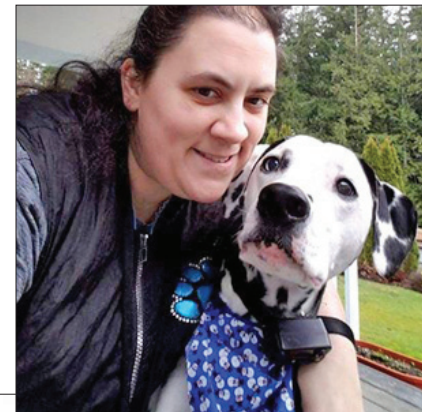
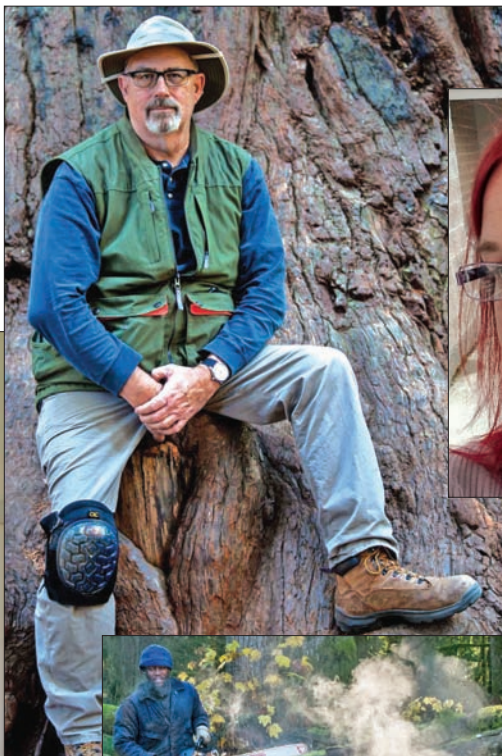
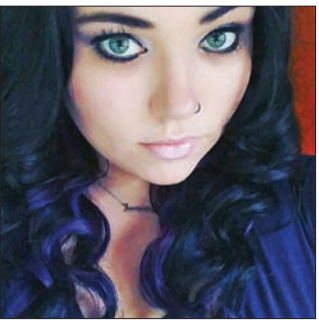


Small scale, big options

Upper Valley microbusinesses offer an eclectic range of products and services. *Page 10.*



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Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



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

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

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Opinion

Letters to the editor

RE: Barley letter, November issue

I am disappointed that once again the *Concrete Herald* has chosen to allow personal attacks through its media platform.

I have previously invited R. Barley to meet with me to discuss the concerns she has what the Town of Hamilton is doing, and what our local government can and cannot do. That invitation still stands. The middle of a council meeting is not the appropriate place or time, and it needs to be a conversation, which involves listening. I find a lot of people aren't interested in two-way conversations and I don't have the time to be your screaming coach.

Everyone has areas of their life they would like to improve on. There is only so much time in a day to work on it. Admitting that you feel like you

have failed at something publicly takes courage. It is an opportunity to learn and grow. One of the things I've learned is that it doesn't matter how hard you try, there will always be someone that isn't happy with what you're doing. That doesn't mean you try any less, just that you need to keep trying your best. Every day is a chance to try again, and I keep trying.

Joan Cromley
 Hamilton

Letters policy

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

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The Skagit Eagle Festival is funded in part by a grant from the Skagit County Lodging Tax.

Council reviews current projects

By Chazlyn Lovely
 Edited by Katy Tomasulo

During their Oct. 8 regular meeting, Concrete Town Councilmembers reviewed major projects under way with town engineer Cody Hart of CRH Engineering. Following is a summary of the status of those ongoing projects as of that date.

Spray Park at Silo Park

The idea for a spray park hatched during a 2015 Imagine Concrete Foundation workshop focused on bolstering the town's Economic Development Plan by re-imagining Silo Park as an attraction with amenities geared toward both citizens and visitors. The admission-fee-free play feature was originally planned to be complete in July 2017; but while much progress has been made, funding limitations have pushed the grand opening

back to at least summer 2019. Despite the delays, positive news bolsters the project: Both the Washington Department of Health and Washington Department of Ecology have approved the project's innovative design, which is expected to set a precedent for similar endeavors around the state in the future. Use of the Park and Ride stormwater infiltration pond and underground infiltration beds for spray park runoff will allow the Town of Concrete to save more than \$100,000 over alternatives, which also would have been impossible due to the location's limitations.

The budget is also being kept under control via the efforts of the town—particularly volunteers and the Department of Public Works, which have taken on the majority of the preparation and follow-up efforts such as site grading, pipe and water feature installation, vegetation transplanting, and drinking

and shower station creation. The schedule for completion will be dependent on the availability of volunteer and Town Staff manpower.

First Street Waterline Extension

The Town of Concrete received a Skagit County Economic Development grant totaling \$350,000 in 2016 to be used to extend the town's water service to businesses in Grasmere Village and Albert's Red Apple, who without the grant would have been required to pay the costs on their own. Originally slated to be completed by the end of April, the project has taken longer than expected for a variety reasons, including difficulties installing steel casing under SR 20 and the contractor's slow pace completing the "punch list" (the rest of the work required before final payment). As of this time, Grasmere's water lines from First Street to the west limits of Albert's Red Apple are operational and, according to Hart, "substantially complete," but the town is pursuing unilateral closeout for the project's grant as a last resort, after waiting the majority of the year for the contractor to complete the job.

Sanitary Sewer Infiltration and Inflow (I&I)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded the Town of Concrete a \$730,000 grant in 2017 to be used to repair the town's sanitary sewer system. Design for the project began in March 2018 and concluded in September, with construction to be completed in 2019. Repairs and replacements will be done to pipes, side sewers, and manholes. A trenchless infiltration and inflow technique will be used, which will include cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) lining. Trenchless spot repairs and pressure grouting will also take place during this project. Currently, the USDA is in the final review process, with advertisements for bids to come before the end of the year.

Cedar Street Road and Pedestrian Improvements

The Transportation Improvement Board awarded a grant for \$637,661 to Concrete for improvements to Cedar Street in November 2017, including construction of ADA-compliant sidewalks and curbs, new gutters, and cement/concrete driveway entrances, as well as replacement of the existing waterline with a 12-inch water main. Planning was well underway by the end of October, with public review this month, and advertising for bids should take place by the end of the year or in

early 2019. Construction should occur by Summer 2019, if all goes to plan.

South Rietze Waterline Improvements

Funds from the Town of Concrete will go toward waterline improvements on South Rietze from the intersection of Cedar moving south for 500 feet. Design progress is on schedule, with bidding to begin later this year or early 2019 alongside the Cedar Street project.

Park and Pine Waterline Improvements

Town-funded waterline improvements will take place from Cedar and South Park Avenue, up north and east on Pine Street, under Lorenzen Creek, and south to the existing water line near Robertson Court. Design will be completed in 2019, and construction should begin next year, as well.

Water Storage/System Improvements

This project is composed of waterline improvements, replacement of the wooden water tank with a 200,000-gallon concrete tank, and installation of a meter at the town's water source in order to track the volume of water being extracted. The project began in 2017 but was previously suspended due to state legislative budget issues. In February 2018, state funding became available, and planning resumed in March. Final designs were submitted in September, with final review to be completed this month. Approval to seek bids should come later this year, with construction slated for spring 2019 through fall 2019. The undertaking is required by the Department of Health and will enable the town to keep a record of water that leaves the system but is not consumed by residents in order to boost water efficiency.

Townwide Metering Improvements

Mandated by the Department of Health, this project will provide metered water service to all water system users currently under a fixed monthly fee. Like the Water Storage/System improvements, this project had been suspended in 2017 due to state legislative budget issues, but resumed once funding became available again in February 2018. Design restarted in March, final design documents were submitted in September, and final administrative review occurred in October. Bid advertisement will commence in November with expected completion in 2019. CRH Engineering will coordinate with the Public Works Department to

Election 2018

Skagit County's Elections Dept. certified the Nov. 6 election results on Nov. 27. With a 73 percent voter turnout, the following results affecting the *Concrete Herald* coverage area were announced:

I-1631 (pollution)

No	63%
Yes	37%

I-1634 (taxation of items for human consumption)

Yes	60%
No	40%

I-1639 (firearms)

Yes	53%
No	47%

I-940 (law enforcement)

Yes	53%
No	47%

SB6269

Repealed	56%
Maintained	44%

Prop. 1 (Freeholder election)

Freeholders yes	33%
Freeholders no	67%

Sedro-Woolley School District No. 101 Prop. 1: General Obligation Bonds (\$44,500,000)

Rejected	50.31%
Approved	49.69%

U.S. Senator

Maria Cantwell (D)	51%
Susan Hutchison (R)	49%

Congressional Dist. 1 Rep.

Suzan DelBene (D)	54%
Jeffrey Beeler (R)	46%

Congressional Dist. 2 Rep.

Rick Larsen (D)	67%
Brian Luke (L)	33%

Leg. Dist. 39 State Senator

Keith Wagoner (R)	61%
Claus Joens (D)	39%

Leg. Dist. 39 State Rep. Pos. 1

Robert Sutherland (R)	58%
Ivan Lewis (D)	42%

Leg. Dist. 39 State Rep. Pos. 2

Carolyn Eslick (R)	58%
Eric Halvorson (D)	42%

See Projects, p. 6

Skagit County races

Assessor

Dave Thomas (R) (unopposed)

Auditor

Sandy Perkins (D)	57%
Mike Urban (D)	43%

Clerk

Melissa Beaton (unopposed)

County Commissioner Dist. 3

Lisa Janickia (D) (unopposed)

Coroner

Hayley Thompson (D) (unopposed)

Prosecuting Attorney

Rich Weyrich (D) (unopposed)

Sheriff

Don McDermott (D) (unopposed)

Treasurer

Jackie Brunson (D)	57%
Bradley Whaley (R)	43%

Dist. Court Judge Pos. 1

Warren M. Gilbert (unopposed)

Dist. Court Judge Pos. 2

Dianne Edmonds Goddard (unopposed)

Dist. Court Judge Pos. 3

Thomas Verge (unopposed)

Supreme Court Justice Pos. 2

Susan Owens (unopposed)

Supreme Court Justice Pos. 8

Steve Gonzalez	65%
Nathan Choi	35%

Supreme Court Justice Pos. 9

Sheryl Gordon McCloud (unopposed)

Court of Appeals, Div. 1, Dist. 3, Judge Pos. 1 (multi-county race; results include only Skagit County)

Tom SeGuine	58%
Cecily Hazelrigg-Hernandez	42%

Skagit Superior Court Judge Pos. 2

Laura Riquelme	54%
Rosemary Kaholokula	46%

PUD Dist. Countywide Commissioner 2

Joe Lindquist	68%
Robbie Robertson	32%



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Celebrations

Proud parents Mariah Casteel and Gabriel Thomson announce the birth of their daughter, Arianna Lynn Thompson. Born on November 16, 2018.

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Events line up for holiday season

With the holiday season well under way, here's a look at some of the events on the schedule for December.

Dec. 8: Concrete K-6 PTO Christmas Bazaar and Children's Craft Fair

The mantle for this family-friendly favorite has been passed from Imagine Concrete Foundation to the PTO, but little more has changed. The event will be held in the Concrete Elementary School gym on Sat., Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (see ad, p. 5). Look for hands-on crafts, photos with Santa and his elf, plenty of vendors with holiday gift ideas, a silent auction, and more. Lunch will be provided for a teeny tiny fee.

Dec. 8: Holiday Festival

Community Action has several hours of fun planned for Sat., Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Concrete Community Center, located at 45821 Railroad St. in Concrete. Look for crafts, gifts, and decorations for sale; activities for kids and wreath-making for adults; caroling and refreshments; and door prizes every hour.

You might even be lucky enough to catch Santa!

Dec. 8: Christmas on Moen Road

Designed to appeal to all Upper Skagit families, Christmas on Moen Road is hosted by Marty and Adrienne Smith at their home at 48040 Moen Rd., about 2 miles east of Concrete.

This year's event is scheduled for Sat., Dec. 8, with Santa arriving at 6 p.m. and a slew of fun activities following. Santa will bring one gift for every child up to 12 years old. Guests can stroll the beautifully decorated (and lighted) grounds. Look for hay rides and a live nativity scene, complete with animals. Hot dogs and hot drinks will keep you warm. Bring a chair, sit around the fire, and enjoy the warmth of the season till around 9 p.m.

Dec. 8, 9, 15: Concrete Lions Club Christmas Tree Sales

They're back! The Concrete Lions Club has been serving our community for decades; this is one way you can support them and get a beautiful Christmas tree

in the transaction. You'll find the intrepid Lions Club members selling Christmas trees again this year, in the Swap Meet field immediately west of Loggers Landing in Concrete, on Dec. 8, 9, and 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dec. 13: Community Dinner and Winter Concert

Everyone's favorite doubleheader, the Community Dinner and Concrete Schools Music Program Winter Concert will be held on Thur., Dec. 13.

The dinner starts at 4:30 p.m. in the Concrete High School cafeteria. The concert follows in the gymnasium at 6 p.m. Both events are free and open to Upper Valley community members.

—J. K. M.

THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

Working with volunteers and staff, the East County Resource Center has brought back its **Christmas Sharing Tree** program. Participants are invited to choose a tag from the sharing tree at the East County Resource Center, purchase gifts, and return the wrapped gifts to the center by Dec. 17. The center is open Mon. through Fri. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 360.416.1733.

KSVU 90.1 FM is still gathering feedback via a survey available at its studio in Concrete. Pick one up there or call 360.853.8588 and they'll mail or e-mail you the form.

Projects, cont. from p. 4

complete the project, with the former focusing on the service line portion in spring and the latter working from Fall 2019 to Spring 2020.

Main Street Waterline Improvements: North Superior to A Avenue

Suspended in 2017 and resumed in 2018, Main Street's waterlines from the intersection of North Superior to A Avenue will see replacement of 800 linear feet of piping by 2019. To minimize administrative costs and increase bidding potential, CRH Engineering will combine this project with the Town-Wide Metering Improvements project. Last month, administrative review took place before approval for bid advertisement could begin.

Baker River Boat Launch/Park Project

Town of Concrete, Skagit County Parks and Recreation, and property owners at the confluence of the Baker and Skagit rivers have come together to foster the creation of a primitive campground and day-use area, including a boat launch into the Skagit River. Parks and Rec Director Brian Adams facilitated the process that transferred land into the possession of the town, created an aquatic lease agreement between Concrete and the Washington Department of Natural Resources, and set up purchase and sale and gift agreements from previous landowners. CRH Engineering has helped the Town of

Concrete with cost estimates, conceptual exhibits, and possible funding approaches, and an application has gone into the Recreation Conservation Office Boating Facilities Program. In 2019 a decision will be made, and if in the town's favor, form design can begin in 2020.

Secondary School Access Improvements

An alternate access route to the Concrete School District and town airport is in the works. The east end of Airport Way will connect to SR 20, and the town hopes to begin right-of-way purchases in 2018 with complete construction by 2020. This project has been pursued by the town for a number of years because it is unwise to have a single point of entry to critical infrastructure such as the airport and the entire Concrete school district in case of emergencies. So far, the town has received over \$700,000 in funds from Federal Highway Administration grant applications. Engineering design is complete, but right-of-way purchases (fully funded) need to be completed and the rest of the funding needs to be acquired before construction can begin. The town hopes to see progress in 2019, with construction completed in 2021.

Freelance writer Chazlyn Lovely lives in Corkindale.

Freelance editor Katy Tomasulo lives on Bainbridge Island.

Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on Nov. 13 and 26. Following are summaries 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.

Nov. 13 regular meeting

- **Public Safety:** Sgt. Greg Adams submitted an October incident report and a summary report for council review.
- Three public hearings were held: the first was for Resolution No. 2018-17, the proposed 2019 property tax. No public comment was received.

The second public hearing was for Resolution No. 2018-18, the proposed 2019 utility rates and fees. There was significant feedback from the audience. One attendee asked why she has to pay two separate sewer utility bills when she has a single connection for her home and business. Public Works Dir. Alan Wilkins explain the sewer charges and connections, which are charged per service.

There was a request for an explanation about why the rates keep going up. Mayor Jason Miller explained the rates and the reasons for the increases, which include infrastructure maintenance, operation, and improvements. The town also carries a debt load from the construction of the wastewater treatment plant in the form of low-interest loans, some of which carry with them a requirement for the town to set aside money into reserves, in addition to making regular payments. Mayor Miller also stated that the water and sewer funds are "enterprise funds," which means they must be completely self-sustaining.

Councilmember Ginger Kyritsis also discussed the town's debt load and the efforts the town has made to secure grant funding for needed upgrades so as not to further burden residents with rate increases to fund that work.

Councilmember Marla Reed said that the most recent rate study—which focused on the sewer utility—came back with a suggested rate increase that was extremely steep, and that the council chose to raise the rates a small amount at a time

instead of one large increase. She said that she understands it is hard on rate payers, but it is also hard on the town and the council to have to make these types of decisions.

The third public hearing was for the proposed 2019 budget in its entirety—the first of two public hearings required by the state. No action was taken at the Nov. 13 meeting.

Nov. 26 regular meeting

- **Public Safety:** Sgt. Adams stated that he would like to have a meeting with the town to discuss law enforcement services and how things are going or what could be improved.
- Two public hearings were conducted: The first was for Ordinance No. 790—the proposed 2019 budget in its entirety (the second of two public hearings required by the state). The second was for Ordinance No. 789—proposed salaries and benefits for 2019. With no comments from the public, the council voted to approve both ordinances.
- Councilmember Elizabeth Easterday reported that she took the last of the squash harvest from the community garden to the food bank last week.
- Town planner Marianne Manville-Ailles reported they are working on the train car removal and they will have cleanup to do when completed. She also discussed PSE's plans for the visitor center and that the plans are now approximately 60 percent complete, and she is very pleased with the plan so far.
- Mayor Miller reported that he will make a final decision regarding the new Public Works employee within the next 48 hours.

—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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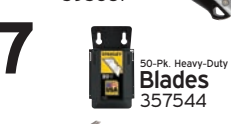
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Sports

Wrestling team gets a new Coach Dellinger

After decades of involvement with the Concrete High School wrestling program, Coach David “Goob” Dellinger has handed the coaching reins to his eldest son. Jesse Dellinger has tagged in.

The change was effective with the beginning of the 2018–19 wrestling season.

Jesse Dellinger, 30, has the sport in his blood. Trained since age 3 by his father, he wrestled for Concrete High School and traveled to the Mat Classic state tournament all four years. He captured third-place and second-place medals during his junior and freshman years, respectively, then roared into the Tacoma Dome his senior year, pinning every opponent during the first rounds, and took home first place.

“I had something to prove that year,” said Jesse.

He ended his high school career with 140 wins and 9 losses, graduating in 2007.

After high school, Jesse enjoyed a full-ride scholarship to Dickinson State University in North Dakota, where he wrestled for a year, pulling down 4th place in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national competition, then getting named an All American for the NAIA.

After graduating from Central Washington University in 2017, he took a position as an assistant football coach at Sedro-Woolley High School, where he currently works. He volunteered his time with the Concrete wrestlers for 8 years before accepting the head coach position.

Coaching style

Like his father, Jesse’s coaching style is aggressive, designed to prepare his charges for the rigors of the mat.

“Wrestling is one on one, with no one to rely on,” he said. “You have to push yourself. Who’s going to work harder—me or the other person? We move at 100 miles an hour. I want to prepare the kids because once they step on the mat, I can’t do anything; they’re on their own. I want

to give them what they need to perform.”

Jesse said he plans to continue to bring his college training to Concrete, “to push these kids to get better and better every day. Dad’s been so successful, you want to move into the position with care. But this definitely will work out well—it already has.”

“I’m not walking away”

David Dellinger said the challenge of farming, building a new house, and holding down a full-time job gave him the nudge to hand the head coach position to his son. But that doesn’t mean he’ll leave the mats alone, he said.

“You’ll see me at all the matches; you’ll see me at State. I’ll be in and out of turnout. I love the sport and I love the kids; my heart will always be there. I won’t walk away,” he said.

David said he’s been involved with CHS wrestling since his 1984 graduation from the school. “I’ve coached the little kids, middle school, and high school,” he said. He spent about 16 years as head coach for the high school wrestlers.

He looks back on his leadership years with fondness for his athletes, bragging them up with stories about how other coaches perceived them: tough competitors with good attitudes. With Jesse as head coach, David says the program will grow even stronger.

“You have a young, hungry coach in there now. He wants these kids to be the best they can be. He’ll push them. He’ll push them hard. He loves the team, he loves the program. He’s a true Lion.”

—J. K. M.



Jesse Dellinger



Clockwise from above left: Father and son duo David and Jesse Dellinger shout guidance from the corner of the mat during the 2017 Mat Classic in Tacoma. David Dellinger was all smiles after the Lions captured the 4th place team trophy at the 2016 state tournament. Coach Goob has a few choice words for little brother Donovan Dellinger during a heated match.



Quick start for women’s hoops

By Kevik Rensink, head coach

The Concrete Girls Basketball season is off to a quick start, having already played three games by Dec. 1. This is the most games we have seen so early in the season, and I like it. Most years, we are into December before we start playing, and only see live competition a time or two before league play starts. This season we will see a record of seven nonleague opponents before we travel to Mount Vernon Christian on Dec. 21. The girls already have shown improvement through the first three games, and I know they will be all the more ready to play when league play begins.

We started the season at Mount Baker, a 1A team one year removed from a State Championship. This was a tough first game of the season, but it was really important for the girls to play against a level of talent right off the bat, that we are trying to build toward. I was very proud of our team’s effort, as we were short-handed on players. Kylie Clark led us with 6 points, while Ebby Buchta collected 12 rebounds and Jaidyn Swanson handed out 3 assists.

Next, we traveled to Tulalip Heritage, a team we have not played during my tenure, but have faced many other times in volleyball. After leading a back-and-forth first half 20–18, we faltered in the second half by allowing too many offensive rebounds to a bigger, tougher team. We lost 48–31 in a game we “coulda, shoulda, woulda.” Clark led us again with 13

points, while Buchta had 3 steals and 2 assists. We will see Tulalip Heritage much later in the season (Jan. 24), so we will have corrected some poor habits by then and hopefully have better results.

The girls made it their goal to block out and rebound better vs. Overlake on Dec. 1, which is a tall feat, when the other team brings in a 6’5” girl. Although we lost the game, the girls were able to accomplish their goal. We held Overlake to fewer offensive rebounds than we have allowed all season, and in turn played our best basketball to date. Once again Clark led us with 13 points, and I feel she is starting to get into a nice shooting rhythm. This is good news for us. Buchta continues to impress with her “be everywhere” type of play, leading the team with 6 rebounds, 4 assists, and 3 steals.

The goal moving forward is to continue to do just that: play our best basketball every day. The girls have set many personal and team goals this year, and we will work hard to achieve them. I keep reminding the girls our opponent is ourselves. We need to keep improving our individual skills and fundamentals in practice every day. We need to keep playing together. We need to be tough. This is how we want to play, and with hard work, great attitudes, and relentless effort, we can get there.

Our next home game is Dec. 6, followed by Coupeville on Dec. 14. After that we don’t have another home game until after the new year.

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL AWARDS

Varsity Letters: Grace Clemons, Jaidyn Swanson, Ashley Parker, Autumn Neece, Rebekah Rider, Maddy Pritchard, Kylie Clark, Cassidy Smith, Sierra Rensink, Josabet Acevedo.
Varsity Coach: Kevik Rensink. **Varsity Manager:** Unity Reynolds. **Varsity Best Server:** Cassidy Smith (96%, second best in league). **Varsity Perfect Passer:** Grace Clemons (46%). **Varsity Most Improved:** Rebekah Rider. **Varsity Most Valuable Player:** Grace Clemons. **Northwest All-League 2nd Team:** Cassidy Smith. **Northwest All-League Honorable Mention:** Grace Clemons.

JV Letters: Ashley Parker, Autumn Neece, Rebekah Rider, Kayla Knuth, Kendra Knuth, Leona Martinez, Tiana Brookshire, Faith Daniels, Payton Dickinson. **JV Coach:** Kelse Cargile. **JV Manager:** Unity Reynolds. **JV Most Improved:** Leona Martinez. **JV Most Valuable Player:** Faith Daniels.

The “Fun Awards”—Most Likely To ...

Have fun: Josabet Acevedo. **Best represent Concrete Volleyball:** Cassidy Smith. **Show love to her siblings:** Faith Daniels. **Always respect her teammates:** Jaidyn Swanson. **Always listen to rap music:** Kylie Clark. **Never come off the court:** Grace Clemons. **Become rich and famous:** Ashley Parker. **Become rich in love:** Sierra Rensink. **Become a great leader:** Maddy Pritchard. **Always be known as the heartbreaker:** Autumn Neece. **Cry at the movies:** Tiana Brookshire.

Athletes of the Month



Athletes of the Month: Grace Clemons and Levi Lowry

Grace Clemons is a Senior 5’ 10” defensive specialist for the Concrete High School volleyball team. She is a four-year letterer and was voted onto the Northwest All-League team this year. Grace led the team in serving aces (23), kills (46), and passing percentage (46). She was second on the team in digs with 70. Grace was a team captain and was a tremendous leader for the team this season. “She brought all of the girls together regardless of age or experience, led by example, and made practice fun every day,” said Head Coach Kevik Rensink. “Thank you, Grace, for a great career. You are deserving of this award.”

Junior **Levi Lowry** became a dominant force on both sides of the ball for the Lions football team this year. Offensively he ran the offensive line in both the passing and running game and did a stellar job at it. Defensively Levi was a power force that teams looked to run away from. For his size, he moves soundly from sideline to sideline without hesitation. Head Coach Arthur Sanchez said, “Levi came in this season knowing he needed to put in more effort than the previous year. He more than exceeded his own goals. We are excited that he’s a junior and look forward to having him back next season.”

Clemons and Lowry were selected by Concrete Lions Booster Club members based on their leadership, being team players, and demonstrating sportsmanship and character.

Local merchants
bring you Concrete
Herald each month.
Please support them!

Small scale, big options

Upper Valley microbusinesses offer an eclectic range of products and services. *Page 11.*

Beneath the raging torrent of big-budget stores vying for consumers' dollars this holiday season lies a serene pool of small-scale entrepreneurs who offer an alternative: products (many handmade) or services with a unique, often eclectic, personal touch. These efforts are called "microbusinesses" and are generally defined as businesses that operate on a very small scale. Rarely do they have more than two full-time employees.

Most microbusiness owners in the Upper Skagit Valley and Darrington quietly eke out a living (or provide a supplemental income for families) with a commitment to quality and a desire to offer something more than the cookie-cutter products that dominate the big-box stores in today's shopping environment.

As a microbusiness, *Concrete Herald* has a soft spot for its colleagues in the business world. Hence, this directory of microbusinesses in the Upper Skagit Valley and Darrington. Please consider their products and services as you wade into the holiday fray this year.

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Business:

Branding Evolution

Owners:

Thomas and Ginger Campbell

Products and services:

Design, marketing, and promotional printing, business and personal signage, photography, custom apparel printing, and embroidery.

Where to find them:

530 W. State St., Sedro-Woolley.
360.630.8889. werbrandingevolution@gmail.com.

Business:

Kind, Caring and Compassionate Grooming

Owner:

Melissa Dahlbeck-Nicholson

Services:

Pet grooming. 15 years' experience. AKC safety certified.

Why I do it:

"I love doing the one-on-one grooming as it is less stressful on your pets and allows me the time to get to know them,



especially if they have any health or behavioral issues. That allows me the extra time to work with them and get to know them. I love being able to take care of all of our furry friends."

Where to find her:

Cedar Grove. 360.630.5007.
<https://www.facebook.com/KindCaringandCompassionateGrooming/>



Business:

White Rabbit Tattoo

Owner:

Lise Sconce

Products and services:

Tattoos, gift certificates, pyramids, magnets, prints, pendants, hats, hoodies, and free stickers.

Where to find her:

44511B Concrete Sauk Valley Rd., Concrete. 360.853.3351

Business:

Cascade River Stampin'

Owner:

Carla Macnab

Location:

Marblemount

Products and services:

Paper crafting, including card making and paper craft classes.

Why I do it:

"I love my little business as it allows me the opportunity to meet new friends



and share the fun of papercrafting with others."

Where to find her:

5b's Bakery (Concrete), Rustic Heart Desires (Concrete Town Center), and Concrete Saturday Market. Mcnab will offer classes at Rustic Heart Desires beginning in 2019. E-mail: clmacnab@gmail.com. Facebook: Cascade River Stampin'.

Business:

Scentsy consultant

Owner:

Wendy Bartholomew

Location:

Sedro-Woolley

Products:

Electric candles, scented wax, room fresheners, body products, cleaning products, scented plush toys.

Where to find her:

Shop-a-bout in downtown Sedro-Woolley on Dec. 8 (in Magnolia Hall). Web site: <https://Wendyba.Scentsy.us>. E-mail: mommywendy01@hotmail.com



Business:

Real Time Pain Relief

Owner:

Tami Melum

Location:

Birdsview

Products:

Real Time PAIN Cream, formulated to provide fast, temporary pain relief for back pain, muscle strain, more than 100 types of arthritis, sprains, cramps, bruises, and more. The products are made with nature's ingredients and contain no parabens, SLS, or dyes.

Why I do it:

"I want to share the pain relief that these wonderful products can provide, instead of taking ibuprofen and pills."



Small Scale, cont. from p. 10



Where to find her:

360.707.1936. Web site: www.tamishhealthyliving.com

Business:

Marblemount Sweets and Hall Homestead

Owner:

Ariel Hall

Location:

Marblemount

Products and services:

Marblemount Sweets: Sourdough, cinnamon rolls, other baked goods, nut brittles, fudge, custom cakes.

Hall Homestead: Organic eggs (licensed through WSDA), organically grown produce, and private camping.

Where to find them:

Christmas Bazaar, Dec. 8 (see ad, p. 20). Orders for baked goods and eggs are taken throughout the year.

Marblemount Sweets: <http://www.facebook.com/marblemountsweets>, 360.873.2382

Hall Homestead: <http://www.facebook.com/HallHomesteadMarblemount>, 360.873.2382

Business:

42D Studio

Owner:

Sarah Fierbaugh

Location:

Marblemount

Products:

Cross stitch for the next generation

Why I do it:

"I learned to cross stitch as a kid and never stopped! I include my own unique design perspective, as well as my dry, snarky humor. These aren't your mama's samplers."

Where to find her:

faeriefir@gmail.com, <https://www.etsy.com/shop/42Dstudio>



Business:

Paparazzi Popper

Owner:

Ruth Martinez

Location:

Concrete

Products:

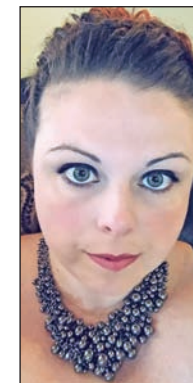
\$5 Jewelry

Why I do it:

"I love this jewelry. It's inexpensive and everyone can afford it. It's the same stuff you get at department stores, but at a fraction of the cost. You don't break the budget and there's no need to feel guilty."

Where to find her:

Christmas Bazaar, Dec. 8 (see ad, p. 20), in-home parties. 253.344.8459. paparazziaccessories.com/85008



Pass, and trail heads. Open year-round to accommodate family campouts, fishing weekends, or base camp for hiking groups or rafters. Regular campsite is just \$10 a night no limit to vehicles or people you can put in your campsite.

Why I do it:

"I started this project almost 14 years ago as a 'hobby'. I wanted people to enjoy the river as much as I did."

Where to find him:

Online: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/Cascade-Wagon-Road-Campground-117514215005854>
360.420.7887. E-mail: captaincaveman75@hotmail.com

Business:

For the Love of Leggings

Owner:

Teresa Vermaat

Location:

Concrete

Products:

Women's and girls' apparel

Why I do it:

"With two young children, I wanted to stay home and raise them myself. My husband works hard and I wanted to contribute financially while taking

See *Small Scale*, p. 27

More Than Just Great Pizza!

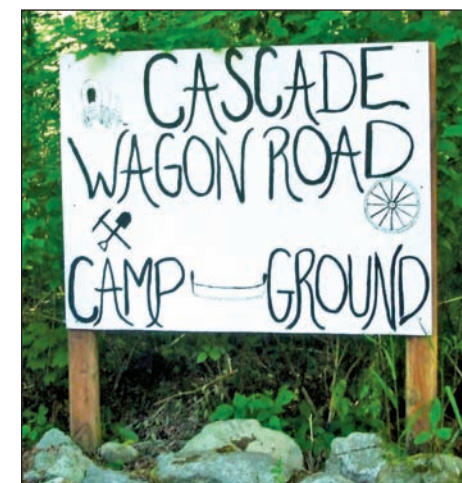
Lasagna ★ Salads ★ Beer
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Business:

Cascade Wagon Road Campground

Owner:

Bob Hopfield

Location:

Marblemount

Service:

Established in 2005, we are a small, rustic, primitive campground located on the scenic Cascade River, half a mile from the Skagit River boat launch in Marblemount, in close proximity to Marblemount Fish Hatchery, Cascade





Academics



Grant will expand Farm to School in Concrete School District

United General District 304 has announced that the Foundation of District 304 has been awarded a \$378,598

Community Food Project grant from the United States Department of Agriculture.

The four-year Growing Farm to School project will expand the Concrete School District's Farm to School program. Farm to School provides nutrition education, hands-on learning opportunities in agriculture and culinary arts, and access to locally grown foods in school meals. The program is coordinated through United General District 304 in partnership with the school district.

Student interest in Farm to School

activities beyond elementary school led to the Growing Farm to School proposal. A four-season continuum of opportunities in agriculture and culinary arts will be offered as students progress through middle and high school. Middle school students will participate in an after-school garden club and sell produce at the Concrete Community Market. High school students will be offered Career and Technical Education courses in agriculture and culinary arts. Students will build skills through volunteerism and work in the school kitchen, garden and greenhouse (to be built during the first project year). By the end of the project, participating

high school students will advance to paid internships with Skagit County farmers and restaurateurs. According to coordinator Rachel Muia, "This grant is perfect timing for Farm to School. We're so glad to be continuing to serve kids who are already engaged and have asked to participate into middle school and beyond."

The project also serves the wider east county community by aligning nutrition and food resources. Residents will be invited to participate in free cooking classes and be provided take-home bags of seasonal produce grown by beginning farmers at Viva Farms. Concrete School

District Superintendent Wayne Barrett states, "We are honored to receive the CFP Grant in partnership with United General and look forward to building on Farm to School to increase opportunities for our students and benefit the Concrete community. Through this project our district will play a significant role in community food security."

For more information about the Community Food Project grant or Concrete Farm to School, contact the United General District 304 program coordinator: Rachel Muia at rachel.muia@unitedgeneral.org or (360) 854-7171.

—Marjorie Bell

YD update

Concrete Youth Dynamics has been so much fun so far this school year. We have more than 70 high school students who have attended our Monday Night events, and December looks pretty amazing when it comes to the YD schedule.

We hosted, for the first time in Concrete YD history, an Indoor Inflatable Game Night on Mon., Dec. 3, and it was a ton of fun. There was a jousting pad with pedestals, a boxing ring with oversized boxing gloves, and a 40-foot x 10-foot high inflatable obstacle course. It was a very eventful evening with our local teens, and I'm pretty sure there was more than the 70 students who have already shown up. We love to see new faces, as everyone is welcome (as long as you are of high school age—I have to put that disclaimer in here because otherwise everyone shows up).

December 10 is our Annual Christmas Party and white elephant gift exchange. This is always a favorite of the students, as they never know what they might go home with. Our last Monday night event of the year is also a favorite for many of our teens, as we take the students for a hayride around town, Christmas caroling for all who want to hear (as well as those who really don't want to hear). The kids have a lot of fun with this, and I am sure they are at home rehearsing right now, so

they will be sure to get all the words right this year—or maybe not.

In January we will have a new schedule to hand out to the students, and one of the big events on the schedule is the annual snow retreat, otherwise known as Hotdoggin'. This four-day retreat takes place in Plain, Wash., at Stonewater Ranch during Martin Luther King Jr. weekend. These spots fill up fast, and have already been filled by students placing a deposit. However, we always have a waiting list in case students from other YD areas don't fill up their spots, thus allowing more Concrete students to go! So if you think you would like to go on this trip please bring your deposit to the next YD meeting so we can get your name on the waiting list as soon as possible.

Thank you to Fred West and Val Stafford for allowing us to use the Concrete Theatre for a Movie Night with the students in November, as that is always a special treat to have the whole theatre to ourselves.

Congratulations to Kaden Becker and Vincent Wenneker for winning the Human Scavenger Hunt game we played at the Bellis Fair Mall last month. They have won this event multiple times now, and are very good at finding people in disguise. I don't know, but there may be a future in the police department for these two someday.

—Kevik and Marta Rensink
Area Directors

Start your year right



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- Photos of Concrete and the Upper Valley taken by local photographers
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CHS students Andrea Rogers (left), Autumn Neece (middle), and Ashley Parker traveled to the annual Prevention Summit in Yakima from Nov. 6–7. The conference draws students from all over Washington to learn tools and strategies to start prevention efforts in their schools. Photo by Stephanie Morgareidge.



Devin White, 7, (left) and Jameson White, 3, are all smiles after winning a treehouse playset and a model car during the Concrete K-6 PTO Turkey Bingo event at the elementary school on Nov. 15.

one simple step lock up your meds

Opioids are now one of the leading causes of injury-related deaths in Washington State.¹

75 percent of opioid misuse starts with people using medication that wasn't prescribed for them—usually taken from a friend or family member.²

Simple steps, like locking up medications, can stop them from being misused.

STOP OPIOID ABUSE Your choices matter

- ✓ Prescription pain medication is highly addictive. Talk with your doctor about other ways to manage pain.
- ✓ Lock up your medications.
- ✓ Safely dispose of unused medications at a take-back program near you. Find one at TakeBackYourMeds.org

Learn more at
GetTheFactsRx.com

¹ Washington State Department of Health
² Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



Washington State
Health Care Authority



Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

Our photo this month is of the Clear Lake Club Room in Clear Lake, circa 1900. This building changed hands, and purpose, many times from the 1890s to present day. Built in the late 1800s, it first functioned as a saloon operated by A. H. Rogers. He sold the building to George Butters and Henry Klingenmeier in 1901 and it functioned as a saloon.

Klingenmeier eventually sold his half ownership to Butters. By 1917 the building was a drug store operated by Leeper and Adams. In the late 1920s to the early 1930s, the building housed a bakery and restaurant owned and operated by Olive Chambers. In the 1940s, Frank Adams added living quarters in the back of the building. Around 1951 Jim Becraft bought the building, and it was a multi-purpose building with a tavern and a drug store. In 1953 the building was sold to Eldred and Evelyn Loop. They ran a tavern in the building which they named Evelyn's Tavern. (Their son, Jim Loop of Sedro-Woolley, has been a great source of information on the history of the tavern.) The building has changed hands several times since then, but the name Evelyn's Tavern has continued to this day. Located on Highway 9 in Clear Lake, it is a popular stop for food and beverages for lunch, dinner, and weekend entertainment. Billy Elms is the current weekday cook and serves up delicious food. *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.

Like the Clear Lake Historical Association on Facebook at www.facebook.com/clearlakehistory.

—Deanna Ammons, historian



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Community Calendar



DECEMBER

- 7 Grub & Groove, Marblemount Community Hall, potluck and signup at 6 p.m.; music starts at 7 p.m.; info at 510.926.0468
- 7 Brooke Pederson's Story Snowflake Workshop, 5b's Bakery, Concrete, 6 p.m.
- 8 Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center opens weekends in Rockport; see schedule, p. 23
- 8 Concrete Lions Christmas Tree Sales, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 8 Sedro-Woolleyville Christmas in Sedro-Woolley, various events; info at www.sedro-woolley.com
- 8 Christmas Bazaar and Children's Craft Fair, Concrete Elementary School gym, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; see notice, p. 6 and ad, p. 20; info at sheenaladale@yahoo.com
- 8 Holiday Festival, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 8 Christmas on Moen Road; see notice, p. 6
- 8 An Evening of Carol Singing, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 46372 E. Main St., Concrete; free admission; see notice, p. 39; info at 314.277.4780 or gretchen.concretemusic@gmail.com
- 8 Holiday Home Tour, Sedro-Woolley; see article, p. 17; info at 360.855.2390
- 8 Darrington Community Dance, Mansford Grange, Darrington; potluck dinner at 6 p.m., dance at 7 p.m.; admission by \$7 suggested donation; see notice, p. 25; info at 206.402.8646
- 9 Concrete Lions Christmas Tree Sales, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 11-22 Christmas Open Studio Card Craft at Upper Skagit Library, Concrete, during open hours
- 13 Community Dinner and Winter Concert; see notice, p. 6
- 15 Concrete Lions Christmas Tree Sales, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 15 Beerzaar, Birdview Brewing Co., 2 to 5 p.m.; see notice, p. 22
- 16 Hamilton Volunteer Fire Dept. Kids' Christmas Party, Hamilton Town Hall, 1 p.m.; see "From the Mayor," p. 22
- 17 Christmas Sharing Tree deadline for gifts delivered to East County Resource Center; see notice, p. 6; info at 360.416.1733
- 22 Holiday Party at Birdview Brewing Co., 6 to 8 p.m.; see notice, p. 22
- 24 Christmas Eve service, Day Creek Chapel, Day Creek; see notice, p. 19

JANUARY

- 1 Penguin Dip, Clear Lake; usually starts at 11 a.m.
- 1 Healthy Hikes program begins at Rockport State Park, 10 a.m.; see article, p. 23; info at 360.853.8461
- EVERY WEEKEND: Skagit Eagle Festival; see ads, pp. 3 and 5
- 12-13 Skagit Eagle Festival events at Marblemount Community Hall, Marblemount; see notice, p. 26; info at 360.873.2323
- 12 Darrington Community Dance, Mansford Grange, Darrington; potluck dinner at 6 p.m., dance at 7 p.m.; admission by \$7 suggested
- 25 5th Annual Illuminight Winter Walk, Riverwalk Park, Mount Vernon, 3:30 to 9 p.m.; see photo caption, p. 34; info at 360.419.9326

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

Community meetings

Cascade Days planning meetings will be held the third Mon. of each month, at 7460 S. Dillard, Ste. A (corner of SR 20 and Dillard), at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are not mandatory for volunteers. Info at ember@cascaadedays.com.

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

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

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

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

Concrete Community Center Committee meets the third Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m., at the East County Resource Center in Concrete. Meetings are open to the public. 360.416.1733 or claudiam3@communityactionskagit.org.

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

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

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

Concrete Resource Coalition meets the third Thur. of each month, at 2 p.m., in the Concrete High School library.

Concrete School District Board: The board will not hold a work session in December. The board will hold its regular monthly meeting on Dec. 17 at 6 p.m., in the high school Commons room. 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 Tue. of each month in the Pilots' Lounge at Mears Field in Concrete, at 6 p.m. Open to the public. 360.853.8213 or goodwords@frontier.com.

KSVU 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 and staff meet the second Wed. of each month at the hall, at 6 p.m. 360.873.2323.

Ohana Support Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Concrete Community Center, 45821 Railroad Ave., Concrete, at 6 p.m. 360.416.1733.

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.

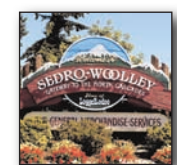
Sedro-Woolley School District Board: Meets Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the Support Services Bldg. for a work session, followed by its regular meeting at 7 p.m. 360.855.3500 or kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us.

Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center Board meets the second Tue. of each month, 5:30 p.m., at Annie's Pizza Station in Grasmere. Open to the public. sauksister@frontier.com or www.skagiteagle.org.

Upper Skagit Library District (USLD) Board meets the second Thursday of each month, 6 p.m., at the library. Public is welcome. 360.853.7939 or info@upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

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

Local merchants bring you Concrete Herald each month. Please support them!



Sedro-Woolley



Sedro-Woolley Junior Cubs score another Super Bowl win

On Nov. 12, the Sedro-Woolley Youth Football Juniors defeated Bellingham in the Superbowl 14-8.

Sedro-Woolley finished its season undefeated with an 11-0 record, outscoring their opponents 261 to 83.

The coaching staff—Head Coach Chris Grimm, Phil Reynolds, Tim Kunnapp, Tom Nasin, Jason Betts, and Scott Latta—have won two superbows together, with a 22-0 record (one season in the midget division).

The junior team also received a special invite to the Pro Football Hall of Fame World Youth Championships from Nov. 23-25 in Snohomish County, beating Lynnwood 20-8 in the first round and losing to Tulalip in the championship game, where they finished 2nd place in the region (12u).

"The kids and coaches would like to give a very special shout out to their helpers, Dylan Peterson, Sven Lukner and Jordan Rua," said Head Coach Chris Grimm. "Thank you, guys, for volunteering your time to the team."

—J. K. M.



The victorious Sedro-Woolley Junior Cubs paused for a jubilant photo after winning their Superbowl on Nov. 12. This year's roster included Adrian Aguilar, Trevor Bakker, Cyrus Betts, Nate Bogoni, Marcos Cortez, Lucas Denmark, Mason Eknes, Chase Grimm, Mason Hankins, Braydin Hooper, Jayden Larm, Jordan Latta, Landon Lucas, Kaeden McCormick, Kilian McCracken, Logan Nasin, Colby Nasin, Ryan Olson, Hayden Perry, Ty Peterson, Carsten Reynolds, Julian Padilla, Lucas Rommel, Andres Rosas, Isaac Rua, Ethan Scott, Porter Self, Hunter Shaw, Dylan Sherwood, Carter Smith, Thomas Tilton, Ayden Vasquez, and Parker Wright. Coaching staff was Head Coach Chris Grimm, with Phil Reynolds, Tom Nasin, Tim Kunnapp, Jason Betts, and Scott Latta. Photo by Rachael Rodriguez-Padilla.

PeaceHealth screens teens for heart issues

By Ruth Richardson

Being healthy is just part of everyday life for Lauren Benham.

The Sedro-Woolley High School sophomore participates in soccer, basketball, and track—all sports that require strict physical conditioning. Benham has never had any worries about her heart, but when she heard about the heart screening being provided in partnership with PeaceHealth and Whatcom County Fire Districts at Sedro-Woolley High School on Nov. 14, she jumped at the chance.

"It's free, so why not," Benham said. "Just to make sure everything is good." She was one of the first in line at the gymnasium, having her height, weight, and blood pressure checked before going behind a privacy curtain to have a specialized echocardiogram using the CARDEA 20/20 ECG platform. This system features a proprietary algorithm that specifically looks for difficult-to-diagnose heart conditions in active youth. Benham then received chest-compression

CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) training with a larger group of students. They learned to give 100 compressions per minute in a steady rhythm, pressing hard enough to hear a click in the chest of the provided CPR mannequin.

After the training, students met with on-site physicians to review their individual test results. If there were any signs of an issue, an echocardiogram was ordered by the physician.

The screening was the eighth event offered by PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center in Bellingham, Wash. and the first in Skagit County said Jerry Marschke, executive director of the PeaceHealth St. Joseph Cardiovascular Center.

During the event, 234 youth were screened for hidden heart abnormalities and uncovered concerns with several students. PeaceHealth cardiologist Rex Liu, MD, will review the results of each screening and follow up with each student's family and primary care physician to determine if further testing or

care is needed for these students.

SWHS Principal Kerri Carlton said the partnership with PeaceHealth came about almost as if by fate.

"One of our football coaches requested heart screenings for our athletes," Carlton said. "I thought it was a great idea, so I approached Superintendent Phil Brockman about the idea. We were in the early stages of contacting a different organization to schedule a screening when PeaceHealth contacted the district and said they wanted to offer a teen heart screening. Partnering with a local health organization was a great option."

Brockman said he was excited when PeaceHealth approached the school district about the partnership.

"They are great to work with," he said. "We are truly fortunate to have them in our community."

"If we can save just one life by offering this, we've accomplished an amazing feat," Carlton said. "By doing early prevention and screening, maybe we won't have a student get into an unexpected health situation."

Holiday Home Tour offers looks into decorated historic homes

Thirty (30) years ago the Sedro-Woolley Museum was an idea—an idea that needed starting capital to get off the ground. The Holiday Home Tour was started by Carolyn Freeman and it became the most lasting event that the Sedro-Woolley Museum has and continues to sponsor.

This is the 30th anniversary for the Holiday Home Tour, with five houses that have never been on tour before and one that was included several years ago.

The tour is scheduled for Sat., Dec. 8 at 4 p.m., at the Sedro-Woolley Museum. Cookies, carols, and cider also are on the agenda.

The homes will be open from 5 to 9 p.m. Participants should first go to the museum for a booklet and map. Tour admission is \$10 dollars per person; tickets are available at the museum, Oliver Hammer, and the night of the tour. For more information, call 360.855.2390.

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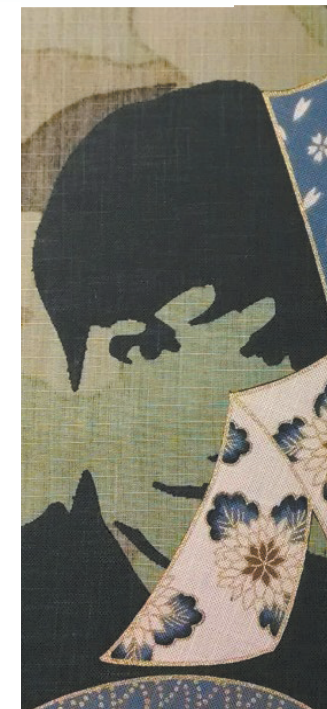
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Lyman



Day Creek



Short-term fix in place after river washout

Almost one year after the Skagit River eroded a northern shoreline in Lyman and claimed private property and buildings, the Army Corps of Engineers has installed what Lyman Mayor Eddie Hills called “a short-term fix.”

In early November, the Army Corps brought in 7,500 tons of rock to form a riprap at the site, protecting valuable infrastructure from the force of the river. Mayor Hills said the area contains an 8-inch water main, fiber lines owned by the PUD and Frontier, and a power line.

“The river would eventually have reached the cemetery if it had kept on going,” said Hills.

After the river erosion last November, the town met with Army Corps representatives the following month and developed the plan: Dig a trench along the Cascade Trail and fill it with riprap. The town got an easement from the county, which also donated about 700 tons of rock. The rest came from the Army Corps.

Town of Lyman is responsible for mitigating the site in the long term, said Hills. The Army Corps has provided the town with a suggested plan, which includes woody debris. “There’s more work to be done, but the costs could run into the millions of dollars,” said Hills.

—J. K. M.



Community notes

Community Potlucks

Day Creek Community Potlucks are held on the third Tuesday of every month at the fire hall. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Bill Scalf at 360.826.3234.

Day Creek Chapel coming events

- On the last Sunday of each month, we serve a meal at Friendship House. Call 360.391.1709 for more information.
- On the third Sunday of each month, a potluck lunch is hosted at Day Creek

Chapel, immediately following the service. All are welcome. Lunch starts around noon. This month’s potluck will be held on Dec. 16.

- On Dec. 17 the church will host a sewing and quilting day. This event is for beginners and experienced sewers. For more information, call 360.770.1765.
- On Dec. 24 at 7 p.m., Day Creek Chapel will host a Christmas Eve service. The chapel will welcome Christmas with music, a message, and candlelight. All are welcome to attend.
- Homework Club for 4th to 12th graders happens in the youth room

at Day Creek Chapel every Monday and Wednesday from 3 to 5 p.m. This is a quiet time to get your homework done and have a snack. Call 360.661.7976 for more information or to volunteer to help.

- Taco Tuesday Youth Group for 7th to 12th graders happens every Tuesday in the youth room at Day Creek Chapel from 5 to 6:30 p.m. A taco dinner is served, followed by some devotions, prayer time, and fun.
- Day Creek Chapel Youth Breakfast is served in the Youth Room at Day Creek Chapel every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.
- On Dec. 9, youth are invited to

go to the Warm Beach Lights of Christmas. It will be a fun evening full of holiday cheer and more than 1 million Christmas lights. If you’d like to sign up or want more info, call 360.661.7976.

- To keep up to date on all the Day Creek Chapel Youth happenings, follow the group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/daycreekchapel youth and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/day_creek_yd.

—Kristine Van Notric

Prevedal Road update

After a landslide made a portion of Prevedal Rd. north of SR 20 impassable on Super Bowl Sunday this year, Lyman Mayor Eddie Hills said construction to resolve the issue could begin as early as January.

“The plan is about 90 percent done; we’re working on the last 10 percent,” said Hills.

That last 10 percent consists of finalizing the drainage component for the plan, as well as securing temporary and permanent easements with a landowner whose property is affected by the proposed road repair project.

Hills said that WSDOT has approved the remainder of the plan, but still must approve the drainage component, which could happen in December.

“We’re working on right-of-way costs, drainage, and permitting. We’re hoping to start construction as soon as weather permits,” said Hills.

The project began with a \$300,000 award from the state.

Less light can mean darker moods

By Pamela Hassler, PA

Does your mood seem to mirror the seasons—maybe growing darker as the fall and winter days get shorter, and lifting as the brighter days of summer approach?

You could have a condition known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)—a type of depression that’s related to seasonal changes in light. SAD can make you feel tired, crave carbohydrates, gain weight, avoid things you normally enjoy, or withdraw socially during the fall and winter months.

Sunlight helps regulate your internal biological clock. When there are changes in the amount of light you get, that clock gets out of balance, and levels of melatonin—a sleep-related hormone—can increase. This hormone may cause symptoms of depression.

Both children and adults can get SAD. However, it usually develops between the ages of 18 and 30. Women are affected at about three times the rate of men. Some

evidence suggests that the farther you live from the equator, the more likely you are to develop SAD.

Although SAD is typically considered a fall and winter disorder, in a small number of cases, symptoms may be triggered by the longer, brighter days of summer. Some people also experience symptoms during periods of overcast weather, regardless of the season.

Shining a light

A diagnosis of SAD is based on your symptoms and history. Symptoms of typical SAD must return every winter for three consecutive years and then completely disappear in the spring and summer.

If you have SAD, getting more sunlight may make you feel better. It might be helpful to take walks outdoors or to place yourself near a window during the day when at home or work.

If your symptoms are particularly bothersome, light therapy may be recommended.

This involves using special lighting while indoors. Therapeutic lighting is much more intense than standard lighting and has been shown to decrease levels of

melatonin in the brain.

Your medical provider can help you decide how long to spend in this lighting and the best time of day to do so. For many people with SAD, light therapy is very effective. However, if it doesn’t work for you, your medical provider may have other suggestions, including taking medicine for depression or seeing a psychotherapist.

With proper treatment, SAD is manageable.

Pamela Hassler, PA, is a provider at the Sedro-Woolley Clinic of PeaceHealth Medical Group.

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PeaceHealth

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Above: Concrete High School women's volleyball coach Kevik Rensink proudly displays his golden microphone trophy, a tongue-in-cheek award presented to the talkative coach by his players during the volleyball awards ceremony on Nov. 8.

November in pictures



Above: Concrete Heritage Museum Board President John Lloyd leads a special tour of the hometown museum for members of the newly formed Boys & Girls Club of Concrete on Nov. 20. The kids, ages 5 to 11, were treated to an up-close look at the museum displays, as well as answers to their questions. Photo by Gail Boggs.



Above: Local band "Undecided" played live for DJ Christie Fairchild's Local Yokel show on KSVU on Nov. 15, then band members paused for a photo. From left, Michael McLaskey, percussion; Richard Lewis, guitar; Fairchild; Andris Vezis, violin; Jeff Maher, bass; and Jim Fichter, mandolin. Submitted photo.



Right: Local citizens turned out to decorate the lamp posts in Concrete Town Center on Nov. 25. The group included Karla Massingale, Keith Strickland, David Kelleher, Tim Hale, Loren Brothers, Jude Dippold, Robert Rushin, Jonathan Akers, and Mayor Jason Miller. Earlier that week, Concrete Public Works employees Rich Philips and Jimmy Luttrell installed the town's Noble Fir Christmas tree, which was again donated by Mike Adkinson of Timbermantles.com. Photo by Loren Brothers.

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Hamilton



Rockport



Council summary

The Hamilton Town Council held a regular meeting Oct. 9. Following is a summary of that meeting.

Oct. 9 regular meeting

- **Public Comment:** Janet Koopsen, 514 Elm St., had questions about her flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Mayor Joan Cromley explained the different funds. Councilmember Johnson asked that the town check on the payments from Cedar Manor and Centennial Gravel. Councilmembers Johnson and Kirkpatrick asked that the town add more money to the Attorney Fund.
- **West Paintball Park:** Councilmember Johnson is currently using part of the land and asked to use the west part of the FEMA lot for livestock. Discussion ensued. Mayor Cromley will check on the town's liability if it is used as a paintball park. Discussion was postponed until next month.
- **Comprehensive Plan:** Mayor Cromley added two policies to the Comp Plan regarding drainage and not using condemnation for open or public space acquisition, copying the county policies, in response to a public comment. The Comprehensive

Plan has been accepted by the Dept. of Commerce. Council approved Ordinance 335, adopting the 2018 Comprehensive Plan.

- **650 Hamilton:** Legal review of the situation was discussed. Council would like to bill the tenant to pay the first and second violations for which the town originally billed the landlord. It was decided the town would revise the nuisance, dog, and zoning ordinances to state who is liable for violations, the landlord or the tenant. Councilmember Perkins asked that we consult with an attorney on the ordinance before finalizing. Town Clerk will review these ordinances and revise if needed.
- **Water Dept.:** Mayor Cromley introduced the water contract with Brad Ferris, Northwest Waterworks, LLC. Council voted to approve the contract.
- **Cas Hansen** presented the Water Loss Report which reflected a 5 percent water loss.
- **Fire Dept.:** Councilmember Bates said they have renewed vehicle licensing. Changes to the county ambulance system were discussed.
- **Public Works:** Scott Selin said they are working on blackberries and chipping.

—Compiled from staff notes

From the Mayor

The Hamilton Volunteer Fire Dept. Kids' Christmas Party is scheduled for Sun., Dec. 16, at 1 p.m. at Town Hall.

If you want to donate toys, wrapping



paper, or money for expenses, please drop them off at the Hamilton Café. Please bring a snack to share if you can. It's fun to see all the kids in town, big and small, visit with Santa.

—Mayor Joan Cromley

Sno-Park permits went on sale Nov. 1

Sno-Park permits became available for purchase online and through vendors statewide on Nov. 1.

Sno-Park permits allow visitors to park in specially cleared, designated parking lots with access to areas around the state for cross-country skiing,

skijoring, snowmobiling, dog sledding, snowshoeing, tubing, and other winter sports and snow play.

Sno-Park permits are sold in person and online Nov. 1 through April 30 and must be displayed on the permit holder's windshield during that timeframe.

Different permits are required for different circumstances. To purchase a Sno-Park permit online, go to www.parks.state.wa.us/winter.



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Healthy Hikes program kicks off Jan. 1

Rockport State Park will begin its 2019 Healthy Hikes program on the right foot, with a "First Day Hike" planned for Jan. 1.

The hike will be led by local fitness expert Valerie Stafford, owner of Encore Fitness in Concrete. Hikers will assemble at the day-use picnic shelter at Rockport State Park at 10 a.m., where Stafford will lead a warm up and give tips for a fun and healthful hike. After the hike, participants are invited to gather at the Discovery Center to warm up with a crackling fire in the wood stove, hot beverages, and healthful snacks.

Participants who log 100 miles of hiking in Rockport State Park during the 2019 calendar year can earn a hand-carved and painted walking stick made by senior park aide Don Smith.

January 1st will be a Discover Pass free day. Weather-appropriate clothing and good walking shoes or boots that don't mind getting wet and muddy are a good idea, and a walking stick or trekking poles are recommended.

All ages and abilities are welcome to participate in the First Day Hike. For more information, call Rockport State Park at 360.853.8461.

—Don Smith

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Interpretive Center announces December event lineup

The Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center in Rockport is ready to fly for another season, and has released its December schedule, which includes something for every family.

Dec. 8

11 a.m.: Nature walk
1 p.m.: Steve Glenn: "Winter Birds of the Upper Skagit Region"

Dec. 15

11 a.m.: Guided hike
1 p.m. Terri Wilde, native plants botanist

Dec. 16

11 a.m.: Guided hike

Dec. 22

11 a.m.: Guided hike
1 p.m.: David Parent, wildlife veterinarian: Tales of a Dog, cat, eagle, and lemur

Dec. 23

11 a.m.: Guided hike

Dec. 26 to Jan. 1

Eagle Center open for Winter Break, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dec. 28

1 p.m.: Dana Ledford: "Remote Wildlife Photography"

Dec. 29

11 a.m.: Guided hike
1 p.m.: Pete Haase: "Forage Fish Around Skagit County"

Dec. 30

11 a.m.: Guided hike

Dec. 31

11 a.m.: Guided hike

Jan. 1

Open New Year's Day

Jan. 5

11 a.m.: Craig Romano: Local hiking presentation
1 p.m.: Nature walk with Craig Romano

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Birdsview Buzz

Happy holidays, everyone!
Lots going on this month at the brewery. We will continue to collect food and supplies for the Humane Society and nonperishables for the Concrete Food Bank. Last month the food bank came twice to pick up what we had. So all of December, we are still accepting donations.
On Tue., Dec. 11, we will close by 6

p.m. to attend a choir concert that chef Jules is in.

Saturday, Dec. 15 is our beerzaar. Spaces are still available at \$15 per table. The event runs from 2 to 5 p.m. Come get a unique gift or something for yourself.

On Sat., Dec. 22, we'll host a holiday party with Lil Joe Argo from 6 to 8 p.m. During the day, Jessie and Julie will offer gift wrapping by donations.

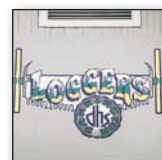
We will be closed Dec. 24 and 25.

Enjoy whatever holiday you celebrate.

—Kris Voigt



Darrington



Update: Darrington Fire Dept.

Darrington Fire Department's 24 volunteers continue to be very busy. Drew Bono, Deputy Chief of Operations, provided a detailed report of events occurring during the previous 12 months at the November meeting of Darrington Strong.

The volunteer fire department has had a total of 471 calls for service to date, which is slightly fewer than 2017. During 2018 they responded to several brush and structure fires. They were also called to several fatal crashes. Darrington volunteer firefighters responded to 14 calls during the extended Thanksgiving weekend, with four calls coming in on Thanksgiving Day. In partnership with the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe, they received a newer ambulance, which will be used to service both the community and the reservation. The old ambulance at the Whitehorse Station had more than 190,000 miles, while the "new" ambulance has 70,000 miles.

The fire department also received a 1998 fire engine, which will replace the existing engine that has been in use for more than 30 years.

Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau, a property underwriting and rating information service, updated the insurance protection class rating for the

community with a positive result.

The Whitehorse Community Center Task Force held its first meeting on Nov. 26. The community center has been condemned, and community members are encouraged to participate in the decisions that will be used to determine the next steps for the center.

Bono also reported the work being done on the Whitehorse Station 38 is nearing completion.

The Darrington Fire Department, along with the Arlington Fire Department, are in the process of renegotiating the Advanced Life Support Paramedic contract that Darrington has with Arlington.

Two members of the fire department, including Bono, were chosen and deployed to Florida for two weeks for incident response after Hurricane Michael. A SAFER Grant, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response, is being written, which will cover 100 percent of the costs to hire a regional Volunteer Recruitment/Retention Officer, who will be shared between the Darrington and Oso Fire Departments.

The Darrington Fire Department and the Oso Fire Department are two of the most successful departments in Snohomish County, with more calls than any other

department.

A regional federal grant has been written to be used to purchase several self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBA). The six-figure grant is necessary for the safety of the volunteer staff.

The fire department applied for and received a grant to purchase several TV screens in both fire stations, which will be used for training purposes and the

monitoring of calls.

Darrington Fire District 24 is governed by a five-member board of elected fire district commissioners and managed by a leadership team of officers and program coordinators. With the passing of the levy, they will be able to continue providing community-based essential services.

—Marla Skaglund

Council summary

Darrington Town Council met for regular meetings on Oct. 10 and 25, 2018. The following is summaries of those meetings. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at Darrington Town Hall.

Oct. 10 regular meeting

- Interviews for the Deputy Clerk position were held Oct. 8. Four people were interviewed. The hiring committee choose Kim Woodward. Kim will start her employment with the town on Oct. 24.
- Public Comment:** A question was asked when the new signs would be up. Mayor Dan Rankin said he hopes to have them up in the next two weeks.

Bridgett W. is writing grants for the US Forest Service and is asking for letters of support. Councilmember Judy O'Connor asked Bridgett to supply the town with draft letters and asked town staff to prepare letters of support for Bridgett. Town staff will provide letters at the next council meeting.

Police protection was discussed. It was brought to the attention of the council that a resident is building an addition to their home without a building permit. Town staff will investigate.

Ernie [no last name provided] asked for the cost for the mayor to travel to Sunnyside. Dianne Allen reported \$260 for gas and approximately \$100 for hotel; no other expenses claimed.

A citizen provided information about an Internet booster tower possibly being put on the Baptist

Church.

Discussion was had as to the height restriction for the airfield.

Oct. 25 regular meeting

- Jeff Ketchel with the Snohomish Health District reported on continuing efforts to make Darrington safer and healthier. Items included:

- Working with clinics to expand vaccination availability.
- Stopped a measles outbreak.
- Rebuilding infrastructure.

Updating systems and signed IT contract with Snohomish County, and launched online services for the county.

Working on conducting assessments focused on population health stats and issues in the community, and investigating problems and environmental public health; for example, testing children for lead poisoning.

Responses to opioid abuse: issued more than 1,000 needle clean-up kits and 500 medicine lock bags. Working with schools about the issue. Trained more than 100 physicians to help manage pain without opioids. Dentists being trained re: prescribing opioids and alternatives.

Funding for the above and more: There is a \$296 million gap.

- Mayor Rankin reported he had met with the mayor for Granite Falls, and discussed a variety of topics.

—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

Nov. 15

A Darrington woman lost her life after her vehicle struck a pole.

According to a Washington State Patrol press release, Mishelle Konertz, 18, was traveling eastbound on SR 530 at milepost 34 when she lost control of her Ford Taurus, crossed the center line, and struck the pole. She was wearing her seatbelt, but the accident took her life.

Konertz's vehicle was totaled and impounded. The cause of the accident was still under investigation at press time. It was unknown whether drugs and/or alcohol were involved. No charges were planned.

Nov. 22

A charge of vehicular assault is pending after a one-vehicle accident was determined to be caused by driving under the influence.

According to a WSP report, Austin Edwards, 21, of Darrington, was driving his Jeep Wrangler eastbound on SR 530 when it drifted off the road to the right. Edwards overcorrected and brought the vehicle to rest on the left shoulder after striking some trees.

Edwards was injured and transported to Harborview Medical Center. His passenger, Natasha Wilson, 21, of Darrington, also was injured; she was transported to Cascade Hospital. Both occupants were wearing their seatbelts.

The vehicle was totaled and impounded. Edwards faces charges of vehicular assault and driving under the influence.

Nov. 25

The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office issued a Silver Alert today for a 78-year-old male, Louis Overcast. Overcast was last seen leaving his residence in Everett, near the 9700 block of 36th Dr. SE, at about 4:30 p.m. today in a gold 2006 Chrysler Town and



Overcast

Country Mini-Van, Washington license plate No. 812 VKK.

Overcast gets confused while driving at night. He is 6'1, 195 lbs., bald with green eyes, and wears glasses. He was last seen wearing a navy blue jacket with gray shirt and gray pants. Anyone who sees Overcast is urged to call 911.

Nov. 28

The Snohomish County Auto Theft Task Force (SNOCAT) seeks the public's help to locate 25-year-old Kyle Matthews and 25-year-old Kendra Worthley, who are suspected of being involved with two vehicle thefts and eluding police in a stolen vehicle.



Matthews



Worthley

On Oct. 13, Matthews is suspected of arriving to an Everett residence in a stolen Volkswagen Passat, exiting from a passenger seat in the Passat, and stealing a parked Toyota Camry.

On Oct. 17, Matthews and Worthley are suspected of eluding pursuing police vehicles by driving the wrong direction on I-5 in a stolen Subaru Impreza.

Detectives have probable cause to arrest Matthews for possession of a stolen vehicle and attempting to elude a police vehicle, as well as one count of vehicle theft.

Detectives also have probable cause to arrest Worthley for two counts of vehicle theft, as well as two counts of possession of a controlled substance.

Matthews and Worthley have ties to the Everett area. Matthews is 5'9" and weighs approximately 180 lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes. Worthley is 5'4" and weighs approximately 115 lbs., with brown hair and hazel eyes.

Anyone with information about their whereabouts is asked to call the Sheriff's Office Anonymous Tip Line at 425.388.3845.



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Marblemount



Community Hall lights up the dark season

Although the annual Christmas Bazaar will have come and gone by the time you read this, there's more to enjoy at the Marblemount Community Hall.

Friday, Dec. 7 welcomes the return of Grub 'n' Groove, a free community gathering for food and entertainment. Following a potluck supper, folks sign up to perform a variety of talents like poetry, skits, and music. Coordinators Terri Wilde and Richard Lewis hope to offer Grub 'n' Groove once a month throughout the winter months, so stay tuned.

Also coming in January is the Skagit Eagle Festival, now in its 34th year. Originally begun in 1984 by Mara Greene and Annie Bussiere in the Marblemount Community Hall, the festival grew until

it outgrew the more recent location of the Concrete High School.

After a year's hiatus to reorganize, it returned a few years ago to a more sustainable configuration of each Upper Valley community sponsoring a weekend's activities in Concrete, Rockport, and Marblemount.

Always the second weekend in January, Marblemount events will be held on Jan. 12 and 13 this coming new year, and, as is traditional, will highlight our local indigenous cultures with story, song, dance, the arts, and food.

For more information, call the hall and leave a message at: 360.873.2323.

—Christie Fairchild

SR 20 closes

Avalanche chutes along SR 20 filled with snow during November, enough to close the 37-mile seasonal stretch along the highway on Nov. 28.

In late November, two of the four giant Liberty Bell Mountain avalanche chutes filled the snow ditches along the shoulder and onto the highway. Several of the Cutthroat Ridge avalanche chutes filled and released snow to the shoulder as well. With the forecast calling for more snow WSDOT officials decided to close the highway to vehicle traffic for the season for travelers' safety.

WSDOT crews closed the North Cascade Highway gates at milepost 134 near Diablo and milepost 171 near Mazama. That section will remain closed until next spring when the snow stops falling to make it safe for WSDOT crews to clear the road.

Winter access

Snowshoers, cross-country skiers, fat-tire bikers, or snowmobilers can access the closed area throughout the winter. Parking is available near each closed gate. Anyone choosing to recreate in the backcountry should know the conditions, including avalanche risks, and should watch the forecast and bring proper gear.

Later this winter, adventurers should expect the closure points to expand by about 11 miles. On the west side, the closure point will move 4 miles, down to milepost 130 and on the east side, the closure moves 7 miles, to Early Winters at milepost 178. WSDOT said in a press release that extending the closure area when the snow gets heavier and deeper saves money and resources. There will still be parking available at both closure locations.

—J. K. M.



Business:
Glacier View Mules

Owners:
Christie Fairchild and Art Olson

Location:

Rockport and land near milepost 103

Products and services:

Grow, produce, and sell high quality, organically grown, local grass hay; contract field work; mule-drawn wagon rides for hire

Why we do it:

"To provide the best product possible for local customers by keeping and protecting our land in dedicated agriculture."

Where to find them:

360.853.8388. gvmules@gmail.com

Business:

Photography by Pat Buller

Owner:

Pat Buller

Manager:

Merlene Buller

Products:

Product line includes the 2019 North Cascades calendar, only \$10 at Albert's Red Apple and Northwest Garden Bling.



Marblemount man injured after collision

A Marblemount man was injured after his vehicle collided with a utility pole around 6:47 a.m. on Nov. 12.

According to a Washington State Patrol press memo, Edison Bergsma, 20, of Marblemount was traveling westbound on SR 20 when he lost control of his Ford Ranger pickup, left the roadway to the right side, and struck the utility pole.

Bergsma was not wearing his seatbelt and was injured. He was airlifted to Harborview Medical Center and his totaled vehicle was impounded.

The WSP reported stated that drugs or alcohol were not involved; the cause for the accident was speed too fast for conditions. Charges are pending.

Volunteers needed for Fire District 19, Marblemount Fire Department

Stop by the Fire Hall for an application on meeting nights, the second and fourth Mondays of every month at 7 p.m., or call Vanessa at 360.630.3900 for more info.

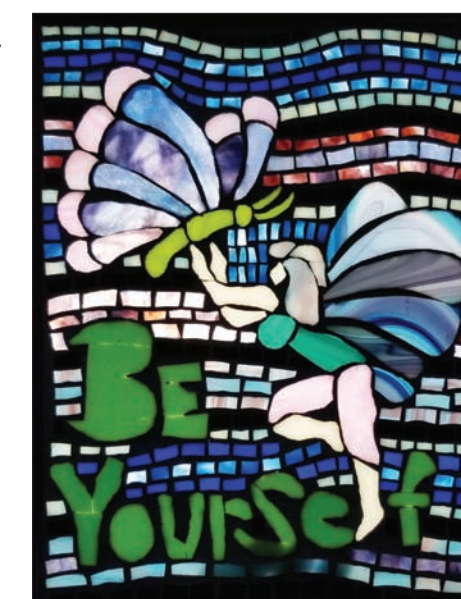
This position is subject to a background check.

Small Scale, cont. from p. 11

care of our babies. There are so many different at-home businesses, but none of them involved products I liked. I joined Legging Army in 2017, but it still didn't give us the extra income we really needed. In October 2018 I got my business license and started For the Love of Leggings. I now have a variety of women's apparel and I am looking to expand even more!"

Where to find her:

Facebook Group: For the Love of Leggings, www.leggingarmy.com/#teresavermaat, teresabragg92@gmail.com



Business:

It's Not Perfect Designs

Owner:

Selena Owens

Location:

Concrete

Products:

Mosaics from recycled picture frames, windows, and furniture.

Where to find her:

Rustic Heart Desires (Concrete Town Center), Northwest Garden Bling (Grasmere Village). www.facebook.com/itsnotperfectdesigns. 360.298.0334



Name:

Rodney Bain, artist

Location:

Rockport

Products:

Surrealist painter, oil on canvas. "I call my style Post-Impressionist Neo-Surrealism because I paint in the impression style,



surreal subject."

Why I do it:

"I do what I do because I've spent my whole life creating art."

Where to find him:

https://rodneybainart.wordpress.com. 360.853.7384. E-mail: doglion96@gmail.com



Business:

Flutterbye Images

Owner:

Tim Hale

Location:

Concrete

Products:

Fine art outdoor photography focusing on the Pacific Northwest.

Where to find him:

Has a line of greeting cards in Albert's Red Apple (Grasmere) and 5b's Bakery (Concrete). Chosen for cover photo for North Cascadian Visitors Guide seven years in a row. Sells Concrete Saturday Market in season. Quick turnaround and delivery on cards, prints, metallic prints, and canvas wraps through page at https://www.facebook.com/flutterbyeimagesoftfhale/



Business:

Dellinger Industries

Owner:

Donovan Dellinger

Location:

Rockport

Services:

General construction, specializing in logging, roofing, earth works, concrete and carpentry.

Why I do it:

"Family owned and operated, we are here to serve the local community's emergency home repair and new construction at cut-rate costs with Tier 1 quality. Helping the community is what we are here for."

Where to find him:

360.722.9008. dellingerindustries@gmail.com

Business:

Cape Horn

Nursery

Owners:

Bill Jenks and

Pateena Lawson

Location:

Concrete

Products:

30 to 40 varieties of tomato plants and many other vegetable plants, plus an assortment of flower and herb plants,



Read Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

See Small Scale, p. 34

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Grub N' Groove

Friday Dec. 7th, 2018
6pm potluck and sign-up
7pm Open Mic

Marblemount Community Hall

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Seniors

Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure



This is quick and easy way to use leftover chicken.

Chicken and Wild Rice

- 2 cups cooked chicken, cubed
- 2 ½ cups water
- 1/3 cup milk
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 6-oz. package long grain and wild rice

1. Mix all ingredients in a skillet.
2. Heat to boiling, then reduce heat.
3. Cover and simmer for 25 to 30 minutes or until the rice is tender and liquid is absorbed.

Read Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Way Back When

70 years ago
Dec. 9, 1948: S. S. McIntyre of Sedro-Woolley will head the newly organized North Cross-State Highway Association formed in a statewide meeting in Seattle last Friday at the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. A group of representatives from all counties in northern Washington were present to hear Seattle adding its approval to the promotion of a cross-state highway from the Skagit valley to Okanogan valley by way of Rainy Pass.

Also named to head the statewide organization from this district were John Nordmark of Anacortes, secretary; and Charles M. Dwelley of Concrete, director.

60 years ago
Dec. 11, 1958: Solution and apprehension of the culprits in the robbery of the Avon store, and possibly some others, was reached yesterday after a long chain of events led Marshal Fred Bianchini

of Concrete and Deputies Clarence Miller and Bill Weigand on an exciting manhunt through the Upper Valley.

The chain of events started when a car slid off the icy road at Van Horn Monday and the drivers immediately disappeared into the woods. In the car was found a considerable amount of merchandise, which caused suspicion that all was not right. It was then reported that the car

had been occupied by five young men—and it was soon discovered that the car had been stolen in Sedro-Woolley some time ago.

Piecing together leads on the young men, the officers soon made their way to Rockport and across the river, where they spotted another car containing five boys, and took after them. The occupants of the car took to the brush, leaving

See **Way Back**, p. 29



40 years ago, Dec. 7, 1978: Concrete Grade School students Marta Smith (left) and Suzanne Spencer construct snow birds—papier mache-covered light bulbs—in advance of the Christmas gift-giving season. *Archive photo.*

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

behind a 16-year-old boy who admitted that they were the parties the officers were seeking, and told of being with them when the Avon store was robbed.

The officers attempted to hunt down the boys who had fled, but were unable to catch them. A return to the area the following day

Concrete Community Center

December 2018 Activities

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

For Energy Assistance appointment, call 360.428.1011, beginning 8:30 a.m., the first Wednesday of every month. Enjoy jigsaw puzzles, walking group, games, and more every day

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

Monday		
All	9 a.m.	Edge Analytical water sample pickup
All	10 a.m.	Community Closet
Tuesday		
All	1 p.m.	Oasis Teen Shelter Outreach
Wednesday		
All	10 a.m.	Community Closet
Thursday		
12/6	12:30 p.m.	Pinochle
12/13	6 p.m.	Ohana Support Group
12/20	12:30 p.m.	Pinochle
Friday		
All	10 a.m.	Community Closet
12/21	10:30 a.m.	Community Center Advisory Board
12/21	Noon	Christmas Lunch
12/21	12:30 p.m.	Commissioner Janicki
Saturday		
All	7 p.m.	AA meeting
12/8	10 a.m.	Holiday Festival

found two of the boys at a home there, and they were taken in for questioning.

The case was wrapped up neat and clean yesterday morning when a report was heard that the missing pair had crossed the Rockport ferry. A road block was set up to prevent their escape down valley and by working toward Rockport, the officers finally traced the boys to a home there, where they were arrested without resistance.

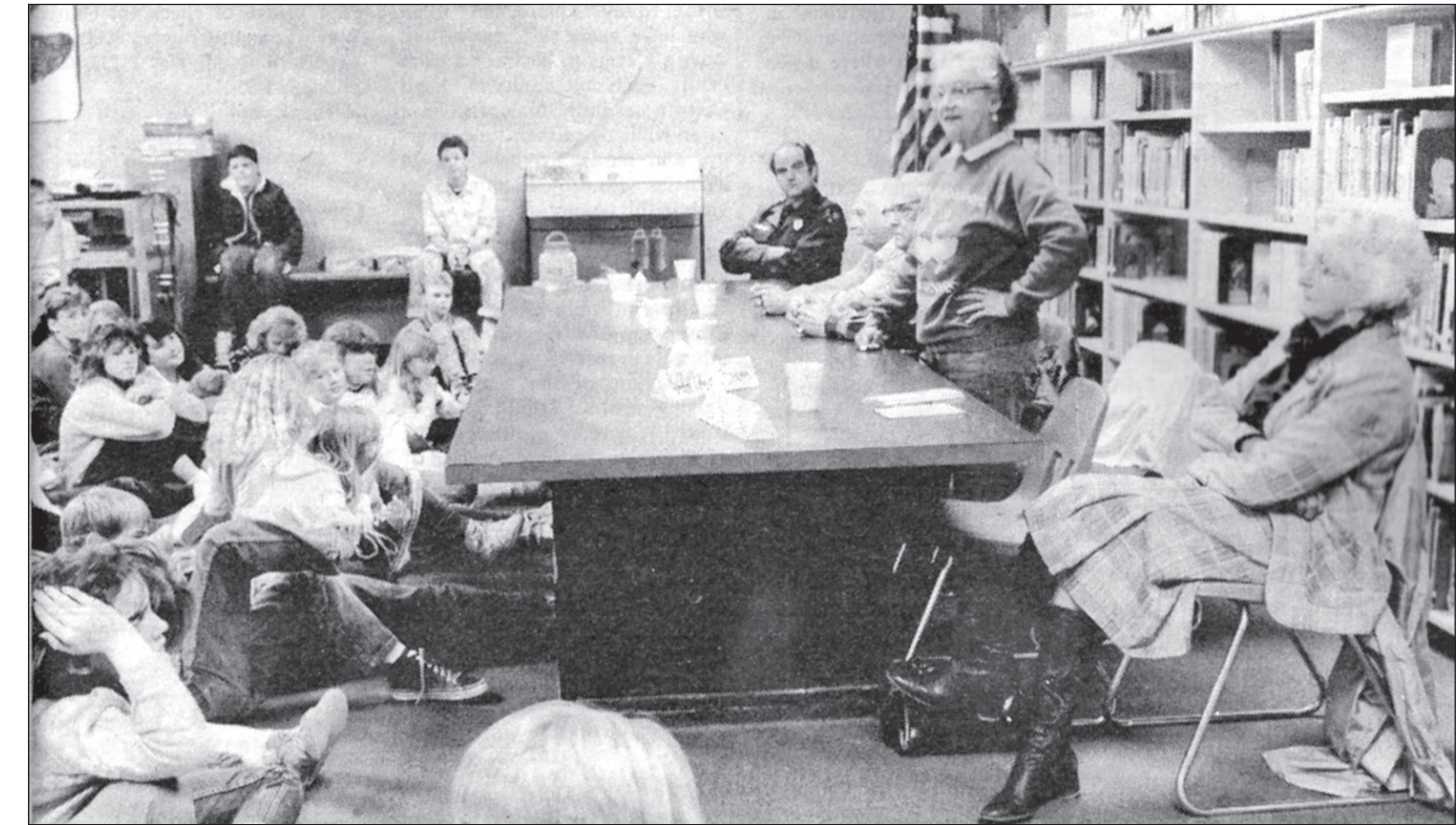
The two older men were George Moses Jr. of Rockport and Harold Fernando of La Conner. The others included Eddie Edwards and Ted Lewis, both of Rockport.

About \$150 of the stolen money was recovered, plus much of the merchandise.

—Compiled from archives



40 years ago, Dec. 21, 1978: Smoke detectors will be installed in homes of low-income elderly persons in Concrete as part of a new life-saving program started here by Fire Marshal Lloyd Peterson, with funds donated by the Concrete Fire Dept. and Chamber of Commerce. Inspecting one of the five detectors purchased for recipients, from left, are Cliff Mitchell, Chamber of Commerce treasurer; Marshal Peterson; and Fire Chief Jack Hoover. *Archive photo.*



30 years ago, Dec. 1, 1988: Lifelong or longtime residents of the Upper Skagit Valley enthralled fifth and sixth grade students at Concrete Elementary School with stories of what life was like when they were youngsters. Pictured speaking to the group about her memories of Rocky Creek School is Tootsie Clark, who is a third-generation resident of Marblemount. Also speaking to the group were (front to back) Mabel Onkels of Van Horn, Guy Mosher of Concrete, Albert Frank of Van Horn, and National Park Service Ranger Jim Harris of Rockport. *Archive photo.*

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45942 Main St., Concrete
Second and fourth Tue. each month,
Noon–3 p.m.
360.853.8505

Darrington

Darrington Food Bank

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

Hamilton

Hamilton Community Food Bank

951 Petit St., Hamilton

Every Tue., 11–noon and 1–3 p.m.

360.826.4090

Marblemount

Bread of Life Food Bank

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

Sedro-Woolley

Helping Hands Solution Center

9386 Fruitdale Rd., Sedro-Woolley
Food Bank open:
Mon. & Wed., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Thur., noon to 5 p.m.
Fri., 5 to 7 p.m.
360.856.2211

**Changes? Call 360.853.8213.*

Sunday School lesson

Need some peace?

By Matt DelBosque

Christmas is upon us once again! It's the most wonderful time of year! A time filled with twinkling lights, delicious treats, memories to be made with friends and family, and let's not forget, STRESS.

Christmas is one of my most favorite times of the year, but it can easily become one of the most stressful times of the year. Busy schedules, family events, shopping in crazy-busy stores, decorating the home ... it's a time that is full of go, go, go, with little downtime. Many of us can feel the weight of the added anxiety and stress of the season, unless we hold a different outlook in life.

The book of Philippians is a letter that was written by the Apostle Paul to the church in Philippi. This was a letter of great encouragement to the church. Within its text Paul gives us a solution on how to have peace in our lives, and not just peace, but the God of peace himself.

Philippians 4:8–9

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things,

and the God of peace will be with you.

Paul relates our ability to experience the God of peace to the things that we focus on. He tells us to think about things that are true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent, and praiseworthy. These are the things that should occupy our thoughts. Having the right focus will save us from worry, stress, and anxiety.

So if you need some peace in your life this Christmas season, let me advise you to get your focus on the right things, and to develop a relationship with Jesus, God with us, our Emmanuel. When you have a relationship with Jesus, you will have a great deal of peace in your life that will go far beyond our understanding!

May you know Jesus, may you have a merry Christmas, and may the God of peace be ever present in your life! God bless you!

Matt DelBosque is pastor for Citipoint Church North Cascade.



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Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

Oct. 30

A citizen called to report a red pickup driving suspiciously through their neighborhood on Forest Place in Concrete. Deputy Devero and Deputy Tweit checked the area, but did not locate the vehicle.

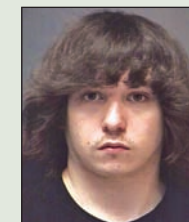
Deputy Wiggins, Deputy Wolfe, and Deputy Murdock investigated a domestic assault that occurred on Superior Ave. N. in Concrete. The victim advised that she and her boyfriend had gotten into an argument and he punched her, giving her a bloody lip. The victim left the residence to escape from the suspect. Deputies went to the residence, but were unable to contact the suspect. Deputies later located the suspect; he was arrested and booked into jail.

Level 2 Sex Offender NOTIFICATION

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

Vandyk, Jonathan James

Age: 21
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 5' 5"
Weight: 150
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Green
Address: 75xx S. Dillard Ave., Concrete



Vandyk was convicted of two counts of second-degree rape of a child, one count of first-degree child molestation, and third-degree rape of Skagit County juveniles in 2014. Vandyk sexually assaulted four nonfamily females between 16–17 years of age.

Vandyk 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

Deputy Devero investigated a burglary on Cockreham Island Rd. near Lyman. The homeowner discovered someone had broken into the residence and trashed it. Deputy Devero searched the house and found that several windows had been broken and the house had been ransacked. The owner was unable to tell what had been taken. At this time there are no suspects.

A report of recovered stolen property was received from the area of Skagit St. in Hamilton. The victim advised that several items taken from his property on Cockreham Island was at that location. Deputy Wolfe and Sgt. Adams responded. The items were located, but had been stripped and were no longer of any value. A suspect was identified; Deputy Wolfe will investigate further.

Oct. 31

The Lyman Tavern called, wanting a subject trespassed from the business. The suspect had come into the bar earlier and was being aggressive. He stated several times that he was "going to have to shoot someone." When the bartender ask him to calm down, he advised her that everyone was going to know his name soon enough. The suspect left before deputies arrived. Deputy Wolfe investigated and identified the suspect. He found that the suspect was on active supervision through district court for previous criminal issues. Deputy Wolfe passed the information along to the court.

Nov. 2

Deputy Moore responded to a motor vehicle accident near the 59000 block of SR 20 in Marblemount. A witness told him that a truck had left the roadway and struck the church at that location. Local friends of the driver had arrived before law enforcement and had helped pull the vehicle out. The vehicle had since left the scene. The witness said before he left, the driver had taken a rifle from the truck and hid it nearby. Deputy Moore located that rifle near a dumpster. After investigating, Deputy Moore was able to identify the driver. The driver is a convicted felon and is not allowed to possess firearms. On Nov. 7 the suspect was located and arrested.

Nov. 3

PSE advised that someone had taken two locks off of some storage sheds located on Puget Place in Concrete. Deputy Moore checked the sheds, but determined that nothing had been taken.

While patrolling the South Skagit Hwy near Finney-Cumberland Rd., Deputy Wiggins observed a vehicle driving

erratically. The vehicle took off at a very high rate of speed. After finally catching up to the vehicle, Deputy Wiggins was able to develop enough probable cause to stop it for investigation of DUI. When he contacted the driver, the driver told him he had taken a few "tokens," meaning he had smoked some marijuana.

After failing the sobriety tests, the driver was arrested and taken to United General Hospital for a blood draw. He was arrested for DUI and his vehicle was impounded.

Nov. 4

Malicious mischief was reported in the area of Limestone St. in Concrete. The victim said that within the last few days, possible on Halloween, someone had thrown a 2x4 through the rear window of his vehicle. He had no suspects at the time. He estimated the cost to replace the window to be \$300.

The work crew that is pulling up the railroad tracks near Concrete Town Hall located a motorcycle stashed in the brush. Deputy Moore took possession of the motorcycle and attempted to contact the registered owner. At this time the owner could not be located.

A citizen reported that someone had attempted to steal a tractor battery from his residence on B and W Rd. in

Marblemount. The suspect's vehicle was still at the location. The vehicle matched the description of the one involved in the motor vehicle accident in the 59000 block of SR 20 reported on Nov. 2. The vehicle was seized and towed by the Sheriff's Office. The suspect was arrested a few days later.

Nov. 5

Deputies responded to a report of a prowler on Cedar Grove Ave. in Cedar Grove at approximately 7 p.m. Deputy Devero and Deputy Esskew searched the area, but were unable to find any suspicious people. Reports of prowlers in the Cedar Grove area have increased this month.

Nov. 6

Sgt. Adams observed a pickup eastbound on SR 20 near Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. He recognized the vehicle as one he had contacted the previous day on a suspicious complaint parked at the public restrooms in Concrete. At that time he determined the owner of the truck did not have a valid driver's license and the truck's registration had expired in 2005. He told the driver not to drive. Sgt. Adams and Deputy Esskew stopped the

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 33

Obituaries published in Concrete Herald from

May 2009 to present are posted online at: www.concrete-herald.com/obituaries. For more information, contact Concrete Herald at 360.853.8213 or editor@concrete-herald.com.

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: matt@citipointchurch.com

Baptist

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

Hamilton First Baptist Church

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

Lyman Church

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

Catholic

St. Catherine Mission Church
45603 Limestone St., Concrete
360.873.2504
Sunday Gathering: 10 a.m.
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.

Methodist

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

Presbyterian

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

Lutheran

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
46372 Main St., Concrete / 360.853.3714
www.uprivergrace.com
Sun. worship: 10 a.m.

Nondenominational

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

Community Bible Church

45672 Limestone, Concrete; 360.853.8511
E-mail: cbcofconcrete@earthlink.net
Sun. School: 9 a.m.; Worship Svc: 10 a.m.
Childcare/Children's Ministries at both
Contact church for other ministries

The RIVER Gathering

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

Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church

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

Wildwood Chapel

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

Concrete Volunteer Fire Dept. needs firefighters!

- Do you have a heart for your community?
- Willing to volunteer?
- Free training!



[Chief Darrel Reed]

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CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

A Tale of Two Cities: Part 2 of 4

The earlier gold strike at Ruby Creek only excited fortune-hunters, and soon there was a larger surge of men looking for gold in the North Cascades. This led to a bigger strike by Fred and Jack Wilmons at Seventy-six Gulch in 1889, later to be called Monte Cristo. Reports of gold and silver strikes made speculation run rampant as eastern investors, such as John D. Rockefeller, financed mining interests. Soon there were 211 mining claims in the Monte Cristo area. Even Frederick Trump, President Donald Trump's grandfather, sought his fortune there by operating restaurants and hotels/brothels there and in Seattle before he returned to Queens, New York. At the time, no other route was known to the Monte Cristo, Ruby Creek, or Diablo mining districts other than up the Skagit and Sauk Rivers.

The community of Sauk City, located at the junction of those two major rivers, sprang up early and became the transit hub for mining supplies and machinery destined for both the Upper Skagit and Monte Cristo gold fields. In those early years, the rivers were seen as the only viable avenues for transportation. They required no expenditures of time and money to build or maintain them, as did roads. Navigating those untamed rivers through mountainous terrain, hauling the heavy equipment required for mining operations proved to be too much, so Max Stafford and his uncle, Henry Stafford, ran freighting trips to Monte Cristo over a road they constructed along the Sauk River. Together in 1890, they performed the seemingly miraculous feat of transporting a large steam boiler on a specially constructed ox wagon with

large solid wooden wheels pulled by eight oxen all the way to the Monte Cristo mines from Sauk City at the record-breaking pace of six weeks to make the 42-mile trek. Most of their freighting runs took considerably less time with freight wagons and a six-horse team.

By 1884 the type of commerce began expanding from strictly mining supplies to supporting homesteaders, but the need for a transportation hub to the Upper Skagit Valley remained. The creators of Sauk City anticipated the railroad would be extended up the valley on the south shore of the Skagit River and built the new town with a post office, school, hotel, saloons, and a big general store. The commerce route between Sauk City and Monte Cristo attracted settlers, and by 1885, at least 20 homesteads existed between the Whitechuck and North Fork of the Sauk Rivers. To support that growing community, Sauk City opened its original post office on July 20, 1886, and a canoe ferry was available across the Skagit from the north shore.

A fire in January 1889 wiped out most of Sauk City. George Perrault's store was the only business left standing, but the town was quickly rebuilt. Albert von Pressentin, an early pioneer to the Skagit Valley, came up from Hamilton to be part of that new era for Sauk City and built the town's first new hotel and general store. Within a year his business venture was successful enough to move his family from Hamilton to the new bustling community by canoe.

Although the museum is closed for the winter, special tours may be arranged by calling/e-mailing John Lloyd at 360.982.0423 or autohistory@hotmail.com.

—John Boggs

December at the Darrington Library

Children & Families

- Family Storytime, Wednesdays, Dec. 5, 12; 11 a.m.; caregiver required.
- Jellybean Structuress, Wed., Dec. 26, 1 p.m.
- Art Studio on the Go, Thur., Dec. 27, 1 p.m.
- Super Cool Science Show, Fri., Dec. 28, 1 p.m.

Adults

- Darrington Book Group discusses

- Ceiridwen Terrill's *Part Wild: Caught Between the Worlds of Wolves and Dogs*, Fri., Dec. 7, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- Avalanche Awareness class, Sat., Dec. 8, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

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

—Asheley Bryson, branch manager

At the Upper Skagit Library

Thank you, **Lauren Danner, PhD** for coming to the library and talking about her book *Crown Jewel Wilderness: Creating North Cascade National Park*. Her presentation wowed us!

We also want to thank **Nicola Pearson** for reading from her new book, *The Gift*. It was a delightful evening. We look forward to your next book and visit.

Winter Wear Drive all month! Bring new, unused, cold-weather wear to the library and we will make sure these items get to local people who need them.

Drop-In Computer Tutoring continues every first and third Wednesday of the month between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Library Director Brooke Pederson's famous **Story Snowflake Workshop** is back again this year. On Fri., Dec. 7, at 6 p.m. at 5b's Bakery, join miss Brooke as she reveals her Story Snowflake based on a Grimm Fairytale. She will then teach you how to cut your own snowflakes. All supplies provided; bring sharp scissors.

On Dec. 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the library will have a table at the **Holiday Bazaar** held at Concrete Elementary. Come do a craft at our table and then shop the local vendors for the perfect gifts.

Storytime is back! Join Miss Beth at 11 a.m. for stories and a simple craft the second and fourth Saturday of the month.

Also on Sat. the 8th and 22nd, join Miss Beth for **Game Night** from 5 to 8 p.m. Play backgammon, checkers, or rummy,

or bring your own games to play. Snacks provided.

Christmas Open Studio: Visit the library from Dec. 11 to 22, anytime during open hours, and make handmade cards for your friends and family. We provide the card-making supplies, you provide the holiday spirit.

Upper Skagit Library Board's monthly meeting will be on Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. The public is welcome.

The Upper Skagit Library is having a **fundraiser!** Working with Brooke, Steve Johnson has created silo replica keychains made with his 3-D printer. The keychains are for sale at 5b's Bakery for a minimum donation of \$5. All proceeds go to the Upper Skagit Library Foundation.

Check out all events and details at www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us

Upper Skagit Library holiday closures
The library will be closed Dec. 25–26 in observance of Christmas.

Including our regular closure days, we will be closed from Sun., Dec. 23 through Thur. the 27th, reopening on Fri. the 28th. The library also will be closed Jan. 1.

Everyone at the Upper Skagit Library thanks you for continuing to come to and support the library.

We wish you and yours a very merry Christmas holiday season, and a safe and Happy New Year.

—Tess Carroll, Library Associate



Civil Air Patrol

Did you know Civil Air Patrol, the United States Air Force Auxiliary, is in Concrete? Concrete Flight, a part of Skagit Composite Squadron, is made up of cadets ages 12–18 and senior members 18 and older.

Led by Deputy Commander Kelly Siebecke, Concrete Flight meets on Tuesday evenings in Concrete, with the first Tuesday of the month meeting held at Skagit Regional Airport. Meetings consist of various activities and instruction,

including aerospace education, leadership, character development, search and rescue, safety, and military customs, among other topics. Past search and rescue instruction has included touring the Search and Rescue helicopter from NAS Whidbey;

past aerospace education has included use of our flight simulator and presentations by representatives of the Air Force and Navy. With numerous specialty tracks available, Civil Air Patrol provides opportunity for growth and service for teens, as well as adults. We welcome all who are interested in being a part of what Civil Air Patrol does to come visit a meeting at Concrete High School, 6 p.m., the second through last Tuesday of each month.

Inquiries can be directed to Senior Member Siebecke at kelly.siebecke@wawg.cap.gov or Capt. Claus Joens at claus.joens@wawg.cap.gov. We look forward to meeting you soon!

—SM Kelly A. Siebecke

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

truck. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license, expired vehicle registration, and no insurance. He was advised to stop driving or his vehicle would be towed.

Nov. 7

Deputy Devero along with Pro-act Deputies Harrison and Pacini served an arrest warrant on C Ave. in Concrete for a suspect with a felony warrant for his arrest. The suspect was also wanted for felony possession of a firearm and hit and run from an incident on Nov. 2 in Marblemount. The suspect was found hiding in a closet. He was taken to Skagit County Jail and booked. While he was being booked, a small bag of a white crystal substance was found on him. It tentatively tested positive for methamphetamine. The suspect was then booked on an investigative hold for violation of the uniform controlled substance act.

Nov. 10

While patrolling near Douglas Vose III

Way in Concrete, Deputy Clark stopped a vehicle for failing to stop at the stop sign. He contacted the driver, who had a warrant for her arrest. She also had a suspended driver's license. After checking with the jail, which declined to accept, she was booked and released on her warrant and cited for driving with a suspended license.

On his nightly patrol of the Lake Shannon limestone quarry, Deputy Wiggins located three vehicles parked at the gate leading into the pit. He walked in on foot and located five heavily armed subjects camping within the old building. The subjects had multiple long arms and several were wearing pistols on their hips. Deputy Wiggins contacted the subjects and was able to disarm them safely. While checking the firearms, he noticed several had silencers on them and a few had barrels shorter than 16 inches. After talking to the subjects, he determined that the gun owners had the proper paperwork for the guns, and had violated no gun laws. Deputy Brown arrived a short time later and assisted Deputy Wiggins in

escorting the subjects off the property. All five subjects were cited for criminal trespassing.

Nov. 11

At approximately 3 a.m., Deputy Wiggins responded to a report of a possible domestic that had occurred on Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. The reporting party said the suspect had left in a brown van. While driving to the scene, Deputy Wiggins saw the van on Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. and stopped it. The driver, who had a suspended license, advised that there had been no assault, that he and his wife had only been arguing. Deputy Brown was able to confirm that no assault had occurred. The driver of the van was arrested for driving while license suspended.

Nov. 12

Yelling and screams coming from the Upper Skagit Library was reported to the Sheriff's Office. Deputy Clark responded and found five male subjects in the parking lot. One of the subjects said he was there working on his headlights, which had quit working. Two of the

subjects had warrants for their arrest. One was taken to Skagit County Jail and the other was given a book and release with his promise to appear in court.

Nov. 14

At approximately 5 a.m., Deputy Clark and Sergeant Adams responded to a trespass on Pinelli Rd. near Hamilton. The reporting party advised there was a car that had driven onto her property and was currently parked near her barns. Sergeant Adams contacted the suspected vehicle driving down the driveway. It matched the description of a vehicle involved in an earlier pursuit involving Swinomish Police. The vehicle started to back up, then slammed it into drive and slingshot around Sgt. Adams' patrol vehicle, nearly hitting it. It accelerated down the road headed straight toward Deputy Clark, who was parked at the intersection of Pinelli Rd. and SR 20. The vehicle drove through the ditch, nearly hitting Deputy Clark, then headed east on SR 20. After a short pursuit, deputies ceased chasing the

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 35

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Liquor stores

Concrete Liquor Store & Convenience Store

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

Pawn shops

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44586 SR 20, Concrete
360.853.9006

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360.853.8100/concreteselfstorageinc@live.com

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Cinema Septic

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Fred West, owner. 360.466.8753
fred@cinemaseptic.com
www.cinemaseptic.com

Thrift stores

Second Floor Thrift Store

Antiques, Vintage, Collectibles, Thrift
Inside & upstairs at Gold Nugget Pawn Shop
Corner of Hwy 530 & Mt. Loop Hwy, Darrington
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360.436.1029 www.goldnuggetpawnshop.com

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- Stained glass & glass supplies
- Souvenirs

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nwngardenbling@frontier.com
44574 Highway 20 – Concrete, WA 98237

Small Scale, cont. from p. 27

some rare. We use certified organic potting soil and nothing else—no pesticides, insecticides, or chemical fertilizers.

Why I do it:

"I have been in the farming and nursery business for more than 35 years, and still having fun supplying the Skagit Valley with top-notch plants at great prices," said Bill Jenks.

Where to find them:

Concrete Saturday Market starting Memorial Day weekend, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; grower9854@yahoo.com

**Business:**

Northwest Garden Bling

Owner:

Athena Hornsby

Location:

44574 SR 20, Concrete (Grasmere Village)

Products and services:

Gift shop featuring stained glass and mosaic. Classes, supplies, custom work, and repair, as well as cards and gifts for every occasion.

Where to find her:

360.708.3279. E-mail: nwgardenbling@frontier.com. <http://www.facebook.com/northwestgardenbling>

Business:

Granny's Cabin

Owner:

Beverly Dellinger

Location:

Birdsview

Products:

Crochet messy bun hats, headbands, scarves, scrubber, dish cloths, Seahawk earrings, embroidered aprons, and more.

Where to find her:

Christmas Bazaar (see ad, p. 20), Dec. 8. 360.826.3773.

**Business name:**

Lisa's Handmade Bath & Body Products

Owner:

Lisa DeRyke

Location:

P.O. Box 812, Concrete

Products:

Soaps, lotions, lip balms, liniment, facial scrub, and more.

Where to find her:

alphaomega4u@frontier.com

**Business name:**

Local Roots Hair Studio

Owner:

Madison Gandee

Location:

Darrington

Products and services:

Full-service hair studio offering men's, women's, and kids' haircuts, along with a variety of dimensional hair coloring. I also sell Loma Haircare products that is also a Local Organic hair brand.

Why I do it:

"In summer 2017 I remodeled a historic bunker cabin in hopes of bringing a salon back into Darrington. I chose to open Local Roots Hair Studio because in 2016 my fiancé was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer. After working for a corporation salon that did not understand what my family was going through, I chose to take a big step and open my studio to be closer to home. Even though my fiancé was re-diagnosed again in April 2018, I am able to keep the salon running full-time to provide for my family.

"The studio has been everything I could ever have wanted, and has helped me grow as an artist. I cherish each and every customer that walks through my door every day, not only because they need a service, but because it is another person that I'm able to either make them feel good about themselves or save them from a 45-minute drive to Arlington just for a haircut. Sometimes you may catch my 3-year-old daughter greeting you at the door and showing you where to be seated or even help you choose a color swatch!"

Where to find her:

1120 Seeman St., Darrington. Open Tue. to Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Walk-ins welcome. 360.618.2098. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hairbymaddy/>

**Business:**

Integrity Firewood Processing

Owner:

Sourakata (Papis) and Jacqueline Sibi

Location:

Marblemount

Services:

Fast, high volume, firewood processing for individuals or businesses. Our portable Dyna SC-14 has a 14-foot conveyor and log loader so wood can be easily dropped into a truck/trailer. Sales of seasoned firewood not available until 2020.

Why we do it:

"We are happy to be a part of this

amazing community! We hope to provide a service that makes it easier for individuals to stockpile firewood or support businesses that want to sell wood. We are willing to work for partial trades and have special pricing for Upriver residents!"

Where to find them:

Phone or text: 206.229.9678. E-mail: integrityfirewoodprocessing@gmail.com. Find them on Facebook.

**Business:**

The Woodsy Wife

Owner:

Angel Dye

Location:

Sedro-Woolley

Products:

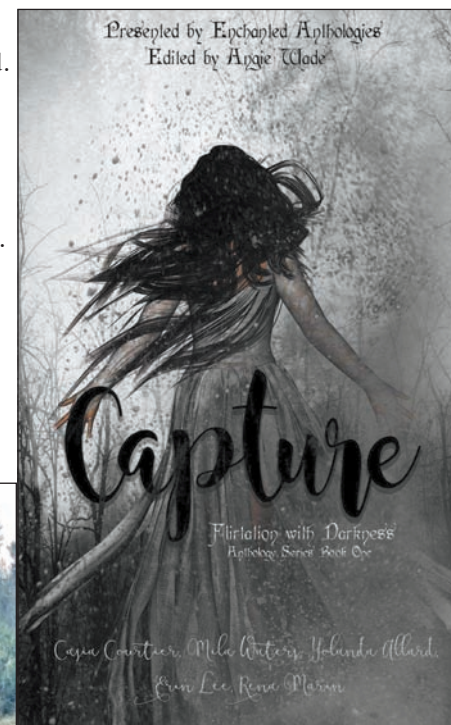
New items using repurposed vintage materials: aprons, bags, dish towels, pillows; also sells collected vintage items.

Why I do it:

"I have been collecting vintage items, especially fabrics, for more than 30 years. It's my goal to introduce these treasures to a whole new generation who will enjoy and use them. Get Grandma's things out of the closet!"

Where to find her:

The Holiday Downtown Shop—about in Sedro-Woolley, Dec. 8. Lynden Craft and Antique Show, March 14–16. Facebook/Instagram: @thewoodsywife. E-mail: thewoodsywife@gmail.com

**Small Scale**, cont. from p. 34**Name:**

Yolanda Allard

Location:

Concrete

Products:

Author, Crazy Ink Publishing. Titles include Illuminous and Song of Fire. She is also published through Enchanted Anthologies in the dark paranormal anthology Capture. Her novels and stories have won awards and have hit the bestseller list.

Where to find her:

Amazon author profile: https://www.amazon.com/kindle-dbs/author/ref=dbs_p_ebk_awm_abau?_encoding=UTF8&asin=B071R6QVZW

Website: yolandaallard.weebly.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheBookSiren>

<https://www.facebook.com/YolandaAllardAuthor/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/yolandaallard_author/

https://www.instagram.com/the_book_siren/

Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/Yolanda_Allard

Goodreads: https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/16713464.Yolanda_Allard

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The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

**Business:**

River Time Brewing

Owner:

Neil Comeau

Location:

Darrington

Products we make:

Handcrafted beer, hot sandwiches, flatbread pizza

Why we do it:

"River Time Brewing provides a family friendly environment for people to enjoy a beverage and/or a delicious meal. We enjoy bringing people together through our products and atmosphere."

Where to find them:

26.RIVER.411 or 267.483.7411. <https://rivertimebrewing.com/>

**Sheriff's Blotter**, cont. from p. 33

vehicle to avoid any dangerous situations to the public after it was obvious it was not going to stop. Deputies were able to identify the driver, who had several warrants for his arrest. He will be charged with two counts of eluding law enforcement.

Nov. 15

Franklin County called and requested deputies check an address on Lyman Hamilton Hwy for a suspect who had a second-degree theft warrant out of Franklin County. Deputy Moore and Deputy Slack went to the residence and contacted the suspect. The suspect was arrested and taken to jail, where he will be extradited to Franklin County.

Nov. 16

Deputy Holmes investigated a vehicle prowler, which occurred on Main St. in Concrete. The vehicle had been parked at the community parking lot for the past several weeks. The night before, the owner heard a loud noise, but did not think anything of it. When he went to the vehicle in the morning, he discovered someone had broken into the vehicle and taken numerous tools. There are no suspects at this time.

At the request of detectives, Deputy Dills contacted a suspect in the area of Cape Horn and arrested him on probable cause for child pornography. The suspect was taken to Skagit County Jail.

Nov. 21

Two potential witnesses in an upcoming criminal trial advised Deputy Clark that the suspect had been texting and threatening them, trying to get them not to testify. Deputy Clark contacted the victims and read the texts. After reading

the texts, Deputy Clark filed more charges on the suspect for intimidating a witness.

Dispatch advised Deputy Wiggins of a possible domestic on Pinelli Rd. Deputy Wiggins and Deputy Koback investigated. It was determined that the suspect had gotten into an argument with his girlfriend and had thrown her TV on the floor, damaging it. The suspect was arrested for malicious mischief domestic violence and taken to jail.

Nov. 22

The suspect who was arrested for the domestic disturbance on Pinelli Rd. from the night before returned to the residence in violation of a no-contact order issued when he was released from jail. Deputy Murdoch and Deputy Grant searched the area, but were unable to find the suspect. They determined that the suspect had violated the order. An "attempt to locate" was entered for the suspect. He was later arrested on the charges.

Nov. 24

The suspect from the domestic disturbance on Pinelli Rd. on Nov. 21 and the violation of a no-contact order on Nov. 22 returned to the residence again in violation of the order. He was located and arrested by Deputy Devero and taken to jail.

Nov. 25

While preparing for their training, East County Water Rescue discovered that numerous items had been stolen from the boat and storage area. It appeared the suspect broke through the back wall probably over several days and took several pieces of rescue equipment. Deputies will follow up on several leads.

—Compiled by Sgt. Greg Adams

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Smile

Concrete Harold

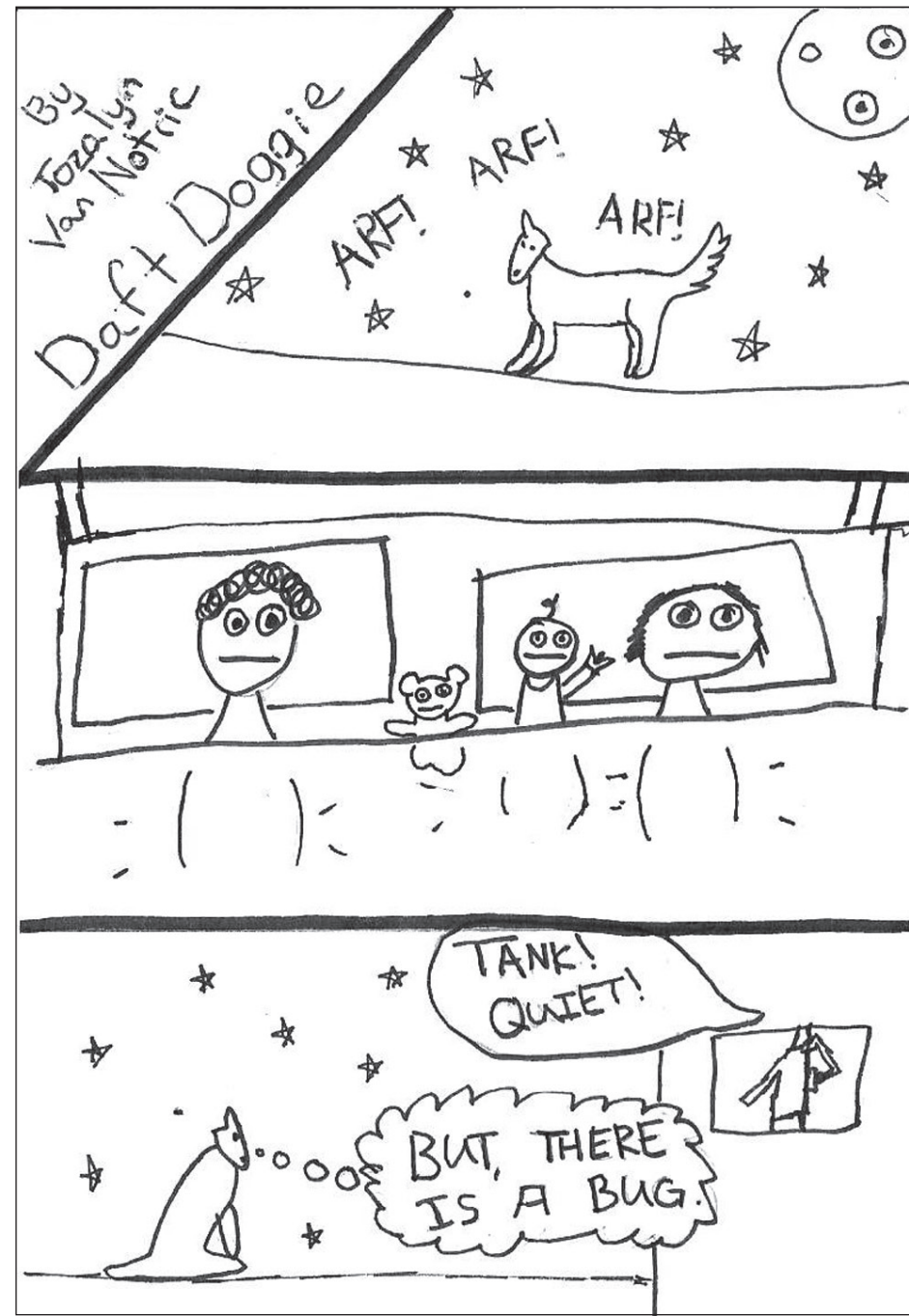
By Joyce Harris



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

"Anybody can tell a lie. It's only the experts who prepare them properly for public consumption as acceptable diplomacy."
"The proposed gun laws could bring on another situation similar to prohibition of liquor. People are going to have guns, law

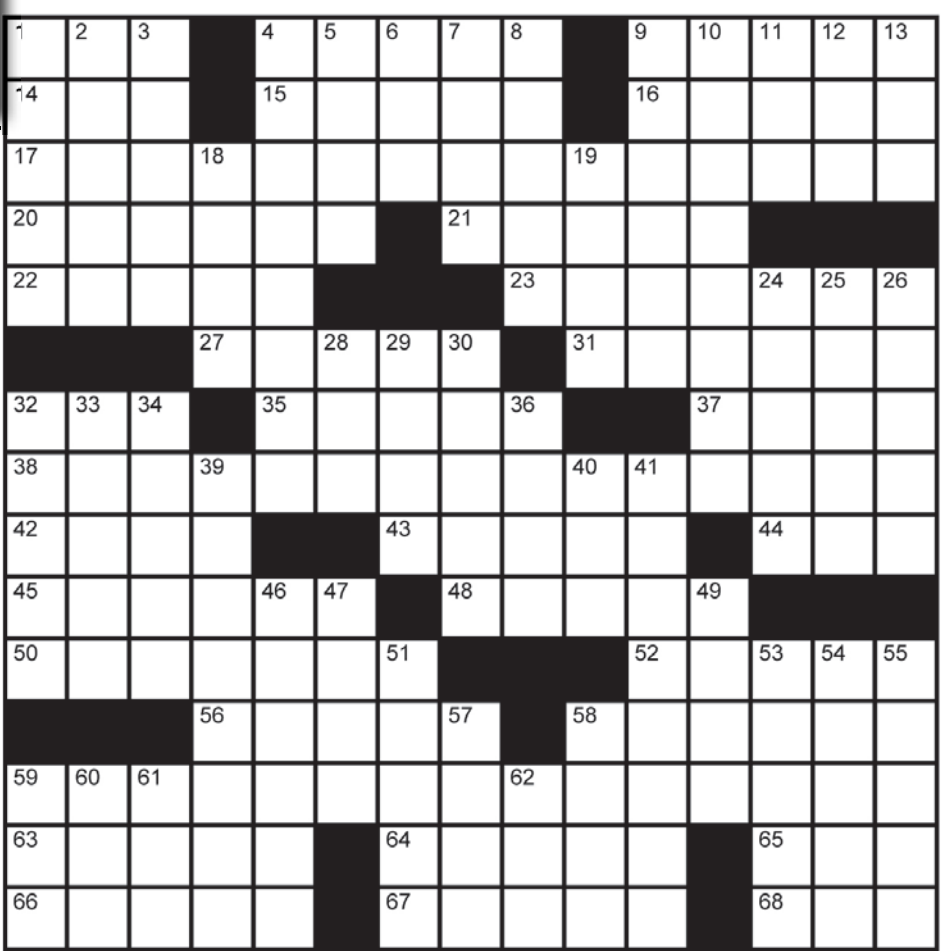
or no law. There will be just as many guns and 10 times as many law breakers. And the criminal element will be in complete immunity because they do not worry about laws of any kind."
"As far as personal education goes, in the time it takes to read a good book, most



people can learn all about life, present culture, and morals by watching three or four old movies and the accompanying commercials."
"This is your own, your native land. Just don't try to use any of it without permission."
"After the holidays, we notice a

welcome upsurge in enthusiasm for the future. Nothing like a few days off in perfect weather to make it seem that a world containing a place as relaxing as our state can't be all bad.
—July 10, 1968

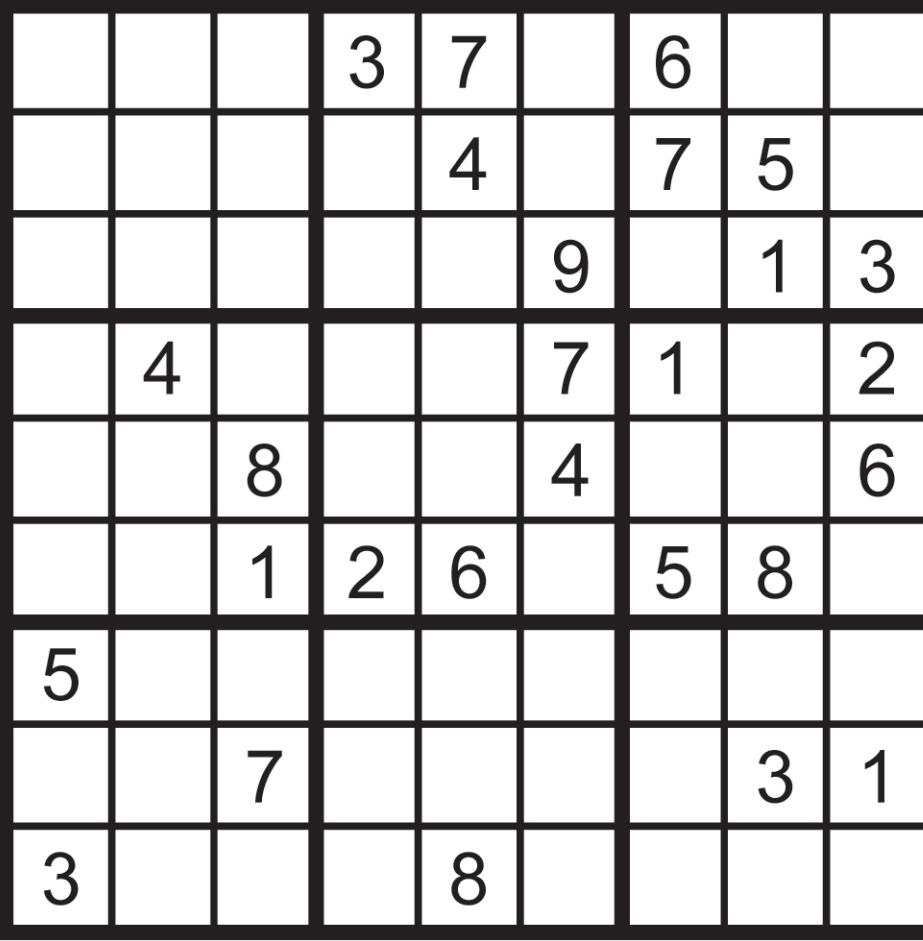
Crossword: "First, do no harm"



- Across**
- 1. Code word
 - 4. Prevention measure?
 - 9. Olfactory perception
 - 14. Farm female
 - 15. Hound's trail
 - 16. Student getting one-on-one help
 - 17. Bailed out
 - 20. Ancestry
 - 21. Eyes
 - 22. Circulating enzyme
 - 23. Serving trolley
 - 27. House of the Seven Gables site
 - 31. More loved
 - 32. First-class
 - 35. Burdens
 - 37. When repeated, like some shows
 - 38. Get out of trouble
 - 42. Nine inches
 - 43. Small part
 - 44. Congeal
 - 45. Noted traitor
 - 48. Didn't participate
 - 50. Interpreted incorrectly
 - 52. Profit
 - 56. Craze
 - 58. Relating to the abdominal cavity
 - 59. Save from sin
 - 63. Declaim
 - 64. Combat zone
 - 65. Capt.'s prediction
 - 66. Mythical creature
 - 67. Group of 13
 - 68. Work on a doily
 - 19. Felt bad about
 - 24. Strong liquors, var.
 - 25. Adjust, as laces
 - 26. 1545 council site
 - 28. PC linkup
 - 29. Prez, e.g.
 - 30. Tablelands
 - 32. Indian state
 - 33. Bay of Naples isle
 - 34. Olympic swimmer Janet
 - 36. "Brave New World" drug
 - 39. Vastness
 - 40. Dewy
 - 41. Titled peer
 - 46. One who goes
 - 47. Hamlet, e.g.
 - 49. Christmas season
 - 51. Theoretical physicist
 - 53. Catlike critter
 - 54. New Delhi salad
 - 55. Pomp
 - 57. Bushy do
 - 58. Construction site sight
 - 59. John ____ Passos
 - 60. Generation
 - 61. Midback muscle, for short
 - 62. Minister: Abbr.
- Down**
- 1. Designer's concern
 - 2. Informed
 - 3. Restrict
 - 4. Repeated musical phrase
 - 5. At the time of
 - 6. " ____ a chance"
 - 7. Small salmon
 - 8. At attention
 - 9. Funeral slabs
 - 10. Some plays or films
 - 11. Abbr. after a comma
 - 12. Moldovan moolah
 - 13. Attorney F. ____ Bailey
 - 18. Auspices

Sudoku

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



*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 39.

Funny as Facebook

- The following funnies were pulled verbatim from Facebook status updates in November:
- "Things I never thought I'd have to say: "Don't put your boogers on your brother's glasses!"
 - "I love and appreciate all of my friends. Even those of you who refuse to pee in excitement when you see me."
 - "Where does a mansplainer get his water? From a well, actually ..."

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THE BODY IN THE BLACKBERRIES

By Nicola Pearson

Editor's note: This is the final installment of a new serialized story by award-winning author and playwright Nicola Pearson of Sauk City. Previous installments are posted at www.concrete-herald.com.

Ten minutes later, Lange was sitting in the Nissan again, his elbow propped on the open window, his mouth leaning on his knuckles as he stared out at the bank alongside Sauk Mountain Rd. This time he wasn't looking through the trees, though; he was simply going over what Kyle Clarkson had told them as he let the warm wind blow through his mop of white hair. Max sat tidily between Lange and Suleka, watching through the windshield as the truck labored up the road.

"It's too bad you can't keep this little guy," said Suleka.

"Which little guy?" asked Lange out of one side of his mouth. He wasn't ready to pull away from his thoughts quite yet.

"Max."

"Oh." Lange dropped his hand and turned to look at the pup. "Yeah. But I do think René will want him." He ran his hand down the far side of the dog, feeling his bones and his belly through his soft, thin coat. "Maybe we'll go over there after we finish up here. That way we'll find out. Hopefully Kevin will still be there, too."

He stared out the open window again. "I want to ask him some more questions."

"You do?"

"Uh-huh. I still can't make a case for Bob being up here without him having some prior knowledge of the drugs from Kevin. If you take Kevin out of the picture, I've got Wayne and Bob on an abandoned logging road with a gym bag." He turned toward Suleka, his thumb rubbing the top of Max's head. "What would make Bob think there were drugs in that gym bag? And if he didn't think that, why would he have confronted Wayne?"

And if he didn't confront Wayne, why did Wayne smack him with a two-by-six?"

"You're assuming that they both arrived at the gym bag at the same time. Wayne was late; that's what he told Kyle. So what if Bob Doyle was up there, for whatever reason, got to the bag on the road ahead of Wayne, and opened it? Just serendipitously? Like you serendipitously

noticing the brush was messed up when you went out there to look at the blackberries."

Lange's thumb stopped moving. He stared ahead, his mind racing, all the pieces of the puzzle suddenly making sense.

"And it's a good thing you did," said Suleka, pulling in beside Michelle's Range Rover at the yellow gate. "Otherwise Bob Doyle's body might never have been found."

But Lange wasn't hearing her. He was slipping the last piece of the puzzle into place as she switched off the engine. And in the sudden, peaceful quiet up on the side of the mountain, he saw Robert Doyle's gentle countenance smiling back at him.

"You've figured it out, haven't you?" said Suleka, recognizing the self-absorbed look on his face.

Lange didn't say a word. He rolled out of the Nissan, Max beside him, and drifted past Michelle toward the gate, almost trancelike.

Michelle jumped to fall in step beside him. "Are we going to organize how we hunt for this chunk of wood in this forest? Like each take a side?" she asked.

Lange strode ahead, oblivious to everything except finding the proof he now knew existed. Michelle glanced back at Suleka, who was moving down the road at a more sedate pace, and pulled both sides of her mouth down; what's up?

"Ignore him," said Lange's partner with a flap of her hand. "He'll tell us what he's figured out once he can show us."

"He's figured something out?"

Their conversation drifted into the background as Lange pushed on, picking Max up to carry him past the place where he'd been shot, then setting him back down. Both he and the dog threaded their way nimbly through the pearly everlasting and overgrown thistles, Lange's mind on Robert, in the distance, choosing places to put his feet so he could

make it up the hillside. It would have been quiet, like now, abundantly peaceful, and undoubtedly cooler. And Bob would have been happy, tarrying with his dog, alone the woods.

The ex-detective raced to the spot where he'd stood sampling berries just yesterday morning: where Robert Doyle had lain at his feet without him even knowing it, where a bag of drugs weighing maybe 60 pounds or more had fallen from the sky, where this little cream-and-tan dog had watched his master come to an end.

And Lange started his search. He looked past the smashed-down ferns and the wild cherry that had drawn his attention yesterday and scanned the hillside above. What would he be looking for? he asked himself. Something clear? Something white? Maybe something with writing on it. Maybe something that he couldn't see from down here.

He stepped his right foot across the ditch, wedged it behind the base of a small alder, and hopped across, placing his left foot on a rock jutting out of the bank. He leaned his weight on the rock and leveraged himself uphill a few steps in the soft, dry duff. Now that he was this close, he could just make out the tracks in the dirt. There was a swath of vines, thick with berries, a few feet above his head, and two obvious toeholds that someone had used to stand there and pick, but Lange didn't think he needed to climb that high to find what he was looking for.

His eyes traveled slowly, exhaustively over and around the ferns, grasses, and brambles, waiting for it to pop out at him. Behind him, he could hear Michelle and Suleka getting closer, and beside him, he heard a scuffling sound in the brush. He looked around and saw Max scrabbling his way up the hillside. Lange explored the dirt where Max was climbing, wondering if what he was looking for had been dropped in the incident, but no luck. He turned his head to look uphill again; start at the top and work your way down, he told himself. He searched for a flat spot close to the toeholds but didn't find it. Maybe he should go higher, he thought. He stepped up, digging his feet into the soil, hearing grains of it tumble down through the brush below him. He got to eye level with the toeholds, stroking Max, who was already there, ahead of him, sniffing the ground with alacrity. Lange looked left and right, then wrapped his fingers around a length of mossy vine maple and hoisted himself up to straddle Max. Wild blackberries hung in front of his face like jewels on a braided vine, and to their right, nestled in the crook of some

spraying sword ferns, was a dark-gray thirty-two-ounce water bottle. The lid was open, and Lange could see the bottle was two-thirds full of blackberries.

"What are you doing?" came Suleka's voice from behind him. "I thought we were looking for a murder weapon, not picking blackberries."

Lange found a narrow, cigar-length stick of vine maple with a fork at the end of it, reached across, and hooked the plastic fingerhold on the lid of the water bottle. He lifted it up into the air and said, "This is what Bob Doyle was doing up here."

They stood on the road together, Kojak chasing Max in and out of the ditch as Lange described what must have happened. "You were right," he told Suleka at the beginning. "Bob Doyle got here ahead of Wayne Clarkson. He might even have been here as early as 5 a.m.—who knows—so he'd beat the heat in the slow, methodical process of picking these tiny blackberries. And while he was up there"—he nodded his chin up toward the blackberry patch—"perched on the hillside, a small plane flew overhead. He must have looked up, wondering what it was doing flying so low, and the bag of drugs dropped smack on his forehead, knocking him backward down into the ditch, where he landed on the rock. It was his body that disturbed the brush, not the drugs, which must have bounced off him and down onto the road. Wayne Clarkson had no idea that Bob Doyle was lying dead just a few feet away when he came to retrieve the bag. No more than I did when I came to investigate the ripeness of the berries." He turned and looked into the eyes of his friend and partner; they were full of sadness. "I'm glad, like you said, that I had a hankering for berries yesterday."

"Yeah," Suleka agreed. She let her gaze drift back up the hillside, to where Bob Doyle had been picking. "At least he was doing something he loved."

They stood in silence for a moment, then Lange looked at Michelle. "So what next?" he asked.

"I want to get the dealers," she commented, her mouth tight with anger. "And prosecute them for a felony homicide."

Lange nodded, feeling the same anger. He swung around and started leading them all back toward the yellow gate. "Are you going to offer Clarkson a deal on the drug

See **The Body**, p. 39

The Body, cont. from p. 38

charge if he gives up the suppliers?"

"That's my plan."

"Maybe do it without telling him about Doyle's death. Then Collins might be able to tie him into the homicide, too."

The idea obviously appealed to Michelle, because Lange saw the anger clear from her jaw. "Good thinking," she said, stretching out ahead of him. "I'm going to go call Collins right now and tell him. Hopefully I'm not too late."

Lange watched her jog down the road and smiled when the dogs ran to catch up with her, then glanced right, thinking Suleka might have seen him. But her eyes were firmly fixed on the road ahead of them.

"I remember Bob used to sell some of the berries he picked to local bakeries," said his friend and partner. They stopped in front of the fir, and Lange put his hand out for her to hold as she climbed over it. "I wonder if that's where 5b's got the berries for their bumbleberry pies?"

"Did you eat those?" asked Lange. He followed her across the fir.

"No, they're still in the car."

"Good. I was hoping I might get one of those."

"Let's take them back to your yurt," suggested Suleka. "Have a little coffee and bumbleberry pie as a tribute to Bob."

"I like that idea," agreed Lange. "I wonder if Michelle has time to join us before she goes down to interview Clarkson?"

"I don't know," said Suleka. "Maybe you should ask."

And Lange thought he caught a twinkle of mischief in her eye before she turned away from him to go around the yellow gate.

Clarkson was still sleeping off his drunk, according to Detective Collins, so Michelle followed them to Lange's property. Suleka watched them from the Nissan, standing side by side in the afternoon sunlight, pointing at the snow-topped mountain ridges opposite and the sinewy curl of the Skagit River below. She'd never seen Cal so comfortable in the company of a woman—in the company of anyone, if she were to be honest—and now here he was, showing off the view from his place to someone who got the magic of it.

She climbed out of the Nissan slowly, deliberately, and walked around to the back. She unlatched the canopy window

and lifted it to get out the small cooler.

"Are you coming?" she heard Lange say as she was leaning into the bed.

She pulled her head out, cooler in hand, latched the window closed again, and walked around to join him alongside the Nissan. Michelle was still over by his log pile, facing toward them now, shading her eyes with her hands as she looked at the craggy top of Sauk above them.

Suleka put on her best regretful face. "I just got a call from one of the women in my spinning group, and she needs me to go check on her goats."

"Uh-huh," said Lange, like he didn't believe a word of it. "I thought your cell phone didn't get service up here?"

"Er, well, you know," sputtered Suleka, "sometimes it does."

"Is that right?" He leaned in closer and whispered, "You forget I used to be a detective."

Suleka laughed. She thrust the cooler into his hands. "Go enjoy the pies with your guest."

"If you say so," he acquiesced, grateful for her kindness. "And what will you do? Really?"

Suleka slipped her hands in the pockets of her overalls, thinking about his question. She could see the amber in Kojak's coat catching the sunlight as he chased Max around the log pile. "I think I may go sit with René Doyle awhile," she said. "See if she wants Max to go back to her or stay up here on the mountain, close to Bob."

He was watching the dogs, too, feeling an unexpected fondness for the quick-moving terrier eluding the German shepherd. "Maybe we can do both," he said.

"Mmmmm," reflected Suleka. "Maybe." She pulled the keys to the Nissan out of one pocket and jiggled them. "Well, you go have fun," she said, walking away from Lange. "And don't spend your whole time trying to find another lame word to beat me with in Scrabble."

"I thought that was a great word!" he exclaimed, tossing his arm in the air.

"Is that right?" she said. She leaned back toward him and whispered, "You forget I'm better than you at games." Then she headed around the Nissan, chuckling.

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

Crossword solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
D	A	H		O	U	N	C	E		S	M	E
14	W	E		15	S	P	O	O	R		T	U
17	C	A	M	E	T	O	T	H	E		R	E
20	O	R	I	G	I	N		O	C	U	L	I
22	R	E	N	I	N							
27	S	A	L	E		28	29	30		31	D	E
32	A	C	E		34	35	T	A	X	E		37
38	S	A	V	E	O	N	E	S	O	W	N	S
42	S	P	A	N			43	C	A	M	E	O
45	A	R	N	O		46	L		47	S	A	T
50	M	I	S	R	E	A	D			52	L	U
56	M	A	N	I	A			58	C	E	L	I
59	60	61	L	I	V	E	R		62	F	R	O
63	O	R	A	T	E			64	A	R	E	N
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