

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley Concrete Herald

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October 2014

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50 cents

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

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Concrete Ghost Walk returns for ninth year

The Concrete Ghost Walk, now in its ninth year, returns in October with more stories and legends of Concrete's past. *Page 7.*

Farm to School program growing in Concrete schools

In September, Concrete School District made a big step toward fresher school menus by launching its Farm to School program in the cafeterias. *Page 12.*

Sedro-Woolley photographer showcased in Smithsonian

Andy Porter has good reason to smile: One of his photographs is displayed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. *Page 16.*



Kudos for community garden

Thirty USDA Rural Development representatives toured the Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete and discovered a level of grassroots effort one attendee said he hadn't seen anywhere else in Washington. *Page 35.*



Paranormal investigators Sandy and Russ Wells display a photo of an apparition taken by an automated infrared camera in the basement of Northern State Hospital. The hallway was locked and pitch black when the photo was taken. The Birdview couple can't explain the light source, but they believe the figure is the ghost of a nurse who is said to haunt the property. *See story, p. 11.*

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Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



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From the editor

Your vote matters

On Nov. 4, Skagit County voters will again experience the privilege of being allowed to choose their representatives in local, state, and federal elections. I know some readers will roll their eyes at the prospect of voting, and I understand the feeling that nothing ever changes, so why bother? But the reality is, the political climate *does* change, and the direction it takes is in our hands. Don't like the incumbent in any given race? Vote them out. Think one new candidate has better ideas and is better equipped to execute them? Vote them in. *Concrete Herald* will sponsor a Candidates' Forum that will bring our Dist. 3 County Commissioner candidates to town a second time on Oct. 6 (see ad, below). If you missed the "Candidates in Concrete" forum sponsored by Saukrates Cafe on Sept. 24, this will be an excellent opportunity to ask questions of our candidates so you can make an informed decision. Remember, voting is your right, but it's also a privilege.

—J. K. M.

Candidates' Forum



Join County Commissioner candidates Lisa Janicki and Kevin Loy to learn more about them and their goals for Skagit County Dist. 3.

Bring your questions.



WHEN:
Mon., Oct. 6,
7 p.m.

WHERE:
Concrete Theatre
45920 Main St.,Concrete

ADMISSION:
FREE

For more information, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail editor@concrete-herald.com

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Concrete Herald

Opinion

Letters to the editor

Thanks to loyal locals

To all of our loyal customers and friends, after 55 years of service, we have decided it is time to turn our business over to a new team. Please support Rich and Tammie Clark as you have supported us. Sue and I thank you, our customers and employees, for all the memories that leave us filled with gratitude and love in our hearts. Thank you for all those great years!

*Herb and Sue Nelson
Herb's Chevron, Sedro-Woolley*

Youth Dynamics a bright spot

At a time when the whole world seems to have gone crazy and few of us can figure out why or whom to blame, there is a bright spot that has brought us together. That spot, where the focus is on the youth of the Upper Valley and their well-being, is Concrete Youth Dynamics. For 15 years, Kevik and Marta Rensink, working without pay and with an all-volunteer staff, have ministered to the youth of Eastern Skagit County in a way that is fun, nonthreatening, and incorporates strong moral beliefs and positive values. Most years Concrete Youth Dynamics is able to connect with almost every student in Concrete High School. Some students only drop by once, but many more return Monday night after Monday night to an evening of free food, high energy activities, and a strong moral message. Who is funding this positive program? Well, the results of a recent fundraiser reveals that you are, we are. Many of us! As Kevik reported the results of his recent marathon golf fundraiser, in which he golfed 131 holes in 12 hours, many, many citizens of the Upper Valley supported him. You supported him in raising more than \$8,000 for Concrete YD activities

this school year. That is amazing! Your giving will allow Concrete YD volunteer staff to engage our youth on adventure trips, during fun activities, and sharing their real-life struggles for the next year. Thank you for your wonderful support.

*Joe Shepherd
Concrete*

Littlefield a step in right direction

Al Littlefield is a man of integrity, honesty, and has had 30-plus years experience as your PUD commissioner. He is a forward-thinker and has studied the water issues for years. When I was the WSU County Extension Agent in the 1970s and '80s, the big issues were land and water use. Al and I had many discussions on those subjects. I was very impressed with his knowledge and vision for the future. Al remains viable with the past and also moving in a positive forward direction for the present and for the future, proving him to be a great leader. Your vote for Al would be a step in the right direction!

*Marvin L. Jarmin
Mount Vernon*

Littlefield has history of service

I am asking you to re-elect my dad, Al

See **Letters**, p. 39

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 682w, 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. So be nice.

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Message from the mayor

By Jason Miller

I'm very pleased with the progress our **Economic Development Task Force** is making. I'm also pleased to announce that we've added Upper Skagit Library Director Brooke Pederson to the group. She strikes me as someone who is as community-minded as the rest of the members, and full of enthusiasm and fresh ideas. We're pulling together some of the many ideas that have surfaced during our discussions; I'll have a writer put together an article addressing our progress for the November issue of *Concrete Herald*. In the meantime, our meetings are open to anyone who wants to eavesdrop. We meet the second Wednesday of each month, at 6 p.m., at 5b's Bakery in Concrete.

The **Fire and Life Safety Facility** project is moving ahead nicely. Our first two project meetings revealed the construction team was slightly ahead of schedule and under budget. Let's hope that trend holds for the remainder of the project! Remember, **Concrete Town Council** meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 7 p.m. in Town Hall. Please attend as often as you can. By doing so, you will be ensuring that you are getting the government you deserve.

Concrete Mayor Jason Miller can be reached at goodwords@frontier.com or 360.853.8213.



"Candidates in Concrete" forum draws a crowd

More than three dozen of interested Upper Valley residents crowded Concrete Center for an evening of political discourse on Sept. 24. Sponsored by the Saukrates Cafe discussion group, "Candidates in Concrete" brought local and state political candidates to town for a Q & A session that lasted two hours. On hand were Elizabeth Scott and Charles Jensen, vying for Legislative Dist.

NINTH ANNUAL GhostWalk

Hysterical, historical, and a tiny bit creepy.

**Saturdays,
October 4, 11, 18, 25
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.**

**New this Year:
Ghost Stories on the Stage**
(handicap accessible)
Thursday, October 30 at 7:00 p.m.

\$10 per person

 **Meet at the Historic
Concrete Theatre
45920 Main Street
Concrete WA**

Peek into the past, hear stories of ghosts and legends told by local residents. Dress for the weather if attending the walk. Ages 13 & above only. Minors must be accompanied by adult.

**Tickets & More Information at
www.concrete-wa.com**



Election 2014

With the general election coming Nov. 4, *Concrete Herald* invited several candidates to explain their positions on key issues—in their own words.

Skagit County Commissioner, Dist. 3

Lisa Janicki (D)
Age: 53
Current employer: Chief Financial Officer for Janicki Industries (took leave of absence Sept. 19)
In her words: “The commissioners provide leadership for our county and are responsible for policy decisions that affect our quality of life. I am running for office now because I want to help bring solutions to the table in a collaborative, but decisive, manner. I have spent the past 30 years working



Janicki

with growing and changing family businesses. With roots in the timber industry, I have experienced how businesses have to adapt to survive. With an expanding composites manufacturing business, I understand how important community support is to a growing company. Skagit County government is a large, complex organization. With my extensive background in accounting, I will exercise careful oversight of finances and safeguard tax dollars. I have served on many nonprofit boards and have seen both needs and opportunities for Skagit County residents. I will fight tirelessly for Skagit County!”

Kevin Loy (R)
Age: 60
Current employer: Self-employed insurance broker
In his words: “I’m running for county commissioner because many of our elected officials believe they represent the government, not our citizens. I will represent our citizens to the best of my ability. I will consult with as many people in East Skagit County as possible. I will do my best to represent you and implement local ideas and goals. I’m the only candidate with experience. You cannot run government like a



Loy

business. You have to have government experience to succeed. I have government experience: city council, eight years Planning Commission, 13 years and going on County Parks Board. I know from experience that government does not work like a business. If it did, don’t you think someone would have figured it out by now? I can match my opponent in the business world. From multi-million dollar projects on down. From working with every branch of the U.S. military to multinational corporations, I have business experience; it doesn’t translate to government.”

What are the two biggest challenges facing East County and how would you address them?

Janicki: “Economic growth and water rights are the two biggest challenges facing East County. Small businesses need access to high speed Internet. I will work to complete public broadband access to rural areas. Tourism also offers economic opportunities, and I will work with other organizations to increase marketing for events in East County. The water rights issue is more difficult because of court rulings. I absolutely believe there is enough water in the Skagit River basin for people, fish, and farms. I will work with various stakeholders to find solutions for this issue.”

Loy: “I believe the two biggest problems facing East County are property rights and jobs. There is a movement to stop people from using their property. No building your house on your property because the government won’t allow you to drill a well. No one is representing our citizens. I will actively lead the charge to restore your rights. Jobs: I will consult with as many people as possible in East County on jobs within the first 90 days to gather ideas and goals from the local residents. I will then pursue those ideas with a passion until I’m no longer commissioner.”

Skagit County Auditor

Jeanne Youngquist (D)
Age: 69
Current employer: Auditor, Skagit County (incumbent)
In her words:



Youngquist

www.concrete-herald.com

“I want to continue my proven record of accomplishment, four distinctly different departments with notable improvements and successes. I came into office to break down walls and build bridges, assisting and enabling successes for those we serve. Those successes start between our employees and extend out from there. Successes confirmed by compliments from our citizens and the departments we serve. I work with our staff, the county, Washington auditors, the Secretary of State, Department of Licensing, Legislators, and the State Auditor, toward better service for our citizens. The following are just one of many accomplishments for each of our diverse departments:

- Recording: Identity security through the redaction of Social Security numbers and birthdates from all online-available documents.
- Vehicle and Vessel License offices: Six successful clean audits reported at the 2013 Licensing Conference.
- Elections: Ballot drop boxes receiving the highest usage in Washington.
- Accounting: Three clean audits, the first clean audits in more than 18 years.”

Cheryl Mitchell (R)
Age: 51
Current employer: MEI Document Control for Anvil Corporation at Shell Puget Sound Refinery; Skagit County Deputy Auditor from 1990 to 2006
In her words: “I believe our government/democracy succeeds when new ideas, new people, and a different voice are heard. I am confident the incumbent has performed her duties as required by state law in her last eight years in office, and I appreciate the time she has served the citizens of Skagit County, but it’s time for a new perspective, a new voice. I find myself to be unhappy with the state of our government, especially our ‘Other Washington.’ Many citizens I’ve spoken with are, and believe it is time for a change across the board—local, state, and federal. I have been described as efficient, tenacious, a go-getter, detail-oriented, a team player, and a quick learner. I think the 15 years I spent in the auditor’s office as a deputy auditor has equipped me with the tools to perform



Mitchell

See Election 2014, p. 5

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Election 2014, cont. from p. 4

the duties required. I would add fresh perspective to any and all issues the office may face.”

What are the two biggest challenges facing East County? What steps would you take to address them?

Youngquist: “The challenge of ever-changing technology seems constant. Our Election Supervisor and I are on a technology committee with the Secretary of State for the next generation of election software. Washington is a national leader in election management, but must always look forward. Our Recording Department is in need of a new programming to maintain our very important land records, the history of our Skagit County. The Auditor’s Office constantly looks for efficiencies and saving for our taxpayers. Then, I am very grateful for our very efficient, conscientious, stable, and respected staff. I look forward to serving for our citizens.”

Mitchell: “Complying with new

legislation with the available staff is always an issue. The recent economic downturn and the reduction in the Auditor’s Office staff means doing more with less. I believe the staff is very capable and I intend on being a “Working Auditor,” having each of the departments within the Auditor’s office train me to fill in. Or in the instance of a long-term illness, I would be able to fill in as needed.”

Legislative Dist. 39 State Rep. Position 2

Elizabeth Scott (R)
Age: 48
Current employer: Incumbent
In her words: “Jobs, schools, fiscal responsibility. Smaller, smarter government. High taxes and increased regulations are stifling job creation, causing unemployment and underemployment, which then cause increased poverty. Unfunded mandates from D.C. and Olympia on our schools take time from classroom learning and leave too many students unprepared



Scott

for college or the workforce. Freedom, choice, and local control are the solutions. Our neighbors expect government to live within its means instead of increasing taxes and expanding government control, which my opponent supports. My experience in both the public and the private sectors as a college instructor (10 years), farmer, tutor, and consultant gives me a wide perspective. As a freshman in the State Legislature, I have proposed common-sense solutions; two of my bills passed unanimously and were signed into law, helping daycare owners and families of fallen volunteer firefighters. My bill for student data privacy gained bipartisan support because liberty and privacy are nonpartisan issues. I fight against gun control.

Charles Jensen (D)
Age: 51
Current employer: Sedro-Woolley School District; State Street High School-Job Corps: History, Social Studies, and English teacher
In his words: “I’m running to bring real representation to the 39th District. While laws must be compatible with our



Jensen

October 2014 • Concrete Herald • 5

founding documents, it’s not a legislator’s job to interpret the Constitution. That responsibility belongs to the courts. A legislator’s job is to effectively represent our community in Olympia. I pledge to put partisanship aside and work for everyone. No extreme political agenda here. My background in the United States Air Force, the Washington Air National Guard, and as a teacher gave me the leadership skills and passion for understanding issues that will serve well in Olympia. I won’t put my agenda above common sense. For example, HB 1108 made spousal rape a felony. My opponent and I disagree on that issue. I believe the legislature did the right thing by passing that bill. My opponent was the only vote against it, using reasoning that was rejected even by her fellow Republicans. She put her political agenda above common sense, something I won’t do.

What are the two biggest challenges facing East County and how would you address them?

Scott: “Joblessness is the biggest challenge. The private sector—farming,

See Election 2014, p. 6



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Take Your Girls Out Night

Oct. 9, 2014, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
PeaceHealth United General, Sedro-Woolley
Diagnostics Imaging Lobby

Are you over 40 and still don't find the time to schedule your annual mammogram? PeaceHealth United General Medical Center invites you to bring your sisters, mothers, aunts and friends to an evening just for you and your girls.

Enjoy tasty bites, mocktails and a latte bar. Be pampered with seated massages, manicures and treats. Leave with breast exam information, preventative health tips and ideas for lowering your stress.

Questions? mmcilmoyle@peacehealth.org or 360-856-7245



PeaceHealth
United General Medical Center

Election 2014, cont. from p. 5

logging, construction, sales, etc.—struggles under high taxes and regulations; families continue tightening their belts. The Legislature, meanwhile, has doubled its spending in just 14 years, to \$80 billion for this two-year budget. I support using the Priorities of Government budget model to focus on core priorities: public safety, education, and caring for the most vulnerable. Access to water is another big concern; I support requiring Department of Ecology to run proposed rules past the Legislature first, and to reimburse property owners for lost value due to regulations and rules.”

Jensen: “Job growth and transportation are huge challenges. I will address these by working with local business leaders to ensure we’re doing all we can to attract sustainable, living-wage jobs to the area while simultaneously protecting the rural quality of life in Eastern Skagit County. Access to education goes right along with that, because education is the key to equipping folks with the skills needed to compete in a global economy.”

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ReElect

Katie Jungquist

Skagit County Treasurer

GOP

Paid for by citizens to re-elect Katie Jungquist
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Public Utility District
Commissioner 1

Albert (Al) Littlefield

Age: Retired

Current employer:

Incumbent PUD
Commissioner,
currently President of
the Board

In his words:

“My continuing goal is to maintain the level of service to which our customers are accustomed. I have always been mindful of the value of safe, affordable, quality water for my friends and family. I have the energy, expertise, and experience to continue as PUD Commissioner for District 1. Given the chance and opportunity, I will get the job done.

I am proud to say I am locally grown and locally raised! I feel I have more detailed knowledge and experience on the pressing issues facing Skagit PUD. My track record, my previous 29-plus years as PUD Commissioner, and my continuing goal to maintain the level of service to



Littlefield

which our customers are accustomed, makes me the best candidate for the job. Experienced commissioners save more time and money! I am very proud of the fact that Skagit PUD has received a clean, clear audit from the State of Washington for many years.”

Jason Easton

Age: 41

Current employer:

Self-employed

Public Affairs

Consultant

In his words:

“For me, it is giving back to the community where I have raised my family and my children are raising theirs. My love for family and my community is my motivation to make balanced choices to protect our environment, as well as our jobs, homes, businesses, and families, not just for today but for future generations.

As the former chair of the Skagit County Planning Commission, I conducted hearings and led negotiations on tough issues. As a dedicated volunteer, I have strong relationships with fellow leaders and listened to the people in our communities. Together, we have sought balanced solutions to protect our environment, homes, businesses, jobs, and families.

I have received support and endorsements from agricultural and environmental leaders, from the local Realtor and Builder associations, and from both the Skagit County Democrat and Republican parties. That is evidence that I am respected by many citizens in our region, no matter what their political persuasion.”

What are the biggest challenges facing the PUD and what steps would you take to address them?

Littlefield: “Definitely continue working to making water rights available to rural Skagit County for exempt wells. Knowing full well the value of well water—I have a well.

Installation of a 6,000,000-gallon water tank in Mount Vernon supplying water to the whole Mount Vernon corridor, improving water supply to fire hydrants, along with two water reservoirs on South Fidalgo Island.

Finishing ductile iron pipe from Judy Reservoir to Mount Vernon, providing an increase in capacity to the existing 24-inch-diameter concrete cylinder pipeline.

Bring more transparency to regular business meetings.”



Easton

Skagit County
Treasurer

Katie Jungquist

Age: 61

Current employer:

Treasurer, Skagit

County (incumbent)

In her words:

“I am seeking re-election so that I can continue to provide quality service for taxpayers. I would continue to find new ways to increase efficiency and to enhance the office’s processes and procedures through improved technology. I enjoy the opportunity to serve and assist taxpayers on a daily basis.

As County Treasurer, I play a key role in the public’s trust in the financial affairs of local government. This role requires special knowledge of the billing, collecting, and disbursing of taxes and assessments, as well as debt financing. The skills and knowledge I have gained throughout my years of experience have proven invaluable in efficiently running the Treasurer’s Office.”



Jungquist

Brad Whaley

Age: 56

Current employer:

Owner, Cafe

Burlington

In his words:

“The current treasurer had an employee embezzlement two years ago that was



Whaley

See Election 2014, p. 38

Council summary

Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings Sept. 8 and 22, as well as for a 2015 budget workshop on Sept. 22. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are posted on the town’s Web site at www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php.

Sept. 8 regular meeting

- Sergeant Chris Kading reported the August incident report volume was similar to July. He reported there have not been any major crimes and out of the 75 calls, only about four of those individuals were actually booked into jail.

- Councilmember Dave Pfeiffer asked for the average number of DUIs per month. Sergeant Kading stated that for the whole county it’s only about 30. Pfeiffer asked if it is odd for the town not to have any of those. Sergeant Kading stated that they usually let the State Patrol handle these calls.

- Sergeant Kading also reported that the Eagles Nest Motel and the areas around the motel at the east side of town are becoming better.

- Janice Marlega with Reichhardt & Ebe reported on the contract for the design phase of the Secondary Access Project. She stated that the county has reviewed it and this is the final step in the process for items that have been approved previously by the council. The contract includes the scope and budget that has already been approved by the council.

- Councilmember Jack Mears asked if property owners have been contacted yet regarding this project.

- Marlega reported on the next steps for this project. She stated that during the survey and design process, those affected property owners will be contacted so that conversations can begin. She stated the design will assist them when speaking with property owners, so they can be specific about the proposed location of the road.

- Mayor Miller also stated the design plan needs to be in place to begin these conversations with the property owners and will assist them in being able to answer specific questions from each property owner.

- David Day also stated this work includes survey work, which is necessary in determining the placement of the road and exactly

which property owners may be affected.

- Mears asked what would happen if the property owners refuse to part with any of their property.

- Day stated that usually any of right-of-way purchases that need to be made are discussed and agreements reached between the purchaser and the property owners, but in the event that an agreement cannot be reached between the town and the property owners, then the town has the option of claiming eminent domain. He stated that agreements are usually reached before that happens.

- Council voted to approve the contract between the town and Reichhardt & Ebe for the design phase of the Secondary Access Project, with Councilmember Marla Reed abstained, Mears and Pfeiffer opposed, and Mayor Miller breaking the tie with a yes vote.

- Town engineer Cody Hart with CRH Engineering reported that the town is moving forward with the Fire and Life Safety Building project. The pre-construction meeting will take place on Wed., Sept. 10 at 10 a.m.

- Hart also reported on the final presentation for the Water Spray Park Grant that took place in August. He stated that he and Clerk Treasurer Andrea Fichter believe that it went really well and they also received good feedback from the RCO project manager. He stated the town should receive notice sometime in October on those projects that have been recommended for this funding.

- Hart also reported on the possibility of the Transportation Improvement Fund Boards funding being cut and absorbed by WSDOT. He stated that if this happens, TIB funding will no longer exist. He encouraged the town to write to legislators requesting support for the TIB programs to be continued.

- Cody also reported that he and Fichter are continuing to work on the grant application for the Park and Ride project through the WSDOT

See Council, p. 38

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 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

Ghost Walk returns for 9th year

The Concrete Ghost Walk, now in its ninth year, returns in October to share stories and legends of Concrete’s past. The walks take place every Saturday night—Oct. 4, 11, 18, and 25—beginning at the historic Concrete Theatre in Concrete Town Center at 6 p.m.

New this year is a special indoor event, “Ghost Stories on the Stage,” which features many of the characters that visitors meet on the walks, held at the Concrete Theatre one night only: Thur., Oct. 30, at 7 p.m.

Ticket prices for the outdoor walks and stage event are \$10 each.

This year the Ghost Walk also has a sequel to the first book that included the event in its subject matter. In 2013, a novel titled *Curse of the Ghost Walk* was released by Mount Vernon author Peter Keim. The sequel, *Hell Comes to Concrete*, was released last month. Copies of both books are available for purchase at the Concrete Theatre.

During the Concrete Ghost Walk, participants will learn about the characters and events that have shaped this spirited community, hear from local residents (living and otherwise) and enjoy a tour

along the haunts of Main Street. Walkers should come prepared for October weather, wear sturdy shoes, and bring a flashlight if desired, as the tour includes at least one dark alley and a 45-minute walk.

The event is limited to those over the age of 13 and minors need to be accompanied by an adult. The Ghost Walk is not a “haunted house”-type activity; it requires walking, standing, listening quietly. Plan accordingly when including younger people, and please leave babies and pets at home.

The Concrete Ghost Walk is a collaborative effort by the Concrete Chamber of Commerce, Concrete Heritage Museum, *Concrete Herald*, and Concrete Theatre, with dozens of community volunteers helping to enchant visitors.

Information and tickets are available at www.concrete-wa.com. Space is limited and only those with confirmed reservations will be lucky enough to participate. For more details, contact Concrete Ghost Walk leader Valerie Stafford at chamber@concrete-wa.com.

—Valerie Stafford

Elect Lisa JANICKI (D)

For Skagit County Commissioner Position 3

LEADERSHIP
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Sports



Volleyball schedule ramps up

By Kevik Rensink, head coach

We are one month into the season, but we have only played two matches. This means two things: The girls desperately want to face someone other than their teammates, and they are going to have a lot of opportunity to do that in October. We traveled to Shoreline Christian on Sept. 18 for our first contest of the year, and the girls definitely had first game jitters, losing 25–10. In the second game, they settled down and were flowing together as a team, and what a difference that made. We played well, but lost it at the end 25–21. We then went on to lose the third set 25–15.

It was a start. We had faced our first opponent, and the girls battled. Jasmine Hopfield was 9–9 serving, while recording five assists and five kills. Muriel Troka also had four blocks.

On Sept. 20 our Junior Varsity team played in the First Annual La Conner JV Tournament, performing in six matches that day. The girls did a great job and really improved as the day went on, eventually losing in the final set of the championship game. We were very proud of their efforts and attitude.

The Varsity’s next match was against Orcas Island Sept. 26. This was our first home match, and we were very excited to play well in front of the home crowd

and to do it against a formidable opponent like Orcas. We have always competed very well with Orcas, and this match was no different. After another slow start and a 25–15 loss, the girls rallied and played the best ball of their season so far in the second game. Although we lost 28–26, the girls know what it felt like to be in that moment and to compete at the highest level. We went on to lose the third set 25–14. Cassidy Cargile was a perfect 15–15 serving and had six assists, while Troka was also perfect on the serve, going 10–10. Anjelika Koenig played an amazing back row, including 6–12 perfect passes and four digs. Ellie Grass and Taylor Aldridge played a solid front row, each recording two blocks, while Hopfield rounded out the evening with four kills and five assists. I believe in this team and that we are just getting warmed up. We have a great group of juniors and seniors and I am excited to see us improve during the next 30 days. We need to stick together, trust each other, and be the best teammates that we can be. That means putting everyone else on the team first. This is tough to do sometimes, especially when the world tells you to “look out for number one.” But, to quote the great Dick Bennett, “Our only chance to be great is together.”



Muriel Troka goes up with a teammate to get the ball back over in Orcas Island territory as the Lions took on the Vikings Sept. 26.



Cassidy Cargile eyes an incoming ball from a Viking defender during the Lions home court match against Orcas Island.

Jasmine Hopfield sets the ball during the Sept. 26 game against Orcas Island.



Head Coach Kevik Rensink talks strategy with his players early during the first match against Orcas Island on Sept. 26.

Sports schedules: nwla2bathletics.com

Good start for Concrete soccer

By Adam Woodworth, head coach

The Lions’ season is off to a bright and relaxing start. In seasons past, the Lions often have played half of their games before the end of September, but this season has given the Concrete soccer team time to recover, regroup, and work hard, making adjustments where needed. The calm start also has given the Lions an opportunity to be more involved in the community.

On Sept. 21 the soccer team participated in a 5k fundraiser in La Conner. The event was in support of Ashlyn Reinstra, a former La Conner soccer player who is in remission after being treated for two types of leukemia. This was a great way for the girls to give back to the community, and is expected to be the beginning of an annual show of their appreciation for the support they receive from the communities in the NW2B1B League.

For their season opening game against Orcas Island on Sept. 12, the Lions battled to a nil-nil draw after regulation and again were held scoreless in overtime before scoring the three opening goals in a shoot out. Following back-to-back saves from Brook Barnedt, the Lions celebrated a league win—a tough one. It was a

physical and at times sloppy game on both sides, but the Lions won both halves in possession and passing percentage, failing to find the net on 13 shots from five shooters. Some of the Lions’ best chances came from corner kicks and set pieces, a sign of good things to come. Orcas played good recover defense as the Lions pressed their back line on a dozen through balls. Barnedt had four saves in regulation. PK goals were scored by McKenna Kononen, Iris Nevin, and Chloe Stidman. Final score: Concrete 1, Orcas 0 (3–0 in shoot out).

For their second ferry trip in as many weeks, the Lions took on the Friday Harbor Wolverines on Sept. 18. Friday Harbor passed the ball well and the Lions struggled to keep possession as they fell 8–0. Friday Harbor 8, Concrete 0.

At home vs. Mount Vernon Christian on Sept. 24, the Lions struck first with a long-range shot that found the inside of the near post from Iris Nevin in the 37th minute. Despite a number of close chances from the Hurricanes, Concrete escaped the first half with a 1–0 lead.

The second half proved to be all Hurricanes. With a dozen uncontested



Iris Nevin rockets a shot on goal—and scores the first point—in the 37th minute of the Sept. 24 clash with Mount Vernon Christian.

serves into a congested box, the ’canes netted five goals in the half, handing the Lions their second league loss. The Lions fought hard, experimenting with a new formation and rotating positions in attempts to keep fresh legs. Some quality chances were thwarted by the MVC defense and goalkeeper to hold the Lions scoreless in the second half. Mount

Vernon Christian 5, Concrete 1. Concrete’s soccer schedule picks up the pace in October, with home games against Friday Harbor Oct. 7, La Conner Oct. 20, and Mount Vernon Christian again Oct. 30.

Strong September for football team

By Ron Rood, head coach

Concrete’s football Lions won three of their four games in September to get their season off to a solid start. The Lions started the season by losing a defensive struggle to La Conner 13–0. Concrete was held in check for most of the night by the defending league champs. A 92-yard drive to the Braves’ 1-yard line was stopped by La Conner on fourth down to preserve the victory. Because of the new NWB League configuration, the Lions will get another shot at the Braves later in the season, since all the league teams play twice with both games counting in the standings.

Concrete gave new league member Friday Harbor its only loss of the season the second week to jump back into league contention 20–14. Gibson Fichter followed strong line blocking to tote the pigskin 25 times for 158 yards, and scored twice in the win. Front linemen Robert Nevin, Trevor Lerma, and Tyler Hansen helped open holes for the Lion backs. Linebackers Dylan Clark and Donnie Olmstead led

a defense that held the high-scoring Wolverines in check most of the night. The Lions continued to battle foes from the San Juan Island chain by traveling to Orcas Island the following Saturday. Concrete piled up a 20–0 halftime lead, but injuries and a strong Viking passing attack made the game close in the second half for a narrower 28–22 win. Donnie Olmstead and Clay Nelson filled in for injured stalwart running back Gibson Fichter by combining for more than 200 yards between them to lead the Lion offense. Randall Beacham also returned a kickoff 93 yards for an apparent touchdown that was called back by a penalty.

Concrete finished September by traveling to Tacoma to thump the Tacoma Baptist Crusaders 47–0 in a game shortened by the state’s running clock mercy rule. The Lions scored all 47 points before halftime and swept the bench in the second half. Lion reserves played hard to preserve the shutout as Tacoma was held



Concrete senior Gibson Fichter prepares for the handoff as the Lions tangled with Friday Harbor Sept. 12. Photo by Hannah Kononen.

to fewer than 70 yards total offense. Matt Baird, Lane Ashe, Sean Geary, and Edison Bergsma led the defense by forming an imposing front wall almost as strong as the school’s name. Clay Nelson again led all rushers by scooting for 157 yards on 12

carries. Dylan Clark ran for one TD and passed for another in the win. The Lions continue their quest for a league title and a berth in the state playoffs by hosting arch rival Darrington on Fri., Oct. 3, at 7 p.m.

Volleyball team warming up

By Rob Thomas, head coach

The 2014 edition of middle school girls’ volleyball season began on Sept. 8, with 11 girls committing themselves to represent Concrete Middle School. For many of the girls, this is their first exposure to competitive volleyball and so the goals for the girls are:

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

With only seven girls eligible to play for Concrete’s first match of the season, we welcomed Mount Vernon Christian School to the elementary school gym on Sept. 23. The team, composed of a mix of seventh and eighth graders, handled the pressure of playing their first match of the season before family and friends. Mount Vernon Christian won the first game 25–12 as Concrete was only able to serve 11 times (getting seven in). The momentum shifted for the second game as Concrete was 19 of 24 in serves, with 13 aces, and secured

a 25–17 victory. In the third and decisive game, Concrete was on the shirt-end of a 15–12 score. While the players were disappointed in losing their first match of the season, they showed significant improvement as the match progressed. This season will consist of 10 matches: five at home and five away. This year’s schedule will include Mount Vernon Christian, Orcas Island, La Conner, Darrington, and, for the first time, Friday Harbor. The girls are especially excited to go to the islands (Orcas and Friday Harbor) for two of their matches. Matches are normally on Tuesday and Thursday, with the first game starting at 4 p.m. (contact the high school for a current schedule). Because there are fewer than 12 girls, the seventh and eighth graders will combine their talents for one team. The Concrete Middle School girls would love to have you come and support them throughout the season, which will end on Oct. 30.



Cassie Bridge pops the ball back over the net during a Sept. 23 game against Mt. Vernon Christian.



Haley Pressley displays excellent concentration as she dives for the ball during the Mt. Vernon Christian Hurricanes Sept. 23.



Samantha Mitchell prepares to serve during the Sept. 23 Mount Vernon Christian game at Concrete.

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Concrete Herald

Continue the cycle

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Ghost Hunters

A Birdsvie couple investigates paranormal phenomena in the Upper Skagit Valley and beyond.

Russ and Sandy Wells sit in their Birdsvie home with a laptop in front of them. Sandy, who goes by SJ, clicks on an audio file and the sound of a scuffle fills their living room. Russ’ voice is heard, startled, full of adrenaline. “Wow!” “What was it?” says his partner. “Something just pushed me up against the wall really hard!”

There’s a beat, then a gravelly voice that doesn’t belong to either of the two men, who are alone in the room. “Why don’t you get out.” Russ and SJ are paranormal investigators. The recording brings back memories of their 2008 trip to the old Montana Territorial Prison in Deer Lodge, Mont. The two were part of a small team of investigators who were looking through prison cells in teams of two—in near darkness.

“I was a few steps ahead of my partner,” said Russ. “As soon as I went into the cell, all noises stopped. The ringing in my ears went away. My ears started to load up as though they were getting ready to pop. I knew something was in the room because it got really cold. I said, ‘Geez, I sense you, buddy.’ “And right then what felt like a nightstick hit my chest. It threw me back against the wall; I still have chips of wall paint embedded in the coat I was wearing. I ended up with a long bruise across my chest. It took five people to get me to go back in there; I was done for the day.”

The ghost’s voice—what is known as electronic voice phenomenon or EVP—is just one manifestation of the spirit world that Russ and SJ have documented in their 34 years of seeking the paranormal. It’s been a lifelong interest for both of them. “I had a lot of weird experiences as a kid in the house we lived in,” said SJ, who is about to publish a new book, *Haunted*—her life story.

The couple met on a Greyhound bus in 1980 and investigated their first location together: their own apartment. “A man had fallen off the roof and died; his spirit was hanging around,” said SJ.

Haunted Concrete The Wellses found their way to the Upper Skagit Valley and have since investigated most of the buildings in Concrete Town Center—and they have stories about almost every one. “Concrete Theatre is one of our top 10 creepy places,” said SJ of the town’s venerable movie house, which they’ve investigated about four times. “Around 2008 we picked up on a spirit named Raymond Collier. Every time you went up on the stage, something weird would happen—a creepy feeling that someone was standing next to you. And downstairs, where the dressing rooms used to be, was amazingly creepy.”

During one investigation of the theater, a neighbor woman brought her dog into the building. The dog ran up onto the stage, but refused to go into the basement. “That dog ran off the stage with its tail between its legs,” said SJ. It gets much worse. Another time, when the investigators were standing outside the theater with that same woman and her dog before an investigation, SJ unknowingly turned on her voice recorder. When they listened to it later, “in the middle of our conversation, we heard a man’s voice saying, ‘Kill ... kill ... I will kill you ... I will kill the dog ...’

“Nobody was around but us ladies,” said SJ. Russ and SJ’s stories are numerous and spine-tingling. They tell of a tall, dark creature that they felt was hunting them above Lake Shannon and a huge, dog-like animal that followed them across Henry Thompson bridge into downtown Concrete—then disappeared. They’ve poked around Cascade Supply and Columbia Bank, Hi. Lo. Country Bar & Grill, and Baker River Trading Post. And The Hub, after owner Eldon Massingale asked them to investigate “because weird things were happening at the pool table,” said SJ. “Balls neatly racked when he left at night, and all over the table the next day. In the security cameras, you’d see the balls moving by themselves.”

SJ has an apparition photo of a man who used to frequent the bar: Mac. In the photo, Mac is standing halfway into the pool table—you know, like a ghost would.

Back in the game The Wellses are easing back into paranormal investigations under the name F.O.G. (Friends of Ghosts) Paranormal after a 2011 car accident sidelined Russ for a while. Both 56, they have quite a few years of ghost-hunting left in them. They say some 60 percent of calls to them end up being misunderstandings, misperceptions, or overactive imaginations, but they’re ready to leap into action when a report of spirit activity turns out to be valid.

“We try to counsel them and diminish



Russ Wells took this photo simply to catalog a recent cleanup effort in the Timberline Park community in Birdsvie. He ended up capturing an apparition standing to the right of the wooden post. Photo by Russ Wells.

some of their fears about the unknown. We stay in contact with them until we feel they can fly on their own, after we’ve explained to them how they can live with spirits without having to be scared of them, and the whole concept of not every ghost being a demon,” said SJ. The Wellses won’t have a shortage of paranormal activity anytime soon. “They follow us around, I think,” said Russ.

—J. K. M.

Halloween Kiddies Parade

Friday October 31, 2014

4 pm

Downtown Trick or Treating

Line up at Wells Fargo Bank

BUSINESS DRESS-UP CONTEST

JUDGING STARTS AT NOON



Farm to School program growing

In September, Concrete School District made a big step toward fresher school menus by launching its Farm to School program in the cafeterias.

The district, in partnership with United General District 304, is a USDA Farm to School Planning Grant recipient. The grant has provided staff time to source food from local farmers and plan menus that incorporate these locally grown fruits and vegetables.

Each month throughout the school year, the lunch menus will feature a different fruit or vegetable—the “Harvest of the Month” item—which will be offered as samples on Taste Test Tuesday (the last Tuesday of each month), and as part of school lunch on Harvest of the Month day (the last Thursday of each month).

On September’s Taste Test Tuesday salad greens were offered in the form of a Kale-idoscope Salad; on Harvest of the Month day, mixed salad greens were served with an assortment of scratch-made dressings prepared by the district food services team.

The district is purchasing local foods directly from Blue Heron Farm in Rockport and Jericho Farm in Birdview, and from the Puget Sound Food Hub at Bow Hill. The Puget Sound Food Hub is a network of farms and partners operating cooperatively to market, aggregate, and distribute locally produced food from farms to restaurants, hospitals, schools, grocery stores, universities, and more.

Concrete Farm to School will kick off National Farm to School Month in October by participating in Taste Washington Day on Oct. 1, when schools around the state will present menus that are composed entirely of locally produced food. Students who visited Cascadian Farm last spring to plant crops will be

returning in the last week of October to harvest pumpkins, which will be featured in a soup at the Annual Pumpkin Run at Concrete Elementary on October 30.

—Rachel Sacco



Kelsey Martin, 7, gives a thumbs-up to her Kale-idoscope Salad during Taste Test Tuesday at Concrete Elementary School in September. Submitted photo.

PTO update

From Oct. 20 to 24, Concrete Elementary PTO will hold a coin drive fundraiser. Send in your loose change to raise funds for assemblies and yearbooks. There will be a prize for the class that raises the most money!

On Oct. 30 from 5 to 6:30 p.m., Concrete Elementary will hold its annual Pumpkin Run. Bring your pumpkin and run for a chance to win another. This year you will have the option to carve or paint your pumpkin, or just do it at home. Also offered this year is a free dinner provided by the CHOPS program from United General Hospital District 304.

Watch for the PTO newsletter for more details in both events.

—Sheena Daniels

YD update

I love the excitement of a new school year because it brings with it a summer’s worth of the built-up anticipation for Youth Dynamics. I am constantly hearing “When is YD starting?” from students and parents. I love that, and we can’t wait to get this train rolling!

Our first Monday night meeting wasn’t even on a Monday. We started on a Tuesday this year for the first time ever. Weird? I know. It just so happens that the Area Director for Concrete Youth Dynamics is also the volleyball coach for Concrete High School, who also happens to have had a home match on the last Monday in September. This is usually the first Monday for YD, but this year it was held on Tue., Sept. 30, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. There was food, games, and a great time together as we kicked off the year for YD.

Our staff (my wife Marta, Mary Janda, Zack Allard, Paul Rider, Sarah Spaeth, Kellen Russell, and I) are very excited about getting to meet new students, reacquaint with old students, and all of the adventures that lie ahead. We generally meet every Monday, somewhere in town, doing something fun, active, and positive for our local teens here in Concrete.

We also take high school students on different types of adventure trips through the school year and into next summer. If you are a high school student, we would love to see you at our weekly YD meeting and on our awesome retreats. If you are the parent of a teenager, encourage your son or daughter to get involved.

A former student just told me this summer that his “favorite high school memories came from being involved in Youth Dynamics.” That’s saying a lot, and he is not alone. A few of our staff are former students themselves and that is why they chose to come back as staff. We want to create life-long memories and have a life-changing impact on every student. So get involved. We have a lot of great activities planned, so stay tuned. Look for the monthly calendar, listen for schedule changes, and if you have any questions, please call 360.853.6815. Let’s have a great year together!

—Kevik and Marta Rensink, directors
Concrete Youth Dynamics

Flu shot clinic at SWHS

Sedro-Woolley School District is partnering with the Seattle Visiting Nurse Association (SVNA) to provide a Flu Shot Clinic at Sedro-Woolley High School.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the single best way to protect you and your family from influenza is to receive a flu shot each year.

Who: All SWSD children (4 years and older) and their families

When: Wed., Nov. 5, from 3 to 7 p.m.

Where: Sedro-Woolley High School cafeteria

Students younger than 18 will need a Patient Consent Form signed by a parent or guardian. Patient Consent Forms will be available at the clinic or at your child’s school.

All participants will be asked to provide their health insurance information (card) to receive an immunization. SVNA will electronically bill the insurance plan for your flu shot. They bill all insurance plans including Apple Health (Washington State Medicaid) plans. Flu shots are considered preventative care and are not subject to deductibles or co-pays. This means no out-of-pocket expense for participants.

For more information, contact your building nurse.

—Submitted by
Sedro-Woolley School District

Lyman Elementary cross-age tutors named

Lyman Elementary School has named its cross-age tutors for the 2014–15 school year.

The tutors will help teachers with a variety of tasks, including filing, getting papers ready to go home, and working individually with students.

The cross-age tutor program has been in place at the school for more than a decade. Interested and willing students apply for and receive permission from parents and classroom teachers for their positions.

The following students will be cross-age tutors during this school year:

Kindergarten
Cooper Daley, Lotus Blue, Linda Brothers, Traci Bates, Jasmine Hansen, Beau Mitchell, Shelby Lee, Kylie Driver, Katie Backstrom, and Laura Kester.



Concrete Elementary students were honored Sept. 26 at a “Respect Assembly,” during which children from each grade level were recognized for their interpretations of what the concept of respect means to them. Front row, from left: Atticus Peif, Isabella Martinez, Raley Collins, Takota Littlefield, Aleise Rensink, Maddy Norris, R. J. Lamkin. Second row, from left: Myah Cyr, Sadie Peif, Carlen Herz, Jena Beazer, Anja Roozen. Standing in back is Matthew Hendry-Conrad.

First grade
Jacob Young, Otto Tesarik, Lexi Leis, Amber Gant, Searrah Martin, Kiah Trammell, Haylee Spencer, Jacob Jepperson, and Dana Revey.

Second grade
Soren Massingale, Danielle Schulte, Ashley Lee, Jaelle Werner, Camille Skiles, Stacy Griffith, Myah Maloney, Dusty Rhodes, and Elizabeth Tramer.

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For tips on how — and when — to begin the conversation, visit: www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov



Clear Lake



Outdoor burning ban restrictions lifted Sept. 30

The outdoor burn ban was lifted for all of the unincorporated areas of Skagit County as of 8 a.m. on Tue., Sept. 30.

Anyone residing within an incorporated city or town, or within an urban growth area in Skagit County, should contact their city or town fire department for burn restriction information.

In unincorporated Skagit County (outside of urban growth areas), residents may burn a pile 4 feet by 4 feet (or smaller) of natural vegetation without a permit. Burn permits from the Skagit County Deputy Fire Marshal are required for any resident who plans to burn a larger pile.

Anyone seeking a burn permit should call the Deputy Fire Marshal at 360.419.7789 and leave a message. He will compile a list of those who request a burn permit and will contact each person in the order their request is received.

Only natural vegetation (leaves, grass, and tree trimmings) may be burned. It is never legal to burn garbage, household trash, lumber, building construction waste, or demolition debris.

For more information regarding the burn program, go to the Fire Marshal page on the Skagit County Web site, www.skagitcounty.net, or contact the Skagit County Deputy Fire Marshal at 360.419.7703.

—Submitted by
Skagit County Fire Marshal

Need help with your phone bill?

Telephone assistance program helps residents “stay connected.”

OLYMPIA — Gov. Jay Inslee declared Sept. 8–14 Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP) Awareness Week to promote the telephone rate discounts that help residents maintain access to basic phone service.

The week was part of a national effort sponsored by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the Federal Communications Commission, and the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates to promote awareness of telephone discounts across the country.

Residents who participate in or are eligible for certain public-assistance programs, such as Food Assistance or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families from the state Department of Social and Health Services, are entitled to receive local telephone service for about \$8 per month plus taxes and fees. WTAP also provides a reduced or no-cost service installation for qualifying households that currently do not have telephone service.

To apply for WTAP benefits contact your local landline telephone company and provide your DSHS client identification number.

For more information on the WTAP program, contact DSHS at 800.737.0617 or go to www.dshs.wa.gov.

If you have problems signing up for WTAP benefits, call the UTC at 888.333.9882 or go to www.utc.wa.gov/consumers.

Candidates’ Forum



Join County Commissioner candidates Lisa Janicki and Kevin Loy to learn more about them and their goals for Skagit County Dist. 3.

Bring your questions.



WHEN:
Mon., Oct. 6,
7 p.m.

WHERE:
Concrete Theatre
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For more information, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail editor@concrete-herald.com

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Community Calendar



OCTOBER

4 Ninth Annual Concrete Ghost Walk; see article, p. 7 and ad, p. 3

4–5 Skagit Valley Festival of Family Farms, various locations, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; free admission; info at www.farmtour.com

5 Retirement Party for Dave and Ellamae Wright, Albert’s Red Apple, Grasmere, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

6 Candidates’ Forum, Concrete Theatre, Concrete, 7 p.m.; see notice, p. 4; info at editor@concrete-herald.com or 360.853.8213

8, 22 Heart to Heart Charity KIDS Club meets, Hamilton Town Hall, 4 to 5 p.m.; see notice, p. 22; info at hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com

11 Ninth Annual Concrete Ghost Walk; see article, p. 7 and ad, p. 3

11 Halloween Harvest Hoedown dance and potluck dinner, a KSVU and Concrete Heritage Museum benefit, Marblemount Community Hall, Marblemount; potluck dinner at 6 p.m., music starts at 7 p.m.; see notice, p. 26

11 Darrington Community Dance, Mansford Grange, Darrington, dance instruction at 6:30 p.m., dance at 7 p.m.; \$7 suggested admission donation; see notice, p. 25; info at 206.402.8646

15 Ballots mailed to Skagit County voters

18 Ninth Annual Concrete Ghost Walk; see article, p. 7 and ad, p. 3

24 Skagit Reads 2014 event: Anne Schwartz from Blue Heron Farm speaks at Upper Skagit Library, 45770 Main St, Concrete, 5 to 6 p.m.; info at 360.853.7939

25 Heart to Heart Charity Halloween Party fundraiser, The Skateway/Skagit Event Center, 1645 S. Walnut St., Burlington; 5 to 6:30 p.m.; see notice, p. 18; info at 360.826.3818 or hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com

25 Ninth Annual Concrete Ghost Walk; see article, p. 7 and ad, p. 3

29 *Closing the Food Gap* book discussion led by Cora Thomas, 5b’s Bakery & Eatery, 45597 Main St., Concrete, 1 to 2 p.m.; info at 360.853.7939

30 Concrete Elementary Pumpkin Run, 5 to 6:30, Concrete Elementary School; see notice, p. 12

30 Ninth Annual Concrete Ghost Walk; see article, p. 7 and ad, p. 3

31 Concrete Lions Club Halloween Party, Concrete K-8 School gymnasium, 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER

1 Pearls for My Girls Luncheon and Purse Auction fundraiser in honor of Charlene Smith Ovenell, Skagit Lodge and Casino, 11 a.m.; admission \$25 per ticket or \$200 for table of eight; see notice, p. 17; info and ticket purchase at 360.856.7245

1 Darrington Community Dance, Mansford Grange, Darrington, dance instruction at 6:30 p.m., dance at 7 p.m.; \$7 suggested admission donation; see notice, p. 25; info at 206.402.8646

4 General Election day; ballots must be postmarked or placed in a drop box by 8 p.m. today

5 Flu Shot Clinic, Sedro-Woolley High School cafeteria, 3 to 7 p.m.; see notice, p. 13

5 “A Place at the Table” screens at Concrete Theatre, 7 p.m.; info at 360.853.7939

7–8 Hope Heals Women’s Conference, Sedro-Woolley High School auditorium, 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 7, 9 a.m. to noon on Nov. 8; see notice, p. 17 and ad, p. 21; info at 360.853.3066 or Facebook: search Women HAND in Hand

27 Sedro-Woolley Community Thanksgiving Dinner, Cascade Middle School, 905 McGarigle Rd., Sedro-Woolley, 12:30 to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 17; info or to volunteer, call 360.855.0231

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

Community meetings

Community Chat, an informal conversation about projects in Darrington, meets the second Fri. of each month at 8 a.m., at Mountain Loop Books and Coffee, 1085 Darrington St., Darrington. 360.436.2167

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

Concrete Chamber of Commerce meets the second Thur. of each month at 8 a.m. Meetings usually are held at Concrete Center 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 concreteheritagemuseum@gmail.com

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

Concrete 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 Board will hold a work session on Oct. 27, at 6 p.m. in the high school Commons. 360.853.8141.

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

Darrington Area Business Assn (DABA) meets the third Wed. of each month, 7 p.m., at Cascade Senior Center, 1115 Darrington St., Darrington. 360.436.2167.

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

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

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 station info and host training, second Wed. of each month at Portable B behind Concrete K-8 School, 1 to 4 p.m. Call 360.416.7001 to confirm appointment.

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

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

Sedro-Woolley High School Alumni Association meets the third Wed. of each month, at 1 p.m., at the Sedro-Woolley Senior Center. 360.424.7243

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 will meet for regular meetings on Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. in the Support Services Building, and on Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. at Mary Purcell Elementary School. 360.855.3500 or kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us.

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


A Proven Record!!

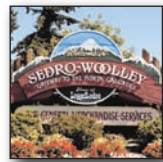
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- Great service by all staff in each department even with the loss of 4 staff due to a 20% reduction in budget.

Democrat





Sedro-Woolley



Sedro-Woolley photographer Andy Porter snapped this view from North Cascades National Park. It was selected from among 5,000 entries across the U.S. and is now displayed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., as part of an exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. *Photo by Andy Porter.*

S-W photographer showcased in Smithsonian Institution

Sedro-Woolley photographer Andy Porter has good reason to smile: One of his photographs is displayed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., as part of an exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

Porter snapped the photo in North Cascades National Park.

The Wilderness Act was signed into law by President Johnson on Sept. 3, 1964. The landmark bill gave protection to millions of acres of public land. To celebrate the Wilderness Act's anniversary, the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History opened the photography exhibition "Wilderness Forever: 50 Years of Protecting America's Wild Places," which runs through summer 2015.

Selected by a jury from more than 5,000 entries across the country, the award-winning images, captured by professional, student, and amateur photographers, reveal a never-before-seen America: wild, untouched, and free.

To see the images online, go to <http://wilderness.smithsonian.com/visit-exhibit>.

To see more of Porter's photographs of Skagit County, go to www.northwesternimages.com.

—J. K. M.

O'Neill to headline women's event

Model/actress/author Jennifer O'Neill will be the featured guest speaker at a women's event slated for November.

Hosted by Upper Valley organization Women HAND in Hand, the two-day Hope Heals Women's Conference will be held Fri., Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m. and Sat., Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. to noon at Sedro-Woolley High School Auditorium.

Admission is \$20 for both days or \$15 for one day. Tickets will be on sale at Tree of Life Christian Bookstore in Burlington, Alleluiah Business Systems in Sedro-Woolley, and online through Eventbrite.

With 35-plus feature films, as well as numerous television movies and series to her credit, O'Neill is still sought after in the acting world.

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, O'Neill's career began in New York City, where she entered international modeling at 15. At 19 she was accepted into the Neighborhood Playhouse—New York's esteemed school of acting.

After her cinematic debut opposite John Wayne in "Rio Lobo," O'Neill accepted a role in "Summer of '42," which was to become a classic. More success on the large and small screens followed.

O'Neill has been a constant worker for charitable causes, having served as chair for the American Cancer Society, as well as a staunch supporter of the Retinitis Pigmentosa Foundation, the ASPCA, and Guiding Eyes for the Blind. She is the International Spokesperson for the Silent No More Awareness Campaign, and hosted a one-hour special for World Vision shot in Africa, discussing the HIV epidemic. Currently, Jennifer shares her love of horses with her Hillenglade's Equine-Assisted Hope and Healing and HHH Volunteer Programs Gatherings in Nashville, in support of our U.S. military and their families.

O'Neill recently wrote her autobiography, *CoverStory*, and her latest novels, *All That Glitters* and *Hillenglade*. Her published works include *From Fallen to Forgiven*, *You're Not Alone* (with healing workbooks and videos), *Surviving Myself*, and the *Circle of Friends ... Just Off Main* fiction series. Her films "Hillenglade" and "Caught In a Lie" are in pre-production and due for 2014 release.



O'Neill

Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County seeks Youth of the Year

Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County is looking for members ages 14 to 18 to participate in its Youth of the Year program.

Club winners earn scholarship money with a chance to compete at the state level, with the possibility of moving on to the regional and national competitions.

The program begins in the fall with club staff mentoring participating club members in essay preparation and development, and continues with participants gaining important experience in interview and public speaking skills.

Club winners are announced at events in November and December and earn at least \$250 in scholarships. Additional program elements, including a weekend retreat, ensure that the youth receive preparation and skills that will serve them throughout their lives. In January, four Skagit County Club winners will participate in an experience that will result in one being named Youth of the Year for Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County, earning at least \$500 toward their post-secondary education and representing the organization at the Washington State event in March.

The process continues at the state level, where winners earn an additional \$2,500 in scholarships and move on to the regional and national stages. The National Youth of the Year receives up to an additional \$50,000 in scholarships and is awarded the honor by the President of the United States. Being named Youth of the Year is the highest honor a club member can achieve.

In addition, a Junior Youth of the Year competition will be held. This gives younger youth, ages 10–13, an opportunity to practice and learn about the larger competition. The countywide winner will get to travel the State Youth of the Year Competition.

Each club will have a dinner, starting in November, where each club winner will be judged and selected. Tickets to the dinner will be available for sale through each club. Any Sedro-Woolley club member who is interested in judging the competition, wants tickets, or would like to learn more should contact Director John Garman at 360.856.1830, ext. 43 or jgarman@skagitclubs.org.

Fundraiser aims to support those battling cancer

A fundraiser in honor of Charlene Smith Ovenell—who at age 54 lost her third bout with cancer on Memorial Day weekend—is planned for Nov. 1.

Pearls for My Girls Luncheon and Purse Auction will be held that day at the Skagit Lodge and Casino, at 11 a.m.

"She had wanted a blingy luncheon for women, so we will honor her with one," said Ovenell's close friend Brenda Suryan Sem.

The event will include a silent purse auction, a live auction, a mystery purse table, and other fun activities. Many items will be loaded with gift certificates,

jewelry, and other items.

All proceeds from the event will go to a resource room dedicated to Ovenell within the North Puget Cancer Center at PeaceHealth United to provide wigs, scarves, and books and other literature for individuals who are fighting cancer.

Admission is \$25 per ticket or \$200 for a table for eight. To purchase tickets, call 360.856.7245.



Ovenell

Save the date

The annual Sedro-Woolley Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held at Cascade Middle School, 905 McGarigle Road, Sedro-Woolley, on Thur., Nov. 27, from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

The traditional Thanksgiving feast

is free to all members of the community. Donations are accepted. For more information or to volunteer, e-mail slokkebo@yahoo.com or call 360.855.0231.

Organizers are also taking orders for free home delivery. Call 360.855.1531 or 360.855.1841. Orders will be accepted through Wed., Nov. 19.

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Lyman



Council summary

The Lyman Town Council held regular monthly meetings on Aug. 12 and Sept. 9. Following is a summary of those meetings. Complete minutes for every council meeting are posted in the hall by the front door of Lyman Town Hall.

Aug. 12 regular meeting

- Mayor’s Report: The bench in memory of Louie Parker is finished and has been picked up. It will be placed by the other bench in the park.
- The TIB bid for the sidewalk on Prevedell was submitted.
- Water loss report for July was 18 percent.
- The SEPA review went out to all agencies that would require one. Skagit County Health Dept. sent a few comments. The MDNS will be sent out on Aug. 25; the end date is Sept. 7.
- Citizen Comments: Joan Parker asked if the bush on the left side of Prevedell at the stop sign could be trimmed. Mayor Heinzman said she would have Casey talk to the owner and trim the bush back.

Sept. 9 regular meeting

- The Arts Council of Sedro-Woolley came to Lyman and painted in several locations in town. Arlene Brenner painted two pictures of the Minkler Mansion/Town Hall. Tamara Brockman and Corey Jenson came to the meeting to present the paintings to the mayor and council.
- Water loss report for August was 20 percent.
- CIAW sent a letter informing the mayor and council that all elected officials and recordkeepers must have training in Open Public Meetings Act, and Public Records. It must be done by new elected officials within

90 days of their appointment, and all others must have it completed by Dec. 31, 2014.

- The Back to school Parade will be Tue., Sept. 16, at 6 p.m. Mike Swanson, Mayor Heinzman, and Debbie Boyd volunteered to help with traffic.
- Council voted to approve Resolution 2014–6, which changes CIAW’s fiscal year.
- The 2-inch meter on the Goodpaster property is not calibrated correctly. It shows significantly less water going through it than the five residential meters. A new meter will be calibrated to match the residential meters for flow. The difference in the meters could be some of the unaccounted-for water loss.
- Three bids for heat in the Town Hall were submitted for council. Handy’s Heating had a five-year warranty, which includes parts and labor. Council discussed the cost and that one-third of the cost will be reimbursed to the town via the Heritage Capital Grant. Council may consider doing an interfund loan to pay for the work. Council voted to accept the bid from Handy’s Heating.
- Citizen Comments: Mr. Saunders asked who the new water mandatory operator is. Mayor Heinzman told him Water and Wastewater Services; Kelly Winn is the owner. Saunders asked if Winn is in town every day to do the chlorine residuals. Mayor Heinzman said he wasn’t here every day, but they are training Casey Boyd to do the daily testing. Boyd is being trained by Ryan. Saunders asked if he could meet Winn. Mayor Heinzman said yes and said that he could possibly be at the next council meeting and Saunders could ask any questions of him then.

—Compiled from staff notes

Mobile science lab back at Lyman Elementary

The Seattle Children’s Hospital Science Adventure Lab will return to Lyman Elementary on Oct. 14. A hands-on learning experience for

grades 4–6, the custom-built, 45-foot mobile science lab is filled with research-grade equipment and travels to schools across the state to provide innovative, hands-on science curriculum to students. All students who wish to participate in the lab must wear long pants and closed-toe shoes on Oct. 14.

Charity plans holiday events, outreach

Lyman-based Heart to Heart Charity is gearing up for the holiday season, starting with an October event that is more than just a party.

Halloween fundraiser

The charity will host its third annual Halloween Party Fundraiser on Sat., Oct. 25, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at The Skateway/ Skagit Event Center, 1645 S. Walnut St., Burlington for children of all ages and their families.

The party is a fundraiser for the charity’s Christmas Angel Tree, which benefits children of low-income families. Look for game booths, a pumpkin painting table, a raffle, a cake walk, a photo booth, and other activities. Children can receive small prizes and candy at different booths and take home a pumpkin they decorate.

Admission is \$2 per child, which includes all booths, pumpkin painting, and their entry to participate in the cake walk. Adults wishing to participate in the cake walk or other games can purchase a ticket for \$1. Children and adults are encouraged to wear costumes.

The charity needs donations of wrapped, individual candy and corn stalks, pumpkins, etc., for decorations, items for the raffle prize table, and volunteers (age 12 and older). Businesses and individuals that donate to the raffle will be recognized on the charity’s Facebook page and at the event. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5 and can be bought before the event from the charity or any participating KIDS Club member or at the event. Donations can be dropped off at 720 Puget Ave., Ste. B, Sedro-Woolley

in the donation bin in the hall behind the partition Mon. through Fri. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by calling 360.826.3818 or e-mailing hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com for other arrangements.

Christmas Angel Tree

The charity is seeking people who will shop for children of low-income families. Those wishing to help can choose angel tags online at www.facebook.com/lymanangeltree or by calling 360.826.3818 for more information.

Tags will give nonidentifying information on children whose families could use assistance this year with the added expense of Christmas. Tags will include information about each child. Choose the tags of your choice off the list and post your tag choices online on the Facebook page. Return your unwrapped gifts with your tag number by Dec. 5 to one of the drop-off locations. All presents must be unwrapped. Wrapping paper, socks, hats/mittens, and toys are also welcome donations.

Families are available for “adoption.” The charity also intends to provide each child with a locally made hat, scarf, mittens, pajamas, and socks in addition to their gifts. Personal hygiene items and food also are on the list. These donations can be left in the donation bin mentioned above.

Donations of cash or checks are greatly appreciated to help with additional needed items. Checks need to be made payable to Heart to Heart Charity and can be mailed to Heart to Heart Charity, P.O. Box 1372, Lyman, WA 98263.

For more information about the charity and upcoming events, go to www.facebook.com/hearttoheartcharity.

—Tammie Werner

Lyman Library tales

The trees are changing color, the leaves are covering the ground on the trail, and days are cooler—so are nights. It’s safe to say fall is here and winter will be right behind. It’s time to come in and check out the shelves full of jigsaw puzzles. We have some very beautiful ones and some really, really hard ones. How about nothing but golf balls or a pile of crayons?

I don’t even think about doing those, but I am sure there are some of you who are up to the challenge.

The short days and long nights will be great for curling up with a good book or two or three. We have all kinds: scary ones, funny ones, and intriguing ones. Come browse and maybe find a new author to try.

Looking forward to see you.

—Elaine Kohler



Day Creek



Community notes

Davis Slough bridge project update

Portable traffic lights are installed to keep the road open at one traffic lane at mile marker 14.

The speed limit is 25 mph, and the road is open to legal load weight restrictions allowances for an 11-foot width.

Project Manager is Jennifer Swanson, 360.336.9400.

Tiger Construction contact is Derek Isenhardt, 360.966.7252.

Landslide update

Day Creek community members are still collecting monetary donations and passing them to the Darrington Assembly of God Church.

To be a part of this effort, call Kathy Henderson at 360.826.3581 or mail your donation, payable to Day Creek Chapel (write “Darrington/Oso” on memo line), to:

Day Creek Chapel
31438 S. Skagit Hwy.
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Any women’s ministry group that wants to be involved with **Women HAND in Hand** is encouraged to contact any one of the following:

Sylvia Miles	360.826.3067
Sharon Herring	360.661.5037
Bonnie Lintz	360.856.1385
Sue Walden	360.826.3944
Kathy Henderson	360.826.3581

Donna Pulver and Kathy Henderson, co-directors of **Kingdom Builders**, are reaching out to the Day Creek community by working with married couples who are seeking counseling help. Soon they’ll be back on the road. Along with traveling the

roads of Day Creek, meeting community members, and gathering information, they will be available to the community for hospital visits and crisis calls. For more information, call 360.826.3003, 360.826.3581, or 360.826.3822.

The **Day Creek Walkie Talkies** are up and at ’em. Every day around 7 a.m., there is a group walking the streets of Day Creek. When you see them, wave or honk—or better yet, join them. For more information, call 360.826.4375.

Day Creek Book Club meets at Cedar Springs Lodge on Barben Rd. on the third Monday of each month. Club members plan to read the following books this year:

- The Dog Stars*, by Peter Heller
- Wild*, by Cheryl Strayed
- Persuasion*, by Jane Austen
- Steering by Starlight*, by Martha Beck

For more information, call 360.661.0247.

Garden dirt

Our resident gardener Donna Pulver offers these tips for October:

- Everyone should be finishing up with the vegetable gardens, but this is also gathering time for the wreaths you’d like to make. Cut leaves, stems, flowers, mostly browns, burgundy, creams, and dark green, with red or white edges. Hang them to dry. In no time you’ll have items to put together.
- I planted my cold frame two weeks ago and already there is spinach, lettuce, onions, beets, and carrots about 2 inches tall.
- Now is the time to start winterizing all garden areas. Bring in fuchsias, begonias, and geraniums. Take cuttings and graft.
- Repot and groom houseplants.
- Fall is a great time to add compost to your gardens.
- Have a happy and colorful fall!

We are looking for ideas for the Day Creek community—fun events and fundraisers—to support the fire hall and get to know the neighbors. If you have an idea, call Donna Pulver 360.826.3003 or Kathy Henderson at 360.826.3581.

—Kathy Henderson



HISTORY CORNER

The 1907 photo above shows the Day Creek Lumber Co. ferry carrying horse-drawn wagons to haul lumber across the Skagit River at Lyman. In our early history, ferries were the only way to make crossings—other than small water vessels—with one ferry being recorded as early as 1881. The landing locations changed over the years because of flooding.

Photo courtesy of Clear Lake Historical Association.

—Deanna Ammons, historian
Clear Lake and Day Creek

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

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Above: Workers smooth the first level of a retaining wall along the west edge of the Fire and Life Safety Building project in Concrete Sept. 25. The pink string shows the level to which the wall will be built. The site will then be filled with gravel to develop a base on which the building can be constructed. The facility should be complete by the end of March.



Right: Mary Pat Larsen shows off a fine selection of homegrown honey at the Marblemount Community Market Sept. 14. *Photo by Christie Fairchild.*

September in pictures



Above: Love was in the air Sept. 13, when out-of-towners Zach Gilmor and his girlfriend, Wendy, showed up at Concrete Theatre for a movie. The thing is, it was all an elaborate ploy by Zach: There was no movie, only a short video he'd prepared to ask Wendy to marry him. The illusion came complete with fake theater patrons all around them. Wendy said yes. It was a good day for Zach. *Photo by Taleah Werda.*



Above: The bad guys get hauled off in the final reenactment of the great bank robbery of 1914 during Founders' Day in Sedro-Woolley Sept. 13.

Left: Sedro-Woolley Museum President Carolyn Freeman channels a saloon gal during the reenactment.



Left: Gunsmoke fills the air as the bank robbers make their move. This year's reenactment ended the event's 20-year run. *Photos by Judy Johnson.*



Hope Heals Women's Conference



Jennifer O'Neill

November 7th & 8th
6:30 pm / 9 am - 12 pm
S-W High School
1235 S. 3rd Street
Sedro-Woolley, WA

Behind the stardom as an actress and Cover Girl model, Jennifer O'Neill lived a roller coaster life filled with inner turmoil. Sharing openly, she invites you to join the hope-filled spiritual journey of forgiveness & healing.

TICKET INFO:
Find Women HAND in Hand
on Facebook
or **Eventbrite**
to purchase tickets!

Cost:
\$15 for either Fri. or Sat.
or \$20 for both!
All Women 12+ are invited!

For further Info
Call Deborah at 360-853-3066

ASL Interpreting by request





Hamilton



Council summary

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

- Mayor Joan Cromley discussed the update of the marijuana ordinance. Resident Tim Morrison requested that the council further define “facility” in terms of building or canopy. Councilmember Betlem will look into the issue. Council voted to table the ordinance until the next meeting.
- Mayor Cromley talked about Ordinance 311. This Ordinance amends Ordinance 142 to lower the holding period for stray dogs from five days to 72 hours to fit with the contract with the Humane Society of Skagit Valley, which has been signed. Council voted to accept Ordinance 311.
- Mayor Cromley and Cas Hancock explained current problems with

- the water chlorinators and chlorine pumps. New pumps were requested. Council voted to accept a budget of \$3,000 to have the pumps replaced.
- Mayor Cromley asked if there were any questions on the updated budget position. There were none.
- Water Department:** Cas Hancock stated that this month the town is down to 1 percent water loss.
- Fire Department:** Fire Chief Bates announced that the pump test on the truck has been done. Councilmember Bates talked about needing a new ambulance and that we may be able to get a surplus one.
- Street Department:** Tom Selin is still working on the street signs.
- Public Comments:** Mike Norris from Janicki Logging requested permission for the bookkeeping to be visited on the water usage. Rob Janicki commented that he will be working with Margaret Fleek and Jim Sherwood to investigate uses for the

Unimin property, which he purchased. He will bring suggestions to the council for public input. Resident Matt Coker wanted an update on the signage for South St.

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KIDS Club events in Hamilton

Heart to Heart Charity’s KIDS Club will meet Wednesdays, Oct. 8 and 22, at the Hamilton Town Hall from 4 to 5 p.m. Kids may ride the school bus to the meeting with a signed note from their parents.

The group will make fun crafts and enjoy snacks. Admission is free for children 4 years and older (younger with a parent/guardian present) and all are welcome.

KIDS Club leader Tammy Roberts welcomes all children, so kids are encouraged to invite their friends.

For more information, send an e-mail to hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com.

—Tammie Werner

Concrete Herald

Don’t be shy



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

Contact:
Jason Miller, editor
360.853.8213

editor@concrete-herald.com

Concrete Herald



Rockport



PIONEERING TODAY

Apple pie filling

By Melissa K. Norris

Fall is here. Does it make anyone else want to twirl around and listen to the rustle of dried leaves?

One of my favorite things about fall is apples. You thought I was going to say pumpkin, didn’t you? Well that’s another article; stay tuned. But seriously, the pioneers didn’t have stores that stock almost all varieties of vegetables and fruits all year long. If they didn’t preserve some of the harvest for eating later, they only got to enjoy the fruit for a season.

And fall meant a plethora of apples. I ordered 75 pounds to make sure I’d have plenty to eat and preserve. How am I using up those apples? So glad you asked.

Of course, I’m canning up applesauce. Applesauce is a great snack, on top of pancakes and biscuits, and to use in place of oils and fats when baking. Applesauce also can be spread on a tray and dehydrated to make fruit leather for snacks and lunch boxes.

Next up is apple pie filling. Apple pie should be eaten all year long. But I’m here to tell you that in the middle of winter, those apple prices can put a damper on your pie-baking cheer. When you’re in a hurry because of the holidays, there’s nothing easier than opening up a jar of homemade pie filling to bake a pie in a jiffy.

Here’s my recipe for apple pie filling, adapted from *Ball Complete Book of Home Preserving*:

- 12 cups sliced, peeled, and cored apples
- 2-3/4 cups raw sugar
- 3/4 cup ClearJel, 1 lb. (This is available online, I haven’t found it in stores)
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger
- 3/4 cups water
- 1/2 cup lemon juice

Place peeled, cored, and sliced apples in boiling water for one minute, working with six cups of apples at a time.



John Koenig of Rockport-based John’s Guide Service accepts a \$1,000 donation from members of the Burlington Chapter of Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association. The money will be used to fund Camp Stillwater, a retreat on Koenig’s property that hosts Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation trips for combat-wounded veterans. Koenig is a WWIA Associate, Pro-Staff, and Pacific Northwest Field Coordinator. *Submitted photo.*

Blanching keeps apples from becoming mushy when canning. With a slotted spoon, place apples in a bowl and cover.

In a large stainless steel pot, combine sugar, ClearJel, spices, and water. Stirring constantly, bring to a boil over medium-high heat (don’t use a hard boil), and cook until it thickens and bubbles. Add lemon juice and boil for one minute, constantly stirring. Remove from heat and fold in apples.

Ladle apple pie filling into warm, prepared jars. Wide mouth work best for this recipe, but narrow can be used. Leave an inch of headspace and run a spatula down the insides of the jars to remove air bubbles. Wipe rim with a damp clean towel. Center lid and screw bands down until tight. Place jars filled with apple pie filling in pressure canner and process at 5 lbs. of pressure for 13 minutes or in a hot water bath for 25 minutes.

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

Read Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Rockport Country Store closes

Upper Valley residents received unwelcome news in late September with the announcement that Rockport Country Store would close its doors for the foreseeable future. The store’s last day of business was Sept. 28.

Concrete Herald was unable to confirm the reason for the closure with owners Dave and Mary Hambricht.

The closure concerns many Rockport residents, for whom the store is the community’s hub.

“This will have a huge impact on Rockport, as well as travelers and fishermen at Steelhead Park,” said resident Christie Fairchild. “The Country Store is the heart of Rockport. It’s the newspaper stand, grocery store, video rental, gas station—and it’s the friendly faces of Dave, Mary, Kim, and Haley Hambricht.”

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A 1940s-style bakery in Concrete serving espresso, old-fashioned sodas, handcrafted pies and artisan breads!

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Candidates’ Forum

Join County Commissioner candidates Lisa Janicki and Kevin Loy to learn more about them and their goals for Skagit County Dist. 3.

Bring your questions.

WHEN:
Mon., Oct. 6,
7 p.m.

WHERE:
Concrete Theatre
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Darrington



Open for Business Whitehorse Saddlery

By Jentry L. Wright

Attention, horse riders, bikers, and those of you looking for gorgeous and unique leather accessories! Newly opened Whitehorse Saddlery should be your destination for top-notch, high-quality leather work.

Owner and master leather artist Brook Alongi’s attention to detail and exquisite craftsmanship are apparent in every item he makes.

“Nothing leaves our shop unless it meets our strict quality standards. Imperfect leatherwork remains imperfect forever. So 30 years from now, when you hand one of our custom items down to your grandchildren, you’ll know you are preserving our tradition of true quality,” says Brook.

After many days spent working in the SR 530 slide area, and with some encouragement from his supportive mother, Brook realized that he needed to turn his favorite “obsessive hobby” into his main occupation. He opened his shop officially on Aug. 1.

Need Brook to work his magic? You can bring in your horse or iron horse for a custom fit, or you can schedule a custom fitting at your preferred location. The minimum charge for repair is \$25 and all other creations are quoted per project. Saddles, tack, chaps, saddle bags, cuffs, holsters, studio handbags, and knife sheaths are among the extraordinary leather items you can find or have created.



Whitehorse Saddlery is located at the West end of Darrington at 1215 SR 530. Business hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information, go to the Whitehorse Saddlery Facebook page and www.whsaddlery.com (later this month).

At a glance: Whitehorse Saddlery

Where: 1215 SR 530, Darrington
Hours: Tue. – Sun., 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Phone: 425.293.3034
Web: www.whsaddlery.com
(coming this month)

Whitehorse Saddlery owner-operator Brook Alongi opened the business Aug. 21. Whitehorse Saddlery offers quality leather work and repair to anyone—not just horse riders. *Photo by Jentry L. Wright.*

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Community Dance season returns

This year’s Darrington Community Dance season will kick off with an October event. “A splendid time is guaranteed for all,” said dance organizer Matthew Rikken.

Evenings typically begin with dance instruction at 6:30 p.m., with the dance following at 7 p.m. The dances are held at Mansford Grange, Milepost 49, SR 530 (north of Darrington IGA) in Darrington.

The dances are designed to appeal to all family members, said Rikken, and the dancing itself is optional. “Bring the whole family and enjoy an evening of community music and dance,” he said.

The 2014–15 season is as follows:

- Sat., Oct. 11: The Combinations (local Darrington band)
- Sat., Nov. 1: Atlas String Band
- Sat., Dec. 6: Northern Contraband
- Sat., Jan.10: Peckin’ Out Dough, with guest caller Joanna Stodden
- Sat., Feb. 7: Heliotrope
- Sat., March 7: Cobbler
- Sat., April 4: La Famille Leger

Amy Carroll calls the dances; sound is provided by Whitehorse Musician’s Guild. Suggested donation of \$7. All proceeds to band, caller, and sound.

For more information, call 206.402.8646.

Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

October at the Darrington Library

Children’s programs

- Ready Readers Family Storytime, Wednesdays, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; 10 to 10:45 a.m.; birth to 5 years; caregiver required

Families/All ages

- Lego Club, Thursdays, Oct. 2, 16; 3 to 4 p.m.

Teen programs

- Arduino (microcomputer) Drop-In, Thur., Oct. 9, 3 to 4 p.m.

Adult programs

- Darrington Friends of the Library

WSDOT opens SR 530 to two- way traffic

After contractor crews finished paving and striping the newly reconstructed roadway, both directions of SR 530 between Oso and Darrington were opened to two-way, 50 mph traffic on SR 530.

The milestone opening marked the first time the state highway had been open to two-way traffic since the Hazel Hill slide on March 22.

Dept. of Tourism officials and area locals celebrated the occasion with a Sept. 27 walk along the roadway. The walk included a viewing of a grove of trees planted by families and survivors as a memorial to the slide victims.

Work continues

Contractor crews will work until mid-October to prepare soil near the new roadway for landscaping, finish installing

Yoga classes

Yoga Classes Beginner to Advanced. Mondays and Thursday Evenings 6pm. Wednesday morning 10:05 am. \$5/class or \$25/6. 2nd floor stairs First Baptist Church Darrington. 360.436.1267.

Caretaker available

Property/Vacation Property Caretaker available. Grounds and Housekeeping! Affordable rates and excellent references. 360.436.1267.

meeting, Wed., Oct. 1, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. DFOL is looking for new leaders; for more information, call 360.436.1600.

- *The Man in the Window*, by Jon Cohen; Wed., Oct. 1, 6:30 to 8 p.m.
- An Evening with world-class athlete and wilderness adventurer Jennifer Pharr Davis, Wed., Oct. 8, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

For more information, go to www.sno-isle.org?ID=1194 or call 360.436.1600.

—Bryan Stratton, branch manager

rocks to armor the new slope leading up to the roadway, and restore streams and wetlands affected by the project.

Motorists should expect delays of up to 10 minutes between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday to Friday as part of the final stage of work. Flaggers will occasionally direct traffic to ensure safe movement of construction equipment and vehicles in and out of the work zone.

During a six-week period in late fall, landscaping crews will plant trees and shrubs on WSDOT property adjacent to the new road.

Project updates

For more information, sign up for e-mail updates at www.wsdot.wa.gov, call the project hotline at 206.462.6359, or go to the SR 530 project Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR530/Landslide/default.htm.

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Marblemount



Revived Community Hall has a bright future

The Marblemount Community Hall (MCH) is alive and well, thanks to an influx of new members and fresh ideas. Fourteen events are now scheduled annually, including the Bald Eagle Festival in January, the Firemen's Scholarship Valentine's Ball in February, an Easter Egg Hunt in March or April, the "Blast Open the Pass" dance in May, Community Farmers Markets in June, July, August, and September; an annual MCH Salmon barbecue fundraiser and Old Timers Picnic in August; a Halloween Harvest Hoedown dance in October; a community Thanksgiving feast in November, and the Christmas Faire in December. For details, go to www.marblemountcommunityhall.org.

The hall also is submitting its application for federal 501(c)(3) status, which will allow it to apply for grant and foundation funds in the future.

In addition, hall caretakers are upgrading their emergency supplies, equipment, and training, and will again be the designated Red Cross Disaster Shelter for all residents east of Concrete and west of the Methow Valley. There's a rumor afoot that it may host some homeschool class sessions soon too.

The hall's organizing board is open to input and welcomes participation. Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the hall. Anyone is welcome to attend.

—Christie Fairchild



Scenes from an outdoor market

The season's final Community Market brought activity and local commerce to Marblemount Community Hall Sept. 14. Above, Betty Seguin (left) gives cider pressing lessons to Savannah Pomeroy and her mom. Below, Terri Wilde sells organic produce for Blue Heron Farm. *Photos by Christie Fairchild.*



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Newhalem



DNR lifts statewide burn ban

Lower temps, increased precipitation ease fire danger

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced Sept. 25 that the statewide burn ban on DNR-protected lands had been rescinded. Fire danger had been reduced by rainfall and moderating temperatures.

Restrictions set by local authorities are not affected by DNR's action. Additionally, while conditions no longer warrant a statewide burn ban, some local areas within the state remain dry. Potential burners and the public at large are reminded to check with those local authorities before burning. For local fire restrictions, go to <http://fortress.wa.gov/dnr/firedanger/burnrisk.aspx>.

In addition, industrial forest operations on DNR-protected lands remain regulated under the requirements of the Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) system. Individuals involved in forest operations will need to check for and follow restrictions as they apply to the area in which they intend to work. Information on any such restrictions can be found at www.dnr.wa.gov/recreationeducation/topics/fireburningregulations/pages/rp_fire_ifpl.aspx.aspx.

Administered by Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark, DNR is responsible for preventing and fighting wildfires on 13 million acres of private, state, and tribal-owned forestlands. DNR is the state's largest on-call fire department, with more than 1,000 employees trained and available to be dispatched to fires as needed. During fire season, this includes more than 700 DNR employees who have other permanent jobs with the agency and about 400 seasonal employees hired for firefighting duties. Additionally, adult offenders from the Department of Corrections and juvenile offenders from the Department of Social and Health Services-Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration support firefighting efforts through DNR's Correctional Camps Program.

—Submitted by DNR

NPS seeks public review on plan to restore fisher populations

The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public comments on a proposal to restore the fisher (*Pekania pennanti*) to Mount Rainier and North Cascades National Parks. The recently completed Fisher Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment for Mount Rainier National Park and North Cascades National Park Service Complex (Fisher EA) proposes the reintroduction of 80 fishers into the southwestern Cascades, including Mount Rainier National Park, over the course of two years. Similar efforts in the northwestern Cascades, including North Cascades National Park Complex, would follow a successful release to the south.

The fisher is a medium-sized carnivore in the weasel family that is native to the north and south Cascades of Washington State. Washington formally listed the fisher as endangered in 1998 because it had been considered absent from the state by the mid-1990s. Since the fisher is not expected to return to the Cascades on its own, Washington State has determined that fisher reintroduction is necessary in both the southwestern and northwestern Cascades to restore this species to its historical range in the state. Fishers would likely be brought in from central British Columbia, and monitoring would follow each reintroduction effort for at least three years.

The NPS is seeking public review and comment on the Fisher EA through Oct. 15. To see the full plan and provide comments, go to www.parkplanning.nps.gov/restorefisher. Limited physical copies are also available at several public libraries throughout the region including Burlington and Mount Vernon, and by request at noca_superintendent@nps.gov. Commenters also may submit feedback through the regular mail or by hand delivery to: Superintendent's Office, ATTN: Fisher EA, North Cascades National Park Service Complex, 810 State Route 20, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284.

—Submitted by NPR

Diablo Lake to be drawn down in October

Diablo Lake will be drawn down a total of 3 vertical feet from Oct. 1–15. Boats with trailers will be unable to launch or retrieve during these times. Kayaks, canoes, and other hand-launch vessels will still have access to the lake.

The October drawdown was preceded by one on Sept. 17, which was meant to be a "dress rehearsal" for transformer replacement at Ross power house, scheduled for fall 2015. The new transformers cannot be transported across the top of Diablo Dam because of their size and weight. A barge will access the shoreline near Colonial Creek Campground to transport them on Diablo Lake to the Ross power house.

The October drawdown is to accommodate permanent facility reconstruction on the rockslide project near the Ross power house. The rockslide occurred in March 2010 and damaged docks, launch ramps, and access to the lake. The work, scheduled to be completed in 2015, will include reconstruction of the access road to Ross power house and installation of a barge landing and boat ramp.

For more information on the slide, go to http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ross_rockslide.

—Submitted by Ken Hires
National Park Service

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Seniors

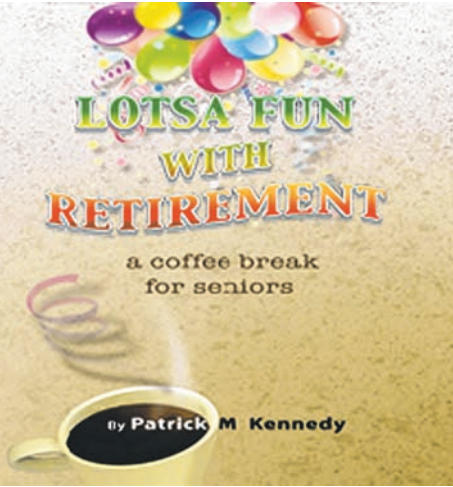


Coffee Break

This Then That
By Patrick Kennedy

This and that and then with good intention another
A path goes here and there then nearby
Hereby an option between ways or means
Follow the smoke trail in the sky above
and take cover
Steps right then a shuffle to the left with a lift
A stroll a hop a sprint then a race to there
The legs are a tangle of directions
They hit the idle then switch and go adrift
Alter the cogs from here to there
Pour a tumbler half then full then empty
some out
Look at the clock look at the clock look at the clock
Time modifies actions and it’s just not fair
This goes after that followed by then
And at what time and where influences the mood
And alters the rims and raises the hood
If only it was known where and when
Taking turns and tag and the next game is out of range
The wheel spins and elects to choose
some direction
There is no freedom or desired decision
Everything happening with change change change

Patrick M. Kennedy is the author of Lotsa Fun with Retirement. Find it at Amazon.com.



Way Back When

80 years ago
Oct. 4, 1934: Dan Griffiths, son of Archie Griffiths of Concrete, was in the Harborview county hospital in Seattle this week following a shooting accident in which he received a bullet through his foot.

He had been staying with his grandfather in Woodinville, but had been away for a few days. On his return late in the evening, he cut through the orchard to the house. His grandfather had been bothered by a bear in the orchard and hearing Dan coming along, took a shot at the moving form.

Young Griffith was struck in the foot by the shot and will lose two toes from the wound. His grandfather will not be held as the shooting was entirely an accident.

Oct. 18, 1934: A barn and garage on the farm of Ernest Wilson of Marblemount were destroyed by fire last Tuesday evening. The blaze, of unknown origin, started after the family had retired for the night and when discovered had gained such headway that it was impossible to save anything.

The barn contained about 12 tons of hay, farm tools, saddles, etc., and the garage a Ford car. All were completely destroyed. No insurance was carried on either buildings or equipment.

if tentative plans set forth this week by a group of prominent officials and citizens from Skagit, Okanogan, Chelan, and Spokane counties were to mature.

This group attended meetings in Twisp and Winthrop, and flew over portions of the proposed route for a new mountain highway, which would cost millions of dollars and is being planned as a post-war road-building project.

The tentative route for the new mountain highway, as favored by those at the Twisp and Winthrop meetings, would start at Diablo and extend up the river to the Ross dam now under construction, using the dam as a crossing over the Skagit River. The road would then extend up Ruby Creek to Granite Creek, and then to Grant’s Pass. At this point there is a mammoth granite wall between 1,000 and 1,300 feet high, which always has been a barrier in planning a highway across the mountains.

The proposal now is to build a tunnel through this wall, which would be about a mile in length. From the eastern end of this proposed tunnel, the road would extend to Early Winters Creek and then to Harts Pass, where a road already reaches from the eastern side.

The route would provide a year-round road, it was declared. The elevation at the highest point would be only about 3,200 feet, which is about the same as the Snoqualmie Pass highway.

An understanding was reached at the weekend meetings that the state highway department is to make a complete survey to determine the most feasible route through the mountains. Engineers already are working on the survey.

60 years ago
Oct. 7, 1954: The first case appealed from the police court of the Lyman speed-trap will be heard in Superior Court in Mount Vernon Monday by Judge J. A. Adams of Chelan, who is helping take care of the large court calendar.

The case on the docket will be Grant Franklin of Mount Vernon vs. the Town of Lyman. Franklin was arrested and fined by the Lyman authorities in one of the usual borderline cases, and objected to the rough talk and treatment he received because of his protest of the charge.

Oct. 21, 1954: Wayne Howard, truck driver for Dickinson & Sons logging operation in the Baker Lake district, must have had a pocket full of four-leaf clovers last Friday when he rode a runaway truck into an inside turn on the steep Burpee Hill, and then walked away from the wreck with only a few bruises and a bad shaking-up.

The loaded truck jumped out of gear about halfway down the winding hill. Howard headed the machine for the bank and made his exit through the windshield when it piled up. The logs were thrown to the left and missed crushing the cab as is usually the case. The front wheels of the truck ended up under the rear trailer wheels, sheared off completely by the impact.

Outside of a few days of being stiff and sore, Howard survived his experience in fine shape.

50 years ago
Oct. 15, 1964: Dams on the Sauk and Cascade rivers were again urged by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during a Puget Sound Water Resources Task Force

See **Way Back**, p. 29

Concrete Center October 2014

Activities

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

Mondays
10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Coffee Bar
Noon Birthday party, 10/27
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo, Cribbage, Yahtzee

Tuesdays
10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo, Cribbage

Wednesdays
10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
10:30 a.m. Advisory Board mtg., 10/8
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo, Cribbage
12:30 p.m. White elephant bingo, 10/8, 10/29

Thursdays
10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Skip Bo, Cribbage
12:30 p.m. Pinochle, 10/9, 10/23

Fridays
10 a.m. Jigsaw puzzles
Noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Dominoes, Skip Bo, Cribbage

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Way Back, cont. from p. 28

hearing in Anacortes Monday. Robert Gedney, chief of the planning branch, told the group to continue study of the dams, which he says are needed for 100 percent flood control on the Skagit River.

The listeners were told that the county has \$75 million in fine farmland and that one-third of it is in danger every time the Skagit rises to flood proportions.

It also was urged that all Skagit flood control projects be coordinated under a master plan so that there would be no overlapping of expenditures in piecemeal work. The 20 diking and irrigation districts of the county now spend \$250,000 a year on Skagit River work.

40 years ago

Oct. 3, 1974: Seattle City Light celebrated the golden anniversary of its Gorge power house and the beginning of power generation for Seattle at the utility’s Skagit River Project last Friday.

On Sept. 27, 1924, Thomas Edison sent a congratulatory telegram to Lighting Superintendent J. D. Ross, telling him that President Calvin Coolidge would energize the Gorge power house at 6:15 p.m. Pacific time.

At the appointed hour, Coolidge pressed a gold key at the White House. The key, connected to postal telegraph lines, tripped a relay in the old Yesler Substation, sending a signal through copper wires to the Gorge power house. This circuit activated governor motors on power house generators Nos. 21 and 22. Wicket gates opened, water rushed through the turbines, the generators started to turn, and power surged through transmission lines to Seattle.

President Coolidge kept his finger on the key for 30 seconds.

—Compiled from archives



Dave and Ellamae Wright

Second retirements in the community

A trio of familiar Upper Valley faces have decided to retire. Again. And this time they mean it!

Dave and Ellamae Wright left Albert’s Red Apple Market on Sept. 30, after 15 and 14 years of service, respectively, to the local grocer.

“I think it’s time for a rest,” said Ellamae, 83, who spent 25 years at Concrete High School before joining the Albert’s crew.

“I went there on a lark,” said Dave, 86, of his entry into Albert’s. “I told the boys they ought to hire an old guy, and they eventually told me to put my body where my mouth was.”

A former fuel and oil truck driver, Dave said he’ll miss the customers the most. Ellamae agrees. “They become one big family,” said Ellamae.

Long-time banker Philip Moran will retire from the Concrete branch of Columbia Bank on Oct. 15.

Moran began his banking career in 1954, with the Guaranty National Bank in Seattle. A stint in the Army followed, as well as ownership changes that ended with US Bank in charge, with Moran



Philip Moran

leading several branches. In 1994 he left US Bank and began his tenure at State Bank of Concrete. In 1997 he retired, believing he was gone for good. Then Summit Bank bought State Bank and brought Moran back. After Columbia Bank bought Summit, Moran stayed on as branch manager.

Moran will spend his retirement time tending his ranch near Rockport, and researching family.

Sunday School lesson

From distress to delight.

By Rob Thomas

Since the tragic death of actor and comedian Robin Williams in August, there has been much discussion about the subject of depression. Related to depression would be emotions such as despair, distress, discouragement, and disillusionment. For those who have experienced or are experiencing such feelings, to respond with a “Get over it” simply will not suffice.

So how do we respond? Assuming the source of such feelings is not physiological, are we left to our own devices or can we glean from someone else’s experience? In the Old Testament book of 1 Samuel, King David provides a great example on how to respond in times of despair and discouragement.

The context of 1 Samuel 30 is that for the past 16 months, David and his 600 followers have been living with their hated enemy, the Philistines. But just prior to yet another battle between the Philistines and Israelites, a battle in which David was going to fight on behalf of the Philistines, some of the military leaders question his loyalty and invite David to leave and go back to Ziklag, which is in the southern part of Israel. (The specific passage is 1 Samuel 30:1–9a.) Upon David’s return to Ziklag, instead of being warmly greeted by family and friends after a three-day journey, David and his followers find their homes burned down

and their families taken captive. The response of these seasoned warriors? The Bible says that they “wept until they had no more power to weep.” As expected, “David was greatly distressed.” What David did not expect was that the “people spoke of stoning him” because they blamed David for everything that had happened. Think about the following:

1. Homes burned
2. Possessions looted
3. Family kidnapped
4. Followers threatening to kill you.

How would you feel? David’s response is simply amazing. Instead of complaining and/or throwing a pity party (who could have blamed him?), David does three things:

1. He encouraged himself in the Lord
2. He inquired of the Lord (to pray)
3. He walked with the Lord (to obey)

The story does not specifically tell us how David encouraged himself in the Lord. Might that be because for each of us it may be different? May I suggest three possible means by which David might have encouraged himself in the Lord?

1. Through worship (Ps. 29:2)
2. Through the Word (Ps. 19:7–10)
3. Through waiting upon God (Ps. 27:14).

Written more than 300 years ago by John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim’s Progress* is considered a Christian classic. It is an

allegory of the Christian life. Bunyan wrote the book while imprisoned for 12 years for preaching the Gospel without a license. Since then, it’s been translated into more than 100 languages.

Journeying from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City, Christian (the main character) falls into a deep, miry, muddy hole called the Slough of Despond. His disloyal companion, Pliable, finds his way out and flees for home, leaving Christian to struggle alone. He cries out for rescue and his groping hands meet the strong arms of Help—the Holy Spirit—who pulls him from the slough, sets him on his feet, and wipes the mud and slime of despondency from his brow.

When we find ourselves in the slough of despair, distress, discouragement, and disillusionment, we have a choice to make. Assuming that such feelings are not physiological, I hope that we would consider the benefits of following David’s example.

Rob Thomas is pastor of Community Bible Church in Concrete.

Obituaries published in Concrete Herald

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

Worth repeating

“Truth without love is brutality, and love without truth is hypocrisy.”

“When it seems as if God is far away, remind yourself that He is near. Nearness is not a matter of geography. God is everywhere. Nearness is likeness. The more we become like the Lord, the nearer He is to us.”

“The ability to calm your soul and wait before God is one of the most difficult things in the Christian life. Our old nature is restless ... the world around us is frantically in a hurry. But a restless heart usually leads to a reckless life.”

“One thing about change hasn’t changed: It still fascinates some people, frightens others, and provides a good living for a prophetic minority.”

“Never doubt in the darkness what God has told you in the light.”

“We have little control over the circumstances of life. We can’t control the weather or the economy, and we can’t control what other people say about or do to us. There is only one area where we have control: We can rule the kingdom inside. The heart of every problem is the problem in the heart.”

“Before we can minister to others, we must permit God to minister to us.”

—Warren Wiersbe

Skagit County Sheriff’s Office

Blotter

Aug. 21

A concerned Lyman citizen called an ambulance for a drunken friend. It seems the man rarely drinks and tonight he got very intoxicated and became nearly unconscious. He started to get grumpy with firefighters as they tried to assist him. The deputy also was verbally abused; however, several sober firefighters and one calm deputy helped see him to the ER.

Aug. 30

Deputies responded to an inflatable boat theft. A caller reported his 8-foot, pontoon-style boat was taken from his property. This inflatable is very distinct and will be recognizable when found.

Sept. 1

A caller from the area of Illabot Creek near Rockport reported a suspicious

Level 3 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.

Duke, Bruce William

Age: 50
Race: W Sex: M
Height: 5’ 11”
Weight: 214
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Blue
Address: 2xx
South St., Hamilton
A Level 3 sex
offender, Duke was
convicted of third-



degree child rape in Skagit County in 1993. He also has a communication with a minor conviction in Whatcom County in 2001. His victims were young females between 14 and 16 years old who were known to him.

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

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

Source: Skagit County Sheriff

light in the hills. The person saw what appeared to be a flashlight being flashed in sequence similar to an SOS signal. The deputy attempted to return the signal and drove up to the area, but no one was located.

Sept. 3

A deputy and aid car responded to the parking lot of Loggers Landing in Concrete. Several witnesses saw a man exit his vehicle and fall face down near the gas pumps. He was seen by medics and transported to the hospital.

A male subject came into the gas station in Rockport and purchased cigarettes. He paid for the items with several older silver coins. The alert cashier called the deputies because he feels these may be stolen coins. If you are missing several older coins, please contact Deputy Marlow to identify these items.

Sept. 4

A caller from Sedro-Woolley reported a missing person. She had been camping in the Marble Creek campground and expected her male companion to return home the next day. Search and Rescue personnel from Skagit, Snohomish, and King counties have been involved in the search, along with helicopters from North Cascades National Park. On Sun., Sept. 7 the search was suspended, pending any new leads.

Sept. 5

A Washington State Patrol (WSP) trooper stopped a car near Lyman and the driver fled. A deputy was in the area and happened to see the man hiding in a cow field. He was quickly caught. Did I mention the running man was wearing a bright orange construction shirt, in a cow field, in broad daylight? He was taken into custody by the trooper.

Sept. 6

A citizen called 911 to report two patrons of the Hamilton bar standing outside the bar throwing rocks at passing cars. The two were gone when the deputy arrived.

Deputies took a theft complaint from the Mears Field area in Concrete. A man reported a battery taken from his trailer. There were few clues to go on, but the next day, the alert citizen located a flashlight nearby. This item is being processed for fingerprints.

Sept. 9

A caller from Cumberland St. in Hamilton reported two missing horses. She feels they may have been stolen, but wasn’t certain. They were located a few days later.

A caller near Grasmere Fire Hall reported an odd circumstance. The caller had been walking his dog on the trail

Sergeant’s corner

Watch for elk

By Chris Kading



Fall is closing in on our Upper Valley community, and the leaves are beginning to turn. Around dusk, there’s a chill in the air. It’s time to put away the sunscreen for the year. Animals begin their routine to get ready for winter and so do we.

It goes without saying that elk in the Upper Valley will become more active and more mobile. Several hunting seasons are opening; that means the game will change their routines like we do. Elk will again be in the lower valley areas and crossing roadways whenever they want.

The Washington Department of Transportation has installed several new signs from Fruitdale Rd. up to the Rockport area. These signs, with their flashing lights, serve as a reminder to drivers that these are high probability areas for elk to be in. We all know these

when he came across an intoxicated male lying on the trail. The man growled at the dog—yes, the man growled at the dog. A deputy checked the area for the man and he was gone. The sergeant has an idea who he is and will be looking for him.

Sept. 11

A Lyman resident arrived home and it appeared someone had been inside their residence. Several items were disturbed and food had been eaten. A bedroom window was found slightly open. A K9 deputy tracked the suspect eastbound on the rails to trails, but couldn’t locate them.

Sept. 13

A woman was bitten by a dog while waiting to go on a rafting trip near Concrete. Several people had gathered to go rafting when four small dogs approached the group. One of the small dogs bit her on the foot. The bite was minor, but the dog owner was less than cooperative. It seems this type of thing has occurred in the past. Deputies and Town of Concrete will be looking into possible charges, along with having the dog quarantined.

A caller from Willow Lane near Marblemount reported a theft. He observed a black pickup truck leaving the area, which he felt was suspicious. He later discovered an aluminum tailgate, truck rims, and other metal missing.

elk are going to wander wherever they want, but please be extra cautious while driving. If you see one elk, there usually are several others waiting in the wings on either side of the road.

If you find yourself in that unfortunate circumstance where you know you’re going to collide with an elk, here are a few tips to try to remember. Decrease your vehicle’s speed. If possible, slowly swerve around the animal, but be prepared for impact if it moves. Try not to rapidly turn your wheel and avoid the animal. You may swerve into oncoming traffic or into a ditch, both of which can be dangerous. If you end up hitting the animal, try to maintain your hand firmly on the steering wheel at the 9 and 3 position (this is a good position if your steering wheel airbag deploys). Put your head firmly against your headrest, and brace for impact. If possible, pull your vehicle to the shoulder, then call 911 to report any injuries and ask for assistance. Be safe, and watch for elk.

Chris Kading is sergeant for the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office East County Detachment in Concrete.

The truck description sounds familiar to deputies. They are following up on leads.

Sept. 14

Two neighbors in Hamilton are having issues with one man’s dogs. It seems one man has several dogs and they appear to be running loose, are rarely fed, and have started chasing neighborhood kids. The dog owner said the neighbor kicked at one of his dogs. The suspected dog owner wanted to press charges, but an independent witness said the dog was never kicked. The dog owner will be referred to Animal Control for various dog issues.

Sept. 17

Deputies are looking for a 36-year-old female near Marblemount. She and her boyfriend failed to work out a domestic-type argument. She then tried to light their trailer on fire, but thankfully it didn’t catch. She is being sought for investigation of arson.

Sept. 18

A resident on Cape Horn Rd. near Hamilton reported a burglary. She arrived home and discovered her front door kicked in. Several items including a flat screen TV were taken. Fingerprints and other evidence were gathered from the scene. There are several suspects.

Worship directory

Assembly of God

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

North Cascade Community Church

59850 SR 20, Marblemount
360.873.2504 // www.mmag.net
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. worship: 10:30 a.m.
Thur.: Men’s meeting, 8 a.m.
Thur.: Bible Study, 7 p.m.
Dave Nichols, pastor
E-mail: pastordave@fastmail.fm

Baptist

First Baptist Church
12732 Hemlock St., Clear Lake
360.856.2767

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wed.: 7 p.m.

John Batts, pastor
E-mail: pastorjohn@firstbaptistclearlake.com
Hamilton First Baptist Church
797 Hamilton Cemetery Rd. at SR 20
Office: 360.826.3307
Sunday School: 9:40 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Ron Edwards, pastor

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.
Father Martin Bourke, pastor
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
Tim Hedberg, pastor

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.
Marilyn Kallshian, pastor

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.
Tom Ross, pastor

Lutheran

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
46372 Main St., Concrete / 360.853.8814
Sun. worship: 10 a.m.
Chris Anderson, pastor

Nondenominational

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

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
Rob Thomas, pastor

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
360.853.6676 // Pastor Larry Weston

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.

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

Even though our season drew to a close at the end of September, you can **make an appointment** to visit the museum or do research in our library outside of normal times year-round; just call Robin at 360.826.3075.

Monthly meetings are year-round, the third Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at the museum at 7 p.m. and are open to the public.

Fundraising: The Bake Sale and the Yard Sale were productive. The efforts of our members and museum supporters made this possible. Fundraising needs to continue to recover our reserve funds since we are only at about 60 percent of our original goal. Thank you to all who have worked especially hard to “Raise Our Roof.”

9th Annual Concrete Ghost Walk: The

museum is once again participating in the Ghost Walk festivities. The walk will be every Saturday in October, with the first one being held on the Oct. 4, beginning at the Concrete Theatre in the Town Center at 6 pm.

Our **new home on the Internet** can be found at www.concreteheritagemuseum.org/ and our new e-mail address is concreteheritagemuseum@gmail.com.

Bill Pfeifer, our wonderful webmaster, has added a new Publications page to the Web site. You can now print out an order form for the books published by the museum: Charles M. Dwelley’s *So They Called the Town “Concrete”* and *The Story of Kate*.

—Dan Royal



September was a busy month for the Concrete Lions Club. The club provided barbecues for two events, put a roof on a shed, and built a wheelchair ramp.

Upcoming will be the kids’ **Halloween Party**, a local event sponsored for the last 60+ years by your Concrete Lions Club. This year the party will be held Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. in the Concrete K-8 School gym.

The **next meetings** will be held on Oct. 1 and 15 in the front dining room at Annie’s Pizza Station. The meeting

Concrete Lions Club presents
Halloween Party
Oct. 31, 7 p.m.
Concrete K-8 School gym

At the Upper Skagit Library

We begin the Autumn season by bringing you **Skagit Reads October 2014**. Skagit County libraries, in collaboration with community partners, present this countywide reading, learning, and sharing project.

We will come together to read the book, *Closing the Food Gap: Resetting the Table in the Land of Plenty*, by Mark Winne. The author discusses the issues of hunger, food insecurity, and nutrition within the U.S., and examines the diverse community-based initiatives that have sought to address these problems. This project will create an opportunity to shake up the conversation around food access in the United States by providing the community with different sources of information and insights. Beginning Oct. 1, stop by the library and pick up a copy of the book.

Near the end of October you’ll have a chance to participate in conversation and reflection during three events surrounding this issue: a guest speaker at the library, a book discussion led by a library staff member, and also a film viewing at the Concrete Theatre of the documentary, “A Place at the Table.” A library card is not required to participate in the reading and events; all are welcome to join this conversation. Other Skagit County libraries will host their own events throughout the month.

On Sept. 17 the Concrete Town Council hosted a **community forum** on the possibility of the Town of Concrete annexing into the county library district. Annexation means that taxpayers within the town would pay the same rate for library services as taxpayers living in the county. If annexed, all town residents would be able to obtain a library card and have full access to all library services without paying the current \$30 fee. Community members voiced their thoughts and posed questions surrounding this issue. Many people supported the annexation. The library director and a representative from the county Assessor’s Office were in attendance and answered people’s questions. We appreciate your support in discussing this crucial library service for the town, and we hope to gather opinions from more people. Town Council is weighing the options of having the issue appear on next year’s ballot. Contact Town Hall if you have questions or opinions about the town annexing into the district: 360.853.8401 or andrea@concretewa.gov.

What’s new at the library

In adult fiction, check out *The Story Hour*, by Thrity Umrigar; *The Miniaturist*, by Jessie Burton; and *One Kick*, by Chelsea Cain.

In adult nonfiction, delve into *The Gifts of Imperfection: Let Go of Who You Think You’re Supposed to Be and Embrace Who You Are*, by Brene Brown, and challenge your thinking with *A Place at the Table: The Crisis of 49 Million Americans and How to Solve It*, by Peter Pringle.

New children’s books include *Learning How: Football and Battle Bunny*.

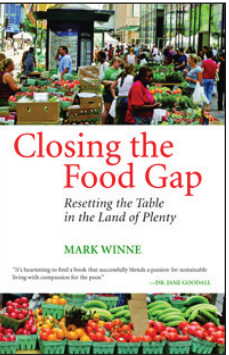
In Young Adult, *City of Heavenly Fire* by Cassandra Clare and the imaginative tale of *Leven Thumps and the Wrath of Ezra* by Obert Skye.

The next Library Board Meeting will be Oct. 16 at 5 p.m. at the Upper Skagit Library.

—Cora Thomas, library associate

Skagit Reads 2014 Events at Upper Skagit Library

- Fri., Oct. 24, 5 to 6 p.m.: Guest speaker, Anne Schwartz from Blue Heron Farm and Nursery, Upper Skagit Library.
- Wed., Oct. 29, 1 to 2 p.m.: *Closing the Food Gap* book discussion led by Cora Thomas, 5b’s Bakery & Eatery, snacks and refreshments provided.
- Wed. Nov 5, 7 p.m.: “A Place at the Table” film viewing, Concrete Theatre, Concrete.



Blotter, cont. from p. 31

Sept. 19

A Lyman resident said he was assaulted by unknown males on Minkler Rd. The man was driving eastbound when a car behind him flashed its lights to get his attention. He stopped his car and got out. The unidentified suspect walked up and punched him without saying anything. This didn’t sit well with the young man, so he wrestled him to the ground and began to box him in return. The victim said he had no idea who this was and wonders if it’s a case of mistaken identity. I think there’s more to this story.

A caller from Idaho requested deputies check the gas station in Concrete for a relative, who has a medical condition

and should be taking his medication, but apparently isn’t. He was tracked to the gas station. Deputies learned he had just left eastbound on SR 20. WSP and other law enforcement agencies were on the lookout for this man’s pickup truck with California license plates.

Sept. 22

A resident of Arnold Lane in Concrete reported his pickup truck stolen. An alert neighbor saw the truck go by and kept an eye on it. He saw the truck a few miles away and watched as a male and female fled from the truck. The SCSO sergeant arrived minutes later and watched as the two disappeared into the brush. They refused to stop and continued running away like they always do. In fact, every time the SCSO tries to contact them,

they run. An SCSO K9 unit tracked the subjects, but they were not located. They spent a long, wet night in the woods watching for deputies, I’m sure. The next day the sergeant and other deputies scoured the area and the truck thieves were spotted. The foot chase was on. The sergeant chased them on foot through the brush to the river bank, where the male subject decided to try and swim. The SCSO river boat was launched from Concrete just in case he made the bad decision to try and swim for it. After a short time the sergeant located the two suspects hiding nearby. They were transported by boat to a waiting patrol car. Both were booked into jail on warrants and several new charges.

Sept. 20

A suspicious-looking subject was seen walking around a business near MP 101 near Rockport. The deputy spoke to the subject, but he wasn’t really excited about providing his name to the deputy. That’s OK; the huge tattoo on his neck was an obvious identifier. He was discovered to have warrants for his arrest, and taken to jail.

—Compiled by Sgt. Chris Kading

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Please recycle this newspaper

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Out & About



Anacortes

Bike route first in Washington

ANACORTES — On Sept. 14, locals and officials gathered to celebrate and dedicate Washington’s first segment of a new national bike route system. Washington’s U.S. Bike Route 10 spans 416 miles across northern Washington on State Route 20 through Skagit, Okanogan, Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille counties. It is the first bicycle route to receive designation in the Northwest and the contiguous West Coast states. With assistance of the Adventure Cycling Association, the USBR 10 interstate route eventually will connect all the northern-tier states, linking Washington to Maine. Bicycle tourism generates an estimated \$160 million for bicycle retail stores in Washington, according to the League

of American Bicyclists. The Outdoor Industry Association says Washingtonians spend as much as \$650 million annually on bike travel. Formal designation of USBR 10 was made possible through partnerships and collaboration with Washington Bikes, national parks, tribal communities, and cities and towns along the route: Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon, Sedro-Woolley, Concrete, Rockport, Marblemount, Mazama, Winthrop, Twisp, Okanogan, Omak, Riverside, Tonasket, Republic, Kettle Falls, Colville, and Newport.

La Conner

Historic cemetery tour

Skagit County Historical Museum will hold its first annual Historic Cemetery

Tour on Oct. 5 from 2 to 4 p.m. The tour will feature Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, the oldest cemetery in Skagit County. Actors will portray the famous and infamous individuals who are buried at the cemetery. Tickets are \$10, or \$8 for Skagit County Historical Society members, and are available at the museum. The museum is located at 501 S. 4th St. in La Conner, at the top of the hill. For more information, call 360.466.3365 or e-mail museum@co.skagit.wa.us.

Quilt & Fiber Arts Festival

The 2014 Quilt & Fiber Arts Festival, sponsored by the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum, will be held Oct. 3–6. This year’s festival will feature an international show of juried and judged traditional quilts, art quilts, wearable art, and fiber art in Maple Hall and the La Conner Civic Garden Club. Both locations are within a half-block of the museum, which is located at 703 South Second St., La Conner. Festival events include workshops, a preview party, specialty vendors, and a silent auction. A \$10 admission to the event also includes entry to the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum. The festival will follow a three-day schedule:

- Fri., Oct. 3 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sat., Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sun., Oct. 5, 10 a.m. 4:30 p.m.

Events and workshops to be held during the festival include hand embroidery, landscape quilting, applique, painting and foiling, and embellishment techniques. A preview party is planned for Thur., Oct. 2, at 6 p.m. Exhibits include Japanese quilts, works of Junko Maeda, and the results of a Silk & Indigo Challenge issued during last year’s festival. For more information, go to www.laconnerquilts.org.

Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Mt. Vernon

Annual PTO fundraiser

The Autumn Arts Festival and annual PTO fundraiser at Immaculate Conception Regional School in Mount Vernon will be held Sat., Oct. 11, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Joseph Center, 215 N. 15th St., Mount Vernon. This year’s festival will feature local vendors with handcrafted and sewn decorations, home decorations, and jewelry. Pony rides, live entertainment, and a beer and bratwurst garden from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. also will be offered. Admission is free. For more information, send an e-mail to slukner@gmail.com or call 360.510.2548.

Library continues local author events in fall

Mount Vernon City Library continues its series of local author events on select Monday evenings throughout the fall and early winter. “Monday’s Author’s” will feature novelists, poets, and nonfiction writers, with subject matter ranging from spicy romance to fictionalized and true accounts of the World Wars. The library also will host local musicians on occasional Thursday evenings, as well as a special Saturday afternoon poetry reading. All events take place at 6 p.m. in the Reference Room (unless otherwise stated) and are free and open to the public.

Coming events

- Oct. 13: Shelli Stevens, “I’m the Author Your Mother Warned You About.”
- Oct. 23: The Bards of KeyPoynt, performing folk tunes and original compositions.
- Oct. 27: Gail Noble-Sanderson, “Recovery from the Trauma of War.”
- Nov. 3: Réanne Hemingway-Douglass, “The Shelburne Escape Line.”
- Nov. 15, 2 p.m.: Andrea Weiser, “Linking to Nature: Nature-based poetry with heart.”



Home & Garden



Garden Patch

By Gladys Silrus

We had a great summer and even better fall. It doesn’t seem like it will be Thanksgiving in two months. We all know it is time to get busy in the garden wrapping up, planting, and preparing before winter rains or snow arrive. The lower elevations most likely will experience a cold snap this month. Want plants to survive? Throw a sheet, a piece of cardboard, or other material (except plastic) over plants for the duration of the frost. Remove cover when the air warms up to avoid damage. Pumpkins should never experience frost, especially if you plan to store them over winter. Harvest before frost threatens, cutting stems to allow a 1- to 2-inch portion attached to fruit. You don’t have to harvest carrots, turnips, potatoes, beets, or parsnips before frost. Remove greens and cover with straw, soil, or mulch; this will extend the harvest as much as 30 days.

Fall clean-up tips

1. Pull annuals when done.
2. Start cutting perennials during fall; prune after a killing frost and before rains begin.
3. Prune dead or storm-damaged branches on shrubs or trees.
4. Weed, weed, weed!
5. Deal with slugs because their new eggs will begin to hatch in the cooler weather.
6. Clean up fallen fruit; it may harbor diseases.
7. Deadhead all old blossoms on your plants, even the self-sowing kind, they can quickly become a problem plant if left to seed freely.

Plant trees, shrubs, and garlic this month. If you want flowers in January, now is

the time to force bulbs for indoor blooms. They require a cold spell: 14–16 weeks at 41–48 degrees F. Once the cold period is done, plan on another two to three weeks at room temperature before flowering begins. Some last tips on saving seeds: When storing seed, three rules: cool, dry, dark.

1. Have a pretty bloom? Mark it with a plastic bread tie and write the color on it.
2. Columbine seeds can be hard to collect, so tie a few seed heads in a knee-high stocking. They dry while still on the plant; you won’t lose any.
3. Collect seeds in a cup, bring them in and put them on a paper towel to dry. Mark the towel with the name and color. When they are good and dry, put them in plastic bags.
4. Buy pill containers, put your seed in, and put a label over each cap. Stack them in a Tupperware container; it’s neat and organized and saves space.
5. Sometimes the seeds are hard to find. Look at the center of the flower; make sure they are completely dry before you store them.

One last thing about my tomatoes: As you know I decided to try and keep them in the greenhouse so they wouldn’t blight. I planted nine and didn’t get any fruit on five of the plants. The other four had a few small ones. I was told other people’s tomatoes didn’t do as well this year? I’m putting mine back out in full sun next year and am making a better cover. Happy gardening! Let me know if you enjoy the Garden Patch, because I’m thinking about not writing it after the end of this year. Let me know.

Send gardening questions to Gladys. Call her at 360.826.4848, or write to her at gsilrus@frontier.com or 42002 Pine St., Concrete, WA 98237.



Marjorie Bell (right), Program Planner for Community Health Outreach Programs at United General Dist. 304, speaks to a group of 30 visitors to the Angele Cupples Community Garden in Concrete Sept. 24. Bell, garden co-manager **Marla Reed** (middle), AmeriCorps VISTA Outreach Specialist **Rachel Sacco**, and Concrete Mayor and garden co-manager **Jason Miller** were on hand to speak to USDA Rural Development and state representatives about the garden’s role in the community and the Farm to School initiative coordinated between Dist. 304 and the Concrete School District.



Concrete Town Councilmember Marla Reed (pink shirt); **Marjie Bell**, Program Planner for Community Health Outreach Programs at United General Dist. 304; and AmeriCorps VISTA Outreach Specialist **Rachel Sacco** (green shirt) discuss the district’s Farm to School initiative during a Sept. 24 tour of the Angele Cupples Community Garden for USDA Rural Development representatives. Community Programs Director **Peter McMillin** said the garden was impressive in its scope and scale. “I haven’t seen anything like it anywhere else in the state,” he said.

WSU Know & Grow Workshop: The World of Begonias
Tue., Oct. 14, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
WSU Mount Vernon NWREC Sakuma Auditorium
16650 State Route 536 (Memorial Highway)



Dwelleysms

Wit from former
Concrete Herald editor
Charles M. Dwelley

“What the world needs most in the way of gadgets right now is a revival kit for people who couldn’t care less.”
“There is a definite male-female feeling about the hat. For the woman, a hat means someplace to wear it. For the male creature, a place where a hat is to be worn is to be avoided at all cost.”
“They say the man who never makes a mistake is one who never does anything. Could be, but from the bleacher seats, we’d say he is making the biggest mistake of all.”

—Jan. 2, 1964

“A state lottery has been suggested for raising more spending money. No details available on the actual workings of such a plan, but it is assumed that it would also be a great boon to the politicians who will have a brand-new department to staff, new contacts in every community through ticket sales, and the possibility of expanding the idea into an unlimited source of cash to spend. The charity angle used as the opener is to pacify the righteous. Look what horse racing and liquor is doing for us now in needed revenue! Upward with the profitable vices.”
“Want to be president? All qualifications seem to spell out that the ideal candidate is the one who has everything possible to attain in life but the honor. In other words, it’s a job for a man who doesn’t need it.”

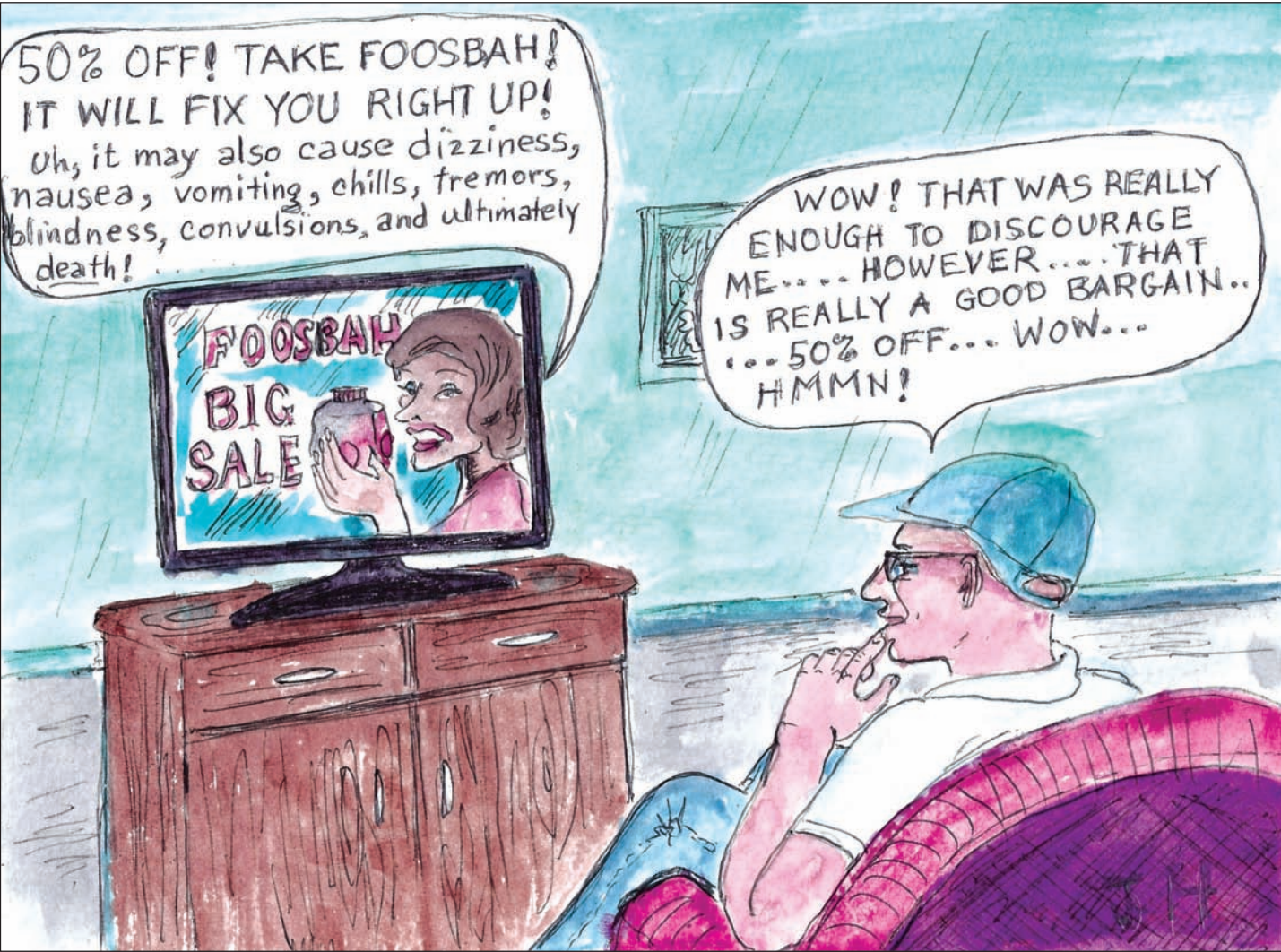
—Jan. 9, 1964

“They are calling this the jet age, presumably because we are moving so fast. Yet with all the hustle of the mad world, nothing has affected the pace of the sleepy youngster on a cold school day morning.”
“The Lower Valley, evidently jealous of our lakes on the Skagit River, has a plan to build one of their own from Avon to the bay. We’ll have to ignore the flattery of imitation. Why should we worry about what they do with our hand-me-down water?”

—Jan. 16, 1964

Concrete Harold

By Joyce Harris



Public Service Announcement

By Stig Kristensen



REBELLING TEENAGE BAT

Crossword: “Chapel of Love”

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

Across

- 1. Take a powder
- 6. Firmly secured
- 10. Fungal spore sacs
- 14. Two-door
- 15. Prom conveyance
- 16. European capital
- 17. Hurt
- 18. Effluvium
- 19. Is positioned
- 20. Nuptials necessity
- 23. Calendar abbr.
- 24. Most concise
- 25. Marvelous
- 30. Ed.’s request
- 31. Nuncupative
- 32. City west of Tulsa
- 34. Grill grub
- 38. The main event
- 41. Racing network
- 42. Bristle
- 43. Settled
- 44. Film stars’ org.
- 46. Touch off
- 48. Damages
- 52. Stretch of turbulent water

- 53. Ralph and Alice
- 59. Ambience
- 60. Case
- 61. Pie cuts, essentially
- 62. Beam
- 63. Sheepskin leather
- 64. Voice lesson topic
- 65. Kind of dog
- 66. Poet Sexton
- 67. Square dance group, e.g.

Down

- 1. Take for a ride
- 2. Chewed stimulant
- 3. Essen basin
- 4. Parrot
- 5. Toward the middle
- 6. Punishments, of a kind
- 7. Lieutenant
- 8. Young salmon
- 9. Old party members
- 10. Military rate, British
- 11. Paris bisector
- 12. Salad green
- 13. Dickey
- 21. “The Age of Anxiety”

poet

- 22. Rail family bird
- 25. Propagates
- 26. Kind of school
- 27. Stevedore
- 28. Player on the dealer’s left
- 29. Cubed
- 33. Mold
- 35. Gaucho’s weapon
- 36. “Sit ____!”
- 37. Information unit
- 39. Salmon River locale
- 40. Sine or cosine
- 45. Family subdivisions
- 47. City near the Douro River
- 48. Some parties
- 49. Barbarian
- 50. High spot
- 51. ____ Hall
- 54. Chinese dollar
- 55. Bust maker
- 56. Not leave alone
- 57. Rub the wrong way
- 58. Ooze

Sudoku

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

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

*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 39.

Funny as Facebook

- The following funnies were pulled verbatim from Facebook status updates in September.
- “Two women robbed Niketown last week with a foot-measuring tool? Watch out, Lovers Package; you’re next.”
 - “Winding down reading all the Bragbooking and Facebitching on here ... couple of self-help quotes ... couple dozen baby pics ... video of something I will never believe will happen next ... good times, good times.”
 - “Reading seriously harms idiocy.”
 - “The rules for tonight: No. 1: Stop reading scary pregnancy-problem things on the Internet. No. 2: Forgive the dogs. No. 3: Do not eat a whole pan of brownies.”

AL

Re-Elect

LITTLEFIELD

PUD COMMISSIONER DIST 1

www.littlefield-skagit-pud-district1.com

Election 2014, cont. from p. 6

prosecuted this past year, which was the catalyst for me to run. With 25 years of experience in government, I know this is a preventable crime for which the treasurer is responsible. I can bring the necessary education and experience to this position.

My main objectives will be to improve customer relations with existing staff. I want customers (taxpayers) to feel comfortable doing business in the Treasurer’s Office.

I would like to offer the customers of the county the opportunity to pay property taxes monthly rather than in two large payments in April and October. Should customers choose, they can arrange to have monthly payments automatically transferred from their bank to the county. This should help those who live paycheck to paycheck and retirees who have paid for their home with limited income, and who struggle with making large payments twice a year.”

What are the two biggest challenges facing the Treasurer’s Office and what steps would you take to address them?

Jungquist: “To be able to continue the level of quality service and technical upgrades within the county budget constraints and the amount of staff. The Treasurer’s Office recently became responsible for managing the special assessments, as well as other nonmandated processes.

I will continue to use technology to streamline our processes. I would continue not only to manage the Treasurer’s Office, but be able to step into any position in the office as needed. I believe a true working Treasurer is what the taxpayers expect and deserve.”

Whaley: “I will likely create many challenges for the office, as I will continually look for ways to bring services to make life easier for customers of the county. I would like to pursue allowing customers to pay property taxes monthly. This really won’t add much in terms of work for the office; however, there will be monthly posting that may be a challenge with current resources.

Another issue is the County Commissioners have shifted the responsibility of administering personal property taxes from the Auditor’s Office to the Treasurer’s Office. There are only nine staff in the office, with no prospect of adding staff, so it will be a challenge to disperse these responsibilities without

stressing them.”

Skagit County Assessor

Dave Thomas

Age: 60

Current employer:

Skagit County Assessor, Senior Residential Appraiser

In his words:

“I have worked in assessment for 17 years and in real estate appraisal for 22 years. I believe the Assessor should have that type of experience to best serve the citizens of our county. I wish to use that experience to lead the office and staff to a higher level of proficiency and professionalism.

I believe relevant experience is critical to being an effective assessor. My years working in the office have exposed me to every aspect of assessment and developed in-depth knowledge of the property tax system. Recent events have shed light on the complexity of property tax and how we are all impacted by changes to the tax base. I see a future of more serious issues affecting property rights and values that will need to be dealt with, and I believe our community deserves an experienced assessment professional as Assessor to address those issues.”

Tom Pasma

Age: 53

Current employer:

Co-owner with wife Sue Sultze of Double S Quarter Horses, Bow. Professional auctioneer.

In his words:

“I was asked to run for County Assessor because the office had failed taxpayers like you and me. Nothing affects every one of us as much as our property taxes. I will provide the leadership taxpayers in Skagit County need to have confidence in the fairness and accuracy of their tax assessments.

I have worked on issues ranging from land use and economic development to water quality. I have a good working relationship with county and state officials. I have had people from all parts of Skagit County contact me to urge me to seek this office because they know my values and my desire to give back to the local community. My background and leadership skills will build an effective



Thomas

team in the Assessor’s Office that will once again be a vital and respected part of Skagit County government because elected office is a public trust, not a profession.”

What steps would you take to improve the accuracy of the numbers coming out of the Assessor’s Office? How would you improve the Assessor’s Office credibility among the citizens of Skagit County?

- Thomas:** “My focus would be to improve the office in the following ways:
- Increase the level of technology to include appraisal field devices and GIS applications to improve efficiency and analysis of assessment issues.
 - Increase the use of modeling using market data to improve the accuracy and uniformity of assessments.
 - Provide more information on the Assessor Web site related to property and market statistics, levy information, and historical information.
 - Provide relevant education to the staff to increase professionalism and service to the public.”

Pasma: “I would ensure open communication and teamwork between the various offices in county government, staff, and the public. We have had a series of crises because the office is not proactive in addressing problems. The Assessor’s Office has 12 people to do assessments. What they need is an effective leader with an open door and a commitment to restore the public trust. I would add an electronic appeal process, (eAppeal), and I would publicize where and how the assessments are going every quarter. My door would always be open to anyone who has questions concerning the assessment department.”

Ballots will be mailed Oct. 15

VOTE Nov. 4

Council, cont. from p. 7

Regional Mobility program.

Hart also reported the survey work for Cupples Alley has been completed, and he should have a draft design to Wilkins for review sometime next week. He stated that after the design has been reviewed, the town can proceed with advertisement for bid or the town could also choose to perform this work itself.

Sept. 22 2015 Budget Workshop

- Several fees were discussed. Business licenses were increased a few dollars across the board. Sani-Can rentals were restricted to within town limits. Other fees saw \$1 to \$2 increases across the board.
- The utility rates discussion was bumped to Oct. 14 because of time constraints.

Sept. 22 regular meeting

- Town engineer Cody Hart reported on some of the cost-saving approaches that have been taken with regard to the Fire and Life Safety Building project. He stated he feels the town is in a good financial position. He stated there may still be some more cost savings on the civil site work. He stated that right now they have already determined between \$77,000 and \$82,000 in savings. He stated the contractor has been issued six different field orders that detail these reductions. He stated that he also believes there will be some more quantity reductions regarding the materials, which also will result in additional cost reductions. He stated although it is still early in the project, he feels things are progressing well. He also reported the contractor will begin work on the retaining walls soon.

Hart reported that he should be able to get draft plans to Alan Wilkins for the Cupples Alley waterline replacement project by the end of this week for him to review.

Hart also reported on a possible funding opportunity through the Department of Health for replacing the wooden water reservoir. He stated he will be working on the cost estimates to assist in finalizing the funding application. Clerk Treasurer Andrea Fichter reported there is a possibility of the town qualifying for partial principal forgiveness with this loan funding.

—Compiled by J. K. M.

Classifieds

MOVIES & EVENTS AT THE HISTORIC CONCRETE THEATRE WEEKEND MOVIE SCHEDULE:

Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Sat., 4 and 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 4 and 6:30 p.m.

TIX: \$8 gen admission, \$9 balcony, \$7 over 65/under 12

24-hour MovieLine: 360.941.0403

www.concrete-theatre.com

EMPLOYMENT

Drivers wanted. Dave’s Towing. 360.853.7433.

Reporter, contract position. *Concrete Herald* seeks a competent writer to cover Concrete town government on a monthly basis, beginning ASAP. Compensation will be based on attendance at all Town Council meetings, plus production of two articles per monthly issue. Interested persons should send resume, two journalism samples, and letter of interest to editor@concrete-herald.com. For more information on this position, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail editor@concrete-herald.com.

FREE ITEMS

Young, purebred Americauna rooster, red and gold. Great for 4-H project. FREE. 360.853.8388.

NOTICES

NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL 2015 BUDGET WORKSHOPS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Concrete Town Council will hold workshops on the following dates in preparation for the 2015 Budget:

Oct. 14, 6 p.m.: Review 2014 Budget
Oct. 27, 6 p.m.: 2015 Salary/Benefit Workshop
Nov. 10, 6 p.m.: Review 2015 Proposed Budget
Nov. 24, 6 p.m.: 2015 Budget (IF NEEDED)

Sudoku solution, from p. 37

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

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.

Published in the September, October, and November 2014 editions of *Concrete Herald*.

NOTICE OF 2015 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

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 10, 2014 and November 24, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

The purpose of the public hearing is to review the proposed 2015 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.

Published in the October and November 2014 editions of *Concrete Herald*.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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 10, 2014 at 7:00 PM or as soon as possible thereafter.

The purpose of the public hearing is to review the proposed 2015 Property Tax. Action may be taken at this meeting.

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

Crossword solution, from p. 37

1	S	C	R	A	M	6	F	A	S	T	10	A	S	C	13
14	C	O	U	P	E	15	L	I	M	O	16	B	E	R	N
17	A	C	H	E	D	18	O	D	O	R	19	L	I	E	S
20	M	A	R	R	I	21	A	G	E	L	I	C	E	N	S
23	A	U	G	24	T	E	R	S	E	S	25	S	P	L	E
26	N	D	I	27	I	D	28	S	A	E	29	K	A	B	30
31	O	R	A	L	32	E	N	I	D	33	K	A	B	34	O
35	W	E	D	D	I	36	W	E	D	I	37	E	M	O	N
38	S	P	E	E	D	39	S	E	T	A	40	A	L	I	T
41	S	A	G	42	D	E	T	43	O	N	44	A	L	I	T
45	S	C	A	T	H	E	S	46	R	I	P	47	R	I	P
48	T	H	E	H	O	N	E	49	M	O	50	N	E	51	S
52	A	U	R	A	E	T	53	U	I	54	R	A	D	I	I
55	G	R	I	N	56	R	O	A	N	57	T	R	I	L	L
58	S	L	E	D	59	A	N	N	E	60	O	C	T	E	T

interpreter, will be made upon receiving twenty-four (24) hour advance notice. Contact Andrea Fichter at the Concrete Town Hall (360) 853-8401.

Published in the October and November 2014 editions of *Concrete Herald*.

Andrea Fichter, Clerk-Treasurer
TOWN OF CONCRETE

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P.O. Box 39
Concrete, WA 98237
(360) 853-8401 FAX (360) 853-8002
E-mail: andrea@concretewa.gov

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EVENTS

Annual Lighting Event. Northwest Garden Bling and Wolf Designs present their Annual Lighting Event featuring reproduction Tiffany Lamps. Oct. 24–26. Remember, Northwest Garden Bling is your destination for cards, gifts, and souvenirs. We also carry stained glass and glass supplies. 44574 Hwy. 20, Concrete, in Grassmere Village. 360.708.3279.

To place a Classified ad, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail ads@concrete-herald.com. Ads are \$5 per every 10 words, rounded up to the nearest 10. Payment is due at time of placement. Deadline for the September 2014 issue is Aug. 25.

Letters, cont. from p. 2

Littlefield, as PUD Commissioner.

Dad has spent his entire life of “serving,” “encouraging,” and “supporting” my brothers and I and the city of Anacortes, along with the citizens of Skagit County. Dad has dedicated his entire life to serving: Anacortes City Council, previous Skagit River Woods Camping Club Ground Committee member, Past President and Lifetime member of Anacortes Eagles, previous Moose Lodge member, volunteer with the WSDFW Hunter Education, Retired Senior Volunteer, Anacortes Elks Hoop Shoot volunteer, AHS Sports Booster, Relay for Life Volunteer, Anacortes Senior Activity Center volunteer, Backyard Habitat, Roadside cleanup volunteer, National Firewise Board member, and much, much more.

Dad has the interests of the citizens of Skagit County at heart. His recall never ceases to amaze me, whether it be at the Anacortes Book Club meeting or hiking in the woods—we never get lost! Dad has the good health, energy, expertise, and know-how to continue to be your PUD Commissioner.

Energy and experience are terrible things to waste. Please vote for my Dad, Al Littlefield, as your PUD Commissioner. Thank you.

Erin Littlefield Roux
Anacortes

Halloween Harvest Hoedown

dance and potluck dinner to benefit KSVU 90.1 FM radio and Concrete Heritage Museum

Marblemount Community Hall, Oct. 11
Potluck dinner at 6 p.m.
Music starts at 7 p.m.

Music by Jumbled Pie and Midnight Son
Costumes encouraged!

www.concreteheritagemuseum.org

BREAST CANCER



Early Detection Can Help Erase the Threat.

Detecting and diagnosing breast cancer early is crucial to treatment and survival. The Breast Institute at Skagit Regional Health helps to erase the threat of breast cancer through prevention, early detection, and advanced, personalized treatment.

As the only network member of the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance north of Seattle, we have access to the state-of-the-art therapies and emerging clinical trials that you deserve, right here, right where you need it.

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The Breast Institute



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skagitregionalhealth.org

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1⁵⁰
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7.5-Oz. Liquid
Softsoap

644420 600739 600750 600787 Sale ends 10/31/14



Manager's Special!



While Supplies Last!

9⁹⁷
18-Pc. Impact
Driver Set

301348

Sale ends 10/31/14

Halloween Bear, wagon giveaway!

Sign up to win!
Come in for all your fall needs!



Special Buy!

While Supplies Last!

9⁹⁷
3-Pc. Pink Stubby
Tool Set

301379

Sale ends 10/31/14



Special of the Month!



While Supplies Last!

5⁹⁹
Before
Rebate
3-Pk. Indoor
Fogger

727914

Sale ends 10/31/14

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Mail-in Rebate
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for details.

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