

The Voice of Eastern Skagit County Concrete Herald

Daylight Saving Time
ends Sun., Nov. 6



Set clocks back 1 hour!

Vol. 94, No. 11

November 2011

50 cents

Stafford named SWAN Woman of the Year

Concrete's own Valerie Stafford captured the title of Woman of the Year during an Oct. 20 ceremony in Bow. The honor was bestowed by Skagit Women's Alliance and Network (SWAN) during its 27th annual award banquet. Stafford was chosen from a field of five finalists.

The SWAN award is designed to recognize a woman's career accomplishments and community contributions, according to the event program. Organizers hope that the award will inspire young professional women.

Participants are nominated by community members and invited to fill out an application with questions about their career and community service. They're

See **Stafford**, p. 17



Valerie Stafford. Submitted photo.



Rich Post (left) and Garry LaJoye, trustees for Concrete Eagles Aerie #1444, stand outside the Eagles building in Concrete Town Center in late October. After the organization closed its doors and came dangerously close to insolvency, Post, LaJoye, and other members stepped in to solve its financial woes—and renew the Eagles' connection to the Concrete community.

Back from the brink

The Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #1444 has been in Concrete for 109 years. But last year, the organization's illustrious tradition almost came to an ignoble end.

During the two decades leading to that almost fateful moment, the club leaked money like a sieve, said trustee Rich Post, who joined the aerie six months ago.

"A lot of the old trustees said we were throwing money into an open pit," said Post. "Bartenders were pouring overly stiff drinks. Donation jars were untended. Members were handing out free food. Everybody wanted to pay themselves."

Fellow trustee and four-year member Garry LaJoye is even more blunt: "People

had been robbing this place for the past 20 years. Every trustee they had wanted to spend money, not put it back into the building. One thing led to another and soon they couldn't pay the bills."

The situation came to a head in August 2010, when former trustee Mike Kult called for the aerie's two adjoining buildings to close their doors. They might have stayed closed, had it not been for LaJoye and former trustee Eric Jass, who decided to get FOE's corporate headquarters involved and get the local aerie back on track.

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Wednesday of each month*

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Concrete Herald

The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

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This November, three initiatives, two resolutions

By Rep. Dan Kristiansen

On Nov. 8, Washington voters will have the opportunity to make decisions on three initiatives.

Initiative 1125 would require the Legislature, not the state Transportation Commission, to set state highway tolls, and mandate that a toll on a particular road or bridge be used only for construction, operation, or maintenance of that project. Supporters say the measure would ensure highway lanes funded with toll revenues could not be transferred or used for nonhighway purposes, and also would make funding more accountable since the decisions would come from elected leaders, not appointed commissioners. Opponents say Washington state would be unable to sell toll-backed bonds if tolls are required to be set by the Legislature—and that, they say, could jeopardize funding for highway projects.

Initiative 1163 would require background checks and training for long-term care workers and providers. Supporters say the measure would ensure greater safety and quality care for senior citizens and people with disabilities. Opponents say the measure would cost taxpayers \$80 million to fund a private union training program.

Initiative 1183 would close state liquor stores and sell their assets, including the liquor distribution center. It would allow private stores to sell liquor and create licensing fees for sale and distribution of liquor based on sales revenue. Supporters say the measure would get the state out of the liquor business, strengthen laws governing the sale of liquor, and generate millions in new revenue for state and local services. Opponents say expansion of access would lead to greater problem drinking and give chain stores a greater competitive advantage over smaller grocers.

Washington’s founders knew our state Constitution needed a process to be amended. So they added a section that allows all voters a say in whether it should be changed. Article 23 says an amendment, proposed by the House or Senate as a “joint resolution,” must receive approval from two-thirds of the state Legislature. If this occurs, it appears on the ballot for the next general election. If a simple majority of voters approve, the amendment is ratified.



See Editorial, p. 39

Parents’ Night Out!

Childcare for kids ages 4 - 11
while you enjoy a night on the town in Concrete.

When: Saturday, Nov. 19: Registration at 5:15 p.m.; program runs till 9:30 p.m.
Where: Concrete Center (formerly Concrete Senior Center)
Cost: \$10 per child
Info: www.nightout.weebly.com, morgareidge@frontier.com, or 360.770.2836

Opinion

Letters to the editor



Grady Claybo at Watson Lake, August 1986. Submitted photo.

Thanks to family and friends
Thank you so much for all your thoughts, prayers, and kindness. We are so blessed to have you in our lives.
Shirley Claybo and family
Concrete

Gratitude for Benefit Sale help
Skagit River Bald Eagle Awareness Team sends an overdue thank-you to Ray and Karen Harrell for their time spent preparing our Benefit Sale in August, and to Town of Concrete and George Theodoratus for our location/facilities.
Deanna Ray Ensley
SRBEAT/Bald Eagle Interpretive Ctr.

Combined efforts made for an educational and safe training burn
Thanks to the Skagit County Fire Marshal’s office, and the departments and all of their firefighters who participated in the training burn in Concrete on Oct. 22. It was a very educational, successful, and safe fire training burn.
Thank you to Mayor Judd Wilson, Town Clerk-Treasurer Andrea Fichter, and Deputy Clerk Corrina Koenig for their help in the planning and permitting process of this training burn.
A special thanks to the residents of the Mill Addition for their patience and cooperation during the disturbance of their normally quiet neighborhood.
Rich Philips, chief
Concrete Volunteer Fire Department

Volunteering till the last minute
A big thank-you goes out to professional painter Don Burns, who summers in

Concrete and winters in Arizona. Before he left town for the winter, he put in several hours at the community garden, staining the inside of the east fence line, then turning his attention to the inside of the gazebo roof.
Thank you, Don!
Jason Miller, co-manager
Angele Cupples Community Garden
Concrete

Vets bear brunt of spending cuts
It’s a shame that to cut spending, they’re taking it out on the veterans.
For the past four years, I have been getting travel pay from my home in Concrete to Seattle and back when I have a scheduled appointment. I have now been told that I no longer get travel pay because our representatives in Congress lowered the income bracket you need to be in so you can receive that benefit. That means I no longer can afford to go to Seattle to the hospital.
That’s just one example; here’s another: For three years I have been getting a specific syringe for my medicine and to irrigate my feeding tube. They just sent me the replacement of that syringe, which doesn’t fit my feeding tube, making it useless to me. It looks, feels, and works like a piece of crap.
They’ve also changed the feeding bag I have used for the last three years. The clip on the hose that regulates the flow is just barely adequate to regulate the flow. It too looks, feels, and works like a piece of crap.
Companies are making their products cheaper and the VA is buying them for that reason alone; it’s not making sure that the products work.
I have the proof.

Gary L. Johnson
Concrete

See Letters, p. 33

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

Election 2011

Several officials are up for election and re-election on Nov. 8, with some running unopposed. **Concrete Herald** asked candidates to tell us—in their own words—why they think they’re the best choice.*

City of Sedro-Woolley Mayor

Mike Anderson
Residence: Sedro-Woolley
In his words:
“I am asking for your support. For the past 31 years, my wife and I have called Sedro-Woolley home, raising three children with small-town values and the strong sense of community Sedro-Woolley offers. I have served on the Sedro-Woolley council on and off for 15 years and mayor for the past five years. Along with my business experience being self-employed for 36 years, and a long-time taxpayer, these experiences guide me as mayor. Thank you.”



Mike Anderson

Sedro-Woolley Council Ward 1

Tim Post
Residence: Sedro-Woolley
Opponent: Kevin Loy
In his words:
“I believe government should strive to operate responsibly. The Sedro-Woolley City Council should oversee its \$20 million-plus budget in a manner that imitates private industry in its conservatism and practicality, and I will use my vote to keep your taxes low. In these difficult times, government should preserve its infrastructure and maintain its core services. The City of Sedro-Woolley should be supportive of its small business environment and promote economic opportunity for its citizens. My special concerns include providing a healthy environment for Sedro-Woolley residents, especially its children, and creating solutions to local traffic safety problems such as high traffic volumes and vehicles speeding through residential neighborhoods. I favor preserving the

quality of life and the unique natural environment of the Skagit Valley and the City of Sedro-Woolley.”

Sedro-Woolley Council Ward 1

Kevin Loy
Residence: Sedro-Woolley
Opponent: Tim Post
In his words:
“I’m Kevin Loy and the best candidate for Ward 1 Councilman on the Sedro-Woolley City Council. I have lived in the same yellow house on Garden of Eden Road since 1989. I know our town. I spent seven years in the Sedro-Woolley Planning Commission including two terms as chairman. For the past nine years I have been on the Skagit County Parks Board, having served two terms as chairman. Please vote for me. Thank you.”



Kevin Loy

Fire District 10 Commissioner Pos. 2

Samuel Johnson
Residence: Concrete
In his words:
“I have only been a resident of this area for just over three years, but in that time I have grown fond of the community and the way its members are willing to step up and support local activities. When I was approached to run for office I saw a way that I could also support the community and help make sure that our volunteer firefighters continue to get the level of backing from local government necessary to keep us all safe. It truly is an honor to be running for this position, and I plan to dedicate myself to doing the best job possible over the next six years.”



Samuel Johnson

Cemetery District 5 Commissioner 3

Mary Johnson
Residence: Concrete
In her words:
“Our cemetery is one of the nicest cemeteries in Skagit County thanks to our caretaker Ron Howell. That is the reason I still want to be commissioner. My dad was a commissioner until he turned 90 and I took his place as commissioner. When my 6-year term is up, I will be looking for someone to replace me who is very interested in keeping the cemetery looking nice.”

Town of Concrete Council Pos. 2

David Pfeiffer
Residence: Concrete
In his words:
“My wife, Kathy, and I have lived in Washington all our lives. We moved to Concrete to be close to our passion of flying. After retirement early this year,



David Pfeiffer

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I have the time to repay others who have given their service. I believe it is everyone’s duty to vote and serve their community.”
*A complete list of candidates is posted online at <http://wei.secstate.wa.gov/skagit/Pages/Candidateswhohavefiled.aspx?e=20111108>.

Veterans Day PARADE

Mon., Nov. 14
1 p.m.

Concrete Town Center

For more info, contact Kris Voigt
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Sewer rates, staff salaries bumped up during budget workshops

Concrete entered budget season with workshops held one hour prior to the council’s regular meetings on Sept. 12 and 26, and Oct. 11 and 24.

2012 utility rates and fees

A number of changes were made to the town’s rate and fee schedules. Special events charges were broken down into categories:

- Special event with water: \$35
- Special event with electricity: \$40
- Special event with water and electricity: \$45

Nonprofit organizations were given a \$10 break across the board for event fees, while street carnivals and circuses were bumped up by \$10 to \$35 per day.

Some Concrete residents have illegally turned their water valves back on after the water has been shut off because of nonpayment, so council members stiffened the penalty for the third and subsequent occurrences. A theft-of-services warning is first issued, then:

- First occurrence: \$500
- Second occurrence: \$750

- Third and future occurrences: \$1,000
- The sewer rate for in-town residential and churches was increased from \$67.78 per month to \$68.50 per month. For in-town businesses and schools, the rate bumped from \$71.98 to \$72.98. No changes were made to commercial rates.

2012 salaries and benefits

At its Oct. 24 budget workshop, the council gave all salaried town staff members a 5 percent raise for 2012.

Council members based their decision on the 2012 budget provided by Clerk Treasurer Andrea Fichter, who did not include short-term revenue streams such as the approximately \$176,000 the town will receive in 2011 and 2012 for the PSE power house construction project. Other factors included savings realized by switching insurance providers and the small (1 percent) raise staff were given for 2011.

Fire Chief Rich Philips’ monthly pay was raised from \$208 to \$300 to more fairly compensate him for the number of hours he averages per week.

The weekend and holiday hourly rate for sewer plant work was increased from \$14 to \$20.

November budget workshops will be held Nov. 14 and 28, at 6 p.m., at Town Hall. A Dec. 12 workshop likely will be the last one for the year.

—J. K. M.



Lyman Elementary’s Tanner Johnson gets a carefully measured ingredient added to his test tube by mobile lab scientist Jeremy Kim during a visit from the Science Adventure Lab bus on Oct. 4.

Lyman kids learn “on the bus”

What does your DNA look like? Lyman Elementary students answered that question and more during a visit from Seattle Children’s Hospital’s mobile Science Adventure Lab Oct. 4.

The mobile lab is a high-tech bus filled

with state-of-the-art features, with work stations that can accommodate up to 28 students. Lyman Elementary classes took turns in the lab for most of the day, learning how to isolate their DNA and how much sugar is in an average soda.

Drs. Amanda Jones, director, and Mark Ruffo, manager, started the day with Gary Bletsch’s sixth-grade class, whose members took skin cells from their cheeks and isolated the DNA in the cells. Student Tayah Aldridge looked at her milky clump of DNA and declared, “That’s gross.”

“By ‘gross’ you mean awesome, right?” replied Dr. Jones.



Sixth-grader Heather Warner carefully twirls a wooden stick in her test tube, watching a milky cloud of her DNA cling to the stick.

Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings Oct. 10 and 24. The following is a summary of topics addressed during those two meetings. Complete minutes for every council meeting are posted on the town’s Web site at www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php.

Oct. 10

- Michael Friedel and Tina-Rae Martin reported on the shut off of the water utility after they moved into a rental house. They reported they have not had water since June and have been packing water for flushing and washing dishes. They explained the circumstances and requested the water be turned back on if they set up payment arrangements or pay a deposit. The council voted unanimously to leave the current amount owing as the landlord’s responsibility, and turn the water back on as long as Friedel and Martin stay current with the monthly bills.

- Investigation is ongoing regarding alleged drug activity at certain houses in Concrete.
- Frontier Building Supply has taken issue with Town of Concrete’s requirement to purchase a business license in order to do business in town. The license is \$25 annually and is charged to every business if they make transactions or deliveries in town. This issue is not yet resolved.

- Councilman Paul Rider reported on his efforts to purchase a memorial marker for Veterans Memorial Park. The dedication ceremony for the memorial will be Nov. 11, at 11:11 a.m., at the park.
- Corrina Koenig has researched WSDOT motorist information signs with the intent of getting one to direct people into Concrete Town Center. Council discussed the sign requirements, and decided to pursue discussions with the Hi. Lo. Country Bar & Grill, Hi. Lo. Hotel, and Lupita’s regarding their interest in purchasing one of the signs through WSDOT, with monetary assistance from the Town and Chamber.

- Five architectural firms were confirmed for a walk-through of the Superior Building on Oct. 13.
- Town officials met with airport representatives and the fly-in committees to discuss insurance for that event. This discussion is ongoing. The Town wants the fly-in committee to secure its own insurance for the 2012 fly-in and beyond.

Mayor Wilson expressed concern regarding Community Stew setting up meetings that he expects town officials to attend. Mayor Wilson stated the first meeting was set up on Friday morning at 8 a.m., knowing that he and at least two other council members would not be able to attend. Mayor Wilson stated at this point Community Stew is not working for the town and he believes the actions of Community Stew are causing animosity between the Town, the business owners, and the Chamber. He further stated to have the Town perceived as not being involved or not wanting to be involved is not good. He also stated he believes that Community Stew should look for funding before proceeding as if already working for the town.

Councilman Jason Miller stated right now Community Stew is trying to develop a plan of attack. He stated Community Stew has a few people who have agreed to participate on an advisory committee. Miller gave a description of Community Stew’s presentation, with an example of a town in Oregon. He also stated the town told Community Stew to seek its own funding; therefore, it has no legal right to forbid that organization to call meetings.

Oct. 24

- Eric Archuletta of Community Stew gave a presentation and update on the Main Street Revitalization effort. He handed out printouts of his PowerPoint presentation.

Archuletta described a four-point method that can be used when organizing a downtown revitalization program. He also went over the guiding principles. He discussed the importance of a community effort and touched on cultural elements. He discussed a process of economic gardening—this being a key step in revitalizing downtown Main Streets.

He told the story of Independence, Ore., which revived itself in the early 2000s after suffering a series of economic blows.

Archuletta said that people want to spend more time in small towns with established downtowns and intact Main Streets. He reported that Concrete has unique buildings, but underutilized space. Eric discussed the next steps for each entity involved:

Town: The Town will need to work

See **Concrete Council**, p. 23

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Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on the things for which we’re truly grateful. At Edward Jones, we’re thankful to serve our clients and our community. During this holiday season and every day, we wish you all the very best.



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Film to examine end-of-life care

Death can be hard to talk about. But speaking with family members about dying and end-of-life treatment can help fill painful information gaps that arise when a loved one is terminally ill.

On Thur., Nov. 10, at 6 p.m., a free event at Concrete Theatre will encourage people to talk openly and inquisitively about the realities of dying. The theater will screen the documentary, “Consider the Conversation,” in partnership with Hospice of the Northwest, which will have staff on hand to help answer questions. The screening is in recognition of National Hospice Month.

“The film’s goal is to jump-start the conversation between husband and wife, doctor and patient, and within families,” said Jill Boudreau, Community Liaison at the Skagit County-based Hospice of the Northwest.

“Consider the Conversation” examines multiple perspectives on end-of-life care and includes interviews with patients, family members, doctors, and national experts from across the country.

The conversation referred to in the film’s title is often avoided because of perceived stigmas or emotional sensitivity. As a result, many people die without expressing preferences for end-of-life treatment. Most—roughly 75 percent—die in institutions, not at home.

Concrete Theatre is located at 45920 Main St. in Concrete. For more information, go to www.concrete-theatre.com or call 360.941.0403.

AT A GLANCE

“Consider the Conversation”
a documentary about end-of-life care
Nov. 10, 6 p.m.
Concrete Theatre
www.concrete-theatre.com
360.941.0403

Howell, Wilkins retire from Concrete VFD

After serving 25 years each with the Concrete Volunteer Fire Department, firefighters Colin Howell and Alan Wilkins have hung up their bunker gear. Both men left the department this year, with Howell announcing his departure effective Jan. 1 and Wilkins leaving Oct. 1. Wilkins and Howell began their careers with the department in January 1986. Wilkins began as a captain, then a few years later was named assistant chief by Chief Rich Philips.

“There were a lot of times when it was just me and Alan showing up at a fire,” said Philips. “We often didn’t have the manpower during the day, because everybody works, and most of them work out of town.” Philips spoke highly of Wilkins’ commitment to the department, offering a special thanks for his service. “He served the fire department well for 25 years,” said Philips. “We need more people like that to volunteer their time and risk their lives to protect the town.” In addition to fighting fires, Howell was the department’s secretary for most of his time with the volunteer group. For

Philips, Howell was a dedicated firefighter who stayed on task. “Colin also served his department well for many years. He did his job right up till his retirement, didn’t slack off a bit, so I want to send a special thank-you to him too,” said Philips. “He does all kinds of things to serve his community, like the Booster club” (for which Howell is president).

Wilkins and Howell focused on community involvement when asked for their thoughts upon retirement. “It’s been an enjoyable 25 years, although it went by quickly,” said Wilkins. “It’s been great to help the community.” “It’s not just putting out fires,” said Howell. “It’s community service, and you get out what you put in. I just wanted to do my part.” Wilkins’ assistant chief position has been filled by Darrel Reed, whose captain position was filled by Rick Christensen. Kevik Rensink will take over Howell’s secretary duties.



Alan Wilkins



Colin Howell

Training burns hone local firefighters’ skills

Three Concrete houses went up in flames Oct. 22, but they weren’t tragic accidents. The houses were part of training exercises hosted by Concrete Volunteer Fire Department to help them and other area fire departments learn more about firefighting techniques in actual blazes. “Being able to see a house burn from start to finish is a learning experience,” said Concrete Fire Chief Rich Philips. Between 30 and 35 firefighters from



Firefighters from area volunteer fire departments paused for a photo as the first training burn got under way Oct. 22 in Concrete.



Marblemount firefighters Bob Hopfield (left) and Abe Meyer (right) watch as rookie Marblemount firefighter Jeremy Langley uses an axe to “ventilate” the roof of one of the houses burned during the Oct. 22 training exercises in Concrete. Langley had been with the department only five days.

www.concrete-herald.com

Concrete, Marblemount, Rockport, District 8, Grasmere, and Birdsvew met at the Concrete Fire Hall at 8 a.m. to talk through the day’s plan of attack. The crews then made their way to the houses in Concrete’s Mill Addition neighborhood, where Skagit County Fire Marshal Kelly Blaine put them through their paces after lighting small fires inside the houses, one house at a time. “When the fire was rolling, a team would knock it down. Then they’d do it again with another team,” said Philips. Firefighters also performed “attack

See Training Burns, p. 39

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In The Service



A dedication ceremony to mark the creation of a veterans memorial at Veterans Memorial Park in Concrete will be held on Veterans Day, Fri., Nov. 11, at 11:11 a.m. The event will take place at the base of the recently installed flag pole next to the Town Center sign at the intersection of Main Street and Douglas Vose Way.

The flag pole installation was spearheaded by Concrete Town Councilman Paul Rider, who secured a \$2,000 grant earlier this year to fund the project. Rider is a staff sergeant and photojournalist with the Air National Guard’s 194th mission support wing at Camp Murray.

Rider envisions the south and west borders of Veterans Memorial Park incrementally built out with grant funds to include memorial trees and plaques for Concrete military members who gave their lives in defense of the United States.

Two separate stand-downs to honor and support area veterans are planned for Concrete and Sedro-Woolley, on Nov. 5 and 11, respectively.

Concrete Stand-down The Concrete Stand-down will be held Sat., Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Concrete Assembly of God, located at 45734 Main St. in Concrete. Some services will be offered at the East County Resource Center next door and the Pilots’ Lounge at Mears Field (Concrete airport). The stand-down will serve all veterans, including active duty, National Guard, Reserves, retirees and their families, and homeless individuals.

- Services will include:
- **Medical:** Assessments, PTSD evaluations, immunizations, dental referrals, disability claims, and more
 - **Community resources/services:** Veterans Relief Fund information, benefits counselors, haircuts/footcare, showers, hot lunch and refreshments, Social Security Administration, legal aid, DSHS screening for benefits, and more
 - **Employment and education resources information:** Resume and interviewing assistance, job opportunities and referrals, and educational benefits information

See In the Service, p. 39

Skagit Eagle Festival readies for 2012 season

Event applications due Nov. 9

The Concrete Chamber of Commerce has begun preparations for the 2012 Skagit Eagle Festival, which will be held every Saturday and Sunday during January 2012.

Modeled after the Tulip Festival in its organization, the Skagit Eagle Festival will include “sanctioned events” sponsored by area businesses and individuals.

Anyone interested in hosting an event needs to fill out a “Sanctioned Event Application” for the festival by Nov. 9. **New this year**

The Chamber plans to rent the Concrete Center every weekend during January and make it available to groups who wish to sponsor bake, book, and arts-and-crafts sales. Volunteers also are needed to staff the premises and provide festival information to visitors.

For more information on the festival or to request a sanctioned event application, e-mail concretechamber@mac.com or call 360.853.8784.



Concrete’s fledgling Mexican restaurant couldn’t quite pull it off, it seems. Lupita’s opened in November 2010, but after less than a year, closed its doors in October. Building owner Jim Prescott of Bellingham told *Concrete Herald* that his stepson and wife, Mike and Melissa Swanberg, will step in as the chefs and managers of a new restaurant that should open within two months in the same location.

The Swanbergs—who have 59 years of restaurant experience between them—will return to Washington from Michigan in early November. Look for American-style, homemade food on the new menu.

Ribbon-cutting planned for new radio station in Concrete

In celebration of its new radio station located in Concrete, Skagit Valley College will host a celebration and ribbon-cutting at the KSVU 90.1 FM satellite station on Nov. 17 at 4:30 p.m. The station is located in portable B on the grounds of the Concrete School District, 45389 Airport Way, in Concrete. The public is invited to attend.

KSVU is a noncommercial, listener-supported radio station licensed to Skagit Valley College, with a signal that reaches Sedro-Woolley, Lyman, Hamilton, Birdsvew, Lake Shannon, Concrete, and Rockport. The station was created to help SVC facilitate community engagement in eastern Skagit County by empowering local discussion, conversation, and artistic expression. Working in cooperation with local citizen organizations, *Concrete Herald*, local bloggers, churches, coffee shops, and the town’s bulletin boards, KSVU is a place for community members to help create on-air programming.

For more information on the ribbon-cutting and getting involved with KSVU, contact Rip Robbins, KSVR/KSVU general manager, at 360.416.7711 or rip.robbs@skagit.edu.

KSVU 90.1 FM needs you!

- KSVU 90.1 FM has the following needs:
- Show hosts (training provided)
 - Underwriters to pay \$90 per month for a dedicated Internet line
 - People who will cover local events, such as the Ghost Walk
 - Volunteers to help with publicity and/or marketing

KSVU will hold monthly meetings for volunteers, staff, and the public on the last Thursday of each month (except Nov. and Dec.), at portable B on the Concrete Elementary School campus. The meetings will be held at 4, 5, and 6 p.m. (the 4 and 6 p.m. meetings will be identical).

Interested? Contact Rip Robbins, general manager, at rip.robbs@skagit.edu or 360.416.7711.

Celebrations

The Royal family will celebrate **Philip D. Royal’s** 75th birthday in November. Phil was born in Sedro-Woolley to Howard and Lena Royal of Birdsvew in 1936, and he graduated from Concrete High School with the class of 1955. His cousin Bob Royal, a fellow alumnus of ’55, recently celebrated his 75th in August.

Phil is probably best known in Skagit County for his years of ministry work, especially with children in “Royal Rangers,” a Christian Boy Scouts. He has been known as “Frontier Phil,” the Blind Preacher of Skagit, and he loved to relate stories of pioneering history with the old of God.

Phil lives quietly in Bellingham with his wife of 15 years, Donna. He has six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.



Phil Royal, left, with his beloved father, Howard Royal, who celebrated his 95th birthday with family in September at his home in Everett. Submitted photo.



This photo from the July 18, 1991, issue of *Concrete Herald* shows Philip Royal, a.k.a. “Frontier Phil,” before a Vacation Bible School kickoff event at Community Bible Church in Concrete. The accompanying article read, in part, “Looking much like Daniel Boone ... Frontier Phil will start with his bear songs, tall tales, frontier yarns, and children’s devotions.” *Concrete Herald* archive photo.



As regular season winds down, Lions in charge of destiny

By Kelly Howell

The Lions got a huge league victory at home Sept. 30 by turning a close-fought game against Seattle Lutheran at halftime, leading 20–13, into a rout in the second half, winning by a score of 42–13. Coach Ron Rood cited the play of the two Tylers, Clark and Kales, saying, “I can’t say enough about their efforts in the second half.”

Kales finished with 135 yards rushing on 11 carries and a touchdown pass to Clark. Clark had 95 yards on 15 carries. Rood also praised the play of offensive linemen Cody Corn, Jordan Clontz, and Zach Olmstead for making adjustments in the second half.

The Lions lost to Bellevue Christian at home Oct. 7, with a final score of 37–30. The Lions couldn’t hold leads of 23–0 and 30–7 as the Vikings used their superior numbers and size to wear down the smaller athletes from Concrete.

Aided by numerous Lion fumbles, Bellevue Christian scored the winning touchdown late in the fourth quarter. The Lion’s late, game-tying drive ran out the clock at the Viking’s 10-yard line.

The Lions were led by Kales rushing for 101 yards and receiving six passes for 84 yards. Clark ran for 106 yards and passed for 106 yards and two touchdowns. Gibson Fichter ran for 24 yards and Dallas Newby caught one pass for 22 yards.

The Lions lost at Tacoma Baptist 49–14 on Oct. 14. The Lions were unable to stop the powerful Crusaders offense, led by University of Wisconsin-bound Walker Williams. After showing a little life with two second-quarter touchdowns, the Lions were unable to sustain any offense and the game was decided by halftime. Clark ran for two touchdowns and 84 yards.

The Lions lost to the La Conner Braves Oct. 21 in a pivotal NW-SeaTac League game, 40–12. The teams traded touchdowns in the first quarter and La Conner took a one-touchdown lead at the half, 18–12. LaConner put the game away in the third quarter after the Lions were unable to take advantage of a nifty punt fake run for 39 yards by Gibson Fichter. Clark ran for 76 yards and threw a 24-yard touchdown pass to Matt Holman.

With two games remaining on the



Freshman Gibson Fichter tears down the sideline for a 39-yard gain after a punt fake in the third quarter of the Oct. 21 game against La Conner. The Lions trailed the Braves only 18–12 at the half, but lost the pivotal league game 40–12.

season against Orcas and Darrington, the Lions control their own destiny. Two wins will secure a playoff berth.

Concrete Herald
The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

Winter sports practices begin Nov 14.

If you plan to play a winter sport, turn in your signed athletic packet to the office as soon as possible. If you already have played a sport this school year, you do not need to fill out a new athletic packet.

Good October, uncertain future for soccer team

By Adam Woodworth, head coach

October was a good month for the Lady Lions soccer team. Our first game of the month also gave us our first win in a big way, scoring six goals against Evergreen Lutheran.

After a busy start to the season with 11 games in four weeks, it was nice to slow the pace down, with only four games during the latter part of October. I think that’s really helped us late in the season, allowing us to get some rest, put in good practices, and build up for specific games, rather than just trying to get through the week without injuries or total exhaustion.

This team has taught me a lot about soccer as a coach, and I feel like this is a team that really understands how to play the game. The improvement has shown up on the scoreboard, as we limit opponents’ goals from earlier season numbers and

continue to put balls into the back of the net in our favor.

On Oct. 25 we played our last regular season game at Orcas. The girls fought hard and once again kept their heads up and played very well. Unfortunately, we lost 5–2. Even with the loss, however, I’m so proud of all of them for everything they’ve done this year.

Regardless of the outcome of the Orcas match and any ensuing matches, next year’s team members will have their work cut out for them. We’re graduating eight from a team of 13, and three of next year’s returning players are juniors.

The future is uncertain, but I am hopeful. We may have some more lean years ahead, but in the long run I expect this to be the beginning of the rebirth of a successful program.



Jessica Filtz (left) and Angie McLaughlin gang up on an Orcas Island player during the Lions’ Oct. 25 away game. Concrete put up a good fight, but ended up losing this one 5–2. Photo by Tina Lloyd.

Volleyball team closes season with nail-biters

By Matthew Williams, head coach

The Lady Lions finished their 2011 campaign at their League Tournament Oct. 29 with a loss to Cedar Park Christian of Mount Lake Terrace. The Lions lost the match 26–24, 26–24, and 25–12.

The team was able to push the first two sets past the necessary 25, and it was quite the battle. Unfortunately, they lost steam in the third set and were eliminated from the tournament.

The squad ended the season without winning a match, going 0–10 in league and 0–15 overall. They did, however, manage to win just as many games as last season, and pushed four of their matches to a decisive fifth game.

The squad is losing two seniors, Bailey Dellinger and Blaze Rautanen, who have been with program throughout their high school careers. They have seen the program go through its ups and downs over the years and will truly be missed.

Concrete showed much improvement from the beginning of the season, and their performance shows a lot of promise for next season. With several players returning who have had varsity

experience, there is plenty of room for optimism.



Wait for it ... Senior Blaze Rautanen (right) and junior Frankie Rohweder keep their eyes on the ball during an Oct. 18 game against Darrington.

Athletes of the Month (coming next month!)



Frankie Rohweder sends the ball back as the Lady Lions grappled with Darrington Oct. 18. Rohweder and other juniors will return next year.



Junior Kylee Warner rejects a Darrington player during the Lady Lions’ home match Oct. 18. Darrington took home the win that day.

Middle school volleyball teams end season with a win

By Rob Thomas, 8th grade coach

With a 7th grade victory against Mount Vernon Christian School, the middle school girl’s volleyball season drew to a close Oct. 20. It’s a nice way to finish the season. That, and taking 25 girls out for pizza to celebrate.

A review of the season revealed that some, but not all, of the team’s pre-season goals were met. We began the season with three simple goals:

- 1. Teach the fundamentals of the game.
- 2. Learn to work together as a team.
- 3. Improve each and every week.

I felt that when we lost our mental focus, we also lost our ability to consistently improve each and every week. That falls on my shoulders as a coach. It’s my responsibility to make the necessary adjustments during the season for the girls to succeed, and that didn’t happen like I would have liked it to.

Specific highlights of the season included:

- All 28 girls remained academically eligible throughout the season.
- Overall serving percentage increased from the beginning of the season to the end.

- We played schools with great volleyball traditions (e.g., La Conner) to three-game matches.
- Not a single girl quit during the season.

I am convinced that some of our 8th graders will have an immediate impact on our high school program. I look forward to our 7th graders coming back and building upon what they learned this year.

I also want to thank the parents and families for their great support throughout the year. Both at home and away games, Concrete was well represented.

Sports schedules are online

Updated schedules for all Concrete School District sports teams are online and updated regularly. Go here:
www.concrete.k12.wa.us/sports.html



Eighth-grader Haley McNealy sends the ball back during the middle school teams’ matchup with Darrington Oct. 18.

Concrete Herald



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Corbin Coggins puts his head down and prepares for impact during a Pee Wee football game at home against Anacortes Oct. 8.

Pulitzer Prize winner visits Upper Skagit Library

Author and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist William Dietrich entertained a full house at the Upper Skagit Library Oct. 20.

The accomplished writer shared memories from his long career, including stories of places he visited and researched for his many fiction and nonfiction books.

Dietrich’s latest book, *Blood of the Reich*, follows his main character east on SR 20 to Challenger Ridge Winery and Concrete. From there she makes her way to Cascade River Rd. and ... well, you’ll have to buy the book to find out what happens next.

At one point in the evening, Dietrich mourned the current state of the planet. “The world is changing,” he said. “I fear we’re losing that entrepreneurial spirit



William Dietrich

because we’re afraid to let children go play in the woods, we’re afraid to tell them, ‘go find something to do.’”

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Eric Warner of Birdsvie, Heidi Smith-Crosson of Van Horn (middle), and Heidi’s friend, Monica Franks, from Seattle, ran the Baker Lake 50K on Oct. 1. Submitted photo.

Skagit County Community Services to hold community forums

Skagit County Community Services will hold two community forums in eastern Skagit County in November and December.

The forums are designed to inform citizens about proposed state budget cuts to services such as mental health and substance abuse treatment, and how those cuts may affect community members.

Sedro-Woolley forum
Thur., Nov. 17, 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Sedro-Woolley Senior Center
715 Pacific Street, Sedro-Woolley

Concrete forum
Thur., Dec. 1, 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Concrete Center
45821 Railroad St., Concrete

Lake Tyee man collects for Concrete Food Bank

Doug “Doc” Risedorf started with jackets and has moved on to food. The Lake Tyee lot owner spent October collecting winter coats for the Mount Vernon Police jacket drive, which will be distributed in November and December in Mount Vernon and the East County Resource Center in Concrete.

Now, Risedorf plans to place a barrel at the Lake Tyee clubhouse in November, in hopes that his Lake Tyee neighbors will pitch food items for the Concrete Food Bank. Risedorf encourages donations in plastic or metal containers. Dried goods, such as pasta, also are a good choice.

Risedorf may be contacted at 206.229.1611 or docrisedorf@gmail.com.

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CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

Don’t forget! Even though the museum is closed for the season till next Memorial Day weekend, you still can make an appointment to visit the museum or do research in our library year-round. Simply call Robin at 360.826.3075 or e-mail us at concreteheritagemuseum@stumpranchonline.com.

Monthly meetings are held year-round on the second Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m. at the museum. All meetings are open to the public.

2011 is closing fast. The **museum board** continues to work to improve the building that houses wonderful artifacts from our east county communities, while holding fundraisers to help keep the doors open. Plumbing work has been completed for the bathroom with interior walls being put in and painted. The outside of the museum building has a new coat of paint finished this summer by Jeromy Tintle.

The **Ghost Walk** continues to be a success, growing every year with the groups ending their tours at the museum. The leader of the Ghost Walk, Valerie Stafford, was just voted Woman of the Year by Skagit Women’s Alliance & Network. Congratulations Val, from your

friends at the Concrete Heritage Museum.

The museum board sends an official thank-you to Town of Concrete for the microfilm reader, which is now housed in our library archives. It will come in handy.

Election of officers is scheduled for the November meeting. Museum members are encouraged to come and vote; your input is always welcome. Look for Robin at the Christmas Bazaar at the high school Nov. 14–15; she will be selling museum items as well as her books, a percentage of which she gives to the museum.

The Centennial reprint of *So They Called the Town Concrete* is still available. The new edition features enhanced photographs and a more readable font. New cover graphics were done by Philip Johnson. Copies are available at Albert’s Red Apple (at the lottery counter; please pay for it there) and the museum. An order form also may be printed at our Web site: www.stumpranchonline.com/concreteheritagemuseum.

WANTED: New Museum Association members! Support your local historical museum.

—Dan Royal

At the Upper Skagit Library

The mishmash of statistics in this article show just how “connected” many Americans are these days.

The upper Skagit area lacks the high-speed connectivity, the reliable cell phone service, and the economic ability to own the latest of the fastest and the best. As a result, very few of us are able to keep up with technology that changes before our eyes. (These numbers come from a person who is able to keep up.)

As of August, 78 percent of American adults use the Internet, and 62 percent have broadband at home. Sixty-five percent of Internet users are on social networking sites. Fifty-five percent share photos, 37 percent contribute rankings and ratings, 33 percent create content tags, 14 percent are bloggers, and 13 percent use Twitter.

Eighty-four percent of American adults use mobile phones, the fastest growing consumer technology. At 327.6 million and counting, there are more phones than people in the U.S.

Fifty-six percent of adults own laptops, 52 percent own DVRs, 44 percent own MP3 players, 42 percent own game consoles, 12 percent own eBook readers, and 9 percent have tablets.

Fifty percent of all adults (77 percent of teenagers) use social networking sites. People over age 65 are a fast-growing group for adoption of social networking.

Back to Earth: Play and Learn for the 3- to 5-year-olds is on Fridays at 10. During the past few years, many articles have stressed how important it is for toddlers to have math, science, and reading skills before starting school. It influences their entire school life and all the rest of their lives as a result. There are many programs—Thrive by 5, Play & Learn, Mother Goose Programs—that help train parents to play an interactive role with their child during play and reading time.

Nov. 10 will be the Public Budget Hearing at 5 p.m., followed by the regular board meeting, at the library.

—Aimee Hirschel

Kilroy’s Korner

By John Boggs

A second Concrete Veterans Stand-down will take place Nov. 5.

On that day, the efforts of many will come together to give thanks to those veterans in our community in a tangible way.

The volunteers who will make this demonstration possible are truly remarkable. Although not all our volunteers are veterans, that spirit of stepping forward and doing what needs to be done is the embodiment of what our veterans are all about. They too did what needed to be done when they were called upon.

The current battle to be waged is against the upcoming harsh winter weather. We will not be able to magically fix all the



problems that affect homeless veterans in our community during our one-day event, but we can show them that there are people who care enough to say “thanks” in a tangible and meaningful way. Such efforts are key instruments in building not only our community as a whole, but our own personal character. The common ground we find and the bonds we forge during our struggles against common foes bind us together and enable us to meet other challenges.

Although I am known as one of those people who can find fault with just about everything, I also wish to give praise where it is due. To that end, I must say that I am very proud of this community and how it can pull together in the face of life’s challenges. On that positive note, I wish to thank you for your support and announce the end of this column. I believe the column has run its course and is no substitute for seeking the assistance from a trained veterans’ service officer.



Pulitzer Prize-winning author William Dietrich visited the Upper Skagit Library Oct. 20 to share thoughts from his illustrious career and writing process with an eager crowd. Dietrich is shown with Friends of the Upper Skagit Library President Carol Fabrick, drawing the winning ticket that night for the group’s quilt raffle. The winner was Loren Senge.

Friends of the Upper Skagit Library had another successful year. The funds we raise are used to purchase equipment and materials for the Upper Skagit Library, to provide library card scholarships to Concrete students, and to support special events for the community.

We thank everyone who donated books and baked goods for our sales, along with all those who bought those items. This year we also had a quilt raffle. The beautiful quilt donated by Betty Knopes, mother of our library director Aimee Herschel, was raffled off the evening of Oct. 20. We were fortunate to sell all 500 tickets and appreciate all those who purchased them. Loren Senge was the lucky winner of the quilt this year. A big thank-you goes to Ember LaBounty for the wonderful job she did providing us with those great raffle tickets. We also extend a thank-you to the following for allowing the Friends to use their locations:

Albert’s Red Apple Market, Concrete Saturday Market, Sauk View Gallery, Robin Wood. Finally, thanks to all the volunteers, both Friends and nonFriends, who put in many hours selling books, baked goods, and raffle tickets. We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested in joining, call me at 360.853.7564.

—Carol Fabrick, president
Friends of the Upper Skagit Library



Academics



Concrete PTO news

By Debbie Ross, president

The November PTO schedule promises much for area families.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Nov. 4–10. These will be half days.

A **Book Fair** will be held in the library Nov. 7–10.

Remember to smile pretty on **K–6 picture retake day**, Nov. 9.

Our **Food Drive** will be held this year from Nov. 7–18.

In honor of **Veterans Day**, there will be no school Nov. 11. Why not head to Veterans Memorial Park (formerly Town Park) to attend the memorial dedication ceremony at 11:11 a.m.? See the “In the Service” entry on p. 7 for more information.

Chinese Acrobats will wow us on Nov. 17 at 1 p.m., in the gym.

Finally, **Thanksgiving** break will run from Nov. 23–25. Enjoy your turkey and time with family.

Box tops are in! Thanks and congratulations to **Tyler Kidder** for

bringing in more than 500 box tops! We are still collecting Campbell’s Soup labels (bar code only), and we are going to start collecting the pull tabs from aluminum cans. The money collected will go to Ronald McDonald House.

A big thanks goes to all students who participated in the **Believe catalog sales**. We were able to raise \$4,000, and the products should be in before Thanksgiving break.

We still have some **yearbooks** leftover from last year. Anyone who wants one should head to the elementary school office with checkbook in hand!

The next **PTO meeting** is Nov. 14, 2:45 p.m. in the library. Please plan to attend. For more information, send an e-mail to concretek6pto@yahoo.com.

Community Bazaar slated for Nov. 12–13

This year’s Concrete Community Bazaar will be held Nov. 12–13, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, in the Concrete High School gym.

“Look for a day of holiday fun, food, and entertainment,” said organizer Gladys Silrus.

The bazaar will include a variety of vendors, such as woodwork, crochet items, Christmas wreaths, baked goods, homemade fudge, beadwork, soaps and lotions, jewelry, and more. The Concrete 4-H club will offer breakfast and lunch as a fundraiser.

For more info or to sign up as a vendor, call Silrus at 360.826.4848.

2011 Magic of Christmas Parade

Saturday December 3rd

Activities begin at 3PM

Free Pony & Train rides

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Interview pitfalls to avoid

(ARA) — In a world where the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported a 9.1 percent national unemployment rate in August, with Skagit County faring slightly worse at 9.2 percent in September, one might think that every job candidate would display proper interview etiquette. After all, competition for employment is at an all-time high. However, many people arrive for an interview unprepared to fulfill professional expectations of the process. For those fortunate enough to land an interview, there are a few rules you can follow to help avoid common interview pitfalls.

Arrive on time
Arriving late for an interview does not bode well for your claims of responsibility. You might even consider making a dry run from your home to the job site at the same time of day you are to be there.

Wear appropriate business attire
What you wear to an interview factors in to the impression you make, so dress appropriately. It may not be appropriate to wear a suit and tie for every interview, as some positions do not require this formality. However, if you decide to wear a tie to an interview, choose one that is darker than your suit.

Rule No. 1 for the ladies? No revealing blouses. “Don’t show one little bit of cleavage,” said Micki Holliday, director of career services at Brown Mackie College in Kansas City, Kan. “Some companies may refuse to proceed with an interview. They want to steer clear of any possibility of a sexual harassment lawsuit.”

Shoes are every bit as important as clothes. “Recruiters look at shoes. If they’re dirty, scuffed, and unpolished, it’s a sign that the candidate is not attentive to his or her own professionalism,” Holliday said.

Don’t smell like smoke
“Many different employers have told me that smokers do not get top priority,” said Holliday. Workers who take smoke breaks are less productive than their counterparts are, and in general, smokers cost employers more in health care.

A study by the American Lung Association quantifies the cost of lost

productivity and health care expenditures, in addition to costs related to premature deaths. Total cost to the U.S. economy each year? More than \$3 billion.

“As more and more businesses prohibit smoking both inside and outside of the building, smoking is a growing issue in the workplace,” said Holliday.

Forbes.com concurs with this advice, adding that the smell of smoke connotes irresponsibility.

Limit jewelry
Too much jewelry can be a distraction. Some people fiddle with jewelry during the interview, which often is interpreted as nervousness. Holliday recommends limiting jewelry to three pieces. While it is common today to see young people on the street with facial piercings, and even tongue piercings, Holliday sees this as less than professional and appealing to the employer. “If you usually wear five earrings, just wear one on each ear for an interview,” she said.

No cell phone calls
Answering a cell phone call during an interview will not make you seem important. Chances are it will lower your chances of being hired. A Monster.com survey indicated this as one of the six most common interview mistakes. Holliday recommends turning off your cell phone before an interview or just don’t take it in an interview.

What do you do if you forget and it happens to ring? “Silence the phone at once and apologize for the interruption.”

Focus on specific competencies
Many interviewers begin with a general question just to break the ice. When an interviewer says, “Tell me something about yourself,” relate your answer to an aspect of the job rather than talking about your hobbies.

A common mistake many candidates make is to not answer the specific question asked. Listen carefully to the question and keep your answers brief. Don’t speak for longer than 90 seconds.

Some interviews end with, “Is there anything you want to add concerning your appropriateness for the job?” Again, the answer should focus on the position you are there to secure. Just don’t say, “I’m the best person you could hire.”

“This display of ego generally kills any chance you may have had to work there,” said Holliday.

Eagles, cont. from p. 1

Andy Kollar, the state representative for the Eagles’ Grand Aerie (corporate headquarters) got involved. LaJoye and Jass set to work, with Kollar keeping them accountable.

“He made sure everything was on track, that we were being responsible with the money,” said LaJoye.

The aerie secured a \$22,000 loan with Summit Bank, on top of an existing \$20,000 loan. The aerie’s doors stayed closed for three months while they paid off creditors with the loan, then reopened in November 2010.

Digging out
Since the aerie opened its doors again, its recovery has been nothing short of amazing. It had taken financial and emotional hits; Jass and LaJoye knew they needed to address both.

Jass handled the finances, trimming the fat from every area of operation he could find. He switched the aerie’s 10-yard waste receptacle to a 5-yard one. He cancelled the building’s long-distance

service. He shut off the water in the unused building. The aerie changed its gambling license from a Class C, which cost the aerie \$2,000 per year, to a Class A, at \$600 per year. They stopped leaving the lights and heat on at night. They installed security cameras to address loss prevention. And they decided how much liquor belonged in a shot glass, then told the bartenders to stick to that amount.

When the aerie closed, nobody contacted any of its vendors or utilities, so Jass and LaJoye had a stack of bills to deal with right out of the starting gate.

Members joined in the battle to save the aerie. Rick Neumann, a licensed plumber and HVAC worker, donated his time to address any work that required his expertise. Gary Johnson and LaJoye’s wife, Lisa, continue to volunteer their time as secretaries for the aerie and the Eagles Auxiliary, respectively. Johnson cooks as a volunteer too.

Garry LaJoye and Gary Johnson sat down to rally the troops. Johnson wrote a letter for LaJoye to send to all members, urging people to come back and volunteer.

Youth Dynamics to host dessert social

Many of us don’t exactly look forward to Monday nights. But Concrete teens do. The dullness of “just another school night” was snapped on Mon., Sept. 26, when Concrete Youth Dynamics held its annual “Kick Off the Year BBQ/Game Night.”

Normally this event is held at Veterans Memorial Park, but because of the rain we moved it to the elementary school gym. Our outdoor games were shrunk down to fit into a gym full of high school students who were bouncing off the walls after anticipating YD’s start-up. We still barbequed (outside and under cover) and fed 49 students. The students were then divided into small groups, and we had great discussions on what they wanted to get out of the school year and Youth Dynamics, and talked out about their future hopes and dreams. The following Monday we moved outdoors to play capture the flag at the Massingales’ place in Van Horn (thanks, Jim and Angela).

It was a new place to play, and the 61 students who showed up to run through the dark in search of glow sticks quickly found themselves pulling blackberry thorns from their shins. Who shows up to run through the trees and bushes with shorts on? Apparently, several people. We had an outstanding group discussion

around the fire that night about what/who affects our decision-making, the value of our choices, and the value of our parents.

Two weeks ago we hosted our annual Cardboard Gladiator Night in the elementary school gym. Fifty-one high school students outfitted each other in cardboard body armor, helmets, and weapons, and were then run through an obstacle course and into a mock battle.

This one seems to be a favorite every year. Matthew Williams spoke to the teens that night about loneliness, and how our hope is in faith first, and then family. On Oct. 17 we had our Fall Rave, a dance in which nearly 90 high schoolers dressed up in wild clothing, fastened their glow



The YD Rave on Oct. 17 drew almost a hundred high school students. *Photo by Paul Rider.*

The aerie membership currently stands at 170 men and 67 women on the Auxiliary.

Jass has since moved out of the area and LaJoye has joined forces with Rich Post. The two are dedicated to running the aerie like a business, which has brought some grumbling from the members. Not all of their decisions have been popular.

“I got rid of some people because they were bad for the club,” said LaJoye, who laid off the bar manager to save that position’s \$10-per-hour pay. Now the aerie has volunteer bartenders. “The whole organization is volunteer,” said LaJoye.

The aerie’s penny-pinching paid off: In about a year, that pair of loans that totaled \$42,000 has been paid off.

Part of the community
LaJoye and Post have big plans for the aerie. It will remain as a gathering place for members, but they want to stitch it back into the fabric of the community.

“We want to turn the Concrete Eagles back into a community club,” said Post.

To that end, the aerie allows non-members to enjoy dinner there when a

sticks, and danced their faces off. We have many other Monday night events planned throughout the school year, along with many outdoor adventure retreats.

Concrete Youth Dynamics also will host a Dessert Social at the high school Commons on Sun., Nov. 13, at 6 p.m. This will give everyone an opportunity to come find out what we are all about, how to get involved, and how to support us. We love this community we live in and the young people that we are so fortunate to have living here. Let’s make a difference in their lives together!

—Kevik and Marta Rensink, directors
Concrete Youth Dynamics

member signs them in. And the trustees have begun transforming the basement of the east building into a youth center for Concrete youth ages 12 to 18. Post said he became an Eagles trustee primarily to bring back the youth center the aerie had many years ago, and he’s already put his money where his mouth is.

“It’s not going to be a place for kids to hang out and loiter,” he said. “I want it to be a stepping stone for their lives.”

Post plans to host a monthly job fair and bring in military recruiters. He’ll line up help for students to get their GED. He wants two computer terminals for supervised Internet access, so kids can track WorkSource offerings. The aerie hosted a moonlight dance Oct. 29, and Post also wants it to serve as a home base for youth to connect with community needs. If they make a little money, good.

“We’ll help our elderly with yard work. We’ll shovel snow. We’ll stack firewood. The kids in Concrete are super-bright. They need as much support as they can get,” he said.

—J. K. M.

Concrete Youth Dynamics Dessert Social

Nov. 13, 6 to 8 p.m.

CHS Commons

Learn more about YD
Get involved
Support our kids!

Youth Dynamics meets Monday nights during the school year, from 7 to 9 p.m.
For more information, call 360.630.6063.

“His Kids” Fall Fun Nights

1st & 3rd Sundays, thru June 2012
6:30 to 8 p.m.

Community Bible Church Concrete

Songs! Games! Snacks! Stories!
360.873.4348/debkayr@hotmail.com



Clear Lake



November calendar full for Community Covenant Church celebrates its 60th birthday Nov. 6

A sneak peek at the bulletin for Community Covenant of Clear Lake reveals a busy month ahead for the congregation and community.

On Sat., Nov. 5, the church will welcome Judy Peterson, campus pastor at North Park University in Chicago, for a church leadership retreat. Peterson, who will be in town for the weekend, will speak at other area covenant churches too. The Clear Lake event is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; admission is \$12.

The congregation will celebrate the church’s 60th anniversary on Sun., Nov. 6, with a potluck at 1 p.m. and a celebration

service at 2 p.m. Refreshments will follow.

An Advent wreath-making gathering is planned, with two sessions being held on Nov. 16, from 5 to 6 p.m. and from 7 to 8 p.m. Participants will learn about Advent while working on a family-friendly craft project. Attendees of all ages are invited; Cost is a suggested donation of \$5 per wreath.

—J. K. M.

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Initiative 1183 contentious again

Initiative 1183 is back again, up for vote during the Nov. 8 election, and stirring up just as much rancor as it did the first time around.

The initiative, which seeks to privatize liquor sales in Washington, is being driven by retail powerhouse Costco in a bid to gain the revenue that currently is being used by the state to fund a number of programs.

Costco has spent upwards of \$22 million in advertising to push the initiative, which is opposed by groups such as the Washington Food Industry Association. Both sides urge voters to be informed when they vote this November.

To that end, here is a summary of the key elements of the second incarnation of I-1183, as explained by the Distilled Spirits Council, which claims neutrality on the issue of liquor privatization.

- I-1183 would allow retailers to sell to retailers. This would create a second wholesale tier, which would mean an extra middleman and increased costs to the consumer.
- I-1183 would require a spirits retailer to have at least 10,000 square feet of retail space. This would severely limit the opportunity for small business growth and customer convenience.
- Initiative 1183 would greatly reduce competition in the marketplace by extending franchise protection to the wholesalers of spirits. Simply put, this means a wholesaler would essentially be unaccountable for the

service it provides to retailers and for the prices it charges. This in turn would reduce customer convenience, service, choice, and competitive pricing.

The Washington Food Industry Association has distributed handouts calling out what it sees as flaws in the revised initiative that will harm its members. It says the initiative is “written by the very largest retailers, to their own benefit and disadvantages the state’s independent and family-owned retailers and grocery stores from delivering the same quality and value products to their customers.

—J. K. M.

Source: www.understand1183.com

November Veterans Stand-downs

Concrete Stand-down Nov. 5

Contacts:
Mike Abbott, Skagit County Veterans Asst. Fund
360.853.7009, mikea@valleyint.com

Lou Hillman, East County Resource Center
360.853.7009, louh@skagitcap.org

John Boggs, volunteer
360.853.8347, jboggswash@aol.com

Murle Brown, DAV Service Officer (Wed.)
East County Resource Center
360.853.7009

Sedro-Woolley Stand-down Nov. 11

Contacts:
Carmina Villalobos
Skagit County Community Action Veteran Svcs.
360.416.7585

Mike Abbott, service officer
360.853.7009, mikea@valleyint.com

Larry VanDyke
Veterans Advisory Board/MC League
360.757.7738, larry.vandyke@p-h-s.com

Bill Adamek, Skagit County WorkSource
360.416.3572, wadamek@valleyint.com

Evelyn’s

Gary B’s Church Of Blues
Sundays • 6 to 10 p.m.

- \$1 Draft Happy Hour
- Cocktails & 10 beers on tap
- Kegs for rent
- Daily drink specials
- Open mic Tuesday nights!

Fri.-Sun. 9 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Mon.-Thur. Noon to 2 a.m.

360.856.0443
12667 SR 9, Clear Lake

Community Calendar

NOVEMBER

1–12/2 Lyman Angel Tree adoptions available; info at oney_brat@yahoo.com or 360.826.3818

4 End of Concrete High School Homecoming week

4 Spaghetti Feed to benefit Sedro-Woolley Museum, Joy’s Bakery, downtown Sedro-Woolley, 4 to 7 p.m.; \$8 admission; tickets at Joy’s Bakery and Sedro-Woolley Museum

5 Concrete Stand-down for area veterans, various locations in Concrete, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see “In the Service,” p. 7

6 Community Covenant of Clear Lake’s 60th birthday celebration; potluck at 1 p.m., service at 2 p.m.; see notice, p. 14; info at 360.856.1023

8 General Election: Ballots must be postmarked by today, all ballot boxes close at 8 p.m.; info at scelections@co.skagit.wa.us or 360.336.9305

8 Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center volunteer training meeting, at the center in Rockport, 6:30 p.m.; info at sauksister@valleyint.com

10 Free Film Night: “Consider the Conversation: A Documentary on a Taboo Subject” (perspectives on end-of-life care), Concrete Theatre, 6 p.m.; free admission; info at valerie@concrete-theatre.com

11 Veterans Day

11 Sedro-Woolley Stand-down for area veterans, American Legion Post 43, 701 Murdock St.; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see “In the Service,” p. 7

11 Concrete Veterans Memorial dedication, Veterans Memorial Park (formerly Town Park), Concrete; 11:11 a.m.; info at 360.853.8401

11 Last day for SW Community Troop Support donations and name submissions for Christmas care packages; info at swctsgroup@gmail.com or 360.826.3818

12 Cajun Dance, Marblemount Community Hall, see notice, p. 26; admission by donation to Marblemount Fire Dept.; info at 360.873.4201.

12–13 Concrete Community Bazaar, Concrete High School gym, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; info and vendor sign-up details at 360.826.4848 or 360.853.8505

13 Youth Dynamics awareness/fundraising event, Concrete High School Commons room, 6 to 8 p.m.; info at 360.630.6063

14 Concrete Veterans Day Parade, Concrete Town Center, 1 p.m.; info at 360.826.3406

17 KSVU ribbon-cutting, portable B near Concrete Elementary School, 4:30 p.m.; info at 360.416.7711 or rip.robbins@skagit.edu

17 Skagit County Community Services community forum, Sedro-Woolley Senior Center, 715 Pacific St., 6 to 7:30 p.m.

19 Darrington High School Hall of Fame inductees ceremony, Darrington High School Auditorium, 7 p.m.; info at 360.435.2448

DECEMBER

1 Skagit County Community Services community forum, Concrete Center, 45821 Railroad St., 6 to 7:30 p.m.

2 Skagit River Interpretive Center open through Jan. 29, Rockport, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; info at www.skagiteagle.org or 360.853.7626

3 Magic of Christmas Parade, downtown Sedro-Woolley, activities at 3 p.m., tree-lighting at 5 p.m., followed by parade; info at 360.855.1841 or www.sedro-woolley.com

4 Marblemount Community Hall Brunch & Bazaar, Marblemount; see notice, p. 26; info at 360.873.4631

5 Lyman Angel Tree deadline for gifts due to Town Hall; info at oney_brat@yahoo.com or 360.826.3818

10 All Children’s Christmas Party, Shopping, & Lunch, American Legion, Concrete Town Center, 1 to 4 p.m.; info at 360.853.8940

10 Christmas Parade, Concrete Town Center, 6 p.m.; info at gsilrus@frontier.com or 360.826.4848

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

Community meetings

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

Concrete Chamber of Commerce meets the second Thur. of each month at 8 a.m. Meetings usually are held at Hi. Lo. Country Bar & Grill, 7296 Baker St., Concrete Town Center. 360.466.8754 or concretechamber@mac.com.

Concrete Eagles Aerie 1444 holds Aerie meetings the first and third Wed. of each month at 7:30 p.m., and Auxiliary meetings the first and third Tue. at 7:30 p.m., at 45930 Main St., Concrete. tuffenuf1@frontier.com.

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

Concrete School Board will meet Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. in the high school Commons. The board will hold a workshop Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. in the high school Commons. 360.853.8141.

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

Darrington Area Business Assn (DABA) 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 Town Hall, 1005 Cascade St., at 7 p.m. 360.436.1131 or darrcityhall@glacierview.net.

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

Friends of Upper Skagit Library meets annually in Feb. each year. 360.853.8549 or uslfriends@gmail.com.

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 second Wed. of each month in the Pilots’ Lounge at Mears Field in Concrete, at 6 p.m. 360.853.8213 or goodwords@frontier.com.

KSVU 90.1 FM meets the last Thur. of each month (except Nov. and Dec. 2011) at portable classroom B near the Concrete Elementary School campus, at 4, 5, and 6 p.m. (the 4 and 6 p.m. meetings are identical). 360.416.7711 or rip.robbins@skagit.edu.

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.

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

Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce 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 the second and fourth Monday of each month at locations TBA, at 7 p.m. Its Nov. 14 meeting will be held at the Support Service Building at 317 Yellow Ln., off Cook Rd. Its Nov. 28 meeting will be held at Samish Elementary School. 360.855.3500 or rmiller@swsd.k12.wa.us.

Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center volunteer training meeting, Nov. 8, 6:30 p.m. at the Interpretive Center in Rockport. sauksister@valleyint.com.

**To add your organization’s meeting to this list, e-mail editor@concrete-herald.com or call 360.853.8213.*

Concrete Community Bazaar

Nov. 12–13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Concrete High School gymnasium

Holiday fun, food, & entertainment!

Breakfast and lunch fundraiser for Concrete 4-H

Ovenell’s Ranch: Buy 10 lbs. of burger, donate 1 lb. to Concrete Food Bank, and Ovenell’s will match it with a second lb.!

Vendor fee proceeds to go Friends Helping Friends
Questions? 360.826.4848 or 360.853.8505



SW Community Troop Support collecting donations till Nov. 11

Sedro-Woolley Community Troop Support will collect donations until Veterans Day, Nov. 11, for its Christmas care packages being sent to military members serving overseas.

Work parties will be held beginning Nov. 15 at the group’s warehouse in Sedro-Woolley to begin assembling care package boxes. For more information or to volunteer, contact Chairperson Marilyn Pineda at 360.202.8128. Volunteers are needed to ensure packages are ready for mailing before Thanksgiving.

The organization will accept names through Nov. 11 of loved ones serving overseas. Names can be submitted by visiting the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/swcts or contacting SWCTS at swctsgroup@gmail.com. Submissions need to include the recipient’s full name and complete mailing address. Make sure the

destination country also is clearly marked.

Cash donations are greatly appreciated and will be used for postage, phone cards, boot, socks, and more. Cards and letters for Christmas care package recipients also are encouraged, since military members love to receive cards of love and support from home. Cash donations, cards, and letters can be sent to SWCTS, P.O. Box 817, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

Abundant drop-off points

There are multiple donation drop-off locations from Rockport to Anacortes, and areas in between. A list of drop-off locations and suggested donated items can be found online at www.swcommunitytroopsupport.com.

For more information on volunteering, donations, or submitting a name, contact SWCTS Upriver Liaison Tammie Werner at 360.826.3818.

—Tammie Werner

Shop to help Sedro-Woolley youth

It’s back! The second annual Holiday Shopping Extravaganza to support the Sedro-Woolley Boys & Girls Club will be held Wed., Nov. 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Sedro-Woolley Community Center, located at 703 Pacific Street in Sedro-Woolley.

Maximize your dollars by shopping early while supporting the Boys & Girls Club. Proceeds directly benefit Academic Success and Healthy Lifestyles Programs at the Boys & Girls Club.

Many sought-after vendors will be on hand, including Silpada, Scentsy, Cookie Lee, Tupperware, Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, Miche Bags, 3, crafts, and more. No cost to attend.

For more information please contact Jill Reid at jreid@bgcskagit.org or 360.856.1830. Check off your Christmas lists while benefiting our youth.

—Jill Reid

Briefly ...

Woolley Fiber Quilters will bring Northwest quilter and author Kathy McNeil to Sedro-Woolley for an evening lecture Jan. 20, and a two-day quilting class, Jan. 21–22. McNeil is widely known for her expertise in landscape quilting and innovative techniques. Admission for the lecture only is \$10; the full class and lecture admission is \$80.

For more information and to preregister and prepay, call 360.770.1893 or 360.422.3788.

A **spaghetti feed** to benefit the Sedro-Woolley Museum is planned for Nov. 4, from 4 to 7 p.m., at Joy’s Bakery & Cafe in downtown Sedro-Woolley, which is sponsoring the event. Tickets are available at Joy’s or the museum.

Students from several area schools, accompanied by the S-W fire and police departments, will walk in the **Veterans Day Parade** in downtown Sedro-Woolley Nov. 10 at 1:15 p.m. All are welcome to support them as they stroll along Metcalf.

Stafford, cont. from p. 1

asked to describe their achievements in their profession, as well as explain how they’ve promoted professionalism among women in business and contributed to their community.

The SWAN board narrows the applicant pool to five finalists, who are scored and interviewed. The board then chooses the winner.

“Being named the Woman of the Year is a huge honor and a highlight of my career,” said Stafford after the ceremony. “I’m especially pleased to represent eastern Skagit County, and hope this brings extra attention to the positive changes happening here.”

Stafford’s contributions to the communities of eastern Skagit County are numerous. She is president of the Concrete Chamber of Commerce. She and her husband, Fred West, own Concrete Theatre, which screens mainstream and thought-provoking movies every weekend. She owns Encore Fitness, whose Zumba classes are perhaps its most visible offering. She also teaches online classes on wellness, physical education, domestic violence, and sexual assault via Skagit Valley College-Oak Harbor. And her day

job (yes, there’s more) is communications director at United General Hospital, where she juggles public relations, marketing, advertising, and special events.

Stafford always seems to be in motion—ask anybody. As Chamber president, she’s responsible for numerous events that already have become synonymous with Concrete. The Mardi Gras parade, Fall Color Festival, Ghost Walk, Cement City Street Fair—all are children of Stafford’s brain. When lack of funding forced the Skagit River Bald Eagle Awareness Team to end its popular eagle festival, Stafford and the Chamber drew alongside and revived it as the Skagit Eagle Festival.

Always willing to lend her brain power, Stafford sits on the steering committee for Imagine Concrete and is lending input to a newly formed committee that is examining Concrete’s options for revitalizing its town center to help jump-start economic development in Concrete and surrounding areas.

Leaving the past to create a future

Valerie Stafford’s story is even more inspiring when one considers the grit and determination she mustered to reach her current position.

“People say I wear a lot of hats, but over

the years I’ve worn a lot of labels,” she said during her Oct. 20 acceptance speech.

Those labels included “high school dropout,” “battered woman,” and “alcoholic.” At one point she found herself on welfare, living on \$400 a month and food stamps, and picking roadside blackberries so she could feed herself and her two children.

Stafford pushed back. She went to Skagit Valley College and earned her GED. She earned an AA degree too, then a BA, then a masters. She worked three jobs in three different towns. And slowly emerged the woman we know today.

“I couldn’t have survived all of this, I wouldn’t be where I am today, if it weren’t for a lot of strong, smart women who helped me along the way,” said Stafford at the ceremony. “I want to thank these women and all the others, who looked beyond the labels and saw the potential that I didn’t even know I had.

“I owe much of my success to the wonderful people in the Concrete community who’ve supported my projects and gone along with my crazy ideas. I’m very proud to say I live in Concrete,” she said.

—J. K. M.

2011 Magic of Christmas Parade hits the streets Dec. 3

One of Sedro-Woolley’s most beloved—and well-lit—events will stroll down Metcalf Dec. 3.

Sponsored by a slew of area businesses and presented by United General Hospital, the 2011 Magic of Christmas Parade “pre-game” fun begins at 3 p.m.:

- Free pony and train rides on Woodworth Street
- Children’s activities and crafts at S-W Community Fellowship, 817 Metcalf
- Community caroling at Hammer Heritage Square (contact the Chamber if your group wants to perform)
- Trolley rides; donations benefit the Allison Clark Memorial Fund

A 5 p.m. tree-lighting ceremony will kick off the “Parade of Lights.” After the parade, Santa will greet children at the Eagles building, 1000 Metcalf Street.

December 10 events will be published in the December issue of *Concrete Herald*.

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S-W author pens new romantic suspense novel

What if you took a new job in an unfamiliar place, and suddenly someone wanted you dead? So begins award-winning Sedro-Woolley author Liz Adair’s latest novel, *Cold River*.

Adair’s lead character, Mandy Steenburg, thinks her doctorate in education has prepared her to run any school district—until she tangles with the moonshine-making, coon dog-owning denizens of Limestone, Washington, a tiny district in Pacific Northwest timber country. She’s determined to make a difference, but the local populace still looks to the former superintendent for leadership. When Mandy lands in the middle of an old feud and someone keeps trying to kill her, instinct tells her to run. And though she has to literally swim through perilous waters, she finds a reason to stay and chance the odds.

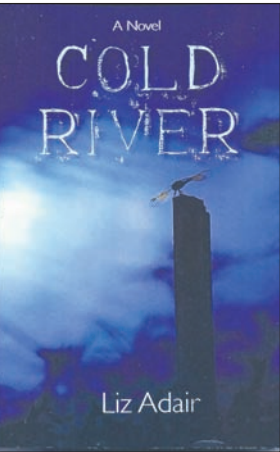
The novel is “a valentine to the town of Concrete, Washington,” Adair writes in her acknowledgements. Thirty years ago, Adair taught in Concrete for a year, and said that Limestone is based on “wispy memory fragments” from her time in Concrete.

As the novel unfolds, the characters and events pick up speed until they are thrust

together and pushed into a logjam of their own making. Between the growing tension and the evocative descriptions of nature, the reader will come away with a new appreciation for this unusual corner of the Pacific Northwest.

Adair wrote three mystery novels before moving into the romantic suspense genre. She won the 2009 Whitney Award in the romance category for her novel, *Counting the Cost*, which also was a finalist for the Willa Award and the Arizona Publisher Association’s Glyph Award.

Adair will host a publication party at the Sedro-Woolley Public Library at 802 Ball St., on Dec. 8, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Copies of *Cold River* and apple pies will be offered as door prizes. A reading from the novel and book-signing are on the agenda; the novel will be available for sale too.



Angele Cupples



Community Garden

The Angele Cupples Community Garden owes its existence to the following individuals, businesses, and organizations who donated time, money, and material support toward its creation and maintenance.

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous
Floyd Anderson
David & Rebecca Atwood
Margie Bell
James Brangham
Tim Bridge
Kay Brown
Conrad Claybo
Monica Crosson
Kevin & Karna Cupples
Robert Cupples
Olivia Davis
Joseph DiLeo
Lillian DiLeo
Robert DiLeo, Jr.
Robert DiLeo, Sr.
James & Sharon Dillon
Jason Driver
Allen & Carol Fabrick
Karen Ganion
Josh Gentry
Lynette Gentry

Maryka Gentry
Evalyn Goeringer
Barb Hawkings
Chad Hawkings
Jim & Lou Hillman
Chris Jansen
Drake Jansen
Eric Jonson
Kyle Jonson
Tom Jones
Peter & Susan (Cupples)
Kirchner
Frank Knight
Lonna & Jasmine Lloyd
Jack Mears
Jason Miller
James & Stephanie Morga-
reidge
Larry Mosby
Bill Newby
Denise Newman
Sarah Newman
Randy ...

Jim Parker
Don Payne
Dan Pfluger
Rich Phillips
Cheryl Prier
Darrel & Marla Reed
Beverly Richmond
Paul Rider
Jerry Robinson
Ed Rogge
Don & Carol Rohan
Tom Rose
Steve & Charisse Scheer
Tim & Lise Sconce
Jerrie Sheppard
David Soule
Daniel Starks
Keith & Susan Taxdahl
Nicolette Thornton
KC Tonkyn
Jose Torres
Michael Vandenberg
Alan Wilkins

Judd and Crissie Wilson
Barbara Withrow
Gerald & Robin Wood
Michelle Yarber
Ann Young
Bill & Diane Young

BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

2G’s Mobile Café
Advanced H2O
Alpine Lakes Construction
Annie’s Pizza Station
Cascade Burgers
Cascade Supply
Chatrone LLC
Concrete Herald
Concrete Lions Club
Concrete Rebekah Lodge
No. 226 I.O.O.F.
Concrete Senior Center
First Bloom
Hi. Lo. Country Bar & Grill

Jericho Farm
North Cascade Lawn Maintenance
North Cascades Institute
Northwest Cedar Salvage
Northwest Garden Bling
Payne Enterprises
Perks Espresso & Deli
RadioDownSound.com
School’s Out Washington
Taxdahl Construction
Town of Concrete
Upper Valley Awareness Task Force

Want your name on this sign?
Help support Concrete’s first community garden with a donation of your time or money.

For more information, contact:

Jason Miller: 360.853.8213 or goodwords@frontier.com
Marla Reed: 360.391.2589 or marla.mr@frontier.com



Lyman



Message from the mayor

By Mayor Debra Heinzman



We have received a letter of intent for the open council position. As we start into 2012, with some upcoming items on the agenda, a full council is important.

The Property Tax Levy public hearing is Tue., Nov. 8, at 6:30 p.m., just prior to the regular council meeting. Residents are encouraged to come.

If anyone has seen Mark Kitchen out and about the last week, he has been busy doing leak detection. Mark and Cas Hancock have worked to get our water system working smoothly. Thanks to both of you for your diligence.

Concrete Herald
The Voice of Eastern Skagit County

PEDIATRICS now in Sedro-Woolley

with **Brad Berg, MD, PhD**

Skagit Regional Clinics is pleased to bring Pediatrics to their Sedro-Woolley office with Brad Berg, MD, PhD. Dr. Berg is a board certified pediatrician providing health care to children from infancy to 18 years. His focus is on general pediatrics, ADHD, depression and developmental disorders.

Pediatric appointments are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every Thursday in the Sedro-Woolley office. To schedule an appointment in **Sedro-Woolley**, please call (360) 856-4222. If we see an increase in demand for pediatric services for Sedro-Woolley we may be able to add additional days.

Dr. Berg also serves the Mount Vernon office which offers Pediatrics Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To schedule an appointment in **Mount Vernon**, please call (360) 428-2500.

Additional services in our Sedro-Woolley clinic include: Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Optometry and Podiatry. Skagit Regional Clinics is committed to providing all of our communities with compassionate, multi-specialty health care.

Dr. Berg's Education:

- MD - University of Rochester School of Medicine (1999)
- RESIDENCY - Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (Pediatrics-2002)
- FELLOWSHIP - Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (2003)

SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Skagit Regional Clinics
A department of Skagit Valley Hospital

(360) 856-4222 | www.srclinics.org
1990 Hospital Drive, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Stanwood | Sedro-Woolley | Arlington | Anacortes | Oak Harbor | Camano Island

Angel Tree early this year

By Tammie Werner

The Fourth Annual Lyman Angel Tree is under way early this year. The tree is set up in the kitchen at Lyman Town Hall.

Anyone wishing to help those in need in our community can pick angel tags, either online at www.facebook.com/lymanangeltree or by visiting Town Hall during regular office hours and picking tags off the tree.

Tags will give nonidentifying information on children whose families could use assistance this year with the added expense of Christmas. Tags will include as much information as we can provide, such as sizes, hobbies, and specific needs. Choose the tag(s) of your choice and write down your selection on the sign-up sheet. After shopping return the tag with your unwrapped, unopened gifts by Dec. 5. There are no rules for what to purchase; that choice is up to the sponsor.

There also will be generic tags for such things as wrapping paper, socks, hats/mittens, toys, and other needed items. We are opening the tree up earlier this year to allow more shopping time, but items will need to be returned about a week earlier than in the past to give our volunteers time to wrap the presents. Last year we wrapped about 1,000 gifts. All presents must be unwrapped; any gifts we receive wrapped we have to unwrap.

During the summer several ladies have knitted and sewn hats, scarves, and

blankets/afghans/quilts for the Angel Tree. It is our goal again to provide each child with a hat, scarf, mittens, pajamas, socks, and a blanket this year in addition to their gifts. This year tags were made available online in October by popular request; many tags have been taken, but many more are left to be adopted. We have families available to adopt as well, for those people and/or businesses wishing to adopt more than one child. We have families of all sizes; contact Tammie for more information. Watch our Facebook page for updates, new additions, and information about this year's event.

Direct questions to organizer Tammie Werner at 360.826.3818 or oney_brat@yahoo.com. Donations of cash/checks are greatly appreciated to help with additional needed items. Make checks payable to Tammie Werner and drop them at Town Hall or mail to P.O. Box 1372, Lyman, WA 98263.

Volunteers are needed for wrapping, baking and more. Donations of cash, wrapping paper, tape, socks, mittens, and blankets are greatly appreciated!



Submitted photo

Council summary

The Lyman Town Council held a regular meeting on Oct. 18. Following is a summary of that meeting.

- Council members agreed to hold the property tax levy public hearing at 6:30 p.m., prior to the regular council meeting.
- Lyman Elementary School Principal Mark Nilson discussed after-school pickup of children and the Back to School Parade with the council.
- A letter of intent from Mont Heinzman to join the council was discussed; a motion to accept the letter failed.
- See passed ordinances, this page.

Lyman Holiday Food Drive through Nov. 21

Food drop-off points:
Cascade Mercantile, Lyman Post Office, Lyman Town Hall, Food Bank (Thursdays), Lyman Baptist Church.

Donations accepted year-round whenever the food bank or Town Hall are open.

Donation checks are tax-deductible. Send to:
Shepherd's Heart Care Center / Food Bank
P.O. Box 1345
Lyman, WA 98263

Questions? Call 360.424.4927

Lyman Library tales

By Elaine Kohler

New donations have been arriving again, so you may want to stop in and see if they include any of your favorite authors. Some shelves are being blocked while the remodel for the food bank is going on, so please be patient. These changes are making it so much easier for those who run the food bank, and should be completed soon.

I have two books to share with you this month; both deal with people helping others. The first one is *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf. A young girl in need is brought into the care of two old-time farmers, who form a bond of love and caring with her. I seem to remember a movie on this not too

long ago, but the book covers a lot more. The second is *The Persian Pickle Club* by Sandra Dallas. This one takes place during the depression in the '30s. It involves a mystery, and a secret and how the ladies of this quilting group come together to make things right. With all the bad things happening in the world these days, it is nice to read about people doing good things for each other.

The best time to bring donations in is on Thursday, as we are open all day. The food bank is there from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the library is covered from 3 to 6 p.m. They can be left on the shelf marked for donations right next to the door to the kitchen. Remember to let the volunteers know you appreciate them giving their time to maintain the library.



Day Creek



Eco-friendly landscape tips for fall

By Melinda Myers

- Putting your yard to bed for the winter? Try these tips to “go green.”
- Shred fall leaves with your mower and leave them on the lawn.
 - Fertilize your lawn before the ground freezes. Use a slow-release organic nitrogen fertilizer, like Milorganite.
 - Bag any leaves you don't want on the lawn and dig them into flower or vegetable gardens.
 - Use remaining leaves as mulch around perennials, trees, and shrubs.
 - Any leaves left? Start a compost pile by mixing them with other yard waste. Don't add aggressive weeds.

Gardener Melinda Myers is a certified arborist and holds a master's degree in horticulture.

Wild as they should be Feeding raccoons poses serious risks to community.

By Lisa DeRyke

- One of the benefits of living in the upper Skagit river valley is the abundance of wildlife. Although it is tempting to feed these critters, it is not in their best interest and can lead to serious consequences for the community.
- Raccoons in particular are carriers of serious diseases that can be transferred to humans and pets. According to the Seattle and King County Public Health Departments, these diseases include:
- Baylisascaris: A disease caused by an intestinal roundworm that lives in raccoons and can be transferred to humans and pets. It is difficult to diagnose and is often underdiagnosed or mistakenly diagnosed as something else, resulting in permanent brain injury or death. Young children and the developmentally disabled are especially at risk.
 - Symptoms include nausea, fatigue, liver enlargement, loss of coordination, lack of attention to people and surroundings, loss of muscle control, coma and blindness

Community notes

Day Creek is looking for **ideas for community events**—for fun and fundraising. These events will help us get to know our neighbors and help support our fire hall too. Coming events include a music and potluck evening, a firefighters appreciation dinner, movie nights, and “road” potluck parties. Dates for these events will be announced later. If you have an idea, call Donna Pulver at 360.826.3003 or Kathy Henderson at 360.826.3581.

The **Women's Retreat** was a success! Fort Casey was a beautiful and peaceful place, until 29 ladies from Day Creek and the surrounding areas showed up! There was laughter, sparkles, feathers, eating, and fellowship. The speaker, Cheryl Rhoades, inspired in all a deeper yearning to know the “Daddy” side of God and long to be kneeling before the king of kings. **Backyard Bible Clubs** are planned.

For more information on hosting a club or being a helper, contact Sue Walden at 360.826.3944.

Kingdom Builders is on the move. Working with Day Creek Chapel and Fire District 16, Donna Pulver and Kathy Henderson are serving as co-directors of a “helping hands” mission that is working to meet the needs of the Day Creek Community, including:

- Trip to the doctor or hospital
- Picking up groceries
- Home visits
- Simple house or yard work
- Small home repairs
- Help to locate doctors, banks, legal advice, a house- or pet-sitter, and more

Kingdom Builders is a gift-funded mission, using volunteers from Day Creek to reach out with a helping hand to their neighbors. In doing so, we hope to create a strong and healthy community.

The group meets Wednesdays from 6:30

to 8:30 p.m. at Day Creek Chapel. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call 360.826.3003 or 360.826.3581. Any type of help is welcome and no effort is too small.

The **Day Creek Fire Hall** is looking for a community-minded person to take charge of maintenance. Tasks such as lawn mowing, bee control, pressure-washing, etc., are crucial to the upkeep of the hall. If you're interested, call Travis Arendse at 360.826.5125.

A **community bulletin board** has been installed at the Day Creek Fire Hall. Community members are invited to post their business cards, coming events, and Day Creek activities on the board—then contact *Concrete Herald* at 360.853.8213 or editor@concrete-herald.com!

If you have information you want to share, contact Kathy Henderson via e-mail at winningcirlcleranch@gmail.com.

—Kathy Henderson

latrines at the bases of trees, but have also been known to choose rooftops.

Cleaning up a raccoon latrine can put one at serious risk of contracting a disease. Do not handle or smell raccoon feces, and wash your hands thoroughly if you touch any. Contact an experienced wildlife control service for cleaning up raccoon latrines.

Artificial feeding of wildlife can attract more serious predators such as bears, cougars, and coyotes, which poses a real danger to people, pets, and other wildlife. To prevent raccoons from “homesteading” on your property, follow these tips:

- Never deliberately feed raccoons.
- Bring pet food inside at night.
- Close off access to attics, crawl



This 2008 photo shows a raccoon feeding station beneath a truck in the Cape Horn community. Feeding wild animals like raccoons can endanger humans and the animals by causing overpopulation in a small area, and spreading disease and parasites. *Photo by Lisa DeRyke.*



On Oct. 14 two shrubs were transplanted to Garden Club Park in Concrete from a condemned property in the town's Mill Addition neighborhood. **Above left:** Concrete Public Works Director Alan Wilkins carries a shrub in the bucket while using the backhoe to dig a hole for it. **Above right:** Assistant Public Works Director Rich Philips gives a transplanted rhododendron a good soaking to ensure it weathers the transition. Garden Club Park is getting a facelift that will continue in 2012: Old, dying trees are being removed by Concrete Mayor Judd Wilson; other trees will be limbed up or pruned to help open up the space visually. A new sign and perimeter fence also are planned for 2012.



October in pictures



Above: Sherry Hornbeck (center) of Grasmere joined United General Hospital Communications Director Valerie Stafford (left, in purple) for a Zumba demonstration during the Imagine Women's Health Fair at the hospital Oct. 22. The eighth annual health fair focused on bringing "education and inspiration" to area women.



Above: Kaili Hurley, 8, of Lynnwood, tried her feet at grape stomping during the Harvest & Crush Party at Challenger Ridge winery near Concrete Oct. 8. The event included a barbecue, pumpkin bowling, jet boat rides on the Skagit River, and live music.



Above: Festive sunflowers make for a different kind of fall photo. Their stunning yellow blooms graced a plot at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sedro-Woolley, Oct. 12. They were planted by church member Bill Blunt. *Photo by Judy Johnson.*



Above: Cheri Cook-Blodgett and Don Payne posed as ghostly figures from Concrete's past during a special Ghost Walk event at Concrete Theatre Oct. 21. The theater hosted a group of 13 from the Kent Senior Activities Center in Kent. Cook-Blodgett and Payne portrayed Mrs. Henry Thompson and Sheriff Fred Cole, respectively, during this year's Concrete Ghost Walk, which was held every Saturday night in October. *Concrete Herald* publisher and editor Jason Miller also was on hand for the Oct. 21 event, portraying former *Concrete Herald* publisher and editor Charles M. Dwellley.



Above: Ruth Dorsey of Anacortes snapped a photo of Christmas lights along the roof line of the Aero Skagit Building in Concrete Oct. 8. Dorsey was one of several photographers who came to town for the Fall Color Photo Workshop taught by professional photographer Matt Brown of Anacortes. "I'm working on a 'Christmas in October' theme," said Dorsey.

Right: Town of Concrete staff walked through the Superior Building in Concrete with interested architects Oct. 13. Five firms were in town to tour the building with the intent of submitting proposals to the town for a feasibility study. Shown during a discussion are Public Works Director Alan Wilkins (left, with back to camera), Community Stew Director Eric Archuleta (center), Concrete Town Planner Jeroldine Hallberg (with yellow pad), and Concrete Mayor Judd Wilson (right).



Right: A trio of 'Howden' pumpkins from the Angele Cupples Community Garden waited to be claimed at the East County Resource Center in Concrete in mid-October. Grown in the area earmarked for the Concrete Food Bank, the pumpkins were dropped at the center on a day the food bank was closed.

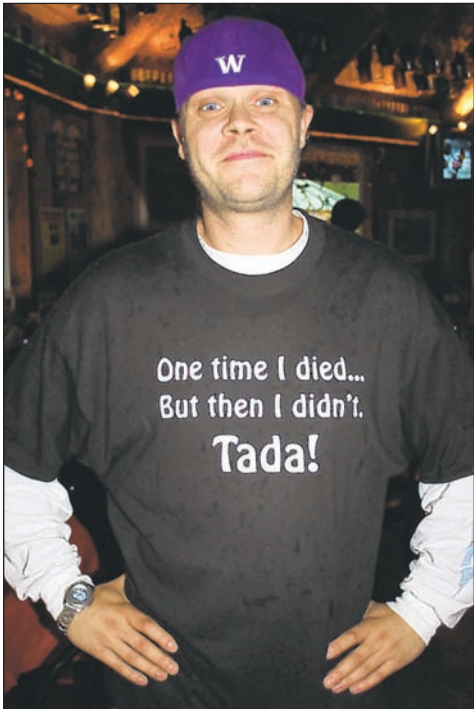


Left: Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon spoke at a Voters Forum in Darrington Oct. 11. Hosted by the Cascade Senior Center, the forum brought members of the public face to face with candidates running for the Darrington School Board, Fire District, and City Council. The event was moderated by the League of Women Voters. *Photo by Leah Tyson.*



Left: Bob Lahr of Concrete discovered this pile of dead humpy salmon left at the mouth of the Baker River the morning of Oct. 13. Lahr counted 52 in the pile and believed they were left by netters. "They were after silvers and took 30 or so," Lahr wrote in a scathing Facebook post. "What a waste of life and food that could have ended up in someone's smoker." *Photo by Bob Lahr.*

Don't miss the Holiday Bazaar!
Nov. 12-13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Concrete High School gymnasium
Vendors call 360.826.4848 or 360.853.8505



Above: Jason Voigt poses during the Cardiac Arrest Fest at Birdview Brewing Co. Oct. 22. His T-shirt recalls a very scary moment in his life: In late 2008, Voigt suffered cardiac arrest caused by Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome. But he didn't die, he lived! Ta-da! Every year since then, the Voigt family has marked the occasion with the festival, with donations going to the cardiac unit at Seattle Children's Hospital. This year's event raised about \$600 for the cause. (Don't bother asking about the intentional misspelling of "Cardiac"; the most I could get out of them was "just because.")



Above: On Oct. 12, the Sedro-Woolley Lions Club presented Helping Hands Food Bank Director Marketa Vorel with a \$500 check to pay for new signage for the Food Bank. The Food Bank recently relocated to 601 Cook Rd., and the signs will help direct the public to the facility, as well as inform how to utilize its services. The funds for this project were raised at the Skagit County Fair Lions concession stand. Thanks to the members of the community for supporting the Sedro-Woolley Lions community projects. From left, Vorel; Lions President Lynn Torset; Lions members John Lee, Wilfred Dow, and Gus Suryan; and Lions Secretary Carol Torset. *Submitted photo.*



Hamilton



Bridge opens on SR 20 near Hamilton

HAMILTON — During every major storm for the last several years, crews have had to battle Red Cabin Creek west of Hamilton to keep State Route 20 open. On Oct. 6, cars began crossing the new bridge over the creek, which will keep the highway open during storms.

The new bridge means safer passage for drivers and fish. When the creek flooded, it wasn't unusual to see fish swimming across the highway. The new streambed should help numerous species of fish—including cutthroat and rainbow trout, and coho, Chinook, and chum salmon—move upstream to spawning grounds.

The total project cost, including design, permits, and construction, was \$5.1 million.

For more information, including photos of the project, go to www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr20/redcabinreek.



A crew from Mount Vernon-based Watershed Environmental Solutions worked Oct. 27 to plant a variety of trees and shrubs along the banks of Red Cabin Creek near the new bridge on SR 20. Superintendent Fred Burkoff told *Concrete Herald* that more than 1,500 individual plants would be dug in along the creek bed. "We'll tend them for a year, then let nature take over," said Burkoff. WSDOT and Interwest Construction crews didn't have to divert the creek during the bridge-building project; it dries up during the summer. East county citizens will enjoy the new amenity, however, once the winter rains begin in earnest.

Hamilton Community Food Bank update

Hamilton Community Food Bank thanks all our donors, volunteers, and clients that we serve. A summary of October follows.

- We served 577 families and 1,555 individuals, and handed out 29,895 lbs. of food, along with 3,525 lbs. of clothes, with 20,606 lbs. of food and clothing donated.
- Our 32 volunteers logged 785 hours.
- We now have 1,057 households in our database, from Marblemount and Darrington to Anacortes and Bow.
- We have added more volunteers each month as they see the need and want to help.
- We will host a Thanksgiving dinner on Tue., Nov. 22, for all our clients on that day. The dinner will be open during the food bank's regular operating hours that day, from 11 a.m. to noon, and from 1 to 3 p.m.

We have a family with unreliable electrical service, whose wife and mother is on a breathing machine. Her husband is looking for a small generator that will run the breathing machine for his wife. If anyone knows of one, we would love to connect you with this family in need.

—Larry Weston, office manager

Savvy Businesses Targeted Advertise in Concrete Herald

5,000 copies circulate throughout Whatcom, Skagit, and Snohomish Counties (and beyond) every month, reaching a largely untapped market of readers, many of whom say they read only Concrete Herald. If you're not advertising in "The Voice of Eastern Skagit County," you're missing thousands of potential customers.



"Our ads in Concrete Herald help us reach out to the community with health information and hospital news. I know it works, because I get calls and e-mails from Concrete Herald readers."

Valerie Stafford
communications director
United General Hospital

Our advertisers agree...

Concrete Herald

The Voice of Eastern Skagit County
ads@concrete-herald.com 360.853.8213

Cardiack Arrest Fest 2011

Bad weather? No problem! Birdview Brewing Co. collected more than \$600 for the cardiack unit at Seattle Children's Hospital—the most they've ever raised in the event's history!

Birdview buzz

By Kris Voigt

Happy November everyone!

Don't forget, Concrete's second annual Veterans Day parade will be Nov. 14, at 1 p.m. on Main Street in Concrete. Everyone is welcome to be in it or watch it. Let's make this an even bigger one than last year. For more information, call me at the brewery: 360.826.3406.

November birthdays

- 2 Andy Cambo
- 10 Kathy Hurn
- 13 Debby Riehl
- 15 Krista Temple
- 17 Gunnar Martin
- 18 Brewmaster Bill
- 21 Brooke Howell, Adam LaFayette
- Judy Monrad
- 25 Donny Ross
- 30 Elaine Fichter, Seth Shields

The third annual Cardiack Arrest Fest

is over. Attendance was WAY down this year, partly due to the monsoon we were experiencing and I guess it also was the last weekend of hunting. But through donations and the sale of our seasonal Cardiack Arrest brew, we raised more money for Children's Hospital (Cardiac unit) in Seattle than ever before. Thanks to the bands that played and all the people who have been so generous with their donations.

We will host a Toys for Tots donation bin again this year. Let's fill it up over and over. We have the SW Troop support donation jar as well. The brewery will collect nonperishable items for the Concrete Food bank during November and December. Finally, we'll collect store-bought packages of cookies to send to soldiers that I write to for Christmas.

Thank you in advance for supporting these wonderful causes.

Business Spotlight: Sedro-Woolley Tire & Auto Repair

By Bill Mueller

Mannie Canales is a farmer. He has been working the land since he was five years old, when his Dad had him cutting asparagus rows. At 22 he was able to get his own farm and has been at it for 26 years.

Mannie is a smart guy, and wanted to get into other businesses so he could build a retirement program. So two years ago he purchased Sedro-Woolley Tire & Auto Repair. Since there is no retirement plan in farming, Mannie sees this venture as a way to provide for the family outside of the framework of tending the land.

Mannie says, "It has been a challenge." He did, after all, take over a business that needed a boost. So he went into it with the philosophy of providing honest service with a personal touch to create the confidence needed to build a healthy



business. One of the positive decisions he made was to hire Saul Rodriguez as the manager/mechanic to run the shop. Saul can do it all—and he does. He is a hands-on guy who can do the repairs needed and deal with the paperwork that has to be done to run the business. Mannie splits time between his work on the farm and the shop. The business is in the phase of getting its feet on the ground, so Mannie stays focused on transforming the shop into an established part of the community with lots of return customers.

Sedro-Woolley Tire & Auto Repair delivers all general automotive needs. Quality tires are offered, of course, plus all the items a customer might require for service on their car engine.

They can perform computer diagnoses on an engine. Brakes are serviced, as are bearings, timing belts, oil changes, transmission work, and much, much more.

Are there other shops in town that offer the same options? Sure. But Mannie and Saul believe that what they provide is much better. From their perspective, the difference lies in their emphasis on personal service and better competitive prices for their customers.

Mannie is one of 10 children. All seven boys and three girls worked on the family farm. This instilled in Mannie a very positive work ethic. Today, he and his wife, Michelle, have five children in whom they seek to instill that same work ethic.

If you're wondering how deep that work ethic runs, take a look at his farm, which produces primarily grapes and asparagus.



The dream team at Sedro-Woolley Tire & Auto Repair is led by owner Mannie Canales (left) and manager Saul Rodriguez.

If you've grown either, you'll know he works a great deal on the farm *and* at the shop.

As a result, Mannie is a trustworthy and committed family man who consistently seeks to do the right thing. This ensures that customers of Sedro-Woolley Tire & Auto will receive the best service anywhere.

The next time your car needs tires or general service, keep your dollars in town and head to Mannie's shop!

At a glance:

Sedro-Woolley Tire & Auto Repair

Where: 1288 W. State Route 20, Sedro-Woolley

Hours: M-F 8-6, Sat. 8-4

Phone: 360.982.2114
360.239.7967 (after hours)

E-mail: sedrotires@yahoo.com

Concrete Council, cont. from p. 5

with building owners on how they can revitalize their buildings, improve streets and sidewalks and complete needed capital projects.

Chamber of Commerce: The Chamber would need to assist business owners with how to run a business, assist in developing business plans, give support to local businesses with technical help or other assistance.

Citizens: The citizens and area residents need to support local businesses and shop locally.

Jason Miller questioned how the search for funding for paying Community Stew is going. Archuleta stated some funding has been secured through the Chamber of Commerce and private donations.

- Citizen Mike Dods reported on danger trees. He had thought the

trees were on his property, but he now believes they are on the town's property. He stated the trees are growing into the power lines and need to be removed. Mayor Wilson stated he will take a look tomorrow to see if they need to be removed, and will do so within the next couple weeks.

- *Public Safety:* Mayor Wilson reported on the sighting of a black bear in town last weekend on the Cascade Trail. Discussion ensued on the bear sighting and other sightings of the same bear. Discussion ensued regarding the 911 calls made and the lack of response. Mayor Wilson stated he will make calls and look into this further.

- Mayor Wilson reported on the grant writer he spoke with at the IACC Conference in Wenatchee regarding the public safety building. He stated she has written more than 127 grants and 123 have been funded. Mayor

Wilson also reported on the session and the discussions regarding grant funding and grant writing. Discussion ensued on the covenants with the property in question. Mayor Wilson also discussed possibly using the land west of the Superior Building for the Public Safety Building.

- Miller reported on numerous phone calls he has received regarding the ditch behind the Lutheran church in east Concrete and flooding in the basement of the church. Alan Wilkins reported the ditch has been cleaned out and described the issue with drainage and the flooding not being related to the ditch, but to drainage issues with the road. Miller stated he believes a letter needs to be sent from the town explaining in detail the issues with the water run-off; that letter should be sent to the callers and to the Lutheran Church. Alan stated he will investigate this area again

tomorrow morning.

- Cody Hart of Reichhardt & Ebe reported the Department of Emergency Management (FEMA) has indicated the temporary measures for Burpee Hill Road may be completed for the winter to prevent further damage until the permanent fix can be completed.

Hart also reported on the closeout of the Main Street sidewalk, which needs to be done before they begin awarding for the newest grant applications.

- He also reported on the plans and specs being approved for the demolition of the June Alley landslide homes, which were to be available to contractors at Town Hall on Oct. 26 at noon.
- Citizens Robert DiLeo Sr. and Mike Bartel were interviewed for the vacant council position. No decision was made.



Rockport



Interpretive Center to open Dec. 2

Thanks to financial support from Puget Sound Energy, General Mills Foundation, and Columbia Bank, the Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center (SRBEIC) will again be open this upcoming Eagle Viewing season.

The Skagit River Interpretive Center at Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Rockport will be open Dec. 2 through Jan. 29 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The center will be open every weekend from Friday through Sunday. On Fridays the center will host public and private school educational programs; on Saturdays and Sundays, the center will present speakers, eagle information, and guided walks along the Skagit River through Howard Miller Steelhead Park.

Skagit County Parks and Recreation sponsors the center, which will provide a warm place to watch Bald Eagles and to take in the great programs visitors have come to expect.

The Skagit River Interpretive Center has been the most important citizen-driven accomplishment of eastern Skagit County. The center has provided community and natural history education for 6,000 to 10,000 visitors per year for 14 years.

For updated information about what is happening each weekend at the center, go to www.skagiteagle.org or call 360.853.7626.



Rockport's Skagit River Interpretive Center will open Dec. 2 for the winter Bald Eagle season. It will be open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 pm. through Jan. 29.

To volunteer at the center, please attend a volunteer training meeting Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m., at the center in Rockport.

—Judy Hemenway

At a glance
Skagit River Interpretive Center

Open: Dec. 2 through Jan. 29
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Web: www.skagiteagle.org

Phone: 360.853.7626

Help: Volunteer training meeting, Nov. 8,
6:30 p.m., at the center

IGA
Darrington IGA
Randy Ashe, Kevin and Sheila Ashe, owners.

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1090 Seeman St. • Darrington
Mon. - Sat.: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. • Sun. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Don't be shy

Got a story worth telling?
Concrete Herald wants to tell it!

Contact:
Jason Miller, editor
360.853.8213
editor@concrete-herald.com

Concrete Herald

PIONEERING TODAY

Growing your own garlic

By Melissa K. Norris

With the rains upon us and the first dusting of snow on Sauk's peak, it's hard to think about preparing our gardens for planting. But our pioneer ancestors had to work year-round to keep themselves and families fed.

One easy winter crop is garlic. I recommend using raised beds or be sure to till the soil well. Garlic does best in fertilized, well-draining soil. Separate the bulbs into cloves. Don't bother with the tiny small cloves in the center of the bulb. These don't always sprout.

When purchasing your garlic, you need to buy garlic bulbs specifically for harvesting. Do not use the bulbs in the grocery store. Some of these have been treated to avoid sprouting. Skagit Valley Farmers has a nice variety from which to choose. If you'd like to be able to braid your garlic to hang in the kitchen, then make sure you purchase soft neck garlic bulbs. The hard neck will not bend enough to braid.

Plant cloves with the pointy ends up, 1 to 2 inches deep and 3 to 5 inches apart. Rows should be approximately a foot apart. Each clove will become a bulb. Once your cloves have sprouted, add a light organic mulch to protect against deep freezes. We used lawn clippings, but some experts recommend straw, stating the grass might not allow proper drainage. However, it worked fine for us.

Bulbs should be ready to harvest in July. You know they're ready to dig up when the bottom half of the stalk turns brown. You want the top five or six leaves to still be green so the bulb isn't overripe and stays tight for storage. I'll give more tips on harvesting and storage when we reach June.

I recommend trying several different varieties to see which you like best.

Melissa K. Norris is a Christian fiction romance author who lives in Rockport.

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1. Go to www.facebook.com and sign up.
2. Send a friend request to Concrete Herald.
3. Bask in the glow of its friendship.



Darrington



Hall of Fame will honor athletic greats

Earlier this year, Nancy Snyder walked by the trophy cases at Darrington High School and thought, why don't we have an athletic hall of fame?

Snyder, who taught for 30 years at DHS and is now in her 39th year of coaching there, didn't let her thought sit idle. She chatted up IGA co-owner Kevin Ashe for his opinion, pulled together a 12-member committee, and soon will see her idea come to life.

Darrington will celebrate the Darrington High School Athletic Hall of Fame with an inductees ceremony on Sat., Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

"I wanted something that the kids can look up to and think of themselves in the future, earning such honors. I wanted to honor those who put together the athletic

programs at Darrington and brought it to where it is today," said Snyder.

The hall of fame will live in the school library for the time being, and will include photos, yearbook entries, scrapbook items, memorabilia, and, of course, the names of those who have contributed to athletic programs at DHS.

Categories of honor include athletes, coaches, support personnel, and contributors—individuals who have developed the fields, put up light poles, and otherwise created the athletic facilities.

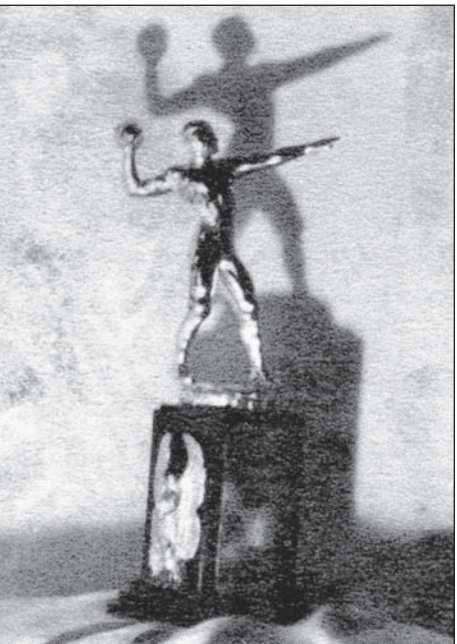
Snyder and the committee haven't been lacking for material.

"It's a bombshell—it's really taken off," she said. "It's the talk of the town, and we've dug up a lot of history."

Committee members have been a wealth of information, as have community members, said Snyder. "I had a lady come in with a photo of the very first trophy earned by Darrington High School, a football trophy, in 1939," she said (see photo at right).

Snyder herself will be one of the first inductees, having coached tennis, volleyball, basketball, and softball for 39 years (and counting). She also led the high school boys baseball team to the state tournament in 1981—and won.

—J. K. M.



This image of a scanned photo shows the first trophy earned by Darrington High School, for football, in 1939. *Submitted photo.*

Hall of Fame Inductees Ceremony

Sat., Nov. 19, 7 p.m.

Darrington High School Auditorium

2011 Hall of Fame inductees		
Sandy Edwards, 1993; Angie Meece, 1998; Amy Jones, 2004; Calvin (Jinx) St. Louis, c. 1930s; Scotty Parris, 1954; Gerald Green, 1955; David Edwards, 1958; Randy Jones, 1978; Bill West, 1973; Ned Miller, 1999; Andy West, 1999	COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL CONTRIBUTORS High Lead Loggers	1957 BASKETBALL Dick Hitchcock, Danny Bates, Gary Sweeney, Daryle Whittall, Duane Whittall, Lyle Edlund, David Edwards, David Andrews, Bobbie Green, Cecil Parris, Roger Buchanan, Randall Phillips, Coach LaVerne Simmons, Asst. Coach Bill Carroll, Manager Alyn Rensink
	1955 BASKETBALL Duane Sanford, Ken Estes, Daryl Edwards, Larry Gilbert, Daryle Smoke, Harold Haga, Roland Mount, Bill Green, David Edwards, Jackie Bates, Carter Barker, Dick Noble, Coach LaVerne Simmons	ALL-STATE SELECTION David Edwards
COACHES Laverne Simmons Nancy Snyder	ALL-STATE SELECTION Gerald Green	

Hampton lays off 80 employees

Hampton Affiliates of Portland, Ore., announced Oct. 17 the layoff of 80 employees at its Darrington sawmill.

The Darrington mill will reduce its operating schedule from 80 hours per week to 50 hours per week indefinitely sometime in November, according to a press release from Hampton headquarters.

The layoffs come as the domestic market suffers from a one-two punch of a slumping domestic market and a rush to export logs overseas.

"In the midst of dealing with an extremely poor domestic lumber market, we have exorbitant log costs due to the huge volume of log exports going mostly to China," said Steve Zika, Hampton's

CEO, in the release. "We have a dedicated workforce in the Darrington/Arlington area and deeply regret the impact this curtailment has on them."

Zika cited capital improvements at the Darrington mill designed to make it a more efficient operation, "but the current cost of our raw material in these weak lumber markets makes generating a profit impossible," he said.

Zika said federal forests "are effectively locked up"; this, coupled with the volume of logs going to China, leaves very few options for additional log volumes in the area.

"While log exports have created a few jobs at the ports in Washington, those jobs in no way make up for the job losses we are seeing at domestic sawmills as they attempt to compete against low-cost Chinese labor," he said.

November calendar

Cascade Senior Center will host a **Holiday Bazaar** Nov. 12–13, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center is located at 1115 Darrington Street.

A **bluegrass jam session** is scheduled for Sun., Nov. 13, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., at the Darrington Community Center, 570 Sauk Avenue. The group meets the second Sunday of each month at 1 p.m., at that location.

Mansford Grange hosts **Candy Car Bingo** Nov. 30, noon to 3 p.m. Family-oriented Bingo awards snacks to winners.

Regular Bingo is offered every Friday at the same location, beginning Dec. 9, from 7 to 10 p.m. Mansford Grange is located at 1265 Railroad Ave., behind the IGA.

This year's Christmas tree-lighting ceremony will be held Dec. 3 at dusk, at City Hall, 1005 Cascade Street. Color, cheer, and caroling are planned, followed by warmth and conversation at the Senior Center.

Looking ahead, the next Mansford Grange Women's Auxiliary meeting will be Jan. 4, 6 to 7 p.m., at the Grange.

—Compiled by Marla Skaglund

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Marblemount



Cajun Dance, Brunch and Bazaar on tap for holiday months

Marblemount will settle into the rhythm of the holidays with a Cajun Dance at the Marblemount Community Hall Nov. 12. The evening will kick off with a potluck dinner from 6 to 7 p.m., followed by dance lessons from 7 to 7:30, then dancing till 10 p.m.

The Red Hot Cajuns will play this gig; admission is by donation to the Marblemount Volunteer Fire Department. For more information, call 360.873.4201.

In December, the fun continues with the Marblemount Community Hall Brunch & Bazaar on Dec. 4. Brunch will be served from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; the bazaar runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Santa will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For booth space, call Connie (Clark) Anderson at 360.873.4631 by Dec. 1.

Postal news

Holiday shipping overseas
By Kathy Watson

The holidays will soon be upon us, and with them, a desire to ship gifts to loved ones and service men and women deployed or living overseas.

For a handy chart to help you determine the dates by which you'll need to ship your gifts in order for them to arrive by Christmas, go to www.usps.com/shippingdates/welcome.htm.

You'll learn about your various shipping options, including Express Mail Military Service (EMMS), Parcel Airlift Mail, and Space Available Mail.

Check with your local post office to determine if EMMS is available to an APO/FPO/DPO address.

Kathy Watson is Postmaster of Marblemount.

Outdoor Skagit

By Bob DiLeo

Wildlife sightings and attacks have cropped up in the news again. In Concrete and Marblemount, black bears have been seen within the past few weeks. Two people were attacked and killed by grizzly bears in Yellowstone National Park. There also was a shark attack on a surfer in Oregon; authorities believe it was a great white shark.

As the world's population passes 7 billion, we'll probably hear more stories like these. Steadily, we're encroaching on wildlife and wild places, and we need to prepare for the inevitable clashes.

Washington State offers classes for bear and mountain lion awareness (go to <http://wdfw.wa.gov> for details); perhaps it is time for more of us to take advantage of these informative resources. Also try www.bearinfo.org.

It is likely that wolves and grizzly bears live close to us in the Skagit Valley. We don't need to be terrified of this probability; rather, we need to be knowledgeable of what to do before and during an encounter, should one occur.

Hopefully, you'll never come face to face with a grizzly, but it can happen. I know firsthand. I was charged by a grizzly bear in Wyoming. It was spring, and I was hunting for antlers in an area where bears were not known to be present. I had my kids and wife with me. We walked to within 50 yards of a mama grizzly with two cubs. I had been trained how to react, so I stayed calm, used my head, and got us out of the situation.

Keep bears away

Closer to home, the bear sightings in Concrete and Marblemount may be simple cases of them wandering into town as they searched for food. If that's the case, what can you do to encourage them not to linger? The simple answer is: Don't give them a reason to do so.

"Bears go into feeding overdrive in the fall—it's all about gaining as much weight as possible to see them through six months of winter sleep. Bears are trying to acquire the maximum number of calories for the minimum amount of effort; it's what they are wired to do," said Chris Morgan, co-director and bear biologist for Grizzly Bear Outreach Project.

Bears can lose up to half their body weight during winter, so in preparation the average black bear can consume up to 20,000 calories per day. As natural edibles become scarcer with the season, bears can be attracted to human sources of food, such as unsecured garbage, birdseed in feeders, and pet food. This interaction can lead to conflict.

"Bears come into conflict with people who are careless with garbage storage, bird feeders, and pet food," said Rich Beausoleil, bear and cougar specialist for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. "If people don't provide this easy meal, bears have no choice but to search for natural foods in the forest. If people remove the reward, the risk of conflict will be removed."

How can you reduce bear-human encounters? Follow these tips:

- Store garbage indoors or in bear-resistant garbage cans.
- Make sure that bird feeders, bird seed, suet, and hummingbird mixes are not accessible to bears.
- Keep barbecue grills clean and free from grease. Store inside if possible.
- Keep pets inside at night if possible and do not leave pet food, livestock food, or poultry feed outside without electric fencing.
- Composts, fruit trees, and beehives are powerful bear attractants, as are vegetable and flower gardens. Enclose them with electric fencing.
- Pick fruit from trees on your property regularly. Rotting fruit left on the ground is a powerful bear attractant.
- Avoid the use of outdoor refrigerators and freezers: They will attract bears.
- Store biodiesel in a tightly locked container, inaccessible to bears.

Leave wildlife in the wild

If you see a wild animal that is not scared of you, there is something wrong. It may be protecting food or babies. It may be sick or hurt. Call the Department of Fish and Wildlife or dial 911.

Some people have taken wild animals into their homes as pets. But unless you are a zoo or a licensed expert, don't take wildlife out of the wild. No matter how cute and cuddly they are, they should be left in the wild for their sakes and ours.

Portions of this column were provided by Grizzly Bear Outreach Project.



Newhalem



Seattle City Light restores historic Ladder Creek light show

SEATTLE — Seattle City Light is celebrating the restoration of the historic light show at the Skagit Hydroelectric Project's Ladder Creek Falls in Newhalem.

Superintendent Jorge Carrasco oversaw the official re-lighting of the falls the evening of Oct. 11 at a ceremony with the project team and invited guests.

"It is a thrill to bring back this spectacular light show at Ladder Creek Falls," Carrasco said. "Over the years, the beautiful lights have created special memories for thousands of visitors. I know that this new, improved show will do the same thing for years to come, and I'm sure City Light's first superintendent, J.D. Ross, would be proud."

Ross installed colored lights at the falls in the 1920s and '30s to create "a paradise of color in the wilderness." The lights were part of his efforts to win public appreciation for the municipally owned Skagit Hydroelectric Project. The designs were largely a product of his personal ideas and inspirations for artistic illumination. For visitors of that era, the lights created a fairyland symbolizing the new wonders of electricity.

Over the years, the original system fell into disrepair. By the end of 2004, the lighting system was completely dark.

In 2008 City Light started working to

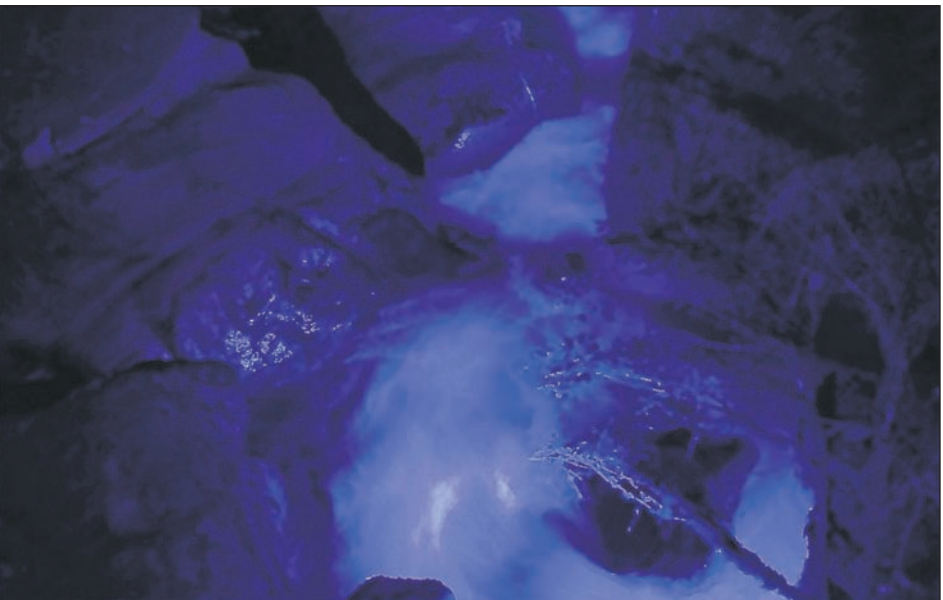
restore the lights. The lighting specialty firm Candela was hired for \$164,000 to design the new system to recreate the historic appearance while meeting current electrical and safety codes. Candela completed the designs in 2009. Valley Electric was awarded the \$900,000 contract and started construction in 2010. The labor-intensive work, which also included rebuilding concrete stairs and installing a seating area, handrails, guard rails, signs, and benches, is now complete. Visitors will be able to enjoy a spectacle of changing lights within the glacier-fed falls nightly from dark until midnight.

About 30 programmable, energy-efficient LED light fixtures were installed to replace the original 1,000-watt spotlights. The new fixtures can be individually programmed to any color for any length of time, providing an almost unlimited number of options. The new lights use about 90 percent less electricity than the original fixtures.

"I am thrilled to be a part of this celebration of the return of the lights to Ladder Creek Falls," said Gretchen Luxenberg, a National Park Service historian. "There is a renaissance going on in Newhalem with the historic designed landscape, and City Light should be applauded for its stewardship of these significant and unique resources."

The light show is programmed to last 15 minutes and repeats throughout the evening. City Light anticipates developing additional programs for special events.

Ladder Creek Falls is a part of the Newhalem Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Photos courtesy of Seattle City Light.



Veterans! Two stand-downs are planned to honor and support you in November!

Concrete Stand-down: Nov. 5
Sedro-Woolley Stand-down: Nov. 11

For details, see "In the Service," p. 7

Become a Concrete Herald Facebook friend!

1. Go to www.facebook.com and sign up.
2. Send a friend request to Concrete Herald.
3. Bask in the glow of its friendship.

The **Skagit General Store** in Newhalem is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Oct. 22 it closed on weekends. 206.386.4489.

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For a referral, call Love Inc. at 360.419.7061
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Concrete

Concrete Food Bank
112 E. Main St., Concrete
Second, third, and fourth Thur. each month,
Noon—3 p.m.
360.853.8505

Darrington

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

Hamilton

Hamilton Community Food Bank
951 Petit St., Hamilton
Every Tue., 11—noon and 1—3 p.m.

Commodities distributed first Tue. each month
360.826.4090

Lyman

Shepherd's Heart Food Bank
8334 S. Main St., Lyman
Every Thur. 11 a.m.—3 p.m.
Third Thur. each month till 5 p.m.
November: Open Nov. 23, 10 a.m.—noon
Closed Thanksgiving Day // 360.424.4927

Marblemount

Bread of Life Food Bank
59850 State Route 20, Marblemount
First and third Wed. each month
11 a.m.—5 p.m.
360.873.2504

Sedro-Woolley

Helping Hands Food Bank
601 Cook Rd., Sedro-Woolley
Wed., 10—11:45 a.m. and 12:30—4 p.m.
Commodities distributed first Wed. each month
360.856.2211

**Changes? Call 360.853.8213.*



Seniors



Coffee Break

A lot to be thankful for
By Patrick Kennedy

Many of us should express gratitude to all those scientists, nutritionists, and body trainers who have kept us alive and happy this long. And the day is approaching when we'll have a chance to show our appreciation and gratitude to the Big Guy who gave us life: a public acknowledgment of the delightful goodness we possess is approaching one day this month.

Most of us have seen those mouth-watering turkeys pass through this holiday with all the trimmings. Thanksgiving traces its origins from a 1621 celebration at Plymouth Plantation, where the Plymouth settlers and the local Native Americans held a harvest feast after a successful growing season. This was continued in later years, first as an impromptu religious observance and later as a civil tradition. It became an official holiday in 1863 during the Civil War when President Lincoln proclaimed it a national holiday of thanksgiving.

"Thanks for the memories," sang Bob Hope in the movie, "The Big

Broadcast of 1938." That became his theme song of sorts, and should be ours as well. Appreciation and gratitude to others should be added to this day. Thank you, BENGAY, for getting us through another painless day. Thank you, Nike, for making shoes we can take a daily walk in to get our aerobic nature in tune as well as our legs and heart. And thank you, Mother Nature, for allowing the sun to shine once in a while on our neighborhoods so we can walk down the streets to the park for our aerobic cure-all spectacle. Thanks for the kids who run past us and remind us of our incredible and productive age. Thanks for the smiles from others as we pass them on the path so we know that we are still alive and not ghosts rushing to the future. And thank you, Sleep EZ, for creating a bed that eases the pains we bring upon ourselves trying to be healthier.

"Thanksgiving Day is a day devoted by persons with inflammatory rheumatism to thank a loving Father that it is not hydrophobia," said H. L. Mencken.

Or as another early American writer, Ralph Waldo Emerson, put it, "I awoke this morning with devout thanksgiving for my friends, the old and the new."

And then there is the football game on TV—thanks for TV! There are many modern conveniences that make life easier now than in 1621. How close was the Pilgrims' nearest drug store?

Boy, do we have a lot to be thankful for!

Patrick M. Kennedy is the author of *Being a Senior Citizen*. Find it at www.funwithretirement.com.

Way Back When

80 years ago

Nov. 26, 1931: The contract for furnishing the cement for the construction of the Cle Elum irrigation dam has been awarded to Superior Portland Cement, Inc., of Concrete.

The contract provides for the shipment of between 40,000 and 45,000 barrels of Portland cement, or approximately 250 car loads. It is said to be the largest contract for cement ever awarded by the United States Reclamation Service in the Pacific coast states.

70 years ago

Nov. 27, 1941: Marblemount grieved the loss of another of the upper Skagit's hardy pioneers yesterday morning when Mrs. Maggie Barrett, 83, passed away at the Sedro-Woolley hospital while apparently recovering satisfactorily from a recent operation. She had been reported as improving until Wednesday morning, when she suddenly took a turn for the worse and sank rapidly.

Mrs. Barrett is one of the pioneer residents of Marblemount, having made her home in the same farmhouse there for the past 51 years. In the early days, her home was a popular stopping place for travelers and miners who entered the Cascades, and her hospitality was known throughout the state.

60 years ago

Nov. 29, 1951: After a chase that ended on the blind alley that used to be the main highway to

Rockport in east Concrete, William F. Connley, the owner of a 1939 Ford sedan, was jailed last night on charges of negligent driving and driving with defective equipment.

Connley was first stopped by the patrolman and warned to have his lights repaired. After a few hours around town, he attempted to get away with the car still in poor shape. With the patrolman and local marshal in pursuit, the chase ended when he mistook the old east side road for the highway and was trapped on a dead-end street.

Two men in the car posted \$25 bail and then failed to return either for trial today or for their impounded car. The case was called for the local justice court.

50 years ago

Nov. 16, 1961: The Upper Skagit Chamber of Commerce was formed Monday evening by a group of 15 businessmen and citizens from Hamilton, Concrete, Rockport, and Marblemount.

The board will gather again early next month and outline the immediate projects to be undertaken by the club. Suggested as the main projects for the coming year are a sign to be placed somewhere near Highway 99 to direct tourists and Century 21 visitors to this area.

40 years ago

Nov. 25, 1971: Reporters and photographers from *Concrete Herald*, *Bellingham Herald*, *Everett Herald*, and *Seattle Times* shared a chilly but awe-inspiring trip down the Skagit River from Marblemount to Hamilton last Thursday, under guidance of Herb

See **Way Back**, p. 29

Concrete Center November 2011 Activities

Lunch served
Mon. – Fri., 12:30 p.m.

Mondays

9 a.m. Beginning quilting
9 a.m. Men's group
11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
1 p.m. Skip Bo

Tuesdays

10 a.m. Movie
10 a.m. Dominoes
11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
1 p.m. Skip Bo

Wednesdays

8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Advanced quilting
11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
1 p.m. Skip Bo

Thursdays

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Wii Sports play
11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
1 p.m. Skip Bo

Fridays

11:30 a.m. Jigsaw puzzle
Noon Dominoes

Special Events

11/1 10 a.m. Movie: "Chicago"
11/8 10 a.m. Movie: "Wild African Cats"
11/9 11 a.m. Advisory Board mtg.
11/9 1 p.m. Bingo
11/15 10 a.m. Movie: "Discover Planet Oceans"
11/17 1 p.m. SHIBA representative available
11/18 12:30 p.m. Birthday Lunch
11/22 10 a.m. Movie: "Reindeer Games"
11/22 11 a.m. Fall Prevention program
11/22 12:45 p.m. Leap of Faith
11/28 9:30 a.m. Energy Assistance
11/29 10 a.m. Movie: "Hidden Valley Outlaws"
11/30 1 p.m. Bingo

Holiday Closures

11/11 Veterans Day
11/14 Furlough Day
11/24–25 Thanksgiving

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

Barth of the U.S. Forest Service. Barth acquainted the writers with a study carried out during the past year under his direction. The Skagit is under consideration for inclusion in the federal "Wild and Scenic Rivers" program.



Look familiar? This artist's conception of the man who was to become known as hijacker D. B. Cooper was released in late November 1971, after Cooper had extorted \$200,000 from Northwest Airlines, then escaped by parachute Nov. 24 while the plane he was on traveled from Seattle to Reno.

30 years ago

Nov. 12, 1981: Raising funds to "save" the Skagit River Railway will continue until spring, according to Dick Duffy, president of the 48-mile-round-trip steam locomotive excursion ride between Sedro-Woolley and Concrete.

The rail line has a twofold purpose: to revive and retain the golden age of railroading in the Northwest, and to serve as a catalyst for tourism in the Skagit Valley area. Led by local volunteers, the railroad is a nonprofit corporation. All contributions are tax-deductible.

An occasional comment

By Jeanne Malbrain

A cowboy named Bud was tending his herd in a remote pasture, when a BMW advanced toward him out of a cloud of dust. The driver, who was dressed to the nines, leaned out the window and asked the cowboy, "If I tell you exactly how many cows and calves you have in your herd, will you give me a calf?"

Bud looked at the man. "Sure, why not?" he replied.

The yuppie parks his car, whips out his laptop, surfs to the NASA Web site, calls up a GPS satellite, gets a feed to another satellite that scans the area in an ultra-high-resolution photo. The man then exported the image to a processing facility in Hamburg, Germany. Within seconds, he received an e-mail that the image had been processed. He printed out a full-color, 150-page report on his miniature printer, turned to the cowboy and said, "You have exactly 1,586 cows and calves."

"That's right. Well, I guess you can take one of my calves," said Bud.

Bud watched the man select one of the animals and looked on with amusement as the man stuffed it into the trunk of his car. Then Bud said to the man, "Hey, if I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me back my calf?"

The man thought about it, then said, "Okay, why not?"

"You're a Congressman for the U.S. Government," said Bud.

"Wow, that's correct!" said the man. "How did you guess?"

"No guessing required," answered the cowboy. "You showed up here even though nobody called you. You want to get paid for an answer I already knew, to a question I never asked. You used millions of dollars worth of equipment to show me how much smarter you are. You don't know a thing about how working people make a living, or anything about cows, for that matter. This is a herd of sheep. Now give me back my dog."

Our Garden needs YOU!

The Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete needs donations in any amount to help pay for its water infrastructure. YOUR DONATION MAY BE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE!*

Call 360.853.8213 or e-mail goodwords@frontier.com to find out how to donate.
*Consult your tax advisor for tax-deductible information.

Sunday School lesson

What Hymns Know

By Thomas Becknell

In my church, and in many evangelical churches across the nation, we have stopped singing hymns. We chant praise songs instead. We lift our hands, our hearts, our voices with an exuberance unknown in the churches of my childhood.

But what have we lost? The hymns of my childhood were clogged with cleft rocks, harvest fields, lost sheep, and bloody fountains. Not everyone liked these troublesome, coarse metaphors of the Christian faith, but their raw physicality captured me as a child. I could not sing “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” without gazing at the mighty arms of Doris, our school cook, who lifted great pots and kneaded mountains of dough. Her cinnamon rolls were legendary.

Life, the old hymns taught me, was harsh and lonely. They called out plaintively: “Are you weary ... ?” “Earthly friends may prove untrue,” began a familiar hymn that consoled me more than once. Young and old, we sang with heads thrown back, “What a friend we have in Jesus,” not needing the hymnal, for the words were familiar and the melody caressing. Jesus of the old hymns was one who knew “our every weakness,” who



socketed into life’s disappointments, who would not fail.

I went to church with the workers of the fields—farmers of corn, wheat, and soybeans in western Nebraska, roustabouts from the oilfields of Wyoming, and ranchers who drove cattle and sheep across the high plains. These were practical folks who worked from sunup to sundown. What private longing drew them back into town on a sultry Sunday evening to sing old hymns in a musty sanctuary, I’ll never know. Some relished the vocal agility required by “Wonderful Grace of Jesus”; others preferred the smooth modulations of “The Old Rugged Cross.” And a good number of the older folk clearly yearned for Beulah Land, for the open pearly gates, for the mansion over the hilltop.

As for me, those old hymns created a world, a familiar landscape of melody and words, a spiritual and emotional topography in which I could move and rest and feel at home. And it is this solacing world for which I ache. Old hymns imagined life as a geography of oceans and tempests, shadowy vales and wandering roads in which we all were travelers, journeying toward home. I

want to sing an elegy to this lost world of shadows, seas, and journeys.

“Lead me through the vale of shadows”

“Now the day is over; night is drawing nigh.” Throughout human history, night signaled a putting away of the tools and the toys, a time of turning inward, of retrospection, of lighting lamps, of rest, of closure, of waiting. “We grow accustomed to the dark,” wrote Emily Dickinson in the bleak years of the Civil War. But no one really needed a poet to explain the metaphor of darkness. Everyone was acquainted with the night. Today, however, we live in a world in which darkness does not deepen, and eventide does not fall fast. We’ve grown accustomed to light.

Since the end of the Second World War, when the mercury vapor lamp began to illuminate our streets and was in turn replaced by the pink-orange glow of sodium vapor lamps, night has steadily retreated. The stars have fled from our cities. Where once a thousand could be seen, now barely a hundred stars are visible. Millions of children grow up never having seen the night sky. “With the creep of light pollution,” explains astronomer Arthur Upgren, “has come a far wider, perhaps more profound, loss to the human spirit.” Our earthly lights are putting out the heavenly lights. We are losing a sense of holiness and beauty and

See **Sunday School**, p. 38

Obituaries

Brenda Sue Hoyle, 68, a Raymond resident since 1992, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Sat., Oct. 22, 2011, at the Alder House in South Bend, Wash.

Brenda was born July 10, 1943, in Sedro-Woolley, to Elmer (Smoker) and Audrey (Hanby) Williams. She attended school at Marblemount Grade School and later graduated from Concrete High School in 1961. She married Leland (Corkey) Hoyle on June 8, 1962. They divorced in 1983.

Brenda spent most of her life as a homemaker and later as a well-known clerk at the Willapa Harbor Golf Course and Subway Sandwich Shop in Raymond.

She enjoyed knitting, needlepoint, crocheting, and watching her daughter, son, and grandchildren play any sport imaginable. She never missed a game that her family was involved in. She was a statistician for many years at Concrete and Willapa Valley High Schools.

Brenda is survived by her son Kirby (Wendy) Hoyle of Ferndale; her daughter Jayme (John) Peterson of Old Willapa; her brother Hal (Shirley) Williams of Tenino; grandchildren Joshua Peterson, Jessica Peterson, and Karalee Demers; great-grandchild Elijah Ali; nephews Brent and Brock Williams; and niece Nikki Williams.

A Celebration of Life was held on Fri., Oct. 28, at the Willapa United Methodist Church in Old Willapa at 11 a.m. Donations in Brenda’s name may be sent to either the Willapa United Methodist Church or the Concrete Booster Club Scholarship Fund.

James Derhyl (Doug) Dellinger of Tacoma, passed away Oct. 16, 2011. He retired from the Air Force after serving in several countries and the U.S.



He was born May 23, 1939, in Plumtree, N.C., to the late Thomas Jefferson (Jeff) Dellinger and the late Revonda Arizona Dellinger. He was preceded in death by his brother, Hunter Bruce Dellinger.

He is survived by his wife, Anne-Marie Christiane Marcelle Dellinger; two children, Jeffrey (Jeff) Roger Dellinger and wife Linda of Fox Island, Wash., and Jacqueline (Jackie) Marie Castle of Hampton, Va.; six grandchildren, Michelle, Marisa, Megan, Tia, Jack, and Holly; and one great-granddaughter, Kaili.

He is also survived by his brothers, Lawrence Gray (Toby) Buchanan of Easton, Wash., Thomas (Tommy) McDonald and wife Sally Dellinger of Rockport, and Richard Michael (Mike) and wife Sonja Dellinger of Rockport; sisters, Darlene Grace Nieshe of Birdsview, and Ellen Gay LaFayette of Wales, Wis.; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Cremation followed the viewing. A memorial service officiated by Rev. Gil Gunderson was held Fri., Oct. 21, 2011, at 1 p.m., at Rockport Baptist (Christ the King) Church on 11982 Martin Road, Rockport. In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite charity.

Sheriff’s blotter

Sept. 24

A theft was reported from a location on Sauk Connection Rd. in Concrete. A wallet and credit cards were stolen.

Sept. 25

A caller from Sedro-Woolley complained about a barking dog in a Richards Rd. neighborhood.

A female sitting on a front porch along Cape Horn Rd. in Hamilton was claiming she was lost.

Sept. 26

Damage was done to a gate during the weekend of Sept. 24–26. The gate was located near mile marker 4 on Suiattle Rd. near Darrington.

Sept. 27

A traffic hazard was reported on South Skagit Highway near Hamilton. A tree had fallen and was blocking one lane roughly two miles east of Forest Service Road 17.

Sept. 28

A Grasmere caller reported a suspicious vehicle parked at the reporting party’s address. A deputy checked the vehicle, a red car, and found keys in the ignition and a female’s purse in the back seat.

A two-car accident occurred on South Skagit Highway near Hamilton. No injuries were reported.

Sept. 29

A burglary occurred on North Shore Lane in Cape Horn. The residence was a vacation home. It was unknown precisely when the burglary occurred.

Sept. 30

A Cedar Grove caller reported being threatened and yelled at by another female while she was on a walk.

A Sedro-Woolley caller reported a car hit a telephone pole on Rhodes Rd. The caller thought the female driver might be hurt.

Oct. 3

Trailers were reported vandalized on North Shore Lane in Cape Horn.

Oct. 4

A domestic disturbance was reported in Concrete. A male was threatening a female; he tore down a door.

A caller from the Cape Horn area reported checks were written by someone else.

Oct. 5

A Concrete caller reported theft of four chainsaws from a Cedar Street residence. Unknown precisely when the theft occurred.

Oct. 6

A burglary was reported at a Main Street location in Concrete. A construction trailer had been broken into.

Oct. 7

A prowler was reported on Richards Rd. in Sedro-Woolley. The caller and his son heard someone in their garage. They walked the

property line and didn’t see anyone.

A Lyman caller reported an old female Husky keeps coming onto Lyman Elementary School grounds and leaving large piles of poop.

Oct. 8

A Clear Lake caller reported theft of a blue, 2004 Chevrolet Cavalier sometime during the previous night.

A domestic disturbance was reported on Leonard Rd. in Grasmere. The altercation was physical, but the reporting party wasn’t hit. The reporting party’s property was broken by the aggressor. No aid needed.

Oct. 9

Several mailboxes were torn down on Mosier Rd. in Sedro-Woolley.

Oct. 9

Copper cables were stolen from a trailer on Cedar St. in Cape Horn. Date and time of theft were unknown.

Oct. 10

A gray, 1997 Chevrolet Impala or Malibu was reported on a neighbor’s lawn on North Shore Lane in Cape Horn. Caller reported the vehicle as suspicious.

Oct. 11

A out-of-breath male caller from Hamilton

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 when, in the discretion of the agency, the release of information will enhance public safety and protection.

Inkster, Ernest Lee Patrick

Age: 42
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 6’0”
Weight: 265
Hair: Red
Eyes: Blue
Address: Hamilton



Inkster was convicted of unlawful communication with a minor in Skagit County. His victim was a 13-year-old female he contacted via the Internet.

Inkster 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 will result in the removal of the online notification resource.

Source: Skagit County Sheriff

reported that a female was punching herself and telling him she was going to call the police and blame her injuries on him.

Oct. 11

A Hamilton caller reported a burglary on Maple St. Date and time of burglary were unknown, but caller suspected a threatening person from the day before.

Oct. 12

A Sedro-Woolley caller reported an untended dog in a neighbor’s backyard for the past four days, and no people seen at the residence for a week.

A civil dispute occurred in Cape Horn, when the reporting party paid for a vehicle and the original owner demanded it back.

Oct. 13

The pooping Husky was again reported at Lyman Elementary School, leaving more dog bombs.

Oct. 14

A very intoxicated backpacker raised a ruckus in a Marblemount business when the proprietors wouldn’t rent him a room. The backpacker ended up at the post office.

Oct. 15

Two juvenile males around 10 years old were reported riding a quad across the district line and into the cul-de-sac on Morgan Lane in Day Creek.

Oct. 16

A Marblemount caller reported he’d

placed an ad on Craigslist and received a call from a subject wanting all his personal information. The caller believed it was some type of scam. *Editor’s note:* This, of course, doesn’t happen when one advertises with *Concrete Herald*.

Oct. 18

A Cape Horn resident reported that someone had attempted to siphon the gas out of his vehicle or motor home.

Oct. 19

A Rockport caller reported the theft of an airgun and a hose stolen the night before, from a Martin Rd. residence. Other theft reports from this caller already are on file.

Oct. 20

A Marblemount caller reported he’d lent his car to a friend so he could take his cat to the vet at 7:30 a.m. Caller stated he told the friend to be back by 8:30 a.m., but the friend hadn’t returned.

Oct. 21

A Lyman caller reported that two pitbulls had just dragged his dog away.

Oct. 22

A Concrete caller reported the theft of a car battery. Unknown date and time of theft.

Oct. 23

A Day Creek caller reported two subjects trespassing on his property along South Skagit Highway. The caller stated he had posted “Private Property” signs.

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. Bruce Martin, pastor	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. Ron Edwards, pastor	Presbyterian Mount Baker Presbyterian Church 45705 Main St., P.O. Box 246, Concrete Church 853.8585; office 595.0446 www.mtbakerpresbyterian.synodnw.org Sun. worship: 9 a.m. Tom Ross, pastor
North Cascade Community Church 59850 SR 20, Marblemount 360.873.2504 // www.nmag.net Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Sun. worship: 10:30 a.m. Wed.: Teen Connection, 6 p.m. Women’s Ministry, 2 p.m. (2nd, 4th, and 5th Wed.) Thur.: Men’s Breakfast, 8 a.m. Dave Nichols, pastor E-mail: pastordave@fastmail.fm	Lyman Baptist Church 31441 W. Main St., Lyman Office: 360.826.3287 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Sun. worship: 11 a.m.	Lutheran Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 46372 Main St., Concrete / 853.8814 Sun. worship: 10 a.m. Marcus Stroud, pastor
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. John Batts, pastor E-mail: pastorjohn@firstbaptistclearlake.com	Catholic St. Catherine Mission Church 45603 Limestone St., Concrete Office: 855.0077 Weekday hours: 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Sun. Mass: 8:30 a.m. Father Martin Bourke, pastor	Nondenominational Community Bible Church 45672 Limestone, Concrete; 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 Rob Thomas, pastor
	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 Tim Hedberg, pastor	Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church 11982 Martin Rd., Rockport, WA 98283 Church office: 853.8746 Pre-service fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Sun. service: 10 a.m. Sun. eve. Bible study: 5 p.m.

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

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How to spot domestic violence

Esther Francis Joseph believes that almost everyone knows someone who is being physically abused at home—they just don't know it.

"Victims of abuse are very good at hiding it," said Joseph, a survivor of child abuse and author of *Memories of Hell, Visions of Heaven—A Story of Survival, Transformation and Hope*. "In most cases, they are threatened with more abuse if they ever tell anyone about it, so they become very adept at hiding bruises and acting as if nothing is wrong at all. In many cases, abusers were abused themselves. Abusers are very good at terrorizing their victims because they were trained on how to be a successful abuser by those who abused them as children. As a result, the abusers themselves are often seen by friends and neighbors as friendly, affable people in good, healthy relationships. The abused seem happy and content in their lives. But when the doors close and lock behind them, the facade is dropped."

Joseph thinks it is critically important to know what to do if you suspect someone you care about or work with is being abused at home by their spouse.

"Before you do anything, make sure that you are educated on the subject and the different types of abuse," she said. "Prepare yourself for the encounter because your discussion may be unwelcome and viewed as interference. It is also important to know when to step back. If the person denies the allegation,

you may want to simply express your concern and willingness to help."

Joseph's warning signs of abuse include:

- *Bruises*. These are the most obvious signs of abuse, but victims will usually hide them. They may use makeup to hide any facial cuts or bruises. Be mindful of those tactics if you think abuse is taking place.
- *Clothing*. Take notice of a change in clothing style or unusual fashion choices that would allow marks or bruises to be easily hidden. For instance, someone who wears long sleeves even in the dog days of summer may be trying to hide the telltale signs of abuse.
- *Jealousy*. Sometimes, victims will vent about other issues in their relationships, but stop short of talking about abuse. In their minds, it is the only way they can reach out for help without disobeying the commands of the abuser not to reveal the abuse. Frequent talk about their partner's temper or jealousy might be the main tip-off.
- *Constant phone calls*. Many abusers are very controlling and suspicious, so they will call their victims multiple times each day to "check in." This is a subtle way of manipulating their victims, to make them fearful of uttering a stray word that might alert someone that something is wrong. Many abusers also are jealous and suspect their partner is cheating on them, and the constant calls are a way of making sure they aren't with anyone they aren't supposed to be around.

- *Missing work*. Victims of abuse miss work more often than most, because some cuts and bruises can't be hidden. So, they stay home from work to prevent alerting people to their abuse.
- *Always together*. If you have a co-worker that you never see outside the office without their partner, that could also be a sign of your co-worker being controlled by a jealous and potentially violent partner. By itself, this behavior may not be as revealing, but together with other warning signs, it could be an important sign.

"Approaching someone and bringing up the topic of abuse is a difficult conversation to have, but it is one worth having," said Joseph. "You might just be saving a life."

Ice and snow? Take it slow!

Winter driving—especially after that first snow of the season—can be a challenge for even the most seasoned drivers. To help you prepare for bad weather and then drive safely in it, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) offers these tips.

Preparation is key

- Check your tires and make sure your chains fit before the first winter storm, and check tire pressure during cold weather. Remember, tire shops and mechanics are busiest just before and during winter storms.
- Get a vehicle winter maintenance check-up. Don't wait to check your battery, belts, hoses, radiator, lights, brakes, heater/defroster and wipers.
- Keep your fuel tank full; don't let it fall below half a tank on winter trips.
- Program your radio for traffic reports and emergency messages (for WSDOT radio: 530 and 1610 AM).
- Keep a basic winter survival kit in your vehicle: flashlight, batteries, blanket, snacks, water, gloves, boots, first-aid kit.
- Load your car with winter travel gear: tire chains, ice scraper/snowbrush, jumper cables, road flares.

If you find yourself stranded, be safe:

Stay in your car, put on your flashers, call for help, and wait until it arrives.

Driving in snow and icy conditions

On ice and snow, take it slow. Drive for conditions: slower speeds, slower acceleration, slower steering, and slower braking in winter conditions.

- Use your headlights.
- Don't use cruise control.
- Four-wheel and all-wheel vehicles do not stop or steer better in icy conditions than two-wheel drive vehicles.
- Leave extra room between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you. Remember, the larger the vehicle, the longer the stopping distance.
- Slow down when approaching intersections, offramps, bridges, or shady spots.
- If you find yourself behind a snowplow, stay behind it until it is safe to pass. Remember that a snowplow driver has a limited field of vision. Stay back (15 car lengths) until you're sure it is safe to pass or until the plow pulls off the road.
- Slow down and be extra cautious near chain-up and removal areas at the approaches to passes. There are often people out of their vehicles.

Mountain travel: tires and chains

Yes, Washington Pass soon will close, but if you travel to the east side via any of the other passes, remember these tips.

- Washington allows studded tires from Nov. 1 through March 31. All who travel in Washington must follow Washington's roadway laws. There is no individual exception to the studded tire law. WSDOT may extend the deadline if forecasts indicate severe winter weather conditions are likely across much of the state.
- Talk to your local tire dealer and find out if your tires are traction tires.
- All drivers should carry chains. Find out which chains are the best fit for your vehicle and practice installing them.
- When WSDOT posts the "Chains Required" advisory, all vehicles must have chains (except four-wheel and all-wheel drive). In extreme weather conditions, the tire chain requirement may include four-wheel and all-wheel-drive vehicles.

Letters, cont. from p. 2

Fundraising events for troops collaborative successes

Sedro-Woolley Community Troop Support would like to thank everyone who was involved in our most recent fundraising events.

Our first annual Yellow Ribbon Poker Run had about 45 participants and raised a little over \$600 to be used for this year's Christmas care packages. We thank Coho Liquidation in Sedro-Woolley, Sound Harley-Davidson in Smokey Point, Rockport Pub in Rockport, and Eagles in Flight in Concrete for hosting our card draw sites. A very special round of applause goes to Challenger Ridge for

hosting our end of the event party at their beautiful facility with free wine tasting and jet boat rides on the Skagit River, and to Amethyst Skull for providing music that kept participants toe-tapping and enjoying the party. Amethyst Skull members donated their time and talent for this event, and we are very grateful to everyone who participated, volunteered, and supported this event. We are looking forward to next year's Yellow Ribbon Poker Run!

We also wish to thank those involved with our Donation Drop Off Day event held Oct. 22. We had a great success this year with cash donations of \$340 and nearly three shopping carts full of care package items that were donated. We

were proud to have with us a group of college students: members of the Calling All Colors Club who were out to perform community service for the National Make A Difference Day. Special thanks to our DDOD organizer Cassie Freer and all the wonderful volunteers who braved the cold weather to come out to help!

We wish to thank Sedro-Woolley Food Pavilion for allowing this event to be staged at their store and to Skagit Ready Mix, Pat Rimmer Tire Center, and Janicki Logging & Construction for bringing their big rigs for people to see and explore. A great treat for kids of all ages!

We greatly appreciate all the support from local businesses, our volunteers, and everyone who participated in our events

during the past year. Without your support we couldn't provide as much as we do for our brave men and women serving overseas away from their families during the holiday season. We are proud of our military and honored to be of service to them.

Tammie Werner
SWCTS Upriver Liaison
Lyman

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Out & About



Mount Vernon

Benefit concert to honor Babraitis

Mount Vernon High School Band Alumni plan a benefit concert to honor their band and choir director, John Babraitis, Thurs., Dec. 29, at 8 p.m., at the Lincoln Theatre in downtown Mount Vernon. Tickets are \$20 and on sale now at the Lincoln. Former students are encouraged to play.

New Cinderella ballet film coming to Lincoln Theatre

A new version of the fairytale classic “Cinderella” danced by the Birmingham Royal Ballet will be screened at Lincoln Theatre Nov. 12 and 20. Both performances begin at 2 p.m. Lincoln Theatre, located at 712 South 1st Street, Mount Vernon, is broadcasting the production as part of its Cinema

Meets Dance Series. The new production is set to the music of Prokofiev and choreographed by one of Britain’s leading dance talents, David Bintley. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, \$10 for students (with ID), and \$7 for children 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased online at www.ilovethelincoln.com, at the theatre box office Tuesday through Friday between noon and 5 p.m., or at the door beginning 45 minutes prior to show time. Theatre members receive a \$2 discount. For more information, call the theater at 360.419.7129.

Skagit Valley College Board of Trustees names president

Dr. Thomas Keegan, President of Peninsula College, has been named the next president of Skagit Valley College (SVC). The SVC Board of Trustees met in executive session Oct. 12 to review the three finalists. After reconvening in open session, the board announced its unanimous decision to hire Keegan. Keegan, a resident of Port Angeles, will succeed Dr. Gary Tollefson, who has served as SVC’s president for nearly nine years.

Dr. Keegan has been the President of Peninsula College for 10 years. Under his leadership, Peninsula College was one of 20 community colleges in the nation selected by the U.S. Department of Education as an “Innovator in Career Pathways”; selected as one of 11 “Innovation Partnership Zones” by Governor Gregoire; and selected as a model college for its “thoughtful, holistic approach to Native American student success” by The Partnership for Native American College Access and Success. In addition, Dr. Keegan worked with key leaders and boards to establish Peninsula College as a baccalaureate degree-granting institution. Prior to his work at Peninsula College, Keegan served as vice president for Instruction and Student Services at

Columbia Basin College and vice president for Student Success at South Puget Sound Community College. Keegan earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Washington. His Certificate of Integrative Administration also is from the University of Washington. He earned a Master’s degree in Education in Adult Education/ Student Personnel Administration from Western Washington University. Keegan earned a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Puget Sound and an Associate’s degree from Skagit Valley College. The college expects to officially welcome Keegan and his wife, Suzanne, to Skagit Valley College in early 2012.

NonGMO activists night

Skagit Valley Food Co-op will host a NonGMO Activists’ Night on Wed., Nov. 2 at 6:30 p.m. The gathering will be held in Room 309; admission is free. Guest speakers Steve Crider from Amy’s Kitchen and Megan Westgate from the NonGMO Project will be on hand to discuss their efforts to raise awareness of genetically modified organisms in Americans’ food streams. Steve Crider attended the Organic Voices Coalition meeting this spring and is working with fellow stakeholders, like the NonGMO Project, to raise national awareness for a GE labeling campaign petition currently pending with the FDA. Megan Westgate is running the NonGMO Project, an independent ingredient verification process, from nearby Bellingham. They’ll cover the basics about what GMOs are, which crops and foods are affected, and why so many people are concerned about them. Discussion also will address what the NonGMO Project is doing and how attendees can be part of the effort to protect a nonGMO food supply and defend consumer choice. For more information, call 360.336.5087, ext.136.

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Burlington

Puget Sound Energy hires Brian Gentry

BURLINGTON — Lifelong northwest Washington resident Brian Gentry has joined Puget Sound Energy as the utility’s manager of local government and community relations in Whatcom and Skagit counties. Gentry will work alongside the other members of PSE’s community team who are based at PSE’s offices in Burlington and Bellingham. He succeeds Ray Trzynka, who recently retired after 24 years with the utility. A graduate of Burlington-Edison High School, Gentry earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Washington State University.



Brian Gentry

Skagit County

Free disaster preparedness class offered

SKAGIT COUNTY — The Mt. Baker Chapter of the American Red Cross will hold its next Be Red Cross Ready class on Wed., Nov. 9, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Bellingham Chapter office, 2111 King Street. Red Cross staff and volunteers will teach residents how to prepare themselves and their family for emergency situations. Participants will learn to build an emergency kit, create a disaster plan, and receive useful emergency tips about floods, house fires, and earthquakes. Disaster preparedness supplies will be available for purchase and a brief overview of Red Cross services will be provided. No RSVP is required. For more information, go to www.mtbredcross.org.

Concrete Herald



Home & Garden



Simple steps to get your home ready for winter

BELLEVUE — With the first autumn chill in the air, Puget Sound Energy offers a checklist of simple fall preparation and safety tips to help homeowners get their castles ready for cooler temperatures, to manage energy costs, and be comfortable and safe this winter.

- Seal gaps around doors and windows by adding weather stripping or caulk to keep heat from escaping.
- Add insulation to attics, walls, ducts and floors. PSE offers up to \$1,400 in insulation rebates.
- Have the furnace inspected and serviced to make sure it is in good working order.
- Change or clean furnace filters monthly during the heating season.
- Make sure the area around the furnace and water heater is clear of all flammable materials such as rags, cardboard boxes, solvents, and paint thinners.
- Repair or replace damaged heating ducts.

- Keep all heating vents open and unblocked by furniture or other items.
- Look up before doing any outdoor overhead work, like cleaning gutters, pruning trees, or working with ladders, to avoid power lines. Maintain a minimum of 15 feet of clearance from overhead power lines.
- Don’t let anyone climb a utility pole or green electric transformer cabinet. If a pet is stranded on a utility pole or if a ball or toy goes into a power substation, don’t go after them.

“If you are having problems with your natural gas furnace or water heater or if you have problems with pilot lights, call us to schedule a PSE natural gas service technician for a free visit to diagnose the problem,” said Agnes Barard, director of customer care for PSE. To report a furnace problem, call PSE at 888.225.5773. Visit www.pse.com for additional preparation and safety tips, as well as information about heating rebates.

Concrete Herald



Above: Concrete Public Works Assistant Director Rich Philips again showed up at the community garden with his great little yard tractor for some speedy bed-filling Oct. 18. Once again, 3DH Aggregates donated soil, this time to fill the eight 4x12 beds that will grow produce for the Concrete Food Bank next spring. Garden co-manager Jason Miller and bed renter Bill Pfeifer aided the effort.

The Garden Corner

By Gladys Silrus

This month, finish up planting and cleaning up your summer plants. Shred leaves by mowing them with a mulching mower. Put mulch in a compost bin or use it to cover roses for the winter. Do not fertilize roses after July 30; this allows the plant to harden off before winter. Continue to water through October. Stop deadheading and let hips form; this signals the roses to stop producing new growth. Watch for spider mites and mildew; treat as necessary. After several frosts, provide winter protection with leaf mulch or pine needles. Cut canes back to 24–30 inches. Now’s the time to cut back perennials to just a few inches. Pull up all annuals, including the vegetable garden. This is important since old produce and foliage can attract and harbor pests and diseases that will plague you next year. Plant garlic cloves and spring-blooming bulbs this month. Don’t forget to drain all

hoses and unscrew them from hydrants or they might burst when water freezes. Store them in a covered place. Now is the time to care for garden tools. Step one: Fill a bucket with dry sand, and mix in WD-40 or vegetable oil. Use a putty knife or steel wool to scrub mud from your tools. Step 2: Plunge tools into the sandy mixture several times to remove debris, then polish with a coarse cloth, such as burlap. To keep wooden handles from splitting and drying out during winter, first clean the handles, then rub them with linseed oil before storage. Save your sand mixture to reuse next summer. Tip of the month: Spray ammonia on your trash when you put it out. The fumes will prevent dogs from tearing the bags apart. The garbage man might not like it either, but what the hey. Happy Holidays!

Got a gardening question? Send it to Gladys for an answer! Call her at 360.826.4848, or write to her at gsilrus@frontier.com or 42002 Pine St., Concrete, WA 98237.

WSU Skagit County Master Gardener Program seeks volunteer educators

The WSU Skagit County Extension Master Gardener Program is accepting applications for its 2012 Master Gardener Annual Training. Master Gardener volunteer educators will receive Washington State University computer-based course work, along with eight weekly classroom meetings with other Master Gardener students and Master Gardeners for hands-on activities in home horticulture, integrated pest management, and plant problem diagnosis from WSU specialists and other experts. The Master Gardener online coursework is done on the student’s own schedule for weekly assignments, with group meetings each Tuesday at Padilla Bay Interpretive Center in Bay View. The Master Gardener classroom training begins Jan. 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Required classes also will be held Jan. 24 and 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, and 28; and March 6.

The cost of the Master Gardener training is \$400. A refund of \$200 will be given to those Master Gardener interns completing their 60 hours of volunteer work in their first year. Every following year, 25 volunteer hours are required to remain in the Master Gardener program. To request an application, call 360.428.4270, ext. 0, go to www.skagit.wsu.edu/MG/apply.htm, or write to WSU Skagit County Extension Master Gardener Program, 11768 Westar Lane, Ste. A, Burlington, WA 98233.

WSU Know & Grow Workshop: The Way We Garden: An International Tour of Gardens
When: Nov. 15, 1 to 2:30 p.m.
Where: WSU Mount Vernon NWREC Sakuma Auditorium 16650 State Route 536 (Memorial Hwy) Mount Vernon
Info: 360.428.4270 <http://skagit.wsu.edu/MG>



Smile



Dwelleysms

Wit from the Herald’s former editor

“We judge others by what they have done—ourselves by what we would like to do.”

—Sept. 24, 1931

“Human nature is refreshing. In the midst of supposedly hard times, football stadiums, ball parks, and prize fights are filled with cash customers, while merchants moan that no one has any money. Millions for pleasure, but not a cent for debts.”

—Oct. 15, 1931

“In spite of the fact that the *Herald* missed a ‘scoop’ on the story of the local woman lost in the woods, we are confident that we will be the first paper to spell the name correctly.”

—Nov. 12, 1931

“All industrial and political leaders are ready to end the depression, but don’t know what to do. In other words, the players are raring to go, but they can’t find the ball.”

—Nov. 26, 1931

In search of something

Two guys, one old one young, are pushing their carts around a grocery store when they collide.

The old guy says to the young guy, “Sorry about that. I’m looking for my wife and I guess I wasn’t paying attention to where I was going.”

The young guy says, “That’s OK, it’s a coincidence. I’m looking for my wife, too.”

The old guy says, “Maybe I can help you find her. What does she look like?”

The young guy says, “Well, she is 27 years old, tall, red hair, blue eyes, buxom, long legs, and wearing shorts. What does your wife look like?”

The old guy says, “Doesn’t matter, let’s look for yours.”

“1931’s gift to newspaper editors: Mussolini, Gandhi, General Butler, Ma Kennedy, Clara Bow, Pepper Martin, and the Culbertson-Jacoby bridge duel.”
—Dec. 31, 1931

“After years of being a persistently unwanted crop, dandelions are now found to be worth money, the roots now bringing around four cents a pound. Now watch the darn things become as hard to grow as any farm crop.”

—Sept. 18, 1941

“Strange how many vicious rumors can be traced back to wishful thinking. When

you wish to hurt someone for a fancied wrong, nothing is quite as effective and as lacking in reprisal as dropping a twisted fact into a receptive ear.”

“The wheel that squeaks the loudest is the one that gets the grease, it is said. But the fellow who howls the loudest isn’t always the guy who’s getting hurt.”

—Sept. 4, 1941

“Right now we’re all pretty tax-conscious. But before it’s over we’ll be lucky just to be conscious.

—Oct. 2, 1941

“If we do get into a war presently, it will

be just another example of the average American’s lack of sales resistance.”
“Acme of prosperity: To have the down payment and no desire to buy anything.”
“Life’s uncertainty is certainly uncertain.”

—Sept. 11, 1941

“Get ready for inflation, say economists. It is unavoidable if we have to swallow all that hot air about not raising prices with labor costs skyrocketing like they are.”
“Our national debt is now \$49,541,299,057.73. Nobody knows what they spent the 73 cents for.”

—Aug. 7, 1941

Photo Caption Contest!

C’mon, you know you’re funny. Now’s the time to share your sense of humor with the rest of us! Send a funny caption for the photo at right to *Concrete Herald*, and you might win a \$25 gift certificate to Annie’s Pizza Station!

Contest is open only to citizens living in Clear Lake, Sedro-Woolley or any community east. E-mail or snail-mail your caption by Nov. 18 to: editor@concrete-herald.com or P.O. Box 682, Concrete, WA 98237. Include your name, mailing address, and phone number.

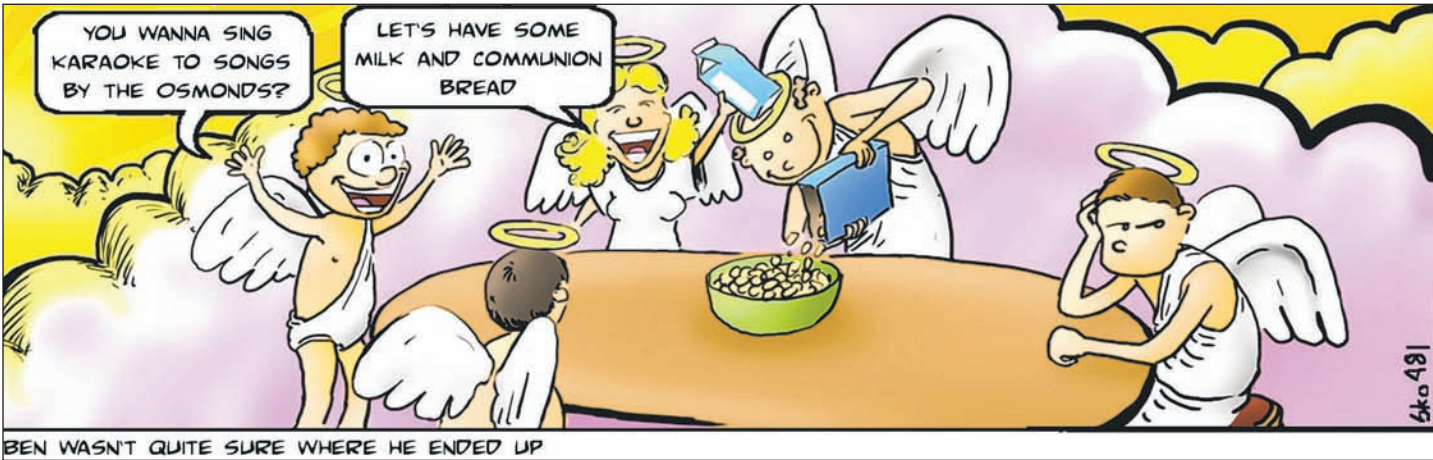
Winners will be announced in next month’s issue.



Photo by Sara Jenkins

Public Service Announcement

By Stig Kristensen



Crossword: “Wet out there”

By Myles Mellor

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

Across

1. Brewski
5. Orange juice factor
9. Bow
13. Certain surgeon’s “patient”
14. Celebes beast
15. Anoint
16. Romantic setting
17. Dock
18. Carpentry grooves
19. Come down hard
22. Cleaning cabinet supplies
23. Absorbed, as a cost
24. Yugoslavia, now
28. Plant fuel
32. 86 is a high one
33. Aspersion
35. Not just “a”
36. Pot of gold site?
40. Golf term
41. Quite a stretch (var.)
42. Seize forcibly (old word)
43. Indiana town
46. Finn’s friend
47. 1969 Peace Prize grp.
48. The Amish, e.g.

Down

1. Ado
2. “Major” animal
3. Kosher ____
4. Caught in the act
5. Yellow fruit
6. Bind
7. Fertile soil
8. Legal prefix
9. Wreath for the head
10. Completely fix
11. Blockage
12. Pianist, Dame Myra
15. Build on
20. Precipice
21. Lagos currency

24. Hex

25. “It’s a Wonderful Life” role
26. Isuzu model
27. “You stink!”
28. Make, as a CD
29. Cornered
30. Treat rudely, in a way
31. Ratty place
33. Abandon
34. “Seinfeld” uncle
37. Claw
38. About to explode
39. “What’s ____?”
44. Pooh’s pal
45. Hodgepodes
46. Drag
48. Condescending one
49. Chopin piece
50. Hit
51. “Terrible” czar
52. Canceled
53. Doctrines
54. Dry biscuit
55. Soon, to a bard
56. Doing nothing
57. Central point

Sudoku

By Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

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.

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

*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 38.

Painfully funny jokes

- What do you get when you cross roast pork with a telephone? Crackling on the line.
- Did you hear about the scientist whose wife had twins? He baptised one and kept the other as a control.
- Why did the king go to the dentist? To get his teeth crowned.
- I haven’t spoken to my mother-in-law for 18 months—I don’t like to interrupt her.
- What did the witch ask for when she booked into the hotel? A broom with a view.
- Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish ... and he’ll sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

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Sunday School, cont. from p. 30

mystery.

Out on those plains, we sang hymns, then went out and stood behind the church under the vast, open sky and wordlessly watched the heavens. One by one, the cars would swing away from the church, raising red, glowing clouds of dust.

The gospels tell us that the disciples sang a hymn and went out, into the night of Gethsemane, into a night of betrayal and abandonment. Those hymns of the night strengthened us to go out and face the shadows of our own lives. But we don't sing of the night anymore. The cheerful chants of worship and praise songs never assure me that the stumbling night of the soul is unavoidable, that the valley of shadows and uncertain paths are natural features in the topography of

faith. Old hymns of the night, sung in the night, made real the presence of that Kindly Light which leads me on "amid the encircling gloom."

"Bear me o'er life's fitful sea"

My father had been a sailor before he sold all that he had to go preach the gospel. He remembered a shipmate who had been swept overboard in a storm. Out on the plains, a thousand miles from the sight of any sea, he threw out the lifeline for lost drifters. He warned us not to shipwreck our faith. He told the story of the wreck on Lake Erie that had inspired Philip Bliss to write, "Let the lower lights be burning." From the depths of his tempest-driven soul, he would belt out: "My anchor holds, it firmly holds."

Years would pass before I ever saw the sea, but those hymns stirred my imagination. Permeated with an awareness

of life's perils, they called to me from a distant age, the expressions of a fierce, 19th-century faith, where fires of revival swept up and down the New England coast, and where American whalers had once sailed the oceans.

"Consider the sea," wrote the great seafaring novelist, Herman Melville, "and do you not find a strange analogy to something in yourself?" Most of us have known life's tumultuous waves; we feel, perhaps more keenly than ever, the oceans that separate us from each other. Some of us have known what it is to be tempest driven and to watch our compasses falter.

But we rarely go down to the sea in ships, and we never sing of the sea anymore. The holy terror experienced by earlier believers has gone the way of old lighthouses and harpoons. We establish comfortable lives of faith near the shore, or further inland, basking in the sunshine of God's benevolence. But the old hymns of the sea still call me to launch out, to pursue hard after God into uncharted regions.

"All along my pilgrim journey"

Across the nation, Americans are rediscovering J. R. R. Tolkien's great modern myth, *The Lord of the Rings*. This work taps a deep, spiritual hunger. Most readers or viewers, I imagine, are captivated first by the sheer adventure and the fantasy of Tolkien's world. But at a deeper level, I think we are drawn to the ordinary Frodo, who says with a wonderful mixture of confidence and uncertainty, "I will take the Ring, though I do not know the way." Each of us yearns to be the hero of our own life's journey. We want to have a story we can tell—with a clear direction, a purpose, and a plot—for story is what gives order to the events of our lives.

Old hymns portrayed salvation as a process in time, with a beginning, middle and end:

"I once was lost ..."

"Since I have been redeemed ..."

"Years I spent in vanity and pride ..."

"One day He's coming ..."

Such hymns are saturated with an awareness of time's passing and of the world to come.

Contemporary praise songs, in contrast, seem oddly disconnected from time. We chant the lines in any order and repeat them any number of times. They seem to lack a narrative force to connect what has happened with what will happen. They exist in the eternal now, in the actual moment of praising. And while praise songs surely strengthen faith, the old hymns sought to nourish hope, that confident expectation that "he who began

a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Phil. 1:6).

Real presence

Looking back, I find that old hymns enlarged, rather than constricted, my world. They were evocations more than invocations. That is, they called me out into God's world more than they called God into mine. Those great hymns of the night, of the sea, of time, and of the journey onward, evoked a very real world, singing it into existence, as it were. They made real the presence of death, and of life, and of angels, and of things to come, and of amazing heights and depths . . .

And then, in some marvelous way, they continued calling me on, beyond that world, into the real presence of the Savior. This, as I now understand it, was the experience of God's love from which, Paul reminds us, nothing ever separates us. This love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, was made real to me through the evocation of these old hymns, which still call to me faintly, tenderly, and distinctly.

Thomas Becknell is a professor of English at Bethel University in St. Paul, Minn. This essay originally appeared in Moody magazine. Reprinted with permission.

Crossword solution, from p. 37

S	U	D	S		P	U	L	P		A	R	C	H
T	R	E	E		A	N	O	A		A	N	E	L
I	S	L	E		P	I	E	R		D	A	D	O
R	A	I	N	C	A	T	S	A	N	D	D	O	G
				L	Y	E	S		A	T	E		
S	E	R	B	I	A			B	I	O	M	A	S
P	R	O	O	F		S	L	U	R		T	H	E
E	N	D	O	F	T	H	E	R	A	I	N	B	O
L	I	E		A	E	O	N		R	E	A	V	E
L	E	O	P	O	L	D		S	A	W	Y	E	R
				I	L	O		S	E	C	T		
S	I	N	G	I	N	I	N	T	H	E	R	A	I
O	V	O	L	O		S	O	U	L		U	N	D
C	A	G	E	S		M	O	D	E		S	O	L
K	N	O	T			S	T	E	P		K	N	E

Sudoku solution, from p. 37

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

Editorial, cont. from p. 2

During the 2011 legislative session, lawmakers advanced two state Constitutional amendments to the November general election.

Senate Joint Resolution 8205 would remove a 60-day residency requirement to vote in presidential elections and change it to the standard requirement of 30 days prior to the election.

Senate Joint Resolution 8206 would amend the Constitution to provide a budget stabilization account maintained in the state treasury. The amendment would require the Legislature to transfer additional money to the account each biennium when the state has received "extraordinary revenue growth."

For more information on each of these measures, I encourage you to go to the Secretary of State's election Web site at: www.sos.wa.gov/elections and click on "2011 General Election Online Voters Guide."

As a state representative, I cannot use state resources to advocate either for or against any measure or candidate that appears on a ballot. However, I can educate constituents on these and other legislative issues. I encourage you to become familiar with these ballot proposals and then exercise your right to vote in the general election, Nov. 8.

Rep. Dan Kristiansen, R-Snohomish, serves as chairman of the Washington House Republican Caucus and represents the 39th Legislative District. He can be contacted at 360.786.7967 or e-mailed through his Web site at: www.housepublicans.wa.gov/kristiansen. His office address is: P.O. Box 40600, Olympia, WA 98504-0600.

In the Service, cont. from p. 7

This stand-down is a joint venture sponsored by Skagit County Community Action Agency, Skagit County Veterans Assistance Advisory Council, American Legion Post 132 (Concrete), Concrete Assembly of God, and residents of eastern Skagit County.

Donations may be made to the East County Resource Center. For more information on the Concrete Veterans Stand-down, see the information box at the end of this article.

Sedro-Woolley Stand-down

The Sedro-Woolley Stand-down will be held Fri., Nov. 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the American Legion Post 43, 701 Murdock St., in Sedro-Woolley. It too will

serve all veterans, including active duty, National Guard, Reserves, retirees and their families, and homeless individuals. Services provided will include:

- *Medical:* immunizations, PTSD counseling, dental van, service-connected disability claims
- *Community resources/services:* senior services/Medicare savings, Veterans Relief Fund information, community services agencies, veterans service officers, veteran benefits counselors, haircuts, hot lunch and refreshments, clothing
- *Employment and education resource information:* resume and interviewing assistance, job opportunities/referrals, educational benefits information

The stand-down is a joint venture sponsored by Skagit County Community Action Agency, Skagit County Veterans Assistance Advisory Council, and American Legion Post 43 (Sedro-Woolley).

To create and maintain a safe environment, no drugs, alcohol, or weapons will be allowed at either stand-down.

November Veterans Stand-downs

Who to contact ...

Concrete Stand-down

Mike Abbott, Skagit County Veterans Asst. Fund 360.853.7009, mikea@valleyint.com

Lou Hillman, East County Resource Center 360.853.7009, louh@skagitcap.org

John Boggs, volunteer 360.853.8347, jboggswash@aol.com

Murle Brown, DAV Service Officer (Wed.) East County Resource Center 360.853.7009

Sedro-Woolley Stand-down

Carmina Villalobos Skagit County Community Action Veteran Svcs. 360.416.7585

Mike Abbott, service officer 360.853.7009, mikea@valleyint.com

Larry VanDyke Veterans Advisory Board/MC League 360.757.7738, larry.vandyke@p-h-s.com

Bill Adamek, Skagit County WorkSource 360.416.3572, wadamek@valleyint.com

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GREAT DEALS! Big-wheel lawnmower w/6.5 hp engine, runs good, \$75. Lawn Boy mower, self-propelled, with bag, \$70. Radiator for 1985-88 Dodge slant six, \$25. Like-new Dodge alternator, \$60. Brand-new set of brake shoes, 12-inch, for Dodge 1985-87 pickups, \$40. 360.853.7090.

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Wood-bricks firewood. Throw down your axe and saw. 100% wood bricks burn clean and hot. No more bugs, bark, or creosote. No more aching back. Buy a ton and get 200 lbs. FREE. Buy 1/2 ton and get 100 lbs. FREE. \$250/ton in 25-lb. flats; \$220 in 20-lb. bundles; \$200 in bulk. \$140/half ton in flats; \$120 in bundles; \$110 in bulk. Fill up your car! Fill up your truck! Jump for joy—you're in luck! Pacific Rim Tonewoods, 38511 SR 20, Concrete. 360.826.6101. Mon. - Thur., open 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m. More info at www.pacificrimtonewoods.com. ♡



RENTAL PROPERTIES

Fish from home on the Skagit River. 3 bed, 3 bath, game room with bar, garage, shop with heat, gazebo, hot tub, appliances included. \$1,200/mo. + deposit. 360.853.8188, leave msg.

SERVICES

Eagles In Flight Motorcycle Sales and Service / Sissy Bar. 360.853.7000.

Free local GED study classes (one on one). Resource Center, Concrete. Mon. and Wed., 9–12. Call for info: Bruce or Judy at 360.826.9101 or 360.420.3724.

Gladys' Upholstery Shop. Quality work, reasonable prices. 360.826.4848.

Got aluminum cans? Don't throw them away! Give them to Grayson. 360.853.8542.

Jay's House & Yard Services, Inc. Lic., bonded gen. contractor. #JAYSHHY8920L. 360.707.8177.

Northwest Garden Bling is moving! Join us for our grand opening Nov. 5 at our new location in Grassmere Village, 44574 SR 20. Offering classes, supplies, and repair of stained glass, as well as a unique gift shop. 360.708.3279 or check out our Web site for more info: www.nwgardening.com.

Sauk View Gallery. Northwest Garden Bling now in Grasmere Village, next to Annie's Pizza! Sauk View Gallery SHOPPING DAY, Fri., Nov. 25, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. New artisans, new products, old standbys. Come learn what's going to happen after the Gallery closes Dec. 30!

To place a Classified ad, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail ads@concrete-herald.com. Classified ads are \$5 per every 10 words, rounded up to the nearest 10. Payment for classified ads is due at time of placement. Deadline for December issue: Nov. 28.

Training Burns, cont. from p. 6

training" and ventilating exercises.

The houses, which were located at 45897 Eriksen Place and 45852 and 45836 Division St., had been condemned and bought by Town of Concrete using FEMA, state, and town funds after a January 2009 slide on the hill west of them wiped out one house at 45888 June Alley. A fourth house, at 45872 Division St., will be demolished rather than burned, because it is too close to neighboring houses. FEMA funding guidelines stipulated the houses be destroyed, rather than removed or recycled, and no other structures may be built on the sites. The town intends to convert the area into a neighborhood park.

The four houses were determined to be in a "Life Safety Zone." If another slide occurred on the hill, the inhabitants of those homes could have lost their lives.

Concrete Mayor Judd Wilson and the town's building inspector, Jack McCormick, condemned the houses and sought FEMA funding to buy them so they could be destroyed.

Classifieds

MOVIES EVERY WEEKEND AT THE HISTORIC CONCRETE THEATRE

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Sundays at 4:00 p.m.
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NOVEMBER

Community Education at United General Hospital

LUNCH-N-LEARN SERIES Improve your health by attending any or all of these free lunchtime sessions! Each class runs from noon to 1:00 p.m., downstairs in the Alder/Birch Conference Rooms. To-go lunches are available from our award-winning Coho Cafe for just \$5. Please register in advance: www.unitedgeneral.org/lunch-n-learn, or (360) 856-7245.



Wednesday, Nov 9 HEALTHY HOLIDAY EATING

Celebrate National Diabetes Month and learn how to plan healthy and delicious food for your holiday meals. Making wise food choices will help you stay at a healthy weight and keep your glucose, blood pressure and cholesterol under control. Our Certified Diabetes Educators can show you how to choose foods wisely throughout the holiday season.

Instructor: Mary Clark, RD, CDE



Thursday, Nov 10 FITNESS FACTS FOR FALL & WINTER

Strength and flexibility are vital for cold-weather activities and can reduce the risk of falls. Learn which exercises are most important. *Instructor: Mark Pearson, Director of the Medical Fitness Program at United General Hospital.*



Thursday, November 17 THE IMPORTANCE OF VITAMIN D

Why should you care about Vitamin D? Find out how it affects your health and how to get the proper amount. Participants receive discount on screening. *Instructor: Nadya Volsky, MD, United General Hospital Family Medicine Clinic.*

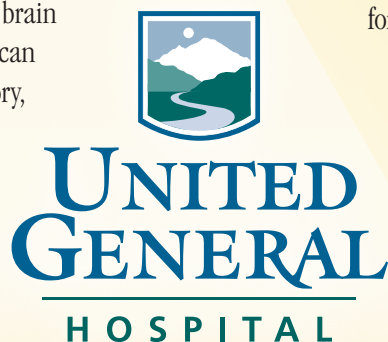


Tuesday, November 29 5 TIPS FOR A BETTER BRAIN

There are steps you can take to keep your brain healthy and active. Learn five things you can start doing right now to boost your memory, alertness and concentration. *Instructor: Valerie Stafford, MS, Director of Communications and Community*

Education at United General Hospital.

**Register online: www.unitedgeneral.org
or call (360) 856-7245.**



Wednesday, November 30 TOLERATING GLUTEN INTOLERANCE

Learn to cope with gluten intolerance through wise eating habits and a better understanding of this health issue. *Instructor: Barbara Sutton, MoE, RD, CD, Nutritional Services at United General Hospital.*



Other Programs:

Tuesday, November 15 5:30 p.m.; Free COPING WITH INCONTINENCE AND PELVIC PAIN

Are you struggling with the embarrassment and discomfort of a bladder control problem? There are several lifestyle modifications and medical therapies that can help with urinary incontinence. Nancy Cullinane, PT, MHS, and Savannah Crawford, PT, DPT, will discuss the risk factors, causes, symptoms and available treatments to help you cope with bladder control and pelvic pain.



7:00–10:00 a.m. Cascade Mall, Burlington INSIDE TRACK MALL WALK

United General and the Cascade Mall join forces to bring you a safe place to walk.

The mall is open Monday–Saturday,
7:00–10:00 a.m. for anyone who wants

to take advantage of this warm, dry environment where walking is convenient and barrier-free. Free blood pressure checks are offered on Monday mornings by United General Hospital staff.

