

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Herald

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50 cents

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GOT IT COVERED

For Gladys Silrus, restoring furniture is a labor of love. *Page 10.*



Cedar Grove upholsterer Gladys Silrus relaxes on a couch she restored for Eric and Cam Archuletta of Concrete.

Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



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Opinion

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Letters to the editor

No threat in Inslee's press release

In the July issue of *Concrete Herald*, Robert Cinque's letter to the editor said, "Governor Jay Inslee stated in his May 12, 2020 press release that mandatory testing for COVID-19 will begin for all Washington State residents."

I read the May 12 press release and could find no such threat. A May 15 statement from John Wiesman, Secretary of Health and Dr. Kathy Lofy, State Health Office, directly addressed such fears as Cinque's:

"Our experience during the COVID-19 pandemic and with other infectious diseases shows the vast majority of people we ask are willing to follow recommendations and isolate or quarantine themselves. Isolation and quarantine at home continues to be the best option and our recommendation for those who can do so safely. However, all of these actions are voluntary and confidential, despite the misinformation being spread by some."

Amy Kraus
Sedro-Woolley

What do we do now?

Like so many others, I am torn by the recent events that have brought about continual demonstrations throughout the country. They are not new developments; they are part of our long and troublesome past, as well as our present.

Now, finally many of us are ready to recognize the injustice that became institutionalized and accepted by those of us who are "white enough" to be immune from it. That does not mean we condone the violence, property damage, and theft that has seemingly become a hallmark of the most publicized protests.

On one hand, we accept the impatience of those participating after waiting literally hundreds of years for justice and

equality, because that goal continues to remain elusive. On the other hand, we feel that the true message is getting lost. The acts of violence are simply providing additional rationalization to not only enforce the status quo, but to roll back the few accomplishments that have been secured. No leaders appear to be emerging from the chaos.

So how we can support the struggle for equal opportunity, while not supporting the apparent random and seemingly unjustified property damage that accompanies the demonstrations?

Some might feel that exercising their right to vote is their only option. The overwhelming majority wants to do more, but what? For many, participating in a demonstration to support the cause of equal freedoms is appealing, but we believe the message is losing its focus when it's accompanied with wanton violence and destruction. Such actions deflect the legitimate complaints and issues. We are ready, we are willing, and we want to be part of the solution which is long overdue.

Give us direction. This is an opportunity for all of us; let's not let it pass us by.

—John Boggs
Concrete

See **Letters**, p. 3

Letters policy

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

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Oppose environmental rollbacks
Trump is using COVID-19 as an excuse to remove necessary environmental protections like the National Environmental Policy Act.

I urge our lawmakers to please oppose these rollbacks. This is a time to bolster the health of our communities, which depend upon clean air, land, and water.

We need not sit idle while Trump rolls back environmental progress. These days, those of us who have extra time can voice support to our legislators for commonsense environmental laws.

Here are a few easy ecological practices for our current lives: composting our food scraps and using them to fertilize our garden, walking or biking instead of driving to run errands, and minimizing our use of plastics.

On the note of plastics, it's worth mentioning that reusable items win, environmentally and healthwise. More than 125 health experts from 19 countries recently signed a statement confirming the safety of reusables during the pandemic.

Disposable products are not inherently safer than reusables. Recent studies have shown the virus can remain active on plastics from two to six days, and that household disinfectants have been proven effective at disinfecting hard surfaces, such as reusables.

Living gently on the earth is easy and satisfying while we're staying at home.

Rebecca Canright
Rockport

We're responsible for supporting marginalized community members

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

244 years ago, by declaring independence from the tyranny of British colonial rule, the United States entered into a centuries-long battle for freedom. Today, we continue our foundational quest to make "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness" available for all Americans.

We invite you to join us in building a more inclusive and therefore stronger community and union. To do this, we must address disparities, some that are visible and some that are not.

Now is a time of real pain. The tragic killings of black Americans at the hands of law enforcement forces us to deeply examine the root causes of this injustice.

At Glacier Peak Institute (GPI), we believe it is all of our responsibility to create change in support of marginalized members in our community.

Glacier Peak Institute empowers youth, community, and ecosystems to prosper and cultivate a shared resilient future through action-based education. Founded in the face of adversity, we relied upon one another and received remarkable support from people regardless of political, racial, ethnic, or cultural difference.

After the 2014 Oso landslide, we united in a time of tragedy. The pain and loss from the landslide was real. Then as now, we are Oso Strong and Darrington Strong. We are Stillaguamish, Sauk, and Skagit Strong. We are also America Strong. Our strength, then as now, comes from connecting with and watching out for one another.

Our community, like the greater nation, is called upon to address the tragedy of racism. Racism is real. It occurs whether we are aware of it or not, fed as much by lack of awareness as by malicious intent. Either way, it is harmful and must be stopped.

The GPI community includes members from a wide array of backgrounds, cultures, orientations, and political views. We love all of our youth and care for each one of them. Indigenous, black, and brown youth in our community face extra challenges at present. From people in town, at school and on the bus, they are called racial slurs, they are glared at, they are treated differently.

This is unacceptable. Full stop. From all in the GPI organization, our leadership, our staff, our donors and friends in a greater network of support, we affirm the value and potential of all young people. Our young people should be judged by their hard work, their humility, their honesty, and their humanity, not by the color of their skin or ancestry. They should be welcomed by everyone. These are our neighbors, friends, and family.

At GPI we are committed to learning, being courageous, and taking on the job of doing better. We have gathered resources to share, highlighting experiences of people of color. GPI has created a 5-point plan that we will begin to implement immediately.

1. Listen actively to diverse perspectives that help us refine our personal

See **Letters**, p. 5

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Utility bill delinquencies increase after Inslee proclamations

By Jason Miller

Gov. Jay Inslee's proclamations prohibiting Washington municipalities from terminating water service because of nonpayment and ordering them to waive late fees has resulted in a spike in utility bill delinquencies for Town of Concrete.

Inslee followed his first proclamation on March 18 with renewals every two weeks. State law allows for emergency proclamations without legislative approval, but limits such proclamations to 14 days. Inslee's most recent proclamation—which expired on July 28—was extended again, this time to Sept. 1.

At the Concrete Town Council's Aug. 24 meeting, Clerk-Treasurer Andrea Fichter again reported on the effects of the proclamation: a growing number of delinquent accounts, and no end in sight. "We're seeing more people going

delinquent who haven't gone delinquent in the past," said Fichter in a follow-up interview. "There are the usual familiar names, but there also are names I've never seen on the delinquency list before."

Fichter said that if the current list of potential delinquencies doesn't change by Aug. 15, the town will have about 25 delinquent accounts. Before the virus, that number would have been closer to 10 to 15.

Account balances also are concerning, said Fichter. "Normally, the high point would be in the \$475 to \$500 range for a typical delinquent account. Now, we have six or seven accounts that are in the same neighborhood as the highest balance, \$1,119.65."

Payment options

Fichter and Deputy Clerk Jennifer Past have sent reminders to delinquent payers every month since March, reminding them of the temporary nature of the governor's

proclamations and the fact that the balance still will be due and their water service could be shut off after the proclamation is lifted—that the proclamations only prevent the town from shutting off a water service because of nonpayment.

Although Town of Concrete isn't getting any funding for utilities during the pandemic, Fichter named several options for bringing a utility account current:

- Pay in full or set up payment arrangements at Town Hall.
- Apply for DSHS emergency assistance program, which could free up money for utility bills.
- LIHEAP funding can be used for rent and/or power bills; apply through Community Action.
- Low-income assistance for qualifying people, which decreases the water utility bill by just under \$7 per month. Inquire at Concrete Town Hall.

Town of Concrete to offer small business grants

Town of Concrete plans to offer struggling brick-and-mortar businesses within town limits an opportunity to apply for a small business grant.

The funding will come from the CARES Act, which will funnel \$25,000 to the town. Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County (EDASC) will provide administrative and logistical support for the effort, which is dubbed the "Small Business Relief Grant Program." Each grant will award up to \$5,000.

To be eligible to apply, businesses must be a Washington State registered business in operation for one year or more, must have 35 or fewer employees, must have experienced a reduction in business revenue greater than 25 percent due to COVID-19, and must be currently located inside the limits of Town of Concrete. Other restrictions apply.

Concrete Town Council will consider adoption of the agreement with EDASC during its Aug. 10 meeting. The application timeline could be extended,

but at press time the application deadline was Aug. 21 at 5 p.m., with awards announced by Sept. 3. Any business owner requesting assistance must meet the program requirements, submit the required documentation, and certify the application form by Aug. 21.

Businesses may use the grant funds for reimbursable expenses, including costs of the following incurred between March 1 and Sept. 30, 2020:

- Facilities including payments toward commercial mortgage, utilities, commercial lease, and other such necessary costs required to keep physical locations open and operable through the COVID-19 crisis.
- Cost of goods and general administrative expenses necessary to respond to business interruption caused by required closures.
- Supplies and expenses associated with safety improvements and personal protective equipment related to the COVID-19 crisis.

For more information and to confirm changes to the application timeline, call Concrete Town Hall at 360.853.8401.

—J. K. M.

Projects update

Here's a look at some of the major projects under way in Town of Concrete.

Sanitary sewer infiltration and inflow (I&I)

Project Cost: \$960K

The first of this two-phase project was completed in August 2019 and included trenchless cure-in-place-pipe lining of approximately 7,000 linear feet of existing cracked pipe, chemical grouting cracks in 11 sewer manholes, and chemical grouting over 100 leaking sewer connections to private properties. Phase 2 consisted of dig-out pipe repair and replacement, side sewer replacement, and manhole repairs. Construction was completed in July 2020. The project is going through final administrative closeout. Project cost: \$960,000.

Water storage/system improvements

Project Cost: \$870K

This project consists of a new water tank at the existing fir tank reservoir, and water line improvements. This project has an anticipated completion date of October 2020. The contractor has completed a significant portion of the underground utility work and is in the process of constructing the replacement concrete water tank. This project is on schedule and within budget. Project cost: \$870,000

Townwide metering improvements

This project will install metered water service to all water system users that currently are under a fixed monthly fee without metering so the town will be in compliance with Department of Health requirements. The contractor has completed approximately half of the work for this project and, while the project is on schedule to be completed early in August, there have been complications determining the existing locations of services lines that have required significant assistance from town staff, as well as additional inspection documentation services. Cost: \$600,000.

Townwide water system mapping

Prior to the departure of the town's former Public Works Dir. Alan Wilkins, it was necessary to tap into his experience and knowledge to map out the existing conditions of the town's water system. The majority of the town water system was mapped and is in the final phase of on-site review and digital recording.

—J. K. M.

Letters, cont. from p. 3

- attitudes and organizational heuristics.
- Embody and teach grit: embracing challenge and hard work both physically and mentally. We believe that developing grit promotes growth.
- Encourage awareness, education, and critical thinking so that we can place current events in the context and history of our country.
- Understand that there can be different ways to view the same thing, and that resiliency develops best when we engage a diverse range of perspectives. Conversation must be honest, open minded, and entered into with kindness and with mutual respect.
- Seek ways to include people of color in our programs. We also actively seek to include in our programs voices in science, arts, and outdoor education that are black, brown, and indigenous.

We know rural communities are disenfranchised and underserved. GPI works hard to create a platform providing opportunities for growth. We know diversity and inclusion build resilience and strength. We promise, wherever you may be in a process of developing awareness, we are here for you.

We say with an open heart, that we must value and actively support inclusion of black, brown, and indigenous voices and people. This effort brings us closer to living in a community that provides liberty and justice for all.

Thank you for being a part of this effort to create a "more perfect union" and community. We love and care for you all.

On behalf of the Glacier Peak Institute and all Upper Valley communities ..."

Oak Rankin
Darrington

A solution to wildfires in the Skagit River basin

I moved to the Skagit Valley in April 2019, enchanted by the scenic beauty of this rural wonderland. That year was marked by drought conditions, which gave many cause for concern, especially in light of the California wildfires occurring at the time.

Vexed by the problem, I put on my thinking cap and eventually came up with a long list of possible solutions to the fire dangers we must face and surmount, since our very survival is at stake.

Knowing that the simplest solutions to

problems are usually the most successful, and that implementation is made easier when there are fewer steps to take, I weeded out possibilities until the following solution crystallized like an Eureka moment:

When it comes to putting out fire, the most effective method for us would be to incorporate high-volume irrigation pumps mounted to drone-operated river barges and assigned patrol on the Skagit River.

We live in the age of climate upheaval that can be mitigated, thankfully, by the advent of perfected technology, which arrived not a moment too soon.

Presently, it is entirely feasible to outfit a fleet of small, swift, river barges with the equipment needed to put out fires occurring in the vicinity of the Skagit River, along its entire corridor. And as we are well aware, the majority of our local population lives in this same area. If we as a people insisted with one voice on our constitutional right for public safety and cited court rulings to this effect, the implementation of a drone fire brigade of this kind would stand on a solid legal basis. Water rights have been a thorn of contention in Washington for decades, and it is imperative the survival of whole communities takes precedent over other concerns.

Heidi Rausch
Concrete

More gratitude for ambulance crew, local volunteers

I also have to thank the Concrete ambulance crew (AeroSkagit) and Pastor Bruce Martin and his wife, Charlotte. Also, "Doris," a lady who helped me too; she's doing God's work. And the Skagit County Sheriff's Office deputies.

Thanks to you all who helped me. God bless you. Stay safe.

Randy Booker
Cape Horn

July 4 thanks

The 4th of July celebration was a huge success thanks to all of YOU! I truly appreciated the way you jumped in to make this such a special day. Many people mentioned how much they enjoyed seeing friends for the first time in many weeks, while supporting our local businesses and organizations. You should be proud to know you made a lot of people happy!

Thank you so much for all your help!

Valerie Stafford
Concrete

Sunrise Services suspends in-person visits for one year

Sunrise Services, which operates a mental health facility near Concrete, has suspended its in-person visits for one year, citing "current events and budget constraints" as its reason for the decision, according to Behavioral Health Executive Director Jace Angelly.

The building, located at 44942 SR 20, closed on July 1 and will remain closed till July 1, 2021. Sunrise Services will continue to offer its Concrete-area clients services via telehealth and face-to-face appointments at its Sedro-Woolley office.

Any new or established clients seeking

services can call the Sedro-Woolley office at 360.899.4800. They can choose a telehealth appointment via Zoom or phone, or they may request a face-to-face appointment at the office.

"We are still here to help from Sedro-Woolley for the next year; we simply had to adjust how we deliver services," said Angelly. "We are not shutting down. We are not selling the business. And we are not abandoning our clients who receive services from the Concrete office."

—J. K. M.

State regulators recalculate PSE rates

State regulators with the Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission on July 31 announced slightly higher rates for Puget Sound Energy electric and natural gas customers after recalculating the amount of tax credits passed back to customers in the company's recent rate case.

The adjustments result in a small change to customer rates from those originally announced on July 8. Consequently, PSE's average residential electric customer using 900 kWh a month will see a rate increase of 1.7 percent or \$1.53 more, for an average monthly bill of \$91.63; while the average residential natural gas customer using 64 therms a month will see a 0.91 percent increase and pay \$0.54 more for an average monthly bill of \$60.14.

Puget Sound Energy filed a request for clarification following the original rate case order, which the commission granted. In its request, the company stated that the amount used in the commission's revenue requirement calculation for over-collected

tax funds returned to customers was incorrect.

In its order on the motion, the commission acknowledged the incorrect calculation, but pointed out that this was a result of PSE's failure to provide precise and sufficient information in response to a request from the commission.

The company will determine the date rates become effective in its updated tariff sheets.

The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act changed the federal income tax rates for companies, creating an overcollection of taxes from customers. Regulated utilities must pass these funds back to customers through rates as stated by the commission in January 2018.

Bellevue-based PSE provides electricity service to more than 1.1 million electric customers in eight Washington counties, including Skagit and Whatcom.

—Submitted by Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission




Monument marker stolen


A metal monument marker for the historic Baker River Bridge in Concrete—a.k.a. the Henry Thompson Bridge—was illegally pried from its concrete base sometime during the past few months.

The bridge was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 12, 1976. The marker announces this. Removing it breaks any number of federal and state laws.

Town of Concrete asks that the marker be returned. Call Town Hall at 360.853.8401 to arrange for dropoff—anonymously, if desired.



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Cascade Days canceled this year

Aw, nuts.

On the heels of Burlington's Berry Dairy Days' cancellation, Concrete's biggest party has called it quits for 2020.

The Cascade Days Committee released the following statement regarding its decision:

"In light of the latest order banning indoor or outdoor entertainment events coupled with the recommendation of the Skagit County Health Department, the Cascade Days Committee has decided to cancel the planned activities for Aug. 22. This was not a light decision, nor was it made until we had no options.

"We appreciate our sponsors and friends: SaviBank, Janicki, Sierra Pacific

Industries, Skagit County, PSE, Concrete Chamber of Commerce, Cascade Supply, Albert's Red Apple, and the East County Resource Center.

"We'd also like to ask everyone to reach out and help the groups that rely on Cascade Days for funding (4-H, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Cheer Squad, Lions Club, Youth Dynamics, and Girls Volleyball). These groups provide needed services and support for our area.

"We are looking forward to seeing everyone next year in a safer world. But we'd like to encourage you to still save the date. While we cannot gather together as a community, we can remember past Cascade Days events and celebrate separately but stronger together!"

The committee plans to revive the event in 2021, returning to its usual schedule—the third weekend in August, Aug. 21–22, 2021.

—J. K. M.

THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

A drive-by retirement party for Rick Lemley of Lemley Chapel is planned for Fri., Aug. 14, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the Lemley Chapel parking lot and field, 1008 Third St., Sedro-Woolley.

Lemley has been a third generation funeral director at Lemley Chapel since 1977, working with his grandfather, Harold Lemley; father, Dick Lemley; and uncle, Robert Lemley. He's been an integral part of Lemley Chapel, as well as Sedro-Woolley, serving as a councilman from 2000 to 2017 and for the Chamber of Commerce from 2000 to 2006. He also has been a Sedro-Woolley Rotary Club member since 1999.

Concrete Theatre has formed **Concrete Players for Change**, a new group of local performing artists designed to share positive messages in the community.

The group's first project is to encourage mask-wearing to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Videos created by local performing artists are being produced and shared on social media and via the theater's Web site and e-mails. Short videos already have been created by Gretchen Hewitt and Jason Miller, with more coming soon from Nicola Pearson, Fortress of the Bear, and Jason Lee.

When it's once again safe to gather in groups, the Concrete Players for Change will perform on the stage.

Anyone who enjoys performing or assisting with productions is encouraged to call or text Valerie Stafford at the Concrete Theatre, at 360.466.8754.

Concrete Theatre is located at 45920 Main St. in Concrete Town Center. For more information, go to www.concretetheatre.com or www.facebook.com/concretetheatre, or call the 24-hour recorded line at 360.941.0403.

Another cancellation: The **Lyman Hamilton School Picnic** has been canceled this year, thanks to everyone's favorite coronavirus. The popular get-together for alumni of the school is typically held every August.

Skagit Transit's (SKAT) Board of Directors have approved a **paratransit service fare**. The fare is designed to

increase fare revenue to help provide financial stability for a critical community service.

This is the first paratransit fare in the 26-year history of transit services. It features a new "TouchPass" electronic payment that is open for all riders on all SKAT buses.

Qualified paratransit riders will ride for free until Aug. 5. The paratransit fare is \$2 one way. A punch card for 10 rides is \$20 and a monthly unlimited rides pass is \$60.

Paratransit riders are asked to call SKAT between seven and two days prior to the day of their travel to schedule rides.

More details on the TouchPass fares is on www.SkagitTransit.org/tp or at Mt. Vernon's Skagit Station Monday through Friday at the Customer Service office.

For further information about TouchPass, fare details, and other SKAT rider questions, call 360.757.8801.

David Adams is at it again. The pilot, who owns a hangar at Mears Field in Concrete, on June 18 piled into a plane with his friend, Don Goodman, and flew to a body of water in every county in Washington State—in one day. They called it the "Washington State grand tour on floats."

From the back seat of the plane, Goodman's wife, Natala, kept a running time record and kept the pair going in the right direction.

"I've done a lot of hairbrained stuff with him" (the two men have climbed mountains on four continents), "so I thought, why not?" said Adams.

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Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on July 13 and 27. The 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 13 regular meeting

Concrete Food Bank Board of Directors Vice President Angela Massingale apologized to the council on behalf of the board for any negativity that was put out on Facebook after the food bank installed an awning on its building without going through the proper process. She stated there are rules in place and they will follow through on those. She reported they had since worked with Historic Preservation and Landmarks Commission Chair Eric Archuletta, and fortunately, what they had installed had been acceptable to the commission. Mayor Jason Miller stated the next step is a building permit application, and the building inspector will then complete the inspection. Council voted to approve the awning contingent upon a completed building permit application and approval from the building inspector.

Area resident Kathy Manzoor address the council regarding the Hub. She stated that she has lived in this area for 20 years and loves it here. She stated that she doesn't want to see disruptions on Main Street, if they can be avoided. She reported on rumors she had heard. She stated that she wants to see this community do well and doesn't like to see this type of ugliness. Mayor Miller asked if she had seen the letter that he had written to the Liquor & Cannabis Control Board. Kathy stated that she had not and Mayor Miller stated that he would forward that to her.

Kelly Wynn, president of Water and Wastewater Services, spoke to council. WWS took over the operation of the town's wastewater treatment plant on July 1. Wynn discussed the number of systems they currently operate throughout the state. He stated he will submit monthly reports to the town. He also reported they are working on an inventory of the plant and will bring that to the council with a prioritized list of items

and the costs associated with those. He reported on the employees who are currently assigned to the town's plant and their certifications.

- CARES Act funding agreement: See article, p. 4.

July 27 regular meeting

- **Parks:** Councilmember and Parks Committee Chair Marla Reed reported they held a parks meeting this evening. She stated she is really happy that landscape architect Hoda Sheikh was brought in to assist, and that she has lots of great ideas for the park and community garden.

Economic Development Commission member Tyler Nibarger reported to council. He and Sheikh have discussed with Reed the original Imagine Concrete workshop that was held for Silo Park and the information that was compiled from those ideas. He stated they have discussed the big hitters—the items that most people wanted to see—and then have discussed how the smaller items could be incorporated as well. He stated they wanted to start working on some of the "low-hanging fruit" items. Nibarger stated that he has been working on a drawing of the park that shows the levels and items that have been discussed. Sheikh stated they also have a digital copy that can be emailed. Nibarger reviewed the drawing and explained the thought process behind it. Mayor Miller stated this effort is ongoing and Councilmember Reed will be very involved in this process and will keep the rest of the council informed as to their progress.

- Councilmember Beth Easterday asked when the spray park can open. Clerk-Treasurer Andrea Fichter stated that the town cannot open it until Skagit County is approved to move into Phase 3. Councilmember Rob Thomas asked if signs could be placed at the spray park explaining that.

—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.

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Academics



School districts prepare for online learning—again

By Jason Miller

Since Skagit and Snohomish counties remain mired in Phase 2 of Gov. Inslee's "Safe Start" plan to reopen the state for normal business and education operations, the three school districts in the *Concrete Herald* coverage area are again gearing up for remote and virtual learning models. Here's a look at how the districts plan to approach the 2020–21 school year.

Concrete School District

Pending board approval on Aug. 10, Concrete School District will launch a Concrete Virtual Academy for remote learning on Sept. 1. The district plans to use the Florida Virtual School online

curriculum, supported by district teachers who will work from their classrooms. Any student who struggles with the program or needs additional assistance will have the option of meeting with their teacher one-on-one or in a small group of 3–4 students. The program will be evaluated quarterly, leaving open the option to phase back into face-to-face instruction if and when the state allows.

The Sept. 1 date will be a "soft start," during which teachers and administrators will host individual meetings with all parents and students to explain the program to them, get them set up, and explain the expectations.

"It won't be like it was last spring, where a student could basically sit

back and do no work, and still expect to pass," said Concrete School District Superintendent Wayne Barrett. "The grading expectations will be considerably different; they will need to progress through the program in order to get credit."

The decision to move its education efforts in this direction came after deliberations from a group of about 20 stakeholders composed of parents, administrators, and union representatives.

"It's going to be an investment on our end, but I think it's going to be a much better system," said Barrett. "We have to have a better online platform than we had before."

Barrett said the district bought 40 hotspots from Verizon, which can be deployed for students who don't have service.

"I'm working to coordinate with the Marblemount Community Hall, for our kids to come in there and work—the ones who don't have service. We'll put a substitute teacher or a paraeducator up there to help them with their work. We'll probably talk to the Upper Skagit Library too."

"We need to be able to ensure that our kids will succeed," he continued. "I'm proud of our teachers because they committed to doing one-on-one and/

YD update

The last Concrete Youth Dynamics event we had before we were shut down was our 30-Hour Famine Retreat March 13–14. Our Monday night events were canceled, or leadership meetings were called off, and our contact with students became almost zero.

This was extremely tough for all of our staff and students. Youth Dynamics plays such a vital role in our community in providing a safe, welcoming, and fun atmosphere for our teens to get out of their homes, meet other people, and adventure together. That was taken away.

Not only were our Monday meetings gone, our annual camping/hiking/white-water rafting trip (Rock-n-Roll) was canceled in June. I could tell the students were anxious to get out and explore, and so I was hoping and praying we would still be allowed to go on our Salmon River Trip we had put on the schedule in October of 2019.

It came right down to the day before we left, but we were allowed to enjoy the experience that will be remembered by our students as the trip of a lifetime. I don't know how many times I heard a student say it was the greatest trip they had ever been on.

We left Concrete on a Saturday morning in July and returned late the following Friday evening. Seven days on the Salmon and Snake Rivers in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The students kayaked and rafted through some of the most beautiful canyons and wild rapids the great Northwest has to offer. We slept under the stars on white sandy beaches every night, and ate like kings and queens. The guides were exceptional—and that includes their cooking.

The most exciting part of the trip for me was getting to know our students in a deeper way, and finding out how they tick. I heard about upbringings, family, choices they have made in the past, and things they are proud of. I got to see change—and I mean real change—in each one of these students. It was more than "That was a lot of fun, thanks for the trip."

Thanks,
Becca Avery
Granddaughter of Mary Novy

See YD, p. 9

Schools, cont. from p. 8

or small group education as needed; that's pretty powerful. Any student out there could hit a snag and need help. As educators, we need to support that."

"The difficult part will be dealing with the unknowns, what happens down the road as the pandemic situation progresses. That's one of the reasons we're doing quarterly evaluations. If something changes so we can go back to face-to-face instruction during the school year, though, we have a plan to phase back into that immediately."

For more information regarding the fall reopening plan, go to www.concrete.k12.wa.us after the school board meeting on

YD, cont. from p. 8

It was "That trip changed the way I look at life, the relationships around me, and most importantly, the relationship with my Creator."

I am forever thankful for the opportunity to join Blaine and Whitney Storms (volunteer staff with Concrete YD) on an incredible adventure with 12 local high school students, while building lasting relationships. I thank all of you who donate, pray, or offer words of encouragement to the staff and students involved in this awesome Upper Valley ministry.

If you would like to contribute to trips like this or just come alongside and donate to Concrete Youth Dynamics, you can do so by sponsoring me for our annual fundraising event in August. The Golf Marathon is right around the corner (Aug. 26), and I have committed to golfing more than 150 holes in one day to raise money for YD in Concrete.

This is our one big fundraising event of the year, so it is crucial to raise the funds needed to get us through one more school year. I am not sure what that school year is going to look like, but we want to be financially responsible and prepared for whatever comes our way.

To donate, please visit yd.org and go to the Golf Marathon page, where you can find me (Kevik Rensink) as our area golfer (I use this term loosely because I am not a "golfer." I golf once a year, for this charity event.) Click on my page, read the description, and if you can, please sponsor me to help our kids in Concrete. Thanks, and God bless!

—Kevik and Marta Rensink
area directors

Aug. 10.

Sedro-Woolley School District

In a letter to parents of Sedro-Woolley students posted to the Sedro-Woolley School District Web site, Superintendent Phil Brockman said that details of the district's new remote learning model would be made public by Aug. 10.

"The health and safety of our community comes first, and we will need to adjust the way school works so that we can protect the health and safety of teachers, students, and families, while also providing the best possible environment for teaching and learning," said Brockman.

The Reopening Committee consists of the following subcommittees:

- Teaching & Learning
- Health & Student Support
- Operations (Food Service, Transportation, Custodial)
- Human Resources

"The Sedro-Woolley School District's committee will explore the processes and procedures needed to facilitate a safe, equitable, and effective remote instructional model," said Brockman in his written comments. "The group will also continue to work on a hybrid model of learning for the district to use when COVID-19 transmission rates decrease within our community. They will look at how the district can support students with IEPs and special needs."

Like Concrete School District, the Sedro-Woolley School District plans to share information about its full plan after board approval on Aug. 10.

Darrington School District

On July 29 the Snohomish Health District issued a recommendation that all schools in Snohomish County start the school year with remote learning. The recommendation was driven by COVID-19 case numbers at the time, which were nearly identical to those when the district first closed in March.

Snohomish County has seen a string of nearly two months of increasing numbers of cases per week. A high percentage of caregivers, community members, and staff are in an at-risk group or directly care for someone who is.

"While we have been blessed with a low number of cases in Darrington, we simply cannot risk a traditional reopening that could cause an outbreak of this disease locally," said Darrington School District Superintendent Dr. Buck Marsh

in a letter to district parents. "Based on this information and feedback from our Reopening 2020 workgroup, we will plan on starting the school year with a remote learning model."

Current projections place Darrington in a remote learning model through at least the first academic quarter (Nov. 6). "As that date approaches, we will reevaluate health department recommendations and regional data, and adjust our academic programs accordingly," said Marsh. "What we all want more than anything is to bring students back to school in our buildings in classrooms. At the same time, we are committed to ensuring the safety of our students, staff, families, and community."

The Reopening 2020 workgroup will complete its plan during the first half of August, addressing the specific components of each phase, as well as steps to keep students, staff, and the community safe. The model will include a phased approach to reopening, with increased opportunities for on-campus learning based on guidance from the state and county health departments. The steps will begin with remote learning for all students. As it is safe, and as the district receives further guidance from health authorities, it will add remote learning with limited in-person instruction, a hybrid model of in-person and remote learning, and in-person instruction with social distancing. The school board will hold a special meeting on Aug. 12 to review the Reopening 2020 plan.

"We all want our kids to come back to school, to learn, grow, and to succeed," said Marsh. "We all want for things to get back to normal. We also want to keep our kids and our community safe. There are still many questions to be answered. We will come together to make this a great year for Darrington students."

Baker Lake closes for sockeye

Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife closed Baker Lake for sockeye fishing on Aug. 3, a full five weeks ahead of the planned closing date of Sept. 7, citing catch estimates that indicated the number of fish remaining in the lake was nearing the minimum 1,500 sockeye needed to spawn naturally.

The state regulatory agency opened the fishery to sockeye on July 18, after preseason fish counts reached 5,656. More than 4,700 sockeye were retained during the first week of fishing.

WDFW and treaty co-managers agreed to a limited Baker Lake sockeye fishery, provided catch did not exceed a level where fewer than 1,500 sockeye remained in the lake.

Catch rates have decreased since the first week, but based on total catch, the number of fish remaining in the lake approaching the "escapement floor" of 1,500 fish, and trap returns have slowed.

WDFW will continue monitoring trap returns and will evaluate reopening the sockeye season if spawning goals can be assured.

—J. K. M.



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Concrete School District announces free summer food program

Concrete School District will sponsor a Summer Food Service Program for all children ages one through 18. Any child may come and eat meals at the specified times listed below. Children do not need to be enrolled in the summer program in order to receive free meals. Children must consume all food in the cafeteria.

Meals will be available at no charge at the Concrete High School cafeteria, 7838 S. Superior Ave., Concrete. Meals are available Mondays through Fridays, from July 13 through Aug. 21.

Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 9 a.m. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call the Concrete School District office at 360.853.4000.

—Marla Reed, Director

Concrete School District Food Service

Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Searching for students of Mary Novy

Mary Novy (Mrs. Novy) taught kindergarten at Concrete Elementary School from the 1970s–1990s. Her students meant so much to her, and she's hoping to hear from them for her 90th birthday this September! Please send your letters to the below address:

Mary Novy
1918 Poppy Ln. SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Thanks,
Becca Avery
Granddaughter of Mary Novy

See YD, p. 9

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GOT IT COVERED

By Jason Miller

For Gladys Silrus, restoring old or damaged furniture is a labor of love.

The Cedar Grove-based upholsterer does more than slap a new face on an old body, though. Her goal is complete restoration—whatever it takes.

“I pull everything off, down to the frame, so that I know what needs to be done,” she said. “If the wood needs to be stripped or restored, I’ll do it. If the frame needs to be repaired, I’ll reinforce it. If the seats or backs need new padding, they get it. You’d be surprised what material can hold in place—cracks in an arm or the back. Structural stuff.”

Silrus, 69, has been pursuing her passion since 1970. She started with an antique rocking chair that she wanted to cover. An avid sewing fan, she tore apart the rocker, reverse-engineered it, made patterns and drawings, and finished the job handily.

Things escalated from there. “My

husband showed me how to re-cover chrome kitchen chairs for our new and used furniture store, but I loved—and still love—antiques. If I could do nothing but antiques from the 1920s through the 1950s ... they had so much character.”

Silrus has thrown herself into her work for decades. Early on she was intensely frugal, hammering out used nails, hoarding fabric scraps, saving every penny for Christmas, birthdays, flat tires ... and enjoying the freedom to be home with her kids at night. And while furniture restoration has never been a full-time job for her, she’s managed to create a work space for her home-based business at every residence she’s had since her start 50 years ago. Her current space is an outbuilding on her property filled with the tools of her trade, a massive work table, and rolls and scraps of fabric crammed into every nook and cranny, including the ceiling rafters.

“I’ve always had a shop on the

property—a garage, an outbuilding,” she said. “One was an old, cleaned-out chicken coop.”

Along with her love for antique furniture restoration, however, lies a humorous disaste for boat and automobile seats.

“I did boats and autos till about 20 years ago, then decided I hated that. I have a chalkboard in my shop on which I wrote, ‘I hate boats. I will not do boats.’ At one point I erased it. Two years ago I did a boat job, then rewrote that message in big letters.”

Branching out

With her business relying largely on word of mouth and a Classified ad in

Concrete Herald to pull in customers, Silrus has begun to diversify and expand her reach. She’s added “interior design consultant” to her professional services, and, with her son, Allen, has launched a line of children’s furniture—Kozy Kids Chairs (kozykidschairs.com)—and retained Public Relations consultant Tina Kies of Chikara PR.

“Allen doesn’t want the upholstery business to die with me,” said Silrus. “He drove the creation of the Web site and tracked down the PR person. He’s spent endless hours figuring things out. So I’m the owner/operator and he’s the project

Silrus, cont. from p. 10

manager. He’s thinking he’ll take over the business eventually—and he wants to do car and boat seats!”

Silrus prefers working with antiques, but she’ll tackle everything but the aforementioned boats and autos.

“If it has a flat surface that can be nailed into, it can be recovered,” she said. “So household furniture, snowmobile seats, four-wheeler and motorcycle seats, tractor seats—anything that was put together can be taken apart and redone.”

Silrus’ new venture, Kozy Kids Chairs, showcases miniature furniture for miniature people. Each chair is personally constructed with Silrus’ trademark craftsmanship and skill, meant to become a legacy piece that is passed down from generation to generation.

To create some of the pieces, Silrus upcycled old theater seats and turned their components into a rocker, a “Caboose Chair,” and her “Color Wheel Chair.” She tore a couch apart and discovered bamboo arms, which she fashioned into her “Jungle Chair.” She plans to develop a “Mermaid Lounge” and a “Cowboy Chair.” Neglected or broken furniture pieces that are past the point of repair often can be salvaged to create new things of beauty.

“It’s a dying art,” said Silrus.

The Upper Valley’s local upholsterer doesn’t plan to quit her part-time day job as a customer service representative for the Concrete branch of SaviBank, but she’s equally satisfied at home, working out any stress with her hammer and nails.

“Allen and I have a passion for it; I don’t think I’ll ever get tired of it. You take something that’s really ugly, and you can turn it into a beautiful swan. It’s like making a dress for a very large person, but they don’t talk back!”

Silrus can be reached at 360.826.4848.

See **Silrus, p. 11**



Top and above: Gladys Silrus has a favorite: this Victorian high-back couch, which came from the governor’s house in Seattle. The neglected couch took extra time to restore “because the wood had been infested with some kind of insect,” said Silrus. She repaired the wood, stained the frame, and covered the piece with a small-flowered tapestry cloth. “I brought it back to life,” she said. “It was gorgeous.” Tragically, the piece was lost to a recent house fire. *Submitted photos.*



Above: Mother and son team Gladys and Allen Silrus, with two of her offerings from the Kozy Kids Chairs lineup. “I love the children’s furniture because it’s miniature. It’s easier on my back, too,” said Silrus. *Photo by Tina Kies, Chikara PR.*

Below, left and right: Before and after photos of a couch restored by Gladys Silrus. The Cedar Grove upholsterer will reinforce wood components, sew new fabrics, and replace foam rubber cushions, all in the service of bringing a piece back to its former beauty. *Submitted photos.*



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Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

The victim had received texts from her husband, who had an order against him preventing him from contacting the victim. Deputy Wiggins determined that the suspect had knowingly attempted to contact the victim in violation of the order. When deputies attempted to contact the suspect, he attempted to flee. Deputy Moses and Deputy Wiggins caught him, but he resisted and was eventually handcuffed and arrested. He was taken to the Skagit County Jail, where he was booked for violation of an order and resisting arrest. While being booked into jail, a small baggy containing drugs was found on the suspect. In addition to the previous charges, he was then booked for possession of methamphetamine.

A stolen pickup was reported on Medford Rd. north of Hamilton. The pickup, a red Nissan, was located off Medford Rd. on DNR property. Deputy Vincent was advised by a DNR employee that the truck had been there for a couple days. It had been stolen from Tacoma on April 26. The truck had a flat tire, but appeared to be in good shape. The owner was contacted and made arrangements to

have the vehicle towed.

June 29

While on patrol near milepost 74 on SR 20 in Lyman, Deputy Hill observed a vehicle traveling 104 mph in a 55 mph zone. He stopped the vehicle and contacted the driver. Deputy Hill arrested the driver for reckless driving. The driver was unable to provide a driver's license or ID card. After finally identifying the driver, Deputy Hill issued a citation to him for reckless driving. Before releasing him, Deputy Hill confirmed that the driver was not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol. The driver then was released from custody.

July 1

New East Detachment Deputy Jess Brannon responded to a possible violation of a court order in the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. The reporting party advised that her soon-to-be ex-husband had been posting messages on Facebook, which she felt violated the order. She showed Deputy Brannon one such message, which stated "some people aren't loyal to you." It went on to accuse the woman of bankrupting him and sleeping with her brother. The reporting party advised Deputy Brannon that she

believed the message was about her and wanted him to know it was her brother-in-law, not her brother, with whom she slept. Deputy Brannon was unable to determine if the message was an actual violation of the order, since it did not name anyone and was posted on the suspect's page, but not sent to the victim. He referred the information to the Prosecutor's Office for an opinion.

July 2

Early in the evening, Deputy Moore had dropped off statement forms to a victim of domestic violence for her to fill out, regarding multiple violations of an order made by her husband. She called back to let deputies know the statements were ready to be picked up. Deputy Wiggins contacted the victim, who showed him numerous texts and attempted calls from her husband, who was a respondent in a no-contact order from a previous domestic violence arrest. The victim also told Deputy Wiggins that the previous day at about 1 a.m., the suspect had broken into her house while she was gone and ransacked it in addition to taking some property. The suspect was now sitting in his truck at an address in Sedro-Woolley. Deputy Wiggins and Deputy Dalton went to the address, where they located the suspect. The suspect was sitting in his truck with his cell phone sending more texts to the victim. He was arrested and taken to jail, where he was booked for residential burglary and multiple violations of a court order.

July 4

A civil dispute between two sisters was reported to Deputy Arndt. The reporting party said that her sister had stolen an expensive saddle. She said that she used to rent a shared garage storage unit on Barrett Rd. near Concrete with her siblings. She had moved out and forgot that she had left the saddle. A few years later she realized that the saddle had been left and wanted it back. She believed that her sister, to whom she owes money for rent from two years ago, had convinced their mother not to give the saddle back. Deputy Arndt called the sister, who is involved in the incident. The sister advised that the saddle did not actually belong to her sister and that it had been left at their mother's house several years ago. She felt the reporting party was just using the saddle as an excuse not to pay the rent she owes. Deputy Arndt explained to the sisters that the saddle and rent issues are civil and that they could work it out through the civil courts.

July 5

Deputy Mullen checked on a small black truck reported to be parked on S. Dillard in Concrete. The truck was occupied by a male who appeared to be sleeping. Deputy Mullen contacted the subject, who said he was parked there waiting for his girlfriend to get home.

While parked near Superior Ave. and SR 20 in Concrete, Deputy Caulk observed a large crowd of people near Loggers Landing. He heard the sound of a siren and observed a vehicle with what appeared to be a badge emblem on the door. It appeared the driver became impatient while trying to pull out onto SR 20 so he turned sharply to the left and traveled west through the parking lot and down the side access road onto Fir St. As he was going through the gravel area, the driver spun his tires causing the vehicle to throw up gravel and a large cloud of dust. Deputy Caulk pulled out and followed the vehicle, making a traffic stop just south of the Dalles Bridge. He contacted the driver and immediately noticed a pistol sitting in the center console and a loaded AK-47 type rifle in the vehicle. He advised both subjects in the car to place their hand on the dash and not to make any movement toward the firearms. The passenger advised Deputy Caulk that he was a licensed security officer. Deputy Caulk allowed the passenger to take out his wallet. The wallet contained an ID card, a badge, and a concealed carry permit. Deputy Caulk had both occupants exit the vehicle and ask that they stand behind it for safety reasons. As the passenger was exiting the vehicle Deputy Caulk observed him reach down between his legs. He then saw that the passenger was trying to pick up an open alcohol container which had spilled. When questioned about their actions at Loggers Landing, the driver said that he had not turned on the siren and didn't know he had spun out when leaving. The passenger said that he may have turned on the siren to signal to friends they were leaving. And he may have inadvertently turned on the emergency lights. When asked about why they were driving in a marked security vehicle, the passenger who claimed to be a security officer said that he worked for a company that had contracted with the Town of Hamilton to provide security during a protest parade the previous day, and was allowed to keep the car over the weekend. He explained he had let his friend drive it because he was the only

person who allegedly had sold it to her. The male suspect looked at the female, shrugged his shoulders, and said he didn't know anything about it. After seizing the generator, Deputy Montgomery asked them again about the generator. The male finally admitted that they had stolen the generator from a trailer at Howard Miller Steelhead Park. Both suspects were arrested for theft.

July 6

The Mount Baker Hotel in Concrete called and requested that two people be removed from the hotel. The people were inside a room that they had not rented. The person who had rented the room had already been removed because of excessive noise. The caller advised Deputy Dalton that after removing the

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 12

sober one. Deputy Mullen arrived and both firearms were checked and found to be fully loaded. The rifle was seized since it is a violation to have it loaded in a vehicle at any time. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license, operating a vehicle with unlawful use of emergency equipment, and no proof of insurance. The passenger was cited for possession of a loaded firearm in a vehicle and possession of an open alcohol container in a vehicle. The company who owned the vehicle was contacted and advised Deputy Caulk that they had let a different employee use the vehicle over the weekend for the parade, but had not given permission to either of the two occupants contacted to drive the vehicle. They advised they would call someone to pick up the vehicle.

In the early hours today, two suspects drove into Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport and stole a generator from the back of a trailer that was parked inside the park. The victim witnessed the theft and was able to describe the vehicle involved. Deputy Montgomery contacted the victim and took the information. At approximately 5 a.m., the victim called back and advised that he had found the suspect vehicle at Loggers Landing in Concrete. When Deputy Montgomery arrived at Loggers, he located the vehicle with the large generator in the back seat partially covered with a coat. The generator matched the one that had been stolen earlier that morning. The suspects were walking out of the store holding grocery bags. The female suspect said that she had purchased the generator, but didn't want to give the name of the person who allegedly had sold it to her. The male suspect looked at the female, shrugged his shoulders, and said he didn't know anything about it. After seizing the generator, Deputy Montgomery asked them again about the generator. The male finally admitted that they had stolen the generator from a trailer at Howard Miller Steelhead Park. Both suspects were arrested for theft.

July 6

The Mount Baker Hotel in Concrete called and requested that two people be removed from the hotel. The people were inside a room that they had not rented. The person who had rented the room had already been removed because of excessive noise. The caller advised Deputy Dalton that after removing the

found it empty. Shortly after she was walking by, heard noises in the room, and found that a male and female were inside. She got into an argument with them after telling them to leave. When she told them she was calling the Sheriff's Office, they left. Deputy Dalton found what appeared to be drug residue on an end table. He attempted to locate the two subjects, but was unsuccessful.

July 7

Deputy Clark was dispatched to the 45000 block of Division St. in Concrete for a domestic situation. The caller said that his brother was outside, acting like a fool. The caller also said that his brother was a drug user and was currently drunk. Deputies Clark and Struiksma contacted the suspect, who appeared to be on drugs and intoxicated. He advised deputies that Indians were running illegal water lines through the mountains and that his grandfather had a water line that ran through his property and he found a spigot to tap into it. He then told the deputies that Indians had told him to drink vinegar and that would help the bugs in his head. The suspect said he had drunk the vinegar and was able to pull multiple bugs out of his ears. Deputy Clark contacted the reporting party, who said he had come home to find his brother at the house, high on drugs. He asked that his brother be removed. When Deputy Clark re-contacted the suspect, he told him that he wanted deputies to get samples of the soil because it had chemicals in it. He then told them he had found a chainsaw with bugs in it that he wanted deputies to inspect as well. Deputies offered to take the suspect to the hospital, but he refused. The suspect left the area after refusing any help from the deputies.

Deputies responded to a report of a possible domestic in the 37000 block of Schulze Rd. off of Lusk Rd. in the Birdview area. The caller advised he had heard a male and female arguing, then two gun shots. A vehicle left shortly after. When deputies arrived they went to the suspected residence. They contacted a male, who said there was no argument. Deputy Clark advised him that he knew there were two gunshots and asked who had the gun. The male said the female. The male was uncooperative, but did allow deputies to check the residence. Nothing was found. At this time there is no information on the identity of the involved female or why there were two gunshots.

July 8

At approximately 7 a.m., Deputy Serna

received a call that the suspect in the suspicious case from the day before was walking around Division St. again, yelling and screaming. He was carrying a coffee cup and was currently next door trying to pick the lock on the neighbor's gate. Deputy Serna called the reporting party back, who advised her that the suspect hadn't done anything illegal, but was definitely causing a disturbance. Deputy Serna checked the area, but was not able to locate the suspect. Deputy Serna called the brother, who had called the previous day. The brother requested that the suspect be trespassed from his residence on Division St. if the suspect returned.

A resident of Pipeline Rd. in Lyman said that she had seen a suspicious vehicle parked near her home. The occupants of the vehicle were wearing capes with pointed hats. She requested that a deputy check the area, along with her residence and her neighbor's residence. Deputy Devero checked both residences, but did not locate the subjects and didn't find any problems.

Deputy Wolfe and Sgt. Adams were dispatched to a search and rescue near milepost 116 on SR 20. The initial information was that a father and his 10-year-old son had been kayaking on the Skagit River near that location the

previous night when the father's kayak overturned. He became stranded on the opposite side of the river. His son was last seen still in his kayak, floating down the river. When deputies arrived, a search and rescue was started immediately, involving multiple agencies to include land, air, and water groups from state, local, and federal agencies. Both kayaks, along with the life vests belonging to the father and the child were located. The search continued into the following week, but with no success in locating the boy. The Sheriff's Office will be continuing spot checks in the area. If anyone has any information, please call the Sheriff's Office.

July 9

Deputy Rogers contacted a caller who told Deputy Rogers that he had been "triggered" by a request that he socially distance himself from Logger's Landing. Deputy Rogers was unable to determine who had told the subject to "socially distance" himself, since no one had called in a complaint against the caller. Deputy Rogers advised him that he would document the incident.

July 10

A resident in the 4900 block of Burpee Hill Rd. called to report that a male was

See **Sheriff's Blotter**, p. 19

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Darrington**Darrington Food Bank**

First Baptist Church
1205 Emmens St., Darrington
First and third week each month:
Wed. and Thur., 10–noon and 1–2 p.m.
360.436.9603

Hamilton**Hamilton Community Food Bank**

951 Petit St., Hamilton

Every Tue., 11–noon and 1–3 p.m.
360.826.4090

Marblemount**Bread of Life Food Bank**

59850 State Route 20, Marblemount
First and third Wed. each month
11 a.m.–2 p.m. (temporary hours)
360.873.2504

Sedro-Woolley**Helping Hands Solution Center**

Pick-up only, at Food Pavilion parking lot
530 Crossroads Sq., Sedro-Woolley
Mon.: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
3 to 6 p.m.
Thur.: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
3 to 6 p.m.
360.856.2211

Days and hours will be updated as needs
change.

*Changes? Call 360.853.8213.

See **Sheriff's Blotter**, p. 13



Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

The concrete bridge at Big Rock is seen in the two photos at right. Built in 1920 by contractor LABeam, the bridge is 20 feet wide and 223 feet long. It is 100 years old this year. The railroad ran under the bridge. *Photo courtesy of Clear Lake Historical Association.* If you have old photos of Clear Lake and/or Day Creek, please contact historian Deanna Ammons at 360.856.6798.

—Deanna Ammons, historian
Clear Lake and Day Creek



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Community Calendar



AUGUST

- 8 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com
- 13–16 Skagit County Fair—**CANCELED**
- 14 Drive-by retirement party for Rick Lemley, Lemley Chapel parking lot and field, 1008 Third St., Sedro-Woolley, 4 to 7 p.m.
- 15 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com
- 22 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com
- 22 Cascade Days—**CANCELED**
- 23 Old Timers' Picnic, Marblemount Community Hall, Marblemount, 1 to 4 p.m.
- 26 Youth Dynamics Golf Marathon fundraiser; see YD Update, p. 8; info at 360.630.6063
- 29 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Concrete School District first day of school; see article, p. 8
- 2 Sedro-Woolley School District first day of school; see article, p. 8
- 5–6 Sasquatch Conference and Festival, Marblemount Community Hall, Marblemount, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days; see notice, p. 26

OCTOBER

- 31 KSVU Harvest Festival and Halloween Dance, Marblemount Community Hall, Marblemount, 6 to 10 p.m.; see notice, p. 26

NOVEMBER

- 21 Community event at Marblemount Community Hall, 6 to 9 p.m.

DECEMBER

- 6 Holiday Bazaar at Marblemount Community Hall, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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



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Community meetings

Cascade Days planning meetings are held the third Mon. of every month at 7460 S. Dillard Ave., Concrete, at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are not mandatory for volunteers. Info at pr@cascadedays.com.

Christian Motorcyclists Assn Morning Star Chapter 39 meets the third Sat. 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 cmchapter39@gmail.com.

Coffee Talk with Concrete Mayor Jason Miller meets the third Friday 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 2 p.m., in the conference room of the East County Resource Center. 360.853.8347.

Concrete Chamber of Commerce meets the second Thur. of each month at 11:30 a.m. Meetings are held at Annie's Pizza Station in Grasmere Village. 360.466.8754 or concretechamber@mac.com.

Concrete Economic Development Commission meets quarterly at 6 p.m. at Concrete Town Hall. Call 503.333.2406 for the date of the next meeting.

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

Concrete Heritage Museum Board meets the third Wed. of each month, at 6 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 2 p.m., in the Concrete High School library.

Concrete School District Board: The board will hold a special meeting on Aug. 10 at 6 p.m., via Zoom. 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 third Tue. of each month at the cemetery office on Compton Lane in Concrete, at 6 p.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 Thur. of each month in the Pilots' Lounge at Mears Field in Concrete, at 7 p.m. Open to the public. 360.853.8213 or goodwords@frontier.com.

KSVU staff and volunteer meeting, second Tue. of each month at Portable B behind Concrete Elementary School, 4 p.m., open to public. 360.853.8588.

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.

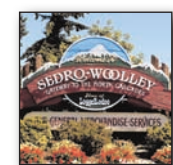
Marblemount Community Hall board meets the second Wed. of each month at the hall, at 6:30 p.m. 360.873.2323.

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.

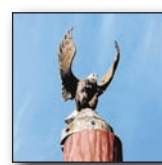
Sedro-Woolley School District Board: Meets for a special session at the Support Services Bldg. and via Zoom, Aug. 10 at 5 p.m. The board will meet for a work session on Aug. 24 at 5 p.m., at the Support Services Bldg., followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m., same location. Info at kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us or 360.855.3500.

Upper Skagit Library District (USLD) Board meets the second Thursday of each month, 6 p.m., via Zoom. To attend, go to upperskagitlibrary.org for the Zoom link or e-mail info@upperskagitlibrary.org.

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Sedro-Woolley



Free face masks find their way to low-income Skagit County residents

As counties begin to reopen, wearing a face covering can help save lives and prevent the spread of COVID-19. But not everyone can easily buy or make them. In June, state officials launched a program to help ensure access to free, reusable cloth face coverings for all low-income Washingtonians.

Personnel with the state's Emergency Management Division, in partnership with the procurement team at the state Department of Enterprise Services, purchased 3.6 million cloth face masks with a plan to distribute two masks to every Washingtonian below 200 percent of the federal poverty level (this equates

to \$52,400 for a family of four). In two weeks, the state distributed nearly 2.8 million masks and is working on filling the remaining orders from local emergency management offices. The state delivers the face coverings to local emergency management offices, who then work with various community organizations and service providers to deliver them to individuals.

In Skagit County, 62,100 masks were delivered first to Skagit County Emergency Management (DEM). DEM sent them to Community Action, which gave them to its food distribution center in Sedro-Woolley. The food distribution

center distributed them to area food banks, where they were given to patrons who came to pick up their food.

This program came just as Gov. Inslee and state Secretary of Health John Wiesman announced a statewide order requiring use of face coverings in public spaces.

People interested in where they can pick up a mask should contact their county's local emergency managers. In Skagit County, people can go to the county DEM Web page at <https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/EmergencyManagement/main.htm>, call 360.416.1850, or e-mail dem@co.skagit.wa.us

More information about face coverings is available on the state's COVID-19 Web site and the Lt. Governor's office Mask Challenge page.

As of June 22, 298,750 masks had been delivered to Snohomish County, and 137,700 masks were delivered to Whatcom County.

—Washington Military Dept.

Judy Johnson contributed to this report.

Chamber taps Brigham as interim director

The Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce has named Monique Brigham as its interim director while Director Pola Kelley is on medical leave.

Brigham took over the temporary reins in April. Kelley plans to return to her duties sometime this fall.

Kelley asked Brigham to fill in for her since Brigham is the chamber's membership director and has attended chamber training and conferences with Kelley for several years. The chamber's board of directors voted to approve the temporary change, also in part because Brigham's business had been partially sidelined by the virus.

Brigham owns and operates Plumeria Breezes Travel in Sedro-Woolley. She said the business has slowed dramatically because "nobody is going on vacation. I spent most of March and early April rearranging travel plans and helping people get refunds. I have booked some travel for next year and have two Mexico weddings for 2021, so there is hope."

Brigham wants to share that hope with chamber members and the Sedro-Woolley business community "to get through this any way I can. I have been working with Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County and Skagit County Chamber executive directors to get information out there on the current programs and assistance available."

The chamber still holds its monthly luncheons virtually. Brigham manages the daily chamber operations and attends Zoom meetings and functions to glean beneficial information for chamber members. She said she also is working with the Boys & Girls Club to help find a suitable place for its early learning education, and working with Sedro-Woolley Mayor Julia Johnson to come up with ideas and solutions for issues the city's restaurants are encountering.

"Thankfully, Pola is just a text away if I have questions," said Brigham.

—J. K. M.

Unsolicited seed packets appear in mailboxes across the U.S.

Americans all over the country have received suspicious, unsolicited packages of seed that appear to be coming from China. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is working closely with the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection, other federal agencies, and State departments of agriculture to investigate the situation.

USDA urges anyone who receives an unsolicited package of seeds to immediately contact their state plant regulatory official or APHIS state plant health director. Hold on to the seeds and packaging, including the mailing label, until someone from the state department of agriculture or APHIS contacts you with further instructions. Do not plant seeds from unknown origins.

"At this time, we don't have any evidence indicating this is something other than a 'brushing scam,' where people receive unsolicited items from a seller who then posts false customer reviews to boost sales," the USDA said in a press release. "USDA is currently collecting seed packages from recipients and will test their contents and determine if they contain anything that could be of concern to U.S. agriculture or the environment."

To learn more about USDA's efforts to stop agricultural smuggling and promote trade compliance, go to https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/import-information/sa_site.

—USDA



Wing Racing from Sedro-Woolley brought its quarter midget sprint cars to the Concrete Caravan July 4 parade in Concrete. The display was popular during the "reverse parade," which had spectators driving past the parade entries. Representing the team were, from left, Clay and Cassa Wing, and Taven Wing, 8; Maddox Wing, 5; and Aria Wing, 10.

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Lyman



Lyman lines up grants for small businesses

Working with Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County (EDASC), Town of Lyman has found a way to spend its CARES Act funding at a grassroots level: Offer grants to local small businesses that are struggling during the pandemic.

The CARES Act allows for up to \$25,000 to be sent to small towns across the U.S. Town of Lyman has contracted with EDASC to help with the Dept. of Commerce paperwork and professional guidance required to execute the town's plan without running afoul of federal regulations. EDASC will get \$2,500 for its services, and Lyman small businesses can reap the benefits.

The grants are intended to help small brick-and-mortar businesses inside town limits.

"We've had two applications so far, but no awards yet," said Lyman Mayor Eddie Hills. "We increased the award amount from \$5,000 to \$11,000," though, so those two applicants are on track to get \$11,000 each. "They just have to sign the contract now, and some other paperwork, and then Lyman can write checks," he said.

EDASC is serving the same role for City of Mount Vernon and Town of Concrete. Both municipalities plan to funnel the majority of their CARES Act funds to local businesses.

—J. K. M.

Council summary

The Lyman Town Council held telephone meetings via Zoom on May 26, June 9, and June 23. Following is a summary of those meetings. Complete minutes for every council meeting are posted in the hall by the front door of Lyman Town Hall.

May 26 regular meeting

- Council noted there was no meeting in April because of the Stay at Home mandate.
- Council voted to pay the bills for March (\$17,144.87) and April (\$9,874.07) in the total amount of \$27,018.94.
- *Water loss report:* 31percent. There was a leak at Harrington's that was fixed on the April 26; this could be the reason for the spike in water loss from 22 to 31 percent.
- Elaine Kohler has closed the library.
- Councilmember Mike Couch will contact Berg Vault to set up a date to move the niche wall at the cemetery.
- *Citizen comments:* Jeremy asked Mayor Eddie Hills about the sidewalk at the cemetery. Mayor Hills explained that the county dumped a load of dirt to fill in some holes and the sidewalk was damaged. Mark Y. is going to fix it.
- Councilmember Ron Hodgin reported

that he would not do the volunteer clean-up day this year.

June 9 regular meeting

- The May minutes were accepted. The May treasurer's report was accepted. A motion passed to pay the June bills.
- *Water loss report:* Water loss was down from last month.
- The niche wall at the cemetery will be moved to the new spot by the flagpole on June 16. Berg Vault will move it, and Rick Lemley from Lemley Chapel will there.
- Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group gave a presentation on the work they do and the programs available.

June 23 regular meeting

- The Department of Commerce is giving Lyman a \$25,000 grant, which EDASC will manage, for small, brick-and-mortar businesses in town. Council voted to move forward with the grant, with EDASC managing the applications and payments.
- Council approved a Shared Services Interlocal Agreement that will allow Lyman Clerk Debbie Boyd to help Town of Hamilton while they need it. Hamilton in turn will have their public works employees help Town of Lyman Public Works.

—Compiled from staff notes

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 13

sitting at the boat launch at Vogler Lake playing loud music and disturbing him. He told dispatch that he would kill the male if he came onto his property. Deputy Beisler responded and contacted both subjects. The male in the car said he had driven up to the lake where he had sat and had a couple beers. The subject did not appear to be intoxicated, but did accept a ride into Concrete to contact his girlfriend, who would make arrangements to pick up his car.

A motor vehicle accident was reported in the parking lot of Loggers Landing in Concrete. The victim called and advised that he was a driver for the gas company who delivers gasoline to the store. A female had backed up in the parking lot and struck the front bumper of his truck. There was minimal to no damage to the truck and the reporting party didn't know if the female driver had even realized she had backed into the truck. Deputy Moore was able to locate the license plate of the vehicle involved and it returned to a person out of Bellingham. He will follow up and attempt to contact the driver.

A series of explosions were reported coming from the Medford Rd. gravel pit. The caller said that it sounded like someone was setting off dynamite in the pit. Deputy Johnson told her that it could be someone using "Tannerite" explosive targets, which are legal but not allowed on DNR property. He advised that a deputy would check the pit to determine what was causing the explosions.

July 12

Deputy Johnson responded to a motor vehicle accident in front of Boots Bar and Grill in Hamilton. The driver of a small pickup had driven over a motorcycle that had been parked in front of the bar. When Deputy Johnson arrived, he was told that the driver of the truck had been driving down the street with his head slumped down. As he approached the bar, he drifted over, hitting the motorcycle. After hitting the motorcycle, he attempted to drive away, but was unable to since the motorcycle was wedged under the truck. When Deputy Johnson contacted the driver, he determined that the driver was probably under the influence of drugs. The driver was taken to the hospital, where a warrant for his blood was served. After securing the blood sample, the driver was admitted into the hospital for medical reasons.

July 14

Deputy Serna responded to a possible domestic disturbance in the 45000

block of Shields Court in Concrete. The reporting party said that a male and female were screaming at each other. Deputy Serna contacted the two parties involved. Both denied that an assault had occurred and stated that they were only arguing. The parties involved were separated and advised they would let things cool down.

July 15

The sister of a female who had an anti-harassment order against the female's husband called to report that today she had discovered that her sister's estranged husband had posted messages and pictures on his Facebook account that she felt violated the order. The caller told Deputy O'Reilly that she had not told her sister yet because she believed it would cause her sister to have an anxiety attack. Deputy O'Reilly was shown several messages from the suspect's Facebook posts about the victim. The suspect had also posted several pictures of his estranged wife wearing lingerie and had changed his profile picture to one of his wife in the nude. Deputy O'Reilly contacted the victim, who was unaware of the situation. After her sister showed her the pictures and messages, she became visibly angry and embarrassed. She advised Deputy O'Reilly that the pictures that her estranged husband had posted were taken for him privately and were not intended to be shown to anyone else. Deputy O'Reilly will contact the Prosecutor's Office for guidance on charges.

July 16

Dispatch received a call of an elderly lady walking near Loggers Landing in Concrete without a mask. Deputy Moore checked the area to see if he could locate the female to determine if she needed help since the wearing of a mask may or may not be required since the female was outside, alone, and may have medical issues that exempt her from wearing a mask.

Earlier today, Deputy Moore had taken information that a property owner had discovered that the door to his residence in the 49000 block of Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. had been kicked open during the prior three weeks. At the time, the owner was unable to provide any information regarding what had been taken. He advised Deputy Moore he just wanted it documented.

Deputy Moore also handled a fraud complaint during which a caller told him that he had received a strange call asking about his interest in making arrangements for pickup of old medication from his residence. The reporting party felt that

it was someone fraudulently claiming to be part of a company that picks up old medications in hopes of getting drugs. Deputy Moore documented the information. The Sheriff's Office would like to be notified if any other citizens receive similar calls.

July 17

Caller advised that two to three hours before calling, she and her friends had seen a body hanging in a white barn just past the entrance to the gate at "Devil's Tower" near Concrete. Deputy Wiggins checked the area and was unable to locate a body or any indication that the call legitimate.

An upset neighbor called to report that his neighbor was digging up a big stump on the neighbor's property that protects the caller's property if it floods. The caller was advised by Deputy Moore to contact the Planning Department to see if there was anything they could do to help him.

July 20

Deputy Mueller was advised that a caller had told dispatch that he was being watched by three drones near his residence on South Rietze St. in Concrete. Deputy Mueller tried several times to call the reporting party back, but did not get an answer. He left a message for the caller to call back if the drones returned.

The Sheriff's Office received a secondhand report of three subjects stranded on an island in the Cascade River about 20 miles upstream of Marblemount. East County Water Rescue was called to respond. While they were responding, National Parks, along with the assistance of the Marblemount Fire Department, were able to rescue the victims and take them to safety.

July 23

A Town of Concrete employee stopped by the East Detachment Sheriff's Office in Concrete and contacted Deputy Mullen. The employee had found a wallet at Silo Park. Deputy Mullen located ID in the wallet and made arrangements for the owner to contact him near Sedro-Woolley to return the wallet.

Deputy Mullen received an agency assist request from Snohomish County Sheriff's Office that Washington State Patrol wanted our office to check on the welfare of a female who they believed lives on B St. in Concrete. WSP advised they received a report of a vehicle registered to the female that was swerving and appeared to be intentionally trying to hit other vehicles. The female was possibly making despondent remarks. Deputy Mullen contacted the female, who advised she had been home all day and

was fine. She advised Deputy Mullen that she had sold the vehicle and no longer owned it.

A citizen who lives in the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove called to report that a male had been at her property in violation of a court order. The caller said that there was a valid order restricting the suspect from being at the residence and to have no contact with her granddaughter, who lives there. While driving to the call, Deputy Ayala observed the suspect walking on Cedar Grove Ave. He contacted the suspect. The suspect admitted to going to the residence to get some clothes, but said the victim was not at the residence and he had not contacted anyone while he was there. The suspect advised he was headed to his car. Deputy Ayala left the suspect to contact the reporting party to determine if there was an actual violation. After contacting the reporting party, he determined that the suspect had violated the order. Deputy Ayala attempted to relocate the suspect, but the suspect had left the area. When the suspect is located, he will be arrested for violation of a no-contact order.

Neighbors in the 31000 block of Prevedell Rd. near Lyman have made numerous complaints regarding noise coming from dog kennels located in the area. The owners of the kennels raise dogs to sell and are not properly permitted to have the kennel. The issue has been ongoing for several months. Deputy Wiggins responded on this date to another barking dog complaint. The report was that the dogs in the kennels had been barking all day. The owner of the kennels has been cited twice, along with being warned numerous other times. Upon his arrival, Deputy Wiggins did not hear barking dogs but after sitting for a few moments he could clearly hear the dogs barking on and off for quite some time. He contacted the reporting party. As he was contacting the reporting party, he was able to hear the barking even clearer from that location. The reporting party advised that the dogs had been barking all day. The dogs would bark for several minutes, then stop for a brief period, only to start again. After hearing the dogs and getting a statement from the reporting party, Deputy Wiggins developed probable cause to cite the owner again for violation of the county noise ordinance.

July 24

A report of two suspicious vehicles parked near a residence in the 48800 block of Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. was given

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Above: Concrete photographer Jude Dippold captured this image of Comet Neowise on July 19. Discovered on March 23, the comet is observable with the naked eye for 113 days, through early August, in the northern sky, near the base of the Big Dipper (see "Treasures of the Night Sky," p. 24). On Wed. evening, July 22, Neowise passed as close to the Earth as it will come: 64.3 million miles away. Neowise will next visit our corner of the universe in approximately 6,800 years. Photo by Jude Dippold.

July in pictures



Above: Former Concrete Public Works Director Alan Wilkins (third from left) paused for a photo with his coworkers during a retirement party in his honor at Concrete Town Hall on June 30, his last day on the job. Upon Wilkins' retirement, Concrete Mayor Jason Miller promoted Public Works employees Terry Coggins to the director position, and Jesse Babcock to the Public Works Maintenance position. From left: Jennifer Past, Babcock, Wilkins, Coggins, Dale Angell, and Andrea Fichter.



Above: Concrete Chamber of Commerce President Val Stafford hams it up in her Wonder Woman costume during the "Concrete Caravan" July 4 "reverse parade" in Concrete. Participants lined the sidewalks along Main Street between the community garden and Concrete Town Center, and spectators drove the route, waving flags, honking horns, and enjoying ice cream, popcorn, and tacos along the way.



Above: Snohomish bicyclist Jeff Doran and Rockport resident Christie Fairchild (second from left and third from left, respectively), pause with supporters for a photo after Doran's arrival in Concrete on July 15. Doran had traveled from Lyman to Concrete with a group of likeminded bicyclists in support of a fundraiser to defeat amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Doran and Fairchild are fighting the disease.

"I was honored to be Jeff's 'virtual partner' in his efforts to keep this critical fundraiser alive in this time of Covid crisis," said Fairchild.

Doran rode for the ALS Evergreen Chapter, a nongovernmental organization serving the Pacific Northwest and Alaska that offers critical services to those afflicted with ALS, including counseling, education and information, resources such as books and electronic materials, long-term loans of medical equipment, and other services such as "voice banking," which Fairchild will receive soon.

"Thanks to new technology and the generous time and talent of staff and volunteers, my 'real' voice is now being lifted and gleaned from dozens of recorded radio shows I did over my almost 10 years as a host on KSVU," said Fairchild. "Eventually, the text-to-speech iPad program I currently use will actually sound like me and not a robot! I am so grateful for this service and for all those wonderful friends and family who came out in support of Jeff's bike ride. All of this helps us to live with ALS, rather than die from it."

Left: Doran (in "RIDE" shirt) and Fairchild (with arm in sling) share a laugh during the July 15 event at Silo Park in Concrete.



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Hamilton



Rockport



Faulty outlet caused fire at Hamilton mayor's home

A faulty electrical outlet on the front porch likely caused the June 29 fire that destroyed the home of Hamilton Mayor Carla Vandiver and Hamilton Town Councilman Dean Vandiver.

Mayor Vandiver told *Concrete Herald* that freezers were plugged into the outlet, which was located outside their bedroom window. An investigator from their insurance company discovered the malfunctioning outlet.

"Most likely it was smoldering when I went to bed, and then it flared up, under the house, up into the attic," said Vandiver. "By the time we woke up about 1:15 a.m., the whole house outside the window was up in flames. I woke up to this really loud noise, like a freight train—it was the roar

of the fire on the front of the house. Scary."

Vandiver said the couple is now waiting to hear from Skagit County Building Inspector Tony Niskanen regarding their next steps.

"The FEMA ordinance that affects this was never officially adopted (by Town of Hamilton) ... so it looks like we'll be able to rebuild, and our insurance should cover it," she said.

The Vandivers' insurance company is also investigating the possibility of arson as an additional cause of the fire. For now, Hamilton's mayor and town councilman are living in their 5th wheel trailer in the front yard of the property.

—J. K. M.



WSDOT plans to reopen rockslide area by Aug. 7

Barring any unexpected surprises, work to stabilize the hillside above State Route 20 near Rockport will wrap up soon, according to WSDOT.

The agency plans to open the road by Fri., Aug. 7.

Contractor crews continue to drill into the hillside to shore up any large loose

rock. Once the hillside is stabilized, crews will remove the remaining fallen rocks and debris, then reopen SR 20.

The detour route will remain in place until then for all travelers, including bicyclists.

—WSDOT

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Birdsview Buzz

We were very sad to have to cancel Birdstock this year. But in all good conscience, we couldn't responsibly bring together 1,000 people during this time, no matter how good the cause. But because of this, the Birdsview Fire Dept. lost out on their biggest fundraiser that they count on to provide scholarships and many other things that they do throughout the year. So maybe consider donating to them, and also the Concrete Food Bank, as all the leftover food always went to them.

We are all trying to adjust to our "new normal." Local businesses are struggling to keep up with the constantly changing rules and regulations that are being put on us. PLEASE be patient with local employees and owners during this time. These aren't our rules, but we are having to enforce them. Arguing with us about the mask requirements, sitting only five to a table, and now inside seating limited to same households is hard. We at the brewery are taking every precaution to keep you the customer and our staff

safe, and keep us open. We are strictly enforcing the mask rule, sanitizing inside and out after each guest leaves, sanitizing doors and anything else people touch, and trying to remain as touchless as possible.

We had music booked through the end of the year. Having to cancel all of that affects not just us, but the local musicians. For some it's their only income. We feel bad for them and can't wait until we can once again enjoy live music again. So please continue to support all the small local businesses so we can still be here for you in the future. And if you see a business not complying with the rules, please report them as we are all in this together.

Also, if there are any knitters or crocheters out there, I have a need for newborn and premie blankets, hats, booties, gowns, etc. They can be dropped off at the brewery anytime during business hours. And if you need yarn for this project, I can supply that as well. Just contact me.

Thank you and stay safe, everyone!

—Kris Voigt



The above photos were taken by Hamilton Mayor Carla Vandiver on the morning of June 29, when a fire almost completely destroyed the home she shares with Hamilton Town Councilman Dean Vandiver. The couple lost their parrot, a dog, "and everything we own," said Mayor Vandiver in a June 29 text to *Concrete Herald*.

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State Parks asks visitors to avoid crowded parks this summer

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is asking the public to follow the Guidelines for Responsible Recreation when planning a trip to a state park this summer. When parks are crowded, and parking lots are full, visitors should go somewhere else.

Popular state parks across Washington have been experiencing high numbers of visitors this summer. Large crowds are a concern because it makes social distancing difficult for park staff and visitors.

State Parks also is concerned about the impact large crowds have on parks' natural resources. If a parking lot is full,

visitors should avoid parking on local roads to access the park on foot.

Visitors should check what's open before heading out, avoid crowds and be prepared to go somewhere else if the park is at capacity. There are 124 developed state parks in Washington.

State parks reopened day-use areas in early May after a five-week closure due to the coronavirus pandemic. Camping began reopening June 1. To date, not all state parks have reopened.

Free Day in August

State Parks will offer a free day on Aug. 25. Locally, Rasar and Rockport state parks will be accessible without using a Discover Pass.

The free days are in keeping with legislation that created the Discover Pass. The free days apply only at state parks; the Discover Pass is still required on WDFW and DNR lands.

—J. K. M.



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THURSDAY - MONDAY
10AM-6PM

(MAY-OCTOBER)

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Groceries



VISIT US:
HWY 20, MP 101





Darrington



Darrington Coffee & Tea Co. opens

Story and photo by Marla Skaglund

Darrington Coffee & Tea Company is the latest business to open in Darrington. Owners and recent residents to Darrington, Kathy Rodgers, Dennis Mattes, and Sara Rodgers quickly grew to love the community and the environment so much, they decided to open a place where everyone can participate and share in this beautiful community.

The coffee and tea shop, which serves 100 percent organic, locally roasted coffee from Camano Island Roasters, also features Kathy's handcrafted teas, commercial teas, baked goods, 100 percent gluten-free pastries, take-home baked goods, packable snacks, drinks, and supplies.

Their Web site, darringtoncoffeeandtea.com, has a menu where visitors can place an order to be picked up. Hours are Monday and Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Wednesday through Sunday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The shop is located at 1085 Darrington St. in Darrington.

The owners are continually looking for more local businesses to provide them with clean, natural, and healthful foods and ingredients.



Future plans for the shop include classes in Sun Moon Yoga. Rodgers has been practicing yoga and natural medicine for more than 40 years, is certified in Hatha Yoga, Kundalini Yoga, and Restorative Yoga, and is an Emotional Freedom Technique Trainer. Classes will be offered mornings, afternoons, and evenings, and are scheduled for 1 to 1.5 hours each.

Council summary

Darrington Town Council met for a regular meeting on June 10, 2020. The following is a summary of that meeting. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at darringtontownhall.com and online at townofdarrington.com.

June 10 regular meeting

- Council voted to cancel the July 4 fireworks display.
- Council voted to formally approve the Ground Lease Contingency Agreement with Darrington Innovation Center and Town of Darrington.
- Council discussed when it can reconvene for in-person council meetings, now that the county is in Phase 2. The reopening phases have been reviewed. Phase 2 does not allow for Council to meet in person. Phase 2 allows people to meet only in groups of five people or fewer, outside of one's quarantine group.
- Council discussed the town's CARES Act funding. The town received \$42,300. Treasurer Dianne Allen explained the budget. Council voted to approve the Interagency Agreement with Washington State Department of Commerce, and for Mayor Dan Rankin to sign.
- Allen explained the Town of Darrington Business/Organization Relief Grant Program. When applications come in, Allen will send the completed applications to the

council members. Council decided to come in at 6 p.m. on July 8, before the regular council meeting, to review the applications. Council voted to approve the Darrington Business/Organization Relief Grant Program and to go forward with advertising and administration.

- Council voted to approve the Floodplain Management Ordinance. This will be an interim ordinance that will be valid for six months. The docket is set for July.
- Council voted to approve a street closure for the Mountain Bike Trails Opening. The closure will be on Emens from the Old Town Hall parking lot to Darrington St. The closure is dependent upon the county being in Phase 4. The closure is from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Mayor Rankin reported he had been doing a lot of Zoom and phone meetings. Most meetings are centered around COVID and economic recovery updates.
- There was a peaceful protest in the community this evening. It was cool to see such a turnout.
- The Community Center is working on a new contract with the school district; it should be done this month.

—Compiled from staff minutes

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

Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

July 10

Around 11:30 a.m., deputies with the Snohomish County Violent Offender Task Force (VOTF) arrested a 49-year-old male in Shoreline wanted for seven counts of felony first-degree child sexual assault and promoting child abuse. The suspect is a convicted sex offender who has been in Washington and has failed to register with law enforcement in our state. The 49-year-old has previous ties to the Snohomish County area, but his felony warrants are out of Maui, Hawaii. In June, authorities in Maui requested assistance from the Snohomish County Violent Offender Task Force to locate the suspect. Earlier today, deputies located the man at a construction site in Shoreline. He was taken into custody without incident and booked into the Snohomish County Jail, where he awaits extradition to Hawaii to face his charges.

July 18

Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (SAR) deputies, patrol deputies, and dive team responded to a drowning at Crystal Lake near Woodinville at around 1 p.m. today. A 71-year-old male was pulled from the lake by family members and bystanders who performed CPR. Efforts to revive the man were unsuccessful; the victim died at the scene.

The death does not appear to be suspicious. Positive identification of the decedent, as well as the cause and manner of death, will come from the Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office.

July 23

At approximately 6:30 p.m., the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office Major Crimes Unit arrested a Marysville man for first-degree assault. Deputies responded to a shooting around 9 a.m. in the 15400 block of SR 520 in Arlington. A 29-year-old male had suffered a gunshot wound to his abdomen and was transported to Cascade Valley Hospital. The suspect, a 49-year-old male, fled the scene in a vehicle.

During the investigation, Major Crimes Unit detectives learned the incident started as a verbal altercation outside a residence. The 29-year-old male was standing in a driveway when he was shot by the 49-year-old suspect, who was inside his vehicle.

Deputies with the Violent Offender Task Force located the suspect during a traffic stop in Marysville around 6:30 p.m. After placing him in handcuffs, deputies located a handgun in his waistband. He was

arrested without incident and transported to the Snohomish County Jail, where he was booked for first-degree assault. This is an active investigation.

July 25

The Snohomish Regional Drug Task Force today seized 1,400 grams of fentanyl, the largest amount ever seized in Snohomish County. Following a narcotics investigation, a 38-year-old Lynnwood man and a 36-year-old Lynnwood woman were taken into custody around 10 a.m. Saturday during a traffic stop in the 18200 block of 59th Ave. NE in Arlington.

With a search warrant, detectives recovered 13 grams of heroin in the center console of the vehicle and a pistol under the passenger seat floorboard. During a search of the suspects' residence located in the 15900 block of 35th Pl. W. in Lynnwood, detectives recovered:

- Approximately 1,400 grams of fentanyl powder.
- Approximately 808 grams of heroin.
- Approximately 12 grams of methamphetamine.
- Several blenders with suspected drug residue in them.
- Several digital scales with suspected drug residue on the weigh plates.
- Drug-packaging materials, including vacuum-sealable bags and a vacuum sealer.
- Cutting agents for the manufacture of illicit narcotics for sale.
- Binding agents for the express purpose of producing counterfeit pills.
- A 9mm handgun.
- A pistol grip 12-gauge shotgun with a sawed off barrel and an obliterated serial number.
- Various calibers of ammunition.
- Approximately \$14,000 in cash.

The street value of the seized fentanyl ranges from \$14 million to \$23 million. From this supply, about 1.4 million counterfeit pills could be produced. The amount of fentanyl the suspects possessed at their residence has the capability to cause the death of approximately 700,000 people.

Both suspects were arrested and booked into the Snohomish County Jail. The 38-year-old Lynnwood man was booked for three felony charges for manufacturing and selling, and unlawful possession of a firearm. The 36-year-old Lynnwood woman was booked for three felony charges for manufacturing and selling and possession of a controlled substance.

July 29

The body of a 30-year-old Seattle man who fell through an ice bridge on the Gothic Basin Trail has been recovered. Around 5 p.m. on July 24, the man was hiking in the Gothic Basin area, approximately three miles up from Barlow Pass, when an ice bridge collapsed as he was crossing. The man fell through the ice, and during the collapse both ice and snow boulders fell on top of him. He died at the scene.

Search and Rescue (SAR) responded to the area that night and located the male, but were unable to recover his body at that time because of dangerous conditions. Rescue teams returned early Saturday morning, but were again unable to recover the man's body because of the difficult and technical operations. They succeeded on July 29.

—Submitted by SCSO

Treasures of the night sky

By Stephen Somsen

If you have not already seen Comet Neowise, there will still be viewing opportunities early in August. Look to the northwest to the left and below the Big Dipper for a good look before it heads out of sight for another 6,800 years. Binoculars will enhance your view but are not required. Late evening or early morning dark skies are best.

Planets Jupiter and Saturn are visible close together nearly all night long in August. Our moon will help you to find these planets, first on Aug. 1 just below Jupiter and then below Saturn on Aug. 2. That sequence will repeat on Aug. 28 and 29. As you look in the southern sky, Jupiter will be the brighter of the two planets and closest to the "handle of the teapot" in the Sagittarius constellation.

Another celestial highlight for August is the Perseid meteor shower, which peaks

Briefly ...

Barring any further revolting developments, local artists Ron Wolff, Holly Cannell, and Gordy Beil will host their 10th annual **Big August Hoobajoob** art show.

The event is Darrington's longest continually running art show, and features unique artworks executed in a variety of media. Special guest artists are Natalie, Paulina, and Mae Skuta.

The Big August Hoobajoob is slated for Sat., Aug. 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sun., Aug. 16, from noon to 6 p.m.

The show is located at 605 S. Emens Ave. (corner of S. Emens Ave. and Fir St.) in Darrington. Wear a mask for a 10 percent discount on all art priced over \$5.

For more information, call 360.436.0711.

on Tue. and Wed., Aug. 11 and 12. The best viewing likely will be well after sunset, but prior to the near midnight rising last-quarter moon. Look to the northeast after allowing your eyes to fully adjust to the dark night sky. The meteors you'll see will be about 55 miles distant, ranging in size from a grain of sand to a small marble, and traveling at about 130,000 miles per hour.

Finally, Venus will be clearly visible, quite high in the eastern sky in the dark hours before dawn, especially in mid-August. Look for that "car headlight" above Orion, the Hunter, now back in view after a few weeks too close to the sun.

Fun fact: Our moon travels at a speed of approximately 2,200 mph in its orbit around the earth.

Amateur astronomer Stephen Somsen is a volunteer for the North Mountain Lookout project and a member of Darrington Strong. Reach him at ssomsen@aol.com.

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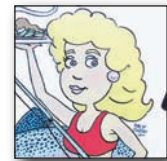
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Marblemount



Newhalem



Marblemount readies for Sasquatch conference

Marblemount has plans to continue planning events, still adhering to the CDC guidelines. COVID-19 restricted operations of small businesses in the small community. Some may never reopen. This may also be true for the Marblemount Community Hall: The bills still arrive each month, with the hall lacking event revenue to pay them. The Salmon Bar-B-Que was the only fundraiser to get the hall back on track for this year. Along with COVID-19, the rock slide that closed SR 20 between Rockport and Marblemount also has created a revenue loss for small businesses.

Sasquatch Conference

The Sasquatch Conference is scheduled for Sept. 5–6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, at the hall. The public is invited.

The Sasquatch Conference still plans to be on schedule while adhering to CDC guidelines. This year's event may be outdoors, with vendors in booths 6 feet apart. Parking will be limited, as well as attendees at any given time.

The lineup will be the same, with a few changes to some of the contests. The entire conference can change; updates will be announced via e-mail from nwsasquatch2@outlook.com and on the event Facebook page, nwsasquatch2.

This year's lineup includes keynote speaker, author Thom Cantrall. Cantrall is a mainstay of the Bigfoot community. His ideas have shaped current thoughts on Sasquatch, and he has mentored many Bigfoot researchers, including conference host Syvella Kalil. Cantrall's Sasquatch interest began after the 1958 Jerry Crew incident on Bluff Creek. His first experiences happened on the Olympic Peninsula. Cantrall is a prolific writer and a popular speaker for Sasquatch

conferences. He has a wicked sense of humor and incredible insight into the world of Sasquatch people.

The second speaker is Dr. J. Robert Alley. Dr. Alley has researched Sasquatch for more than 40 years. Working with leading Bigfoot investigators, Alley has focused on forensic evidence, eyewitness reports, and historical Native American lore. As a field investigator, the Alaska resident has examined reports from Canada, the Pacific Northwest, and Florida. He also has analyzed Washington police reports of Sasquatch sightings. Dr. Alley is a retired professor of Anatomy and Physiology at University of Alaska Southeast Ketchikan.

An open mic will be available during intermissions, plus a town hall for questions and answers.

In addition to the speaker lineup, Kalil plans a Sasquatch calling contest, a Sasquatch cookie walk, a Sasquatch costume contest, and raffles and door prizes. Sasquatch vendors and food also are on the agenda.

For tickets, go to: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com> or e-mail nwsasquatch2@outlook.com.

The event also will honor first responders, veterans, and law enforcement.

2020 calendar lineup

- Sept. 5–6: Sasquatch Conference, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days
- Oct. 31: KSVU Harvest Festival and Halloween Dance, 6 to 10 p.m.
- Nov. 21: Community event, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Dec. 6: Holiday Bazar, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

—Syvella Kalil

Search for missing Chehalis boy suspended

The active search for missing 10-year-old Sage Adams was suspended on July 14, after more than 2,000 hours and a week-long search, the Skagit County Sheriff's Office announced on its Facebook wall.

"The Sheriff's Office will have boats in the upper portions of the Skagit River throughout the summer, and will also respond to any possible sightings or follow-up information pertaining to Sage," according to the post.

Adams went missing in an area of the Skagit River near Marblemount on July 7. The search-and-rescue effort included teams from around the state and all of the local SAR volunteers. Resources included Skagit County deputies, its marine unit, a drone unit, SAR, and Water Rescue. Outside resources included U.S. Customs and Navy helicopters, and SAR teams from Snohomish and Whatcom counties.

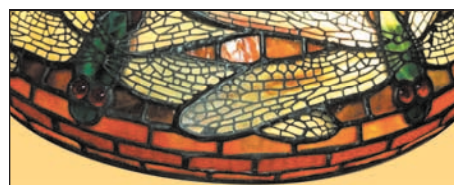
—J. K. M.



Adams

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Cascade River Rd. opens for season

Cascade River Rd. is now open to all vehicles to its end at Cascade Pass Trailhead. The road had been closed for road repairs following storms, heavy rains, and flooding last winter.

Cascade River Rd. provides access to the Cascade Pass, Horseshoe Basin, and Sahale Arm Trails, as well as a scenic route for visitors hiking across the park to Stehekin. Boston Basin is a popular climbing area, with access to Forbidden, Sahale, and Sharkfin peaks, and is also accessed via Cascade River Rd.

Continue the cycle

Please recycle this newspaper



Agencies to begin final round of moving mountain goats from the Olympics to the Cascades

On July 27 a coalition of state and federal agencies, with support from local tribes, began the fourth and final two-week round of translocating mountain goats from Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest to the northern Cascade Mountains to meet wildlife management goals in all three areas. Since September 2018, 275 mountain goats have been translocated.

The effort is a partnership between the National Park Service (NPS), the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW), and the USDA Forest Service (USFS) to re-establish and assist in connecting depleted populations of mountain goats in the Washington Cascades while also removing non-native goats from the Olympic Mountains. Mountain goats were introduced to the Olympics in the 1920s.

WDFW plans to release the mountain goats at 12 sites in the North Cascades national forests during the final round. Nine sites are in the Darrington, Preacher Mountain, Mt. Loop Highway, and Snoqualmie Pass areas of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Three release sites are in the Chikamin Ridge, Box Canyon, and Tower Mountain areas of Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.

At the start of the translocation effort in 2018, the population of mountain goats was estimated at 725. Based on past removal efforts, it was estimated that approximately 50 percent of the mountain goat population, or 325–375 animals, could be safely captured during a total of four 2-week periods. To date, 275 mountain goats have been captured and translocated, with a grand total of 326 removed from the population on the Olympic Peninsula.

Lethal removal will begin in fall 2020 after the final round of capture and translocation.

Project background

In May 2018, the NPS released its final

Mountain Goat Management Plan, which outlined the effort to remove mountain goats on the Olympic Peninsula. The plan and the associated environmental impact statement were finalized after an extensive public review process, which began in 2014.

While some mountain goat populations in the north Cascades have recovered since the 1990s, the species is still absent from many areas of its historic range.

Aerial capture operations are conducted through a contract with Leading Edge Aviation, a private company that specializes in the capture and transport of wild animals. The helicopter crew uses immobilizing darts and net guns to capture mountain goats and transport them in specially-made slings to the staging areas.

The animals are cared for by veterinarians before WDFW wildlife managers transport them to staging areas in the North Cascades for release. To maximize success, goats are airlifted in their crates by helicopter directly to alpine habitats that have been selected for appropriate characteristics.

Mountain goats follow and approach hikers because they are attracted to the salt from their sweat, urine, and food. "The North Cascades is a vast landscape, that is less population-dense than Olympic National Park," said Will Moore, a WDFW wildlife manager who specializes in mountain goats.

"We also know that the Cascades have natural salt licks, that mountain goats depend on," added Moore. "Because of this, they won't rely as much on humans to provide their salt fix."

Area tribes that have supported the translocation plan in the Cascades include the Lummi, Muckleshoot, Sauk-Suiattle, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, Swinomish, Tulalip, and Upper Skagit tribes.

For more information and updates on the project, go to nps.gov/olym/planyourvisit/mountain-goat-capture-and-translocation.htm.

Feds nix grizzly bear restoration attempts in North Cascades

The U.S. Dept. of the Interior announced on July 7 that it would no longer pursue plans to restore the grizzly bear population in the North Cascades.

The decision came from U.S. Secretary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt during a roundtable with community members in Omak, Wash. Bernhardt referenced the efforts of U.S. Representative Dan Newhouse (WA-04)—a vocal opponent of the plan—during his announcement.

"Representative Newhouse has been a tireless advocate for his community and his constituents regarding plans to reintroduce grizzly bears into the North Cascades Ecosystem," said Secretary Bernhardt. "The Trump Administration is committed to being a good neighbor, and the people who live and work in

north central Washington have made their voices clear that they do not want grizzly bears reintroduced into the North Cascades. Grizzly bears are not in danger of extinction, and Interior will continue to build on its conservation successes managing healthy grizzly bear populations across their existing range."

"This announcement is welcomed by my constituents in Central Washington who have consistently shared my same concerns about introducing an apex predator into the North Cascades," said Newhouse. "Homeowners, farmers, ranchers, and small business owners in our rural communities were loud and clear: We do not want grizzly bears in North Central Washington."

—J. K. M.

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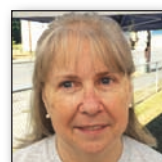
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Volunteers needed for Fire Dist. 19, Marblemount Fire Dept.

Stop by the Fire Hall for an application on meeting nights—the second and fourth Mondays of every month at 7 p.m.—or call Battalion Chief Bob Hopfield at 360.420.7887 for more info. This position is subject to a background check.



Seniors



Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure

Crisco Double Crust Pie Crust



2 cups flour
1 teaspoon salt
¾ cup Crisco
5 tablespoons cold water

1. Mix flour and salt. Cut in Crisco with a pastry blender until all is in pea-sized crumbs.
2. Sprinkle in water 1 tablespoon at a time. Toss lightly with a fork until dough forms a ball.
3. Flour surface and rolling pin. Divide dough in half, then roll first ball into a circle. Trim 1 inch larger than upside-down pie plate.
4. Fold into quarters and place into a pie plate. Unfold and press into the pie plate. Prick bottom and sides with fork.
5. Add pie filling, then roll out the second ball and place it on top of the pie. Pinch top and bottom crusts together and vent the top.
6. Bake in a 425-degree oven for 10 to 15 minutes. Turn down heat to 350 degrees and bake until crust is brown.
7. This makes a 9-inch pie.

Editor's note: In memory of our dear Verna, this column will continue until her recipe inventory has been exhausted.

Way Back When

90 years ago

Aug. 28, 1930: The huge Diablo power dam, under construction for the past three years, is now officially the property of the City of Seattle. The dam has been fully completed and was dedicated yesterday at an impressive ceremony held on the crest of the dam.

The structure was turned over to the city by Luke S. Oakes, president of Winston Brothers Company, builders of the dam,

and was accepted on behalf of the city by J. D. Ross, superintendent of the Seattle Light department, and Mayor Frank Edwards. Other speakers on the program were Gov. Hartley and S. F. Tolmie, premier of British Columbia.

A special train was run from Seattle to Newhalem yesterday, carrying about 300 people to the dedication. The passenger list included state, county, and City of Seattle officers and construction officials and engineers from all parts of the state.

The dam, the second largest of its kind in the world, is located in Diablo canyon, about 35 miles up the Skagit River from Rockport. The dam is of the arch type, 390

feet high, 1,200 feet long at the crest, and 140 feet thick at the base. The walls of the canyon are of solid granite and at some places the opposite walls are only nineteen feet apart. The dam was started in September 1927, and its cost is about \$4,000,000. The ultimate power to be generated from this dam, when all contemplated units have been installed, is 225,000

See **Way Back**, p. 29

East County August 2020 activities

Concrete Community Center Meal Program

Mon.-Fri., 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Take-out only.

Must be present to pick up a meal.

Donations always appreciated.

East County Resource Center

Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

360-416-1733

We are open and providing critical need services, information, and referrals to individuals, one person at a time.

For more information, please visit the Community Action Web site link, "COVID-19 Response," or call 360-416-1733.

Saturdays

All 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Concrete Sat. Mkt.

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

horsepower. The impounding of the water back of the dam forms a lake six miles long, with a storage capacity of 90,000 acre feet.

Concrete citizens have a local interest in the dam, in that Superior cement was used entirely in its construction. The amount of cement used on the job was 1,745,116 sacks, enough to make a train load of 1,770 cars—a train almost 15 miles long. A large number of local people also have been employed on the construction work for the past three years.

80 years ago

Aug. 15, 1940: A one-man reign of terror was staged in the Upper Valley last evening, when a slightly built fellow in cords, a white shirt, and a straw hat went on a rampage and began holding up cars near Sauk and continued on his way brandishing a gun until finally captured near Marblemount early this morning.

He first started his gun flourishing near the Faber ferry, where he flagged down a car and forced the driver to take him as far as the Sauk store. There the driver managed to escape on an excuse of stopping for gas. The next victim was a motorcyclist who drove to Rockport with a gun in his back.

At Rockport the man ordered a drink at Bensons and waved a gun in lieu of payment, going from there to the restaurant across the street, where he terrorized more of the Rockport population.

Meanwhile, the Concrete police force was summoned and arrived in time to find the wild man in the road, seeking a ride to Marblemount. Waving his gun, he made them drive almost to Marblemount before he jumped off into the brush and disappeared. He was traced to a farmhouse where he stopped for a drink, then

NEW POST OFFICE NEARING COMPLETION



disappeared again.

At about 2:30 a.m., he was heard to fire four shots, and shortly afterward was captured walking down the road, having thrown away his weapon.

Evidently insane or under the influence of dope, he gave no coherent story and his name could not be learned. The only clue to his identity was a few papers of S. W. Brantner in his billfold. He had some money, but no positive identification.

Officers from the county sheriff's office were called to take him to Mount Vernon for observation this morning.

70 years ago

Aug. 10, 1950: Concrete Mayor Tom Wright today accepted the

challenge of Mayor Harvey Vaux of Mount Vernon for a milking contest between all county mayors. The event will be part of the 4-H Club Fair to be held in Mount Vernon on Aug. 25 at 2:30 p.m.

Can anyone lend Tom a cow so he can get some practice?

—Compiled from archives

50 years ago, Aug. 12, 1970: Owners Jack and Jerry Hoover began the interior finishing work of remodeling their building for occupation by the U.S. Post Office. *Archive photo.*



Rick Lemley
Doug Hutter
Tobi Stidman

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Sunday School lesson

Writing your 2020 headline

By Rob Thomas

Since the middle of March, locally and globally, we have been living in and through a most remarkable and challenging season of our lives. Little did I know how timely my first message of 2020 was and would be. It was titled, “2020: A YEAR OF CHANGE.”

Just three months after preaching that message, our sense of normal was completely changed. Since the middle of March, graduations have been cancelled, jobs have been lost, loved ones have died. For many, Facebook has been the outlet of choice as they have shared their feelings and attitudes about 2020 so far.

As such, I posted the following question: If you were to sum up 2020, what would be your headline?

Jude replied, “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death.”

Jarrold said, “Well, that happened.”

Jason answered, “Married during pandemic. Reception, honeymoon postponed.”

Deborah suggested, “Thrive.”

Dani responded, “Lean into it.”

Carol shared, “Roll with the punches.”

John (former Pastor of Community Bible Church) wrote, “Thank you Lord, you have my full attention.”

Whether globally or locally, the first half of 2020 has prompted emotions including

discouragement, despair, distress, and disillusionment. And the year is barely half over!

So how do we respond and move forward so that our choice for our headline is not filled with discouragement, despair, distress, and/or disillusionment?

May I suggest we consider the example of one who has experienced far worse than our present situation? Why not glean from another’s example and experience—especially one who had a proper perspective? After all, King David wrote in Psalm 31:15, “My times are in thy hand ...” If our times are in God’s hand, and if His timing is perfect, shouldn’t our 2020 headline reflect such truth and assurance?

In the Old Testament book of 1 Samuel, we are introduced to David in 1 Samuel 16. The context is that God has rejected Saul as King (though Saul will continue to reign until his death) and the prophet Samuel anoints David as a sort of “King-In-Waiting.” From 1 Samuel 16–31, the lives of Saul and David are intertwined.

Our story is found in chapter 30. One additional comment: For the previous 16 months, David and his 600 followers have been living with their hated enemy, the Philistines. Imagine that. David had sought the protection of his enemy. Just prior to yet another battle between the Philistines and Israelites, a battle in which David was going to fight on behalf of the Philistines, some of the military leaders questioned David’s loyalty and invited him to leave and go back to Ziklag, which is in the southern part of Israel. (Read the

story in 1 Samuel 30:1–6.)

David and his men return to Ziklag after a three-day journey. Instead of being warmly greeted by friends and family, they found their homes burned down and their families taken captive. The response of David and his men? In 1 Samuel 30:4, they “... lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.”

David was greatly distressed (vs. 6) because the people now spoke of stoning him. In other words, he had lost his home, his family, and the respect of his men. David and his followers found their world, their sense of normalcy, turned upside down. Every facet of their lives—physically, emotionally, relationally, financially—every aspect of their lives had been negatively affected.

So what did David do? Where did David turn? Well, let me tell you what he did *not* do. David did not turn to food to satisfy his deepest needs. David did not turn to social media to satisfy his deepest needs. David did not turn to binge watching his favorite shows on Netflix.

David’s response was twofold. First, David encouraged (strengthened) himself in the Lord (vs. 6). Second, David enquired of the Lord (vs. 8).

David’s initial emotional response was revealed in verses 4 and 6. More important, however, was David’s spiritual response:

1. David found strength in the Lord (vs. 6).
2. David sought direction from the Lord (vs. 8).

We do both through God’s Word, prayer, and the godly counsel of others.

David provides us with a timely example of how to respond in times of uncertainty. He finds strength in the Lord and he seeks direction from the Lord. And in doing both, maybe his headline reads, “Encouraging Yourself/Myself In The Lord.”

I encourage you to write your 2020 headline in light of David’s example.

Rob Thomas is pastor for Community Bible Church in Concrete.

Searching for students of Mary Novy

Mary Novy (Mrs. Novy) taught kindergarten at Concrete Elementary School from the 1970s–1990s. Her students meant so much to her, and she’s hoping to hear from them for her 90th birthday this September! Please send your letters to the below address:

Mary Novy
1918 Poppy Ln. SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Thanks,
Becca Avery
Granddaughter of Mary Novy

Skagit County Sheriff’s Office Blotter

June 24

A report of a male running through the woods with a car battery was reported near the gate leading into Lake Tyee. The reporting party advised that there was a vehicle parked outside the gate that appeared to be associated with the incident. Deputy Wolfe contacted a female who was sitting in the car. She advised that her car battery was dead and her boyfriend, who is well known to the Sheriff’s Office, had left to try to find someone to jump the car. Deputy Wolfe contacted Lake Tyee Security. The security officer said that a resident had confronted the suspect who was carrying a car battery. The suspect dropped the battery and fled. The battery was recovered, but security was unable

Level 3 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.

Opheim, Kirk Roy

Age: 36
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 9’ 9”
Weight: 200
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Blue
Address: 464xx Baker Loop Rd., Cedar Grove



Opheim has been convicted of 3rd degree rape of a child in Skagit County. His victim was a 14-year-old female who was known to him. Opheim was 23 at the time of his conviction.

Opheim 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

to determine who it belonged. Deputy Wolfe re-contacted the female and advised her that it appeared her boyfriend was attempting to steal a battery. She responded by stating, “That’s probably right.” Deputy Brannon arrived shortly after and along with Deputy Wolfe, attempted to locate the suspect. They were unsuccessful. Deputy Wolfe is awaiting the name of the victim so he can refer charges on the suspect.

Information was reported to Deputy Wolfe that a citizen in the 46000 block of Baker Dr. in Cedar Grove had found a syringe in his yard. The citizen advised he would dispose of the syringe, but wanted the Sheriff’s Office to be aware of the problem.

June 25

Deputy Esskew took a theft complaint from a citizen who lives in the 61000 block of SR 20 in Marblemount. The victim said that sometime since last fall, someone had stolen 34 8-foot green-and-white steel fence posts from his shed. He had no suspects at this time.

June 26

An employee at Loggers Landing in Concrete advised that a frequent client who consistently tries to shoplift items at the store did so again today. The employee requested that the Sheriff’s Office contact the suspect and trespass her from the store. Deputy Wiggins attempted to locate the suspect, but was not able to locate her. He provided information to the other east county deputies, advising them of the situation and requesting that if she is located, to trespass her permanently from the store.

June 27

Deputy Moore responded to an alleged domestic violence incident in the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. The caller said that they could hear a female screaming and thought they heard someone thrown to the ground. Deputy Moore contacted the male who lives at the suspected address. He said that there had been a verbal argument earlier, but he and his friend had made up and there was no assault. Deputy Moore then contacted the female, who advised that she and the male had been into a heated argument but were having “make-up sex now” and that there had been no assault. She told Deputy Moore that she would like to get back to making up if he was done asking questions.

County park employees reported an overturned canoe near Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport. Deputy Moore started to respond to the area, but

Deputy’s Corner

Avoiding phone scams

By Paul Wolfe

One of the more common reports the Sheriff’s Office receives this time of year is for fraudulent phone calls or phone scams. During the pandemic, the government extended the tax deadline to July 15. Every year the Sheriff’s Office receives numerous reports of phone call scams of people attempting to defraud under the guise they are from a government agency.

A common example of this is someone calling your phone from an unknown number. If you answer the call, it will either be a pre-recorded voice message or a person pretending to be from a federal agency, commonly the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). These people, who act like IRS agents, are very good at high-pressure tactics. These crooks practice defrauding people multiple times a day and are well trained at what they do.

A common ploy will be to give you some information, such as your address or city, hoping to establish some credibility. People should be aware these days of social media: Our personal information is easily accessible by a simple search of the Internet, including your name and address. If you have a social media account, be cautious about the amount of information you put out for someone to see.

Some personal information is not accessible by a search of the Internet; this is what the crooks are after. This information includes your Social Security number or banking account information. Guard this information and be suspicious of anyone asking for this over the phone. Ask yourself the question: Who would be asking for your Social Security or banking information on the phone? If you do not know this person or are not 100 percent comfortable providing this information to the person, DON’T!

Another common scam is someone contacting you about a prize or large

cash amount you have won. This scam falls into the “too good to be true” category. The crook will explain how to claim your prize, which usually involves you giving out banking information or sending some form or money to claim the prize. Do not fall for this.

Last, someone may leave a message that you have a warrant issued for your arrest. The reasons can vary, but it usually involves unpaid taxes, and the only way to remedy this, they say, is to pay a fine. Again, this is another attempt to gain personal banking information. I’ve seen phone scams where they tell the unknown person the Sheriff’s Office will arrest them if they don’t pay a fine.

The Sheriff’s Office will never be involved in enforcing the collection of taxes for the IRS.

Be careful to whom you provide personal information. Also, question why someone would need this information over the phone. If a person continues to contact you demanding you provide information, block their number or contact your phone provider and request they be blocked. If you ever find yourself in a situation where you’d like to talk to a deputy about something that sounds suspicious, please call 360.416.1911. We’re happy to answer these questions for you.

I hope these tips help our community become more informed. Please spread the word to family and friends about this topic. If you have any feedback or suggestions for next month’s article, please contact the *Concrete Herald* at editor@concrete-herald.com or stop by the East Detachment Sheriff’s Office, which borders Concrete Town Hall.

Paul Wolfe is a deputy with the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office. He is assigned to the East Detachment Office in Concrete, a field training officer, a member of the Skagit SWAT, and active with Skagit County SAR.



Worship directory

Assembly of God

Concrete Assembly of God
45734 Main St., Concrete; 853.8042
Sun. worship: 10 a.m.
Tue.: Men’s meeting, 8:30 a.m.
Wed.: Adult Bible study, 6 p.m.
Thur.: Women’s Bible study, 6:30 p.m.

Citipoint Church North Cascade

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

Baptist

First Baptist Church
12732 Hemlock St., Clear Lake
360.856.2767
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wed.: 7 p.m.
E-mail: pastorjohn@firstbaptistclearlake.com

Hamilton First Baptist Church
797 Hamilton Cemetery Rd. at SR 20
Office: 360.826.3307
Sunday School: 9:40 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

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

Catholic

St. Catherine Mission Church
45603 Limestone St., Concrete
Mail: 719 Ferry St., Sedro-Woolley
Office: 360.855.0077
Weekday hours: 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Sat. Mass: 8:30 a.m.
www.svcc.us/scm

Covenant

Community Covenant Church
12605 Highway 9, Clear Lake
360.856.1023 // covenant@wavecable.com
www.clearlakecov.org
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m.

Call for weekly youth group/Bible studies

Episcopal

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

Lutheran

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
46372 Main St., Concrete / 360.853.8814
www.uprivergrace.com
Sun. worship: 10 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.

Mormon

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Concrete Group Meeting
7879 S. Superior Ave., Concrete (Pilots Lounge at Mears Field), 360.853.5417
Meeting Every Sunday, 1:30–4 p.m.
Potluck after services

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

Presbyterian

Mount Baker Presbyterian Church
45705 Main St., P.O. Box 246, Concrete
Church 360.853.8585; office 360.826.3849
Pastor: 360.901.4520
https://mountbakerpres.wordpress.com/
Sun. worship: 9 a.m.

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

Poets on the peaks

Challenger, Fury, Forbidden, Desolation, Damnation ... Names like these are found throughout the North Cascades, more than hinting at the struggles the English namers had in these fantastically sculptured and generously glaciated peaks, valleys, deep ancient forests, and waterways. So difficult was the travelling through these lands that, except for the fools' cry of "gold," the land and its indigenous inhabitants may have been left in peace. But once discovered by the immigrant newcomers, the pull of the landscape was, well ... inescapable.

The early 1900s brought the notice of the newly created U.S. Forest Service, whose main interest, as the name implies, was the forest. Green gold, or timber, was the commodity and the North Cascades lowland valleys were rich with it. But with timber cutting, as well as homesteaders' land-clearing efforts, forest fire became a growing concern. Many of us are aware that the Great Fire of 1920 burned from Sedro-Woolley eastward across the range and the state, into Idaho and Montana before multiple winters extinguished that gargantuan blaze. Enter the west's fledgling forest fire-fighting efforts and the building of a series of peak and ridgetop fire "lookouts."

The North Cascades Primitive Area, as it was known in those days, sprouted some of the earliest built lookouts, with Sourdough at the head of the pack. Crater Peak, Desolation, Copper Ridge, Green Mountain, Miners Ridge, and others soon followed. These 12-foot x 12-foot cabins

in the sky became the eyes and ears for detection and reporting of smokes by their solitary staffs of summertime highland hermits. Efforts multiplied during WW II, with the first women filling those jobs left open by the war effort. But by the 1950s, another type of applicant began to emerge: the solitude-seeking beatnik!

Now revered by many, writers and poets such as Gary Snyder, Phillip Whalen, and Jack Kerouac discovered this magical range and its zenlike lookouts. Their writings reflect those days and nights, weeks and months of clouds, rain, snow, winds, and blistering temperatures while on watch 24/7 for the telltale smoke they were hired and trained to detect and report.

Today, a lovely interpretive plaque commemorating the era of these "beat" poets in the lookouts can now be enjoyed at the SR 20 milepost 136 pullout, overlooking Ross Lake.

"Then I'm alone in a glass house on a ridge, encircled by chiming mountains With one sun roaring through the house all day & the others crashing though the glass at night

Conscious even while sleeping."

—Phillip Whalen, 1954
Sourdough Mountain Lookout

To learn more about our intriguing North Cascades history, visit the National Park Visitor Center near Newhalem, as well as the Concrete Heritage Museum's Web site: www.concreteheritagemuseum.org.

—Christie Fairchild

At the Upper Skagit Library

July was a busy month for the Upper Skagit Library. Many in the community took advantage of our curbside service hours to pick up books, movies, and craft kits. We also had many participants in our Summer Reading Program this year.

Although we cannot physically get together for library programming, we still offer a wide variety of library programs virtually. August is jam-packed with programs for children, teens, and adults. Be sure to check out our August events calendar for all the details.

In addition to the great programming we bring you each month, I have been working hard to bring you improved services and new items for checkout. Have you noticed that you can now access our Wi-Fi from farther away? Thanks to a grant from NoaNet, the Upper Skagit Library has enhanced its Wi-Fi signal.

In July the American Library Association (ALA) announced that Upper Skagit Library had been selected to participate in Libraries Lead with Digital Skills, an initiative of ALA and the Public Library Association (PLA), sponsored by Grow With Google, the tech company's

economic opportunity initiative. Upper Skagit Library will use the funding to help our community members enhance their digital skills and offer technology that will assist in their employment searches.

The Washington State Library (WSL) announced that the Upper Skagit Library District was selected to receive a \$5,500 grant to advance digital equity in Skagit County. Provided by federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the funding will be used by the library to expand digital inclusion efforts and provide technical support, especially for workforce development and broadband availability. Watch our Web site for brand-new items for check out and programs as a result of this grant.

If you are headed outdoors for recreation this summer, be sure to check out our "Check Out Washington" Discover Pass. It will allow you to access millions of acres of state parks and other state public land for one week.

—Amanda Perez, director
Upper Skagit Library

August at the Darrington Library

This month the Darrington Library will continue to offer contact-free services. The hours for these services are:

- Mondays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Tuesdays, noon to 7 p.m.
- Wednesdays, noon to 7 p.m.
- Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Customers can call the library at 360.651.7180 to arrange for pick up of library materials.

—Asheley Bryson, branch manager
Darrington Library



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Concrete Chamber of Commerce News

By Valerie Stafford

The Concrete Chamber will not meet in August, but we look forward to seeing you at our meeting on Sept. 10 at 11:30 a.m., via Zoom. The September topic will be "Planning for Next Steps in Your Business & Community."

At our Oct. 8 meeting, Andrew Entriakin from the Port of Skagit will be our guest speaker and will provide an update on broadband access in Skagit County.

For more information on Chamber membership or meetings, please send an e-mail to chamber@concrete-wa.com or call/text Valerie Stafford, president, at 360.466.8754.

Concrete Chamber job opening

We have been very fortunate to have

Valerie Lee as our office manager at the Concrete Chamber for the past 10 years. She has been an invaluable part of our team, not only in our Information Center, but also as the lead person in offering vehicle licensing services. Valerie would like to move on to other pursuits, so we are currently looking for job applicants. Strong organizational skills, above-average computer experience, and the ability to multitask, while providing professional services to the public are required.

For more information or to receive an application, please send an e-mail to chamber@concrete-wa.com. In-person inquiries are discouraged at this time.

Valerie Stafford is president of the Concrete Chamber of Commerce.

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Bookkeeping

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360.853.7667 or 360.708.9761
upriver21@hotmail.com
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www.birdsviewbrewingcompany.com

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360.853.8684

Liquor stores

Concrete Liquor Store & Convenience Store

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

Pawn shops

Gold Nugget Jewelry & Loan

New & Used guns, ammo, sporting goods
We Buy, Sell, & Loan Guns, gold, coins
Corner of Hwy 530 & Mt. Loop Hwy,
Darrington
Mon.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5
360.436.1029 www.goldnuggetpawnshop.com

Ranches

Double O Ranch, LLC

46276 Concrete Sauk Valley Rd., Concrete
360.770.5380, 9-5 M-F, by appt. weekends.
All natural, grass-fed, USDA inspected beef
by the package, ¼ and ½ beef orders.
Burger available at Albert's Red Apple.

Restaurants

Cascade Burgers

45292 State Route 20, Concrete
Featuring great burgers, fries, and milkshakes
in a 1950s, family-style atmosphere!
OPEN DAILY: Mon.-Sat. 11-7, Sun. 11-6
Ask about our daily specials! 360.853.7580

Self-storage

Concrete Self-storage

Located on Fir Street, Concrete
Heated and nonheated, security surveillance,
coded entry, 4x5 to 15x32 units, locks for sale.
Customer service is our top priority!
360.853.8100/concreteselfstorageinc@live.com
com

Septic services

Cinema Septic

Inspection, troubleshooting and pumping
Serving all of Skagit County
Fred West, owner. 360.466.8753
fred@cinemaseptic.com
www.cinemaseptic.com

Towing services

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directory, call 360.853.8213 or
e-mail editor@concrete-herald.com

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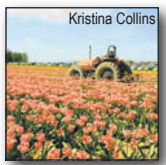
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Out & About



Monroe

Monroe VFW to host virtual Flags for Our Fallen 5K

Monroe VFW Post 7511 and its Auxiliary have announced that the 2020 Flags for Our Fallen memorial run has transitioned to virtual. Post 7511 invites the community to participate in this online event on Sat., Aug. 22.

Traditionally held in May in alignment with Memorial Day, the 2020 event was delayed in response to the presence of COVID-19 in communities across the country and in accordance with statewide prohibitions on large gatherings.

Registration is \$30, children under 12 can register for free, and race participants

can run or walk their 5Ks anywhere they like.

Go to the Post 7511 Facebook page at 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 22 for the opening ceremonies, featuring Post 7511 member Shane Williams as emcee, a welcoming message from Commander Terry Stinson, Post member Casi Fisher singing the National Anthem, a brief address by Monroe Mayor Geoffrey Thomas, and a few words from Gold Star Mothers representative DeEtte Wood.

This year marks the fourth annual Flags for Our Fallen, which was founded in 2017 as a way to heighten awareness of Post 7511, bolster membership, and increase the Post's capacity for service. Since then, the post has nearly quadrupled in size, vastly enhancing its ability to serve veterans and the community. It has additionally reinstated its Post 7511 Auxiliary, to further extend its reach.

"Now more than ever, Post 7511

recognizes the importance of bringing the community together to mourn, honor, and remember those who gave their 'last full measure of devotion' in service to this country," the post said in a press release.

"This year's event is about perseverance and resilience," said Flags for Our Fallen Committee Chair Eric Ciocco. "It is our duty to recognize and honor the veterans who have died while defending our freedom and we are thrilled to extend that honor to our Gold Star families. We invite our community members to register and participate in this virtual event proudly. Your support directly furthers Post 7511's mission of serving veterans in need today and every day."

As in years past, business sponsorship opportunities are available. Sponsorships directly support Post 7511. Sponsorships also help to ensure continuity of operations as the post seeks uninterrupted service to veterans and the community, including veteran aid and care, legislative advocacy, support for military families, and youth-oriented educational activities that promote patriotism.

For more information about Monroe VFW Post 7511, go to <https://www.facebook.com/vfwpost7511/>.

For more information about Flags for Our Fallen, go to <https://www.flags4rfallen.com/>.

property loss of \$67,790. Fifty-one vegetation fires and 9 residential fires were reported, with 45 percent attributable to legal fireworks. Most occurred between 6 p.m. and 12 a.m. on July 4.

Injuries

Reported injuries included burns, facial injuries, hand injuries, and hearing or vision loss.

- 35 percent of injuries were sustained after being hit by fireworks.
- 32 percent were caused by holding fireworks after lighting them.
- 62 percent were attributable to legal fireworks.
- 21 of those injured were children under 18 years old.

Most of the injuries occurred between 10 p.m. and 12 a.m. on the night of July 4.

One fatality occurred in Snohomish County. An investigation by the local law enforcement agency determined it was an accidental death resulting from the premature explosion of a mortar-style firework.

For more information about 2020 fireworks incidents, contact the SFMO at 360.596.3929.

PSE, cont. from p. 34

Nonprofit and public charity organizations located within PSE's 16-county service and operation areas—including Snohomish, Skagit, and Whatcom counties—can apply for a grant to be selected through a competitive process. Deadlines are Aug. 31 and Oct. 1, with funding awarded in October and December, respectively. Applicants applying prior to the Aug. 31 deadline will automatically be considered in both rounds of funding.

The program will seek to fund programs and/or services to ensure community members have access to shelter, food, or personal protection equipment (PPE). Funding also will be considered for organizations that provide these critical services or programs to community members so they can continue to keep doors open by funding deep-cleaning expenses, equipment, PPE, or other mandated health and safety requirements.

"We know this is a great time of need for the communities we serve and the organizations that support them," said PSE Foundation Chairman and President Andy Wappler. "We are living our value to do what's right and helping how we can."

Combined, PSE Foundation and PSE have to date contributed more than \$1.3 million toward mitigating impacts of COVID-19 across PSE's service area communities.

—Submitted by PSE

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 19

to Deputy Passovoy to investigate. The occupants of the vehicles had allegedly thrown syringes out of their windows onto the reporting party's property. Deputy Passovoy contacted the vehicles and their occupants. She was able to identify all the occupants, who told her that their cars had broken down and they were waiting for help. She did not see any drug paraphernalia near the cars.

Deputy Wolfe investigated a report of a violation of a court order in the 400 block of Cumberland St. in Hamilton. The victim said that his son was in the victim's garage and that there was an order restricting him from the property. As Deputy Wolfe checked the garage, he heard a noise coming from the attic. As Deputy Wolfe waited for backup, the suspect came out of the garage. He was arrested and taken to jail.

Lyman Mercantile reported a transient female had started a fire on the top of its

septic tank to keep warm and try to cook a burrito. The mercantile requested that if the female be identified and trespassed.

July 25

Deputy Clark responded to a motor vehicle accident in the 45000 block of Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. The driver told Deputy Clark that he had drifted off the roadway slightly, then had overcorrected, causing him to drive into the ditch. The female passenger who was with him had fled because she believed she had warrants for her arrest. Deputy Clark asked the driver to attempt to call the female passenger so that she could return to the scene to be checked for injuries. He advised him that the female did not have any warrants at this time. The female passenger returned a short time later and advised Deputy Clark that she didn't have any injuries. The driver also advised that he was not injured. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

A citizen report of reckless driving on Shields Court in Concrete was dispatched to Deputy Passovoy. The caller said that a female had driven very rapidly down the street and was yelling and screaming at him. The female then parked in front of his shed without his permission. Deputy Passovoy contacted the alleged suspect, who advised her that she had been hired by the landlord of the apartments to mow the lawns. She was told by the landlord to park where she was parked so she could access the back area. She said when she arrived, the caller started yelling and screaming at her. A neighbor confirmed that the female had not driven recklessly and it was the reporting party who was screaming at the driver. At this time Deputy Passovoy determined that the caller had falsely reported the incident. A short time later a tow company called, advising Deputy Passovoy that the reporting party had called, wanting them to tow the truck belonging to the female who had been hired to mow the lawns. Deputy Passovoy advised the tow company that the truck was lawfully parked and had permission to be on the property.

Deputy Clark and Deputy Passovoy responded to a possible burglary in progress in the 49000 block of Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. When Deputy Passovoy arrived, she detained two suspects and placed them in the back of her patrol car. During the investigation, the female admitted that she and the male she was with stole the car they were in from somewhere on Hwy 530. She also admitted that most of the items in the car did not belong to them. Deputy Passovoy

was able to confirm that the shoes that the male was wearing matched the shoeprint on the door that was kicked in during a previous burglary. The owner of the vehicle was contacted to retrieve his vehicle. Both suspects were taken to jail on investigation of burglary and taking a motor vehicle.

July 26

The Washington State Patrol advised of a possible search and rescue on Snow King Mountain east of Rockport. They had received a personal locator beacon signal report near Found Lake. Using the beacon signal information, Deputy Clark was able to give the coordinates to the Navy Helicopter from NAS Whidbey. The helicopter located three individuals who were stranded on the mountain. The Navy crew rescued the stranded hikers and took them to the Ranger Station in Marblemount.

July 27

At approximately 6:30 p.m., Deputy Moore received a call of a violation of a court order at an address in the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. The suspect from a previous violation on July 23 had returned and wanted to come to the residence to pick up more clothing. The victim said that she told the suspect that he was not to be there, but he still went into the residence and picked up some clothes. When she told him she was calling the cops, he got into his car and attempted to leave, but his car broke down a short distance down the road. Deputy Moore attempted to locate the suspect, but could not find him. Deputy Moore will refer charges on the suspect for violation of a no-contact order.

The North Cascade Sports Bar in Lyman reported that someone had stolen some items from a fenced area behind the restaurant. Deputy Moore investigated the burglary and found that a small-of-stature person had walked from what appears the east side of the business and crawled underneath the fence. The suspect then took a tool box and a blower, which were stored in the back area. Then, using those tools, removed a large TV from the wall. The suspect packed the items over the fence to a vehicle parked on Prevedell Rd. The burglary occurred at approximately 4:30 a.m. The investigation is ongoing.

July 28

A concerned citizen called and reported that she had seen three people walking on Robinson Rd. near the county park on three separate occasions. It appeared that the subjects were transient. Her grandson had gone down to use the swings at the park and said it looked like the three

were camping there. They last had been seen carrying hunting bows with arrows. Deputy O'Reilly checked the area and located a male who was from the Oak Harbor area. He told Deputy O'Reilly that he had been transient since the start of the virus pandemic and was just traveling from place to place. He had been at the county park for a while and had even built a dock in the river, where he kept an inflatable raft. Deputy O'Reilly advised him that there was no camping at the park and that he would need to leave. He stated he didn't realize that and would move on immediately. When asked about the others, he told Deputy O'Reilly that there had been a female who was transient staying there also, but when she started acting like she was on drugs, he told her to leave.

Deputy Montgomery checked the area of Hwy 530 and Illabot Creek Rd. for theft of wood. It was reported that a female and two males associated with a 1990s gray Ford truck with wood racks and a blue Chevrolet truck towing a car trailer were currently cutting wood at that location. When Deputy Montgomery arrived, the vehicles were gone. He checked the area, but was unable to locate the suspects.

—Compiled by Sgt. Greg Adams

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State

State Fire Marshal's Office releases 2020 incident data

The Washington State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) on July 22 released preliminary fireworks incident data for 2020.

The office reported having received 265 reports of fireworks-related incidents from hospitals, clinics, and fire agencies so far this year. Of the 265 reports received, there were 92 fires and 173 injuries, one of which was a fatality.

Fires

Fireworks-related fires resulted in

Bellevue

PSE Foundation launches new COVID-19 grants

Puget Sound Energy Foundation announced last month it has revised its standard grant program to allow more organizations to apply with a broader range of qualifying funding requests.

The foundation, a nonprofit entity operating independently of PSE but helping the communities PSE services, will provide grants totaling \$400,000 before the end of this year in response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic.

See PSE, p. 35

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Smile



Collin's realm of truly awful jokes

Capitalization can really change a sentence. Example:
I love to eat candy.
I love to eat capitalization.



Brown Wiseman was walking past a butcher shop and saw, painted on a sign in big letters:
WEINERS: 30
HAMBURGERS: 29
“My,” he exclaimed. “It seems like all the games are close this season.”
— § —
The best thing going, opines Dad Gunit, is an unwelcome guest.

Dwelleysms:

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

“Almost time for colleges to reopen, and this year we hope the administrations will have decided whether or not to operate their campuses as soap box arenas for radicals or quiet places for serious students to relax.”
“If you can’t stop it, legalize it.”
“Maybe the study of psychology should be dropped from school curricula and a course in manners substituted. It would be much better to teach people how to get along with each other than to tell them why it is impossible.”

—Aug. 19, 1970

“The only thing wrong with forced retirement is that you get the feeling that if you were given a few more years, you’d get the hang of the job.”
“If the country is in as bad shape as the politicians, ecologists, and sociologists tell us, why doesn’t somebody in Washington, D.C., consider lowering the rent?”
“If we need another organization at the moment, we would suggest a nationwide SPHA: Society for the Preservation of Honest Answers—formed to bring back into common use and acceptance the word, “no.”
“School time again, and mothers all over the country will find relief in knowing, for at least a few hours a day, where their kids are.”

—Aug. 26, 1970

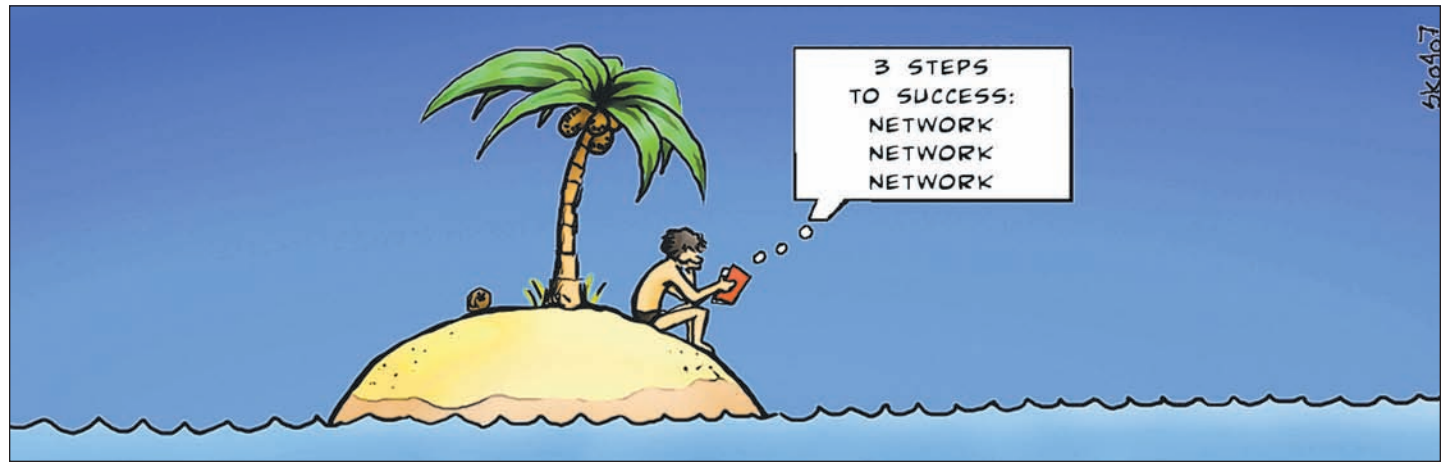
Funny as Facebook

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

- “Does any real person actually say, “I have moderate to severe Plaque Psoriasis”?”
- “Blissful morning. I’ve got my coffee and the sweet sounds of Maven filling her diaper.”
- “A good way to teach a teen about morals is to show him ‘Can’t Buy Me Love.’ It’s also a good way to show him every outfit and hairstyle you craved when you were 12 ... while he mocks you for it.”
- “I’m over the kids. I’m selling them. You get a discount if you take them all.”
- “Quarantine day 125: Got gas for the first time since March 7. Resistance to watching Tiger King and eating the last sleeve of Thin Mints has held strong. (What’s the best-use-by time limit for frozen cookies?) Resistance to downloading TikTok failed a couple weeks ago, and now some of the songs are running on repeat through my head.”
- “You know why it’s fun knowing [Sedro-Woolley Police Dept.] officers? They chirp their siren thingy when they pass you walking.”
- “I’m gonna need some states to start acting right and getting this COVID thing under control so I can go to the airport and spend way too much money on a mediocre glass of wine in an airport bar while I wait for my plane to take me away from here.”
- “Alright! Fine! I’ll get ready for work ...”
- “Someone just said watching how people wear masks explains why birth control fails.”
- “Sam’s Club will be requiring masks in their stores in just a few days. All those folks who cancelled their Costco memberships for Sam’s are about to be really sad.”
- “Help settle a debate in our house: Do you consider Frosted Mini-Wheats to be a healthy option amongst name brand cereals?”
- “Am I the only one left who hasn’t been Twitterized?”
- “Karen bought some masks today. Hanes. White. Seriously??? Whitey tighties for the face??? What happens if I eat a chocolate bar and a little bit smears on my mask??? Soooooo much awkward.”
- “With all of the technology out there now, could those social distance pads in stores be transporter pads instead of a marker?”
- “There are a lot of screwed up things with the world right now, but I’m sure glad dueling has lost its popularity.”

Public Service Announcement

By Stig Kristensen



Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10				11			12	13		14
15			16						17	
			18				19		20	
21	22	23					24			25
27						28				
29				30	31				32	
33			34					35		
36							37			
		38					39			
40	41			42		43			44	45
47				48					49	
50						51			52	

Across

- 1. Drop
- 4. Previously
- 7. Visited
- 10. French way
- 11. Black color
- 14. C.E.O.’s degree
- 15. Dependence
- 17. Musician’s asset
- 18. 1973 Supreme Court decision name
- 19. Matinee hero
- 21. Home _____
- 24. Nonstick pan
- 27. Farm team
- 28. Greenery
- 29. “Yes, ____!”
- 30. Bake eggs
- 32. Tear
- 33. One who leaves prison without permission
- 35. Sparkling wine
- 36. Daze

Down

- 1. Great time
- 2. Larry ____ Melman
- 3. Growing area
- 4. Necktie
- 5. Entry point
- 6. Kimono sash
- 7. Be suspicious (3 words)
- 8. Lawyer’s org. for short
- 9. Combat

Across

- 12. Stand about idly
- 13. Make lovable
- 16. Clothes presser
- 20. Not edible any more
- 21. Medical quantities
- 22. Substist
- 23. Tapped firmly
- 25. Pointed arch
- 26. Kathmandu’s land
- 28. Story
- 30. Partner
- 31. Crowded
- 34. Likely
- 35. Spring
- 37. Trash bag, brand name
- 39. Human parasites
- 40. Pilot’s problem
- 41. Apple picker
- 43. “Thanks a ____!”
- 44. Bring to bear
- 45. Kind of chamber
- 46. Salon job

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.

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

*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 39

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A history of the Upper Skagit Valley

By Paul C. Pitzer

Retyped by Gail Boggs; edited for style

Republished from Concrete Herald archives, 1966–67

Chapter 1 THE SKAGIT MINES

The largest functioning mining company on Thunder Creek was the Skagit Queen Mining Company. It was incorporated in 1905, selling stock worth \$1,000,000. The company's holdings were located near Skagit Queen Creek and encompassed a series of 29 separate lodes.

In 1908 the company applied for a patent to the land, and Deputy Surveyor Charles E. Phoenix was hired to investigate and verify the plot. Phoenix was familiar with the Upper Skagit, had made surveys of Diablo Canyon in 1907, and was himself an investor in many of the mining ventures. As he was also the United States surveyor in the area, his interest in the mines was something less than completely impartial. His report on the Skagit Queen stated that the mines were in a “—vigorous state of development under Mr. C. D. Grove, Engineer of Mines.”

In this case, Phoenix did not exaggerate. At Skagit Queen Creek, a large camp was built that contained bunkhouses, eating facilities, a store house, and a powder house. Laboratories and a barn were later added, and, had all planned improvements been built, construction of a small city would have resulted. The achievement was notable, as all material was hauled in over the Skagit trail.

The Skagit Queen was a pioneer in hydroelectric power. Before their first generator was completely installed, plans were drawn that called for larger machines.

At Skagit Queen was installed a 30-inch Pelton Wheel, operating under 150 feet head of water. The wheel ran a 15 hp electric generator, which furnished power for machine drills at the mines, plus light for the mine and camp 5,000 feet away.

Also installed was a 10 hp induction motor, running an 8-inch x 4¼-inch air compressor. Two small machine drills were at the mine: a Sinclair and a Hardsog.

“With these facilities we are making only fair headway, as the machinery is too light to advance the tunnel rapidly,” wrote Phoenix. The new generator would be powered

by a 48-inch Pelton Wheel working under a 550-foot head. Two hundred fifty horsepower was the goal. This was to be only the first of 13 sites that the company planned for future development.

George Senior, secretary for the Skagit Queen Company, took a trip to the mines in 1908. The following includes parts of his report in which he gave a detailed description of his travels:

“It affords me great pleasures to report that I have recently visited our property in the Thunder Creek Mining District, at the head of Thunder Creek, Skagit County, and give you here a general description of my trip, together with interesting details in regard to progress and development up to date.

“Accompanying me was our President, R. A. Tripple. Leaving Seattle June 12, at 4:25 p.m., we arrived at Rockport, Wash., later in the evening, where we spent the night. Rockport being the present terminal of the Great Northern Railway, we found various supplies for our camp, as well as some of the machinery we are installing to increase our present efficiency.

“Started on the 13th at 8 a.m. for Marblemount by team, where we stayed for dinner. Here we have our main terminal and corral for housing our 40 animals. A substantial wagon, drawn by four sturdy mules, transports goods from Rockport to this terminal, and from this point they are handled by pack train, which consists mostly of mules. We have a splendid group of animals, in splendid condition.

“Securing two of our good saddle horses, we started early in the afternoon for our camp, taking our time to admire the magnificent scenery of mountain, stream, and forest.

“The party spent the night with Gus Dohne at Goodell's Landing and continued on the next morning. Early in the day we reached another way-station, known as ‘Mrs. Davis,’ where we found the surveyors who have been working out plans for a large power plant on the Skagit at the mouth of Thunder Creek, and which is generally supposed to furnish power for extension of G. N. Railroad from Rockport, passing a few miles from our property. Along this same trail are posts indicating

a survey for a wagon road that is to built by the state, the government having apportioned a large sum of money for this purpose. A communication from the Highway Commissioner received recently states that work is to commence on this just as soon as right-of-way is secured.

“A little while later we crossed the new bridge across the Skagit, which was erected under our supervision. The bridge is substantially constructed, is of decided benefit to all the companies in our district, and each company has agreed to advance its share to the expense.

“Soon after leaving the bridge, we reached ‘Burnt Cabin,’ where we found Deputy Mineral Surveyor Charles E. Phoenix and his crew of men. They are making a survey for right-of-way up Thunder Creek to our properties, and a good trail on this survey will be cut through at once for immediate use.

“Farther up the valley there was another mining company. Noontime found us at ‘Colonial’ or camp of the North Coast Mining and Milling Company, who have very promising gold-copper and silver-lead ore bodies on their property, and are busily engaged with their preliminary work. After a friendly chat with their field manager, W. H. McAllister, and examining ore taken from the ledges, which was excellent, we continued our journey. We passed our power plant next and arrived in camp in time for supper.”

Assay reports on the Skagit Queen property were encouraging, as they were for the Standard Reduction and Development Company, which was located on the hillside directly above the Skagit Queen. Both companies worked the same “high quality” ore. Quotations ranged from \$672.34 per ton at best to \$15.28 at worst, with an average at around \$100. Had the veins of “unending richness” been unending, fortunes might have been made. While the rich surface ore was mined, the Skagit Queen enlarged and doubled its capital stock, allowing additional “fortunate individuals” to invest in the “promising enterprise.” A brochure titled “Clean Money” was issued to encourage speculators and the company-maintained offices in Seattle, Tacoma, and Lowell, Massachusetts. Late in 1908

they absorbed a neighbor, the Protective Mining Company, and became the Skagit Queen Mining Company.

The Dude Ledge was the first to be mined at the Skagit Queen. A 500-foot tunnel was proposed and by mid-1908 it had been drilled 113 feet. Work was then started on the Green Leaf lodes. Assays showed the value of the ore to be \$200 a ton for silver and \$9 for gold.

It was unfortunate that the assay reports indicated only the value of the rock sampled and did not tell the amount of that type rock present. Along Thunder Creek and throughout the North Cascades, veins of rich ore that showed on the surface without fail, narrowed and ended a few feet below the surface. The hardness of the granite and the difficulty in transporting the rock further increased the cost of mining. The shallow and narrow veins combined with the topography to bring the Skagit Queen to an end.

Slowly the company abandoned its holdings, and financial collapse left investors with only their copies of “Clean Money.” A notice in the *Concrete Herald* in January 1913 stated that a new firm, the British Mining Company, intended to absorb the remains of the Skagit Queen and to occupy its old sites.

The British Mining Company had evolved from the Puget Sound, Chelan, and Spokane Railway Company. It had failed at railroading and, after William McAllister became part owner, the remains of the firm took up mining. The British Mining Company maintained offices in Seattle and had located its first claims in 1909, just downstream from the Skagit Queen. Five of its mining sites were surveyed in 1912 by Charles Phoenix, and they held a total of 31 mining claims and four mill sites totaling 654 acres. The company built more than 40 miles of trails and a small power plant on the Summit Fork of Thunder Creek. The hydroelectric project was composed of a small dam, a 20-inch pipe line 1,432 feet long, a 36-inch Pelton water wheel operating under a 500-foot head, air compressors, and pipes that carried the air 620 feet into a main tunnel dug into the side of the mountain. The tunnel was driven 660 feet at a cost of \$30 per foot.

In April 1913, the Forest Service permitted the British Mining Company to occupy and work the Willie E. Everett lode of the old Skagit Queen holdings, as their own claims had proved of little value. In the new location, they outlasted the older company only a few years.

History, cont. from p. 38

When they too failed on Skagit Queen Creek, they attempted to switch from mining, concentrating on production of hydroelectric power, and posted notices of intent to develop certain sites. By then, however, all water power locations along the Skagit and its tributaries had been claimed and the British Mining Company, unable to expand, followed the Skagit Queen into bankruptcy.

Chapter 2 THE HOMESTEADERS AND THE FOREST SERVICE

A few homesteaders had come with the miners into the Upper Skagit and they remained behind after the gold and silver rushes were over. At first there were few restrictions on the homesteaders, but inclusion of the Skagit area in the Washington Forest Reserve in 1898, and passage of the Forest Homestead Act in 1906, brought regulations and the administration of the Forest Service. Some homesteaders, such as Glee Davis, August Dohne, and John McMillan fulfilled government requirements and were allowed to obtain full possession of their land. Others, such as Burton Babcock and Tommy Rowland, lost rights to the land and moved away. Eventually hydroelectric power companies, encouraged by the Forest Service, bought out or evicted the few remaining settlers who tried to establish homes along the Upper Skagit.

There were only a few places above Goodell's Landing that were satisfactory for settlement on the Skagit River. The valley is narrow and flat land is found only at a few bars along the river. These places were flooded regularly and were covered with four or five feet of snow every winter. Furthermore, despite the

activity at the Skagit mines, the trail leading up the river was never satisfactory and presented a difficult problem to all who attempted to travel through the area.

The Skagit Trail, or Goat Trail, began at Goodell's Landing, just above the head of navigation. It headed northeast along the river past Newhalem Creek and then into the narrow Skagit River canyon, rising above the river and then dropping again to river level near Devil's Corner. The corner is an outcropping of rock, which made it necessary for the trail to cross the river. In 1892 a bridge was built, but washed away two years later. The bridge was rebuilt in 1902 by a man named O. P. Mason; his bridge remained until it was destroyed by a flood in 1909. It was used by miners going to the Thunder Creek Mines and was partly financed by the Thunder Creek Mining Company.

There was also a trail around the bend from Devil's Corner. A hermit known by the name Captain Bandolf lived there in a shed perched among the rocks, and he constructed a rudimentary foot trail past his shack, but few used it. In the 1890s, when there was active gold mining at Baron, miners used dynamite to blast a horse trail into the north side of the cliff. Catwalks and handrails were added, but Devil's Corner was always the most dangerous spot on the trail, particularly during bad weather.

Above Devil's Corner was Hanging Rock Camp. A large rock had fallen from the side hill and under it, in a hollow, was a campsite that afforded shelter. At Hanging Rock there was a 40-foot climb up the hillside and into the Gorge Creek area. The trail crossed Gorge Creek and Midway Creek, and approached Cedar Bar. Near Cedar Bar was the Long Bridge, which was a catwalk built along the side of the steep canyon.

To be continued next month.

Crossword solution

1	E	2	B	3	B	4	A	5	G	6	O	7	S	8	A	9	W	
10	R	U	E			11	S	A	B	12	L	13	E	14	M	B	A	
15	A	D	D	16	I	C	T	I	O	N		17	E	A	R			
				18	R	O	E		19	I	D	20	L					
21	D	22	P	23	O	T			24	T	E	F	L	25	O	26	N	
27	O	X	E	N			28	L	E	A	F	A	G	E				
29	S	I	R		30	S	31	H	I	R	R		32	R	I	P		
33	E	S	C	34	A	P	E	E				35	C	A	V	A		
36	S	T	U	P	O	R			37	H	O	T	E	L				
			38	S	T	U	D		39	L	E	I						
40	Y	41	E	S		42	S	E	43	M	I	F	L	44	U	45	46	D
47	A	V	E		48	E	D	I	C	T		49	S	O	Y			
50	W	E	D					51	L	E	Y		52	E	N	E		

See History, p. 39

Sudoku solution

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

Classifieds

Movies & Events at the Historic Concrete Theatre

in Town Center, Concrete, WA

24-hour PhoneLine: (360) 941-0403

Office: (360) 466-8754

www.Concrete-Theatre.com

Owners: Valerie Stafford, Fred West

EMPLOYMENT

Freelance Reporter. *Concrete Herald* seeks a freelance reporter to cover the Town of Concrete government. Qualified candidates must demonstrate their facility with the English language; attend Concrete Town Council meetings on the second and fourth Mondays of every month, at 6 p.m., at Concrete Town Hall; and hit their deadlines (reporter will usually have at least one week to produce a story from start to finish). Candidate also must provide his/her own reliable transportation. This is a freelance position; reporter will be paid per article, minimum one article per month, sometimes two. Other articles assigned as the need arises.

Interested? Send your resume or a letter that explains your qualifications, plus two of your best writing samples, to editor@concrete-herald.com or via U.S. mail to:

Concrete Herald
P.O. Box 682
Concrete, WA 98237

GARAGE SALES

This is the one to hit! Mask up and help us finance our honeymoon! Big ol' yard sale on Aug. 8 at 7674 Cedar Park, Concrete. Merging two households means there is a LOT of perfectly good stuff that we are motivated to sell. Household items, tools, yard and garden, kitchen, bath, books, furniture, office ... you name it. You'll even find stuff in the original packaging (remember the RotoZip? Yeah. That.) All items with no price tag are \$1 each! And don't miss the table full of free stuff! **ONE DAY ONLY: Sat., Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,** at 7674 Cedar Park, Concrete (inside town limits). Please park on Cedar Street and walk in, wear your mask, and observe social distancing. Free hand sanitizer will be available.

NOTICES

Contact information for elk-related issues:

Report elk-related issues to private property, damages, intrusions, and safety issues at home: WDFW Mill Creek office 425-775-1311. Director: Brendan Brokes. Conflict specialist: 360-466-4345, ext. 247.

Report Collisions with elk including near misses, school bus, and emergency vehicle safety issues with elk in or crossing roadways: WSDOT Habitat Connectivity Biologist, (360) 705-6963 Glen Kalisz.

SERVICES

Gladys' Upholstery Shop. Quality work, reasonable prices. 360.826.4848.

Hydronic Heating Design: Energy Consultation and System Design. 360-929-2502
www.hydronic-heating.com

Lovely Content. Advertising and social media consulting, copywriting, proofreading, graphic design, photography, and videography. I can write or edit words for you, design flyers, book covers, and other things you print or share on the internet, take photos of people, products, and places, and help you set up your social media accounts or basic websites. Marketing, especially online marketing, is increasingly vital to small businesses, even in rural areas. I want to help you get the word out about that thing you sell or that thing you do! www.lovely-content.com chazlynlovely@gmail.com.

Headstones. Traditional & One-Of-A-Kind.

Now offering headstone cleaning.
TODD'S MONUMENTS, 360.708.0403.
www.toddsmonuments.com.

Searching for students of Mary Novy

Mary Novy (Mrs. Novy) taught kindergarten at Concrete Elementary School from the 1970s–1990s. Her students meant so much to her, and she's hoping to hear from them for her 90th birthday this September! Please send your letters to the below address:
Mary Novy
1918 Poppy Ln. SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Thanks,
Becca Avery
Granddaughter of Mary Novy

To place a Classified ad, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail ads@concrete-herald.com. Cost is \$5 per every 10 words, rounded up to the nearest 10. Deadline for the September 2020 issue is Aug. 24.



MOVE WITHOUT HESITATION

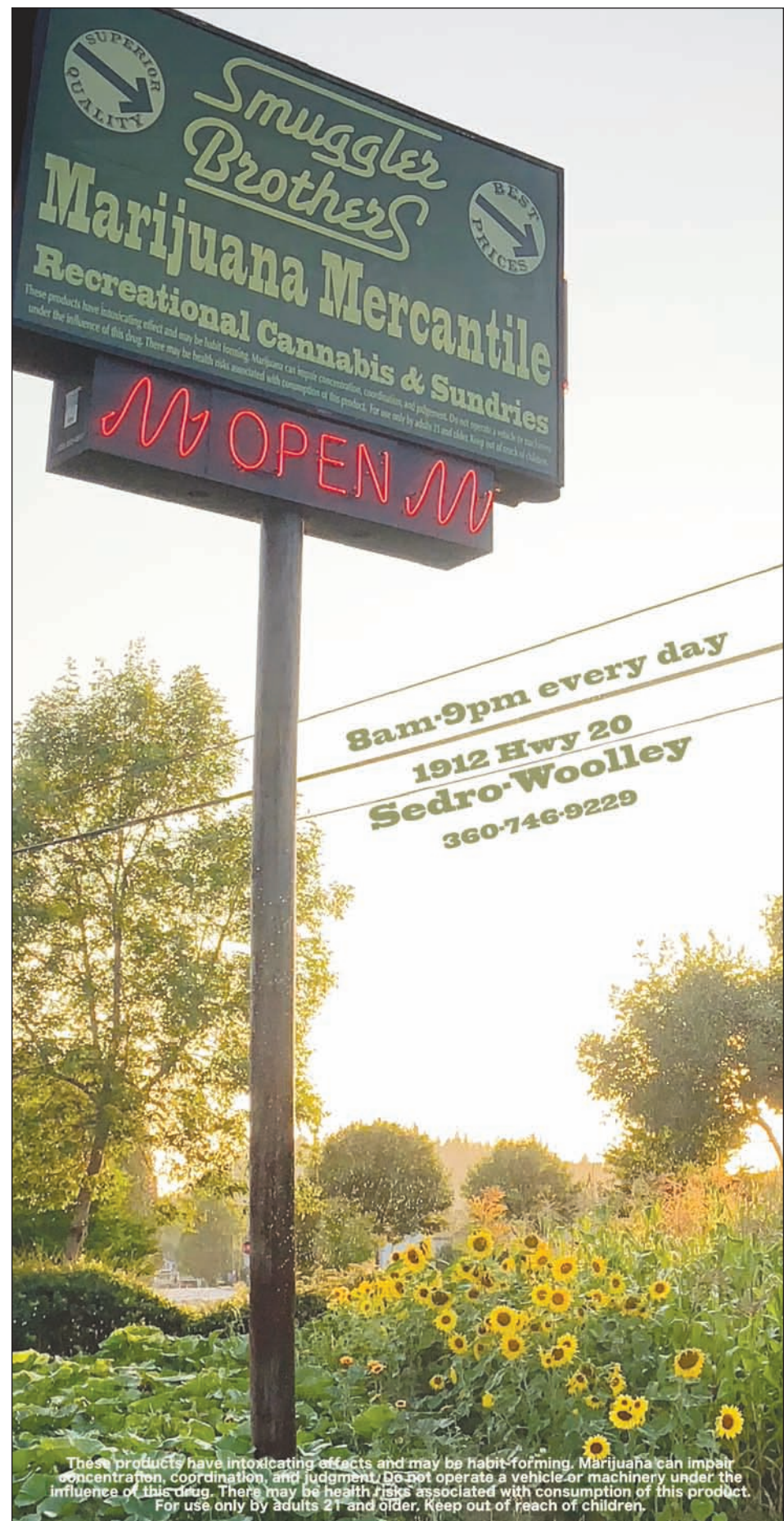
A healthy body is a body in motion.

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These products have intoxicating effects and may be habit-forming. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of this drug. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. For use only by adults 21 and older. Keep out of reach of children.