

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Herald

Vol. 99, No. 7

July 2016

concrete-herald.com

50 cents

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p. 27

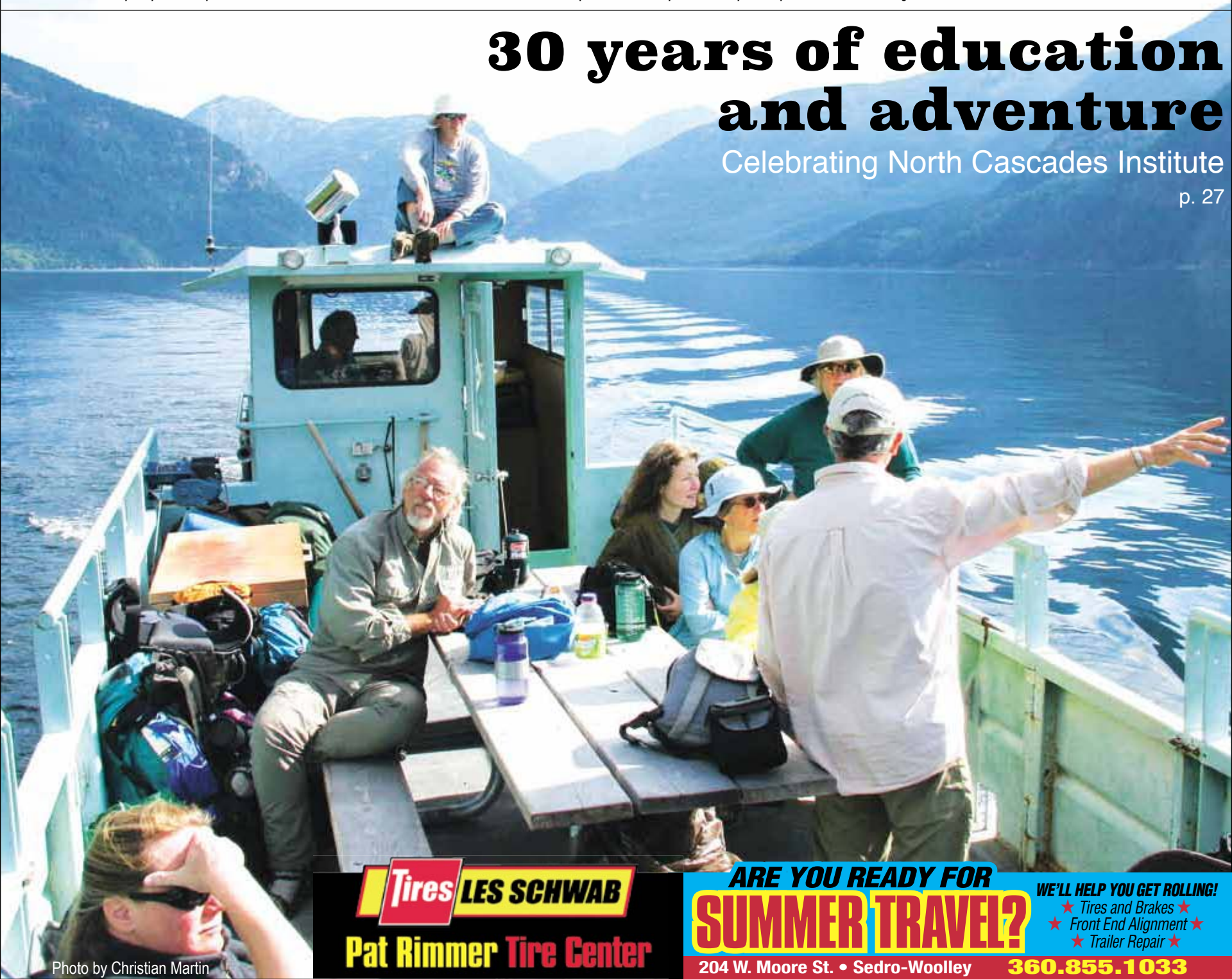


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Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

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From the editor Engage.

With the new Star Trek movie coming out this month, I've been thinking about Captain Picard's trademark command: "Engage."

When that word is applied to community activism, incredible things can happen. Last month, while wearing my community garden co-manager hat, I watched community members young and old come out of the woodwork to help me plant dozens of tomato plants donated by yet another local, Bill Jenks. Alejandra Peterson, a 6th grader, helped me during the first round. Then came Bill and Sally Pfeifer, and (garden co-manager) Mike and Charlie Bartel. Those tomatoes will be donated to the food bank and the resource center, headed for the tables of those who truly need them.

Think about how you'd like to engage in our Upper Valley community, then do it. Engage. It doesn't have to be the community garden. It doesn't have to involve me; that's just my story. What's yours? How will you change our community for the better?

—J. K. M.

Explore the Baker River

Enjoy a free tour of the Baker River Hydroelectric Project

Make your reservation now to tour Puget Sound Energy's largest hydropower operation, located in the beautiful, mountain-rimmed Baker River Valley near Concrete. And while you're in Concrete, take the annual Vintage Fly-In!

When: Saturday, July 23 – tour buses depart 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. The tour lasts approximately three hours.

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

What: Tour stops include:

- PSE's Baker River Visitor Center for hydroproject overview
- Overlook of Lower Baker Dam and new powerhouse
- PSE's upstream fish trap (adult fish)
- Upper Baker Dam and floating surface collector (juvenile fish)
- Baker River fish hatchery and sockeye spawning beds

For reservations:

Phone: 360-766-5656
E-mail: tours@pse.com

Limited availability,
reservations required

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

Opinion

Letters to the editor

School board, superintendent should get Mowrer back

I am writing this as a concerned citizen of this area. I no longer have any children in this school district so this issue really doesn't affect me or my family. But I live and work in this community and have for 35 years. And I still care about what happens at the local schools.

Recently it came to my attention that Beverly Mower will not be returning next year to teach middle school science. This is a huge loss for the district and the students. And this is just not right. Even though Bev has only been here for the last year, she made such an impact with the students and to the district. She motivates the kids and makes them want to learn. She makes the subject fun and gives them new ways to learn. She thinks outside the box and gets her students involved.

She was treated beyond badly at a parent / teacher conference in March. How the parent was allowed to speak to her and about her, is not acceptable. Just because it's a parent, doesn't mean that there shouldn't be consequences. Teachers are underpaid and overworked and should not ever be subjected to what she was. Parents need to accept responsibility when their child is failing, and not blame the teachers, school, everyone but themselves and their child. And then, no one higher up in the district backed her up. At the very least, she deserved an apology from the parent, and the parent should be referred for either parenting counseling or anger management classes. And yes, the school can and should do both those things.

Through grants, donations and scholarships, Bev has managed to raise over \$50,000 in just the last year. She

has spent countless hours on her lunch, planning time and after hours securing these.

Too many teachers are just putting in their time until they retire. Bev has a different attitude, and she should be rewarded for that. Concrete needs more teachers like Bev, not less. You as a school board and as superintendent should do everything in your power to get her back. She should be supported for her efforts. Please do something to fix this huge mistake you've let happen.

Kris Voigt
Birdsview

Thanks to Upper Skagit Tribe

Located in Sedro-Woolley for more than 37 years, Helping Hands Food Bank is Skagit County's largest emergency food provider, distributing more than 1,300,000 pounds of rescued food each year to more than 14,000 friends and neighbors in need. We provide a safety net for some of our community's most vulnerable citizens, and it is critical that we remain in continuous operation.

At present, we are located in a building at 601 Cook Rd. owned by the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, and our lease is set to expire in July 2016.

See **Letters**, p. 39

Letters policy

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

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Message from the mayor

By Jason Miller

In my opinion, the biggest news this month is our Town Council adopting Concrete's first **economic development plan!**

The plan is the result of dedicated volunteers meeting monthly for two years to discuss literally hundreds of ideas that have been generated by Concrete and Upper Valley citizens since Imagine Concrete Foundation began formally tracking them in 2009.

I and the town are grateful for the members of the Economic Development Task Force; my deepest appreciation goes out to its members:

- Eric Archuletta, facilitator
- Ginger Kyritsis
- Cheryl Werda
- Em and Walt Beals
- Athena Hornsby
- Claus Joens
- Brooke Pederson
- Doug Ide
- Phillip Moran and Lynette Gentry, who tag-teamed the position

For details about the plan, see Haley McNealey's story on p. 4 of this issue. I look forward to executing this brilliant plan!

We intend to dredge **Lorenzen Creek** on Aug. 9, 11, and 16. We've figured out a way to combine outside funding, local volunteers, and town funds to make this challenging project happen. I'm in charge of the volunteers, so if you'd like to help our citizens dodge this annual flood threat, give me a shout using my contact info below.

The Park and Ride project will be complete by mid-July. Here's a snapshot of coming projects:

- Water spray park, spring 2017
- Cedar St. pedestrian improvements, 2018–2020
- Main St. resurfacing and sidewalk improvements from Superior to Grasmere, 2016–2020

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

JULY 7th 2016

9th Annual

CONCRETE YOUTH ACTIVITY DAY

Veterans Park

12:30 to 4pm

FREE FAMILY FUN FOR ALL AGES

Special Entertainment
sponsored by the Upper
Skagit Library at 2pm:
Jason Quick, Juggler

- **Food!**
- **Community Resources!**
- **Movie at dusk!**

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Concrete adopts economic development plan

By Haley McNealey

Edited by Katy Tomasulo

At the regular Town Council meeting June 27, Concrete adopted the first official economic development plan in the town's 107-year history. The Town Council approved the plan unanimously by resolution as a standalone document; later this year, the plan will become an appendix within the town's comprehensive plan.

The council adopted the economic development plan prior to the implementation of the comprehensive plan, in order to begin acting on the plan's goals immediately, according to Mayor Jason Miller. "The plan is an absolutely crucial first step toward recovering Concrete's economy and encouraging it to flourish again," Mayor Miller stated. "I couldn't be more grateful to the community members who gave two years of their lives in service to the town [to develop the plan]. I am looking forward to executing the goals within the plan during the

coming decade."

The economic development plan is composed of 16 separate goals designed to stimulate economic growth within Concrete. It also includes general recommendations for entities the town should consider working with to achieve each goal, estimated timeframes for achieving each goal, and, in some cases, suggested first steps.

The outlined goals are as follows:

1. Redesign Web site for Town of Concrete (www.townofconcrete.com)
2. Create brand for Town of Concrete
3. Use area strengths in marketing
4. Promote the business identity of the town
5. Use historic area, landmarks, parks, and recreation facilities as economic-development drivers
6. Identify education and training needs
7. Identify key parcels that can be

readily converted to shovel-ready sites

8. Promote available buildings
9. Develop broadband at key development sites to encourage business growth and expansion
10. Maintain proactive town government
11. Create innovative partnerships to support existing businesses and new businesses
12. Evaluate current town economic development toolkit
13. Create a regulatory environment that embraces collaboration and cooperation
14. Historic preservation
15. Growth and annexation actions
16. Foster Sister City relationships

The Economic Development Task Force, formed by Mayor Miller in June 2014, held monthly meetings that were open to the public and facilitated by volunteer consultant Eric Archuletta, president of the Imagine Concrete Foundation. Along with Mayor Miller and Archuletta, the task force comprised 5b's Bakery owners Em and Walt Beals, Columbia Bank Concrete Branch Manager Lynette Gentry, Northwest Garden Bling artist and owner Athena Hornsby, Valleys West Realty Real Estate Agent Doug Ide, Concrete School District teacher Claus Joens, Town of Concrete Councilmember Ginger Kyritsis, former Columbia Bank Concrete Branch Manager Phillip Moran, Upper Skagit Library Director Brooke Pederson, and Chamber of Commerce representative Cheryl Werda.

The document is the result of two years of collaboration. The task force extracted principles from hundreds of ideas that were generated and discussed by members. In addition, ideas and experiences were gathered from Imagine

Concrete Foundation workshops held in 2009, 2011, and 2013, as well as "knowledge harvesting" trips taken by Archuletta and Miller to Dayton, Wash.; Independence, Ore.; Ely, Nevada; and Chloride, Ariz.

"This doesn't reflect only the two years of the task force meeting. There's some really serious years-long depth underpinning it, and that's what I find really exciting," said Miller. "It's not frivolous or flippant in any way. It is extremely serious and thought through meticulously. That's why I'm really proud of this group."

The document prepared by the Economic Development Task Force became property of the town upon its adoption. Discussion ensued between councilmembers regarding the flexibility of details such as timeframes and recommendations. Councilmember Corey Ruiz, who regularly attended the meetings along with Councilmember Mike Bartel, stated, "When the time comes that we have funds coming into the town, moving forward through this plan to make that happen, then we would look at hiring someone to continue to spearhead getting all the stuff done."

Now that the economic development plan has been adopted, the next step for the town will be to form an Economic Development Commission, composed of former task force members and others, to begin implementing tactics to meet plan goals. Archuletta is currently drafting a set of bylaws for the commission, which will be presented to Town Council for approval in July.

Writer Haley McNealey is a 2015 graduate of Concrete High School. Editor Katy Tomasulo lives in Seattle.

Puget Sound-area waters reopen for fishing

Puget Sound-area fisheries that closed

during an impasse in salmon-season negotiations will reopen immediately, state fish managers announced June 24.

Salmon and steelhead fisheries in Puget Sound-area waters that are open in June include:

Fishing, cont. from p. 4

- Skagit River for sockeye salmon, hatchery chinook and hatchery steelhead fishing.
- Cascade River for hatchery chinook and hatchery steelhead fishing.
- Skykomish River for hatchery chinook and hatchery steelhead fishing.

Regulations for fisheries in Puget Sound marine waters, rivers and lakes through June 30 are listed in the 2015-16 Washington Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet, which is available online at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01726/>.

Beginning July 1, anglers should check the 2016-17 sport fishing rules pamphlet (available online at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/>) for fisheries information.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) closed many Puget Sound-area fisheries on May 1, after the previous federal authorization to conduct fisheries expired.

The annual season-setting process, known as North of Falcon, typically concludes by mid-April. The state and treaty tribes did not reach an agreement this year until May 26, which led to a lapse in federal approval needed to conduct fisheries in Puget Sound, where some fish stocks are protected under the federal Endangered Species Act. The OK given today by NOAA clears the way for reopening the Puget Sound-area fisheries that closed May 1.

"We know Puget Sound anglers have been frustrated by the late start to this year's salmon season," said John Long, salmon fisheries policy lead for WDFW. "This opening puts the year's salmon fisheries back on track."

Long noted additional restrictions are in place to protect coho salmon. Anglers will be required to release coho in most of Puget Sound this season. Those restrictions are also in effect for marine areas open in June, including marine areas 11 (Tacoma-Vashon Island), 13 (south Sound) and in the Tulalip bubble fishery, where wild chinook must also be released.

Anglers fishing at most year-round piers within Puget Sound must release all coho, while those fishing at year-round piers within Sinclair Inlet near Port Orchard are only required to release wild coho. Anglers should check the WDFW Web page at <https://fortress.wa.gov/dfw/rules/efishrules> for other exceptions to the published fishing rules.

See Fishing, p. 5

3 4 t h A N N U A L

NORTH CASCADES
VINTAGE AIRCRAFT
FLY-IN

This year's fly-in
theme is Beechcraft!

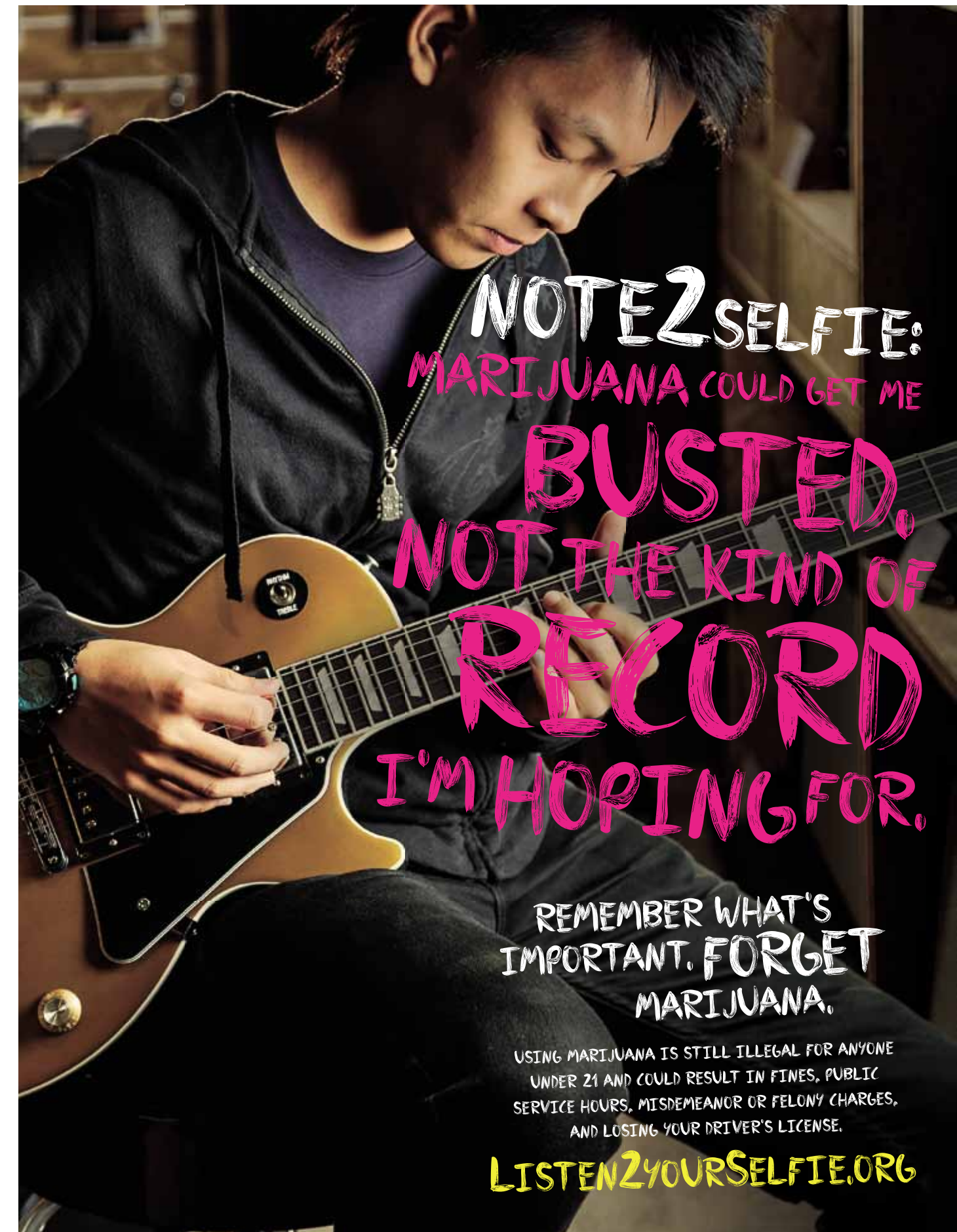


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July events expansive this year

With summer officially in full swing, Concrete and the Upper Valley will host a slew of events this month.

Concrete Youth Activity Day

In its ninth year, Concrete Youth Activity Day will bring new resources and activities to its new venue: Veterans Memorial Park in Concrete.

The event will be held on Thur., July 7, from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Look for food, games, community resources, and a movie at dusk. Juggler Jason Quick will wow attendees of all ages.

North Cascades Institute 30th Anniversary Picnic

The longtime education organization celebrates three decades of existence with a free picnic at its Environmental Learning Center on Diablo Lake (milepost 127.5).

The free event begins on Sun., July 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. A barbecue, boat tours, family fun, music, and hikes are all on tap; arrive early to sign up for activities. For more information, see the ad on p. 9 and the article on p. 27 of this issue.

North Cascades Vintage Aircraft Fly-In

Boasting a setting like no other, Concrete's annual fly-in typically pulls in more than 100 pilots and their beloved airborne steeds.

Organizers have planned more activities in an around the fly-in, including the sought-after vintage aircraft and cars, free kids activities, a pancake breakfast hosted by Grasmere Volunteer Fire Dept., a swing band, a beer garden, and more. A free shuttle will transport people into Concrete Town Center, with Concrete Mayor Jason Miller or Concrete Town Councilman Mike Bartel on board as tour guide. Admission is free.

Fly-in organizers are looking for volunteers. Call 360.941.0321 to help.

PSE tours

Enjoy a free tour of Puget Sound Energy's Baker River Hydroelectric Project. Make your reservation for this free event, then hop on a bus at the Concrete Schools on Sat., July 23. Buses depart at 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30 a.m., and 1 p.m.

For more information, see the ad on p. 2 of this issue.

Concrete Center services update

Skagit County and Community Action of Skagit County are in the process of finalizing contract terms that would provide for Community Action to take over management of the Concrete Center.

The transition will begin in July, with the intention of completion by August.

In the interim, community members are asked to complete a supplemental survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WD8LM9B> or pick up a hardcopy of the survey at the East County Resource Center.

Gentry is new branch manager for Columbia Bank

Columbia Bank announced on June 13 the appointment of Lynette Gentry as branch manager in Concrete. Gentry will be responsible for leading her staff, emphasizing exceptional customer service standards, while building and maintaining new customer relationships and oversee-ing the day-to-day operations of the branch. In her new role, Gentry will focus on reaching out to local community members and providing the best solutions for their needs.

With more than 16 years of banking experience, Gentry has developed an extensive proficiency in customer service and branch operations. She is known among her clients as a people person who always has her clients' priorities and needs in mind.

Gentry stays active in her community by serving as a member of the Concrete Chamber of Commerce and Concrete's Economic Development Task Force. Gentry also volunteers for Cascade Days, Junior Achievement, and Relay for Life.



Gentry

THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

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

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

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

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

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

For more information, call 360-853-7867. Entries become property of Cascade Days Committee.

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

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

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

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

Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on June 13 and 27. Following is a summary of those two meetings. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are posted on the town's Web site at www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php.

June 13 regular meeting

- Public comment:** A proposal to post signs at Silo Park prohibiting smoking and vaping was presented and discussed. Council focused on the issue of enforcement, and ended up directing staff to investigate further and look at the differences between making it a policy and making it an ordinance.

- Public safety:** Sgt. Chris Kading stated there were more domestic disturbances in May, which is common for the beginning of summer. He also reported the deputies have been able to make a few warrant arrests since there has been some room in the jail recently. He also reported on two separate drug busts that occurred last week with 12 law enforcement officers at one location and seven officers at a second location. He stated there were arrests made on several felony charges at both locations. He stated there were a lot of people and law enforcement agencies involved, and these were big arrests for this area. This announcement met with applause from audience members.

- Sgt. Kading also reported he is working on numbers for the in-town hours documentation, but will need at least another 30 days to get solid numbers.

- Andrea Fichter presented a USDA funding application to pay for a new backhoe. She stated there is a matching requirement and the town may responsible for up to \$10,000. Council approved the funding application.

- Council elected Ginger Kyritsis as Mayor Pro-Tem for the next six-month period.

- Council approved an agreement with grant writer Michelle Mazzola to pursue a FEMA Grant Application for turnout gear for the fire department. This agreement is for an amount not to exceed \$3,500. Mazzola is the grant writer responsible for getting Town of Concrete the \$1 million

grant to help build its Fire and Life Safety Building.

- Mayor Miller distributed a draft of the town's proposed economic development plan and asked council to review it during the next two weeks. He stated Fichter would draw up resolution language so that council could adopt the plan by resolution at its next meeting, rather than waiting till near the end of 2016 for the plan to be included in the town's Comprehensive Plan, which is nearing completion.

June 27 regular meeting

- Town engineer Cody Hart Cody reported the town received the grant funding for the planning phase for the demolition of the Superior Building. He stated this is for \$24,000 and will assist with plan development and the asbestos and lead testing, and possible abatement.

Council member Corey Ruiz asked about the hump in the road on S. Dillard. He stated there may need to be an additional access road constructed for residents in Crofoot in the event that hill slides. Ruiz stated the hump in the road has gotten worse during the last few years. Hart stated that this is something he would have to take a look at because if it is a dig out and slope stabilization project, as well as the road surface, it becomes a totally different project than originally anticipated. Mayor Miller directed Hart to pursue it as a stabilization project.

- Council discussed the proposed economic development plan and passed it unanimously by Resolution No. 2016-10. Discussion points included the flexibility of the plan and the task force/commission members, the current lack of ability of the town to pay for an economic development director (one of the recommended actions), and how the proposed Economic Development Commission would function.

—Compiled from staff minutes

Keep track of your council

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

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Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



Hoop Camp: week of skill, competition, fun

By Paul Bianchini

The 2016 Lion Hoop Camp was a tremendous week (June 20–23) of skill and teamwork, friendships made, and competition. This year’s group came each day ready to watch, listen, and learn. They left with a grasp of what it takes to improve on skills: hard work, repetition, and time.

Each day additional challenges, competitive skills, and games were presented to the kids, and they responded like the champions they are.

“More learning took place during this camp than any other I’ve been associated, said one participant.”

Jacob Young was selected as Camp MVP.

Hayley Daniels was selected for Best Shooting Form.

Charlie Bartel was selected Most Improved Player.

Boys and girls youth basketball skills camps and leagues will start back up in October. All kids at that time are encouraged to sign up and participate.

More information will be provided once the school year resumes.



Book corner Hadaway publishes sixth book

Cape Horn writer Linda Hadaway has published her sixth book, a young adult/middle grade adventure story. It is her first book for young adults.

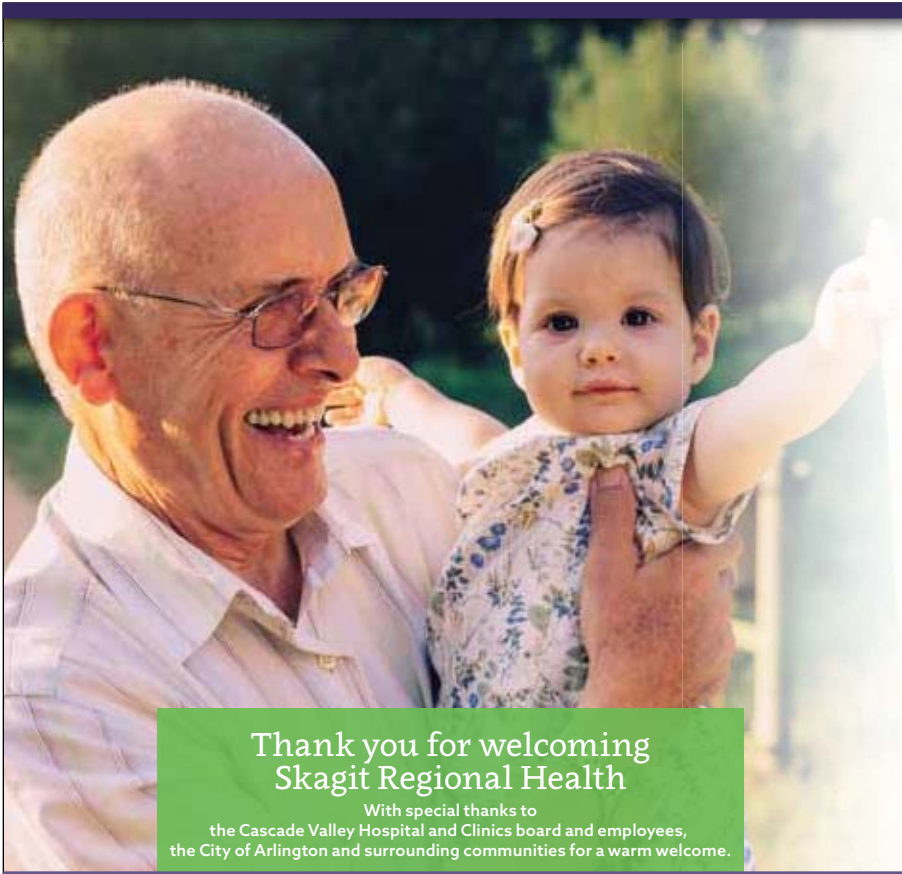
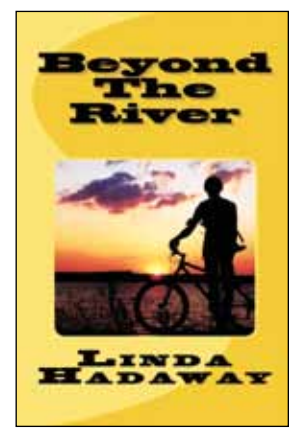
Beyond the River tells the story of Thomas, who will turn 13 in one week. He is looking for a leaf for a school project when the school bully, Butch, chases after him on his bicycle.

Told never to be close to the river alone, Thomas now rides along the dangerous trail hoping to elude Butch. Suddenly, the ground beneath him gives way. He and Butch find themselves falling into a void, a tunnel that takes them to a primitive land. Thomas wonders what dangers lie ahead? Will they find their way back home? And if so, when?

The book is available in paperback at www.createspace.com/6000217, and as an ebook and paperback on Amazon.com.

A book video can be found online at www.lindahadaway.com.

—J. K. M.

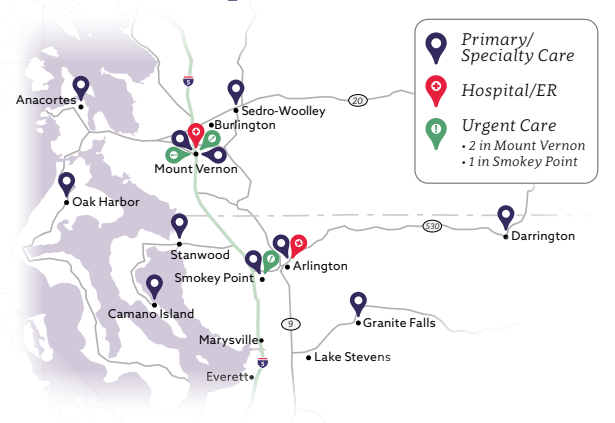


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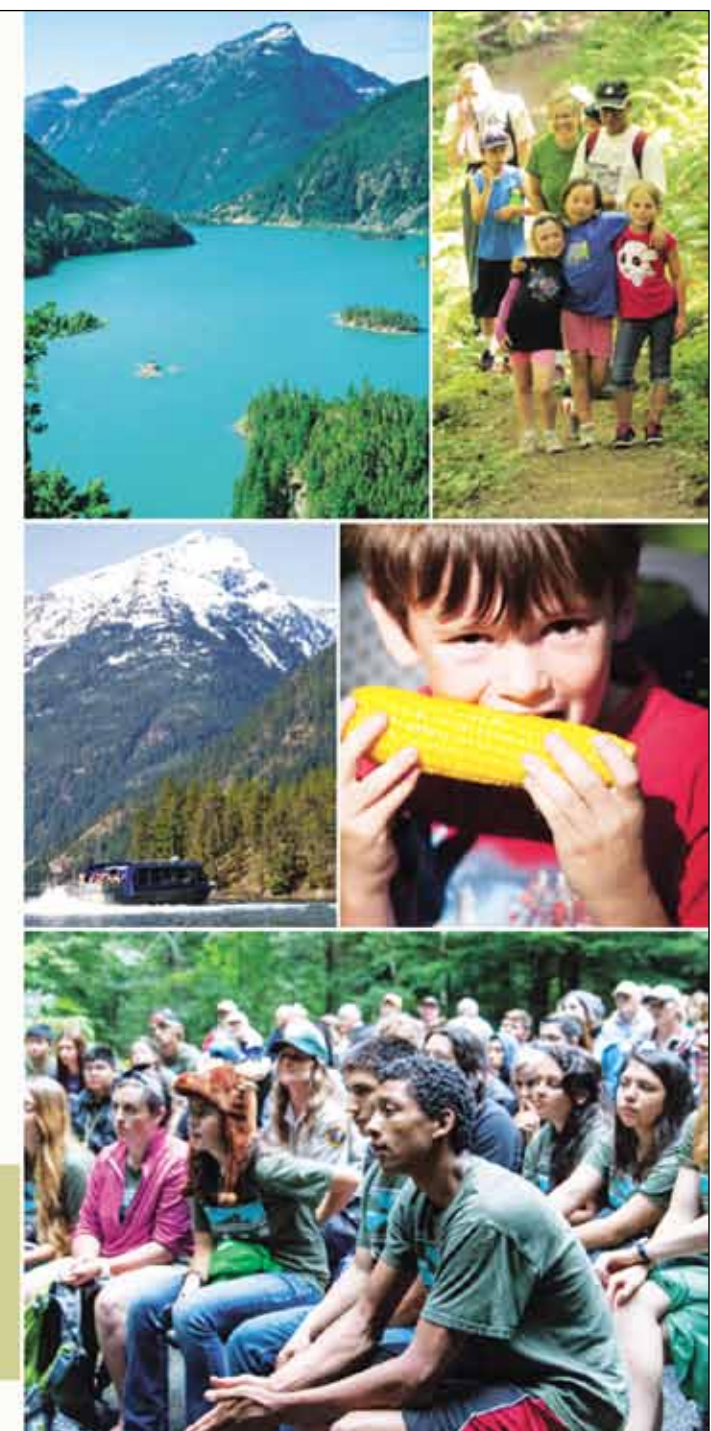


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Academics

A high seas experience

Concrete middle schoolers learn about our watershed while floating on it.

Herman Melville's character Ishmael explains in the opening sentences of *Moby Dick* his need to "sail about a little and see the watery part of the world."

On June 7, about 37 seventh and eighth graders from Concrete Middle School got to follow in Ishmael's wake, while learning about the Puget Sound watershed. They left from Shilshole Bay Marina and set sail into Puget Sound, a.k.a. the Salish Sea, aboard the *Adventuress*, a historic schooner built in 1913.

The three-hour trip was part of a "Sound Studies" program hosted by Sound

Experience, which owns the *Adventuress* and uses it as a floating classroom to teach guests of all ages about Puget Sound, its abundant marine life, and its connectedness to humans.

But not every student was as gung-ho about sailing into the ocean as, say, Hunter Olmstead.

"For me it was terrifying because I didn't want to get sick," said Leona Martinez, 13. "But Catherine sat with me for 15 minutes and calmed me down."

She's talking about Catherine Collins, executive director for Sound Experience, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Collins isn't on board for every outing, but came with the group because of her ties with science teacher Bev Mowrer, who organized the trip and arranged scholarships for the students so they could experience it.

"It's all about experiencing," said Collins of the programs offered by Sound Experience, which hosts between 2,000 and 3,000 people every year. They sail on day and overnight programs. Most are

youth; most sail on programs a lot like the Concrete students enjoyed.

"Our goals are to get students interested in being stewards of sailing ships and the watersheds. What can we do individually to make a difference? We're not preachy; we're getting people to fall in love with the Salish Sea," said Collins.

Their efforts are effective. Young Martinez enjoyed the experience after her initial nerves and moved from station to station during the trip, learning something new at each stop. At one, a crewmember pointed to a map beneath a sheet of glass and asked the students what it was.

"A map!" they cried, almost in unison.

The crewmember snorted in mock derision. "A 'map.' Ye landlubbers. This is

Right: Mackenzie Wilson studies a marine item at one of the learning stations aboard the *Adventuress* during the June 7 sailing adventure. **Below:** Students listen to boarding instructions before climbing up the ladder and onto the historic schooner.



a chart," she said.

Martinez liked that station. The plankton station too, where she got to peer through a microscope at a world unseen by most eyes. She and her fellow students learned about microplastics that exist in the waterways. And about marine mammals and how the food chain works. They held shells and whale baleen in their hands, lined up and pulled ropes to controls sails, then folded the sails at the end of the day.

Anna Spangler, also 13, echoed Martinez's love of plankton, adding, "It was fun because we got to see a lot of different things. I was nervous when we first got on the ship, because I'd never been on a big ship like that on the ocean. But after we started sailing, I started having fun."

Girls at the helm

Spangler and Martinez were extra fortunate last month: They were able to take a second, longer trip aboard the *Adventuress* from June 25–28 for a "Girls at the Helm" program. The trip is designed to bring girls and women mentors together for a time of growth, learning, and fun.

"I liked that trip even more because there was more to learn and you got to see the sunset," said Martinez. "I have a photo of me and Anna climbing the masts."

Yes, you read that right. The girls were allowed to safely climb aloft on the masts.



Gary Mitchell (right) saturates a cup of seawater with carbon dioxide by repeatedly blowing into it through a straw while classmate Brandon Downing laughs. The exercise was one of many to demonstrate how humans and other animals have affected the Puget Sound watershed.

Spangler gushed about that, as well as the opportunity to "go out in the little boat and see orcas. And one morning, on anchor watch, we helped the cook prepare breakfast, then sang a song to wake everyone up," said Spangler.

A talent show made the last night especially fun.

Ship smart

Sound Experience bought *Adventuress* in 1989 and has used her as the vehicle for watershed education ever since, said Collins. "It feels different, being on the water than being next to it. It's a whole different feeling and experience. You can't be a participant while standing on the shore."

The historic ship is one of only two National Historic Landmark sailing ships that still sail on the West Coast, making it a unique and iconic education platform. Sound Experience hosts trips for schools and work groups, but also programs in the summer months for teenagers and families. "We have a pretty extraordinary membership opportunity so they can sail all summer long relatively inexpensively," said Collins.

In the end, it's all about creating familiarity with the Puget Sound waterways and the realization that we are all part of it, since we live in the watershed.



Captain Gordon Sims explains the rules and expectations of sailing aboard the *Adventuress*.

"We want everyone to take action in some way to change the state of the watershed," said Collins. "I think it's particularly important for young people who don't live near Puget Sound to experience its majesty. It's important to make that connection. I'll be working

toward getting all kids out on the *Adventuress* in the years to come."

—J. K. M.

To explore day or overnight programs for schools, youth groups, teens, families, and individuals, go to www.soundexp.org.

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Community Meeting

Marblemount Community Hall

Wednesday, July 27th
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Skagit County Parks and Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group are working on a plan that will add park amenities and restore fish habitat in Pressentin Park. The Skagit County Parks Department invites you to provide input that will help guide this project.

60155 State Route 20
Marblemount, WA 98267
For details visit
www.skagitfisheries.org

Sixth grade recognition ceremony

June 13 was a special day for sixth graders at Concrete Elementary School. A special ceremony was held to deliver awards in recognition of their various efforts. These pages tell the story in pictures.



Certificates for Perfect Attendance during the second semester were awarded to these three chaps. From left, Vincent Preis, Jonathan Stewart, and JJ DeVries.



JJ DeVries received an additional certificate for Perfect Attendance during the entire school year. He was the only student this year to earn this award.



These students were recognized for their efforts as Conflict Managers ...



... and these for their service as crossing guards during the school year.



These rock stars received recognition for two categories. From left, Levi Newman and Alejandra Peterson earned "Most Improved" certificates. Colby Whitford and Devon Howard received attendance awards.



More awards! From left, Anja Roozen, Academic Award; Carlen Herz and Christian Joens, Most Inspirational Leadership; Robert Rushin and Mariah Ortiz, Music Award.



A separate recognition ceremony for participants in the Varsity in Volunteerism and Concrete Prevention Posse was held on May 31. Taking home certificates that night were, back row from left, Natalie Danielson, Skyler Burrece, Tyler Wasson. Front row from left, Keighley Mitchell, Kadden Fox, Tavish Beals, Coach Chris Kennedy.



These young Prevention Posse members were each awarded a certificate of participation on May 31. Back row from left, Gary Mitchell, Sam Mitchell, Michelle Samuels, Rachel Ulchak, Leona Martinez. Front row from left, Anna Spangler, Raylee Ward, Autumn Neece, Mariah LaBounty, Coach Chris Kennedy.

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

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Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

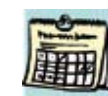
This Kinsey photo depicts logging operations during the early years of Puget Sound Pulp and Timber Company (PSPTC). PSPTC purchased the holdings of Clear Lake Lumber Company (sawmill, shingle mill, 25 miles of railroad, and logging equipment) from receivers Bank of California, in late 1928. Repairs began in the summer of 1929.

Operation of the logging camp was at Finney Creek; the mill began operation in early 1930. Operations continued, but by 1935 the Clear Lake sawmill was shut down completely and was dismantled by 1938. The shingle mill was also sold that year for \$18,000. *Photo courtesy of Clear Lake Historical Association.*

If you have old photos of Clear Lake and/or

Day Creek, please contact historian Deanna Ammons at 360.856.6798.

—Deanna Ammons, historian



Community Calendar



JULY

- 7 Concrete Youth Activity Day, Veterans Memorial Park, 12:30 to 4 p.m.; free admission; see ad, p. 3 and notice, p. 6
- 7 Community Meeting: "Loss of Property and Water Rights in Skagit County," Concrete High School Commons, 7830 S. Superior Ave., Concrete, 6 to 8 p.m.; info at 425.350.0217 or 360.899.5656
- 9 Concrete Heritage Museum Bake Sale at Concrete Saturday Market, 9 a.m. till sold out
- 9 Sedro-Woolley Alumni and Schools Foundation All-Class Picnic, Riverfront Park, Sedro-Woolley; see notice, p. 16; info at www.swhsalumni.blogspot.com
- 10 Marblemount Community Market, Marblemount Community Hall, noon to 4 p.m.; see notice, p. 26
- 15–17 40th Annual Darrington Bluegrass Festival, Darrington Bluegrass Music Park, 42501 SR 530 NE, Darrington, from 6 p.m. on July 15 to 7:30 p.m. on July 17; info and tickets at www.darringtonbluegrass.com
- 17 North Cascades Institute 30th Anniversary Picnic, Environmental Learning Center (SR 20 milepost 127.5), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; free admission; see ad, p. 9 and article, p. 27
- 18 Community "Have Your Say Cafe," Concrete Center, 4 to 6 p.m.; register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HYSC2016>
- 22 Comedy Musician Alex Zerbe performs at Upper Skagit Library, Concrete, 11 a.m.; open to public, free admission; info at www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us
- 23 Birdstock at Birdview Brewing Co., noon to 9 p.m., \$5 cover; fundraiser to benefit Birdview Volunteer Fire Dept.; see notice, p. 22
- 23 Rock the Park, Old School Park, Darrington, 6:30 p.m.; see notice, p. 25
- 22–24 North Cascades Vintage Aircraft Fly-In, Mears Field, Concrete; see ad, p. 4, and notice, p. 6
- 23 PSE Tours, buses load at Concrete schools (east end), buses depart at 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30 a.m., and 1 p.m.; see ad, p. 2
- 23 Discovery Garden 20th Birthday Party, 16650 WA 536, Mount Vernon, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; free admission; see article, p. 35
- 25–29 National Field Archery Assn Outdoor Field Championships, 312 Sauk Ave., Darrington; see notice, p. 25
- 27 Community Meeting regarding fish habitat restoration in Pressentin Park, Marblemount Community Hall; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- 28–30 Strutzfest, Darrington Music Park; see notice, p. 25
- 30 Free presentation regarding evaluating paranormal activity, Healing Wind Massage, Darrington; see notice, p. 25; info at 360.464.0714

AUGUST

- 5–7 Rockport Volunteer Fire Dept. Yard Sale, Rockport Fire Hall, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. all three days; to donate, call 360.708.8594
- 6 Heart to Heart Charity Poker Run begins at Skagit River Produce, 19193 SR 534, Mount Vernon; registration at 11 a.m., first out at 11:30 a.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 13 Lyman Hamilton School Reunion and potluck lunch, Lyman City Park, Lyman, noon start; info at 360.826.3160, 360.659.9848, or rabb@comcast.net

20–21 Cascade Days, Concrete; info at www.cascadedays.com

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

Community meetings

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Concrete Heritage Museum Board will meet July 20 and Aug. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Concrete Center, due to Museum renovations. Meetings are open to the public. 360.826.3075 or concreteheritagemuseum@gmail.com.

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

Concrete Resource Coalition meets the third Thur. of each month, at 1 p.m., at the Concrete School District offices (usually in the north room at the eastern end of the building).

Concrete School District Board will hold its next work session on July 25, at 6 p.m. in the high school Commons. The board will hold its regular monthly meeting on July 28 at 6 p.m., in the high school Commons. 360.853.8141.

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

Darrington Strong meets the third Wed. of each month, 7 p.m., at Cascade Senior Center, 1115 Darrington St., Darrington. 360.436.2167.

Darrington Town Council meets the second Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. at Town Hall, 1005 Cascade St. 360.436.1131 or

darrcityhall@frontier.com.

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

Hamilton Town Council meets the second Tue. of each month at Town Hall, 584 Maple St., Hamilton, at 7 p.m. 360.826.3027.

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

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

Lyman Town Council meets the second Tue. of each month at Lyman Town Hall (Minkler Mansion), 8405 S. Main St., Lyman, at 7 p.m. 360.826.3033 or clerk_lyman@msn.com.

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

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

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

Saukrates Cafe meets the last Wed. of each month at Annie's Pizza Station in Concrete, at 6 p.m. Conversation topics are posted at Upper Skagit Library and <http://saukratescafe.wordpress.com>.

Sedro-Woolley Town Council meets the second and fourth Wed. of each month, at 7 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 325 Metcalf St. 360.855.1661.

Sedro-Woolley School District Board will hold a regular meeting on July 11 at 7 p.m. at the Support Services Bldg. 360.855.3500 or kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us.

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

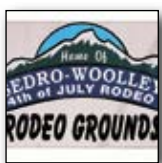
Upper Skagit Library District (USLD) Board meets the second Thurs. of each month at 5 p.m., at the library. Public is welcome. 360.853.7939 or info@upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

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

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



Sedro-Woolley



Northern State Hospital exhibit opens

The Sedro-Woolley Museum announces "Northern State Hospital: Dignity and Tragedy," a featured exhibit running through Sept. 30. The exhibit opened on July 1.

From its inception in 1909 as a farm extension of Western State Hospital to its tragic closing in 1973, Northern State Hospital provided vital services to thousands of individuals struggling with mental illness, and served as a major employer in our region.

The exhibit brings together artifacts from Northern State, a historical timeline, newspaper clippings, memories from the community, and historic photographs. An

open house for the exhibit will be hosted at the museum on Sat., July 16, from 1 to 3:30 p.m., with a program at 2 p.m. featuring a slide show prepared by Mary McGoffin, author of the book *Under the Red Roof*, and a presentation by Barbara Ward Thompson, longtime Sedro-Woolley resident who began working at NSH in 1941. There also will be time for guests to share their memories.

The Sedro-Woolley Museum regrets to announce that the St. James Episcopal Church exhibit scheduled to open in October will be postponed until next year.

—Carolyn Freeman

McLennan steps down as Loggerodeo president

Outgoing chief sounds note of concern for event.

With this year's Loggerodeo celebration in the books, Sedro-Woolley maintains its bragging rights for hosting the longest ongoing July 4 celebration in Washington. The popular event began in 1886 and has been drawing crowds ever since with a lineup of activities that reflect the traditions and culture of the city.

Loggerodeo President Jeanne McLennan, who will hang up her spurs after helping to find her replacement, said that tradition is what gives Loggerodeo its staying power.

"I want to make sure this event goes on in the tradition we expect, and the quality stays where we want to keep it, because

that's most important," she said.

McLennan has served as the event's president for 10 years, following in her parents' footsteps, who both spent time in the president's chair. In the 1970s, her father built the hamburger stand that today is used by the Beta Sigma Phi women.

During the 10 years McLennan was president, the event and the politics surrounding it have evolved, said McLennan.

"Back then, you planned the event and you took in applications," she said. "Now you have to be more efficient to try to accommodate people's needs, which takes more work, time, and thought. It takes

more work to make sure we keep the event family friendly and professional. We try to treat everyone in a professional manner, thoughtfully and respectfully. I've tried very hard to do that over the years."

Loggerodeo is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and the people running the show are all volunteers, including McLennan, who noted that as donations dropped during the past decade, it got more difficult for the Loggerodeo board members and other volunteers to do their jobs.

"This community runs on donations," said McLennan. "We need to better educate our community members about how much work this is and how much money it costs to host it."

This year, Loggerodeo needed about \$88,000 to deliver the expected lineup of activities, most of which are free.

"Last year, we actually found ourselves discussing dropping the chainsaw carving, because that's the most expensive event," said McLennan.

But even with dwindling funds, this year's event was a success, said McLennan. "It draws people from all over. We had a map up with pins for people to place on their hometowns, and I was so happy to see so many pins from all over."

McLennan's decision to step down is a bittersweet one. After losing her mother last year, she decided she couldn't put 100



McLennan

percent into the effort. "And if I can't do that, I shouldn't be doing it," she said. "It's very hard, but it's time to move on."

McLennan's replacement hasn't been chosen yet. That process should begin soon. To donate to Loggerodeo, send a check payable to Loggerodeo to P.O. Box 712, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

—J. K. M.

Briefly ...

The **Sedro-Woolley Alumni and Schools Foundation** will hold its annual All-Class Picnic on Sat., July 9, at Riverfront Park in Sedro-Woolley.

One of the most popular local events, the picnic typically hosts 500 Cubs alumni for a catered picnic lunch and fundraising for the annual scholarship and classroom grants programs.

To reserve a spot, mail \$15 per person (pre-July 1 price) to Sedro-Woolley Alumni, P.O. Box 509, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

For more information, go to www.swhsalumni.blogspot.com or find the foundation on Facebook.

—J. K. M.



A young contender shows her mastery of the hula hoop during Blast from the Past on June 4.



Country Meadow Village was the winner of the Woolley Fiber Quilters' "Blast of Baskets" raffle quilt on June 4. Gary Westman of Anacortes drew the winning ticket from the 1,000 sold. CMV Program Director, David Bricka said that they were "thrilled to win it" and that the quilt would be displayed in the TV room for all to enjoy. *Submitted photo.*

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Lyman



Day Creek



Above: Graduating seniors from Sedro-Woolley High School walked through the halls of Lyman Elementary School June 10, receiving congratulations from their younger fellow students. The "Parade of Graduates" is becoming a tradition in U.S. schools; administrators see it as a good way to help their young charges maintain long-term focus on their studies.

Above right and right: Bicyclists Ed West and Darwin "Zig" Zelmer stopped at Lyman Elementary on May 31 to say hi to students and talk about the incredible journey they had begun just that morning in Anacortes. With Zelmer riding a standard bicycle and West on a recumbent bike, the pair were on their way to Bar Harbor, Maine. "Riding coast to coast has been on my bucket list for a number of years," wrote West on their appropriately named trip blog, www.crazyguyonabike.com. Submitted photos.



Community notes

Save these dates

Mark your calendar for the following events this year:

- July 19: Barbecue Potluck at Pulvers
- Nov. 15: Progressive Dinner

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

Friday night barrel racing

Join the fun of watching barrel racers on a summer Friday night along with enjoying a rodeo burger and visiting with friends.

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

July	8, 22
August	5, 19
September	9

Community Block Watch planned

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

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

Let's make Day Creek safe and watched.

Friendship House Helping Hand

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

If you are interested in being a helper, call Sue Walden at 360.391.1709.

Kingdom Builders

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

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

WOMEN HAND in hand

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

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

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

Day Creek Book Club

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

Garden Dirt

Get to know beneficial insects. Common garden insects crawl through the garden, eating soil-dwelling pests, such as cutworms, root maggots, and slug eggs. There are many different ground beetles.

Some other insects are in the ladybug family, like the lacewings, the minute pirate bug, spiders, syrphid fly, hover fly, and the glower fly.

Wasps, hornets, and yellow jackets (though they do sting) are welcome in the garden. If you do not know much about these, search Google and you will find lots of info and photos.

Also good to know are the poison plants that can be found in your gardens, parks, trails, and your neighbors' yard. Some that come to mind are Bitter Nightshade, Buttercup, Lily of the Valley, Ragweed, Rhubarb leaves, Poison Ivy, Poison Oak, Poison Sumac, and Chrysanthemums.

It is important to familiarize yourself with these, knowing they can cause harmful effects if eaten, brushed against, or even inhaled.

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

—Compiled by Kathy Henderson

2016 Community Potluck dates

July 19, 6:30 p.m.
August 16, 6:30 p.m.
September 20, 6:30 p.m.
October 18, 6:30 p.m.
November 15, 6:30 p.m.
December 20, 6:30 p.m.

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June in pictures



Above: Michael Bartel, 9, performs a duet with his piano teacher Shirley Shepard during a recital for Shepard's students at Community Bible Church in Concrete June 26. Also demonstrating their musical progress that day were sisters Izzy and Zoya, Nolan Goett, Charlie Bartel, Iona Werda, Bethany Werda, and Lauren Goett.



Above: Traveler Keith Fair (facing camera) gets a little help loading one of his carts from Todd Snavelly and Sgt. Chris Kading along SR 20 in Concrete last month. Snavelly was about to help Fair leapfrog his way west after Fair had spent the last several weeks crossing the pass and slowly making his way through the Upper Valley communities. Fair's next stop was Burlington; Facebook chatter put in him Arlington shortly after that.



Above: Lane Lloyd, 10, with his mom, Darcie Lloyd, ponder a question after being chosen to play Triple Play Trivia during the Seattle Mariners' June 11 home game against the Texas Rangers. The pair had 90 seconds to run the bases and answer a trivia question at each one. They did it, and took home four free tickets for their efforts. *Submitted photo.*



Above: Bianchi Construction workers pour a new cement sidewalk along Superior Ave. N. at the west edge of Silo Park in Concrete. The sidewalk borders the new Park and Ride that is being built there; construction on the project should be complete by mid-July.

Right: Siblings Katie and Christian Joens perform "12th Street Rag" together during the Concrete Music Dept. spring concert, "Dancing Into Summer" on June 2.



Above: Concrete 7th and 8th graders paused for a group photo after a fun and educational outing aboard "Adventress," a 1913 schooner owned and operated by Sound Experience. The students spent several hours sailing on open water and learning from crew members all manner of marine topics, from the tiniest plankton to the effects of climate change, and from reading charts to identifying sea creatures. Learn more about their adventure on pages 10-11 of this issue.




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Hamilton



Rockport



Council summary

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

- Mayor Cromley talked about the issue with the Slipper House roof and that repairs are needed.
- Mayor Cromley updated council regarding the sign ordinance and the Carey Slough Plan.
- Water Dept.: Cas Hancock announced that the town was at a 4 percent

unaccounted-for water loss. The mitigation well is on and will run from May to October.

- Fire Dept.: Mayor Comley reported on the new office equipment. Council member Bates informed the council that the church called to let him know that the Fire Hall door was left open.
- Street Dept.: The maintenance crew has been doing a significant amount of mowing. The railing for Town Hall is looking good and the cash box has been redone.

—Compiled from staff minutes

Birdsview Buzz

Happy July and welcome to summer! Happy birthday to those I missed last month:

2 Short Hurn

- 21 Favorite oldest grandson, Julian Voigt
- 24 Favorite oldest daughter, Saramera Voigt

July birthdays

- 6 Lou Daley
- 13 Favorite youngest daughter and brewmaster Julie Voigt
- 17 Happy 10 years to us. Birdsview Brewing Company
- 31 Jim Havens

On July 13 we'll be on the Boundary Bay brew cruise with Boundary and another brewery.

July 23 is Birdstock! It's early this year; we're combining it with our anniversary. But as usual, it's noon to 9 p.m., and there's a \$5 cover per person.

We have a great line-up, including Whiskey Fever, Barefeet, and Fanny Alger. We don't allow outside food or drinks, including water and picnic lunches, because this is a fundraiser for the Birdsview Fire Dept. They sell food and drinks; we sell beer and have free water available at all times. Leave your dogs at home as well; they're not allowed on the grounds and you can't leave them in your car. We don't allow camping or overnight parking either, and we'll be patrolling the parking lot for these or any other illegal or unwanted behavior.

We still have a few openings for ID checkers. Contact us if interested. We will also be introducing our 10-year beer. We will have limited Birdstock shirts for sale. Let's make it the best one yet.

—Kris Voigt

From the Mayor

Lately there seems to be some confusion over where town limits are. If you pay the Town of Hamilton for water (with one or two exceptions), you are within town limits. An easy way to check is the Skagit County Web site (www.skagitcounty.net). They have a nice section called Property One Stop where you can look up property by name, address, or parcel number. If you know you are within town limits and the jurisdiction doesn't say "Hamilton," please let me know and I'll call the Assessor's Office for you.

I know we enjoy a fairly rural way

of life here, but Hamilton is NOT unincorporated Skagit County! Fires should be used for food, warmth, or ceremony only, and may be banned entirely during dry weather. Dogs should be contained on your property, or on a leash with a responsible person if they leave it. If you are doing anything on your property that involves building, digging, or cutting trees, please call Jim Sherwood at the Burlington Planning Dept 360.755.0077 to check if you need a permit. We are required to follow the rules from a wide range of federal and state agencies, along with Skagit County Code and Hamilton Ordinances.

As the Bangor, Maine Police Department says, "Keep your hands (and your pets) to yourself, leave other people's things alone, and be kind to one another."

—Mayor Joan Cromley



Schwartz named EMS Provider of the Year

Rockport volunteer firefighter and EMS provider Anne Schwartz and a field of her colleagues were named EMS Providers of the Year for their individual districts by Skagit County Medic 1 during a special ceremony May 17 in the Commissioners Hearing Room in Mount Vernon.

Mike Hockett from Concrete won for Med 7.

All recipients received a certificate with that included a proclamation stating "In recognition of dedicated emergency medical service and outstanding contribution to the residents and visitors of Skagit County."

—J. K. M.

Right: Rockport firefighter Anne Schwartz (fifth from right) stands with fellow honorees during the award ceremony. Submitted photo.

Rockport Volunteer Fire Dept.

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New horse camp opens in Rockport

Sauk River Farm Horse Campground is now open. The site offers riding trails, river access, and a primitive RV campground.

"Our goal is to provide a wilderness backcountry camping and riding experience for all levels of riders," said Doreen Goodman, who owns the campground with her husband, Mike Goodman. "With both creek and river access, this is a great location to teach and improve your aquatic skills."

The campground is located one mile south of Howard Miller Steelhead Park, on SR 530. The creekside campground has 18 primitive RV sites, steel firepits, picnic tables, a horseshoe pit, and a swimming hole. Permanent highline tethers are rigged for safe overnight tethering of horses. Stock water and firewood are provided for campers.

"Our unique location provides unlimited riding possibilities, with miles of river bank, beaches, and gravel bars to explore

in a pristine wilderness environment," said Goodman.

From the campground, a 2.5-mile river loop trail winds through dense stands of second-growth forest. The dense forest canopy provides a cool, shady ride out to Sunset Beach Picnic Area on the Wild and Scenic Sauk River. Once there, guests find a beautiful sandy beach and unlimited riding opportunities along the river.

The picnic area has firepits and a grill, camp chairs, and basic barbecue tools.

The campground provides day use and overnight camping, and private parties where guests can rent the entire campground, shutting the gate for complete privacy. This makes the destination perfect for clubs, anniversaries, weddings, or any other special event.

Sauk River Farm requires reservations. For more information, contact the Goodmans at 360.853.8720 or saukriverfarms@frontier.com.



Rockport resident Anne Schwartz takes in the beauty of Sauk River Farm during a recent horseback ride. The new horse campground offers riding trails, river access, and a primitive RV campground. Submitted photo.



Darrington



Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

June 5

At approximately 3:47 p.m., an ultralight aircraft piloted by a 38-year-old Snohomish male encountered engine problems. The pilot made a landing in a grassy area west of Harvey airfield near Snohomish.

The landing was without incident until the aircraft hit the tall grass in the field, where the pilot lost control of the aircraft. The pilot is not injured. NTSB and FAA will not be investigating. The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office will complete an investigation.

June 14

Detectives with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office arrested the parents of murder suspect John Reed for rendering criminal assistance in the first degree. Both 81-year-old Clyde Reed and 77-year-old Faye Reed were taken into custody today at their Ellensburg residence at the 600 block of E Tacoma Ave. without incident. Detectives also served a search warrant for the property where they were arrested. Clyde and Faye Reed were booked into the Snohomish County Jail.

In previous interviews for the murder investigation, both suspects admitted to detectives that they provided a vehicle to John and his brother, Tony Reed, to flee the area. They also admitted to transferring the title from John's truck—believed to have been used in the murders—to Faye. They also admitted to having provided financial assistance to John and Tony.

The Sheriff's Office anticipates more arrests of various acquaintances of John Reed who have also allegedly rendered additional criminal assistance.

"We absolutely will arrest anyone who has helped a murderer escape justice," said Sheriff Ty Trenary.

Snohomish County Sheriff's Office detectives are still looking for murder suspect John Reed, who is believed to be in the Tijuana, Rosarita, or Ensenada areas of Mexico. The U.S. Marshals Service is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to his capture and arrest. Two charges of first-degree homicide have been filed against Reed for the execution-style murder of 45-year-old Patrick



John Reed

Shunn and his wife, 46-year-old Monique Patenaude.

John Reed is 5'08" and 190 lbs., with hazel eyes and gray hair, and is believed to be driving a 2002 Gold Acura 3.2 TL (Arizona plates BNN-9968). He is believed to be armed and dangerous.

John's brother, Tony Reed, who is also charged with the murder of Shunn and Patenaude, was taken into custody on May 16 at the U.S./Mexico border. He was transported and booked into the Snohomish County Jail on May 21. Reed helped Sheriff's Office detectives locate the gravesite of Shunn and Patenaude, who were both shot to death.

Also on June 14, the Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney's Office dropped the two charges of 1st degree murder against Tony Clyde Reed. Reed is now charged with rendering criminal assistance in the 1st degree.

The two 1st degree murder charges against John Blaine Reed still stand. Anyone with information about the whereabouts of John Reed should call the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office anonymous tipline at 425.388.3845.

June 30

With help from tips that came in from the public and dental records, major crimes detectives with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office were able to positively identify a woman recovered from the Snohomish River on June 26.

Afton M. Brown had last been seen in the Skykomish area and reported missing to the King County Sheriff's Office. The cause and manner of death of the 35-year-old transient woman is still pending from the Snohomish County Medical Examiner. However, there is no obvious sign of trauma or foul play, and detectives do not believe her death is suspicious.

Brown was recovered from a snag in the river near the 14110 block of Shorts School Rd. on June 26.



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July calendar

Darrington Bluegrass Festival, July 15–17

The popular festival returns for its 40th year from July 9–10. Head to the Darrington Bluegrass Music Park, 42793 SR 530 NE, just west of Darrington.

This year's lineup includes Balsam Range, Mountain Faith, Wayne Taylor & Appaloosa, Seattle-based The Combinations, and several more.

For more information, including tickets and camping options, go to www.darringtonbluegrass.com.

Rock the Park, July 23

Rock the Park returns to Old School Park on Sat., July 23 at 6:30 p.m. Look for Givens Ave. and Riddle St. to find the popular music of The Fabulous Kingpins. Northwest Bloodhound Search and Rescue (NBSR) will be there as special guests. The concert this year is dedicated to NBSR and its amazing work in the Northwest. Trainers will show folks how these dogs can work a trail and find the target during the Kingpins break.

Sponsored by Whitehorse Market.

NFAA Outdoor Field Championships, July 25–29

The National Field Archery Association brings its annual outdoor field championship bouts to Darrington for another year. Go to 312 Sauk Ave. to catch the action.

The tournament features two alternating field and hunter rounds and a single animal round. Junior and Amateur divisions must shoot at least one of each round, but may shoot any combination of the five days. The schedule for amateur and junior divisions as of July 3 was Monday: Field, Tuesday: Hunter, Wednesday: Field, Thursday: Hunter, and Friday: Animal. Professional divisions

will shoot Wednesday through Friday. Register prior to July 12 to avoid a \$50 late fee.

For more information, go to <https://www.nfaausa.com/tournament/outdoor-field-nationals>.

Strutzfest, July 28–30

StrutzFest 2016 is slated for July 28–30 at Darrington Music Park, just west of Darrington on SR 530. Ticket sales began on April 2.

The revived StrutzFest kicks off at 7 p.m. on Thur., July 28, with a performance by the winner of the KISM-sponsored "Road to Rockstar" competition, followed at 9 p.m. by Whiskey River.

On July 29 the music starts with Flightline, followed by The Davanos, The Joe Slick Band, Strutz, and Heart By Heart.

The final day of StrutzFest has The Michelle Taylor Band on the stage at noon, followed by El Loco, Blue Tattoo, The Led Zeppelin Experience (previously No Quarter), and Spike & the Impalers closing out the event.

A weekend pass includes early entry on Thursday for \$70. Day passes are \$50. A camping pass is available for \$40 (four people, one vehicle maximum per site).

For more information, go to www.strutzfest.com.

July 30

A FREE presentation will focus on helping people to evaluate paranormal and spirit related activity. Presented by Washington State Ghost Society Paranormal Investigator & Medium, Carol Geiler.

Event begins at 11 a.m. Limited seating. Sign up at <https://www.carolgeiler.com/shop> or www.healingwindmassage.com. Location: Healing Wind Massage/MFR Therapy, 1140 Seeman St., Darrington.

For more information, call 360.464.0714.

—J. K. M.

Rodeo, SpurFest are music to Darrington ears



Clockwise from top: A bull rider goes airborne during the Timberbowl Rodeo on June 25. Loretta Lynn's granddaughter, Tayla Lynn, cranks it up at SpurFest on June 25. Zadin Forbes, 4, tries the mechanical bull near the SpurFest stage. Little racers straddle stick horses and sprint for the finish line during a break in the Timberbowl Rodeo action.



Council summary

Darrington Town Council met for a regular meeting on May 11. The following is a summary of that meeting. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at Darrington Town Hall.

May 11 regular meeting

- Guest speaker Rhonda Metcalf introduced herself and passed out literature. She is running as a Democrat for the 39th State Representative seat 39 formerly held by Elizabeth Scott. A former tribal leader in the Sauk Suiattle Tribe, Metcalf will run her campaign from Darrington. Metcalf stated her specific issues will be education and transportation, and answered several other questions from community members and council members.
- A T-Mobile cell tower update included discussion regarding the need to rezone the land on which the tower is to be located, an alternative location, and the precise location of the cell tower on Sauk-Suiattle tribal land.
- Bill and Gladys Shanahan accepted the position of Grand Marshal for the 2016 July 4 parade.
- Flag poles and flags were received for the cemetery, and will be installed before Memorial Day weekend.
- Well pump No. 1 is being replaced, and should be complete by the end of May.
- A Darrington Town Council special meeting/dinner with Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe Council was planned for May 31 at 6 p.m. The gathering is intended to be informal; the dinner was to be provided at the Sauk Suiattle Tribe Council Chambers. The dinner may be limited to the Town Council and Sauk Tribal Council.
- Council deliberated requests that the library shut off its Wi-Fi during evening and overnight hours. Discussion included loitering at the library, police coverage in the event of illegal activity, and proper reporting of illegal activity. Council decided to leave the Wi-Fi on.



Marblemount



Newhalem



Community Market continues in July

By Christie Fairchild

Marblemount Community Market had a successful (and sunny) first event on June 12; the next one, Sun. July, 10 from noon to 4 p.m., is just around the corner.

July's market will feature live music with Dennis Dorgan and Friends, as well as baked goods from KSVU volunteers, besides the normal offerings of local, organic produce, fresh fruit, and handmade arts and crafts.

Anyone wishing to be a vendor should complete in advance the application at www.marblemountcommunityhall.org/ events, or there are hard copies in the mailbox at the Marblemount Community Hall's front door.

For more information, call 360.853.8388.



Top: Cherie Donovan-Smith of Rockport displays her greeting card artwork at the Marblemount Community Market on opening day, June 12. She also offered nuno felt (felted wool and silk), felted rocks, and jewelry.

Above: Teresa Wilde of Rockport had a nice selection of produce for sale at the market, but paused for a photo with one of her "buggy" stained glass creations.

The good news is ...

By Sasa and Starwalker

I often say, "It's not so much the 'what,' but how the 'what' is utilized." In other words, it is how we go about things that matters.

Coffee grounds, for example, are often thrown away after brewing a nice cup of joe. But did you know that you can do a great number of things to increase the life and the benefits of coffee grounds? We can put it into the compost or directly sow it into the earth around plants to give them a boost. You also can utilize them as a skin exfoliant or a hand cleaner after cutting onions or dabbling in smelly stuff. It can be used as a natural pest control for ants and slugs without killing anything. Put it in your fridge to get rid of stale or rotten smells. Put it in a container to refresh the air after cooking. It is also a natural stain for wood, concrete, and art projects.

Here's a body scrub recipe from www.hometalk.com as well as Compost Tea from www.worldgardenfarms.com.

Coconut Coffee Scrub

Ingredients:

Coffee grounds: approximately 1/4 cup; store in a container and stir a few times a day to promote drying.

1/2 cup softened coconut oil.

Put the two ingredients together and stir often as it re-solidifies depending on where you place it.

Put it in the fridge and stir often for a few hours until firmed up.

Store in a glass container like a wide mouth Mason jar with a little scoop, and store in refrigerator until needed.

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

Read
Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley Photo courtesy of North Cascades Institute.

North Cascades Institute celebrates 30 years

By Christian Martin and Jason Miller

When Saul Weisberg and his climbing buddy Tom Fleischner created a conservation nonprofit in the mid-1980s, they consulted the *I Ching* for advice.

They were wondering how to make a livelihood from the things that they valued most: exploring the North Cascades, studying the region's natural history, and working toward conservation of its wild beauty. The ancient Chinese oracle gave them a two-word reply: "Perseverance Furthers."

Reflecting upon his 30 years of tenure as the executive director of the North Cascades Institute, alongside his work as a ranger, author, naturalist, and educator, Weisberg realizes that the forecast was right on the mark.

"We didn't know what the heck that meant at the time," Weisberg recalled, "but we do now: Stay the course!"

Conversing around campfires all those years ago, Weisberg and his friends—rangers, climbers, and biologists—hatched a plan. They founded North Cascades Institute in 1986 with the goals of sharing

the natural wonders of the North Cascades with others and using education as a tool for protecting this place they loved.

They were encouraged in the beginning by North Cascades National Park Superintendent John Reynolds and Wilderness District Ranger Bill Lester. The national park remains a key partner in the Institute's mission to "conserve and restore Northwest environments through education."

Thirty years of "staying the course" has paid off.

Today, in the middle of the 13-million-acre ecosystem (7 million acres of which are protected as public lands on both sides of the international border), the Institute operates the North Cascades Environmental Learning Center, a campus on the shores of Diablo Lake.

The Institute also offers dozens of classes and field excursions to the public, exploring ecology, art, writing, and recreation, family getaways, conferences and retreats, walking tours, and boat tours on Diablo Lake.

"Our work is getting people outdoors learning and exploring in small groups," explained Weisberg. "It's our belief that having firsthand experiences in the wild—whether it is canoeing, birding, doing watercolors, hiking, or writing poetry—will lead to a profound connection to place."

"And from the connection grows care, and a desire to look after these precious places the Pacific Northwest is so abundant in."

Key to the Institute's success has been deepening its impact and reach by working with many different partners: the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Seattle City Light, Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission, and Western Washington University, to name a few.

The Institute also recently received crucial support by way of Washington state's "Leave No Child Inside" initiative, being one of 19 organizations across the state awarded funding to connect at-risk youth with outdoor education and recreation experiences.

While the founding of North Cascades Institute 30 years ago and its impressive evolution are cause to pause for congratulations, Weisberg is already thinking ahead to the future.

"In the beginning, sitting around those campfires, we joked that the mission of North Cascades Institute was to save the world," says Weisberg. "Well, now I'm serious. If you're going to have a mission, it's got to inspire you. What's next?"

Close to home

Weisberg's world view plays well at home, where North Cascades Institute affects the lives of local students consistently.

Last month, 10 students and two adults from Concrete joined 68 leaders from around the Northwest Region



Kids love learning about nature in North Cascades Institute's Family Getaways at the Learning Center on Diablo Lake. Photo by Nick Mikula.

North Cascades Institute 30th Anniversary Picnic

Where: North Cascades Environmental Learning Center on Diablo Lake, SR 20 milepost 127.5

When: Sunday, July 17
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cost: FREE

More: ncascades.org/picnic
Arrive early to sign up for activities

See NCI, p. 38

Community Meeting
Marblemount Community Hall

Wednesday, July 27th
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Skagit County Parks and Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group are working on a plan that will add park amenities and restore fish habitat in Pressentin Park. The Skagit County Parks Department invites you to provide input that will help guide this project.

60155 State Route 20
Marblemount, WA 98267

For details visit
www.skagitfisheries.org



Coffee Break

Seniors and art

By Patrick M. Kennedy

Art programs for seniors have great value, both to the individuals involved and to society as a whole. Older adults are creators, mentors, teachers, tutors, and advisors, sharing the wisdom that they have gained through experience and understanding. As character models, they show us how to age creatively by sharing their unique perspectives on life, and teach younger people what it is like to grow older.

Art for seniors can start with a brush and a tube of oil paint or a palette of water colors, and a clean piece of white paper or cardboard, or even canvas stretched over a wooden frame. Or it can start with a hammer, some chisels, and a piece of wood or stone. Or a hammer or two and a sheet of metal: tin, copper, or aluminum. And then shapes come to mind. Should it be an abstract of squares or a circle of circles or even a towering triangle reaching toward

some eyes in the sky? Or do you want to beat or brush out the image of a loved one? So many images are conjured from a mind of endless memories and experiences.

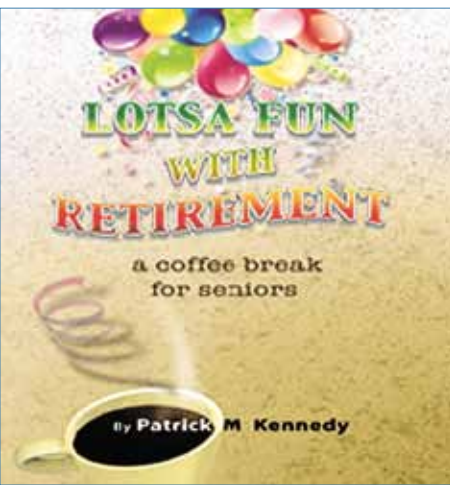
And then comes the choice; an artist or arts and crafts producer of arty/funny things that can hang on the wall or be placed on the fireplace mantle. Or a practical thing, like a drink coaster or two or a few, or a serving tray, some embroidered corner arm covers for the lounge chair in front of the TV.

Art for a senior can make products that will beautify, or at least make interesting, a boring old household for friends and visitors.

And then Hillary Rodham Clinton put in her opinion: "Some of our most powerful works of art have been produced by older Americans—by hands that have engaged in years of hard work, eyes that have witnessed decades of change, and hearts that have felt a lifetime of emotions. Our whole society benefits when older Americans use their talents and experiences to become involved in the arts as creators, teachers, mentors, volunteers, and audiences."

Or: "A work of art is above all an adventure of the mind." —Eugene Ionesco

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



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this newspaper



Seniors

Way Back When

79 years ago

July 8, 1937: Being lost in the Mount Baker National Forest for 22 hours, going without food for that time, and sleeping under a log during the night failed to daunt Colleen Ainworth, 11, and Billie Daniels, 10, who were found Tuesday afternoon none the worse for their experience.

The young girls were camping at Baker Lake with a party of relatives, and on Monday started off for a hike up the trail to the Baker lookout station. On the way back, they got off the trail and went in the opposite direction from the camp, finally becoming confused and completely lost. They were not missed until evening; when they did not return, a search party was organized.

70 years ago

July 18, 1946: Work on the new state fish hatchery in Marblemount was under way Tuesday of this week, as Roy N. Gaasland of Bellingham, the contractor who built the Marblemount school, began construction of the large project on the Cascade River.

Construction plans call for a main fish hatchery building 46 feet by 172 feet of rustic stone and timber construction, 20 cement rearing ponds, a large home for the caretaker, and other small buildings.

Also to be constructed are a low dam, a complete water system and pumping plant, a sewage system,

and other utility items. Four small bridges are to be built over the streams to be used in the hatchery's water supply.

60 years ago

July 19, 1956: Six men in a Jeep came within a few seconds of being smashed to a pulp Tuesday morning, when a falling snag caught the Jeep and its occupants above Marblemount as they were on their way to work.

Driver Ed Johnson and his passenger Ira Burrels, both of Granite Falls, were in the front seat and were hurt as the 70-foot-high snag broke loose from the side of the road and fell across the hood of the Jeep. Johnson was most seriously hurt, receiving a broken pelvis and other injuries as the log shoved the steering wheel into his hips. Burrels received a blow on the head, but was released after first aid.

The men secured help and were brought to Concrete, where Johnson was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

40 years ago

July 22, 1976: A change in policy concerning Baker Hot Springs near Baker Lake was announced this week at Baker River Ranger Station. The new policy now requires "suitable bathing attire" between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Notices of violation will be issued to unclothed bathers during those hours.

"For two years we have tried to let public courtesy prevail with regard to nude bathing in the springs," said Steve Morton, resource assistant. "It simply has not worked."

—Compiled from archives

Concrete Center

July 2016 Activities

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

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

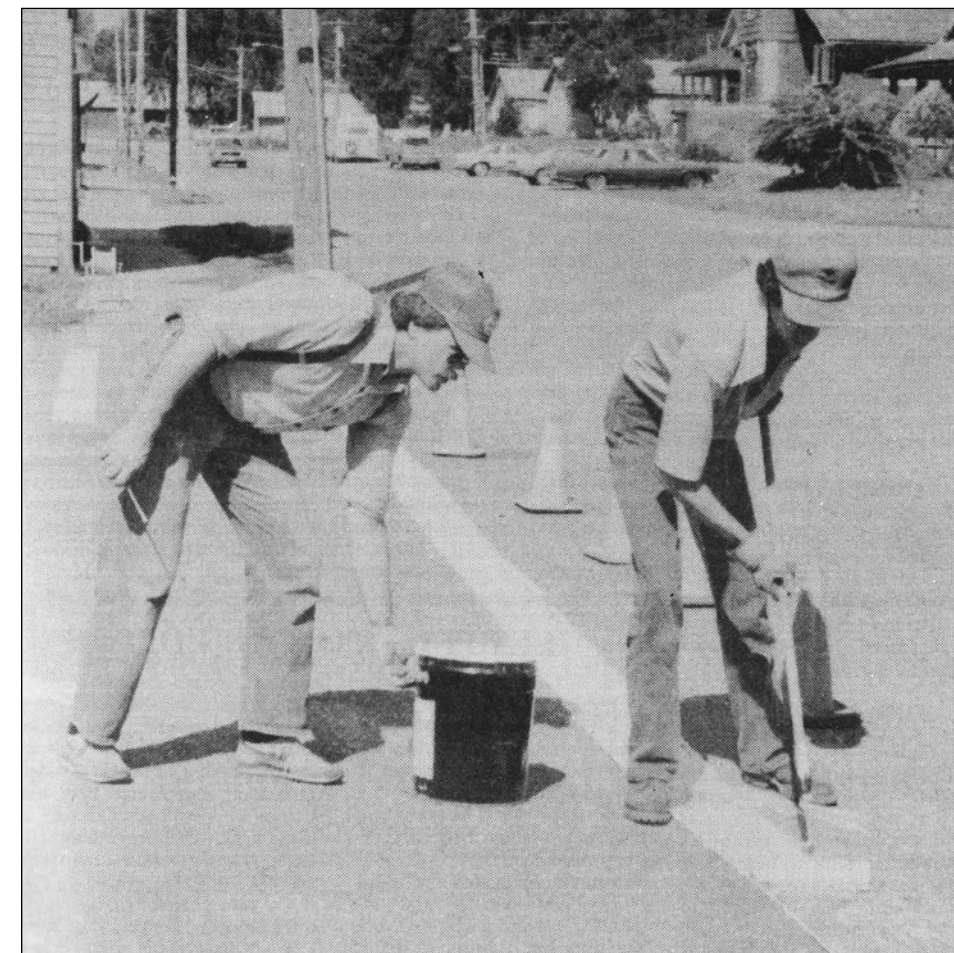
10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
10:30 a.m. Advisory Board mtg., 7/13
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo
12:30 p.m. Bingo, 7/13, 7/27

Thursdays

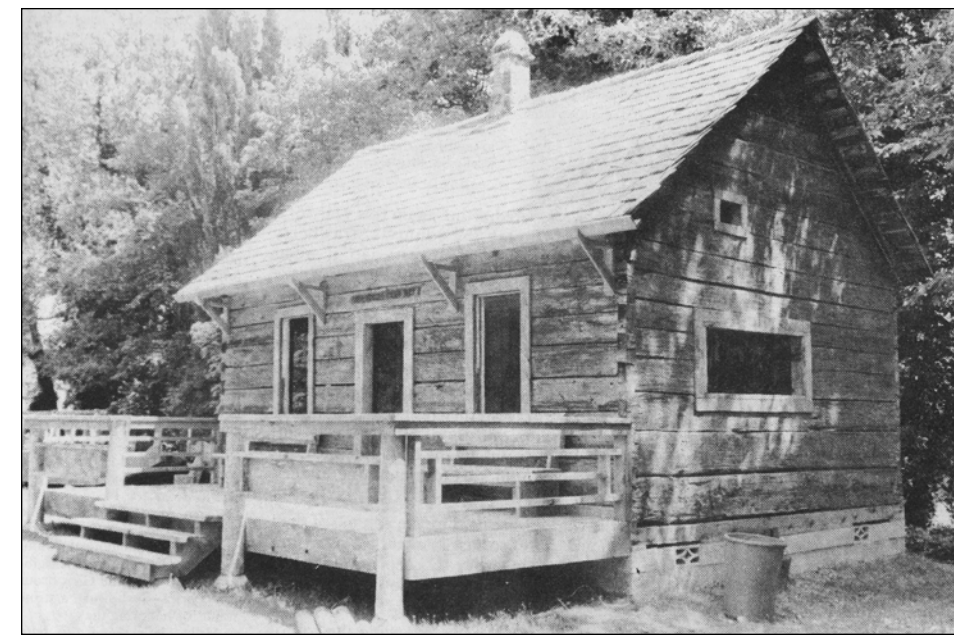
10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo
12:30 p.m. Pinochle, 7/7, 7/21

Fridays

10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Dominoes, Skip Bo
Noon Coffee with Commissioner Janicki, 7/8
1 p.m. Watercolor painting



Above: 30 years ago, July 24, 1986: Concrete maintenance crewmembers Alan Wilkins and Dave Herring, assisted by Chet Comstock, took advantage of a string of warm, sunny days to paint all the curbs, stop lines, crosswalks, center lines, parking lines, and assorted other traffic markings throughout town. Working with simple tools, the task took several days, but the weather cooperated beautifully. *Archive photo by Anne Bussiere.*



Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure



This is an easy recipe, plus it's healthy. Other vegetables may be used for more or different layers if desired. I also use more tomato soup to make the layers a bit more moist. Enjoy!

Seven-Layer Dinner

- 1.5 pounds ground beef, browned
- Onions, sliced—as many as you like
- 2 cups sliced carrots
- 2 sliced green peppers
- 2 cups sliced potatoes
- Half-cup Minute Rice (sprinkle over the top)
- 1 can tomato soup thinned with half can water

1. Layer all ingredients in the order given in a buttered baking dish.
2. Salt and pepper each layer to taste.
3. Use more tomato soup if needed to cover the top layer.
4. Bake at 300 degrees for one hour or until done.

Left: 30 years ago, July 17, 1986: After being moved to its current location at Howard Miller Steelhead Park in 1967, pioneer Thomas Porter's cabin looked better than ever after being restored in 1985–86. The historic structure received a new cedar roof, window frames, new foundation logs, and a new porch. *Archive photo by Anne Bussiere.*

Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Continue the cycle

Please recycle
this newspaper



VBS planned at Community Bible

Community Bible Church (CBC) of Concrete invites all Concrete children to “Cave Quest VBS: Following Jesus, the Light of the World!”

A summer kids’ event, Cave Quest Vacation Bible School will be hosted at the church from July 17–22. At Cave Quest, kids explore what it means to follow Jesus through dark times. Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and dig into yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of Jesus’ love, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they’ll take home and play with all summer long.

Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called “God Sightings.” Each day concludes with a Cave Quest Closing that gets everyone involved in living what they’ve learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at 8 p.m. Kids at Cave Quest VBS also will join a missions effort to repair homes for families in the United States.

Cave Quest is for kids from Pre K 4 to 12 year olds and will run from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. each day at the church, located at 45672 Limestone St., in Concrete. For more information, call 360.853.8511.

—Maureen Ford

Jehovah’s Witness Convention series continues at Tacoma Dome

The Jehovah’s Witnesses annual regional convention series at the Tacoma Dome, which began July 1–3, will continue on July 8–10 and 15–17.

This year’s focus, “Remain Loyal to Jehovah,” marks the 33rd time the regional convention will be held at the Tacoma Dome. More than 22,000 people from 175 congregations statewide are expected to attend. During the past three decades, almost one million have attended the Jehovah’s Witnesses Regional Conventions.

Convention hours are Fridays and Saturdays from 9:20 a.m. to 4:50 p.m., and Sundays from 9:20 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. The events are free and open to the public. No collection will be taken. The three-day programs feature presentations, video segments, short films, and music videos to explore the subject of loyalty in relationship with God, family, and Christian worship.

“We strongly believe that loyalty is an essential part of any healthy relationship,” said David A. Semonian at the Jehovah’s Witnesses world headquarters in Brooklyn, N.Y. “Our convention this year features content that will help people develop stronger bonds with friends, family members, and, above all, God.”

Sunday School lesson

Gracious uncertainty

By Oswald Chambers

Our natural inclination is to be so precise—trying always to forecast accurately what will happen next—that we look upon uncertainty as a bad thing. We think that we must reach some predetermined goal, but that is not the nature of the spiritual life. The nature of the spiritual life is that we are certain in our uncertainty. Consequently, we do not put down roots. Our common sense says, “Well, what if I were in that circumstance?” We cannot presume to see ourselves in any circumstance in which we have never been.

Certainty is the mark of the common sense life—gracious uncertainty is the mark of the spiritual life. To be certain of God means that we are uncertain in all our ways, not knowing what tomorrow may bring. This is generally expressed with a sigh of sadness, but it should be an expression of breathless expectation. We are uncertain of the next step, but we are certain of God. As soon as we

abandon ourselves to God and do the task He has placed closest to us, He begins to fill our lives with surprises. When we become simply a promoter or a defender of a particular belief, something within us dies. That is not believing God—it is only believing our belief about Him. Jesus said, “... unless you ... become as little children ...” (Matthew 18:3). The spiritual life is the life of a child. We are not uncertain of God, just uncertain of what He is going to do next. If our certainty is only in our beliefs, we develop a sense of self-righteousness, become overly critical, and are limited by the view that our beliefs are complete and settled. But when we have the right relationship with God, life is full of spontaneous, joyful uncertainty and expectancy. Jesus said, “... believe also in Me” (John 14:1), not, “Believe certain things about Me.” Leave everything to Him and it will be gloriously and graciously uncertain how He will come in—but you can be certain that He will come. Remain faithful to Him.

Oswald Chambers was an early 20th-century Scottish Baptist and Holiness Movement evangelist and teacher. “Gracious uncertainty” is excerpted from his book, My Utmost for His Highest.

Skagit County Sheriff’s Office

Blotter

June 8

Skagit County law enforcement made three arrests and confiscated suspected illegal drugs during two raids in east county communities.

A 60-year-old male was taken into custody at a residence on Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. near Concrete, according to Skagit County Sheriff’s Office Chief Deputy Chad Clark. The man was arrested on multiple drug charges, including suspected drug trafficking in an elementary school zone.

Concrete High School and elementary school were briefly placed on security lockdowns because of the schools’ proximity to the law enforcement operation, Clark said.

Two others were arrested on Cascade River Rd. in Marblemount. A 43-year-old male was arrested on several drug charges, including possession of heroin and

Level 1 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.

Philips, Vincent Allen

Age: 27
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 5’ 7”
Weight: 145
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown
Address: Transient
Philips was convicted of third-degree rape of a child in Whatcom County.



Philips 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

methamphetamine. A 46-year-old male also was arrested on several outstanding warrants.

The arrests were completed without incident, although the 43-year-old man was discovered hiding from deputies under the porch.

Deputies found and seized suspected methamphetamine and heroin at both locations, as well as several firearms at the Marblemount location.

The raids and preceding investigations were performed by the Skagit County Interlocal Drug Enforcement Unit and the Sheriff’s Office’s Proactive Unit. Officers also were assisted by a drug-detecting K9 unit from the Anacortes Police Department, along with agents from Department of Fish and Wildlife, Clark said.

June 14

A 47-year-old man may be facing charges for illegally entering a residence in Hamilton. Witnesses saw the man and his wife circling the block, then beating on the door asking for someone to come out of the empty house. When the deputy arrived, he spoke with the obviously drunk man and his wife. The man had apparently lived in the house years ago, but did not have permission to be there now. The house had been foreclosed upon; however, that doesn’t give the previous owner any right to enter the building. The man will be referred to the Prosecuting Attorney’s Office for residential burglary.

June 12

Deputies responded to a fight call at Boots Bar & Grill in Hamilton. A 47-year-old man reported being assaulted by a local resident. The resident was contacted and admitted he’d been involved, but it was after the man had pushed his wife down. Both subjects were slightly injured, and both may be facing charges. The bar will also be investigated for possible charges of over service of alcohol to its patrons.

June 12

Two thieves broke through the front door of Grandy Creek Grocery in Birdsvew for the second time in a week, this time targeting the safe and damaging the back door as well, according to owner Dave Needham.

Needham told *Concrete Herald* that the two crimes will run him \$8,000 or more in property damage and theft of merchandise.

“Unfortunately, I don’t think we’ll see any kind of reimbursement,” said Needham.

SCSO Sgt. Chris Kading told *Concrete Herald* that as of July 2, one of the two

Sergeant’s corner

Summertime camping safety tips

By Chris Kading



The summer camping season has begun, and we all want to pack up our campers and tents to spend time in the great Northwest. But before you head out the door, be forewarned, it’s a real jungle out there, and if you have not given any thought to camping safety or brushed up on summer camping safety tips, you may be coming home sooner than you expected.

Plan ahead. Make sure you tell someone where you’re headed, when you’ll be home, and when should they begin to worry if you don’t arrive on time. Have someone watch your home, collect your mail, feed your pets. Pre-plan your drive to the camp site, and remember your vehicle should be in tip-top shape prior to leaving. There’s no fun camping in a broken down car waiting for a tow truck.

Make sure ahead of time that your campsite is actually available. Back in the “old days” before online reservations, it used to be first come first served. Most state and local campgrounds spaces are reserved and they fill up fast. Park Rangers tell me that camping during the week may be a better option to avoid the crowds and enjoy the squirrels.

Make sure your camping equipment is in good order. Do a test run in your backyard. You’ll be able to address issues such as missing tent poles, broken zippers, and torn sleeping bags. These issues could be a deal breaker if you’re many miles from civilization and forgot the duct tape. Duct tape has saved many a camping trip. Warm clothing and waterproof clothing are essential. Remember as you pack, the weather may be much different and can turn in an instant up here.

When you reach your campsite, you’ll likely have neighbors. Please be respectful, courteous, and have fun. There’s plenty of summer coming, and lots of good times ahead. Enjoy.

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

thieves had been apprehended. The individual is a 16-year-old male resident of Big Lake and was booked into juvenile detention on two counts of burglary at the Grand Creek Grocery and one count of burglary at the Big Lake Grocery. He had run away and was arrested on outstanding warrants, confessing later to the burglaries.

“We have a pretty good idea who the other person is,” said Kading.

—Compiled by Sgt. Chris Kading and Jason Miller

Community Meeting

Marblemount Community Hall

Wednesday, July 27th
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Skagit County Parks and Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group are working on a plan that will add park amenities and restore fish habitat in Pressentin Park. The Skagit County Parks Department invites you to provide input that will help guide this project.



60155 State Route 20
Marblemount, WA 98267

For details visit
www.skagitfisheries.org

Worship directory

Assembly of God

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

Citipoint Church North Cascade

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

Baptist

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

Hamilton First Baptist Church

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

Lyman Church

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

Catholic

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

Covenant

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

Sun. worship: 11 a.m.
Call for weekly youth group/Bible studies

Episcopal

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

Free Methodist

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

Methodist

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

Presbyterian

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

Lutheran

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

Nondenominational

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

Community Bible Church

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

The RIVER Gathering

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

Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church

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

Wildwood Chapel

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

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

The tourist season is picking up steam. We're starting to see many new people who have never stopped to see the sights in Concrete before, as well as local folks who bring their relatives in to visit while there're here on vacation. Don't forget it is one of the best things in the Upper Skagit Valley to do inside on rainy Saturday afternoons.

Our volunteers are currently **preparing the floor for repainting**, but this will not affect our hours or ambitions to give you a tour of our exhibits.

Coming up just days after this July edition of the *Concrete Herald* hits the stands, the museum will hold a **Bake Sale** at the Saturday Market on July 9 from 9 a.m. until we're sold out. Some of the choicest items are either pre-ordered or the buyers arrive at opening time to secure the best homemade treats in the Upper Valley.

Another painless way to support the efforts to keep our history alive is to donate to the Concrete Heritage Museum through the **Fred Meyer Rewards Program**. Anyone having a Fred Meyer Rewards Card can participate

by designating the museum to receive the reward. When you sign up for the program (phone 866.518.2686 or www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards), have your Rewards Card number handy and indicate you wish to donate to the Concrete Heritage Museum MPO#89860. It's all automatic from there, but you must re-enroll in the program every year to keep the donations coming. Amazon.com has a similar program, which credits a percentage of your purchases to the museum, but you must use the Web site **Smile.Amazon.com** and not the regular Amazon.com. They are essentially the same site with all the same access to great stuff, but through Smile you can donate, while at the regular site you can't.

A new project that's in the works is to create a **series of postcards** using current images and historic photographs—great for sending to friends and family to remind them what life was like “way back when” and the great things we have going for us now. We're hoping to have them for sale at retail locations around town when the project is complete.

—John Boggs

At the Upper Skagit Library

Race to join our **Summer Reading Program**. Complete reading challenges and activities to win prizes. You could win the grand prize, a Kindle Fire! Special events include Alex Zerbe, Comedy Magician, on July 22 at 11 a.m.; EggBot Robot Workshop on July 26–27 from 4–5 p.m. (registration required); and Ice Cream and Lawn Games on July 30 from 1–3 p.m. All events are free and open to the public. View our events calendar at www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

Thanks to local **Girl Scout Troop 44454**, we now have lawn games and sports equipment available for all. Come play on the library lawn or Veterans Memorial Park this summer.

Library Tutor Program is each Friday from 10 to 11 a.m. Sit down with a library staff member or volunteer and get help with basic computer skills, mobile device questions, job search and applications, resumes, and cover letters. Appointment required. Call 360.853.7939.

Cache in Concrete self-guided adventure is revamped and waiting for

you. Come explore Concrete on this outdoor, family friendly treasure hunt! Pick up a Cache in Concrete map at the library and participating businesses. Continues all summer long.

Silly Saturdays are each week at the library this summer through July 30. Get silly with us and find five wacky things in the library and win a small prize. All day Saturdays.

Guitar class takes place each Saturday from 9 to 10 a.m. at the library. Bring your own instrument as a local instructor walks you through the basics. Go at your own pace.

New arrivals

In adult fiction, a new Jason Bourne novel, *The Bourne Enigma*, by Eric Van Lustbader. In adult nonfiction, *The Residence*, by Kate Anderson Brower. In children's, *Monster Chefs*, by Brian Anderson.

The next Upper Skagit Library Board of Trustees meeting is July 14 at 5 p.m.

—Cora Thomas, Library Associate

July at the Darrington Library

Can you tell a story in six words? Enter the Darrington Library's **Six-Word Story Contest** before July 25 and you could win one of three great prizes. We will have a team of Six-Word Story contest judges who will review all submitted stories. They will choose their favorite three to be our winners. Submit entries by July 25 at the library circulation desk or mail to 1005 Cascade Street, Darrington, WA 98241.

Contest runs from July 1 through July 25. Winners will be announced and posted by July 30. For more information, contact the Darrington library staff.

Children and family programs

- Explore Summer: Urban Legends, Wed., July 6; 4 to 5 p.m. For school-age children.
- Explore Summer: Poetry in Motion, Wed., July 13; 4 to 5 p.m.
- Explore Summer: Make a Board

- Game, Sat., July 16; 1 to 2 p.m.
- Explore Summer: The Hunt is On (geocaching and letter boxing), Mon., July 18; 3 to 4:15 p.m.
- LEGO Robotics, Mon., July 25; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Ages 7 and up.
- Family Storytime, Wed., July 27; 11 to 11:45 a.m.; all ages welcome, caregiver required.

Teen programs

- Teen Times Art Studio, Thur., July 7; 1 to 2 p.m.
- Teen Movie: “Inside Out,” Thur., July 14; 1 to 3 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

Missing & Exploited Children Task Force rolls out new donation page

Donors can help put a stop to sexual exploitation of children in Washington State.

Washington State Patrol's (WSP) Missing and Exploited Children Task Force (MECTF) has just rolled out a new donation page that allows the public to give monetary gifts online. All proceeds will go directly to the identification and safe recovery of exploited children, the investigation of those that sexually exploit children, and successful apprehension and prosecution thereof.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services, there are about

200,000 cases of child exploitation a year in the U.S.

In this year alone, MECTF has arrested 41 people with crimes relating to the sexual exploitation of children. However, there is still a lot of work to be done, said WSP Sergeant Carlos Rodriguez.

“Having the ability to accept donations that go directly toward saving children and holding the people who victimize them accountable is huge,” said Rodriguez. “This new donation page

allows the public to become part of the solution and make a difference in their community. Everyone can help protect their children and their neighbor's children, as well as keep people safe and put an end to victimization. Fighting child exploitation is a hard job, but the outcome is worth it every single time. These donations will help us continue this fight.” The Missing and Exploited Children Taskforce is a state law enforcement agency governed by RCW 13.60.110, and

not designated as a 501 (c)(3) charity. Potential donors should consult with their tax professional or the Internal Revenue Service to determine if their donation is tax exempt.

To donate, go to www.wsp.wa.gov/mectf/donate.php.

Questions can be sent via e-mail to the Missing & Exploited Children Task Force at: MECTF@wsp.wa.gov.

—Submitted by WSP

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Bookkeeping

UpRiver Bookkeeping Services

360.853.7667 or 360.708.9761
upriver21@hotmail.com
Reasonable rates
Payroll services to full-charge bookkeeping

Brew pubs

Birdsview Brewing Co.

Fresh micro beer brewed on our premises
Great food! Family friendly!
Open Tuesdays through Sundays
38302 SR 20, Birdsview // 360.826.3406
www.birdsviewbrewingcompany.com

Construction

Don Payne's Backhoe Services

Extensive experience, reasonable rates
Trenching for electrical and plumbing lines, site preparation, road- and lot-clearing
360.853.7838 / 770.0178 / #PAYNE*066BC
dpaynes2001@yahoo.com

Donald K. Moore Construction

Dump truck / Sand / Gravel / Topsoil
Complete excavation and lots, to acreage cleared / log loads, underground utilities avail.
Licensed, bonded, and insured
360.853.8525 / Reg. #DONALKMO15KE

Gifts

All Valley Storage & Gifts

31687 SR 20, Ste. 102, Lyman/Sedro-Woolley
Our prices can't be beat! Beanpod candles, home/garden items, decorating ideas, more!
360.826.6001 / allvalleystorageinc.com
Online: www.allvalleystorageinc.com

The Rustic Rooster

31411 SR 20, Lyman, WA
Unique selection of handcrafted gift by local artists. Collectibles and antiques.
Sun. 11–4, Tue.–Fri. 11–5, Sat. 10–5
Facebook.or.rusticrooster20@gmail.com

Hair salons

Hair Fitness

Complete family hair care, specializing in:
PERMS / COLOR & CUTS / WAXING
More than 25 years' experience!
Call Kathy Monrad and Becki Hoover for appt
360.853.8684

Liquor stores

Concrete Liquor Store & Convenience Store

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

Pawn shops

Gold Nugget Jewelry & Loan

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

Ranches

Double O Ranch, LLC

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

Restaurants

Cascade Burgers

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

Perks Espresso & Deli

Full breakfast, espresso, sub sandwiches, drive-thru and take-out. Find us on Facebook.
M–F, 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sa.–Su. 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
44586 SR 20, Concrete
360.853.9006

RV Repair

Goldner RV Repair, Concrete

Mobile RV Maintenance & Repair
LP gas systems, water, heating systems, AC/DC electrical
360.826.3303 // rvrepair@frontier.com

Self-storage

Concrete Self-storage

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

Septic services

Cinema Septic

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

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
Tue.–Fri. noon–6, Sat. 10–5
360.436.1029 www.goldnuggetpawnshop.com

Towing services

Cascades Towing

Professional roadside assistance. Flatbed towing and winch-outs. Lockouts, jumpstarts, fuel delivery, and motorcycle towing. Licensed and insured. Lowest prices around!
360.853.8599 // www.cascadestowing.com

Dave's Towing 360.853.7433, Concrete, WA

For all your roadside service needs.
Call Dave's towing for fast, courteous response.
10 years' experience can get any job done.
We tow all motorcycles, RVs, and trailers.
Storage, cash for clunkers, remove junk autos.
Registered, insured, bonded. 360.853.7433

Lions R-O-A-R



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

We are not having bi-monthly meetings during the summer months, but **if you have needs** that we can help with, contact any of our members with your request.

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

As summer begins, it is the time to think about our commitment to ourselves and others. I encourage members of

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

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

—Connie Smithhart

To add your business
to this directory, call

360.853.8213

or e-mail

editor@concrete-herald.com



Out & About



Home & Garden



Burlington

"All Comers" track meet notches new records

The All Comers Track Meet (ACTM) held during several days in June at Burlington-Edison High School had record numbers in both attendance and records broken.

Three hundred fifty five participants ran, jumped, and threw at the event, which is the largest participant count since it began in 2002. Many ACTM records were broken or tied also! The ACTMS are for all ages.

Sponsored by Burlington Parks and Recreation Department, the ACTM ended with the following results reported:

50m hurdles

Girls 7-8 years: Malyha Johnson, 8.81 seconds.

50m dash

Girls 9-10 years: Rachel Bell, 7.15 seconds.

100m dash

Boys 5-6 years: M. Sebastian Silva, 18.3 seconds (event record).

200m

Girls 70 years and older: Mary MacClellan, 45.9 seconds.

400m

Mens 19-29 years: Ryan Daut, 55 seconds.

Women 30-39 years: Michele Pike, 1:20.

800m

Mens 19-29 years: Ryan Daut, 20:4.
Womens 30-39 years: Michele Pike, 2:52.

1600m

Boys 11-12 years: Michael Hanrahan, 5:38.

Mens 19-29 years: Ryan Daut, 4:47 (event record).

Womens 30-39 years: Michele Pike, 6:30.

Triple jump

Girls 11-12 years: Elki Longfellow, 27'7".

Long jump

Girls 9-10 years: Shea Trial, 11'3".

Softball throw

Girls 13-14 years: Emma Fleury, 149'.

Shot put

Boys 5-6 years: Liam VanDyken, 8'5" (event record).

100/110 hurdles

13-14 years: Jarade Snodgrass 16.65 seconds (event record).

Whatcom County

Highway to Artist Point opened ahead of schedule

Warm weather and accelerated work by WSDOT maintenance crews led to another early opening for the highway to Artist Point.

State Route 542 to Artist Point opened on June 23, marking the second consecutive year that crews opened the road to the popular viewpoint before July. The warm spring helped WSDOT clear snow that typically ranges in depth from 15 to 20 feet. However, crews had to clear 60-foot-deep snow at one location.

Despite the road's opening, drivers who visit Artist Point in early July still should be prepared for possible winter driver conditions. The weather in the mountains can change quickly. Motorists should carry tire chains, food, water, warm clothes, and blankets in case of sudden weather changes.

Artist Point is more than 5,000 feet above sea level and gives visitors a 360-degree view that includes Mount Baker, Mount Shuksan, and the Cascade Mountain Range. The area is typically open for only two to three months a year before the roads become impassable because of heavy snowfall. The last leg of SR 542 opens and closes depending on weather and snow conditions.

Book review

Britt-Marie Was Here and Makes Her Mark

By Cora Thomas

You might know someone in your life who has "curmudgeon" written all over them, like the characters I've fallen in love with in the two previous Fredrik Backman novels, *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry*, and his debut novel and my favorite, *A Man Called Ove*. Now, this Swedish author's third novel, *Britt-Marie Was Here*, has arrived with a new cast of characters that may seem oddly familiar. Backman once again uses his dry sense of humor and a healthy dose of sarcasm to cook up a perfect recipe for curmudgeon.

Put simply, Britt-Marie loves to clean and hates soccer.

We meet Britt-Marie as a new divorcee late in her life. After she leaves her husband because of his affair, she struggles to find a job and a new place to live. Britt-Marie is straightforward, awkward in social situations, and very clean. She worries what people might think of her if one jacket button is missing or one dirty dish is visible. Maybe she enjoys cleaning a bit too much. When she's stressed she starts to clean as though the broad strokes of the rag on the window will allow her to see the world a little more clearly. She's always looking out. Now, circumstances have challenged her to venture beyond the window and into the world she felt so separate from. The author slowly reveals the events that shaped the person she is today: She's met plenty of pain in her life, the loss of a sister, a husband who didn't see her—as though she was invisible. She finds a new job as the manager of a recreation center in a small community called Borg. Most people have left because of the depressed economy except a cast of insane characters that are quite opposite from Britt-Marie's obsessive tendencies.

Britt-Marie brings order and responsibility to Borg's world, principles the young people lacked and find comfort in. Britt-Marie finds purpose in managing this center, where she leads a group of



youngsters to victory in soccer, a sport she despises just as much as the sight of a dirty kitchen floor. People finally saw Britt-Marie, jagged edges broken and all. She not only existed to the people of Borg, but existed with rich colors, textures, and tones. Her actions mattered and her presence in this place and with these people mattered. Being alone and invisible was no longer the norm.

Backman creates an illusion of sorts; even though the premise of the story might seem melancholy, the humor of the situations Britt-Marie meets and creates are comically contagious and will get you laughing every time. This story illustrates what happens when you discover self-worth and the power of finding purpose. Britt-Marie was here and made her mark. Or, let's just say she cleaned up the mark and made a bright shiny new one.

Fans of Fredrik Backman can judge for themselves if this satisfies their craving for satire. I can't get *A Man Called Ove* out of my heart, but Britt-Marie is surely second. Find all three of Backman's novels at Upper Skagit Library and other Skagit County libraries.

Cora Thomas is a library associate at Upper Skagit Library in Concrete.

Discovery Garden: 20 years of growth

By Gloria Williams, Master Gardener

It was a warm September day in 1996 when WSU Skagit County Master Gardeners came together in a field west of the Washington State University Research Center in Mount Vernon to lay out the beds for a public garden. The land that WSU agreed to let the master gardeners use had once been a pea field, measured slightly less than an acre, and lay facing Memorial Highway.

In the months prior to fall 1996, master gardeners contacted many organizations in Skagit County to talk about the proposed garden and ask for donations of plants or money to help fill the garden. As donations began to arrive, master gardeners showed up with decorated shovels for the groundbreaking ceremony. A flatbed trailer became a podium and speakers included Julie Hubner, the first garden manager; Dyvon Havens, the county extension agent at the time; County Commissioner Bob Hart; and Ciscoe Morris of radio and TV fame.

After the groundbreaking ceremonies, planting in the garden went into high gear. Many community experts came to help with various planting tasks. In October Jeanette DeGoede came to the garden to give tips on planting tulip bulbs. On another day, a certified arborist brought his equipment to assist master gardeners planting the first of the structural trees, which have grown to maturity now, including the Katsura tree in Joe's Garden and the two *Cornus mas*, or Cornelian cherry, trees in the front area of the garden. The master gardener volunteers also spent a cold, wet, and windy day in November planting bamboo, which had to be removed later because its roots had penetrated the barrier meant to keep it from spreading.

The garden slowly took shape that fall. The original garden plan called for several small areas devoted to specific types of gardens. They included an enabling garden to stress the benefits of gardening for people with limited physical abilities, a naturescape garden to demonstrate how to turn a backyard into a wildlife sanctuary, a children's garden promoting ideas for

making the garden more child friendly, and an herb/ethnobiology garden to teach the use of herbs in food preparation or as they were used historically by native peoples. Other areas were dedicated to vegetable and small fruit gardens and a series of ornamental gardens including a cottage garden, a Japanese garden, a water-wise garden, cool and warm color borders, and a shade garden. Also included in the plans was a pavilion to serve as a focal point and be used for workshops and seminars, a composting area, and a picnic area. All these smaller gardens and areas were collectively called "Discovery Garden."

Many changes have taken place since those original plans were made. The Discovery Garden now claims 25 gardens of various sizes, each promoting sound gardening practices and sustainable horticulture. Some of the new gardens added during the past 20 years are the rose garden, a heather and heath garden, a ground cover garden, an iris garden, and an ornamental grass garden. The fuchsia garden was installed and is maintained by the North Cascades Fuchsia Society. A large propagation area was started to support the master gardener plant sales, which help keep the Discovery Garden financially independent.

After the hard work of planting hundreds of donated plants, hauling untold loads of path material and soil amendments, and building fences and structures during the fall and early winter of 1996, the master gardeners decided to celebrate by hosting a grand opening in summer 1997. The public was invited to view the gardens and meet the master gardeners who so diligently worked to start the public garden. Twenty years later the garden has matured and master gardeners are still working to maintain a beautiful place to visit and learn about gardening. It is time to have another garden party, a celebration to acknowledge 20 years of growth and change.

Save the date: Tue., July 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be music, fun and games, and activities for everyone.

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Charles M. Dwelley

“There is no status quo anymore. Either you diet to lose or diet to gain. No-fat pills or vitamins, hair-remover or cures for baldness, energy boosters or pills to tranquilize, appetite stimulators or ulcer balm. Not a blessed thing for the fellow who feels fine and wants to stay that way.”
“It takes quite a few years to learn that youth is a stage of experimentation that any of us could improve upon if they’d let us try again.”
“One of the thrills of Christmas giving is the game of chance arising from trying to guess what someone else would like if they had your taste.”

—Nov. 29, 1956

“It seems congressmen are in a mood to forgive an \$81 million interest payment due us from Great Britain. How far would we get if we suggested they forget the income tax installments due us from the first of the year?”

“It takes some time before men know all the answers. With women knowledge is intuitive, and until this develops fully, they get along nicely just saying ‘no.’”

“The Army carrier pigeon is now obsolete, along with the Army mule. And according to some sergeants, they’ve lost the only brains in the outfit.”

—Dec. 6, 1956

“Christmas is sort of like a friendly pup. Ignoring it won’t make it go away, but if you join in the fun, everybody has a good time.”

—Dec. 13, 1956

“Even the most rabid sports fan must sometimes wonder why team owners who can pay salaries of more than a half million dollars to single players can’t build their own cotton-picking stadiums.”

—Jan. 13, 1966

“We resent the use of the term ‘moonshine’ in a recent trial, where some unethical persons made a spirituous drink out of canned heat. For all its fire and

unforgettable taste, moonshine used to be a handcrafted product of the Upper Valley. Making it took experience, skill, complete isolation, a lot of healthy natural ingredients, and a good portion of nerve. Such rugged individuals took pride in their work. Sometimes it took a brave man to take the first drink, but it wasn’t store-bought poison.”

“Life has a way of getting even with everyone for their excesses. Moderation is an antidote only applied when too much or too little becomes uncomfortable.”

—Jan. 20, 1966

“LBJ’s grand list of expenditures planned for the coming year sound wonderful until you realize that he will be using your credit card.”

—Jan. 27, 1966

“Acceptance of old age gracefully usually depends on whether the person looks upon death as a threat or a promise.”

“He who expresses himself in print not only wears his heart on his sleeve, but seems to have a visible sign on his coattail saying, ‘Kick Me.’”

“In this day and age, the one great freedom left is often considered an insult: that of being ignored.”

—Feb. 3, 1966

“Wives grow more valuable with age, says one writer. An obvious conclusion when you think of the investment you have in them, the years of intensive training—and the fact that they have a like amount tied up in you.”
“The Great Society is overlooking one segment of our underprivileged. Unless some cash is left in the taxpayer’s purse, who is going to support the pickpockets?”

—Feb. 10, 1966

Concrete Harold

By Joyce Harris



By Stig Kristensen

Public Service Announcement



Crossword: “Win, Place, and Show”

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

Across

- Stylish gown
- Merganser
- Impact sound
- Invidia
- Dry riverbed
- Dennis the Menace’s mother
- Aim
- Anthologies
- Toil
- Some homeowners
- Word on a Ouija board
- “So that’s it!”
- Always, poetically
- Try
- Nonentity, Brit.
- Aversion
- Recognition response
- Favoring
- Dotage
- Octopus’s defense
- The Righteous Brothers, e.g.
- Poised to take a fall
- Once in a blue moon
- Venom carrier
- Mainstay
- Mouth, slangily

Down

- Apotheose
- Kind of rock
- Buy too much
- Shag rugs
- Lawn mower’s path
- Cassava
- Gouda alternative
- Owlsh?
- Honor
- ____ piano
- Phloem
- ____ squash
- Not windy
- Marvel Comics superhero
- Furniture wood
- Severe injury
- Cliff nest
- Eviscerates
- Lost
- Editorial commands
- Northern capital
- Croat, e.g.
- Verb with thou
- Put one’s foot down
- MacLachlan of “Twin Peaks”

Across

- Interest
- Blood letters
- Whoop
- Key opener?
- See 30-Down
- Setter
- See 63-Across
- With pretention
- Kind of deer
- Curious
- Partly digested food
- Cover, in a way
- Secures
- Sailboat poles
- Firstborn
- Periwinkle
- Hiding place
- Letter before iota
- Shown
- Man of morals
- Relating to a district
- Scoundrel
- Self-images
- Heavy blow
- Savor victory

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.

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

*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 38.

Funny as Facebook

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

- “So many claims of the best dad ever. There’s only one way to settle this: Dad Hunger Games. Who’s in?”
- “I was attacked by a wasp who left me a nice series of stings that Brandon pointed out was a pentagram. Great. Devil wasps.”
- “Life goal: I want my hair to gray in the same pattern as Reed Richards. So far my sideburns are graying faster than the rest of my head, which is a good start.”
- “One carload of garbage at the dump: \$30. Attendant who gives Norah otter pops on the way out: priceless. Attendant who also gives me an otter pop on the way out: SO PRICELESS!”
- “I just had a dream in which Megan Walker and I were biking through New Orleans and we ran into Richard Sherman and hugged him. And then I woke up and realized it was a dream and I must now live in a cold, hateful world in which I have not hugged Richard Sherman, so excuse me if I don’t seem 100 percent engaged in life today.”
- “Conversation for the day:
‘Mom, Steve can’t get any sleep.’
‘Steve?’
‘The balloon, his name is Steve. I introduced you, remember?’
‘Right. Why can’t he sleep?’
‘Sean keeps playing polka. Steve hates polka. It keeps him awake.’
Oh for the love of ...”
- “Set the tone for the day by getting out of bed and stumbling directly into a wall.”
- “I saw a spider in my bathtub, so I got a piece of tissue and very, very carefully, burned the house down.”

to participate in the Regional Youth Leadership Retreat, held June 20–24 at North Cascades Environmental Learning Center. At the retreat, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) led a National Youth Leadership Institute Key Essentials Course.

Participants received training on conducting community assessments, problem analysis, and logic models, and well as leadership principles and conducting Photo Voice projects.

The retreat allowed youth and adult advisors to collaborate with other local individuals who have a passion for creating positive change. In addition to the leadership training, the retreat focused on team-building activities and outdoor exploration, including hiking, canoeing, and evening campfires.

Concrete students who participated are a part of the Concrete Prevention Posse (CPP). In addition to the CPP students, Concrete Summer Learning Adventure leaders joined the retreat for one afternoon to help prepare for this year's summer camp.

The Concrete students said their favorite parts of the retreat were a canoeing trip on Diablo Lake and learning about leadership. Specifically, Concrete students said they learned what it means to be a leader, and are excited to teach other younger kids to be leaders and positive change agents in the community.

Students were inspired by the cultural competency activity, which focused on building solidarity with other individuals

who had gone through similar difficult life experiences. They said that it made them realize that they are not alone in their struggles and circumstances. Adult group advisors also learned how to support students in creating positive change through youth-led, adult-guided activities.

The Regional Youth Leadership Retreat was coordinated by United General District #304 Community Health Outreach Programs in collaboration with regional partners. The retreat was free to youth and advisors, and was funded by Youth Marijuana Prevention dollars through the Washington State Department of Health.

Party time

To celebrate its 30 years of success, North Cascades Institute will host a free picnic at its Environmental Learning Center on Sun., July 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The center is located on Diablo Lake at milepost 127.5. On the day's agenda: a barbecue, boat tours, family fun, music, hikes, and more. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early to sign up for activities.

For more information, go to ncascades.org/picnic.

Christian Martin is the communications coordinator for North Cascades Institute and contributing author to The North Cascades: Finding Beauty and Renewal in the Wild Nearby, published in 2014 by The Mountaineers Books. Portions of this article are republished with permission from OutdoorsNW, outdoorsnw.com.



North Cascades Institute's Environmental Learning Center is a gorgeous blend of form and function. *Photo by Laura Swimmer.*



Concrete Prevention Posse students participated in the Regional Youth Leadership Retreat, held June 20–24 at North Cascades Environmental Learning Center. *Submitted photo.*



NCI Travel participants enjoy Oil Painting Plein Air with artist Thomas Wood. *Photo by Anne Chaikin.*

Sudoku solution, from p. 37

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

Crossword solution, from p. 37

1	D	I	O	R	5	S	M	E	W	9	S	P	L	12	A	T
14	E	N	V	Y	15	W	A	D	I	16	A	L	I	C	E	
17	I	D	E	A	18	A	N	A	S	19	L	A	B	O	R	
20	F	I	R	S	21	T	I	M	E	22	B	U	Y	E	R	S
23	Y	E	S	24	O	H	O	25	E	T	E	R	N	E		
26	T	A	X	27	A	X	28	C	29	P	H	E	R			
31	P	H	O	B	33	A	H	A	34	A	H	A	35	P	R	O
36	S	E	C	O	N	D	39	C	H	I	L	D	41	H	O	O
42	I	N	K	43	D	U	O	44	F	R	A	M	E	D		
45	S	E	L	D	O	46	M	47	A	S	P	48	A	S	O	
49	S	T	A	P	L	E	52	Y	A	P	54	O	A	K		
57	T	H	I	R	D	58	E	G	R	E	60	B	U	R	N	
61	A	E	R	I	E	62	G	U	T	S	63	A	S	E	A	
64	S	T	E	T	S	65	O	S	L	O	66	S	L	A	V	
67	H	A	D	S	T	68	S	T	E	P	69	K	Y	L	E	

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Letters, cont. from p. 2

In cooperation with the City of Sedro-Woolley, Janicki Industries, and our many other supporters in the community, we are planning a new food bank facility on the corner of Fruitdale and Wicker Rd., which will include a functional and attractive building designed to echo our region's agricultural heritage, as well as a permaculture food forest and community garden that will empower our customers to participate in growing their own food. We anticipate starting construction this fall.

Putting aside their business plans, the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe has agreed to extend the lease on our existing building for the upcoming year, in order to afford us the time we need to build our new facility.

On behalf of Helping Hands Food

Bank and the hundreds of volunteers and thousands of clients that we serve, we wanted to publicly express our thanks to Upper Skagit's tribal council for its assistance. Thank you for helping your community thrive.

Thank you.

Loren Vaughn, president

Helping Hands Food Bank Board

Grateful for Main Street flags

I would like to thank Adolph Nieshe for putting our towns American flags up on main street for all to enjoy until Labor Day weekend. This year we donated 15 new flags to replace the ones that had gotten worn out.

*Carol Rohan
Grasmere*

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