

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Herald

Vol. 103, No. 7

July 2020

concrete-herald.com

50 cents

Cross purposes

IN THIS ISSUE

Life after Alan Wilkins

Town rearranges Public Works workload, contracts with third party to manage wastewater treatment plant. *Page 4.*

Chamber sponsors July 4 "Concrete Caravan"

On Sat., July 4, between 2 and 4 p.m., a reverse parade will be sponsored by the Concrete Chamber of Commerce in celebration of Independence Day. *Page 6.*

CHS Athletes of the Year

With their spring seasons cut short by the coronavirus, these Concrete High School athletes still rose to the top of their games. *Page 8.*

SVC club builds, distributes mask tension release straps

Sedro-Woolley High School alumnus and volunteer extraordinaire Colvin Swanberg is back at it, this time working with Skagit Valley College student peers to develop and distribute a very handy accessory for mask wearers. *Page 16.*

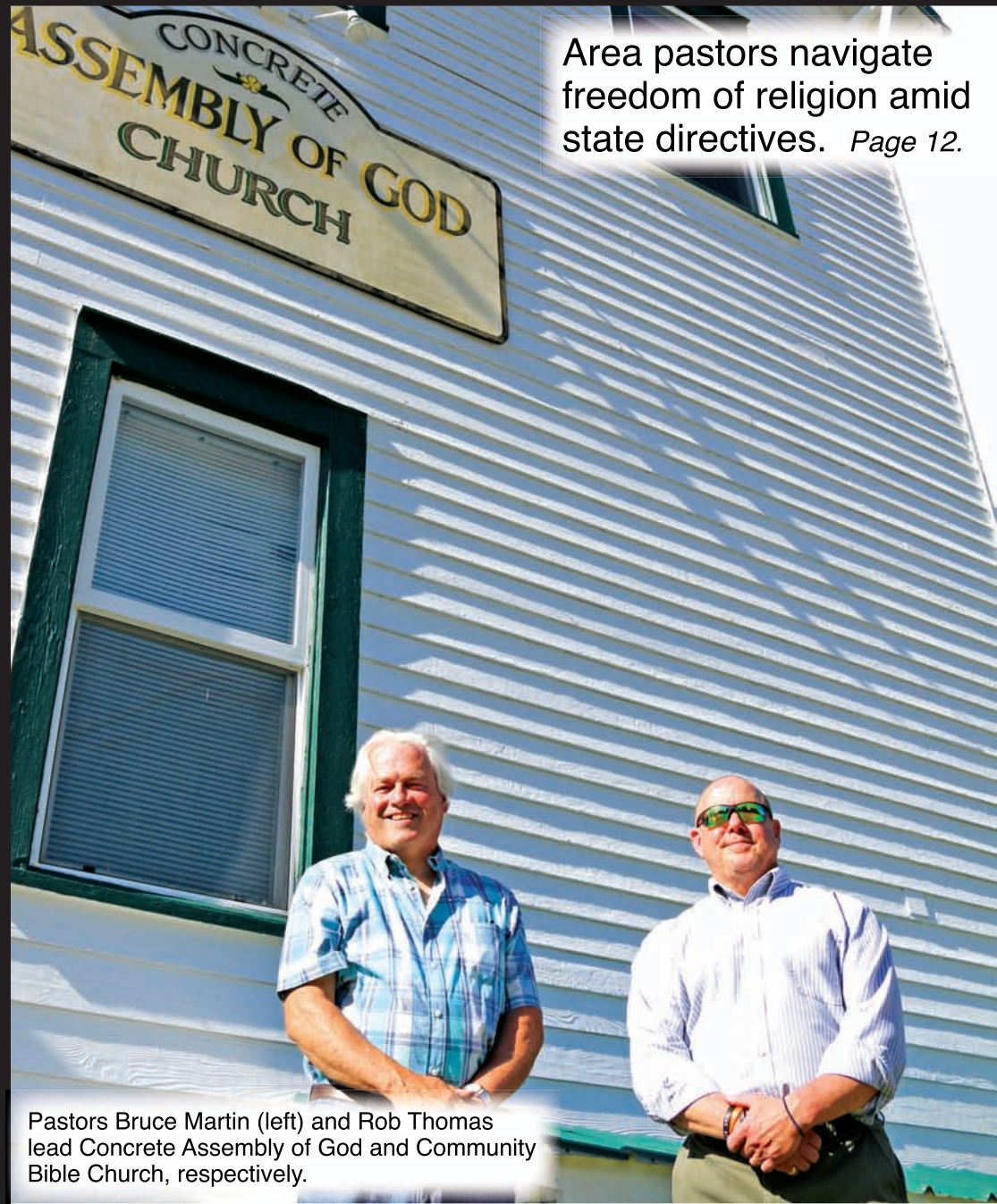
National Guard aids food banks during uncertain times

According to Adrienne Smith of the Concrete Food Bank, things could be worse. *Page 22.*

Inslee requires all state residents to wear masks in public

The requirement went into effect on June 26. *Page 34.*

Area pastors navigate freedom of religion amid state directives. *Page 12.*



Pastors Bruce Martin (left) and Rob Thomas lead Concrete Assembly of God and Community Bible Church, respectively.

Guest editorial

Let's not let personal decisions about mask-wearing become divisive

By Sue Lani Madsen

To mask or not to mask, that is the question.

Some medical studies support the strategy, others conclude it won't help much. Lawyers will undoubtedly argue the constitutionality of a statewide order for residents to wear face coverings in public and businesses to require masks.

What is certain is a viral increase in community dissension.

The intention of Gov. Inslee's "mask up" order is slowing community spread of the SARS CoV-2 coronavirus. As of June 26, anyone in Washington over the age of 5 is required to wear a mask in public or risk a misdemeanor citation. There are exceptions for those with health issues and for the deaf and hard of hearing while communicating.

There's little risk of getting a citation. Enforcing mask etiquette isn't a high priority for law enforcement agencies already under pressure to deal with systemic issues and common crime. As Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich put it in a Facebook post on June 23, "I think we have more important things to work on. Perhaps (Inslee) should focus on the armed takeover of 9 Seattle city blocks."

Unenforceable and unenforced rules are worse than no rules at all. When those rules are not made by the Legislature but by executive order, the most American of reactions is rebellion. No proclamations without representation.

Despite rhetoric out of the governor suggesting that those who won't wear masks are selfish, no one hopes for people to get sick and die. But hoping everyone will happily cooperate while impugning the motives of those who need convincing is tone-deaf.

Appealing to "the science" as if it's an infallible oracle doesn't help convince anyone. Pick your position on mask-wearing and there's a scientific study to back it up.

A randomized trial of health care workers published by the National Institutes of Health in 2015 compared cloth masks to disposable surgical masks and found "penetration of cloth masks by particles was almost 97 percent and medical masks 44 percent."

A 2018 NIOSH Science Blog on the CDC website reports finding "on average only 1 percent of the times that a surgical mask was put on ... resulted in adequate levels of protection. This is not surprising as loose-fitting facemasks and improvised devices are not designed to seal tightly to the face and thus cannot prevent particles in the air from bypassing the filter and being drawn into the respiratory tract during normal breathing."

An April 2020 meta study—a study of existing studies and also published by the NIH—reported on "a rapid systematic review of the efficacy of face masks and respirators." It concluded at least some benefit from public wearing of cloth facemasks.

So cloth masks are better than nothing or masks give a false sense of safety or masks reduce viral spread. All have an element of truth. Is the mask fitted properly or does it have large gaps at the sides? Putting on and taking off a mask properly to prevent contamination is not intuitive, so do users know what they're doing? Is the mask being washed after each use? Can you remember not to absentmindedly reach up and tug when your nose itches?

See Editorial, p. 5

affected and are under threat by this medical fraud.

Also, I will personally consider all attempts to test me for COVID-19 as assault with a deadly weapon.

If the attorney general will not proceed with my complaint, then please ask him to send it to the appropriate authorities.

Robert Cinque
Marblemount

The currency of human lives

Years ago, I had the privilege of living in Asia and Europe, courtesy of our mutual Uncle Sam. During those years overseas, I learned a lot about the value of accepting that not everyone used the same thought process I was familiar with. I also learned a lot about Americans in general.

Oftentimes, I overheard an American, in the process of bartering with a local shopkeeper. Frequently the American

See Letters, p. 3

Letters policy

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

Corrections

In the June 2020 issue of Concrete Herald, a photo of Public Works employee David Herring from 1987 incorrectly named him as the Public Works director. The Public Works director at that time was Jack Hoover. Concrete Herald regrets the error.

Inside

Opinion	2
Clear Lake	14
Community Calendar	
Community Meetings	15
Sedro-Woolley	16
Lyman	18
Hamilton	22
Rockport	23
Darrington	24
Marblemount	26
Newhalem	27
Seniors	28
Sunday School lesson	30
Obituaries	30
Sheriff's Blotter	31
Local columns	32
Business Directory	33
Out & About	34
Smile	36
Classifieds	39

No impact plan for slide detour?

Is anyone else in south Rockport and east Marblemount fed up with this horrific traffic, constant noise, speeding vehicles, hoards of motorcycles, and seemingly no law enforcement in sight? You'd hope that with this "emergency" detour, there would be an impact plan in

place. Apparently not. Some evenings I can't even cross the road to get to my mailbox. These folks are in a great hurry and not willing to slow down, much less stop for me. I've emailed Jordan Longacre, WSDOT Communications, about all of this (jordanlongacre@wsdot.wa.gov), as well as communicating my concerns to the State Patrol and Skagit County Sheriff. And although he sounded very responsive, I have yet to see any changes (as of June 22).

A suggestion was made to invite other impacted residents to call or e-mail with their concerns, so that's why I'm writing this. If we wait until there's a fatal crash, it's too late. Let's be proactive and prevent that now. Call for a lower speed limit and enforcement of that—especially on weekends! An officer should be parked/staged at the Martin Ranch Rd. junction, or anywhere in the straightaway where folks are speeding and passing at 60 to 70 mph! This is a rural, county road, not a state highway.

And how about signage to warn cyclists (the Rockport-Cascade Rd. is on the bicyclers' map as the route to ride to avoid SR 20 dangers)? No huge trucks or gigantic motorhomes! How on earth can they safely negotiate the sharp turns between milepost 1 and 2? Maybe a portable, temporary, automated stoplight, like the one that was placed at the Illabot Creek bridge construction could help?

Tell WSDOT whatever you'd like to see implemented for the time that we are "under seige."

Christie Fairchild
Artie Olson
Rockport

An open response to "demand letter" to defund the Snohomish County Sheriff

[During the week of June 8], the Snohomish County Council received a "Demand Letter" to "Defund the Snohomish County Sheriff" from the Snohomish County Defender Collective.

It is evident that changes are needed within the criminal justice system to address issues of racial disparities, police brutality, and transparency. These are not new issues, but they have been put in the spotlight recently as a result of the horrific murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Manuel Ellis, and many others.

It is critical that public officials, law enforcement, and the community as a whole come together to discuss and implement meaningful policy change if

we are to take steps in the right direction. There are several reasonable proposals which have been made, but the Snohomish County Defender Collective's demand of slashing law enforcement budgets in half is not one of them. Nor is their proposal to "cut ties with the Sheriff's Office and local police departments." These fringe proposals undermine legitimate efforts on criminal justice reform and they should not be taken as serious solutions.

Instead, we should focus the discussion on pragmatic ideas such as reviewing the use of force policies, increasing relevant training, establishing greater transparency, increasing accountability through community oversight, and requiring the use of body cameras for police officers. Each of these have the potential to garner broad support and would benefit law enforcement and the community they serve.

The needs of public safety and social services are not mutually exclusive. The letter from the Snohomish County Defender Collective inaccurately states that Snohomish County's budget allocates only \$3.17 million toward human services.

In fact, Snohomish County's annual budget allocates more than \$62 million toward human services. These investments have helped fund innovative efforts to support the most vulnerable among us,

such as the Diversion Center, Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), the Carnegie Resource Center, and the Embedded Social Worker program, to name just a few. These efforts have received statewide and even national recognition for their success, something for which we can all be proud.

In addition to human and social services needs, our community has public safety needs. Last week I received more than 800 e-mails from the public on the subject of law enforcement funding, the vast majority of which were opposed to reducing law enforcement budgets. I hear similar sentiments when speaking with residents who are appalled at this idea.

A recent ABC News poll found that an overwhelming 64 percent of Americans oppose the "defund the police" movement. Defunding the police is not only a poor decision on its merits, it is also wildly unpopular with the public whom we are elected to serve. Public safety is the fundamental responsibility of local government and it will continue to be my top priority.

Defunding the Sheriff's Office by 50 percent is not the answer. Instead, we should work with the community and law

See Letters, p. 6



Chief Darrel Reed

Interested?

Call Town Hall at 360.853.8401 or drop in to fill out a quick application.

Concrete Volunteer Fire Dept. needs firefighters!

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Life after Alan Wilkins

Town rearranges Public Works workload, contracts with third party to manage wastewater treatment plant

By Chazlyn Lovely
Edited by Katy Tomasulo

Public Works Director Alan Wilkins has retired after 34 years of service (*Concrete Herald*, June 2020), signaling the end of an era for the Town of Concrete. Though Wilkins won't be going far, choosing to spend his retirement years in Concrete, the shoes his replacements will have to fill are large.

The Public Works director's job is extremely varied; over the years, Wilkins has overseen the operations of people and equipment, and participated in maintenance, repair, and replacement of town water and sewer lines and the wastewater treatment plant. Town-owned and -operated buildings and facilities, parks, recreation structures, street and sidewalk repairs, storm drains, bridges,

and more fell under his purview. The director, who is overseen by the mayor, also supervises and trains the other Public Works employees.

Other responsibilities include heavy involvement in planning and scheduling major construction work in town, ensuring that town, county, and state guidelines and codes are met, creating operating procedures and policies for town facilities and the use of town equipment, advising the Town Council on projects and budgets, acting as a liaison between town departments and other county and state government departments, inventorying supplies and materials, keeping equipment and tools in good repair, painting, plumbing, carpentry, light bulb changing—the list goes on and on.

With Wilkins' retirement, Terry Coggins, previously the Public Works

assistant, will take over as director. Former Public Works Maintenance Worker Jesse Babcock will move into the assistant position.

"Alan's retirement will present a challenge for the town's Public Works team," said Concrete Mayor Jason Miller. "I have every confidence in Terry and Jesse, but I will be paying close attention to their work loads, because in the end they are still humans. They are not omnipresent, and there are still only so many hours in a day." Along with Coggins and Babcock, Miller is also confident that Grounds Maintenance employee Dale Angell, who works full-time during the spring and summer months, will be able to provide additional assistance.

The biggest change will be at the wastewater treatment plant, whose operation will be outsourced to Water

and Wastewater Services (WWS), a Mount Vernon-based manager of utilities operations and maintenance, much like how the town's law enforcement is outsourced to the Skagit County Sheriff's Office.

"WWS will be in charge of plant operation, paperwork, adherence to the Dept. of Ecology rules, and making sure the town doesn't run afoul of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit," Miller said.

The plant will be staffed by two dedicated employees throughout the week, ensuring that its unique needs and troubles are consistently understood and dealt with. Instead of Public Works employees spending their weekends dealing with treatment plant emergencies—like Wilkins and his crew had to—WWS will now be on call for such occasions.

Wilkins' knowledge as a Group 2 operator was critical to keeping trouble at the plant at a minimum. In order to get the same level of expertise, the town had no choice but to spend more than they did for his salary plus benefits to hire WWS. "We were getting a steal with Alan on board," Miller lamented. "Now we'll have to pay market rate for that skill set. WWS brings a Group 4 operator to the table, though, so the value is still there."

Preparation for the staffing change has been ongoing for more than a year. Wilkins has been training Coggins and Babcock in everything they'll need to know, and has been working with other town staff and the mayor to digitize his knowledge of the town's underground infrastructure. Months have been spent creating maps of critical infrastructure so that the knowledge isn't lost with Wilkins' retirement.

"I'm glad Alan doesn't plan to retire to some Italian hill town," noted Miller. "I'm thankful that he plans to stay in town so we can pester him with unforeseen questions as they crop up. I'll try to keep that to a minimum, though; the man gave more than three decades of his professional career to Town of Concrete, and was the point at which the buck stopped whenever that flawed wastewater treatment plant acted up. He deserves a restful retirement."

Freelance writer Chazlyn Lovely lives in Corkindale.

Freelance editor Katy Tomasulo lives on Bainbridge Island.

—WDFW

Bicyclist rides to defeat ALS

A bicyclist accompanied by a small group of fellow riders will roll into Concrete from Lyman on July 15, via the Cascade Trail.

The bicyclist, Jeff Doran from Snohomish, Wash., is riding to raise money for the Evergreen Chapter of the ALS Association, which focuses on finding a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a progressive nervous system disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, causing loss of muscle control. ALS is often called Lou Gehrig's disease, after the baseball player who was diagnosed with it.

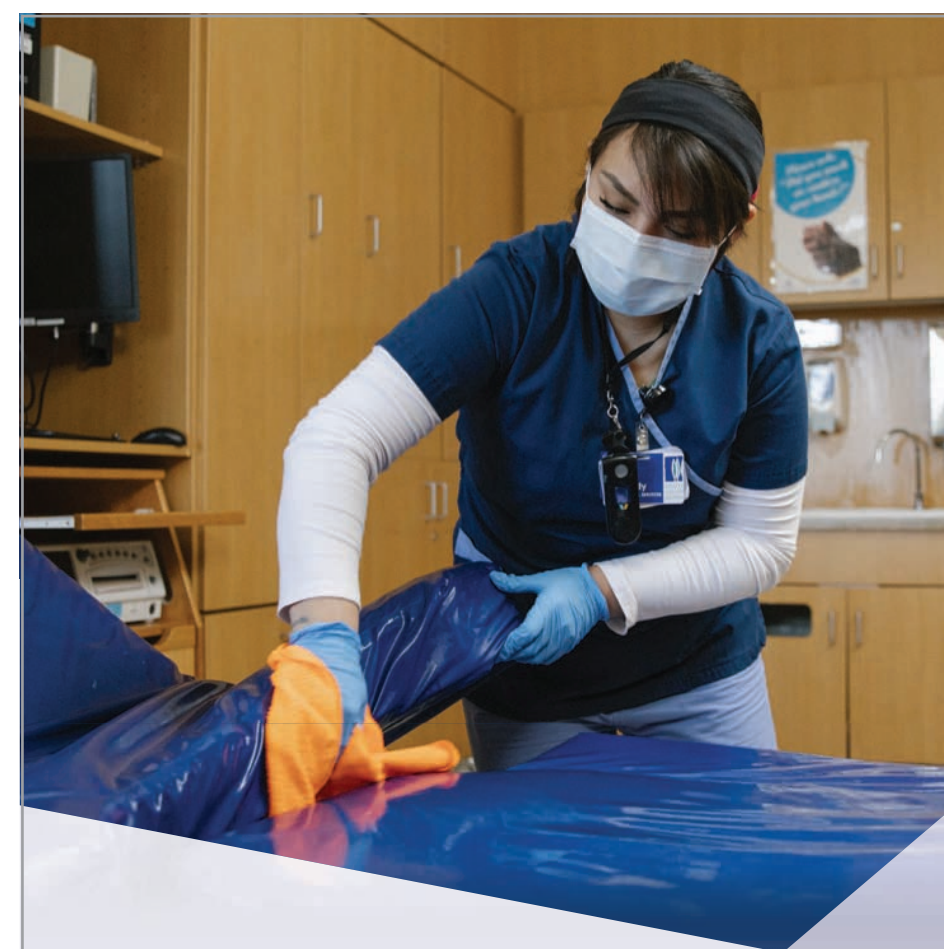
Doran, 67, who was diagnosed with ALS two years ago, will ride in support of Rockport resident Christie Fairchild, who also is battling the disease. Fairchild is Doran's "virtual riding partner," helping to promote his local ride and drumming up riders to go with him.

Doran committed to ride 250 miles during a period of several weeks for the Snohomish Ride to Defeat ALS. It's his second fundraiser; he's been posting his efforts on Facebook and his Team Doran page, http://web.alsa.org/site/TR/Endurance/Evergreen?team_id=388478&pg=team&fr_id=14173.

"I'm doing what I can, while I can," said Doran. "I can ride a lot farther than I can walk."



Snohomish bicyclist Jeff Doran will bike the Cascade Trail from Lyman to Concrete on July 13, eclipsing his target 250 miles in a fundraising effort for the Evergreen Chapter of ALS Association. Doran said he should log more than 300 miles by July 25. Submitted photo.



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Skagit Regional Health
SkagitRegionalHealth.org

Sue Lani Madsen is a freelance writer from Edwall, Wash. This editorial was published originally by The Spokesman-Review on June 25, 2020, and is republished with permission from the author.


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Monument marker stolen

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

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

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

Skagit River closes to sockeye fishing

Projected low returns causes closure

The Skagit River has closed to sockeye fishing from June 16 to July 15 because of low projected returns, according to fishery managers with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).

With an expected return of as many as 13,242 or as few as 8,056, forecast returns of wild Skagit sockeye are the lowest they've been in the last five years and potentially below fishery managers' broodstock goals. WDFW named poor ocean conditions as the reason for the low forecast.

The closure begins at the highway 536 bridge (Memorial Highway Bridge) in Mount Vernon to Gilligan Creek.

The river remains open for gamefish fisheries. Fishery managers will continue to monitor other area rivers and streams.

For more information and to see in-season rule changes, go to <https://fortress.wa.gov/dfw/erules/efishrules/>.

—WDFW

Chamber sponsors July 4 “Concrete Caravan”

On Sat., July 4 between 2 and 4 p.m., a reverse parade will be sponsored by the Concrete Chamber of Commerce in celebration of Independence Day.

The “Concrete Caravan” will line up at the Angele Cupples Community Garden, at the intersection of Superior Ave. N. and Main St. Look for volunteers from KSVU Radio at the starting point.

Participants will stay in their cars while traveling the route to Town Center and back again. Along the way, there will be roadside attractions, including the colors presented by American Legion Heskett Arnold Post No. 132 at the Concrete Post Office, and Uncle Sam near Town Hall.

Near the Concrete Chamber office, volunteers will have cotton candy available for a suggested donation of \$3. Proceeds benefit the Upper Skagit Library.

As you drive the route, you can expect to see staff from SaviBank, Skagit County Sheriff Office, and AeroSkagit, as well as volunteers from the Concrete Heritage Museum and other organizations.

In front of the Concrete Theatre, tubs of popcorn or dishes of red, white, and blue ice cream will be available at curbside for \$5 each. Takeout meals can be ordered in

advance from Lone Star Restaurant, then picked up as you drive by.

Be sure to enjoy the special attraction near “Bear Square” in the center of town, where Marcia Kester, a popular musician with an upbeat personality and wide repertoire, will be performing.

The event is free and has received approval and permits from the Town of Concrete and the Skagit County Health Department. Activities will adapt to any changes necessary to adhere to the WA State Safe Start policies, including the wearing of masks, social distancing, and good hand hygiene.

Would you like to fire up your community spirit and help with the event? If you have a business or residence along Main Street, you’re encouraged to decorate and be part of the fun as the Concrete Caravan goes by.

For more information, go to the Concrete Chamber Web site: www.concrete-wa.com or the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/concretechamber.

For more information, contact the chamber at chamber@concrete-wa.com or call/text Valerie Stafford at 360.466.8754.

—Valerie Stafford

Cascade Days retools for Aug. 22

Cascade Days may look a little different this year, but it’s still going to happen, according to organizers.

The event will shrink to one day—Aug. 22—but will still deliver one of the biggest attractions that Cascade Days offers: a parade.

“We want to do something to get people together and have a good time, while keeping people safe,” said Cascade Days Committee President Jim Handzlik.

The committee brainstormed an idea that grew from the Concrete Theatre’s success with its Popcorn Parade.

This year, Cascade Days will be a four-hour event—a parade and a free lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sat., Aug. 22.

“The theme of the parade is everyone dresses up if they like, and decorates their cars,” said Handzlik. “Once we take pictures and hand out stuff, we will

provide a free lunch for those who sign up. The plan is for everyone to stay in their cars the whole time, with the food boxed up and handed to them as they drive by.”

Participants will sign up for the parade and lunch at area businesses; details about that process will be published in the August issue of *Concrete Herald*.

The strategy should comply with all current state guidelines for events, said Handzlik. “If things get better and they loosen up, we can add more events later. But the plan will still be to have the parade in cars and keep the parade moving up Main Street.”

To fund the effort, the committee is catching a break from the county, which is allowing them to use lodging tax funds for operating expenses. Handzlik said the group intends to enlist support from local businesses to assist with preparing lunch for a crowd that could reach upwards of 2,000 people.

—J. K. M.

Fireworks in Skagit County Council summary

As July 4 approaches, revelers will again look for ways to celebrate—sometimes with explosive results. Here’s a look at the fireworks regulations for communities in the *Concrete Herald* coverage area:

Unincorporated Skagit County

In unincorporated Skagit County, it is illegal to discharge fireworks except during the following dates and times:

- June 28: Noon to 11 p.m.
- June 29 to July 3: 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- July 4: 9 a.m. to midnight
- July 5: 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- Dec. 31: 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Unincorporated Snohomish County

Fireworks may be sold legally in unincorporated Snohomish County between noon on June 28 and noon on July 6 of each year. Unincorporated Snohomish County allows the discharge of fireworks on the July 4 only, between 9 a.m. and 11:59 p.m.

For more information, go to <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/65174/Stay-Safe-and-Legal-this-4th-of-July-flyer-2019?bidId=>.

City of Sedro-Woolley

Legal fireworks can be discharged only on July 4, between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m.

Town of Lyman

Follows regulations for unincorporated Skagit County.

Town of Hamilton

Follows regulations for unincorporated Skagit County.

Town of Concrete

No fireworks are allowed within town limits.

Town of Darrington

Town of Darrington hosts a fireworks display for July 4. The display starts at dark and is located at the Darrington High School football field.

Refer to RCW 70.77.395 for dates and times consumer fireworks may be sold or discharged within town limits.

—J. K. M.

Read Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Letters, cont. from p. 3

enforcement to accomplish meaningful, positive policy reform. I look forward to listening and engaging in meaningful discussions with communities of color, law enforcement, and the greater public on how we can improve our policies to ensure equal justice and implement safeguards against police brutality. We can and must do better, and that begins with pursuing pragmatic solutions to the difficult issues facing our community.

Nate Nehring
Councilman, District 1
Snohomish County Council

Editor’s note: This response is from Councilmember Nehring in his individual elected capacity and is not reflective of the views of the entire Snohomish County Council.

Gratitude for fire departments, Community Action

I need to thank the firefighters from District 10 for helping me with a fire at my motor home that I live in at Cape

Horn. You kept 50 gallons of gas from exploding. You all did the best job I have ever seen at putting out the fire. Thank you and God bless you.

I also need to thank Community Action in Concrete for their help too. I could not have made it without your help. God bless; you ladies are the best. Thank you.

To Mayor Jason Miller, thank you for putting up my dad’s memorial at Veterans Memorial Park.

Randy Booker
Cape Horn

Thank you, Washington family

Clean-up and repair work at the rock slide site east of Rockport is scheduled to begin on Mon., June 29, following the approval of all environmental and access permits.

Washington State Department of Transportation would like to thank the Washington Family of the Upper Skagit Tribe for their cooperation and support to gain access to the slope above SR 20.

—WSDOT

Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on June 8 and 22. The following is a summary of those meetings. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are posted on the town’s Web site at www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php.

June 8 regular meeting

- Council discussed the pending contract with Water and Wastewater Services for operation and management of the wastewater treatment plant, including scope of work. Council asked that the town’s NPDES permit be included with the contract.
- Council voted to approve the contract contingent on the changes discussed and the contract being approved by town counsel David Day.
- Council approved an Employee Recognition and Service Award Program, which is designed to cover some of the costs for items such as parties and gifts for town staff who retire or leave voluntarily. The amounts are based on years of service; e.g., 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 years.
- Mayor Jason Miller proposed salary increases for some town staff members in anticipation of Alan Wilkins’ retirement and the effect the virus had on the town. He proposed a one-time amount for the clerk treasurer, who worked two positions for 12 weeks, and monthly salary increases for the current Public Works assistant and Public Works maintenance worker, both of whom will be promoted to new positions once the Public Works director retires on June 30.
- Councilmember Marla Reed asked if this is being proposed in place of increases during the budget discussions for next year. Mayor Miller said no, he is proposing them mid-year because these two employees will be promoted into new positions. Mayor Miller discussed his reasoning behind the proposed salary increases.
- Discussion ensued. It was stated that raising the Public Works Assistant, who will move into the director position, by only 12 cents per hour did not seem like enough of an increase to account for what will

be required when he moves into that position. It was stated that an increase to \$3,500/mo. seemed more in line with the promotion being proposed.

It was the consensus to move forward with the proposed one-time payment for the clerk treasurer and the current Public Works maintenance worker, and to increase the current Public Works assistant to \$3,500/month when he is promoted to the director position.

Clerk-Treasurer Andrea Fichter said she will put together the salary amendment ordinance and bring it to council at the next meeting.

- Council decided not to pursue the proposal to merge the Concrete Volunteer Fire Dept. with the District 10 Fire Dept., or to pursue an interlocal agreement with the county.
- Mayor Miller reported on a productive meeting he’d had with Gregg Bauer, a prospective buyer of the Hub. He said that he would like to take this time to state publicly and to refute rumors that he does not want to shut down the Hub. He stated he would like the owner to be more proactive with some of the issues.

June 22 regular meeting

- Council approved Ordinance #816, Amended 2020 Salaries, per the discussion at its June 8 meeting.
- Council approved an extension request for the PSE Baker Clubhouse Visitor’s Center building permit.
- Council approved Resolution #2020-08, Setting Policy for Delinquent Account Payment Arrangements in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. After Gov. lifts the prohibition regarding termination of services for nonpayment, the town will be able to terminate services for nonpayment.
- Mayor Miller stated that he installed the memorial markers at Veterans Memorial Park, and that we will start a new list if people would still like to purchase these for placement at the park. (Call 360.853.8401 to add your name to the list.)

—Compiled from staff minutes

Keep track of your council

To have Concrete Town Council agendas and meeting minutes e-mailed to you automatically, e-mail your request to andrea@concretewa.gov or call 360.853.8401. Concrete Town Council meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 6 p.m. at Town Hall.



Your local chapter of Lions Club International gathered for its first meeting since February 2020; social distancing guidelines were observed by all.

One of our agenda items was election of officers. We thank Wayne Barrett for his willingness to accept the unanimous vote as our newest club president!

While we have been forced to cancel our spring annual activities because of the COVID-19 shutdown, your Lions Club has remained active through the lending of healthcare equipment and providing scholarships for two graduating seniors of Concrete High School’s class of 2020. Congratulations to Troy Schmidt and Devin Blankenship; each have been

awarded \$1,000 scholarships.

Lions Club is still in need of eyeglasses. If you have any to donate, you may do so at the drop box located near the Lotto counter at Albert’s Red Apple. If you need glasses, you may pick up an application at the Lotto counter.








We are always in need of donations to our medical equipment lending bank: canes, crutches, shower stools, and especially wheelchairs are always in demand. If you can donate or have a medical equipment need, please contact Lion Lynn Williams at 360.853.3588.

If you have thought about joining Lions Club, please check out our Facebook page for amended meeting times and dates per changes while the county is in Phase 2 of the reopening timeline. Feel free to send us a message there if you have questions. Stay safe!

—Lion Kelly Siebecke Smithhart

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Athlete of the Year

Kylie Clark

Concrete High School junior **Kylie Clark** is a three-sport varsity athlete, participating in volleyball, basketball, and softball. Although her softball season was canceled because of COVID-19 stipulations, Kylie excelled in her other two sports, earning her the recognition of Female Athlete of the Year for Concrete High School.

Volleyball

Clark was one of our captains on the volleyball team, and started to take on more leadership opportunities as they presented themselves throughout the season. She has been noted for her strong play in previous years in the basketball and softball programs, but really became a standout performer in all three sports this year. Clark was moved to the right side position at the beginning of the volleyball season, her third position in three years.

This is another area in which she has shown great coachability. Clark does whatever is asked of her for the betterment of her team. Playing right side moved Clark closer to the serve line, creating the opportunity for an early advantage over our opponent in each of our sets.

She led the team in total serves attempted (221), total serves in (207), aces (34), and serve percentage (94).

Clark was a dominant server for us this season, and we were able to take advantage of one of her greatest strengths.

Another area of strength was her approach, attack, and hitting, where she led the team in kills with 94. There were so many times in crucial moments when our setters would go to Clark for the sure kill. It was great having an outside force we could count on in those big moments.

The two areas in which Clark surprised us the most this year were the passing and digging aspects of the game. Before this season, I would have said these were two of her weaknesses, and because of that she was looking as someone who would have been rotated out after her serve to allow others to play the back row in her place.

If you know Clark at all, then you know how much she does not want to come off of any court. She was determined to stay on the court, and not just play the back row, but play the back row extremely well.

Clark finished 2nd on the team in perfect passing percentage (50) and digs (114), finishing in both categories only behind All-League Libero teammate Kassidy Smith.

Speaking of All-League, Clark was recognized for her efforts and improvement in volleyball by being named to the All-League Team this year



as the third best right side player in the league.

Basketball

Clark would probably say that basketball is “her” sport, and she is probably right. But after having so much success in volleyball, it might be a toss-up.

After leading her basketball team in scoring and rebounding as a sophomore, Clark was set for another big season as a junior. Unfortunately, she only played in 10 full games before breaking her ankle in a home game vs.

Mount Vernon Christian.

Before her season-ending injury, Clark was once again leading her team in scoring and rebounding, as she averaged 13.8 points and 7.1 rebounds per game. She also led the team in three-pointers (16), three-point shooting percentage (22), and free-throw shooting percentage (63).

Clark is a shooter by trade, and she isn’t afraid to do a lot of it. We need her to do that. We also need her to lead. I am looking forward to Clark’s leadership skills as they continue to develop. I saw her grow tremendously in that area, even when she had the game taken away from her. She continued to show up every day, encourage her teammates from the sideline, and was an inspiration on the bench. She wanted to be on the court so bad; you could see it in her eyes every single day. I know she is anxious for her senior year, and feels like she has so much more to prove to herself and her teammates.

Clark is a fierce competitor. She always gives her best effort, and she is a great listener. That is a great combination when you are fortunate enough to be her coach. She is a good student, is respectful, and is always engaged in those around her. I admire Clark for what she brings to her



teams, her school, and her community.

Well done, Kylie. This is an award that is earned, and you have worked hard to deserve this recognition.

—Kevik Rensink, Coach
CHS Women’s Volleyball
CHS Women’s Basketball

Powerhouse Peyton Sanchez made his presence felt every time he stepped on the football field and wrestling mat during his senior year at Concrete High School. If it weren’t for the coronavirus school closure, it’s a sure bet he would have dominated the Track and Field arena too.

Football

Sanchez stayed healthy during his final high school football season, and it showed. The Lion quarterback and team captain hammered numerous school records, finishing the season with 3,148 career passing yards on 189 completions and 433 attempts.

His career passing record surpassed Ryan Lake’s mark of 2,846 yards set between 1988–91.

Sanchez’s 33 career passing TDs eclipsed Jesse Howell’s 29, set between 1994–97.

He got a match too: 16 single-game completions, tying Joey Penninger’s record from 2003.

Sanchez led the team with four interceptions this year. He led Skagit County in rushing yards with 1,046 yards and 13 rushing TDs, and was second in passing with 1,596 yards and 18 TDs.

He was voted All League and All County First Team defensive back, and 2B NW Offensive Player of the Year.

Sanchez topped things off with a

selection to represent the league in the June 2020 East-West Earl Barden game.

As his senior year progressed, Sanchez was offered an academic and football scholarship to Whitworth University, and is scheduled to leave during the week of Aug. 10 to start practice.

“As his father and coach, I’ve coached Peyton in football for 11 years,” said CHS Head Football Coach Arthur Sanchez. “Every one of those years, whether on winning teams or losing teams, Peyton has put up so many highlights that that once you see them, you know he has a lot of potential to do great things. He’s been around football since the day he was in his mama’s belly. He’s given so much of his knowledge to his teammates and is looked up to as a leader by them as well. Peyton is so knowledgeable in our

Athlete of the Year

Peyton Sanchez



Photo by Renay Brigham

players for all their hard work by pushing him and his teammates to be that much better.

“Peyton had great teammates on the field, too, who helped him accomplish all these goals, and of course, none of this would be possible without them.

“We will miss his competitive, hard-

program that if he wanted to, he could take it away from me. His work ethic was outstanding, he put everything he had into getting himself and his teammates ready for practice and for games. If there was a league individual sportsmanship award, I believe Peyton would have received it.

“In our last contest against league rival Friday Harbor, Peyton walked over to the Friday Harbor sideline immediately after the loss and thanked all the Friday Harbor

working image on the team, but we all know he will accomplish great things and make his community proud as he ventures on to higher pastures.”

Wrestling

At 182 lbs., Sanchez helped lead the CHS wrestling team to back-to-back league team titles, and was a league champ, top five regional placer, and state participant.

“Peyton’s work ethic is above others in the sports world, which isn’t normal for someone with gifted talent,” said Head Wrestling Coach Jesse Dellinger. “He never complains and is always willing to learn and work hard to get better.

“He spent all season as Hunter’s (Olmstead) workout and practice partner, giving up 40–50 lbs. every day at practice and never complained. He will be missed in the wrestling room, and I wish him nothing but the best at Whitworth University.

“Athlete of the Year is a well-deserved award for a great young man with a bright future.”

—J. K. M.

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Academics



Concrete Middle School students' year-end reflections

As the 2019–20 school year drew to a close, Concrete Middle School teacher Rachel Reese pressed her students to reflect on their distance-learning experience.

The students shared their thoughts on why education is worth fighting for, offered wisdom from their experience on how they were successful in distance learning, and gave examples of self-driven schedules they created. They told a story of how they pulled it all together.

"I was very impressed to hear of their personal approaches to tackle this uncharted territory in our educational history, and felt their responses to why they valued their education were profound," said Concrete High School Principal Christine Tripp. "Our students and teachers worked to learn a new 'norm' for the duration of the 2019–20 school year. I appreciated how families and teachers supported students to work together for the common goal of education. In short, it was pleasure to witness students making sure they kept learning and finding a very personal method to making it work."

Here is what the students had to say.

Why do you think an education is worth fighting for?

"... I believe that education is worth fighting for because each step in learning is vital to any future success. This being said, skipping a step cannot be done

if someone's goal is to reach their full potential."

—Ashton, 8th grade

"... with jobs diverting from being physically based to being based on knowledge, whether that be working a desk job or designing rockets, obviously an education is needed to do anything that requires knowledge."

—Michael, 8th grade

"The time we are in right now makes things very hard on everyone, whether its teachers and students or parents trying to find work. Everyone is stressed out and that is not making the situation any easier. I am a student at Concrete Middle School and I will be sharing my thoughts and opinions on how to make homeschooling easier and more productive. I believe that an education is very important and with that being said, we need to fight to keep learning. Everyone gets distracted at home, either by siblings, animals, or simply their phone, but we need to keep learning because what we learn now affects our high school career and the rest of our lives."

—Hayley, 8th grade

"Education gives us knowledge of the world around us and changes it into something better. It develops in us, a perspective of looking at life."

—Josiah, 7th grade

Concrete School District announces free summer food program

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

order to receive free meals. Children must consume all food in the cafeteria.

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

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

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

—Marla Reed, Director

Concrete School District Food Service

"... when you have a job, you are going to need to use the education that the school taught you."

—Jordan, 7th grade

"If you do not have an education, you cannot get a good job and earn money. You need an education so you can think and communicate. Education is part of everything; you need it to get through life."

—Mason, 8th grade

What advice would you give to another student about how to be successful as a distance learner? What do you need to do?

"... Having a schedule, keeping up with studies, and receiving the appropriate credit are all still part of classes. Lastly, I would say, even if you're at home, your attention is still a requirement. Focus on the work until it is finished, as you would at school."

—Ashton, 8th grade

"The advice I would give to another student about how to be successful as an online student is not to forget that you are in school. Even though you are at home, you need to do your work."

—Jonathan, 8th grade

"If you just finish your work and always turn it in, you will most likely have good grades and be on the dot. If you are having problems, your teacher will probably be available for you to call her/him. You will always have some difficulties, but if you just try and try, you can do it! You have just got to believe in yourself because if you don't, you most likely will not get anywhere."

—Kelsy, 7th grade

"I would advise (students) to do their best. Sometimes people panic in assignments because they are expected to do perfectly, but they don't realize that they don't need to be perfect, they just have to do their best."

—Alex, 7th grade

"... to plan out times in the week for certain assignments you have, make sure you're staying focused (take away distractions, play calming music, get a blanket, etc.), whatever calms you down and helps keep you focused, and see what time/day you work best: morning, night, etc."

—Prudence, 7th grade

"Do your work, don't be lazy. Everything can distract from your goal. It takes discipline. Just sit there and do it."

—Mason, 8th grade

"The advice I would give to another student to be successful as an online student would be to immediately set up a steady schedule."

—Leda, 7th grade

"Break up the work and don't stress out about it. You have time and it isn't like it's the end of the world if you don't finish it the same day."

—Mariah, 8th grade

"During the online school, I personally faced no challenges during the school year. I was able to turn my work in on time because I kept up on my work daily."

—Lane, 8th grade

What did you enjoy about distance learning?

"Online work isn't as time consuming as a normal school work. You can also do online school work whenever you want, as long as you have an Internet connection. There's also a lot more tools at our disposal, whether that be Google dictionary, MS paint, etc."

—Michael, 8th grade

"What I enjoyed about working online was the flexibility. I really liked being able to decide when to wake up and when to do work. Although it is challenging to manage your time wisely, it is enjoyable to have the freedom or choice to do the work."

—James, 8th grade

See Reflections, p. 14

YD update

Hank Williams Jr. once sang, "Mr. Lincoln, I wish you were here." Although Abraham Lincoln is not here, his words still ring true today. One of my favorite quotes of all time comes from him:

"You are as happy as you make up your mind to be."

This points to the fact that when so many things are out of our control, our attitude and how we respond are still within our control. This is a great reminder to all of us when we consider each day, the actions or words of others, and our reactions or responses. Another one of my favorite quotes from Lincoln is, "I will prepare and someday my chance will come." I believe this gives all of us hope, and it has helped me prepare for what lies ahead, even when things may appear to be uncertain.

After canceling all Youth Dynamics Monday night events for the school year, we were holding out hope we would be able to attend one or both of our summer trips. Rock-n-Roll is our annual June retreat, and includes a three-day weekend of camping, hiking, exploring Leavenworth, and whitewater rafting the Wenatchee River. Unfortunately this trip was canceled.

Our next big adventure still awaits us, and as of right now, still remains on our

schedule (July 18–24). We plan to proceed with our Salmon River Trip, which is a seven day kayak/raft adventure down the Salmon River in Idaho. There are 10 students currently signed up to go, and we have room for two more, if you know of a high school student who needs to get out of the house (and out of the state) for a while. The normal cost of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity trip is \$1,250, with the Youth Dynamics guided discount it is \$750, but we are only charging our Concrete students \$200 each. If you know of a teenager who would benefit from such an experience, please let me know as soon as possible. If you would like to sponsor a student who may not be able to afford this trip, please let me know that as well.

I am looking forward to returning to our regular Monday night activities in the fall, and seeing all of our students again. I miss all of our Concrete YD students very much, and wish our graduating seniors the very best in their future endeavors. I hope Youth Dynamics has impacted your lives in a real and meaningful way, and you know you always have a friend in your YD staff.

Pray for the students and staff who are going on the Salmon River Trip, and also for those who are not. Pray for our nation, our community, and our families.

—Kevik and Marta Rensink
area directors

Concrete Resource Coalition



In June the Concrete Resource Coalition wrapped up activities for the school year and reflected on our July 2019 to June 2020 year. Here are some of our highlights.

- Held the 13th Annual Concrete Youth Activity Day with close to 350 participants.
- Sent two Concrete High School students to CADCA Mid-Year in Dallas, Texas.
- Graduated seven families from our Incredible Years Program.
- Collected eight pounds of expired/unused medications during National Drug Takeback.
- 182 Concrete Elementary Students received instruction in a PAX Good Behavior Game classroom.
- Took four Concrete High School students to Yakima for a youth leadership training.

- Had 173 respondents to our yearly community survey.
- Started Positive Action at the Middle and High School Boys and Girls Club.
- Conducted a CANS (Community Assessment of Neighborhood Stores) Assessment.
- Co-hosted a parent education night around youth vaping.
- Graduated five families from Strengthening Families.

All of this is possible because of dedicated community members wanting to make a lasting impact in the lives of our youngest community members.

The coalition is always looking for new members to help with programs and events. Please reach out to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ConcreteResourceCoalition/ like, follow, and share or e-mail me to learn more.

Stay healthy!

—Stephanie Morgareidge, coordinator
Concrete Resource Coalition
United General District 304

stephanie.morgareidge@unitedgeneral.org
360.854.7179

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Cross purposes

Area pastors navigate freedom of religion amid state directives

By Jason Miller

Editor's note: Jason Miller is a member of Community Bible Church in Concrete.

Gov. Jay Inslee's March decree closed businesses and bars, schools and salons—everything that wasn't deemed "essential" by his office.

The closures included weddings, funerals, and churches themselves, opening the possibility of civil disobedience as faith communities grappled with their freedom of religion in the shadow of a government mandate not to gather in person for worship.

Opinion pieces popped up like mushrooms, especially last month, when the killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer sparked protests nationwide, drawing people into city streets in apparent violation of shutdown orders in many states. A June 5 opinion piece by columnist Megan McArdle in *The Washington Post* argued that if mass protests are happening, then

on what moral authority can leaders say that church gatherings shouldn't?

What to do?

Concrete Herald reached out to 20 churches of various denominations in its coverage area, to find out how pastors and leadership teams have responded to the state government forbidding them to gather for in-person services. Of the churches that responded, common threads ran through their initial reaction: Obedience to government authorities (biblical passages from Romans 13 and Hebrews 13 were cited), and immediate attention to the needs of their congregations.

This is not to say that every member of every congregation is on the same page. A Venn diagram meme floating through Facebook seemed to sum up what many pastors were experiencing along the way, with the pastor in the middle of conflicting opinions from the congregation:

- "We need to open the church

- building!"
- "Don't ever open the building again!"
- "We can't open the building yet! It's a huge health risk!"
- "Here are the 25 things you need to do if you want to meet in your building again."
- "It's all a big hoax! A conspiracy! A media frenzy! Read this article!"
- "My loved one just died from COVID-19."

The path through the pandemic seemed fraught with peril for churches, their pastors, and their leadership teams. How should they navigate their call to worship in the arena of a statewide shutdown?

Faith, not fear

After all in-person services were suspended, many churches went online, opening YouTube channels and creating Facebook pages.

Concrete Assembly of God did all of the above, plus "immediately surveyed the resources available to us to carry on the ministry of the church," said Pastor Bruce Martin. "This included preaching and teaching, presenting needs for corporate prayer, and general communication. Our goal was to preserve continuity, community, and communication to every member."

The church figured out how to communicate with each family or individuals in the congregation. Some were on social media, others had only phones or were limited in their resources.

"After finding ways to contact each member, we started a Facebook page, which we did not have before. We then posted communications, information, and a link to our YouTube channel to share the Sunday morning message. We already had a text-based Prayer Chain in place, which covers a large portion of our congregation. At the end of the week, we send out a word of encouragement and announcements. For special days we set out gifts or drop them off at each household."

Martin said his congregation has been faithful to continue to support the church financially. "They have worked to honor the civil authorities and to keep an eye out for their neighbors and community



Kevin Riley pastors Mount Baker Presbyterian Church in Concrete. He said his congregation "misses each other, but understands this is what's best for us right now. MBPC is really good at staying on the same page and unified in times of struggle." Submitted photo.

members who were in need. They have battled against fear and encouraged others to do so."

Two blocks away in Concrete, Community Bible Church Pastor Rob Thomas and his leadership team "sought to connect with the congregation through personal phone calls, a weekly pastoral letter, a weekly 'Worship @ Home' service, and most recently, services online through YouTube," said Thomas.

Church doors across the state were closed by March 22. With no formal services, Thomas pushed for a faith-based approach to the pandemic, signing his e-mails to church members with "Faith, not fear."

In May the church mailed 62 surveys to regular attenders, and received 44 back. An attempt to gauge members' thoughts and comfort levels during the pandemic, the survey results were eye-opening and not surprising, said Thomas.

"Within our church family, we have quite the range of responses to all the information related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We want to communicate and promote an attitude of love and respect to each and every person, and how they have chosen to respond during this pandemic."

Thomas said he is encouraged that more members of the congregation are using

Cross, cont. from p. 12

their resources—time, talents, spiritual gifts, finances—to make a difference in the lives of others.

For his part, he said that "although I have sought to stay informed (via Johns Hopkins Daily Update, CDC guidelines, Gov. Inslee's decrees), my foremost guides are the Bible and the Holy Spirit. My accountability as a pastor is ultimately to the Good and Chief Shepherd. As such, I want to do what I believe is best for the congregation of Community Bible Church."

"If everyone is sick, who will come?"

Very small congregations like the faith community at Mount Baker Presbyterian Church in Concrete face an additional challenge, said Pastor Kevin Riley.

"We look forward to the day we can worship together, but we have also settled in for the long haul," he said. "While in-person worship is important to us, our physical health is more so. If everyone is sick, who will come?"

The virus shutdown hit the church just as it came to the end of its cold weather shelter pilot program. "Everything seemed to happen really fast, from the explosion of COVID-19 and the realization that our older congregants were in the target range for the age group to be most affected by the virus. We decided to cancel our worship service that was intended to bless the staff and facilitators of the shelter. We needed to take a step back and think about everyone's safety first."

After the church canceled its first service following the shutdown notice, the executive board for its synod had an emergency meeting and mandated no-in person worship services until further notice.

"That left us scrambling to figure out a way to keep us all together and unified as a faith community," said Riley. He created a Facebook group for the church, which then morphed into its own Facebook page, and the church started live-streaming its worship service.

Along the way, one church member was hospitalized with the virus.

"Had we continued to meet, that one individual could have wiped out our church," said Riley.

These days, the church holds a "Zoom social" once each month to provide face-to-face interaction. The approach has helped the church to expand its community and to help reunite some families within the church.

"In some ways we are actually thriving in the live-streaming format," said Riley.

"We never saw the governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy order as infringing on our religious freedoms. We took it as something we needed to do to keep not only ourselves but our community safe."

"I think this pandemic has helped to do a number of things," said Riley. "It has helped to unify people in the beginning, but it also has shown us all something under the surface of humanity: a rift between the people. As members of the body of Christ and humanity in general, this is our 'Dare to be great' moment in our history that is being written. Can or will we rise is the question."

"We will not put others at risk"

Darrington United Methodist Pastor Sandra McCaulley said her church building has been closed since the second week in March, and her congregation misses their face-to-face interactions, hugs, and fellowship. She keeps them connected and informed by mailing a weekly sermon, bulletin, hymns, Bible study, and an activity page to all her parishioners. She also calls each person weekly. Virtual worship is available online from the conference office, but most of her congregation doesn't use that format.

"As a congregation, we're staying connected, helping with meals when necessary, praying, encouraging, and listening to each other," said McCaulley.

McCaulley internalizes the concept of freedom of religion and its intersection with government mandates. "Freedom of religion initiates within each of us. Our denomination's founder, John Wesley, urged us to 'first do no harm.' So although the stay-at-home mandate chafes, we will not put others at risk."

"I have encouraged our congregation to utilize this time to examine, reflect, and meditate on their lives; to deepen their spiritual walk and prayer focus. I look at this time as a reset for priorities in both personal and public life," said McCaulley.

"We have the ability to worship anywhere, but look forward to when we can be together again in our church building. We're learning to patiently wait."



Concrete pastors Rob Thomas (left) and Bruce Martin relax outside Martin's church, Concrete Assembly of God, last month after a conversation about how each congregation is weathering the pandemic. Like most churches in the U.S., Concrete Assembly of God has posted its services on a YouTube channel. "I am proud of the good attitudes that have prevailed among our congregation," said Martin. "It says a great deal about the character of our community and the people who call our Upper Valley home."

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Concrete Food Bank

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Darrington

Darrington Food Bank

First Baptist Church
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Community Bible Church Pastor Rob Thomas delivers a sermon for a camera monitored by Jonas Rensink, who also edits the video and posts it to the Concrete church's YouTube channel. Thomas is joined every Thursday night by the church's worship team members, who bookend his messages with prayer, music, and song. June 28 marked the church's return to in-person worship during Phase 2, with masks and physical distancing encouraged.

See Cross, p. 13

Continue the cycle

Please recycle
this newspaper





Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

An unidentified couple row a boat on Clear Lake in front of Clear Lake Lumber Company Mill circa 1910. Both individuals are holding guns. This photo was probably taken near the present-day boat launch on the north end of the lake. Note the large quantity of logs floating on the lake awaiting processing at the mill. A large burner and three small smokestacks can be seen in the background, and in the far background a barn can be seen. *Photo courtesy of Clear Lake Historical Association.*

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

—Deanna Ammons, historian
Clear Lake and Day Creek



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Reflections, cont. from p. 10

“I enjoy working online because I could work when I wanted to. I could work at my own pace. I was able to be at home.”
—Adam, 8th grade

“The advice I would give to other students is this is real. This is on you to learn now. It’s up to you to take hold of your future and learn as honest and true as you can. Don’t let yourself get distracted and stay ahead of your work.”
—Isabelle, 7th grade

“What I enjoyed about distance learning was that I got to sleep in!”
—Jonathan, 8th grade

“In my time working online, I have enjoyed that it is very organized. Because everything is online, there is a smaller chance of assignments getting lost.”
—Caelynn, 7th grade

“I am more of an independent learner when it comes to some subjects, so it was really nice to be able to do things the way I liked them to be done.”

—Indie, 7th grade

Customized schedules

Students created schedules that uniquely worked for them.

Jakob, 7th grade:
Noon to 1 p.m.: Lunch
1 p.m.: Start or log on time, each day
20 min. per assignment:
Mon. through Wed.: P.E., Science, ELA, History
Wed. through Thur.: Art, Woodshop, Math
Fri.: Finish work not done
2:30 to 3:30 p.m.: Exercise: pushups, situps, 1-mile jog
3:30 p.m.: End of day

Hunter, 7th grade:
6 to 10 a.m.: Free time
10 to 11 a.m.: First learning time (I do assignments the day they are due except for Aleks, which I do 4 a day.)
11 a.m. to noon: Dog walk
Noon to 1 p.m.: Lunch/free time
1 to 2 p.m.: Chores
2 to 3 p.m.: Dog walk
3 to 4 p.m.: Another learning time
5 to 6 p.m.: Phone calls and e-mails

See Reflections, p. 15



Community Calendar



JULY

- 4 Independence Day
- 4 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com
- 4 Concrete Caravan parade, Main Street, Concrete, 2 to 4 p.m.; see article, p. 6; info at chamber@concrete-wa.com or 360.466.8754
- 10–12 Concrete Old-Fashioned Fly-In — **CANCELED**
- 11 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com
- 17 Concrete Youth Activity Day — **CANCELED**
- 18 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com
- 25 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com

AUGUST

- 1 Concrete Saturday Market, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; info at www.concretesaturdaymarket.com and concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com
- 1–2 Salmon Bar-B-Que, Marblemount Community Hall, Marblemount, noon to 6 p.m.; see notice, p. 26
- 13–16 Skagit County Fair — **CANCELED**
- 22 Cascade Days, Concrete, parade and cookout from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 6; info at www.cascadedays.com
- 23 Old Timers’ Picnic, Marblemount Community Hall, Marblemount, 1 to 4 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

- 5–6 Sasquatch Conference and Festival, Marblemount Community Hall, Marblemount, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days; see notice, p. 26

OCTOBER

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

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

Community meetings

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

Christian Motorcyclists Assn Morning Star Chapter 39 meets the third Sat. of each month at Royal Star Buffet in Mount Vernon. Optional dinner at 6 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m. 425.770.6154 or cmchapter39@gmail.com.

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

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

Concrete American Legion Post and Auxiliary meets the second Tue. of each month, Sept. through May, at 2 p.m., in the conference room of the East County Resource Center. 360.853.8347.

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

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

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

Concrete Heritage Museum Board meets the third Wed. of each month, at 6 p.m. at the museum. Meetings are open to the public. 360.826.3075 or www.concreteheritagemuseum.org.

Concrete Lions Club meets the first and third Wed. of each month, at Annie’s Pizza Station, Concrete. Social at 6 p.m.; meeting at 6:30. —**Concrete Resource Coalition** meets the third Thur. of each month, at 2 p.m., in the Concrete High School library.

Concrete School District Board: The board will hold a regular meeting on July 30 at 6 p.m., via Zoom. 360.853.4000.

Concrete Town Council meets the second

and fourth Monday of each month at Town Hall, 45672 Main St., Concrete, at 6 p.m. 360.853.8401 or andrea@concretewa.gov.

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

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

Forest Park Cemetery District No. 5 meets the third Tue. of each month at the cemetery office on Compton Lane in Concrete, at 6 p.m. 360.708.3656.

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

Imagine Concrete meets the third Thur. of each month in the Pilots’ Lounge at Mears Field in Concrete, at 7 p.m. Open to the public. 360.853.8213 or goodwords@frontier.com.

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

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

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

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

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

Sedro-Woolley School District Board: Meets for a regular meeting July 13 at 5 p.m., via Zoom. info at kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us or 360.855.3500.

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

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

Reflections, cont. from p. 14

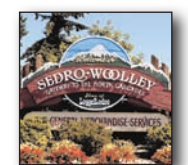
Jayden, 8th grade:
Monday through Friday
9 a.m.: Start
Science: 30 min.
History: 1 hr.
End: 10:30 / 11 a.m.
Lunch: Noon
Walk/Yard work: 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
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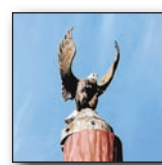
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Sedro-Woolley



United General District 304, Helping Hands Solution Center among recipients of disaster relief grants

Skagit Valley College club builds, distributes mask tension release bands

Sedro-Woolley High School alumnus and volunteer extraordinaire Colvin Swanberg (*Concrete Herald*, June 2018) is back at it, this time working with colleagues to develop and distribute a very handy accessory for mask wearers.

Swanberg, 19, is president of the Skagit Valley College Manufacturing Innovation Club, whose members have 3-D printed and distributed more than 1,600 tension release bands for surgical masks. Some masks have straps that are meant to be looped over the ears—an incredibly uncomfortable approach if the wearer has the mask on for hours.

“They put a lot of strain on your ears,” said Varick Andrews, club vice president

and a third-year student who is currently finishing his certificate in technical design. “Our plastic tension release bands go around the back of the head; you hook the mask straps into the tension release bands instead of your ears.”

Andrews said he thought of the idea shortly after Spring Break, when Skagit Valley College closed down. The club started with face shields, then shifted to an online open-source design they found at the National Institutes of Health Web site.

The bands are printed using 3-D printers at the college and the club members’ homes. So far they’ve printed more than 1,600 bands and put them in the hands of first responders, medical professionals,

and many more.

“We’ve delivered to a variety of food banks, assisted care facilities, large and small companies, homeless shelters, health clinics, grocery stores, multiple hospitals, and even the Skagit County COVID-19 testing site,” said Andrews.

“The people who have to wear masks—their ears get really sore,” said Swanberg. “I’ve seen what they do to ears: red and raw. I think this is an important effort because it helps people stay safe while doing their job, and it keeps them just that much more comfortable.”

Swanberg provided *Concrete Herald* with an exhaustive list of every destination to which they’ve sent their bands—43 easily recognizable local names such as Janicki Industries (which ordered the largest amount, at 300), Skagit Regional Health, Helping Hands Food Bank, PeaceHealth United General Medical Center, Sedro-Woolley Family Dental Center, Oasis Teen Shelter, and Darrington Food Bank. They’ve even shipped bands to Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Stumbling block

Four 3-D printers at the college and more at students’ homes are carrying the load of generating the bands. Andrews said that club members pressed anyone they could into service—“basically anyone we could get ahold of with a printer.”

The club roster names 44 current and former students, but has 8–10 active members during any given year, according to club advisor Bruce Poole. This year, the core members who are involved with the bands project are Swanberg, Andrews, Kendra McKay, Lars Antonsen, and Arnold Haskins. Swanberg said that Haskins has printed more of the bands than any other club member.

The printing component isn’t the biggest challenge, though, said Andrews.

“We’re trying to do lots of outreach to find people who are looking for them.



Members of the Skagit Valley College Manufacturing Innovation Club have 3-D printed and distributed more than 1,600 tension relief bands—shown here in red—for first responders and frontline workers, and anyone else who wears a surgical mask for long periods. The bands remove the pressure of mask straps on the ears. *Photo courtesy of Varick Andrews.*

At this point, our outreach is the bigger stumbling block, because we don’t have a lot of connections—we’re doing a lot of cold calls. We can print faster than we can deliver. We’re looking for anyone who needs them,” he said.

Demand rises and falls, said Andrews. “We’ll do it until demand starts to lag.”

Special recognition

The club members’ efforts have not gone unnoticed. Poole told *Concrete Herald* that on June 17, Swanberg and Andrews were awarded the Student Club Activity Award for their effort.

“It’s awarded every year to the students that exhibit exceptional commitment and involvement in club projects and activities,” said Poole.

“I’m really proud to be helping out with this,” said Andrews.

For more information, send an e-mail to bruce.poole@skagit.edu, vandrews9503@mysvc.skagit.edu, or cswanberg3168@mysvc.skagit.edu, or call Poole at 360.969.6550.

—J. K. M.

The Skagit County Disaster Relief Fund will deliver \$170,000 in grants to more than 20 Skagit County charitable organizations and agencies, including United General District 304 and Helping Hands Solution Center in Sedro-Woolley.

According to a press release from Skagit Community Foundation, distributions from the fund will go to more than 20

501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations who directly support vulnerable populations and critical human needs affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Disaster Relief Fund was established by the Skagit Community Foundation, United Way, and the Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County (EDASC). The fund was

Food Banks, cont. from p. 22

under Phase 2 while outdoors until we’re unable to do so.”

Pastor Edwards thinks similarly: “The virus itself will determine if we get to Phase 3. If there is still a significant amount of illness by the time we can no longer operate outdoors, then we’ll have to rethink how we do things—do we try the building or not?”

Director Larsen is already searching for funding sources to retrofit the area’s food banks to get them ready for Phase 4 and to keep up with the increased need for the foreseeable future. She’s asking for donors to sign up at their Web site, www.helpinghandsfoodbank.org, because otherwise, options may be tough to find.

For the Upper Valley food banks, the shelves are surprisingly well stocked. Because of the efforts of Helping Hands Solution Center and Food Lifeline, supplies are plentiful. Smith, however, worries about what happens when things go back to normal.

“We have plenty of food right now, but the problem is going to be when this stops, because we won’t have the same food supply. Before the pandemic I would order food every Wednesday to be brought up here, but right now they’re not taking orders. If they aren’t taking orders and we can’t restock our shelves ourselves, we won’t have enough food unless we get big donations.”

Director Larsen already has been struggling with this. “One of my biggest concerns going forward is getting help with food. As of today we have not seen extra food from the government. I thought it would be as simple as the government buying more food and shipping it to us, but it will be close to 20 weeks before we get that help.”

Larsen noted that during an average year, they spend \$47,000 on food purchases. So far this year they’ve already spent \$170,000 as part of their efforts to support not only their own operations, but to keep Anacortes, Alger, Hamilton, and Concrete open. In November 2019 the Bread of Life Food Bank in Marblemount closed, and Helping Hands has absorbed service there alongside Inspire Church of Sedro-Woolley.

Other challenges faced throughout the pandemic have been in communicating information and in adjusting to curbside services. “In the beginning, it was hard for people to learn how to do curbside; it wasn’t a smooth process,” said Smith. “Now, they pull up, get their food, and go on about their business. It’s really smooth.”

The other big challenge? “Rain!” Overall, Smith is happy with how operations are going at the moment, even if the future is uncertain. “It’s a little bit challenging, but when you have so many wonderful people helping you, it takes a lot of the stress off.”

While things in the post COVID-19 world are liable to change, and change quickly, as of publication, July’s hours for the three food banks are as follows:

- Concrete Food Bank: Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (tentative).
- Hamilton Community Food Bank: Every Tuesday from 2 to 5 p.m.
- Helping Hands Solution Center: Every Monday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Smith also reminds readers that there’s lots of food at all of the area’s food banks, and they’re all giving out the same things. “If one food bank is closed, don’t be afraid to go to any of the others.”

developed to help address the growing impact on Skagit County from the COVID-19.

During the past couple of months, the partnering agencies raised more than \$200,000.

“It’s amazing and inspiring to see these donors investing in our community,” said Skagit Community Foundation Executive Director Michael Stark.

To learn more about the fund or make a contribution, go to The Skagit Valley Disaster Relief Fund page on the Skagit Community Foundation Web site, www.skagitcf.org.

—Skagit Community Foundation

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Briefly ...

Soroptimist International of Sedro-Woolley is offering continuing education scholarships to students currently enrolled in academic or vocational post-high school study.

The amount of the scholarship funds has not yet been established, because of the coronavirus closures, but will be announced shortly.

Scholarships are competitive. Applications are due July 31. There is no form. To apply, send a letter to SI Sedro-Woolley outlining your career plans and study goals, together with a current transcript, to P.O. Box 249, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

Woolley Fiber Quilters will present an online quilt and fiber show in lieu of its annual show during July. Members have submitted photos of quilts they would have entered in the show, plus some favorites. Photos will be added during the month; go to www.woolleyfiberquilters.blogspot.com to view and enjoy local fiber artistry starting July 1.

—Judy Johnson

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Lyman



Charity plans work party, poker run

Heart to Heart Charity Kids Club will host a homeless bag work party on Sat., July 11, from noon to 3 p.m., at 12545 Mill St. in Clear Lake. This is a Kids Club Give Back project.

The charity needs donated items, including travel-size hygiene products like deodorant, shampoo, soap, and conditioner; hand warmers; used towels still in good condition; nonperishable food items, etc. Backpacks, duffle bags, or reusable grocery bags in good condition are especially needed, and will be used to pack items. Also on the list are books, puzzle books, small blankets, gloves,

socks, and other items to put in the bags for those in need.

For more information e-mail Tammie Werner at hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com.

Motorcycle Poker Run

Heart to Heart Charity's 6th annual Motorcycle Poker Run fundraiser will be on Sat., Aug. 1. The event will start at Lyman Tavern, 8328 S. Main St., Lyman, and a free breakfast will be served for paid registrations. Registration is from 9 to 10:45 a.m. at the tavern, with kickstands up at 11 a.m. Participants will receive one poker hand, a scenic ride, and a free

breakfast.

Admission is \$20 for a bike/rider and \$30 for a bike/rider/passenger if paid before July 27; add \$5 to each if after July 27. Registration forms are available by sending an e-mail to hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com. The 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. E-mail or call 360.826.3818 for details.

The Poker Run helps the charity support activities for children of low-income families, including homeless bags, assistance, and its Christmas Angel Tree program.

The event is listed on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hearttoheartcharity.

—Tammie Werner

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 19

offense near the 32000 block of Hamilton Cemetery Rd. east of Lyman. Deputies Koback, Wiggins, and Mueller responded. When they arrived they contacted several witnesses. The witnesses said that the resident had been outside shooting her gun as she frequently does. Her father and brother came over to ask her to quit shooting. She was less than cooperative. Her father and brother turned and started to walk away when her mother came over and got into a confrontation with her. The mother grabbed her daughter and pulled her down to the ground. After talking to all the witnesses, deputies arrested the mom for 4th degree domestic violence assault.

June 19

A male was reported to be yelling and screaming at the Lake Shannon boat launch. The person then got into a black Toyota 4Runner and left. Deputy Clark called the reporting party. From the description given he was able to determine that the male was most likely a subject who has been in the area for several months and appears to have mental issues.

June 20

While on routine patrol, Deputy Clark observed a vehicle westbound on SR 20

traveling 92 mph in a 50 mph zone near Rockport. As the vehicle went around the corner, Deputy Clark lost sight of it. When he came around the corner, the vehicle had disappeared. As he was checking the area, he observed the vehicle now eastbound on SR 20, traveling 72 mph in the 50 mph zone. Deputy Clark stopped the vehicle. When he contacted the driver, Deputy Clark immediately smelled the odor of intoxicants. He provided the driver with field sobriety tests, which he failed. The driver was arrested and taken to Concrete for a breath test. The test showed that the driver's alcohol level was .167. The driver was arrested for DUI and taken to jail.

June 21

Deputies Passovoy and Clark investigated a report of a white van parked in front of the St. Catherine's Church on Limestone St. in Concrete. The female occupant refused to give the deputies her name. The male provided his name. Both subjects were told they were trespassing and needed to leave. Deputies also attempted to contact a motor home with out-of-state plates parked in the lot, but no one answered the door.

—Compiled by SCSO Sgt. Greg Adams

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 35

anonymous caller. The caller said that the rocks never hit his vehicle and he did not feel threatened by the incident. Deputy Arndt checked the area and contacted a male near the boat launch. The male admitted to throwing a rock at his brother, but said he didn't throw any toward a car. The male appeared to possibly have mental issues. He agreed to stop throwing rocks and left the area.

June 6

After observing a white sedan pull up to a guard rail on the Baker Lake Rd. and put a plastic Tupperware container on a post, a concerned citizen called the Sheriff's Office to report what she believed was drug activity. Deputy Esskew checked the area, but did not find the container nor the vehicle.

June 7

The attendant at the Skagit County Sauk Transfer station reported that he had found a wallet belonging to a person who was in the Navy. Deputy Brannon contacted the attendant and took possession of the wallet. He was able to call the duty supervisor at the Whidbey Island Navy Base, who said they would notify the subject.

June 8

Deputy Dalton responded to a report of an assault at the Dalles Bridge south of Concrete. When he arrived he contacted one of the persons involved. The person told Deputy Dalton that he had been walking when a Dodge Durango pulled up and a male he knew got out and accused him of stealing a car. The alleged victim said as he backed up, he tripped and fell and the suspect then got on top of him and attempted to punch him. The victim told Deputy Dalton that he did not wish to pursue the matter.

After receiving a report of two suspicious vehicles near the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd., Deputy Slack and Deputy Vincent checked the area, finding one of the two vehicles. A male was standing next to the white truck with a black canopy that had been reported earlier. As the deputies approached, he turned and walked into the residence. Deputy Slack contacted the house and asked that the driver come out and speak to them. A few moments later the driver came out. He was advised of the call. He said he had just bought the truck from an unknown female. Deputy Slack asked him about a set of brass knuckles inside the truck, which he claimed didn't belong to him. Deputies seized the brass knuckles because they are illegal. After speaking

with the driver for a bit longer, both deputies cleared the area and continued to look for the other vehicle.

June 9

At approximately 11:30 p.m. Deputies Beisler and Mueller responded to a report of two suspicious males pushing a motorcycle down Baker Loop Rd. near the 46000 block in Cedar Grove. The caller said the two were whispering and acting strange. Deputies contacted the two suspects. One of the suspects claimed the motorcycle belonged to him and they were pushing it home because it wasn't running well. Deputy Beisler checked the motorcycle to determine if it had been stolen. The report came back clear, but not registered to the suspect. Deputy Beisler discovered that the suspect had a felony warrant for his arrest. The other suspect said he would take the motorcycle to his house down the street.

A neighbor in the 45000 block of Tolo Trail Rd. in Lake Tye called to report that the next door neighbor was yelling and screaming and possibly breaking things. Deputies responded and while driving there, were told that the residence from which the noise had been emanating was now on fire. When deputies arrived, they found the trailer fully engulfed. Firefighters arrived and put out the fire. Deputies looked for the person who lived in the trailer, but after searching the area were unable to find her. An attempt to locate/missing person report was put out. The next day, human remains were found inside the trailer. The incident is still under investigation.

June 10

A citizen reported a male subject sitting in a blue Honda sedan parked in the Park & Ride near Silo Park in Concrete. According to the caller, the male had been sitting there for a long time, staring at kids in the area. Deputy Moore went to the parking area and looked for a vehicle that matched the description. He did not find a vehicle matching the description. He spoke to some people who had seen the vehicle and suspect. They said he had walked around the bathroom, then got into his car and traveled toward the Town Center on Main St. Deputy Moore checked Main St. and the surrounding areas in Concrete, but did not locate the vehicle. He attempted to call the reporting party back for more information, but the caller did not answer her phone. He left a message for her to call back.

At 7 p.m., deputies responded to a weapons offense near the Lyman Elementary School. The anonymous

caller said that a male in a black Lexus had pointed a gun at them. When deputies arrived, they talked with several residents who said they had not seen any altercation or weapons offense. Deputies checked the area and did not find a matching vehicle.

June 11

Deputy Moore responded to a report of a suspicious truck with two occupants parked about halfway down the caller's driveway in the 8500 block of Pinelli Rd. Deputy Moore contacted the driver of the truck, who said he was by himself. Deputy Moore advised him that he knew that was false because neighbors had seen another male with the truck. The driver then said it was his friend, but he didn't know his name. Deputy Moore looked into the back of the truck and noticed a large amount of tools, which were all wet. It had been raining, and the truck had a canopy on it. He also noticed it appeared that the driver had been out walking, as he was very wet. As Deputy Moore continued to investigate, he noticed a trail going through the tall grass with footprints and what looked like tracks from some type of cart. Not wanting to leave his car alone with the driver, Deputy Moore identified the driver, then told him he could leave.

After the driver left, Deputy Moore followed the trail through the tall grass. As he followed the trail, neighbors called to advise him that the truck was seen driving back and forth as if looking for someone. Deputy Esskew arrived in the area. As Deputy Moore checked the trail, he found numerous tools and what appeared to be a cart that was being used to move the tools. He followed the trail to a residence on Cape Horn Rd. The residence had been broken into and it was obvious that the tools had been stolen from the garage. Deputies were able to relocate the driver. He said that his friend had taken some items, but was just borrowing them. The driver was arrested for residential burglary and taken to jail.

June 12

Deputy Brannon checked on a white Toyota Camry parked at an access road in Concrete. The owner of the vehicle said he is homeless and has been living in his car. There were no other issues.

June 13

Washington State Patrol called to advise they had received a report of a silver car looking through mailboxes on SR 20 near Dillard Ave. in Concrete. Deputy Wolfe searched the area for the vehicle, but was unable to find it.

A grandson reported that his elderly grandfather was missing from his residence on the South Cascade Rd. The

reporting party said his grandfather has dementia and heart problems. He was last seen wearing a veteran's baseball hat and jeans. The caller said his grandfather has walked away before, but has never been gone this long. He said he usually goes to neighboring houses in the area. SAR units from Skagit County and Snohomish County were called, in addition to the Sheriff's Office drone program. As the SAR units were planning, Deputy Wolfe was called. He said the family had located the victim about a quarter mile from the residence. He was in good condition and safe. SAR units were advised to stand down. Deputy Wolfe talked to the family about getting their grandfather into the Sheriff's Office CARETRAK program, which is a tracking system for citizens with dementia or other mental disabilities that make them prone to getting lost.

June 14

The manager at the Baker Hotel called to report that there were two silver vehicles and the occupants had flashlights and were walking around the area. The vehicles had left, but deputies checked the area and were unable to find any vehicles matching the two silver cars.

June 15

Deputies responded to a physical domestic disturbance on O'Hara Rd. near Hamilton. The reporting party reported that her boyfriend assaulted her. Her boyfriend also called and said he had been assaulted by the caller. Deputies contacted the victim, who said her boyfriend had left on foot after she called 911. She said that she had accused her boyfriend of cheating on her and he admitted that he had. She slapped him and a fight started. During the fight she fell on top of him and he reached around her neck and placed her in a "choke" hold. She feared that she was going to pass out, so she was able to turn enough to bite him on the chest causing him to let go. She then called the Sheriff's Office. Deputies checked the area for the suspect, but were unable to locate him.

June 17

Deputy Ayala was dispatched to a report of a female yelling at her child. When he arrived at the residence in the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove, he talked to a 13-year-old boy. The boy said there had been no one yelling. He then said that he had opened his window to yell down to his mom to ask her a question before she went into town to get a pizza. Deputy Ayala noted he talked to the boy and cleared the scene.

Dispatch advised of a possible weapons

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Below: Concrete High School graduating senior Devin Blankenship enjoys the senior parade through Concrete Town Center on June 13. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, state directives prevented this year's graduating senior class from participating in a traditional graduation ceremony, so the school district threw them a parade instead.

Bottom left: Concrete High School graduating senior Levi Lowry gets a fist bump from Concrete District Superintendent Wayne Barrett during a special event at the high school after the June 13 senior parade. Seniors drove through the roundabout at Concrete High School and stopped at the entrance to hear their name read aloud, to receive their diploma, and to get a basket of goodies from Concrete High School Principal Christine Tripp.

June in pictures



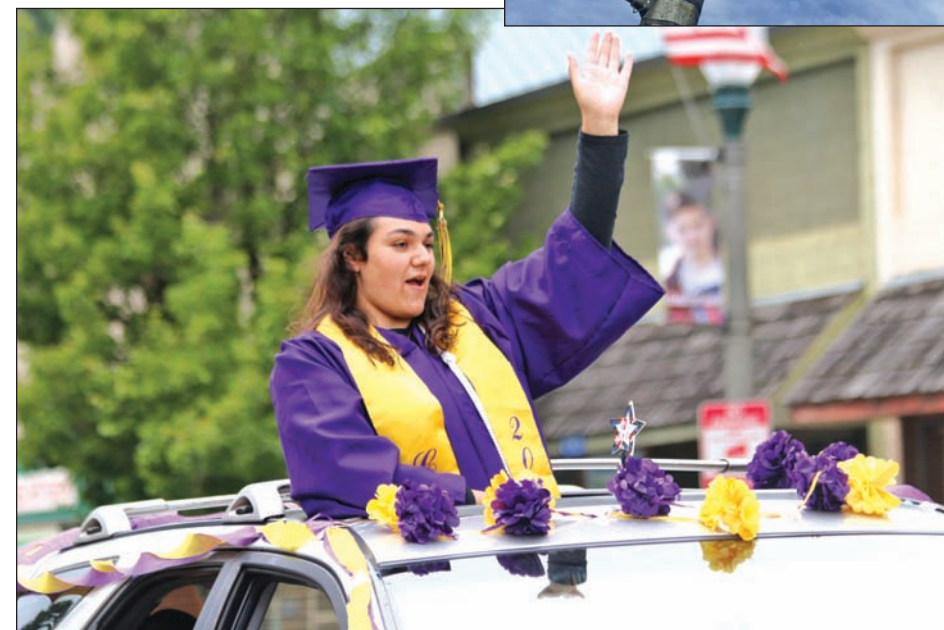
Above: Hayley Daniels and Adam Culver ride in style during the 8th grade recognition parade through the Concrete High School service lane on June 19. Staff and administrators cheered on the students and presented them with certificates of completion and personalized cookies.
Photo by Janet Culver.



Above: Concrete High School seniors descended on Concrete High School to pick up their diplomas and a basket of swag from high school administrators. The June 13 event followed a senior parade through Concrete Town Center, where banners had been mounted on the lamp posts (right) by Carrie Newby and a group of volunteers and donors (see Letters, *Concrete Herald*, June 2020).



Below: Amanda Ballegos waves to spectators during the senior parade in Concrete Town Center on June 13.



Above left: Connor French waves as he arrives at Concrete High School to pick up his diploma and a goodie basket on June 13.
Above: Ellie Karkabe is all smiles with her diploma during the drive-through event at Concrete High School on June 13, following the senior parade.
Left: Shawn Powell, Angela Wilson, and Laura Powell carry a banner to thank Concrete Elementary School staff during an end-of-year all-school parade at the school on June 19.
Photo by Sheena Daniels.





Hamilton



Rockport



Despite uncertainty, food banks distribute more food with aid of National Guard

By Chazlyn Lovely

According to Adrienne Smith of the Concrete Food Bank, things could be worse.

“We have a cool bunch of volunteers and the kids with the National Guard are absolutely wonderful—no complaints there. We’re just doing the best we can to keep everyone safe and still feed people to make sure they’re not hungry. We’re giving away a lot of food.”

Even though local food banks are changing how they operate, there has been an increase in food distribution following the rise of COVID-19. The Concrete Food Bank used to be open three days per month in the winters and two days per month throughout the summers; now it’s operating four Tuesdays per month to meet demand.

As people find themselves furloughed or laid off, Smith notes that “no matter what, you still have to pay the bills.” Smith is grateful that the community has stood behind the Concrete Food Bank during this time. “Through the pandemic, people have been gracious; they’ve been so great at donating money out of their own pockets. We’re really thankful that people have thought about people who have a little less than they do.”

Many are having to rely on food banks for the first time, and volunteers are there to help them through the uncertainty—even if they’re experiencing some of that themselves. “The situation is fluid,” said Smith. “The National Guard has been great at helping us distribute food, but we don’t know how long they’ll be here to help.”

At the Concrete Food Bank, as well as the Hamilton Community Food Bank, the National Guard has been on hand to help transport and distribute food boxes from down valley, where they’re packed by Food Lifeline, a nonprofit organization that takes surplus food from farms, manufacturers, grocery stores, and

restaurants, then repackages it and sends it to food banks in need. Coordinated by Erik Larsen from Helping Hands Solution Center in Sedro-Woolley, the Guard brings the food to the Upper Valley food banks, where it’s given to those who need it via curbside or walk-up service—which the Guard also assists with, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Concrete and from 2 to 5 p.m. in Hamilton—by placing food boxes directly into the trunks and back seats of vehicles.

The change to curbside service was necessary: Local food banks don’t have the square footage to meet the government’s requirements for physical distancing needed for inside operations. Helping Hands Solution Center has gone offsite to the Food Pavillion for its twice-a-week pickups in Sedro-Woolley to find the space it needs to operate, according to Director Rebecca Larsen. Pastor Ron Edwards from the Hamilton Community Food Bank said that they’ve been operating outside.

“There was no way we could do social distancing with the size of the building,” said Edwards. “Our food bank is part of our church ministry, so we moved the operation by the front porch of the church.” Edwards says that Town of Hamilton and the food bank have been talking about the need for a bigger building, especially with the planned town expansion, but notes that they know it won’t happen anytime soon.

Volunteers at food banks wear masks and wash their hands frequently, but both Edwards and Smith acknowledge that their core volunteer base are, in Smith’s words, “not spring chickens.” Both are concerned about what happens when the National Guard is no longer around to assist them.

“It’s true of all food banks that while there are a small number of people who aren’t in the high-risk category for COVID-19, most volunteers are retired senior citizens,” said Edwards. “We need volunteers who aren’t high-risk; people

under 60 who are in good health. We appreciated the National Guard’s help in that regard. We wouldn’t have been able to do what we’re doing without them. We’re able to operate without feeling unsafe.”

As the Governor’s Safe Start reopening plan moves through its four phases, Upper Valley food banks don’t anticipate their operations will change much. According

to Smith, “the only people who come in and out of our building are volunteers and the National Guard, and everyone is required to wear a mask. For small food banks, packing in all those people would be asking for trouble. We probably won’t be able to move into Phase 3; we’ll be doing things the way we are currently

See Food Banks, p. 17



Concrete Food Bank volunteers have teamed with members of the Washington National Guard during the pandemic to provide food for their patrons. This May 5 photo shows the volunteers and National Guard members preparing for another day of service to the community.

Rockslide closes SR 20 east of Rockport

Cleanup and repair work at a rockslide near milepost 98 east of Rockport began on June 29.

The rockslide occurred during the evening of June 10, dumping about 150 cubic yards of debris onto both lanes of the highway. By morning, more rocks had fallen, and crews estimated 1,000 cubic yards of debris—about 70 dump truck loads—will need to be removed.

Interwest Construction contractor crews working for WSDOT expect the work to take at least a month, depending on weather. Initial evaluations by geotechnical engineers show the slope above SR 20 is unstable and will require removing overhanging trees and rocks before reinforcing the slope with dowels to hold rock in place.

While the removal and repair work is in progress, detours have been in place

between Rockport and Marblemount:

- Westbound drivers detour from SR 20 at Cascade River Rd. to Cascade Rockport Rd. to Hwy 530, then back to SR 20.
- Eastbound drivers detour from SR 20 at Hwy 530 to Rockport Cascade Rd.
- Emergency vehicles will be escorted onto SR 20 and allowed to use a bypass lane.

SR 20 between Rockport and Concrete is open.

Funding for this project comes from Washington state’s preservation funds and is expected to cost around \$700,000.

Real-time traffic alerts will be posted to WSDOT’s regional Twitter account.

—WSDOT



A rockslide closed SR 20 near milepost 98 east of Rockport on June 10, dumping about 150 cubic yards of debris onto both lanes of the highway. Photo courtesy of WSDOT.



Cleanup and repair work at the rockslide site began on June 29. Crews expect the work to take at least 30 days. Detours are in place, and the highway is open between Rockport and Concrete. Photo courtesy of WSDOT.

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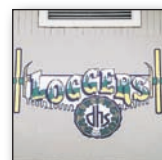


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HWY 20, MP 101





Darrington



Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

June 23

Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (SAR) deputies and Gold Bar Fire responded to a drowning near Eagle Falls around 2 p.m. today. A 32-year-old male jumped in to attempt to swim across the water to a nearby rope swing. He was pulled under the water and did not resurface. A nearby civilian jumped in to try to save the man. Fire rescuers pulled the victim from the water and performed CPR. He was transported with CPR in progress, but died before arriving at the hospital.

Positive identification of the decedent, as well as the cause and manner of death, will come from the Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office.

The day before, on June 22, another adult male was pulled under the current at Eagle Falls. He was pulled from the water unconscious and bystanders performed CPR and revived the man.

Currents are swift in Snohomish County creeks and rivers, and water temperatures are still very cold. Consider the following safety tips before exploring our county's waterways:

- Always wear a life jacket when you are on the water. Never go near moving water without one.
- Beach logs, river banks, and rocks near the shore are usually slippery. A fall can knock you unconscious and prevent you from being able to save yourself.
- Consider bringing a whistle. If you are in trouble, it could help alert nearby people.
- Keep kids within arm's reach. Drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children ages 14 and under.
- Don't dive in. Two-thirds of catastrophic neck injuries occur in open water and the sea.

—Submitted by SCSO and WSP

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

Council summary

Darrington Town Council met for a regular meeting on May 13, 2020. The following is a summary of that meeting. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at darringtontownhall.com.

May 13 regular meeting

- Mayor Dan Rankin reported on the Trust Water Agreement. Mayor Rankin has been doing outreach to tribal nations within the Skagit River watershed. Swinomish has made a request for copies of permit applications from Ecology. Mayor Rankin also has talked to the Sauk-Suiattle's water specialist.

Town of Darrington has not yet contacted the City of Burlington; the town is waiting to get information from Ecology.

The consultant for Ecology is working on the mapping for the distribution. Until the town knows if the City of Burlington is eligible for these water rights, it would be best to wait to talk to the City of Burlington.

City of Burlington would like to know if the town would be willing to lease some of its water rights in the short term, until it sells. It would be for irrigation. Councilmember Ashe asked how long the water rights would sit in the bank until they were leased. Burlington is willing to lease until the water rights sell.

Tribes are the most senior water rights holders, and most things go through them for approval. The discussions are making the tribes aware of the town's plans for the water bank.

It was recommended by the town's consultant to reach out to Upper Skagit, Swinomish, and the Sauk-Suiattle tribes.

—Compiled from staff minutes

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

Darrington Collaborative names new coordinator

Darrington Collaborative announced in May that it has named Sally Bernstein its new Collaborative Coordinator.

Bernstein will lead outreach and engagement with internal and external partners, perform administrative tasks, and support the collaborative in navigating strategic planning and governance. She has been part of the forest program team at Sustainable Northwest for five years as Forest Program Coordinator, Program Associate (Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition), Energy and Water Intern, Operations Associate, and an Operations and Development Intern.

Darrington Collaborative also will work closely with Jody Weil, the new Forest Supervisor for the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest. She will continue her work to identify and implement forest and aquatic restoration projects. Weil



Bernstein

previously served as the Deputy State Director for Resources and Planning for the Bureau of Land Management at the Arizona State Office in Phoenix, Ariz., and has served in various positions with the BLM for 30 years.

Darrington Collaborative was established in 2015 and is composed of a 10-member board of representatives from Washington Wild, Hampton Lumber, American Whitewater, Glacier Peak Institute, and local residents. Its shared goal is to increase sustainable timber harvests while improving the ecological function of forests and watersheds in the Darrington Ranger District of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

Darrington Collaborative has been focusing on small projects to help build shared understanding about different forest management approaches. The Washington Legislature approved two new forest health grant programs in 2018 to help organizations conduct landscape-scale forest restoration and management.

Darrington Collaborative has a new monthly newsletter, which is available to readers on its Web site, darringtoncollaborative.org.

—Marla Skaglund



Weil

Darrington High School 2019-20 Sports Awards

Male Athlete of the Year
Johnny Franke

Female Athlete of the Year
Alyvia Wright

Pat Pompella Award
Lucas Reuwsaat, Hannah Anderson

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Keep fireworks off public lands

Fire officials remind all those headed out to public lands this Fourth of July weekend to leave fireworks at home and take other precautions to prevent wildfire.

Fireworks are prohibited on national forests at all times, regardless of weather or conditions. Fireworks are also prohibited on other public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and Washington State Parks, as well as most county and city/town parks. Violators can be subject to a maximum penalty of a \$5,000 fine and/or up to six months in jail.

Anyone who starts a wildfire can be held liable for suppression costs.

Visitors are encouraged to take safety precautions with campfires, such as the following:

- Observe any restrictions on campfires or other activities that are known to spark wildfires. Check with your destination before you leave the house, and keep an eye out for signs or kiosks on site when you arrive.
- Keep campfires small, and select sites away from flammable material, preferably in a designated campfire ring if one is available.
- Keep water and shovel nearby, and never leave a fire unattended.
- Completely extinguish your campfire by drowning the fire with water and stirring with a shovel.
- Confirm the fire is out by touching it with the back of your hand: If it's too hot to touch, it's too hot to leave.

Unattended campfires are the most common source of human-caused wildfires on public landscapes. Nationally, nearly nine out of ten wildfires are human-caused through debris burning, equipment sparks, campfires, and other means.

For those staying home to celebrate, remember to play it safe and help prevent fires from escaping your lands. Prepare a bucket of water or keep a charged garden hose nearby before lighting fireworks. Follow the recommended safe distance labeled on the fireworks package. Never re-light a dud. Wait 15 to 20 minutes, then soak unexploded fireworks in water before disposing.

For more fire prevention information and resources, go to www.SmokeyBear.com.

—U.S. Forest Service

Briefly ...

They're baaaack ...

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

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

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

The show is located at 605 S. Emens Ave. (corner of S. Emens Ave. and Fir St.) in Darrington.

For more information, call 360.436.0711.

The **Snohomish County Master Gardeners** are offering free, online vegetable gardening classes.

"Slugs and Snails" is one of five of the gardening classes being offered online at no charge by WSU-Snohomish County Extension Master Gardeners this month.

"Interest in vegetable gardening has skyrocketed this year," said Master Gardener Volunteer Jackie Trimble. "Our June Zoom series maxed out twice, even with a license for larger classes, but as we record all classes, everyone who registers gets the opportunity to watch the class."

Trimble, who is the Educational Outreach Coordinator, said the lineup also includes "Growing Vegetables for Fall and Winter Harvest," "Beneficial Insects in Your Garden," "Watering Your Vegetable Garden," and a session devoted entirely to answering vegetable gardening questions, hosted by a panel of Master Gardeners.

Each online Zoom class lasts 45 minutes, including time for questions. Classes start promptly at 7 p.m. and will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting July 7 and ending on July 21.

Advance registration is required for these free classes. For more information and to register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/y9qw9ok8>.

Master Gardener Volunteers also are available to answer plant problem questions by calling 425.357.6010, between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays, or by e-mail at snocomg@gmail.com.

—J. K. M.

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Marblemount



Newhalem



Marblemount plans August, September events

2020 has not been beneficial for Marblemount.

First, COVID-19 restricted operations of small businesses in our little community. The community hall lost all bookings of events scheduled up to July. We hoped things would be great once the pass opened; as it stood we were still slow, because the National Parks were still closed.

As Skagit entered into Phase 2, we had hope once again, then a rock slide closed SR 20 between Rockport and Marblemount. The detour down Hwy 530 and up Rockport Cascade Rd. bypasses our town—and once again retailers lose traffic that support their business. State Route 20 will be closed at this point for about 30 more days.

Salmon Bar-B-Que

This year's Salmon Bar-B-Que community hall fundraiser will be bigger and better. The annual event will be held on Aug. 1–2, from noon to 6 p.m. both days. Shaved ice will be served up by KONA ICE, and musical performances from JP Falcon Grady and Undecided are on tap too.

Because any part of this event may change because of COVID-19, we will have take-out and drive-up services. We also will offer indoor and outdoor dining. While indoors, we encourage masks to

be worn, per Gov. Inslee's direction. All workers will wear gloves and masks. This year we will not have a salad bar or buffet-style dining. Everyone is welcome, and all support and donations are accepted.

Sasquatch Conference

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

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



Cantrall



The Salmon Bar-B-Que Committee is cooking up another winning fundraiser for the Marblemount Community Hall. This year's event will be held Aug. 1–2, from noon to 6 p.m. both days, at the hall. From left: Steve Wilson, Richard Lewis, Sallie Larsen, Connie Clark. Submitted photo.

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

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

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

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

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



Alley

Marblemount Food Bank

The Washington National Guard is assisting at the Marblemount Helping Hands Food Bank. The food bank will be open every week on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. until further notice.

The food bank is located at the church for drive-up service. If you ride a bicycle or walk up, you must keep a 6-foot distance between you and the next customer. A volunteer or National Guard member will deliver your items to you.

2020 calendar lineup

- Aug. 1–2: Salmon Bar-B-Que, noon to 6 p.m.
- Aug. 23: Old Timers' Picnic, 1 to 4 p.m.
- Sept. 5–6: Sasquatch Conference, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days
- Oct. 31: KSVU Harvest Festival and Halloween Dance, 6 to 10 p.m.
- Nov. 21: Community event, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Dec. 6: Holiday Bazar, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

—Syvella Kalil

Continue the cycle

Please recycle this newspaper



Where to focus fish and wildlife efforts during the next 25 years?

WDFW asks public for strategic plan guidance

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has released a draft strategic plan designed to help WDFW invest in connections with communities and partners to improve fish, wildlife and habitat outcomes.

Washington State Fish and Wildlife Commission and Director Kelly Susewind is encouraging people to provide feedback. To craft the plan, Jeff Davis, WDFW director of conservation policy, has been reaching out internally and externally.

The draft plan focuses on five key areas of change:

1. Proactively address conservation challenges.
2. Build passionate constituencies through community engagement.
3. Connect people to nature and conservation through recreation and stewardship.
4. Deliver science that informs Washington's most pressing fish and wildlife questions.
5. Move WDFW toward operational and environmental excellence.

The 25-year plan also will help the department to take a longer view of its

work, said Davis.

The commission invites members of the public to share their thoughts at an upcoming digital meeting on July 17.

Department staff also are encouraging feedback online through July 10. To view a copy of the draft plan and provide feedback, go to wdfw.wa.gov/about/administration/strategic-planning.

The Commission intends to consider adoption of the plan at its Aug. 21 meeting.

—WDFW

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Comments sought for relocation of trail and camp in Thunder Creek area

The public is invited to comment on an Environmental Assessment (EA) to repair and reroute a portion of the lower Thunder Creek Trail, relocate a hiker camp, and create an administrative camp along the trail within the Stephen Mather Wilderness. The purpose of this action is to minimize the impacts of hiker and stock use along the trail, thereby preserving the character of the designated wilderness.

An EA analyzes the environmental impacts of the proposed project and a

no-action alternative to help determine whether the National Park Service should carry out the proposed action.

All comments on the EA are welcome, particularly those that identify ways to lessen the impacts of the proposed action or address if the document provides enough evaluation of the effects on the environment.

To review the EA and provide electronic comments, go to <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/ThunderRelo2020EA>.

Comments will be accepted through July 14.

Hardcopy comments can be mailed to:

Superintendent
810 State Route 20
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

—NPS

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Seniors

Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure

Zucchini Bread



- 1 cup grated zucchini
- 1 small can pineapple
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup oil
- 3 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 3 cups flour
- 1 Tbs cinnamon
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp nutmeg
- 1 cup raisins (dregged)

1. Place zucchini, carrots, and pineapple in a bowl.
2. Stir sugar and oil until well blended. Add eggs and vanilla and beat well.
3. Add to zucchini mixture and stir until blended.
4. Add dry ingredients to the zucchini mix and stir well.
5. Add raisins (dregged with flour).
6. Grease and flour 2 loaf pans. Bake at 325 degrees for 1½ hour. (I bake at 350 degrees which takes a lot less time).
7. Cool for 10 minutes and remove bread from pans.

This bread freezes well.

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

Way Back When

90 years ago

July 31, 1930: Coyle Construction is preparing to set off a big blast, containing about three tons of powder, at the rock quarry about a mile above Rockport. The explosion is expected to break down about 20,000 yards of rock.

80 years ago

July 18, 1940: Concrete's recent

political upheaval and subsequent reverberations prompted the visit of a big city reporter last week, when the Seattle Post Intelligencer sent their Doug Welch and photographer to cover the situation here.

The athletic Welch spent six or seven hours in the vicinity, chasing down central figures in the school controversy, jumping at conclusions, twisting statements, and stretching facts to fill three columns of the first page, second section of yesterday morning's P. I.

Treating the entire local controversey in a humorous

manner, the city slicker reporter used his article as a vehicle for his wit, but managed to take a healthy poke at almost everyone from the cement company on down. Several angles hitherto unknown here were credited to the school fight, including a statement that the recent dust suit had a diret bearing on the difference of opinion between Mayor Wiseman and his

See **Way Back**, p. 29

East County

July 2020 activities

Concrete Community Center Meal Program

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

Take-out only.

Must be present to pick up a meal.

Donations always appreciated.

East County Resource Center

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

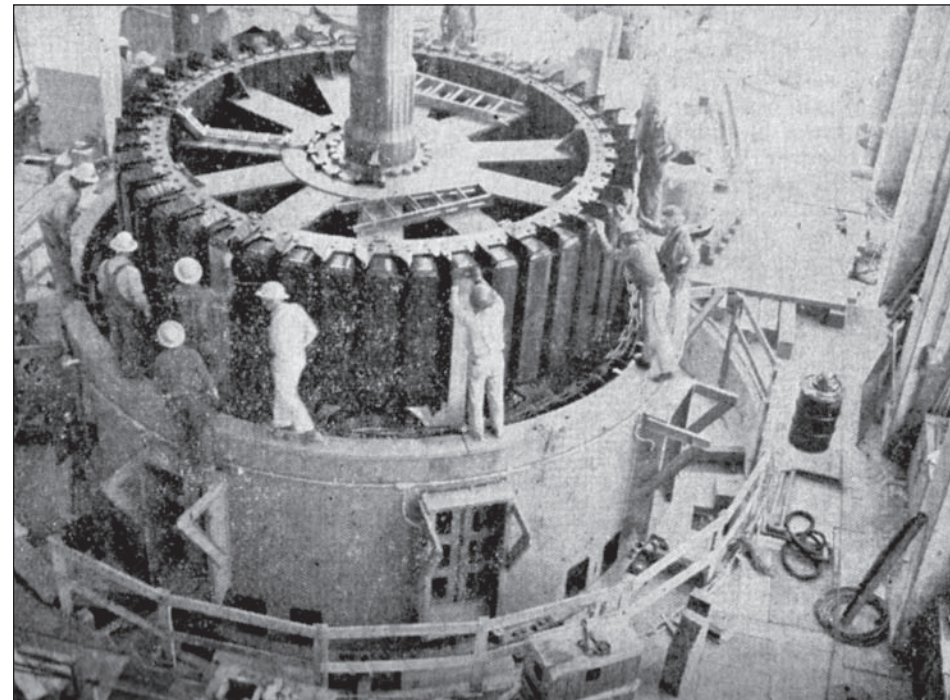
360-416-1733

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

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

Saturdays

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



60 years ago, July 14, 1960: The "big lift," for which a 210-ton traveling crane had been installed in the new Lower Baker power house, was made last Thursday without incident. The crane lifted the huge generator rotor, weighing more than 205 tons, from the power house floor, where it had been assembled piece by piece during the past months. Shown in this photo are workmen guiding the rotor into position, with the thickness of a thin sheet of plywood as side clearance. The generator is now ready for assembly of the top housing, which will reach almost to the ceiling of the tall building. *Archive photo.*



Back Row, left to right: Brown Wiseman, Bill Hallock, Martin Boeringa, Mallie Mount, Ernie Kauffman, John Bowsher, Clayton Angevine, Fred Shular. **Middle row:** Windy Woodard, Ira Hallock, Seely Miller, Edgar Gates, Bert Kauffman, E. M. Buchanan, Percy Lindbeck, Roy Stingley, Bob Ireton, Charlie Hibbard. **Front row:** Freddie Leonard, Mearns Gates, Herb Steen and Leonard Jackson.

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

school board opponents, something new to everyone.

This article was accompanied by photos of Mayor Wiseman at his gas pump, and of Mrs. Elmer Larsen, whose participation in a school bus contract is part of recall charges against her husband, director on the school board.

The article was ill received here by principals and public alike.

70 years ago

July 6, 1950: Another incident in the career of the Faber Ferry brought near tragedy to passengers about 9:30 p.m. on Monday, when the ferry got away from the operator as it was leaving the south side of the river and ended up hanging by one cable, with water pouring over the cars on the scow. Fortunately the one cable held

and the ferry drifted back against the shore, where the passengers escaped.

The accident occurred when the cable drum brake failed to hold and the current struck the forward end of the scow, forcing it downstream and reeling the cable off the drum. The ferry then swung by the rear cable. Water came over the deck waist deep, soaking the passengers and engulfing the two cars. One was a truck owned by the Geodetic Survey party and the other was a private car of one of the crew, driven by his wife.

After a bad scare, all escaped with only a dunking. The ferry was put into operation again yesterday after the motor had been cleaned of water and silt, and the cables abnd brakes replaced and repaired.

—Compiled from archives

50 years ago, July 22, 1970: This photo was one of the highlights of 64 years of the Concrete Aerie of Eagles No. 1444. This band, organized and directed by Percy Lindbeck, played regular concerts in Concrete during the 1920s, and accompanied the lodge members to the various conventions and visitations during its existence. The lodge also at one time had a large drill team, costumed in Turkish style. The Eagles will share their 64th Anniversary Celebration with the general public this week for all events outside the lodge hall. *Archive photo.*



Rick Lemley
Doug Hutter
Tobi Stidman

360-855-1288

1008 Third St. • Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284
www.lemleychapel.com info@lemleychapel.com

Sunday School lesson

Is the church essential?

By Bruce Martin

We have been hearing the word “essential” so much lately that I thought it is a question worth asking and thinking about. I guess each person would define what is essential to their lives in different ways.

I am always thinking about words and definitions. “Essential” in the Google dictionary is defined as “absolutely necessary,” “extremely important.” When I hear these terms, I think immediately of such things as air, water, food. They are absolutely necessary to sustain physical life.

What about spiritual life? What is essential to maintain, sustain, and foster spiritual health? The Church is essential to the spiritual health and welfare of every Christian believer.

My definition of the true Church does not come from a consensus of popular culture, but from the Bible itself.

Throughout the New Testament, we see a clear example of the true Church of Jesus Christ. The true Church in the New Testament Church is not an organization, but is instead a living organism. Our true definition and practice even today must come from the Scripture itself. The early church of the New Testament is a pattern of truth and practice that we can emulate and look to.

We understand that culture is constantly changing; however, the idea that biblical truth must change with it is not valid. It is popular in modern society to believe that there is no such thing as absolute truth. The Bible is God’s revelation of absolute truth to us.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic caused the government to prohibit all gatherings it deemed “nonessential,” few churches have been able to meet for in-person church services across our nation.

Again I begin to ponder and ask some questions about how essential is the in-person, physical, gathering of the church? Is what happens in our brief time together essential to our personal spiritual health and welfare? Is the command of Scripture to “forsake not the assembling of yourselves together” Hebrews 10:25) really that important? After all, we can sit in the comfort of our homes and watch church on TV. What value do we place upon our time of corporate worship? When we miss “live” church, does it really have that much of an effect on the rest of our lives? What does the “essential church” really look like? What would society and our nation look like without the true godly influence of the Church and God’s people? Whose idea was the church in the first place?

Sometimes the things most precious to us are not obvious until they are taken away. When we lost the privilege to assemble freely for Christian fellowship, we began to understand in a greater way how valuable it really is to us. It has been said that “relationship” defines our

connection to God and one another, but “fellowship” defines the quality of that relationship. Jesus said that people would recognize his disciples by their love for one another (John 13:35). Though God has created us all uniquely, we all are created in his image with the spiritual capacity to know and fellowship with Him.

What a privilege and joy is it to come together to worship in thanksgiving and praise. We see the love expressed in that worship toward God and one another. Each time we gather, we emphasize what I call the four essential cornerstones

1. Worship: singing, music, rejoicing.
2. Prayer in many forms.
3. The preaching, teaching, and instruction in God’s Word, the Bible.
4. The rich fellowship we enjoy as we express our love and appreciation for one another.

These are essentials, along with something that we cannot hold in our hand or recreate on a TV screen: the spiritual presence of the Lord we sense and experience when we meet together. This is something we cannot reproduce in any other way.

When we lift our voices in praise and worship, the overflow of the Holy Spirit blesses us and one another. When we pray for others and one another, we see lives and circumstances changed. When we hear the preaching and teaching of God’s Word, our hearts are challenged and changed through its application and our obedience to it. When we exchange

greetings and express our love for one another, we feel a sense of acceptance and belonging. We find that despite our many differences, we are one in Jesus Christ. We find that the Church is not a building, a place of meeting; the Church is us, the people of God, the community and family of believers who have experienced God’s forgiveness and grace. We find what takes place that is most important is what the Lord is doing in our own hearts and lives.

Is the Church essential? God has provided all we need to thrive and grow spiritually. The Church of Jesus Christ may not be viewed as a social essential, but it surely is a spiritual one!

As we seek to reopen our churches for in-house worship, let us be reminded of the wonderful privilege we have to assemble and to worship freely.

Bruce Martin is pastor for Concrete Assembly of God Church.



Northwest Garden Bling

- Gift shop
- Stained glass & glass supplies
- Souvenirs

360-708-3279
nwgardenbling@frontier.com
44574 Highway 20 – Concrete, WA 98237

Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

May 21

While patrolling near Lake Shannon, Deputy Wiggins heard noises coming from the area known as “Devil’s Tower.” As he approached the gate, he observed a large number of vehicles parked at the gate. When he checked the property, he found numerous people setting up audio equipment. There were also several of them in possession of cans of spray paint. It appeared the group was in the process of setting up for a “tagging” party at the abandoned buildings. After investigating, Deputy Wiggins arrested several people for malicious mischief, and warned the others for trespassing.

At approximately 10:20 p.m., a caller reported that a truck had sped past her house on Lyman Ave. in Lyman, headed for the “crack shack.” She yelled at them

Level 2 Sex Offender NOTIFICATION

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

Talley, Chad Allen

Age: 44
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 6’ 0”
Weight: 360
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Blue
Address: 75xx Rainbow Ct., Concrete



In 2002, Talley was convicted of two counts of 1st degree rape of a child in Skagit County. His victims were females, ages 4–5, who were known to him.

Talley is not wanted by the police at this time. Citizen abuse of this information to threaten, intimidate, or harass registered sex or kidnap offenders is a punishable offense and also could result in the removal of the online notification resource.

Source: Skagit County Sheriff

to slow down. Later they drove back past her residence, pulled out a gun and pointed it at her. She described the truck as a large white Ford truck and said it was going approximately 100 mph. She went on to say that there were two males, ages 20–30, in the truck. When Deputy Mueller talked to her, she said it may not have been an actual gun but the suspect had something dark in his hand that he pointed in her direction. Deputy Mueller checked the area, but was unable to find the vehicle.

May 22

A citizen reported that he stopped by the Lyman Mercantile in Lyman on May 16, on his way to Ross Lake. While he was inside the store, it appears that someone entered his car and took his gun. He discovered the gun missing when he arrived at Ross Lake, but wasn’t sure if he had mistakenly forgot to pack it and left it at home. When he got back to his house, he confirmed that the gun was missing. Deputy Slack was able to stop by the Lyman Mercantile and review video. He found a vehicle matching the description given. Deputies will check the video for possible suspects. The gun was described as a black Smith and Wesson MP pistol.

May 23

After receiving a report of a possible domestic disturbance near milepost 8 on the Baker Lake Hwy, Deputies Slack and Dalton checked the area. They located a vehicle in the 44000 block of Baker Lake Rd. Deputy Slack talked to a male while Deputy Dalton spoke to a female. Both denied any assault had occurred. Deputy Slack discovered that the male had several warrants for his arrest. While arresting the male, the deputies discovered what they identified as methamphetamine in the male’s possession. He was taken to the Skagit County Jail and booked on his warrants and possession of drugs.

Deputy Wiggins contacted several groups on private property near Lake Shannon. They groups were escorted off the property and warned about trespassing.

At approximately 9:30 p.m., while checking the Lake Shannon area again, Deputy Wiggins heard numerous shots coming from the area known as “Devil’s Tower.” While investigating, he observed several subjects standing on top of the structure discharging firearms across the lake toward the boat launch and other known camping areas. After waiting for Deputy Johnson to back him, Deputy Wiggins contacted the subjects, who were all under the age of 21 except for

Deputy's Corner Burglary Prevention

By Paul Wolfe

The most common offense investigated by the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office is burglaries. A burglary is when someone enters a building or structure without permission, with the intent to commit a crime, commonly a theft. This includes outbuildings, garages, and garden sheds.

What are some tool or strategies to help prevent burglaries from occurring?

First, get to know your neighbors. Knowing your neighbors can help solve and prevent crime from occurring if you’re familiar with the people who live around you. Touch base with them periodically to check in and see if they’ve noticed anything suspicious or out of place in the area. Utilize this neighborly friendship when you go out of town and see if they’re able to keep an eye on your place when you’re away. East County deputies are responsible for patrol coverage of approximately 1,200 square miles. We can’t always be everywhere. Criminals know this. If you see something suspicious, report it.

Equipment to consider

- Lighting and camera systems. Motion lights or flood lights are inexpensive and great at lighting points of entrance to your residence.
- Video camera systems are no longer a gimmick. A reliable home camera system like Ring or Arlo help solve crimes more and more frequently. If a camera is able to get a picture of a certain vehicle,

license plate, or person, the odds of finding the person who committed the burglary increases dramatically. Camera systems have also become very affordable. Ask yourself: Is there something in your residence worth protecting? If the answer is yes, a camera system is something you should consider as a homeowner. As a deputy who has investigated numerous burglaries, this is the tool I most highly recommend.



Hopefully these tips help with burglary prevention. The Skagit County Sheriff’s Office is always looking to try new and effective ways to keep our communities healthy and safe. We hope this article helps in some way to get the conversation going on home safety. Feel free to contact a deputy if you have any questions or concerns that you think would help.

If there is a topic you’d like covered in the future, please send these inquiries to the newspaper and we’ll keep this conversation going.

Stay safe!

Paul Wolfe is a deputy with the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office. He is assigned to the East Detachment Office in Concrete, a field training officer, a member of the Skagit Regional Response Team (SWAT), and active with the Skagit County Search and Rescue Team.

one. Since they were in possession of several handguns, along with a shotgun, Deputy Wiggins arrested those under 19 for trespassing and reckless shooting. He arrested the 21-year-old suspect for the same, in addition to providing a firearm to an ineligible person. The firearms were confiscated and placed into evidence.

May 24

A concerned citizen called to report that he believed his daughter’s intoxicated boyfriend was going to drive away from his residence in the area of Thunderbird Ln. near Concrete. Deputy Wiggins contacted the suspect in his car in the

driveway. He advised that he was not going to drive, but was sleeping in his car. Deputy Wiggins advised him not to drive until he was sober.

An anonymous source reported a possible ATV accident on Thunderbird Ln. east of Concrete. Deputy Johnson checked the area, but was unable to locate the ATV. A neighbor confirmed that there had been an accident, but had no idea where those involved had gone, nor did the neighbor know the identity of those involved. Deputy Johnson checked the area, but was

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 32

Worship directory

Assembly of God

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

Citipoint Church North Cascade

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

Baptist

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

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

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

Catholic

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

Covenant

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

Call for weekly youth group/Bible studies

Episcopal

St. Martin/St. Francis Episcopal Church
55223 Conrad Rd., Rockport
Services: first and third Sunday of each month, 1 p.m.

Free Methodist

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

Lutheran

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

Methodist

Central United Methodist Church
1013 Polke Rd., Sedro-Woolley

360.856.6412 / centralumcsw@yahoo.com
http://centralumcsw.org
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m.

Mormon

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

Nondenominational

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

Community Bible Church

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

The RIVER Gathering

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

Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church

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

Wildwood Chapel

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

Presbyterian

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

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

Hay and roses

When my Porter rose begins to bloom, I know hay season is just around the corner.

Before balers were invented, harvested chays and grains were “shocked,” stacked up teepee-like to shed rain, to cure and dry before putting up loose in the barn. My friend, the late Jim Harris, and his brother Dick, spoke and wrote of their years growing up doing just that, only a stone’s throw from where I live now.

In 1942, their dad, Alvin Harris, rented the old Porter place, a 117-acre homestead south of Rockport, for \$17/month. The land had been claimed in the early 1880s and at that time was pretty run down. The only buildings still standing were the log

cabin with an attached lean-to, a barn “that leaked like a used jelly bag,” a small deserted milkhouse and, of course, the “necessary,” also known as the outhouse. Electricity and telephone service was up “over town” in Rockport, two miles away.

According to Jim, his dad was never deterred, his resilience unmatched.

Endless rain, broken machinery, aging draft horses, continuing indebtedness, and two sons as his “hired hands” did not stop him. Even through the untimely death of his 12-year-old daughter and three sons at birth, Alvin Harris pursued his dream of creating a self-sufficient farm. His equipment was rusting and rotting, hidden under the blackberry vines, nettles, and thistles that consume cleared land left fallow: A horse-drawn plow, mower, and hay rake, all of which had been ferried upriver in a dugout canoe when the homestead was new.

Tom Porter, early Anglo homesteader in these parts, placed an ad in an East Coast paper for a school teacher to travel to what would later become Rockport. Mima Kerr from New Brunswick answered the call, but before leaving home, was given a cutting of the family’s Irish rose as a farewell. Stuck into a raw potato and carried in her satchel, Mima’s rose cutting survived the long and arduous journey and was planted at the Porter homestead, where she came to be married to Tom. Seven children were born to the Porters while living in the tiny cabin. One teenaged son died there and Mima died at home while giving birth to a daughter.

Many years later, enter the Harris clan, who lived there from 1942 to the late 1960s. Alvin donated the cabin to the new Howard Miller Steelhead Park in

1969, and the “boys” moved it log by log, rebuilding it on site, where it stands today.

Brother Dick transplanted Mima’s rose into his garden in Bellingham, and a few precious divisions have been gifted back to the area: One is planted next to the cabin in Steelhead Park, one at brother Jim’s house east of Concrete, and the third lives here at my home, directly across the road from the original homestead.

The following poem, by Dick Harris, is dedicated to the memory of Frank Porter, last remaining sibling, who died on Sept. 23, 1994, at 93:

Old Rose

I see you through my kitchen window,
wine-red canes reaching above an ivy skirt,
entwining the lattice to my garden,
a contrast to the winter snow.
With spring, your foliage will cover
our garden portal with a canopy of green.
By summer solstice, you will greet admirers
With bouquets of cerise and raspberry scent.
A century has passed since you journeyed west,
a slip in a school teacher’s satchel,
To be rooted by a homestead cabin in the meadow where a river once flowed.
The bridal hands that nurtured you now reside in the earth
Beside those who adored your bloom:
Others who lived in your cabin have gone their way
To find life’s prosperity where they will.
Your cabin now rests in a park for the curious to view.
Few remember, travelling the road nearby,
that you grew where cattle now graze.
Survivor of flood and sorrow, how often I ponder your life,
And for generations you watched spring forth, prosper and wane.
Do you recall seasons past? Is it always coming springs and summers we share,
Or is it the winters of our reflection?
Do you laugh at our attempts, ludicrous and egotistical,
To command the universe and control nature with hand, saw and plow?
Old rose, although neglected and uprooted, origin obscured and name unknown,
Each spring, you return, vibrant and new,
A heritage rose, a legend of life.

At the Upper Skagit Library

It’s that time of year again: The **Summer Reading Program** is upon us!

But first, we want to give a big shout-out to **Princeton University professor Jeff Nunokawa**, who was gracious enough to talk to us about his Facebook notes project and the book it inspired, via Zoom. We had an amazing time.

The Summer Reading Program began on July 1. For full details on everything we’re doing, please go to usldsrp.org. Briefly, here’s a preview of this summer’s activities: online reading logs; book bingo for kids, teens, and adults; an exciting virtual scavenger hunt; virtual Geek Group discussion for teens and young adults; virtual Dungeons and Dragons (did I mention this year’s theme is myths and fairytales?); online Silly Saturdays; take-home crafts; STEM, art, and writing kits; a virtual Humanities Washington presentation by T. Andrew Wahl about

superheroes and representation; and a Community Reading Project.

That’s a lot!

We’ll also continue **curbside service** this month. See our Web site for full instructions on how both car-based curbside and walk-up service works. We’ll likely be doing things that way for a while. If you’re unsure of how to place a hold or browse our catalog via our Web site, check out our Tech Tip Tuesday YouTube videos, which walk you through the process.

For the most up-to-date information, visit our Web site, upperskagitlibrary.org, or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, and YouTube. Also, don’t forget about our e-mail newsletter: Sign up on our Web site.

—Chazlyn Lovely
Library Assistant - Marketing

July at the Darrington Library

Sno-Isle Libraries is ramping up contact-free service at 23 community libraries across Snohomish and Island counties, beginning with a soft launch of the service on June 15.

Customers with existing borrowing requests from before the libraries closed on March 13 are being notified by phone and email. After being notified, customers can come to their library and receive their requested materials in recyclable paper bags with a contact-free handoff at the front door. Customers are asked to step back from the closed door before the staff member opens it and places items outside the door.

Sno-Isle libraries also began taking returns of library materials, but there will be no in-library services at this time and the buildings are still closed to the public.

Service for all customers with new

borrowing requests became available on June 22. All customers are notified by e-mail; details will be posted on the Sno-Isle Libraries Web site.

The contact-free service is aligned with the state’s coronavirus Phase 2 guidelines. Both Snohomish and Island counties currently are in Phase 2.

Contact-service operating hours and phone numbers

- Darrington: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mon. and Thur. to Sat.; noon to 7 p.m. on Tue. and Wed. 360.651.7180.
- Arlington: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wed. to Sat.; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Mon. and Tue.; 1 to 5 p.m. on Sun. 360.651.7174.

—Ashley Bryson, branch manager
Darrington Library

To learn more about the fascinating and rich history of the Upper Skagit, visit your library, befriend an elder and learn their stories, and, of course, become a member

of the Concrete Heritage Museum when it reopens. It’s a gold mine of memories.

—Christie Fairchild



Concrete Chamber of Commerce News

By Valerie Stafford

In case you have grown weary of this “staycation,” the Concrete Chamber would like to help.

On Sat., July 4, from 2 to 4 p.m., we invite you to be part of the “Concrete Caravan.” This is a reverse parade that begins at the Angele Cupples Community Garden, at the intersection of Superior Ave. N. and Main St., and cruises to Town Center. Participants stay in their car and enjoy attractions and treats along the way (see article, p. 6).

As with all of our events, this celebration couldn’t happen without the support and assistance from many individuals, businesses, and organizations. Special thanks to SCSO Sgt. Greg Adams; Betty Seguin, Upper Skagit Library; Erma Baude, KSVU Radio; John Boggs, American Legion Heskett Arnold Post No. 132; Lynette Gentry, SaviBank; Cheri Cook-Blodgett, Concrete Heritage Museum; Concrete Mayor Jason Miller;

and all the others who have stepped up to share their community spirit.

The event is free and has received approval and permits from the Town of Concrete and the Skagit County Health Department. Activities will adapt to any changes necessary to adhere to the WA State Safe Start policies, including the wearing of masks, social distancing, and hand hygiene.

If you would like to be a “roadside attraction” or have questions about the Concrete Caravan, please send a message to chamber@concrete-wa.com.

Chamber job opening

We have been very fortunate to have Valerie Lee as our office manager at the Concrete Chamber for the past 10 years. She has been an invaluable part of our team, not only in our Information Center, but also as the lead person in offering vehicle licensing services. Valerie would like to move on to other pursuits, so we will announce a job opening later this

month. Applicants should have strong organizational skills, above-average computer experience, and the ability to multitask, while providing professional services to the public. For more information or to receive an application, please send an e-mail to chamber@concrete-wa.com. In-person inquiries are discouraged at this time.

The next meeting of the Concrete Chamber of Commerce will be held Thur., July 9, at 11:30 a.m., online via Zoom, a free videoconference platform. Check our Web site at www.concrete-wa.com for details or call/text Valerie Stafford, president, at 360.466.8754.

Valerie Stafford is president of the Concrete Chamber of Commerce.

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

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Trenching for electrical and plumbing lines, site preparation, road- and lot-clearing
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dpaynes2001@yahoo.com

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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.
Gifts, Rocks, Tobacco, Cigars, and more!

Pawn shops

Gold Nugget Jewelry & Loan

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

Ranches

Double O Ranch, LLC

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

Restaurants

Cascade Burgers

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

Self-storage

Concrete Self-storage

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



All professional mortuary services available, including cremation, headstone design, and pre-planned funeral arrangements.

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www.lemleychapel.com
360-855-1288

info@lemleychapel.com
1008 Third St.
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Septic services

Cinema Septic

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

Towing services

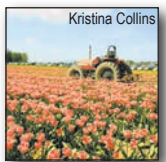
Cascades Towing

Professional flatbed towing. Winch outs, lock outs, jump starts, and fuel deliveries.
Motorcycle and equipment towing. Junk vehicle removal. Lowest prices.
360.853.8599 // www.cascadestowing.com

To add your business to this directory, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail editor@concrete-herald.com



Out & About



State

Inslee requires all state residents to wear masks in public

Governor Jay Inslee on June 23 announced a new statewide requirement that all Washingtonians and visitors to the state wear facemasks or coverings in indoor public places such as stores, offices and restaurants. The requirement went into effect on June 26.

The order also requires that face coverings be used in outdoor settings where people cannot stay six feet apart from people they don't live with.

There are exceptions for those who are not medically able, are deaf and/or hard of hearing, and children under 5 years of

age. This requirement aligns with Skagit County Health Officer Dr. Leibbrand's recommendation from early April.

Gov. Inslee's order came following significant increases in the COVID-19 transmission rate throughout Washington. Skagit County also had seen an increase in transmission during the previous several weeks, primarily because of unauthorized social gatherings, travel, and transmission between coworkers.

"Even if you are wearing an appropriate face covering, now is not the time to gather in large groups," Skagit County Public Health said in a press release. "Please continue to follow Phase 2

guidelines and use good physical distancing and hand hygiene.

Willful noncompliance is a misdemeanor offense, according to the release.

More information is available on the Washington state Coronavirus Web site, <https://coronavirus.wa.gov>.

For local information, contact Skagit County Public Health at 360.416.1500 or eh@co.skagit.wa.us.

Law enforcement responds

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) and Washington State Patrol (WSP) responded to Inslee's announcement with almost identically worded press releases.

In response to complaints from the public that Inslee's edict was not law and therefore could not be enforced as law, the SCSO release said, in part,

"Washington law enforcement agencies continue to focus on education and engagement regarding state orders related to the coronavirus crisis. The statewide face covering order is a public health and safety measure, it is not a mandate for law enforcement to detain, cite, or arrest violators, but rather an evidence-based and safety focused directive meant to slow

the spread of a potentially deadly disease.

"The Skagit County Sheriff's Office will continue to communicate with and encourage all Skagit County citizens to make safety-focused decisions and follow all health-based directives from the governor, as well as state and local health officials."

Oak Harbor

The Oak Harbor Lions Club is selling cherries. The service club's Cherry Sale began on June 24.

The club sells cherries in the parking lot in front of the Oak Harbor Rite Aid daily, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or until they sell out each day.

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

unable to locate anyone involved.

A female was reported to be screaming and yelling in the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. When Deputies Wiggins and Johnson arrived, they were able to contact the female's husband. After talking to the husband, it was discovered there was a valid order between the two that restricted the husband from having contact with his wife. The husband told deputies that he had thought the order had expired after two weeks and didn't realize that it was current. Deputies also discovered that the wife had assaulted her husband, leaving numerous scratches on him. Both were arrested and taken to jail.

The Sheriff's Office received a report of a cat attacking chickens in the 7200 block of N. Superior Ave. in Concrete. The reporting party advised that the neighbor's cat had been chasing his chickens. He told his neighbors that if they didn't keep their cat from attacking his chickens, he would use force to protect the chickens. Deputy Arndt documented the complaint and advised Animal Control Officer Diaz.

May 26

Deputy Wiggins observed a vehicle parked on private property on Baker River Rd. He contacted the occupants to advise them they were on private property. As he was checking their names, he discovered that the male had given him a false name. After further investigation, he was able to get the male's correct name and date of birth. A check showed that the two had a valid order restricting the male from contacting the female. Deputy Wiggins advised the male suspect that he was violating the order and was under arrest. As Deputy Wiggins attempted to place the suspect in handcuffs to detain him, the suspect began to fight. Deputy Wiggins was finally able to put handcuffs on the suspect, then he placed the suspect in the back of his vehicle. He re-contacted the female, who was very polite and cooperative. She told Deputy Wiggins that the suspect had not assaulted her and was scared because he didn't want to be arrested for violating the order, and that was why he gave a false name. She asked Deputy Wiggins not to arrest her boyfriend. Deputy Wiggins told her that by state law he was mandated to make the arrest and had no choice. The female immediately became very aggressive and hostile. She started to swear at Deputy Wiggins and called him several names, the most polite being "pig." Deputy Wiggins gave the female the proper domestic violence paperwork, including the

victim's rights card. He then transported the suspect to jail.

May 28

Dispatch advised Deputy Montgomery of a possible domestic disturbance in the 45000 block of Benjamin St. in Concrete. The caller advised that her mom was in a fight with her mom's husband. When Deputy Montgomery arrived, he contacted the husband, who said that his wife discovered that he purchased heroin a few days before and had subsequently kicked him out of the house. Today she allowed him to return, but asked to see his phone, suspecting that he was still using drugs. When she took the phone he grabbed it back, at which time she began to hit him in the face. He said that he pulled her hair to get her off of him. He had no marks that would indicate he had been assaulted. The wife said that after she took the phone to look at it, he pulled her hair so hard she fell, causing her to scrape her knee and hurt her finger. She told Deputy Montgomery that her husband did not want her looking at his phone. She showed Deputy Montgomery her finger, which was swollen, and her knee, which was scraped. After determining that the husband was the one who assaulted his wife, Deputy Montgomery arrested the husband and booked him into jail.

The Sheriff's Office received a request to transport a female to her residence in the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. The female had a valid no-contact order against her husband, who had been staying at her residence. Deputy Dalton provided the female a courtesy ride from Mount Vernon to Cedar Grove. When he arrived at the residence, he saw a vehicle belonging to the female's husband, against whom she has the order. Deputy Dalton contacted the husband at the residence. He refused to open the door, but advised that the judge had told him he could be there if his wife was not at the house. Sergeant Hagglund was able to determine that this was not true and that the suspect was restricted from being at the house. Other deputies responded to assist, including K9 Deputy Moses. When deputies checked the house, it was discovered that the suspect had fled. They were unable to find the suspect. A referral was sent, charging the suspect for a violation of court order. Deputies made arrangements for the victim to stay at a safe place.

May 29

Deputies Passovoy and Clark investigated a possible suicide attempt in the

area of the 44000 block of Baker Lake Rd. The reporting party, the mother of the boyfriend, said that her son's girlfriend had attempted to cut herself and had put a rope around her throat. While deputies were responding, they were advised that another caller was out with the female, who said that she had not tried to hurt herself, but had actually been assaulted by her boyfriend. Deputy Passovoy contacted the victim. The victim said she had broken up with her boyfriend over his drug use. As she was trying to pack, he grabbed her around the throat and choked her to the point of her almost losing consciousness. The boyfriend then went outside and threw a rock and stick through the windows of the trailer. The victim was able to pack her bags and flee down the Baker Lake Rd., later flagging down a car so she could report the incident. She advised Deputy Passovoy that her boyfriend's mom said she was going to call the cops and tell them that the victim was suicidal to protect her son. Deputy Clark went to the scene of the assault and determined that the victim was telling the truth. He placed the suspect under arrest for felony assault and transported him to jail.

May 31

A victim of an assault called to report that her ex-husband assaulted her. Deputies Brannon and Esskew contacted the victim, who said that her husband had come over last night to pick up the kids. He was very intoxicated, so she offered to let him stay the night until he sobered up. During the night he discovered that she was communicating with friends on Facebook; he became upset. Eventually they got into an argument and he assaulted her, then fled. Deputy Esskew checked the wooded area around the apartment and found the suspect hiding. He was arrested and taken to jail.

June 1

At approximately 1:30 p.m., Deputy Moore responded to a request for removal of a person in the 7400 block of Superior Ave. in Concrete. The caller advised that she had a current no-contact order against the father of her son. She had recently allowed him to stay with her because he had no place to go. Today he had slapped the child on his cheek for crying. The caller became upset and told him to leave. Deputy Moore had passed a subject who matched the description of the suspect when he was driving to the address. He returned to the area to see if he could locate the suspect. He was told the suspect was last seen near Loggers Landing. Deputy Moore checked

the video at Loggers and found that the suspect had gotten into a vehicle and was given a ride away from the area. Deputy Moore referred the suspect for violation of a court order.

June 2

An employee from Java Zone in Concrete called to report that a person who frequents her business was acting disorderly and had defecated in the wooded area near the coffee stand. The employee asked that the suspect be trespassed from the area of the business. The employee told Deputy Johnson that the suspect lived close by. Deputy Johnson went to the address where the suspect allegedly stays. He contacted a person who matched the description of the suspect. As Deputy Johnson was talking to the suspect, he charged Deputy Johnson. Deputy Johnson shut the door to keep the suspect from contacting him, and asked that another deputy respond. Deputy Moore responded. The male, who still refused to identify himself, was trespassed and warned if he went back to the business, he would be arrested.

June 3

A resident in the 7700 block of S. Rietze Ave. in Concrete called to report that she had seen a person standing next to her garage, wearing a black hoodie. She yelled at the subject, who fled. The caller asked that deputies respond to check the area to make sure no one else was prowling in the neighborhood. Deputy Ayala responded and checked the area. He did not find anyone else. He advised the property owner to call if there were any other issues.

After lending his vehicle to a female friend, the intoxicated owner called and wanted the Sheriff's Office to locate his vehicle. Deputy Moore advised the owner that he could not report the vehicle stolen since he lent it to the female. Deputy Moore advised the caller to re-contact a deputy when he was not so intoxicated and if there was still an issue with the vehicle.

Deputy Wiggins responded to a suspicious male at Loggers Landing in Concrete. When he arrived the suspect was pointed out to him. He contacted the suspect, who informed Deputy Wiggins he was a Marine and was working. Deputy Wiggins told the suspect he was trespassed from the business and told him to leave. The suspect left willingly and the store was told to call if he returned.

Rocks being thrown at vehicles near the Baker River bridge were reported by an

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 19



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A history of the Upper Skagit Valley

By Paul C. Pitzer

Retyped by Gail Boggs; edited for style

Republished from Concrete Herald archives, 1966–197

Chapter 1 THE SKAGIT MINES

Most of the people in the Upper Valley in 1880 looked for gold. Some, however, like Goodell, who had encouraged these people to come, operated roadhouses such as the one at Goodell's Landing. Toll bridges and ferries were built, and those who operated these services often got most of the gold. Many of the miners could not afford steamer fare for the trip downriver at the end of the summer, and some walked out.

A few prospectors remained behind hoping for finds missed by the others. In November the *Mail* reported:

"Mr. Gibbons arrived here from the Skagit mines last Wednesday. He reports having left about 30 miners at the diggings, many of whom will probably pass the winter up there. Some are making as high as \$6 a day, but this will hardly pay during the winter owing to the expense and trouble of maintaining themselves in necessary supplies. He says the most indispensable articles at the diggings are bacon and tobacco, tho he jocularly adds they might do without the bacon if they could be assured an abundant supply of tobacco."

The gold rush of 1880 proved that little placer gold existed on the Upper Skagit, and after 1880, interest in the Skagit mines centered around hard rock mines, stamp mills, large companies, and attempts to build a good trail or road into the area.

Estimates of the 1880 rush have placed the number of miners as high as 5,000, although this number is too high. In May voting districts were established by the commissioners of Whatcom County and in July, registration and census reports in the three districts—Goodell's, Upper Skagit, and Ruby Creek—listed a total population of 519, with only 77 bona fide settlers with a right to vote. Another 48 residents were located between Goodell's and the Sauk River. This was at the peak of the gold rush.

Mining populations were mobile, and it is possible that 5,000 different men visited the Upper Skagit during the rush. It is more likely that only 1,000 to 1,500

passed through the area. Yet the gold rush in 1880 familiarized people with the Upper Valley, and ever since, there have been few times when no one has been looking for gold somewhere along the Skagit. By the end of the 1880 rush, the Skagit River had been explored and permanent settlements were established along the river.

Those miners who remained after the first rush kept interest in the Upper Valley alive. Their activity bridged the rush of 1880 and the second rush for gold in the 1890s. Companies formed in 1880 also spanned the two rushes; some still exist today. For a time, Jack Durand worked at the Colonial Company Mine on Colonial Creek above Cedar Bar. In 1893 Durand built a shack 13 miles up Thunder Creek called Middle Cabin, and he built a structure which [in the 1960s was] the Log House Inn at Marblemount. Between 1890 and 1897, when the Klondike Rush pulled miners away from the Skagit, a large number of companies began operation in the area.

In 1891 John Russner and two friends were prospecting at the head of Thunder Creek, where they established a number of claims. In fall 1892 the Skagit Mining and Milling Company was formed, and it bought from Russner his Willis and Everett Claims. Gold bearing quartz ore was mined and shipped down the valley to be refined. This proved unprofitable, however, and within a few years the enterprise was abandoned.

Alec Barron of Anacortes was another prospector on the Upper Skagit. In 1891 he began work on his mine at Slate Creek just west of Hart's Pass. He discovered gold in large quantities, and word of the find rekindled interest in the Skagit mines. Within the next few years, "thousands" of miners moved into the surrounding area. Early in 1893 a block of high-grade ore containing gold and weighing four hundred pounds was removed from the Barron Mines and transported down Slate Creek to Canyon Creek, and from there down the Skagit trail and in canoe to the coast. It was taken to Chicago and exhibited at the World's Fair.

On Dec. 1, 1894, the *Skagit County Times* of Sedro-Woolley printed the

following short article:

"It is stated that two young men from Anacortes named Barron and Gerrish have made a find of gold in the Okanogan district at the summit of the Cascades. With crude implements, the report says that the finder cleaned up \$12,000 in one week. Miners are flocking to the section and staking out claims."

Activity increased into 1894, and a town named Barron was built near Alec Barron's original location. The town was reputed to have had a population of well over 1,500 people, and at one time contained a number of hotels, stores, eating places, a post office, and a school. A trail was constructed from Barron into Okanogan County through Hart's Pass, and some improvements also were made on the Skagit Trail. In 1895 Siegfried founded the North American Mining Company and built a mill on Mill Creek, which is a tributary of Canyon Creek, west of Slate Creek. Siegfried connected his mine with Barron by building a narrow-gauge wagon road.

The Ruby Creek Mining Company operated in 1898 and cut timber and built flumes. They imported a Pelton water wheel and operated a small sawmill. The cost of transporting the gold ore—either down to Skagit Flats or over Hart's Pass—was prohibitive, as transportation facilities were extremely primitive. In the same respect, importation of stamp mills or other machinery was costly although this was done, and by 1900 perhaps half a dozen or more stamp mills had been packed over the Skagit trail. Around Barron many mining companies were formed and some were centers of activity for three to five years. Included among those mines were the Azurite, The Gold Hill, Bonita, Mamouth, Chancellor, Anacortes, and the Barron.

In 1897 news of discoveries in the Klondike encouraged Alec Barron and most of the others to leave their holdings on the Skagit and move north. Only a few remained behind. Limited work continued and in 1903, a narrow-gauge road was actually built over Hart's Pass to the then nearly deserted town of Barron.

In 1906 the Ruby Creek Mining Company proposed to mine the gravel

beds at the confluence of Ruby Creek and the Skagit River. They spent more than \$300,000 on their camp, saw mill, bunkhouse, and cookhouse, and constructed a four-mile wood flume and complete hydraulic plant. The nozzle for their hydraulic operation was mounted on a block of cast iron, which horses packed in over the Skagit Trail. A tripod was used to hold the iron block from time to time while the animals rested. In all, this company obtained \$3,000 in gold from the gravel. The buildings were abandoned, and around 1900 were sold to a roadhouse operator, becoming the Ruby Creek Inn. The area is now flooded by Ross Lake.

The Ruby Creek Mining Company was not the only outfit to revive interest in Ruby Creek during the first decade of the 20th century. Between 1890 and 1906, the Good-enough Fraction, the Hub, the Daisy, the Fidelity Extension, the Kent, and North American Companies of Ruby Creek were claims actively worked along Granite Creek. Most of these groups went bankrupt, although the Evergreen and the War Eagle lasted until 1906, when federal fines resulting from timber trespass charges ruined them financially. More stamp mills were carried over the trail from the west or from the east through Okanogan County. With stamp mill mechanization, the Eureka, Mamouth, and North American Companies of Ruby Creek outlasted their nonmechanized competitors: the Tacoma, the New Republic, the Uncle, the Red Badger, the Anacortes, and the Silver Quartz Companies.

Early in 1906 O. B. Brown purchased a Pelton water wheel and a generator. The equipment was carried through Hart's Pass to Ruby Creek, where it was installed. Water was diverted on a 2,000-foot flume to turn the wheel. Brown's power plant served the Hyde, Mazama, Azurite, and Chancellor Gold Companies. The Chancellor was the largest, having undergone its second incorporation; it had issued stock worth \$200,000. As these mining companies went broke, activity stopped and their installations disappeared, as did Brown's power plant. The Chancellor Company later considered a hydroelectric development and plans were drawn by the company's engineer, Nicolai Aall. Late in 1906 a forest fire destroyed the company's holdings and Aall left, finding work with a power company.

The largest company on Ruby Creek in the early 1900s was the Eureka, owned by

History, cont. from p. 38

Charles D. Lane of San Francisco. Lane claimed that he removed \$190,000 in gold from the gravel of Slate Creek. Later he bought a large house in San Francisco.

Charles Lane showed that the mines of Ruby Cree were not entirely unrewarding. A few did make money, although most lost heavily. After 1900 Ruby Creek never attained the importance it had had in 1880 and in the 1890s. While activity continued there after 1900, more attention was paid to Thunder Creek, which had been only occasionally noticed. There was little gold in Thunder Creek, and so this stream, which enters the Skagit at Diablo Canyon, had not been mined extensively, prospectors favoring the better-known Ruby and Barron mines. After 1900, silver was found along Thunder Creek.

In April 1908, the *Mt. Vernon Argus* commented: "on upper branches of the Cascade, The Stahekin (sic), and Thunder Creek rivers is a lead and silver district sufficient to make another Leadville. In the Thunder River Basin there are twenty veins of ore uncovered and work enough done to show them to be workable veins. New companies were formed in the Thunder Creek District. Among them was the North Coast Mining and Milling Company, which was incorporated in Tacoma on Jan. 21, 1908, with a stock issue of \$1,600,000. The company's prospectus stated, "The Investor's money all for the development." Offices of the company were in the Banker's Trust Building in Tacoma with W. M. Shenk, president; W. H. McAllister, vice president; and A. M. Richards, secretary-treasurer. The company expected to produce 500 tons of silver ore per year, with each ton then valued roughly at \$10.

William McAllister, the vice-president, had traveled to Marblemount in 1891. He became interested in mining and was involved with some earlier companies. When Henry, Bert, and Sheldon Fluheart left their diggings on Thunder Creek for the Klondike in 1897, McAllister moved in and, as the company prospectus pointed out, "—he successfully pioneered this rich mining district destined to rival the Coeur d'Alenes if not surpass it —." Shortly after McAllister had established his title to the claim, he, Shenk, and Richards formed a company. They advertised the land as being "unbelievably wealthy" and stated that "it assays at \$40 per ton, will last 50 years—will return \$2.00 per day to stockholders —."

But such was not the case, as the silver veins quickly pinched off in the hard granite, and \$4 per ton rather than \$40 became common. By 1919 the North Coast Mining and Milling company had disappeared. This was unlike many companies, which merged or changed their names before going bankrupt. The Silver Tip Company became the Standard Reduction and Development Company, and later merged into still another group. It was not uncommon that energy directed toward corporate and financial manipulations far exceeded that actually spent on mining. Many companies existed for most of their years only on paper, and few never went beyond that stage.

To be continued next month.

To place a Classified ad, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail ads@concrete-herald.com. Cost is \$5 per every 10 words, rounded up to the nearest 10. Deadline for the August 2020 issue is July 27.

Crossword solution

1	A	2	D	3		4	H	5	A	6	S		7	W	8	A	9	R
10	T	O	E			11	A	E	G	I	12	S		13	A	L	I	
14	O	D	E			15	I	R	A	T	E			16	I	T	S	
17	P	O	M	18	P	O	M		19	E	N	20	B	L	O	C		
				21	A	L	A			22	D	N	A					
23	T	E	24	N	P	I	N	25	S		27	A	R	28	R	29	30	W
31	O	R	E	O		32	N	I	33	B		34	N	I	P	A		
35	N	A	B	O	36	B		37	R	E	38	B	O	O	T	S		
				39	S	A	C		41	S	A	W						
42	T	H	43	R	E	S	H		45	I	L	L	46	U	47	48	E	
49	H	A	H		50	S	A	51	L	E	S		52	N	U	S		
53	I	R	E		54	O	M	E	G	A		55	I	M	P			
56	S	K	A		57	P	I	E				58	T	O	Y			

See History, p. 39

Sudoku solution

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

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NOTICES

Contact information for elk-related issues:

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

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

NOTICE OF PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

Notice is hereby given there is one open position on the Town of Concrete Planning Commission. Planning Commission members serve in two-year terms. The Town of Concrete will accept letters of interest and/or applications from any interested, qualified person to serve on the Planning Commission.

Applications and letters of interest must be submitted to the Town of Concrete Clerk-Treasurer, 45672 Main Street, P.O. Box 39, Concrete, WA 98237 or by email to andrea@concretewa.gov. For more information, please contact:

Andrea Fichter at (360)853-8401 – andrea@concretewa.gov

Marianne Manville-Ailles at (360)855.2121 – townplanner@concretewa.gov

Applications available at www.townofconcrete.com.

Per CMC Section 2.24.020, Planning Commission members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Town Council.

Applications will be accepted until August 4, 2020 or until the position is filled.

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