

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Journal

Vol. 103, No. 3

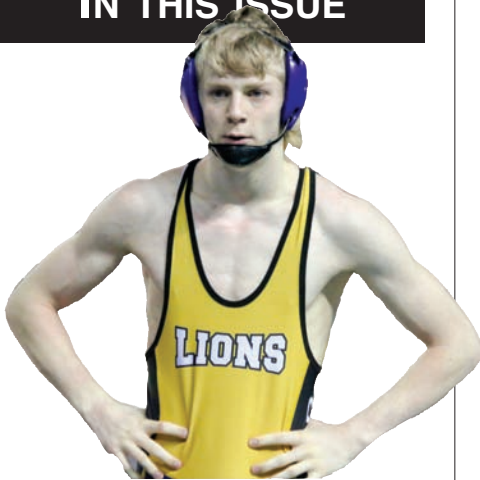
March 2023

concrete journal

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Concrete sophomore brings home sole medal

Robert Reed focused on one match at a time—and ended up winning the Lions' only Mat Classic medal. *Page 8.*

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Parents, teachers express concerns over mandatory sex education

Parents, students, and educational professionals voiced their concerns in a Feb. 20 public hearing about a bill that would mandate comprehensive sexual education in public schools beginning as soon as kindergarten. *Page 23.*

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Darrington senior takes first place at Mat Classic. *Page 11.*

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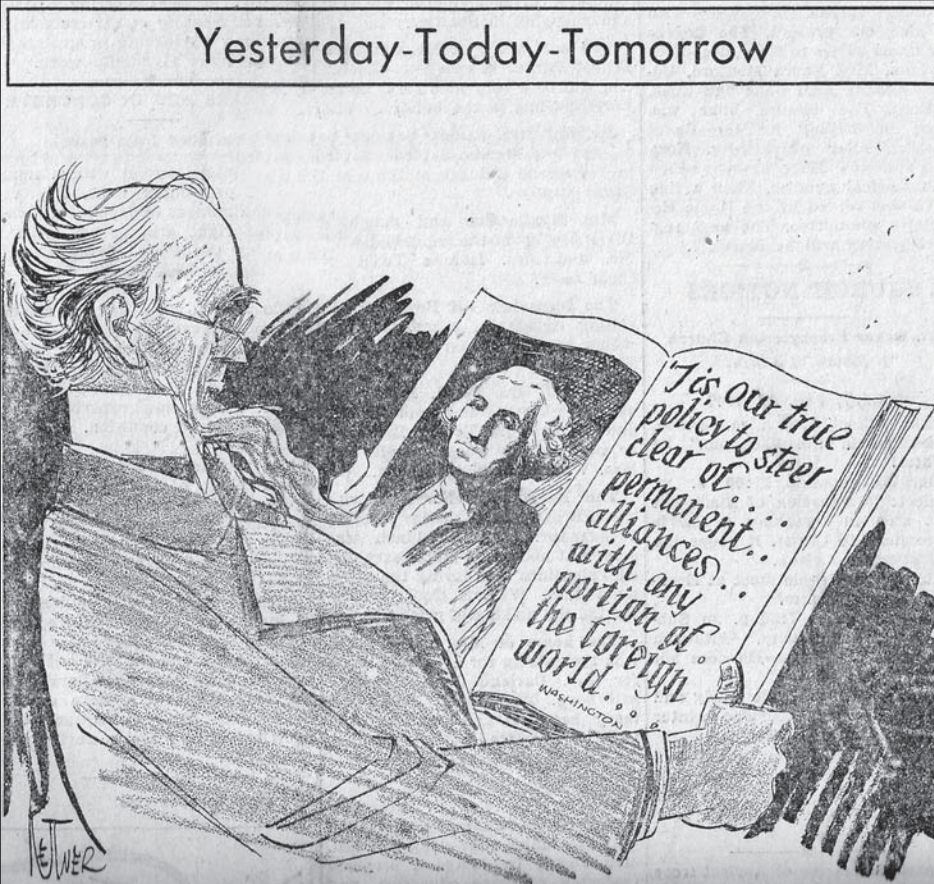
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Jason K. Miller, publisher and editor 360.853.8213 / editor@concrete-herald.com

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Contacts
Newsroom: 360.853.8213 / editor@concrete-herald.com // **Advertising:** 360.853.8213 / ads@concrete-herald.com
Letters: P.O. Box 682, Concrete, WA 98237 / letters@concrete-herald.com // **Classifieds:** P.O. Box 682, Concrete, WA 98237 / classifieds@concrete-herald.com

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Concrete Herald, Feb. 22, 1940.



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Opinion

Letters to the editor

A misrepresentation

I feel comments I made during a public hearing held prior to the Town of Hamilton's monthly council meeting on Dec. 10, 2019, were misrepresented in typewritten minutes that recorded that meeting. I voiced my concern over the misrepresentation to the council. The minutes were approved and then sent out for publication anyway. It was very disappointing.

Up for discussion during the hearing was Hamilton's 2020 budget. Council member Tim Morrison had expressed concerns over spending money on code enforcement.

How the Town of Hamilton intends to responsibly uphold ordinances it has in place had already been a matter of longstanding discussion amongst the town's officials. In the discussions I had listened to, it seemed there was no town official comfortable with holding those reins, and part of the 2020 budget under consideration was setting aside funds that would be needed to hire personnel for code enforcement.

The town had asked for thoughts on this matter from its citizens, and I spoke up. I don't believe I said, "I want the town to enforce the RV rules during flood events," and I know for a fact I did not say, "the problems in the town need to be addressed by law enforcement as the residents are not voluntarily compliant." Those just aren't my words.

I did ask that we understand there's a difference between law enforcement and code enforcement, and I did suggest a team approach to code enforcement (as opposed to the hiring of a code enforcement official). I did think and tried to say that when the town sends out its seasonal flood preparedness letter to

residents, this might be a good time for town officials to take that collective team approach in reviewing for compliance to all of the issues mentioned in that letter.

I don't live at 518 Elm Street. I do appreciate the apology I received from Hamilton's town clerk over the misrepresentation not being properly addressed before being released publicly.

I'd like to thank the *Concrete Herald* for allowing me this opportunity to set the record straight.

Janet Koopsen
Hamilton of Herald.

Radio KSVU, where are you?

With many worried phone messages still being received at Concrete's KSVU studio, an update on why the community radio station is off the air is in order.

Some history first.

As of last September, radio station staff were informed that due to the loss of the Public Broadcasting Service's annual grant to radio KSVR (the Skagit Valley College "mother" station), upriver's KSVU would no longer receive the funding necessary to renew its lease on the broadcast tower on Burpee Hill. As of January 2020, KSVU would need to fund itself. A tall order as the tower lease alone came to well over \$1,000 a month!

See Letters, p. 5

Letters policy

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

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Commentary Sunday School

By John Boggs

I'll readily admit I'm one of the many who had reservations about an overnight homeless shelter opening on Main Street in Concrete. I felt it could be a good thing, but ...

Most of us, at least on occasion, have that struggle between our heads and our hearts. Instead of not dealing with that disconnect, or trying to rationalize my uneasiness, I chose to seek some help. I have many books on religions lining my walls; but instead of reading some ancient texts, I chose to read the "Book of Herald." Granted, it presents a rather narrow Christian view, but given that it was written by my neighbors, that should be no surprise. For those who are utterly confused, I went back and re-read a decades-worth of articles that appeared in *Concrete Herald* under the column title "Sunday School Lesson."

I did not read them closely to find fault with them, but to find solace in them. Even though the articles I focused on were written by 10 different ministers during a 10-year period, the message was fairly consistent. In some way or another, all condense their primary tenet of faith to practicing love and compassion. The different denominations in town may disagree on some details, but not the "big stuff."

I have pulled relevant snippets out from their original texts to create this collage, but I don't believe I've taken the comments out of the larger context.

Chris Anderson wrote, "Love and compassion are to be the center of everything we do ..." (January 2013). Simple as that is, in another article, Chris explains the rationalization process we use to change that message. "(W)e all remember Bible stories because there's something in them that hits home. Jesus told stories to teach his disciples, the church leaders, and the people gathered around Him. Each took a different lesson home with them. Some heard and began to live the lesson. Others heard, but immediately began to reinterpret so that they would fit their own idea of who God was. ... All of these stories have an important thread. ... Jesus took 10 Commandments and more than 600 little laws ... (and) He shrank them all to just two: "Love God" and "Love your neighbor" (November 2013).

Given our human nature and our lifetime of distorting the simple message of "love," Chris also reminded us that "We need to see everything with a different and new set of eyes. ... May we all learn to let go of our self-centeredness and selfishness. May we open our eyes and 'see' what God has set out for us in our living" (January 2015).

David McAllister simply wrote, "At the center of the universe is a relationship" (April 2018). In today's world, we often forget that.

Bill Mueller recognized the reality of today's world when he commented, "We are part of what is called the civilized world. Yet, there are more and more acts of terror, violence, and uncivilized acts on a daily basis" (October 2016). The darkness we can create by building walls darkens our souls and confines our hearts.

Cindy Myatt understood the confines of those walls we build around ourselves, and our hearts, and the need to step out of that safe, comfort zone. "We can make a difference in each other's lives ... it is about stepping out of our comfort zone and trusting God. It's about loving our neighbor even if we don't know how to trust or accept one's lifestyle" (January 2018). For those who view Scripture as authoritative, Matthew 25 has a line worth remembering: "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me" (February 2019). Kitty Pederson, reporting on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, listed the seven corporal Works of Mercy, which prominently includes feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, (and) ... give alms to the poor (May 2016).

Lowell Chilton recognized our plight in overcoming the inertia of darkness. "In the Pacific Northwest, and especially in the North Cascades, we know darkness ... we may barely glimpse the light of day ... (w)e take pride in living through them ... We know darkness in other ways too. Many of us feel passed over by the rest of the world. Many of us struggle for hope for tomorrow. 'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it'" (December 2016).

Bruce Martin, one of the more prolific contributors to the *Herald*, repetitively called us to "touch ... and chang(e) the lives of people around us who can do nothing for us" (January 2010). "Determine to honor God in all you do, in the way you treat others, in how you talk, and in the things you place value upon. Be

See Sunday School, p. 38



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Transforming lives

Overnight shelter opens in Concrete

Shelter at Mount Baker Presbyterian Church, now operating under a four-week trial, finds both support and resistance from community members.

By Chazlyn Lovely

Edited by Katy Tomasulo

After a standing-room-only public hearing on Feb. 10, the Concrete Town Council unanimously approved Resolution 2020-01, a six-month temporary conditional use permit application allowing for an overnight shelter for homeless adults to be established in a residential zone. The initiative, spearheaded by the Mount Baker Presbyterian Church and Welcome Home Skagit, is slated for an initial four-week trial that, if successful, could be extended until the end of winter.

The public hearing followed a Q&A session held at the Presbyterian church on Jan. 22, where Pastor Kevin Riley, Welcome Home Skagit President Larry Paise, and Sarah Hinman from Skagit County Public Health addressed concerns from community members unsure of the shelter's potential impact on the area. Pastor Riley expressed that while the church's members and he believe that there is a need for the shelter in Concrete, they want to be as transparent as possible throughout the trial period, and if the community experiences adverse effects, the shelter will not continue.

According to Town of Concrete town planner Marianne Manville-Ailles, the permit granted by Town Council covers the shelter for six months, including the four-week trial period mentioned by Riley. If the impact on the community is minimal and the shelter sees success, the parties involved would need to apply for a conditional use permit spanning a longer period if they want to make the shelter permanent. Along with giving organizers and the community time to determine the program's success, the temporary permit also allows the shelter's organizers time to review and address changes that the building would require if it were to be operated on a long-term basis, such as ADA accessibility.

The ground floor of the church is considered by some to be an ideal location for the shelter because of its size (the basement can fit 12 sleeping cots), access to restroom facilities, and its ability to be "locked down" while in use. Every part

of the shelter will be visible at all times to the two on-duty staff members, one of which will be responsible for securing the property and at least one of which will have had training in First Aid and CPR, as well as AED and Narcan use. Because most staff members will have experience working at a shelter in Mt. Vernon, they will be able to handle any tense situations that may arise and may already have gone through de-escalation and sensitivity training.

The shelter will be available from 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. on most days, with a late start on Mondays. Both volunteers and those wishing to use the shelter will be pre-cleared by the organizers via background checks, but otherwise it is considered to be a "low-barrier" shelter. Adults living in unsheltered conditions or in their cars will be given priority; however, if space is available, law enforcement may be able to drop off adults experiencing domestic violence. If an individual fails to return to the shelter for two nights in a row, their space will be filled with someone from the waitlist. According to Riley, because of insurance liabilities, the shelter will only be available to single adults; no minors or family groups will be admitted. Instead, minors under 18 will be directed to the Oasis Teen Shelter in Mount Vernon, and families with children will be given hotel vouchers through Community Action.

Intake and check-in will occur at the Concrete Community Center from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. (7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Mondays; see schedule, p. 29) before guests will be escorted to the church and given clean beds, blankets, and pillows.

"We as a church truly feel that we've been called to do this," said Riley. "We feel we've been called to be a light in the darkness for those who are suffering and to help create pathways out of their darkness."

Several members of the audience at the Feb. 10 Town Council meeting agreed. Naomi Rumpff, a member of the church, pointed out that while Mount Baker Presbyterian's congregation is mostly elderly, making volunteer opportunities

limited, they do have a perfectly good building sitting empty most of the week.

All parties involved recognize that it's tough to accurately gauge the level of need for the overnight shelter. Surveys have been conducted in the past to try and understand homelessness in the East County, but in the end the shelter's organizers are unsure of how many individuals will take advantage of the opportunity. Paise stated that there is "a significant number of homeless in Skagit County" and that while many think that not many of them are in the East County area, "we will not know that for sure until after the trial period."

"There are homeless people here, but they may be invisible to the general public," said Rumpff at the council meeting.

"All people at some time in their lives need a little help and a hand up," said June Fritz. "We're all a couple of paychecks away from homelessness. The church is already there so it won't change property values. If they're in the shelter they're not outside unaccounted for in people's sheds. Let's give it a try."

Local business owner Anne Bussiere noted at the meeting that without the compassion of the Marblemount community 50 years ago when her family was basically homeless, they may not have survived. "I want to be in a community with compassion, and I hope the council will honor that."

"We have a real opportunity to define who we are as people," said Claus Joens. "We live in a time where it is not unheard of for someone to stop and pick up a stray dog, but still drive right by someone lying in a ditch. In the long term, this may or may not be the solution, but we have someone with the courage and a plan to at least try and address the problem."

Not all are convinced that the Concrete shelter is what the area needs, however. Concrete resident Hayley Minier cautioned that while there was a lot of important talk involving emotion, religion, and passion, it was important not to forget about practicality as well. "This shelter

won't be open to children, teens, or families—they'll be sent elsewhere, and if that's an option, why isn't everyone sent elsewhere?"

Minier also worried about law enforcement response time. "The Sheriff's deputies are not here 24 hours a day to deal with any issues. If there is an issue and a person is sent back out into the community with no Sheriff in the area to respond, that's a problem and that's something that should be considered."

Minier is one of many who have spoken up about these concerns and others, such as Welcome Home Skagit's relative inexperience as a nonprofit organization. Created by members of the Mount Vernon Seventh-Day Adventist Church who

See Shelter, p. 6

East Detachment announces regular hours

The East Detachment office for the Skagit County Sheriff (SCSO) will be open for set, regular hours to accommodate a variety of needs for Upper Valley citizens.

SCSO Records staff will be at the office located at 45672 Main St., Concrete, for fingerprint services and basic civil process paperwork. They also will help with cedar permits and other clerical issues for which Upper Valley residents otherwise would have to drive to Mount Vernon.

The "Neighborhood Mobile Office" began on Jan. 21, and will be open on the third Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Services include:

- Apply for or renew/replace your concealed pistol license.
- Get fingerprints for employment.
- Get civil questions answered.
- Offender change of address paperwork.
- Apply for cedar permits.
- Make public records requests.
- Pick up forms for civil process.
- File a nonemergency report.

The March open-office hours fell on March 1. Here's the schedule for April:

- April 21 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

—Chad Clark, Undersheriff
Skagit County Sheriff's Office

Letters, cont. from p. 2

KSVU staff hustled to apply for federal nonprofit status, a mandatory requirement enabling the station to apply for grants and other types of funding. A very successful Halloween dance fundraiser happened in late October, and calls for support were heard constantly on the air. In order to avoid the pressing lease on the corporate tower, the antenna was disconnected from the tower on Jan. 9, and the radio station's airwaves were silenced (*Concrete Herald*, January 2020).

However, thanks to the generosity of radio KSVR management, KSVU was offered a temporary "streaming" service via our Web site, www.ksvu.org, for six months, the FCC time limit to be back on the air. In addition, Skagit Valley College and KSVR management are hoping to transfer KSVU to our new nonprofit, local community ownership, and have vowed to help make that a reality once we are approved.

Some possible solutions?

A number of volunteers have been working diligently to find an alternative to the prohibitively expensive American Tower costs and have, so far, come up with investigating the following possibilities and results:

1. Lendlease tower in Hamilton: too low in elevation to reach our upriver audience.
2. Generous private landowners on Burpee Hill have offered to let KSVU put a structure on their land. However, land zoning issues still need to be addressed, as well as purchasing and placing a tower or pole, road and power access, etc.
3. Placing an antenna on top of Concrete's silo? Probably too low.
4. Setting up their own pole near the Concrete Airport, which is where the signal from KSVR is received and bounced to the studio nearby.
5. Verizon tower on Sierra Pacific land: Investigate working with the timber land owner rather than the corporate tower company? Probably the best option so far.

Other suggestions are welcome, but time is of the essence. The FCC only allows a six-month break in service before losing one's on-air license! If you can help in any way, please call the KSVU studio at 360.853.8588 and leave a message with your phone number. The community is also more than welcome to attend monthly meetings at the studio in portable classroom "B" behind the Concrete Elementary School, usually held the second Tuesday of each month. The next one should be on March 10 at 4 p.m.

Thanks for listening!

Christie Fairchild
Rockport

Thanks to community

The Concrete American Legion Post and the Concrete Heritage Museum Association thank the entire community for supporting their recent respective fundraisers.

Going above and beyond was Richard Frank, the winner of the Legion's raffle, who donated his winnings back to the Post, and the Chamber of Commerce who organized the Mardi Gras event, on which both organizations piggybacked.

John Boggs
Concrete

Thanks for community dinners' volunteers

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all involved in making the February Community Dinners a great success.

The Skagit County Sheriff's Office dinner and the Town of Concrete dinner each presented the community with a chance to gather together and enjoy a meal. Thank you all for all you do, all the time, and thanks for the great community dinners.

Let's hope this tradition continues and more and more people join in the fun.

Thank you.

Athena Hornsby
Concrete

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volunteered at the Friendship House shelter, they became an official 501(c)(3) organization in February 2019, and the Concrete shelter will be the first under their management. While Paise is confident in the experience gained while at Friendship House, Minier remains uncertain. "There are too many 'I don't know.' The building isn't ready; it feels rushed. If they took a little time, they could have a safe and ready building that helps more of the community."

Town of Concrete staff will receive weekly updates as to the shelter's progress and daily operations, which will then be forwarded to the Town Council. Riley and Paise joined Commissioner Lisa Janicki for the shelter's opening night on Feb. 16, and while staff were able to procure six applications during Community Action's daily meal periods, the first night saw only two of the six applicants actually using the shelter.

"The single biggest challenge thus far is simply one of building trust. We will continue our outreach efforts this week and attempt to attract additional shelter guests on a day-by-day basis," Paise wrote in an e-mail update.

To learn more about the shelter, go to www.welcomehomeskagit.com/concrete-project. To apply to volunteer with Welcome Home Skagit, visit their Web site and click the "Join Now" button. To request a copy of the Concrete Town Council's decision, call 360.853.8401.

Freelance writer Chazlyn Lovely lives in Corkindale.

Freelance editor Katy Tomasulo lives on Bainbridge Island.



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THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

Greenheart is looking for families to host an exchange student for next year at all the schools in Snohomish and Skagit County. Students have their own spending money, medical insurance, and speak good to excellent English. They have a wide variety of interests. Host families can have kids of any age or no kids, be empty nesters, a young couple, or a single woman. Call 360.659.3603 if you can host or help Greenheart find a family. You can host for 3, 5, or 10 months. Host families provide a bed and three meals a day. Students can share a bedroom.

The **Upper Skagit Library Foundation** will hold its annual meeting on Sat., March 28, at 2 p.m. in the Concrete Community Center. This annual meeting will allow the new executive committee directors to introduce themselves, update attendees on the organization's status,

and set the goals for the upcoming year. Friends of the Upper Skagit Library (FOUSL) has resumed its book collection and sales activities.

On Sat., March 28, Darrington artists Holly Cannell, Gordy Beil, and Ron Wolff invite the public to their annual **Spring Art Show**. The artists will be exhibiting many new, never seen before works of art. Guest artists will be the Fabulous Skuta Girls.

The show will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 605 S. Emens Ave. in Darrington. For more information, call 360.436.0711.

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Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on Feb. 10 and 24. 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.

Feb. 10 regular meeting

- Two major topics were on this meeting's agenda: a public hearing and decision regarding the proposed overnight homeless shelter at Mount Bakery Presbyterian Church, and a proposal to merge the Concrete Volunteer Fire Dept. with the District 10 Fire Dept.
- See the article on p. 4 for more reporting on the public hearing. After the public hearing, Council voted to approve Resolution 2020-01, giving the church a temporary use permit for its overnight shelter for six months.
- Concrete Volunteer Fire Dept. Chief Darrel Reed addressed the council regarding the merger proposal, referencing a position letter in their information packets. Reasons given for the proposal included aging machinery for Concrete, a reduction in volunteer firefighters, an aging building for Grasmere, and training efficiencies.

Councilmember Marla Reed asked to hear from Concrete firefighters. Concrete firefighters Dane Stemme, Drew Jenkins, Jaesen Meacham, and Jason Kleinhuisen all spoke in favor of the merger. District 10 firefighter and trainer Derek Roberts also spoke in favor of the merger, adding that he has been through several different mergers, and that it is a common

occurrence elsewhere in the state.

Councilmember Rob Thomas said he would like additional information from town attorney David Day and others. Councilmember Reed said the financial side of the proposal needs to be reviewed, and that the letter speaks only to the pros of the merger, not the cons too.

It was the consensus of the council to move forward with gathering more information.

Feb. 24 regular meeting

- Larry Paise from Welcome Home Skagit updated the council on the first two weeks of shelter operation. No major difficulties were reported.
- With town engineer Cody Hart at the podium, council approved Task Order 2020-2, water tank and source metering; and a recommendation to award the I&I dig-out project to Trico Companies.
- Council renewed its agreement with EDSAC for economic development assistance, for \$500 in 2020 (no increase from 2019).
- The Fly-In committee continues to meet monthly in preparation for the 2020 Fly-In. Other airport items include upgrades and repairs to the pilots lounge, such as new gutters and ADA-compliant toilets. Airport manager Roger Chapman also is gathering quotes for a new entry fence at the N. Superior Ave. entrance.
- The next Economic Development Commission meeting is March 11 at 6 p.m., at 5b's Bakery. This will be a workshop format.
- Mayor Jason Miller reported on several items, including the rail car disposal (contract signed,

waiting for schedule), the old high school (interested buyer to make an offer during the week of Feb. 24), renovating Suite A at the old police station, and an individual who expressed interest in 5-10 acres of land inside town limits, for a light industrial use.

—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.



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
SAT., March 21 2020
9:30 am - 4:00 PM
DWELLING IN HOPE



Rebekah Metteer
 Author/speaker, mom of 3. She delights in women taking courageous faith steps. Her favorite things: 2nd-hand treasure hunting, up-cycling furniture and family camping

Her books: *The Fruit of Where I Dwell*, *A Mindset Makeover*, *Pray With Me*, and *Faith, Friendship and Focus*

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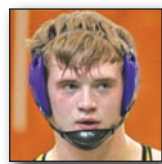
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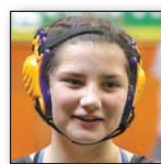
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Sports



Athletes of the Month

Reed medals at Mat Classic

Going into this year's Mat Classic state wrestling tournament, Concrete High School sophomore Robert Reed (132 lbs.) was the No. 1 seed from the west side of Washington, so he started off easy, with a bye.

Things got tougher after that. Facing a No. 4-ranked wrestler in the quarterfinals, Reed listened to Coach Jesse Dellinger when he said, "It's time to make a statement." He pinned the kid.

"He wrestled phenomenally," said Dellinger. "He got on top, turned the kid, and stuck him in the first round. It was awesome. He's a bracket-buster. He blew it up. After he pinned that kid, he ended up in the semifinals and wrestled the state champion on Saturday. Robert had the state champ on his back twice. He battled him. The score was close to the end.

Everybody there didn't expect it to be a close match. The toughest match that kid had all weekend was Robert."

That loss to Kevin Sanabria of Tonasket put Reed in the consolation bracket, where he fought his way to the awards podium, ending his second trip to State with a 5th place medal around his neck.

"I was focused on one match at a time. I didn't want to think ahead because there's always better people out there than you," said Reed. "It felt amazing because it's a big accomplishment, placing at state. But next year's a new year. I'm going to place higher."

"House of Upsets"

Reed's success was a contrast to the rest of the Concrete team. Six wrestlers traveled to the Tacoma Dome, but no other Lions made it to Saturday play.

"They call the Tacoma Dome the 'House of Upsets,'" said Dellinger. "Number 1 seeds go down all the time. You can lose at any moment."

The most painful example of this was junior Hunter Olmstead (220), who lost his first two matches and saw his dreams of victory vanish just as quickly.

"He struggled," said Dellinger. "He's beaten everybody in the bracket. He didn't wrestle at the state level like he



Robert Reed on the awards podium: 5th place in the 2B 132-lb. weight class.

should have, up to the level of his caliber. It happened to me, too, when I was a sophomore. The bracket is unforgiving. It was a very unfortunate way for the season to end for him, because everywhere he had gone, he wrestled tough."

Senior Peyton Sanchez (182) faced two top wrestlers out of the starting gate too, and lost to both, even though he placed 4th at regionals. Dominic Cassell (195) and Killian McCormack (170, alternate) rounded out the Concrete team at State.

"It wasn't what we expected," said Dellinger. "In the 16 years I've been going there, I've never seen Concrete on the side of the upsets. I've seen it plenty of times, but this year it was us. I hope it gives us some motivation."

—J. K. M.



Robert Reed wrestles Kevin Sanabria of Tonasket during the second day of Mat Classic at the Tacoma Dome, Feb. 22. Reed lost this match, but climbed back up through the consolation bracket to win the 5th place medal at 132 lbs.



Concrete High School sent six wrestlers to the state tournament this year. After a sendoff ceremony at the school, the team paused for a photo. Back row, from left: Asst. Coach Don Olmstead, Hunter Olmstead, Dominic Cassell, Head Coach Jesse Dellinger. Front row, from left: Cody Carlson (photographer), Killian McCormack, Peyton Sanchez, Robert Reed.



Ebbby Buchta is a senior captain for the Concrete Lady Lions basketball team, and was named the female Athlete of the Month for January. Buchta plays the guard position and is a team leader. She averaged four points, five rebounds, 1.5 assists, and 3.1 steals per game this season. "Ebbby is a very balanced player, and makes a lot of good things happen for us on the court," said Coach Kevik Rensink. As a running start student, Buchta also attends Skagit Valley College while playing high school basketball. Her academics, as well as her play, are great examples of her effort and attitude both on and off the court. "Buchta is a good example to the younger girls in the program, and very deserving of being named Athlete of the Month by the Concrete Lions Booster Club," said Rensink.

Senior **Vincent Wenneker** was named a December Athlete of the Month. "Vinny is one of the more inspiring stories of the season because regardless of the circumstances, he showed up to work every day and took on a leadership role amongst the younger athletes," said Coach Levi Stewart. Wenneker averaged 6.8 points per game in



December, good for second on the team. On top of that, he has put forth maximum effort in the classroom, earning a 3.6 GPA last semester. When looking back on his career, Wenneker said, "A lot of blood, sweat, and tears went into this sport. Words can't explain how much basketball meant to me and my life."

Junior wrestler **Hunter Olmstead** was named an Athlete of the Month for December. "Hunter wrestled awesome that entire month," said Coach Jesse Dellinger. "He won every tournament. The Lynnwood Classic. The Spud Walley Invitational in Sedro-Woolley. Ocasta. First place, first place, first place. In December, I think he won every tournament he was in." Olmstead is captain for the wrestling team and a role model for younger wrestlers, said Dellinger. "He leads the team; everyone looks up to him. He takes control of the room; he's a great kid and a great leader. He's the whole package."

Senior wrestler **Cody Carlson** was named a January Athlete of the Month. "He is one of my favorites," said Coach Jesse Dellinger. "He's the hardest working kid in the room. He



has the biggest heart and the best work ethic I've seen in a high school kid. He works his butt off. He never quits, he never argues. He nods and says yes. He had a great season, wrestling tough all year for us. He's placed in more tournaments this year than he ever did. He wanted to make it to State, and he did. I'm proud of the kid, and I wish him success after graduation. They say that hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard. That's Cody."

Buchta, Wenneker, Olmstead, and Carlson were selected by Concrete Lions Booster Club members based on their leadership, being team players, and demonstrating sportsmanship and character.



Athletes of the Month: Ebbby Buchta, Vincent Wenneker, Hunter Olmstead, Cody Carlson



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Girls wrap season

By Kevik Rensink, head coach

Have fun and always bring your best. A simple sentence, but in reflecting on our 2019–20 basketball season, it is these words that became our focus every day. We kept coming back to this over and over, day after day; it helped us continue to have fun and always bring our best. To say the season didn't go as planned is kind of silly. Does it ever? I always picture the perfect season. You know, everyone plays, nobody quits or moves, nobody gets hurt, and everyone plays to their absolute potential. I have never had one of those seasons, but I prepare for one every year.

Despite the losses and imperfections this year, the girls came in with great attitudes and tremendous work ethic every day. I can coach that.

We had four games in February, starting at University Prep in Seattle. It was a great, balanced team effort that day, led by sophomore Payton Dickinson and eighth grader Hayley Daniels, who combined for 15 of our 31 points. After a rough game at 4th-ranked Mount Vernon Christian, we headed out to Orcas Island, where sophomore Ashley Parker and senior Ebby Buchta had strong games, keeping us in that game for an extended time before Orcas made a strong second-half run (22–0, to be exact—ouch).

Then came Senior Night, our last home game vs. Friday Harbor, where we took a moment to recognize our three seniors: Ebby Buchta, Jacquelyn Jackson, and Izabela Ramos. I really appreciate their commitment to the program, and more importantly to each other during their careers. Once a Lady Lion, always a Lady Lion. This was another game we kept close in the first half, but then let it slide out of our grip in the second. Sierra Rensink, a junior guard, had her best game of the season, scoring 8 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

If you look back at what you just read, you see a pattern of someone different stepping up each game to lead their team. This is what we saw game in and game out to end the season, and I hope it builds confidence in our younger players as they look forward to and prepare for next season.

I am already excited in anticipation for



Top: Andrea Rogers looks for a shot around Friday Harbor's Stella Parsons during a home court game on Feb. 11.

Above: Payton Dickinson drives past Parsons during the Feb. 11 game. The Lady Lions took a tough loss that night, 48–15. Photo by Jude Dippold.

what is to come from this team. A huge thanks to all the players, the parents, Coach Nick, Sweeney, Lisa, Christine, and Wayne for their awesome support through the year.

Fighting through adversity

By Levi Stewart, head coach

The CHS boys' basketball season was filled with many ups and downs, both on and off of the court. Regardless of the circumstances, the boys continued to battle.

There were many memorable moments from the season that the players should be very proud of. One of victories came on the road against a gritty Mossyrock team. Levi Lowry led the way with 24 points and 18 rebounds, seniors Vincent Weneker chipped in 8 points and Devin Blankenship added 6 points. The game came down to a final possession by Mossyrock, but a tough defensive effort by the Lions sealed the narrow 59–57 victory.

Our second victory came on the road against Chimum High School. Levi Lowry dropped in 12 points and added 16 rebounds, Lukas Sahlin had a career high 10 points, and Devin Blankenship added 7 points and 13 rebounds. In similar fashion, the Lions held a two-point advantage with four seconds left. Chimum was forced to go the length of the court and was unable to get a shot off in time. Both games provided incredible lessons and experience for the boys.

The seniors will be missed dearly; their leadership and composure through a tough season was incredible to watch. Devin, Levi, and Vinny, I appreciate all of the hours and work that you have put toward the sport! It is amazing how fast the years go by. I hope you carry the lessons from your career with you as you enter the real world! All of you have so much potential, I can't wait to see what you do in life.



Vincent Weneker drives past a Granite Falls defender and lays one up during the Lions' game on Feb. 5. Unfortunately, the Tigers handed Concrete a 56–28 loss on their home court that night.

MEN'S BASKETBALL AWARDS

Varsity Letters: Lukas Sahlin, Kai Sahlin, Cohen Poolos, Vincent Weneker, Owen Aamot, Levi Lowry, Devin Blankenship, Adrian Cassel-Seger.

Varsity Most Improved: Cohen Poolos. **Varsity Most Inspirational:** Levi Lowry. **Varsity Mr. Hustle:** Devin Blankenship. **Free Throw Percentage Champ:** Vincent Weneker. **JV Most Inspirational Player:** Tyler Rogge. **JV Mr. Hustle:** Trevor Howard.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL AWARDS

Varsity Letters: Izabela Ramos, Ebby Buchta, Kylie Clark, Sierra Rensink, Andrea Rogers, Cassidy Smith, Payton Dickinson, Ashley Parker, Hayley Daniels.

Varsity Most Improved: Hayley Daniels. **Varsity Most Valuable Player:** Kylie Clark. **Miss Hustle:** Ebby Buchta. **Players' Award:** Izabela Ramos. **JV Most Improved Player:** Destiny Gilbert. **Queen of the Boards:** Andrea Rogers (104).

Johnny Franke is No. 1

Darrington senior takes first place at Mat Classic

For Johnny Franke, the fourth time was the charm.

The Darrington senior had been to Mat Classic—the state wrestling tournament—every other year during his high school career, but had not managed to earn a first-place medal around his neck. His freshman year, he didn't place. He took 3rd as a sophomore, at 195 lbs. Last year he almost pulled it off, but settled for second place.

This year it was different. This year, Franke roared into the Tacoma Dome with a 44–2 regular season record, and went undefeated during the two-day tournament, finally capturing first place in the 195-lb. weight class. He wrestled Chase Flynn of South Bend and got the win by a 4–2 decision.

"My lifelong goal was to win a state title, and after last year's loss in the finals, I knew I had to do it this year," said Franke. "It was an amazing feeling—it almost didn't feel real to me. But coming off the mat and hugging my coaches, then sprinting up into the stands to hug my family and friends was the best feeling I have felt in my wrestling career."

"When it comes to wrestling, his work

ethic is second to none," said Darrington Head Coach Ray Franke, who is Johnny's father. "He's wrestled since he was 7 years old. When he was younger, I drove him to a Mt. Vernon club to wrestle, plus two or three other nights at another place, in Lake Stevens. He sacrificed. He didn't play football in high school, but worked harder than any kid playing football."

The championship match wasn't without controversy; in particular, a second-round call for an illegal hold against Franke that came about 10 seconds after the alleged infraction.

"We run that spiral ride all the time," said Coach Franke. "Johnny's completed that move in every single match this year but two, and had never been called on it."

Still, Johnny Franke kept his eye on the prize and won the match. "I couldn't have done it without my coaches pushing me, and my teammates for being there for me and pushing me as well," he said. "And a huge shout out to my mom for always making sure I have all my gear, and making sure the team has a healthy meal before we wrestle."

—J. K. M.



Johnny Franke wrestles Chase Flynn of South Bend for the championship on Feb. 22. The match went to Franke by 4–2 decision.



Darrington's Fab Four were all smiles after Johnny Franke's victory at Mat Classic on Feb. 22. From left: Assistant coaches Mason McKenzie and Pete Selvig, Franke, Head Coach Ray Franke.

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Academics



Is there more than one universe? What soap is better? What causes yeast to foam? These questions and more were posed and addressed during the Boys & Girls Club Science Fair at Concrete Elementary School on Feb. 18. Students prepared displays that explained their experiments and the results, and attendees marveled at the young scientists.



A select group of Concrete High School students were inducted into the National Honor Society during a Feb. 26 ceremony at the high school. The new members are Roberto Acevedo, Payton Dickinson, Devon Howard, Christian Joens, Alonzo Lazaro, Ashley Parker, Romie Salipot, Brylon Sipes, Colby Whitford. Photo by Claus Joens.

CONCRETE MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following students at Concrete Middle School received a grade point average of 3.2 or higher for the first semester of the 2019–20 school year. An asterisk after a name denotes a student with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Grade 7

Samara Bettikofer, Brendon Boozer, Se'Ah'l Leetsa Decoteau, Kelsey Edwards, Conner Evans, Indie Goddard, Harley Herz, Alex Johnston, Mariska Lehmann, Kaylee Nieshe, Isabel Parent, Hunter Throssel.

Grade 8

Michael Bartel, Cooper Brink, Marcella Brossard, Hayley Daniels, Georgia-Lynn Driver, Kallie Dull, Amelia Fierbaugh, Jayden Hall, Trevor Howard, Camrin Hurley, Mariah Kelley*, Lane Lloyd, Jasmine Lofton, Ashton Martin*, Jade McAdam, Kelly Savage, Mason Stevenson, Jonathan Stewart.

CONCRETE HIGH SCHOOL

The following students at Concrete High

School received a grade point average of 3.2 or higher for the first semester of the 2019–20 school year. An asterisk after a name denotes a student with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Grade 9

Ethan Bounds, Anthony Culver, Kevin Gonzalez-Bautista, Cadance Landsiedel, Vincent Preis, Lukas Sahlin.

Grade 10

Payton Dickinson, Tiffanie Hendry-Conrad, Carlen Herz, Devon Howard, Christian Joens, Rigoberto Lazaro, Ashley Parker, Romie Salipot, Victor Silva-Benavides, Brylon Sipes, Keoni Vierra, Colby Whitford.

Grade 11

Natasha Allard, Cory Allis, Kylie Clark, Carissa Cross, Hunter Kelley, Collin Martin, Leona Martinez, Hunter Olmstead, Sierra Rensink, Rebekah Rider, Andrea Rogers, Kaitlynn Smith, Cassidy Smith, Lily Whitford.

Grade 12

William Baird, Amanda Gallagos, Christian Jonas, Izabela Ramos, Peyton Sanchez, Troy Schmidt, Vincent Wenneker.

YD update

February was FUN! It started with a game of Family Feud, with Collin Martin, Carissa Cross, Levi Lowry, Gary Mitchell, and Roberto Acevedo representing the winning team. Indoor game nights are some of my favorite activities because as a staff we get a chance to really interact with the students. Normally I spend most of my time "running the show," giving out directions of what we are doing next, and setting rules and guidelines to everything. This can be exhausting and not very relational. I love getting to know the kids. Where did they come from, what are they going through, what are they excited about?

We capped off February with a Capture the Flag Night, and had about 25 students show up to chase each other around in the dark while looking for glow sticks.

This month gets crazy. We have a town scavenger hunt the first Monday in March, followed by our annual RAVE on the second Monday. We cap off the month with two of our biggest student favorites in Just Better Night, and our annual Amazing Race (where there are two free trips to Rock-n-Roll on the line).

Nestled right in the middle of all that fun is our next big adventure: 30-HOUR FAMINE! This is an overnight retreat to the Baker Lake Lodge, where the students will play games, learn about poverty, and go without eating for 30 hours. That's why it is called the 30-hour famine. We do this every year to raise money and awareness for kids in poverty-stricken communities around the world. The average time between meals for many children in third world countries is 30 hours. Our students get to feel those actual hunger pains, and know what that feels like. But, while our teens only feel that once, those kids feel that every day. So, we are handing out informational/fundraising packets to our students to raise funds to help support these kids in poverty-stricken communities. The event is free, we feed the students at the end of it, and it is a great time to learn a lot about others, as well as themselves in a safe and fun atmosphere. If you think your son or daughter would like to attend the 30-Hour Famine this year, please let me know. It will be held March 13–14 at Baker Lake.

Also, please sponsor a student if you can. This money goes a really long ways. Thank you for your prayer and support of this ministry!

—Kevik and Marta Rensink
area directors

FBLA students advance to state competition

On Feb. 1, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) held its Northwest Region Winter Conference at Sedro-Woolley High School. The top six places in each event advance to compete at the FBLA State Leadership Conference in Spokane from April 8–11. Fourteen of 21 CHS members placed in 34 events as follows:

- William Baird, senior: 5th place, Organizational Leadership
- Cory Allis, junior: 5th place, Word Processing
- Jake Bronoske, sophomore: 3rd place, Business Communications; 4th place, Global Business (team); 6th place, Business Law
- Christian Joens, sophomore: 2nd place, Intro to IT; 5th place, Computer Problem Solving; 5th place, Cyber Security
- Brylon Sipes, sophomore: 3rd place, Intro to IT; 4th place, Computer Applications; 3rd place, Global Business (team)
- Colby Whitford, sophomore: 1st place, Intro to IT; 5th place, Intro to Business Communications
- Vanessa Aiken, freshman: 4th place, Intro to Business Communications; 4th place, Journalism; 5th place, Intro to Business Procedures
- Ethan Bounds, freshman: 6th place, Intro to Business Procedures
- Caleb Lewis, freshman: 3rd place, Intro to Business Procedures
- Audrey Ottow, freshman: 5th place, Intro to Business; 5th place, Intro to IT
- Vincent Preis, freshman: 3rd place, Intro to Business Communications; 4th place, Intro to IT
- Camrin Hurley, 8th grade: 1st place, Business Math; 1st place, Critical Thinking (team); 1st place, Intro to Computer Science; 2nd place, Business Etiquette
- Indie Goddard, 7th grade: 1st place, Critical Thinking (team); 1st place, Elevator Speech; 2nd place, Intro to Computer Science; 3rd place, Business Etiquette
- Izzy Parent, 7th grade: 1st place, Critical Thinking (team); 1st place, Digital Citizenship; 2nd place, Elevator Speech; 4th place, Business Etiquette

Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County will be open for Spring Break, April 6–10, in Concrete. New members can register at the Club. Online registration is available for current members at skagitclubs.org. The cost is \$160 for the week. Enrollment closes on March 20.

Concrete Club

- Spring Break hours: 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Contact: Brian Gustafson
brian.gustafson@skagitclubs.org
360.419.3723, ext. 46

—J. K. M.

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Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

This month's photo references the Newell Mill in the late 1890s, in and around Clear Lake. Oxen are being used as "horse power," pulling logs on a skid road made of "puncheon," which are 4- to 5-inch-thick split cedar logs laid down about every 5 feet to facilitate the snaking of the large timbers to a landing nearby. A teamster, or "bull whacker," with a long stick can be seen next to the oxen. The names of the Newell Mill employees in this photo are unknown. *Photo courtesy of Clear Lake Historical Association.*

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

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

—Deanna Ammons, historian



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Kinsey slide show returns

A PowerPoint slide show of Darius Kinsey photos with ragtime musicians accompaniment is planned for March, including historical background on Kinsey and the photos displayed.

The event will take place at Clear Lake Historical Hall, 12655 Highway 9, in Clear Lake, on Sun., March 15, at 2 p.m. Admission is \$10, with reservations required. Seating and tickets are limited. Attendees may pay with reservation or at the door.

For more information and reservations, call 360.856.6798 or 360.391.1479.

—Sylvia Matterand



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Community Calendar



MARCH

- 6–8 Hamilton Fire Dept. Bake Sale, 951 Petit St., Hamilton; see notice, p. 22
- 7 Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Potting Party, Riverfront Park, Sedro-Woolley, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; see ad, p. 16; info at 360.336.0172 or www.skagitfisheries.org
- 7 Deep Forest Experience, Rockport State Park, guided walks at 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., and 2 p.m.; see notice, p. 23
- 14 Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Potting Party, Riverfront Park, Sedro-Woolley, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; see ad, p. 16; info at 360.336.0172 or www.skagitfisheries.org
- 14 Deep Forest Experience, Rockport State Park, guided walks at 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., and 2 p.m.; see notice, p. 23
- 14 Spring Fling Bingo at Sedro-Woolley Museum, 725 Metcalf St., Sedro-Woolley, noon to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 17
- 15 Darius Kinsey photo slide show, Clear Lake Historical Hall, 12655 Hwy 9, Clear Lake, 2 p.m.; \$10 admission; see notice, p. 14; info at 360.856.6798 or 360.391.1479
- 18 Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County 2020 Annual Breakfast, McIntyre Hall, 2501 E. College Way, Mount Vernon, 7:30 to 9 a.m.; see notice, p. 17
- 18 Concrete Lions Club Corned Beef Dinner, see column, p. 33
- 19 Free Day at Rockport and Rasar State Parks; no Discover Pass needed
- 21 Women HAND in Hand Women's Conference: "Dwelling in Hope," Inspire Church, 805 Township St., Sedro-Woolley, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; \$20 admission; tickets and reservations at www.womenhandinhand.com or 360.853.3066; see ad, p. 7
- 21 Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Potting Party, SFEG Native Plant Nursery, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; see ad, p. 16; info at 360.336.0172 or www.skagitfisheries.org
- 28 Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Potting Party, SFEG Native Plant Nursery, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; see ad, p. 16; info at 360.336.0172 or www.skagitfisheries.org
- 28 Spring Art Show, 605 S. Emens Ave., Darrington, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; info at 360.436.0711 (see notice, p. 25)
- 28 Upper Skagit Library Foundation annual meeting, Concrete Community Center, Concrete, 2 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 28 Grub and Groove, Marblemount Community Hall, 6 to 10 p.m.; see notice, p. 26

APRIL

- 4 2nd Annual Illuminated Easter Egg Hunt, hosted by Relay for Life of Skagit, Eagle Haven Winery, 8243 Sims Rd., Sedro-Woolley, 6 to 9 p.m.; find this event on Facebook for more information
- 7 Hamilton Cemetery Assn annual meeting, Punkin Center Fire Hall, 34041 SR 20, 6:30 p.m.; new members welcome
- 11 Concrete Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt, noon, Concrete Elementary School; free admission
- 11 Free Day at Rockport and Rasar State Parks; no Discover Pass needed
- 14 Tunes & Tales: A Musical Celebration, Concrete Theatre, Concrete, 7 p.m.; tickets at the door; info at www.concrete-theatre.com
- 18 Cement City Trail Run, starts at Concrete High School track, 8:30 a.m. to noon; info at 360.826.4391 or cementcitytrailrun@gmail.com
- 18 Earth Day celebration with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, Scott's Point, Samish Island, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; see ad, p. 16; info at 360.336.0172 or www.skagitfisheries.org

*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 the pilots lounge, Mears Field, 7879 S. Superior Ave., Concrete, at 6 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 cmachapter39@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 workshop on March 23 at 6 p.m., in the admin. bldg., room 111. The board will hold its regular monthly meeting on March 26 at 6 p.m., in the same location. 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.

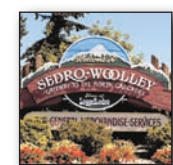
Sedro-Woolley Town Council meets the second and fourth Wed. of each month, at 7 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 325 Metcalf St. 360.855.1661.

Sedro-Woolley School District Board: Meets for a regular meeting on March 9 at 7 p.m., at Central Elementary School. A second regular meeting is scheduled for March 23 at 7 p.m., at Big Lake Elementary School. 360.855.3500 or kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us.

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

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

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Sedro-Woolley



Davis brothers page for Wagoner

Sam and Zach Davis, homeschooled brothers, traveled from Arlington to spend a week paging for the Washington State Senate at the Capitol in Olympia. The Davis brothers were two of the 20 students who served as Senate pages for the third week of the 2020 legislative session.

They were sponsored by Sen. Keith Wagoner, R-Sedro-Woolley, who serves the parts of King, Skagit, and Snohomish counties comprising the 39th Legislative District.

"Samuel and Zachariah did a great job paging," Wagoner said. "They were able to learn about the legislative process while having fun. It was nice to see Sam bring the same level of professionalism he did when he was part of the honor guard."

The Senate page program provides an opportunity for Washington students to spend a week working at the Legislature. Students transport documents between offices, as well as deliver messages and mail. Pages spend time in the Senate chamber and attend page school to learn about parliamentary procedure and the legislative process. Students also draft their own bills and engage in a mock session.

"I liked developing personal relationships with other pages and senators," Sam said. "I feel connected to the Capitol."

Sam, 14, plays guitar and football. Zach, 16, enjoys singing and playing piano. They are the sons of Wendy and Jason



Senator Keith Wagoner, R-Sedro-Woolley, welcomed Arlington brothers Sam and Zach Davis to Olympia during the third week of the 2020 legislative session. The brothers paged for Sen. Wagoner for one week. *Submitted photo.*

Davis.

Zach added, "The environment on campus is great. I liked spending time on the Senate floor."

Students interested in the Senate Page Program are encouraged to go to <http://leg.wa.gov/Senate/Administration/PageProgram>.

Spring Fling Bingo

Get into the spirit of spring at the Sedro-Woolley Museum on Sat., March 14, with an afternoon of Spring Fling Bingo from noon to 3 p.m. Participants will enjoy chances to win loads of prizes and a grand prize that will go to the winner of the most games.

Each reusable slider card costs \$3, and bingo enthusiasts may purchase as many cards as they wish—no daubers

required. Bingo players will be offered free popcorn, cookies, and refreshments throughout the event.

The museum will use the Bingo set-up from the historic Knights of Pythias Hall, which was located on the second floor of the building that now houses Cascade Fabrics on Metcalf St. All proceeds support the museum.

The museum is located at 725 Metcalf St. in Sedro-Woolley.

—J. K. M.

PeaceHealth offers new support group

PeaceHealth United General Medical Center in Sedro-Woolley announced in February the creation of INSPIRATION!, a support group offered free of charge for community members living with pulmonary diseases.

The next group meeting is Wed., March 4, at 3 p.m. inside the medical center at the Coho Café at 2000 Hospital Dr., Sedro-Woolley.

Facilitated by registered respiratory therapists, the group meets on the first Wednesday of every month.

"Each meeting features a monthly topic focus and guest speaker with expertise in pulmonary diseases and treatment," said Kelly Shepard, RRT, AE-C, registered respiratory care practitioner and certified asthma educator. "It's a good opportunity for people to learn more about how to manage their chronic condition. Our goal is to provide support and improve the

health of those living with lung disease." Those who participate will benefit by:

- Meeting others with similar respiratory challenges.
- Building a support network.
- Learning new information about managing their disease.
- Experiencing less suffering and an improved quality of life.

PeaceHealth United General Medical Center's Pulmonary Rehabilitation program is certified through the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation.

No registration is required to attend Inspiration! and everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information, call 360.856.7530.

—Submitted by PeaceHealth

Spring Break with Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County

Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County will be open for Spring Break, April 6–10, in Anacortes, Concrete, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Woolley. New members can register at the Club. Online registration is available for current members at skagitclubs.org. The cost is \$160 for the week. Enrollment closes on March 20.

Here's a look at the club lineup within the Concrete Herald coverage area:

• Contact: Brian Gustafson
brian.gustafson@skagitclubs.org
360.419.3723, ext. 46

Sedro-Woolley Club

- Spring Break hours: 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Contact: Ray Lacko
ray.lacko@skagitclubs.org
360.419.3723, ext. 43

Concrete Club

- Spring Break hours: 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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Boys & Girls Clubs to hold annual breakfast

Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County will hold its 2020 Annual Breakfast on Wed., March 18, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at McIntyre Hall in Mount Vernon. The annual breakfast, sponsored by Trico Companies, stands as the wrap-up to the Club's "Whatever It Takes" campaign and is a visible way of recognizing and celebrating the support received from major partners in the community, while increasing the depth and breadth of that support. Proceeds from the event fund targeted programs that support the academic success, good character and citizenship, and healthful lifestyles for more than 1,700 youth in Skagit County.

The morning will feature youth speakers, including 2020 Youth of the Year Paula Banda. The clubs invite community members to consider a table sponsorship of \$1,000 (includes recognition and a table for ten guests).

An RSVP is required, available through www.skagitclubs.org or by contacting Ian Faley at 360.419.3723, ext. 7 or ifaley@skagitclubs.org.

The breakfast is free. Sponsorships are available. Register at www.skagitclubs.org. For more information, contact Ian Faley.

What: Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County, 2020 Annual Breakfast

When: Wed., March 18, 7:30 to 9 a.m.

Where: McIntyre Hall Performing Arts and Conference Center, 2501 E. College Way, Mount Vernon

Cost: Free admission. Sponsorships are available.

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Lyman



House passes bill to expand court-ordered gun confiscation

By Cameron Sheppard
WNPA News Service

Courts could be one step closer to ordering people subject to vulnerable adult protection orders to surrender their firearms after the House voted 55 to 42 on Feb. 14 in favor of a bill that expands authority to do so.

House Bill 2305 would allow courts issuing a Vulnerable Adult Protection Order to consider whether a person named as an abuser should surrender their firearms, or concealed carry licence.

"This bill gives judges the same tools they have for other protection orders to order the surrender of firearms if there is

evidence that the subject of the order has used or threatened to use a firearm," said the bill's prime sponsor, Beth Doglio, D-Olympia.

Currently, the court can order the surrender of firearms from people subject to other kinds of protection and restraining orders, including domestic violence and stalking, but not for those issued to protect vulnerable adults.

In a House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee hearing for the bill, Rep. Morgan Irwin, R-Enumclaw, asked if the bill brought forth any pre-emptive protections that did not already exist. Irwin raised the point that firearm surrender orders require previous evidence

of threat and that this policy change would not provide legal protections additional to the court protection orders that already exist.

Vulnerable adult protection orders are typically issued for individuals over 60 years of age who are deemed by the court to be unfit to take care of themselves, are legally incapacitated, or have developmental disabilities.

A vulnerable adult who is suffering from abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, or neglect may petition the Superior Court for a protection order, or an interested person acting on their behalf may also seek a protection order for them. If the bill moves through the Senate and

is signed into law, individuals possessing firearms in violation of the court order could be subject to an unlawful possession of a firearm charge in the second degree.

Matthew Aimonetti, representative of the Pink Pistols gun and LGBTQ rights advocacy group, testified to the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee in opposition to the bill. Aimonetti claimed the legislation lacked due process and had the potential to be used maliciously against people.

Aimonetti said the bill denies Second Amendment rights to individuals without criminal charges being filed or being convicted of a crime.

Lawmakers move to lower cost of insulin in state

By Leona Vaughn
WNPA News Service

Bringing down the cost of insulin for people with diabetes is the goal behind two Senate bills and one House bill that have been passed by the Washington state legislature.

Senate bill 6087 and House bill 2662 both cap the cost of insulin for patients at \$100 per month, while Senate bill 6113 appoints the Northwest Prescription Drug Consortium as the single purchaser of insulin in Washington state.

"Currently, the cost of insulin is breaking budgets, threatening lives, and, in some cases, even costing lives," said Sen. Karen Keiser, D-Kent, the primary sponsor for the two Senate bills.

According to a report by the Health Care Cost Institute, the amount of money spent on insulin by Americans with type 1 diabetes almost doubled between 2012 and 2016.

In Washington state, "those enrolled in the consumer-driven health plan pay an average of \$206 per month," on insulin, according to the Senate Bill report on SB 6087.

Rep. Jacquelin Maycumber, R-Republic, the primary sponsor of HB 2662, says her

son was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes last year.

"Those children have to go to bed at night, and not just worry about the stigma of having a chronic disease ... they worry about having the money to pay for medication," Maycumber said.

Some lawmakers opposed the Senate bills because of uncertainty surrounding the reason for insulin price increases. Concerns were also raised by some insurance industry representatives on the effect the caps would have on premiums.

"We need to know what is happening that is increasing that cost to the extent that it is, that's making it impossible for people to pay those prices," said Sen. Randi Becker, R-Eatonville.

"This would do nothing but pass on these additional costs to other people paying the premiums," Becker said.

HB 2662 would put a cap on insulin costs for only two years if put into effect.

SB 6087 and SB 6113 were passed by the Senate on Feb. 18 with a vote of 34-14 and 28-20, respectively. HB 2662 was passed by the House on Feb. 19 with a vote of 97-1.

Provisions in these bills would have to be signed into law by Gov. Jay Inslee to take effect.

Energy companies top 2019 consumer complaint list

In 2019, investor-owned energy companies received more complaints than any other regulated industry, followed by landline telephone companies, according to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

In its annual analysis of consumer complaints, the UTC found 44 percent of the 899 complaints closed in 2019 were against regulated energy companies, according to a media release last month.

Regulated companies issued more than \$73,000 in bill credits and refunds to customers as a result of 2019 consumer complaint investigations.

Consumers filed 396 complaints against regulated electric and natural gas companies, which led to approximately \$23,500 in bill credits or refunds. The most common complaints involved disputed bills, disconnections, customer service, and deposit concerns.

Of the 294 complaints against telephone companies, customers received more than \$39,000 in bill credits or refunds. The most common complaints involved

disputed bills, quality of service, customer service, and disconnections.

Regulated water companies, solid waste companies, and moving companies accounted for 204 complaints in 2019. Customers of these companies received more than \$10,000 in refunds or credits.

In addition to resolving complaints, the UTC's Consumer Protection Help Line received more than 5,800 phone calls, letters, and e-mails from the public. Staff helped consumers find utility assistance, provided information on consumer rights, and assisted consumers in locating permitted residential moving and passenger transportation companies.

Consumers can file a complaint against a regulated company by calling the Consumer Protection Help Line at 888.333.9882, by e-mailing consumer@utc.wa.gov, or by going to www.utc.wa.gov/fileacomplaint.

The UTC regulates the rates and services of the state's investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities, landline telephone companies, solid waste haulers, private water systems, and residential movers, among other industries. The agency also manages the state's pipeline, railroad, and intrastate bus and trucking safety programs.

—Submitted by Washington UTC

Tips for managing diabetes

By Amy Navarre-Cantrel

Diabetes prevention and management is a growing nationwide concern, and in Washington State, it's no different. One in three adults has prediabetes, according to the Washington State Department of Health. Around 10 percent of adults in our state have type 1 or 2 diabetes.

Despite those statistics, there have never been more ways to help treat this incurable disease and prevent life-altering complications.

Diabetes management tools have rapidly expanded in the last decade. There are almost 65 different medications that we can utilize to help people manage their blood sugars. In 1995, there were three different kinds of insulin and one class of oral medications.

Successful treatment of diabetes and prevention of complications fall on the shoulders of doctors and their patients, who must understand how the disease affects them individually. Patients with Type 2 diabetes are insulin-deficient, but not insulin-absent, for example.

Besides getting on the right type of medication, the biggest thing patients can do is incorporate physical activity and a blood-sugar-friendly diet. My new patients are urged to attend a diabetes education course. I also advise they meet with a professional nutritionist—someone who is best equipped to help them make proper dietary adjustments.

Seeing a doctor about your diabetes means committing to a path of personal wellness that's more than medication-based. Diabetes management is not passive. It's not "I'm going to take this pill and everything's going to be okay." It has to be "I'm going to engage in the lifestyle changes necessary to keep me healthy"

Regarding nutrition, I meet very few patients who are genuinely unhealthy in what they eat. The common problem is that they often eat too much. Therefore, I break down nutrition monitoring into three primary components:

1. Controlling your portion sizes
 2. The timing of your meals
 3. The actual nutritional content of what you're consuming
- Overweight or obese patients, or those

not otherwise engaged in regular exercise, have work to do. If they join a gym, they have to hold themselves accountable to actually go and work out. A great place to start with exercise is establishing the practice of going for daily walks.

Regardless of what one chooses for regular exercise, establishing a healthy routine will pay dividends. Furthermore, most patients likely won't need to do more than the average 150 minutes of moderate physical activity recommended each week for healthy individuals. However, patients should also figure out their individual blood sugar levels before and after exercise, so that they can exercise safely without potential spikes or crashes.

Despite the importance of personal responsibility, part of having diabetes is not being too hard on yourself. It's important to understand the complexity of the disease, and that it still requires medical intervention no matter how hard you try to be healthy. You can eat grass every day and run a marathon three times a week, and still struggle with your blood sugar. Metabolically, there's a lot of other stuff going on that happens to keep the sugars high. The emerging science of managing diabetes is understanding there's a lot going on that creates this syndrome.

Not properly treating diabetes can lead to a host of complications, some of which can be fatal. One of the most common, Navarre-Cantrell says, is the risk of cardiovascular disease and events like heart attacks and strokes. Also common are diabetic neuropathies, especially peripheral neuropathy, which result in weakness, numbness or pain from nerve damage, usually in the hands and feet. Some 60 percent of adult diabetes patients suffer with peripheral neuropathies, she says.

With no cure for diabetes, managing the disease is essential to surviving with it long term. It's an investment of time, energy, and money, but an investment in your health and happiness is always the best investment you can make.

Amy Navarre-Cantrel, PA-C, CDE is a physician assistant at the PeaceHealth Family Medicine in Burlington.

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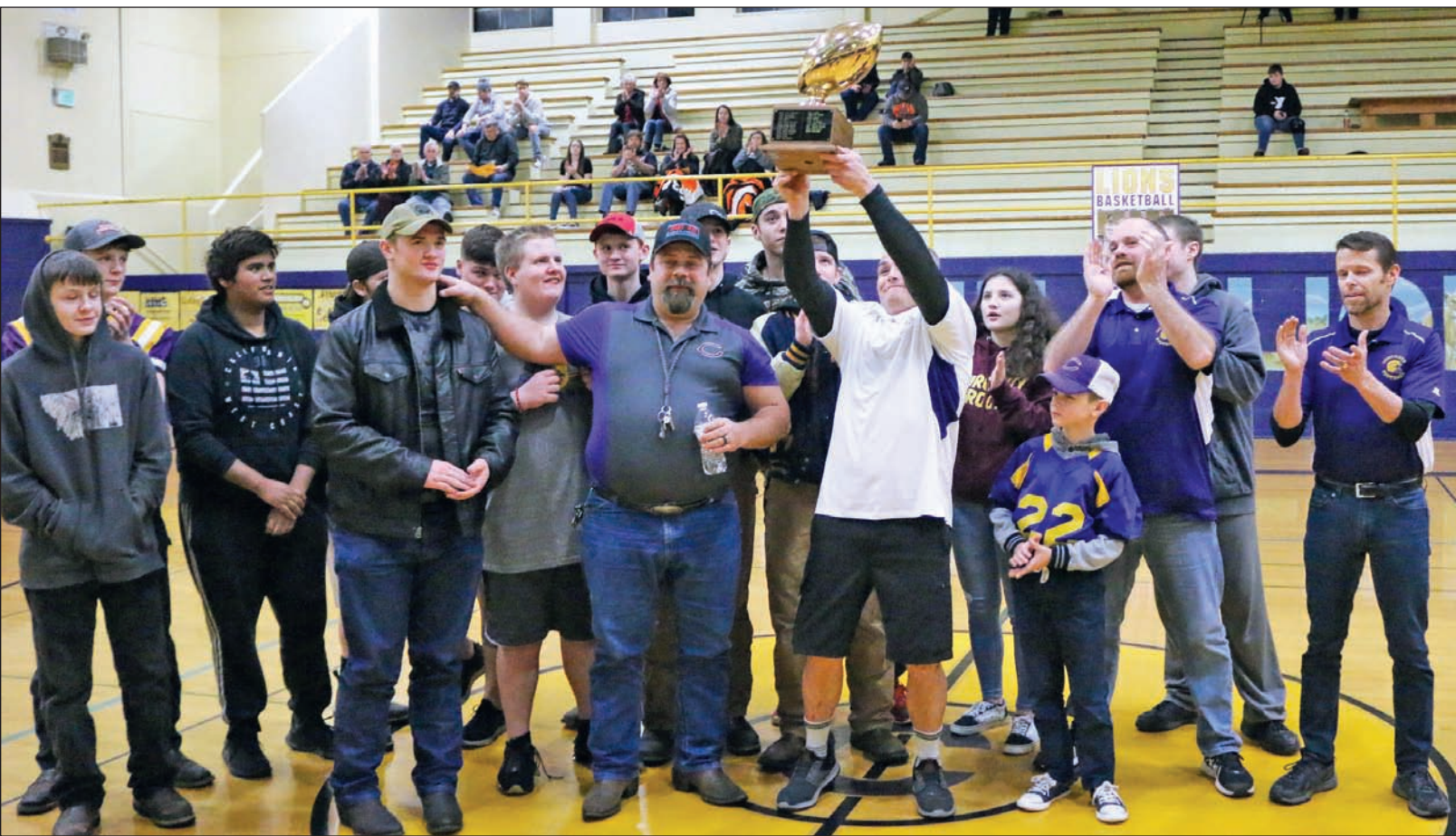
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Port of Skagit

February in pictures



Above: Concrete High School football Head Coach Arthur Sanchez holds high the John R. Trotto Team Sportsmanship Award during a special ceremony on Feb. 5. The award is given by the Football Officials Association, which covers all schools in San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit, and Island Counties, and has officials working at each game in order to rate the teams and coaching staff. They rate each team in terms of sportsmanship on a grading scale from one to 10, with ten being the highest. This is the first time the award has been given to the CHS football team since the first award in 1977.



Above: Musician and music teacher Gretchen Hewitt dressed whimsically and played her violin during the Mardi Gras in Concrete parade. Photo by Val Stafford.



Left: Revelers (from left) Loretta Horner, Terri Wilde, and Danielle Horner, all from Rockport, enjoy themselves during Mardi Gras in Concrete on Feb. 22. Photo by Richard Lewis.



Above: The youngest members of Concrete Cheer took to the home court at halftime on Feb. 11 to show off their latest moves.

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Hamilton



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Council summary

The Hamilton Town Council held a regular meeting Jan. 14. Following is a summary of that meeting.

Jan. 14 regular meeting

- Council voted to approve Ordinance #346, updating the Hamilton Comprehensive Plan and the adopted map amendments to the Comprehensive Future Land Map.
- After two executive sessions, Council voted to appoint Dean Vandiver to council position 4. Vandiver took the chair of Position 4.
- Mayor Carla Vandiver formally appointed Scott Bates as the new fire chief, Harry Smith as the new fire captain, and Travis Patrick as the department medical officer.
- Council discussed possible ways to have not only the town staff but also councilmembers going around town to identify code violations. Further code enforcement position discussion ensued, with the council and the mayor deciding against hiring a code enforcement officer at this time. The town will stick with the current system of Scotty and Si taking pictures of violations, and the clerk will do the paperwork.
- Clerk Beth Easterday gave an update about the purchase and sale agreement that the owner of 700 Elm St. was directed to bring to the town to get the property at 700 Elm St. in compliance. She did not bring a document that is a legal purchase and sale agreement by the Friday following the last meeting or Dec. 13, 2019. Easterday sent all violation information to the attorney, who agreed that the document is not a legal purchase and sale agreement. The council agreed with Easterday to enforce the ordinance as it is written. The town will begin fining the owner of 700 Elm St. for violation of ordinances 292 and 330/331.
- Mayor Vandiver reported that she hired a water clerk, Theresa Boots.
- Council discussed when the town will incur charges to tow motorhomes that have squatters and vagrants in the town. Council directed Easterday to continue tagging motorhomes that they will be towed, but they would like to purchase “NO VAGRANCY” signs for the four entrances into town with the fines and the RCWs and the town ordinance numbers posted on the signs.
- Easterday discussed the Capital Budget grant requests sent to the town from Senator Keith Wagoner, which the town could look into because there are grants out there from the Department of Commerce for which the town may be eligible in the Washington State Capital Budget. Easterday sent the document to Forterra for review and asked if the council could look into any of the grants that they would like her to investigate.
- Water loss reported a 2 percent unaccounted-for water loss.

—Compiled from staff minutes

From the mayor

I’ve settled in at Town Hall, and we’ve been open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on a trial run. We are finding that residents don’t use Town Hall or visit the museum enough to keep the office open 40 hours a week.



We will go to a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday schedule, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., but you can always call 360.826.2085 if you need assistance. My staff is so helpful and I am thankful for all of their dedication to the town.

It is timely that after the wind and rain event on Feb. 1, FEMA asked us to change our hazard mitigation and damage prevention ordinance. Town Council passed Ordinance 350 on Feb. 11. If you need a copy of this ordinance, send an e-mail to townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com.

This ordinance repeals Ordinance 292, enacting hazard mitigation and damage prevention including standards for recreational vehicles and RV parks, and further amends Ordinance 179, the Comprehensive Zoning ordinance as amended by 186 and 284. Town of Hamilton will continue to work with FEMA to get all properties in compliance with the standards they require for property in the floodway. Be aware: This administration takes FEMA very seriously and will require all RVs in town to be compliant with registering

with the town for \$25 per Ordinance 330. Expect to receive a letter from the town if you are not in compliance with all of our ordinances.

Sixteen of 25 businesses registered in town have renewed and the town will move to the new Dept. of Revenue business licensing model as required in July 2020. For more information on the new DRS/BLS, interested parties can e-mail townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com for a copy of Ordinance 351.

Thank you to Lynn Millovich for cleaning the library of old and musty books. We found more than 40 boxes of books in the attic upstairs, many of which were damaged beyond repair. The cleanup has eliminated that old musty smell in Town Hall, and the library is organized for any takers. Feel free to stop in and take a book for those lazy spring days coming soon.

Shout out to Lynn Hills, mayor of Lyman. He has been a valuable resource and educator on the role of mayor, and even put the town in touch with a Web site developer. Our new Web site is in the works and should be up and running by May.

The Hamilton Volunteer Fire Department was a huge help during the wind and rain storm that prepared us for an actual emergency. We learned lessons and are ready for the next power outage and storm; let’s hope we won’t need the practice. Thank you to all our volunteers!

Hamilton is an exciting town and I look forward to personally getting to know you all. Feel free to contact me at 360.826.3027.

—Mayor Carla Vandiver

Parents and teachers express concerns over mandatory sex ed

By Cameron Sheppard
WNPA News Service

Parents, students, and educational professionals voiced their concerns in a Feb. 20 public hearing about a bill that would mandate comprehensive sexual education in public schools beginning as soon as kindergarten.

Lorraine Jenne, chair for the Wahluke School Board in Grant County, testified to the House Education Committee on Thursday in opposition to Senate Bill 5395 and in “defense of our homes and our children.”

Jenne said the bill is a “clear overreach” of state government, both on the rights of local community school boards and the rights of parents to determine the timing and context of their own children’s sexual education.

The bill’s sponsor, Sen. Claire Wilson, D-Federal Way, said the comprehensive sex education mandate is simply about health and safety. Wilson said the new sex education standards will focus heavily on recognizing and avoiding predatory and abusive behavior, learning about affirmative consent, and deterring bullying through education.

Wilson also said the curriculum will be age appropriate through every grade level, but some community members seem to disagree.

“None of the curriculum is appropriate for young children, yet you force it upon them,” Jenne accused legislators.

Anniece Barker, a parent from Greenacres, said she was appalled by curriculum activities already adopted by her child’s school district in the Central Valley School District that assigned students to role-play negotiations of sex with each other. Barker claimed this curriculum used in her Spokane Valley area district was among some of the sex education courses already approved by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Pauline Johnson, a mother of four from Mount Vernon, said “age appropriate”

could mean different things for different families and different children.

“I have read one document after another about this curriculum and it talks about making pleasure a point of discussion at all ages,” Johnson claimed. “That is inappropriate.”

Barbara Frye, a classroom educator and kindergarten public school teacher for nearly 50 years, said she thinks teachers are being asked to do too much of what should be the responsibility of parents to determine what is appropriate for their children.

“I had to consider what was right, appropriate, and good every day for each child, and the whole group,” Frye said. “And I think we are taking over for the parents in this particular line.”

Dave Mastin from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction said the conversations about sex and sexual health can be “squimish,” but a classroom is an appropriate place for these conversation to happen and it has been that way for decades.

Mastin said that under the bill, school districts would still be able to adopt their own sex education curriculum rather than be forced to adopt one, but it must follow comprehensive standards set by the bill and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

School districts could also make use of about 27 different curriculum guidelines, which Mastin said were developed with the Department of Health.

Mastin said the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction “doesn’t create curriculum.”

Under the bill, parents will be able to opt their children out of the sexual education instruction.

The bill was passed in the Senate by a 28 to 21 vote and now awaits House approval.

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Deep Forest Experience returns to Rockport State Park

The popular Deep Forest Experience is back at Rockport State Park, held every Saturday through March 14.

No Sunday events are offered this year. The event is headquartered at the Discovery Center in the park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, with guided walks led by Don Smith or another volunteer at 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., and 2 p.m.

Admission is free, but a Discover Pass is required to park at Rockport State Park.

Free days

Washington State Parks is offering free days again this year, which will affect Rockport State Park and Rasar State Park. March 19 is the next free day. April 11 and 22 are next in line.

—J. K. M.

Hamilton Cemetery Association Annual Meeting

April 7, 6:30 p.m.
Punkin Center Fire Hall
34041 Hwy 20

New members are welcome

Are you craving something sweet?

If so, join Hamilton Fire Department for its first annual bake sale. There will be tons of sweet, homemade baked goodies! There will be an opportunity to meet our members, and if you’re interested in joining, we will have more information on that as well.

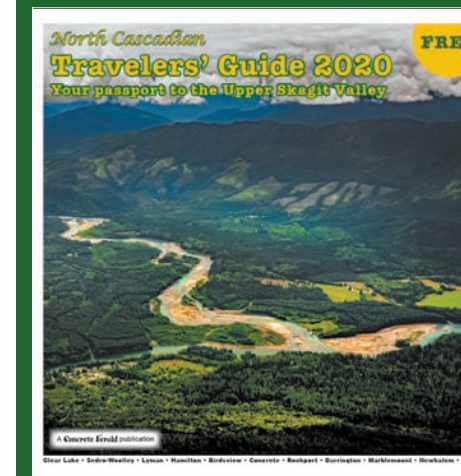
Join us for a great time at our bake sale. It will be held on March 6, 7, and 8, in front of our fire hall at 951 Petit St., and we will have signs pointing you in the right direction.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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Darrington



Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

Feb. 21

The Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with the Violent Offender Task Force, the Drug Task Force, the Auto Theft Task Force, Edmonds Police Department, Everett Police Department, Lynnwood Police Department, Mukilteo Police Department, and Washington State Department of Corrections made more than 50 arrests during a three day joint emphasis on Highway 99 in south Snohomish County. Law enforcement agencies worked together to develop intelligence, identify criminal activity, arrest warrant subjects and provide an increased police presence on Highway 99. During the three day operation, law enforcement seized \$15,000 believed to be related to drug sales, recovered five occupied stolen vehicles, eight guns, and seized six vehicles pending search warrants. The teams also assisted six people with getting beds in the Snohomish County Diversion Center, wrote 40 citations for traffic violations, and gave over 40 traffic warnings.

Multiple ounces of street level narcotics were recovered, to include heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine and crack. During one traffic stop Thursday afternoon near Airport Rd and Highway 99, detectives recovered 246 grams of meth, 55 grams of cocaine, \$13,736 in cash, and two loaded firearms, one of which was stolen. "The results of the three day emphasis in south Snohomish County show the value in pro-active police work," said Sheriff Adam Fortney. "These results show what can happen when agencies partner together to enforce the law and target criminal activity. A relatively small group of deputy sheriffs, police officers, and detectives that have the ability to focus on pro-active police work, can have a significant impact on public safety in our community. I would like to thank all of the participating law enforcement agencies, including all of our corrections staff at the Snohomish County jail, for your hard work, dedication, and partnership. I look forward to working with you all in the future."

Council summary

Darrington Town Council met for a regular meeting on Jan. 8, 2020. The following is a summary of that meeting. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at Darrington Town Hall.

Jan. 8 regular meeting

- Oak Rankin with Glacier Peak Institute discussed having youth and other groups start building a trail system in the Sauk River Park on the east side of Petty Ave. and Alvord St. The River's Network is helping with funding, but it will mostly be volunteer work. Discussion ensued. Council voted to give permission for trails development and garbage cleanup.
- Councilmember Kevin Ashe Kevin discussed making the town a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary Town to protect its citizens from legislation that could potentially be passed that would infringe on the citizens' 2nd Amendment rights. He would be willing to work with the council on the issue and how to move forward. Councilmember Gary Willis expressed concern about how this might affect the town when it comes to government funding. Ashe thinks that if the council makes a statement, but not necessarily a resolution, that it should not affect the town's efforts to procure government funding. Willis and Gary and Councilmember Billie Lee Burtenshaw will work with Ashe.
- Bringing back the second council meeting each month has been discussed. It could be a roundtable or workshop or a regular meeting. Willis suggested having the second council meeting every other month. Councilmember Neil Comeau asked about the structure of the meeting. Willis would like to have workshops, which are nonvoting meetings. Council decided to have workshops every other month, starting in February, on the 4th Wednesday of the month, starting at 5 p.m. unless a time change is needed because of councilmember schedules.

—Compiled from staff minutes

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

Council has three new members

By Marla Skaglund

Three new members joined the Darrington Town Council in January, including two who were born and raised in Darrington and one new resident.

Billie Lee Burtenshaw, Council Position 3, has resided in Darrington her entire life. She can be seen volunteering at the Darrington High School sporting events and assisting at the Darrington Food Bank. A concern she has is the lack of affordable rental housing in Darrington.

"Darrington does not have enough housing," said Burtenshaw. "Almost every day I hear someone say they are looking for a house to rent in Darrington, and unfortunately housing is something we are extremely lacking."

Neil Comeau, Council Position 5, moved to Darrington from Shoreline and is the Manager of River Time Brewing, which has been in business since 2015.

"I like the Darrington area, and I'm looking

forward to working on the council and the projects we have discussed," he said. Comeau and his wife, Kristin, a local teacher, met while whitewater rafting.

Reed Rankin, Council Position 4 and the youngest councilmember, is a fourth-generation Darrington native. He comes from a family who has worked to make Darrington a family-friendly town in which to live. He, along with his brother, Oak, is a founding member of Glacier Peak Institute, a STEM-based environmental education nonprofit working with the Darrington School District. He is the co-founder and co-leader of Young People of Darrington, an advocacy group and think tank of local young people focusing on long-term futures in Darrington. He is the property manager and co-owner of KOR Land Holdings, which works with other owners and interests to manage 40 acres of mixed timberlands and agriculture lands.

Darrington Town Council meetings are held the second Wednesday and the fourth Thursday of every month, at 7 p.m. at Darrington Town Hall.



Burtenshaw



Comeau



Rankin

Darrington wrestlers bring home three medals

Johnny Franke may have taken the top prize, but two more Darrington wrestlers stood on the Mat Classic podium in February.

Senior Lucas Reuwsaat grabbed 4th place at 160 lbs., making him a two-time state medalist. He also placed 4th in 2019.

"Lucas' final two matches were super close; they could have gone either way right at the end," said Head Coach Ray Franke. "That's the nature of wrestling: Sometimes the score isn't indicative of how close the match is—or how far apart."

Coach Franke wasn't pleased with the officiating at Mat Classic this year, noting one ref in the semifinals who cautioned Reuwsaat three times about his hand position on his opponent's belly. "Lucas has wrestled since he was 7 or 8 years old ... so to have calls like that influence the match, that's rough," he said.

Junior Darin Sedenius tasted victory too, taking 3rd place at 120 lbs.

"Darin wrestled absolutely the best that he could, and I thought he did just

fantastic. Every single match, he wrestled his heart out and gave it everything he had," said Franke.

Freshman Axsel Espland wrestled at 106 lbs., and struggled on the light side of the scale, but he'll be back next year, "and he'll place, I'm sure," said Franke.

Sophomore Landen Brown (152) struggled in a "terribly challenging bracket," going two and out.

Sophomore Nik Requa (120) made it to the finals and went into overtime during an early match, eventually losing by 2 points. The match was notable for an illegal move by Requa's opponent, who picked up Requa and slammed his face into the mat.

"He got the penalty, took his injury time, and continued the match," said Coach Franke. "He did fantastic; he's our most improved wrestler this year. From regionals through state, he wrestled right up to his potential and improved every single match."

—J. K. M.



Lucas Reuwsaat tangles with Seth Baugher of Oroville during day two of this year's Mat Classic. Baugher pinned the Logger, but Reuwsaat still marched to a 4th place medal at 160 lbs.



Above: The Darrington wrestlers paused for a team photo at the end of the second day of Mat Classic. Front row, from left: Landen Brown, Darin Sedenius, Axsel Espland, Nik Requa. Back row, from left: Coaches Ray Franke, Pete Selvig, and Mason McKenzie, Johnny Franke, Lucas Reuwsaat.

Left: Darin Sedenius wrestles Matthew Hess of Mary Walker during finals on Feb. 22. Sedenius got the win by decision, 7-1. Sedenius took home 3rd place this year at 120 lbs.



Spring Art Show

Sat., March 28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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Marblemount



Newhalem



Helping Hands, Inspire Church to manage food bank

Helping Hands Solution Center and Inspire Church—both located in Sedro-Woolley—in February took over operation and management of the Marblemount Food Bank.

Marblemount's Food Bank has been a vital service in the community, serving almost 250 people a month with 20 volunteers. Inspire Church reached out to Helping Hands Solution Center to discuss a partnership in which Inspire would host the food bank at the church location in Marblemount. Helping Hands board of directors voted to assume the duties and responsibilities of the food bank operations, and with that the Helping Hands of Marblemount location was born.

"Helping Hands priorities have always been to serve our community," said Rebecca Larsen, executive director for Helping Hands. "Given the opportunity to step up and help anyone was a no-brainer. My parents retired to Marblemount, and it's important our communities are strong and thriving. I look forward to the challenge to bring all of our programs upriver."

Helping Hands hopes soon to be able

to offer more than food distribution to the community of Marblemount and other Upper Valley towns. Helping Hands has staff members who can be on location and assist with discussing program opportunities and sign up on-site individuals who may qualify for these important services. Helping Hands also will look at how it can expand its mobile food program to Upper Valley citizens who are unable to make it out to the food bank.

"Helping Hands is serving as more than just a food bank," said Larsen in a press release. "It looks forward to growing its partnership with Inspire Church and the Marblemount community, and helping to feed its neighboring families."

To learn more about how you can support the food bank, contact Larsen at director@helpinghandsfoodbank.org or 360.630.7562.

Donations can be accepted via mail at: Helping Hands, P.O. Box 632, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284. You can also donate online at www.helpinghandsfoodbank.org.

—J. K. M.

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

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



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Marblemount buzz

Marblemount welcomes Inspire Church and Helping Hands Marblemount. Inspire Church is a life-saver for Marblemount as they will be working closely with Helping Hands Sedro-Woolley (see article at left). They have created Helping Hands Marblemount to continue food bank services that were lost when Bread of Life Food Bank lost its licence after Citipoint North Cascade departed.

Helping Hands Marblemount will provide food items for those in need in Marblemount and the surrounding area. Its church service will be every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., and the food bank will be open the first and third Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers are welcome.

Grub and Groove to hold last event of the season

The last Grub and Groove for the season will be held on March 28 from 6 to 10 p.m. The event won't return until fall, so this last event before summer break will be very exciting. As before, Grub and Groove will be a family community potluck and musical event. Music, an open mic, and talented people performing dramatic acts, poetry, and more are on the agenda, all while you enjoy food and dancing. Please plan to attend this last event of the winter.

Marblemount lineup

On Sat., May 2, Blast Open the Pass returns. This event is a KSVU fundraiser dance and potluck. The maypole will be in full swing, as well as the raffles and auction. This event is the first of the season for KSVU, with more coming in October. The October event will be the KSVU Harvest Fest and Halloween Dance. This too is a fundraiser and potluck. The event will be Sat., Oct. 31, with a kids' costume contest; however, that will not exclude the adults from dressing up as well. As the children and

adults dance the night away, you will be able to snack on all the wonderful items that the community provides. This is also a fundraiser, so don't forget to get your raffle tickets, and mark your name down for some great auction items as well.

Sasquatch2.club will also return with an exciting new speaker. Author Thom Cantrell will return, along with 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 lore. Mark your calendar for September 5–6, at the Marblemount Community Hall. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. There will be an exciting new lineup, including the Sasquatch cookie walk and Sasquatch-calling contest.

Marblemount Community Club

The club holds monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. at the community hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our 2020 calendar lineup is:

- March 28: Grub and Groove, 6 to 10 p.m.
- May 2: Blast Open the Pass, 6 p.m.
- June 27–28: Redmond Bicycle Group (overnight)
- Aug. 1: Clark Family Reunion
- Aug. 2: Salmon Bar-B-Que, noon to 5 p.m.
- Aug. 23: Old Timers Picnic, 1 to 4 p.m.
- Sept. 5–6: Sasquatch Conference and Festival 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days
- Oct. 31: KSVU Harvest Festival and Halloween Dance, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 21: Community event, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Dec. 6: Holiday Bazar, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

—Syvella Kalil

Senators balance transportation budget despite revenue shortfall caused by I-976

By Cameron Sheppard
WNPA News Service

Facing a shortfall of \$450 million, lawmakers patched together a budget to fund highway maintenance, the Washington State Patrol, and other transportation projects during the last week in February.

The Senate Transportation Committee developed a proposed transportation budget that would maintain short-term stability following the revenue shortfall caused by the passage of I-976—the \$30 car tab initiative.

Sen. Steve Hobbs, D-Lake Stevens, said assembling this budget through the revenue crisis required more bipartisan cooperation than in most years. He said the committee prioritized allocations to protect the most vulnerable populations and communities by preserving mass transit programs, unpausing projects that were put on hold and funding safety and maintenance measures.

Sen. Curtis King, R-Yakima, said transfers had to be made to move funds from different accounts in order to support things like highway maintenance and the Washington State Patrol.

Hobbs said unspent money from programs and paused or delayed projects was used to support other urgent transportation needs in what he called an "assumed underrun strategy," but Hobbs said this strategy can only be used once, as it is not sustainable.

"We made this work because we did things we would not normally do to get us through this biennium," said King. "When you want to talk about the hurt and the things that are going to happen, they are going to happen in the next biennium."

The next two-year budget will begin in 2022.

Curtis said in the future the committee will have to consider new ways to bring in revenue and ways to find savings to achieve stability and sustainability in future budgets.

Hobbs said managing the degradation and preservation of roads and highways in the state will be a pressing need in the future, and new revenues will be needed. "We need to come up with a fair system to have our roads maintained," Hobbs said.

He said he was in favor of implementing a road usage charge, which would tax vehicles based on the amount of miles driven, for electric vehicles who use the roads but do not have to pay gas tax.

The road usage charge potentially could be implemented to phase out the current gas tax completely for all vehicles as the state's motor vehicles become less reliant on gasoline and gas tax revenues decrease, but King said he has concerns with the price to collect the road usage tax.

King estimated the road usage charge could cost up to 15 percent of its revenue to collect, compared to the gas tax, which he said currently costs less than 1 percent to collect.

Hobbs also proposed a "Forward Washington" transportation package. He said the details of that plan are not yet concrete, but would likely include a gas tax, as well as a carbon-fee mechanism. Hobbs said his "Forward Washington" package would fund maintenance and safety programs, reduce carbon pollution, and address the government's obligation to fix road-obstructed fish habitat.

The proposed transportation budget was passed to the Senate Rules Committee for a reading before a chance for a Senate floor vote.



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Seniors

Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure

Spud chip cookies



- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1½ cup flour
- 1 cup crushed potato chips
- ½ cup finely chopped walnuts
- Extra powdered sugar

1. Cream together sugar and butter. Add egg yolk, vanilla, and flour. Mix in potato chips and nuts.
2. Drop by teaspoon onto an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 15 minutes.
3. After baking, sprinkle with powdered sugar.

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

Way Back When

80 years ago

March 28, 1940: A campaign to interest the people of the Upper Skagit Valley in civic improvement is being inaugurated this week by the Upper Skagit Garden Club, which plans to conduct "before and after" contests on improvement of yards, vacant lots, and parking strips.

According to the plan as now laid out, the contest is open to all residents of the valley from Birdsvie to Rockport, and prizes will be given in three divisions: one for the most improvement in a yard, the second for the most improvement in a parking strip, and the third for most improvement in a vacant lot.

Pictures should be taken before starting work on the project, so that judges can determine the improvement in each case. Awards will be made late in the fall. All improvement work must have been done in 1940.

The idea behind the contest is to

promote civic interest and pride in the appearance of the communities of the Upper Valley. During the campaign, cleanup weeks and other similar movements will be featured to create interest in the plan.

70 years ago

March 23, 1950: Two fires destroyed two homes in the Upper Valley Tuesday morning, one of the homes being at Hamilton and the other at Rockport. Both were totally destroyed with all contents, although the occupants escaped.

In Rockport, Mr. and Mrs. James Garling were driven from their home by a fire of undisclosed origin. All they managed to save was a washing machine. Aid of volunteers and the City Light fire equipment saved the Worley home next door.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kessinger of

50 years ago

March 4, 1970: The Town Dump, owned by Town of Concrete and left open to everyone for indiscriminant garbage and refuse disposal, will be closed as of

See **Way Back**, p. 29



60 years ago, March 17, 1960: Work on the new Concrete High School track, which will encircle the present high school football field, was started last week. Most of the rough clearing is now complete and in piles for burning. Some earth already has been piled on the ball diamond to start leveling of the field. *Archive photo.*

East County March 2020 activities

Concrete Community Center
Mon. - Fri., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Lunch served 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Donations always appreciated

Abbreviations:

East County Resource Center: RC
Concrete Community Center: CC
Upper Skagit Library Foundation: USLF

Monday

All	10 a.m.	Community Closet: CC
All	3 p.m.	USLF: RC
3/2, 9	7-9 p.m.	Shelter intake: CC

Tuesday

All	10 a.m.	United Healthcare: RC
3/10	2 p.m.	Am. Legion Post 132: RC
3/3, 10	5-9 p.m.	Shelter intake: CC

Wednesday

All	9 a.m.	VA Service Officer: RC
All	10 a.m.	Community Closet: CC
3/4, 11	5-9 p.m.	Shelter intake: CC
3/25		ECRC and CC closed for training

Thursday

All	10 a.m.	AARP Tax-Aide
3/5	1-3 p.m.	DVSAS: RC
3/19	12-2 p.m.	DVSAS: RC
All	12:30 p.m.	Pinochle: CC
3/12, 26	10 a.m.	WIC: RC
3/5, 12	5-9 p.m.	Shelter intake: CC
3/5	3:30 p.m.	USLF: CC

Friday

All	10 a.m.	Community Closet: CC
All	Noon	Painting Class: RC
3/6	9 a.m.	Probation Svcs: RC
3/13	1:30 p.m.	Legal Clinics: RC
3/28	1:30 p.m.	Legal Clinics: RC
3/6, 13	5-9 p.m.	Shelter intake: CC
3/6	9-11 a.m.	SC Probation: RC
3/20	10:30-noon	CAB mtg.: LRC

Saturday

All	7 p.m.	AA meeting: RC
3/14	3-5 p.m.	Shelter intake: CC
3/7, 14	5-9 p.m.	Shelter intake: CC
3/28	1-4 pm.	USLF, w/2 p.m. public mtg.

Sunday

3/1, 8	3-5 p.m.	Shelter intake: CC
3/15	10-2:30 p.m.	Seed Swap: CC

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

Thursday of this week. From now on there will be a gate across the

road, people will be charged for dumping, and a recommended system of land fill put into use to cover all future dumping. The

new operation will comply with state and federal laws governing pollution and burning.

—Compiled from archives



30 years ago, March 13, 1980: Non-identical twins born at the Gale Alger ranch in Marblemount beat thousand-to-one odds in the horse world. Owner Phil Alger holds his spotted filly, Jubi II, while Gale Alger lends a hand with the tiny colt, Comment's Bandit. The watchful mother looking on is Candy. Just six days old when this picture was taken, the frisky but fragile young animals are still receiving around-the-clock care. *Archive photo.*



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Obituaries

Lloyd Gilbert Bradshaw passed away at the age of 84 on Feb. 13, 2020, in Mount Vernon, Wash. He was born in Mount Vernon at Rowley Hospital on July 16, 1935, to Vaughn and Natalee Bradshaw. The family resided on the Bradshaw Road in West Mount Vernon throughout his childhood.

Mr. Bradshaw married the love of his life, June Robbins, on Jan. 15, 1978, in Clear Lake. He was a member of the Operating Engineers Construction Union, spending 23 years as a lineman and construction worker for General Telephone Company. Lloyd was a Clear Lake Volunteer Fireman for many years. He volunteered for the Skagit Search and Rescue as a diver for many years in the 1950s and 1960s.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, hiking, and anything outdoors. He loved his Lord and Savior, the Bible, and his church. He was preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Brittany Lynn; sisters, Bonnie Smith, Marilyn Eerkes, and Phyllis Losey; and brothers, Ben, Percy, and his twin brother George.

Lloyd is survived by his wife of 42 years, June Bradshaw, in the family home in Sedro-Woolley; son, Larry Wayne Bradshaw of Burlington; sister, Natalee (Darel) Franklin of The Dalles, Ore.; three grandchildren, Bradley Wayne O'Neal of Tri Cities, Chelsea Lynn Bradshaw of Sedro-Woolley, and Nicole Dean Bradshaw of Burlington; and four great-grandchildren.

A viewing was held on Feb. 20, 2020, from noon until 6 p.m. at Kern Funeral Home. A memorial service was held on Feb. 21, 2020, at 2 p.m. at Redeemer Church, 817 Metcalf St., Sedro-Woolley. Memorials in memory of Lloyd may be made to Redeemer Church, Christmas Child Shoebox Fund: 817 Metcalf St., Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

You may share your memories of Lloyd and sign his online guest register at www.kernfuneralhome.com.

Obituaries published in Concrete Herald

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



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Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

Jan. 23

Dispatch received a call of a female possibly overdosing in the 45000 block of Main St. in Concrete. While deputies were responding, Med 7 arrived and determined that the female was not on drugs, but was intoxicated. She was transported to PeaceHealth United General Medical Center for evaluation.

Sergeant Adams responded to a call of a possible fight or domestic near the 7500 block of S. Dillard Ave. in Concrete. When he arrived, he contacted three people: an adult female, an adult male, and a juvenile male. The female was standing near the front door and an adult male was standing in the doorway of the residence, while a juvenile male was pouring milk on the face of the adult male. The female told Sgt. Adams that the adult male, who is her husband, had rushed at

her, causing her to believe he was going to assault her. He pushed her to the ground, at which time she took out her bear spray and sprayed him. The juvenile was using the milk to try to stop the burning effects of the bear spray. Sgt. Adams contacted the male, who gave a very similar story but denied pushing his wife down. All three individuals had warrants for their arrests, for trespassing. When Deputies Esskew, Murdock, and Kitchens arrived on scene, the husband was arrested for 4th degree assault domestic violence and his warrant. The wife and son also were arrested on their trespassing warrants. All three were transported to Skagit County Jail.

The manager of the Mt. Baker Hotel reported that a black Dodge truck had been driven into a barrier in the hotel parking lot used to keep vehicles out. The hotel manager left a note on the truck asking the driver to be more careful. Later in the day she had found a note attached to the hotel door laced with obscenities. The manager asked Deputy Hill to contact the registered owner of the truck and trespass the owner or driver from the hotel.

Late on Jan. 23, Deputy Brannon responded to a report of a motor vehicle accident on the South Skagit Hwy near the 44000 block. He discovered a large Dodge truck that had left the roadway and struck a tree. The damage to the truck was extensive. The driver could not be located at the scene. After the truck was collected and towed, deputies attempted to contact the owner at his house, but were not able to get an answer when they knocked on the door. Deputy Brannon was able to contact the driver later, who denied drinking and driving.

Jan. 24

Skagit County deputies, detectives from the local Skagit County Drug Task Force, and officers from the Department of Corrections conducted a mission to apprehend and arrest numerous suspects on felony warrants and charges to include felony assault, possession of a controlled substance, burglary, felony theft, and failure to report to the Department of Corrections. Eighteen suspects were arrested. Five of the suspects were booked into Skagit County Jail, and the other 13 were taken to the Washington Department of Corrections to be incarcerated until their hearings. More information on this mission was published in the February 2020 issue of *Concrete Herald*, page 4.

A citizen who lives in the 44000 block of Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. called to report that someone had broken into

her residence while she was gone, and taken several items. She advised Deputy Montgomery that she had left around 5:30 a.m. that day, and when she returned she discovered that someone had pried her front door open and entered the house. Deputy Montgomery was able to collect a fingerprint from the back door, which appeared to be used by the suspects to leave the house. The investigation is ongoing.

Jan. 25

Deputy Mullen responded to a request for a welfare check on Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. The subject had failed to show up for a scheduled appointment. Deputy Mullen found the subject lying on the floor of his home, where he had slid out of bed and couldn't get up. With the help of Med 7, the subject was helped up off the floor, and Deputy Mullen set up a new appointment for him and called for another ride so he could make his new appointment.

A citizen called and talked to Deputy Wiggins about the new cameras that the Town of Concrete had installed at Silo Park. The citizen had concerns about privacy. Deputy Wiggins advised the citizen that the cameras were legal since

they were on public property and referred the citizen to the town if he had any other concerns.

Jan. 26

Skagit 911 advised Deputy Hill of possible street racers in the area of Lake Shannon Rd. and Baker River Rd. While he was headed to the area to check, he received a call of a domestic violence suspect, and diverted to that and arrested the suspect. When we was again able to check the area for the street racer, he found that no one was in the area.

A fisherman lost his fishing pole, reel, and case after he left it on the side of his truck near Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. and Skagit Ridge Rd. east of Concrete. The fisherman described the pole as a Sage brand fishing rod with an Orvis reel in a black carrying tube. If anyone happens to locate the equipment, please contact the Skagit County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Ayala is the investigating deputy.

Early in the afternoon, Deputy Mullen investigated a domestic disturbance on Cumberland St. in Hamilton. The victim said that her ex-boyfriend had come over to her house the previous evening and

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 35

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: cbcofconcrete@earthlink.net
Sun. School: 9 a.m.; Worship Svc: 10 a.m.
Childcare/Children's Ministries at both
Contact church for other ministries

Presbyterian

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

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

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.

Flowers, Daniel Ernest

Age: 54
Race: White
Sex: M
Height: 5' 11"
Weight: 140
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Blue
Address: Transient,
Sedro-Woolley
Flowers was

convicted of five counts of 1st degree rape of a child in Cowlitz County, in 1995.

Flowers 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



[Chief Darrel Reed]

Concrete Volunteer Fire Dept. needs firefighters!

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

Interested?

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



Applicants may live inside or outside town limits.

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

Citizen committees of one sort or another have long been a tradition in the Upper Skagit Valley. Project Help Us Build, organized in 1970, or often shortened to simply Project HUB is one that gets little attention, but it set the stage for bigger events later. The chairman of this effort was Ray Drake Jr., who planned to name another seven directors to head up the different committees designed to support this undertaking. C. M. Dwelley was named as vice chairman.

This group's goal was to generally upgrade the area and prepare for Concrete's future role as the "hub" of the Upper Valley, including the large recreational areas available for access with the future opening of the North Cascades Highway. All the members agreed that a sanitary sewer system was a necessity for town growth. After decades of procrastination and refusal by the town to fund such an improvement, this prompted the Town Council to press forward to seek funding options. Formulation of a comprehensive plan for the town and zoning code was also unanimously the immediate goal of the Action Committee. Other important objectives discussed were the promotion of tourism, attracting small industry, improvement of area roads off the main highway, beautification of

the residential and business areas, and recreational facilities for visitors.

A parallel campaign was launched to persuade the National Park Service to locate the headquarters of the North Cascades National Park in Concrete, with residents urged to lobby their congressmen for their support.

In response to the interest of this formidable group, the State Highway Department announced plans to wash and perform some restoration work on the Thompson Bridge.

During this same summer in 1970, the old Great Northern train depot was demolished and hauled away, and the cement kilns were dismantled from what is now Silo Park.

Another long-term effect of Project HUB was the clean-up, fix-up, paint-up project that spread throughout the surrounding area, with many homes and businesses putting on a new face. To my knowledge, that widespread community effort has yet to be rivaled.

In the upcoming months, I will have the pleasure of welcoming Christie Fairchild to author some of the future columns. Christie has a much longer association with the Upper Skagit Valley than I do,

See Museum, p. 39

Civil Air Patrol

The cadets of Civil Air Patrol's Skagit Composite Squadron, United States Air Force Auxiliary, are promoting in their ranks, we are adding to our membership numbers, and our senior members are moving into new roles and opportunities in their professional development.

A type of boot camp for cadets—Cascade Falcon at Camp Casey in Coupeville—is coming up in June, and squadron members will once again be participating. Skagit Squadron Cadet Master Sergeant Lauren Cunningham was recently chosen to attend as a Flight Sergeant in the encampment leadership squadron ("Cadre"), Chaplain 1st

Lieutenant Dolores Elliott will serve as chaplain, and 2nd Lieutenant Kelly Siebecke will serve as an administration officer. Lt. Siebecke was also recently chosen for an assignment to the

Washington Wing of CAP as Assistant Diversity Officer, a brand-new position. Concrete Cadets Charlie Bartel and Cadet Airman 1st Class Robert Reed are preparing to promote in rank.

As you can see, opportunities to learn and serve in Civil Air Patrol are numerous and varied for all members, cadets, and adults. If you'd like to find out what Civil Air Patrol offers and what you can offer CAP, we would love to meet and talk to you at a Tuesday night meeting soon! Meetings in Burlington are at 6 p.m., Skagit Regional Airport; in Concrete at Mears Field airport at 6 p.m. on all but the first Tuesday of each month.

Send e-mail inquiries to kelly.siebecke@wawg.cap.gov or the squadron commander at robert.shupe@wawg.cap.gov.

—2d Lt. Kelly A. Siebecke

At the Upper Skagit Library

Pull out your arts and crafts supplies—we're making galleries!

March has a lot going on: Youth Art Month, National Craft Month, National Women's History Month, and National Deaf History Month. We'll be celebrating all of these in big and small ways.

For both Youth Art Month and National Craft Month, we'll display the books we have as inspiration; your job is to check those books out, make art based on what's in them, and bring them back to show them off. Still on display will be our hearts from Love Your Library Month (we'll keep the love going with Shamrocks this month) and our cranes from our ongoing 1,000 Cranes Project.

The 10th Annual Skagit Kids Read Week is March 8–14. To help libraries in our county celebrate, we'll hold a special Storytime on March 10 at 11 a.m.

World Poetry Day is on March 21, and we'll have fun with drop-in blackout poetry.

Our usual suspects are still in their usual

spots: Photography Club at 5 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, LEGO Club at 3:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, Sticker Club at 5 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month, Drop-In Tech Tutoring the first and third Wednesday of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Sign Language Club every Friday at 4 p.m.

Storytime will now be held at 11am on the fourth Tuesday of the month, other than special events.

The Board of Trustees monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of the month—this time March 12 at 6 p.m.

To stay up to date on events and new materials, visit our Web site www.upperskagitlibrary.org. You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, and YouTube.

Want to receive our monthly newsletter e-mail? Sign up in person at the library or on our Web site.

Chazlyn Lovely
Library Assistant - Marketing

Lions roar

The Concrete Chapter of Lions Club International is proud to serve our community through service projects, local activities, and assistance to residents by providing medical mobility equipment and annual hearing and sight checks for local kids.

In January the Lions Club Sight and Hearing Van was at Concrete Elementary School, providing vision and hearing screenings for students. Chapter members have been busy building the new greenhouse at Concrete School District during the last few months. Coming up is the annual Easter Egg Hunt, April 11 at Concrete Elementary School, starting at noon—bring your cameras and kids to join in the fun!

St. Patrick's Day this year will once again be celebrated with our annual corned beef dinner. The event is open to the public; make plans now to attend!

- When: March 18, dinner served at 6 p.m., doors open at 5:30
- Where: Concrete High School Commons

See Lions Roar, p. 34

March at the Darrington Library

Children & Families

- Family Storytime. Caregiver required; all ages welcome. Wednesdays, March 4–25, at 11 a.m.
- LEGO Club. We provide the LEGOs; you provide the imagination. Thur., March 5, at 3 p.m.
- Little Science Lab. Appropriate for children ages 3–5. Due to supplies, space is limited to 30 children in each class. Fridays, March 6–27, at 3:30 p.m.
- DIY Felt Buddies. Ages 9 and up. Thur., March 12, at 1:30 p.m.
- STEM Build Challenge. Blocks, gears, magnetic tiles, and more. Ages 3 and up. Tue., March 17, at 3:30 p.m.
- Bikes for Book Talks. For K-8. March 21–31.
- Imagination Yoga: Dinosaur Adventure. Ages 2–10. Caregiver required. Sat., March 21, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

All Ages

- Board Game Cafe. All ages. Wed., March 11, 12:30–3:30 p.m.
- Movie Matinee: "Frozen II," Sat., March 28, from 3 to 5 p.m.
- DIY Watercolor Bookmarks. Tue., March 31, 3:30 p.m.

Adults

- Friends of the Darrington Library meeting, Wed., March 11, 5:30 p.m.
- Health and Social Services Signup. Need help connecting with social services? Meet with a Community Health Center of Snohomish County specialist on the second Tuesday of each month, from 4 to 6 p.m.

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

—Asheley Bryson, branch manager



Concrete Chamber of Commerce News

Thanks to everyone who participated in our 14th annual Mardi Gras celebration last month. The clouds parted as the parade started, and the event was filled with sunshine, music, and laughter.

In addition to providing fun for our residents, events like this attract visitors looking for unique experiences not too far from home. They visit our businesses, eat in our restaurants, and spend the night or the weekend. Often they make plans to come back; sometimes they decide to live or work here.

That's why the Concrete Chamber hosts five events each year: Skagit Eagle Festival, Mardi Gras, Fourth of July, The Ghost Walk & Murder Mystery Evening, and Christmas in Concrete. We do it all with one full-time employee and a handful of faithful volunteers, but that's a story for another day.

Because we recognize the value of tourism to economic development in Eastern Skagit County, we're happy to announce a new event coming soon.

Our first annual **Mountain Film Festival** will be held May 28–31. It includes feature-length films, shorts, documentaries, photo shows, sports workshops, and more. It takes place at the historic Concrete Theatre, where we're looking forward to seeing mountains on screen and experts on stage, with topics ranging from hiking and biking to skiing and climbing.

The weekend coincides with the 4th annual Mt. Baker Ultramarathon, which begins in Concrete Town Center on Sun., May 31, and sends elite athletes racing to the top of the mountain and back.

A complete schedule of activities for the Mountain Film Festival will be published in an upcoming issue of *Concrete Herald*. In the meantime, we're accepting letters of interest from event volunteers, and submissions of short (under 15 minutes) mountain-related films from filmmakers.

There are also a limited number of corporate sponsorships available. If you'd like to help sponsor a film or activity while promoting your business, please contact us

before March 31.

For information on the Mountain Film Festival, contact Valerie Stafford at 360.466.8754 or valerie@mountainsonfilm.com.

The next meeting of the Concrete Chamber is Thur., March 5, at 11:30 a.m. at Concrete Theatre, 45920 Main St. in Concrete. If you own a business anywhere in Eastern Skagit County and want to reach more customers, consider joining us. Get in touch at chamber@concrete-wa.com or call 360.466.8754.

—Valerie Stafford



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Bookkeeping

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

Brew pubs

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

Construction

Don Payne's Backhoe Services
Extensive experience, reasonable rates
Trenching for electrical and plumbing lines, site preparation, road- and lot-clearing
360.853.7838 / 770.0178 / #PAYNE*06BC
dpaynes2001@yahoo.com

Hair salons

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

Liquor stores

Concrete Liquor Store & Convenience Store
45895 Main Street, Concrete // 360.853.7149
Monday thru Saturday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Gifts, Rocks, Tobacco, Cigars, and more!

Pawn shops

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

Ranches

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

Restaurants

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

Perks Espresso & Deli

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

Self-storage

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

Septic services

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

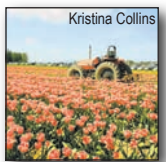
Towing services

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

Frontier Northwest sells

The three-member Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) in February approved a settlement in the sale of Frontier Communications Northwest Inc. to Wave Division Capital (WDC) and Northwest Fiber LLC. in Washington. The proposed sale is part of a larger transaction involving the sale of Frontier's services in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana, a transaction valued at approximately \$1.35 billion.

The commission determined that the settlement is in the public interest by ensuring that customers will continue to have access to services on which they depend. The settlement contains nine conditions intended to protect customers, including:

- Spending at least \$50 million in Washington to increase broadband coverage.
- Committing to support the statewide transition to Enhanced 911.
- Reporting on financial and service quality measures.

In December, the companies, UTC telecommunications staff, and the Public Counsel Unit of the Attorney General's Office filed a proposed settlement in the sale.

Northwest Fiber LLC previously operated Wave Broadband, providing Internet, video, and phone services on the West Coast, and serving customers in more than 70 communities in Washington state. The new company is headquartered in Kirkland, Wash.

Frontier is one of the largest local telephone companies in Washington, serving approximately 150,000 residential and business lines across the state.

Mt. Vernon

Skagit Valley College announces 2020 SVC Hall of Fame inductees

Skagit Valley College (SVC) has added six people to the SVC Hall of Fame, an award established in 1989 to honor individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to Skagit Valley College or honored it by their achievements. Nominees include alumni, community members, former SVC faculty and staff, and public officials. The 2020 inductees are as follows:

Alumni: Legson Kayira

This December will mark the 60th anniversary of one young man's journey to reach Skagit Valley College after an two-year, 2,500-mile walk across Africa. SVC welcomed Legson Kayira, which resulted in worldwide acclaim. After graduating from SVC, Kayira went on to earn a political science degree from the University of Washington and a history degree from Cambridge University.

Community member: Vi Hilbert

Vi Hilbert, a beloved member of the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, created a cherished passion to preserve the Lushootseed language and culture for future generations. Through her lifetime of encouraging education, artistic expression, and respect, Hilbert co-founded Lushootseed Research in 1983, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing cross-cultural knowledge, wisdom, and relations, as shared and celebrated by the First Peoples of Puget Sound through research, recording, publishing, and the presentation of oral traditions and literature. Hilbert's legacy lives on through the Lushootseed Language Preservation Project taking place at SVC.

Faculty: Dr. Ernest Tutt

Dr. Ernest Tutt's career as a tenured SVC Communication Studies instructor exemplified SVC's principles of integrity,

respect, open and honest communication, collaboration, and compassion. He had the ability to facilitate engagement that led to cross-cultural understanding of complex subjects such as race, religion, politics, and social justice.

Faculty: Gary Knutzen

Gary Knutzen served Skagit Valley College for 52 years. The leadership he provided to the Athletic Dept. was exemplary, and the relationships that he developed with thousands of student athletes and their families reflect SVC's commitment to excellence inside the classroom, on the athletic field, and throughout the community.

Public official: Jerry Dodd

Jerry Dodd began his law enforcement career at age 15 when he served as a Bellingham Police Explorer. From that moment on, Jerry's dedication to serving and protecting the community included many positions during his 40-year career, including Police Chief for the City of Mount Vernon.

Staff: David Ryberg

David Ryberg is 20 years into his second career as a highly successful financial advisor. Prior to his career in financial services, David held leadership positions in higher education, including 14 years in Student Services at SVC. He also served as the men's soccer head coach at SVC.

The 2020 Hall of Fame Induction Banquet will be held Thur., March 5, beginning with a reception at 5 p.m., followed by the dinner and ceremony at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased online at www.mcintyrehall.org or by calling 360.416.7727.

Lions Roar, cont. from p. 33

- Cost: \$16 per person
- What: food, friends, fun, door prizes, and auction.

Interested in knowing more about serving with Lions Club International? Contact chapter president Claus Joens at 740.641.5832 or join us at a meeting soon; we meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month, at Annie's Pizza.

—Kelly Siebecke Smithhart

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

stayed there until earlier in the day. There is an active court order between the two, restraining the boyfriend from having contact with her or being at her house. In the morning she discovered that he had taken her cell phone sometime during the night and had made videos of himself in the mirror, flexing his muscles and making comments. She confronted him about it and he became upset. He got into his truck and appeared to intentionally ram her car, then took off. Later that evening, the suspect was contacted nearby and arrested by Deputy Hill, who booked him into jail.

Jan. 27

Corrections deputies at the Skagit County Jail advised Deputy Passovoy that a suspect who had been arrested in the warrant raid on Jan. 24 had given law enforcement officers a false name. After he was fingerprinted, they discovered his true identity. The suspect had provided his brother's name because he had a felony warrant for 2nd degree burglary. The suspect was re-booked under his proper name.

Jan. 29

Community Action in Concrete reported that a male was inside their building acting strangely. Sgt. Adams and Deputy Wolfe responded and contacted the male at the library. He said he went into Community Action to talk with them. He seemed respectful and cooperative. He was advised that he had made the staff uncomfortable and he agreed not to return that day. While talking to the subject, deputies noticed that his shoes were tied onto his feet by strings and the subject confirmed that he was homeless and had no money to buy new shoes. Deputies put an e-mail out to employees at the Sheriff's Office asking for donations for shoes. A son of a Sheriff's Office employee donated a pair of new Nike shoes to the subject the next day.

Jan. 30

An unknown female was reported to be standing on the front porch of a residence near the 50000 block of Sauk Store Rd., screaming. Deputy Moore contacted the female, who appeared to have mental issues. He requested that she leave. She agreed to leave and said she would not return.

Around 10 p.m., a female contacted Deputy Brannon at the East Detachment Office in Concrete. She requested to be taken to the detox center in Mt. Vernon. The detox center declined to take her, but Deputy Brannon was able to take her to Skagit Valley Hospital to be evaluated.

Jan. 31

Deputy Mullen responded to a report of a suspicious motorhome parked in the 45000 block of Benjamin St. in Concrete. He contacted the occupant of the motorhome, who told him that he was parked near his friend's house for a short time. Deputy Mullen checked the area a few hours later and the motorhome was gone.

Deputies were advised of a possible fight at Logger's Landing in Concrete. The reporting party said that an unknown male suspect was walking around the parking lot and store, yelling at people. Deputies located the suspect on Main St. in Concrete. He was identified, then trespassed from Logger's Landing.

Feb. 1

Deputy Slack was advised of an intoxicated male inside the Cascade Mercantile in Lyman. The vehicle the suspect was driving showed that the owner of the vehicle had a warrant for his arrest for hit and run. When he arrived, Deputy Slack, using a Department of Licensing photograph, was able to identify the suspect as the owner of the truck. The suspect was arrested and taken to jail.

At approximately 11 a.m., deputies investigated a possible violation of a court order at Cascade Mercantile in Lyman. Deputy Slack was out with two subjects who had an active order between them, restricting the male from contacting the female. Deputy Slack confirmed that the order was valid and arrested the suspect for violating the order. Deputy Hill transported the suspect to the Skagit County Jail.

Feb. 2

An altercation was reported to be occurring outside Lyman Tavern in Lyman. Deputy Wiggins responded and discovered that the altercation had escalated to an assault. A female told Deputy Wiggins that she had been attacked by another female inside the bar. That female had since left the area. After speaking to deputies, the victim decided she didn't want to pursue charges for assault. She was given a ride home.

Feb. 3

Several deputies responded to a domestic disturbance on Carpenter Rd. in Lyman. Dispatch advised that there was a physical fight. When deputies arrived, they contacted a female who said that her father had assaulted her. Apparently in the past, the female's boyfriend had come to the residence numerous times and sneaked into her room. There is an

active court order restraining him from contacting the daughter and from being at the residence. The boyfriend had come to the house, upsetting the father. The boyfriend fled before deputies arrived. During the incident, the father had pushed his daughter down while arguing. After investigating, deputies arrested the father for assault 4th degree assault domestic violence. He was taken to jail and booked.

Later that night, deputies received another call stating that the boyfriend had returned to the residence. When deputies arrived, the suspect jumped out the window and fled into the woods. The next morning, Deputy Mullen and Sergeant Adams were advised that the suspect had returned again and was in the daughter's bedroom. When they arrived, they found the boyfriend cowering in the bedroom closet under a blanket. He admitted to being at the residence the day before and admitted to fleeing from the deputies later that night. He was arrested and charged with three violations of the court order. He was booked into Skagit County Jail.

Feb. 5

Deputy Ayala contacted a victim in a possible violation of an anti-harassment order in the 30000 block of Lyman Hamilton Hwy. The victim stated that she had an order that restricted her ex from contacting her by any means other than written text or letter. Recently he has been attempting to contact her by phone. Deputy Wiggins received the case for followup and determined that the suspect likely violated the order. The suspect will be referred for charges. Deputy Wiggins also spoke to the victim about security issues and developing a safety plan in case the suspect's actions escalated.

Feb. 6

Information regarding a civil issue involving two subjects in an estate dispute was given to Deputy Esskew to investigate. The reporting party told Deputy Esskew that she was recently awarded the property on North Superior Ave. in Concrete, but that the previous tenant continued to come back onto the property and take things he felt belonged to him. Apparently the ex-tenant had been awarded some items during the probate hearing. Deputy Esskew determined the ex-tenant was trespassing and was not allowed onto the property, which has now been awarded to the reporting party. Later in the week, Sgt. Adams contacted the ex-tenant and trespassed him from the property. He was advised that if he needed to collect any property from the residence, he needed to contact the reporting party and make arrangements with her.

A suspect from an earlier incident at the Rockport Pub was reported to be fighting with two other males near the 53000 block of Shular Rd. in Rockport. When deputies arrived, they found the suspect being held down by two males. The suspect was very agitated and threatened to kill everyone. The Sheriff's Office had developed probable cause earlier in the evening to arrest the suspect on weapons offense that occurred at the Rockport Pub when he brandished a weapon and threatened to kill patrons before fleeing into the woods. The suspect was taken into custody and transported to jail.

Feb. 10

Deputy Mullen investigated a report of a violation of a court order restricting a suspect from going within 500 feet of the Concrete Elementary School. Deputy Mullen interviewed all parties involved and consulted with the prosecutor. It was determined that the suspect had violated the order and a referral was sent to the prosecutor requesting the suspect be charged with violating the order.

Feb. 11

A suspicious vehicle was reported near the 8300 block of Arnold Lane near Concrete. The reporting party said the vehicle was parked on an old road on private property behind his residence. He contacted the three subjects in the car, who he advised acted suspiciously. He believed they may be on drugs. Sgt. Adams contacted the vehicle and the three occupants, who are well known by deputies. They were advised that they were trespassing on private property and needed to leave. If they returned, they would be arrested for trespass. They agreed to leave. A couple hours later Deputy Mullen checked the area and confirmed they had left.

While patrolling the school zone on SR 20 in Concrete, Deputy Moore and Sgt. Adams observed a pickup pulling an old trailer eastbound on SR 20. The trailer had a load of cedar logs and did not have a license plate. Deputies pulled the pickup over, along with an associated truck. The driver said he had permission to sell the cedar logs, but was unable to provide a specialize forest products permit or logging permit from DNR, which is required to transport and sell cedar products. After investigating, deputies determined that the cedar logs had been stolen from property on Cape Horn Rd. near Rasar State Park. The cedar was seized; Deputy Moore will continue the investigation to determine charges.

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 38



Earth Day
April 18th
Scott's Point, Samish Island
10am-2pm

We Fish Everybody Could
Come Plant With Us!

Planting Parties
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Riverfront Park
10am-1pm

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March 21st and March 28th
SFE Native Plant Nursery
10am-1pm

For more information
Call 360.336.0172 or visit www.skagitfisheries.org





Smile



Collin's realm of truly awful jokes

I'm afraid that my stuttering brother is never going to finish his prison sentence.



"What's the charge, officer?"
"Fragrancy, sir. He's been drinking perfume."

— § —
Most of us are starting the New Year with a clean slate—at least as far as our bank account is concerned.
— § —
— And we didn't have to bother with new resolutions, as we have a lot of unused ones left over from last year.
— § —
Dad Gummit says some men turn over a new leaf, but often the blots on the old page soak through.
— § —
Hollywood gent: "I'd like to marry you some day."
Movie actress: "All right, I'll put you on my wedding list."

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

"One thing about inflation: It's discouraging to the counterfeiters."
"Fate is that chain of circumstance that sets in motion after your own efforts provide the impetus."
"After due consideration of the trend toward nudism, the general public seems to have formed an opinion that people look better covered up."

—March 4, 1970

"Those kids who think the older folks don't know 'where it is' are being purposely misled. We know where it is. We just got smarts enough not to go dig it up again."

—March 11, 1970

"Today's hero: The guy who gave up smoking and never mentions it."

—April 1, 1970

"If asked to describe the Upper Valley in spring, tell them all they have to do is close their eyes and imagine 7,000 different shades of green."

—April 1, 1970

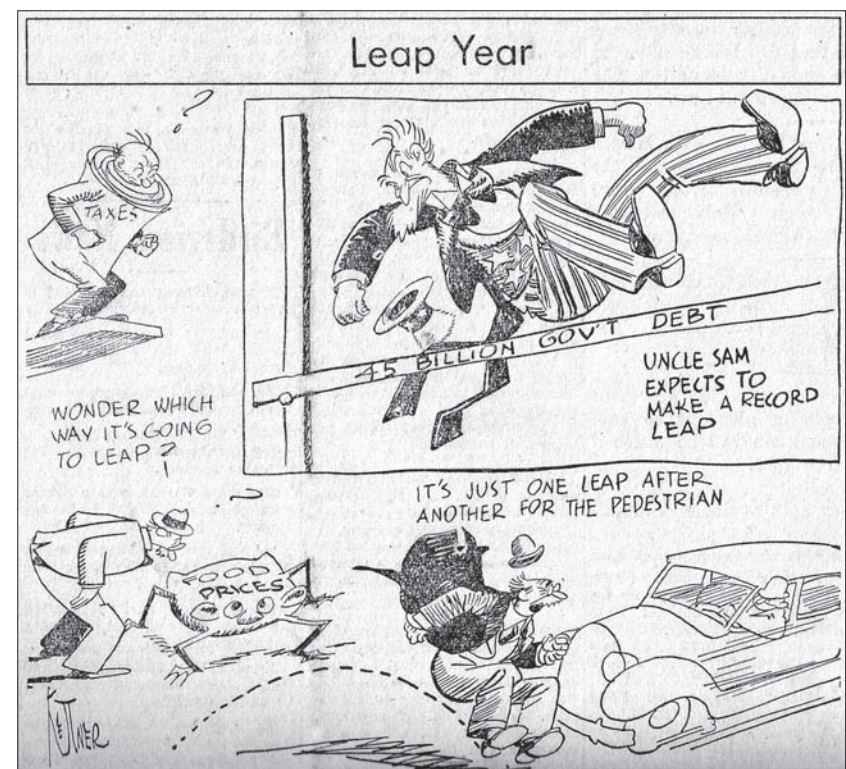
"It seems political pudding is now being laced by a new sauce: 'instant' reaction."
"Our founding fathers set up a government that was designed to cause Congress to stop and think before acting. They still stop, all right, but too often they forget what they stopped for."

—May 13, 1970

Public Service Announcement



Throwback comic



The Jan. 25, 1940, issue of *Concrete Herald* included this whimsical yet biting editorial.

By Stig Kristensen

Crossword: "Great Escape"

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17									18					
			19						20					
21	22	23					24	25			26	27	28	
29				30	31	32				33	34			
35				36						37				
		38	39					40	41					
42	43					44	45				46	47	48	
49					50						51			
52					53						54			
			55	56				57	58	59				
60	61	62				63	64				65	66	67	
68						69								
70						71				72				

- Across**
1. Deep cavity
6. The Company
9. Blubbers
14. Some salesmen
16. Clear
17. Flees
19. Shoestring
20. Part of T.G.I.F.
21. Final notice
24. Bolivian export
26. "When We Were Kings" subject
29. Flees
35. Everyday article
36. Band section
37. Lowest deck on a ship
38. Pancakes served with sour cream
40. Accustom: Var.
42. Delicate
44. Popular mints
46. Grazing locale
49. Flees
52. Formal vote
53. Big Apple inits.
54. Sailed through
55. Excuse
57. Recipe abbr.
60. Flee
- Down**
1. 20's dispenser
2. Support system?
3. Jabber
4. Slender
5. City near Phoenix
6. Give up
7. Kind of contribution
8. Chucklehead
9. Fabric
10. "Aeneid" figure
11. Cup handle
12. Kind of particle
13. Firm
15. Varnish ingredient
18. Help for the stumped
21. Legendary Giant
22. Cousin of "Phoey!"
23. Japanese art of flower arrangement
24. Freight weight
25. Supplement
26. Relating to a pair of genes
27. Neighbor of a Vietnamese
- Across**
68. Block house?
69. Soap ingredient
70. Takes off
71. Yoga class need
72. Sassy
- Down**
28. Trickster
30. Decoy
31. Cyclotron bit
32. Complicated
33. Put up
34. Blunder
39. Sue Grafton's " ____ for Lawless"
41. Extreme
42. Zap
43. Wish undone
45. Common Market: Abbr.
47. Chemical suffix
48. Kick in
50. Captivated by
51. Yellowstone sight
55. Pervasive quality
56. Area 51 conveyances?
57. The one over there
58. Vereen
59. Synagogue
60. Greetings
61. It may need massaging
62. Miss. neighbor
63. Dashboard abbr.
64. Mad Hatter's drink
65. Chop off
66. Collagen target
67. Canny

Sudoku

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

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

*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 39.

Funny as Facebook

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

- "Is everyone having a bad day? It seems like it. So please, take a moment and lick the back of your hand. THAT'S WHAT A WINNER TASTES LIKE."
- "The trees are whipping pine cones at me! Be careful out there. It's like 'The Happening.'"
- "Our washer plays a little musical chime when it's done, and I find it way more enjoyable than I should."
- "Sitting in Everett, waiting two hours for my next class to start. I brought a book, but I'm hella gonna watch this lady argue with a tree instead."
- "Is it really that difficult to chew with your mouth closed? Asking for the person that I'm about to choke-out."

www chazlynlovely.wordpress.com

✉ chazlynlovely@gmail.com

in linkedin.com/in/chazlynlovely

🐦 @chazlynlovely

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Content

Words.
Design.
Images.
Social Media.

determined not to let your past determine your future now that the Lord has set us free. Set yourself and others free by extending the forgiveness you have received ... to others. ... Nothing we can do in serving the Lord is a waste of time” (September 2013).

Bruce reminds us that while solitude and beauty can easily be found here, “the greatest resource we have ... is the people who make up our community. We can choose to invest in each other and in our community by finding worth in one another through a kind word, an exchange of greetings, a thoughtful compliment, a question of genuine concern. All these opportunities to share some ‘good news’ have the potential to draw us closer together and make us a stronger community. When we invest in one another, we invest in ourselves” (November 2014).

Sad to say, even people who call themselves Christians may not treat you right (November 2014).

Kevin Riley, the newcomer on the block, builds on Cindy’s Matthew 25 reference, which is the basis for the church’s new effort: “As a pastor, I am always looking for new and innovative ways to bridge the world of scripture and practical application in life—more so than simply ‘do unto others as you would have done unto you.’ ... While we are not Jesus, we have the ability to ease the afflicted, simply by treating them the way we want to be treated. ... Engagement without condemnation. Compassion that we would lack if our roles were reversed. (February 2020).

So, what should we do? Rob Thomas quoted Mark Twain. “Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do (or say) than by

the ones you did” (March 2013).

Some may ask, why open a shelter now? Matt DelBosque reminds us “God’s timing may not be our timing, but his timing is perfect” (August 2018). Rob also answers that question well by quoting one of his previous professors: “The deadliest form of denial is delay” (May 2018). Rob relates in another submission that he was providing comfort to a man who would die fewer than four hours later: “I realized the man had a distinct advantage over us. ... He knew death was fast approaching ... He therefore focused on what truly mattered. That is, making each hour and day count. ... Literally (in the Bible) we are being encouraged to ... ‘stop wishing and start doing.’”

All this brings me back to other articles by Bruce. “No matter how talented the individual team members may be, it takes a team to play the game at the highest level. So it is for us as a community of Christians who make up the Church. When we emphasize our distinctions and preferences over and above the basic Biblical truths we all have in common, we lose our effectiveness. Our level of commitment to the Lord and one another determines our final destination” (December 2017). “The truth is, almost everything we do well today began with failure. Anything worthwhile is learned by trial and error. In many instances, we could say that our failures are God’s opportunities. God will not always keep us from falling, but He will always help us get up” (November 2014).

So, while my head may still grimace over the details and the specific calls of the coach, my heart compels me to be a team player and support, not only the wise words from the “Book of Herald,” but the current shelter effort. I hope you do too.

Feb. 12

As he was patrolling through the Town of Concrete early in the morning, Sgt. Adams observed a large flatbed truck parked near a residence on C St. He noticed that the truck did not have a front license plate. He drove by and saw a license plate stuck on the back of the wood racks behind a piece of support bracket, but not secured. Sgt. Adams ran the plate and it came back to a 2019 Ford F350 pickup registered to Goodyear Tires in Fife, Wash. Sgt. Adams realized that the truck that the license plate was on was a much older Ford truck. Deputy Mullen responded to assist, because Sgt. Adams was just too short to see the VIN number. When he arrived, he was able to get the vehicle identification number off the truck. It returned to a 2000 Ford F450 stolen out of Auburn, Wash. Sgt. Adams was able to contact the owner and confirm that the truck had been stolen on Feb. 6 from his residence in Auburn. The owner gave deputies permission to search the truck. Deputies searched the truck and discovered several stolen items in the truck, along with a rifle that was fully loaded with armor piercing ammunition. Drugs and drug paraphernalia also were located inside the cab of the truck. After investigating, deputies were able to identify a possible suspect. The stolen items were taken into custody, along with the firearm. The truck was towed and turned over to the owner. The suspect, who is a convicted felon, is still at large.

While traveling on SR 20 near milepost 75, Sgt. Dills stopped a vehicle for traveling 70 mph in a 55 mph zone. The driver had a suspended driver’s license and no insurance. She also had three warrants for driving with a suspended driver’s license. Sgt. Dills cited the driver for driving with a suspended driver’s license, no insurance, and speed. She was also booked and released on her three warrants.

So, while my head may still grimace over the details and the specific calls of the coach, my heart compels me to be a team player and support, not only the wise words from the “Book of Herald,” but the current shelter effort. I hope you do too.

Feb. 13

A theft of numerous items was reported from a residence in the 37000 block of Cape Horn Rd. near Concrete. The victim said that he had befriended a person and had allowed that person into his house on several occasions. He has discovered several items missing, and when he tried to contact the person to have him return the items, he was unable to do so. He requested the Sheriff’s Office to investigate. Deputy Wolfe was assigned the case and will investigate.

Deputy Esskew responded to a fight at

Chom’s Chevron in Marblemount. When he arrived, he discovered that the fight was over a car battery that the victim was accusing the suspect of stealing. The battery was stolen from the victim’s truck, which had been left close by for several days after he got stuck in the mud. After talking with everyone involved, Deputy Esskew arrested the suspect for theft.

Feb. 14

JavaZone II called to report a suspicious vehicle parked behind their business on SR 20 in Concrete. The employee said the vehicle was unoccupied, but the door to the porta-potty was locked, as if someone was inside. The truck had been there for over 40 minutes. Deputy Clark responded and checked the truck. He was unable to locate an owner, but determined that no one was inside the porta-potty. The owner of the business was advised to contact the Sheriff’s Office when the vehicle left so that its driver may be contacted.

A resident who lives in the 45000 block of Cedar St. in Concrete requested that the Sheriff’s Office patrol Cedar St. around the time that the high school lets out, stating that there are many speeders. Deputy Brannon patrolled the area for about 30 minutes and stopped two vehicles for speeding. Deputies will continue to monitor the area.

Deputy Clark identified a suspect with a warrant sitting on the bench outside the Concrete Community Center. He contacted the suspect and arrested him on his warrants. The suspect was transported to Skagit County Jail, where he was booked on his warrants.

Feb. 16

A male was assaulted outside the Lyman Tavern early in the morning. The witnesses at the tavern said the victim came into the tavern holding his face, which was bleeding profusely. He was assisted to the bathroom, where he attempted to stop the bleeding. He was then transported to the hospital by friends. Witnesses at the scene identified a possible suspect. Deputy Passovoy contacted the victim at PeaceHealth United General Medical Center and was able to develop enough information to charge the suspect with felony assault. The suspect had not been found at press time.

—Compiled by Sgt. Greg Adams

Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Classifieds

Movies & Events at the Historic Concrete Theatre

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Office: (360) 466-8754
www.Concrete-Theatre.com

Owners: Valerie Stafford, Fred West

EMPLOYMENT

Job Title: Deputy Clerk

Jurisdiction: Town of Concrete

Employment Type: Full Time

Posted on: February 27, 2020

Annual Salary: \$29,000 to \$32,000

Close Date: March 12, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

Anticipated Start Date: April 1, 2020

The Town of Concrete will accept applications for the full-time position of Deputy Clerk until Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Applications may be submitted to P.O. Box 39, Concrete, WA 98237, faxed to 360.853.8002, emailed to andrea@concretewa.gov or hand delivered to 45672 Main Street, Concrete, WA 98237, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 am-12:00 p.m and 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Applications are available at Town Hall or at www.townofconcrete.com.

Job Description: Duties include daily receipting and banking, business license and dog license issuance and tracking, utility billing and payment receipting, and accounts payable, answering phones, customer service; other related duties as assigned.

Experience Required: Able to keep accurate and legible records; type accurately; use calculator, duplicating machines, and computer; and maintain a courteous, cooperative relationship with the public and co-workers; must be efficient in computer-based programs and software; must be able to take notes,

prepare final documents from notes, speak and write clearly, communicate ideas clearly, and make arithmetical calculations accurately; must be organized and able to multi-task.

Education Requirements: Graduate of a standard high school, vocational school or equivalent.

Contact Information:

Name: Andrea Fichter

Phone: 360.853.8401 FAX (360) 853-8002

Email: andrea@concretewa.gov

URL: www.townofconcrete.com

Address: P.O. Box 39

45672 Main Street

Concrete, WA 98237

Town of Concrete reserves the right to cancel this notice at any time prior to or after the date of posting. Town of Concrete is an equal opportunity employer. Published in the March 2020 issue of Concrete Herald.

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Crossword solution

1	A	B	Y	S	M	6	C	I	A	7	W	E	E	P	12	S
14	T	R	A	V	E	L	E	R	S	15	E	R	A	S	E	
17	M	A	K	E	S	A	D	A	S	18	H	F	O	R	I	T
21	O	B	I	T						24	T	I	N			
26	T	A	K	E	S	30	S	I	T	32	O	N	T	33	H	E
34	T	H	E			36	H	O	R	N	S			37	O	R
						38	B	L	I	N	I			40	E	N
42	F	R	A	I	L					44	C	E	R	T	S	
49	R	U	N	S	L	I	K	E	T	H	E			51	W	I
52	Y	E	A			53	N	Y	C					54	A	C
						56	O	U	T					57	T	B
60	E	I	A	D	F	O				63	T	H	E			
68	I	G	L	O	O					69	P	E	A	N	U	T
70	S	O	A	R	S					71	M	A	T			
										72	L	I	P	P	Y	

GARAGE SALES

Sedro-Woolley Indoor Garage Sale. Fun event! Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1006 Wicker Rd. Fri. and Sat., April 17–18, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It’s a fundraiser to support church upkeep and youth activities.

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.

Seattle City Light and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will soon begin the process of relicensing the Skagit River Hydroelectric Project (Project). The Project operates on a FERC license that expires in 2025.

Seattle City Light is hosting a public meeting about the relicensing on Thursday, March 5 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Skagit Station Community Room, 105 E. Kincaid St., Mount Vernon. At the meeting, Seattle City Light will share information with the community about the relicensing process and schedule, including key dates and opportunities for public involvement. They will also present information about the Project and answer question about the facilities and relicensing. To RSVP, or for more information about the meeting, email Seattle City Light at: Kristin.Cappellano@seattle.gov.

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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 April 2020 issue is March 23.

Museum, cont. from p. 32

and with her many years of experience with the U.S. Forest and National Park services, a new and fresh perspective.

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—John Boggs

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