

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Herald

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50 cents

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Birdsview barrel racer Makhala Fox goes for wild rides. *Page 10*

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Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



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From the editor

Give WSDOT workers a brake

On the morning of July 24, a flagger working on the SR 20 paving project in Hamilton was struck by the side mirror of a truck whose driver then fled the scene. The worker was transported to the hospital with hand and arm injuries.

Apparently, this bears repeating: Slow down in work zones. Slow down in work zones. Those workers are your family and friends. Give them as much room as possible, stay focused on your driving, and keep your speed slow and consistent. Nobody wants stories like these to end of an even worse note.

—J. K. M.



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Opinion

Letters to the editor

Thanks to fire crews

As I write this note (July 24), a forest fire continues to blaze south of Vogler Lake. While the duration of the fire and the exact outcome are unknown at this time, I wish to express my thanks for the fire crews from both Grasmere District 10 and DNR for responding quickly and fighting it diligently.

John Boggs
Concrete

Shout out to Stephanie

Great BIG shout out to Stephanie Morgareidge for all her efforts and organization of the Concrete Youth Activity Day event. This community is truly blessed to have you.

Thank you very much.

Erma Baude
Birdsview

Sea Mar Concrete, and Pacific Rim Tonewoods. I hope all that attended enjoyed their time. I was equally pleased to see the turnout for the movie played on Saturday. A rough count put attendance around 80. Thank you to Andrea Fichter and the town for hosting the movie and providing the popcorn. I look forward to next year.

Stephanie Morgareidge
Concrete

Thanks for Dillard road work

In regard to the S. Dillard Ave. project, I would like to jot a few words expressing my appreciation for a job well done.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Town of Concrete for recognizing the need for essential street repairs, addressing that need, and seeing the project to fruition.

Additionally, I would like to thank the entire crew from SRV who worked on the S. Dillard Ave. project. From the flaggers, laborers, and operators to the foreman and the project inspector, everyone worked professionally and with courtesy.

Considering there is no other means of access for traffic in or out of Concrete's Crofoot Addition, I felt there was minimal interruption of our traffic flow and this

Youth Activity Day thanks YOU

A huge thank you to all the community partners and sponsors of the 10th annual Concrete Youth Activity Day. We had more than 375 attendees, and without the support and dedication of many agencies and individuals this event couldn't be possible. The following agencies gave money or in-kind donations to provide a free T-shirt, bouncy house, puppet show, prizes, backpacks, food, and licensing for the outdoor movie. Cascadian Farms, Annie's Pizza, United General District 304, Upper Skagit Task Force, Upper Skagit Library, Community Bible Church, Cascade Burgers, Community Action of Skagit County-East County Resource Center, Columbia Bank, Imagine Concrete, Concrete Resource Coalition, Concrete Lions Club, Magically Yours DJs, Amerigroup, IBEW local 77,

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Message from the mayor

By Jason Miller


In June I had the privilege to attend the Association of Washington Cities annual conference in Vancouver, Wash.

As usual, the conference was full of educational sessions. The last day found me in a session titled "Leading Optimistically," getting my chops busted by one Jeff Price, Recreation and Cultural Services director for the City of Mukilteo.

Price didn't know he was busting my chops, and I certainly didn't expect it, because I like to think of myself as a pretty optimistic guy, and I like to think that my optimistic attitude rubs off on anyone who interacts with me.

Yeah, right.

Research, said Price, has shown that optimism is a learned trait, not something we are born with. That fact became apparent to me as Price rattled off five



"optimism killers," all five of which I had to admit applied to me more often than I care to admit:

- Worry
- Comparing ourselves to others
- Lack of sleep
- Lack of exercise
- Drawing conclusions in the midst of a crisis

Crikey. The guy who teases his mom about her worrying sat fidgeting in his seat as Price told us about a National Science Foundation study on worry that demonstrated we can only control 8 percent of the stuff we worry about.

Another takeaway, this quote from John Maxwell: "Once our minds are 'tattooed' with negative thinking, our chances for long-term success are diminished."

I need to re-focus on optimistic thinking. How about you?

Concrete Mayor Jason Miller can be reached at goodwords@frontier.com or 360.853.8213, or by sending correspondence to P.O. Box 39, Concrete, WA 98237.

Commentary

Budget cuts could threaten KSVU

By Christie Fairchild

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Public Broadcasting Act and the subsequent creation of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). But at public radio and television stations across the country, folks aren't celebrating. Funding for the CPB is being targeted for major budget cuts and that, tragically, includes our own upriver community radio station, KSVU 90.1 FM.

With this threat looming, Sesame Street's own Elmo character recently starred in a YouTube video in which he was "fired," as a response to Donald Trump's plan to eliminate funding. And although the House appropriations committee is currently voting on bills to partially fund the CPB and others on the chopping block (i.e., the National

Endowment for the Arts), the Senate has yet to consider its spending plans.

A bit of history

Almost 10 years ago, Skagit Valley College's KSVR Radio Station Manager, Rip Robbins, applied for and received a rare opening in the FCC's radio frequencies. Realizing that a full half of Skagit County could not receive the college's broadcasts, he found that many east county residents actually were completely unserved by ANY radio reception. This in an area without Internet service. Rip decided that his new project would be to serve the eastern half of the county and give us an on-air voice.

After public meetings in Concrete to share information and garner support, the next task was to find a "home" for the potential studio. Rents in town proved too high or the buildings were unsuited to support a radio station. Locations also were investigated in Rockport and Marblemount, but Concrete seemed the most likely town, as it now had broadband capability (necessary to transmit eastward from KSVR in Mount Vernon). In addition, there was a cell tower nearby.

See Commentary, p. 38



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Upper Valley citizens critical of Finney Creek bridge repair plan

A tense and emotional crowd greeted Skagit County Public Works and contractor representatives during a July 26 public meeting to discuss planned repairs to the Lower Finney Creek bridge in August.

Project Manager Jennifer Swanson, along with county engineers and the construction contractor, fielded questions that focused mainly on the project timeline and the fact that the bridge will be completely closed to vehicle traffic from Aug. 7 till at least Aug. 29, possibly until Sept. 15 in the worst case.

Some residents who live along the S. Skagit Highway shared their concern that the closure would at best delay first responders and mail carriers, and increase their fuel costs sixfold by forcing them to take the long way around to their various destinations.

"My wife just had a stroke," said one man. "I don't want to think about what will happen if it happens again and an ambulance comes in one hour instead of 10 minutes."

Swanson stated that a pedestrian crossing would be provided, but vehicles would not be allowed to cross. On Aug. 19 the bridge is expected to be closed to all traffic, vehicle and pedestrian.

Requests from the public for one lane to remain open or for a military-style Bailey bridge to be implemented were met with resistance; the contractor stated the bridge deck was too narrow for one lane to remain open to traffic while accommodating the equipment needed for the repairs, and the Bailey bridge idea would incur "unbelievable costs."

Some ideas seemed possible, such as the county providing some Dial-A-Ride assistance. But the overwhelming message from the audience was that the project was poorly planned, that the public meeting should have been held a year prior, and that, in the words of one woman, the county was acting with "total disregard for the community you're trying to work with."

For more information about the bridge repair project, go to www.skagitcounty.net/finneycreek.

PSE plans sirens installation

Starting in mid-August, PSE will work to upgrade its Baker River dam emergency warning alert system by installing eight new sirens. This upgrade will increase the sound coverage area, taking the system from three sirens to eight.

The new sirens will be installed in the following approximate locations, from west to east:

- South of the intersection of SR 20 and Nielson Lane.
- At the corner of a private road south of SR 20, between Memory Lane and Birdview Meadows Lane.
- Southeast of the corner of Wilde Rd. and Pioneer Lane.
- Along Cape Horn Dr. between Maple St. and Mountain View Lane.
- At the intersection of Skagit View Dr. and Hideaway Lane.
- At the corner of Airport Way and Ronald Ave.
- At the corner of Cedar Grove Ave. and Baker Loop Rd.
- Along Thunderbird Lane, south of the intersection with Moen Rd. in Van Horn.

In the unlikely event of a dam breach, this alert system will provide early-warning and immediate mass notification to Concrete and downstream communities, including Van Horn, Grasmere, Cape Horn, and Birdview. The upgrade will also include a new, distinctly unique siren tone to avoid confusion with other sirens used by emergency response personnel in the area.

Earlier this year, the project team held an open house in Concrete to share information about this upgrade, gather feedback, and answer questions.

What to expect

Work to be completed this summer includes digging holes, installing poles, and mounting the sirens. Future work will include testing the new sirens.

The work will take place in multiple locations in Concrete, Van Horn, Grasmere, Cape Horn, and Birdview. A detailed project map is available online at www.pse.com/bakerriver.

The work will continue through the end of September. Crews will work Mondays through Thursdays, from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Seattle City Light purchases conservation lands in Town of Concrete

By Susan Madsen

On June 29, Seattle City Light (SCL) purchased approximately 40 acres of riverfront land west of the Baker River at the southern end of Concrete.

The sale was funded by a grant from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board as a means of protecting high-value floodplain habitat that is important for salmon and steelhead. These funds are targeted at supporting the Puget Sound Chinook Recovery Plan's goal of protecting Chinook spawning areas through acquisitions of key areas, particularly those that include spawning and rearing habitat.

The property is in the floodway, which means that it frequently floods, and thus is intimately linked to habitat in the river. This flooding creates the gravel bar near the property that provides spawning habitat for adult salmon, as well as side channels that provide rearing habitat for juvenile salmon and steelhead. The flooding also distributes large woody debris that is essential for creating habitat and refuge areas for fish.

In addition to providing shade, food for salmon, and protection from erosion during floods, protection of these floodplain forests helps ensure high quality habitat for a variety of other species that rely on them directly and indirectly. These species include not only elk, otters, eagles, songbirds, and frogs living in forested floodplain areas, but also marine species living in the associated coastal areas, including shellfish, herring, and marine mammals that depend on the clean water, and Orcas that depend on salmon as a food source.

SCL currently owns more than 80 properties within the Skagit River watershed acquired to permanently protect salmon habitat. These conservation lands are managed by SCL's Endangered Species Act (ESA) Lands Program to protect and enhance the native vegetation and natural features such as wetlands, gravel bars, and other fish and wildlife habitat. Acquisition of the property in and near Concrete protects the largest active side-channel and backwater habitat

WDFW seeks comment on draft elk plan

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is accepting public comments through Sept. 7 on a draft plan for future management of the North Cascades elk herd, the northernmost herd in Western Washington.

The draft plan for the herd, also known as the Nooksack herd, can be found on WDFW's website at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01916/>

In addition to the public comment period, state wildlife managers plan to hold a public meeting on Aug. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Sedro-Woolley Community Center.

Written comments can be submitted online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RDCSVVM> or mailed to North Cascades Elk Herd Plan, Wildlife Program, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504.

The North Cascades elk herd is spread over a large area of Skagit and Whatcom

counties. Since the last herd management plan was adopted in 2002, the population of the herd—the smallest that WDFW manages—has rebounded from just a few hundred animals to more than 1,200 elk within the recent survey area.

But a growing elk population also comes with increased potential for elk/human interactions and conflicts. The new draft plan includes several strategies to address those concerns and other management issues.

Key goals of the proposed plan include:

- Reducing elk/human conflicts, including minimizing elk damage on private property and elk-vehicle collisions along a stretch of State Route 20.
- Offering sustainable hunting opportunities, including an increase of at least 100 square miles available for hunting on private and public lands.

- Coordinating and cooperating with the Point Elliott Treaty Tribes on herd management and setting hunting seasons.
- Increasing elk viewing and photography opportunities.

WDFW will consider comments received online, in writing, and during the public meeting in drafting the final version of the plan.

—Submitted by WDFW



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June 3rd - September 4th

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PeaceHealth Medical Group – Sedro Woolley, Family Medicine, **360-856-6490**

See PSE, p. 38

See City Light, p. 38

Rich and Rosie Philips will be Cascade Days Grand Marshals

The Cascade Days Committee has named Rich and Rosie Philips as this year's Grand Marshals for the Cascade Days Parade, which will commence on Sat., Aug. 19, at 11 a.m.

Rich and Rosie have been Concrete citizens for decades, with Rosie Philips retired recently from the U.S. Postal Service, and Rich continuing to serve as Assistant Public Works Dir. for Town of Concrete. Philips also served the town as fire chief for 30-plus years.

Philips said his mother and sister may join him and Rosie in the parade.

Proven to be popular

Concrete's biggest party again spans the third weekend in August, the 19th and 20th. Attendees again will be treated to a tried-and true lineup of events, including:

- Firemen's Muster
- Car Show following the parade
- Log Show
- Chainsaw carvers
- Watermelon- and pie-eating contests
- Jam and Jelly contest

The muddy Dump Run returns with its trademark craziness. Two runs are planned for Sunday: 10 a.m. and noon. Registration is \$35 after Aug. 1. Organizer Becky Luttrell said this year's run will include a feature with seven 55-gallon barrels filled with mud. At the bottom of five of the barrels? A single key. Find a key and win a prize valued between \$50 and \$150.

For more information, or registration and other forms, go to www.cascadedays.com. Look for brochures in town.



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THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

The **Back 2 School Blessing** for Concrete School District students will be held on Sat., Aug. 12, at the CCD Center in Concrete from noon to 4 p.m. This year we'll serve hot dogs and have a few fun activities for the kids, in addition to handing out fully loaded backpacks for school.

To participate, children must be accompanied by their parent or guardian. For more information, call 360.708.4668.

The **Concrete High School Class of 1972 Reunion** will be held on Sat., Aug. 19, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the covered area at the east end of Concrete Middle School. Look for signs. Also invited: alumni, teachers, and staff from 1968–1976. We'll have barbecued hot dogs and hamburgers. Bring a dish to share, plus your own beverages and chairs. A donation jar will be set up to help with expenses.

Women can learn the basics of fishing, hunting, and other outdoor skills in a **September weekend workshop** that includes sessions led by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) experts and other certified instructors.

Scheduled for Sept. 15–17 at Camp Waskowitz in North Bend, the annual workshop is coordinated by Washington Outdoor Women (WOW), a nonprofit program dedicated to teaching women outdoor skills and natural resource stewardship. WOW, now in its 20th year, is an educational outreach program of the Washington Wildlife Federation.

Experienced instructors at the workshop will teach 21 classes on skills such as archery, outdoor survival, fly-fishing and fly-tying, big-game hunting, and wilderness first aid. Instructors who have volunteered to share their skills include WDFW biologists Stacie Kelsey (basic freshwater fishing), Laura Till (map and compass reading), and Shelly Ament (wildlife awareness and tracking).

Workshop participants must be at least 18 years old. Those planning to participate in the fly-fishing and freshwater fishing sessions must have a current Washington recreational fishing license.

More information about the workshop, including attendance fees and online

registration, is available at <http://washingtonoutdoorwomen.org/>.

Scholarships from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation are available for first-time participants.

The **Farm Fresh Food box**, an innovative approach to make healthful, affordable food available in food deserts, is being piloted at WSU Skagit Extension.

This new program connects local farmers and retailers to provide customers with an opportunity to order an affordable weekly food box without the commitment to a full season subscription. Each week, a list of fruits, vegetables, and herbs available in the box are listed at small retailers in Marblemount, Burlington, and Conway for pre-order. Diane Smith, WSU Extension Food Access Specialist, is overseeing the project.

Farms are matched with retailers to provide customers with fresh, organic produce that comes from local sources. Well Fed Farms delivers to WD Foods on Chuckanut Drive; Waxwing Farm delivers to Conway Chevron; and Blue Heron Farms delivers to Choms Chevron in Marblemount and Fairhaven Market in Burlington.

Produce offered in the farm fresh food box changes weekly to provide customers with produce that is most abundant. Similar to a CSA farm share, but without the upfront commitment and expense, this alternative purchase strategy will make available local produce in different size boxes to best meet customer needs.

Check with the local store for list of farm box items, or contact Diane Smith at diane.smith@wsu.edu or 360.428.4270, ext. 235, for more information.

The **WSU Livestock Advisor program** begins a 10-week series of classes Sept. 12 at the Burlington WSU Skagit County Extension office. Livestock covered include sheep, goats, beef, swine, rabbits, poultry, and livestock guardian dogs. Topics covered range from housing needs, feeding, breeding, and fencing to raising livestock sustainably, mud and manure management, and weed management.

Cost of the 10-week course is \$125, with a second person from the farm or family free. Offered Tuesday evenings from Sept. 12 through Nov. 28, from 6 to 9 p.m., classes are held at WSU Skagit County Extension, 11768 Westar Lane, Ste. A, Burlington. Download an application at <http://skagit.wsu.edu>.

For more information, call 360.428.4270 ext. 240 or e-mail joand@wsu.edu.

Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on July 10 and 24. Following is a summary of those 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 10 regular meeting

New Concrete School District Superintendent Wayne Barrett introduced himself to the council. He reported that last week was his first official week of work. He stated they are working on getting quotes for painting and other maintenance items to get the grounds up to speed. He stated he wants things to look good for the public and to be good stewards of what the community has provided.

He also reported that he met with Mayor Miller and Congresswoman Suzan DelBene during her visit to the Upper Valley last week to discuss the district's Farm to School Program. He stated that she was impressed. He also stated if anyone has any questions or discussion items, to please feel free to stop by his office.

Public Safety: Sgt. Chris Kading reported the June incident report had a very low call volume. He reported on a recent incident regarding the theft of a flag and that the thief has been identified.

Sgt. Kading also reported that July 4 went pretty much as expected. Mayor Jason Miller asked if any citations were issued for illegal use of fireworks within town limits. Sgt. Kading stated that none were issued.

Sgt. Kading also reported that Clerk Treasurer Andrea Fichter had contacted him, requesting that he make contact with the people who were camping in Veterans Memorial Park and make sure they are aware that park hours are 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., and no overnight camping is allowed. Councilmember Rob Thomas stated there was also a tent put up on the grass between the Resource Center and the Community Center.

Cedar St. Road and Waterline Improvements/Grant Application: Town engineer Cody Hart reported on the complexity of this project. He stated he needs to go into more preliminary design than most grant applications because of the amount of road work and utility improvements.

He stated there would be two applications made for this project.

Mayor Miller stated that Fichter reported this project is listed in the Capital Improvements Plan and is marked as high priority, so the Capital Improvements fund can be used to pay for the out-of-pocket costs.

Council approved the task order.

July 24 regular meeting

Public Participation: Citizens Brian Koopsen and Jeff Earheart addressed the council, voicing their concern for speeding motorists and suspected drug activity on and near Cedar St. They were encouraged to report all activity by calling 911 or filling out an Online Citizens Report on the SCSO Web site. Mayor Miller stated he had purchased a radar gun, which he plans to use to collect hard data for reporting speeders to law enforcement. Mayor Miller, Koopsen, and Earheart will join to collect data.

Public Works: Mayor Miller and town planner Marianne Manville-Ailles reported that monitoring wells had been drilled today in an effort for the town to be able to provide data when discussing, for example, the wastewater treatment plant with Dept. of Ecology.

Mayor Miller reported that the town is still waiting for Ovivo to provide fabrication timeframes for temporary and permanent screens at the wastewater treatment plant.

Two water leaks were discovered during the previous weekend and were addressed today by Public Works staff.

Lorenzen Creek shoreline mowing has begun. Concrete Summer Learning Adventure students visited a portion of Lorenzen Creek on July 19 and pulled invasives.

Mayor Miller reported he had attended an Assn of WA Cities Budget Workshop on July 13, Youth Activity Day on July 14, the new jail ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 11, and a trails meeting on July 12.

—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 6 p.m. at Town Hall.

YD update

We have a couple HUGE events taking place in August. First up is a seven-day kayak trip down the Salmon River in Idaho, Aug. 3–9. The students are super excited, and I admit I am a little excited too. Concrete YD has done a few extended trips in the past, but we have never done the Salmon River trip. We do a lot of weekend retreats (Hotdoggin', 30 Hour Famine, Rock-n-Roll, and even kayaked the Methow River last summer in three days).

The Salmon River trip is the type of trip that is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these students, and I am thrilled about the possibilities in store for them. They will build relationships and create memories they will take with them for forever. Please pray for safe travels (road and river), and that the kids have a great time enjoying God's creation.

We could also use your help with our second event this month: our annual Youth Dynamics Golf Marathon! That kayak trip, as well as all of the activities we do, cost us money. So we need money to keep running this thing called Concrete YD. Jeffery Garland and I are, once again, golfing more than 100 holes each on Aug.

28 at Avalon Golf Course to help raise money for the 2017–18 school year. We operate on a small budget, mostly because all staff are 100 percent volunteer. That means that when you donate to Concrete YD, 100 percent of that money goes to the kids! We use it for food, crafts, our Monday night events, our weekend retreats, insurance on the kids, insurance on our vans, and gas—lots of gas. Every year at about this time, our tank runs dry. And then along comes the Golf Marathon, and we fill our tank back up, trusting it is enough to get us through another school year.

If you would like to help chip in and keep Concrete YD at the forefront of youth activities in East Skagit County, please take the time to sponsor either Jeffrey or me for this year's Golf Marathon. You can contact us in person, or go to yd.org, find Concrete and our names, and click on them. There is no amount too great or too small. Every penny counts, and every penny goes right back into the program for our teens. Please consider praying for our kayak trip and for our fundraiser during August.

—Kevik and Marta Rensink
Concrete Youth Dynamics



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2014-15 / 2015-16 / 2016-17 Athlete of the Year

Chloe Stidman

You read it right: Graduated Concrete High School senior Chloe Stidman was named Athlete of the Year during her sophomore, junior, and senior years.

Why? Anyone who has watched her compete would roll their eyes at the question. She is a powerhouse, fierce, determined, focused, passionate.

A three-sport athlete, Stidman dominated the soccer field, the softball diamond, and the basketball court.

"I've been coaching for 22 years, and have never seen anything, or met anyone like Chloe," said basketball Coach Kevik Rensink, who tells of her favorite statistic: drawn charges. "She drew an astonishing 43 drawn charges during her four-year career," he said. Megan (Claybo) Parker is second—with 15.

"Whenever someone says they're tough, or they know someone who is tough, I think of Chloe. I don't know if anyone is 'Chloe Tough.' She is the toughest player I have ever coached."

Because of her grit and determination, Stidman played 2,063 minutes and 20 seconds in her career, another all-time girls basketball record at Concrete High School. Stidman also set the all-time record for career steals with 360, and finished second all-time in career assists with 273.

Softball

Not surprisingly, Stidman played catcher for the Concrete fastpitch team.

"Catcher is an ideal spot for Chloe because you need a field general there, competitive and tough, not afraid to say what needs to be said," said Coach Kelly Howell. "But I've also watched her take younger girls and help them, take extra time to show them how to do things."

Stidman was named to the All-League team this year; last year she was the league MVP. She led the team in RBIs and held second place for home runs.

"She's quite the player, quite a fun kid to coach," said Howell. "I'm excited to see her play at the next level. She's done a pretty amazing job for herself."

Stidman's prowess on the soccer field is, by this point, no surprise. She played the



sport through all four years of high school, as a defender first, then forward. A soccer letter is sewn to her letterman's jacket.

On the field? More of what you'd expect: hard-driving, impatient with errors, fascinatingly competitive.

Stidman leaves behind big, big shoes for those Lady Lions who would take up her mantle.

"Will there ever be another Stidman?" asks Coach Rensink. "No. Will I miss her terribly? Already do."



2015-16 Athlete of the Year Donnie Olmstead

On the football field or wrestling mat, Donnie Olmstead dominated his opponents. During the football season at the start of his senior year, he carried the ball frequently, overpowering tacklers for positive yardage, seemingly impossible to bring down. He was named to the All-League team during his sophomore, junior, and senior years for offense and defense, and was named Best Tackler on the team during his junior and senior years.

On the mat

During his senior year, Olmstead lost only one wrestling match.

That doesn't surprise Coach David Dellinger at all.

"He came up to me on the first day of practice and said, 'Coach, what do I have to do to be a State champion?' I told him it's what he did outside of the wrestling room that would make him a champion. You have to be in the best shape of your life."

Olmstead listened to his coach. He stayed longer, worked harder, and kept his focus on the Tacoma Dome, where he took first in state at 195 lbs.



"He was a great captain and had a great work ethic," said Dellinger. "I didn't even have to be there and he'd have the kids warmed up and ready. During the season, he faced kids who were as good as him. At Regionals he won by one point, and did it by being in better shape. He wanted it, and he got it."

—J. K. M.



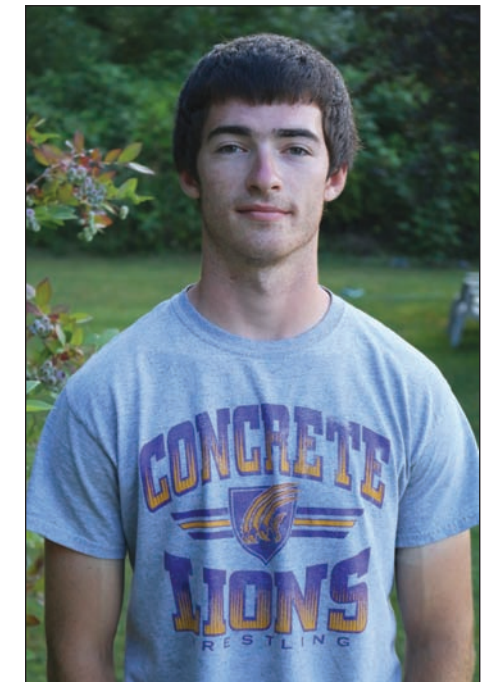
2016-17 Athlete of the Year Blaine Storms

Blaine Storms isn't shy about naming his favorite sport: wrestling.

His love of the sport showed in his commitment to it during his senior year. Having gone to the State tournament during the previous three years and come home emptyhanded, he gritted his teeth, muttered to Coach David Dellinger, "I'm tired of coming here and getting nothing," and pushed himself hard.

The result? A 5th place State medal at 132 lbs.

"Him and Donnie Olmstead are carbon copies," said Dellinger. "He would just work and work and work. He's the Energizer Bunny. He had an extremely tough bracket, but he was happy to place. His goal was to place, and that's what he did."



On the track

Storms headed to State in track this year too, qualifying in three events: the 100m, 200m, and 400m. He punched his ticket to Cheney on May 20, with commanding first-place finishes in the 100m, 200m, and 400m during the Bi-District meet in Shoreline.

At Cheney he notched a 7th place finish

in the 400m finals, putting a medal around his neck.

"Blaine was probably the hardest working athlete I have seen," said Head Coach Hayden Holbrook. "He set a goal to make it to State, and he achieved it."

Storms brought his speed to the football field early in his senior year, punctuating games with interceptions and touchdowns.



Need for SPEED

Birdsview barrel racer Makhala Fox goes for wild rides.

By Jason Miller

It's a hot July day in Sumas, Wash., and they're barrel racing over at the rodeo grounds. A group of women and girls sit on their horses, waiting for their names to be called. Before all dusty hell breaks loose, the announcer grabs her megaphone: "Makahla Fox."

A small woman peels her quarterhorse "Boppy" away from the crowd of riders and into the arena, where Boppy explodes toward the first of three "barrels," lightweight lookalikes arranged in the shape of a triangle. Grinning, Fox steers Boppy toward the left and around the first barrel, then straight across to the second barrel, then toward the far barrel between them, switching hands from reins to saddle horn, hanging on for dear life, bouncing more than a foot off the saddle on the final turn as Boppy runs like the wind back through an electronic timer that records her effort: 15 seconds flat.

Fox and Boppy took first place that day, notching another win, further cementing their bond.

Fox, 22, has been barrel racing since she could sit in a saddle. Her mom, Karin, put her on a horse at age 4, and she's been there ever since, leaving, seemingly, only to eat and sleep.

"Mom pretty much threw me on a horse and made me go. It was kind of forced at first, but now it's an everyday thing, part of my life. I love it," she said.

Fox lives with her brother, Kadden, and Karin on six acres in Birdsview, with an entertaining menagerie of animals, including three dogs, a few chickens, and a turkey that watches visitors from the window. And four registered quarterhorses: Boppy, Barbie, Lily, and Tina.

At 15, Boppy is nearing the end of her barrel-racing years, but she won't go

anywhere when Fox has to find another racer. Her mother wouldn't stand for it. "She's definitely like my kid; she's babied," she said.

Stiff competition

Fox takes Boppy to upwards of 40 races every year, primarily during the rodeo season between April and September. She races a couple times during winter too, in indoor arenas. She travels all over, but most often into Eastern Washington. This year she'll hit the Chelan Rodeo, Port Angeles Rodeo, Longview Rodeo,



Makhala Fox calms a spunky Boppy just long enough for a photo after competing in the barrel races during Loggerodeo in Sedro-Woolley this year.

Tonasket, Lynden, Moses Lake, Omak—and many, many more.

The trips can be grueling, not to mention expensive. Every time, the trailer gets loaded with a bale of hay, grain, vitamins, supplements, vet supplies ... and Boppy's bell boots for her front hooves, so when

she clips them with her back hooves coming around a barrel, she won't kick off her front shoes. Six hours in a horse trailer can make anyone stiff and grumpy, so Fox stops midway to fuel up and let Boppy

See **Speed**, p. 11



Makhala Fox eyes the next barrel while competing in the Bull-a-Rama Double Header 4D Barrel Race in Sumas, Wash., on July 15.

Speed, cont. from p. 10

stretch her legs. She'll drop \$250 on fuel and \$130 on entry fees almost every weekend during the summer.

"I think next year I'm going to try to go out and get sponsors to help with fuel," said Fox. "It's expensive, but she runs her heart out for me, so I can't stop doing what I'm doing. And she loves her job."

Boppy faces stiff competition every time she runs, but the prize money is a bit of a carrot. Some of the bigger rodeos can offer up to \$10,000 for first place; others offer a mix of cash and prizes, such as trailers, truck-and-trailer packages, and tack. So far this year, Fox and Boppy have pulled down almost \$3,000.

"It's our first big year," said Fox. "Last year we had some bumps and struggles; this year we're giving it our all."

Several factors separate the winners from the losers, starting with the dirt in the arena. "She likes the deep ground, tilled deep, with sand in it so it's softer. And she loves mud; I'm just waiting for it to rain on us," said Fox.

Fox's mood plays a role too. "If I've had a bad day, it affects her. Your horse can read your mind and your body language; it can give her a bad vibe. But usually she doesn't mind anything."

When Boppy knows she's about to run, she gets antsy, and Fox relies on a routine to keep her head out of the game until it needs to be in it. "I keep her calm and cool; I talk to her like she's a person," said Fox, who will walk Boppy around until only a few minutes before her race. "She's not like most horses that need to be warmed up for 15–20 minutes. She absolutely hates that. She gets hot-headed, antsy. About five minutes before a race, I trot her around, then when they say my name, we step up and go for it."

"It's very, very competitive. Every rodeo, somebody's beating you or you're beating someone by point-zero-some seconds."

Care and feeding

Fox babies Boppy with good hay, alfalfa ("she's addicted to alfalfa!"), joint, hair, and hoof supplements ... and the occasional hot dog or hamburger. A horse chiropractor gives Boppy an adjustment almost weekly during the summer months. Fox even had a psychic communicate with Boppy when she wasn't performing well early on.

"Her right front foot was messed up and I didn't think I'd be able to ride her. The psychic told me that Boppy felt like her splint boots made her feel hot and sweaty.



Clockwise from above: Boppy's strength bounces Makhala Fox out of her saddle after rounding the final barrel during the Bull-a-Rama Double Header 4D Barrel Race in Sumas, Wash., on July 15. Boppy, Fox's 1,500-lb. quarterhorse. Fox relaxes with Boppy before a race—a common tactic to keep the horse from getting too charged with adrenaline. Fox's belt buckle, awarded during her 2015 stint as the Methow Valley Rodeo Queen.

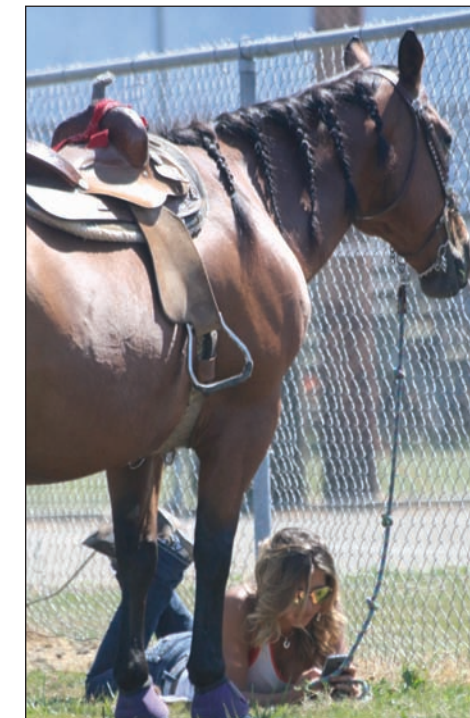


So I took them off and she barely sweated during a race. Boppy also told the lady she'd rather run bareback, and I wouldn't mind that, but some competitions require a saddle."

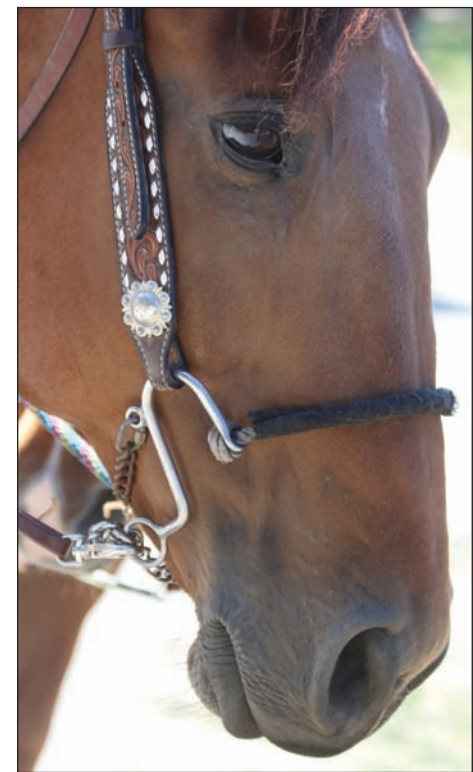
When the next competition comes, the Fox/Boppy team will be ready.

"I love the adrenaline rush. I'm a small person on a big horse. At the end, I've got a big smile on my face. My goal is to just hold on and have a clean run. I'm not in it so much for the competition; I'm in it because I love doing it and my horse loves doing it. And it keeps me out of trouble."

"Our four horses are my life; I don't know what I'd do without them. A lot of people around here like to party and do stuff you probably shouldn't be doing. My



horses keep me out of trouble; they've kept my life together. It's my life, and I wouldn't trade it for a thing. I love it. I love my horses. And Boppy? Well, technically Boppy is my mom's horse, but she's my horse," said Fox, laughing. "She satisfies my need for speed."



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Academics



Hawkings retires after 36 years of service to Concrete School District

After 36 years of service to the Concrete School District, Superintendent Barbara Hawkings has hung up her mortarboard. Hawkings ended her tenure with the close of the 2016–17 school year, including a heartfelt address to members of the class of 2017 at their graduation ceremony in June, during which she pulled the microphone from the podium, walked over in front of the seniors, and had a conversation with them instead of delivering a traditional speech.

It was a poignant moment that again demonstrated Hawkings' love for the students and the Upper Valley community, a love for which she dedicated almost four decades of her life.

Committed to the district

Hawkings, 59, is a 1976 Concrete High School graduate, having spent most of her school years in Marblemount and Newhalem, with three years in Seattle. She began her service to the school district shortly after graduating, serving as Junior High track coach from 1978–79. From there, her resume with the district demonstrates a commitment to almost every need. As the decades went by, Hawkings served in numerous ways:

- Assistant JV volleyball and Junior High girls basketball coach
- Girls basketball coach
- Assistant volleyball coach
- Junior High volleyball coach
- Substitute teacher
- Teacher
- Mentor teacher
- Middle School softball coach
- Title Director
- Elementary School Principal
- Title I and Lap Grants Coordinator
- Interim District Curriculum Director
- District Curriculum Co-Director
- Heavily involved with IDEA and Summer Reading Program



Barb Hawkings addresses the graduating class of 2017 during this year's graduation ceremony in June.

- Interim Superintendent
- Superintendent

One of the turning points for the school district came in 2007, when Hawkings agreed to step into the superintendent position after community members pressed her. The district had faltered after several short-term superintendents had come and gone. With her deep connections to the district

and the community, Hawkings stepped up and served as superintendent till her retirement. She even spent two school years—from 2014 to 2016—as the elementary school principal simultaneously.

"[Serving as superintendent] wasn't something I saw myself doing until I was approached by community members and staff," said Hawkings. "But I decided to try it for a year. I did it because I love this

place, and it's been great."

During her time as superintendent, Hawkings worked to keep the school district board informed and aware of her actions.

"Her interaction with the school board was wonderful," said former board President Crissie Wilson. "She always kept us up to date, especially with what

Hawkings, cont. from p. 12

was happening in the legislature. She was dedicated to the school district, the kids, and the community. She left a very big hole that's going to be hard to fill."

Other contributions

Hawkings was known for traveling long miles to cheer on students in their academic and athletic endeavors—a challenge, sometimes, when more than one team made it to State. But outside of the school halls, she gave any spare minutes of her time to the Booster Club, the Concrete Lions Club (starting with the women's Lions Club, "The Pride"), Campfire leadership, and the salmon feed in Marblemount. "I was also up to my eyebrows in the Eagle Festival," she laughed.

Back on the school front, Hawkings names the Skill Center as a major accomplishment. "We've gotten students to graduate who might not have graduated; that's a biggie," she said. "We bring the test scores up every time the state changes the requirements."

Hawkings also points to the facilities, noting that students have access to technology in every classroom, something not offered by every district in the county.

"I'm proud of the resources we've brought to the district for students and staff. The PAX discipline program,

suicide training, the Concrete Resource Coalition. I'm proud of our partnerships too, such as CHOP, WWU, Skagit County, First Bloom (National Park Service), La Conner School District, the Swinomish Tribe ..."

Next steps

Frustrated with the direction the state is taking with education, Hawkings has decided to move on to her next chapter and spend time with her grandchildren before they start school, her parents, and her husband, traveling, camping, fishing, and hunting. With one hand on the proverbial doorknob, she shared some advice for her successor, Wayne Barrett: "Get to know your community first. Get to know your staff and your students. You have to build those relationships first, in order for change to happen. Because change is not easy."

Barrett will be charged with navigating what Hawkings calls "a moving target" with regard to student assessments required by the state.

"I don't like the fact that they're requiring students to pass the Smarter Balanced Assessments to graduate, when there are other assessments out there to use. It's been a revolving target for the students to master, and I don't agree with it."

—J. K. M.



A three-sport athlete, Barb Hawkings (far left) is shown during her sophomore year at Concrete High School with fellow basketball players, from left, Melinda Mehlum, Cindy Dills, Debbie Anderson, Rhoda Mehlum, and Kelly Cuthbert. Coached by Betty Torgeson, the team at the time held a 6–3 record, with seven games remaining on the season schedule. This photo appeared



A longtime member of Concrete Lions Club, Hawkings is always on hand for special events. Here she serves a hamburger grilled by Lions Club members to a hungry visitor during Concrete Youth Activity Day in July.

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Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

This month, in celebration of the 51st birthday of the current Clear Lake Post Office, we look back at the history of the postal service for ZIP Code 98235.

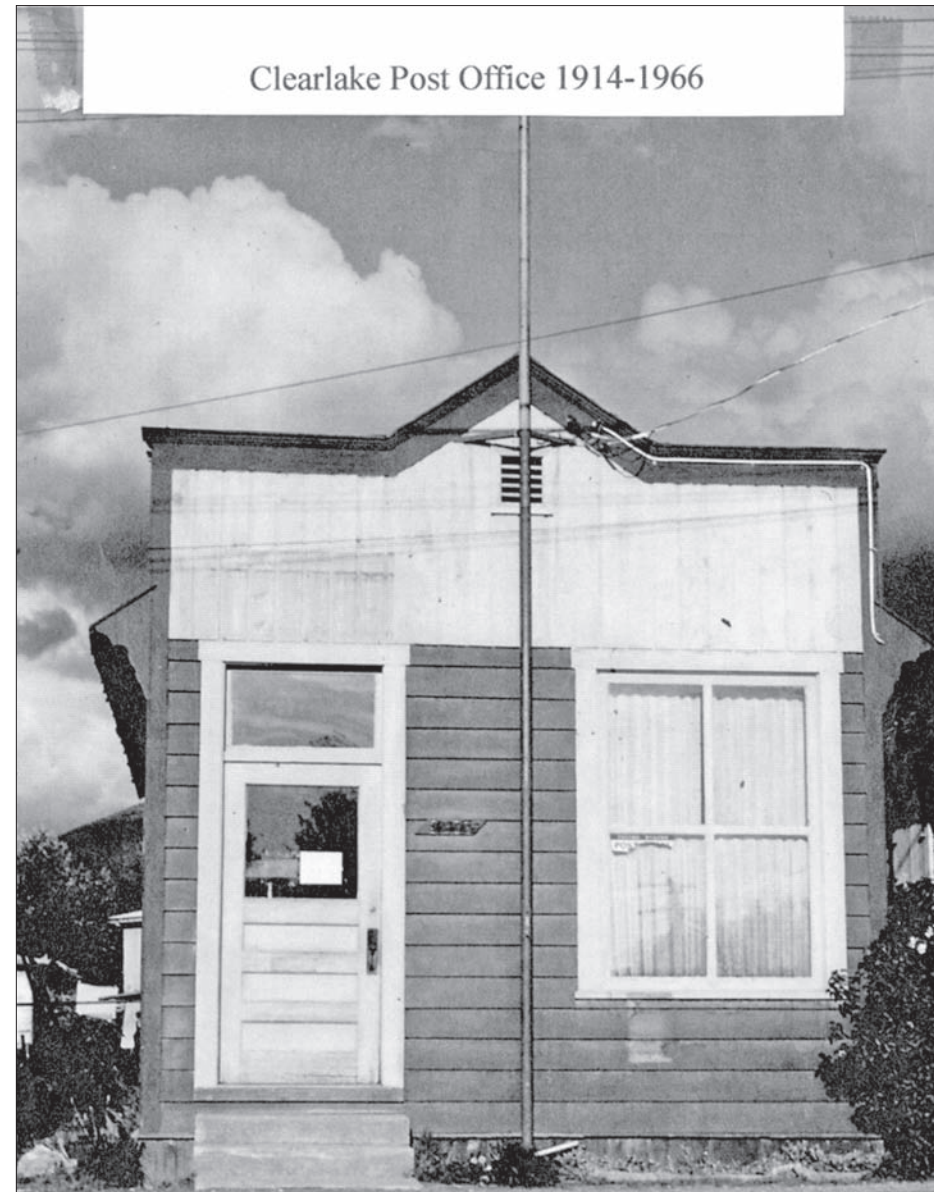
The first Postmaster of Clear Lake was Jacob Bartl, who was appointed on June 10, 1891. He served the public from a counter located inside the Mountain View Grocery Store. A building was constructed by the Clear Lake Lumber Company circa 1914, which served as the post office until 1966 when the current post office was built. Pictures of both of these structures are shown. Susan Dills currently serves as Clear Lake Postmaster. *Photos 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.

Like the Clear Lake Historical Association on Facebook at www.facebook.com/clearlakehistory.
—Deanna Ammons, historian



Clearlake Post Office 1914-1966



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Doug Hutter
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Community Calendar



AUGUST

- 1 Primary Election; ballots must be postmarked with today's date or dropped in an election drop box by 8 p.m. tonight
- 3 113th Annual Skagit County Pioneer Picnic, Pioneer Park, La Conner, 11:15 a.m.; see notice, p. 35; info at 360.826.6141 or 360.929.5749
- 4 STEM Series: Ozobots, Upper Skagit Library, Concrete, 1 to 3 p.m.; info at 360.853.7939 or www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us
- 4-6 District 19 Volunteer Fire Dept. Garage Sale, Rockport Fire Hall, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; see notice, p. 23; info at 360.853.7699
- 5 Heart to Heart Poker Run; see article, p. 18
- 6 Concrete Heritage Museum Bake Sale, Concrete Saturday Market, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- 12 Back 2 School Blessing for Concrete School District students, CCD Center, Concrete, noon to 4 p.m.; see notice, p. 6; info at 360.708.4668
- 12 Lyman Hamilton School Reunion, Lyman City Park, Lyman, noon to 5 p.m.; see notice, p. 22; info at 360.826.3160, 360.659.9848, or rabb@comcast.net
- 13 Marblemount Community Market (Youth Day), noon to 4 p.m.; see article, p. 26; info at 360.873.2323
- 16 Concrete Heritage Museum Association Annual Potluck Dinner, Concrete Community Center, 6 p.m.; free admission, open to the public
- 17-18 Vacation Bible School, Lohman's Campground, 31886 Rocky's Way, Day Creek; see notice, p. 19; info at 360.826.4287 or 360.391.1709
- 19 Upper Skagit Library Foundation Book Sale, Upper Skagit Library parking lot, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 32
- 19 Kids in Nature: Families Outdoors at Pomona Grange Park, 5585 Old Hwy 99 N., Burlington, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; free admission, bring a lunch; pre-registration requested by Aug. 16: 360.428.4313 or kristi@skagitcd.org
- 19 Sedro-Woolley Museum 25th Year Anniversary Open House, 1 to 4 p.m.
- 19 Concrete High School Class of 1972 Reunion, Concrete Middle School, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 19-20 Cascade Days, Concrete; see article, p. 6; info at www.cascadedays.com
- 19-20 7th Annual Big August Hoobajoob Art Show, 605 N. Emens Ave., Darrington, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sat., noon to 4 p.m. on Sun.; info at 360.436.0711
- 30 School year begins for Concrete School District

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Concrete Heritage Museum Annual Yard Sale, Cement City Swap Meet, donations from 8 to 9 a.m., sales from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 32
- 5 School year begins for Sedro-Woolley School District
- 6 School year begins for Darrington School District

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

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Community meetings

Cascade Days Committee Board of Directors meets the third Mon. of each month at 5:30 p.m., at Lone Star Restaurant in Concrete Town Center. 360.853.7867, ember@cascadedays.com, info@cascadedays.com.

Christian Motorcyclists Assn Morning Star Chapter 39 meets the first Mon. of each month at Royal Star Buffet in Mount Vernon. Optional dinner at 6 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m. 425.770.6154 or cmachapter39@gmail.com.

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 meets the second Tue. of each month, Sept. through May, at 1 p.m., in the conference room of the East County Resource Center. 360.853.8347.

Concrete Economic Development Commission meets quarterly at Concrete Town Hall. Its first meeting is Oct. 12 at 6 p.m. 503.333.2406

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 in the Pilots' Lounge at Mears Field in Concrete. 360.466.8754 or concretechamber@mac.com.

Concrete Heritage Museum Board meets the third Wed. of each month, at 7 p.m. at the museum. Meetings are open to the public. 360.826.3075 or www.concreteheritagemuseum.org.

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: NO SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS WERE SHOWN ON THE ONLINE CALENDAR AT PRESS TIME. 360.853.4000.

Concrete Town Council meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at Town Hall, 45672 Main St., Concrete, at 6 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 Wed. of each month at the hall, at 6 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.

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.

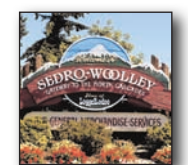
Sedro-Woolley School District Board: NO SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS WERE SHOWN ON THE ONLINE CALENDAR AT PRESS TIME. 360.855.3500 or kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us.

Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center Board meets the second Tue. of each month, 5:30 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 Thursday of each month, 5 p.m., at the library. Public is welcome. 360.853.7939 or info@upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

Upper Skagit Writers Group meets the third Mon. of each month at 6 p.m., at 5b's Bakery, Concrete. Open to the public and all skill levels. em@5bsbakery.com.

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



Gov. Inslee visits Helping Hands project site

Gov. Jay Inslee swept through Skagit County on July 28, including a stop in Sedro-Woolley at the construction site for the new Helping Hands Food Bank building.

He was met by a crowd of close to 100 people. Of primary concern for those involved with funding the project was the state legislature's failure to pass a capital budget. The delay hampers the Helping Hands project, which had been approved

for \$350,000 from the state, on top of grant funds it has secured for construction.

Inslee railed against the legislature. "There is no excuse for not doing your basic job," he said. "Everybody agrees where to put this money ... but the reason the capital budget hasn't passed is that one of the parties has adopted D.C.-style politics; that's where you play political games to hold things hostage to try to get your way on something."



Clockwise from above left: Helping Hands Food Bank Executive Director Rebecca Larsen shares the new building project's goals and concerns with Gov. Jay Inslee, while Sedro-Woolley Mayor Keith Wagoner listens. Gov. Inslee took time to speak one on one with John Janicki, who voiced his frustration over the funding delay for the project. Gov. Inslee speaks to the crowd before taking a tour of the construction site. A photo op with the governor, Chad Fisher Construction project foreman Ray Murdock, and Larsen.



Cowboys do their best to snare a calf during the Loggerodeo rodeo on July 4.

Janicki recognized for roof work

At the JEC Group "The Future of Composites in Construction" event in Chicago in June, Janicki Industries received an award for its innovative design in construction, which it developed in partnership with Optima Projects Ltd.

Janicki Industries created a free-form structural roof made of thick fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) for a large private residence. The finished inner and outer surfaces, as well as the primary structure of the roof, are composed of composite material sandwiched around a foam core. The composite roof is self-supporting and eliminates the majority of vertical steel columns. This allowed for up to 40-foot unsupported cantilevers over exterior glazing with integrated soffits.

The cores are produced from polyethylene terephthalate (PET) foam made from recycled water bottles, which are machined into complex forms and bonded together into very large subassemblies. The roof structure is made of 28 parts and covers 6,700 square feet. Large advantages of this innovation are that the overall cost and build time were reduced with the elimination of conventional tooling. In addition, the lightweight, self-supporting nature of the roof reduced the supporting structure, saving further costs and providing a more open interior space.

Vice President Andy Bridge said, "Our ability to create organic shaped roofs for residences is key to providing expansive open inner spaces that people love."



Barbara Ward Thompson, '43, accepts a gift of flowers and certificate of appreciation from the Sedro-Woolley Alumni and Schools Foundation at the July 8 All-Class Picnic. Thompson has served as picnic chair for many years and is stepping down from that role. The foundation also purchased a commemorative paver at the Sedro-Woolley High School's Pride Plaza to honor Thompson's years of service. Brock Stiles, '78, foundation president, served as master of ceremonies and presented the award. Approximately 260 alumni attended the annual event at Riverfront Park. Thompson is a 2012 recipient of a Community Recognition Award from the Sedro-Woolley School District. Photo by Judy Johnson.

—Judy Johnson



Virginia Thogersen stands next to "Elmer Elephant," her entry during the Woolley Fiber Quilters 2017 quilt show, "Blast of Birds," held July 14–16 in Sedro-Woolley. A complete list of show winners is published on p. 19 of this issue. Photo by Judy Johnson.

Sedro-Woolley Museum will celebrate 25 years with an open house on Sat., Aug. 19, from 1 to 4 p.m. The museum always has been staffed by volunteers, never a paid worker.

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Lyman



Day Creek



Council summary

The Lyman Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on June 13. Following is a summary of that meeting. Complete minutes for every council meeting are posted in the hall by the front door of Lyman Town Hall.

June 13 regular meeting

- Jeremy Mast was sworn in as a new councilmember for Town of Lyman.
- R&R invoice was paid between meetings because of reimbursable grant money. The A-19 submission needed to reflect the payment for the reimbursement. Verizon Wireless had a wrong address and the payment was returned. Councilmember Gail Ganga asked if the stop payment on that check could be put in the council packet for next month.
- Council approved a proposed interlocal agreement from the YMCA, asking for a \$500 one-time donation or \$100 per year for five years, in return for free admission one night per month for all Lyman residents after the new facility is built.
- Engineer Cody Hart reported on the pothole grant. Lyman will need an interlocal agreement with Hamilton similar to the one with the Sedro-Woolley School District. It will be on the agenda for July.
- Mr. and Mrs. Campbell were present to tell council that their neighbor's dogs were barking again and a dog on First St. has threatened them. The clerk will send the ordinance and a letter to the owners of the offending animals. Council would also like to revisit the ordinance to see if making the fines higher would make offenders take them more seriously.

—Compiled from staff notes

Poker Run planned

Lyman-based Heart to Heart Charity's 3rd annual motorcycle Poker Run fundraiser will be on Sat., Aug. 5. The event will start at the Eagles Lodge, 1000 Metcalf St. in Sedro-Woolley. Registration from 9–11 a.m. and first bikers out at 11 a.m. Participants will receive one poker hand, a scenic ride, and a free breakfast.

The End Party will be held at Lyman Town Park in Lyman from approximately 2:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission. Vendor space is \$10; contact Tammie for more details.

Cost for this Poker Run is \$25 for bike/ rider and \$35 for bike/rider/passenger. Registration forms are available on our Facebook event page or e-mail hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com to request one. First 10 prepaid registrations will receive a biker's gift bag full of items, including a family pass to Skagit Speedway.

Volunteers are needed for this event, as well as businesses that would like to donate prizes. Contact Tammie Werner via email or 360.826.3818 for details. This event benefits all the activities the charity does for children of low-income families. The event is listed on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hearttoheartcharity.

—Tammie Werner

Briefly ...

This year's **Lyman Hamilton School Reunion** is planned for Sat., Aug. 12, from noon to 5 p.m. at Lyman City Park in Lyman.

The potluck lunch will include a ribbon-cutting dedication ceremony for the new addition to the park.

For more information, call 360.826.3160 or 360.659.9848, or send an e-mail to rabb@comcast.net.

Community notes

Vacation Bible School

Children from age 4 through 6th grade are invited to attend SonTreasure Island! Located at Lohman's Campground, 31886 Rocky's Way, Day Creek.

Children will have a great time singing, watching skits, creating crafts, and playing games. But most importantly, they will discover the treasure of God's amazing love.

VBS will be held on Thur., Aug. 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and continuing on Fri., Aug. 18 at 1 p.m., with parents welcome to join for a potluck dinner at 5:30 or pick up at 6 p.m. Children are invited to tent camp with us and can be picked up Saturday morning at 10 a.m.

For more information, to arrange transportation, or to register, call 360.826.4287 or 360.391.1709.

Day Creek Firefighters Garage Sale

The annual Day Creek Firefighters Garage Sale was a grand success. Day Creek thanks you for planning, donating, and buying. See you next year.

Friendship House Helping Hand

Together we can reach out to the homeless and serve a monthly dinner at the Friendship House. Prep is at 3 p.m. and dinner at 5 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month.

For more information, call 360.391.1709.

WOMEN HAND in hand

Coming event: Stephanie Fast, Sept. 23.

Kingdom Builders

Kingdom Builders works together with the help of our community, reaching out to be a help to those in need of trips to the doctor, hospital visits, store runs, and more. Drivers are needed and donations

are always welcome.

Kingdom Builders and the Friday Morning Bible Study Group have assembled Homeless Giveaway Bags. Anyone who wishes to keep a few in their car should call 360.826.3581.

Anyone interested in becoming available to be a community helper may call 360.826.3003 or 360.826.3581.

Report illegal dumping

If you see anyone illegally dumping garbage in or near our community, try to write down their vehicle license plate number and then report the activity by calling 360.428.3211.

Cowboy Church

Casual, country, and encouraging, Cowboy Church is held in the clubhouse at the Sedro-Woolley Rodeo grounds every Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 425.395.4014.

Friday Night Lights

If you are interested in getting involved with the Sedro-Woolley Rodeo Riding Club's barrel-racing nights, just show up at 5 p.m. for dinner and 7 p.m. races on Aug. 4 or 18, or Sept. 8.

For more information, call 360.826.3581.

—Kathy Henderson

2017 Community Potluck dates

August 15, 6:30 p.m.
September 19, 6:30 p.m.
October 17, 6:30 p.m.
November 21, 6:30 p.m.
December 19, 6:30 p.m.

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Judge's Choice

"Grandma's Coral Flower Garden," Judy Johnson, Sedro-Woolley.
"White & Gray & Black All Over," Thelma Lewis, Bellingham
"Wanda's 'Chics,'" Wanda Hinds, Sedro-Woolley

Large Category

1st: "Grandma's Children of the World," Dianne Lowe, Burlington
2nd "Mariners Compass," Kathleen Wragg-Baker, Mount Vernon
3rd "Fancy Feathers," Pat Anderson, Burlington

Hon. Mention "Elmer," Virginia Thogersen, Sedro-Woolley

Hon. Mention "Birthday Pinwheels," Judy Steen, Bow

Hon. Mention "Daydreaming," Cindy Holzer, Stanwood

Hon. Mention "Polynesian Star," Sandi Beatty, Sedro-Woolley

Hon. Mention "Burlington-Edison HS," Linda Stearns, Mount Vernon

"New York Beauty," Debra Phillips, (no city given)

Medium Category

1st "Glacier Star, Kathleen Wragg-Baker, Mount Vernon
2nd "Bullseye," Louise Harris, Sedro-Woolley
3rd "Onion, onion, where art thou," Noni Moody, Sedro-Woolley

Hon. Mention "The Forest Has Eyes," Emily Hamblen, Concrete

Hon. Mention "Japanese Garden," Judy Garrison, Sedro-Woolley

Hon. Mention "Circles Two," Dianne Lowe, Burlington

Hon. Mention "Stars Galore," Thelma Lewis, Bellingham

Hon. Mention "Vacationing Snowmen," Dianne Lowe, Burlington

Hon. Mention "Elmer," Virginia Thogersen, Sedro-Woolley

Hon. Mention "Birthday Pinwheels," Judy Steen, Bow

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July in pictures



Above: Reed Murray celebrated Father's Day with dad Steve Murray in rather unique fashion: he pulled a 588-lb. blue marlin from the waters off the big island of Hawaii. Submitted photo.



Above: Aja Lee gets a piggyback ride from a friend during the 10th annual Youth Activity Day in Concrete on July 14. Organizer Stephanie Morgareidge reported upwards of 375 attendees at the popular event.



Top: The July 4 parade in Concrete kicked off with the American Legion Color Guard, a throng of wee cheerleaders, and Concrete Mayor Jason Miller dressed as Uncle Sam. Above: Members of the local Furs & Things 4-H Club made another appearance in this year's July 4 parade in Concrete, with dogs dressed in patriotic colors and a goat who seemed OK with being included in the menagerie. Photos by Jude Dippold.



Left: Julie Knopf poses proudly with her first place-winning entry in the 2017 Mosaic Challenge, held by Northwest Garden Bling in June. Knopf's whimsical work of art included a fairy and butterfly in a natural setting. Photo by Athena Hornsby.

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Hamilton



Rockport



Council summary

The Hamilton Town Council held a regular meeting June 13. Following is a summary of that meeting.

- **Public comments:** Janet Koopsen presented a petition to council proposing P73853 (FEMA lot) be designated as a nonlivestock lot. Tim Morrison and Brian Kirkpatrick expressed their lack of support, wanting to keep the lands for multi-purpose.
- Mayor Joan Cromley discussed the Interlocal with Lyman and announced that Hamilton was given \$18,025 in grant money to fix potholes in July.
- Mayor Cromley announced that the town was planning on surplus the dumptruck and the plow.

- Council discussed a proposed Interlocal with YMCA, which would allow Hamilton residents (with proof of residency) a free family night visit once per month after the facility opens. Council agreed to move forward with proposal.
- **Animal ordinances:** Language is still be written.
- **Water Dept.:** Cas Hancock reported 8 percent loss; she reported issues with the tank overflowing, which have been resolved.
- **Fire Dept.:** Fire department needs people.
- **Street Dept.:** Mowing and efforts to clean up town are under way.

—Compiled from staff notes

From the Mayor

Hamilton and Lyman signed an interlocal agreement for paving on July 11. The paving company was in town the next morning to start work! The Transportation Improvement Board for the State gave the town more than \$18,000 for pothole repair, and we put it to good use, leveraging our smaller project with Lyman's bigger project.

Thank you to everyone who showed up for Hamilton's Grand Celebration. It was nice to see Dave and his family, and Denise met more people so she can



connect more faces with all those names on the water bills.

We're planning our second annual Water Battle for the end of August. Bring your water guns and water balloons, and be prepared to get wet! We'll post fliers once we have the date and time settled.

Please be extra careful with any fire. There is a burn ban in effect, and even without the ban we still can't burn anything unless it's in a fire ring, for cooking, heat, or ceremonial reasons. Do not burn garbage or yard clippings, ever!

Hamilton also has a leash law. Please make sure your dog stays on your property or on a leash. We will try to return strays to the proper owner if the animal is licensed; otherwise, it will go to the Humane Society shelter.

—Mayor Joan Cromley



Skagit County Volunteer Fire Dept. Dist. 19 to hold annual fundraising garage sale

The Dist. 19 Volunteer Fire Dept. (Rockport, Marblemount) will hold its annual garage sale on Aug. 4–6, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Rockport station.

The sale is organized and staffed entirely with volunteers from the Rockport and Marblemount communities. All proceeds benefit the Skagit County District 19 Volunteer Fire Department.

The success of the garage sale starts with generous donations and with everyone in the Upper Valley doing what they can to spread the word about the sale. The more customers during the sale, the better the result.

Donations are being accepted now. To donate, call 360.853.7699.

Gently used items are appreciated: furniture, clothing, appliances, sporting and camping goods, books, toys, motorized equipment, household and kitchen, art/music, plant/garden, handyman items, and tools.

Organizers cannot accept computers, printers, hazardous materials, car seats, or cribs.

For more information, call 360.853.7699.

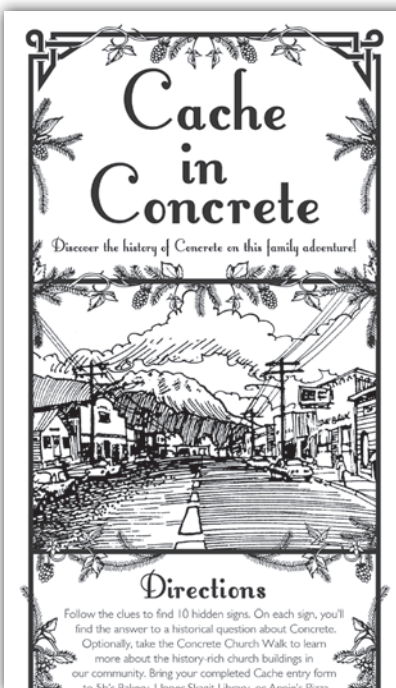
—J. K. M.

Cache in Concrete

June 3rd - September 4th

Follow clues to learn more about Concrete history and the Upper Valley area.

Pick up a Cache pamphlet at a local Concrete, WA business and spend an afternoon discovering the rich history of our town. A walkable treasure hunt for all ages; win awesome raffle prizes provided by our sponsors!



Call the Upper Skagit Library with questions:
360.853.7939

School reunion, Aug. 12

This year's **Lyman Hamilton School Reunion** is planned for Sat., Aug. 12, from noon to 5 p.m. at Lyman City Park in Lyman.

The potluck lunch will include a ribbon-cutting dedication ceremony for the new addition to the park.

For more information, call 360.826.3160 or 360.659.9848, or send an e-mail to rabb@comcast.net.



Lynette Gentry
Branch Manager

Concrete Branch

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7th Annual Big August Hoobajoo Art Show

605 N. Emens Ave., Darrington

Aug. 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Aug. 20, noon to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 360.436.0711.

Above and below: Blue Heron Farm proprietor Anne Schwartz and Congresswoman Suzan DelBene show off Schwartz's cherry tomatoes and chat during the congresswoman's July 3 visit to the Upper Valley. Her Rockport stop was the congresswoman's third in the Upper Valley, after a visit with Farm to School program coordinators at Concrete Elementary School and a lunch meeting with Concrete Mayor Jason Miller.



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Darrington



Darrington Internet Users Assn forms

By Marla Skaglund

Fed up with inadequate high-speed Internet access in the Darrington area, a local man is doing something about it. Jacob Kukuk, a recent transplant to eastern Snohomish County, has formed Darrington Internet Users Association (DIUA) in an effort to establish local not-for-profit Internet service in Darrington, the Sauk-Suiattle Tribal land, and Internet users west to the Oso area.

“We plan to develop the system to run an Internet Service Provider (ISP) locally, with volunteers as the backbone of the project,” said Kukuk. “DIUA will improve access, enhance public safety, and enable commerce.”

Kukuk is CEO and founder of Scout Dynamics, a geek cafe/maker space in Arlington. A former technician at AT&T, Kukuk saw the need for reliable, high-speed Internet service when he moved to the Darrington area. “The residents are not being adequately served by Frontier and the other for-profit companies,” he said.

In his research he found a similar

nonprofit Internet service that has been very successful: Doe Bay Internet Users Association on Orcas Island in the San Juan Islands.

Other communities around the country have established nonprofit Internet service too, covering an entire state for a lower cost and providing higher download and upload speeds than larger companies. Many colleges offer online courses; a local Internet service would allow students to pursue studies from home, thus eliminating the long drive and high rental costs of living away from home.

Tech support and other assistance would be provided by local residents, who also would be members. Establishing a local nonprofit Internet service would enable members to work from home and also encourage those already in the high-tech world to invest in the local economy. High-tech professionals would be encouraged by low-cost incentives to start businesses in the area and hire local employees. The above-average incomes

generated by high-tech jobs would trickle down to the local economy and be a benefit to all.

Kukuk already has contacted local firefighter Drew Bono, who has expressed interest in connecting the region’s fire stations, reducing the existing costs of their Internet service by hundreds of dollars each year.

Kukuk works at Lake Washington Institute of Technology as a software

engineer, and also maintains a home office for which he’d appreciate faster Internet.

A survey has been running online at www.diua.org to determine need, and a meeting will be posted for sometime in August, where interested parties can learn more about the service.

For more information, go to www.diua.org or find Darrington Internet Users Association on Facebook.

Council summary

Darrington Town Council met for a regular meeting on June 14. The following is a summary of that meeting. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at Darrington Town Hall.

June 14 regular meeting

- Ginger Castleberry reported she has hired Tony Acosta with Complete Painting to paint the community center. They need help selecting between three colors to see what is the closest to the original color. She brought in pictures showing the three options. Council approved red No. 2 for the color.
- Councilmember Kevin Ashe inquired who is responsible for mowing the lawn at the community center. It is explained that when the maintenance guys have some free time, they will try and mow that lawn. One option is to have inmates mow the lawn. The Community Center will be responsible for paying them, but it is an option for 2018. Youth cannot operate in-motion blades under L & I, so having students mow is not an option.
- Old School Park Update:** Bids came in too high at \$950,000. Cuts are being made to make the project more affordable: The picnic area and the second playground spot will be removed; the contractor will still put in the owner bricks. As of now, there is a \$42,000 contract savings. Ashe and Councilmember Gary Willis were upset by how the

decisions were made and that the council was not informed in a timely manner. There is a question why the council was not notified. Discussion ensued. Willis said there should be an executive meeting. Ashe said that if this is the way the town runs, he doesn’t want to be part of the council. Willis agreed.

- The Snohomish County Auditor requested approval to place a ballot box in Darrington. The ballot box has to be accessible 24 hours, visible, easy to drive up to, and on town-owned property. Because there are limited locations and it will be a permanent structure, it was suggested to place it at the Town Hall property parking lot. Council approved this location.
- Mayor Dan Rankin presented Natalie Stewart with her Certificate of Appreciation for her work in the Youth Council of Darrington.
- The roof over the fire hall is in need of repair. The estimated cost of the roof is more than \$70,000. Mayor Rankin brought it to the fire commissioners meeting on June 12.
- Recent improvements to the airport included runway sealant, lettering, and glass reflectors to the runway. An on-site audit of the airport was planned for June 15.

—Compiled from staff minutes

For more Darrington information, go to www.destinationdarrington.com, www.facebook.com/destinationdarringtonwa, or <https://www.instagram.com/destinationdarrington>.



A new CoWork Space in Darrington provides small businesses with a clean, quiet, professional location to meet with clients, conduct business online, host staff meetings, and more. Submitted photo.

CoWork Space gives small businesses a boost

Arlington and Darrington might not have won the top prize in the recent America’s Best Communities contest, but their appearance in the top eight earned the two municipalities \$100,000, which they have split.

In Darrington, that money is having a ripple effect, jump-starting the Ride to Remember and other economic development efforts.

One such effort is a CoWork Space, which recently opened its doors for business and already has brought two customers on board.

Spearheaded by Mayor Dan Rankin and consultant Sally Hintz of On-Point Consultants, the CoWork Space is located in the old dental office at 1140 Seeman St., said Darrington Deputy Clerk Raelynn Jones.

“It’s a quaint little building. Clean. Quiet,” she said.

The building provides two professional office spaces with desks and chairs, a kitchen, a printer, and a conference room with a table, chairs, and white boards. The building is secure, accessed via pass cards.

“This is the very beginning, the ground level, said Jones. “We’re working to get a

screen in the conference room, so people with a projector can use it.”

“[Hintz] and Mayor Rankin put this thing together,” said Jones. “They wanted to help the community have the tools to be successful. Especially in a rural area, if you have a small business out of your home, this provides a professional space to meet with clients, for example. And the Internet service is high-speed wired and wireless.”

Once the shared space is established, the town would like to host an event, a speaker on any pertinent topic, said Jones.

“One of the cool things we liked about creating this space is for people to be able to share their skill sets. One of the two initial customers is a blogger, normally from her home. Another is a forestry consultant. Eventually, we’d like to get people connected to these early adopters, to help them out.”

“We have a lot of people who work out of their homes, Internet stores, etc. We want to help those folks,” said Jones.

For more information, contact Deputy Clerk Raelynn Jones at Darrington Town Hall or call 360.436.1131.

—J. K. M.

Snohomish County Sheriff’s Report

July 26

The Sheriff’s Office is investigating the death of a 61-year-old Snohomish man after he was found under a fallen tree late last night. The man’s wife called 911 around 11 p.m. when she became concerned that she couldn’t find her husband and he wasn’t answering his cellphone. After searching the couple’s property for the missing man, he was located face down under a tree, with two chainsaws lying next to him. Deputies on scene reported that the tree appeared to be rotten and that the deceased had sustained a traumatic injury to his head. The man had told his wife earlier in the day that he had planned to cut down a rotten tree on their property.

Identification of the deceased, as well as cause and manner of his death, are pending from the Snohomish County Medical Examiner.

July 27, morning

Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue Unit personnel and volunteers resumed their search today for a missing 18-year-old woman who was believed to have fallen in the North Fork of the Wallace River last night at Wallace Falls State Park. Friends of the woman called 911 around 7:45 p.m. yesterday. They reported that they had climbed over the railing to cross the river to an island and, as they were returning to the trail, they heard the woman cry out, followed by the sound of a splash in the water. Various fire and Sheriff’s Office units searched the area last night until operations were suspended at nightfall. The woman’s shoes and a GoPro stick were found at the base of the falls, but the woman is still missing. The woman is from Las Vegas, Nevada, attending a local

community college. The search will be conducted by air with SnoHAWK1 and on the ground along the river.

July 27, evening

The body of an 18-year-old woman who went missing yesterday at Wallace Falls State Park has been found in a pool of water at the base of the lower falls. It is believed that she was swept over the falls and died in the water. Confirmation of the cause and manner of her death will be provided by the Snohomish County Medical Examiner, as well as identification. Search and rescue crews are working on a plan to safely recover her from the area.

July 28

The Snohomish County Sheriff’s Office released the following message from the family of Haylei Hughes, the woman who died at Wallace Falls State Park this week:

“We would like to recognize the members of the Snohomish County Volunteer Search and Rescue for the many hours they put in to find Haylei so we could bring her home. We know this work can be dangerous and we are grateful for their dedication to this difficult work, as well as the professionalism and kindness they have shown us.

“Our family would especially like to thank Haylei’s second family, her Highline soccer teammates and coaches, for their outpouring of support and kindness. We are so deeply touched by all of those who have reached out and everyone who has been there to support us.”

—Compiled from SCSO releases

7th Annual Big August Hoobajooob Art Show

605 N. Emens Ave., Darrington
Aug. 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Aug. 20, noon to 4 p.m.
For more information, call 360.436.0711.

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d.iga@frontier.com



Marblemount



Newhalem



August 13 market invites youth to participate

For the past four years, the Marblemount Community Market's second Sunday in August event has been dedicated to area youth. This year is no exception.

Young people 18 years of age and under are welcome to vend their handmade and homegrown items for free—the normal \$10 vendor fee will be waived. Past years'

youth vendors have offered a wonderful variety of items, from hand-carved walking staffs to birdhouses, from tie-dyed T-shirts to icy cold lemonade.

In addition, the market hopes to host a few young musicians in the KSVU radio tent and enjoy their various talents that afternoon. Just sign up when you arrive. Market hours are from noon to 4 p.m.,

with vendor set up by 11 a.m.

For more information, call the Marblemount Community Hall's message phone: 360.873.2323.

For a vendor application, go www.marblemountcommunityhall.org/events or pick one up at the front door.

—Christie Fairchild

The good news is ...

By Sasa and Jesse

Synchronicity is the simultaneous occurrence of events that appear significantly related, but have no discernible causal connection.

Last month I spoke of honoring my daughter Mimi through different creative expressions. We hiked to honor her on Cutthroat Pass, which goes along the Pacific Crest Trail where peeps hike from Canada to Mexico. I brought two little hearts to leave hidden along the trail, but my heart told me that I would give them to peeps along the way who needed them.

Sure enough, we came upon a young peep from the Netherlands who was going all the way to Mexico. I honored his journey of the heart and he was inspired and inspirited.

Then we met a couple who was also going for the long haul, and I was compelled to share my story of honoring Mimi and honored their journey together. They told me that it was amazing to meet with us, as they were grieving the loss of a loved one as well. Synchronicity is quite amazing when we listen and follow our heart's wisdom, which creates the space for profound healing to take place. I found out later that the last time they tried this hike, they needed to return early because of illness in the family, which resulted in the death of their loved one.

I am grateful and humbled that we can make such an impact on others. When we honor our loved ones, our ancestors, those who walk with us now, and those yet to come, we experience a synchronization of events that brings deeper meaning to the experiences we have.

My beloved Uncle Phil Lane Jr. echoes the wisdom of our Elders by sharing that "The hurt of one is the hurt of all and the honor of one is the honor of all. When we honor our loved ones we are in our hearts and hearts are entangled like particles of quantum physics. Once entangled, we are never disconnected ... we need only be in our hearts to remember this connection."

Contact Sasa at cascadiaeffect@gmail.com. Experiences may be shared at <http://cascadiaeffect.weebly.com> and on Facebook: Cascadia Effect.



The annual Newhalem Tournament descended on Newhalem again this year on July 15-16.

Clockwise from left: Event organizers Don Wick (left) and Dick Straathof report the mushball tournament again drew crowds. A Blue Ox Skidding hitter gets an RBI. Randy Johnson gets a hit for Blue Ox.

Team Mestizos won the tournament, beating Blue Ox in the final game. The tournament is held the third weekend in July. "It's been so much fun, enriching and rewarding," said Wick. Photos by Jude Dippold.



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CONCRETE: 1st and 3rd Mondays: 2-4 PM at Concrete Community Center, 45821 Railroad Ave.
MARBLEMOUNT: 1st Monday each month: 10 AM to Noon; call to schedule, 360-848-8437, ext. 318
ANACORTES: 3rd Monday each month: 10 AM to Noon at the Salvation Army, 3001 R Ave.
BURLINGTON: Thursdays 12-2 PM at Tierra Nueva, 701 E. Fairhaven Ave.

SEDRO-WOOLLEY: Tuesdays 1-4 PM at PeaceHealth United General Medical Center, 2000 Hospital Dr., AND Thursdays 9-11 AM at the Senior Center, 715 Pacific St.
MOUNT VERNON: Tuesdays 9 AM to Noon at Christ the King, 2111 Riverside Dr., AND Thursdays 3-5 PM at the Senior Center, 1401 Cleveland St.

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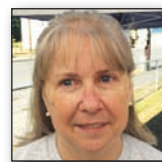
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Seniors



Coffee Break

Passing this point in time

By Patrick M. Kennedy

What to do? Get an idea! Let's face it; no one else is going to help you out through these boring times, no matter how hard they try. You seniors may select an idea from a wide variety of controversial and off-the-wall topics. The most important criteria in researching a potential idea is to determine whether or not the idea is researchable through credible sources, you know, the Internet or the local library, or even just a walk downtown.

There are several ideas for passing time; read a book, then read another, then another. That will pass the time, but won't produce many distractions and attractions you can discuss with your companions. Take a long walk each day, alone? That's not much fun either.

How about a hobby to pass the time? It creates imaginative pursuits, and maybe even keeps the fingers and inspirations nimble. There are many to choose from:

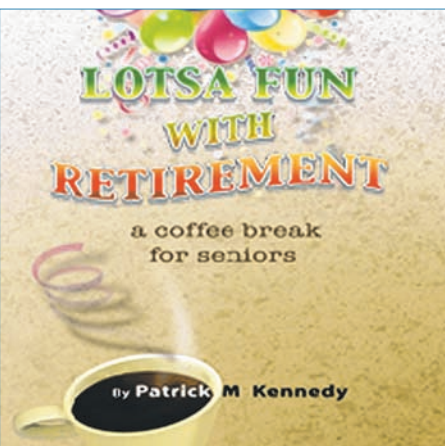
paint; make jewelry; cross-stitch, embroider, or knit; quilt or sew; make pottery; learn basket-weaving or chair-caning; learn woodworking; or even make stained glass projects. Any of these can be made as decorations for your home or as gifts for friends and relatives. Or even cooking as a hobby so you can make a practical end products and even invite friends over to taste your hobby.

But how do you to start this? First you must get the idea to do it, and then you must make a plan to do it. After you decide what the idea is, a list of things you need to do it is important. There are hobby shops, specialty stores, and even large market stores that can supply everything you will need.

A working space must be planned. It would be nice if you had an empty bedroom or garage or an unused den. Even a large table in the corner would probably work just fine. It just depends on what your idea is. If you are going to build furniture, then a table in the corner of the living room probably wouldn't work.

The idea must be fun and time passing, but also must be something that fits your situation and location ... auto repair might be out of the question, or even hiking in the mountains on those questionable legs might be off the list. You could volunteer for helping others, or even teach some others about something you know. Passing this time can be fun.

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

100 years ago

Aug., 1917: An initial shipment of Chinese pheasants from the new state game farm now under construction in Walla Walla was sent to Skagit County a short time ago, according to an announcement made by State Fish Commissioner and Game Warden L. H. Darwin.

The birds are said to be a splendid-looking lot and will be liberated by the county game warden in these parts, ensuring them the largest amount of protection for the next few months.

The 1917 session of the state legislature made an appropriation of \$20,000 for the establishment of a game farm at the State Penitentiary in Walla Walla under the direction of Darwin. Work commenced in April and is moving forward steadily. Most of the work is being done by inmate labor.

The State Board of Control has turned over a 40-acre plot of land belonging to the penitentiary for the use of the game farm. The farm will be beautified and ornamented, and the front portion will be converted into a kind of park where the inmate band can give concerts.

A great number of pens already have been constructed, where various kinds of pheasants, principally Chinese, are being propagated. It is the intention in time to propagate not only game birds, but show birds for various

Concrete Community Center

August 2017 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. at the East County Resource Center

Monday through Friday

Jigsaw puzzles, walking group, games, more

All subject to change. For latest information: www.facebook.com/concretecommunity or call 360.416.1377.

Monday

8/7 6 p.m. Dinner Talk: Northwest Innovation Resource Ctr.

Tuesday

8/15 2 p.m. UGH Summer Ed. Class (alcohol/drug education)
8/22 2 p.m. UGH Summer Ed. Class
8/29 2 p.m. UGH Summer Ed. Class

Wednesday

8/16 6 p.m. Concrete Museum Potluck

Thursday

8/3 12:30 p.m. Pinochle
8/3 6 p.m. Pressure Canning class
8/10 6 p.m. Drying & Freezing class
8/17 12:30 p.m. Pinochle
8/31 12:30 p.m. Pinochle

Friday

8/11 12:30 p.m. Commissioner Janicki
8/11 7:30 p.m. West Coast Swing Dancing

Saturday

All 9 a.m. Saturday Market
All 7 p.m. AA meeting

Sunday

8/27 11:30 a.m. Kate Nims Memorial

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

state parks, and game animals as well. While the principal effort will be centered on Chinese pheasants for several years, other varieties will be propagated as well, such as Silvers, Goldens, Reeves, Prince of Wales, Mongolians, etc. It is hoped to distribute another 4,000 Chinese pheasants from the farm this year, and more than that number next year.

Washington sportsmen are fortunate to have convict labor employed in game propagation. This saves thousands upon thousands of dollars. Also it ensures a steady replenishment of the supply. Washington is the first state to undertake game propagation by convict labor.

70 years ago

Aug. 14, 1947: Two very embarrassed mountain climbers apologized to the Forest Service and all concerned last week, following an incident that occurred on Mt. Baker on Aug. 2. A lookout at Baker Lake had caught light signals from the mountain and

interpreted them to mean S.O.S.

The outcome was that the Forest Service began rescue preparations, the Mountaineer's Club was called to lead the rescue party, and much excitement prevailed in the Baker District.

By the time the rescuers hit the trail, they met the men who had been on the mountain, coming out. To their embarrassment, it was found that the climbers had merely been using signal code in hopes someone would answer. When no one did, they climbed into their sleeping bags for a night's sleep.

The men wrote apologies for their thoughtlessness, and have reimbursed as far as possible the cost of "rescue" efforts.

—Compiled from archives

30 years ago, members of Meadow Magic 4-H Club in Concrete earned

a trophy for best decorations and four blue ribbons for herdsmanship during the four days of the Skagit County Fair. Pictured here from the Aug. 20, 1987 issue of *Concrete Herald*, with horse Rocky are Heidi Smith, Kathy Young, Dianne Frank, Barb Taylor, Marta Smith, and Danielle Frank. Not pictured are Sara Young, Vicky and Carrie Fox, and Desiree Atchley. Barb Taylor qualified to enter the state fair, while Dianne Frank, Desiree Atchley, and Heidi Smith qualified as alternates. The 4-H members were advised by Adrienne Smith and Angela Massingale, and assisted by Pat Young, Elaine Taylor, and Vicki Frank. Archive photo by Anne Bussiere.



Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure

Lazy Day Cobbler

This is a quick and easy dessert.

1 stick butter
1 cup sugar
1 cup flour
½ tsp baking powder
½ tsp salt



¾ cup milk
1 quart fruit, any kind, undrained
½ cup sugar

1. Melt butter in a 9 x 13 pan.
2. In a separate bowl, mix flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, and milk. Pour over melted butter. DO NOT STIR!
3. Pour fruit and liquid on top and sprinkle with the ½ cup of sugar.
4. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes until bubbly and brown on top.

Area businesses bring you Concrete Herald each month. Please support them!

Obituaries

Darrell David Justice
March 30, 1941 – July 15, 2017

After a lengthy battle with illness, Darrell David Justice passed away at home in Concrete on July 15, 2017.

Born March 30, 1941, in Sedro-Woolley, Darrell graduated from Concrete High School in 1959 and joined the U.S. Air Force. He met and married Sharon Rogerson in 1961. He worked for Texaco Refinery for 30 years until 1995, when he began his favorite activity—retirement—which he enjoyed for 22 years.

Darrell loved motorcycle riding, hunting, fishing, ATV riding and camping, visiting with friends, and just relaxing. He was an avid reader and always had a book close at hand. He was especially fond of any activities involving his grandchildren. He joined fellow retirees for breakfast on Thursday mornings and became one of the guys at coffee in the morning at Perks.

Darrell was a volunteer fireman and member of the American Legion and Eagles Clubs for many years. He was an active member of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, and one of his favorite activities was reading the lessons every Sunday. He especially enjoyed Sunday School and coffee hour.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Sharon; sons Darron (Charlene) and Scott; daughter Jami; grandchildren Jacob, Tanner, Tyler, Dylan, and Nathan Justice, Derek (Heather) Cagle and their children Henry and Sadie; his brother Dennis (Janet) Justice; and a large extended family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, brother Steve, and niece Jennifer.

At Darrell's request, there will not be a funeral service, but a celebration of his life will be held on Sat., Aug. 12, at 2 p.m. at the family home in Concrete.

William Lee Pollack
Aug. 2, 1934 – July 8, 2017

William Lee Pollack, 82, of Concrete, passed away on Sat., July 8, 2017. Lee was born Aug. 2, 1934, to Robert and Laura (Lee) Pollack in Seattle.

Lee was employed as a telephone equipment technician, beginning in 1968 until his retirement in 1995 from GTE. He enjoyed hiking, hunting, and fishing, photography, jewelry making, engraving, and traveling. He was an active member and deacon at Community Bible Church in Concrete.

Lee is survived by his wife Doris of Concrete; son Philip of Everett, Wash.; granddaughter Victoria Galloway of Marysville, Wash.; great granddaughter Lilly Pollack of Marysville; brothers Robert C. (Fay) Pollack of Marysville and Stephen L. Pollack of Sultan, Wash.; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins; and special friends Steve Murray of Concrete and Keith Dunker of Minnesota.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Laura, daughter Sandra L. Albro, brother Sidney R. Pollack, and grandson Ryan L. Pollack.

A memorial service was held on Sat., July 29 at Community Bible Church in Concrete, Pastor Rob Thomas presiding. Lee was laid to rest at Forest Park Cemetery, Concrete. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Community Bible Church, 45672 Limestone St., P.O. Box 88, Concrete, WA 98237 or Hospice of the Northwest, Mount Vernon, Wash.

Share your memories of Lee and sign the online guest register at www.lemleychapel.com.

Obituaries published in Concrete Herald

from May 2009 to present are posted online at:
www.concrete-herald.com/obituaries.

For more information, contact Concrete Herald at 360.853.8213 or editor@concrete-herald.com.

Sunday School lesson

Stand up/speak up/show up

By D. Lowell Chilton

"Indeed, I am certain that neither death nor life nor angels nor rulers nor things already here nor things that are to come nor lofty things nor deep things nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

—Romans 8:38–39
(author translation)

I invite you to read the passage above aloud. Try to read it in one breath. Go on ...

When I read this passage, I sometimes think of a common scene in tween TV comedies, like "Saved by the Bell" or "The Suite Life of Zach and Cody." In these shows, there is often a moment in which two characters rush into a room where a third character is standing or

sitting to share something AWESOME! They are so excited to share this news that it takes three tries to actually get the message out. The two characters keep talking over each other, and talking so fast you can't hear it, and eventually the third character stops them and has them take a breath.

That's how I hear this passage. Paul's letter to the church in Rome builds and builds over the first eight chapters, confronting questions that are at the heart of faith and life: "Just what do I have to do to be right with God? Is it following the Law of Moses? Is it something else?" When Paul gets here, I think he just cannot wait to get it out: "There's nothing you can do, God's already done it in Jesus! There is nothing that can undo what has been done already, not the emperor, not angels, not demons, not other people, not governments, not committees, not the president, not the past, not the future. Not any thing!"

How hard is it to let go of the things that we think get between us and God? What are some of those things in your life? Maybe they are things that you grapple with for yourself, maybe they are things that you think keep others separate from God. We all have these things. We all have mistakes that we've made, faults that we prefer to avoid thinking about, and concerns that we have about others.

Are these things stronger than God's love? Are these things stronger than God's death on the cross as Jesus of Nazareth?

See Sunday School, p. 38

Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

July 15

Thefts and criminal activity are up in the area around Cockreham Island near Lyman. We remind folks to be vigilant and watch out for each other in the neighborhood. Property crimes and drug-related activity go hand in hand, so ensure items around your property are locked up and hidden from view. Crooks are opportunists, and if it's visible, they often feel they can take it. We may catch them and write them a ticket, yet the jail cannot take them because it's too full, so we repeat this process. Very soon, the new jail will be open, and things will improve. Please hold your breath with me.

July 17

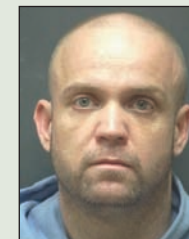
The sergeant responded to a report of a domestic disturbance near the Upper Skagit Library in Concrete. It was

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.

Strawn, Jacob Luther

Age: 36
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 5' 6"
Weight: 200
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Green
Address: Unknown



Strawn was convicted of unlawful communication with a minor in Skagit County. His victim was a 15-year-old female who was known to him. Alcohol was involved.

Strawn 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

reported a male and female were on foot, headed south while yelling and screaming. The sergeant contacted them just as they had apparently settled their difference of opinion. The witness observed them kissing and holding hands after they had finished yelling at each other. The sergeant determined no crime had occurred, but asked them to refrain from screaming their opinions at each other.

July 20

The local tow company reported a theft of fuel. It appears someone siphoned more than \$60 worth of fuel from one of the tow trucks overnight. There are no suspects at this time.

July 22

A tragic hiking accident on Sauk Mountain near Rockport claimed the life of a 61-year-old female hiker from Bellingham. She and other hikers were descending a narrow section of the trail when she slipped after stepping on a rock. She fell approximately 70 feet, and it took rescuers some time to get to her. The SCSO Search and Rescue deputy immediately called for helicopter assistance from the U.S. Navy at Whidbey Island. Once again the U.S. Navy responded without hesitation. They arrived on scene, lowered a medic down to the hiker, and then hoisted her into the helicopter. The medics did their best, but upon arrival at Skagit Valley Hospital, she was determined to have passed away.

July 25

Neighbors in the area of Ensley Rd. near Hamilton are fed up with a local drug house. Yes, I said it: It's likely a drug house. There is constant traffic all hours of the day, fights, reckless driving, and other neighborhood issues. Deputies are aware and doing what they can to interdict these issues. The latest incident involved several neighbors in the street about to take justice into their own hands. We encourage community involvement; however, documentation is the key to shutting these places down. If it can be done safely, we encourage folks to document times, dates, and license plates of the vehicles frequenting the residence. There is also an Online Crime Reporting program on the SCSO Web site.

A flagger working the construction zone on SR 20 near Lyman was clipped by a passing car. The injuries were minor, and the driver fled the scene. The flagger obtained a license plate, and the incident was investigated by Washington State Patrol.

A deputy responded to Loggers Landing in Concrete for a reported theft. It seems

a local couple stole a ball cap and two bandanas. They were captured on video, as well as the license plate of their car. A deputy drove to their house, obtained a confession, and retrieved the stolen items. The two suspects were issued a ticket for theft, and are trespassed from the store.

July 27

Deputies served a man on Cape Horn Rd. near Hamilton with a no-contact order, prohibiting him from having any contact with a neighbor. That lasted about 24 hours before he violated the order. He can now explain to the district court judge why he chose to disobey the court. I hear the sandwiches in jail are pretty good nowadays.

July 23

Late Saturday night after the annual Concrete Vintage Aircraft Fly-In wrapped up, a local resident felt it was a good idea to lie on the tarmac about midnight. Another local resident was driving a golf cart back to a hangar. The golf cart driver didn't see the man on the tarmac and struck him with the cart. The cart driver was determined not to be DUI, and the highly intoxicated person he struck had minor injuries.

—Compiled by Sgt. Chris Kading



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Worship directory

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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
Wed.: 7 p.m.
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, 1 p.m.

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 / 360.853.3714
www.uprivergrace.com
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 past month we had a **great donation** of photos and Yanica annuals from Connie Coulter in memory of Ron Coulter, who will be long remembered as the friendly bus driver by many students who attended the Concrete schools.

August is certainly the month for **picnics and get-togethers**. The annual Superior Portland Cement Company picnic in 1928 was attended by more than 800 people. Imagine, more people than the entire population of Concrete attending a community function.

The entire Museum Association invites you to their **annual potluck** to be held on Aug. 16 at 6 p.m. in the Concrete Community Center. Of course, we won't have the SPCC quarry's sluicing gang in their knee-to-hip-length boots playing baseball against the regular quarry gang like there was in 1928, but we will have live music provided by the renowned Bill & Ger. And a note for those attending any of the Concrete High School reunions this month: Please think of the museum as you go through all those old photos and Yanica annuals. The primary job of museums is to preserve memories.

In this month during 1929, the **Sauk City Ferry** service was discontinued and the ferry was moved, surprisingly by truck, to Concrete. Concrete's ferry was then moved to Rockport, where it remains to this day in Howard Miller Steelhead Park.

Oops! **Ever accidentally send** an e-mail to the wrong person or place? Well, even back in the "old days," people made similar mistakes. But before you kick yourself the next time you make such an error, remember the mistake uncovered here in 1915. The cement company ordered a train car load of cloth sacks, but when they opened the boxcar, they found 13 cases of machine guns and 17 cases of ammunition that were bound for Russia.

The next **bake sale** will be Aug. 6 at Concrete Saturday Market. We'll have lots of tasty treats.

Only 30 days from the date of this issue until the **BIG Annual Museum Yard Sale** on Sat., Sept. 2 at the Labor Day Swap Meet. Donations will be accepted from 8 to 9 a.m. that day, 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. Lots of great bargains will be there. The question is, will you?

Come see us any Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. until the end of September. We continue to get e-mails praising our Web site, so check it out: www.concreteheritagemuseum.org. Special tours can always be arranged, with enough advance notice, by contacting John Lloyd at autohistory@hotmail.com or John Boggs at jboggs@wash.aol.com.

—John Boggs

August at the Darrington Library

Children and family programs

- Family Storytime, Wed., Aug. 2, 16, 30; 11 to 11:45 a.m.; all ages welcome, caregiver required.
- Explore Summer: LEGO Club Robotics: Beyond the Stars, Thur., Aug. 10, 17, 24, 31, and Sat., Aug. 19, 11 a.m.

Tweens and Teens programs

- Mehndi Madness (give yourself a henna tattoo), Thur., Aug. 3, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

All ages programs

- Explore Summer: See the Sun Up Close! Sat., Aug. 5, 1 p.m.
- Explore Summer: Look Up to the

Stars, Wed., Aug. 9, 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Adults

- Summer of Authors Features: Bob Waterman. Held at Mountain Loop Books & Coffee, discussing *Langley*, Sat., Aug. 12, 6 to 8 p.m.
- Business Pros: First Step Workshop (series of three workshops), Sat., Aug. 12, 19, 26, 3 to 5 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

The Upper Skagit Library Foundation will host its annual **Book Sale** on Aug. 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the library parking lot. Join us during Concrete's Cascade Days to purchase gently used books of all genres and support your local library. Your donations will have a direct impact on library programming. Stop by and find your next favorite read.

Summer Reading Grand Prize Drawing is Aug. 26. Turn in your reading log by Sat., Aug. 26 to pick out your free book and be entered to win a Kindle. Two Kindle winners will be announced. Participants are not required to be present in order to win. We thank everyone for participating in Summer Reading and Building a Better World.

Mark your calendars for **Ozobots**, part of our STEM Series, Aug. 4, from 1 to 3 p.m. Drop in and play with cool robots at the library.

Our final **Silly Saturday** is Aug. 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Find five silly things and win a small prize. Join us and get silly for our last Silly Saturday.

Let's cache! Join our **Cache in Concrete** treasure hunt for all ages. Bring the family and spend an afternoon discovering the rich history of our town. Pick up Cache maps at the library and participating local businesses. Win fantastic prizes from our sponsors!

Visit the library at the **Marblemount Market** on Sun., Aug. 13 from noon to 4 p.m. Visit our booth to check out books, buy used books, apply for a card, and learn more about our services and programs.

New on our shelves

In Adult Fiction, *And the Rest is History* by Jodi Taylor.

In Adult Nonfiction, Sherman Alexie's memoir, *You Don't Have to Say You Love Me*.

In Young Adult, *Eliza and Her Monsters* by Francesca Zappia.

In Junior Nonfiction, *Lives of the Pirates* established in *Pot*, beginning with the Upper Valley couple's marriage.

In Children's, *A Bear Called Paddington* by Michael Bond.

Take a listen

In new audio, *Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli Pirates* (nonfiction), \$2.00 a Day; *Living on Almost Nothing in America* (nonfiction), *Star Wars: A New Hope: The Prince, the Scoundrel, and the Farm Boy* (juvenile fiction).

Board meeting planned

The next Upper Skagit Library Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Aug. 10 at 5 p.m.

—Cora Thomas, Library Associate

Lions R-O-A-R



Concrete Lions Club **will begin meeting again on Sept. 6** at Annie's Pizza Station. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.; however, there is always a group that gathers around 6 p.m. to eat and socialize before the meeting starts. All existing members, mark your calendars. Anyone interested in becoming a member or learning more about your local Lions Club, feel free to stop by.

Concrete Lions Club will be selling burgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks at **Cascade Days** on Aug. 19. Stop by and help support your local club!

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 2017 is to double our membership numbers. 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!

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

—Connie Smithhart

Sauk City author launches sequel novel

Nicola Pearson is at it again. On July 27, the Sauk City playwright-turned-novelist launched *Borrowed Ground*, a sequel to her popular novel, *How to Make a Pot in 14 Days*.

The event took place at Seaport Books in La Conner, where a packed house greeted the Upper Valley author. Pearson read from the new novel, discussed her creative process, and answered questions from the audience.

Billed as a "Joe and Lucy story," *Borrowed Ground* continues the narrative established in *Pot*, beginning with the Upper Valley couple's marriage.

While the community gathers to celebrate Joe and Lucy's marriage, there is one person who refuses to feel the love: their neighbor, Hilda. She is determined to mar their happiness with a vindictive

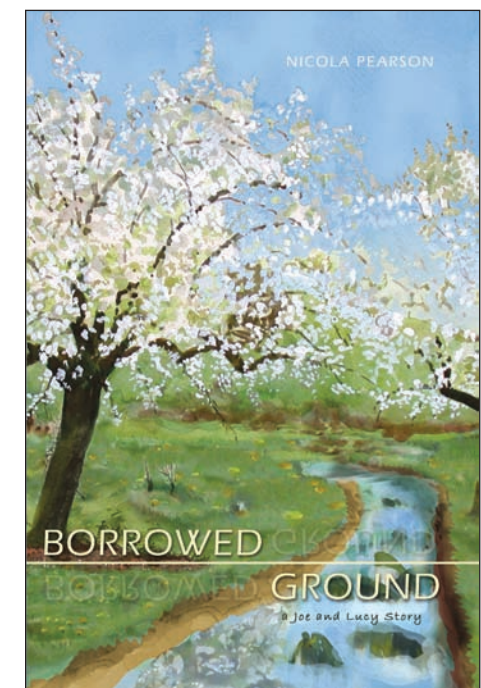
property line dispute, and before the ink is dry on their marriage certificate, they find themselves embroiled in a series of stomach-churning ordeals that they must overcome in order to keep their home and pottery business viable. They try to reason with Hilda, but when she sabotages the ancient apple tree growing in front of their house, they can't help but wonder if it's the property line that's truly bothering their neighbor, or something deeper.

Borrowed Ground sets up Joe and Lucy with new, shared lessons that cause them to reflect on the validity of the earthly boundaries we seem so intent on guarding.

—J. K. M.



Pearson



Borrowed Ground is available at Sauk Mountain Pottery, Amazon.com, and Seaport Books in La Conner. Look for it soon at 5b's Bakery in Concrete, and Northwest Garden Bling and Albert's Red Apple Market in Grasmere.

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Out & About



Mt. Vernon

Speeches, tours mark completion of new jail

A large crowd celebrated Skagit County's new jail on July 11, in a ceremony complete with speeches, several rounds of ribbon-cutting, and tours of the facility.

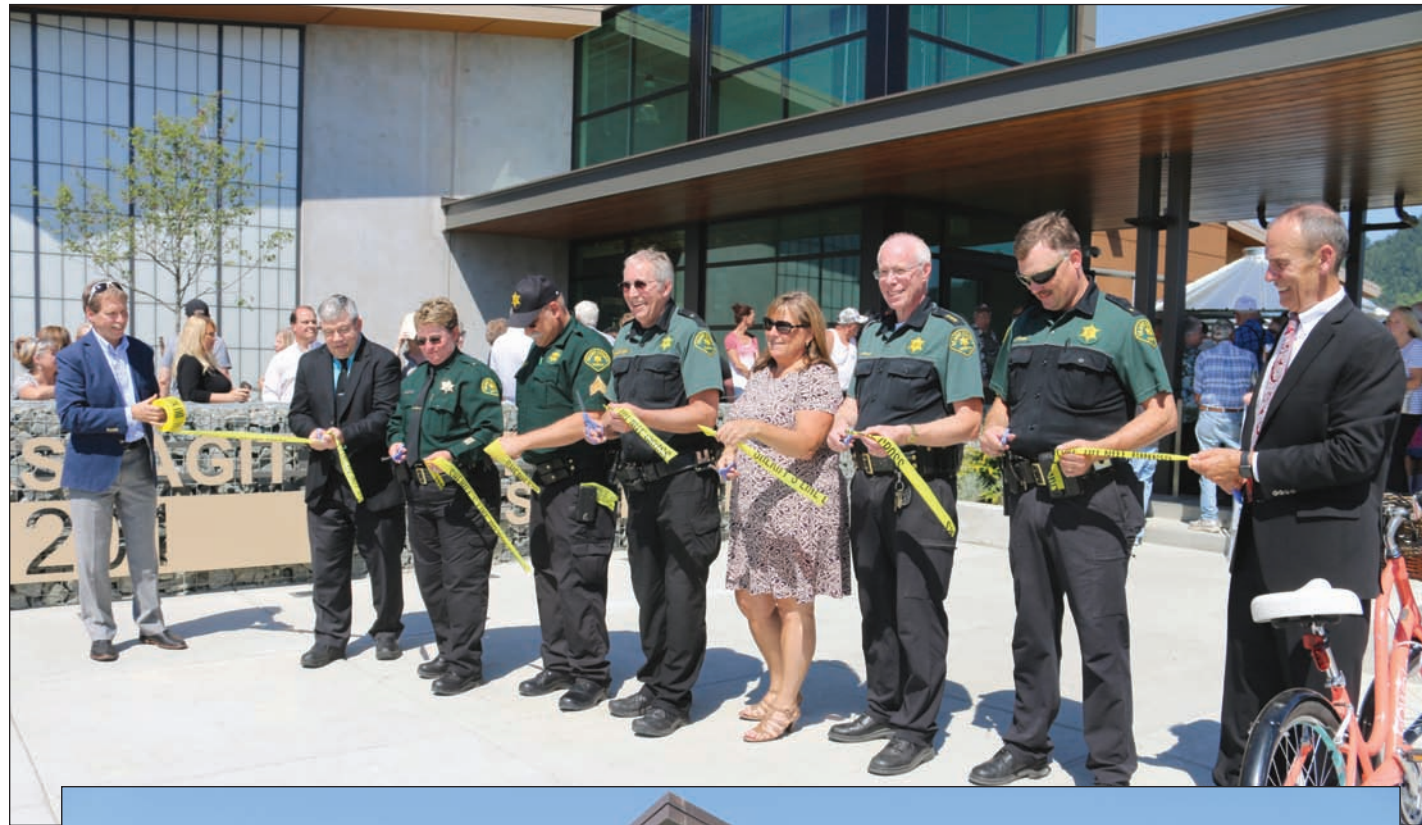
Dubbed the Skagit County Community Justice Center, the project is the culmination of years of efforts from county officials past and present, and was funded by a .4 percent sales tax increase.

More than a jail, the facility departs from old philosophies regarding incarceration, said Chief of Corrections Charlie Wend during his remarks. Early in his career, inmate reform was thought to be impossible. Today, that's no longer the case, so the new facility will use upgraded equipment and trained staff to help make sure released inmates never again see the inside of the facility.

The center culminates decades of efforts to alleviate overcrowding at the current jail. Regular readers of Sgt. Chris Kading's "Sheriff's Blotter" in this newspaper are familiar with the phrase, "... but the jail was full, so the individual was cited and released." The new facility should make that statement appear far less frequently.

For security reasons, the exact opening date of the jail has not been released.

—J. K. M.



Above right: Members of the Skagit County Sheriff's Office administration team cut the ribbon July 11 at the newly completed Skagit County Community Justice Center. In the lineup are Sheriff Will Reichardt, Chief of Corrections Charlie Wend, and Chief of Field Service Chad Clark.

Right: After the celebration ceremony and ribbon-cuttings, the public was invited to tour the facility.

Mount Vernon native helps keep one of the Navy's most advanced aircraft flying

By Chief Petty Officer Bill Steele

A 2011 Mount Vernon High School graduate and Mount Vernon native is serving with a U.S. Navy electronic attack squadron that flies one of the Navy's newest and most technologically advanced aircraft, the EA-18G Growler.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Emily Lumpkin is an aviation structural mechanic with the "Yellow Jackets" of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 138, one of 14 Navy electronic attack squadrons based on Whidbey Island.

As an aviation structural mechanic, Lumpkin is responsible for 90 percent of the aircraft—everything but the engines and electrical systems.

"My job is a big responsibility," said Lumpkin. "If the aircraft has a problem, it falls back on you, but I have fun. It's hard, tough work but I enjoy it."

Taking off from and landing on Navy aircraft carriers, as well as supporting expeditionary land-based operations around the world, Growler crewmembers engage in electronic warfare, one of the most important components of modern air combat, according to Navy sources.

The EA-18G Growler is the fourth major variant of the F/A-18 family of aircraft that combines the proven F/A-18F Super Hornet platform with a sophisticated electronic warfare suite, complete with advanced receivers, jamming pods, and satellite communications. The electronic warfare mission involves jamming enemy radar and communications systems to render air defenses ineffective.

"I'm pretty new here, but I feel like I'm part of a tight-knit community and my opinion matters, and I like that aspect," said Lumpkin.

Chief Petty Officer Bill Steele is with the Navy Office of Community Outreach.

Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

113th annual Skagit County Pioneer Picnic slated for Aug. 3

The 113th Annual Skagit County Pioneer Association Picnic and General Meeting is scheduled for Thur., Aug. 3, at Pioneer Park, near the Rainbow Bridge in La Conner.

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.

Lunch begins promptly at 11:15 a.m. Coffee, tea, and other beverages will be available through the efforts of the La Conner Sunrise Food Bank, to raise funds for special projects.

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 a ticket for a barbecue salmon dinner that will be served by members of the La Conner Civic Garden Club.

The Skagit County Historical Society & Museum will have tables under a tent with historical publications related to local Skagit County history. The staff can also field questions about county history.

Skagit Valley Genealogical Society is sharing 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 President Kim Good-Rubenstein 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 Wallace Family of Burlington will be honored as Pioneer Family of the Year, and retired Police Chief Bonnie Bowers of Anacortes will

be honored as contributing to the Pioneer Spirit. Elections for the coming year's officers will also be held.

Attendees may visit the Skagit County Historical Museum in La Conner following the picnic. A Pioneer Picnic ribbon allows free admission on the day of the picnic.

Skagit County Pioneer Association was originally formed in 1891, but with requirements so restrictive that it soon came to an end. In 1904, more than a century ago, 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.

For more information, contact Skagit County Historian Dan Royal at 360.826.6141 or 360.929.5749.

—Submitted by Dan Royal



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Smile



... from the Concrete Herald archives ...

Patient: "Doctor, there are times when I feel like killing myself. What shall I do?"
Doctor: "Leave it to me, madam."

Hobe: "Yep, when I was a young man, I used to swim the Skagit three times before breakfast."

John: "Wouldn't you have been smarter to make it four times and get back to the side where your clothes were?"

"I'll bet you \$10," a man said to a boastful athlete, "that I can wheel something in a wheelbarrow from one street lamp to the next, and you won't be able to take it back."

The local champ looked him over. He thought of bags of cement, bricks, and old iron, and concluded that whatever the stranger could wheel, he could do better. "Bet taken," he said.

The stranger smiled and with a couple of witnesses, they set out. They borrowed a wheelbarrow and took it to the nearest street lamp. "Get in, buddy," the man said to the boastful champ.

"What kind of toothpaste do you use?"
"None, my teeth ain't loose."

A typographical error can get a man in a lot of trouble. Think of the fuss made when the local editor printed, "Joe Blow is now back on the job after spending a few days confined to his bed with a bad coed."

Remember that we humans are not rewarded for having brains, but for using them.

Dwelleysms

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

"A fresh approach is the best sales gimmick in the business world. That is why so many men are engaged in making stupid statements for advertising media. They've already gone through honesty, integrity, dishonesty, frankness, humor of every kind, piety, inspiration, fear, fun, sex, sin, greed, avarice, gentleness, purity, value, economy, need, and status. Somewhere in there they got the idea that stupidity was the key to it all."

"To make a career of marriage, a person has to enjoy the work as well as the coffee breaks."

"We're making progress. Towns that used to be a wide spot in the road are now roads in a wide spot."

"Temptation is when the opportunity is attended with a chance of retribution. Take away the element of gambling and you have lost the thrill. Same applies to wine, women, and songs by those in poor voice."

—June 14, 1967

"The once glorious Fourth of July is rapidly being relegated to the status of a second-class day off. Patriotism no longer stirs any breast with a swelling pride; instead, breasts are swelled with freeway carbon monoxide, curbed by bikini tops or padded with the soft flesh of the person who no longer hungers for anything. It takes a lean, striving citizenry to appreciate the liberty and freedom as was expressed by the flag-waving and firecrackers of another day. We still have the lean and hungry, but they aren't celebrating. They are a minority group of misfits who might be just mean enough to dump a shipment of tea to spite authority."

—June 28, 1967

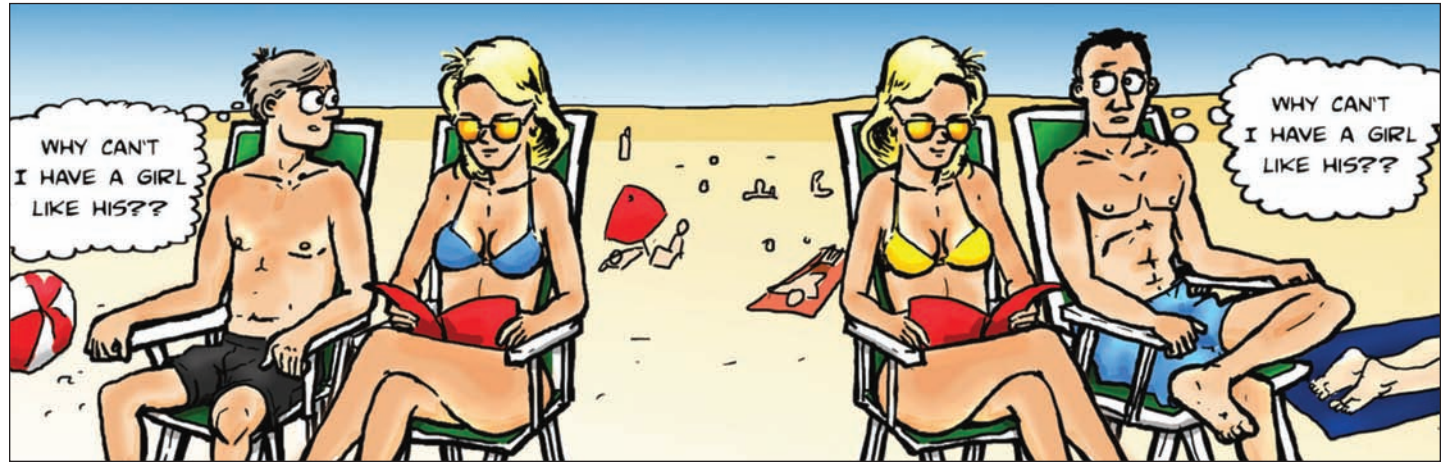
Concrete Harold

By Joyce Harris

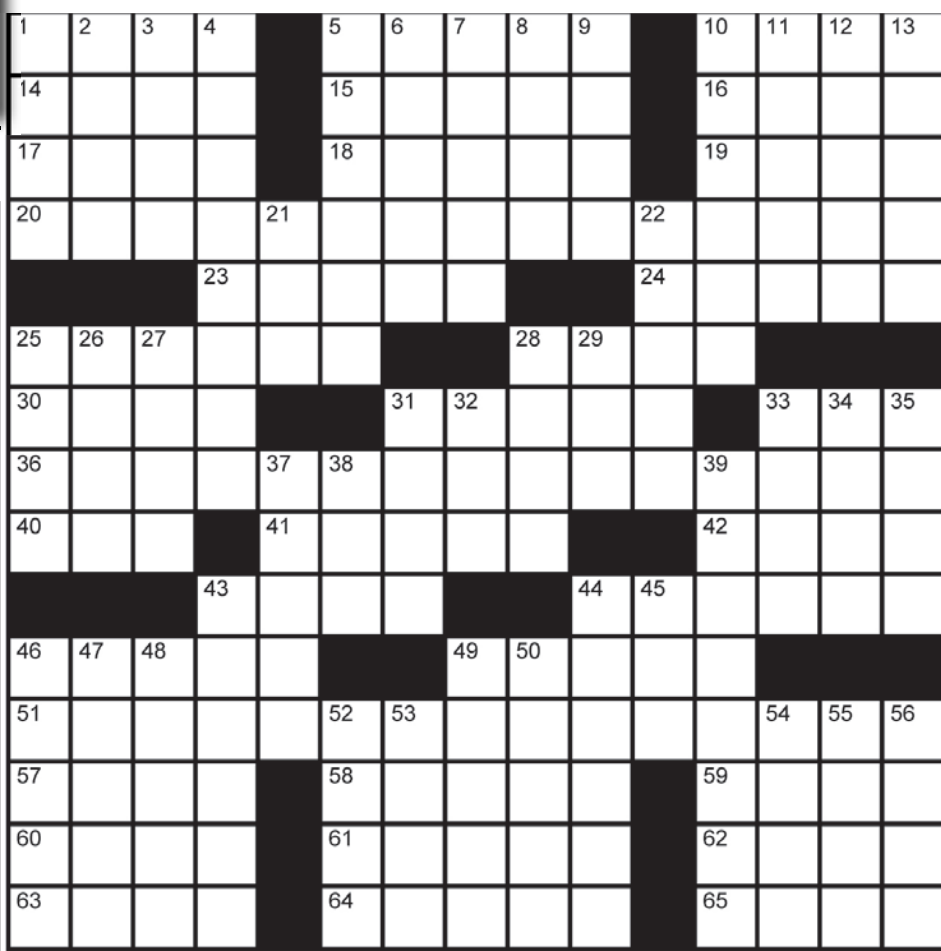


Public Service Announcement

By Stig Kristensen



Crossword: "Hidden Stars"



Across

- 1. Ballyhoo
- 5. Cut's partner
- 10. Crescent point
- 14. Coin featuring Leonardo da Vinci's Vitruvian Man
- 15. Letter opener?
- 16. "Finnegans Wake" wife
- 17. ____ Rose
- 18. Moves a muscle
- 19. First fugitive?
- 20. Tells fortunes, in a way
- 23. Frank kept one
- 24. Comfortable
- 25. Nickelodeon staples
- 28. Sonata, e.g.
- 30. Primatologist's study
- 31. Player
- 33. Finish, with "up"
- 36. Tamarindo, for one
- 40. Body shop fig.
- 41. Greek physician
- 42. Part of CNN
- 43. ____ over
- 44. Horrified
- 46. Round trip?
- 49. Ancient musical instrument
- 51. Likely loser in court

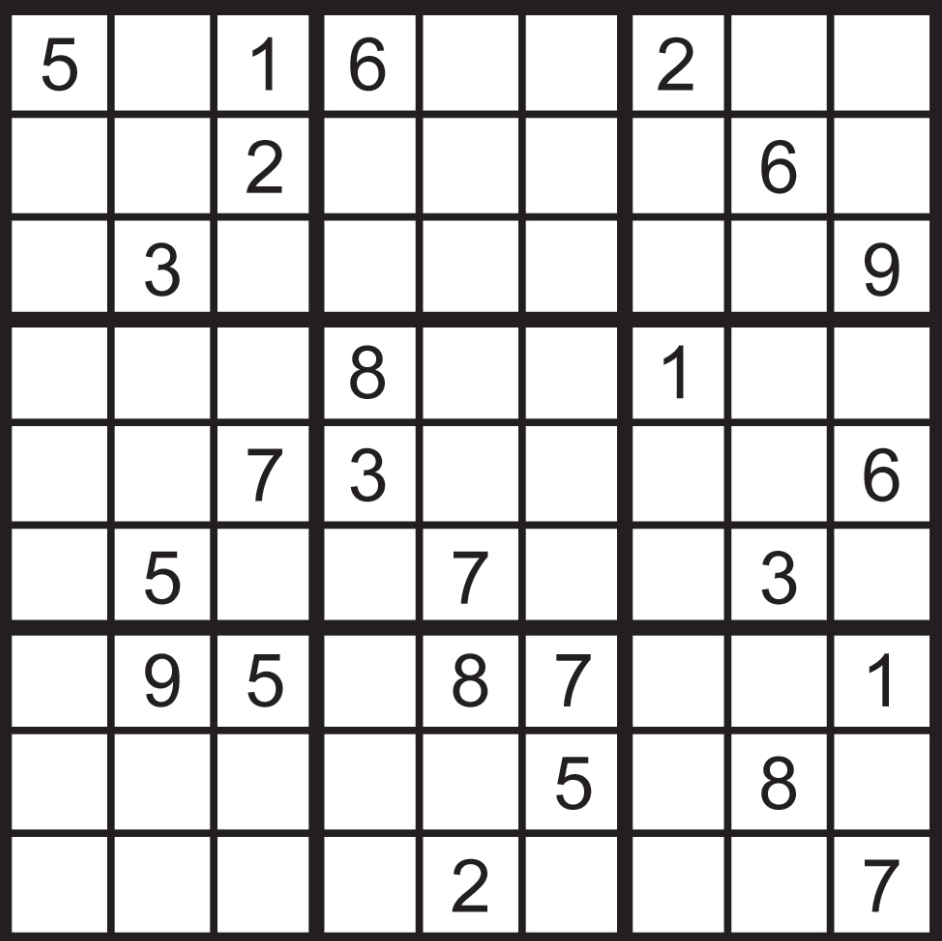
Down

- 1. Seckel, for one
- 2. Elegance
- 3. Carbamide
- 4. " ____ Woman," Fleetwood Mac tune
- 5. Agnolotti and bucattini, e.g.
- 6. Union station?
- 7. Serpentine
- 8. Over, for short
- 9. How Phileas Fogg traveled
- 10. Certain beans
- 11. Deprive of heat?
- 12. Insinuating
- 13. Wuss
- 21. Anger, e.g.
- 22. Grasshopper sound, var.
- 25. Newfoundland promontory

- 26. Body of verse
- 27. Medical advice, often
- 28. Arab League member
- 29. Ballpoint, e.g.
- 31. Embellish
- 32. Big club
- 33. Iris holder
- 34. Puts in stitches
- 35. Start with while
- 37. Banded stone
- 38. Amscrayed
- 39. Kind of treatment
- 43. Foot travelers
- 44. Knitting pattern, var.
- 45. Wildebeest
- 46. Young hooter
- 47. "The Canterbury Tales" pilgrim
- 48. Supported
- 49. Boatload
- 50. Court call
- 52. "Heartbreak House" writer
- 53. Hyperbolic tangent
- 54. The America's Cup trophy, e.g.
- 55. Indian bread
- 56. Create an e-mail

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:
 - "Aunt Sandy, you should put your beer pants back on in case you pee your pants."
 - Cautionary advice during a particularly rousing game of Spoons
- "The older I get the more I realize that no one uses their words or manners, no one can drive, and I hate everyone."
- "Conversation for the day (I work closely with two foremen who speak mainly Spanish. They are both helping me out gaining confidence answering back in the same language):
Foreman, obviously in a hurry: 'Necesito boleto!'
Me: 'Qué? Uhhh ... el bano esta en llamas!?'
Foreman: 'No.'
Me: 'Well I understood that part.'"
- "Conversation for the day:
'Mom, what does a mockingbird look like?' (I show her a picture of one)
'Huh, okay. That is a nice looking bird. Any idea why Eric wants a book on how to kill one?'"
- "Aimlessly on walkabout this morning, I took an impromptu turn through a wooded park. Thereabouts the middle I stumbled upon a lone, St. Francis-like guitarist seated at the base of a tree belting Neil Young's 'Helpless' at the top of his lungs to, presumably, the squirrels and birds of the forest. I'm liking this day already."
- "I have maybe one or two Dairy Queen Peanut Buster Parfaits a year, and today was the winner."

Are these things stronger than Jesus' resurrection?

BY NO MEANS, NO!

God's love is stronger than anything we can do and anything anyone else can do. None of these keep us separate from the love of God, for in Jesus, God came into the world and crossed that chasm of separation already. I wonder what the world could be like if we all were as excited about this message as Paul is.

I wonder what the world could be like if we let ourselves be certain of God's love as firmly as Paul is. I wonder what it would be like to hear a cacophony of voices declaring God's love that cannot be overcome by anything in the world.

I bet it would be AWESOME!

Lowell Chilton is vicar for Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Concrete.

Commentary, cont. from p. 3

So the search continued unsuccessfully and Rip almost gave up, until former Concrete School District Superintendent Barbara Hawkings saved the day by offering an unoccupied portable classroom module behind the elementary school. Today, almost seven years later, Portable B remains the home for radio station KSVU.

With a secure studio to house our second- and third-hand broadcasting and recording equipment, direct access to the switching station via the airport, and a direct line of service to the tower on Burpee Hill, we are set—except

for the funding to pay for it all. As an all-volunteer operation, KSVU still has significant expenses: studio rent, utility bills, phone line and DSL, and the tower lease. The only game in town, American Tower, mainly serves cell phone companies and charges us, a nonprofit community service organization, the same fees. By far our biggest expense, the tower space costs us well over \$1,000 per month and is a huge weight around our neck.

Until now, our "mothership," KSVR, has been able to subsidize our expenses with an annual grant from the CPB. Known as the Radio Community Service Grant, they will no longer receive it. Without that grant, KSVR will not be able to support KSVU or itself.

For almost seven years, east county volunteers have sponsored a number of fundraising events, but it's not enough to just keep the doors open and the lights on. We also have to pay the tower rent. From the annual "Blast Open the Pass" dance every spring to the "Halloween Harvest Fest" each fall, the Marblemount Community Hall has been the scene of our greatest support to the local station. Currently, the Port of Skagit is offering KSVU a matching grant to support our operating costs, but we need to raise the funds to match that. Various bake sales and other events have helped too, with the support of a generous local audience that, until 2011, had no radio at all.

As Skagit County Commissioner Lisa Janicki said recently, "I hate to see the loss of something like the radio station because it's so hard to get things back ... I just would hate for the upriver community to lose that asset. When people live so far apart, I think that radio, both for communicating social and community

events, but also emergency and safety information ... it's a really important tool for upriver!"

We hope you feel the same. Please feel free to contact us by phone at 360.853.8588, via our Web site at www.ksvu.org, or by visiting Studio B behind the Concrete Elementary School. Pick up a current program schedule at Albert's Red Apple, the Upper Skagit Library, Concrete's Chamber of Commerce, or at the KSVU studio, or find it online.

Remember, the "U" in KSVU means YOU. We are your voice on the airwaves. Thanks for listening.

Christie L. Fairchild a.k.a. the "Local Yoke!" is a volunteer with KSVU 90.1 FM.

City Light, cont. from p. 4

area in the Baker Reach of the middle Skagit River. In the next few weeks, SCL expects to begin work at the site to block unauthorized vehicle access in order to protect native plants, control invasive weeds, and enhance native vegetation.

SCL ESA lands are open to the public for low-impact uses such as hiking, picnicking, and birding. As part of developing a stewardship plan for the new properties in Concrete, SCL will complete a safety evaluation to determine other allowable uses, such as hunting.

Questions concerning the property or SCL's ESA Lands Program can be directed to Denise Krownbell at denise.krownbell@seattle.gov.

Susan Madsen is a restoration ecologist for Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group.

PSE, cont. from p. 4

For more information, visit pse.com/bakerriver. Questions can be directed via e-mail to damsafety@pse.com or by calling 888.404.8773.

For more information, including an interactive map of siren locations, go to www.pse.com/bakerriver.

—J. K. M.

Letters, cont. from p. 2

was greatly appreciated. If all road construction projects went as smoothly as this one, we would have very little to complain about.

Thanks again.

*Athena Hornsby
Concrete*

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



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Sudoku solution, from p. 37

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

Crossword solution, from p. 37

1	P	L	U	G	5	P	A	S	T	E	9	C	U	S	13	P
14	E	U	R	O	15	A	L	P	H	A	16	A	N	N	A	
17	A	X	E	L	18	S	T	I	R	S	19	C	A	I	N	
20	R	E	A	D	21	S	T	A	R	O	22	T	C	A	R	D
23	D	I	A	R	Y	24	H	O	M	E	Y					
25	R	E	R	U	N	S	26	O	P	U	S					
27	A	P	E	S	28	G	A	M	E	R	29	S	U	S	E	
30	C	O	S	T	31	A	R	I	C	A	N	32	R	I	V	E
33	E	S	T	34	G	A	L	E	N	35	N	E	W	S		
36	H	A	N	D	37	C	O	R	N	U	38	H	A	S	T	
39	O	R	B	I	40	T	A	R	G	U	41	M	E	N	T	
42	W	E	A	K	E	43	H	A	R	D	44	A	W	A	Y	
45	L	E	S	E	46	H	A	R	D	47	A	N	G	E	L	
48	E	V	E	R	49	A	N	G	E	L	50	N	E	A	P	
51	T	E	D	S	52	W	H	O	R	L	53	E	R	N	E	

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EMPLOYMENT

Berry pickers needed for July and August. Blue Heron Farm, Rockport. 360.853.8449.

Interpretive Center Coordinator and Education Specialist. The Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center is an environmental education facility at Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport.

During winter bald eagle migration, the facility opens to the public and provides various educational opportunities to learn about bald eagles, salmon, and the Skagit River with a mission of conversation awareness and encourage restoration of the Skagit River Watershed.

The center has an excellent employment opportunity for the 2017–18 Winter Season: Interpretive Center Coordinator and Education Specialist.

The position requires public services or visitor center operations experience; excellent people skills; experience teaching and communicating

to children, adults, families; group facilitation experience; and commitment to environmental conservation education.

This position is Part-Time, Seasonal; Saturdays and Sundays in December and January. Includes at least two days during the week (Dec/Jan) facilitating the K-12 School Program & Group Tours. Pre-season assignments begin in September. December–January: 15–25 hours per week.

To apply, send current resume and cover letter to srbeatic@frontier.com. No phone calls, please. Deadline: August 31, 2017. View the full job description at www.skagitaeagle.org/employment.

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To place a Classified ad, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail ads@concrete-herald.com. Ads are \$5 per every 10 words. Deadline for the September 2017 issue is Aug. 28.

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