

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Herald

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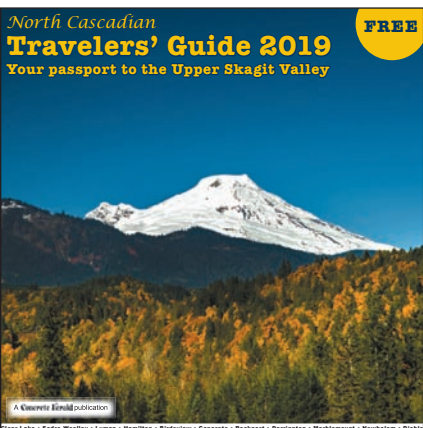
May 2019

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The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

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From the editor

Bank closure is yet another hurdle

For Town of Concrete’s economic development efforts, the phrase “three steps forward and two steps back” rang painfully true last month. At almost the same time the town completed work on renovations necessary to transform its old police station into a business incubator, word came from Columbia Bank that it plans to close its Concrete branch at 3 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 13. After about a century, Concrete may find itself without a hometown bank.

It’s hard to know where to start when one hears such devastating news. Concrete needs a bank, and if Columbia isn’t interested in being the rural community bank it claims to be, surely another bank will step up to the plate. One thing is clear: Every citizen and business owner in the Upper Valley needs to engage during the coming months and either place all manner of pressure on Columbia Bank to change its mind or adopt a less drastic strategy, or actively seek out other banks who might want to be a partner in Concrete’s economic revitalization, rather than a high hurdle.

—J. K. M.

National Dam Safety Awareness Day

May 31 is National Dam Safety Awareness Day, and we want to recognize the partnerships that support dam safety. At PSE, we are committed to providing safe operations and maintenance of our hydroelectric facilities. But we don’t do this alone. A complete dam safety program is only possible through our partnerships with local municipalities, community leaders and other utilities. It is a privilege to serve in east Skagit County!

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Opinion

Letters to the editor

Open the new library now

The Upper Skagit Library is housed in cramped and dank quarters. Members of the staff say that the poor housing conditions limit the range of services. The citizens of Concrete rose to the challenge and voted to support the library with their taxes. Benefactors donated the renovated Legion Hall, which more than doubles the current space. Volunteers are ready to help with moving and the last minor building fixes. Yet the new building stands empty. The Board of Trustees is plagued by indecision. The latest reports are that the move may not occur for another year.

The citizens of the Upper Skagit Valley deserve better. A well-stocked library is a necessity, not a luxury. The public should insist that the library move into the new space without delay. Or, if the board finds the task too daunting, that the trustees make way for partners who can get the job done.

Ger van den Engh
Birdsview

Can’t support library foundation

As a member of the Upper Skagit Library Foundation, I have been unpleasantly surprised and dismayed by recent happenings. A small group of foundation officers and others attended the library monthly meeting on April 11 in order to publicly vilify the Upper Skagit Library director and Board of Trustees. Rather than having a real conversation about their issues, these folks chose to read mean-spirited, blaming letters to the Library Board. This approach was offensive and an affront to good communication. This public attack sets

Open the new library now

My husband Ger and I purchased and renovated the Legion Hall for use as a public library. We donated the building to the Upper Skagit Library in December 2017. We did this after many years of working with the library to find better, bigger space and gaining a deep appreciation of the library’s needs and constraints. We did this with the expectation that it would expedite expansion of library services. Sixteen months after our donation, the building stands empty and unused. The Library’s Board of Trustees recently disclosed their wish to add features that

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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are not mission-critical. They expect that these modifications could cost \$300,000 more taxpayers’ money than has already been spent, and push move-in until sometime in 2020. The expense and delay are unjustified.

In fact, few tasks remain to make the building fully functional. Volunteers can finish the job quickly. I’m among those willing to pitch in. The money saved could go instead to expand the library’s hours, books, technology, and educational and cultural programs. Extravagant light fixtures will not make a difference for Concrete’s youth; an open library with more books and information will.

Please join me in pressuring the library’s trustees to open the new library by early summer.

Barbara Trask
Birdsview

Foundation is undermining community trust

At the April 11 Upper Skagit Library District monthly Board Meeting, the Upper Skagit Library Foundation, and others, delivered strongly worded letters of disapproval regarding the timeline for opening the new library. If, as these letters suggest, “the community, donors and members had been raising these concerns for some time,” why miss the opportunity to discuss them in person with all who attended the Foundation Annual Meeting on March 26?

The foundation is undermining the goodwill and trust the community has put into the Library District and its staff. Rather than work with and support the library district, the foundation has set itself in opposition to and passed judgment on library district operations. These criticisms are an unnecessary and heavy handed approach. They resolve

nothing, create hard feelings, and poison the community toward the library. What a great way to thank the outgoing library director for five years of service.

If the foundation is “committed to maintaining a healthy relationship with donors and members through honest and transparent communication,” they have missed the mark. The foundation board chose not to communicate their concerns with the membership prior to March 26 or at any date since. The foundation does not have a mandate from its membership to take a position against the library district’s approach to opening the new library building.

A lot of community goodwill is lost when friends and neighbors are treated so disrespectfully. We suggest that the foundation board take another look at its tactics and commit to healing this unnecessary divide. We are withdrawing our memberships until we see much-needed change in the foundation.

David Adams, Greta Movassaghi
Rockport

Thanks to weekend warriors

The final push to prepare our old police station for its new life as a business incubator wouldn’t have been successful without a small band of awesome volunteers who helped me pull up the old carpet and then remove the 40-year-old carpet glue from the concrete floors.

My sincere gratitude goes to Concrete Lions Club member Tom Jones, Town of Concrete Public Works staffer Terry Coggins (who volunteered his time on a Saturday), and Concrete Town Councilwoman Ginger Kyritsis. Even Dr. Brianna herself got in on the fun.

I sure am glad we don’t have to do that again anytime soon. Thank you, folks, for your much-needed help.

Jason Miller, Mayor
Concrete

Call for quilt show entries

Woolley Fiber Quilters is now accepting registrations for quilts to be displayed in the annual quilt show to be held July 12-14. Everyone is welcome to enter. The show will again be held at Cascade Middle School on McGarigle Rd. in Sedro-Woolley, with more than 250 quilts on display, a member boutique, bed turning, vendors, and special exhibits. Youth are encouraged to enter. Obtain a hard copy of the form at Cascade Fabrics in Sedro-Woolley or download an electronic copy from www.woolleyfiberquilters.blogspot.com. **Entry forms are due June 29.**

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Commentary

Library board can’t guarantee an opening date

By Em Beals

The Upper Skagit Library District has been providing services to increasing numbers of patrons while at the same time making headway on plans for a new permanent home.

Since 2014 a group of volunteers has worked with the library staff, Board of Trustees, and Friends/Foundation to bring this vision to reality. As part of the 2015 effort, the library staff and task force members developed a vision for the new library function and operations, detailed in the USLD Building Program. Further planning initially focused on a new building, which in April 2016 was determined to be financially unrealistic. In summer 2016, the American Legion Hall became available; it was the desired size and generally sound. Private benefactors stepped forward to purchase the building and undertake renovations before donating the building to the library district in December 2017.

Since receiving the donation, the district has been working to ensure that the building will meet the needs of staff and patrons now and into the future. The district needs to redeem its responsibility to complete all due diligence on the structural integrity of the building, as well as account for the proper functioning of the building environment. The district would be liable for any deficiencies that were not properly addressed prior to occupancy. A larger district would employ an architect to guide this process. Due to our small size, we are acting as owner-builders, and are relying on a volunteer task force and the guidance of our project manager to complete these tasks. This means that projects aren’t always sequenced as quickly as they might be on a major project. Additionally, it is challenging to find contractors who want to work in our remote location, and we may pay a premium to those who do.

The district completed the new roof and interior structural repairs to the ceiling at the end of March. This work required that the building remain vacant while it was completed. The next step is to complete the interior, which will include carpentry and electrical work. Due to the seasonal nature of the construction industry and this being their busiest time, difficulty securing available contractors may cause further delays. Our Library Director, Brooke Pederson, has taken a job elsewhere. In addition, our project manager, Roger Howard, has resigned for health reasons. The district is hoping to find a new project manager to assist us with preparing and administering the final contracts. The application process for a new library director will close on April 30. Interviews will then begin.

Right now, we can’t guarantee an opening date. We want you to know that we are doing the best we can to keep the project moving, while at the same time providing patron services, transitioning to a new library director, and keeping on top of continually moving targets. Thank you for your patience and understanding. We also thank the library staff, who are having to assume additional duties while the director search is going on. We plan to provide monthly progress reports here in this paper as well as online.

We are all looking forward to the time when we can call for help relocating to our beautiful new library. Stay tuned.

Em Beals is a member of the Upper Skagit Library Board of Trustees.

Edward Jones

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Business incubator helps bring healthcare clinic to Concrete

By Chazlyn Lovely
Edited by Katy Tomasulo

New businesses will get a boost from Town of Concrete thanks to an unused building, a chance encounter, and an idea generated by the Economic Development Task Force.

The business incubator project aims to help new and growing companies by reducing operating costs so that the business has one less obstacle on the path to success.

For example, Dr. Brianna Wilson's new direct primary healthcare clinic, Thrive Direct Health Care, will pay Town of Concrete \$1 per month to rent suites B and C of the old police station on the east end of Town Center, plus \$290 in utility fees for the first year. After that, she will pay the market rate, \$650 a month. This will allow Wilson to minimize her overhead costs while utilizing a space that

would otherwise sit vacant.

The idea of a business incubator had been included in the town's Economic Development Plan, but the project really began to take shape when Economic Development Task Force Chair Eric Archuleta met Wilson and learned about her desire to expand Thrive Direct from its current single branch in La Conner. After talks with Mayor Jason Miller, Archuleta, the Economic Development Commission, and Concrete Town Council, Wilson accepted the offer to join the program.

Mayor Miller, alongside a crew of volunteers from the community, prepped the space so that it would be ready for Wilson by May 1.

"Some people are surprised we're using the old police station/fire hall for this; they thought the building had been condemned, but that's not true. Nor is it true that we were supposed to demolish it," said Miller. "If we had secured FEMA

funds for the new fire hall, that may have been different, but that is not the case here. So, while the old police station/fire hall has outlived its usefulness as a public safety building, it still has plenty of years left in it for less-intensive uses, such as a business incubator."

Suites B and C are occupied by Thrive Direct Health Care; suite A will be examined for feasibility for other potential businesses after Wilson and her patients have settled in. One of the goals for the incubator is to have a revolving door of businesses in the space—get them on their feet, stable, and able to find their permanent homes so to speak, so that other businesses can enter the program and begin the process as well. "The best-case scenario," says Miller, "is for each business startup that uses the incubator space to leave it after three years. This would free it up for the next startup."

When space becomes available, potential businesses interested in the program will have to submit a business plan and be vetted. "We really liked Dr. Wilson as a first-time incubator applicant because she has an existing business in La Conner that she's trying to expand," said Miller. "That's a whole lot different than someone who comes to the town saying, 'You know what I think would be cool?' Dr. Wilson had a business plan already in place and five years of proven success."

The incubator program and the town's generosity were key factors in Wilson's decision—and financial ability—to bring her business to Concrete. She also acknowledges how vital her practice will be for the town's rural location. "There are so many people without healthcare [here], and especially when you're so isolated, it's more difficult to be seen quickly."

In that way, Wilson's practice and the Town of Concrete's business incubator share a similar goal—making access and opportunity more affordable.

A successful business model

"The direct primary care model has been around since the 1990s," said Wilson. "It brings back the old idea of the town doctor—more of a family-friendly kind of doctor. A lot of us who use this model do house calls, and it's affordable."

Patients can pay a monthly "access" or

membership fee, which varies from clinic to clinic. Thrive Direct charges \$25 to \$60 per month depending on the membership; doing this allows the clinic to avoid co-pays or other fees on the average visit. (There are additional add-ons that may cost extra.) Perks to membership include unlimited office visits, phone and e-mail access directly to Wilson, free annual screening lab work, free flu shots, no extra fees for small in-office procedures such as sutures, home sleep tests for sleep apnea, EKGs, and much more time with the doctor in order to form a relationship built on trust and a complete understanding of the patient's health.

"You really have time to get to the root cause of a lot of diseases and illnesses, and spend more time with education and more time coming up with a plan and helping the patient to be self-managed so that they can take more responsibility for their health," said Wilson, adding that this model has "proven to decrease hospitalizations and ER admissions and have good outcomes. We're able to get better numbers and lab values faster, because we have that extra communication."

For those uncertain about the membership model, there are other perks. Thrive Direct is less of a pure direct primary care system—it's what Wilson calls a "hybrid-DPC"—and some aspects of care can be billed to Medicare Part B. Other perks include walk-in office visits for nonmembers, truck driver CDL exams, and sports physicals for school children. The clinic will have its own small pharmacy; blood for lab work can be drawn at the clinic and sent to a lab company with which Wilson contracts, so prices are less expensive. There will be pricing for both members and nonmembers.

Wilson is eager to move into the new space and start meeting the community. "I always knew I wanted to be a small-town doctor—to own my own practice and be able to not only be a business in the community, but to be a part of a community. [In the past] I took on a lot of extracurricular activities with schools or the Chamber of Commerce, so I'm actually more in the community versus just a part of it."

Wilson's goal is to have a patient load of 400 adult members between the Concrete and La Conner locations. In the future, she'd like to consider opening more locations and bringing in other healthcare providers, doctors, and nurse practitioners.

See Business Incubator, p. 38

Columbia Bank announces pending closure of Concrete branch

By Jude Dippold

The Upper Skagit Valley's longtime relationship with banking in Concrete will come to an end on Sept. 13 when Columbia Bank shutters its Concrete branch, the heart of local business and personal banking for generations. The breakup is liable to be both difficult and messy, according to most local business owners and ordinary bank customers, and is expected to hamper Town of Concrete's ability to promote economic development.

Columbia Bank made the announcement in a letter dated April 23 and mailed to customers of the Concrete branch. Most area residents received the letter on Thur., April 25. On Friday, Columbia Bank made one of its senior executives, Nicole Sherman, Senior Vice President/Market Region Manager, available at the Concrete Branch to meet with local customers.

Sherman maintained that Columbia made the decision to close the local branch based on changing customer banking preferences, citing a greater reliance on online banking and decreasing in-bank traffic at the Concrete branch, which will be merged with Columbia's branch in Burlington, 29 miles away. She declined to say whether Columbia would realize a cost savings by ending service in Concrete. Columbia Bank, Sherman said, stands ready to help customers make the transition to service in its Burlington bank branch, promising to make herself and other Columbia executives available to customers during the next several months to teach them how to use "other touchpoints." While Columbia has no plans to maintain any sort of banking presence in Concrete after Sept. 13, Sherman says the company could consider an ATM machine somewhere in the area if requested, although she cited numerous obstacles to doing so.

While Columbia is promising to ease the transition to the Burlington branch, some of Concrete's biggest banking customers see some large and possibly expensive problems looming on the horizon. Mike Frank of Albert's Red Apple and Carol Rohan of Cascade Supply see serious issues for their businesses in handling

deposits and in obtaining the daily cash supplies necessary for store operations.

Frank put it bluntly. "My father always taught us if you don't have a school, you don't have a town; and if you don't have a bank, you don't have business."

While Sherman maintains that Concrete businesses can handle their daily cash and deposit needs by utilizing a carrier service, Frank and Rohan argue that would only serve to increase their operational costs to the detriment of their customers. Similarly, they also contend that using their own employees for daily 60-mile round trips to the bank branch in Burlington would be a wasteful use of employee time.

They also see a danger if their customers are forced to go to Burlington to do their own banking.

"If you have to drive downriver to do your banking, chances are you are going to do other business there instead of here," Frank said. "It's going to hurt businesses

See Bank, p. 38

Columbia Bank donates \$25K to Concrete Boys & Girls Club

While Columbia Bank is ending its physical presence in Concrete, the bank has made a \$25,000 donation to the Boys and Girls Club of Concrete as it exits.

The donation, explained Senior Vice President/Market Region Manager Nicole Sherman, is meant to help sustain the new club during the next five years.

"Our investment will allow the Club to extend their services to youth programs throughout the summer months," she said.

The funds also will give the club the ability to provide meal programs for participants and to purchase items needed for participation on field trips, according to Sherman.

The news of the donation to the Boys and Girls Club of Concrete was contained in a letter to Concrete area customers of Columbia Bank. That letter broke the news of the branch closing on Sept. 13.



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Watercolor by Allie Jensen

Concrete market opens May 18

The Concrete Saturday Market celebrates its 34th year this summer. The market will open early this year, starting on May 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Concrete Community Center, just off SR 20 at Doug Vose Way in Concrete. The market runs through Labor Day weekend.

On the traditional opening day—May 25 this year—Concrete Mayor Jason Miller will join us for an anniversary celebration at 9 a.m.—that is, if he doesn't have to wear his coaching hat at the State Track Tournament in Cheney (in which case we'll try for the always-willing Mayor pro tem, Beth Easterday).

The market provides local artisans a place to sell their products, ranging from food and plants to arts and crafts. The market offers access to fresh food: local, organically grown produce such as fruit, vegetables, and berries, as well as eggs, bread, and honey.

This year the market will accept EBT (SNAP, QUEST) cards for the first time. When market-goers purchase EBT tokens for eligible foods, they will receive “Double Up Bucks” for an equal dollar amount of fresh produce.

As part of its goal to encourage food access for all, the market also accepts FVRx coupons from the United General Community Health Outreach Program. Food Bank Fresh Bucks will be distributed at local food banks to purchase even more fresh produce.

A hot food truck or cart will be on site most Saturdays. Community groups hold

fundraising bake sales most Saturdays too.

Special events provide community education, connections, and enrichment. Local musicians play live music. The “Ask a Master Gardener” program, the last Saturday of each month, answers gardening questions with expert advice. Community nonprofits offer information on various services. The market is a popular stop for travelers or locals, with access to indoor restrooms, shaded parking, a rest spot, and visitor information.

The market offers a scholarship to a local graduating senior each spring. Allie Jensen, local watercolor artist and market vendor, has donated a framed original watercolor depicting a colorful market scene (see above image). The piece will be raffled off this summer and the proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the scholarship fund. A bake sale on June 8 also contributes to that scholarship. Individuals can make a tax-deductible donation to the scholarship as well.

Market organizers welcome new farmers, growers, and craft vendors to join the market. Interested persons may e-mail them at concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com or contact them through our Web site.

More information and an updated schedule of activities are available at <https://concretesaturdaymarket.weebly.com/>. You can also find the market on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest.

—Betty Seguin

Council summary

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

April 8 regular meeting

Mayor pro tem Beth Easterday facilitated both council meetings in April, with Mayor Jason Miller vacationing the first and ill the second.

Public safety: Councilmember Ginger Kyritsis asked about gunfire that she had heard around 4 p.m. today. Deputy Esskew stated there had not been any reports that he was aware of, but he would look into it.

Audience member Roger Chapman asked about getting more neighborhood watch signs near the airport.

Town engineer Cody Hart reported on several projects:

Cedar and Rietze projects: SRV Construction was the low bidder, was within about 6 percent of the estimate. Hart said that SRV Construction has done other work for the town and that after the initial review, he is recommending award to them. Council approved the recommendation unanimously.

I&I trenchless work: Michel's Corp. was the low bidder, within about 2 percent of the estimate.

Hart reported on a phone call with DOH that occurred today. He stated they had questions about how the projects are being bid and wanted to reiterate to the town that because of the way the funding application was scored, how important it is for the town to complete all the work for all the projects. He stated they also recommended waiting till fall to bid the water reservoir; since this project is not approved to advertise yet, the town will miss the window for getting good bids. He stated most companies that do this type of work are already booked up for the summer, so waiting till next spring for construction of this will be most cost-effective for the town.

Hart also reported that SCOG has issued its call for projects. He stated he would like to move forward in applying for the remaining funds

to complete the secondary access project. It was the consensus of the council to move forward with the application.

Town planner Marianne Manville-Ailles asked when the Cedar Street project would begin. It is scheduled to start on July 8.

Last, Hart reported the standalone townwide metering project is out for bid beginning April 11.

- Manville-Ailles reported on a request from a local helicopter pilot who wanted to land on top of the silos for a photo. She stated that touchdown would be short, around a minute to get the photo, and that he can provide insurance. Discussion on this idea ensued. It was the consensus of the council that with the silos being a historical structure, actual landing should not occur, but if he would like to hover just above it and get the photo, that would be OK, as long as the insurance is in place and a traffic and pedestrian control plan is developed for that period.

April 22 regular meeting

- Valerie Stafford, Barbara Trask, and Ger van den Engh spoke to council regarding the Upper Skagit Library and its delayed opening in its new building. All three urged the town to implore the library's board of trustees to make all haste to open the library as soon as possible. Council discussed and engaged with John Boggs, an audience member.

- Public safety:** Deputy Esskew reported that Sgt. Adams will schedule a meeting with Mayor Miller to begin discussions on the renewal of the SCSO contract with the town for next year. Esskew also reported the Sheriff's office will contract with PSE again for an additional 20 hours per month of patrols in the quarry area throughout the summer.

- Councilmember Mike Bartel reported that spraying and leveling of the Lorenzen Creek spoils pile will occur in May and June, in time for fly-in.

—Compiled from staff minutes

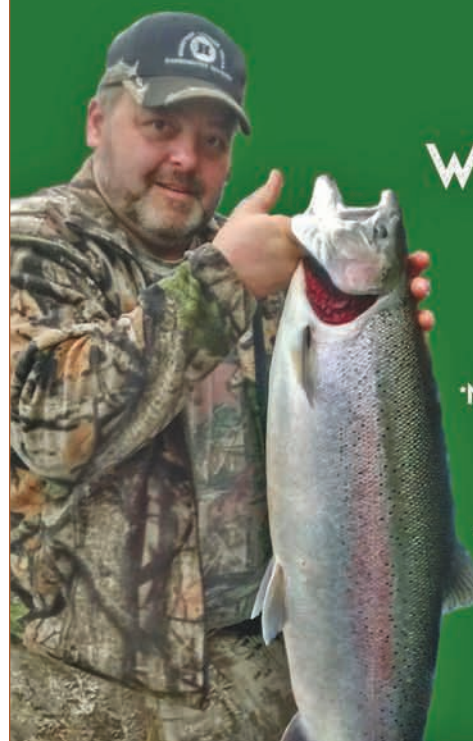
Keep track of your council

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

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Sports

Baseball team will see playoffs

With a 4-3 league record, the Concrete High School baseball team will find its way into the playoffs.

"I think we're sitting pretty solid in the No. 2 spot in our league," said Head Coach Randy Sweeney.

The placement will send the Lions south to District 2, where they'll face either Crosspoint or Seattle Lutheran on May 9. "We're pretty confident going against either one of them," said Sweeney.

Win or lose, on May 11 the Lions will be at Janicki Fields, vying for a trip to the State tournament.

April play

A two-week gap in the schedule found the Lions' first April game on the 16th, a home match against Orcas Island. Concrete got the win, 7-3.

A doubleheader vs. Darrington on April 22 again found the Lions on home turf. They squeaked by the Loggers 7-6 in the first game, then found their stride and handily dispensed of the rival team 8-0 in the second game.

Another doubleheader day found the Lions traveling to Friday Harbor for the league championship, where the Wolverines' bite resulted in two losses, 6-2 and 15-0.

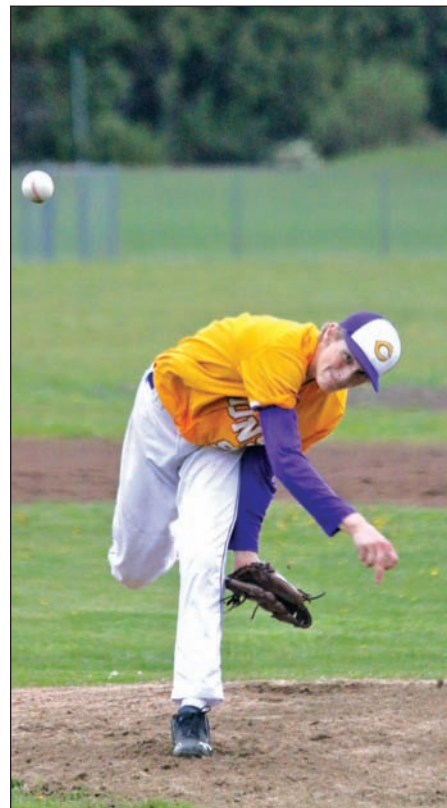
"It was an up-and-down month for us," said Sweeney. "We played really well at times, but closed out April at Friday Harbor and didn't get it. It was a letdown for us, but we're still in the No. 2 spot."

Looking ahead

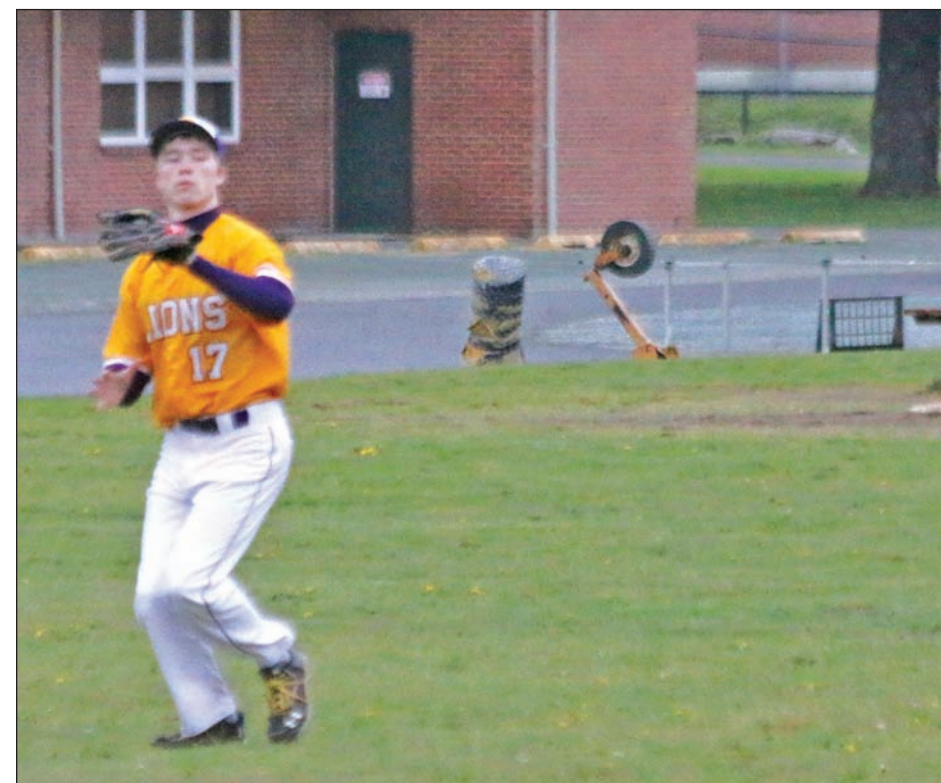
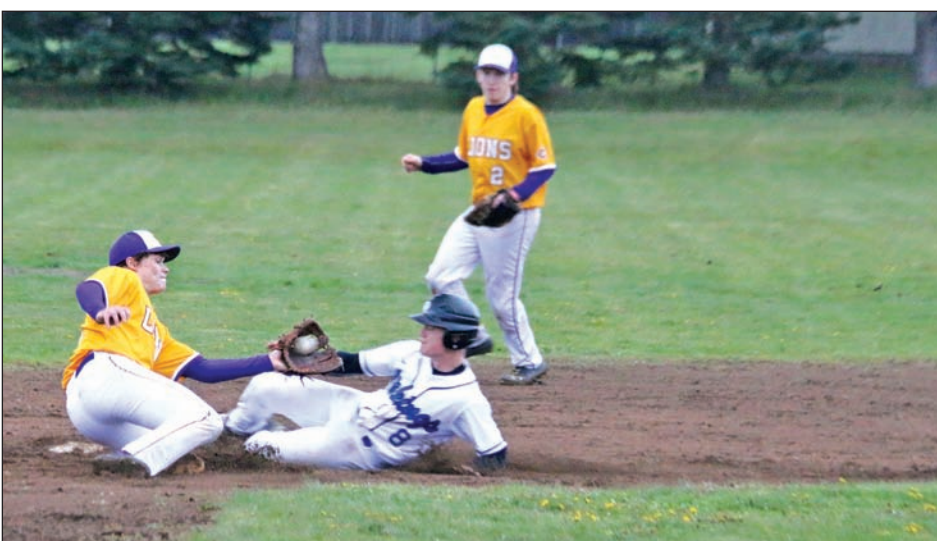
Two games remain in the Lions' regular season schedule: Friday Harbor at home on April 30, and an away game at Darrington on May 1.

Post-season district play for Concrete is currently scheduled for May 11 at Janicki Fields. The State tournament is slated for May 18-25 at Wheeler Field in Centralia.

—J. K. M.



The Concrete High School baseball team hosted Orcas Island on April 16 and got the win, 7-3. Clockwise from right: Shayne Luttrell sends one toward home plate, Marshall Fichter makes an outfield catch look easy, and Peyton Sanchez goes for the tag on a base-stealing Viking.



Athletes of the Month



Athletes of the Month: Aunya Carpenter, Shayne Luttrell, Kassidy Smith, Levi Lowry

Aunya Carpenter brings to the table sportsmanship and leadership as a junior at Concrete high school. Aunya is the catcher for the Concrete high school varsity fastpitch team. "As the new coach, I see that she has abilities she doesn't even know she has as it seems just normal to her," said Coach Bob Hickman. "Such as being able to compliment the other team for their good plays and offense, even though her team is losing the game. In one of the first games we played at Meridian High School, she yelled out, 'Good game!' and in a few days a letter was sent to the school district complimenting her on her sportsmanship. This showed the entire district what kind of person she is and with other actions on and off the field, won her the athlete of the month award."

Aunya's play and sportsmanship have only improved as the season progressed, said Hickman. "One thing on the field I enjoy watching her play with the intensity she has as to not let the other teams score as Aunya has the ball in hand and standing over the home plate. She has one more year at Concrete and I can't wait to see what kind of adult this young woman is going to become. I know

whatever she does, someone or some business is going to thank their lucky stars. Good job Aunya Carpenter for all your hard work and representing the Concrete school district."

Shayne Luttrell was selected as baseball Athlete of the Month for March. He is a co-captain and a true senior leader this spring. He brings a positive "can do" attitude to the ballpark every day and leads by example, as well as vocally. Shayne loves the game and works hard every day to improve himself and his teammates. He has been a dominant force on the mound this spring, striking out 10 hitters in two separate appearances and leading the team in batting average and RBIs after six games. Coach Randy Sweeney said, "When we play important games this spring, Shayne is the one who will be our starting pitcher."

Sophomore **Kassidy Smith** was selected as the girl's track athlete of the month for February. She set a personal record in the discus with a throw of 70' 1" at the Friday Harbor track meet. Kassidy also set a personal record in the long jump at the Birger

Solberg Invitational with a jump of 14' 1.5"—more than a foot farther than her previous PR. "Smith leads by example and demonstrates that working hard to achieve one's goals can actually be fun," said Coach Marcus Carr.

Junior **Levi Lowry** was selected as the boy's track athlete of the month for February. He has already set two personal records this season. Levi threw the shot for 40' 3.75", which earned him first place at the league meet in La Conner. He also threw the discus for 99' 2" at the same meet. Levi had a great showing at the Birger Solberg Invitational, where he threw the shot 40' 1.25" while competing against athletes from much bigger schools. "Lowry is a big bowl of talent," said Coach Marcus Carr. "When he perfects his form, he will be an unstoppable force and we'll send him to the State tournament."

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

—Kathy Hurn



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second Wednesday of each month,
at 5 p.m., in the Concrete Elementary School library.
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Fastpitch team a solid third

With only three league games left in regular season play, the Concrete High School fastpitch softball team is sitting third in the rankings and is a probable playoff contender.

As April wound down, the team had notched a 3-6 league record, with three wins and 12 losses overall.

Last month delivered a mixed bag of wins and losses to the Lady Lions. The sole matchup against La Conner, on April 2, found the Lions edging the Braves 14-11. "We hit well and at opportune times," said Head Coach Bob Hickman. "Jaidyn Swanson got a nice little smack, as did Kylie Clark and Josie Acevedo. We were able to bring runs in."

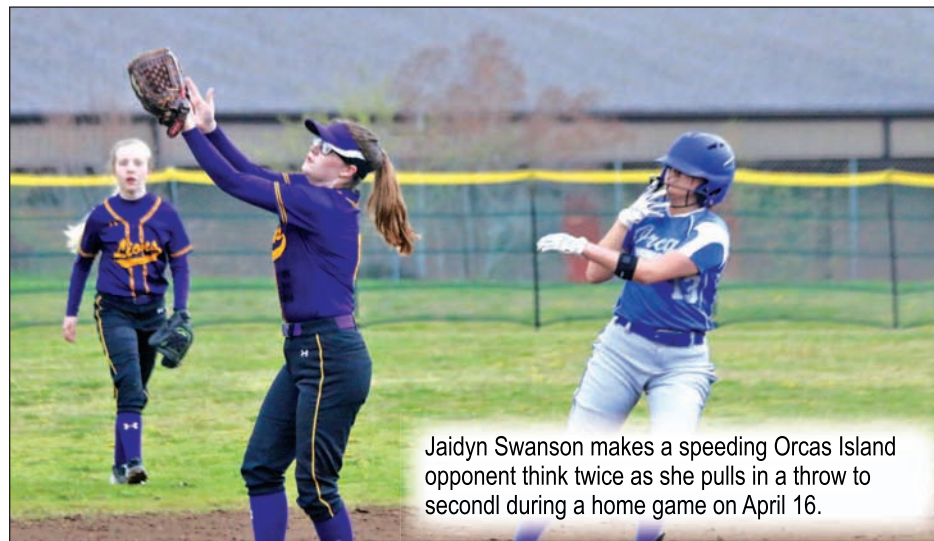
After an April 10 game against Coupeville was postponed, the Lady Lions tangled with Orcas Island and ended up on the short end, 14-2. "Orcas has a lot of good players," said Hickman. "They jumped on the game quickly and scored quickly. We held things in control at first, but then racked up miscues and errors later in the game. I think the kids were

trying, but in the end it just didn't go our way.

Concrete took Darrington to school after losing to the Loggers earlier in the season. A doubleheader at home found the Lions on top twice: 14-10 and 10-9. "There was no reason we couldn't win," said Hickman, who heard a little good-natured needling from the Logger dugout before the game—which got very quiet after the first game. Clark pitched both games, further impressing her coach. "That young woman is coming into her own. If she keeps working, she's going to be doggone good at the plate and on the mound by the time she's an upperclassman."

League powerhouse Friday Harbor handed the Lady Lions two losses during an away doubleheader on April 26: 17-0 and 12-0. "Friday Harbor is the No. 1 team in the league, and it shows," said Hickman. "Sadie Peif caught a high fly ball that I was proud of, and we got a few hits, but couldn't push through their defense."

—J. K. M.



Jaidyn Swanson makes a speeding Orcas Island opponent think twice as she pulls in a throw to second during a home game on April 16.



A league meet hosted by Mount Vernon Christian at Mount Vernon High School brought out the best in the Concrete High School track team. Above middle: Hayden O'Neil pushes through the crowd during the 100m. Above: Unity Reynolds slings the discus. Right: Tyler Nevin gets some air during the long jump competition.



ON THE AIR

with Concrete Boys & Girls Club

Every Thursday just before 4 p.m., a handful of Concrete Elementary Boys & Girls Club members march next door to the KSVU 90.1 FM studio. Their mission? The "Concrete Boys & Girls Club Radio Hour," hosted by site coordinator Lela Kennedy.

Each show features five different young experts who give quick lessons on anything from ice cream to the U.S. presidents. Each show is unique and tailored to each youth, depending on grade level or specific interests. Penelope, for example, just received a new telescope at her house. She enjoys "watching shooting stars and looking at the moon." During a recent radio broadcast, she explained to listeners about what causes a shooting star: "It's a piece of dust or rock that is falling into the earth's atmosphere."

Each club member picks a subject and practices their show twice before going on live. Kennedy helps with scripting and keeps the conversation flowing, stitching the presentations together with music breaks. The young radio personalities also get an opportunity to give shout-outs to their families, friends, or animals after sharing on their topic. Some have performed live on-air several times.

An eclectic lineup

During the April 25 show, five club members held forth on topics ranging from worms to music to dogs.

Eva was first at the microphone. "Worms are native to Europe, but they are found throughout North America and Asia," she announced. "They transport

nutrients and materials in the soil by eating up to one-third of their body weight per day, and their waste stays in the soil. They don't live in deserts or severely cold regions with permafrost. They need to stay moist. If a worm's skin dries out, it will die. They have no eyes, but they can sense light and they move away from it."

Alex shared his knowledge of stars—"great big balls of gas in space." His favorite constellation is Orion, because that's his middle name.

"You can only see about 250,000 stars at night, because of light pollution."

Alex ended his on-air time with a wish to see the Northern Lights, and to share his favorite subjects in school: reading and math.

Carmen chose to discuss music during her on-air minutes. Did you know the oldest flute was found in Ireland in 2004, and is thought to be more than 40,000 years old?

"I enjoy everything about music," she said.

Carmen focused on the classical period, which introduced different styles of music, including sonata, symphony, and concerto. "It started to become more than one hand playing on a piano," she said. Key composers during this period were Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ludwig van Beethoven.

"During the turn of the 20th century, music became more accessible to more people. The inventions of radio and gramophone allowed more people to hear music on a daily basis. Prior to that, only the wealthy and middle class could attend concerts. So music changed dramatically with the invention of the electric guitar. Along came jazz. More genres came from there."

Who is Carmen's favorite singer? Michael Jackson—and she has too many favorite songs to name just one.

Teaching speech skills

Kennedy said the radio program is unique to the Concrete Boys & Girls Club and provides an opportunity to teach

important linguistic tools while having fun.

"Public speaking is an important aspect to life," said Kennedy. "The youth get to practice their speaking skills, teach people about their passions, discuss how their lives are going, and listen to some great jams! It's a great space for the youth to be inquisitive and creative."

Back on the air

Jordyn has scooted up to the microphone. She discusses programs within the Concrete Boys & Girls Club. She shares a typical day after school, which includes Power Hour (homework—"ugh"), then P. E., STEM, photography, the radio show of course, and ... "Oh! Carmen and I are doing the Science Fair together! We're building a robot!"

"Do you like art?" coaxes Kennedy.

"Yeah! I don't like watercolors, though. I like acrylics. Watercolors are hard."

Not surprisingly, Jordyn's favorite thing about the club is the activities.

Nevaeh is here to talk about her dogs. She has three: Rebel, Princess, and Jax (son of the first two). They are American pitbulls. She adores them.

Want to know more about dogs? Nevaeh is ready to share.

"According to the World Canine Organization, there are 339 different breeds of dogs. They've split them into 10 different groups: herding, mastiff, terriers, dachshund, pointers, retrievers, companion and toy ..."

"Did you know that the retriever has been on the 10 most popular breeds list for 25 years? A dog's nose has a unique imprint to each dog, kind of like a human fingerprint. All pups are born deaf and develop their hearing as they grow older."

Time is running short. Kennedy turns to her microphone to sign off: "Remember to learn something new every day, and be kind to everyone you meet!"

The Concrete Boys & Girls Club Radio Hour airs on KSVU 90.1 FM from 4 to 5 p.m. on Thursdays.

—Tammy Findlay, J. K. M.



Eva



Alex



Jordyn



Nevaeh



Program Host Lela Kennedy

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Academics



Newby nabs Dahlgren Award

Concrete High School woodshop teacher Jim Newby was named a recipient of the William Dahlgren Teacher of Excellence Award during a ceremony in the high school library on April 17.

The Dahlgren Award recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers for inspiring students in math, science, engineering, and manufacturing fields, particular classes directed toward learning the field of plastics. Janicki Industries President John Janicki presented the award to Newby.

Only 15 to 20 Dahlgren Awards are presented annually. The selection committee chose Newby after receiving a letter of recommendation from Concrete School District Superintendent Wayne Barrett.

“Mr. Newby teaches his students how to demonstrate a variety of skills, including math, layout, planning, design, joinery, quality control, and employability skills that apply to any profession,” wrote Barrett in the letter. “In a small, rural community such as Concrete, our students may not have access to CTE programs that larger districts can offer. However, this program offers quality instruction delivered by a passionate teacher who develops skills and minds.”

The Dahlgren Award is part of the philanthropic arm of the Society for Advancement of Material and Process Engineering Foundation. Newby won the



Concrete High School teacher Jim Newby (left) was awarded the Dahlberg Award by Janicki Industries President John Janicki during a ceremony on April 17. Only 15–20 Dahlgren Awards are presented annually, nationwide. Photo by Claus Joens.

award this year because of his consistent demonstration of excellence in motivating students to achieve their best, integrity in

showing students how to do more than what is required, modeling respect for each other, and innovation by inspiring

students to explore and create on their own.

—J. K. M.

Concrete Resource Coalition



Hello, spring! It’s hard to believe we are in the final months of the school year.

With spring comes an important time in the coalition: rewriting our action plan. Using survey data from local students,

community members, participants of our programs, and feedback from community partners, we begin to set priorities on coalition activities for the 2019–20 school year. If you want to learn more and be part of the process, please join us at our next coalition meeting on Thur., May 16, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the high school library.

During the meeting we will discuss the upcoming May 22 Spring Youth Forum. Six Concrete High School students will attend and share about the prevention

efforts they completed during the school year. The students also will learn what other schools completed, and get to vote on the school projects. The winning team gets a scholarship to attend a national prevention conference in Dallas.

Other updates include welcoming Brian Gustafson from the Concrete Boys & Girls Club as our newest board member on the coalition. Brian has a proven track record of empowering youth and helping them succeed. We are excited to have him

join the CRC!

Last, save the date for the next Concrete Youth Activity Day: Fri., July 12. Hope to see you!

For more information, contact me at stephanie.morgareidge@unitedgeneral.org or 360.854.7179.

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

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

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Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

The photo at left shows the McDonald dairy farm, which was located at the east end of Francis Rd. on the south side (corner of Hwy. 9 and Francis Rd.) Included in the photo are Jane McDonald and her daughter, Nina, who is in the background under the trees.

The McDonalds operated their dairy farm until the late 1940s. At that time, much of the land was leased by seed companies. Jane was born in circa 1862 and passed away in 1939. Her daughter Nina was born in 1899 and passed away in 1972. 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.

The Clear Lake Historical Association has new office hours: Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to noon, and by appointment. For more information, send an e-mail to clha1987@gmail.com or call 360.856.6798.

—Deanna Ammons, historian

Did You Know?

The Port of Skagit, Skagit County and Skagit Trail Builders are working to rebuild trails on and surrounding the former Northern State Hospital campus.



Port of
Skagit

www.portofskagit.com

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Historical Assn seeks volunteers to prepare for open house and family reunion

The Clear Lake Historical Association (CLHA) will host an Open House and Turner Family Reunion on Sat., May 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will showcase the historical photographs and artifacts from the Clear Lake area that CLHA has collected. The event also is designed to give Clear Lake community members the opportunity to learn more about the CLHA homestead cabin project and contribute to its completion.

Help is needed to make the event a success.

At noon on Sun., May 5, helpers are needed to work inside the CLHA Hall to

set up displays. Preparations will continue Monday through Friday, May 6–10, from 10:30 to noon, and again from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Anyone who can help during any of those times is encouraged to call Sylvia Matterand at 360.391.1479 or Deanna Ammons at 360.661.3403.

Volunteers also are sought to be greeters, sell t-shirts, and otherwise assist at the event on May 11. Volunteers are needed to put away the display materials on May 13 and 14. Anyone who can help with the “after party” is encouraged to contact Matterand or Ammons.

—J. K. M.

The Clear Lake Historical Assn has changed its hours to Tuesday only, from 10 a.m. to noon. Members may be able to accommodate appointments by request.

For more information, send an e-mail to clha1987@gmail.com and allow up to a week for a response.



Community Calendar



MAY

- 1 Drop-in Computer Tutoring at Upper Skagit Library, Concrete; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 3–12 “Spring Fling” at Northwest Garden Bling, 44574 SR 20, Grasmere; see ad, p. 39; info at 360.708.3279 or nwgardenbling@frontier.com
- 4 Blast Open the Pass benefit dinner and dance for KSVU 90.1 FM, Marblemount Community Hall, 5:30 to 10 p.m.; info at 360.853.8588
- 5 Wildland Firefighter Foundation Fundraiser, Birdview Brewing Co., 38302 SR 20, Birdview; open jam 3 to 6 p.m.
- 6 Christian Motorcyclists Assn Morning Star Chapter 39 meeting, Royal Star Buffet, 2300 Freeway Dr., Mt. Vernon; optional dinner at 6 p.m., followed by 7 p.m. meeting; info at 425.770.6154 or cmachapter39@gmail.com
- 7 Hamilton Town Council workshop, Hamilton Town Hall, 584 Maple St., Hamilton, 7 p.m.; info at townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com or 360.826.3027
- 9 Upper Skagit Library Board meeting; Upper Skagit Library, Concrete, 6 p.m.
- 11 Clear Lake Historical Assn Open House and Turner Family Reunion, Historical Assn Hall, 12655 SR 9, Clear Lake; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 14; info at 360.391.1479 or 360.661.3403
- 11 Storytime at Upper Skagit Library, Concrete, 11 a.m.
- 12 Mother’s Day
- 13 New cutoff for comment period re: Kiewit quarry proposal; see article, p. 26
- 15 Drop-in Computer Tutoring at Upper Skagit Library, Concrete; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 17 Glacier Peak Institute 3rd Annual Fundraiser, Mountaineers Club, Seattle, 5:30 p.m.; info at inspire@glacierpeakinstitute.org
- 18 Concrete Saturday Market opens, Concrete Community Center, Concrete, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see article, p. 6; info at <https://concretesaturdaymarket.weebly.com>
- 18 Mommy/Son Dinner fundraiser for Heart to Heart Charity, Nate Beasley Bldg., 2. 3rd St. (behind fire dept.), Lyman; 5 to 7 p.m.; see notice, p. 18; tickets and info at hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com
- 21 Concrete Community Chorus Season Finale Concert, Concrete Community Center, Concrete, 7:30 p.m.; free admission
- 25 Storytime at Upper Skagit Library, Concrete, 11 a.m.
- 25 Fireworks Show at Skagit Speedway; see ad, p. 10; info at www.skagitspeedway.com
- 29 Drop-in Computer Tutoring at Upper Skagit Library, Concrete; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

JUNE

- 4 Hamilton Town Council workshop, Hamilton Town Hall, 584 Maple St., Hamilton, 7 p.m.; info at townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com or 360.826.3027
- 7–9 Blast from the Past, Sedro-Woolley, various locations; info at <http://sedro-woolley.chambermaster.com/events/details/blast-from-the-past-2019-1315>
- 8 Blast of Color 5K Family Fun Run/Walk, Downtown Sedro-Woolley, registration at 8:30 a.m., race starts at 10 a.m.; see ad, p. 16; info at Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce; register at www.databarevents.com/blastofcolor5k
- 13 Concrete Elementary School Science Fair
- 21–22 Lyman Townwide Yard Sales; see notice, p. 18; info at 360.941.3091

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

Community meetings

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Concrete School District Board: The board will hold a workshop on May 28 at 6 p.m., in the high school Commons room. The board will hold its regular monthly meeting on May 30 at 6 p.m., in the high school Commons room. 360.853.4000.

Concrete Town Council meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at Town Hall, 45672 Main St., Concrete, at 6 p.m.

360.853.8401 or andrea@concretewa.gov.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

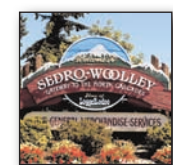
Sedro-Woolley Town Council meets the second and fourth Wed. of each month, at 7 p.m., in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 325 Metcalf St. 360.855.1661.

Sedro-Woolley School District Board: Meets May 13 at 6 p.m. at the Support Svcs Bldg. for a work session. This meeting will be followed by a regular meeting at 7 p.m. in the same location. A second regular meeting is scheduled for May 29 at 7 p.m. at Lyman 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@upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

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



Sedro-Woolley



Sedro-Woolley icon passes

Local musician, teacher, activist, and humanitarian Jerry Sommerseth passed away April 23 after a long illness.

Sommerseth taught in the Sedro-Woolley School District for many years, as well as teaching private music in the county. Jerry's deep commitment to social justice and environmental causes endeared him to many. He was widely known for his one-man weekly protest in front of the Skagit County Courthouse to bring attention to his selected causes.

For more than 30 years, he organized and presented concerts in honor of Beethoven's Dec. 16 birthday, on the closest Sunday to that date. Jerry was able to attract local as well as regional

musicians who appreciated his love of classical music. Attendees scheduled their Christmas activities around the concert and the venue was most often filled to overflowing.

Jerry's long-time friends, Dale and Gail Huggins, supervised his care during the past few years.

"One thing I know, Jerry would never have wanted us to waste time grieving for him," said Dale. "Laughing, singing, remembering good times, and continuing his good work are what Jerry would have wished from us. Remember how he taught us and always gave of himself to help others; gave far more than expected! We could not have had a better example."

—Judy Johnson



Sedro-Woolley musician, teacher, activist, and humanitarian Jerry Somerseth is shown in this Feb. 2017 photo. Sommerseth passed away April 23 after a long illness. Submitted photo.

School District names four Hall of Famers

Sedro-Woolley School District recognized four community members for their contributions during a Community Recognition Ceremony on April 18. Past recipients helped make the final decision about who received recognition in each of the categories: Memorial, Athletic, District, and Community.

Dennis "Wayne" Cole received the Memorial Award. He graduated from Sedro-Woolley High School (SWHS) with the Class of 1966. While a student, he played on the varsity football and baseball teams, in addition to participating in band. Cole earned a football scholarship to Columbia Basin Jr. College and achieved co-champions status that year. He was inducted into the U.S. Army on Feb. 9, 1967, and was deployed to South Vietnam. On Aug. 27, 1967, Cole stepped on a mine and was killed.

Dick Straathof received the Community Award. Straathof moved to Clear Lake during his middle school

years, then graduated from SWHS with the Class of 1968. He worked at Vern Sims Ford starting in 1971 and went on to manage the RV Dept., was promoted to Service Manager in 1980, and retired in 2003. He then started his own contracting business, which he continues today. Straathof and Don Wick started the co-ed softball league in Skagit County, and Straathof was involved with the Skagit Valley Raiders, a semi-pro football team. After a time he hung up his cleats except for officiating high school games until 1995. Dick has worked on many projects in and around the city, and received a Paul Harris fellow award from Rotary.

Cameron Cleland received the Hall of Fame Athletic Award. Cleland was born and raised in Big Lake and graduated with his football career in 2006. Cam is now a morning drive sports talk host as part of the Radio 1080 The Fan "Dusty and Cam in the Morning" in Portland.

Mark Venn received the District Award. Venn was raised on the Venn family dairy farm in the Snoqualmie Valley, graduating from Mount Si High School with the Class of 1968. While in high school, he participated in football, basketball, and



Grace DeVaney of Sedro-Woolley, an eighth grader at Cascade Middle School, spent a week working as a page for the Washington State Senate at the Capitol in Olympia. DeVaney, 14, was one of 20 students who served as Senate pages for the fourteenth week of the 2019 legislative session. DeVaney was sponsored by 39th Legislative District Sen. Keith Wagoner, R-Sedro-Woolley. "We loved having Grace," said Wagoner. "She had a great attitude and did an excellent job as a page."

DeVaney said her favorite thing about being a page was making deliveries and taking in the beautiful buildings at the Capitol. She also enjoyed participating in the mock debate where she was treated as a senator and got to vote on legislation. DeVaney enjoys playing soccer, volleyball, softball, track, wrestling, playing the clarinet for band, and planning various school events as part of ASB. After high school, she plans to pursue a career in law or the medical field. DeVaney is the daughter of James Carson and Kimberly DeVaney of Sedro-Woolley.

The Senate Page Program provides an opportunity for Washington students to spend a week working at the Legislature. Students deliver documents and distribute messages and mail. Pages spend time in the Senate chamber and attend page school to learn about parliamentary procedure and the legislative process. Students draft their own bills and engage in a mock session.

Hall of Fame, cont. from p. 16

first base/right field on the baseball team. He earned 1st Team All-Pac-10 and 2nd Team All American honors, while also earning a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice. Cam was taken as the 40th pick in the 1998 NFL draft, then spent time playing for New Orleans, New England, and the St. Louis Rams, ending his football career in 2006. Cam is now a morning drive sports talk host as part of the Radio 1080 The Fan "Dusty and Cam in the Morning" in Portland.

Mark Venn received the District Award. Venn was raised on the Venn family dairy farm in the Snoqualmie Valley, graduating from Mount Si High School with the Class of 1968. While in high school, he participated in football, basketball, and

track, and was class president. Venn then attended Western Washington State College (now WWU) and earned his bachelor's degree and teaching certificate with majors in history and physical education, and a minor in political science. While at college he played football for four years, receiving many athletic honors. Venn then spent 37 years in education as a teacher, coach, high school assistant principal, CTE director, athletic director, principal, and assistant superintendent ending as superintendent of Sedro-Woolley schools. Venn and his wife Sue continue to live and support the Sedro-Woolley community while enjoying worldwide travel excursions.

—Ruth Richardson

PeaceHealth to open Acute Rehabilitation Center

PeaceHealth United General Medical Center has announced plans to open a new, private room, 10-bed acute rehabilitation center on July 1.

The center will feature physical and occupational therapy, speech and language pathology, as well as nursing and social work to accommodate patients recovering from surgery or those who are medically challenged by an acute injury or illness.

"We are delighted to offer inpatient rehabilitation services to patients in our community," said Chris Johnston, PeaceHealth United General's chief administrative officer. "Patients in need of physical and other therapies after a surgery or stroke will benefit from having

May 2019 • Concrete Herald • 17

these services locally."

The opening of the new unit in PeaceHealth's Sedro-Woolley facility comes after a similar unit closed at PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center in Bellingham in October 2018. The unit transitioned to general medical and surgical beds to meet increasing demand in the Bellingham community. PeaceHealth St. Joseph served more patients last year than in any year in its 126-year history.

"This is an example of the benefit of being part of a system of inter-connected hospitals and clinics," said Johnston. "We are able to better determine how to allocate our resources—both people and facilities—to best meet the needs of our patients in a geographic area."

Therapists who previously worked at the now-closed inpatient rehab unit at PeaceHealth St. Joseph in Bellingham will be given the first opportunity to apply for positions in the new unit in Sedro-Woolley.

—Submitted by PeaceHealth

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Lyman



Council summary

The Lyman Town Council held a regular meeting on March 12. Following is a summary of that meeting. Complete minutes for every council meeting are posted in the hall by the front door of Lyman Town Hall.

March 12 regular meeting

- A public meeting is scheduled for April 9 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the expansion of the cemetery, land trade with Mike and Sandi Rich.
- The water loss report showed a 17 percent loss.
- Councilmember Mike Couch made a

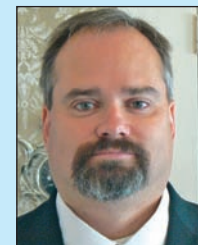
motion to accept the \$2,100 donation from the Lyman Car Show for the Cemsites software.

- Gary Lohman updated the council on his progress in the purchase of parcel P41550. He will need to ask council for a variance regarding the entrance to the property, and Town of Lyman would require an easement for access from him. Mayor Eddie Hills asked for the geological report from Geotech.
- Kai from Western Systems was present to speak to the council regarding the traffic signs they are considering.

—Compiled from staff notes

From the Mayor

The Lyman Car Show has donated a new commercial push mower to the Town of Lyman. Hopefully this will cut down on the amount of weedeating we need to do in tight areas.



The mower is a commercial-grade Honda

with a value of \$1,200. Town of Lyman thanks the car show for the donation; it will be put to good use.

The Prevedell Rd. project is near its end. Prevedell was paved on April 22, with the guardrail soon to follow, weather depending. With a little cooperation from Mother Nature, the road will be open soon.

We are working on reseeding the park in Lyman, and we're doing some seed work in the cemetery as well.

—Mayor Eddie Hills

On the Lyman calendar

May and June are shaping up to be busy months for Lyman and surrounding communities.

Lyman Historical Committee

Lyman Historical Committee meets the first Thursday of every month at Lyman Town Hall, 8405 S. Main St., at 6 p.m. The committee is looking for new members who wish to help preserve the history of Lyman. The committee meets a few times a year with local elementary students to teach about how things used to be decades ago, to make homemade cider, and more.

This month's meeting will be Thur., May 2. For more information about the group or its upcoming events, contact Linda Mani at 360.826.4175.

Mommy/Son Dinner & Dance

Lyman-based Heart to Heart Charity will host a Mommy/Son Dinner & Dance fundraiser for the charity on Sat., May 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Nate Beasley building on W. 3rd St. in Lyman (behind the Fire Dept.). A live DJ, free 4x6 professional photographs, a three-course meal, and a raffle are among the items on the program. Tickets are \$25 per couple (mom and son) and \$5 per

additional sons. For tickets/info, contact hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com. Early ticket purchases are recommended.

Heart to Heart Charity is available to help low-income families. Anyone in need of assistance is encouraged to fill out an assistance request form, obtained by e-mailing hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com. The charity can help with food, baby items, blankets, and more. Watch the charity's Facebook page for ways to help and upcoming events. Heart to Heart Charity can be found online at www.facebook.com/hearttoheartcharity.

Historical field trip

Lyman Historical Committee will host Lyman Elementary 4th grade class on May 29 at the Town Hall (Minkler Mansion) to experience a day in the life of people who lived here 100 years ago. Lyman Historical Committee members will show students old-time appliances used, and going through a typical day of a housewife 100 years ago, such as churning butter, washing clothes with a wringer, and what daily chores looked like. Students will get to learn about how much things have changed during the last century. This is wonderful opportunity for the kids to learn up close and see items that were once used daily, but are not antiques.

Lyman Community Townwide Yard Sale

The Lyman Community Townwide Yard

Sales will be Fri. and Sat. June 21–22. Sale times vary, but most are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a yearly event organized by Patty Cook. Contact Patty Cook at 360.941.3091 for more information or to let her know your address if you are having a sale.

Lyman Historical Committee will be having a yard sale during the townwide sale from June 21–22 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Town Hall, 8405 S. Main St. They are seeking donations of sellable items for this fundraiser sale. No broken or unusable items will be accepted, nor will items with missing parts. For more information or to donate, call 360.826.4175.

—Tammie Werner

NEW library hours

The Free Library in Lyman is no longer open on Wednesday.

The new hours are Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m.

The Legislature's 2019 hits and misses

By Emma Epperly
WNPA Olympia News Bureau

Editor's note: This is a summary of some of the legislation considered or passed this session. For more information on the bills being signed into law during the coming weeks, go to <https://www.governor.wa.gov/office-governor/official-actions/bill-action>.

The 2019 legislative session began Jan. 14 and was scheduled to end on April 28, if the operation, transportation, and capital budget all pass the Legislature and are signed by Gov. Jay Inslee.

Key issues this session have ranged from requiring vaccines to school funding, gun control, behavioral health, reducing the rape kit backlog, and a host of other issues.

Gov. Inslee made waves this session by declaring his run for President on March 1. The campaign took Inslee to the East Coast frequently during the session, where he appeared on talk shows and his own CNN Town Hall in April. His absence from the state during the legislative session and increased security costs have drawn criticism.

While budgets and taxes loom, the policy changes that are encompassed in the 2,641 proposed bills this session are vast. Here are some of the key issues passed or left behind this session, with some fun ones thrown in.

Tobacco 21

It will be illegal to purchase tobacco if you are under the age of 21, effective Jan. 1, 2020. Gov. Inslee signed into law on April 5 the bill brought forward at the request of the attorney general. Federally recognized tribes and their lands fall under federal law, which stipulates the minimum age to purchase tobacco is 18. Therefore, it will be legal on tribal lands in Washington for those 18 to 20 to purchase tobacco products. Legislators cited the dramatic reduction in odds that individuals will pick up the habit of smoking after the age of 21 as the reason they strongly support the bill.

Rape kit backlog

A bill to reduce the sexual assault kit backlog passed the Legislature in two

unanimous votes, with Gov. Inslee signing it into law on April 23. A sexual assault kit is physical evidence collected from a victim after the assault. With some kits remaining untested for more than a decade, the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab currently can test only 213 kits per month, with a backlog of around 10,000 kits. The bill includes a victim's bill of rights, money to hire additional lab technicians, and new timelines for future rape kit testing. The legislation had an emergency clause and became effective on April 23.

Statute of limitations on sex crimes

There will be no statute of limitations for most sex crimes against minors, and an extended statute of limitations for rape, under legislation signed into law by Gov. Inslee on April 19. The statute of limitations is the length of time after a crime is committed that legal action or prosecution can be taken. The legislation also changes the burden of proof for consent to the defendant for the charge of rape in the third degree. Previously, the victim had to prove they had not consented. The bill received broad bipartisan support in both chambers.

Hate crimes

Newly named hate crime offenses would let courts infer the offense was due to the perception of the victim's association with a protected class, unless evidence suggests otherwise. The legislation would also create a multidisciplinary Hate Crime Advisory Working Group under the attorney general. The group would work to raise awareness of hate crimes and recommend best practices for prevention, increasing reporting and identification of such crimes, support for victims, and for strengthening law enforcement and prosecution of these offenses. Washington was the No. 2 state in the nation in 2017 for the number of hate crimes reported.

UW Med School Behavioral Health

A behavioral health innovation and integration campus in the University of Washington School of Medicine was established with a series of unanimous votes by the Legislature. The campus

See [Legislature](#), p. 22



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Lucille Mitchell (representing her late brother Dennis "Wayne" Cole), Mark Venn, Cameron Cleeland, and Dick Straathoff were recognized by the Sedro-Woolley School District during the annual Community Recognition Ceremony on April 18. See story, p. 16. Photo by Ruth Richardson.



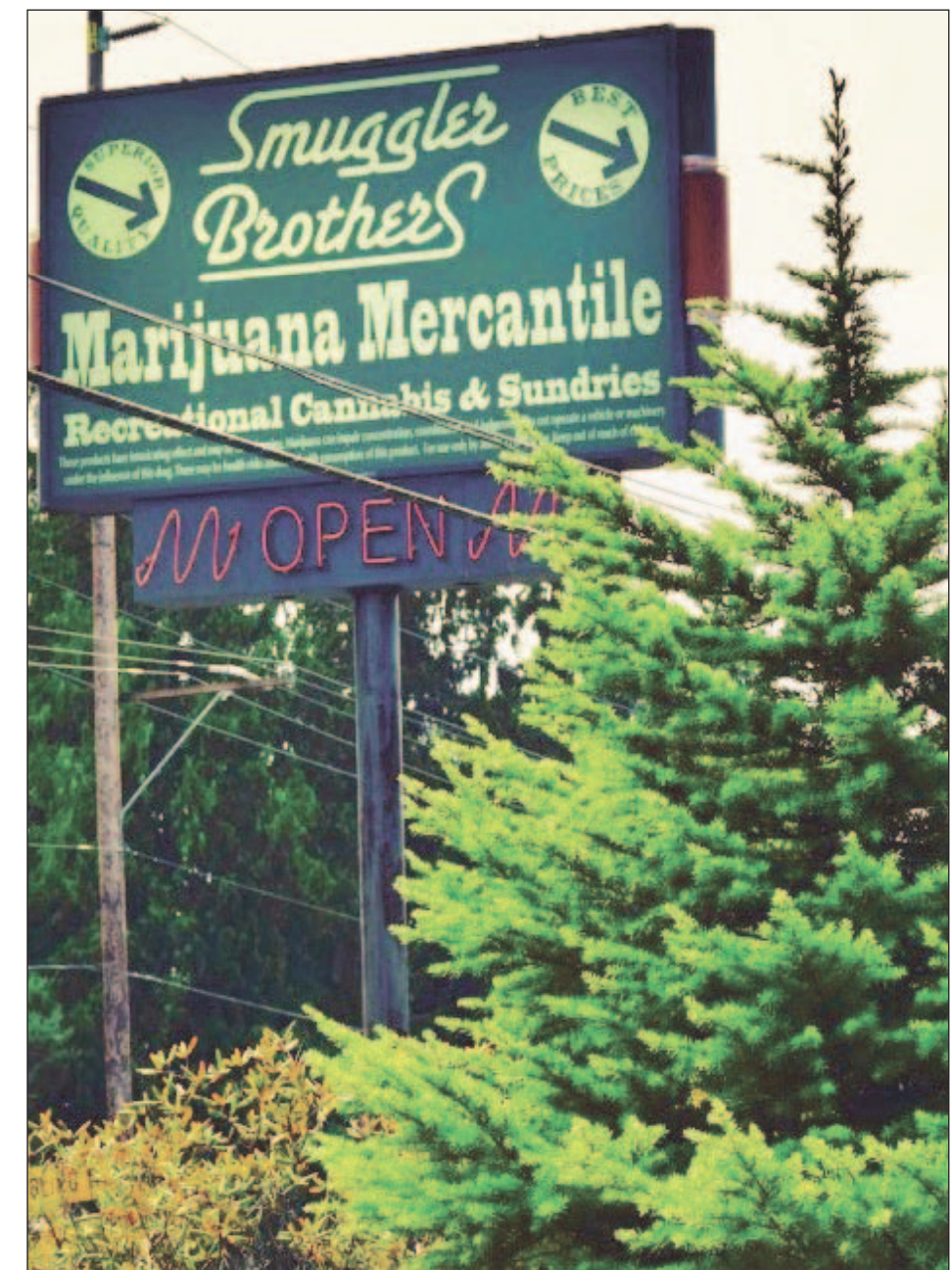
Devante Acuna of Sedro-Woolley, an eighth grader at Immaculate Conception Regional School, spent a week working as a page for the Washington State Senate at the Capitol in Olympia. Acuna, 14, was one of 21 students who served as Senate pages for the eleventh week of the 2019 legislative session. Acuna was sponsored by 39th Legislative District Sen. Keith Wagoner, R-Sedro-Woolley. "I first met Devonte while doorbelling my constituents in the beautiful town of Concrete," said Wagoner. "What a great surprise to have him as one of my first pages. The Senate Page Program is an excellent opportunity for students from all over the state to come to Olympia and learn more about their state government. I am so glad Devonte was able to participate in this program and it was my pleasure to sponsor him."

Acuna said his favorite thing about being a page was participating in the mock debate. He also enjoyed learning how to make a bill. Acuna plans to pursue a career in engineering. Acuna is the son of Jose and Shelley Acuna of Sedro-Woolley. Submitted photo.

April in pictures



Employees from the Concrete branch of Columbia Bank spearheaded a work day with locals and likeminded volunteers at the Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete on April 20. From left, Heather Haj, Sarah Newman (kneeling), Leslie Benjamin (pink hat), Branch Manager Lynette Gentry, Gladys Silrus, Debbie Hill, Oden Marical, Allen Silrus, Nicolette Fournier, Concrete Farm to School Program Coordinator Rachel Muia, community garden co-manager Beth Easterday.



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Hamilton



Rockport



From the Mayor

Thanks to everyone who came out for the Egg Hunt. We had about 35 kids who scrambled for lots of eggs. We appreciate all the donations and volunteer hours it takes to put this on every year. Ideas have been floated of doing a barbeque with the water balloon battle sometime this summer.

We had about 25 homes utilize the town dumpsters. Thanks to Chris Harris, Tom, Beth, and Joan for picking up garbage. Those dumpsters filled up quickly! Now that those properties have less garbage, please consider getting an account with Waste Management. It's around \$16 a month for a can of garbage once a week. They bill on a quarterly basis. Your neighbors shouldn't have to pay the consequence of you not taking care of your property.

Soapbox moment: There always seems to be people who comment when we point out that certain things are illegal that either 1. we don't want anyone to have fun, because this has always happened and as long as no one gets hurt, who cares; or 2. but we won't do anything about "the tweakers."

I appreciate that everyone defines "fun" differently. If you are having fun on your property and not affecting your neighbors, there's no reason for anyone



to notice. Using the main street of town as a drag strip for quads and motor bikes is going to get noticed. It's not just your property, it's affecting neighbors that can't hear any inside conversation over the noise, and it's dangerous for you and others, particularly when you don't have a helmet. If you want to use the "we've always done that" argument, please feel free to also do other things that people "have always done," like using lead paint and riding in the back of a pickup.

Loose dogs fall into the same category: I'm not going to steal your dog if it's contained on your property. If it's running loose, I might pick it up and if I can't find an owner I'll take it to the shelter. If your neighbor deals with your dog on his property, I suggest you learn to keep your dog contained.

What would you like us to do about "the tweakers?" We can't go on private property and prevent people from using drugs, no more than we can prevent people from getting drunk or gambling. We aren't responsible for your personal behavior. If they are doing something illegal, like stealing or dealing, please call the Sheriff. The only way we as a community can have an effect is to report illegal activity when we see it. If you aren't willing to call it in, you're enabling the behavior. We've worked really hard to clean up town, and we all know there is one property that is an issue. It's still in a bit of ownership limbo, but as soon as that gets cleared up, the property will be too.

—Mayor Joan Cromley

Legislature, cont. from p. 19

will include 150 beds and will focus on inpatient and outpatient care for individuals with behavioral health needs, with the goal of training the future behavioral health workforce, as a teaching facility. The project is estimated to cost \$225 million, with funding expected to be included in the Legislature's final budget. Gov. Inslee is expected to sign the bill into law.

Daylight saving

Legislation to move Washington to year-round daylight saving time is headed to Gov. Inslee's desk. The legislation passed both chambers in bipartisan votes, and states like California and Oregon are considering similar legislation. The state must have approval from the U.S. Congress to actually make the switch.

Composting human remains

The Legislature passed a bill that would add being turned to garden compost to a selection of ways to dispose of the deceased. Effective in May 2020, funeral directors will be allowed to compost human remains if requested.

School lockdowns

When a school experiences a situation that requires a lockdown, the first-responder agency involved now must determine if other schools in the vicinity, including private schools, are threatened. The agency is required under this new law to notify all known nearby schools if they deem there is reason for a lockdown or evacuation.

Vaccines

After a measles outbreak earlier this year in Clark County, legislators proposed various legislation to remove the personal exemption to vaccines. The legislature passed a bill to remove the personal exemption to the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine, while leaving both the religious and medical exemptions intact.

Firearm seizure

Law enforcement officers will seize all firearms and ammunition from a home

when a domestic violence offense has occurred, including guns believed to be used in commission of the offense, as well as any other guns in sight or discovered during a lawful search. The guns will be held for a cooling-off period of five days, after which the owner can follow the pre-existing process to obtain their firearms.

Hydrogen fuel

In addition to biodiesel- and ethanol-based fuels, Public Utility Districts will now be allowed to produce and sell renewable hydrogen as a fuel source.

Clean energy

A sweeping clean energy bill will require all utility companies in the state to provide 100 percent clean and renewable energy by 2045. Starting in 2026, all electric utilities in Washington will be required to eliminate coal-fired sources of electricity. And by 2030, all electricity sold to utility customers must be greenhouse-gas neutral. Gov. Inslee has been a proponent of this legislation.

Orca protection

A law recommended by the Governor's Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force makes it illegal for boat traffic to come within 300 feet of an orca and also establishes annual fees for whale watching enterprises, ranging from \$125 for a single kayak to \$2,825 for large motorized whale-watching tour boats.

Agricultural guest workers

A new office of Agricultural and Seasonal Workforce Services is established in the state government, to process applications and complaints and to conduct "field checks" of agricultural employers who hire foreign workers holding H-2A visas. The fiscal note on the program estimates it would cost around \$3.5 million biennially to support about 14 state jobs.

Eyeball tattoos

Scleral tattooing is the process of scarring or inserting pigment into the human eye, typically the white of the eye. The legislature voted to make the practice

Hundreds of lowland lakes opened April 27

Trout fishing in Washington reached full speed April 27, when hundreds of lowland lakes — stocked with millions of fish — opened for a six-month season.

To prepare for the opener, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) fish hatchery crews have been stocking more than 14 million trout and kokanee in lakes statewide.

April 27 also marks the start of WDFW's annual lowland lakes fishing

derby, which runs through Oct. 31.

Anglers who catch one of 1,000 blue-tagged trout can claim prizes provided by license dealers and other sponsors located across the state. The total value of prizes is more than \$39,000. For a list of lakes with prize fish and details on how to claim awards, go to <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/home/fishingderby>.

To participate in the opener and the derby, Washington anglers must have an annual freshwater, combination, or Fish Washington fishing license valid through March 31, 2020.

—WDFW

Legislature, cont. from p. 22

illegal in Washington. Indiana and Canada have already banned the procedure.

Election paid postage

Washington has been a vote-by-mail state since 2011, and starting July 1, state law will require the state to pick up the tab for mailing back voted ballots. All ballots for primary and general elections will come with return envelopes with prepaid postage. The goal of this legislation is to reduce the election cost to counties and reduce monetary impediments to voting. Gov. Inslee is expected to sign the bill into law in the near future.

Stripper safety bill

Requires adult entertainers to be licensed and trained, and requires establishments to provide a panic button for performers and to ban abusive customers for three years. The legislation will also create an adult entertainer advisory committee in the Department of Labor and Industries once it's signed by Gov. Inslee.

Dog breed profiling

Effective Jan. 1, it will be illegal for municipal governments to ban certain dogs based solely on their breeds, unless a reasonable exemption process, such as making exceptions for canine graduates of the American Kennel Club "Good Citizen Program," is in place. Gov. Inslee is expected to sign the bill into law in the near future.

Legislative Losers

Death penalty

A proposal to strike the death penalty from Washington state law and replace it with mandatory life in prison without possibility of parole did not survive. Nevertheless, there has been a moratorium on the death penalty since 2014 and the last execution was conducted in 2010. Attorney General Bob Ferguson pointed to the House leadership's unwillingness to bring the legislation up for a vote as the reason the measure did not pass this session.

Sex education

The Washington Senate passed a comprehensive K-12 sex education bill on Feb. 27 in a party-line vote. The bill would have required public schools to teach medically and scientifically accurate, comprehensive sexual health education at an age-appropriate level, with curriculums approved by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The bill never came up for a vote in the House of Representatives.

Dwarf tossing

Entertainment venues featuring dwarf tossing or dwarf bowling were not outlawed this session, though a bill aimed at preventing injuries of small-statured people was introduced.

Sandy Stokes contributed to this report.

State Parks announces free days

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission again offered 12 free days this year, in which day-use visitors won't need a Discover Pass to visit state parks by vehicle. In the Concrete Herald coverage area, the free days program affects Rasar State Park in Birdview and Rockport State Park near Rockport.

The remaining 2019 State Parks free days are:

- June 1, 8, 9
- Aug. 25
- Sept. 28
- Nov. 11, 29

State Parks, in coordination with WDFW, will once again offer a free day

on Sun., June 9, as part of WDFW's Free Fishing Weekend. This day, combined with the June 8 free day for National Get Outdoors Day, will give visitors an entire weekend to explore state parks for free.

State Parks free days are in keeping with 2011 legislation that created the Discover Pass, which costs \$30 annually or \$10 for a one-day visit. The pass is required for vehicle access to state recreation lands managed by Washington State Parks, WDFW, and the Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR). The Discover Pass legislation directed State Parks to designate up to 12 free days when the pass would not be required to visit state parks. The free days apply only at state parks; the Discover Pass is still required on WDFW and DNR lands.

For more information about the Discover Pass, go to www.discoverpass.wa.gov. Find a park here: <http://parks.state.wa.us/281/find-a-park>.

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Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

March 31

The body of the 28-year-old Everett woman who fell over the falls at Cedar Ponds the evening of March 30 was recovered today. Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (SAR) volunteers and deputies, as well as Gold Bar Fire, responded to Cedar Ponds Rd. just before midnight on Saturday to reports of an adult female who slipped and fell into the water. Deputies on scene located the female, but were unable to recover her body at that time because of dangerous conditions. At 7:30 a.m. on Sunday, SAR units recovered the woman's body from the water. She was transported to the roadway, where the Snohomish County Medical Examiner took custody of the body. The Medical Examiner will provide positive identification, as well as determine the cause and manner of death.

More than 35 SAR volunteers participated in the search and recovery.

Last year, a 22-year-old Monroe woman drowned at this same location and it took 10 days for SAR teams to recover the body. The Sheriff's Office responded to at least five drowning deaths in 2018.

Currents are swift in Snohomish County creeks and rivers and water temperatures are around 45 degrees. Consider the following safety tips before exploring our county's waterways:

- Always wear a life jacket when you are on the water. Never go near moving water without one.
- Beach logs, river banks, and rocks near the shore are usually slippery. A fall can knock you unconscious and prevent you from being able to save yourself.
- Consider bringing a whistle. If you are in trouble, it could help alert nearby people.
- Keep kids within arm's reach. Drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children ages 14 and under.

- Don't dive in. Two-thirds of catastrophic neck injuries occur in open water and the sea.

April 1

Snohomish County Sheriff's Office detectives seek the public's help locating 32-year-old Sophia Pirie of Snohomish, who has not been heard from since March 4. It is believed Sophia was seen briefly at the Tulalip Resort Casino on March 18.



Sophia Pirie

Both vehicles associated with Sophia have been impounded by police in the last two weeks. One vehicle was located in Tulalip and the second vehicle was located in Federal Way. It is unknown what connections Sophia has to the Federal Way area.

Family members are concerned because it is unusual for Pirie to be out of contact for such a long period of time. Pirie has brown hair, is 5'8" tall and weighs approximately 130 lbs.

Anyone with information about Sophia or her whereabouts is asked to call 911.

April 11

The Sheriff's Office has recovered the body of a missing man off of SR 530 east of Arlington. Around 2:30 p.m. today, the body was discovered by someone doing work in the area near the 30500 block of SR 530. The decedent is believed to be a male in his 60s who was reported missing to another local law enforcement agency in March. At this time, the death does not appear to be suspicious, but is being investigated by detectives with the Major Crimes Unit.

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

—Submitted by SCSO

Sauk-Suiattle tribe opens museum

The Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, located northeast of Darrington, has opened a museum that features artifacts and handmade items of the tribes' past work. The tribe has set up the museum in the building once inhabited by the Jehovah's Witnesses Church, 44211 SR 530 NE, just west of Darrington. The building currently houses the Cultural Center and features classes in basket weaving.

Slobodan Mitrovic has been chosen as the museum manager. Born in Yugoslavia and raised in Serbia, Mitrovic, an archeologist, has traveled the world studying artifacts from ancient cultures including The Balkans and the Middle East. He hopes visitors will enjoy the museum pieces, including baskets, miniature canoe replicas, a collection of mortar and pestles for grinding, jewelry,

and pipes.

Norma Joseph, Director of the tribe's Cultural Resource Center, had envisioned opening a museum for quite some time, and with a grant from the American Institute for Conservation has been able to fund the project.

The museum is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The tribe and Town of Darrington are working together to combine histories and develop a museum in the town itself that would be a display of artifacts from both cultures, including tribal pieces, logging tools, and mining equipment. A board has been formed, which includes Scott Morris, president of the Darrington Historical Society.

—Marla Skaglund

Council summary

Darrington Town Council met for regular meetings on March 28, 2019. The following is summaries of those meetings. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at Darrington Town Hall.

March 28 regular meeting

- Joanne Milton proposed to do a Poker Run for the street fair during Darrington Day. Red Top Tavern and Rivertime will help facilitate the run, with a street dance in the evening from 3 to 10 p.m. Red Top and Rivertime will help sponsor it. There will be raffles and prizes, and Red Top will have prizes for the different poker hands. Milton asked for permission from the Town Council to move forward with the Poker Run. The proceeds from the fundraiser will go to the Oso Slide Memorial fund. Council agreed that this falls under Darrington Day and street fair activities that have been approved thus far.
- Council approved drawing pickleball lines on the tennis courts at Old School Park. Public Works would like to look into paint vs. adhesive tape for the lines. (Pickleball is a combination of tennis, table tennis, and badminton. It is quite popular.)
- Council voted to approve the Pyro Spectacular fireworks display contract. Research revealed that a motion or resolution would need to be made to allow the town to host its fireworks display after July 4. The town will research its next steps.
- Council voted to approve a surplus list composed of a yellow dump truck, 10 sticks of 24-inch pipe, and a pallet of old meter boxes and lids.
- A draft letter of support for the Darrington Internet Users Association and their wish to partner with other public entities to facilitate the success of the DIUA program was discussed.

The DIUA's goal is to bring better internet to Darrington. Its members would like to help the public safety personnel's operations, especially during weather-related issues. They would like to bring in Internet

wirelessly. To do this, they would need to put radios high enough to bring it all the way down the valley to Darrington. The letter of support would show that Town of Darrington supports the efforts to provide its citizens with better and more affordable Internet.

DIUA has offered to provide a template letter draft for the council to review. Council decided to postpone this discussion until councilmembers have had a chance to review the draft letter.

DIUA members would maintain this project once it is up and running. Darrington School District Business Manager Mckenzie Boyd spoke to council about the capital projects levy the school is proposing. This levy is not for day-to-day expenses, but for large projects that the school needs to fund, such as districtwide security, a new metal roof on the elementary school, a new fire alarm system, and updated HVAC systems. This is a four-year levy at \$350,000 per year. It is timed to replace the district's current bond, which expires in 2019. Taxpayers would not see an increase because it would be the same cost as the bond that is expiring. There would be no overlap between the current bond and the new bond. The current bond will expire in 2019 and the new one would start in 2020. If the school was able to replace the elementary school roof, they would be able to look into installing solar panels.

Fire Dept.: There were several calls during the snow that were weather related. There was a gas leak that they were able to get ahead of before there was significant damage. The Fire Dept. is currently working with the Concrete Paramedics to see if there were areas where they would be able to help on calls vs. having Arlington come out. There is a recruitment grant for which the department has applied.

—Compiled from staff minutes

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

Personal objection will no longer exempt children from school vaccinations

By Emma Epperly
WNPA Olympia News Bureau

The Washington House of Representatives concurred with Senate amendments on April 23 that remove the personal exemption to the measles vaccine and sent the legislation to Gov. Jay Inslee, who is expected to sign the bill into law.

In the House concurrence floor vote, Rep. Vickie Kraft, R-Vancouver, said "this just essentially forces more vaccinations on students that may not need it."

Rep. Michelle Caldier, R-Port Orchard, encouraged the House not to concur because she said it "sets a precedence" for the majority and the Senate to remove amendments that had previously been negotiated.

Ultimately, the House concurred with a 56-40 vote.

In a late night party-line vote, the Washington Senate approved the removal of the personal exemption for the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine on April 18.

Senate Republicans used parliamentary stalling techniques the evening of the vote in hopes the bill would not be read into the record before the 5 p.m. deadline to pass bills from the other chamber. Lt. Gov. Cyrus Habib believed enough of the bill had been read into the record and the proceedings continued with 18 proposed amendments.

None of the floor amendments passed. However, the bill did narrowly pass in a

25-22 vote.

"I don't know of any minority that hasn't used a number of tools at their disposal in the final hours," said Senate Minority Leader Mark Schoesler, R-Ritzville, of the attempt to kill the bill.

Currently there is a measles outbreak in Clark County, with 73 confirmed cases. In January, Gov. Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency in response to the outbreak. Measles was declared eradicated in the United States in 2000; however, 555 cases have been reported in 2019 nationwide.

Children in Washington are required to have the MMR vaccine to attend a school or daycare center. Parents must provide proof of full immunization or documentation of an exemption. Under this new legislation, religious and medical exemptions are still valid, but those who previously had a personal exemption would be required to vaccinate their children.

One of the goals of the legislation is to reach "herd immunity," which occurs when a large percentage of the community is vaccinated, making it more difficult for those who medically cannot have the vaccine to get the disease, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

According to the Department of Health, full immunization includes vaccines for chickenpox, diphtheria, measles, German measles, haemophilus influenzae type B disease, hepatitis B, mumps,

See Vaccinations, p. 38



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Marblemount



Newhalem



County extends comment period for quarry proposal

The Skagit County Planning Dept. has extended the comment period for the proposed Kiewit quarry project to May 13 at 4:30 p.m.

According to application documents filed with the Skagit County Planning Dept. on Jan. 22, Vancouver, Wash.-based Kiewit Infrastructure Co. proposes to expand an existing 20-acre quarry to an approximately 79-acre operation. The proposal will remove approximately 3.8 million cubic yards of quarry stone during a projected 100-year period, to supply local demand and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) with rock suitable for construction and repair of marine jetties along the west coast of Washington and Oregon. The rock at the site meets the USACE density criteria.

Marblemount Community Hall was filled to capacity during a public meeting on April 11, when area residents gathered to discuss the proposal.

As of the original deadline, March 29, 672 anti-quarry comments, letters, and e-mails had been received by the county, with only two stating they were in favor. Kiewit has stated that the 25 positions expected to work the quarry will be existing union employees.

Blast Open the Pass kicks off May

This month begins with a blast. The annual KSVU fundraiser, **Blast Open the Pass**, begins with the traditional, all-ages Maypole Dance at 5:30, continues with a potluck at 6 p.m., and concludes with live music courtesy of Jumbled Pie and Undecided, and dancing till 10 p.m. A raffle and a silent auction also are planned.

Donations at the door are as follows: \$8/adult or \$15/couple, \$5/teens (ages 13–19), and kids age 12 and under are free.

For more information or to donate a raffle or auction item, call KSVU at 360.853.8588 and leave a message with your name and phone number.

The community hall's annual meeting is scheduled for May 8 at 6:30 p.m. A dessert potluck, the meeting will include Undersheriff Chad Clark, who will talk to the community. The meeting is open to the public. Board members will vote on three trustees to replace those cycling out of their 3-year terms. They also vote on any matters brought before them. One of the recommendations is that such clubs charge membership fees, so reinstating such a fee will be put before the members present for vote.

The next club-sponsored event will be the main fund-raiser: the salmon barbecue on Aug. 4.

—Merlene Buller



Washington's wolf population increases for 10th straight year

The recovery of Washington's wolf population continued in 2018 as numbers of individual wolves, packs, and successful breeding pairs reached their highest levels since wolves were virtually eliminated from the state in the 1930s.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) on April 4 published its annual year-end report, which shows the state has a minimum of 126 individual wolves, 27 packs, and 15 successful breeding pairs—male and female adults who have raised at least two pups that survived through the end of the year. A year ago, those numbers were 122, 22, and 14, respectively.

In 2018, for the first time, WDFW documented the presence of a pack west of the Cascade Crest. A single male wolf in Skagit County (above photo), captured in 2016 and fitted with a radio collar, has been traveling with a female wolf through

the winter, thereby achieving pack status. Biologists chose the pack's name: Diobsud Creek.

"We're pleased to see our state's wolf population continue to grow and begin to expand to the west side of the Cascades," said WDFW Director Kelly Susewind. "We will continue to work with the public to chart the future management of this important native species."

But news of wolves migrating into western Washington is not being applauded by everyone. Senator Keith Wagoner, R-Sedro-Woolley, said of the announcement, "Speaking to small numbers of 'breeding pairs' belies the actual large number of wolves inhabiting our state, which is well over 100 wolves. Wolves present a threat to farmers, livestock, and pets; they don't go hungry when they cannot find game. I disagree with the thought that these animals moving into Skagit County and breeding is good policy."

"We have already witnessed the havoc wreaked on wild game populations, domestic livestock, and even family pets in eastern Washington and Montana. In addition to the fears for the well-being of our rural residents, I am concerned a further increase in wolves will exacerbate the existing elk problems as they would

Wolves, cont. from p. 26

seek the safer areas on the agricultural valley floor. These are foreseeable outcomes and they do not benefit my constituents."

Information and survey findings are compiled from state, tribal, and federal wildlife specialists based on aerial surveys, remote cameras, wolf tracks, and signals from radio-collared wolves. As in past years, the annual count provides estimates of the minimum numbers of wolves in the state, because it is not possible to count every wolf.

Virtually eliminated from the state by the 1930s, Washington's gray wolf population has rebounded since 2008, when WDFW wildlife managers documented a resident pack in Okanogan County. Most packs occupy land in Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties in the northeast corner of the state, but the survey revealed increasing numbers in Washington's southeast corner and the north-central region.

Although the 2018 annual count showed a modest increase in individual wolves, the upturn in new packs and breeding pairs in those areas set the stage for more growth this year, said Donny Martorello, WDFW wolf policy lead.

"Packs and breeding pairs are the building blocks of population growth," Martorello said. "It's reassuring to see our wolf population occupying more areas of the landscape."

State management of wolves is guided by the department's 2011 Wolf Conservation and Management Plan, which establishes standards for wolf-management actions.

Since 1980, gray wolves have been listed under state law as endangered throughout Washington. In the western two-thirds of the state, they are classified as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

As required for all state-listed species, WDFW is conducting a status review of the state's gray wolf population to evaluate the species' listing status, Martorello said.

"The state's wolf management plan lays out a variety of recovery objectives, but the ultimate determination of a species' listing status is whether it remains at risk

of failing or declining," Martorello said.

The 2018 annual count reflects the net one-year change in Washington's wolf population after accounting for births, deaths, and wolves that have traveled into or out of Washington to form new packs or join existing ones. In 2018, two wolves dispersed, with one forming the Butte Creek pack in southeastern Washington while the other wolf traveled through Oregon down to Idaho.

WDFW also recorded 12 wolf deaths during 2018. Six (6) were legally killed by tribal hunters; four (4) were killed by WDFW in response to repeated wolf-caused livestock deaths; and two (2) other mortalities apparently were caused by humans and remain under investigation.

Ben Maletzke, WDFW statewide wolf specialist, said the 2018 annual report reinforces the profile of wolves as a highly resilient, adaptable species whose members are well suited to Washington's rugged landscape. He said their numbers in Washington have increased by an average of 28 percent per year since 2008.

"Wolves routinely face threats to their survival from humans, other animals, and nature itself," he said. "But despite each year's ups and downs, the population in Washington has grown steadily and probably will keep increasing by expanding their range in the north and south Cascades of Washington."

Maletzke said the 2018 survey documented six packs formed in 2018—Butte Creek, Nason, OPT, Sherman, Diobsud Creek, and Nanuem—while one pack, Five Sisters, disbanded because of unknown causes.

With funding support from state lawmakers, WDFW has steadily increased its efforts to collaborate with livestock producers, conservation groups, and local residents to minimize conflict between wolves and livestock and other domestic animals, Maletzke said.

WDFW used several strategies last year to prevent and minimize conflicts, including cost-sharing agreements with 31 ranchers who worked with WDFW to protect their livestock.

The survey report is posted at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/grav-wolf>

State Route 20 opens

With the swing of the gates, the seasonal stretch of North Cascades Highway/State Route 20 opened at 9 a.m. on April 18 for the 2019 season.

The clearing process

The four-week clearing process began on March 25. Earlier in the week leading up to the opening, WSDOT maintenance crews and avalanche technicians completed preparations by causing controlled snow slides to clear chutes above the road, repaired and replaced guardrail and pavement, and cleared ditches of debris to channel water from melting snow.

While the road is open, there are still signs of winter along the highway. Those planning hiking, camping, or snow activities should prepare for limited

parking until snow melts and should not stop or park in the travel lanes.

For safety, people driving and bicycling should obey highway signs and avoid stopping below snow slide areas such as Liberty Bell Mountain east of Washington Pass. There are limited facilities between Diablo and Mazama, so travelers should come prepared with a stocked emergency kit for the trip. Motorcyclists and bicyclists also should expect sand on the road until temperatures warm.

The North Cascades Highway officially opened in September 1972. The 37-mile scenic by-way travels through Whatcom, Chelan and Okanogan counties, connecting communities in western Washington's Skagit River Valley with the Methow Valley in eastern Washington.

—Submitted by WSDOT

Area Food Banks

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Next to church at 12605 Hwy 9, Clear Lake
For a referral, call Love Inc. at 360.419.7061
between 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Sedro-Woolley
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9386 Fruitdale Rd., Sedro-Woolley
Food Bank open:
Mon. & Wed., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
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See Wolves, p. 27



Seniors

Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure

Chinese Chews



This takes about 15 min. to put together, plus baking time. It's very good!

- ¾ cup flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup dates, cut in small bits
- 1 cup nuts, coarsely chopped
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- Powdered sugar

1. Sift first 4 ingredients into a bowl. Add dates and nuts, mixing well to coat.
2. Add beaten eggs and mix thoroughly. Spread into greased 15 x 10 x 1" pan.
3. Bake at 375 degrees for 20 minutes or until fairly firm.
4. While still warm, cut into bars. Roll in powdered sugar.

Way Back When

100 years ago
May 24, 1919: All doubts regarding the fate of Paul Heskett, a former Concrete boy, were laid to rest this week when John H. Button, who has recently been discharged from the Army, returned to Concrete. Button and young Heskett were in the same company and were fighting side by side in the St. Mihiel drive when the latter met his death on the field of battle.

Heskett, Button, and another private named West were engaged in digging in under machine gun fire during the drive when Heskett was struck in the ankle by a machine gun bullet. He dropped into the shallow trench he had been digging and was comparatively safe if he remained lying down, but in a few minutes he attempted to rise, and as he raised his head above the trench, another bullet struck him in the temple, killing him instantly. As soon as possible,

Button and West went to his assistance and found that he was dead.

Paul, better known as "Bud," Heskett, left Concrete in 1917 as a

member of Company F of the old Second Washington, later the One Hundred and Sixty-first infantry,

See **Way Back**, p. 29



40 years ago, May 3, 1979: Tom Jones of Concrete, left, accepts his prize as second place winner in the Concrete Lions Club Scholarship Fund raffle. Presenting the chain saw is Dave Stewart, secretary of the Lions Club. First prize in the contest, a microwave oven, went to James Wilson. *Archive photo.*

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

and arrived in France in December 1917. Soon after he was transferred to the Twenty-third infantry, of the Second division. Last year reports were received that he had been killed in action.

Concrete Community Center

May 2019 Activities

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

For an Energy Assistance appointment, call 360.428.1011, beginning 8:30 a.m., the first Wednesday of every month.
Enjoy jigsaw puzzles, walking group, games, and more every day.
All subject to change. For latest information, call 360.416.1733.

Monday
All 9 a.m. Edge Analytical water sample pickup
All 10 a.m. Community Closet

Tuesday
5/7 10 a.m. SKAT public meeting
5/14 6 p.m. WSU Water Bath Canning
5/21 10 a.m. Senior Property Tax Exemption

Wednesday
All 10 a.m. Community Closet
All 1 p.m. GED preparation (Res. Ctr.)
5/1 9 a.m. DVSAS

Thursday
All 1 p.m. GED preparation (Res. Ctr.)
5/2 12:30 p.m. Pinochle
5/16 9 a.m. DVSAS
5/16 12:30 p.m. Pinochle

Friday
All 10 a.m. Community Closet
5/17 12:30 p.m. Commissioner Janicki
5/24 10:30 a.m. Community Center Advisory Board

Saturday
All 7 p.m. AA meeting
5/18 9 a.m. Sat. Mkt. pre-opening
5/25 9 a.m. Saturday Market

10 years ago
May 6, 2009: After an 18-year hiatus, *Concrete Herald* resumes a regular publishing schedule as a monthly community newspaper. Spearheading the effort is Jason Miller, a citizen of Concrete with a 21-year track record in the publishing industry. "All the stars aligned for this to happen," said Miller. "Philip Johnson was looking to sell *Upriver Community News* and, as an experienced writer and editor, I believe I'm qualified to revive the *Concrete Herald* and

restore it to its former prominence in eastern Skagit County." In early February, Miller launched a fundraising initiative posted at www.concrete-herald.com. The fundraising effort is ongoing, with \$8,547.75 raised at press time (the goal is \$10,000). The *Concrete Herald* was the second generation of another Skagit County newspaper. F. J. Wilcox launched the *Hamilton Herald* on Nov. 23, 1901, in Hamilton.

—Compiled from archives



50 years ago, May 14, 1969: Snelson Company of Sedro-Woolley completed surfacing of the Concrete Airport—now Mears Field—on Monday of this week. The soil-cement paving was topped off with a seal coat of asphalt, which will require a few days of curing before the strip can be used. The runway has been lengthened and a taxi strip and parking area given a hard surface. *Archive photo.*

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Concrete turns 100

Vol. 52, No. 1 May 2019

By Charles M. Doolittle
and more from...

This story starts with a reminder: a century ago, in 1919, the Concrete Herald was born. It was the first of many newspapers to serve the community, and it has been a constant presence ever since. The paper has grown from a small, hand-printed sheet to a full-fledged publication, reflecting the changes in the community and the world around it. It has been a witness to the growth of Concrete, from a small town to a thriving community. The paper has been a source of information, entertainment, and a sense of community for its readers. It has been a part of the fabric of the town, and it will continue to be for many years to come.

After an 18-year hiatus, the Concrete Herald returns. It is a new chapter in the paper's long history, and it is a testament to the power of community and the importance of a local voice. The paper is excited to be back and to serve the community once again. It is a proud moment for the town, and it is a testament to the enduring spirit of the Concrete Herald.

See Concrete, p. 3

It's baack...
Concrete Herald resumes publishing

After an 18-year hiatus, the Concrete Herald returns. It is a new chapter in the paper's long history, and it is a testament to the power of community and the importance of a local voice. The paper is excited to be back and to serve the community once again. It is a proud moment for the town, and it is a testament to the enduring spirit of the Concrete Herald.

See Concrete, p. 2

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Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

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

free time out of the cell to roam around and get some exercise. For Paul it is being chained to a guard for several hours at a time. Maybe he gets some horrid food to eat or maybe he doesn't.

What do you think the topic of conversation might be if you were chained to the Apostle Paul for any length of time? Notice what he writes: "All the saints send you greetings, especially those who belong to Caesar's household." Now that is funny. Here Nero has thrown him in prison to shut him up. What happens? He simply shares his story with everyone who is chained to him. He doesn't tell us how many conversions there have been. He simply gives his readers, in an unexpected way, the assurance that ministry goes on no matter what.

Most of the time, humor deals with incongruity—something is out of place or absurd. A more sophisticated definition is "A paradoxical state of affairs." So Paul being in prison and yet still carrying on ministry is out of place. It is unexpected. When his initial readers came to that line in his letter, a big smile would cross their face, and joy would be their emotion.

Earlier in that letter (4:4-5), Paul tells us to rejoice in the Lord. Then he gives one example of how one might do that. "Let your gentleness be evident to all."

That word, "gentleness," can be translated "mellowness." He is saying that as we rejoice in the Lord, we become more unflappable by the conditions of the world around us. We don't get rattled, or anxious, or "lose it," where most folks would. One man put it this way: "Humor

is an affirmation of dignity, a declaration of man's superiority to all that befalls him." We are able to rise above our situation because we travel in the joy of our walk with Jesus. That's what enabled Paul to write the Philippian letter from prison, which has come to be known as the Letter of Joy.

Humor isn't negative. Our culture has taken something we are to enjoy and turned it into a negative. Most humor today is often at someone else's expense. Flippancy is what is passed off as humor in our day. That's not the intent of humor. As believers, we need to get a sense of humor. God has one. Look around, go to the zoo, go to the mall; there is great incongruity all around us. As one friend stated it, sure people need the gospel, but maybe they need to have a fun game night at your house first. Why not be fun—or funny, if you can? If you're not naturally funny, then find funny things to share. Remember Paul's strong encouragement: "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice!" Doesn't that way of living draw folks to a person?

May we be the ones who listen and get a sense of humor. Why not? We belong to the King of Comedy.

Bill Mueller preaches at Martha Lake Covenant Church in Lynnwood.

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

Mormon

Concrete Group Meeting
7879 S. Superior Ave., Concrete
(Pilots Lounge at Mears Field)
360.540.7502
2nd and 3rd Sundays each month:
Sacrament mtg., 1 p.m.
Potluck, 2 p.m.

Nondenominational

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

Community Bible Church

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

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.

Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

March 26

The Skagit County Waste Transfer Station in Rockport reported that someone had broken the lock on the front door to the office and carried away the safe. There are no suspects at this time. If you have any information regarding this crime, please contact the Sheriff's Office or Deputy Moore.

The petitioner in a no-contact order called to advise that the respondent in the order was living next door to her in Rockport, in violation of the order that states the respondent is to be at least 500 feet from the petitioner's residence. Deputy Moore was able to contact the

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.

Elms, William Richard

Age: 26
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 6' 3"
Weight: 270
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Address: 8xx Dana
Dr., Sedro-Woolley



Elms was convicted of 3rd-degree child molestation in Skagit County in 2011. His victim was a 14-year-old female who was known to him. Elms also was convicted of unlawful communication with a minor in 2012 in Skagit County. His victim was thought to be a 15-year-old female with whom he communicated via the Internet.

Elms 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

suspect at the reported location and arrest her for violation of the order. She was booked into jail.

A residence in the 57000 block was burlarized and numerous items stolen. The victim discovered the burglary this morning. A back window into the residence had been broken and it appeared the suspects left through the door, which was left open. Computer items and other electronics were taken. Deputy Moore is investigating the burglary.

March 27

A resident in the 45000 block of Limestone St. in Concrete reported that someone had been shooting out the windows on a shed located on the property. There are no suspects, but Deputy Wiggins and Deputy Case are investigating.

March 28

Deputy Devero took a report of a dangerous dog on Gordon Rd. in Concrete. The reporting party advised that the neighbor's dog had come onto his property and attempted to bite him. The victim said that he tried to talk with his neighbors, but they refused to contain the dog. He wanted the Sheriff's Office to document the issue in case the problem continues.

Sgt. Sigman and Deputy Murdock contacted a victim of a domestic violence assault on Hamilton Cemetery Rd. The victim said that she and her husband had been arguing over a dog when he grabbed her by the hair, threw her to the ground, and kneed her twice in the face. The victim's glasses were bent and her face had started to bruise. The suspect said that he had not touched his wife, but she had hit herself in the face several times to make it look like he hit her. After gathering all the available evidence, the suspect was arrested and taken to jail.

March 29

Skagit County Deputies and officers from the Department of Corrections (DOC) attempted to serve a felony DOC warrant in the 46000 block of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. They were able to locate the suspect, who fled on foot. He was quickly apprehended and taken into custody. A subsequent search located a shotgun believed to belong to the suspect. Deputies also located another male hiding in a van. This suspect had warrants for his arrest out of Skagit County. Both suspects were taken to jail.

A resident of Rietze St. in Concrete reported that someone in California was making threats toward him. Deputy Devero contacted the alleged victim, who

advised that his girlfriend is now involved with someone in Oregon and that the person had been texting threats that he will drive up Concrete and beat up the victim. Deputy Devero told the victim to call if the suspect shows up.

March 31

Deputy Devero investigated a reported assault that occurred in the area of South St. in Hamilton. The victim reported that she and her boyfriend had been asleep in bed when someone started pounding on the wall. The victim got up to find the mother of her boyfriend's ex-girlfriend—with whom he had a child—wanting to talk to him. The mother told the victim that her boyfriend—now ex-boyfriend—had been trying to get back together with the mother of his child, and she had come over to get him to take him back to see his former girlfriend. This led to an argument between the victim and the suspect. The suspect, becoming very angry over the discovery of his multiple relationships, picked up several objects and threw them at the victim, hitting her in the face with one. Deputies were able to later contact the suspect at the residence of the former girlfriend with whom he had the child, where he was arrested and taken to jail.

April 1

Responding to a complaint of threats in the area of Cedar Grove, Deputy Devero contacted the suspect who had made the threats. The suspect had a felony warrant for failure to register as a sex offender. While searching the suspect, Deputy Devero found plastic baggies in the suspect's pockets that contained substances he identified as heroin. The suspect later admitted the substances were heroin, which was later confirmed with a field test. The suspect was taken to Skagit County Jail and booked for the warrant and drug possession.

While on his nightly quest to find traffic violators, Deputy Wolfe observed a vehicle with a nonfunctioning license plate light. He stopped the vehicle and contacted the driver and passenger. The driver didn't have a valid license and the passenger had warrants for her arrest. Deputy Wolfe cited the driver for driving with a suspended license, and the passenger was booked on her warrants.

April 3

Logger's Landing in Concrete reported that a group of kids had entered the store and stolen alcohol. A witness

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 33

WANTED

Concrete Volunteer
Fire Dept. needs firefighters!

- Do you have a heart for your community?
- Willing to volunteer?
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[Chief Darrel Reed]

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

What's in a Name—Part 2

In those early years of the 20th century, demand for steel skyrocketed to support the rapid industrial growth across the country and the company in Cement City, Penn., rapidly expanded. Construction of the town started in 1916 with a mix of horse-drawn wagons and motorized vehicles. The homes were two-story, all concrete, and poured one entire floor at a time using a plan similar to a Frank Lloyd Wright design.

The housing project was halted when it was discovered the costs were higher than expected and they couldn't find enough skilled labor. Cement workers had different skills than masons, but there weren't enough trained people in this new profession. The homes were finished off with plaster interior walls, hardwood floors, electric lighting, and gas heat.

Pennsylvania also is the home of the now abandoned Concrete City, built for workers in 1911 by a company that owned railroads and the coal mines necessary to fuel their steam locomotives. This was back in the day when companies were monopolies, owning the entire production of an item from raw materials to finished product. They controlled the entire market and could set unreasonably

high fees. President Teddy Roosevelt enforced anti-trust laws to break up all the major monopolies. During that time the railroad was forced to sell its coal mines, and Concrete City changed hands several times. In its heyday it was almost a utopian community, but only for the English-speaking, upper-class workers. When the local township required a sewer system for the development, the coal company decided to close the community and dynamite it. The initial effort with 100 sticks of dynamite failed, so they simply abandoned it. It still stands, a derelict reminder of the Progressive Era. It's interesting to note that the most prominent person associated with the movement to build affordable, concrete homes for their workers was Thomas Edison, who opened his own cement plant in New Jersey and developed reusable interlocking cast iron molds for casting concrete wall panels.

Thanks to all who supported our successful Good Friday Bake Sale.

Our first open Saturday of the season will be May 25, from noon to 4 p.m. Special tours may be arranged by calling/e-mailing 360.853.8347 (jbogswash@aol.com) or 360.982.0423 (autohistory@hotmail.com).

—John Boggs

Civil Air Patrol

The summer months are coming and so is Civil Air Patrol's Cascade Falcon Encampment at Camp Casey, from June 30 to July 6. Encampment is a week-long activity known to be one of the most meaningful and worthwhile events of a CAP cadet's career. During encampment, cadets are challenged to develop self-discipline, teamwork, and leadership skills, as well as military bearing and expanding on their understanding of aerospace. Every encampment is well supervised with a Senior Member (adult) staff of about 20. Cadets stay in military barracks that sleep up to 40 and they rise before 6 a.m. No technology such as cell phones or computers/tablets is allowed. Wearing their camouflage field uniforms and combat boots, attendees engage in drill practice, aerospace education, learning about search and rescue and first

aid, physical training (PT) that includes an obstacle course, visiting nearby NAS Whidbey Island, and many other valuable experiences that help shape a responsible CAP cadet. After attending encampment, everyone goes back to their squadrons in Washington and Oregon as seasoned Civil Air Patrol cadets with new and valuable skills. They also are eligible to return as cadet leaders for future encampments.

Are you interested in learning more? The Concrete group of Skagit Composite Squadron meets all but the first Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. at Concrete High School; the Burlington group meets at Skagit Regional Airport, Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Come check us out! E-mail inquiries can be sent 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

Thank you all for participating in **National Poetry Month**. We had our staff and patrons, as well as other libraries' staff and patrons, participate by submitting their blackout poetry to be displayed in the library and on our social media. We also had fun at our **Magazine Cut-out Poetry** class; thank you ladies for joining us. And a big thank you to local poets Andrea Weiser and Jude Dippold for visiting the library and sharing their wonderful poetry.

Thank you to those of you who participated in our **Spring Break Scavenger Hunt**. Congrats to winner Tina Warren for her awesome pictures!

Drop-in Computer Tutoring continues. In May we are adding an extra day for you to come to us with computer, smartphone, and tablet questions. On the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays in May, stop by between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., and Tess and Chazlyn will help you however they can.

Storytime is reaching its final month until it starts up again in October. On the 2nd and 4th Saturdays in May, families are welcome to join us for stories and a simple craft.

Upper Skagit Library Board monthly meeting is Thur., May 9 at 6 p.m. The public is always welcome.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our latest **survey on Library services**. We value your voices and continue to strive to advocate for what our patrons tell us they want and need.

May is **National Photography Month**, and the Upper Skagit Library is

celebrating with a Photography Contest. There will be three age groups and three categories from which to choose. The contest runs from May 1 to 31. A public judging will be held from June 1 to 14, with the winner announced on June 15. There will be prizes for the winners in each age group and in each category.

Join Chazlyn for a **"Photo Walk"** on Sun., May 19 at 1 p.m.—just in time to take photos for the contest. You will walk Main St. to include the Thompson Bridge and the silos. Bring whatever device you would like to take pictures, and meet in front of the library for a fun adventure.

Don't forget, you now have access to **Lynda.com** and thousands of free educational courses, as well as **Kanopy.com**, which gives you access to thousands of movies. Come by the library or visit our Web site for more details.

As most of you know, our beloved Director **Brooke Pederson** has accepted a job with the Whatcom County Library System on Lummi Island. She began work on April 24, but she will continue to help the Upper Skagit Library with the transition to the new building. We are grateful for her continued caring for our community.

Come by the library to find information about May events, and check out the new books, audiobooks, and DVDs. You can also find us at www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us or find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Pinterest.

—Tess Carroll, Library Associate

May at the Darrington Library

Children & Families

- Family Storytime, Wednesdays, May 1–29; 11 a.m.; all ages welcome; caregiver required.
- LEGO Club, Wed., May 8, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Tweens & Teens

- Tween Steam Club: Robot Garage with the Museum of Flight, Mon., May 6; 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- DIY Bathbombs, Fri., May 10; 3:30 p.m.
- Tween Steam 3-D Printer Pens: Like a glue gun, but way more fun! Sat., May 18, 2 p.m.; ages 8–12.

- Tween Steam Club: Blast Off! with the Pacific Science Center (rockets), Mon., May 20; 3:30 p.m.; limited space.

Adults

- Darrington Book Group Book Discussion: *The 100 Year Miracle*, by Ashley Ream, Fri., May 3, 4:30 p.m.

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

—Asheley Bryson, branch manager

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

was able to stop the suspect and detain her until Deputy Murdock arrived. After interviewing the suspect, Deputy Murdock referred the suspect for minor in possession of alcohol, and 3rd-degree theft. Because the suspect was determined to be a minor, it was decided that she would be recommended for the Citation Education Program for the minor in possession of alcohol charge. This program allows the suspect to go through an education program on alcohol in lieu of criminal charges.

April 4

After being evicted from the residence where he was living, a renter decided to take property belonging to his landlord. Deputies Slack and Wiggins are investigating the theft to determine how much property was stolen. The investigation is ongoing.

During the midafternoon, deputies received a call of threats being made at a residence on the Cascade River Rd. near Marblemount. When deputies arrived

they interviewed the victims. The victims told Deputy Moore that a local male had become infatuated with their daughter. He started stalking her for the last few years and it has become worse during the last few months. The suspect, who appears to have some mental issues, believes that he needs to protect the daughter from her parents. Earlier the suspect walked onto the victims' property and started to threaten both of them. The victim armed himself while his wife called 911. He told the suspect he was calling 911 and to leave his property. The suspect told him that he wasn't afraid and he would kill both of them. Deputy Esskew located the suspect down the road. He took him into custody and booked him into Skagit County Jail for felony threats.

April 5

Deputy Moore received information that a citizen had found a message on his Facebook page that said someone had heard that there was a body jammed under a log jam at the Jackman Creek Bridge. Deputy Moore checked and was unable to locate either the logjam or body.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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money on Main St in Concrete. The person who lent the money was trying to get the other person to pay it back. The argument got heated and threats were made by both parties. Deputies investigated and determined that no crime had been committed.

Patrolling the area of Cabin Creek in Hamilton, Deputy Devero stopped a vehicle for expired vehicle license. The driver had a felony warrant out of Skagit County. Deputy Devero arrested the driver and took her to jail. A few days later after getting out of jail, the same driver fled from a traffic stop in Clear Lake and was eventually stopped on Minkler Rd. after ramming a Sedro-Woolley patrol car. She was arrested and taken to jail. Washington State Patrol (WSP) investigated the incident.

April 10

Deputy Murdock stopped a vehicle for doing 67 mph in a 50 mph zone on Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. The driver advised Deputy Murdock that his driver's

See **Sheriff's Blotter**, p. 35

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Out & About



State

Ferry terminals under increased scrutiny during summer months

Washington State Patrol Homeland Security Division is reminding passengers and communities near ferry terminals of the expected increase in foot, bicycle, and vehicle traffic at and near the Washington State Ferry (WSF) terminals throughout the Puget Sound Region. "It is extremely important that everyone work together in order to make the approach to, and passage through, WSF terminals throughout the region as safe as possible," the agency said in a May press release.

Troopers will be present at WSF terminals throughout the region in order to increase the safety of passengers sailing aboard WSF vessels. Security measures will include explosive detection K9 screenings of vehicles and facilities, as well as trooper presence onboard vessels and at terminals. If suspicious activity is observed, the public is urged to notify WSP troopers, WSP personnel, or call 911.

Troopers will also assist with traffic control and work with our local and state partners to make the flow of traffic as smooth as possible. Be mindful of signs noting where ferry lines form and whether the tally system at the Kingston Ferry Terminal is active.

Traffic condition updates and ferry terminal status can be viewed in real time on the WSDOT app or at wsdot.wa.gov.

Mount Vernon

Skagit River Poetry Foundation to host live auction at Howl!

Howl! the Skagit River Poetry Foundation spring fundraiser, celebrates the Beat, Fishtown poets, the Mystic painters of Skagit County, and the Poets on the Peaks who spent summers at the fire lookouts in the North Cascade Mountains, with roots in ancient Buddhist traditions.

Howl! will take place on May 17 at Hillcrest Park Lodge, in Mount Vernon, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. The fundraiser will support the foundation's mission to put the best poets in area schools, as well as to bring remarkable poets to the biennial festival.

Every year, the Skagit River Poetry Foundation provides contracted professional, published poets to 200 classrooms to serve in five-day residencies. Students in those K-12 classrooms learn how to read, write, and

perform poetry through the master artists.

A live auction is scheduled, with artifacts and experiences from the poets and the places that inspired them. Appetizers, an open bar, a silent auction, raffles, and cool jazz also are on the agenda.

Tickets are available at www.skagitriverpoetry.org for \$50/person or \$80/couple, and at the door for \$60/person and \$100/couple.

For more information, contact Molly McNulty at directorsrpp@gmail.com.

Daylight saving time year-round passes Senate

By Emma Epperly
WNPA Olympia News Bureau

Legislation to make daylight saving time the year-round standard passed the Senate April 16 in a bipartisan 46-2 vote.

The bill would put Washington on Pacific Daylight Time year-round, pending approval of Congress.

Senators Liz Lovelette, D-Anacortes, and Tim Sheldon, D-Potlatch, voted in opposition.

House Bill 1196 was introduced by Rep. Marcus Riccelli, D-Spokane, and has gained traction during the course of the session, passing the House on March 9 in an 89-7 vote.

The version that passed the Senate clarifies that Washington would simply

not change the clocks in November after approval is given by Congress.

Sen. Sam Hunt, D-Olympia, cited California and Oregon, who are pursuing the move to year-round daylight saving time, and said leaders in British Columbia are supportive of considering a similar change there. Hunt hopes to avoid "gyrating time zones" with this move. Sen. Jim Honeyford, R-Sunnyside, has proposed forms of this legislation during the last three years and supported the bill as a whole.

Sen. Mark Mullet, D-Issaquah, put forward an amendment to send this measure to a vote of the people. The amendment failed mainly due to the costs that are associated with sending a referendum out for a vote. The Senate version will head back to the House for approval before going to Gov. Jay Inslee to be signed into law.

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 33

license was suspended and he was only driving because he was working on the car. Deputy Murdock thanked the driver for his honesty, then arrested him for driving with a suspended license.

April 12

Traveling south on Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. near Fir St. in Concrete, Deputy Hill observed a car in front of him also traveling south. He ran the plate and discovered it was registered to a female who had a suspended driver's license. The driver matched the description of the registered owner. He stopped the car and confirmed that the driver was the registered owner and didn't have a valid license, nor any insurance. He cited her for both driving offenses.

April 13

Assisting Whatcom County, Deputies Wiggins and Hill responded to a possible assault or homicide somewhere at a campground near Baker Lake. Deputies eventually found a camp site with a male who appeared to have been assaulted. At the time they discovered the subject, he was deceased. Whatcom County Sheriff's Office will conduct the investigation.

April 14

A van was stolen from the 30000 block of Lyman Hamilton Hwy near Lyman. Deputies later recovered the van on Cokreham Island. The transmission had gone out in the van and it was no longer operable. There are no suspects at this time.

April 15

Parked near the county shop near Concrete, Deputy Wolfe saw a pickup go by on SR 20 with two people in the bed. He was able to clearly see that only one person was in the cab of the pickup. He stopped the truck and explained to the driver that the people in the bed of the truck couldn't ride there if there were seatbelts available within the vehicle. Passengers are only allowed to ride in the back of a truck if all available seat belts within the vehicle are already being used. He contacted the two passengers who were in the bed of the truck. Both passengers had warrants for their arrest. Deputy Wolfe arrested both suspects.

While patrolling through Hamilton, Deputy Wolfe observed a truck with an obstructed license plate because of a towing ball on the bumper. He stopped the truck and contacted the driver. The driver had a suspended license and several warrants for his arrest. Deputy Wolfe arrested the suspect and transported him to jail.

April 17

Deputy Murdock received a call of a stolen vehicle from the area of Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. While en route he found the vehicle and the alleged suspect. He detained the suspect while he called the victim to confirm whether the vehicle was actually stolen. After talking to the victim Deputy Murdock determined that the vehicle was not actually stolen, but the owner did not want the suspect to driver the vehicle any more since he didn't have a driver's license and according to the victim, the suspect is a heavy drug user. Deputy Murdock released the suspect and made arrangements for the victim to take possession of his car. A little while later, Deputy Murdock was advised that the victim had called back claiming to have been assaulted by the suspect. The victim said that while he was getting the car from the previous incident, the suspect had returned, yelled at the victim for calling the cops, punched the victim in the face, then took the car again without permission. Deputy Murdock was able to locate the suspect and arrested him for assault and taking a motor vehicle without permission. He was taken to jail and booked.

Early in the morning Deputy Murdock investigated an assault on Maple St. in Hamilton. The victim was at United General Hospital seeking medical treatment. The victim told Deputy Murdock that she had gone to the address on Maple St. to drop off a friend. A person who she knew came out of the residence and while the victim was reaching into her car to get her phone, the suspect hit her on the side of her head, causing injury. Deputy Murdock will refer the suspect for assault charges.

April 21

Deputies investigated a burglary in the 39000 block of South Skagit Hwy. A person at that address said that a male subject had come looking for assistance. They offered to help him and after a bit, they had to leave to get gas. When they returned they discovered that the subject whom they were helping had left. A few minutes later they discovered their generator missing. The next day Deputy Devero was able to recover the generator and develop enough information to arrest the suspect. Deputy Devero is currently looking for the suspect.

—Compiled by Sgt. Greg Adams

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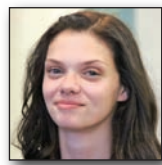
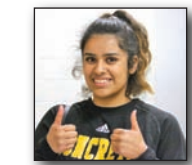
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Smile



Collin's realm of truly awful jokes

Q: How did the farmer locate his wife?
A: He tractor down.



Nature gives every man a hint. The fatter he gets, the harder it is to sit up to the table.

— § —

Joe: "I want to change my name, your honor."

Judge: "What is your name?"

Joe: "Joe Stinks."

Judge: "I don't blame you. What do you want to change it to?"

Joe: "Charlie."

— § —

Diplomat: A man who remembers a woman's birthday, but forgets her age.

— § —

A man without a country must be pretty sad, but how about a country without a man, suggests Lena Genster.

Dwelleysms:

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

"Air pollution is becoming recognized for what it creates: public sediment."

"Spring comes Thursday at 2 p.m. Optimists will be standing with their garden trowels at the ready, with pessimists covering them with opened umbrellas."

"Old movies had the happy idea of fading out the last scene with a tender kiss. The new ones get so far into the romance in the first reel that by the end of the show, even a wedding night is anti-climactic."

"No seed grows more lovely flowers than those planted in the mind by the seed catalogs."

"Buying power increases yearly in a commensurate ratio with decline in willpower."

"Charm and gentility is mainly knowing how and when to say 'goodbye.'"

—March 19, 1969

"Of all the problems of pollution by a careless human race, none are more permanently damaging than that of pollution of the minds of our young people by a group of elders who think sex is something that can be spread indiscriminately over any and every subject. This dirt is hard to remove."

—March 5, 1969

"The best politician is the guy with know-who."

—March 12, 1969

Public Service Announcement



THE REASON WHY YOU RARELY HEAR OF SUPERHEROES WITHOUT SUPER POWERS

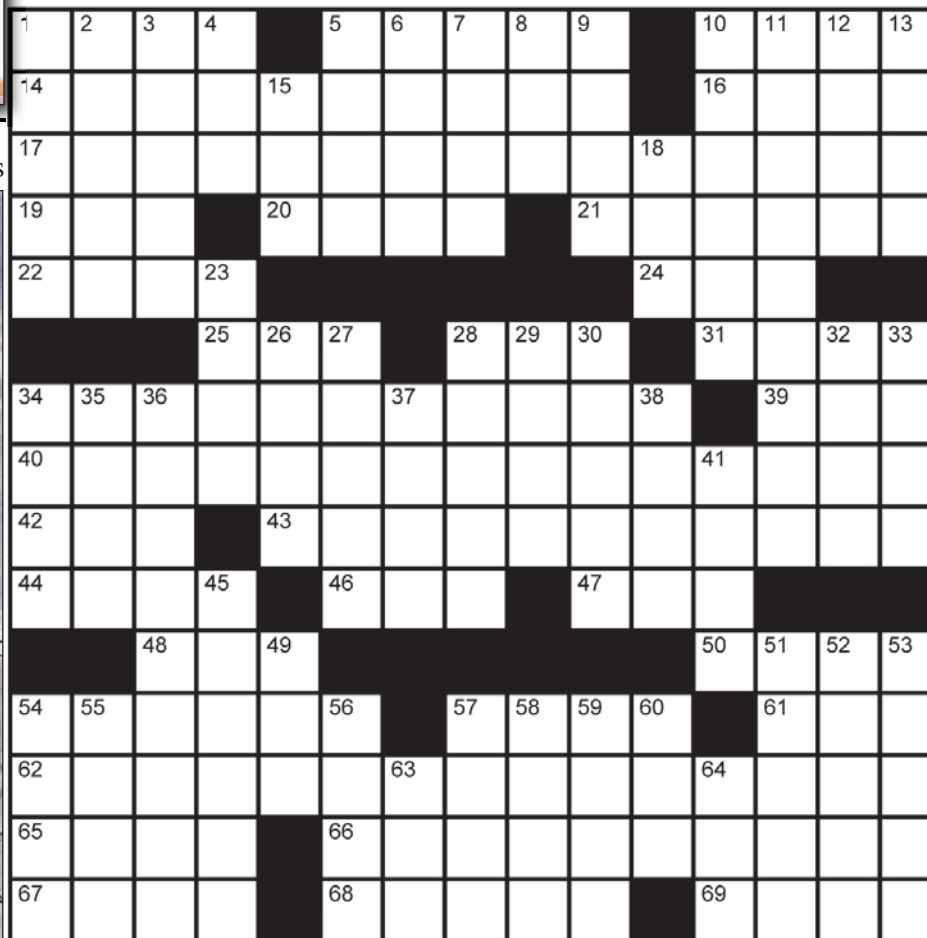
Concrete Harold

By Joyce Harris



By Stig Kristensen

Crossword: "Christmas at the Cinema"



Across

1. Strip
5. Relevant fact
10. Kind of game
14. Triangle part
16. Bubbly drink
17. One version starred Alastair Sim
19. Island ring?
20. Barely gets, with "out"
21. Chipmunk
22. Turner and others
24. Bad-mouth
25. Big pooch
28. Firms: Abbr.
31. Interruption
34. Death duties
39. Geologic time period
40. Warner Brothers film with the voice of Tom Hanks
42. Cloak-and-dagger org.
43. Makes powerful
44. Do damage to
46. Freshly painted
47. Mudhole
48. Drain
50. Barber's motion
54. Compadres

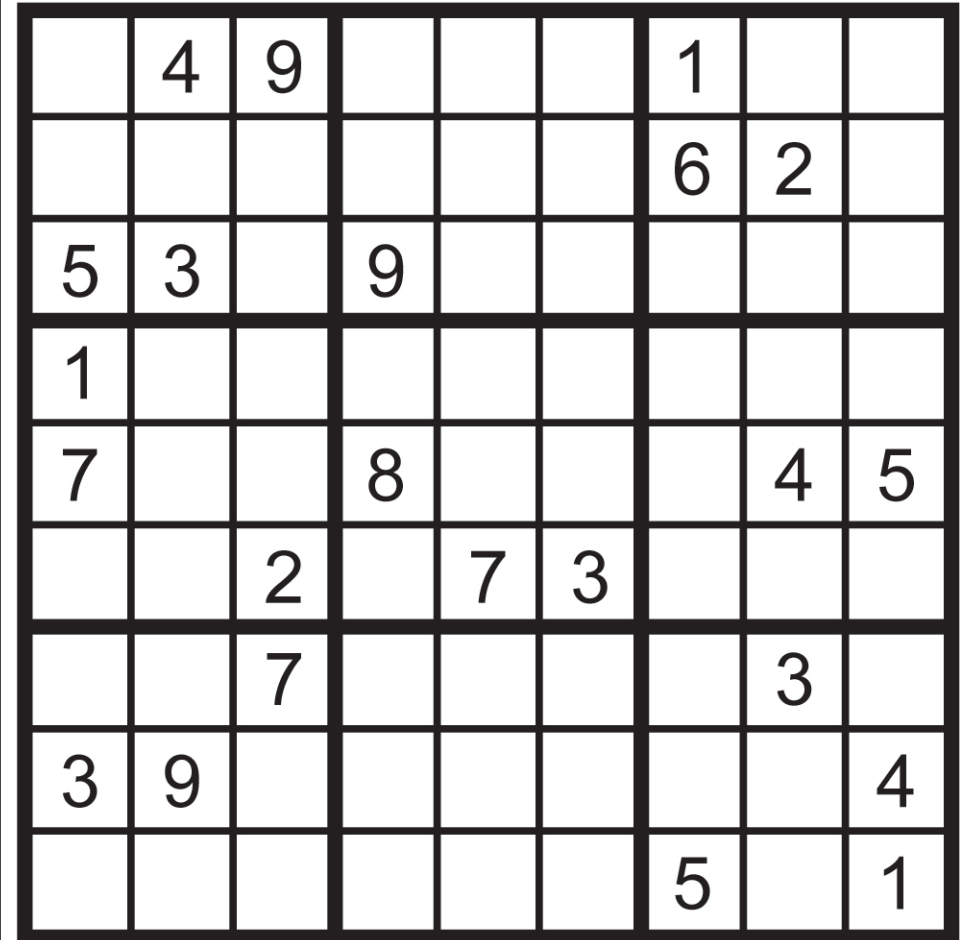
Down

1. Commandment word
2. Secondary school in France
3. Ladybug's prey
4. Lookout point
5. Secretary, e.g.
6. Some chips, maybe
7. Roloids rival
8. Olympics chant
9. Go well together
10. Greenish yellow
11. Place for notes
12. Balm ingredient
13. Where Bill met Hillary
15. One up, e.g.
18. Heel
23. Certain hockey shot
26. Looking down from

27. Not on deck
28. Sticking point?
29. Farm team
30. Canonical hours
32. Highlands tongue
33. Physics calculation
34. Fix firmly
35. Islam denomination
36. Blasts
37. Poet laureate of 1700
38. Kind of curl
41. Some stingers
45. Grub
49. Neighbor of Ger.
51. "Forget it!"
52. Angered
53. Nosy one
54. Cracked open
55. Venus de ____
56. Backside
57. Picture problem
58. Pandora's boxful
59. Dog in "Beetle Bailey"
60. Wolf or devil preceder
63. Mountain out of a molehill
64. 'Fore

Sudoku

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



*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 39.

Funny as Facebook

The following funny was pulled verbatim from Facebook status updates in April:

- "You know you're a farm kid at heart when the sound of your neighbor's poorly running lawnmower is so bad you want to just go rebuild the damn thing to make the horrible noise stop."
- "I guess I should register nerds with the U.S. Dept of Fish and Wildlife as being an endangered species here in Skagit County. How else do you explain waiting until 2 hours before the first showing of 'Avengers: Endgame' and easily scoring a ticket, with no seating restrictions?"

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For people interested in the town's business incubator, Town Hall is the best place to inquire. Those looking to become members of Thrive Direct Health Care can visit www.thrivedirecthealthcare.com and fill out the contact form on the site.

Wilson will host an open house in the space, located at 7337 N. Dillard, Suites B and C, Mon., May 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Her office hours will be Mondays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with televisits available for other days.

*Freelance writer Chazlyn Lovely lives in Corkindale.
Editor Katy Tomasulo lives on Bainbridge Island.*

here more than anything else I can think of."

Rohan agrees and adds that the bank closing will ultimately undo any attempts to attract new business to the area. "If you don't have a bank, how do you draw them here? I think this is going to devastate the town."

Concrete Mayor Jason Miller, who has been in the forefront of the town's economic development efforts, agrees that the bank closing could be a fatal blow to the town and the region, calling it "one click away from a 'Black Swan' event."

"A great deal is being written these days about the dying of the American Dream throughout the rural areas of this country," Miller said. "This is precisely

how it happens—one corporate decision at a time. It's not like residents of the Upper Skagit Valley have done anything to cause this to happen. It's simply that Columbia Bank doesn't think we deserve the same service as customers in more densely populated areas. We're not profitable enough."

While Columbia Bank plans to put the Concrete branch building on the market after the closing, its former manager Phillip Moran would like to see the company maintain a presence at the site, possibly with reduced hours.

"I would hope that there would be some reconsideration," said Moran. "A very aggressive approach by the community may cause the bank to take a second look. There are ways to streamline and cut expenses."

During his career, Moran worked at all three banks that have occupied the current site since the building was built

in 1912, The State Bank Of Concrete, Summit Bank, and Columbia Bank. He believes the Concrete branch is the oldest continuously operated bank in the Columbia system.

Be that as it may, unless Columbia Bank reconsiders its decision, Columbia's business and personal customers at the Concrete branch will be banking somewhere new this fall. Sherman believes that Columbia Bank will keep those customers through the transition "because of the trust we've built."

Given the mood of Columbia's business and personal customers in the Concrete area Friday, she probably shouldn't bank on that expectation.

Jude Dippold is the former managing editor of the Times Observer in Warren, Penn. He has been a Concrete resident since 2015.

Vaccinations, cont. from p. 25

pneumococcal disease, polio, tetanus, and whooping cough.

According to Sen. Linda Wilson, R-Vancouver, the science is not settled on this issue. She cited issues with the pertussis vaccine in her floor speech as a reason to look at the side effects of vaccines.

Sen. Annette Cleveland, D-Vancouver, said without this measure there is "the potential for needless suffering," if measles outbreaks continue. Cleveland called a vote against this bill, "a vote against public health."

Groups of personal exemption supporters have been protesting on the capitol campus throughout the session, including a protest on the steps of the capitol the morning of April 18 prior to the vote. During the floor debate, many senators referenced the large volume of constituent e-mails they have received on the issue.

House Bill 1638's prime sponsor, Rep. Paul Harris, R-Vancouver, was the only Republican sponsor. The House voted 57-40 to approve the bill on March 5.

The bill can be viewed at <https://app.leg.wa.gov/billssummary?BillNumber=1638&Initiative=false&Year=2019>. Related measles outbreak info is posted at <https://www.clark.wa.gov/public-health/measles-investigation>.

WNPA reporter Madeline Coats contributed to this story.

Classifieds

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Sudoku solution

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

Crossword solution

1	S	L	A	T	5	D	A	T	U	M	10	A	W	12	Y
15	H	Y	P	O	T	E	N	U	S	E	16	C	O	L	A
17	A	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	18	C	A	R	O
19	L	E	I	E	K	E	S	21	H	A	C	K	E	E	
22	T	E	D	S	23						24	D	I	S	
25	L	A	B	26		27				28	C	O	S	31	A
34	E	S	T	A	T	E	37	A	X	E	S	39	E	R	A
40	T	H	E	P	O	L	A	R	E	X	P	R	E	S	S
42	C	I	A	43	P	O	T	E	N	T	I	A	T	E	S
44	H	A	R	M	45					46	W	E	T	47	S
48	S	A	P	49						50					
54	A	M	I	G	O	55				57	B	I	O	S	
62	J	I	N	G	L	E	63			64	L	T	H	E	
65	A	L	T	O	66					67	A	D	U	L	T
68	R	O	T	69						70	T	O	R	S	
										71	E	Y	E	R	

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