

*The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley*

# Concrete Herald

Vol. 102, No. 10

October 2019

concrete-herald.com

50 cents

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Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

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Concrete Herald owes its success to citizen journalists and photographers. **Reporter:** Chazlyn Lovely. **Ad Production:** Lynn Jefferson and Chazlyn Lovely. **Bookkeeping:** Upriver Bookkeeping Services. **Local contributors are welcome;** call or e-mail Jason Miller at 360.853.8213 or editor@concrete-herald.com.

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Concrete Herald is published the first Wednesday of each month and distributed via newspaper racks and retail businesses from Clear Lake to Newhalem and Darrington, Wash. A complete list of distribution points is posted online at [www.concrete-herald.com/about-the-herald/distribution-points](http://www.concrete-herald.com/about-the-herald/distribution-points). Mail subscriptions are \$27 annually for U.S. addresses, \$39 for Canadian addresses. Other subscription options are listed on the "Subscribe" page at [www.concrete-herald.com](http://www.concrete-herald.com). Physical address: 7674 Cedar Park, Concrete, WA 98237. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Concrete Herald, P.O. Box 682, Concrete, WA 98237. Printed by Skagit Publishing, Mount Vernon, Wash. Contents © 2019 Concrete Herald LLC.

## From the editor

# Bank departure a wake-up call

After about 10 years, Columbia Bank has shuttered its Concrete branch. Everyone in the Upper Skagit Valley is fortunate that SaviBank has stepped up to provide service to Concrete and points east, with a scheduled opening date of Oct. 7.

During conversations with local business owners and individual customers, Columbia Bank repeated two reasons for its decision: not enough walk-in traffic and not enough loans. Those are interesting points, given the feedback I heard during the Concrete Chamber of Commerce meeting in April, shortly after Columbia announced it would close its branch in September. At that chamber meeting I repeated the two reasons, and received the following responses, which I'm paraphrasing:

Not enough walk-in traffic: "That's interesting to hear," said a woman, "because from the time I opened my checking and savings accounts with Columbia, I endured an almost nonstop barrage of communication, pressuring me to do all my banking online. I kept refusing."

Not enough loans: "We refinanced our home a few years ago, and went first to Columbia, because we wanted to keep our money with our local branch," said a man. "Their rates were nowhere near competitive."

Keeping the above feedback in mind, I hope everyone in the Upper Valley will do what they can to keep our new bank happy and healthy. Can you move your checking and savings accounts to SaviBank? I have! Are you a business that could create a win-win relationship with SaviBank? *Concrete Herald* is! Are you considering a car loan? Boat loan? Mortgage? Second mortgage? I encourage you to include SaviBank in your research, and give them a chance to provide you that service. I'm already creating a plan to scrape together enough money to buy a Certificate of Deposit. Imagine that! Me!

All kidding aside, Columbia's departure should serve as a wake-up call to us, regardless of whether we accept the reasons given for its leaving. At the core of the situation is a business that left because it didn't have enough customers. We all should carefully consider what we can do to keep the new bank in town for more than a decade.

—J. K. M.

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# Opinion

## Letters to the editor

### Re-elect Joan Cromley

I admire the work Joan Cromley gets done for the Town of Hamilton. With limited town resources, she takes it upon herself to write state-required documents such as the Comprehensive Plan update. At the time, she told me she had to get an extension, but that she had written 47 pages so far. Wow! No consultant, no big staff to help.

Joan actively represents the town with the larger city mayors and county commissioners on a number of boards, such as Skagit Council of Governments, Skagit 911, and the Growth Management Steering Committee. She is a respected leader. Joan advocates for Hamilton by successfully requesting the county clean up property it owns and to provide a Dumpster for flood damaged goods.

She gets things done! Even with all the daily work, Joan focuses on the town's future. While the concept of building new residential lots in Hamilton north of Highway 20 has been discussed for decades, Mayor Cromley did her research and contacted both The Nature Conservancy and Forterra. Current project planning has included multiple opportunities for the public to participate and to share their perspectives.

Mayor Joan is a true public servant who accomplishes so much for the place she calls home. I ask the people of Hamilton to re-elect Joan Cromley.

Lisa Janicki  
Sedro-Woolley

### Reference to 09/21/2019 Joan Fowler

Mayor Joan Cromley's leadership is in question. She needs to be accountable to the lower part of Hamilton, but this part

of town has seen little or no change. The drug issues have never been adequately addressed, and building codes are in place but rarely effectively enforced per ordinance 179. Lower Hamilton is nothing but an array of junk cars and tarped trailers, many of which are illegal.

According to Ordinance 19 Mayor Joan Cromley is the code enforcer and yet health and safety has never been adequately addressed. And it appears that Mayor Joan Cromley has no intention of hiring any law enforcement as long as she is in office.

Citizens of Hamilton are not offered any alternative except being pushed out of Hamilton for the sake of salmon/fisheries. Home owners are being pushed out and have no say.

Very rarely do you find Mayor Joan Cromley in town hall and available to discuss anything of importance with town issues. Town meetings are never a solution to the townspeople's needs or requests.

Mayor Joan Cromley has not found any solutions acceptable for the community while in office. Quote: "What would you like us to do about the tweakers?" 5/02/2019 Concrete Herald. This speaks volumes about her priorities.

See Letters, p. 3

### Letters policy

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

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If you're looking for a change in leadership, vote for Carla R. Vandiver.

Renee Barley  
Hamilton

### Cromley a "dedicated and true advocate"

As a Skagit County resident, I am writing to strongly endorse Mayor Joan Cromley in her bid for re-election for the Town of Hamilton. I am a career Emergency Manager and have had the pleasure of getting to know and work with Mayor Cromley over the last two and a half years.

Mayor Cromley is a dedicated and true advocate for all residents of the Town of Hamilton. She is committed to their safety and has a demonstrated passion for improving public safety. She understands the local, state, and federal emergency management processes and procedures.

She is one of the very few mayors in Skagit County who is consistently involved with emergency management planning, trainings, and meetings. She is never shy about asking for what she needs and wants for the town in fair weather or when the water is coming over the dike.

One of the issues affecting Hamilton is recurring flooding and the damage sustained by the residents. Mayor Cromley has been working to mitigate this by giving the residents an option to avoid recurring annual flood damage. This option gives residents a way to move out of the flood plain. Mayor Cromley is not mandating that everyone affected has to move. She is only giving options for those who want it. This program is nothing new. FEMA has been relocating neighborhoods and towns for many years as a viable means to avoid unnecessary danger to the public and mitigate the high cost of continually rebuilding the same damaged homes. Case studies have shown that each \$1 spent on mitigation saves an average of \$4 on disaster response costs, with positive benefit-cost ratios for all hazard types studied.

In Mayor Cromley, Hamilton residents have an experienced, knowledgeable, forward-thinking advocate who is available at any time, day or night. When the river threatens to flood, she's the one out in the streets and watching the dikes with the purpose of keeping the Town of Hamilton and its residents safe.

Thank you.

Vickie Fontaine, AEM  
Mount Vernon

# Skagit County residents can dispose of prescription drugs at take-back event

United General District 304 will host a prescription drug take-back event on Sat., Oct. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Concrete Community Center.

This event makes it easy for the public to safely dispose of unused or expired prescriptions. Both prescription and over-the-counter medications will be accepted. Medications can stay in their original containers and labels do not need to be removed. Medications not in their original containers will be accepted too.

Drug take-back events are one of two ways community members can safely dispose of their unused or expired medications in Concrete. Since spring 2019, Sea Mar's pharmacy has provided a secure take-back location available during pharmacy business hours.

Even though medication take-back is available year-round, the national drug take-back days are an opportunity to inform and educate young adults, their parents, and older adults about the dangers of prescription drug misuse and the importance of safe storage, use, and disposal.

According to [getthefactsrx.com](http://getthefactsrx.com), 75 percent of opioid misuse starts with people using medication that wasn't prescribed for them—usually taken from a friend or family member. Simple steps, like safely disposing of medications, can stop them from being misused.

Participating in take-back events is one thing that individuals can do to help positively affect the opioid crisis and protect loved ones.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is an ongoing program of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration that happens every April and October. The Concrete take-back event is coordinated by United General District 304 in partnership with Skagit County Sheriff's Office, Concrete Resource Coalition, and Skagit County Public Health. Funding for this take-back comes from Washington State Health Care Authority.

## Become Bank Savi.

### Concrete Branch opening

### October 7 at 45872 Main Street

We aren't just a community bank. We are your community's bank. That means we go above and beyond other banks. Using knowledge and expertise, our mission is to bring long-term success to our clients and this community. It's who we are down to the core.

And it's why we're opening a new branch in Concrete. Whether you own a business, a home or a dog, we are equal opportunity advocates, helpers, and champions of our clients. Whether it's your retirement, your home, or your business, we are determined to help improve your life.

That's why you will still see Lynette, Heather and Gladys at our branch—the same familiar faces you've seen helping this community every day.

Come visit us in our new branch October 7, 2019 or call 360.853.8171, and see why we are the wise choice.

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# SaviBank to open Concrete branch Oct. 7

By Jason Miller

SaviBank branch manager Lynette Gentry has told *Concrete Herald* that the Concrete branch of SaviBank will open on Mon., Oct. 7, at 9 a.m.

"We are coming," said Gentry. "We've been given approval to open."

The new branch will be open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The drive-through window will be open till 5:30 p.m. on those days. The branch will close each weekday from noon to 1 p.m.,

for staff lunches.

Gentry will resume her role as manager at the branch. Returning employees are Heather Haj and Gladys Silrus. A full-time teller position will be offered; details will be posted at the SaviBank Web site ([www.savibank.com](http://www.savibank.com)).

Gentry was unable to provide details regarding the status of the ATM, although that service is expected to be included at a later date.

—J. K. M.

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## Election 2019

Ballots for the November general election will be mailed on Oct. 16.

The deadline to register to vote or update an existing registration online and by mail is Oct. 28. The deadline for in-person registration and voter updates is Nov. 5 at 8 p.m.

The general election is Nov. 5. Ballots must be postmarked by Nov. 5 or left in a drop box by 8 p.m. on Nov. 5.

*Concrete Herald* reached out to the candidates in all contested races for this election, the hot spot being Town of Hamilton, with all but two elected seats to be chosen by voters. The following candidates in Town of Hamilton races responded to the opportunity to share their thoughts with potential voters.

### Hamilton Mayor: Cromley vs. Vandiver

Incumbent Mayor Joan Cromley has served Town of Hamilton for seven years as mayor and five years as a town councilmember. She tied with challenger Carla Vandiver with 27 votes each during the August primary.

### Cromley: In her words

"I believe in Hamilton's potential, and will continue to fight for it to be a great place to live and work. I work full-time on Hamilton's behalf. It's not a job that can be done on weekends. Being mayor is not something that can be learned from a book or in a couple of months—I want to help educate anyone who wants to be the next mayor so that Hamilton will be in good hands in the future.

"Being involved with the town council is a great start. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m., at Town Hall.

"I've completed classes and training in everything from budgeting to records management to community emergency response. The Town of Hamilton's audits have had no findings, even though we've had four different town clerks. I've been here during flooding, making sure that repairs to streets and levees are done quickly and properly, while making sure we have the resources so everyone can clean up. I volunteer at every town kids event.



Cromley

"Managing to protect and maintain the current residents and infrastructure while allowing development in the Urban Growth Area outside of the floodway is a large challenge for Hamilton. Emergency management has always been a top priority for me. I have gone to trainings and meetings, and fostered relationships with the local agencies so that when an emergency hits, Hamilton has the connections and resources to handle it. I will continue to do that, and increase the resiliency of our response systems. We need to maintain our streets and water system, and work toward enforceable regulations. Hamilton's budget is a very small compared to our neighbors', so we need to make sure we use our resources wisely and form partnerships to get grants.

### Vandiver: In her words

"My vision for Hamilton and steps to make my vision a reality:

- Law enforcement presence.
- Code enforcement.
- Neighborhood Watch, with community meetings discussing problem areas.
- Having an overflow point for the flood water, maybe diking it or dam where it's needed.
- Restore historic buildings, create income for the town to make it financially viable again.
- Create a youth program and show responsibility and self-confidence work around town.

"I am willing and able to dedicate unlimited time to my elected duties. Town Hall should be open 40 hours a week.

"I would be a good candidate for this position because I love the atmosphere of a small town; it's people helping people. I have an accounting and technical degree, with 19 years of leadership of running crews and supervision.

"I am very approachable, and a pro at getting things done on schedule, with a proven track record of my job as supervisor and running crews.

"Hamilton's greatest challenges:

- Economic infrastructure, funding, getting grants to cover some of the costs for the town's projects.
- Building trust with the community to trust and implement flood prevention and safety.
- Rebuild the community and make it viable and unite the people."

See Election, p. 23

# What's Happening!

## 2019 OCTOBER EVENTS CONCRETE



### The 14th Annual Concrete Ghost Walk

Every Saturday night in October starting at 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

You're invited to join us for a unique experience that's historical and thought-provoking! Are these characters really haunting our businesses and buildings? What axe (eek!) do they have to grind? Is there more to their story than we know from reading about them in the history books and newspapers? Is it safe to walk the streets of

Concrete alone? Who is down that dark alley?

Learn about the characters, events and legends that have shaped our community, and you'll hear from local residents (living and otherwise) as you enjoy a tour along the haunts of our parks, alleys and buildings.

**Tickets, \$15, online.**  
Not available at the door.



### Murder Mystery Evening

Thursday, October 24  
Concrete Theatre  
45920 Main Street in Concrete  
6:00 p.m. Light Dinner & Special Presentation  
Limited seating.  
\$20 per person  
7:00 p.m. Presentation  
\$12 per person

It's an evening of murder and mayhem! You'll hear true stories of crimes in Skagit and Whatcom Counties during the early twentieth century. Filled with intrigue and rich, true history, this is a glimpse into the darker side of humanity, all from the safety of your theatre seat.

*Please note: this event is not suitable for children.*

**Tickets, \$12- \$20, online.**  
Not available at the door.



### Trunk-or-Treat in Bear Square

Concrete Town Center  
Thursday, October 31  
4:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
Free!

Kids in costumes are invited to join us in Bear Square, where community volunteers will have the trunks of their cars stuffed with treats. It's a fun way to celebrate Halloween in a safe environment. Young children must be accompanied by an adult; no pets, please. Take lots of photos and post them to our Facebook page!  
**Tickets not required.**

Funded in part by Skagit County. [www.visitskagitvalley.com](http://www.visitskagitvalley.com)



**Tickets available online at [www.Concrete-WA.com](http://www.Concrete-WA.com)**  
**More information: [Chamber@Concrete-WA.com](mailto:Chamber@Concrete-WA.com) or (360) 853-8784**



# October events in the Upper Valley

Most are spooky, all are fun. Here's a list of the major events planned for the *Concrete Herald* coverage area this month.

## 14th Annual Concrete Ghost Walk (Every Saturday night in October)

It's baaaack! The Concrete Ghost Walk returns, with two tours—6 and 8 p.m.—every Saturday night in October. It's a little hysterical, a little historical, and a lot of fun. Learn about the characters, events, and legends that have shaped the Concrete community. Tickets are \$15 and available online only at [www.concrete-wa.com](http://www.concrete-wa.com).

For more information, see the ad on p. 5 of this issue, call 360.853.8784, or e-mail [chamber@concrete-wa.com](mailto:chamber@concrete-wa.com).

## Oct. 13: Upriver Seed/Plant/Harvest Swap/Barter & Potluck

Whew! That's a mouthful! But there's a lot going on at this event, scheduled for

Sun., Oct. 13, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Concrete Community Center, 45821 Railroad Ave., Concrete.

Organized by Concrete Saturday Market vendors and friends, the event kicks off with the potluck at 11:30 a.m., followed by the swap and barter period. Share food and information, meet other local gardeners and farmers. Bring surplus seeds, plants, garden produce, pots, tools, etc., to swap until 2 p.m.

For more information, send an e-mail to [concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com](mailto:concretesaturdaymarket1@gmail.com).

## Oct. 18, 19, 25, 26, 31: Haunted Warehouse: "Blackout"

This is the scary one. The haunted house is located in the abandoned warehouse at 44872 SR 20 near Concrete, just west across the field from the Dist. 10 Grasmere Fire Station.

Here's the lineup:

- Oct. 18, 19, 25, 26: 7 to 11 p.m.: Adult showing, \$7 admission
- Oct. 31, 3 to 5 p.m.: Kids showing, \$2 a ticket
- Oct. 31, 7 to 9 p.m.: Adult showing, \$7 admission

The haunted house is a fundraiser for the CHS senior class trip and Dist. 10 Fire Dept. scholarships.

## Oct. 19: Birdsvie Diner Fall Festival

Join the Birdsvie Diner and District 10 firefighters for food and fun at the Diner on Oct. 19 from 2 to 6 p.m. Your \$6 admission (\$5 if you bring one nonperishable item per person) gets you a burger or hot dog, plus a drink and games. Look for a bouncy house, face painting, pumpkin painting, bobbing for apples, and more. Proceeds support the "Dress It Forward" thrift shop for the youth of Concrete School District.

## Oct. 24: Murder Mystery Evening

An evening of murder and mayhem is planned at Concrete Theatre, starting with a light dinner at 6 p.m. and followed by a 7 p.m. presentation.

You'll hear true stories of crimes in Skagit and Whatcom counties during the early 20th century. This is a glimpse into the darker side of humanity, all from the safety of your theater seat.

Tickets are \$15 and available online only at [www.concrete-wa.com](http://www.concrete-wa.com).

For more information, see the ad on p. 5 of this issue, call 360.853.8784, or e-mail [chamber@concrete-wa.com](mailto:chamber@concrete-wa.com).

## Oct. 31: Trunk-or-Treat in Bear Square

Kids in costumes are invited to Bear Square in Concrete Town Center, where community volunteers will load 'em up with candy. Pretty straightforward. The fun goes from 4 to 5 p.m.

## Oct. 31: Lions Club Halloween Party

The favorite is back! After Trunk-or-Treat, bring the kiddos to the Concrete Elementary School gym at 5 p.m. for games, prizes, candy, food, and fun!

## Oct. 31: Kiddie Parade and Merchant Dress-up Contest in Sedro-Woolley

The parade starts at 4:30 p.m. The business dress-up contest is less time-sensitive; just post photos of your staff in their costumes to the Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce Facebook wall for judging! See the ad on p. 17 of this issue for more details.

—J. K. M.

## THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

This month's **Community Dinner** will be held at Concrete High School cafeteria on Thur., Oct. 3, at 4:30 p.m. Sponsored by Community Bible Church of Concrete.

**Upper Skagit Library Board of Trustees** is looking for new board members. Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the library. All interested parties please contact Em Beals at 5b's Bakery, 360.853.8700.

For more information about the Board of Trustees, go to <https://upperskagitlibrary.org/web/usl/about-us/meet-our-uls-board-of-trustees/>.

The **Ann Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution** is reaching out to potential members.

Fall meeting dates are Oct. 14, "History of Whidbey Island," with guest speaker author William Stein; Nov. 12, "Valley Forge," presented by chapter member Margie Wilson; Dec. 9, "Christmas Music of our Revolutionary War Ancestors," presented by associate member Pam McCunn.

Meetings are held at the clubhouse of Farming Square Development, 465 Garden Lane, Burlington, with an 11:30 a.m. sack lunch and programs from noon to 2 p.m. Potential members, students, guests, and gentlemen are welcome.

Membership questions should be directed to registrar Gail Ballow at [gailballow@gmail.com](mailto:gailballow@gmail.com), 360.333.1230.

The **Concrete Elementary PTO** has an available board position. Anyone who is interested in running for vice president is encouraged to attend the Oct. 9 PTO meeting at 5:30 p.m., in the elementary school library.

**Grandy Creek Grocery** has kicked off a donation drive in anticipation of the holiday season. Through Dec. 22, bring a donation to the store or Albert's Red Apple and get a raffle ticket for a Dec. 23 raffle (tickets also may be purchased separately).

Through Oct. 12, donate socks. From Oct. 13–26, donate toiletries. From Oct. 27–Nov. 9, donate winter items. From Nov. 10–23, donate Thanksgiving Dinner items. From Nov. 24–Dec. 7, donate clothes and jammies. From Dec. 8–22, donate blankets.

## Council summary

*Concrete Town Council met for regular meetings on Sept. 9 and 23. The council also met for an airport-related workshop on Sept. 21. The following is a summary of those meetings. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are posted on the town's Web site at [www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php](http://www.townofconcrete.com/cminutes.php).*

### Sept. 9 regular meeting

- Mayor Jason Miller announced the resignation of councilmember Ginger Kyritsis effective Sept. 6. Mayor Miller also reviewed the process for selecting a new councilmember.
- Mayor Miller reported on an overflow issue that occurred at the wastewater treatment plant today. The temporary rescreener had become plugged overnight and is not connected to the alarm system, so Public Works Dir. Alan Wilkins was not alerted to the issue until this morning. Wilkins was alone today, with two people on vacation and the other one dealing with a personal matter. Mayor Miller called Water and Wastewater, which sent two employees, and they worked till 5 p.m. this evening dealing with it. Mayor Miller also said Wilkins has discontinued use of the rescreener.
- **Public safety:** Sgt. Adams reported that SCSO plans to get a district court in Concrete by early 2020. He said they hope to have one here at least once a month. He said he is not exactly sure what this will entail, but it should allow people to deal with traffic tickets and minor citations here, instead of driving to Mount Vernon.

Mayor Miller said that he met with Sgt. Adams last week to discuss contract renewal. He stated that he will work with Clerk-Treasurer Andrea Fichter and Code Enforcement Officer Karla Massingale on some of these items during the next few weeks. He stated we need to review ordinances regarding parking, nonrunning vehicles, loitering, and smoking, and what type of actions or options there are for the town to work with the deputies. Mayor Miller requested the council's assistance in reminding the community to call 911 when they witness criminal or suspicious activity. He stated this can be done anonymously, online, by calling the nonemergency number, or by calling

- 911.
- Council approved Ordinance No. 808, the Traffic Element and Site Specific Amendment to its Comprehensive Plan, which completes the plan after several years of work by town planner Marianne Manville-Ailles, town staff, the Planning Commission, and the Town Council.

### Sept. 21 Airport Workshop

- No formal action was taken by council during this workshop.
- At the suggestion of airport leaseholder Wiley Moore, council focused on four of the most important issues: the fuel lease suggestion, the airport lot lease, services expected with the lease, and financial reserves.
- Council declined a leaseholder's offer to take over ownership, maintenance, and operation of the fuel station.
- Leases: Suggested changes were discussed at length, including guest stays at hangars.
- Gate installation was discussed.
- Lot rentals, proposed utility extensions, and funding reserves were discussed in the context of how much of the funding would come from the rentals (75 percent) and how much the town would provide (25 percent).

### Sept. 23 regular meeting

- Town Center safety led this meeting, with discussion focusing on ongoing issues related to The Hub. Public comments included reports of unlawful smoking that sometimes escalates into other issues, including brawling, profanity, public drunkenness, public urination in entryway of the neighboring Model Building, literal blood on the street, the pepper spray incident, and even shots fired on Main Street.
- One speaker described his past interest in buying the Model Building and turning it into a hostel, then explained his sole reason for dropping the pursuit: the building's proximity to The Hub.
- Council members were asked if this is the image Concrete wants to portray.

—Compiled from staff minutes

## Keep track of your council

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

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# Sports



## Football team performing well with fewer players

## Edge-of-your-seat volleyball

The Concrete High School volleyball program has 13 players this season, which matches a low for the number of players who have turned out for volleyball in the past.

But don't let the low number fool you: We have a great group of girls that represent our program, the school, and our community extremely well. These girls play extremely well together, and they bring a positive and fun attitude to the court every day. Seven play on the varsity team, and six play on the junior varsity team. We make it work, and everybody gets a lot of court time. All of the girls are working really hard, learning from mistakes, and getting better every day. That is all I can ask for as their coach.

We have started the season 1-4. Not what we had intended, but 1-4 nonetheless. Our one win came at Lummi Nation High School, where we swept the Blackhawks 3-0.

Our four losses have all been great battles, dog fight after dog fight. We haven't been swept this season, and have lost two matches 3-2. Everything has been close and everything has been earned. We need to find a way to get over that hump and feel what it is like to win a close and competitive match. We need to go out and earn it.

After opening the season at home with a 3-1 loss to Chimicum, we got our first win at Lummi Nation. We then hosted a

very good Providence Classical Christian team that took us in five sets. It was on this night I knew we could compete with anyone. The girls played better, played together, and had a nice flow to their game. This is the type of volleyball we want to build on.

We then played at Shoreline Christian and lost 3-1 before returning home and losing 3-2 in our league opener to Orcas Island.

Sierra Rensink is playing our setter 1 position this season after playing setter 2 last year, and has improved. She has overcome the "serve bug," and is on a serve streak of 15 in a row. Sierra also leads the team with 50 assists and is second on the team in kills and blocks.

Kylie Clark has been a beast for us so far this season, leading the team in serving and kills. She has 17 aces, a serve streak of 42 in a row, and is serving at a clip of 95 percent. Kylie has been our most consistent hitter as well, recording 37 kills on this young season.

Rebekah Rider has great hands and has had a good season for us at the net, leading the team with seven blocks.

Ashley Parker plays our setter 2 position and does a whole lot of everything. She is second in assists, and is in the kills, digs, and saves category every match.

Autumn Neece is in our defensive specialist role, and has been a very pleasant surprise from the serve line,

where she is second in aces.

Kassidy Smith continues to own the back row as our All-League libero, where she leads the team with 75 digs, a 57 perfect pass percentage, and second on the team in serving at 93 percent.

Payton Dickinson also plays the middle for us when Rebekah is not in the front row, and is one of our smartest players at the net.

We are doing a lot of really cool things really well, and I am excited to see what the remainder of the season has in store for us. If you haven't made it to one of our home matches yet, please do. There is a lot of good, exciting volleyball to behold—edge-of-your-seat stuff. You will be proud of our local volleyball team; I am.

—Kevik Rensink, coach

**Scenes from the Sept. 20 volleyball matches vs. Providence Classical Christian, clockwise from right:** Rebekah Rider blocks, Sierra Rensink taps, and Kassidy Smith bumps while teammate Autumn Neece looks on.



With only four returning seniors, the Concrete Lions football squad is nevertheless racking up points against stiff opposition early in the season.

The Lions' first four games in September were all against nonleague teams, with the first league game scheduled for Oct. 4 at Friday Harbor.

Concrete opened its season with a 62-22 loss to Cedar Park Christian on Sept. 6. On Sept. 14 they lost to Willapa Valley 46-12.

The Lions traveled to Rainier and faced the Mountaineers on Sept. 21. Faced with a 1A squad, the Concrete players performed well after a shaky start that saw Rainier on top 22-0 after only 5 minutes.

"They were throwing over the top of us," said Coach Arthur Sanchez. "We turned the ball over and they threw again. We were giving up plays right away."

The Lions got better after that, notching 29 points by the end of the game, while Rainier took the win with 43 points.

Another bitter start waited for Concrete on Sep. 27, when their game against South Whidbey began with a bang that turned into a whimper. Concrete had a 60-yard return on its first reception that got called back on a questionable call.

"That killed our momentum," said Sanchez.

Later in the game, with the Lions in the red zone at 4th down and inches, they ran

the ball and crossed the goal line, but the referee pulled the ball back and made it short of the score. Sanchez wasn't happy about that at all.

"Offensively we've been able to put up points," he said. "We haven't been shut out. But our defense has been giving up quite a bit."

Injuries already have set the team back, said Sanchez. And the team's sheer numbers. "We don't have as much depth, with only 19 kids suited up for games. And our games have been tough so far.

### Bright lights

Peyton Sanchez and Devin Blankenship have been racking up the stats, with an offensive line that gives them good protection. The team has been running the ball decently too.

"I'd like to see the pass completion stats improve, but that's on me; I need to warm up Peyton more," said Sanchez of the quarterback, who is his son.

Quarterback Sanchez is in the top two in the county for rushing and top three for passing. Blankenship also is in the top one or two for receptions.

"Everybody needs to step up further on defense," said Sanchez. "We need to believe in ourselves, because when we get scared, we back up and start creating holes."

—J. K. M.



**Above: Senior Devin Blankenship pulls in a pass** during a Sept. 21 away game against the Rainier Mountaineers. The Lions' offense put the Mountaineers through their paces, but the Concrete defense couldn't contain the 1A school's passing game, which put Rainier on top 43-29.

**Below left: Sophomore Robert Reed gets a clean tackle** during the Rainier game on Sept. 21.



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## Middle School volleyball update

After a long summer off, nine middle schoolers have committed themselves to becoming the 2019 edition of Concrete Middle School Volleyball. With the first official practice on Sept. 10, the girls had just eight scheduled practices to get ready for their opening season tournament at Mount Vernon Christian School.

This year's team consists of eighth graders Jayden Hall, Mariah Kelley, Jasmine Lofton, Jade McAdam, and Logan Watts. We also have four seventh graders playing this year: Emily Del Bosque, Amelia Fierbaugh, Indie Goddard, and Kelsy Martin.

The first week of practice was all about volleyball philosophy, skills, and teamwork. The team's philosophy is summed up in three words: dedication, desire, and discipline. All three are evident on a daily basis, with the players responsible for the two things they control: their attitude and their effort. By the end of the first week they also learned two words that are absolutely unacceptable on the volleyball court: "I can't."

During the first few days and throughout the season there is a constant emphasis and review of basic skills: setting the ball, passing (bumping) the ball, underhand serving, and overhead serving. These skills are constantly being reviewed through various drills and a modified scrimmage every day in practice. Finally, the girls are understanding the necessity of teamwork. Each player must know and trust her teammates. This happens through building relationships and various drills in which players work together to improve their skills.

The competitive portion of our season began with a tournament hosted by Mount Vernon Christian School. First match jitters were evident as we fell short against Friday Harbor (25-14, 18-12). Our next match was against rival Darrington. Our serving dramatically improved, as did our control of the ball. The results were two wins (25-17, 18-12). The final match of the evening was against La Conner. The momentum from the Darrington match did not carry over as the Concrete team fell short (25-18, 25-22). Overall, it was a great experience for the girls.

The league season began with La Conner coming to town on Sept. 26. Having just played their seventh grade team in the tournament, we did not know what to expect, knowing that they would also bring their eighth grade team for a four-set match. Early in the first set it was evident that Concrete had fixed certain issues (serving, communication, watching balls drop in-bounds) from the tournament. The result? Concrete prevailed (25-7, 25-23, 25-18, 25-21) in a very exciting match for both teams.

With our limited numbers, CMS will only have one middle school team. However, since other schools often have two teams, our girls will typically play both their seventh and eighth grade teams. This provides extra game experience and will accelerate the learning curve for Concrete. Our present schedule has us hosting Friday Harbor (Oct. 8) and Darrington (Oct. 17). We will travel to Darrington on Oct. 1), Mount Vernon Christian (TBD), Orcas Island on Oct. 10, and Friday Harbor on Oct. 30. We are still waiting to hear if there will be an end-of-the-season tournament as there has been the last couple of years.

Thus far as coach, I could not ask for better effort or a better attitude. The first two weeks of the season have been a great

experience, and I look forward to a fun season of CMS volleyball.

—Rob Thomas, Coach

Concrete Middle School volleyball team hosted La Conner on Sept. 26 for an exciting match that ended with the Lady Lions on top 25-7, 25-23, 25-18, and 25-21. Clockwise from right: Indie Goddard (left) serves while Jayden Hall prepares to engage, Logan Watts bumps, and Amelia Fierbaugh sends it back over the net.



## Concrete Youth Basketball update

One year ago there were 15 girls playing in our Concrete Basketball Club Program. This year we have 34 girls turning out! I love to see all of the girls on the court—grades 2-7—learning new skills, having fun together, and competing. There are 16 second and third grade girls alone! This is the most girls we have ever had in our younger age bracket.

I am excited to see all of the

improvement throughout the next month. I want to give a big shout out to all of our volunteer coaches who step up, volunteer their time, and do an amazing job of coaching all of these young ladies. Our coaches this year are Tasha Nick, Dianne Aamot, Jordon DeZarn, Izabela Ramos, and Ebby Buchta.

Games started Sept. 28 and will be every Saturday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Concrete Elementary School Gym. It's not too late to sign up your daughter if she's interested. Call me at 360.630.6063 for more information.

—Kevik Rensink, Coach

# Culinary kickoff

Aimee Sissom is the first graduate of a Community Action program that preps participants for food service careers.

A new Community Action program aims to give participants the knowledge, training, and certificates they need to succeed in the food service industry.

Dubbed "Fresh Start," the program was conceived and developed this year by East County Manager Claudia Marken and Food Service Coordinator Terra Ruble, who runs the kitchen and meal program at the Concrete Community Center.

"We saw something that was naturally happening with people who were participating in our programs and wanting to give back," said Marken. "They started volunteering in the kitchen, and it evolved into them going out and gaining employment in the food service industry. So we thought, if it's working, why not formalize the program?"

Ruble did the legwork, talking to local

employers to learn their needs.

"It turned into a skills-based program, such as knife-handling, food temperatures, sanitation requirements, and more," said Marken. "We tried to create a program that would exceed those requirements, so that we were setting someone up to succeed, and then find them an entry-level position that they'd be prepared for if they wanted to get back into the work force."

Ruble describes the Fresh Start program as "built from scratch." It's an 8-week course—200 hours minimum—that's intended to pave a path into the culinary work force.

"It's a voluntary position that's open to anybody 16 years old or older—like an internship," said Ruble. "You go in about 4 hours a day for 5 days, typically, until you have your 200 hours. You take

a test at the end, and you end up with a food handlers certificate, CPR and First Aid qualifications, and a 'Serve Safe' certificate"—a separate test at Skagit Valley College for which Community Action pays. Participants also can also take a "food safe" test, one that could enable them to "walk into any kitchen anywhere and be more qualified than many of their colleagues," said Ruble.

### The "guinea pig"

Enter Aimee Sissom, a relative newcomer to the Upper Valley and self-described "guinea pig" for the Fresh Start program. She had joined Ruble in the Community Center kitchen in February, and, with food service experience on her resume, was a quick study.

She also was an obvious choice as the first student to move through the program. She began in June and had her certificate of completion in hand on Aug. 14.

"What did I learn? I learned how to comply," Sissom said with a laugh. "One excellent characteristic of Terra as the manager of that kitchen is her extreme dedication to following the letter of the law, and being clean and correct and tidy, according to the health code. For me it was a refresher course in Washington State law."

Sissom had skills when she came to the program, so she moved through the course quickly, said Ruble, who teaches the course and explained some of the basics that are taught:

- Read and write recipes.
- Learn conversions—how many cups in a gallon, for example.
- Food safety, handling, and storage.
- How to rotate food.
- Proper hand washing. Proper dish washing.
- Safe cooking temperatures and how to take a temperature, using the correct thermometer.
- Allergens and dietary restrictions, such as vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free, diabetic—how to recognize

those foods and what can be served to people with dietary needs.

The program closed with Sissom making her own meal and presenting it. Sissom works at 5b's Bakery, now, too, but she's a ceramic artist with a dream to eventually set up her own studio and start producing, so she may not be in the food service field for long.

But that's the point of the Fresh Start program: train and release to the job market.

"It was a blast to be the one to help it get off the ground," said Sissom. "I intend to hand over my space to the next participant and allow them to move right in there and learn so much from Terra and that lovely little kitchen."

—J. K. M.



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# Academics



## School district launches Educator Hall of Fame

Family, friends, staff and students gathered at the Concrete High School gym on Sept. 3 to honor former teachers Durward Sobek and Eleanor Ovenell at the Concrete School District's first Educator Hall of Fame ceremony.

The brainchild of Superintendent Wayne Barrett, the hall of fame idea grew from a conversation he'd had with CHS graduate Torry Brouillard-Bruce, said Barrett during his opening remarks.

"We were discussing naming facilities after prominent educators. The only problem with doing that is eventually you run out of things to name," said Barrett at the ceremony. "We felt it was important to honor those staff members who have left a lasting impact on our students and community."

This year's inductees were Durward Sobek and Eleanor Ovenell for their dedication and service to the school district and community.

April 1972 he was the librarian and senior class advisor.

Sobek passed away on April 14, 1972. In 1973 the Concrete High School Yanica (yearbook) was dedicated to him.

### Eleanor Ovenell

Eleanor Ovenell enjoyed 18 years of service to the Concrete School District.

A CHS graduate (1958), Ovenell came to the career naturally: Her mother, Helen Jungbluth, also was a teacher at Concrete High School for many years, teaching home economics and English.

September 1978-1994  
Eleanor signed her first contract with the Concrete School District in September 1978. She taught most of her career in upper elementary and one year with 7th and 8th grade students. She retired in 1996.

The next application period for the Educator Hall of Fame will begin in February 2020.

—J. K. M.



**Above right: Eleanor Ovenell and Marilyn Parnella** display the plaques they were given during the first annual Concrete School District Educator Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Sept. 3. Parnella accepted the posthumous award on behalf of her late father, Durward Sobek. *Photo by Helen Ovenell.*

## Art program flourishes at Boys & Girls Club

By Lela Kennedy

Youth at the Concrete Boys & Girls Club love their art program led by Art Specialist Chloe Crosson. Crosson likes to create art projects that incorporate an element found in nature. During the week of Sept 9, club members created owls out of tree bark and leaves.

Members discovered that they could make their owl unique by using different shapes of bark. "May I have the longer piece? I want my owl to be tall," one youth asked.

The Concrete Boys & Girls Club offers art programming Monday through Friday, where all Club members have the opportunity to participate and to expand their creative minds.



Emerson Clark and his owl.

## YD update

Our first Monday Night event for Concrete Youth Dynamics was Sept. 30, where we hosted "Indoor Game Night" instead of our usual outdoor event. It is getting dark earlier, and we wanted the kids to come into a night full of activity—with the lights on. There were several games to choose from, things to do, food to eat, and staff to meet. We wanted to keep the first meeting as informal as possible to allow people to get to know each other, start conversations, and get the students excited about everything we have planned for the coming year.

Our schedule for October looks something like this:

- Oct. 7: Capture the Flag
- Oct. 14: Jeopardy Night
- Oct. 23: Town Shark Night
- Oct. 29: Annual Harvest Party

Check out times and locations on the schedules we sent home with the students on Sept. 30. Exciting stuff for sure, and always a ton of fun every week.

Besides the weekly events, games, prizes, and awesome volunteer staff, we

are scheduling all of our usual outdoor adventure trips, including Hotdoggin' 2020 in Leavenworth in January (four-day snow retreat), the 30-Hour Famine at Baker Lake in March, Rock-n-Roll in Leavenworth in June (three-day hiking/white-water rafting trip), and a big summer adventure trip still to be determined (possibly out of state)!

We want your child to be part of something positive in this community. There are no stereotypes, cliques, or unfair labeling at our meetings. We welcome everyone! We want to provide a fun, healthful, and safe atmosphere in which your teen can grow, learn, and become an exceptional young man or woman. We believe that reaching out to the young people in our community is strategic to affecting the world.

If your daughter or son is in high school and interested in becoming a part of Concrete YD, then send them our way to a meeting or call me at 360.630.6063. We would love the opportunity to invest in the life of your teenager. I look forward to another great year with all of you students, staff, and supporters. Thanks for all you do for our kids!

—Kevik and Marta Rensink  
area directors

## Concrete Resource Coalition



Happy fall!

In September we hit the ground running, lining up some great trainings and programs for the community and Concrete School District.

In October we have Caleb Campbell from Teen Truth leading two assemblies focused on increasing school inclusion. This was made possible by the Concrete Prevention Posse.

We started our Fall Strengthening Families program and still have space. If you have at least one family member aged 10–14, please join us!

We have two trainings coming up for community members and school staff to be trained in Positive Action and Project TND. Both programs are focused on middle school and high school students, and work to help teens with social skills and resiliency. Our October meeting will be Thur. Oct. 17, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Concrete High School library—join us!

At the end of the month on October 26, the DEA National Drug Take Back

Day event is at the Concrete Community Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is an easy and convenient way to dispose of your unused and expired medications.

Homecoming also is on the 26th. Parents, remember to talk to your child about your expectations regarding drugs and alcohol. If you're looking for resources on how to have that conversation, [www.starttalkingnow.org](http://www.starttalkingnow.org) is a great resource.

Have a safe and fun Halloween!  
—Stephanie Morgareidge, coordinator  
Concrete Resource Coalition  
United General District 304

## Oct. PTO calendar

Oct. 2: Caleb Campbell from Teen Truth presents to Concrete Middle School and High School. Youth Leadership class from 9 to 11 a.m. First assembly at 12:25 p.m.; second assembly at 1:45 p.m.  
Oct. 9: PTO meeting in elementary school library, 5:30 p.m.  
Oct. 15: Movie Night: "Goosebumps" at 6 p.m., elementary school gym; free.  
Oct. 23: Pumpkin Run, 5:30 p.m., elementary school.

## GET SCREENED! Breast Care Celebration

10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 16  
8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 17

PeaceHealth United General Medical Center (in Diagnostic Imaging)  
2000 Hospital Drive, Sedro-Woolley  
Cost: Varies, and may be fully covered, depending on insurance coverage.

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# Clear Lake



## HISTORY CORNER

Our picture this month shows downtown Clear Lake circa 1910 when trains were still stopping at the Clear Lake train depot. The view is looking northeast. The train depot, which was torn down in the early 1940s, stood near where the Clear Lake Fire Department's reader board now stands. The spire of the Congregational Community Church can be seen behind the rail car. The depot was an important addition when the Seattle Lake Shore and Eastern Railway (later the Northern Pacific) came north in late 1890. The railroad carried freight, passengers, and the mail, and provided telegraph service for the community. *Photo courtesy of Clear Lake Historical Association.*

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

Like the Clear Lake Historical Association on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/clearlakehistory](http://www.facebook.com/clearlakehistory).

—Deanna Ammons, historian

### Mammogram, cont. from p. 19

women under the age of 40 are diagnosed with breast cancer every year.

At this point, mammograms are the best means to diagnose the disease at its most curable stage, and the new technology used today makes the process go relatively quickly. The screening usually involves taking a set of four images. For each position, you'll hold your breath for a few seconds while the mammography unit captures your images.

Results of mammograms are typically ready within a few days.

A woman's first mammogram is a baseline. This is a critical way for you and your healthcare providers to get to know the make-up of your breast tissue. It sets you up for the future when new screenings can show what is or isn't normal for you. Some women are called back for additional imaging for a more in-depth study.

Your breast imaging is an investment in your long-term health. It could even save your life.

Rod Dalseg is Director of Professional Services/Diagnostic Imaging at PeaceHealth United General Medical Center in Sedro-Woolley.

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## Save the date: Potluck and meeting

The Fall Festival Potluck and CLHA Quarterly meeting will be held on Tue., Oct. 22. The potluck will begin at 6 p.m.; the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

- If your last name starts with A-H, please bring a main dish.
- If your last name starts with I-P, please bring a salad or a side dish.
- If your last name starts with O-Z, please bring bread or a dessert.

Beverages will be provided.

Read  
**Concrete Herald**  
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



## Community Calendar



### OCTOBER

- 1 Hamilton Town Council workshop, Hamilton Town Hall, 584 Maple St., Hamilton, 7 p.m.; info at [townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com](mailto:townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com) or 360.826.3027
- 3 Community Dinner, Concrete High School cafeteria, 4:30 p.m.; see ad, p. 12
- 5 Marblemount Community Club Open House and Membership Drive, Marblemount Community Hall, 60155 SR 20, Marblemount, 4 to 7 p.m.; see notice, p. 26
- 5–6 Skagit Valley Festival of Family Farms, various locations, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days; free admission and parking; info at [www.farmtour.com](http://www.farmtour.com)
- 5 Concrete Ghost Walk, 6 and 8 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 7 SaviBank Concrete branch opens, 9 a.m.; see ad, p. 3
- 12 Concrete Ghost Walk, 6 and 8 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 12 Old-Time Community Dance, Mansford Grange, Darrington; potluck at 6 p.m., dance at 7 p.m.; see ad, p. 25
- 13 Upriver Seed/Plant/Harvest Swap/Barter and Potluck, Concrete Community Center, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; see notice, p. 6; info at [concretesaturdaymarket@gmail.com](mailto:concretesaturdaymarket@gmail.com)
- 16 General Election ballots mailed
- 18–19 Haunted Warehouse, 44872 SR 20, Concrete, 7 to 11 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 19 Birdsvie Diner Fall Festival, Birdsvie Diner, 2 to 6 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 19 Concrete Ghost Walk, 6 and 8 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 24 Murder Mystery Evening, Concrete Theatre, 6 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 25–26 Haunted Warehouse, 44872 SR 20, Concrete, 7 to 11 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 26 Drug Take Back Day Event, Concrete Community Center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; see ad, p. 13 and article, p. 3
- 26 Plant trees and build a trail at Sedro-Woolley's Riverfront Park with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group; see ad, p. 6; info at 360.336.0172 or [outreach@skagitfisheries.org](mailto:outreach@skagitfisheries.org)
- 26 Concrete Ghost Walk, 6 and 8 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 31 Haunted Warehouse (kids tour), 44872 SR 20, Concrete, 3 to 5 p.m.; see notice, p. 6
- 31 Trunk-or-Treat in Bear Square, Concrete, 4 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 31 Kiddie Parade and Merchant Dress-Up Contest in Sedro-Woolley, 4:30 p.m.; see ad, p. 17
- 31 Concrete Lions Club Halloween Party, Concrete Elementary School gym, 5 p.m.; free admission; see notice, p. 6
- 31 Haunted Warehouse, 44872 SR 20, Concrete, 7 to 9 p.m.; see notice, p. 6

### NOVEMBER

- 2 Sedro-Woolley Senior Center Holiday Bazaar, 715 Pacific St., Sedro-Woolley, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; see notice, p. 17
- 2 Riverfront Park (Sedro-Woolley) planting continues with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group; see ad, p. 6; info at [outreach@skagitfisheries.org](mailto:outreach@skagitfisheries.org) or 360.336.0172
- 5 General Election. All ballots must be postmarked by today's date or placed in a drop box by 8 p.m. tonight
- 5 Hamilton Town Council workshop, Hamilton Town Hall, 584 Maple St., Hamilton, 7 p.m.; info at [townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com](mailto:townofhamilton.2010@gmail.com) or 360.826.3027

\*Community Calendar is updated daily at [www.concrete-herald.com/calendar](http://www.concrete-herald.com/calendar)

## Community meetings

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

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

**Coffee Talk** with Concrete Mayor Jason Miller meets **Fri., Oct. 11 this month** at 8 a.m., at 5b's Bakery in Concrete. 360.853.8213.

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

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

**Concrete Chamber of Commerce** meets the second Thur. of each month at 11 a.m. Meetings are held at Annie's Pizza Station in Grasmere Village. 360.466.8754 or [concretechamber@mac.com](mailto:concretechamber@mac.com).

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

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

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

**Concrete Heritage Museum Board** meets the third Wed. of each month, at 6 p.m. at the museum. Meetings are open to the public. 360.826.3075 or [www.concreteheritagemuseum.org](http://www.concreteheritagemuseum.org).

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

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

**Concrete School District Board:** The board will hold a workshop on Oct. 28 at 6 p.m., in the admin. bldg., room 111. The board will hold its regular monthly meeting on Oct. 31 at 6 p.m., in the same location. 360.853.4000.

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

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

**Darrington Town Council** meets the second Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. at Town Hall, 1005 Cascade St. 360.436.1131 or [darrcityhall@frontier.com](mailto:darrcityhall@frontier.com).

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

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

**Imagine Concrete** meets the third Thur. of each month in the Pilots' Lounge at Mears Field in Concrete, at 7 p.m. Open to the public. 360.853.8213 or [goodwords@frontier.com](mailto:goodwords@frontier.com).

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

**Lyman Town Council** meets the second Tue. of each month at Lyman Town Hall (Minkler Mansion), 8405 S. Main St., Lyman, at 7 p.m. 360.826.3033 or [clerk\\_lyman@msn.com](mailto:clerk_lyman@msn.com).

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

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

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

**Sedro-Woolley School District Board:** Meets Oct. 14 at 7 p.m., at the Support Svcs Bldg. for a regular meeting. A second regular meeting is scheduled for Sept. 28 at 7 p.m., at Samish Elementary School. 360.855.3500 or [kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us](mailto:kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us).

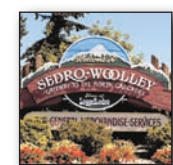
**Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center Board** meets the second Tue. of each month, 5:30 p.m., at Annie's Pizza Station in Grasmere. Open to the public. [sauskister@frontier.com](mailto:sauskister@frontier.com) or [www.skagitaeagle.org](http://www.skagitaeagle.org).

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

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

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# Sedro-Woolley



S-W Elections, cont. from p. 16

## Election 2019

Ballots for the November general election will be mailed on Oct. 16. The deadline to register to vote or update an existing registration online and by mail is Oct. 28. The deadline for in-person registration and voter updates is Nov. 5 at 8 p.m.

The general election is Nov. 5. Ballots must be postmarked by Nov. 5 or left in a drop box by 8 p.m. on Nov. 5.

Concrete Herald reached out to the candidates in all contested races for this election. The following candidates in Sedro-Woolley races responded to the opportunity to share their thoughts with potential voters.

### Mayor: Johnson vs. O'Neil

Incumbent Mayor Julia Johnson faces

Dennis O'Neil for the position.

Johnson was appointed to her position by the City Council in January 2018 when then-Mayor Keith Wagoner was appointed as state senator.

### Johnson: In her words

"It has been my vision to generate economic development, housing, and maintain public safety so our citizens of all ages, lifestyles, and incomes will want to work, raise families, and retire in Sedro-Woolley. I've proven to be efficient at finding solutions to our city's challenges and balancing the delicate line between 'small town feel' and new growth and industry."

"I believe economic development and job creation is the greatest challenge facing Sedro-Woolley. With continued dedication and a love for my hometown, I will focus my efforts to build upon the development that is beginning to take form in our city."

### City Council Position 5: Owen vs. Hamberg

Incumbent Charles "Chuck" Owen faces Corrin Hamburg for the Ward 5 seat.

### Owen: In his words

"I have held this position for 4 years. I would like to continue to sow into Sedro-Woolley, for the immediate needs

and long-term future goals. I believe I am the best choice because I have the benefit of living here for 60-plus years, I have seen the ups and downs, and gained wisdom on the needs of our city. I am not afraid to stand up for the needs of the people, and be a voice for my constituents."

"I believe in our city. It is a great place to live, work, and play. Although we have challenges, it's hard to name a 'greatest challenge' because challenges come and go. Sometimes what looks like our greatest challenge can lead to an outcome where the benefit of the solution far outweighs the 'challenge' of the problem. I am ready to work together with the city government and citizens to solve whatever challenges that may come our way."

### School District Board Position 2: Jepperson vs. Lodjic

Incumbent Christina Jepperson faces Eric Lodjic for the seat.

### Lodjic: In his words

"My decision to run for school board was driven by several recent issues."

"First was the total lack of communication with the taxpayers in the district, in regards to the levy to

replace the school building for Evergreen Elementary.

"Second was the decision to put in a school-based health center at the high school with no facts to support a true need for it and a lack of transparency with parents."

"The third reason is that several issues concerning the treatment of staff and students at the high school were brought to my attention and I have observed how poorly these have been addressed."

"Lastly, I want to give the people of my district more than one choice when it comes to school board candidates."

"The greatest challenge facing the school district at this time is the need to procure the funds to repair school infrastructure and replace Evergreen Elementary. The previous levy could have been passed had the school board and district communicated to the entire community that the previous levy was expiring. This challenge can be addressed by eliminating wasteful spending, regaining taxpayer trust through improved communication and transparency, and holding town halls to get more community involvement."

### Hospital District 304 Commissioner Position 3: Kent vs. Steele

Incumbent Gary Kent faces Morgan Steele for the seat.

See S-W Elections, p. 17



Owen



Johnson



Lodjic



Kent

### Kent: In his words

"I have had the privilege of serving as commissioner with United General Hospital Dist. 304."

"With my understanding of the challenges involved in providing quality services to our area in an ever-evolving healthcare

arena, I hope to continue in my position."

### Other Sedro-Woolley races

- Council Ward 1: Brendan McGoffin faces Dave Bates in the general election, after edging him out in the primary with 60 votes to Bates' 56.
- Council Ward 4: Pola Kelley (incumbent) faces Glenn Allen.

—J. K. M.

## Briefly ...

Soroptimist International of Sedro-Woolley has announced that its **Walnut Tree Thrift Shop** building (713 Puget St., Sedro-Woolley) experienced major damage because of a plumbing leak during the evening of Sept. 23.

They will be working with their insurance company, as well as hiring a structural evaluation. Expect the shop to be closed for two weeks—possibly longer, depending on the outcome of the evaluation and the duration of the repairs. Soroptimists request that supporters hold on to donations until the shop re-

opens, and they thank customers and donors for concern and support.

Watch the shop's Facebook page for updates: <https://www.facebook.com/SISedroWoolley/>.

The Sedro-Woolley Senior Center will host its annual **Holiday Bazaar** on Sat., Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the center, located at 715 Pacific St. (by the library) in Sedro-Woolley.

Organizers are looking for crafters/vendors to participate. For more information about this event and to sign up for a table (\$30, table provided) call the center at 360.855.1531 and ask to speak with Ellen.

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CITY COUNCIL - WARD 4

SEDRO-WOOLLEY

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DOWNTOWN SEDRO-WOOLLEY - THURSDAY OCTOBER 31ST

**KIDDIES PARADE 4:30 PM** Kids should line up near Wells Fargo after 4pm. Downtown Merchant Trick or Treating after parade.

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Post pictures of your staff in their costumes to the Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce Facebook for judging.

Sedro-Woolley & Burlington Chambers of Commerce

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# Lyman



Students from Shawna Tesarik's 4th grade class at Lyman Elementary got a tour through history at the Minkler Mansion on Sept. 25, courtesy of the Lyman Historical Committee. They saw what early Skagit Valley pioneers used for a refrigerator, walked the Minkler grounds, and finished with pressing apples (courtesy of Eagle Haven Winery) in an old-fashioned cider press.

Above, from left: Anette Ceja, Hannah Ratzlaff, Alyssa Cameron, and Olivia Meyers toss in chunks of apples and spin the wheel to grind the apples into pulp.

Below: Roy Matronic-Naylor and Harper Brisson clearly enjoy using a lever to press the juice from the apple pulp. A group photo from the event is on p. 20.



## Charity events

Lyman-based Heart to Heart Charity has announced a variety of events for October and the upcoming holiday season.

### Heart to Heart Charity KIDS Club

The KIDS Club will be held at 8334 W. 3rd St. behind the Lyman Fire Dept. on Sundays, Oct. 13 and 27, from 3 to 4 p.m. The Oct. 27 meeting will be a Halloween party, so come in your costume. KIDS Club is free and is for kids age 3 and older. Meetings will consist of crafts and a snack, and the kids become involved in Give Back projects. The charity accepts donations of craft items, fabric, and snacks. For more information or to donate, e-mail [hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com](mailto:hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com).

### Kids Halloween Dance & Costume Contest Party

On Sat., Oct. 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. at 8334 W. 3rd St. in Lyman, Kids of all ages are invited to come have a hauntingly good time. Dance to live DJ music complete with light show, costume contest, raffle, prizes, and more. Concessions are available for sale. Tickets are \$5 per child and include one free raffle ticket and a free 4x6 photo.

Buy tickets by Oct. 20 and receive a free bag of candy for each ticket bought. The evening will include a costume contest, raffle prizes, and food for sale.

For tickets or more information, contact [hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com](mailto:hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com). Tickets will be available at the door, but space is limited so prepaid ticket holders will get in first. Past dances have sold out, so buy tickets early.

### Pack the Pantry

Heart to Heart Charity will host a Pack the Pantry event to benefit Lyman Elementary school in Lyman. The event is designed to support a new program at the school, which aims to provide students with snacks and lunch items. The program is active only when the school is open, not

on weekends.

All donated items should be nonperishable. Suggested items are granola bars, nuts, tuna meal kits (that do not require refrigeration), Pop-Tarts, fresh apples, cereal bars, etc. Easy-to-eat items that are low in sugar and offer substance are especially appreciated.

Drop off locations:

- Rouw Insurance Services, 408 S. 2nd St., Mount Vernon; Mon. through Fri., 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Lyman Town Hall, 8405 S. Main St., Lyman; Mon., Tue., Thur., Fri., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, contact Tammie Werner at [hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com](mailto:hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com).

### Angel Tree gearing up

The Heart to Heart Christmas Angel Tree is now accepting applications for this year's program. Forms are due back by Oct. 31; however, the program usually fills up in September, so interested applicants are urged to get involved quickly.

Applications are available by e-mailing [hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com](mailto:hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com) or picking one up at Lyman Town Hall, the Dalles Rd. Free Library, or Grandy Creek Grocery.

This year the charity will accept applications for seniors as well. When asking for a form, please be sure to state senior application.

The charity will help as many families and children as it can, depending on how much support it gets. Families of all sizes are in need of assistance; contact the charity for more information.

Questions can be directed to charity organizer Tammie Werner at [hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com](mailto:hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com). Donations of cash/checks are appreciated and 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.

—Tammie Werner

**Area merchants bring you Concrete Herald  
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## Mammography: an investment in your long- term health

By Rod Dalseg

Do you know someone who survived breast cancer? There's a good chance that a 30-minute breast health exam or mammogram played a part in saving them. Cancer is most easily treated and cured when it is discovered in an early stage. Mammograms do not prevent breast cancer or reduce a woman's risk of developing cancer. But for women ages 40 to 70, mammograms may help reduce deaths from breast cancer.

A mammogram is an X-ray of the breast that is used to screen for breast cancer. Mammograms can find tumors that are too small for you or your doctor to feel. There are several types of mammograms, including:

- Standard mammogram, which puts images of the breast on film.
- Digital mammogram, which puts

images of the breast into an electronic file. This allows your doctor to see different views of the breast without taking more images.

- 3D mammogram, which uses both digital mammogram and breast tomosynthesis. Breast tomosynthesis puts three-dimensional images of the breast into an electronic file. Using 3D images with a digital mammogram allows your doctor to see breast tissue very clearly.

Is fear holding you back from getting a mammogram? Do you think it will be painful? Are you scared of what it might find? Mammography professionals want to put a few of those fears to rest.

There are lots of reasons women might shy away from their first mammogram. Some women find the whole physical aspect of the experience unsettling—from discomfort to the loss of a sense of modesty. Mammograms can feel uncomfortable, but they should not be painful.

Being exposed during the exam and having your breasts touched by someone you don't know can be the hardest part of having a mammogram, but it might help to remember that the imaging technologists are skilled in gently

coaching women through the process and using the equipment to get good, clear images of breast and lymph tissue.

More than the physical aspect of the screening, many women find that it's the mental side that holds them back. Overcoming preconceived notions and fears of the unknown are a big part of it. Family history or watching a loved one's cancer journey can color someone's view. Some clinical studies have shown that women tend to avoid getting screened if they know someone personally who has or had breast cancer.

Carla Lange, a PeaceHealth caregiver

who survived breast cancer, affirms that everyone's stories are different. Her doctor recommended a baseline when she was 40 years old. "I had no family history or symptoms. It was by sheer luck I was diagnosed by my first mammogram." Because of her experience, she encourages all of the women in her life to get screened.

While the American Cancer Association guidelines recommend yearly mammograms beginning at age 45, statistics show that more than 15,000

See Mammogram, p. 19

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\*Individual Results May Vary



## AED Locations

An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is a portable device that can be used by non-medical personnel to help someone in cardiac arrest.

- ♥ **Albert's Red Apple Market**  
44546 WA-20, Concrete
- ♥ **Sea Mar Concrete Medical Clinic**  
7438 South D Ave, Concrete
- ♥ **Marblemount Community Center**  
60155 WA-20, Marblemount
- ♥ **Birdsview Brewing Company**  
38302 WA-20, Concrete
- ♥ **Concrete High School**  
7830 S. Superior Ave, Concrete
- ♥ **Concrete Theatre**  
45920 Main St, Concrete





# September in pictures



**Above:** Students from Shawna Tesarik's 4th grade class at Lyman Elementary gathered for a group photo after enjoying a hands-on cider-pressing demonstration at Minkler Mansion on Sept. 25, courtesy of the Lyman Historical Committee. More photos from the event are on p. 18.



**Left:** Community well wishers threw "the bank ladies" a thank-you party at 5b's Bakery in Concrete on Sept. 11, complete with giant paper flowers made by John Boggs. Each flower petal held a gift certificate to a different local business. The certificates were funded by the businesses and private donations. The party was in response to uninformed members of the Upper Valley who thought that the former Columbia Bank employees were responsible for the bank's decision to close its Concrete branch. Clockwise from bottom left: Gladys Silrus, Lynette Gentry, Heather Haj, Leslie Benjamin.

**Right:** Volunteer concrete man Lonnie Rogers puts the finishing touches on the final concrete pour at the Silo Park Spray Park on Sept. 19. Rogers served as foreman for the project, while the town brought its Public Works team and the mayor to the site. The pad was last item needed for the funding agency to release the last of the grant dollars for the spray park.



**Above:** Christie Fairchild and Art Olson call this photo "Village of Love, an Upriver Portrait." Indeed, a veritable village showed up at their place near Rockport on Sept. 14 to help the couple celebrate three things: their 33rd wedding anniversary, their pending receipt of title to their land ("long story," said Christie), and to publicly share Christie's ALS diagnosis. "Okay, the last one isn't exactly a celebration, but the fact that I am finding ways to live with it and not focus on dying from it," said Christie. "That's reason to celebrate, right?" According to one count, 147 humans, nine dogs, and one mule gathered for the photo in front of the barn with a sign on it: "Tomorrow is promised to no one"—a sentiment that became the theme for the party. Photo by Dana Barton.



**Above:** Upper Valley artist Don Smith paints a mural on the cinder blocks fronting Mount Baker Presbyterian Church in Concrete, Sept. 12. The mural is one more item the church can cross off its to-do list as it seeks to de-clutter, renovate, and restore the oldest church building in Concrete. For more information on the church's efforts, see p. 6 of the September 2019 *Concrete Herald*.





# Hamilton



# Rockport



## Council summary

*The Hamilton Town Council held a regular meeting Aug. 13. Following is a summary of that meeting.*

### Aug. 13 regular meeting

- **Public comment:** Resident Brian Friend stated the town is looking good, and complimented Tom and Scott Selin for weed eating and lawn care.
- Ordinance 340, Amending Chapter 10 in Ordinance 179 was discussed. Mayor Joan Cromley explained the text amendment changes and said that Ordinance 340 also states what sections of the zoning are being revised or amended. Discussion ensued regarding the text amendment change to the zoning, Chapter 10 Ordinance 340. Council approved Ordinance 340.
- Sue Madsen with Skagit Fisheries

Enhancement Group (SFEG) gave an update about the Lipsey property and handed out examples of signs and seating proposed for the property that has access to the river on the small walking path. SFEG received grant money to install seating, an interpretive sign, and a walking path. SFEG allocated \$250 toward seating; the town can choose what kind of seating and where it is located. Council can choose a pre-designed interpretive sign or design a new one.

Discussion ensued about the path location and materials. Public Works prefers the path to be 8 feet wide. It was decided to postpone the sign design and suggestions to SFEG until next month.

The other Hamilton project SFEG is working on is the design to replace culverts on Pettit St. The grant funds come from salmon recovery funds, so SFEG must meet fish passage

and DFW requirements. Madsen stated that SFEG culvert work can't change flood levels or patterns. The design phase will wrap by Sept. 15. The estimated cost to replace the culvert is \$1.2 million; the design that was already funded and designed with hydraulic modeling will be the property of the town, so Hamilton can use it to pursue funding. Prior to releasing their final findings, they need to show the impacts from other culverts that they have been looking into on private land.

- In July 2018, the council approved access to Parcel No. P73718 through Noble St., which is town-owned property, to be reviewed in 6 months. Discussion ensued about how the access was being used and property maintenance.

Councilmember Kirkpatrick made a motion to deny the access on town road. Hearing no second, the motion

failed.

Councilmember Morrison made a motion to keep the access across town property to Parcel No. P73718. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Perkins asked that the property owner sign a compliance agreement stating that they will clean up the property. Lisa Johnson agreed to sign a compliance agreement.

Councilmember Morrison stated he would like to change his motion to six months usage, and the owner will sign a compliance agreement to abate the junk vehicles. The motion passed with four votes; Councilmember Kirkpatrick opposed.

- **Resolution 06-2019 Personnel Handbook:** Clerk Elizabeth Easterday explained that the handbook does not need to be adopted by ordinance as it was previously in 2017, and that for clarification and consistency, she updated the handbook to add the

### Election, cont. from p. 4

#### Hamilton Town Council Pos. 2: Boots vs. Patrick

Travis Patrick faces Theresa Boots for the Position 2 council seat. Both candidates bested incumbent Brian Kirkpatrick in the August primary election, with Boots getting 27 votes and Patrick getting 21 votes. Kirkpatrick got 17 votes, removing him from the general election ballot.

#### Patrick: In his words

"I may not have been a long-time Hamilton resident, but I understand the need for involvement in the Town of Hamilton. I want to help improve communication between the local government and its community. To do this, we need a collaborative and progressive Town Council. I plan to do just that and be part of a team to help the Town of Hamilton move forward and become more unified."



Patrick

them. I have a good relationship with the people, I listen to their concerns, I try to get answers to their questions. I am also a volunteer firefighter for the town. I enjoy helping the people of Hamilton.

"I feel the that biggest obstacle that the town has at the moment is understanding what is going on with the newly acquired property across the highway. I would love for everyone in town to come to meetings, give their input. There is a lot of misunderstanding."

I want people to understand that if we don't expand and make Hamilton bigger, the Town of Hamilton will no longer exist. It will die one house at a time. By building across the highway, Hamilton has a chance to live on. No one is being made to leave; this is all a choice. I won't be moving; I have livestock and there is not enough land for my animals."

#### Hamilton Town Council Pos. 5: Perkins vs. Benjamin

Incumbent Geoff Perkins, who is currently serving out a two-year, unexpired term, faces write-in candidate Patrick Benjamin for the Position 5 seat.

#### Benjamin: In his words

"I feel I can offer a lot of insight into the town. I have lived in Hamilton since 2008, and my mother was a town council member around that time. I feel I can provide insight in what could work in bettering the town and what may have failed in the past."

"I believe the greatest obstacle is communication between the town members and the town leadership. I want to strive with current or new council members to really reach out to the community. If a community can work together as one, it can overcome all obstacles in its way, and for this, communication would be the first step."



Johnson



Benjamin

The remaining Hamilton Town Council race is for Position 1, with incumbent Timothy Morrison facing Billy Fisher. Neither candidate submitted a response.

Hamilton Town Council Position 4 is held by James Bates and is not up for re-election.

All public service candidates in Lyman and Concrete are running unopposed this November. Here's a brief rundown:

#### Town of Lyman

- Mayor: Eddie Hills
- Council Position 3: Mike Swanson
- Council Position 4: Mike Couch
- Council Position 5: Ron Hodgkin

#### Town of Concrete

- Council Position 1: Rob Thomas
- Council Position 2: Elizabeth Easterday
- Council Position 4: Marla Reed

—J. K. M.

## Quarry project grinds to a halt

On Sept. 6 came news that Kiewit Infrastructure had submitted a letter to Skagit County, stating that it was pulling out of both the permit application process and the comprehensive plan amendment process. The letter, which came from Kiewit's attorney, said that Kiewit would withdraw from the permitting process for all mining activities, as well as the MRO expansion application.

Kiewit, which is based in Vancouver, Wash., had applied earlier this year to expand an existing 20-acre quarry to an approximately 79-acre operation with a 100-year lease. The application was met with mixed reactions; most vocal was a grassroots nonprofit that formed to defeat the effort.

—J. K. M.

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## From the Mayor

Time for Mythbusters!

**Myth:** Hamilton water rights are for sale or have been sold.

**Reality:** Hamilton has had the same water rights for at least the last 12 years. They were approved by Dept. of Ecology. They are independent of any Skagit County water rights dealings. No one is selling or has sold any of Hamilton's water rights.

**Myth:** Forterra is Janicki.

**Reality:** Forterra is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, funded by donations and grants. Janicki is a privately held, for-profit company. Forterra owns property east of Hamilton Cemetery Rd., labeled as Forterra Hamilton to distinguish it from other property it owns. Janicki owns property south of SR 20. It's easy

to verify on the Skagit County parcel map.

**Myth:** The mayor is paid \$3,000 a month.

**Reality:** The mayor's salary is set by ordinance. It's \$700 a month. I get reimbursed for my cell phone (\$45 a month) since I'm on call 24/7 for emergencies.

I can authorize purchases up to \$3,000 a month for the town without council approval (again, set by ordinance) but rarely approve anything over \$1,000 in cost without getting approval first.

I take town finances very seriously, trying whenever possible to make money stretch further, like buying used office equipment rather than new. If you have any questions about how much something costs, please ask me.

If you hear something that you want to verify, please call or e-mail [hamilton.wa.mayor@gmail.com](mailto:hamilton.wa.mayor@gmail.com). I'm happy to share information.

—Mayor Joan Cromley

See Hamilton Council, p. 38



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OPEN DAILY  
MAY-OCTOBER**

**Organic berries  
Espresso  
Homemade  
ice cream  
Wholesome  
snacks**



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HWY 20, MP 101





# Darrington



## Darrington, Oso fire districts awarded FEMA grant

On Sept. 10, the Department of Homeland Security announced it had awarded Darrington Fire District 24 and Oso Fire District 25 a \$593,110 FEMA SAFER Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Grant to assist both fire districts in recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters and EMTs in the Upper Stillaguamish Valley.

The grant was provided through the federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program. This funding will be available to both fire districts for four years.

The Darrington and Oso Fire Districts rely upon dedicated volunteer firefighters and EMTs to ensure that the communities of the Upper Stillaguamish Valley and surrounding communities are protected during emergencies. Between the two fire districts, volunteers responded to 850 emergency calls in 2017. This grant will provide never-before-available funding for outreach to potential new volunteer recruits and provide additional resources to current volunteers. Resources provided include training and support necessary for responders to do their jobs.

"It is imperative that we continue to invest in the volunteer-based program that has served these great communities for decades and provide the tools necessary for our folks to be successful," said

Drew Bono, Deputy Fire Chief for the Darrington Fire District.

Some of the areas that this grant will pay for include:

- Funding to hire a full-time fire captain whose primary job will be to coordinate recruitment, retention, and training activities for both fire districts during the duration of the grant.
- Fund a basic training program tailored to train up to 40 new and existing volunteer firefighters to the National Standard Firefighter II level during the next four years.
- Provide for marketing supplies to reach out to prospective volunteer candidates in the communities.
- Provide new personal protective equipment and uniforms for new volunteer firefighter/EMTs.
- Provide stipends to new and existing volunteers for participating in training.

"I can speak on behalf of both Oso and Darrington by saying how excited we are to have been awarded this opportunity," said Fire Chief Willy Harper of the Oso Fire District. "We are incredibly proud of our volunteers, and are thrilled to be able to continue to build our programs into the

future. Many fire departments have moved away from using volunteers. We are confident that this recruitment and retention program will help keep our volunteers ready and willing for years to come."

The districts are developing a selection process for the training captain position and working with FEMA on final arrangements. The program is expected to begin before the new year.

Progress of the jointly organized program will be shared as developments are available.

### Broad reach for volunteer districts

Darrington Fire District 24 and Oso Fire District 25 provide all-hazard emergency response services to a population of approximately 5,000 people, covering 61 square miles.

Oso Fire District's boundaries start at the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River near Cicero, Wash., and extend to the contingent Darrington Fire District boundary located in the area of the 2014 Oso mudslide.

Darrington Fire District's boundaries include the Town of Darrington and extend into the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest on the south and east, and Skagit County and Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe to the north. The two fire districts operate out of three fire stations and have a 97 percent volunteer workforce.

For more information, contact Darrington Deputy Fire Chief Drew Bono at 360.913.5003 or dbono@darringtonfire.org.

## Council summary

*Darrington Town Council met for a regular meeting on Aug. 14, 2019. The following is a summary of that meeting. Complete and council-approved minutes for every council meeting are available at Darrington Town Hall.*

### Aug. 14 regular meeting

- Council approved recommending the Shoreline Master Plan to Department of Ecology, and for Mayor Dan Rankin to sign the accompanying resolution.
- Council discussed a draft Trust Water Right Agreement to send to Department of Ecology for its review and comment.

Tom McDonald was present to discuss the agreement. There is a trust application for the farm and a trust application for the water bank, with Ecology, and the Trust Water Right Agreement itself.

The town would be able to provide mitigation paperwork so that citizens can receive building permits through the county. It shows how much water is given to each home. The Town has full discretion on how to delegate the water, and it can be used for any municipal purpose.

It was recommended to wait on signing the permanent trust agreement until an agreement is signed.

Councilmember Kevin Ashe asked

about the quantity that is permitted to each right as it is written in the draft. The council has not discussed the quantity, and he would like to have that removed until it can be discussed and decided upon by the council.

The 350 that is stated in the draft is the typical quantity that the Department of Health uses.

Mayor Rankin asked if Ecology denies the signed draft, how will that affect the agreement with Golden Eagle? The agreement would be cancelled.

Ashe wanted to know if changes can be made after Ecology has reviewed and commented. It is recommended that the motion include, upon Ecology's review and comment, that the council have the chance to review and comment on the draft again.

Ashe motioned to approve to send the draft Trust Water Right Agreement to the Department of Ecology for its review and comment. All in favor.

- An Executive Session opened at 8:05 p.m. and closed at 8:30 p.m.
- Mayor Rankin reported there has been a lot of discussion at the county level about housing affordability. The mayor has attended all the meetings for the task force.

—Compiled from staff minutes

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

See Council, p. 25

## New variety store opens in grand fashion

Darrington St. Variety and Gifts Store, 1080 Darrington St., held a Grand Opening on Sept. 22 with a variety of snacks and raffle prizes.

Owner JoAnn Milton has been a Realtor in Darrington, and along with her husband, Ken, have owned Whitehorse Photography for several years. Together they have photographed the area and provided portrait services at the annual "Trunk or Treat" celebration on Halloween nights.

"I wanted a real estate office and a photography studio, and this space was available," said Milton. "When I realized I had more room than I needed, I added the consignment shop. There is still room in the back to expand."

Milton plans to add more display cabinets to showcase local talent. "I think there is a lot of hidden talent in Darrington," said she.

The shop will feature full-service photography and graphic design, along with realty services. Consignments include Go Wire Wrap by Lisa, Michelle's Design (jewelry) and Tigress Specialty Prints (personalized items, pillows, magnets, key chains, and more).

Milton has become an active member of the Darrington community. She is a certified Realtor, a board member of Darrington Strong, and coordinator for the Darrington Street Fair, all while assisting Ken with Whitehorse Photography.

The shop will be open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 7 p.m. For more information, call 360.436.9466.

—Marla Skaglund



**Darrington St. Variety and Gifts Store owner JoAnn Milton** rings up a sale during the store's Grand Opening on Sept. 22. The shop offers consignment opportunities, photography and graphic design, and real estate services. Photo by Marla Skaglund.

## Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

Sept. 21

The body of the 72-year-old Bothell man who suffered medical complications while hiking was recovered today.

Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue team (SAR) and volunteers from Snohomish County Volunteer Search and Rescue responded to Greider Lakes Trail around noon today. SnoHawk10 was nearby conducting training, and diverted to the area within minutes of the 911 call and located the hiking party. A helicopter rescue technician and a flight medic were hoist inserted to the ground.

The victim was already deceased when the team arrived on scene. Search and Rescue conducted a hoist recovery operation and transported the victim to Taylor's Landing, where the Snohomish County Medical Examiner took custody of the body.

The Medical Examiner will provide positive identification, as well as determine the cause and manner of death.

—Submitted by SCSO

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**Old-Time Community Dance**

Sat., Oct. 12  
Dance: 7 to 9:30 p.m.  
Potluck: 6 p.m.

Live music by Peckin' Out Dough  
Joanne Pontrello, caller

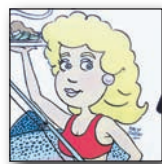
Mansford Grange, Darrington  
Suggested donation: \$7  
All proceeds go to the band and the caller.

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# Marblemount



# Newhalem



## Open house, KSVU Halloween Dance this month

Marblemount Community Club will host an open house and membership drive at the Community Hall (60155 SR 20, Marblemount) on Sat., Oct. 5, from 4 to 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to have a great time and enjoy good food (by donation) while learning how to support the hall. Analysis of incomes and expenses throughout a year typically shows that expenses exceed income, so the club is constantly searching for ways to keep Marblemount Community Hall open as a venue for community functions and activities.

All manner of community activities occur here, including weddings, funerals, memorials, fundraisers, potlucks, open mic events, children's activities, and forums on winter heating assistance. The range is large, and more possibilities are out there just waiting to be brought to life. The hall also has free Wi-Fi 24/7 through the Upper Skagit Library District, and there is a book-drop.

Income is derived from hall rentals and fundraisers, and expenses consist of all manner of operating expenses. No public money of any kind—except for when a public entity rents the hall or special grants we obtain—come to the hall. It's apparent the work of community members is what keeps it open.

If you miss this event, feel free to contact us through the Web site

(marblemountcommunityhall.com) or through Facebook. Liking the hall on Facebook is a big plus for the hall.

### KSVU Halloween Dance

October 26 marks the 10th annual Fall Fundraiser for KSVU 90.1 FM. Although the first event in October 2009 was before the radio station was on the air, it was held to raise funds to get it on the air, and in March 2010, that long-awaited dream came true.

The event will be held at Marblemount Community Hall in Marblemount. As always, the dance will be held on the last Saturday in October—Oct. 26. Doors open at 6 p.m. with a potluck supper, followed by tunes from “Undecided.” A raffle of local items and services, as well as a silent auction for more valuable donations will be ongoing all evening, along with dancing to “Jumbled Pie.” The evening is scheduled to wrap up around 10 p.m.

Admission is \$8 per single adult or \$15 per couple. Teens are \$5 each; kids 12 and under are free.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a potluck dish to share and donate and raffle or auction item or service.

Seasonal costumes are encouraged, and an informal Kids' Costume Parade will entertain young and old alike.

For more information, to volunteer, and/or to donate raffle or auction items to the event, call the KSVU studio at 360.853.8588 and leave a detailed message that includes your phone number.

—Merlene Buller,  
Christie Fairchild

## Cascade River Rd. to close for repairs

Cascade River Rd. will close to all traffic at milepost 18, five miles before the trailhead, from Oct. 7–18.

The road sustained a considerable amount of damage following storms, heavy rains, and flooding around the 2017 Thanksgiving holiday. Crews will work to install an 8-foot

culvert. The aquatics-friendly culvert will help preserve the integrity of the stream and the road.

The trailhead to Cascade Pass, one of the most popular destination hikes in North Cascades National Park Service Complex, is located approximately 23 miles from the junction of Cascade River Rd. and SR 20.

For information on alternative hikes in the park, call the Wilderness Information Center at 360.854.7245.

—Submitted by NPS

## Sasquatch Festival filled with fun

Story and photos by Sarah Fierbaugh

Spend some time in Marblemount and a visitor will get to hear some mighty tall tales. Some caught a fish “this big,” while others have stories of berries so abundant they burst from the stems.

No story is as coveted or revered, however, as a story of Bigfoot, whether told to a stoic skeptic or fervent believer.

Last month, Marblemount and the Northwest Sasquatch2 Club offered a buffet of Sasquatch-related information for both, at the first annual Sasquatch Conference/Festival at the Marblemount Community Hall.

Michael Vail of the Skagitsquatch Museum spoke with the gathered crowd on Sat., Aug. 31, kicking off two days of keynote speakers, entertainment, and stories.

Vail, who lives in Burlington, dreamed for years of building something from the ground up. After being inspired by displays of local chainsaw sculptors, Vail saw the opportunity he was seeking. His museum displays more than 500 unique items relating to Bigfoot from all over the country. Vail welcomes visitors every afternoon and evening to his museum, located on SR 20 in Burlington.

Prolific author Thom Cantrell was the featured speaker. With 11 books and more than 55 years researching indigenous primates, Cantrell delighted the audience

See **Sasquatch**, p. 38

### Scenes from the Sasquatch Festival

**Top right: Marblemount local Linda Dempsey** poses with chainsaw sculptor Michael Vail from Burlington, and her newly acquired art.

**Above, middle: Marblemount local Levi Del Bosque** displays his hard-won Squatch Walk prizes: cookies baked by local Mina Wilson. Photo by Nikki Del Bosque.

**Bottom right: Thom Cantrell** hams it up for the camera between stories.



## Missing hiker found

A 21-year-old woman was found Sept. 16 after being reported missing on Sept. 14 from Hidden Meadows Camp on the east side of North Cascades National Park, approximately 9 miles from SR 20. She was found uninjured about half a mile from camp.

Members of the hiking party activated a personal locator beacon the evening of Sept. 14, when the group realized the woman was missing. Two members of the group hiked out and drove to cell phone coverage, where they called for assistance.

A National Park Service backcountry ranger was diverted 9 miles to the campsite and arrived at approximately 11:30 p.m. Inclement weather prohibited air operations for the first 36 hours of the incident. By the evening of Sept. 15, all likely trails had been searched by ground personnel. Additional resources were planned for operations on Sept. 16, which included more than 75 personnel and four helicopters. A ground search team located the missing woman at approximately 11 a.m. on Sept. 16.

## Diablo Lake overlook to close for construction debris removal

Diablo Lake Overlook will close to all visitors and traffic from Oct. 7–11 while crews transport construction debris via helicopter from campsites along Ross Lake.

There will be a partial closure at the overlook from Oct. 1–6, with visitor access and traffic limited in some areas of the overlook, while crews stage equipment.

Park staff replaced 18 vault toilets at 16 campsites along Ross Lake this summer, to complete a two-year project. The new ADA accessible vault toilets replace old, outdated toilets, will be less odorous, and allow better access for maintenance.

—Submitted by NPS

## The good news is ...

By Sasa, Starwalker, and Two Hats

Albert Einstein said, “Imagination is more important than knowledge. Imagination is the language of the soul. Pay attention to your imagination and you will discover all you need to be fulfilled.”

I recently came to understand this quote as I completed my first Nose to Nose clown intensive, where we learn how to utilize the power of our hearts through laughter to promote community and healing. I learned that I can get to know someone much deeper in five minutes of playing than one hour of talking. It is so

amazing how playing can bring things to our awareness that require our love.

Warm greetings and infinite blessings to all. We have been away for a bit. Life got a bit busy. The good news is we are back to share some amazing things we have been working on.

We have been working on ways to strengthen our community dynamics through creative arts and the power of our hearts. We are planning a “FUN Raiser” in spring with a circus theme, with possible participation from the New Old Time Chautauqua troop. We will have more funshops on learning circus skills. It has been so beautiful and inspiring. I have found my calling to empower through

## Public invited to meeting on North Cascades Grizzly Bear Restoration Plan

The National Park Service (NPS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will host a public meeting on the Draft North Cascades Ecosystem Grizzly Bear Restoration Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) on Oct. 7 at 5 p.m.

For Upper Skagit Valley residents, however, it will be a bit of a drive. According to an NPS press release, the meeting will take place at the Okanogan County Fairgrounds Agriplex, 175 Rodeo Trail Rd., in Okanogan.

The doors will open at 5 p.m., with an orientation period from 5 to 5:30 p.m. Public comment will be taken from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Meeting participants will have an opportunity, through a lottery system, to provide up to two minutes of oral comment on the record.

The Draft EIS is open for comment through Oct. 24. The public may view the

Draft EIS and make comments online at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/grizzlydeis>.

Written comments will be accepted in person at the meeting or by U.S. mail to:

Superintendent's Office  
North Cascades National Park Service  
Complex  
810 State Route 20  
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

Comments provided during the previous public comment period also will be considered. The NPS and USFWS will consider all additional comments received or postmarked no later than Oct. 24, 2019.

Comments will not be accepted by fax, e-mail, or any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can request in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, NPS cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

as naturally enhanced black light/glow in the dark for evening venues.

If you are interested in helping out with community building/strengthening events, “funraising,” supplies, puppetry, art mentoring, etc., contact us at [cascadiaeffect@gmail.com](mailto:cascadiaeffect@gmail.com) or 360.708.4603. We hope you can come out to play soon. We have so much fun stuff coming. Monitor Marblemount Community Hall Facebook or call/e-mail us and we will send you out an invite.

Contact Sasa at [cascadiaeffect@gmail.com](mailto:cascadiaeffect@gmail.com). Experiences may be shared at <http://cascadiaeffect.weebly.com>.





# Seniors



## Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure

### German Cookies



- 4 eggs
- 1 lb. (2¼ cups) brown sugar
- 2½ cups flour
- 1 teaspoon cloves
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- Pinch of salt
- Nuts and raisins to taste

### Glaze:

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 3 Tablespoons water

1. Cream sugar and eggs. Mix together the next 4 ingredients and add to the egg mixture. Add the nuts and raisins.
2. Spread on a greased 12" x 18" pan and bake at 375 degrees for 20 minutes or until done.
3. Immediately spread on glaze. When cool, cut into squares or into finger strips. Makes about 5 dozen.

## Way Back When

### 90 years ago

*Oct. 10, 1929:* One man was killed and six were injured—three seriously—by a premature explosion at the Superior quarry a few minutes after noon today, in what is believed to have been the worst accident in the Superior company.

A well hole exploded while being loaded for a big blast at the quarry. The cause is not yet known.

The well hole being loaded was one of a series comprising a huge blast, which was to have been fired tomorrow. The loading operation was in the hands of Wallace White, representing the DuPont powder company, and as near as can be learned, Fred Baker was tamping down the charge when the explosion came.

Flame and fine rock shot out of the hole as if from the mouth of a cannon, and Baker caught the full force of the explosion. He was struck in the stomach by a large

piece of the drill casing, which was hurled out of the hole by the explosion, and instantly killed. White suffered a broken leg, a broken arm, and cuts and bruises on his face and chest. The other men were farther from the hole and caught the force of the blast to a lesser degree.

The well hole that exploded was drilled straight down from the top of the quarry and was 200 feet deep. It is reported that 60 boxes of powder (3,000 lbs.) had been loaded into the hole before the explosion.

See **Way Back**, p. 29



**40 years ago, Oct. 18, 1979:** Concrete High School students in Richard Riehl's vocational-industrial arts class work on finishing procedures on a concrete walk they are building between the west end of the school and the shop building. Students made the grade, built the forms, and helped in the cement pouring and finishing work under guidance of experts in the field. The work is a continuation of a class started last year with the building of a gas storage facility behind the shop. The students will install windows and learn simple electrical and plumbing work in a training program designed to enable them to manage home projects and experience a little of the work involved in various craft careers. Class members are Vance Benoit, Ben Clark, Ron Coffell, Kirby Hoyle, Sam Irons, Jeff Jones, Charlie Ledford, Randy Martin, Jeff Massingale, Darryl Pressentin, Mike Whealey, and Robbie Eldridge. Debbie Reece is the instructor's assistant. *Archive photo.*

## Way Back, cont. from p. 28

The injured were rushed to town and given first aid treatment, then take to the Sedro-Woolley hospital.  
—Compiled from archives

## East County

### Oct. 2019 Activities

Concrete Community Center

Mon. - Fri., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lunch served at noon

Fresh Start kitchen internships available

Donations always appreciated

### Abbreviations:

East County Resource Center: RC

Concrete Community Center: CC

### Monday

All 9 a.m.

Edge Analytical water sample pickup: RC

All 10 a.m.

Community Closet: CC  
\*Retail job training volunteer needed

### Tuesday

All 9 a.m.

United Health Care Rep: RC

### Wednesday

All 9 a.m.

VA Service Officer: RC

All 10 a.m.

Community Closet: CC

All 1 p.m.

GED Class: RC

10/2 3 p.m.

DVSAS: RC

### Thursday

All 1 p.m.

GED Class: RC

10/3 12:30 p.m.

Pinochle: CC

10/10 10 a.m.

WIC: RC

10/17 12:30 p.m.

Pinochle: CC

10/17 3 p.m.

DVSAS: RC

10/24 10 a.m.

WIC: RC

10/31 12:30 p.m.

Pinochle: CC

### Friday

All 10 a.m.

Community Closet: CC

All Noon

Painting Class: RC

10/18 12:30 p.m.

Commissioner Janicki: CC

### Saturday

All 7 p.m.

AA meeting: RC

10/26 10 a.m.

Drug Take Back: CC

### Sunday

10/13 11:30 a.m.

Seed Swap: CC



**40 years ago, Oct. 18, 1979:** Tracy Handyside examines an approximately 20,000-year-old woolly mammoth tusk and jaw found by the Bill Thompson family in a cliffside, South Skagit location. The tusk was upside down when it was discovered, and unearthed so it curves down into the bank in this photo. It was found protruding from an unstable sand and gravel bank about 10 feet above the roadside. Geologists from Western Washington University delicately scraped sand and gravel away from the tusk and four huge teeth found with it. *Archive photo.*



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# Obituaries

**Sten Thomas Berg Sr.**  
Jan. 4, 1927 – Sept. 5, 2019

**Sten Thomas Berg Sr.**, 92, a longtime resident of the Skagit Valley community, passed away on Thur., Sept. 5, 2019, at the Life Care Center in Mount Vernon following a courageous battle with pulmonary hypertension.

Sten was born on Jan. 4, 1927, in Watford City, N.D., the son of Kristofer and Molly Berg.

He was raised and attended school in Watford City. He was united in marriage to Marilyn Mackey in Sidney, Mont., on Feb. 5, 1946, and they made their home in Seattle.

For 30 years, Sten worked for Chevrolet Dealerships in Seattle, Renton, Kent, and eventually Sedro-Woolley for Nelson Chevrolet as a service manager. He also worked as a large equipment repairman on the Alaska Pipeline based out of Naknek, Alaska.

In 1970, he and Marilyn moved to Concrete, where he worked as Transportation Supervisor for the Concrete School District for 13 years. After retiring he loved working on cars and trucks for family and friends, as well as enjoying his membership at the Eagles Auxilliary, Aerie 1444 in Concrete.

Sten served in the in the United States Navy during World War II, fighting Nazi Germany in the North Atlantic. After returning home, while still serving, he boxed for the Navy until discharge. He then turned professional and as a welterweight, eventually rose to No. 10 in the world, according to Ring Magazine Rankings.



After moving to Renton, Wash., in 1958, he started the Skyway Boxing Club. He trained and managed his fighters there for six years. Among the pugilists he trained was Boone Kirkman (a heavyweight), who eventually ranked in the Top 10 and fought for the championship of the world.

Many years later in Concrete, Sten formed the Skagit Valley Boxing Club. He trained athletes to become not only good young men, but men with self-respect and community values. He will be missed by many.

Sten is survived by his second wife of 15 years, Patty; children with his first wife, Marilyn, Sten Thomas (Pam) Berg, Jr., of Redmond, Margo Ellen Berg of Naples, Fla., and Mark Allen (Joan) Berg of Concrete; grandchildren Christian, Shauna, Larse, Leah, Brittani, Michelle, and Kim; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Sten was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Marilyn, who passed away in 2003, as well as all his brothers and sisters in North Dakota.

The family suggests doing an act of kindness toward someone. A simple man, Sten requested no service or memorial. Share your memories of Sten and sign the online guest register at [www.lemleychapel.com](http://www.lemleychapel.com).

**Ian James Wilson**  
May 1, 1978 – Sept. 19, 2019

With profound sadness we announce the passing of **Ian James Wilson** on Sept. 19, 2019, due to a sudden cardiac event at his home in Bellingham, Wash. He was a loving and devoted son, brother, uncle, nephew, cousin, and friend to all whose lives he touched.

Ian leaves behind his mother, Berna Belle Wilson;



his sister, Emma and husband Van Woods; nieces Zoe and Mae; his sister, Amelia (Amy) and husband Juan Cerrillo; nephews Baker and Jonah; his sister, Shannon Wilson and nephew Bradley Strobe; and sister, Melissa Wilson.

He is preceded in death by his father, James Lee Wilson. Ian was born on May 1, 1978, in Bellingham. He graduated from Concrete High School in 1996 with honors and his Eagle Scout rank. He went on to complete a certificate in Bible Studies at Torchbearers International School in Holsbybrunn, Sweden. Upon his return he completed his Associates Degree with a focus on music and business, graduating with honors from Skagit Valley College in 2003. He then embarked upon a career in account management at T-Mobile in Bellingham, which led him to obtain his Bachelor's Degree in Project Management and MBA at Trinity Western University in Langley, British Columbia in 2012.

Ian was incredibly hard working and led a successful career in sales and marketing at Cigna Insurance since 2009, with accolades and awards for top production many times over, which often included adventurous travels to sunny destinations.

Ian's personality was infectious, inspiring, and full of humor. His faith was the cornerstone of his life, and he was a deeply spiritual man who shared his love for Jesus in a uniquely personal way. He loved people, building community, and connecting with others from all walks of life. Ian was also a talented musician (trumpet, guitar, piano) and lover of jazz, a singer-songwriter, a leader of worship teams and bands, and producer of an album with his rock band Rainy Day Recess in 1999. He enjoyed outdoor adventure of all varieties in the great Northwest, particularly golf, and loved to travel throughout the world.

Ian's humor, laughter, and love will be missed beyond words by his family, friends, colleagues, and community. We are all so saddened by this great loss, but can rest in the fact that he is now in the hands of Jesus, at peace, making friends, surely playing guitar and leading a sing-a-long or canoe trip of sorts, and absolutely laughing.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Sat., Oct. 19, 2019, at 1 p.m., at Community Bible Church, 45672 Limestone St., Concrete, WA 98237, with reception to follow.

In honor of Ian's faith and great desire for outreach, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Concrete Youth Dynamics, in care of Community Bible Church, and sent to the address above.



## A 1940's-style Bakery

- Espresso
- Hand packed ice cream
- Handcrafted pies
- Artisan breads
- Daily Specials
- Grab-and-go-lunches
- Outdoor Dining

7-5 daily  
Closed Tuesdays

360.853.8700  
5bsbakery.com  
45597 Main Street  
Concrete WA 98237

# Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

Aug. 27

Concrete Community Center requested that subjects who were staying in a motorhome in their parking lot be contacted and removed. Subjects had been staying at the Community Center in violation of the parking policy. Subjects were contacted and advised they could not stay overnight at the location. The male was arrested on several outstanding warrants and booked into jail.

Aug. 28

Several juveniles were reported to have thrown snails at the windows of the Concrete Post Office along with smearing a frog on the floor inside the post office. The incident had occurred several days prior but was not reported immediately. Video was able to identify several juveniles as possible suspects. Deputy Wolfe will investigate the incident.

## 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.

**Stout, Roy Donald**

Age: 60  
Race: White  
Sex: M  
Height: 5' 9"  
Weight: 160  
Hair: Gray  
Eyes: Blue  
Address: 307xx SR 20, Sedro-Woolley



Stout was convicted of indecent liberties with forcible compulsion in July 1992, in Skagit County. His victim was an adult female stranger.

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

Source: Skagit County Sheriff

Sergeant Adams investigated a report of a possible domestic disturbance on Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. The reporting party said that a female and male were physically fighting and the female had jumped out of the car. The car was now following the female down the road. Sgt. Adams checked the area, but was not able to find the two individuals. He was able to locate a possible residence associated with the two, but no one was home.

A Town of Concrete employee reported this morning that he had seen a transient walking out from behind the public restrooms on Main St. The person had been carrying a roll of toilet paper with him. The town employee discovered that the person had defecated behind the restrooms, which had been locked for the night and had not been unlocked yet. The person was identified and contacted by Sgt. Adams. The suspect was trespassed from all town property and advised that he was not to be on town property unless it was for official business.

Aug. 29

Deputy Passovoy investigated an allegation of property damage on Fir St. in Concrete at the Cement City Swap Meet. The victim said that he had been in an altercation with another person over parking spaces, and that his vehicle had been damaged. The reporting party told Deputy Passovoy that the issue had been handled prior to her arriving.

Aug. 30

A citizen contacted the Sheriff's Office to advise that he had found a pistol lying in the road near the 18000 block of the Old Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. The citizen told Deputy Eichman that he had been riding his dirt bike in the area when he noticed the pistol lying in the road. Deputy Eichman investigated the firearm, but has not been able to locate the owner at this time.

An employee at the Mount Baker Hotel reported that a former employee was harassing her from across the street. She advised Deputy Passovoy that the former employee had been fired earlier and was now across the street texting the reporting party and refusing to leave the area. Deputy Passovoy was able to contact the suspect later and advise her to stop texting and not to return to the hotel.

Deputy Passovoy investigated a vehicle prowling that had occurred on Baker Dr. in Cedar Grove. The victim said that someone had used a wire to unlock his truck and open the hood. The suspect cut the battery cables and took the battery. At this time there are no suspects.

A local man stopped by the Concrete East Detachment office and reported that last Sun., Aug. 25, a maroon Chevrolet Tahoe had pulled into his driveway. The Tahoe was occupied by two males and a female. The female was in the back seat and seemed to be pointing things out to the males. The reporting party was concerned that the subjects were looking for things to steal. The vehicle left and has not been seen since.

Around 12:30 a.m., Deputy Wolfe was patrolling Fir St. in Concrete when he noticed a vehicle driven by a person he knew had a warrant for his arrest. Deputy Wolfe stopped the vehicle. The driver told Deputy Wolfe he did not have insurance on the vehicle. Deputy Wolfe was also able to determine that the driver did not have a valid license. He arrested the driver for the warrant and driving with a suspended license, and cited him for no insurance.

The SeaMar clinic called, concerned about the welfare of one of their clients who had not shown up for an appointment. Deputy Passovoy checked the known address for the person, but the person was no longer living at that address. Deputy Passovoy searched several places for the

subject before finally locating the subject. Deputy Passovoy confirmed the subject was OK, and then advised the clinic.

Aug. 31

Deputy Murdoch responded to a call of a stolen car from Baker Loop Rd. in Cedar Grove. Prior to arriving, the victim called and advised that the suspect had returned the vehicle and she no longer wanted police response.

Sept. 1

A resident in the 45000 block of Ridgway Ct. in Concrete advised that someone had been flying a drone over her house. She did not know who was flying the drone or why they were flying it over her house. The drone was staying high above the house and was not causing any safety issues.

Sept. 2

Deputies Johnson and Wiggins responded to a possible pedestrian-versus-car accident on Railroad Ave. in Rockport. The witnesses stated that a male had been riding on the hood of a car, then fell off the hood and was run over by the car. The vehicle and all occupants, along with the victim, had left the area. Deputies are still

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 33

# Worship directory

## Assembly of God

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

## Citipoint Church North Cascade

59850 SR 20, Marblemount  
360.873.2504  
Sunday Gathering: 10 a.m.  
[www.citipointchurch.com](http://www.citipointchurch.com)  
E-mail: [mattd@citipointchurch.com](mailto:mattd@citipointchurch.com)

## Baptist

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

## Hamilton First Baptist Church

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

## Lyman Church

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

## Catholic

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

## Covenant

**Community Covenant Church**  
12605 Highway 9, Clear Lake  
360.856.1023 // [covenant@wavecable.com](mailto:covenant@wavecable.com)  
[www.clearlakecov.org](http://www.clearlakecov.org)  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Sun. worship: 11 a.m.

Call for weekly youth group/Bible studies

## Episcopal

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

## Free Methodist

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

## Lutheran

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**  
46372 Main St., Concrete / 360.853.3714  
[www.uprivergrace.com](http://www.uprivergrace.com)  
Sun. worship: 10 a.m.

## Methodist

**Central United Methodist Church**  
1013 Polke Rd., Sedro-Woolley

360.856.6412 / [centralumcsw@yahoo.com](mailto:centralumcsw@yahoo.com)

<http://centralumcsw.org>  
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Sun. worship: 11 a.m.

## Mormon

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

## Nondenominational

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

## Community Bible Church

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

## The RIVER Gathering

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

## Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church

11982 Martin Rd., Rockport, WA 98233  
Church office: 360.853.8746  
Pre-service fellowship: 9:30 a.m.  
Sun. service: 10 a.m.  
Sun. eve. Bible study: 5 p.m.

## Wildwood Chapel

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

## 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](http://www.mtbakerpresbyterian.synodnw.org)  
Sun. worship: 9 a.m.



# CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

"Concrete forged in fires: 1915"

Part I

The year 1915 played a pivotal role in the history of the Town of Concrete. It was just 15 years after the railroad reached the fledgling community of 213 people, then called Baker. The years following the railroad's arrival saw the first of numerous booms for the Town which included the building of not one, but two cement plants. The two communities of Baker, located on the west side of the river, and Cement City, located on the east side, merged to form the new mecca of the Upper Skagit Valley called "Concrete" in 1909. The population swelled to 1,300 with the arrival of those seeking their fortunes and new lives, including many newly arrived immigrants from the far corners of the world.

On early Tuesday morning, March 11, 1915, the tables started to turn on the town's promising future. At 2 a.m. a fire was discovered by W. R. Smith, who occupied rooms on the third floor of the Concrete Herald Building. The fire already had engulfed the building, and Mr. Smith and his son Leslie only had time to grab a handful of clothes before escaping and turning in the alarm. The volunteer firefighters arrived shortly and started a valiant, but unsuccessful, effort to save the

building.

The three-story building included the *Concrete Herald* office and printing plant on the first floor, the future offices of W. P. Gaide of Hamilton on the second, and the dental offices of Dr. H. W. Van Buskirk and the sleeping rooms of W. R. Smith and his son Leslie on the third.

The *Herald* office was temporarily relocated in the insurance and real estate office of W. J. S. Gordon, while the printing was to be performed out of town. Dr. Buskirk ordered new supplies and equipment and was expected to open a new office on the second floor of the Kellner Building adjoining the Concrete Library. Mr. Smith and son secured lodging at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vier.

Although the origin of the fire was unconfirmed, it appears to have started in the vicinity of the electric motor used to power the presses. The building would be rebuilt as soon as possible, with work planned to start within weeks.

A more devastating fire broke out in a rubbish pile located behind business row on the south side of Main St. east of Aldridge St. on the night of June 30. This fire was discovered by James Flinn, who worked at the Zabel Saloon. When the flames were already scorching the

See Museum, p. 38

## Civil Air Patrol

Many Civil Air Patrol squadrons across the nation concentrate their efforts on recruiting cadets, but there are those who don't realize the Auxiliary of the United States Air Force needs senior members, too! If you are a teen age 12-18 and have an interest in disaster relief, search and rescue, or aerospace (including rocketry, drones, single-engine, and glider planes), or if you are an adult 21+ with an interest in the same or mentoring youth toward respect, excellence, integrity, and service to others, CAP is for you! You are welcome to visit a meeting at our CAP location in Concrete at Mears Field, Concrete Municipal Airport. We meet all but the first Tuesday of the month; during October and November, meetings start at 7 p.m. The entire squadron meets the first

Tuesday of the month at Skagit Regional Airport, starting at 6 p.m.

This month, cadets and senior members will help with the annual Lions Club Halloween Party for kids at Concrete Elementary School. We also will host an open house during our last meeting of the month on Oct. 29 at the Mears Field Pilots Lounge, 7 p.m.; the open house is open to all who have an interest in learning more about CAP.

We look forward to seeing you and talking to you about what Civil Air Patrol is about and offers communities, as well as individuals. E-mail inquiries can be sent to [kelly.siebecke@wawg.cap.gov](mailto:kelly.siebecke@wawg.cap.gov) or the squadron commander at [robert.shupe@wawg.cap.gov](mailto:robert.shupe@wawg.cap.gov).

—2d Lt. Kelly A. Siebecke

## At the Upper Skagit Library

Thanks to everyone who participated in our crazy, busy, full-of-programs September! We signed up kids for their first library card, and three of them won an awesome Robot Kit. We had Daniel Munoz, a software developer at Amazon, go to Concrete High School to talk about programming and technology; local author Wayne Carter discussed and signed two books he contributed to; learned sign language during International Week of the Deaf; and celebrated Banned Books Week by giving away banned and challenged books. We ended the month with fascinating information about "Forestry Health in the Puget Sound."

Friday, Oct. 4 at 5:30 p.m. kicks off our **Friday Night Frights**. We will show a scary, spooky, fun movie the first three Fridays of the month at the library. You can check out our Web site or stop by the library to get all the details. Free event; age-appropriate movie variety.

On Sat., Oct. 5 at 3 p.m., we will have a **Decorate the Library for Halloween** craft that you can make and hang on the library walls for October. Free event; all ages. All supplies provided.

**Storytime is back.** Every second and fourth Saturday of the month, families are

welcome to join us at 11 a.m. for stories and a craft.

On Tue., Oct. 15, join us at 4 p.m. for **Halloween-related crafts** for all ages. Free event; all ages. All supplies provided.

On Fri., Oct. 25 at 5 p.m., we will host our **First Annual Zombie Walk!** Join us in your favorite zombie attire as Isaac Marion, the author of *Warm Bodies*, leads us through the streets of Concrete. After the walk, return to the library for a Q&A and a book signing with Isaac, and zombie-themed goodies provided by 5b's Bakery. Cost to join is only one pop-top can of food or a protein bar, which we will donate to the East County Resource Center.

**Drop-In Tech Tutoring** continues on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring your laptop, smart phone, or whatever you need help with and we will do what we can.

**Upper Skagit Library Board of Trustees meeting** will be Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. Public is always welcome.

Check us out at our new Web site, [www.upperskagitlibrary.org](http://www.upperskagitlibrary.org). You also can find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest!

—Tess Carroll, Library Associate

## October at the Darrington Library

### Children & Families

- Kindle a Conversation. If you're a K-8 student who would like a Kindle Fire, talk to a library staff member between Oct. 1 and 31 about a book you've recently read.
- Family Storytime, Wednesdays, Oct. 2-30 at 11 a.m.; all ages welcome; caregiver required.
- LEGO Club. Create with LEGO at the library. Thur., Oct. 3, 3 p.m.
- Great Candy Shakeout. Learn about plate tectonics using candy bars. Thur., Oct. 17, at 3 p.m.

### Tweens & Teens

- Intro to Microbit. No prior coding experience needed; ages 10 and up. Thur., Oct. 10, at 3 p.m.

### All Ages

- Darrington Book Group discusses Leif Whittaker's novel, *My Old Man*

and the Mountain, Mon., Oct. 7, at 5:30 p.m.

- Using Knowledge & Skills to Thrive in the Outdoors. For teens and adults. Sat., Oct. 5, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- Acrylic Paint Pour. Create your own expressionistic image. For all skill levels, ages 13 and up. Pre-registration required. Sat., Oct. 12, at 2 p.m.
- Washington Author Tour presents Leif Whittaker. Local author, speaker, adventurer, and climbing ranger Leif Whittaker visits with his first book, *My Old Man and the Mountain*. Sat., Oct. 26, from 3 to 5 p.m.

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

—Asheley Bryson, branch manager

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

Sept. 3

While patrolling the area of "Devil's Tower" near Lake Shannon, Deputy Wiggins contacted two suspects who were trespassing on the property. He identified both suspects, and the male requested that he not be arrested because though he knew he was trespassing on posted property, he did not have a prior arrest record. Deputy Wiggins explained that the property owner wanted anyone caught on the property without permission to be arrested. The male suspect was arrested and the female, who was a juvenile, was referred for trespass.

A client of the Concrete Community Center reported that someone had stolen several credit cards and her driver's license. The victim said that she had gone to the restroom and had left her purse on the table where she had been sitting. Later she checked her purse and discovered that several of her credit cards were missing, along with her driver's license. She called

and canceled the cards, and reported the theft to Deputy Moore.

Multiple parties called to report that a male and female had entered the bathroom in the laundromat on Main St. in Concrete and had begun to argue loudly. Those reporting the problem said that it sounded like the two were hitting each other. When the two exited the bathroom, they had blood on them and appeared to have assaulted each other. The two left the laundromat, with the male traveling west on Main St. and the female traveling east on Main St. The female was contacted by a citizen in front of the hardware store; she told the citizen that she had been assaulted, but refused to name the suspect. Deputy Johnson was able to contact the victim on Main St. near the old fire department. The victim told Deputy Johnson she had been assaulted by her boyfriend, whom she identified. While giving the victim a ride home, Deputy Johnson located the suspect, who told Deputy Johnson that there had been an argument but nothing physical. When he asked the suspect about the blood that

was on the victim and on him, the suspect said that he had tripped and must have cut himself. The suspect was arrested and taken to jail for assault.

Upper Skagit Tribal Police requested that the Sheriff's Office assist them investigating a trespass complaint in Marblemount. Deputies, along with Officer Backstrom from Upper Skagit Tribal Police, went to an address on S. Cascade Rd. and contacted two people who were trespassing. One subject was given a warning since he had not been contacted before. The other person was arrested for trespassing since she had been officially evicted from the property and had refused to leave. This person was taken and booked into jail.

### Sept. 4

Deputy Brown called about a possible malicious mischief incident near an 8300 block in Cedar Grove. The victim said that he wanted to report that every car he gets ends up getting small dents on the roof of it and nothing had been done about it. Deputy Case had handled an earlier call from the victim and had determined that

the damage had been done by parking the vehicles under a nut tree. He tried to tell the victim that the large nuts dropping out of the tree had been denting the tops of his vehicles, but the victim refused to believe it or to park his vehicles somewhere other than under the tree.

Deputies responded to an unconscious person in the 46000 block of Baker Loop in Cedar Grove. Deputies were advised the victim possibly had been using drugs and was not breathing at the time. Before the deputies arrived, Med 7 transported the victim to the hospital.

Concrete Community Action called to advise that a male who was driving a blue and black truck had been screaming at kids and threatening to kill people. The truck had last been seen heading westbound on SR 20. Deputies checked the area, but were unable to locate the truck.

On his nightly patrol check of "Devil's Tower" near Lake Shannon, Deputy Wiggins located a vehicle parked near

See Sheriff's Blotter, p. 35

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

### Bookkeeping

#### UpRiver Bookkeeping Services

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

### Liquor stores

#### Concrete Liquor Store & Convenience Store

45895 Main Street, Concrete // 360.853.7149  
Monday thru Saturday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Gifts, Rocks, Tobacco, Cigars, and more!

### Pawn shops

#### Gold Nugget Jewelry & Loan

New & Used guns, ammo, sporting goods  
We Buy, Sell, & Loan Guns, gold, coins  
Corner of Hwy 530 & Mt. Loop Hwy, Darrington  
Mon.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5  
360.436.1029 [www.goldnuggetpawnshop.com](http://www.goldnuggetpawnshop.com)

### Ranches

#### Double O Ranch, LLC

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

### Restaurants

#### Cascade Burgers

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

### Brew pubs

#### Birdsview Brewing Co.

Fresh micro beer brewed on our premises  
Great food! Family friendly!  
Open Tuesdays through Sundays  
38302 SR 20, Birdsview // 360.826.3406  
[www.birdsviewbrewingcompany.com](http://www.birdsviewbrewingcompany.com)

### Construction

#### Don Payne's Backhoe Services

Extensive experience, reasonable rates  
Trenching for electrical and plumbing lines, site preparation, road- and lot-clearing  
360.853.7838 / 770.0178 / #PAYNE\*066BC  
[dpaynes2001@yahoo.com](mailto:dpaynes2001@yahoo.com)

### Hair salons

#### Hair Fitness

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

### Perks Espresso & Deli

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

### Self-storage

#### Concrete Self-storage

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

### Septic services

#### Cinema Septic

Inspection, troubleshooting and pumping  
Serving all of Skagit County  
Fred West, owner. 360.466.8753  
[fred@cinemaseptic.com](mailto:fred@cinemaseptic.com)  
[www.cinemaseptic.com](http://www.cinemaseptic.com)

### Thrift stores

#### Second Floor Thrift Store

Antiques, Vintage, Collectibles, Thrift  
Inside & upstairs at Gold Nugget Pawn Shop  
Corner of Hwy 530 & Mt. Loop Hwy, Darrington  
Wed.-Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5  
360.436.1029 [www.goldnuggetpawnshop.com](http://www.goldnuggetpawnshop.com)

### Towing services

#### Cascades Towing

Professional flatbed towing. Winch outs, lock outs, jump starts, and fuel deliveries.  
Motorcycle and equipment towing. Junk vehicle removal. Lowest prices.  
360.853.8599 // [www.cascadestowing.com](http://www.cascadestowing.com)

To add your business to this directory, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail [editor@concrete-herald.com](mailto:editor@concrete-herald.com)



Northwest  
Garden  
Bling

- Gift shop
- Stained glass & glass supplies
- Souvenirs

360-708-3279

[nwngardenbling@frontier.com](mailto:nwngardenbling@frontier.com)  
44574 Highway 20 - Concrete, WA 98237





# Out & About



## Mt. Vernon

### Skagit Community Foundation accepting grant applications

The Skagit Community Foundation is accepting grant applications for 2020. All 501(c)(3) nonprofits serving Skagit County may apply.

In 2019, Skagit Community Foundation made grants to several nonprofits serving the Upper Valley communities. North Cascade Institute's Environmental Learning Center at Diablo received a grant of \$5,000 to send more 6th graders to Mountain School. "Strengthening our classroom community while connecting it to a larger world is one of the greatest values of Mountain School," said a teacher participant. Iris Maute-Gibson

from North Cascade Institute reported that 86 percent of the students have a greater sense of responsibility for the environment after attending Mountain School.

A \$3,000 grant was given to the Concrete Summer Learning Adventure Program coordinated by United General District 304 in collaboration with the Concrete School District. "Sixty elementary students and 17 middle school students enrolled," said Carol Hawk, director of Community Health Outreach Programs. "One hundred percent of the parents said they would recommend the program to others," said Hawk.

In 2019, Skagit Community Foundation distributed \$400,000 in grants to more than 30 nonprofit organizations serving Skagit County. Grants were given in the areas of arts and culture, health, education, and the environment. Grant money comes from a variety of sources, many local.

For more information, go to [www.skagitcf.org](http://www.skagitcf.org).

## Health fair planned

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees' Association will hold its local Annual Health Fair and meeting on Tue., Oct. 8 at 1 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Senior Center, 1401 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon.

Representatives from the major health plans (Blue Cross Blue Shield, Kaiser, GEHA, Aetna, etc.) will be there to discuss the 2020 plans. The fair provides an opportunity to ask questions of speakers and learn how Federal Employee Health Benefit changes in the coming year will affect benefits for current federal employees, NARFE members, retirees, and their spouses.

A business meeting for NARFE will follow. Stay after the program to meet other chapter members and elect officers for 2020. Learn more about what NARFE is all about and what important things NARFE members do to help our country.

The health fair and meeting are free. For more information, call 360.202.8999 or e-mail [narfe196@gmail.com](mailto:narfe196@gmail.com).

## Burlington

### Craft Fair plans November fundraiser

Organizers for the 3rd Annual Hero Craft Fair in Mount Vernon are looking forward to another successful fundraiser. Moneys raised at the annual event—scheduled this year for Nov. 8–10—are donated to the Mount Vernon Police Dept., the Mount Vernon Fire Dept., and veterans organizations.

Hero Craft Fair will be held at the Heritage Flight Museum, 15053 Crosswind Dr., Burlington. The fair will be open:

- Fri., Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sat., Nov. 9, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sun., Nov. 10, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 360.399.3069 or e-mail [herocraftfairmv@gmail.com](mailto:herocraftfairmv@gmail.com).

## Bellingham

### WWU hosting exhibition on Jewish books and printing

Western Libraries Heritage Resources is hosting a new exhibition tracing the journeys of the Jewish people through their books and printing.

"As Far As Their Books Reach: Jewish Printing and the Global Jewish Diaspora" is on display through March 20, 2020, in Western Washington University Libraries Special Collections (Wilson, 6th floor).

The exhibit is free and open to the public, and will be available for viewing Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and by appointment (closed weekends and holidays).

Heinrich Heine described the Bible as the Jews' "portable homeland." The same could be said for Jewish books more broadly, which bear witness to the long and remarkable history of the global Jewish diaspora. Through a survey of historical Judaica, this exhibition traces the physical, intellectual, and cultural journeys of the Jewish people, and explores the traditions that have earned the Jews the description "People of the Book."

Featured materials are from the recently acquired Judaica/Holocaust & Genocide Studies Collections located in Western Libraries Special Collections, and the exhibition is co-sponsored by Western Libraries Heritage Resources and The Ray Wolpov Institute for the Study of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Crimes Against Humanity. Numbering more than 3,000 titles, the collection spans 500 years and six continents.

For more information about the exhibit, or to request a group or class visit, contact Judaica Project Archivist David Schlitt at [david.schlitt@wwu.edu](mailto:david.schlitt@wwu.edu) or 360.650.3193.

*Read*  
**Concrete Herald**  
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

## Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 33

the gate leading to the private property. The suspect was wearing camouflage and had a bow with him. It appeared that the subject had been hunting on the private property. The suspect gave Deputy Wiggins a story that was obviously false. After further investigation, Deputy Wiggins determined that the suspect had numerous arrests for hunting and fishing violations, and did not have a valid hunting license. He contacted the Fish and Game Dept. Officer Ludwig advised him to forward the information to him and he would determine if the suspect would be referred for hunting violations.

### Sept. 7

A burglary was reported at the 49000 block of Concrete Sauk Valley Rd. The victim said that sometime in the last week, someone had broken the lock on the back door and entered the residence. The only thing the victim said was missing was a set of elk horns that were hung on a wall.

### Sept. 9

Deputy Wolfe investigated a theft of game cameras from a residence off the Rockport Cascade Rd. The victim advised that several of his game cameras had been taken, but he had captured photos of the suspects on other cameras that the suspects didn't find. Deputy Wolfe is working to identify the suspects.

Deputy Wiggins contacted the owner of property on Lower Finney Rd. who had reported that a male subject had walked onto the property, which is completely fenced. The suspect was looking around the garage as if trying to figure out how to get into it. When she confronted him, he told her he was walking across the property to access the creek. Deputy Wiggins was able to locate the suspect. When confronted, the suspect told Deputy Wiggins he was scouting for elk and had cut across the property. When asked if he had a license or the special permit to hunt the elk in this area, he said he was not aware he needed a permit. The suspect also admitted to taking an apple from the property. Deputy Wiggins issued him a citation for theft and trespass.

### Sept. 10

As he drove by the old Good Foods Drive In located on SR 20 in Marblemount, Deputy Wiggins saw an old car parked there with a person standing next to it. It appeared the person was getting ready to abandon the vehicle. He contacted the person, who gave him a false name. After investigating, Deputy Wiggins was able to determine the suspect's true identity, and that he had

several warrants for his arrest, including one from the Dept. of Corrections. When Deputy Wiggins attempted to arrest him, the suspect, Trevor D. Young, fled. Deputy Wiggins chased him to a house close by, where he hid. While waiting for other deputies, Deputy Wiggins tried to watch the house to keep him from fleeing. When deputies arrived, they searched the house, but did not locate Young. Deputy Wiggins couldn't tell if Young had left the house or if he was hiding somewhere in all the trash inside the house.

### Sept. 11

A citizen on Cedar St. in Concrete called to advise that the cars on S. Superior St. were not stopping at the crosswalk at S. Superior and Cedar St. to allow people to cross. Deputies were advised of the issue and asked to monitor the crosswalk, especially during school hours.

The Punkin Center Fire Dept. requested SAR assistance to carry out an injured person who was involved in a horse-riding accident. As SAR was responding, they were told that the fire department had been able to locate the rider and get her back to the ambulance.

### Sept. 13

Deputy Passovoy investigated a theft on Thunderbird Ln. east of Concrete. Sometime during the night, someone had gone onto the victim's property and taken a large Cabela's brand tent valued at \$1,000. The victim said that the neighbor had seen a dark color Blazer or Bronco around the property, but it is unknown if the vehicle was involved in the theft.

Business owners on Main St. in Concrete called in a noise issue late at night. The businesses reported that patrons of The Hub on Main St. were being loud and disorderly. Deputy Mullen checked the area several times during the night and was unable to find any issues.

### Sept. 15

The owner of a campground off Cascade River Rd. called to report a theft of wood. The victim said that two people staying at the campground discovered a gold and brown Chevrolet truck parked on the property. The driver of the truck was cutting and loading wood into the back. When the suspect saw the two people, he got into the truck and left rapidly. They reported this to the owner, who was able to identify the suspect. Deputy Mullen located the suspect on Ranger Station Rd. When confronted, the suspect initially denied knowing anything about the theft. Later he admitted and asked if he could just return the wood. Deputy

Mullen advised him that since he had been warned already by the property owner not to cut any wood on the property, he was going to be arrested for theft. He was cited for the theft and given a court date.

### Sept. 17

While patrolling through Concrete, Deputy Mullen observed a suspect standing outside of Logger's Landing. Deputy Mullen knew the suspect had warrants, so he contacted the suspect and arrested him on the warrants.

Deputy Wolfe stopped a vehicle on Main St. in Concrete for no front license plate. The driver had several warrants. He was arrested and taken to jail.

### Sept. 18

A suspicious male was seen on Coffell St. in Concrete, attempting to take parts off a vehicle parked at that location. When the male was confronted, he closed the hood of the car, picked up a black bag, and left without saying anything. The male was wearing a black jacket and blue jeans. Deputies checked the area, but could not locate him.

Deputy Arndt observed a male standing at the bus stop located at Cape Horn Dr. and Center Ct. He contacted the subject, who gave him a false name. Deputy Arndt was able to identify the subject, who had

a felony warrant for trafficking in stolen property. He was arrested and taken to jail. On the way to jail, the subject said to Deputy Arndt, "If you thought Zamora was bad, just wait till you see me!" in reference to the subject who had shot and killed Deputy Ann Jackson and others on Sept. 2, 2008. The subject was booked into jail and is still there on \$10,000 bail.

### Sept. 19

A reported burglary occurred within the 59000 block of SR 20 in Marblemount. The victim said that nothing was missing as far as they could tell, but damage to the residence was more than \$250.

### Sept. 21

At approximately 8:30 a.m., a citizen reported that she had discovered that a van parked on her property had been entered and several items taken. Two cameras and several lenses worth more than \$7,000 were taken.

### Sept. 22

An anonymous caller at 2 a.m. advised of a noise issue at the Lyman Tavern on Main St. in Lyman. The reporting party said there was very loud music and screaming coming from the tavern. By the time deputies were able to respond, the noise had subsided.

—Compiled by Sgt. Greg Adams

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# Smile



## Collin's realm of truly awful jokes

Ate a lot of alphabet soup. Had a massive vowel movement afterwards!



A local butcher was pleased no end the other day when a woman came in and ordered 25 pounds of beef. He got out his choicest piece, and trimmed and wrapped an excellent cut. When he was finished, he said, "This is pretty heavy; shall I carry it to the car for you?"

"Oh, I don't want to buy the meat," the woman said. "I recently lost 25 pounds and I just wanted to see how much that was."

— § —

An honest confession is not only good for the soul, it's good for a column or two in the newspaper.

— § —

"Some people raise their own vegetables, but Dad Gummit praises his neighbor's garden and he gets the best on the place."

## Concrete Harold Classic

By Joyce Harris



Originally published in October 2009.

## Public Service Announcement

By Stig Kristensen



## Crossword: "Missing the Boat"

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

### Across

- 1. Austronesian language
- 7. Assist, in a way
- 11. Grinder
- 14. City in northern Syria
- 15. Actor Green of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"
- 16. Collector's suffix
- 17. Will be obedient
- 19. Pkg. deliverer
- 20. Doesn't go on
- 21. Female hare
- 22. Rock bottom
- 24. Court matter
- 25. The long way
- 28. Satisfy
- 29. Compass
- 30. Pool problem
- 33. \_\_\_\_ de Triomphe
- 34. French vineyard
- 37. Fails to please
- 42. Stain
- 43. Ground breaker
- 44. Painting holder
- 45. Bass
- 47. Con
- 49. Travels on the Mississippi, perhaps
- 53. Latin I
- 56. "Wellaway!"

### Down

- 1. Woodcutter
- 2. Companionless
- 3. Darns
- 4. Prefers, with "for"
- 5. Natl. Humor Month
- 6. Noggin
- 7. Crooked
- 8. Track action
- 9. Numerical suffix
- 10. From there
- 11. Meccan, e.g.
- 12. Remove a brooch
- 13. Iraqi port
- 18. Codger
- 23. Revelation response
- 25. Caught in the act
- 26. Poi source

- 27. Marine menace
- 28. Bell and Barker
- 30. Append
- 31. Actress Myrna
- 32. "Holy cow!"
- 33. Sierra Nevada, e.g.
- 34. Businesses: Abbr.
- 35. Bewail
- 36. Website address
- 38. "\_\_\_\_Team"
- 39. Fancy dressers
- 40. Santa's reindeer, e.g.
- 41. Sweet potato
- 45. Datebook abbr.
- 46. Alaska native
- 47. Accommodate
- 48. Drive-in employee
- 49. Haile Selassie disciple
- 50. Homeric epic
- 51. Dashes
- 52. Ministers
- 53. Buoy
- 54. Player
- 55. Bond hearings
- 58. "Hey, buddy!"
- 61. George W., to George
- 62. Letters on a chit
- 63. Pupil's place

## 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.

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

\*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 39.

## Funny as Facebook

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

- "If you need proper recognition for successful usage of the toilet, you're welcome to come over. We applaud, sing songs before, during and after, we heap praise for every number 1 and number 2. Seriously no one celebrates elimination like we do."
- "Seeking suggestions on how to monetize lying on the couch hugging my dog. Leave your ideas in the comments."
- "I just learned that the word 'boudoir' derives from a French verb meaning 'to sulk' or 'to pout.' It's basically a room where one can sulk and pout. And now I so desperately want a boudoir."

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**Sasquatch**, cont. from p. 26

with his stories. Cantrall, of Enumclaw, said he owes his passion for the subject to his father. "He lit in me a fire of curiosity—55 years and still going."

Event planner Syvella Kahlil was thrilled with the turnout, which sold more than 225 tickets. "I was inspired by all the stories I would hear in town," said Kahlil. "I wanted locals like Shadow to have a place to share their stories with people who would appreciate them."

Local Sasquatch expert Shadow Minimoon entertained during an open microphone session on Saturday afternoon with stories of local Bigfoot sightings, commenting on the relationship he cultivates with the elusive creatures.

Local Marblemount river guide and historian Donovan Smith took enthusiasts for a float down the Skagit River, pointing out possible locations for the reigning hide-and-seek champion. While the weather cooperated enough for a dozen riders on Saturday, the wind kept Bigfoot's secret on Sunday.

Northwest Sasquatch 2 Club sponsored this first conference and plans to continue annually on Labor Day weekend.

"We are a community," said Kahlil. "We

want to promote local people and local businesses, and show people we are a strong community, even though we may not have a large population."

This year, the club honored active duty military and law enforcement personnel, welcoming them for no charge. Kids under 12 also were invited for free.

Five vendors participated in the conference, selling Sasquatch-related wares including original sculptures, jewelry, and fiber arts. The Buffalo Run Hotel and Restaurant of Marblemount and 5b's Bakery of Concrete, as well as each of the vendors, donated items to raffle to raise money for the next conference. Guests could participate in raffles or the more exciting Squatch Walk (like a cake walk) or even a Bigfoot-calling contest to win prizes.

Plans for the next annual conference are in the works. Kahlil plans to have more speakers and more vendors ready to educate and entertain.

Marblemount Community Center will host the event again Labor Day weekend of 2020 (Sept. 5–6).

—Sarah Fierbaugh

**Museum**, cont. from p. 32

Concrete Drug Company and the Bryson Store, he sounded the alarm at 11:15 p.m., and the volunteers arrived 20 minutes later, but by midnight the whole row of buildings had been destroyed. Deputy Sheriff Joe Glover arrived and took charge of the firefighting efforts. Details on that fight begin next month.

The Concrete Heritage Museum has now ended its regular season. Special tours can still be arranged, with advance notice, by contacting John Lloyd (360.982.0423 or autohistory@hotmail.com) or John Boggs (360.853.8347 or jrboggs@aol.com).

—John Boggs

**Hamilton Council**, cont. from p. 22

unpaid religious holiday and sick pay that was previously approved, added the Paid Family Medical Leave sections, an Employee Evaluation Form, and an acknowledgement that any new employee signs. Council approved Resolution 06-2019.

- **Water:** The water loss report shows 4 percent. Tom Selin reported he replaced a gasket on the chlorine

pump.

- **Streets:** Selin was on vacation; Si Adams filled in for Selin. Numerous reports were received regarding the hard work Adams put in.
- **Fire:** Hamilton Fire Department used about 4,000 gallons from hydrants that weren't reported; Clerk Easterday will get that information to Brad Ferris to revise the Water Report.

The radio for the fire dept. is in and programmed. The bunker gear should be here soon. Scott relayed from the Skagit County Fire Marshall they would rather folks do not burn at all, even though campfires are allowed, but only if you have a proper water source to extinguish fire.

- The Boundary Review Board accepted the town's annexation proposal. Mayor Cromley will keep council posted as she hears from the Boundary Review Board.
- Mayor Cromley reported that Skagit County had comments about the annexation request for the Forterra property.

—Compiled from staff minutes

# Classifieds

## MOVIES & EVENTS AT THE HISTORIC CONCRETE THEATRE

**WEEKEND MOVIE SCHEDULE:**  
**Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Sat., 5 and 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 5 p.m. (Dollar off Sun. @ 5 p.m.)**  
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To place a Classified ad, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail ads@concrete-herald.com. Cost is \$5 per every 10 words, rounded up to the nearest 10. Deadline for the Nov. 2019 issue is Oct. 28.

## NOTICES

### NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL 2020 BUDGET WORKSHOP

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Concrete Town Council will hold workshops on the following dates in preparation for the 2020 Budget:

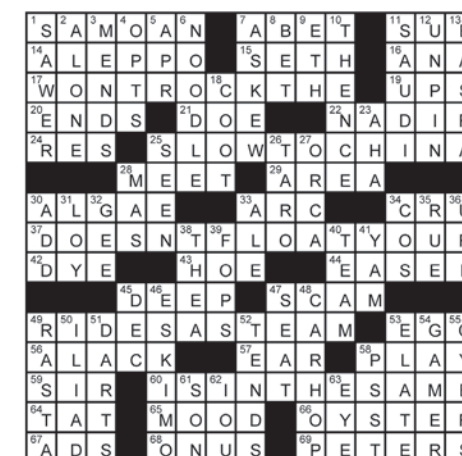
**October 12, 8:00 a.m.:**  
 Review 2019 Budget  
 2020 Salary/Benefit Workshop  
 2020 Utility Rates and Fees

**Nov. 9, 8:00 a.m.:**  
 Proposed 2020 Budget

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

Published in the October and November 2019 issues of *Concrete Herald*.

## Crossword solution



## Sudoku solution

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

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**Oct. 26:**

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**Job Announcement:**

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