although many factors contributed to this problem, none of those factors were in the control of the retirees. If we do not stand up for these Americans who are about to lose their pensions today, who will be there for us when they come for our pensions tomorrow?

Please contact your elected officials to repeal Kline-Miller.

Claus Joens is an educator for the Concrete School District. He lives in Marblemount.

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With special thanks to the Cascade Valley Hospital and Clinics board and employees, the City of Arlington and surrounding communities for a warm welcome.

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10 Communities

Anacortes • Arlington • Camano Island
Darrington • Granite Falls • Mount Vernon
Oak Harbor • Sedro-Woolley • Smokey Point
Stanwood

18 Clinic Locations

Twenty-five specialty care areas are staffed with more than 2,400 dedicated professionals across three counties.

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