

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Herald

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50 cents

Clear Lake • Sedro-Woolley • Lyman • Day Creek • Punkin Center • Hamilton • Birdsvie • Grasmere • Concrete • Cape Horn • Sauk City • Sauk Valley • Rockport • Van Horn • Darrington • Corkindale • Marblemount • Bullerville • Newhalem • Diablo

Journey to The Slabs

Cedar Grove man travels to the edge of the U.S. to learn how to reach out to the less fortunate. Page 11.



Jarrod Lee stands in front of Salvation Mountain in The Slabs homeless encampment near Niland, Calif. The artificial structure was made by stacking more than 10,000 hay bales, then covering them with plaster and sand. The mountain is a giant metaphor, painted with imagery of the journey to salvation. Photo by Jarrod Lee.

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Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

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Opinion

Letters to the editor

Multiple hats common in small towns

I would say to Lesley DeKrey that in a small town, many people wear more than one hat and invite others to join their efforts to provide the services and opportunities that larger cities may take for granted. And sometimes, when one of those people who wear a variety of hats finally resigns from exhaustion, we feel the loss and suffer, because sometimes no one steps up to do the work.

I'm sorry that Lesley DeKrey feels she must criticize our current mayor and run for the part-time office in order to preserve "the democratic process." Perhaps if she saw Jason at our small school sporting events and concerts, or if she was a part of our town choir, then she would see Jason Miller in a different light and trust his ethics and loyalties to fairness and impartiality.

*Janis Schweitzer
Birdsview*

Miller is transparent, fair, honest

I am a resident of Concrete. I own a home here, shop locally, enjoy the beauty of this upriver community, and participate in forums and events meant to bring citizens together in the common purpose of making this a healthy, viable, welcoming community for all of its residents.

The current mayor of Concrete, Jason Miller, is a man with integrity and vision. His genuine concern for the health and success of this town is unassailable. Mr. Miller not only has my full support as mayor, but I can't imagine anyone more qualified or deserving of that role. I applaud him for all of the projects he has completed, the ones that are currently in

the works, and the extraordinary efforts he's made to actively listen to the diverse residents of Concrete as we all work together to create and maintain the kind of community in which we all want to live, raise families, and retire. That's where you see the true nature of his motivation and commitment to Concrete. But by far the most compelling reason to support Mr. Miller is his absolute dedication to transparent, fair, and honest leadership. He has my vote.

*Jennifer Jacobs
Concrete*

Kudos to county for landslide work

We know that not everyone is happy with the Rails-to-Trails corridor in the county, and I can appreciate those concerns. But one thing I believe we all appreciate about our local government is when it runs efficiently. An example of this is how Skagit County Parks and Recreation enlisted the help of Skagit County Public Works to fix the landslide 3 miles west of Concrete on that trail. It was a complicated job, and I was surprised at how quickly and how well it was done. Thank you.

And while I'm at it, I'd like to express my appreciation to Scott, Mike, Rob, and

See Letters, p. 3

Letters policy

Letters of 200 words or fewer may be e-mailed to letters@concrete-herald.com or sent to Concrete Herald, P.O. Box 682, Concrete, WA 98237. Writers must include their 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.

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Message from the mayor

By Jason Miller

We're watching the weather forecast on an almost minute-to-minute basis, hoping that we'll be able to get at least the first 2 inches of asphalt down on W. Main St. before the winter weather begins in earnest.

The project has gone smoothly for the most part, with some opportunities to address decades-old below-ground infrastructure, as well as educate a few of our citizens who are having a tough time adjusting to the restoration of the original neighborhood fabric. I'm confident that once construction is complete and the original pattern can be seen clearly, we'll all be on board with the vastly improved safety and ease of travel for people on foot or on wheels of all sizes.

Our water line extension to Grasmere businesses has seen some setbacks, but we persevere. Thanks for your patience,



Chief Coffell.

I'm grateful for everyone who chose to attend the Candidate Forum on Oct. 20. We had a turnout of a couple dozen people, and the questions and conversation were thought-provoking and challenging. I hope the attendees took home as much from it as I did.

Citizens, as I write this we are about one week away from election day on Nov. 7. This campaign has been an interesting one, to say the least. Never before have I faced an opponent who openly stated she didn't want to be mayor!

I hope that when you consider your choices for Concrete mayor this election, that you'll choose the one with a proven track record, the one who makes promises that he keeps, who makes plans and then plays them, and who keeps the good of our town in the forefront of his mind as he seeks to serve you.

Have a great month!

Concrete Mayor Jason Miller can be reached at goodwords@frontier.com or 360.853.8213, or by sending correspondence to P.O. Box 39, Concrete, WA 98237.

Re-elect **Jason Miller** for Concrete Mayor

A vote for Jason Miller is a vote for...

- A transparent, collaborative attitude
- Commitment to maintaining and improving our infrastructure
- Dedicated, optimistic leadership

Let's work together!

Re-elect Jason Miller on Nov. 7.



Paid for by Jason Miller.

Letters, cont. from p. 2

others who are building elk fencing daily for those of us who experience damage from these imported animals. I'm afraid that since those folks are the ones in the field, they are the ones to hear the most negative comments about the Elk Plan even though they are trying to help remedy the situation as best they can.

So, in closing, let's just remember to support the people who are working towards solutions. They didn't give us the Elk Plan—it was dumped on us all.

*Art Olson
Rockport*

Harvest Festival gratitude

Thank you for coming to the 2017 Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Pitch on Sept. 30, and congratulations to all our Pumpkin Pitch teams!

Due to the festival's generous sponsors and leadership from the City of Burlington, this event is able to be offered free to the public.

Thank you to the 21+ Kid Zone vendors and festival sponsors: B-E Kiwanis, Truss Company, Swinomish Casino, The Outlet Shoppes, DreamChasers RV, Frazier and Entrikin Farms, Bay Baby Produce, Rocky Mtn Chocolate Factory, Stowes, Skagit Kid Insider, and Costco.

Also, we appreciate the teamwork of staff from 10 City of Burlington departments, B-EHS Key Club, ROTC, Cascade Two Cylinder Tractor Club, community zucchini gardeners, Langs Pony Farm, IdealRental, food vendors, Mike Yeoman, the Marlin James Band, and Mother Nature for holding off on the rain!

See Letters, p. 15

Veterans Day Observance & Dedication Service

Saturday, November 11, 2017 ~ 11:00 AM
Lemley Chapel
1008 Third Street Sedro-Woolley, WA

Lemley Funeral Chapel is proud to host a Veterans Day Service honoring all who have served in our nation's Armed Forces. Speakers include: William J. McDaniel, Rear Admiral Ret., MD; Mayor Keith Wagoner; American Flag Presentation by Lee Schuirman. Dedication of the Veterans Monument. Special Music and Refreshments.

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Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on Oct. 10 and 23, as well as a Budget Workshop on Oct. 15. Following is a summary of those meetings. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are posted on the town's Web site at www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php.

Oct. 10 regular meeting

- Council approved a utility improvement bid for the spray park project, which will complete installation of the storm piping and main feed for the system. Town engineer Cody Hart stated the outflow from the spray park will flow into the lower rain garden at the south end of the Park & Ride for filtration, and will include a bypass valve that can be used in emergencies that require bypassing into the sewer system.
- Council approved two change orders for the W. Main St. project: one for manhole covers with sealed holes (so that stormwater infiltration will not be an issue) and one for additional asphalt. Funding source TIB has been made aware of the latter issue and cost increase, and has agreed to increase its funding for the project.
- Town Planner Marianne Manville-Ailles reported that PSE is proceeding with installation of a new emergency siren, with a proposed location of Airport Way, near the middle and high schools. The town decided to ask for a conditional use permit for this project.

Oct. 15 Budget Workshop

- Council reviewed the 2017 proposed budget, including salaries and benefits, and utility rates and fees.
- Council inquired about several items whose proposed budget numbers had changed dramatically from last year. Discussion ensued on each.
- Council proposed to increase the lease transfer fee at the airport to \$500 per lease request. The annual lease amounts will be discussed at the end of 2019 for the 2020 budget; council agreed that these amounts also should be increased.
- Council reviewed the town's Financial Management Draft Policies: Clerk-Treasurer Andrea Fichter stated this will be beneficial to staff and council so there is clear guidance on the financial plan for the town.

Discussion ensued on the different elements of these policies and all the different dollar figures for each function stated in the procurement policies. Council asked for more time to review; the information also will be sent to David Day for review.

Oct. 23 regular meeting

- Public Safety:** Deputy Backstrom reported they received a complaint regarding speeding on Cedar St., but he was not sure if this was an actual speeding incident or someone preemptively reporting possible speeding that may occur because of the drop in speed limit. He stated he is not sure if there have been any stops on Cedar St. recently, but believes stops were made on Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. and S. Superior Ave. He also reported there had been some animal-related calls, such as a dog locked in a car, a missing dog, a dog tied up with no water, and a person who did not like how someone was disciplining their dog.
- Hart provided updates for several projects: The First Street water line project is extending longer than originally anticipated. The utility work for the spray park was to begin the following week. TIB funding announcements will come out later this month; he is optimistic the town will finally receive funding for Cedar St., as well as a sidewalk along the south edge of E. Main St., between the Henry Thompson Bridge and PSE.
- Mayor Jason Miller stated he met with Hart today to discuss possibly paving the east end of Fir St. as it enters the Loggers Landing parking lot. Mayor Miller stated this connection should have been made when the road was originally constructed. The Loggers Landing owner has been speaking with a paving company about having his parking lot repaved; the Fir St. connection could conceivably be done at or around the same time. A quote is forthcoming.

—Compiled from staff minutes

Keep track of your council

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

CELEBRATE

Christmas in Concrete

You're invited to join us for music, movies, crafts, and some special events with very special people in December.
We hope to see you!

**GEOFFREY CASTLE
CELTIC CONCERT**
Thursday, November 30
7:00 p.m. at the Concrete Theatre
Tickets: www.Concrete-Theatre.com

**CRAFTING:
STORY SNOWFLAKES**
Saturday, Dec. 1
6:00 p.m. at the 5b's Bakery
Free admission; info at
www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us

**COOKIES WITH
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Saturday, Dec. 2
6:00 p.m. at the Concrete Theatre
Free admission; info at
www.Concrete-Theatre.com

SANTA ARRIVES!
Saturday, Dec. 2
7:00 p.m. at the Concrete Theatre
Go with him to light the Town Tree,
enjoy caroling and refreshments. Free.

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL
Saturday, Dec. 2
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at
Concrete Community Center

**IMAGINE CONCRETE
FOUNDATION CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
& CHILDREN'S CRAFT FAIR**
Saturday, Dec. 9
1 to 4 p.m. at Concrete Elementary
School gymnasium

**CONCRETE SCHOOLS MUSIC
PROGRAM WINTER CONCERT
AND COMMUNITY DINNER**
Thursday, Dec. 14
at Concrete High School cafeteria
and gymnasium. Time TBA

**CONCRETE HERITAGE
MUSEUM HOLIDAY
POTLUCK**
Wednesday, Dec. 20
6:00 p.m. at Concrete Community
Center

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Crosson's second book gains international acclaim

People are saying good things about Monica Crosson's second foray into the publishing world.

The Rockport writer's new book, *The Magickal Family*, hit bookstores worldwide on Oct. 8 and has been getting rave reviews ever since.

Publishers Weekly called it "a delightful mix of memoir and Wiccan ritual advice," named Crosson as one of the new voices for the body, mind, and spirit genre, and included her in its 2017 gift-giving guide.

Spirituality Today said it was "consistently engaging," as well as "delightful, excruciatingly funny in parts, authentic, and instructional. This ... heartwarming book holds a greater potential to change the world through the minds of future generations than all the pontification by sociologists and academics." The magazine also chose *The Magickal Family* as its book of the month for September.

Crosson is taking the sudden burst of fame in stride. The self-described practitioner of earth-based spirituality said she's more focused on the intent of the book.

"The biggest thing for me in writing this book was erasing the stereotypes: that most witches are gothic wackos or hippy nutjobs. Naw. We're just people."

Crosson said earth-based religions are one of the fastest-growing belief systems right now, and that she and her employer/publisher, Llewellyn Worldwide, are trying to normalize them, fighting against stereotypes and misconceptions. "We're doing this by teaching the fundamentals," she said.

To that end, her book focuses on magick and simplicity, and is filled with stories, tips, ideas, and projects to bring families closer to nature. It contains more than 65 rituals, blessings, recipes, crafts, and activities, including a felted wool faerie hat, a shoebox altar, a moon calendar, a green man salve, a recipe for rhubarb Earl Grey tea jam, easy laundry detergent, lip balm, poetry masks, and more.

"Anybody can do this," said Crosson. "Go outside, learn when to say no, spend more time with family, keep in rhythm with nature, become a minimalist."

The Magickal Family is available at most bookstores and Amazon.com.

—J. K. M.



Monica Crosson's second book, *The Magickal Family*, was published Oct. 8 and has been getting rave reviews. It's available at most bookstores and at Amazon.com. Crosson's next reading/signing will be held at Village Books in Bellingham (Fairhaven) on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.



Monica Crosson discusses *The Magickal Family* during an Oct. 27 reading and book signing event at the Upper Skagit Library in Concrete.

New vicar at Shepherd of the Hills

She's a little harder to spot in a crowd than her predecessor, Vicar Lowell, but the new vicar at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Concrete has jumped into her new position with both feet.

Cindy Myatt, 55, comes to Concrete from Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. She's in her third year of a four-year program, well on her way to earning her Masters of Divinity. This third year will be spent in Concrete, serving as a pastor for our local congregation under the supervision of Pastor Eric Wanger-Hoch at Bethlehem Lutheran in Sedro-Woolley.

A mother of four, Vicar Cindy said she's "trying to keep up with what Lowell was doing!" You'll see her out and about, getting to know community members, singing in the community choir, and more.



Cindy Myatt is the new vicar at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Concrete. She began her duties on Sept. 1.

The Slabs, cont. from p. 11

want your help or need it. You've already insulted them by assuming that they need something. My approach changed from 'How can we help you' to 'Let me be your friend and I will learn what you need by being your friend, and by then we'll have the trust and rapport not to be offended.'

"It's right out of the Bible, and it's so true. We are to love our neighbor as ourselves. That doesn't necessarily mean you have to give away everything you own, although it could. When you're trying to reach people for Christ, the problem is in the trying. People want to know you care first, and they want to know that by seeing it over a period of time, not in a few acts. Be a friend first, and by doing so you'll send the message that I didn't seek you for Christ; I sought you for someone to love, and in doing so, Christ came up.

"These people want us to be real and accept them for who they are. Stop saying they're different; they're no different from us, they just got slammed by life, and rather than getting back up to get slammed again, they decided on a different approach, one not ruled by material things."

One man's journey

So Lee did exactly that: He immersed himself in the culture of The Slabs, and simply lived. A musician, he joined a jam on open mic night at The Range, a big stage with a generator for power. He toured East Jesus. He walked around barefoot and dirty, and sat in the heat of the day and chatted with any resident who wanted to talk. He attended a church service and ate with the congregation.

And he volunteered to swing a paint brush on Salvation Mountain, painting the bright green flower stems seen on this issue's front page. Made of 10,000 hay bales, plaster, and sand, the giant hill is a metaphor for the journey to salvation, Lee said.

"You climb up a yellow brick road, get to the top and look down, and you see broken-down cars and trucks below you, with scripture verses painted on top of them. You realize your trek to the top is your journey through life. You realize the scripture verses explain the steps of giving your life to the Lord. Then you realize you're standing at the foot of a white cross, looking back at where you started."

—J. K. M.

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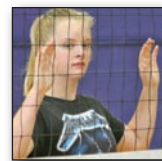


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Sports



Lions eye football playoffs

By Jason Miller

With only one regular-season game left to play, the Concrete Lions football team is looking forward to the playoffs.

The team ended October play with 5-0 league and 7-2 overall records after clinching the conference championship with a 20-10 thumping of Friday Harbor on Oct. 13.

The month started with an Oct. 7 home game against Lummi. The Lions took a surprising 20-18 nonleague loss on their home turf.

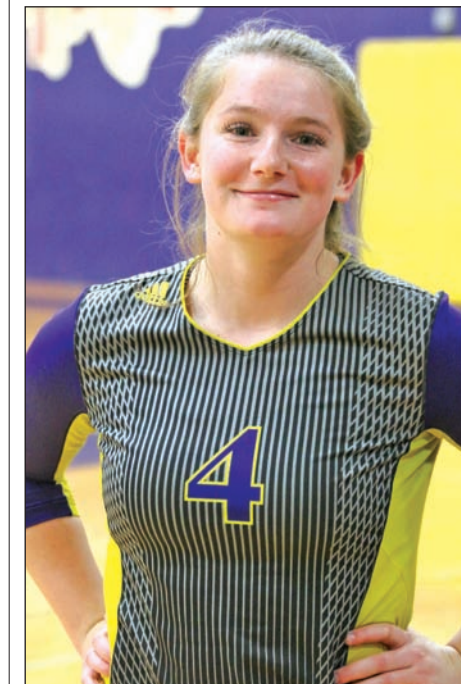
Concrete followed with a win over Friday Harbor on Oct. 13. "Friday Harbor played hard and they have some bigger kids; our guys had to dig deep," said Head Coach Marcus Carr. Tyler Nevin hauled in three TD passes—two from Riley Fichter and one from Marshall Fichter—to dominate the scoreboard.

Oct. 20 found the Lions in South Whidbey, facing a 27-17 loss. "Turnovers ended up hurting us—two turnovers inside our own 30," said Carr. "They turned those into points and we couldn't recover."

An Oct. 27 game against Darrington turned into a forfeit for the Loggers, who couldn't muster the numbers to field a team.

After a Nov. 2 game against La Conner, the playoffs will loom, starting with a District 4 team. "We'll have to dig in, be physical, run the ball well," said Carr.

Athletes of the Month



Athletes of the Month: Jalayne Hastings, Tyler Hansen, and Marshall Fichter

Jalayne Hastings is a senior captain on the CHS volleyball team. She volunteered to fill an important role this season by taking over the setting duties because she recognized the need for the good of the team. Coach Kevik Rensink stated she leads the team in serves at 97 percent, as well as having the most saves and assists.

Tyler Hansen and Marshall Fichter tied for the men's Athlete of the Month in September.

Tyler Hansen is a senior captain who plays defensive tackle and center. Coach Marcus Carr said his leadership on the line has allowed the team to run for more than 2,000 yards. Conversely, his presence in the middle on defense has deterred teams from running the ball. He has been credited with 21 tackles and two sacks so far this season.

Marshall Fichter is a junior who also sees action on both sides of the ball, playing running back and middle

linebacker. Coach Carr nominated Marshall for the honor as he was leading the county in rushing yards and scoring, with 1,282 yards and 135 points.

Hastings, Hansen, and Fichter were selected by Concrete Lions Booster Club members based on their performance, leadership, positive attitude, and demonstrating sportsmanship and character.

—Kathy Hurn

Volleyball ends season with a close one

By Kevik Rensink, head coach

The Concrete High School volleyball season came to a close on Oct. 24 in Darrington in a very close, hard-fought loss at the hands of the Loggers 25-14, 25-14, and 25-18.

Although the playoffs were out of our reach at the end of the season (first time we have missed the post season in five years), I thought our girls played with a lot of heart and showed tremendous pride. They played for their teammates, their school, and this community, and they represented us well.

We have three seniors on the team (Kaitlin Earheart, Jalayne Hastings, and Alyssa Roberts), and they gave so much to our volleyball program during their careers. They each have an incredible story and many memories to take with them for a lifetime.

One of those memories should be the last time they set foot on their home court to play this game they love: on Senior Night. We hosted Mount Vernon Christian, a team we had lost to 3-1 earlier in the season. The Lions won the first two games in dramatic fashion (25-23 and 25-22), only to lose the next two games (25-15 and 25-15).

So it came down to the fifth and final set to determine the winner. We had

no momentum; MVC had all of it after beating us badly in the previous two sets. I wanted this match for our seniors. We have had a good team all year—sometimes really good—but we have come up just short so many times. I didn't want them to go through that again on Senior Night. So, searching for the right words to say, and searching their eyes to see who was still in it, I found the answer.

It wasn't in my words, but in the words of senior captain, Kaitlin Earheart. She simply said "We are not going to lose. We are going to win." I believed her, and I think her teammates believed her too because that is exactly what they went out and did. Concrete won the final set 15-8 and took home Senior Night with a 3-2 win. I was so proud of them, on that night and every night.

If success was defined by wins and losses, anyone could look at our 2-14 record and say we were not successful. However, I look at the fact that we competed at our highest level. The girls gave everything they had to give, and they gave that gift to each other every time they took the court together. This was the youngest, most inexperienced team I have coached in my five years at Concrete, and it didn't keep us from



Clockwise from upper left: The Concrete Lions volleyball team clashed with Mount Vernon Christian on Oct. 19 and squeaked out a home-court win. Kaitlyn Earheart kills an attempted spike, Grace Clemons gets the bump, and Alyssa Roberts keeps the ball in play on the way to a win over the Hurricanes.

competing with every opponent. Nobody bullied us. Nobody pushed us around. The girls truly competed. They grew together, they learned together, and they pushed through adversity together. All three of our seniors had to overcome major obstacles to get where they are now, and I consider it a privilege to see them through it all. I am also excited about our future, and the young team that will be one year wiser next year, and hopefully has players playing a familiar position to what they played this year.

We will celebrate our successful volleyball season with our end-of-the-season banquet on Nov. 8 at 5:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. I want to thank the parents, the players, and our community for your support this season. It has been a fun ride together.



Above: Dalton Newby sprints downfield ahead of a pursuing tide of Lummi players as the Lions took on the Blackhawks in nonleague play on Oct. 7. **Right:** Riley Fichter prepares for impact during the Lummi game, which ended in a 20-18 win for the Blackhawks.



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Above: One resident of The Slabs built this wall of discarded TVs, and placed signs with various challenging messages on the screens, including “Don’t be yourself,” “TV for president,” and “All the news that’s shit to print.”



Academics



Rep. Carolyn Eslick visits Concrete School District's Farm to School program

After being appointed to fill a vacant seat in the 39th Legislative District, State Representative Carolyn Eslick, R-Sultan, is already getting off to a running start. The new lawmaker recently visited the Concrete School District's Farm to School program at the local elementary school.

"We need to bring children into a new relationship with agriculture, food, and culture. It was encouraging to see elementary students participating and learning about farming, as well as connecting with their community," said Eslick. "It's great to see the good results this program delivers."

During her visit, Eslick met with school officials, teachers, and students

and learned about how the Farm to School program works. She also spoke with school officials about some of the challenges facing small rural school districts.

The Farm to School program is part of a national movement to promote and provide locally grown and produced foods to serve in school cafeterias. It is designed to teach students about local food production and agriculture. Students learn through classroom education, special events, and farm visits. Local farmers and ranchers also participate by helping educate students about locally grown food and agriculture.

"We appreciate the time Rep. Eslick

took to learn about this program and some of the issues our school district is facing. She is welcome to come visit again, anytime," said Wayne Barrett, Superintendent for Concrete School District.

The Concrete School District received a USDA Farm to School Planning grant in 2013. The initial funds helped launch the district's current program that continues to bring fresh locally produced foods to students through taste tests and special menus in the cafeteria.

Rachel Sacco, coordinator for the United School District 304 Farm to School program, had this to say about Eslick's recent visit to the school:

"I'm grateful Rep. Eslick came out to meet with community members and school officials and visit with the students. It's great that she came here to learn about some of the challenges rural school districts are facing and some of the innovative solutions being implemented to help. It's important for our elected officials to come out to rural, small towns and see the good work being done by both school districts and nonprofit partners."

YD update

We are already halfway through our fall season of Youth Dynamics in Concrete, and we are loving the engagement, participation, and relationships we are building with the teens. There are 82 high school students attending our Monday night meetings, and we expect that number to continue to grow.

We started off September with the biggest game of capture the flag we've ever had at Concrete YD: 35 on 35—that's 70 people chasing two little glow sticks in the dark. Seems crazy, but that is what makes it fun. We typically cap off each Monday night with a lot of food and a little conversation. I spoke to the kids about their plans and the choices they make now, and how those choices help to shape their plans for tomorrow.

The following Monday we hosted a dodgeball/kickball night, and had some more crazy good times.

Then came Town Shark Night, which is difficult to explain. It's like combining the PE game of shark with capture the flag and zombie tag, and then making the town limits the boundaries. Thank you, Andrea Fichter, for working with our local law enforcement and giving them a heads up on the evening's activities. Nobody officially won that night, but a couple teams came really close. We finished the night at Silo Park talking about regrets. This led to some great dialogue afterward, making me grateful for the opportunity to minister to our young people.

At our "Think Inside the Box Night," Paul Rider spoke to the students on the subject of procrastination and how it has affected his life. I think that is when it really hits home with our youth, when they can see transparency in our own adult lives. I hope we are setting a good example to all of the eyes that are forever watching us.

November is another full month, but we can't forget about our annual YD Halloween Party on Oct. 30. We played several games, enjoyed lots of treats, and had a fun and safe evening.

Coming up in November: the infamous Cardboard Gladiator Night, Family Feud, Human Scavenger Hunt at the Bellis Fair Mall, and Movie Night. If you are in high school and feel like you are missing out by not attending YD, it's because you are! You are invited to join us during one or all of our scheduled events in November. Got questions? Give me a call: 360.630.6063.

—Kevik and Marta Rensink
Concrete Youth Dynamics



The coalition had its first meeting of the new school year on Sept. 21. It was great to see familiar and new faces.

The coalition voted Allison Burton onto the board. Allison lives in Concrete and works for Skagit/Island Head Start. Allison has taught our Incredible Years program for the last two years, so we are thrilled to have her on the board. Her experiences and local knowledge on the challenges facing young families in East Skagit County will be a strong asset to the coalition. November 2–4 Board Member Mary Janda and Concrete Prevention Intervention Specialist Dana Whitney will drive to Yakima with three Concrete youth to the annual Yakima Prevention Conference. This conference hosts schools from all over Washington and provides an excellent opportunity for our local teens to learn what others schools are doing toward prevention and to share what their school is doing.

A big thank you to everyone who has filled out a CPWI community survey; at last count we had over 70. Your input matters, and we use the data from that survey to prioritize the programs and strategies we implement. If you haven't filled it out, you can find it on our Facebook page; just search Concrete Resource Coalition.

Last, I want to thank the community for their patience; we had to temporarily postpone some programs as we transition into a new contract. My hope is to resume programs soon. Our coalition meetings are open to the public on the third Thursday of each month, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., in the Concrete High School library. We are looking for new members who represent our local churches and businesses. If you have questions, please reach out.

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

—Stephanie Morgareidge, coordinator
Concrete Resource Coalition
United General District 3041

"Hidden in Plain Sight" exhibit strengthens parents' ability to identify drug or alcohol use

Parents play a critical role in the prevention of substance use among youth.

From 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Dec. 5, parents of youth aged 11–17 will have the opportunity to attend "Hidden in Plain Sight" and learn how everyday items in a teen's bedroom could be signs of experimentation with or use of drugs and alcohol and what to do next.

Addressing use behaviors early is key to preventing negative consequences such as car crashes, dependency, and unsafe decision-making resulting from substance use.

Presenter Duana Wilkins, TOT Recovery Coach and member of Change Addiction Now, will demonstrate how a preteen or teen can hide substances out in

the open by setting up a mock bedroom at the Concrete Community Center. Parents can tour the bedroom and uncover clues associated with use in the room's décor, discover hidden compartments, and find out what it all means.

For adults only, this eye-opening experience will inform parents on today's drug and alcohol culture, and empower them to protect their kids.

Dinner will be provided at the event, and every family who attends will receive a free locking medication bag designed to help keep dangerous prescription medications out of the hands of kids.

Space is limited to the first 40 attendees. RSVP by calling Stephanie Morgareidge at 360.854.7179.

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Yelp and Facebook icons.



State Rep. Carolyn Eslick (center) visits with Concrete Elementary School officials and Farm to School Program Coordinator Rachel Sacco (right) during an October visit to learn more about the Farm to School program. Submitted photo.

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Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

Our picture this month shows three of Clear Lake Grade School's employees circa 1950. On the left is May Therrien, head cook. Lee Allen, center, was the school custodian, and Nettie Garman, on the right, was assistant cook. Allen was a jack-of-all-trades, and kept the school clean and functional. May and Nettie prepared and served hot meals for the children.

When the hot lunch program began in the 1930s, local farmers donated much of the food, which the cooks then prepared as hot and hearty meals for the children for a very small cost per child. *Photo courtesy of Clear Lake Historical Association.*

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

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

—Deanna Ammons, historian



Community Calendar



NOVEMBER

- 4 Skagit Land Trust Tree Planting at Upper Skagit Conservation Area (Marblemount), 9 a.m. to noon; info at www.skagitlandtrust.org or 360.428.7878
- 4 Storytime at Upper Skagit Library, 11 a.m.
- 4 Open House in the Kitchen Classroom, Farm to School portable behind Concrete Elementary School, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- 4 "Fall Back" tonight: Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. tomorrow; set your clocks back one hour before going to bed tonight
- 4 & 18 Adulting for Teens class, Burlington Parks & Rec Center, 900 E. Fairhaven, Burlington; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; \$50 admission; see notice, p. 34
- 7 General Election day; ballots postmarked by today or placed in dropbox
- 10 Veterans Day
- 10 Read to a Dog Day, Upper Skagit Library, Concrete, 10 a.m. to noon
- 11 Veterans Day Observance and Dedication Service, Lemley Chapel 1008 Third St., Sedro-Woolley, 11 a.m.; see ad, p. 3
- 11 Volunteer training at Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center; see article, p. 23; info at www.skagiteagle.org
- 18 Community Thanksgiving Dinner, Marblemount Community Hall, 5 p.m.
- 23 Thanksgiving Day
- 23 Sedro-Woolley Community Thanksgiving Dinner, Cascade Middle School cafeteria, 905 McGarigle Rd., Sedro-Woolley, 12:30 to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 17
- 30 Geoffrey Castle Celtic Concert, Concrete Theatre; see ad, p. 5

DECEMBER

- 1 Story Snowflake Workshop, 5b's Bakery, Concrete, 6 p.m.; free
- 2 Holiday Festival, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 2 The Holiday Whobilation, Sedro-Woolley; kids' activities at 3 p.m., parade at 5 p.m.
- 2 Cookies with Mrs. Claus, Concrete Theatre, 6 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 2 Santa arrives in Concrete and tree-lighting, Concrete Theatre, 7 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 2–3 Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center opens for eagle-watching season; info at www.skagiteagle.org
- 5 "Hidden in Plain Sight" interactive presentation, Concrete Community Center, 5:30 p.m.; see article, p. 13
- 9 Santa Breakfast, Sedro-Woolley, 8:30 to 11 a.m.; info at www.sedro-woolley.com
- 9 Imagine Concrete Foundation Christmas Bazaar and Children's Craft Fair, Concrete Elementary School gym, 1 to 4 p.m.; free admission; info at morgareidge@frontier.com or 360.770.2836
- 9 Holiday Home Tour, Sedro-Woolley Museum, 5 p.m.; info at <http://sedrowoolleymuseum.org>

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

Letters, cont. from p. 3

Burlington Parks and Recreation would like to sincerely thank each of you; it takes a whole community to come together and coordinate the Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Pitch event. We are very honored to work with you all!

We would love to see your favorite photos or share your story by e-mailing

the Burlington Parks and Recreation Department at recreation@burlingtonwa.gov.

Save the 2018 date—Sat., Sept. 29—and don't forget to plant extra zucchini for us in the spring!

Christi Kinney, Recreation Coord.
Burlington Parks and Recreation

Community meetings

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

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

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

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

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

Concrete Economic Development Commission meets quarterly at Concrete Town Hall. Its next meeting is Nov. 8 at 6 p.m. 503.333.2406

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

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

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

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

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

Concrete School District Board: The board will hold a work session on Nov. 27 at 6 p.m. in the high school commons room. The board will hold its regular monthly meeting on Nov. 30 at 6 p.m., same location. 360.853.4000.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sedro-Woolley School District Board: A regular meeting is planned for Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. in the Support Services Bldg. A second regular meeting is planned for Nov. 27 at 7 p.m. at Big Lake Elementary. 360.855.3500 or kcargile@wsd.k12.wa.us.

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

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

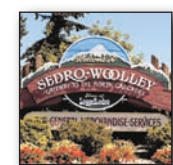
Upper Skagit Writers Group meets the third Mon. of each month at 6 p.m., at 5b's Bakery, Concrete. Open to the public and all skill levels. em@5bsbakery.com.

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

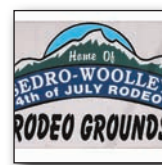
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Sedro-Woolley



Election 2017 Campaigns enter home stretch

Ballots were mailed on Oct. 20 for this year's general election on Nov. 7.

In Sedro-Woolley, four City Council positions are on the ballot, three of which are contested. Two school district seats are up for grabs, as is one commissioner seat for Hospital District 304.

Concrete Herald invited all candidates in contested races to submit a short statement as they rounded the home stretch. Here's a look at what they had to say.

City Council Council-At-Large

Pola Kelley and Jared Couch are vying for the at-large council seat, which will be vacated by Brett Sandstrom at the end of this year.

Pola Kelley

Kelley is the executive director of the Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce

(eight years). She is a graduate of Sedro-Woolley High School and holds a BA in Political Science and Speech Communications from Gonzaga University.

In her words:

"Experience counts when selecting your next councilperson. My education, involvement, commitment, and open-door policy are why I am the strongest candidate for the position. Throughout my career, there has been plenty of opportunity to listen to what citizens want for Sedro-Woolley. The themes often mentioned are a solid and robust economic core downtown, the best library we can afford, and a responsive city council. Connecting and collaborating are the best way to achieve these goals. As your candidate for City Council at Large, I hope to earn your vote and want to thank those who have supported my campaign."



Kelley

Jared W. Couch

Couch is president of Washington Fraternal Order of Police #18 and a former Skagit County Corrections Deputy Guild president. He has more than six years of law enforcement experience and is an experienced labor contract negotiator. His education includes the BIA Law Enforcement Academy, WA State Reserve Law Enforcement Academy, WA State Corrections Officer Academy, and a BA from Eastern Washington University.

He is a Sedro-Woolley High School graduate.

City Council Ward 2

Germaine Kornegay (incumbent)

City Council Ward 3

Brenda Kinzer (incumbent)

Kinzer is the current Sedro-Woolley City Council Ward 3 councilmember, a seat she has held since 2014. She was the Sedro-Woolley Mayor Pro-Tem from 2016-17. She is a former Lyman Town Councilmember.

J. Dennis O'Neil

O'Neil comes to the council race with more than 20 years in an agricultural background of farming and ranching. He also has 25 years in banking/finance and real estate lending. His college degree focused on business and economics.

City Council Ward 6

The Ward 6 seat is being sought by Harold Beitler and Karl de Jong. Current Ward 6 Councilmember Rick Lemley has stated he will not run for re-election.

See Election, p. 17

Election, cont. from p. 16

Harold Beitler

In his words:

"As a former Sedro-Woolley City Council member, I decided to run as I feel the present council is operating behind closed doors and not conducting discussions during open council meetings. Also, they are giving too much money away. Administration says we do not have money for sidewalk/street repair and other replacement/repair projects, but the city just gave to the Sedro-Woolley Library, \$50,000 to the new YMCA in Mount Vernon, and recently gave away a former police car to the Sedro-Woolley School District, all in the last couple months.

It appears that the administration has too much control over the council. During the council meetings, very little comments from council members; all is from administration and mayor."

Karl de Jong

A political volunteer and civic activist, former Master Carpenter de Jong is retired. In the voters' pamphlet, his professional experience included concert audio and lighting crew lead for various venues, small business owner (computer consultancy), and environmental technician for an EPA superfund site (URS Consultants—environmental division).



Beitler

S-W School District Director Dist. 1

Enrique Lopez-Cisneros

Lopez-Cisneros is running unopposed.

S-W School District Director Dist. 4

Eric A. Johnson

Johnson is a legal assistant at Stiles Law, specializing in estate planning, real estate, LLC formation, and administration, probates, workers' compensation, and personal injury law; co-owner/member of Mountain Gate, LLC. He also has served as an intern in the United State Senate.

Wendie M. Granberg

Vice president of Home Trust of Skagit, Granberg sits on the board for Home Trust. She also has been a partner family and volunteer for Skagit Habitat for Humanity, a volunteer for Sedro-Woolley Open Door Community Kitchen, and has volunteered for the ALS Association Evergreen Chapter, the Sedro-Woolley Community Thanksgiving dinner, and the Community Action of Skagit County Housing Resource Center.

Hospital District 304 Commissioner Pos. 4

Jeri Kaufman

Kaufman is running unopposed.

Umpires needed for regional high school baseball games

The Skagit Umpires Association is in need for more umpires to fill its ranks for the 2018 high school baseball season.

"Every year we gain some and we lose some," said association President Kevin Loy. "We're hoping to add some more community service-minded individuals who want to stay involved with athletics."

Prospective umpires get free training that begins in January and takes place on Sundays, beginning Jan. 28 and skipping Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 4). Training will take place at a Mount Vernon location and includes a couple visits from Pac 12 trainer Tim Stevens.

Umpires supply their own gear; some assistance with that can be provided by the association.

"We're simply looking for people who are willing to learn and who can be available during late afternoons, when

games are most commonly played. Retired folks are welcome to apply; age doesn't seem to matter much," said Loy.

Loy said that new umpires are paired with an experienced umpire for their first several games, which "start off easy" with JV games.

"It can be a very rewarding experience that brings with it the satisfaction of doing a good thing," said Loy. "The basics you pick up pretty quick; all the other stuff comes to you over time."

Skagit Umpires Association provides umpires for 12 school districts, including Concrete, La Conner, Sedro-Woolley, Burlington-Edison, Mount Vernon, and Anacortes.

For more information or to apply for training, contact Loy at 360.421.8396 or baseballskagit@gmail.com.

—J. K. M.

THE TOWN OF SEDRO-WHOOLEYVILLE PRESENTS

The Holiday Whobilation

Parade: December 2nd at 5:00pm
Kid's Activities Start at 3:00pm

Santa Breakfast: December 9th from 8:30 - 11:00

Holiday Home Tour: Sedro-Woolley Museum
December 9th - Starts at 5:00pm

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Community Thanksgiving Dinner planned

This year's Sedro-Woolley Community Thanksgiving Dinner is planned for Thanksgiving Day, Thur., Nov. 23, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Dinner will be served in the cafeteria at Cascade Middle School, 905 McGarigle Rd., Sedro-Woolley.

This year marks the 43rd year for the community dinner and the 10th year at Cascade Middle School.

The dinner is free, but donations will be accepted at the door.

Volunteers will be needed for setup on

Wednesday afternoon and throughout the day on Thursday. Anyone who wants to volunteer should call 360.708.9465.

Donations can be sent to the Helping Hands Food Bank, P.O. Box 632, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284. (Mark for Thanksgiving Dinner.)

For more information, contact event organizer Elinor Nakis at 360.856.0747 or emnakis@yahoo.com.

—J. K. M.

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Lyman



Day Creek



WDFW to stock more than 100,000 trout in Washington lakes

With thousands of rainbow trout destined for Washington lakes by November, anglers should have plenty of places to enjoy great fishing this fall and through the holiday season.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will stock at least 45 Washington lakes with catchable-size trout this fall. Additionally, the department stocks millions of smaller trout each spring, many of which will have grown to catchable size.

"Fall can be one of the best times of the year to reel in a nice-sized trout, and fishing should be terrific over the next few months," said Steve Thiesfeld, WDFW's

inland fish program manager. "Most of the stocked trout are 13 to 15 inches long, with a few larger ones in the mix."

Some of the lakes recently stocked include Island Lake in Kitsap County; Isabella, Island, Lost, Nahwatzel, and Spencer lakes in Mason County; Lake Sylvia in Grays Harbor County; and Gibbs, Teal, and Leland lakes in Jefferson County.

Dozens of additional lakes will be stocked throughout the state in October and November, providing fishing opportunities into the new year.

The complete list of lakes to be stocked, and the department's recently updated

stocking plan, are available for viewing at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/fall-into-fishing>.

The fall fish plants are in response to anglers' requests to increase fall and winter trout fishing opportunities, said Thiesfeld.

The effort also includes stocking lakes across the state for the Nov. 24 Black Friday opener, which offers anglers the opportunity to skip the shopping malls, get outside, and enjoy fishing on the day after Thanksgiving.

For up-to-date stocking information this fall, anglers should follow the department on Twitter or Facebook,

accessible from <http://wdfw.wa.gov>, or see the department's weekly catchable trout stocking report at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/plants/weekly>.

To participate, anglers must have a current Washington freshwater fishing license valid through March 31, 2018.

Licenses can be purchased by telephone at 866.246.9453, at <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov>, or at hundreds of license vendors across the state.

For details on license vendor locations, go to the WDFW Web site at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/vendors>.

—Submitted by WDFW

Community notes

Vote YES on new levy this fall

It has been 14 years since the Day Creek community approved a bond that allowed Fire District 16 (Day Creek) to purchase a 2003 fire engine. This engine has rendered assistance for hundreds of calls since. The Day Creek Fire Dept. and community have benefited from the use of this engine and will continue to do so until 2033.

Currently, the Washington Insurance Rating Bureau and the NFPA rules only allow a fire department to use a fire apparatus for 30 years, and then it must be retired. Because of this regulation, District 16 asks the Day Creek community to provide the support it always has counted on to vote "Yes" to continue the current taxing bond, which will allow the fire department the funds required to maintain its fire tender (water truck) and second-out fire engine.

This vote is not for a new tax, simply the continuation of the current tax rate for the next 20 years. The Day Creek Fire Department needs this bond to provide funds to maintain compliance for its fire insurance rating because its current fire tender is 29 years old and its second-out engine is 21 years old.

Approval of this bond will provide resources to cover and achieve the following:

- No new tax.
- Upcoming maintenance needs of two fire apparatuses.
- Provide a more capable water source since the community does not have any fire hydrants.
- Improve firefighter safety.
- Maintain the district's current fire rating with the Washington Insurance Rating Bureau.
- Ultimately provide improved services for the Day Creek community.

Operation Christmas Child

Day Creek kids are gearing up for "Operation Christmas Child." This is a great time of filling shoeboxes with toys and fun gifts, packing them up, and sending them overseas to children who have very little.

For more information, contact Sue

Walden at 360.391.1709.

Potluck needs new leader

Donna Pulver is retiring as organizer of the Community Potluck and gatherings. She has put out the word, hoping someone will be inspired with new ideas for community bonding, and will be willing to take over her position by January 2018.

Interested? Call 360.826.3003 or 360.826.3581.

Healthy Home, Healthy You Dinner

Community Wellness Project is hosting a Healthy Home, Healthy You dinner in March. The group's mission is to educate consumers about the toxic products that might be shackling families to medications and illnesses. The event offers participants a half-price meal at Bob's Burger and Brew. Space is limited and is geared toward those with genuine interest in the topic.

To register, e-mail or call leiavilarid@gmail.com or 360.961.0012.

Ladies Retreat

Day Creek Chapel will host a Ladies Retreat. For more information and to RSVP, call 360.391.1709.

Prepared to answer

Day Creek Chapel will host "Prepared to Answer," a three-hour event streamed live from Houston Baptist Theological Seminary. For more information, call 360.826.3581.

Friendship House Helping Hand

Together we can reach out to the homeless and serve a monthly dinner at the Friendship House. Prep is at 3 p.m. and dinner at 5 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month.

For more information, call 360.391.1709.

WOMEN HAND in hand

WOMEN HAND in hand is scheduling its spring event. Stephanie Fast will be the featured speaker. More information soon.

Kingdom Builders

Kingdom Builders works together with the help of our community, reaching out to be a help to those in need of trips to the doctor, hospital visits, store runs, and more. Drivers are needed and donations are always welcome.

Kingdom Builders and the Friday Morning Bible Study Group have assembled Homeless Giveaway Bags. Anyone who wishes to keep a few in their car should call 360.826.3581.

Anyone interested in becoming available to be a community helper may call 360.826.3003 or 360.826.3581.

2017 Community Potluck dates

November 21, 6:30 p.m.
December 19, 6:30 p.m.

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Concrete Food Bank

45942 Main St., Concrete
Second and fourth Tue. 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.

360.826.4090

Lyman

Shepherd's Heart Food Bank

8334 S. Main St., Lyman
Every Thur. 10:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Self-help classes after food bank closes; call
for subjects: 360.853.3765

Marblemount

Bread of Life Food Bank

59850 State Route 20, Marblemount
First and third Wed. each month
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360.873.2504

Sedro-Woolley

Helping Hands Food Bank

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*Changes? Call 360.853.8213.

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October in pictures



Above: A Trimaxx Construction worker uses a CAT 335 to scrape away the failed top layer of asphalt on W. Main St. in Concrete, in preparation for repaving the roadway in late October and early November. The street restoration project stretches from Superior Ave. N. to Grasmere Rd., and also reclaims the original neighborhood fabric, complete with safer, walkable sidewalks and alley access for some residents. Trimaxx is picking up its pace to complete key weather-reliant components of the project—including asphalt-laying—before winter rains begin in earnest.



Above: Members of the Concrete Economic Development Commission gathered at 5b's Bakery on Oct. 18 for a first look at the 114 entries submitted for the Concrete Town Flag Contest. The group narrowed the contestants to 25, from which a final four will be chosen during the regular EDC meeting on Nov. 8 at 6 p.m., at Town Hall. The final four entries, along with the commission's recommendation for first place, will go to the Town Council for a final decision.

Left: Bill Bridge works to prepare the Concrete Food Bank floor for resurfacing. The plywood behind Bridge is evidence of an earlier foundation and subfloor repair that removed and replaced rotted joists. Bridge and other volunteers have been at work for weeks now, repairing the building's back wall, ceiling, and other areas, using funds raised through donations and a gift from former Defense Secretary Robert Gates.



Above: The ghost of Dominica Stumpe (a.k.a. Olivia Greso) cautiously interacts with tour participants during the Ghost Walk in Concrete. An Italian immigrant with three children, Stumpe was brutally murdered by her husband, Giuseppe.



Left: Stephanie Haubrich and Jonathan Akers started one October Sunday afternoon at the Park & Ride in Concrete, replanting 19 shrubs that had died during the summer. They ended it here, in front of the safety monument at the Superior Building, weeding the planting area and setting 240 crocus bulbs in place. Next spring should be interesting.



Above: Concrete Public Works employees Jimmy Luttrell and Rich Philips back away from the Concrete Fire & Life Safety Facility facade after installing the sign naming the building in Philips' honor. The cedar slab was chosen, milled, and engraved by Judd Wilson, who has since moved with his family back to his home state of North Dakota. Wilson and Philips were the two hometown players largely responsible for securing the \$1.8 million needed to build the facility.

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Hamilton



Rockport



Council summary

The Hamilton Town Council held a regular meeting Sept. 12. Following is a summary of that meeting.

- **Public Comment:** Rick at 807 Baker St. expressed concerns about the house on Baker (Rose's) being

occupied, and overrun with RVs.

Janet Koopsen, 514 Elm, asked again about code enforcement.

- Bert's house cannot be rebuilt. The cost to rebuild is more than 50 percent of the preexisting value.
- The town will work with other agencies to get Rose's house black flagged.

- **CERT Response team:** A Citizen Emergency Response Team is looking for Upper Valley volunteers.
- **Water Dept.:** Cas Hancock reported a 1 percent loss.

- **Fire Dept.:** Water Battle was a success. Burn ban still in effect.
- **Street Dept.:** Mowing, cleaning up town.

—Compiled from staff notes

From the Mayor

Welcome to another flood season! Quick reminder: Hamilton uses the fire siren to alert people of flood danger. The flood sirens are continuous, not the up and down wailing of a fire department call.

Please have an emergency plan for your pets and animals. In the event of a flood, Town of Hamilton does not have the resources to provide shelter or transportation for animals.

In the event of a possible flood, evacuation warning sirens will be sounded as follows:

- **FLOOD ALERT:** 1 minute siren at a consistent tone (possible flooding). WAKE UP.

- **PREPARE TO EVACUATE:** 1 minute siren, 30 second break, 1 minute siren. Lower areas of town could see minor flooding. PACK UP.
- **COMPLETE EVACUATION:** 1 minute siren, 30 second break, 1 minute siren, 30 second break, 1 minute siren. This means to completely leave your residence and move to higher ground and be prepared not to be able to return for up to 3 to 5 days. MOVE UP.

All emergency operations will be handled by the Hamilton Fire Department at an Emergency Command Center at the Fire Department. The Emergency Operation phone number is 360.826.3983.

The Skagit County River Hotline is 360.416.1404. There are gauges at Concrete that can be found on the USGS Web site and NOAA for 4-day predictions.

—Mayor Joan Cromley



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

State Parks announces changes to schedule for winter

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has announced its 2017–18 winter schedule, with more than 100 parks remaining open for camping or day-use activities.

The winter schedule is available online

at www.parks.state.wa.us/winterschedule. More than 100 parks will remain open during the winter, while about 19 parks are closed until dates in March, April or May, because of weather and other circumstances.

In the Upper Skagit Valley, the campground and day-use areas at Rasar State Park in Birdview will remain open. Rockport State Park does not offer overnight camping facilities, but its day-use areas will remain open.

Each year, Washington State Parks identifies which parks will remain open and which will offer limited or partial services. Specific areas within a park may be closed, and some parks are open only on weekends and holidays. Campers should be aware that some state parks may shut off water systems, even if the park is open. Some boat launches are closed, and some docks are removed for the winter.

New coordinator at interpretive center

Catherine Wessels has joined the Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center this season as center coordinator. Although new to the center, she has served as a volunteer with the Forest Service's Eagle Watcher program and will enjoy returning to Rockport to collaborate with the center's many partner organizations in her new role.

A recent graduate of Skagit Valley College's four-year environmental conservation program, Wessels is looking forward to working with the dedicated SRBEAT directors and interpretive center volunteers to share the beauty and natural history of the Skagit River ecosystem with the thousands of visitors who come to the Center each December and January.

The center is seeking volunteers at its

Rockport location for the 2017–18 winter season. The center provides education about bald eagles during the peak of eagle migration and salmon spawning on the Skagit River in the form of guided nature walks, eagle-watching information, expert-led presentations, and school programs. Volunteers get up close and personal with bald eagles in their natural habitat and learn about the relationship between eagles and our environment from a unique group of individuals. Volunteers work in a variety of areas: welcome guests from across the region, provide information for prime eagle-watching spots, work in gift shop, and more.

Volunteers are needed on weekends December through January. **Volunteer training is Sat., Nov. 11 at the interpretive center.** To sign up, contact Center Coordinator Catherine Wessels at srbeatic@frontier.com, 360.853.7626, or www.skagiteagle.org.

—Judy Hemenway

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The goal is to raise \$1000.00 in donations as well as collecting gifts for all the names on the tree.

You can adopt a child or family and purchase the gifts and drop them off by the specified date.

STOP BY THE STORE FOR MORE DETAILS OR FOLLOW US ON OR FOR CONTINUED UPDATES.

GRANDY CREEK GROCERY Giving Tree



Darrington



Fundraiser draws standing room-only crowd

Story and photo by Marla Skaglund

Spirits were high and the bidding exciting at the annual North County Family Services Open House/Fundraiser on Oct. 14.

It was standing room only as families enjoyed plates of treats served by members of the Darrington Youth Council, and dipped strawberries and other sweets into a chocolate fountain.

Paul Franke received the Youth Recognition Award for his hard work and dedication at North County Family Services.

Several attendees left smiling with their newly acquired items, including a stainless steel outdoor barbecue grill, a seafood package and handcrafted cutting board, a \$200 dinner at Bistro San Martin with a \$65 bottle of Chanin Pinot Noir, and a cold-smoke generator, among other items offered. The winner of "The Yak" a 4'x8' teardrop camper, mini-refrigerator, and a hot plate, was a very happy Marree Perrault.

During the auction, students modeled clothing from the Darrington Pharmacy, which included jackets, sweaters, and pants in several styles.

A silent auction continued through the afternoon, with bids exceeding \$100



Paul Franke receives his Youth Recognition Award from Marree Perrault during the North County Family Services Open House/Fundraiser on Oct. 14.

and including a snowman made from horseshoes, baskets of goodies, a metal and wood sculpture with a bottle of bourbon, and a hand-carved wood bench.

Kevin Kieneker, a local musician who has performed at the Darrington Day Celebration and Spur Fest, backdropped the festivities with soft guitar melodies throughout the day.

helicopter crash at King Lake east of Arlington. The helicopter had been airborne between 60 and 90 seconds when neighbors heard strange sounds and called 911. The helicopter crashed into the lake. The male passenger was able to swim to the shore and the male pilot was rescued by a neighbor. Both victims were transported by aid car to local hospitals. The pilot is currently listed in critical condition and the passenger is listed in serious but stable condition.

Age and hometown of both victims were not available when they were transported.

The Department of Ecology was on scene to evaluate any fuel spills, and the National Transportation Safety Board will investigate.

—Compiled from SCSO releases

Council summary

Darrington Town Council met for a regular meeting on Sept. 13. The following is a summary of that meeting. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at Darrington Town Hall.

Sept. 13 regular meeting

- Whitehorse County Park discussion: Councilman Gary Willis said he is a part of a collaborative regarding Whitehorse Park. They did a walk-through with DJAA, Darrington Strong, and other agencies and discussed different ideas for improving the park. Willis stated that the county's priority is for a dump station and bathrooms. Willis would like the town to support the efforts of the collaborative.

There will be a work party on Fri., Sept. 15 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to help clean up the park. Willis would like to see the property watered as well. He felt that having camping would enhance tourism and local business.

- Saw sculpture discussion: Mayor Dan Rankin stated there is a sculpture that was donated many years ago through the Darrington Improvement Club. The artist would like to have \$1,675 for the installation and repairs of the sculpture. The town contacted the agency where they thought the funds were held and there are no funds available. There are several placement options that need to be discussed. The council had approved

the hold harmless agreement in 2016. There are some improvements that need to be done to the statue. There are no guarantees on how long the maintenance would last. Councilman Kevin Ashe felt that the statue goes with the town's heritage. Willis would like to see the town wait until Old School Park is finished. There is no time limit for the statue. Ashe postponed discussion of this item until November.

- Ashe reported there was a rumor circulating about the town putting fluoride in the water system. That is not correct; anyone can request a copy of the water report to refute that claim.
- A meeting with the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe was planned for Wed., Sept. 27.
- Audience member Todd Ronning asked about the B&O revenue from the marijuana grow operations. Dianne explained the details about B&O taxes. Ronning also asked about the "tweakers" that are abundant in town limits. There is discussion about the Sheriff's deputies' schedules. A USFS ranger is on staff and will assist within the parks. Ashe stated the drug problem is huge within the county.
- Council approved Ordinance No. 729, establishing fees for the water department for service on nonresidential and residential metered and nonmetered services listed in Darrington Municipal Code.
- Council approved a 10-year lease agreement with Star Touch Broadband Services, for the equipment for Internet services that will be on the T-Mobile tower. Rates will be discussed at a later date, after the contract is finalized.
- Council approved a change order from Cascade Design Collaborative. With these changes, there should be an estimated \$30,000 to go toward the irrigation, hydroseeding, and soil at the skate park.

—Compiled from staff minutes

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

Election 2017 Contested, uncontested seats this election cycle

Snohomish County ballots were mailed on Oct. 19, with a mix of contested and uncontested seats for Darrington voters to ponder.

Concrete Herald reached out to the candidates running for two Town Council and two Darrington School District positions, inviting them to share their thoughts during the last week before the election.

The response was tepid, with only Erin Nations-Green weighing in. Nations-Green is running for the Director-at-Large Position No. 4 on the school board.

Darrington School Dist. Director-at-Large Position No. 4

Erin Nations-Green

In her words:

"I am running for the Darrington School Board for many reasons. First reason being I want improve our school for not only my children but everyone's children. I feel that I am the



best candidate for this position because I have very high morals, values, and ethics. My grandparents, parents, husband, and I have all attended Darrington School and I believe in our school and I believe we have to do what is right for our children. I also am invested in this community and I listen to the needs of the community with an open mind and treat all people with respect."

Nations-Green faces opponent Greg Powell, who did not submit a response.

The Darrington School District Director-At-Large Position No. 5 seat has Dave Holmer and Jennie Requa vying for it, neither of whom submitted a response.

Darrington Town Council Position No. 1 Position No. 2

On the Town Council front, incumbent Gary Willis is running unopposed to retain his Position 1 seat.

The vacant Position 2 seat on the council is being sought by Richard Osenbrock, also unopposed.

Neither candidate submitted a response to this newspaper's inquiry.

—J. K. M.

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Darrington Community Dance

Sat., Nov. 11

Potluck: 6 p.m. / Dance: 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Live music by Moonshine and Turpentine
Caller: Joanna Stodden

Mansford Grange, 1265 Railroad Ave., Darrington

Suggested donation: \$7
(proceeds to band and caller)

Information: 206.402.8646

Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

Oct. 3

An anonymous threat made late on Oct. 2 against Sultan High School prompted a late start today while the Sheriff's Office investigated. The threats, which did not appear to be directed toward any specific student or staff member, were posted to an anonymous Web site. Deputies had not identified a suspect, but were to work with detectives to investigate the source of the post. There was an increased presence of law enforcement at Sultan High School, as well as the middle school, today.

Oct. 24

Just after 1 p.m. today, the Sheriff's Office Dive Team responded to a

November at the Darrington Library

Children and family programs

- Family Storytime, every Wednesday at 11 a.m.; all ages welcome, caregiver required.
- LEGO Engineering, Wed., Nov. 1; 3 p.m.; LEGO WeDo Robotics kits available.
- LEGO Free Play, Wed., Nov. 8; 3 p.m.
- Dewey Decimal System Cupcake Decorating Contest, Thur., Nov. 2; 1 p.m.; for 3rd grade up and families.
- Saturday Family Storytime, Sat., Nov. 4; 11 a.m.; caregiver required; all ages welcome.
- Evening Family Storytime, Mon., Nov. 27; 6 p.m. Enjoy stories, sing-along songs, rhymes, and creative activities to prepare for the adventure of early reading. Caregiver required. All ages are welcome.

Tweens and Teens programs

- Teen Advisory Board (plan activities and events at the library), Tue., Nov. 7; 5 p.m.
- Tween Steam Club: Rockin' Rollercoasters, Tue., Nov. 7; 4 p.m. Imagine Children's Museum's STEM program in which students learn about potential and kinetic energy as they engineer a roller coaster model and test their tracks.
- Tween Steam Club: Topsy Turvy, Tue., Nov. 14, 4 p.m. Use a collection of tops to test balance, motion, gravity, and energy.
- Babbling About Books, Mon., Nov. 6; 4 p.m.
- Darrington Teen Book Group, Mon., Nov. 13; 5:30 p.m.: *Lord of the Flies*.

All ages

- Saturday Family Movie Matinee: "Queen of Katwe," rated PG-13, Sat., Nov. 25; 11 a.m.; popcorn served.

Adults

- Darrington Book Group, *The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend* by Katarina Bivald, Wed., Nov. 1; 5:30 p.m.; potluck optional.
- Walk-in tech help, Mondays at 1 p.m.
- Write Now: Writing the Picture Book, Sat., Nov. 18, 11 a.m. Workshop covers basics of writing picture books; for writers and illustrators.
- TEDxSnoIsleLibraries 2017 Viewing Event, Sat., Nov. 4, 1 to 5 p.m. TEDxSnoIsleLibraries 2017 will be livestreamed to our library from Kamiak High School in Mukilteo. Join others in the community as we watch and discuss talks given by 12 dynamic speakers, who will explore the theme of "Sharing Our Future." Go to www.sno-isle.org/tedx for details and online registration.
- Friends of the Darrington Library meeting, Wed., Nov. 8; 5:30 p.m.

The library will be closed on Sat., Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day, and on Thur., Nov. 23, for Thanksgiving.

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

—Asheley Bryson, branch manager



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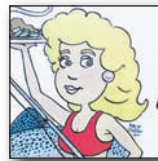
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Marblemount



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The good news is ...

By Sasa and Jesse

Mission Possible: an abundance of the heart. We have an abundance of gifts we are not even aware of. Within our hearts there is an infinite supply of gifts; they are love, compassion, gratitude, and peace, among many other higher vibrations related to these main expressions. We can give these to others without exhausting the supply within our hearts. Many of us think we need to buy something for somebody to show our love, but this is certainly not the case. We are an amazing family of light. Ignite your heartlite this Season of Giving.

Your mission

Center yourself in your heart each morning with a grounding exercise, or just breath mindfully for a few minutes. If you need resources for this part, please connect with us.

Close your eyes and put your hand over your heart and focus on breathing in through your nose; feel the coolness as you breathe in, then out through your mouth as you visualize your breath moving through your heart.

Next, think about different things you can do each day to help people. What is it like to be them? Today, what can I do to lift people up?

of the road your warm wool jacket to keep them warm, and give them a hug.

- Invite a friend over for music and art.
- Invite a friend over for a cup of hot cocoa and a conversation where you listen.
- Help an elderly couple who may need wood chopped or chores done.
- Volunteer at a hospital or Children's Hospital during the holidays. I remember spending a couple with Mimi in the hospital—no fun.

Should you choose to accept this mission, you will experience gratitude, love, compassion, abundance, and peace, as well as exercise your empathic ability, which is within our hearts. You will begin to view the world from a love perspective instead of a fear perspective, and catalyze evolutionary transformation within yourself and others with whom you share your experiences.

This is not a contest, so move into it peacefully, slowly, and mindfully, with love in our hearts. Please share your experiences here with Cascadia Effect. I will write an article to share our results with our community, so please join us in an "Experiment of the Heart" this holiday season.

Please RSVP and post your experiences with us here: <https://www.facebook.com/Abundanceoftheheart/?ref=bookmarks>.

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

- Smile at a grumpy cashier who's probably been working long, stressful hours getting ready for the holidays.
- Give someone with a sign on the side

Sno-Park permits on sale Nov. 1

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has announced that Sno-Park permits will be available for purchase online and through various vendors statewide beginning midnight on Wed., Nov. 1.

Sno-Park permits allow visitors to park in specially cleared, designated parking lots with access to areas for cross-country skiing, ski-joring, snowmobiling, dog sledding, snowshoeing, tubing, and more throughout the state.

Online and in-person purchase of the Sno-Park permit is available Nov. 1 through April 30. Revenue from Sno-Park permit sales is dedicated to the Winter Recreation Program and helps pay for trail grooming, snow removal from parking lots and roads, on-site sanitation,

education, and enforcement.

Different permits are required for different circumstances, and include a daily Sno-Park permit, a seasonal nonmotorized Sno-Park permit, a special groomed sticker, and a seasonal snowmobile Sno-Park permit.

To purchase a Sno-Park permit online, go to <http://parks.state.wa.us/130/winter-recreation>. For a list of vendors and their locations, go to <http://parks.state.wa.us/147/sno-park-permit-vendors>.

Those who purchase a one-day Sno-Park permit will also need a daily or annual Discover Pass for access to Sno-Parks on lands managed by State Parks or Washington State Department of Natural Resources. A Discover Pass is not required for those who purchase an annual Sno-Park permit. More information about the Discover Pass is online at www.discoverpass.wa.gov.

—J. K. M.

WDFW ends action against wolf pack

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) announced Sept. 26 that it had ended efforts to remove members of a wolf pack that had shown no sign of preying on livestock in Stevens County since late July.

Responding to repeated predation by the Smackout pack on area livestock, state wildlife managers trapped and killed two members of the pack between July 20 and July 30, then suspended its operation to assess the need for further action.

Since the removal action, the department has found no evidence that wolves have preyed on area livestock, and has not taken further action against the pack, said Donny Martorello, WDFW wolf manager.

"Our goal was to change the pack's behavior, and the break in wolf depredations on livestock is consistent with the desired outcome," Martorello said. "We'll continue to track the pack's movements via GPS signals, but the removal operation is now over."

The Smackout pack, one of 20 packs documented in Washington last year, ranges across 350 square miles northeast of Colville. As of June, WDFW estimated the pack had 13 to 15 members, including five to seven offspring born in 2016.

The two wolves removed from the pack this summer were a 30-pound female young of the year and a 70-pound adult female.

Martorello said the department took that action after documenting four instances of predation on livestock during a 10-month period. Under WDFW's wolf-removal

protocol, that pattern of predation on calves belonging to three ranchers met the threshold for lethal removal.

All three ranchers used nonlethal methods to protect their livestock, but those precautions did not stop the ongoing predation by the pack. WDFW reinforced those efforts by deploying brightly colored flagging around pastures used by one rancher and strobe lights on private land where a calf was injured by wolves.

Even after removing two wolves, the Smackout pack is still one of the largest packs in the state, Martorello said. He said the department's action illustrates an "incremental" approach to wolf removal, which calls for an assessment period after removing—or attempting to remove—one or more animals.

"This action was consistent with the state's Wolf Conservation and Management Plan of 2011 and the department's current protocol," he said. "Both policies support the recovery of wolves in our state, while also recognizing the need to address repeated predation on livestock."

According to surveys conducted by WDFW, the state's overall wolf population is growing at an average rate of nearly 30 percent per year.

"The pack has stayed out of trouble for eight weeks and the summer grazing season is coming to a close," Martorello said. "If depredations resume, WDFW would revert back to the protocol to assess the time since the previous depredations and assess any further actions."

A final report on WDFW's action regarding the Smackout pack is available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01929/>. The department corrected an error in the report; the date the evaluation period ended for the Smackout in this situation was Sept. 21, not Sept. 30.

—Submitted by WDFW



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Briefly ...

Citipoint Church North Cascade in Marblemount has announced a new format for its Sunday worship. Food and fellowship will be offered from 10 to 10:30 a.m., followed by worship and a message.

"Our goal is to have kids in with adults, but we will see how it works out," said campus pastor Matt Del Bosque.

For more information, call the church at 360.873.2504.

Del Bosque also said the Marblemount Community Hall will again host the community's Christmas Bazaar in December. Details for that event will be published in the December issue of *Concrete Herald*.

—J. K. M.

Nick VanJaarsveld Financial Advisor



913 Metcalf Street
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284
Bus. 360-855-0239 Fax 866-816-2219
Cell 360-333-4849
nick.vanjaarsveld@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com

Community
Thanksgiving Dinner
Saturday, November 18th at 5pm
Marblemount Community Hall | 60155 WA-20 Marblemount, 98267

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Seniors



Way Back, cont. from p. 28

Pressentin of Seattle, and her sons Walter of Seattle and William, Edward, and Bert of Rockport. There are 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

60 years ago

Nov. 7, 1957: Two Upper Valley young men, Larry Clark and Jerry Stafford, who have allegedly been carrying on a vicious campaign of troublemaking and abuse against faculty members of Concrete High School for the past two years, were given time to consider the penalties of such behavior Monday night when Justice Gilbert Martin sentenced each of them to six months in the county jail, with no suspensions and no alternatives.

The cases grew from complaints filed by high school principal Hugh Barr and faculty member Ralph Wigginton last Friday, when the boys topped their abuse campaign by threatening the school men with bodily harm after being asked to leave the school grounds during the Homecoming rally.

In summing up the case, Judge Martin overruled the boys' plea that they were "being picked on" by pointing out the long list of times the boys had been in court on a variety of charges.



30 years ago, Nov. 19, 1987: State Representative Mary Margaret Haugen presents the Wildcat Steelhead Club with a plaque of appreciation for hundreds of hours of volunteer work the club has done on the new steelhead-rearing facility at Barnaby Slough near Rockport. With a kiss of gratitude, she honors club president Rynie Elsasser as club member Vic Maddox awaits his moment of thanks. Archive photo by Anne Bussiere.

Way Back When

101 years ago

Nov. 11, 1916: The Great Northern Limited, which plies between Burlington and Rockport, was detained in Concrete Thursday afternoon between 1 and 6 p.m. on account of high water because of the excessive rains of the past few days. The high water took out the bridge across Jackman Creek at

Van Horn early Thursday morning, and another one down near Hamilton just after the passenger train crossed it on the return trip from Burlington Thursday noon.

At first it was thought that the damage would require a couple of days to repair, but temporary and sufficient repairs were completed late that evening to allow the trains to proceed on their way, although it will most likely be some time before permanent repairs will be completed.

There also was a small landslide on the hill south of the depot between the houses occupied by George Ely and H. J. Smith, which resulted in the lot recently purchased by Seaman being entirely covered with earth and debris, causing quite a serious loss to Seaman. Bjerstedt's house was right in the track of the slide, which fortunately was too small to reach it, while one end of Ely's clothesline was torn down.

Parents also should warn their children to keep away from the hill behind the school house when out playing, as the rains have loosened the stumps there and one already has slid down.

70 years ago

Nov. 20, 1947: At a meeting of the Concrete Lions Club last evening, the problem of an ambulance for the Upper Valley appeared to have been settled for the next year at least. A deal is now under way for the ambulance service here to be taken over by the Northern Ambulance Service of Mount Vernon, which will station an ambulance in this town and give 24-hour service.

The new service in Concrete will start within a week, but all call-up until the station can be established here will be handled from Mount Vernon.

Nov. 27, 1947: Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. at the Aaron Light Mortuary in Mount Vernon for Mrs. Christine von Pressentin, pioneer settler of the Upper Skagit Valley, who passed away at her home in Seattle on Monday.

Von Pressentin was born in Schwabia, Germany, and came to the U.S. in 1880, when she was 16 years old. In 1886 she came to Washington with her husband and the couple made their home in Birdview. In 1908 Mr. von Pressentin opened stores in Hamilton, Sauk, and Rockport, which he operated for many years. In 1914 they moved to Seattle, where Mr. von Pressentin died in 1922.

Mrs. von Pressentin was the last of the three original von Pressentin couples to settle in this county. She was a citizen by virtue of voting in Washington Territory before it became a state.

She is survived by her daughters, Agnes Fountain and Olga von

Concrete Community Center

November 2017 Activities

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

Monday through Friday
Jigsaw puzzles, walking group, games, more

All subject to change. For latest information:
www.facebook.com/concretecommunity or call 360.416.1377.

Monday
11/6 6 p.m. Dinner Talk: Fire prevention
11/13 3 p.m. Disaster preparedness

Tuesday
11/14 11:15 a.m. Medicare/Medicaid info

Wednesday
11/8 6 p.m. Ohana Support Group
11/15 6 p.m. Plant-based diet
11/22 Noon Holiday meal
11/22 6 p.m. Ohana Support Group

Thursday
11/2 11:15 a.m. Medicare/Medicaid info
11/2 12:30 p.m. Pinochle
11/2 1 p.m. GED preparation
11/9 1 p.m. GED preparation
11/16 12:30 p.m. Pinochle
11/23 CLOSED for Thanksgiving
11/30 12:30 p.m. Pinochle

Friday
11/3 1 p.m. GED prep
11/10 CLOSED for Veterans Day
11/17 11:15 a.m. Medicare/Medicaid info
11/24 CLOSED for Thanksgiving

Saturday
All 7 p.m. AA meeting (returns to Community Center)
12/2 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.:
Holiday Festival: vendor fair, kids activities, music, door prizes

Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure

Soda cracker
candy or
cookies



This is a fun one. Enjoy!

1 cup butter
1 cup brown sugar
Soda crackers
Chocolate chips

1. Rub oil on a cookie sheet with sides and place soda crackers top side up and side by side to cover the cookie sheet.
2. Boil butter and brown sugar together for 2 minutes. Pour over the soda crackers.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 5 minutes. Spread chocolate chips over the hot candy and chill.
4. Cut into squares.

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See Way Back, p. 29

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Obituaries

Sidney (Sid) Greene of Concrete passed away in the Life Care Center, Sedro-Woolley, on Mon., Oct. 26, 2017.



Sidney was born July 2, 1941, in Mt. Vernon, Wash., to Lillian Church and Paul Greene. Sidney graduated high school in Sedro-Woolley in 1960. He joined the U.S. Army Aug. 5, 1960. He served three years of active duty: two years in Seoul, South Korea, then finished his active duty enlistment at Fort Lewis. This was followed by three years' inactive duty.

After the service, Sid joined the Boilermaker Union in 1966, working in all nine western states. He retired from the Boilermaker Union in 2001. Sid then worked part-time for Car Quest, delivering parts to auto repair shops.

Sid married his beloved bride Christel on Feb. 28, 198. Moving to Concrete in April 2008, Sid truly became retired. He enjoyed fishing and sightseeing.

Due to declining health, Sid was admitted to the Life Care Center in Sedro-Woolley on March 8, 2014.

Sid leaves behind a loving wife Christel Greene and brother Malcom Greene of Smokey Point, Wash., and sisters Carrie Spore of Lynnwood, Wash. and Paula Keys (Michael) of Marysville, Wash. Sidney was preceded in death by his mother and father.

A remembrance service will be held Nov. 18 at 11 a.m. at Community Bible Church, 45672 Limestone St., Concrete.

Judith Kay Potter, 72, of Concrete, went to be with the Lord on Sept. 30, 2017.

Judy is survived by devoted husband Rollin Potter of Concrete; daughter Carol Marie (Frank) Otto; grandson Michael Otto of St. Jose, Ill.; siblings Dee Ann Overton of Wichita, Kan., Dee Byron Blakey Jr. of Wichita, Kan., Susan (Rick) Payment of Zillah, Wash., Lance (Janie) Blakey and Scott Blakey of Garland, Texas; and many nieces and nephews.

Judy began her career right out of high school with the Southwestern Bell telephone company, then transferred to Pacific Northwest Bell in Seattle. After many years, Judy retired from a management position. Not long into Judy's retirement, the phone company requested Judy return as a consultant, utilizing her expertise to train and troubleshoot all over the U.S. When her consulting work was finished, she and Rollie moved to their new home they had built in the Cedar Grove area of Concrete. Judy was active in local affairs, including bookkeeper for the Cedar Grove community for many years, and volunteering at a nursing home where her kindness was such a blessing.

The family would very much like to thank Judy and Rollie's (and our) wonderful friend, Debbie Varner for the loving help she provided during Judy's extended illness.

Words cannot express the true kindness and loveliness of this very special lady. She will be missed by so many! A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at a later date.

Share your memories of Judith and sign the online guest register at www.lemleychapel.com.

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

Sunday School lesson

Have we fallen asleep?

By Rob Thomas

Two events converged at the same time I was asked to write this article. First, the impending death of a member in my congregation. Second, reading a book (*The Slumber Of Christianity* by Ted Dekker), long ago recommended to me by one of my older brothers.

As such, I shall quote liberally from the book and to save space I shall use Scripture references instead of writing out the verses (though I encourage you to look them up and read them).

Dekker provoked me with the following statement: "It's the open secret of the church: We make all kinds of incredible claims based upon the Holy Scriptures, but our lives are pretty much the same as the unchurched."

Later on, Dekker wrote, "Christians on the whole are no more happy than people of other faiths. ... You'll get more and more sighs and nods at suggestions that Christians aren't really so different from nonChristians ... We spend our money on the same kinds of entertainment, we buy the same kinds of foods and clothes, and we spend as much time searching for purpose." Dekker summarizes his thoughts with a question: "Have we (as followers of Jesus) fallen asleep?" More specifically, have we fallen asleep to the reality of eternal life and of heaven? In reflecting upon the question, the

following Bible passages grabbed my attention: Psalms 73:24, Romans 8:18, 2 Corinthians 4:17, Ephesians 1:18, 1 Peter 1:3-4. I came to the same conclusion that Dekker did: that the biblical writers were obsessed (in a good way) with eternity and heaven. These writers never lost sight of the finish line.

Have we? Sadly, many of us have forgotten the words of Moses (Psalms 90:10, 12), the words of Paul (Ephesians 1:18-19), the words of James (James 4:15), and the words of Jesus (John 14:1-2). All remind us of the brevity of this life and the hope and promise of eternal life.

I am not suggesting that we do not enjoy life here on earth. But I think we would do well to embrace the Apostle Paul's words in Philippians 1:21: "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Regarding our attitude toward life and death and the afterlife, Dekker writes, "The real question we should ask ourselves is why we want to extend our lives. It is because we have no passion for the afterlife? If so, we have a problem. Is it because, despite our desire to be with Christ, we feel there is more that God would have us do here? Then I think, like Paul, we are on solid footing."

On his deathbed, evangelist D. L. Moody cried out, "Earth is receding, heaven is approaching. This is my crowning day." Moody's perspective, Paul's perspective, and our perspective can and should be summed up in MercyMe's song, "I Can Only Imagine."

Rob Thomas is pastor for Community Bible Church in Concrete.

Skagit County Sheriff's Office

Blotter

Sept. 23

Deputy Wolfe responded to a trespass complaint at Logger's Landing in Concrete. The suspect left prior to contact.

Sept. 24

Deputies responded to Hamilton Cemetery Rd. near Hamilton in reference to a motorcycle travelling at more than 100 mph. Deputies were unable to locate the motorcycle, but Deputy Backstrom did arrest a subject on warrants.

Deputies responded to Skagit St. in Hamilton regarding a fight. When deputies arrived they contacted several people. After investigating, deputies were told no one wanted to pursue charges.

Sept. 25

While patrolling Concrete Sauk Valley

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.

Ream, Dwight Spencer

Age: 55
Race: W
Sex: M
Height: 6' 0"
Weight: 210
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown
Address: 99xx



Rustic Ln., Sedro-Woolley

Ream was convicted of second-degree assault and domestic violence with sexual motivation in 2002, in Pierce County. His victim was a 5- to 11-year-old female who was known to him. Ream was 33 to 39 years old.

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

Source: Skagit County Sheriff

Rd. near Arnold Lane near Rockport, Deputy Wolfe stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. Upon contacting the driver, it was determined that the driver did not have a valid driver's license. He was arrested for driving with a suspended driver's license and given a ticket for no insurance.

Deputy Wolfe was patrolling in Cedar Grove when he noticed a vehicle driving through the area with an obstructed windshield and an expired vehicle registration. He stopped the vehicle. The two occupants were arrested on outstanding warrants. While on the stop, Deputy Wolfe discovered drugs and drug paraphernalia in the vehicle. The vehicle was seized and searched. Drugs were located and both suspects were also arrested for drugs.

Sept. 26

Sgt. Brian Morgan and Deputy Vanholsbeck responded to a fight in progress on Baker Drive in Cedar Grove. Two females were allegedly fighting. When they arrived they determined that there was a fight, but no one wanted to pursue charges. The boyfriend of one of the suspects involved in the fight was arrested on a felony warrant for possession of a stolen vehicle.

Deputy Todd Adams took a report of vehicle prowls at Kingdom Hall on Moen Rd. east of Concrete. Several vehicles had been entered and items stolen. There are no suspects at this time.

Sept. 27

The Sheriff's Office received a report of missing hikers in the Concrete area. The hikers were from Lake Stevens and had left earlier in the day and had not returned. Around 8 p.m. the Sheriff's Office was advised that the hikers had been located and were not in any danger.

Sept. 28

Deputy Devero received a report of a "tweaker" wearing a hoodie and pushing a motorcycle on Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. near Arnold Lane near Rockport. He responded and checked the area, but was unable to locate the subject.

Deputy Esskew and Deputy Slack took a complaint of trespassers on Baker Dr. in Cedar Grove. They contacted a female who admitted to being on the property. She was warned not to trespass and was arrested on a warrant. She was taken to Skagit County Jail and booked.

Sept. 29

Concrete School District reported a drug issue at the high school. A student admitted to smoking marijuana at school. Deputy Dills contacted the school and

talked to the student, who admitted smoking the drug on school grounds. A small amount of marijuana was seized.

Sept. 30

Deputy Dills responded to a burglary complaint on Prevedal Rd. in Lyman. He discovered that someone had entered the residence and taken items. He was unable to identify suspects.

Oct. 2

While on routine patrol, Deputy Devero contacted a suspicious vehicle at the intersection of the South Skagit Hwy and Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. The driver had warrants for his arrest. He was arrested and given a new court date.

Deputy Wolfe was patrolling through Cedar Grove around 11 p.m. when he noticed a subject walking who had previous contacts with law enforcement. Using the computer in his car, he checked the person and discovered he had warrants for his arrest. The subject was contacted and arrested. He was given a new court date and released.

During a patrol emphasis in Cedar Grove, Deputy Wolfe observed a truck fail to use its turn signal. He stopped the truck and contacted the driver, who has had numerous contacts with law enforcement throughout the last three decades. The

suspect had several warrants and his driving license was suspended. He was arrested and warned not to drive again or his vehicle would be impounded.

Oct. 3

A suspect who had a Department of Corrections warrant contacted Deputy Holmes at the Skagit County Sheriff's East Detachment Office in Concrete. The suspect advised she wanted to turn herself in and requested a ride to the DOC office. She was arrested and turned over to DOC.

Deputy Wolfe stopped a car for a cracked tail light on Superior Ave. in Concrete. The driver had a suspended driver's license, expired vehicle registration, no insurance, and several warrants. Deputy Wolfe arrested the suspect for driving with a suspended license and for the warrants. He was also given tickets for no insurance and expired registration.

Oct. 4

Deputy Devero and Sgt. Adams served arrest warrants on two suspects near the 46000 block of Baker Dr. in Cedar Grove. One suspect was arrested for a felony warrant and the other was arrested on four misdemeanor warrants. Both suspects

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 33

Worship directory

Assembly of God
Concrete Assembly of God

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

Citipoint Church North Cascade

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

Baptist

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

Hamilton First Baptist Church

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

Lyman Church

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

Catholic

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

Covenant

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

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

Episcopal

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

Free Methodist

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

Methodist

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

Presbyterian

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

Lutheran

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

Nondenominational

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

Community Bible Church

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

The RIVER Gathering

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

Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church

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

Wildwood Chapel

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

Concrete Volunteer

Fire Dept. needs firefighters!

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



[Chief Darrel Reed]

Interested?

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



Applicants may live inside or outside town limits.

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

Last month we wrapped up the **12th Annual Concrete Ghost Walk**. This year we saw some new faces among the cast. The amount of local talent is always amazing. The Museum Association and the Concrete Chamber of Commerce continued to welcome crowds from all over the Puget Sound and beyond. Many thanks to all those who attended, performed, or supported this annual fundraising event. It's because of you that we set new attendance records this year. Hope to see you all next year.

Looking back through the *Concrete Herald* archives for November 1915, the **rash of fires** was still a prominent mystery line. November 6 saw the eighth mysterious fire within just two years partially destroy the Martin & Company's Store and meat market, and within weeks the eighth fire was put out in the Concrete Theatre. Other "hot" news occurred during the month in 1948, when what was called "Concrete's civic headache," was raided by state liquor officials again.

When people today watch the thrilling movies about Bonnie and Clyde or John Dillinger, they often forget the late 1920s and early '30s were a time when such lawless behavior was almost in vogue with a certain segment of the population. The November 21, 1915, edition of this paper reported that bearded bandits held up the bank at Clear Lake and escaped in an auto. In that same edition, federal

officers killed an alleged bandit from a string of logging camp hold-ups during a gunfight. In 1929 the sheriffs were on the lookout for those who attempted to blow open the safes at the Sedro-Woolley Ice and Storage, the Sedro-Woolley Post Office and store in Montborne, and the Lazzari Service Station at Clear Lake.

As we approach the **Christmas gift-buying season**, don't forget our books (*So They Called the Town Concrete* and *The Concrete Heritage Museum Cookbook*) make great gifts, especially for out-of-town family and friends. Books are available at Albert's Red Apple, 5b's Bakery, and our Web site at www.concreteheritagemuseum.org.

Our regular season may be over, but **tours are still available** upon special request. Please give us plenty of notice—our volunteers are active in many other things in the community. Call 360.853.8347 or e-mail requests to jboggswash@aol.com or autohistory@gmail.com.

Our next gathering will be on Dec. 20 at 6 p.m. for our **annual Christmas potluck** at the Concrete Community Center. It's always a low-pressure and friendly event, and is a great break from the holiday run-around. Please join us.

The next **monthly business meeting** will be Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. at the museum. The public is always welcome.

—John Boggs

At the Upper Skagit Library

Thanks to everyone who came to **Monica Crosson's** book launch for *The Magical Family* on Oct. 27 and made it a great success! Her Moon Cookies were scrumptious and the poetry masks were a big hit. If you missed the book launch, you can still read Monica's book; we have two copies of *The Magical Family* available for checkout at the library.

A reminder that **Storytime** is back! Families with young children are invited to join us for stories, songs, and a simple craft on the first and third Saturday of each month, October through May, at 11 a.m. Round up your kids on Fri., Nov. 10, and join us at the library to meet Luke and Kip, certified **service and therapy dogs**. Learn about Luke and Kip and what they can do, then give your child the opportunity to practice reading aloud to them. Children can sign up to read for 10 minutes each during the program. They can bring their own book or read one of ours. All ages welcome. 10 a.m. to noon at Upper Skagit Library.

Join us for **Craft Friday** at 5b's Bakery, always the first Friday of the month, at 6 p.m. This month we will make gift card/tags. Bring scissors and stamps if you want to broaden your creative opportunities; all other supplies provided.

Help us discover what shapes the people of our community by taking part in our **November "Write & Share."** (Why did you visit the library?) To participate, pick up an index card, choose a prompt, answer the question, and display for others. You can identify yourself or remain

anonymous. All ages welcome.

New on our shelves

In adult fiction, *Storyteller and Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult, *Iron Wolf and Price of Duty* by Dale Brown, and *Sieze the Night* by Dean Koontz.

In adult nonfiction, *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande, *Theft by Finding* by David Sedaris, and *Handmade: The Modern Guide to Handmade Living* by Melissa K. Norris.

In young adult fiction, *The Girl of Fire and Thorns, Book 1* by Rae Carson, *The Librarian of Auschwitz* by Antonio Iturbe, and the final book in the Gold Seer Trilogy: *Into the Bright Unknown* by Rae Carson.

In juvenile, *Hello, Universe* by Erin Entrada Kelly, *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White, and *The Last Kids on Earth, Book 1* by Max Brallier.

In children's, *Pugman's 3 Wishes* by Sebastian Meschenmoser, *Black & White* by Jane Foster, and *The Antlered Ship* by Dashka Slater.

The next **Upper Skagit Library Board of Trustees meeting** will occur Nov. 9 at 5 p.m. This month's meeting is a public budget hearing.

Last but not least, we are having a **Winter Scarf and Hat Drive!** Bring a new, unused scarf or hat to the library in November and we will make sure it gets to someone in our area who needs it.

—Tess Carroll, Library Associate

also will be available at Albert's Red Apple starting Dec. 2. The Lions Club is also looking for volunteers to help unload and reload trees on the days of the sales. Please contact any of the members if you are willing to volunteer.

We are proud to have sponsored the Concrete Lions Club Halloween party at the Concrete Elementary school on Oct. 31. There were games, candy, and hot dogs! We would like to thank the community for its support and those who volunteered to help.

The Concrete Lions Club has access to **medical equipment**, such as wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, and commodes,

which can be lent to help those in need. Contact any Lions Club member, and we will do our best to help you.

I encourage members of our community to think about and **join your local Lions Club**. Our club is your club. We are a club to serve you and our community. Our hope for 2017 is to double our membership numbers. We all have friends and family who have seen the outreach of your local Lions Club, so now is the time to give great thought about being a member!

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

—Connie Smithhart

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

were transported to Skagit County Jail and booked.

Oct. 5

The Skagit County Transfer station was burglarized, and approximately \$65 dollars taken. There are no suspects at this time.

A theft of services report led Deputy Holmes to a residence on Baker Loop in Cedar Grove. Water was being diverted to another residence. The owner of the suspect residence is currently incarcerated in Skagit County Jail. Deputy Holmes was unable to discover any suspects. The water was secured.

At approximately 6:45 p.m., Deputy Wolfe stopped a vehicle for expired vehicle registration. The driver of the vehicle had a suspended driver's license and no insurance. She was arrested for driving while license suspended and given a ticket for no insurance and expired vehicle registration.

Oct. 6

Deputy Todd Adams investigated a malicious mischief complaint at

the Hamilton Post Office. After the investigation, a juvenile was arrested for breaking the windows of the post office.

Oct. 7

Logger's Landing in Concrete reported a theft. Deputy Wiggins investigated. After reviewing the surveillance video, he recognized the suspect as "RJ," but was unable to determine his real name. The investigation is ongoing, and Deputy Wiggins will be following up leads.

Oct. 8

Deputy Case was monitoring traffic in Hamilton when he noticed a vehicle with expired registration. He stopped the vehicle. The driver's license was suspended and she had several warrants. She was arrested for driving with a suspended driver's license and for her warrants.

Oct. 10

Deputy Devero investigated two burglaries on Diobsud Creek Rd. east of Marblemount. Several thousand dollars worth of property was taken from one location. There are no suspects at this time.

Deputy Devero responded to a theft and damaged property at Cascadian Farms east of Rockport. Someone had broken into a contractor's tool box and stolen nearly \$3,000 worth of tools. The suspect also caused \$2,000 worth of damage to the tool box.

Oct. 11

Deputy Wolfe, in his quest to rid the Upper Valley community of traffic problems, stopped another car for expired registration on Limestone St. in Concrete. The driver's license was suspended and he had no insurance. In addition he had several warrants for his arrest. He was taken to Skagit County Jail and booked for his warrants. The suspect was issued a citation for driving with a suspended suspended, no insurance, and expired vehicle registration.

Oct. 12

Deputy Devero and Deputy Esskew investigated a reported domestic assault on Martin Rd. in Rockport. The suspect assaulted his mother. Deputies were unable to locate the suspect, who left prior to the deputies' arrival. The suspect was

referred to the prosecutor for 4th degree assault domestic violence.

Deputy Wolfe stopped another vehicle for failing to use its turn signal on Short St. in Concrete. The driver attempted to walk away, forcing Deputy Wolfe to place her in handcuffs until he could investigate further. He determined that the driver had a suspended driver's license, no insurance, and an expired vehicle registration. She also had a warrant for her arrest. She was arrested and given a ticket for no insurance and expired vehicle registration. She was given a court date and released.

Oct. 13

Continuing an earlier theme, Deputy Wolfe stopped a vehicle near Cedar St. in Concrete. The driver had a suspended driver's license and no insurance, and his vehicle registration was expired. In addition the suspect had a felony warrant for his arrest out of the Department of Corrections, which requested that he be taken into custody and transported to jail. Deputy Wolfe arrested the suspect on the

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Bookkeeping

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360.853.7667 or 360.708.9761
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Payroll services to full-charge bookkeeping

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More than 25 years' experience!
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Liquor stores

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Monday thru Saturday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
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Gifts, Rocks, Tobacco, Cigars, and more!

Pawn shops

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New & Used guns, ammo, sporting goods
We Buy, Sell, & Loan Guns, gold, coins
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360.770.5380, 9-5 M-F, by appt. weekends.
All natural, grass-fed, USDA inspected beef by the package, ¼ and ½ beef orders.
Burger available at Albert's Red Apple.

Restaurants

Cascade Burgers

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

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

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Heated and nonheated, security surveillance, coded entry, 4x5 to 15x32 units, locks for sale.
Customer service is our top priority!
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Septic services

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Serving all of Skagit County
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fred@cinemaseptic.com
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Antiques, Vintage, Collectibles, Thrift
Inside & upstairs at Gold Nugget Pawn Shop
Corner of Hwy 530 & Mt. Loop Hwy, Darrington
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Professional roadside assistance. Flatbed towing and winch-outs. Lockouts, jumpstarts, fuel delivery, and motorcycle towing. Licensed and insured. Lowest prices around!
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Call Dave's towing for fast, courteous response.
10 years' experience can get any job done.
We tow all motorcycles, RVs, and trailers.
Storage, cash for clunkers, remove junk autos.
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Lions R-O-A-R



The Concrete Lions Club **meeting this month** will be held on Nov. 1 at Annie's Pizza Station. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.; however, there is always a group that gathers around 6 p.m. to eat and socialize before the meeting starts. All existing members, mark your calendars. Anyone interested in becoming a member or learning more about your local Lions Club, feel free to stop by.

On Sept. 20 the Concrete Lions Club was proud to induct **five new members**.

We extend many thanks to our community members for stepping up and helping out.

Coming events

On Nov. 15 at 6 p.m., the Lions Club will hold its annual **Thanksgiving Dinner** for club members and their families.

The next big event will be the annual **Christmas tree sales** at the lot west of Loggers Landing in Concrete. The dates are Dec. 2, 3, 9, and 10. The sales will start at 9 a.m. and go to about 3 p.m. Trees

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



Out & About



Mt. Vernon

Festival of Trees kicks off holidays

Skagit Valley Hospital Foundation will once again ring in the holiday season at the 29th annual Festival of Trees on Thanksgiving weekend.

The Skagit County tradition features the auction and display of 29 ornately decorated Christmas trees, Breakfast at the North Pole, and Family Festival Days at Skagit Center at Christ the King Church, 1000 Fountain St., Burlington. Proceeds from the 2017 event will benefit Surgical Services at Skagit Valley Hospital.

"I am looking forward to showing our community all the hard work the Festival committee and tree design teams have put in over the last year," said Festival of Trees Chairman Jill Christensen. "The Foundation is grateful for the amazing support of our event sponsors. This will surely be a year to remember!"

The festival event lineup includes:

- Gala and Auction on Fri., Nov. 24. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., with hors d'oeuvres, wreath sales, and mini trees for sale. The live auction begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$90 until Nov. 19 and \$110 thereafter. Advanced ticket purchase is required.
- Breakfast at the North Pole for children and families from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Sat., Nov. 25 at Skagit Center. The event features a catered breakfast, visits with Santa, and a variety of children's activities. Tickets cost \$20 per person, with free admission for those under age 2. Advanced ticket purchase is required.
- Family Festival Days run Sat., Nov. 25, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. and Sun., Nov. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring local live entertainment and a chance to view the Christmas trees. Admission is \$5.

The 29 Christmas trees are the focal point of the event and this year will include the following creative themes:



Last year's Festival of Trees included "Cowboy Christmas," which won the Designer's Choice and People's Choice awards. This year's event will be held during Thanksgiving weekend. Submitted photo.

- Christmas in the Northwest: A flocked tree featuring 20 glassybabys and \$500 in gift cards to Northwest icons Nordstrom, Starbucks, and Amazon.
- A Barbie Christmas: A revolving flocked tree featuring more than 20 Barbie dolls, vintage and new.
- The English Gent: A tree celebrating the décor of an English Christmas.
- Nostalgic Christmas: A tree adorned with vintage and new tin toys.
- Coastal Christmas: A seaside theme.

For tickets to the Gala and Auction or Breakfast at the North Pole, or for more information, go to www.skagitfestivaloftrees.org or call 360.814.5747.

Big Lake

Tales from Big Lake Valley

The public is invited to attend a free presentation of the history of Big Lake Valley in the Resources Room at the

her family attended. Her mother went to the very first school.

The Big Lake Historical Society has focused on the early history of Big Lake Valley, which consisted of small communities situated around and near the lake known as Big Lake, and centered on the early timber industry. Baker Heights, Big Rock, Big Lake, Montborne, Walker Valley, Finn Settlement, and Erlich had lumber mills or other industries supportive of these communities. Today, descendants of the local Noo-qua-cha-mish Indian tribe live nearby.

The library is located at 315 Snoqualmie St., Mt. Vernon. For more information, call Mike Bonacci at 360.336.6209 or go to "What's Happening" at www.mountvernonwa.gov.

Burlington

Pumpkin Pitch results announced

Winners have been announced for the Pumpkin Pitch contest held during the Sept. 30 Burlington Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Pitch.

Heavyweight tossing 8–10 lbs. under 1,600 feet

- 1st Place: Gourdinator

See Out & About, p. 35



Mount Vernon City Library on Mon., Nov. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

The presentation will be hosted by Andrea Xaver and Melba Hall. Xaver was recently elected president of the Big Lake Historical Society. Her maternal grandparents came to Erlich in 1898 and purchased land to live on and farm in 1901. She is the fourth of six generations to carry on this tradition.

Melba Hall is the long-time historian for the society and a lifetime resident of Big Lake, residing on part of her grandfather's farm. Hall worked for 16 years at Big Lake School, where four generations of

Out & About, cont. from p. 34

Middleweight tossing 5–8 lbs. under 800 feet

- 1st Place: Mean Old Clown Chuckers
- 2nd Place: Log Craft
- 3rd Place: Bad Wolf
- 4th Place: UFO 2.0

Lightweight tossing under 5 lbs.

- 1st Place: Place: Ballistikraft
- 2nd Place: Gladiator Gourd Girls
- 3rd Place: Skyward

People's Choice Award

- Gladiator Gourd Girls

Captain's Award

- Gladiator Gourd Girls

2017 teams

- Gourdinator: Colby Swanberg
- Log Craft: Csaba Mundi
- Bad Wolf: Bob Peterson
- Mean Old Clown Chuckers: Dale Jackson
- UFO 2.0: Aaron Young
- Gladiator Gourd Girls: Erica Fifer/Girl Scouts
- Ballistikraft: Robert Maitland
- Skyward: Bob Peterson

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 33

warrant and transported him to jail. At the jail the driver was cited for driving while license suspended, no insurance, and expired vehicle registration.

A citizen reported a prowler in the area of Baker Dr. in Cedar Grove. After investigating, Deputy Wiggins determined that he himself was the prowler and it was his spotlight that the citizen had seen as he was patrolling through the area. Deputy Wiggins did not make an arrest.

Oct. 14

Deputies recovered a stolen Jeep on Pinelli Rd. The Jeep was stolen out of Whatcom County. The suspect was later involved in a pursuit near that location.

Deputies pursued a suspect who has numerous felony warrants and is a suspect in numerous burglaries, vehicle thefts, car prowls, and thefts in Skagit, Whatcom, and Snohomish counties. During the pursuit several guns were thrown out the window of the suspect's vehicle. The suspect was able to elude deputies by jumping into the river near Hamilton. Two passengers in the car were arrested for rendering criminal assistance and felon in possession of firearms. Later, a motor vehicle accident was called in west of where the suspect had fled. It was determined to be a false report. It is believed that the suspect was attempting to get deputies to leave the area.

Oct. 15

Deputy Pacini and Deputy Slack arrested a suspect near Petit St. in Hamilton with several felony warrants. The suspect has been involved in several serious assaults and eluded police on several different occasions.

Oct. 16

Around 3 a.m. a burglary on Robinson Rd. was reported that appeared to have been the suspect from the pursuit on Oct. 14, trying to find dry clothes. A car was also stolen from the address. Later a report of a burglary on Challenger Rd. near Concrete was called in to the Sheriff's Office. Clothes stolen from the burglary on Robinson Rd. were discovered at this location. It appears the suspect stole more clothes, built a fire to get warm, and made himself a meal.

Deputies responded to a report of a female without pants yelling and screaming near the Concrete Community Center in Concrete. Deputies contacted the female, who was at that point wearing all her clothes. She was advised not to yell in public and not to change her clothes in public.

A citizen reported a female was

trespassing on Mill Ave. in Concrete. She was currently in a tent on the property. The property owner had asked her to leave but the suspect threatened to kill him and refused to leave the property. Sergeant Adams contacted the suspect and arrested her for trespassing. She was taken to jail.

Deputies were advised that an elderly female had wandered away from her home near Lake Tyee. The female had a history of dementia and had been found 5 miles away from her home the last time she had wandered off. Deputy Slack responded, but before he could arrive Deputy Backstrom advised him that the female had received a ride into Concrete and was currently sitting with him at the East Detachment Office. Deputy Slack determined that the female was unable to care for herself. She was taken to a care facility until arrangements could be made for a caretaker.

Deputies took a report of two burglaries in the 60000 block of Marblemount. Several batteries were stolen from one residence, and several items were stolen from the second, including an AR-15 style rifle. A surveillance camera captured pictures of the suspect. The investigation is ongoing.

Oct. 18

A citizen reported that her vacation home on Robinson Rd. had been burglarized. Investigation showed that the suspect was probably involved in an eluding incident on Oct. 16, where another residence close by also had been burglarized and a motor vehicle had been stolen.

Deputy Brannon responded to a report of a prowler near Superior Ave. in Concrete. Subjects in a red Ford Explorer were caught on camera prowling the property. Deputy Brannon was unable to locate the subjects.

Oct. 19

Deputy Esskew responded to suspicious activity in the 49000 block of Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. The residents reported that a white male driving an older Chevrolet Lumina had pulled into their driveway. When the resident asked him if he could help him, the suspect sped off at a high rate of speed. The vehicle was seen parked near the residence earlier in the day, but when the resident started to walk out to it, the car sped off again.

Oct. 20

While patrolling in Concrete, Deputy Wolfe observed a car traveling south on Superior Ave. The driver was not wearing his seatbelt. Deputy Wolfe stopped the car. The driver's driving status was suspended and he had no insurance. The driver was

arrested for driving with a suspended license and given a ticket for no insurance and not wearing his seatbelt.

Deputy Wolfe was assisting Deputy Esskew on Cedar Grove Ave. in Cedar Grove when he observed a suspect he knew had multiple warrants for his arrest. The suspect gave Deputy Wolfe a false name, trying to avoid being arrested. Deputy Wolfe advised the suspect that he knew who he was and arrested him on the warrants. During the arrest, Deputy Wolfe discovered that the suspect was in possession of heroin and drug paraphernalia. The suspect also had a large amount of money. The suspect was taken to Skagit County Jail and booked on his warrants and drug charges.

Deputy Devero investigated a theft and forgery complaint that occurred in Concrete. The suspect had stolen several checks and forged them. The suspect admitted to the crime. Deputy Devero charged the suspect with forgery and theft.

Deputy Esskew and Deputy Devero handled an assault call at Logger's Landing in Concrete. The victim advised that her boyfriend had hit her in the back of the head with something while they were riding their bicycles. Deputy Devero located the suspect, who was arrested by Deputy Esskew and taken to jail for assault.

Deputy Wolfe stopped a vehicle on Maple St. in Hamilton for no front license plate. The driver's license was suspended and the driver didn't have any insurance. Deputy Wolfe arrested the driver for driving with a suspended license and ticketed the driver for no insurance.

Oct. 23

Deputy Wolfe assisted Wildlife Officer Ludwig with a violation of a no-contact order. Officer Ludwig had contacted two subjects who had an active no-contact order between them. The male subject admitted to having contact with his girlfriend in violation of the order. He was arrested and taken to jail.

Oct. 24

The Sheriff's Office received a report that a vehicle belonging to a missing person who lives in Bellingham was located on Sauk Mountain. Deputies initiated a search to locate the victim, who was believed to have gone on a hike on Oct. 18 or 19. The search continues with multiple groups involved.

—Compiled by Sgt. Greg Adams



Smile



... from the Concrete Herald archives ...

A complacent golfer teed his ball, looked away to the next green, and declared confidently, "That's good for one long drive and a putt."
He swung the driver, tore up the sod, and managed to move the ball a few feet off the tee.
Stepping forward, the diplomatic caddy handed him the putter and suggested, "Now for one hell of a putt."
— § —

Traffic cop (bawling out a lady driver): "Don't you know what I mean when I hold up my hand?"
Lady: "I ought to. I've been a school teacher for 20 years."
— § —

Young Johnny was inclined to be rather frivolous and irresponsible, and his father decided to have a serious talk with him.
"Johnny," he said, "you're a big boy now and it's time you took things more seriously. Just supposing I were to die suddenly — where would you be?"
"I'd be here," replied Johnny. "The question is, where would *you* be?"
— § —

A college education never hurt anyone who was willing to learn something afterward.
— § —

Little girl: "I know something I won't tell."
Father: "Never mind, child. You'll get over that when you're older."

Dwelleysms

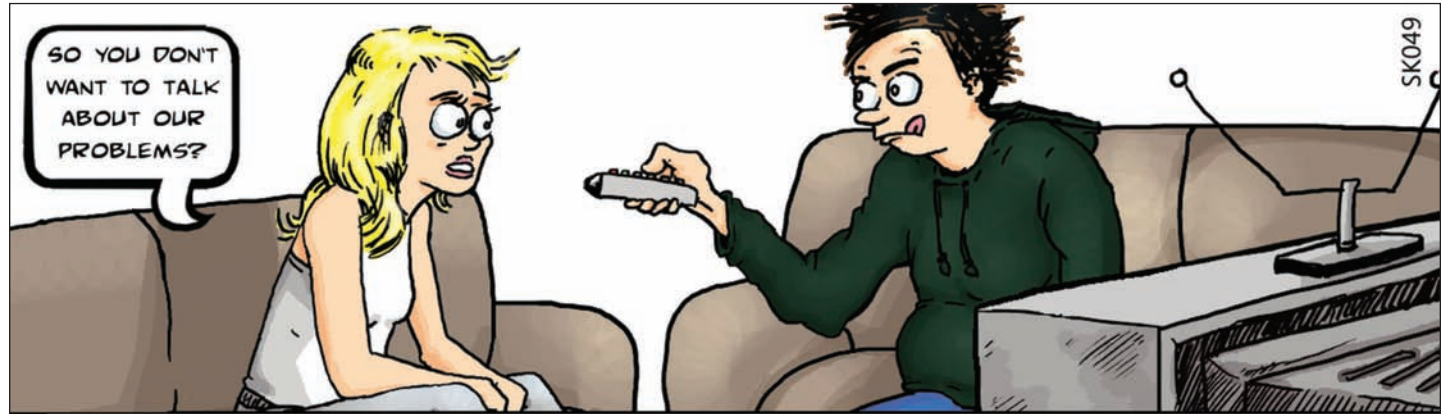
Wit and wisdom from former *Concrete Herald* editor Charles M. Dwelley

"The people we feel sorry for are those who are so sure they are doing nothing wrong that they have little success in doing anything right."
"We think DeGaulle of France has some ideas our leaders could use. Visit countries, insult them, and get sent home. They insult us and we stay."
"Conversation is high-key merchandising of the human intellect. Gossip is the enjoyable rummage sale."
—Aug. 16, 1967

"The right to riot seems a questionable freedom for Americans. Somehow we always had the idea that most of our valued heritage was the privilege of not having to burn and kill to espouse a cause."
"School may not be the most popular place in the world for the youngsters, but most of them look forward to it by this time of year. There is a thing about the social activity that makes education easier to swallow."
"The reaction to economy talk in Washington is that perhaps the taxpayer should be the first one to do a pilot study on the subject."
—Aug. 23, 1967

"Telling the truth has always been held up as a virtue. So many a virtuous man looks upon a realistic world through an occasional black eye. A truth, flatly stated, guarantees no safe conduct."
—Aug. 30, 1967

Public Service Announcement



CONFLICT SOLVING FOR GENERATION X

Concrete Harold

By Joyce Harris



By Stig Kristensen

Crossword: "Hidden Conveyances"

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			

- Across**
1. Sight parts
6. Beginning of a conclusion
11. Loser's place?
14. Rustle or murmur
15. Stimulant drug
17. Chomps at the bit
19. Arranged anew
20. Ticket
21. Carryalls
22. Locks in a barn?
23. Typewriter roller
27. Carbonium, e.g.
28. Campaign worker
29. Dialect
33. French collagist
36. 1968 movie title
39. 20s dispenser
40. Tungusic language
41. Horned goddess
42. Squat
43. Instant
45. Have an edge against
47. Old dagger
50. Foreign dignitary
51. Foul-smelling herb
- Down**
1. Red letters?
2. Express a preference
3. Continental capital
4. Petri dish filler
5. Orthodox Muslim
6. Lacks, briefly
7. Related maternally
8. Archibald and Thurmond
9. Decent
10. It may be smoked
11. Nirvana tune
12. Ski trail
13. Distress signal
16. Ice cream flavor
18. Relating to newborns
22. Speck
23. ____ Bear
24. Merry-go-round music
- Across**
56. Goes too far
58. Certain doctor
59. Outdoor magazine
60. Hog haven
61. Extra inning
62. Thirsty
- Down**
25. Garden figure
26. Half a score
27. Kind of treatment
30. Rook
31. Certain refrigerant
32. Biblical verb suffix
33. Bishop's seat in ancient churches
34. Curb, with "in"
35. "Hey there!"
37. Issue
38. Deadeye's forte
42. Care for
44. Antsy
45. Drooping flower spike
46. Wee
47. Small finch
48. Limestone topography
49. Archie's better half
50. Protection
51. Niels Bohr, e.g.
52. West Samoan monetary unit
53. Bit of kindling
54. Put on
55. Appraiser
57. PC component

Sudoku

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

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

*Solutions to both puzzles are below.

Funny as Facebook

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

- "I wonder how long I've had a sauce splatter on my glasses."
- "Is there some sort of level up for having my opinion in a discussion on mansplaining mansplained to me by a man?"

Sudoku solution

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

Crossword solution

1	U	V	E	A	S		6	H	E	N	C	E		10		S	P	A	
14	S	O	U	G	H		15	A	N	A	L	E	P	T	I	C			
17	S	T	R	A	I	N		18	S	A	T	A	L	E	A	S	H		
19	R	E	O	R	I	E		20	T	E	S		C	I	T	E			
							21	T	O	T	E	S							
23	P	L	A	T	E	N		27	I	O	N								
28	A	I	D	E			29	A	C	C	E	N	T			33	A	R	P
36	P	L	A	N	E	T		37	O	F	T	H	E	A	P	E	S		
39	A	T	M				40	M	A	N	C	H	U			41	I	S	I
							42	N	I	L						43	M	O	M
							45	A	B	U	T					46	S	K	E
							47	S	K	E	A	N				48			
50	E	M	I	R			51	D	E	A	D	N	E	T		52			
56	G	E	T	S	C	A	R	R	I	E	D	A	W	A	Y				
58	I	N	T	E	R	N	I	S	T						59	G	L	I	D
60	S	T					61	T	E	N	T	H			62	E	A	G	E

THE BODY IN THE BLACKBERRIES

By Nicola Pearson

Editor's note: This is the second installment of a new serialized story by award-winning author and playwright Nicola Pearson of Sauk City. Future installments will appear on this page each month during 2017 and 2018 until the story is complete. Previous installments are posted at www.concrete-herald.com.

"What in the world put you there, Robert?" Lange asked, looking down at the old fellow who'd met his end at the side of a logging road.

"You know this man?" Lange nodded. "That's Robert Doyle. I bought some lumber from him to lay under my yurt when I set it up. He seemed like a real straight-ahead guy."

Michelle Pate-Swenson sighed. "It's not usually straight-ahead guys that get messed up in drug trafficking."

Lange crouched, saddened by the fact that this innocuous old fellow, with his close-cropped buzz of white hair and thin, elderly frame, had met such a lonely end.

A violent end, too, if the angry looking bruise on the left side of his face was anything to go by. Now that he was down low, peering through the undergrowth growing out of the ditch and into the road, he noticed the flies drawn by the body. Lange swatted them away with his hand. "I'm stunned that I didn't see him yesterday," he said to the agent, who was taking photos of the scene with her phone.

"You'd've thought I'd see his red checked shirt if nothing else."

"This is where you were eating blackberries yesterday?"

Lange stood back up and ran his eyes over the thick, green, thorny vines spreading out from the hillside. "No," he said, and walked a half a dozen steps around Pate-Swenson. "I was here." He had both hands out in the air on their sides, marking the edges of his location. He looked up. "And I remember I was staring at all those ripe berries at the base of that fir tree there."

Pate-Swenson took two steps right to stand beside him. "You could maybe see his boots from here," she said, assessing the situation. "But these little trees here," she added, touching a three-foot alder that had sprouted at the side of the road, "do a pretty good job of hiding them."

"Mmmmm," Lange reflected. "And his blue jeans don't jump out, as

old as they are." Pate-Swenson paced the length of the body, Kojak bumping up against her in his eagerness to work the job. She walked to an opening between some waist-high thistles in the middle of the road, snapped her fingers and pointed down. Kojak trotted around to where she was pointing and lowered his belly to the ground, his front paws straight out in front of him. "Stay," commanded Pate-Swenson.

"He can't have been dead long," said Lange, "because there was no smell yesterday."

"You're sure?" Lange thought back. He'd been pretty mad when he got here yesterday because of that red Toyota pickup that sped past him on Sauk Mountain Road. Which made him think. "Maybe he wasn't here when I was here yesterday."

"Somebody dumped him after you left?" "That's the only way he could have got here, right? His vehicle's not around."

"That's right," agreed Pate-Swenson, looking back toward her Range Rover as if expecting to see another vehicle there. Lange sighed. The truth was, once he got into the berries yesterday, he stopped paying attention. The only way he could make up for that, he decided, was to find out what had caused Robert to end up dead in this ditch.

He strode back to the old man's head. "Looks like somebody smacked him hard in the face."

"You think that's what killed him?" Lange shrugged. "Maybe."

Pate-Swenson teetered over the blackberries to get a closer look. "I'd agree," she said. "Except it looks like there's blood in the dirt by his head, and I don't see blood anywhere on his face."

Lange walked to the other side of the road and picked up a silvery gray fir limb. He walked back and gently pushed the ferns away from around the old man's head. "Can you see a wound anywhere?" Pate-Swenson craned her neck to see.

"There might be a dark stain on the crown of his head but I'm not—no, I'm not sure."

"Well," said Lange, letting go of the ferns and tossing the stick back to the other side of the road. Kojak watched it go by but didn't move. "We should call it in. Get the Sheriff out here so forensics can do their stuff and we can get close enough to the body to figure it out."

"I'll use the radio in my vehicle," said Pate-Swenson, but she didn't move from where she was staring down at the dead man.

Lange couldn't bring himself to move either. "That's a DEA rig, that Range Rover?" he asked, his eyes fixed on the body of Robert Doyle.

"It was seized from a dealer, so we get to use it as an unmarked car. The radio we added, of course."

"Huh. I didn't see a radio." "It's in the console between the front seats."

Lange nodded. "What are you thinking?" asked Pate-Swenson.

"I just don't get why this man, of all people, would be out here waiting for a drug drop."

"Maybe he hit hard times?" "He lived hard times. Why would now be any different?"

"Health issues?" Lange weighed that in his mind. "I do remember him telling me his wife had something. Alzheimer's, maybe? But I got the impression he'd been coping with that for a while. So why the sudden need to deal drugs?"

"The present administration has been threatening to cut back Medicare coverage..." Lange took his eyes off Robert Doyle and turned them to the woman standing beside him, wondering which side of the political divide this statement put her on. She was petite, maybe 5 foot 4, and as he looked down at her she lifted her blue eyes to meet his, pushing a tendril of blond hair that had escaped from its braid away from her face. Lange felt that tug again, then got a grip on himself. What was he thinking?! She was probably half his age! That's when he noticed the challenge in her eyes, as if she were wondering which side of the political divide he stood on, too, and whether he'd blow off her comment as fake news. "That could be it," he said finally. "Desperate times call for desperate measures, kind of thing."

She gave a sharp nod of her head, like she recognized they were on the same

page and was glad of it.

"But still," Lange went on, turning back to stare down at the body again. "Drugs?! I doubt Bob Doyle had ever seen an illegal drug, let alone used one. And now, this late in life—because I think he was in his 80s—he suddenly has connections with someone who wants him to pick up a shipment?!"

"Could have been someone he knew had the connections. Maybe a kid of his? Or grandkid?"

"Now that's a thought," Lange granted. "He did tell me one of his grandsons was messed up in that somehow." He shook his head vigorously. "No, because it bothered him. A lot. So why would he get involved?"

Pate-Swenson pushed her pink lips up, contemplating. "What if he came up to stop his grandson from making the pick up and things turned violent?"

Now that Lange could picture. "The kid hit his granddad, or pushed him ..."

"... which is why all the bruising ..."

"... and the blood ..."

They looked at each other; they were on to something.

"You search the road while I call this in," said Pate-Swenson, walking backward, away from Lange. Her leg caught in a sprawling blackberry vine and nearly pulled her over.

"Watch out," cautioned Lange. "The locals call these tanglefoot berries for a reason."

Pate-Swenson spun around and jogged toward the Range Rover.

"What should I do about Kojak?" Lange called after her.

"Have him help." "Easy for her to say," Lange said to the attentive German Shepherd, who was holding the down position. "How am I supposed to make you heel?" Kojak leapt up and trotted to Lange's left side. "That was easy," conceded Lange. He took two steps forward and when Kojak followed suit, Lange walked a long loop, the width of Doyle's body, across the road and back. Kojak stopped where he'd sniffed the road earlier to sniff it again, and Lange crouched down to look for blood. He didn't see any. He took a small piece of rust brown volcanic rock and placed it where Kojak was sniffing. Then they moved on.

Lange led them slowly back toward the gate, but when they got back to the downed fir tree, the dog leapt over it and instantly became animated, his nose down on the ground, nostrils flaring one, two,

The Body, cont. from p. 38

three times. Lange stepped over the log and bent forward, peering at the ground. He couldn't see anything of note. "What are you smelling?" he whispered to Kojak. The dog continued, his nose zigzagging over hardpan and brush toward the uphill side of the road, and when he got to the ditch, he purposely lowered himself to a down, sphinxlike. Lange glanced at the Range Rover and could see Pate-Swenson stretching her neck up to see her dog over the dash; something was up.

Lange came alongside Kojak and saw two things: blood and a scrap of folded paper. He fumbled at his hips for a pocket that might be holding something he could use to pick up the paper, then realized he was still in his sweatpants.

"I've got it," shouted Pate-Swenson, jogging down the road toward them, flapping a pair of latex gloves for Lange to see. By the time she got to them, she'd snapped them on her fingers in readiness. "What have we found?" she asked, looking down at the ground in front of Kojak. She didn't wait for an answer. Instead she leaned forward and picked up the paper. She held it toward Lange. "That look like blood?" she asked.

"Yep," he grunted, seeing the reddish brown thumbprint on the 3x3 scrap.

The paper was folded, and Agent Pate-Swenson opened it with her gloved hands. "It's a check," she said. "Made out to Kyle Clarkson."

"The Clarkson brothers," sighed Lange. "Now why does that not surprise me?"

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NOTICES

NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL 2018 BUDGET WORKSHOP

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Concrete Town Council will hold workshops on the following dates in preparation for the 2017 Budget:

November 4, 8:00 a.m.
2018 Utility Rates and Fees
Proposed 2018 Budget

The Concrete Town Council chambers are handicap accessible. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate the needs of special classes of citizens, including handicap accessibility or interpreter, will be made upon receiving twenty-four (24) hour advance notice. Contact Andrea Fichter at the Concrete Town Hall (360) 853-8401.

Andrea Fichter, Clerk-Treasurer
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Fees and Utility Rates

Concrete Town Council will hold a public hearing on November 13, 2017 at 6:00 PM or as soon as possible thereafter at the Concrete Town Hall located at 45672 Main Street, regarding Fees and Utility Rates for the 2018 Budget Year.

The public is encouraged to attend and give written or oral testimony.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed 2018 Property Tax

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Town Council of the Town of Concrete at its regular Council Meeting in the Town Hall at 45672 Main Street, Concrete, Washington, on Monday, November 13, 2017 at 6:00 PM or as soon as possible thereafter.

The purpose of the public hearing is to review the proposed 2018 Property Tax. Action may be taken at this meeting.

The public is encouraged to attend and give written or oral testimony.

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Andrea Fichter, Clerk-Treasurer
TOWN OF CONCRETE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS PROPOSED 2018 BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that public hearings will be held by the Town Council of the Town of Concrete at its regular Council Meeting in the Town Hall at 45672 Main Street, Concrete, Washington, on November 13, 2017 and November 27, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

The purpose of the public hearing is to review the proposed 2018 Budget. Action may be taken at these meetings.

The public is encouraged to attend and give written or oral testimony.

The Concrete Town Council chambers are handicap accessible. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate the needs of special classes of citizens, including handicap accessibility or interpreter, will be made upon receiving twenty-four (24) hour advance notice. Contact Andrea Fichter at the Concrete Town Hall (360) 853-8401.

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