

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

Concrete Herald

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50 cents

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

IN THIS ISSUE

Primary election narrows field

Thomas, Sullivan lead the race for Concrete Town Council Position 1; Pfeiffer now unopposed for Position 2.
Page 4.

New kennels help corral loose dogs

Last July, a Concrete resident was taking a walk when he encountered an unleashed dog that advanced on him in a threatening manner. Unsure of the dog's intentions, he used pepper spray to keep it at bay.
Page 4.

New Web site aims to monitor Barnaby Reach

A new Web site will serve as an "advocacy forum" for Rockport residents as the Barnaby Reach proposal moves through its research and public comment phases.
Page 23.

Darrington School District gets new superintendent

"I want to listen and learn about the district before any changes will be made," says Dr. Buck Marsh.
Page 24.

Hall becomes incident command post

Marblemount Community Hall is serving a higher purpose with gusto these days: The Incident Command Post (ICP) for the Goodell Creek Fire is headquartered there. *Page 26.*

Where there's smoke

Page 11

Tires **LES SCHWAB**

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Concrete Herald

The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



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From the editor

Fire victims need our help


In the wake of state record-setting fires in Eastern Washington, our entire state will be faced with recovering from one of the worst natural disasters in our history. The fire-ravaged counties of Okanogan, Ferry, and Chelan have been hit hardest and will have the most difficult timing healing and rebuilding. Three young men, all with local roots in the east side, have died in the Methow Valley. Hundreds of thousands of acres have burned; millions upon millions of dollars have gone up in smoke.

The infusion of donations from those communities that are not in the path of the fire is a cause of hope and celebration from those areas affected. Every single donation is needed. The eyes and ears of the thousands of people still in the smoky, often fiery maelstrom are searching for word of help and tangible assistance from the outside.

I urge *Concrete Herald* readers to make contributions to support the communities in need. Cash (or credit) donations are extremely important, both to give the nonprofit


See Editorial, p. 19

My family lives outside town limits,




so I have full access to the library in Concrete without buying a card. I can check out books and videos, and I also have borrowing privileges at 6 other libraries in the area. *These resources have been a huge help in my education. - Brook Barned*

My family lives inside town limits,



so I have to pay an annual fee for a card at the library in Concrete to check out materials and I can't borrow from other libraries. I know kids whose families can't afford the fee to buy a card. *This isn't fair to the people who live in town. - Gibson Fichter*



On November 3rd, you can make Concrete part of the Upper Skagit Library District

More details: www.UpperSkagit.Lib.wa.us

Opinion

Letters to the editor

Love of books informs support

I support Concrete's joining the Upper Skagit Library District because I love books. Books have kept me entertained and informed since I was a child borrowing from the Snohomish Library.

Today's libraries have print books, e-books, audio books, and much more. By voting for annexation in November, I'll help open this world of books to everyone in Concrete. To me, this vote is especially important for Concrete's youth, all of whom should have full and free access to library books so they can pursue their own interests and develop their own creativity.

Doris Pollack
Concrete

Two votes for annexation into library district

We're voting for Concrete's annexation into the Upper Skagit Library District in November because we care about the future of Concrete and the people who live here.

A strong community invests in its public library so all its residents have access to a wealth of books, movies, magazines, databases, computer technology, and programs and classes for all ages. No place in town offers so much to so many.

We support annexation so Concrete town residents can reap the full benefits of the best library services possible. We're voting for annexation to help Concrete thrive. Please join us.

Don and Della Payne
Concrete

Full library access important for all

I strongly support the incorporation of the Town of Concrete into the Upper Skagit Library District. The abundant

supply of information and resources brought forth by this library district should be enjoyed by everyone living in the Upper Skagit. I feel it is very important for our younger generation and all Concrete residents to have full access to the library in their community.

This library district has not only books but computer labs and classes, children's programs, community enrichment events, and numerous other activities.

The library opens doors with avenues of research, entertainment, travel, and knowledge. All residents, young and old, should be encouraged to utilize this valuable cache of resources. It is an incomparable experience enriching and expanding individual minds and our community in general.

Thank you for your support.

Athena Hornsby
Concrete

See Letters, p. 3

Corrections

In her July issue thank-you letter regarding Kurt's Cause, Kandy Hayes inadvertently omitted Karine Anderson with Windermere Real Estate, and wishes her to be recognized.

Letters policy

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

Inside			
Opinion	2	Lyman	18
Sports	8	Day Creek	19
Academics	12	Hamilton	22
Clear Lake	14	Rockport	23
Community Calendar	15	Darrington	24
Community Meetings	15	Marblemount	26
Sedro-Woolley	16	Newhalem	27
		Seniors	28
		Sunday School lesson	30
		Obituaries	30
		Sheriff's blotter	31
		Local columns	32
		Business Directory	33
		Out & About	34
		Home & Garden	35
		Smile	36
		Classifieds	39

Message from the mayor

By Jason Miller

We received several complaints about the new crosswalk lights at the SR 20 and Superior Ave. intersection, so I and our town engineer Cody Hart met with WSDOT representatives on Aug. 14. We talked through the issues and did a site visit, and laid out several strategies moving forward.



In the end, it is everyone's responsibility to treat that intersection responsibly, whether they're in a vehicle, on a bike, or on foot. Concrete hasn't had this kind of configuration in place at that intersection, so there's a learning curve for everyone.

Here's what we decided each stakeholder should do in order to keep that intersection as safe as possible:

- Concrete School District should educate all students on proper use of the new crossing. Pushing the crossing button does not mean traffic will stop for pedestrians, even though state law requires them to do so. Anyone using the crosswalk should push the crossing button, wait for traffic to stop, then hustle across the highway.
- Town of Concrete will remove or move all "visual clutter" from the intersection. This includes three 4x4 sign posts that are no longer used. The town will move the existing wayfinding sign due south, so that it no longer obstructs the view of the crossing lights for eastbound motorists. The town also will move and consolidate all service organization and town-related signs to behind the concrete "Welcome" sign. Finally, the town will install secondary signs on both posts at the intersection, as well as the crossing farther east (at Concrete Center), that read, "Use caution when crossing. Vehicles may not stop." And as always, SCSO deputies will patrol the intersection during peak crossing times to provide enforcement as needed.

See Mayor Miller, p. 32

Letters, cont. from p. 2

Library vote a chance to invest

The community of Concrete has been home for my wife and I for the past 23 years. We were privileged to raise our three children here, and they are now living out their respective dreams in Washington, California, and Texas. One of the reasons they are able to fulfill their dreams is because of the foundation they received growing up in Concrete. A critical part of that foundation was their education.

The community of Concrete finds itself at a crossroads in the upcoming election when it comes to deciding whether the town should annex into the library district. This vote is about making an investment, now and for many years to come. By voting yes, we are making an investment in our community's most important resource: people. We have a unique opportunity to explore and expand the horizons by providing equal access to everyone in our great town. Now is the time to step forward to make an investment that will pay great dividends for years to come.

Rob and Kathy Thomas
Concrete

Superintendent supports library

I strongly support Concrete joining the Upper Skagit Library District. Although the Concrete School District does its best to provide an enriching environment for all our students, we cannot replace the learning opportunities the library district provides. Currently both library systems work cooperatively for the benefit of all the children in our community.

Education is not anyone's sole responsibility—it takes a community working together. The more resources we have available to all our students, the brighter the future outlook. This can be in the form of books to read, Internet availability, or a place for students to study outside of school. A vote "YES" will help both the community and the school district continue and expand such joint programs that have mutual benefit.

Barbara Hawkings, Superintendent
Concrete School District

Is "sue and settle" really "science" for wild steelhead?

In recent letters to newspaper editors, the stated purpose of the Wild Fish Conservancy, The Conservation Angler, The Wild Steelhead Coalition, and the

See Letters, p. 39



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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
10:00AM - 4:00PM

PUMPKIN PITCH
Public Viewing 10:00am-11:15am,
Accuracy and Distance Competition
Opening Ceremonies & Pitch 11:30am

FREE KIDS ZONE
Fred Meyer Pumpkin Painting, Costco Pie Eating Contest,
Activity Booths, Pony Rides,
Inflatables & Zucchini Car Races, Touch-a-Truck Area

FOOD VENDORS
Big Scoop, AB Hillbilly Gyros, Gold Buckle Espresso,
Judy's Lunch Box, Lions Club, Donut Seed Co, and more!

LIVE MUSIC
Enjoy Live Music from the Troy Fair Band 2pm-4pm

SHUTTLE SERVICE TO AND FROM PARKING LOT TO FESTIVAL

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Primary elections narrow council field

By Haley McNealey

Edited by Katy Tomasulo

Primary elections were held Aug. 4, setting the stage for general elections Nov. 3. Out of approximately 300 eligible voters in the Town of Concrete, 88 citizens cast their vote in the primary. This number does not include write-in votes; it only includes voters who selected a candidate who was officially running during the primary election.

For Council Position 1, Rob Thomas placed first with 45 votes, Bill Sullivan placed second with 17 votes, Chris Thun received 15 votes, and Jason Driver received 11 votes. As the two leading vote-getters, Thomas and Sullivan will be up for election on Nov. 3.

Sullivan has withdrawn from the

election because of health issues, but both names will still appear on the ballot. For a candidate to be removed from the ballot, they are required to contact the Skagit County Elections Office prior to the deadline, the Monday after the filing deadline in May.

If officially elected, Sullivan has two options: He may immediately announce that he will not take office, or he may take the oath and choose to resign. The Town Council will then begin the process of appointing a person to fill the position.

Position 2 now unopposed

For Council Position 2, Maryann Holbrook also has withdrawn, leaving

incumbent councilmember Dave Pfeiffer running unopposed. Holbrook could not be reached for comment before publication; however, the Concrete School District newsletter announced that Holbrook will be relocating to Brewster, Wash., to pursue a position as a middle school counselor. Her name also will still appear on the ballot.

During the Candidate's Forum on July 23, candidate Thun stated that Pfeiffer has plans to relocate outside of the county. Pfeiffer told *Concrete Herald* that he intends to relocate to Spokane, Wash., but does not anticipate this occurring within the next two years. Terms for councilmembers are four years. Pfeiffer,

who lives at Mears Field, does not plan to move until he sells his hangar. His motive for relocating is to make himself more available to elderly relatives who may require his assistance.

Councilmembers Ginger Kyritsis and Marla Reed are running unopposed, and Councilmember Mike Bartel is not up for re-election during this cycle.

Writer Haley McNealey is a 2015 graduate of Concrete High School. Editor Katy Tomasulo lives in Seattle.



WSDOT workers paint zigzag lines on SR 20 at its intersection with Superior Ave. in Concrete Aug. 23. The markings, which are common in Europe, are designed to get drivers' attention so they notice signs warning of a crosswalk. Concrete is the second location in Washington to get the markings. The first were placed on SR 9 near Stanwood for the Centennial Trail crossing. For more information about what WSDOT, Town of Concrete, and Concrete School District are doing to make the Superior Ave. crossing more safe, read Mayor Jason Miller's column on p. 3.

New kennels help corral loose dogs

By Haley McNealey

Edited by Katy Tomasulo

Last July, a Concrete resident was taking a walk when he encountered an unleashed dog that advanced on him in what he perceived to be a threatening manner. Fearful and unsure of the dog's intentions, he used pepper spray to keep it at bay.

Such incidents would be few and far between if dog owners who live within Town of Concrete limits observed the town's leash law. Now, two new kennels will help the town's code enforcement officer, Rich Philips, manage loose dogs as well as make sure dog owners are being responsible.

Prior to the new kennel, the process of dealing with unleashed dogs was inconvenient and inefficient: Dogs had to be transported to the Humane Society of Skagit Valley in Burlington, where owners paid a \$60 fee to collect their pet. According to Concrete Deputy Clerk Corinna Hart, the new kennels have smoothed the process. Now, when dogs are found unleashed, a call is placed to Town Hall, where efforts are then made to locate the owner. If the dog has a tag with information, Hart looks up the owner; if the owner can be located, they are

immediately notified of the situation and, often, use of the kennels can be avoided. Philips says it's also common for the staff to recognize a loose dog from previous encounters. If he knows the owner, he contacts them and returns the dog.

If the owner is unknown, the dog is placed in one of the two kennels, and the staff posts fliers around town in an attempt to alert the owner of the dog's whereabouts. The owner can then contact Town Hall in order to be reunited with their pet. Town Hall charges owners \$10 per day, which helps to cover maintenance of the kennels and staff time. Once this has been taken care of, the owner will meet Philips to collect their pet.

Dogs are held at the kennels for a maximum of 48 hours. If a dog's owner cannot be identified and does not claim the dog, the animal is transferred to the Humane Society and becomes eligible for adoption.

Philips said that the establishment of the new kennels has been an excellent tool in improving the town's strategy for addressing loose dogs, saving time by providing a place to hold dogs and often eliminating the need to transport them to the Humane Society. Philips said there

have been three incidences requiring the kennels since they were completed in July. In each case, the outcome was the same: the owners were identified and were reunited with their pets.

The kennels are two separate 10-foot-by-10-foot spaces enclosed by roofing and netting to shield the dogs from sun and rain. The dogs are provided with food and water. When multiple dogs are detained during the same time period, they are kept separate, unless two dogs are apprehended together and clearly know each other.

The best way to avoid needing the kennels? "Make sure your dog has a license or some form of identification," Philips said.

As for town residents who encounter a dog that is behaving in a threatening manner, it is permitted to take reasonable action in an effort to ensure your safety. Sergeant Chris Kading said that citizens can take necessary action to protect themselves while causing the least possible harm to the animal. People have reported using garden hoses, fire extinguishers, and sometimes pepper spray or firearms to maintain their safety. In most cases, these measures are not necessary and should be avoided.

New Library Building Fundraiser

Reading & Book Signing
with local author

Nicola Pearson

October 3, 2015 3:30 - 4:30
Upper Skagit Library

Hear this award winning author read from her newest mysteries. Q&A and book signing. Take home personally inscribed copies of her novels. All proceeds will benefit the New Building Project.

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Upper Skagit Library Foundation

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www.skagitcancersurvivors.org

Cascade Days event winners

Parade: Classic Vehicle

Nile Shrine Truckers

Parade: Animal

Lonesome Valley Ranch

Parade: Commercial/Business

Cascade Burgers

Parade: Church and Community

Community Bible Church

Parade: Class Reunion

Class of 1945

Parade: Drill Team A

Gunslingers A Team

Parade: Drill Team B

Li'l Señoritas Drill Team

Parade: Float

The Lone Wolf

Parade: Farm Vehicle

Bert's Deere

Parade: Loaded Log Truck

Leonard Hornbeck Log Truck (tie)

Robert Coffell Self-Loader (tie)

Parade: Musical

Kenmore Pipe Band

Parade: Novelty

Captain Seaglass (Keith Kirchgesler) and Crew

Parade: Patriotic

Marine Corps League

Parade: Grand Marshals

Don and Della Payne

Parade: Good Neighbor Trophy

Oso Fire Dept.

Parade: Best Family Award

Carvalho Family: Mitch, Kathleen, Toby, Joshua

Parade: Grand Marshal Award

Cascade Supply

Adult Chalk Art

Allison Donovan, 1st; Shannah Pomeroy, 2nd

Youth Chalk Art

Angelina James, 1st; Tavish and Bowen Beals,

2nd; Leah Tiemens, 3rd

Youngest Chalk Artists

Brent Wilker, 1st; Hunter Olmstead, 2nd; Ellie

Tiemens, 3rd

Jam Contest

Doris Mears, 1st; Virginia Hartz, 2nd; Bonnie

Drake, 3rd

Log Show Choker Setting, ages 8–11

Owen Nick, 1st; Cohen Nick, 2nd; Owen Aamot,

3rd

Log Show Choker Setting, ages 13–17

Grayson Luttrell, 1st; Donovan Dellinger, 2nd;

Shayne Luttrell, 3rd

Log Show Axe Throw, ages 13–17

Grayson Luttrell, 1st; Louie Ketchum, 2nd; Shayne

Luttrell, 3rd

Log Show Axe Throw, Adult

Steve Johnson, 1st; Lee Williamson, 2nd; Kodie

Nick, 3rd

Log Show Stock Saw

Judd Wilson, 1st; Steve Johnson, 2nd; Floyd

Smith, 3rd

Log Show Modified Saw

Lee Williamson, 1st; Jeremiah Lenz, 2nd; Floyd

Smith, 3rd

Log Show Unlimited Saw

Lee Williamson, 1st; Jeremiah Lenz, 2nd; Floyd

Smith, 3rd

Log Show Crosscut Saw, ages 13–17

Cole Meacham and Donnie Olmstead, 1st; Louie

Ketchum and Donovan Dellinger, 2nd; Johnny [last

name unknown] and David O'Neal, 3rd

Log Show Two-Man Crosscut Saw

Lee Williamson and Steve Johnson, 1st; Judd

Wilson and Jeremiah Lenz, 2nd; Floyd Smith and

Kodie Nick, 3rd

Log Show Two-Woman Crosscut Saw

Nichole Nick and Arleta [last name unknown], 1st;

Melissa Hockett and Pam Garland, 2nd; Darlene

Olmstead and Becky Luttrell, 3rd

Log Show Jack & Jill Crosscut Saw

Lee Williamson and Arleta [last name unknown],

1st; Judd Wilson and Melissa Hockett, 2nd; Kodie

and Nichole Nick, 3rd

Log Show Three-Man Relay

Lee Williamson, Jeremiah Lenz, and Kodie Nick,

1st; Teddy Nick, Steve Johnson, and Floyd Smith,

2nd

Chainsaw winner

Lee Williamson

Ducks

1st: No. 22

2nd: No. 102

3rd: No. 131

Pet Show

Anais Gurrola with Valentine, 1st

Tami Cox with Thoran, 2nd

THIS AND THAT

By J. K. M.

The Washington State Patrol Headquarters' telephone was compromised on Aug. 4. The WSP received 30 complaints from citizens stating they were called by someone who falsely identified themselves as a WSP trooper. According to the citizens, the caller impersonating a trooper accused the citizens of various violations, including outstanding warrants, unpaid tickets, and unpaid school taxes.

The WSP does not call citizens to advise of violations or warrants, or to collect fines. If citizens receive phone calls from someone stating they are a WSP trooper calling to collect or advise of fines, they should do the following:

- Do not answer any questions.
- Do not agree to pay any fines.
- Do not share any personal information.
- Hang up the telephone.

The WSP is currently working on a solution to remedy the problem.

Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley



A picture of concentration, Tanner Wilson, 16, channels his inner Michael Jordan while running the hill at the Firemen's Muster during this year's Cascade Days. Wilson is an "Explorer," in training with Fire Dist. 10, Grasmere Station.

Council summary

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

Aug. 10 regular council meeting

- **Public Safety:** Sgt. Chris Kading reported the call volume has increased significantly, to approximately 62 calls. He stated that most of these calls were domestic or mental health issues and not major crimes.

Sgt. Kading also reported on a black bear that was sighted by the library earlier today. He stated the black bear was reported to be approximately 100 to 150 pounds and was last seen heading underneath the Thompson Bridge down to the river. He said this may be the same bear that was reported to be near the school and airport a few weeks ago. He said Fish and Wildlife has been notified and will work on tracking the bear and removing it from the area.

Sgt. Kading also reported on a vendor who was arrested at the Swap Meet last weekend for selling stolen goods. He stated this may also lead to other arrests.

Council approved two change orders for the Dillard waterline project: one to replace/extend service up Eriksen Place and one to remove a large stump array on Eriksen Place.

Council approved a bid from Dmarks Paving to pave a portion of a gravel road on airport property.

Council accepted grant funding from USDA Rural Development for fire dept. equipment. USDA will pay \$6,300 and the town will contribute \$2,200 for a total of \$8,500.

Parks: Parks Committee Chair Marla Reed reported the committee had discussed the new playground equipment that was purchased and should be delivered soon. She also stated they also discussed ideas for Knott Hill Park.

Community Garden: Large amounts of tomatoes have been harvested, with more to come. Mayor Miller is coordinating with Keith Taxdahl, who will build the gazebo floor. Carrots were stolen from one gardener's bed.

Planning Dept.: Town planner Marianne Manville-Ailles reported

that she met with Barry Smith from the airport museum during the fly-in. She stated they talked about some of the ideas the museum has for their vacant lots at the airport, which included the possibility of an event center or dance hall-type building.

- **Public Works:** Director Alan Wilkins was on vacation, but Reed reported on a phone call she received asking her if there is lime in the town's water. Councilmember Ginger Kyritsis stated that she believes she is having an issue with lime in the water that may be plugging some of the lines to her house and her sons' house. Clerk Andrea Fichter stated that she had never heard of lime being an issue with the town's water. It was stated that Public Works needs to be notified so they can do testing.

Aug. 24 regular meeting

- **Public Safety:** Sgt. Kading reported on a woman who was huffing aerosol in her car in front of Loggers Landing. He said that when the deputy responded, it was also discovered that she had outstanding felony warrants and was arrested.

Sgt. Kading reported the tip jar was stolen from Java Zone with approximately \$50 in tips inside.

He also reported on a man who broke the large front window of the Post Office building. He said the man had done this with his bare hand and they believe that drugs were involved. The man sustained injuries and was transported to the ER. Charges are pending.

- Mayor Miller reported on the public meeting that he attended on Sunday in Marblemount regarding the Upper Skagit Complex Fire. He stated a Public Information Officer will send him information daily and he will post this on the *Concrete Herald* Facebook wall.

- Mayor Miller gave an update on the meeting that was held with WSDOT representatives on Aug. 14, and explained the tasks that WSDOT, the town, and the school district should complete.

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@concretetwa.gov or call 360.853.8401. Concrete Town Council meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

Sponsor a Flowering Cherry Tree to honor a veteran.

For Only
\$50

For only \$50, you can remember a beloved veteran who served in any of the U.S. armed forces. Make your payment at Concrete Town Hall no later than Sept. 18. Trees will be

planted along the west edge of Veterans

Memorial Park during the week of Sept. 21. Your veteran's name, rank, military branch, and years of service will be included on a sign near the trees.

There's room for 11 trees; first come, first served.

For more information, call 360.853.8401.



Cache in Concrete

A geocaching treasure hunt!

Follow clues to learn more about Concrete history and the Upper Valley area.

It's free family fun! Get started by picking up a **Cache in Concrete** booklet at Concrete Heritage Museum, Concrete Theatre, Cascade Supply, Columbia Bank, Upper Skagit Library, 5b's Bakery, Cascade Burgers, Valleys West Realty, Perks Espresso & Deli, Northwest Garden Bling, Annie's Pizza Station, Albert's Red Apple Market, Birdview Brewing Co., or North Cascades Institute. Follow **Cache in Concrete** on Facebook.



For more information, call Upper Skagit Library at 360.853.7939.

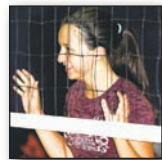
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3:00 P.M.
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Sports



Huge potential for this year's volleyball team

By Kevik Rensink, coach

Lions football strong with seniors

By Ron Rood, coach

Concrete's football Lions have participated in spring, summer, and early fall activities to get ready for the 2015 season.

The highlight was their annual trip to Astoria, Ore., to the Camp Rilea team football camp, where they were able to scrimmage other top teams from Washington and Oregon.

The Lions return a strong, seasoned group of players from last season's NWB League championship team and hope to contend for the league title again and their fourth straight trip to the state playoffs.

The Lion roster boasts 11 seniors, including many who have played varsity since early in their high school careers. Lineman Robert Nevin, Trevor Lerma, Tyler Hansen, and Brayden Olmstead all return as starters and will be bracketed by returning ends Tyler Labrousse and Tucker Scollard. Dylan Clark, Donnie Olmstead, and Randall Beacham all

started in the backfield last year and could cause problems for opposing defenses.

Many of the same faces will be seen on the defensive side of the ball, led by returning all NWB selections Donnie Olmstead, Clark, and Nevin. Defense has been a focus for the Lions this season as an area in which they want to see the most improvement.

Concrete opens its season Fri., Sept. 4 as they host archrival La Conner in the first of two crucial league matchups. The Braves were runners-up to the Lions last year and figure to be strong competition for the NWB league's lone state playoff berth again this year.

Oddly, the Lions will not face former rival Darrington this season since the Loggers have chosen to drop their league games and schedule less competitive, nonleague opponents.

Come support the Lions Sept. 4th!



Clockwise from top: Dylan Clark calls a play, Blaine Storms watches it hit his hands, the offensive line explodes after an imaginary snap, Tyler Labrousse catches a Clark throw.

As Leslie Rogers and I enter our third season as the coaches of the Concrete volleyball program, there are several accomplishments we are proud of and several more we look forward to.

Leslie and I have a great privilege in teaching young women the game of volleyball, but we have an even greater responsibility in helping them grow as individuals. Our goal is to help them discover who they are so they can each bring their unique talents to their teammates—and then share those gifts.

If we can do this, we will be successful. Success is defined in so many ways, but I feel we have been successful in more ways than one during the last couple of seasons.

We have earned a playoff spot the last two seasons, and we have become relevant and competitive to even our toughest opponents. Our athletes have become a close-knit group and have become a real class act as a result of this.

This has paid off for our team on and off the court, and has not escaped the attention of our opponents and other league coaches. The Concrete volleyball team has been voted "Best Sportsmanship in the League" the last two seasons, and we will strive to make it three years in a row this season.

The potential with this year's team is huge. Some folks would say that is a bold statement considering we lost seven

seniors to graduation. How do you replace seven seniors? You don't. That group of players was a special group, and we could never replace the tools, skill set, and hard work they brought every day.

Fortunately for us, we have another great group of seniors. Jasmine Hopfield is a four-year starter and will play our setter 1 position. Cassidy Cargile is a three-year starter and will play our setter 2 position. Taylor Aldridge is a second-year starter and will play right side this season. Ellie Grass is a second-year starter and will be a defensive specialist for us this year. And Katelin Pritchard will take over at the libero position.

Hopfield and Cargile have been named team captains and will have the awesome opportunity to lead a great group of young ladies into what is shaping up to be a very exciting and competitive season.

Rounding out the rest of the varsity roster are juniors Emily Bridge, Jaycelyn Kuipers, and Hannah Rensink, and freshman Grace Clemons. We have 20 total players on the volleyball team and they have been working extremely hard the first week in practice. They all have a great attitude, and Leslie and I are eager to see what the remaining weeks have in store for our volleyball team.

Check the schedule and come out and cheer these girls on this season. They deserve your support.



Left: Taylor Aldridge prepares to practice her toss during an August drill session.

Bottom left: Members of this year's volleyball team practice serving to a teammate on the other side of the net.



You're invited to attend a Trail System Workshop

Learn more about efforts to develop a trail system in Concrete!

WHEN:

Sat., Nov. 14, 9 a.m. to noon

WHERE:

Concrete High School commons room

WHAT:

Presentation by Concrete Trail System Committee

Concept maps and plan, lots of chances to provide feedback to the team. Refreshments provided.

If you'd like to improve Concrete's trail system, you're invited!

For more information, contact Jason Miller at goodwords@frontier.com or 360.853.8213.

2015 high school women's soccer preview

By Adam Woodworth, head coach

This season the Lady Lions return all but one player and add four new members to the squad. With such a heavy return margin, the Lions expect to be competitive this season. The youth and inexperience that has been the struggle of the squad for the past few seasons is now maturing and provides for some quality leadership along with skilled play.

With the addition of some new youth, the program is looking healthy through the ranks, and without a single senior for the second straight year, this team understands they have staying power. The challenge this season will be focusing on building up from the strong base they've worked on for the past two to three seasons, and continuing to be patient with results.

Fourth-year juniors (all played as the program's first 8th grade class) Brook Barnedt, Tate Mathis, Iris Nevin, and Chloe Stidman combine into the team's experienced core group and have been leading by example in practices. They take the time to help the new girls, but

also demand a level of attentiveness and intensity that benefits the team every day. Their presence is everywhere on the field with Barnedt playing goalkeeper, defense, and midfield, Nevin controlling the middle of the pitch, and Stidman and Mathis leading the attacking game.

This year's sophomore class is very strong as well, with a ton of versatility and technique. Returning sophomores—most of whom are in their third year with the program—are Carlee Brigham, Whitney Claybo, Erica Knuth, McKenna Kononen, Madisyn Renzelman, Emily Schmidt, and Mary Spangler; they make up the bulk of the midfield and defense. They've all worked hard the past couple seasons and have been put in some difficult situations, filling gaps left from experienced players, playing with less than a full team, and always against more experienced opponents, and the hard work has paid off.

Returning freshman and rookie standout last season as an 8th grader, Nora Towner fills out the Lions attacking third and will

be called upon as a young leader for this year's 8th grade class.

New to the team this year is sophomore Emma Claybo and 8th graders Khylla Phillips and Isabella Ramos. With 15 team members, this will be the first time in a couple seasons that starting positions will be challenged for and the bench will be full of quality substitutions.

This season the Lions will enjoy not only the benefit of a deep bench, but also the luxury of a majority home schedule and a full bevy of nonleague matches against some new teams. The league is expected to be competitive with Friday Harbor, La Conner, and Mount Vernon Christian, which are all returning strong squads, as well as Orcas, which returns nearly all of its team from last season, much like the Lions.

This season look for the Lions to move up the standings and challenge for a playoff berth. This is a talented, passionate, and motivated group, and they are geared for success.

Join the Concrete Lions Booster Club

Current members of the Concrete Lions Booster Club invite you to join them in support of all Concrete extracurricular programs. The club has been around since 1977, when it was formed to promote Concrete programs and upgrade athletic facilities. Since its inception, the club has:

- Built the baseball and softball fields, dugouts, backstops, grandstands, and concession stands
- Participated in the building of the all-weather track
- Built the visitors' grandstand and other upgrades in the football stadium
- Built the weight room used by athletes, students, and community members
- Participated in the building of numerous other district facilities, including sidewalks, playfields, landscaping, etc.
- Raised money for all district programs through the Cement City Trail Run, birthday calendar, advertising signs, and other projects

The Club also is responsible for Athlete of the Month and Athlete of the Year awards, sports trophies for all programs, the booster's scholarship, and support of other activities as needs arise.

Many of the original members' children have long since grown and there is a real need for parents of current athletes and extracurricular programs to participate if the club is going to continue to provide the services and support that is needed.

There are many ways to help—big and small—but your help is needed. For more information, contact a current member, Athletic Director Karl Kerstetter, club President Jim Newby, or football coach Ron Rood.

Sports schedules:

nw1a2bathletics.com

Where there's smoke

Upper Skagit Complex fire burns 8,500+ acres; Newhalem, Diablo evacuated.

On Aug. 10, lightning strikes near Newhalem touched off a series of wildfires, the largest of which threatened Seattle City Light (SCL) and National Park Service (NPS) infrastructure and buildings.

The Upper Skagit Complex, as the series of eight wildfires would be called, covered 8,505 acres and cost \$1.6 million to fight it as of Aug. 30.

The worst of the eight fires, Goodell, accounted for most of that acreage. Firefighting efforts focused on Goodell because it eventually straddled SR 20 and threatened the buildings and infrastructure in Diablo and Newhalem, company towns for Seattle City Light's Skagit Hydroelectric Project.

Both communities were evacuated on Aug. 19, as was the North Cascades Institute's Environmental Learning Center on Diablo Lake, and the Ross Lake Resort.

At that time, the fire was burning on the north side of SR 20 in Newhalem across from SCL's Skagit administration building and east of the Gorge Power house. Prevailing winds were pushing the fire east toward Diablo.

State Route 20 between Newhalem and Diablo was shut down by a fallen tree and numerous rocks loosened by the fire. A back burn set along SR 20 did not tame the fire, which sent debris into the roadway, damaging the road surface and guardrails.

"It was like driving into hell," said Newhalem resident Chaun Watrous.

SCL had been operating its three dams remotely, but the fire forced the utility to shut down the transmission lines that carry electricity from the hydroelectric project. Spillgates at all three dams were opened to maintain river flows to protect fish. Company representatives estimated that the inability to deliver electricity cost the utility about \$100,000 per day.

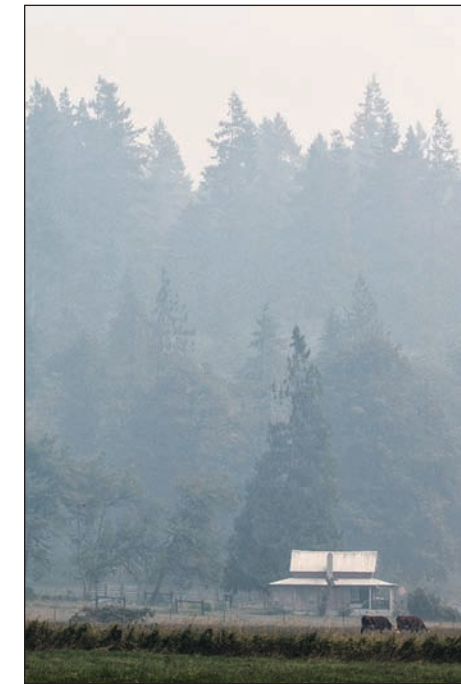
Six SCL firefighters with two fire engines were working to protect people and property from the blaze. One crew was working with the National Park Service. The other was defending the Gorge Power house. Upper Valley volunteer firefighters were lined up and

ready to join the fiery fray.

Calling in the cavalry

The NPS handed management of the Skagit Complex fires to Great Basin Incident Management Team 4 (GBIMT) effective Aug. 22 at 7 a.m. GBIMT will manage the firefighting efforts till Sept. 5, after which time command responsibility will go back to NPS. If the late-August rains dampen the blazes, GBIMT will cut short its time in the area.

An Aug. 23 gathering at the ranger



Above: A farm between Concrete and Rockport lies cloaked in wildfire smoke from the Upper Skagit Complex fire and Eastern Washington blazes on Aug. 23. Photo by Jude Dippold.

Above right: The Goodell fire makes its way along the flank of the high hills south of Newhalem.

Right: The restrooms at the Gorge Creek overlook parking lot west of the bridge received a specialized wrapping to help protect them from the raging wildfire in the area. Photos by Bob Hopfield.

station in Marblemount drew more than 100 concerned Upper Valley residents to learn more about the Upper Skagit



Complex fires.

Tim Roide, an incident commander for GBIMT 4, led the discussion by providing perspective for the fires. More than 27,000 forest fires were active in the western United States at that point, he said. Close to 1 million acres were burning in Washington and Oregon alone.

The smoke filling the Upper Valley came primarily from Eastern Washington blazes, he said, with only a small percentage coming from the Upper Skagit

See Smoke, p. 27

Got Flying?...Visit the North Cascades Vintage Aircraft Museum this Summer

Explore the museum's unique collection of forgotten history with our expert staff!
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www.vintageaircraftmuseum.org

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Academics



PTO regroups after theft setbacks

It's been a rough couple of years for the Concrete Elementary PTO.

After theft allegations surfaced against former President Angela Nevin in 2013, the PTO went into mediation with Nevin, using a 2012-13 audit report to make its case that Nevin had stolen thousands of dollars from the organization.

Mia Roozen replaced Nevin as president for the 2013-14 school year, with Marla Reed as vice president, Sheena Daniels as secretary, and Monette Bauer as treasurer. "The new leadership started looking at money and paperwork, and realized that bills were coming in, but things like popcorn had no receipts," said Reed. "Popcorn sales had been going on for 20 years, then suddenly had no paperwork for it."

But the yearbook—or lack of one—was the first red flag, said Daniels. "Parents were demanding their money back."

Everybody had paid for one, and people who paid with checks were getting their checks returned, but people who'd paid with cash didn't get their cash back."

The audit proved the yearbook and popcorn revenues were just the tip of the iceberg, with \$3,200 missing and connected directly to Nevin.

The audit also revealed a slew of bills that hadn't been paid. "At first we were just trying to get everything in order and figure out where we were financially," said Reed. "In doing that, we realized there was money missing. And no bills were paid. One invoice was sent to collection without our knowledge. There were some amounts deposited, but not nearly the amount we knew should be there."

The PTO sued Nevin in an attempt to recover the funds that could be traced to her. In July 2014, Nevin agreed to pay the PTO \$2,636.56 in monthly payments

of \$220. Only three payments were made between July 2014 and June 2015, when the PTO sent Nevin a letter stating she was nine months past due. In July 2015, a judgment was levied against Nevin, requiring her to pay the balance of the principal plus court costs, a total of \$2,580.

Back in the black

The new PTO leadership has struggled to build up its bank account and regain the community's trust, said Daniels, who became president in 2014 and will hold the title again this school year, with Reed as vice president and Bauer as treasurer.

"We bled money the first year," said Bauer. "Everything we did was paying back the people from the year before. We weren't publicly stating what was going on. We were trying to take care of things quietly."

That's a challenge—if not an impossibility—in small towns, so the PTO leadership worked instead to pay the bills and regain the trust of those who live in the school district.

"The PTO has worked very hard over the last two years at rebuilding what we believe a PTO is about: a connection between the school, students, staff, faculty, the community, the parents, and families," said Daniels in a prepared statement. "We have been working hard to rebuild the trust of the community and provide fun and inexpensive family events for our community, students, and their families. We would love to see more people get involved with the PTO. If you want to see how we work and want to be a part of this great group, we invite you to join us for our first PTO meeting on Sept. 9 at 5 p.m. in the library at the elementary school."

The PTO also will host a "Welcome Back Breakfast" treat on Sept. 2 (first day of school) from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at the elementary school.

Bright future

The revived and reformed PTO already is more financially healthy than it was two years ago. The new leadership has overseen a number of popular events, including two yearbooks, book fairs, a Daddy Daughter Dance, Family Nights, Pumpkin Night, turkey bingo, and two carnivals. It helped buy the salad bar in the elementary school and provided family photos at the Imagine Concrete Holiday Bazaar and Children's Craft Fair last November.

"We are a brand-new group, working hard to rebuild the community trust," said Daniels.

"We are transparent," said Reed. "If you want to see something, we'll show it to you."

"We have monthly, publicized meetings that anyone can attend," said Bauer. "We've worked really hard to re-establish the community and school district's trust in the PTO, and we hope everyone will see how hard we're working to build a positive reputation."

PTO officials say their efforts are being noticed. "People are getting involved again," said Daniels. "We have people coming in and volunteering again, people who haven't volunteered before."

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

—J. K. M.



Back to School Blessing returned again on Aug. 23 to deliver backpacks and school supplies to area students. **Above, from left:** Elijah Cyr, Melody Thompson, Troy Cyr Jr., and Deziray Thompson.

Below: Kayleann Kohnke, 6, is all smiles after receiving her backpack full of supplies.



Hannah Rensink puckers up for her 1-year-old La Mancha goat, Asia, at the Skagit County Fair on Aug. 14. Rensink and her siblings and friends—all 4-H members—attend the fair every year and enter numerous 4-H contests.



Chloe Crosson poses with a newborn goat at the Skagit County Fair on Aug. 14. Crosson is one of several Upper Valley young people active in 4-H who show up at the fair every year.

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

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Daughters & Mom's day out!

DATE: September 19th

TIME: 9am - 4 pm

COST: Free*

LOCATION: Cascade

Middle School
Sedro-Woolley

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(daughters ages 12-18)

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yes to REAL TOPICS:
beauty, bravery, purpose, hope!

yes to REAL CHANGE:
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yes to - REAL QUESTIONS:
dialog, question & answer time

yes to - REAL TIMES: friends, fun, photo booth, professional makeup & hair tips!

*snacks & lunch will be served!



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Deborah 360-853-3066

YD update

How was Aug. 30 for me? I'm glad you asked! I spent that day participating in a Golf Marathon, during which I golfed 121 holes and raised \$10,952 for Concrete

Youth Dynamics! Here's a huge thank-you to everyone who donated toward that effort. The money raised—all of it, since the YD leadership is all volunteer—will go straight to supporting high school-age youth of the Upper Valley.

Our first YD night will be Mon., Sept.

28, at Veterans Memorial Park. Until then, you'll find us planning our schedule for the 2015-16 school year and figuring out ways to make it the best year yet. If you're in high school, I hope you'll join us every Monday night at 7 p.m.

—Kevik and Marta Rensink, directors



Clear Lake



HISTORY CORNER

In July 1925 the Clear Lake Lumber Company (CLLC) had a picnic for its employees. A string of flat cars with wooden benches was parked the length of town. CLLC employees and their families rode on the flat cars.

The picnic train went up the south side of the Skagit River to a location near Potts Station, a nice spot along the river. A band provided entertainment. There were banners swaying in the breeze and lots of good food such as BBQ salmon and a special treat: ice cream. There wasn't any booze; it was Prohibition time.

Governor Roland H. Hartley

gave a short address and some company executives spoke regarding forestry and the mill.

Then the climax of the day: CLLC declared bankruptcy. Shortly after this, forest fires spread in the hills. Night after night the skies were pinkish-red and the fires continued until there was a good rain. That was the end of the CLLC era. *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.

—Deanna Ammons, historian
Clear Lake and Day Creek

Notice:

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

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

Accident claims one

A Mount Vernon man died Aug. 1 after illegally attempting to pass a vehicle on SR 9 near Buchanan St. in Clear Lake.

According to a Washington State Patrol press memo, Rex A. Carlson, 46, was driving a 2008 Suzuki Hayabusa and traveling northbound in the southbound lane of SR 9, attempting to pass in a no-passing zone. Carlson applied his brakes in an attempt to stop, and laid the motorcycle down. He and his motorcycle were struck by Jack B. Sather, 56, of Mount Vernon, who was driving a 1993 Honda Accord southbound at the same location.

Carlson was killed in the accident, which blocked the roadway for several hours.

The cause of the accident was illegal passing. Drugs and alcohol were a factor, according to the memo, and charges are pending.

—J. K. M.



Community Calendar



SEPTEMBER

- 5 Concrete Heritage Museum Garage Sale Fundraiser, Swap Meet field west of Loggers Landing, Concrete; info from Gail Boggs or other board member via www.concreteheritagemuseum.org; see notice, p. 32
- 5 Benefit for Wildfire Victims, Birdview Brewing Co., Birdview, 2 to 9 p.m.; see notice, p. 22
- 12 Uncorked: Woolley Wine & Music Festival, Eagle Haven Winery, 8243 Sims Rd., Sedro-Woolley, 3 p.m.; tickets and specials at www.sedro-woolley.com/events/uncorked; see ad, p. 6
- 12–13 Whatcom County Dahlia Society Annual Flower Show, Bloedel-Donovan Park, 2214 Electric Ave., Bellingham, noon to 5 p.m. (Sat.) and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Sun.); free admission; info at 360.354.4346
- 18 Deadline to sponsor a flowering cherry tree planted at Veterans Memorial Park, Concrete; see ad, p. 7; info at 360.853.8401
- 19 Daughters & Mom's Day Out, Cascade Middle School, Sedro-Woolley, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; see ad, p. 13; info at 360.853.3066
- 19 Join the Library Committee Bake Sale, Red Apple, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 23 Heart to Heart Charity KIDS Club returns to Hamilton Town Park, 4 to 5 p.m.; see notice, p. 18; info at hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com
- 26 Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Pitch, Skagit River Park, 1100 S. Skagit St., Burlington, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; see ad, p. 3
- 26 State Parks Free Day: free admission to Rasar and Rockport State Parks (no Discover Pass required)

OCTOBER

- 3 Reading and Book-Signing with local author Nicola Pearson (a New Library Building Fundraiser), Upper Skagit Library, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.; see ad, p. 5
- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Concrete Ghost Walk (every Saturday in October), Concrete Town Center; info at www.concrete-wa.com
- 10 Join the Library Committee Bake Sale, Red Apple, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 3 General Election. Ballots must be postmarked by today or placed in a drop box by 8 p.m. today
- 14 Trail System Workshop presented by Concrete Trail System Committee, Concrete High School commons room, 9 a.m. to noon; see ad, p. 9

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

Community meetings

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Concrete School Board will hold a work session on Sept. 21, at 6 p.m. in the high school Commons. The board will hold its regular monthly meeting on Sept. 24, at 6 p.m., in the Commons. 360.853.8141.

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

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

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

Forest Park Cemetery District No. 5 meets

the second Wed. of each month at the cemetery office on Compton Lane in Concrete, at 8 a.m. 360.708.3656.

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

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

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

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

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 6:30 p.m. 360.873.2048 or 360.853.8388.

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

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

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

Sedro-Woolley School District Board will meet for a regular meetings on Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Support Services Bldg., and on Sept. 28 at 7 p.m., at Mary Purcell Elementary. 360.855.3500 or kcargile@swsd.k12.wa.us.

Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center Board meets the second Tue. of each month, 6:30 p.m., at Annie's Pizza Station in Grasmere. Open to the public. sauksister@frontier.com or www.skagiteagle.org.

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

Parents! Get involved in your PTO!

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

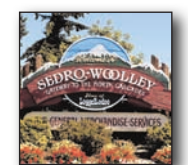
Join The Library This November!

Make the Town of Concrete part of
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Give Concrete residents
equal access to full
library services.

Make a wise investment
in the future of your
community.

Learn more at
Town Hall or the library. www.UpperSkagit.Lib.wa.us



Sedro-Woolley



Teens get artsy at Summer Art Class

This summer at the Sedro-Woolley Boys & Girls Club, teens had the added choice of participating in an art class. The class ran for six weeks in the Teen Center and had 20 participants.

Participants were given a sketch book at the beginning of the summer to sketch in or write down ideas. At the end of each class, themes were picked out of a hat to reflect on for the next week's class. The themes were organized into categories of objects, moods, and settings. The design and result was to combine things that don't apparently go together in real life and challenge the teens to think about objects and situations around them from a new perspective.

One week's theme was an amusement park forest. The goal of the exercise was to create an atmosphere of freedom where teens could draw without an agenda. Without an expectation of what the drawing should look like or an expectation of the technique used, the kids were free to come up with their own vision and have each result be unique, not a copy of each other's art or art they have seen.

These exercises also highlighted the natural strengths and tendencies of each club member when creating art. One teen was partial to adding patterns to their work; another had more of a comic strip, cartoon style, and another loved landscapes. They were also introduced to several media: working with Sharpie, pen, pencil, gel pens, colored pencils, acrylics, and their favorite: watercolors.

There are plans for another six-week course this fall that will focus on the fundamentals of color, shadow, texture, depth of field, composition, and more.

—Tammy Findlay



Summer Art Class participants pause for a photo while creating wondrous works. From left, Jazzelle Elias, Gabbie Timblin, Tammy Findlay (director of marketing), Erin Davis. Submitted photo.



Jenny and the Tomcats performed Aug. 22 at Country Meadow Village in Sedro-Woolley for the retirement community's annual Old Fashioned Community BBQ, Car Show, and Blue Ribbon Pie Contest. The popular trio is composed of, from left, Jerry Muhasky, Jennifer Janda Dellinger, and Tommy Westley.

In other Country Meadow Village news, the residents and staff have donated \$1,220 to the Meals on Wheels program from funds raised at their annual Mother's Day Brunch and "Kathy's Klosset," an ongoing yard sale spearheaded by staffer Kathy Richter. More than \$600 came from the recurring sale. There are five senior centers throughout Skagit County where meals are served. Approximately 500 meals are served on a daily basis, with 50 of them delivered in the Sedro-Woolley area.

The community also presented a check to Todd Olson, assistant Sedro-Woolley Fire Chief, for the Firemen's Muster that was held June 27 at the Sedro-Woolley High School football field in conjunction with Loggerodeo.

Trouble paying energy bills?

More than \$3 million in bill payment assistance remains available for qualified, low-income PSE customers.

More than \$3 million remains available for qualified PSE customers to help pay their electric and natural gas bills. It's money that's been set aside to assist those who need it most.

PSE's Home Energy Lifeline Program (HELP) provides qualified customers with additional bill payment assistance beyond that offered by the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). HELP is administered by local agencies in partnership with PSE.

Those agencies are eager to qualify eligible customers to the bill payment

Zender assistance program by the end of

September.

Depending on income and household size, a qualified low income recipient can receive up to \$1,000 from HELP. The amount of HELP aid given to a PSE electricity or natural gas customer depends on household size, income, and energy usage.

For more information and to see if they qualify, PSE customers can call 866.223.5425.

Notice:

The Central Skagit Library District, located at 100 W. State St., Ste. C, will now be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and closed on Saturday and Sunday. Library Director Jeanne Williams said the library increased its weekday hours in order to provide an extra hour of service to students and families after school hours.

For more information, call 360.755.3985.

Zender named president for Hospital Services at PeaceHealth

Former Chief Administrative Officer for PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center Dale Zender has been promoted to President of Hospital Services, Northwest.

In this new role, Zender is exclusively responsible for all hospital operations at the following PeaceHealth medical centers in Northwest Washington: PeaceHealth St. Joseph, PeaceHealth United General Medical Center in Sedro-Woolley, and PeaceHealth Peace Island in Friday

Harbor. He also is responsible for PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center in Ketchikan, Alaska.

Zender has worked for PeaceHealth for 30 years, primarily in operations and finance leadership roles. In 2011 he received the John Tiscornia Award, which honors at least 20 years of service modeling outstanding leadership, stewardship, and exemplification of PeaceHealth values. Zender has long been involved in community activities as well, including as a youth sports volunteer coach and serving on governing boards.

—Submitted by PeaceHealth



Continue the cycle

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In The Service



PFC. Randall A. Penno, 19, of Sedro-Woolley, graduated from United States Marine Corps boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego on Aug. 28.

PFC. Penno successfully completed 13 weeks of intensive basic training at MCRD San Diego as one of approx. 83 recruits in M Co., Training Platoon 3275.

Following 10 days home on leave, he will report to Camp Pendleton for one month of Military Combat Training, then Military Occupation Specialty school in 29 Palms, Calif., where he will study his MOS in Communications.



Penno

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Lyman



Day Creek



Council summary

The Lyman Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on Aug. 11. Following is a summary of that meeting. Complete minutes for every council meeting are posted in the hall by the front door of Lyman Town Hall.

Aug. 11 public hearing

- Mayor Debra Heinzman announced that the September meeting will be changed to the third week of September and be held on Sept. 15 because of the Labor Day holiday.
- Water loss report:** Unaccounted for water loss was down to 7 percent. Last year April was 30 percent. A comparison shows that the water loss last year for April to July was 28 percent. This year, April to July average was 14 percent.
- The HCPF grant is closed out. The total amount the town was reimbursed was \$158,645.60.
- A notice of demolition of an unsafe structure was submitted to council for its review from Jim Sherwood. Mayor Heinzman told council that after the discussion under New Business, the

subject will be up for a motion if they choose to move on it.

- An e-mail from USACE stated that the river revetment was on hold again until a consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the tribes could be completed. In the meantime, there are some documents that need to be resurrected from 2005 to present to show costs so far on the project.
- New business:** Mayor Heinzman explained that the process of the unsafe structure demolition may take awhile, but this was where it starts. Councilmember Gail Ganga made a motion to move forward on the unsafe building and have it demolished. Motion passed unanimously.
- Mayor Heinzman informed council that Tim Babcock from Janicki Industries could bring the big Brush Hog down and do the work by the river that is needed in order to do another survey of the area. She had given his number to the clerk, and they were going to make arrangements.

—Compiled from staff notes

Lyman charity gears up for fall, winter events

Heart to Heart Christmas Angel Tree is accepting applications for this year's program. Forms are due back by Oct. 31. To request an application, send an e-mail to hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com.

Organizers are seeking people to shop for children of low-income families. Those wishing to help can choose angel tags online at www.facebook.com/h2hangeltree. All information regarding the program is listed on that page.

Families are available for "adoption" too; contact director Tammie Werner at the above e-mail for more information.

During the past summer, several local women have knitted and sewn hats, scarves, and blankets/afghans/quilts for the Angel Tree. The charity will again try to provide each child with a hat, scarf, mittens, pajamas, socks, and a blanket this

year in addition to their gifts. Personal hygiene items also may be included.

For more information, contact Werner at hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com. Donations of cash/checks are greatly appreciated to help with additional needed items. Checks need to be made payable to Heart to Heart Charity and can be mailed to Heart to Heart Charity, P.O. Box 1372, Lyman, WA 98263.

Something for the KIDS

Heart to Heart Charity's KIDS Club will be back for a fourth year on Wed., Sept. 23 at Hamilton Town Park from 4 to 5 p.m. Kids may ride the school bus to the meeting with a signed note from their parents. Kids will enjoy a scavenger hunt, a new pen pal project with low-income kids in Mexico, and snacks. This is a free event for children 4 years and older (younger with a parent/guardian present); all are welcome. For more information, e-mail hearttoheartcharity@gmail.com.

Applicants sought for Planning Commission

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners is seeking applicants for the county Planning Commission. Current Planning Commissioners have backgrounds including real estate, agriculture, business, education, environmental planning, and more.

About the Planning Commission

The Planning Commission works with the Planning and Development Services Department and advises the Department and the Board of County Commissioners on proposed land use plans and regulations in unincorporated Skagit County. The Planning Commission:

- Consists of nine members, three from each County Commissioner District, serving four-year terms.
- Usually meets twice a month, on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 6 p.m., for an average of three hours per meeting.
- Meets at the County Commissioners Administrative Building in Mount Vernon.
- Is expected to review significant amounts of text in advance and be able to receive documents via e-mail.

More information about the Planning Commission is available at www.skagitcounty.net/planningcommission.

Qualifications

The county is accepting applications from residents of Commissioner District 3, which includes Burlington, Sedro-Woolley, and eastern Skagit County. A map identifying the district boundaries is available at www.skagitcounty.net/GIS/documents/commissioner/commdist.pdf. Applicants should have experience in real

estate, land development, engineering, or architecture and should describe that experience in their application.

How to apply

To apply, prepare a letter of interest with the following information:

- Name, physical address, phone number, e-mail address.
- Personal statement, including any applicable expertise and experience.
- Disclosure of membership in, or affiliation with, any relevant interest groups.

Send your application no later than Wed., Sept. 30, at 4:30 p.m. to the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners at commissioners@co.skagit.wa.us or 1800 Continental Place, Ste. 100, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. If you have questions, send an e-mail to commissioners@co.skagit.wa.us or call 360.416.1300.

The Board of County Commissioners expects to make appointments in October after application review and interviews.

2015 Community Potluck dates

September 15, 6:30 p.m.
October 20, 6:30 p.m.
November 17, 6:30 p.m.
December 15, 6:30 p.m.

Continue the cycle

Please recycle this newspaper



On the ballot

The following individuals have filed for public office in Town of Lyman and will be on the Nov. 3 ballot:

- Mayor: Edward Hills
- Council Position 3: Mike Swanson, Charles (Dick) Saunders
- Council Position 4: Ryein Kitchen, Mike Couch
- Council Position 5: Donald Frye, Gail Ganga



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Editorial, cont. from p. 2

agencies on the ground the flexibility to get just what's needed, and to let them support local businesses who are likewise walking along the brink of survival.

Scott Wilson, publisher of the *Port Townsend & Jefferson County Leader* and fellow Washington Newspaper Publisher Association member, has provided *Concrete Herald* with a list of targets for donations that have his confidence, based on people on the ground who are trustworthy, including local small-town newspaper publishers. Here is that list:

- Okanogan County, home of three of the largest fires: Okanogan County Community Action Council. Go to www.occac.com. All funds donated go to disaster relief. They are very local with boots on the ground. The Methow (Twisp, Winthrop) are in Okanogan County, along with Omak, Okanogan, Riverside, Conconully, Malott, and Tonasket.
- To support at a regional level including Okanogan and Chelan counties: Community Foundation of North Central Washington. Go to www.cfnw.org; you'll see "Community Fund" options to direct funds toward one area or another. This fund reaches Chelan, also Okanogan County.
- A fund targeted at people who were burned out of their homes in the Chelan area is managed by Chelan Valley Hope, a nonprofit community service organization based in Chelan. The funding appeal comes through a Web platform called "Give Naked" as "Give #104"; go to <http://givenaked.org>.
- A GoFundMe account for the firefighters who were killed or injured in the Methow Valley is at www.gofundme.com/methowfirefighters. It's legit, says my credible source.
- Aid for injured or homeless livestock:

Okanogan County Sheriff's Office has an Emergency Animal Response Services Team, providing shelters and food. Checks only; send to Okanogan County Sheriff, Attn: Deputy Yarnell, 123 N. 5th Ave., Rm 200, Okanogan, WA 98840. Memo line must say "Animal Relief/Rescue."

- Volunteers: By the time you read this, the DNR may no longer be looking for qualified volunteers, but you can learn more at www.dnr.wa.gov/wildfirevolunteer.
- Donations: Money is best! Material items needed include coolers, tents, cots, sleeping bags, diapers, paper towels, toilet paper, paper plates, paper cups, flashlights, batteries, playpens, Band aids. Equipment such as generators, even trailers or campers for temporary housing can be used. NO CLOTHING is being requested.

—J. K. M.



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August in pictures



Above: ICL crews lay down fresh asphalt at the intersection of S. Dillard and Division in Concrete's Mill Addition neighborhood Aug. 26. The repaving of half that intersection was necessary after the water line along that section of Dillard was replaced and the town learned that the original plan would create a low spot at the intersection into which water would flow—and freeze, during the winters.



Above: Alex Aiken of Concrete snapped this photo of an August moon through his telescope.

Left: Tyler Coffell contemplates his next move while navigating a muddy obstacle during the "Dump Run" at Cascade Days on Aug. 16. **Bottom left:** Emma Rogge (left) high-fives a friend after emerging from barrels during the Dump Run. **Below:** Jarrod and Valerie Lee are all smiles (and mud) during the Dump Run. In its second year, the mostly muddy obstacle course pulled in more than 100 enthusiastic participants. Organizer Becky Luttrell said she hopes the event continues to grow—and she thinks it will.



Above: From left, firefighters Chris Turner, Don Olmstead, and Chris Archuleta from Fire Dist. 10 (Grasmere Station) pose with "the boot" after winning this year's Firemen's Muster at Cascade Days. The tongue-in-cheek trophy is a sought-after award for all Upper Valley volunteer fire departments.



Above: Iona Werda, 13, of Concrete, poses with her cat, Miguel, at the Skagit County Fair. Werda named Miguel after a character in the movie, "The Road to El Dorado," who also has blonde/orange hair. Werda was showing her handsome feline in the Cats Building.

Below: Leah Tiemens couldn't wait to get started on a chalk art creation during Cascade Days, so she and her brother, Isaac, hunkered down before the sidewalk was dry from that morning's rain. *Photo by John Boggs.*



Above: Concrete High School Class of 2012 graduate Adrianna Canales, 21, tears the roof off a stage at the Evergreen State Fair while performing for a singing contest on Aug. 28. Canales, who lives in Woodinville, sang Carrie Underwood's "Flat on the Floor" and Alicia Keyes' "Fallin'"—and stood out among a field of 10 semi-finalists that night.

Right: Master chainsaw artist Nyal Thomas puts the finishing touches on an ice sculpture of a seahorse during the second day of Cascade Days in Concrete, Aug. 16. **Below:** Terry McDonald hams it up as Bigfoot during the Cascade Days Parade on Aug. 15. McDonald's employer, Cascade Supply, captured the Grand Marshal's award for its lighthearted poke at the Pacific Northwest's favorite legend. *Photo by Charlie Dickinson.*



Above: Cascade Days Parade Grand Marshals Don and Della Payne wave to enthusiastic spectators during the annual event, Concrete's biggest party. *Photo by Jude Dippold.*





Hamilton



Rockport



From the Mayor

Large meetings vs small meetings

Large meetings are usually where the “visible” action takes place. Ordinances and budgets are passed, contracts are awarded and signed, people are recognized, etc. Regional conversations are important. Higher levels of government listen a little better if they hear from multiple places about a problem. Smaller meetings are equally, if not more, important. They are where we can really get to the root of a problem, and come up with innovative answers.

Small meetings, if they don’t involve a quorum or majority of the decision-making board, aren’t required to allow the public to attend. Some of them are scheduled, but most of my “meetings” just happen. I just had a meeting with five young men who want to build a treehouse in a tree outside of Town Hall. The trees are perfectly shaped for it, having been topped so the middle is open. I explained why they couldn’t: liability risk for the town, and it’s been pointed out to me that those trees are rotting in the middle. We agreed that building a lifted fort of some kind for the playground would be a great alternative, possibly involving rope ladders and a fire pole. That’s something we can include in the Parks and Recreation part of the Comprehensive Plan we are updating, which in turn will allow us to seek grants.

A meeting before that helped me understand what our timeline is for getting a grant for the playground.

It’s great to have meetings like that. I have small meetings that help people solve problems, usually involving sharing sources of information. Sometimes I can’t provide any help or solutions, but it makes me aware of problems that I can let others know about or for which we need to find a solution. I have small meetings with other community leaders, some on a regular schedule, so we can discuss any issues that we need to understand better before the big meeting happens.

Sometimes the meeting isn’t pleasant, like getting yelled at for something I can’t fix. Most of the time, I learn more about our community and its members. It’s those small meetings where some “invisible” works gets done, that can really affect people’s lives and make our community stronger.

—Mayor Joan Cromley



Birdsview Buzz

Birdstock 2015 was another success for the Birdsview Fire Dept.—even though they got called out three times and the wives, moms, and kids ended up doing a lot of the cooking!

On Aug. 6 we welcomed Congresswoman Suzan DelBene, who was in the area to celebrate legislation she helped to pass that designated Illabot Creek as wild and scenic. Now, more than 14 miles of the creek are safe from new mining claims, hydropower projects, and building of any kind. She spent part of her day rafting part of the Skagit River and part hanging out with us.

September closures

The brewery will close early on Fri., Sept. 25, and will be closed Sept. 26–27. Brewmaster Bill and I are renewing our wedding vows to celebrate our 40th anniversary.

On Sat., Sept. 5 we will hold a benefit for wildfire victims, both two- and four-legged, from 2 to 9 p.m. We will have three bands playing throughout the day (Barefeet, Jumbled Pie, and Scratch Daddy). There will be 50/50 raffles, and donations will gladly be accepted. We’ll donate 20 percent of our sales and 100 percent of outside donations that day as well. Challenger Ridge winery, Aslan, Wander, and North Sound Brewing will donate and serve their products as well.

—Kris Voigt



Birdsview firefighter Brayden Gunderson collects a donation in the boot at this year’s Birdstock festival, a music-fueled fundraiser for the Birdsview Volunteer Fire Dept. This time around, Birdstock pulled in about \$1,000.



Fanny Alger performs during this year’s Birdstock, a fundraiser for the Birdsview Volunteer Fire Dept. Held at Birdsview Brewing Co., the annual music festival drew strong crowds and took in \$1,000 in donations for the fire department.

Area businesses bring you Concrete Herald each month. Please support them!

New Web site aims to monitor Barnaby Reach proposal

A new Web site will serve as an “advocacy forum” for Rockport residents as the Barnaby Reach proposal moves through its research and public comment phases.

Dave Hallock, site administrator for www.skagitupriverneighbors.com, said the Barnaby Reach proposal is so complex, it’s difficult for everyone to keep track of all the moving parts, not to mention attend the meetings that are being held to update the public.

“The site will allow people in the community to share their points of view—for and against—about the Barnaby Reach project,” Hallock said.

Hallock’s son created the Web site.

A retired CEO of a health insurance company, Hallock does not support the

Barnaby Reach proposal because he “thinks in terms of risk. The [proposed] channel creates the possibility of something happening that would not otherwise happen,” he said.

The proposal, which includes an option to redirect up to 30 percent of the Skagit River’s flow into Barnaby Slough near Rockport, is being spearheaded by Skagit River System Cooperative (SRSC), which provides fisheries and environmental services for the Sauk-Suiattle and Swinomish tribes. Proponents of the plan say that it would increase the number of Chinook smolt in the river by as much as 170,264 in 10 to 15 years.

Hallock doesn’t accept the science that’s being used to justify the options, nor does he accept the cooperative’s version of the

history of the Skagit River channel.

“I just don’t trust their analysis,” he said.

The SRSC has hired Bothell-based Carlstad Consulting to serve as an intermediary with concerned Rockport residents. Principal Cynthia Carlstad is holding ongoing community meetings with a core group of individuals to gather feedback on the proposal.

But such efforts don’t serve the larger community, maintains Hallock, who said not everyone can attend those meetings and stay on top of the project’s status. “People are feeling quite insecure,” he said.

Hence the Web site, where visitors can find blog posts, news articles, and up-to-date data for the proposal. Hallock hopes the site will keep residents in the information loop, knowledgeable enough to ask the right questions.

Project information can be found at <https://barnabystudy.wordpress.com>.

—J. K. M.

Fire department fundraiser pulls in thousands

The Rockport Volunteer fire Department’s annual yard sale had another successful year, earning \$4,600.

“We couldn’t have done it without all of the community support we receive,” said organizer and firefighter Jessica Moore, saying volunteers Greta Movassaghi and Tara McGown were “absolutely invaluable.”

All the money raised goes to firefighter and EMT training, supplies, and equipment.

—J. K. M.

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Rockport-based Camp Stillwater hosts John and Dawn Koenig (in black T-shirts) welcomed a \$2,000 donation for Wounded Warriors In Action Foundation from the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter 11-5 and Women’s Auxiliary on Aug. 28. Accepting the check is WWII veteran Pedro Colunga (green jacket), a four-time Purple Heart recipient. Submitted photo.



Darrington



Snohomish County Sheriff's Report

Aug. 18

Collision Investigation Unit detectives are looking for information about an Aug. 18 fatal collision that killed two men and two juvenile females on the Tulalip Reservation. They are looking for witnesses to the incident or surveillance video of the truck from around 1:30 a.m. through the time the accident was reported later that morning (3:30 a.m.).

Detectives are seeking this information to help piece together what may have caused the incident, as well as additional evidence to aid in their investigation.

The incident occurred at the 7500 block of Totem Beach Rd. The pickup truck with the four victims went off the roadway, over a concrete embankment, and into a fisheries rearing pond. All four died at the scene.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Sheriff's Office anonymous tip line at 425.388.3845.

A man who went missing while hiking in the Glacier Peak area was located and safely returned to the trailhead by Search and Rescue personnel the morning of Aug. 18. Relatives of the 27-year-old man reported him one day overdue around 1 p.m. on Aug. 17.

The Search and Rescue Unit launched ground and air operations to locate the hiker. SAR personnel met up with two climbers who confirmed that they had talked with the man on Sunday, near Glacier Gap. The morning of Aug. 18, hikers who had been in the area met SAR members and reported finding the man yesterday near the Pacific Crest Trail, off-route. The hikers said they had provided him with water and escorted him back to the proper trail.

Around 8:30 a.m. on Aug. 18, the man was located by the SAR horse unit, who escorted him safely to the trailhead.

"We are very grateful for all of the help from civilian hikers and climbers," said SAR Sgt. Danny Wikstrom. "Without their assistance, this could have had a tragic outcome. It was the combination of support from the man's family, hikers, climbers, and the SAR team that had this come together for a happy ending."

—Compiled from Snohomish County Sheriff's Office reports

New superintendent for school district

"I want to listen and learn about the district before any changes will be made," said Dr. Buck Marsh, the new superintendent of the Darrington School District, in an interview with *Concrete Herald*. "I want the rest of the state to be aware of programs like STEM (Science, Technology, Ecology and Math) in Darrington. There are organizations in town I want to meet with. I'd like folks to be aware of the fact that the school district is committed to advancing the community. I want to look at what's working and build on that."

Marsh has spent his entire career working in education, including principal of Colfax Junior/Senior high school, assistant principal of Bridgeport, and elementary school principal in Yakima where he met his wife, Jennifer. He also was a science teacher for six years at East Valley High School in Yakima.

He and his family have enjoyed the small-town atmosphere and the closeness of everyone. He hopes to enable the teachers to have the chance to learn and the time to learn all the ways to make education fun and interesting for the students. He would like to include electives for the students to increase their knowledge and learning skills.

Building a curriculum in the arts, technology, and more college-level classes through the STEM program is proposed.

Marsh attended Davis High School



Marsh

in Yakima, went on to Yakima Valley Community College and then to Central Washington College to obtain his degree in Chemistry and Biology. He earned his Masters in Chemistry at the University of Oregon. Jennifer will teach in Arlington and all four of his children will attend school in the Darrington School District. He hopes to attend as many sports activities as his schedule allows. He is very impressed at the community involvement in the sports programs.

"I think we're poised to take off and grow as a community. Providing the students with a relevant education is important," said Marsh.

—Marla Skaglund

Areas of Sauk River closed to fishing

Effective Aug. 27 until further notice, portions of the Sauk River are closed to fishing for all species to reduce drought-related injury and mortality. The following locations are closed:

- Sauk River from the mouth of the Suittale River to the forks.
- North Fork Sauk from its mouth to

the North Fork Falls.

- South Fork Sauk from its mouth to Elliot Creek.

Sauk spring chinook are extremely vulnerable to disturbance because of extreme low flows and high water temperatures. Reaches of the Sauk River were previously under "hoot owl" restrictions, limiting fishing to certain hours of the day. This action supersedes those rules.

—WDFW



Biker Mike Alf pushes a beer keg at the Biker Rodeo at the rodeo grounds near Darrington on Aug. 22. Photo by Marla Skaglund.

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Scenes from the 2015 powwow



Photos by Denise DuVarney/Copperbear Photography.

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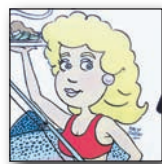
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Marblemount



Newhalem



Hall becomes incident command post

Marblemount Community Hall is serving a higher purpose with gusto these days: The Incident Command Post (ICP) for the Goodell Creek Fire is headquartered there. Needing a secure place from which to operate, as well as access to the new WiFi and telephone capabilities, the incident overhead team found the facilities perfect for their needs. Inside, the hall buzzes with activity as incident commander, section chiefs, and public information officers do their work. Firefighters and engine crews, however, are camped in a secure pasture on Ranger Station Rd., complete with yurts, tents, field kitchen, and outhouses. Expected timeline for using the hall as the ICP was two weeks beginning Aug. 22, but this may change, depending on the fire's outcome. Because of all the

unknown variables, the last Marblemount Community Market, scheduled for Sun., Sept. 13, has been cancelled. For more information, contact market manager Christie Fairchild at info@marblemountcommunityhall.org or 360.873.2323 (leave a message).

—Christie Fairchild

Cascade Pass trail and camp closures

North Cascades National Park officials have closed a portion of the Cascade Pass Trail from the junction with the Sahale Arm Trail to the junction of the Upper Stehekin Valley Trail and the Flat Creek Trail because of the Glory Fire. Pelton Basin, Basin Creek, and Cottonwood camps are closed, as well as the Horseshoe Basin Trail. The Trapper Lake

area is also closed.

Sahale Arm Trail and Sahale Glacier Camp, as well as Flat Creek trail and camp remain open.

The lightning-caused Glory Fire was confirmed on Aug. 25. Because of limited access, the fire is monitored from the air.

There were multiple fires active in the park. For climbing and backcountry information, contact the Wilderness Information Center at 360.854.7245.



Grillmasters Chad Moilanen, Jim Hunter, and Jerry Larsen stopped creating mouthwatering goodness long enough for a photo during the Aug. 2 Salmon BBQ at Marblemount Community Hall. The annual event helps to fund the hall's maintenance and operation.

go to www.nps.gov/noca. For assistance with trip planning and suggestions for alternative autumn hikes or climbs, contact the Wilderness Information Center at 360.854.7245.

Read Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

The good news is ... Smoke, cont. from p. 11

By Sasa and Starwalker

What does zero waste look like?

Impossible you say? In Germany, Sara and Milena decided to follow the rabbit hole and create something impossible: a zero-waste grocery store. With crowdfunding they created a store with a mission to stop contributing to all the waste created by packaging, with 16 million tons per year in Germany alone. This waste in turn contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, which lead to hotter temperatures year-round, even causing droughts like we see now.

At Original Unverpackt, customers bring their own containers and pay by the weight for products, even shampoo and milk. My son and I recently began a project to make reusable bags for produce and bulk items to reduce our dependency on plastic waste, which contributes to pollution of our environment. When you think about it all from a business point of view, it would make sense to reduce packaging on one's products because it reduces overhead while creating a simpler business structure, not to mention happier customers because of lower prices.

Keeping it simple seems to be a wise investment. Stores like Costco could very well develop a no-waste facility if they reduced their packaging. The co-op in Mount Vernon is well on the way to making that change to zero waste. They will weigh your home-brought bags for you before you shop too. We will do our part and shop as wisely as we can, creating and using reusable bags, as well as helping others with resources to manifest reusable bags. E-mail us for more information on reducing plastic and waste, as well as other resources for change, transformation, and empowerment.

"The universe has shaken you to awaken you."

Anyone who wants to contribute to Sasa and Starwalker's efforts may contact them at cascadiaeffect@gmail.com. Experiences also may be shared at the accompanying blog at <http://cascadiaeffect.weebly.com> and on Facebook: Cascadia Effect

Complex. Smoke conditions were worse on the east side of the state, with plumes reaching all the way to the Plains states. Roide said his team's priority was the Goodell fire, calling their strategy "full suppression," meaning they intended to eventually extinguish it completely. That fire presented challenges, however, in that the steep terrain where it was burning, coupled with large amounts of dry fuel, made it "not safe for boots on the ground," said Roide.

Instead, the firefighters—which numbered upwards of 120—employed "point protection": They assessed what assets were at risk (homes, Seattle City Light infrastructure, etc.), and took steps to protect those assets.

"We're mitigating the risk to our people first," said Roide.

Terrain, weather, and ample fuel were expected to draw the fire out of the short-term. "We're looking at a long duration event," said Roide, adding that the Goodell fire was actually quite small when compared with the major blazes in Eastern Washington. "The larger fires are higher priority," he said. "[The Skagit Complex fires] are a fairly low priority."

FEMA steps in

On Aug. 25 the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) authorized the use of federal funds to help with firefighting costs for the Goodell Fire in Skagit and Whatcom counties.

FEMA Region X Regional Administrator Kenneth D. Murphy determined that the fire threatened such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. Murphy approved the state of Washington's request for a federal Fire Management Assistance Grant.

At the time of the request, the fire was threatening SCL infrastructure, including the Newhalem powerhouse, which generates more than 40 percent of the power for the City of Seattle service area. The fire threatened transmission lines, maintenance and office facilities, and nearly 60 primary residences. It already had burned three power poles by this point. Also of concern were impacts to significant natural resources, including critical habitat for multiple endangered species.

The authorization made FEMA funding available to pay 75 percent of the state's eligible firefighting costs under an approved grant for managing, mitigating, and controlling designated fires. The grant provides reimbursement for firefighting and life-saving efforts, but does not provide assistance to individuals, homeowners, or business owners and does not cover other infrastructure damage caused by the fire.

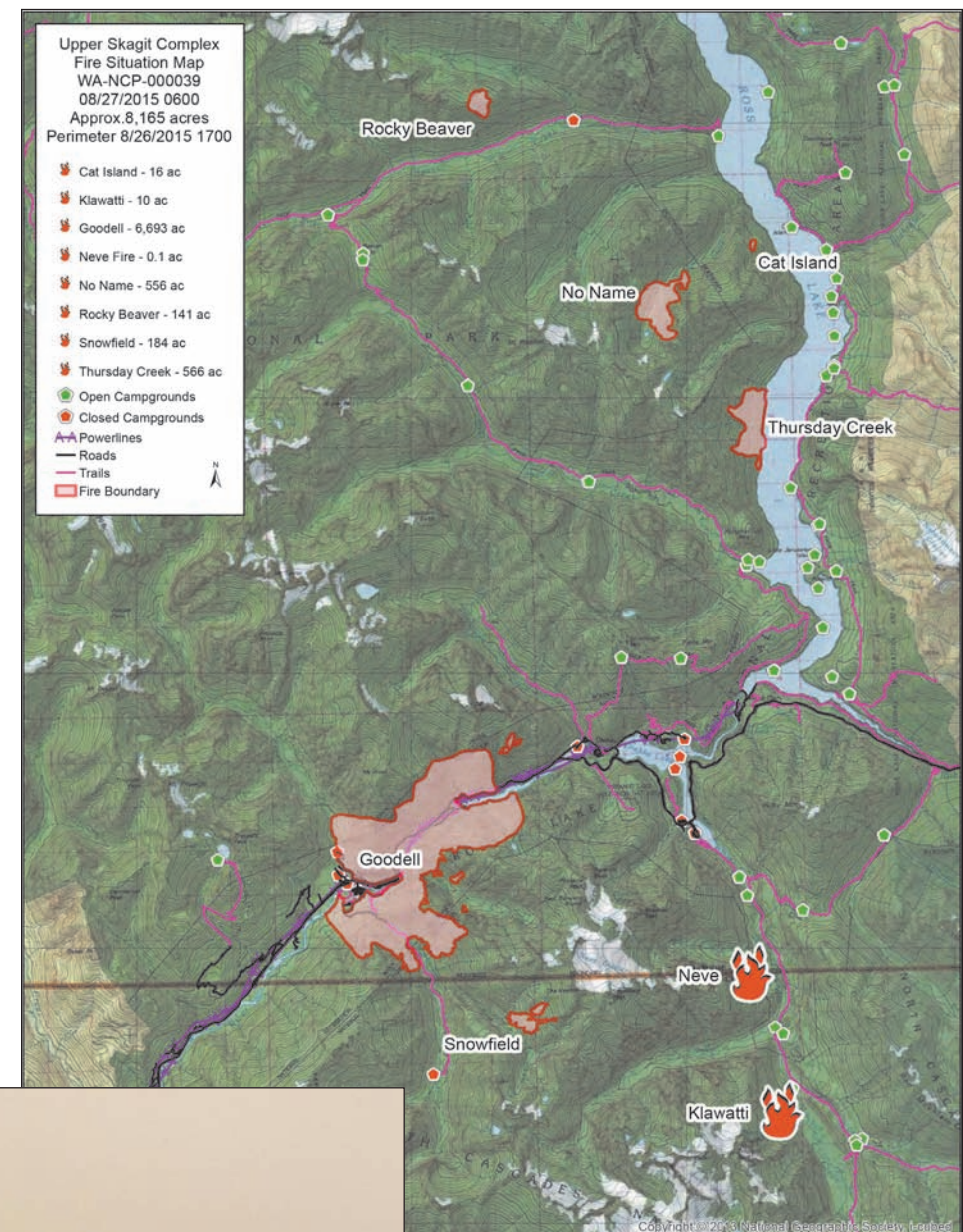
Meanwhile, SCL crews worked to reduce the risk of additional damage to SCL infrastructure, while preparing to repair the utility's damaged transmission lines.

On Aug. 26, crews cleared vegetation around a wood pole line between the Diablo and Ross dams and power houses. The crews also began wrapping the 70 wood poles in fire-resistant material to reduce the risk of damage if the fire moved into that area. That line delivers backup power to restart generators and run control panels. The poles also carry fiber optic communications lines for the facilities.

August 29 brought much-needed rain to the parched Upper Valley and national park, hitting the burning fires hard and providing some respite for firefighters.

Because the situation is constantly changing, *Concrete Herald* will post daily updates for the Upper Skagit Complex fires on its Facebook wall.

—J. K. M.



Above: A fire situation map provided by Great Basin Incident Management Team 4 shows the fires included in what came to be called the Upper Skagit Complex. The Goodell fire dominated firefighting efforts as it threatened Seattle City Light and National Park Service infrastructure and buildings.

Left: An Aug. 23 photo looking east from Concrete shows the hillsides near town clouded by wildfire smoke. Only eight miles away, Sauk Mountain was completely obscured. Photo by Jude Dippold.

50's Bakery

Dedicated Gluten Free
Great Food For Every Body

- Variety of morning baked goods including cinnamon rolls, french toast and waffles
- Panini sandwiches, hearty salads, and soups made from scratch daily
- Daily specials include lasagna, pot pies or baked macaroni & 5 cheese

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

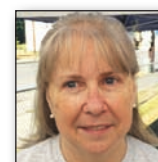
SERVING
Breakfast ~ Lunch ~ Early Supper

360.853.8700
45597 Main St., Concrete
7-5 Daily • Closed Tuesday





Seniors



Coffee Break

Hit the road

By Patrick M. Kennedy

When you decide to sell your home after retirement, you have some head-scratching choices. You can live where you are, or on Main St. with a shopping cart. You can move to a senior home and meet a lot of new people. Or you can move into an RV and be wherever and at what time you want to.

Your RV choices come in many styles, many sizes, and many amenities, like kitchen size, bathroom size, and what devices for comfort and cleanliness. Of course, the size of the price tag is kind of important. Some things might cost as much as you originally paid for your house, and that's a big bite out your lay-back-and-be-easy funds. But good used RVs are easy to afford. Most of the used ones are in pretty good shape because the previous owner probably lived and traveled in it and kept it in A-1 shape so it wouldn't break down on some backroad, or the stove wouldn't work and starvation would set in,

or the toilet wouldn't work and other things would set in. The best method here is to start looking hard at what's on the market.

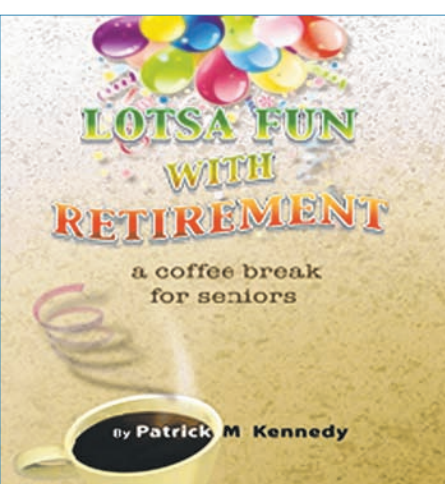
Living the RV way can be a different lifestyle, but when used to it, it can be wonderful. If you like to fish, do you know how many rivers, lakes, and shorelines are in this country? Try countless. And the same goes for skiable mountainsides. You see RVs on the road all the time, traveling south in the winter and north in the summer. No matter where you go, there will be a campground or an RV park in the neighborhood.

With the Internet you are never far from your old friends or relatives: "Hey, we're in the neighborhood and we want to park in your driveway!" You might not want to use that line too often.

In an RV you are never too far from your bank and your funds. Every bank has a Web page and you can access it with your ID and password and move your cash around so you can cash a check or use a credit card anywhere you are. On the Internet you can look up any destination you plan to go to and find out what's there and what's good or bad about it. There are millions of maps on the Internet so you will never get lost.

An RV is not a bad choice and better than a shopping cart or a crowded senior place. You make all the choices as to where you will live and for how long you will live there, what you eat, where you shop. If the neighbors are noisy, you just move on. Hit the road.

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



Way Back When

60 years ago

Sept. 22, 1955: The Boy Scout creed of being helpful to others was demonstrated in its ultimate form Monday night when leaders of the local Boy Scout troop decided to investigate the failure of a plane to return from what appeared to be a landing attempt on Lake Shannon.

The plane, trying to find its way down the Skagit River from Ross Lake, ran into fog and circled into Lake Shannon about 7:15 p.m. It was seen coming down over town, low, heading for the lake. When it failed to return, calls were made to the lake and also to Ross Lake and the Koma Kulshan Ranger Station on the Upper Baker.

The information added up to the chance that the plane had run into trouble. Scout leaders Don Ross, Vince Scott, Dick Gardinier, and Mac McGlenn then formed a search party, which after about an hour's combing of the lake discovered Bob Alyen and Hal Nordeng of Seattle clinging to the floating debris, and learned from them of the death of three others in the crash of the plane while landing on the drift-clogged lake.

Trapped in the plane beneath the water were pilot Vern Wilson of Seattle, Dr. William J. Mackey, and Dr. Frank E. Hayden of Bellevue. All four passengers were dentists and had chartered the Beechcraft plane for a fishing trip to Ross Lake.

In the wake of the event came a special publishing from *Concrete*

Herald on Sept. 23, 1955, stating that Scout leader and Deputy McGlenn had resigned his post:

The Upper Skagit Valley was without a deputy today, following the immediate resignation of Morris (Mac) McGlenn. The resignation came following a searing reprimand from Skagit County Sheriff Harold Hinshaw over the fact that the sheriff's office had not been allowed to make the announcement that the bodies (of the plane crash victims) had been located yesterday afternoon.

The sheriff blamed Deputy McGlenn for the word getting to newspapers and radio, although McGlenn did not return to town from the scene of the accident seven miles up the lake until bodies were brought in. Prior to that time, he had sent word in to Marshal Fred Bianchini to say that the plane had been found and to have him call the county coroner. Marshal Bianchini did this and also placed calls, as requested by the various relatives and the King County Sheriff's Office, notifying them of the find. The King County office then notified the Seattle papers and radio. The Mount Vernon radio called *Concrete Herald* and was given the information.

Without investigation, Sheriff Hinshaw called Deputy McGlenn on the phone after McGlenn had delivered one of the bodies to the morgue and returned home, thinking the case had been successfully wrapped up. The sheriff had been in town at the time the bodies had been brought in, had failed to make any recommendations

See **Way Back**, p. 29

Concrete Center

September 2015

Activities

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

Mondays

10 a.m.
Noon
12:30 p.m.
2 - 4 p.m.

Jigsaw puzzles
Soup & Salad Bar
Skip Bo
Needle exchange bus
on site, 9/21

Tuesdays

10 a.m.
Noon
12:30 p.m.
12:30 p.m.

Jigsaw puzzles
Lunch
Skip Bo
SHIBA Medicare
assistance by appt.

Wednesdays

10 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Jigsaw puzzles
Advisory Board mtg.,
9/9

Noon
12:30 p.m.
12:30 p.m.

Lunch
Skip Bo
Bingo, 9/9, 9/30

Thursdays

10 a.m.
11 a.m.

Jigsaw puzzles
Skagit Seniors Picnic
at Riverfront Park,
Sedro-Woolley, 9/10

Noon
12:30 p.m.
12:30 p.m.

Lunch
Skip Bo
Pinocle, 9/3, 9/17

Fridays

10 a.m.
Noon
12:30 p.m.
12:30 p.m.

Jigsaw puzzles
Lunch
Dominoes, Skip Bo
Coffee with Commissioner Janicki, call
for time: 416.1376
Watercolor painting

1 p.m.

Closures

9/7 Labor Day

Way Back, cont. from p. 28

or issue any orders during the entire case, except on direct query from the deputy.

Deputy McGlenn was given no opportunity to answer the phone reprimand. This morning he

conferred with friends, then made the trip to Mount Vernon to turn in his equipment in person. He again was given no opportunity to give the true story, so tendered his resignation and returned home.



40 years ago: A helicopter view of downtown Concrete showed this scene on a quiet Monday afternoon in September 1975. Town Hall is in the center foreground at the east end of Main St. To the right (north) side are Peterson's Texaco, Mt. Baker Hotel & Cafe, the municipal parking lot, Log Cabin Tavern, Concrete Beauty Salon and Fashion Wagon, the Theodoratus Building, *Concrete Herald*, a garage, the Okay Barber shop, Lila's Ceramics, and the Concrete Grade School. On the south side, from east to west, are the telephone building, the Carroll Building, Legion Hall, State Liquor Store, Camardella's Cafe, Eagles Hall, Concrete Drug, Midget Market, Concrete Theatre, The Hub, Cascade Supply, Concrete Department Store, State Bank of Concrete, and the Benfield Building. *Archive photo.*

Concrete Herald publisher Charles M. Dwelley wrote an equally searing editorial in the Sept. 29, 1955 issue:

"For a long time there has been a quiet joke about the county that of all the members of the county sheriff's office, the man who knew least of what was going on in that organization was the sheriff himself. This was proven this weekend. This last incident is comparable to many in the past: no praise, much criticism from the head office. This time the sheriff failed to investigate the facts and was as far off base as it is possible to get. We admire our deputy for being man enough to call him on it and tell him to get another boy. It's a tough break for the Upper Valley, because conscientious men who work for the people instead of the politicians are hard to find. You win, sheriff, send us up an errand boy."

—Compiled from archives

Verna's Kitchen

By Verna McClure



I found this month's recipe in an old newspaper. It's quick and easy.

Smoothies

1. Peel overripe bananas and break them into small pieces.
2. Add to blender, plus 1 tsp vanilla extract and 8 to 10 ounces of cold milk.
3. Blend with some ice cubes for 15 seconds.

I added many flavors of fruit and chocolate. All are good and I'm sure there are many more that are great.

Obituaries

Bobbie William Thompson (1948-2015)

Bobbie passed away peacefully surrounded by friends and family on Aug. 20, 2015. He is survived by his loving wife Jill, children, grandchildren, and siblings. He will be fondly remembered by many friends and family.

A celebration of life will be held on Sat., Sept. 19, at the Lake Tyee clubhouse at 4571 Burpee Hill Rd., from 2 to 5 p.m.



Kathryn Bernice Lester

In a "league of her own," Kathryn Bernice Lester played hard, lived well, and died all too soon on Sun., Aug. 9, 2015. Succumbing to a long battle with cancer, Kathy beat the odds for many years, but struck out in this last inning.

Born in Morenci, Ariz., on Feb. 20, 1941, to Susan and Allen Robertson, Kathy and her family moved to Seattle when she was a girl. There she went to school, made lifelong friends, played some serious semi-pro softball, and swam to her heart's content. She later attended Central Washington University.

She met her future husband, Bill Lester, in Port



Angeles, where he was a National Park Service ranger, and after their marriage they made their home at the Lake Ozette Guard Station. The famous Ozette archeological digs of the mid-1970s became her project, and lifelong friendships were forged with Makah tribal elders. After daughter Mary was born in 1976, they transferred to North Cascades National Park, and Kathy had, once again, projects around every bend in the trail. She and Bill hand-built the park's first alpine plant restoration greenhouse out of salvaged materials, behind their home on the Marblemount compound. They also built the first permanent Wilderness Information Center after the little travel trailer proved to be too small. In addition, with Mary inheriting her mother's love for animals, they built a small barn behind their government house, where Mary kept her pony, lamb, and other creatures large and small.

Kathy was a huge supporter of her friends' and family's interests and needs, and was always there to lend a hand. She became very involved in 4-H, Pony Club, and greyhound dog rescue, to name just a few.

Kathy also worked for numerous local businesses and agencies, including Cascadian Farm in Rockport and the U.S. Forest Service in Darrington, and at Casa de Fruita in California, when Bill worked at Pinnacles National Monument. And despite her advancing illness this past year, Kathy volunteered many hours helping at Marblemount's Bread of Life Food Bank.

For the past 10 years, Kathy hosted a most unusual, multi-day campout party for her many greyhound rescue friends and their dogs on her land up Cascade River Rd. These times will never be forgotten by those who were there!

Kathy was preceded in her passing by both of her parents, her husband Bill, and numerous horses, ponies, goats, and dogs, especially her beloved greyhound, Fly Boy. She is survived by her daughter Mary, Will Wrynn, and their 10-month-old son James;

brother Bruce; brother-in-law Jerry Lester; numerous other in-laws, nieces, and nephews; and her lifelong friend Mary Langbein. The family also wishes to thank Dr. Daniel Garcia of Concrete and his wonderful staff at East Valley Medical/Sea Mar for their care and support.

A memorial gathering and celebration of her life is being planned for later in the year or early next spring. Contact Mary to be notified at mlealester@gmail.com.

Donations in Kathy's name may be made to the Humane Society of Skagit Valley, 18841 Kelleher Rd., Burlington, WA 98233.

Obituaries published in Concrete Herald

from May 2009 to present are posted online at:

www.concrete-herald.com/obituaries

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

Sunday School lesson

How do we survive?

By Chris Anderson

As I look back on summer memories, I usually come up with pleasant ones. That's what summer is supposed to be, isn't it? School break, traveling vacations, family visits, you name it; they are all set to be times of excitement and joy!

When I was a child, I was hardly able to sleep the night before those special occasions. As I grew older, I noticed that the thrill diminished. Much of my adult life I have worked with youth and have seen enthusiasm that we often miss as we age.

I spent five summers as a chaplain with the Boy Scout National Jamboree. Normally, these were great times to watch youth celebrate and grow in many positive directions. In 2005, however, the Jamboree was a completely different situation. An unbelievable tragedy happened to one of the troops from Alaska on their very first day in camp. All four of their adult leaders were killed in a freak electrical accident while putting up a large circus tent. The joy and expectation of a once-in-a-lifetime experience was destroyed in a few seconds. Why? What went wrong? Where was God in all of this? Those were the questions I heard as I worked with the boys and other leaders in the area.

As I talked with one of the young men whose father had been killed, I needed to remind myself that God did not cause any of this. God simply does not work that way! I could affirm to him that God was with him, and his family, as they went through the pain and hurt that followed. I saw many other young men who did not even know the people involved, but who opened their hearts to them. All were an important part in the healing that needed to happen.

See Sunday School, p. 35

Skagit County Sheriff's Office Blotter

Aug. 1

At approximately 4 p.m., the Sheriff's Office was called to the Cape Horn development park at Skagit River in reference to a missing adult male swimmer. A group of about seven adults were wading in shallow water and at some point, an adult male went into deeper water to retrieve a football and began to struggle against the river current. Three other members of the group went into the deeper water to attempt to rescue him; however, they also began to struggle against the current and three of the four who were in the water made it back to shore. One of the original rescuers was unaccounted for and was believed to be

missing in the water.

Sheriff's Office Deputies and Skagit County Search and Rescue personnel began an immediate search of the area, supported by a Navy helicopter and one river boat. Efforts were made to locate the missing swimmer until dark, but the subject was not located.

The deputies and Search and Rescue personnel resumed searching the next day, Aug. 2, from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., but did not locate him. The water was very swift in the area and visibility was poor.

Search and recovery efforts continued with a helicopter, underwater cameras, and river boats.

The victim, 41-year-old Jayson T. Spencer, originally from Palouse, Wash., was recovered on Aug. 9 in the river near Raser State Park. Skagit County deputies and the East County Water Rescue Unit first took custody of the man. The coroner later took custody of the body and his family was notified.

Two cars were involved in a minor accident on the south end of Lyman. It seems one car was turning onto Main St. when the driver reached over for a beverage. This caused the car to swerve into oncoming traffic (yes, there's traffic in Lyman). She struck a pickup. It caused enough damage that the truck was towed away. She was issued a citation for unsafe turning, and she spilled her nonalcoholic beverage.

Aug. 2

A caller from the Medford Pit area near Hamilton reported a close call. He and a friend were shooting along with several others in the area, and a window of his vehicle was shot out. It appears that this subject pulled ahead of and above some earlier shooters, thereby putting his vehicle downrange of the shots being fired. Not a good place to park. I think many folks are aware this is an open yet unregulated shooting area. Basic safety rules apply: Don't park downrange. Shortly after the window broke, the other shooters left.

A caller from the north end of Lyman reported smelling a meth lab again. Although I can appreciate this caller's concern, several deputies and fire personnel have checked on the man's complaint. It's always unfounded.

Aug. 9

The owner of a stolen motorcycle believed he saw it in Marblemount. It was observed being driven by a man with a shaved head and "really bad body odor." Deputies had several folks in mind, but observed the described motorcycle at a known drug offender's house. A deputy

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.

Martinez, Angel

Age: 27
Race: H Sex: M
Height: 5' 4"
Weight: 147
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Address: 2xx N. Central Ave., Sedro-Woolley



A Level III sex offender, Martinez was convicted third-degree rape of a child in 2011. His victim was a 14-year-old female who was known to him; Martinez was 19 at the time. Martinez also has violated a no-contact order, has jumped bail, and has been convicted of third-degree assault on law enforcement.

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

Source: Skagit County Sheriff

Sergeant's corner

School zone safety tips

By Chris Kading



As the month of August winds down, our incredibly dry summer in the Upper Valley is drawing to a close. With that brings the beginning of the school year in Concrete. School officially begins Sept. 2; however, there are many activities in and around the school prior to that. Class registrations and orientations are taking place as I write this column. With this increased activity, there will be a noticeable increase of children in the area, on foot and on bikes.

The Sheriff's Department will continue to monitor the new crosswalk area at SR 20 and Superior Ave. SCSO deputies will enforce the 20 mph speed limit in the school zone. The school zone should be staffed by a volunteer assisting with kids trying to cross at SR 20 and Superior Ave. The new flashing crosswalk lights at the crosswalk will be utilized when kids are arriving from 7:15 to 7:45 a.m. and

in the afternoon as kids leave between 2:30 and 3 p.m. Please pay attention and adhere to the posted speed limits during these times.

The speed limit in the school zone area is normally 35 mph. At that speed, it takes 13.5 seconds to pass through the school zone. During "school zone" hours, at 20 mph it takes 18.5 seconds, a mere 5 seconds longer.

The Concrete School District Web site has additional information on late start times and special activities that may increase the numbers of kids in the area. Remember, you're not likely to be stopped by a deputy for driving too slowly through the school zone, but if you're driving too fast, we'll have to have a brief roadside chat.

For those teenagers who are driving to school, absolutely no texting and driving. The sergeant has a no-tolerance policy, and you will be issued a ticket the first time you're caught texting behind the wheel. That's a \$124 reminder.

Thank you for being careful and driving respectfully out there.

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

confronted the stinky man, who said he'd bought it off the Internet. The man's story didn't make any sense; it stank too. He was arrested on several charges, and the motorcycle was returned to the owner.

A tragedy occurred on Fisher's Peak in North Cascades National Park. Several persons were hiking together when a loose rock dislodged, fell, and struck a 47-year-old man from Bellingham, killing him. It was determined by several witnesses that this was purely accidental.

Aug. 11

Someone recklessly drove through the corn field on the south end of Cabin Creek Rd. near Hamilton. This caused several hundred dollars of lost revenue to the farmer. Deputies are looking for a car with a distinct corn imprint on its grill.

Aug. 15

A caller from Lyman-Hamilton Hwy. near Lyman reported a suspicious van on the back of her property. It seems she had given permission to some folks to pick berries on her property, but she didn't recognize their vehicle. The deputy reintroduced them to each other and all is well.

Deputies were dispatched to the area of

Pinelli Rd. and Cape Horn near Hamilton, for a report of a suspicious person. A passerby saw a subject wearing ripped sweatpants and possible bloodstains on his shirt. As the deputy arrived, he recognized the man. He's known to deputies, but today he was observed by neighbors "aggressively" picking blackberries, hence the shirt stains. Deputies could find no crime, but there's more to this story I'm sure.

The owner of a log skidder parked near the Medford pit near Hamilton discovered someone had stolen items from his equipment. An unknown crook stole the radiator, batteries, and generator. There are no suspects at this time.

Aug. 16

A male subject was seen breaking a window at the post office in Concrete around midnight. He apparently punched through the glass, causing some life-threatening injuries to himself. He also had some temporary mental health issues, which caused him to leave the scene. A deputy found him near SR 20 and requested aid to respond. The man was

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.
Bruce Martin, pastor

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

Baptist

First Baptist Church
12732 Hemlock St., Clear Lake
360.856.2767

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wed.: 7 p.m.
John Batts, pastor
E-mail: pastorjohn@firstbaptistclearlake.com
Hamilton First Baptist Church
797 Hamilton Cemetery Rd. at SR 20
Office: 360.826.3307
Sunday School: 9:40 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Ron Edwards, pastor

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

Catholic

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

Covenant

Community Covenant Church
12605 Highway 9, Clear Lake
360.856.1023 // covenant@wavecable.com
www.clearlakecov.org
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sun. worship: 11 a.m.
Call for weekly youth group/Bible studies
Tim Hedberg, pastor

Free Methodist

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

Methodist

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

Presbyterian

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

Lutheran

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

Nondenominational

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

Community Bible Church

45672 Limestone, Concrete; 360.853.8511

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

The RIVER Gathering

720 Puget Ave., Sedro-Woolley
Sun. worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wed. potluck/study: 6 p.m.
Thur. ladies group: 6:30 p.m.
Last Fri./mo. potluck/games: 6 p.m.
www.facebook.com/thrivergathering
360.853.6676 // Pastor Larry Weston

Rockport Christ the King Comm. Church

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

Wildwood Chapel

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

CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM NEWS

It has been a great summer for the Concrete Heritage Museum! Not only has attendance been up at the museum itself, but an increase of interest in several of our upcoming events proves fall is something to look forward to.

Cleaning out your storage for winter? We are hosting a **garage sale fundraiser** on Sat., Sept. 5, at the swap meet site near Loggers Landing off SR 20 in Concrete. Donations will be accepted up to Sept. 4. Contact Gail Boggs or any other board member through our Web site, www.concreteheritagemuseum.org, for additional information.

Our **fall hours** are Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. in September, and during the Ghost Walk every Saturday evening in October. We will co-host with the Concrete

Chamber of Commerce the ever-popular **Ghost Walk** event again this year during October; more information will be forthcoming as planning for the walk progresses.

For more information concerning any of the planned events listed here or information concerning the museum in general, you can contact the museum through John Lloyd, president, at 484.575.6374, or John Boggs at 360.853.8347. Our Web site is www.concreteheritagemuseum.org; it has archived *Concrete Herald* issues dating to before the 1920s.

Monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month, starting at 7 p.m. at the museum, always open to the public. We encourage everyone to join us. —Bowen Beals

September at the Darrington Library

Children's programs

- Family Storytime, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30; 11 a.m.
- Explore Summer Finale: Insect Safari! Sep. 2, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- Every Child Ready to Read and Rock, featuring Charlie Hope, Sep. 16, 1 p.m.
- LEGO Club (free play), Sept. 23, 1 to 2 p.m. For ages 5 and older.

Teen programs

- Back to School Movie Blow-out: "Rudy"; Sept. 16, 3 to 5 p.m.
- Friends, Food & Fun Craft Teen Event, Sept. 26, 1 to 3 p.m.

Adult programs

- Darrington Friends of the Library

meeting, Sept. 2, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. New members welcome.

- Closed on Sept. 7 and 8.
- WorkSource Series: Interview like a Star, Sept. 14, 4 to 7 p.m.
- Summer of Authors Series: Jay Jacobs, *The Widow Wave*. Sept. 16, 6 to 7 p.m.
- Darrington Library Board meeting, Sept. 17, 5 to 6 p.m. All interested citizens welcome to attend.

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

—Asheley Bryson, branch manager

Mayor Miller, cont. from p. 3

- WSDOT has installed zigzag striping in eastbound and westbound lanes approaching the intersection to encourage motorists to slow down and pay attention. It will monitor the intersection to determine if this strategy is effective. It also lengthened the center stripes for eastbound motorists on SR 20 at that intersection to encourage

slower speeds if they turn north onto Superior Ave. North.

As the **General Election** approaches on Nov. 3, a reminder that although you'll find their names on your ballot, former Concrete Town Council candidates Bill Sullivan (Position 1) and Maryann Holbrook (Position 2) have withdrawn from their respective races. More details are provided in the article on p. 4.

At the Upper Skagit Library

Summer has flown by, but not without great success. We thank everyone who came out to support the Upper Skagit Library Foundation (USLF) **Book Sale** at Cascade Days. The donations we received broke records. Thank you, supporters and volunteers.

Congratulations to two youngsters who won Summer Reading prizes. **Lily McAdam**, 2, won a brand-new bike. **Olivia Greso**, 15, entered our Fan Fiction short story challenge and won an Amazon gift card! You can view her story on our Facebook page and library newsletter. Subscribe to our mailing list by visiting our Web site, www.upperskagit.lib.wa.us.

Fall programs

Storytime begins Sept. 5 at 11 a.m., on the first Saturday of each month.

A reading and book-signing with author and playwright Nicola Pearson—a USLF

fundraiser—will be held on Sat., Oct. 3, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

October brings "Skagit Reads": *Spare Parts*.

November is National Novel Writing Month, with "Upper Skagit Writes" 30-Day Writing Challenge.

New arrivals

In adult fiction, solve the next mystery in *The Novel Habits of Happiness* by Alexander McCall Smith.

In adult nonfiction, you can hear the *Voices in the Ocean: A Journey into the Wild and Haunting World of Dolphins* by Susan Casey.

Kids will cheer with Dr. Seuss' newest, *What Pet Should I Get?*

The next Upper Skagit Library Board meeting will be Sept. 10 at 5 p.m.

—Cora Thomas, library associate



Our **next meeting** will be held on Sept. 2 at Annie's Pizza Station. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.; however, there is always a group that gathers around 6 p.m. to eat and socialize before the meeting starts. All existing members mark your calendar. For those interested in becoming a member, submitting a request, or just wanting to see what we are about, please feel free to stop in.

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

loaned out to help those in need. Please contact any Lions Club member and we will do our best to help you.

As we leave summer, it is the time to think about our commitment to ourselves and to others. I encourage members of our community to think about and **join your local Lions Club**. Our club is your club. We are a club to serve you and our community. Our hope for 2015 is to increase our membership numbers times two. We all have friends and family who have seen the outreach of your local Lions Club, so now is the time to give great thought about being a member!

Please continue to pray for the healing of our Lions Club members.

—Connie Smithhart

The **South Dillard Ave. water line** replacement project between Eriksen Place and SR 20 is now complete. ICI, the same firm who built our Fire and Life Safety Facility, handled this project, which was paid for wholly with town funds. The new water line replaces the last wooden water line in town.

Also on the **infrastructure** front, look for Public Works crews on our streets this month. We'll be striping the Town Center

and patching cracks that have developed in our newer streets.

The **Concrete Town Council** meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 7 p.m., at Town Hall. I encourage you to visit a meeting whenever you can.

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

Sheriff's Blotter, cont. from p. 31

unreasonable, and a wrestling match ensued in the middle of SR 20. He had to be restrained by several deputies before being seen by medics. The man was brought to the hospital for treatment that night, but criminal charges are pending. This appeared to be a case of self-induced recreational pharmaceutical psychosis, a.k.a. meth.

A Concrete coffee stand employee had her tip jar stolen. The employee was busy waiting on a paying customer, but another patron noticed the theft suspect running away with her tips. The man was described as a white male in his 30s, wearing a dark hoodie with his jeans tucked into logging boots.

Aug. 17

Deputies responded to a report of an illegal outdoor marijuana-growing operation up on the hill in Lyman. A

deputy spotted several plants in a man's backyard; amazingly, the man had no idea they were there. The deputy cautioned the man that he needs to have proper documentation to be involved in the growing of marijuana. Although legal for adults in small amounts, marijuana has restrictions on how it's grown and possessed.

It's important to remember that since the legalization of marijuana, serious-injury car crashes are increasing. Deputies are quickly becoming trained in recognizing a driver who's driving while impaired by marijuana. That is considered a DUI and will be treated as such, including the trip to jail.

Aug. 20

A deputy responded to The Hub tavern in Concrete for a minor motor vehicle accident. It appeared that one vehicle had tried squeezing into a tight parking spot and slightly struck the other. After

checking out the collision, there was no apparent damage.

Aug. 23

Several cars were broken into at the Marble Creek campground and boat launch area near Marblemount. Many items were taken, including phones, wallets, and purses. One victim had the padlock cut off an enclosed utility trailer and a generator stolen from inside. A vehicle of interest was seen in the area. It's an older Chevy Trailblazer-style vehicle that appeared to be spray painted black. This may be the crook's vehicle. Please call Deputy Backstrom at 360.853.8583 if you happen to see this vehicle lurking around boat launches or campgrounds.

A 62-year-old Rockport man was booked into jail for threatening a woman with a knife. It appears there was an argument over who owned two remaining beers. Both parties were drinking, but

a serious threat did occur when the man produced a large Bowie knife and threatened the woman with it. He was booked into jail for the felony charge of second-degree assault.

—Compiled by Sgt. Chris Kading and Chief of Patrol Operations Chad Clark

Not advertising in Concrete Herald is like winking in the dark*

***You're the only one who knows what you're doing.**

Call 360.853.8213 today to be seen in Concrete Herald.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

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

RV Repair

Goldner RV Repair, Concrete

Mobile RV Maintenance & Repair
LP gas systems, water, heating systems, AC/DC electrical
360.826.3303 // rvrepair@frontier.com

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!
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Septic services

Cinema Septic

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Serving all of Skagit County
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www.cinemaseptic.com

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Unique selection of handcrafted gift by local artists. Collectibles and antiques.
Sun. 11–4, Tue.–Fri. 11–5, Sat. 10–5
Facebook or rusticrooster20@gmail.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

Liquor stores

Concrete Liquor Store & Convenience Store

45895 Main Street, Concrete // 360.853.7149
Monday thru Saturday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sundays Noon to 5 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.–Sun. 10–5
360.436.1029 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.

Bookkeeping

UpRiver Bookkeeping Services

360.853.7667 or 360.708.9761
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Reasonable rates
Payroll services to full-charge bookkeeping

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Fresh micro beer brewed on our premises
Great food! Family friendly!
Open Tuesdays through Sundays
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Gifts

All Valley Storage & Gifts

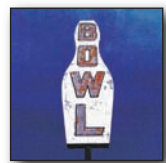
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360.826.6001 / allvalleystorageinc@live.com
Online: www.allvalleystorageinc.com

To add your business to this directory, call

360.853.8213

or e-mail

editor@concrete-herald.com



Out & About



Home & Garden



Skagit County



The National Association of Counties (NACo) in July appointed Skagit County Commissioner Ken Dahlstedt to a one-year term as chair of the Public Health and Healthy Communities Subcommittee, one of the subcommittees within NACo's Health Steering Committee.

The Health Steering Committee is responsible for NACo policy on all matters pertaining to public health and healthy communities, including disease and injury prevention and health promotion, health disparities reduction, financing health care delivery, Medicaid, Medicare, long-term care, behavioral health services, substance abuse prevention, and treatment and services for persons with disabilities.

Active in NACo since 2000, Dahlstedt was subcommittee chair and vice chair of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Steering Committee, and previously served as vice chair of the Health Steering Committee. He serves as vice chair of the Rural Action Caucus (RAC) Steering Committee and as a member of NACo's Board of Directors.



Columbia Bank employees, including some from the Concrete branch, paused for a photo at the fairgrounds during the Skagit County Fair last month. *Submitted photo.*

construction phase came in with a bid more than \$1 million under budget.

Of five competitive bids submitted to Skagit County on Aug. 25, the apparent low bid was submitted by Lydig Construction of Bellevue, with a bid of \$41.7 million. The figure includes a base bid of \$40,145,000, plus the cost of add-alternate project elements, such as a water management system and additional security cameras.

"We had projected a total construction cost of \$43 million," said Project Manager Marc Estvold. "We are pleased that the apparent low bid not only takes in all project add-alternates, but does so under budget."

Lydig has built jails in California, eastern Washington, and Des Moines, Wash.

Next in the process is review and verification of all elements of the bid. The Skagit County Board of Commissioners is expected to officially award the bid in about one week.

Mount Vernon

Project Homeless Connect

More than 300 volunteers will help create a welcoming environment for 500-

plus guests who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness at the 2015 Skagit Project Homeless Connect (PHC) on Fri., Sept. 11, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Skagit Valley College. Individuals, church groups, businesses, and military units have already signed up as guest guides, hospitality hosts, and more, but help is still needed, especially for Spanish interpreters, set up at 7 a.m. and tear down from 2 to 4 p.m., and food preparation on Sept. 10.

A project of the Skagit Coalition to End Homelessness, the sixth annual Project Homeless Connect is a collaboration between more than 50 providers offering same-day assistance and referrals for medical and nonmedical services. A health fair, women's medical services, dental cleanings, veterans' services, pet care, housing assistance, legal aid, clothing and toiletries, haircuts, photos, and identification help are just a few of the resources available.

Community generosity makes Project Homeless Connect possible. "The No. 1 role of volunteers is to provide welcome and hospitality," said Isabela Ordóñez, Event & Outreach Specialist for Community Action of Skagit County and Project Homeless Connect. "People of all incomes and backgrounds connect and understand each other and the community in new ways," Ordóñez said.

In addition to social service providers,

many churches, clubs, and businesses are providing everything from backpacks to hand-knitted hats. PHC is a 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service, and a United Way Days of Caring event. Volunteers receive orientation, training, lunch, and a T-shirt.

To register to volunteer, go to skagitprojecthomelessconnect.org or www.skagitvolunteercenter.org.

Annual arts festival seeks vendors

Immaculate Conception Regional School in Mount Vernon has announced a call for vendors for its Autumn Arts Festival to be held at St. Joseph Center, 215 N. 15th, Mount Vernon, on Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Vendors who register by Sept. 30 will save \$5 off their booth fee. Questions may be directed to Genni Koester at 360.421.0641 or icrsarts@gmail.com. The vendor registration form is available at www.icrsweb.org.

Read
Concrete Herald
The Voice of the Upper Skagit Valley

County Health issues rabies prevention information

Skagit County Health officials last month issued recommendations about how to prevent rabies, most often transmitted by bats.

Rabies, a viral disease that is almost always fatal in humans, is usually transmitted through a bite from a rabid animal. Bats are the only reservoir of rabies in Washington State, but other wild or domestic mammals can be infected if they are bitten by a rabid bat.

Take these precautions to keep you, your family, and pets safe.

- Teach children not to handle unfamiliar animals. That goes for grown-ups too.
- If you find a down or injured bat, leave it alone if possible. If you need to move the bat for safety, use a shovel or wear heavy gloves.
- Prevent bats from entering your home where they might contact people or pets.

- Contact the Health Department immediately if exposure to people or pets occurs.
- Be a responsible pet owner by keeping vaccinations current for all dogs, cats, and ferrets.
- Keep your cats inside, especially at night. Keep your dogs under direct supervision.
- Wash any animal bite wound thoroughly with soap and water, and seek medical attention immediately.

"The bottom line is that rabies is easily prevented and well worth prevention," said Public Health Official Jeanne King, "because the consequences are very high."

If you have questions concerning rabies in Skagit County, e-mail King at jeannek@co.skagit.wa.us or visit the Centers for Disease Control Web site at www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/rabies.

—Submitted by
Skagit County Health Dept.

WSU Know & Grow Workshop: A Fruit Day

What varieties are right for you? Apples, pears, and plums for the Pacific Northwest.

WSU Mount Vernon NWREC Sakuma Auditorium

16650 State Route 536 (Memorial Highway), Mount Vernon

Tue., Sept. 15, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Sunday School, cont. from p. 30

What is the purpose of the church in anything that goes on in our world? Is it to hide behind our lofty values, rules, and convictions so that no one is able to see us as a real or relevant part of our life? Are we to be such solid examples of a perfect theology that we are no earthly good to those who are struggling? Yes, those are rhetorical questions, and, whether we like it or not, I think we all know the answer that Jesus would give. Our task is to reach out, in faith, to the hurting because they need to know the reality of God's love and compassion. We are the only way they have of learning about His Grace!

Each of us can learn from those young boys at the Jamboree. God really is with

us as we go through even the worst tragedies. Each one of us becomes a vessel so that his compassion and love are made real. This is critical as we go through the pain of living in a world filled with sin and disappointments. They happen to us, or those around us, almost every day. Even in the midst of summer disaster, God is present with healing and compassion. We trust in that truth and it becomes real as we, who know his love, share it with others.

God bless.

Chris Anderson is pastor of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Concrete.

Sustaining the small farm

Course offers overview of production and marketing options.

How do smaller farms identify and use the advantages of their size? This is a key question in a semester-long course offered this fall in Skagit County. "Sustainable Small-Acreage Farming and Ranching" will help participants answer this question.

The course gives students a broad overview of production and marketing options for today's small farms. Participants will include established farmers seeking to sustain their existing operations, as well as beginning farmers.

Course presenters include successful local producers and university specialists with expertise in production planning, pest and weed management, whole farm

planning, direct marketing, value-added processing, and more. Participants will have a chance to conduct farm tours and field visits.

Enrollment has begun, with the first class of the course scheduled for Thur., Sept. 24, from 6 to 9 p.m. at WSU Skagit County Extension, 11768 Westar Lane, Ste. A, Burlington. The course is offered for college or continuing education credit.

This course is part of the Cultivating Success series, a collaboration of Washington State University's Small Farms Team, University of Idaho Extension, and the nonprofit Rural Roots.

Funding for the courses comes from the USDA Risk Management Agency and the Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program.

For more details and to register, contact Kate Selting at kate.selting@wsu.edu or 360.428.4270, ext. 223.

For more information about Cultivating Success, go to www.cultivatinguccess.org.

AREA FOOD BANKS

Clear Lake

Community Covenant Food Bank

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

360.826.4090

Concrete

Concrete Food Bank

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

Darrington

Darrington Food Bank

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

Hamilton

Hamilton Community Food Bank

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

Lyman

Shepherd's Heart Food Bank

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

Marblemount

Bread of Life Food Bank

59850 State Route 20, Marblemount
First and third Wed. each month
11 a.m.—4 p.m.
360.873.2504

Sedro-Woolley

Helping Hands Food Bank

601 Cook Rd., Sedro-Woolley
Wed., 10–11:30 a.m. and 12:30–4 p.m.
Open every Wednesday
360.856.2211

*Changes? Call 360.853.8213.



Smile



Dwelleysms

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

“Condition of the Upper Valley roads almost warrants formation of another chapter of the Chuckhole Club. To join, tear off the tread of a tire burst in one of the booby traps and mail to the highway department with a note of apology for breaking their winter’s sleep.”

“A local citizen figures his government is doing pretty well with his tax money. In a 25-mile drive this week, he counted 10 different federal, state, and county automobiles—all better than the one he owned himself.”

“A man happily never knows all his enemies or all his friends. About the only way he can judge how he is doing is to note, each time he is tripped up, if there was someone standing by to help him up again.”

“Funny how the man who always wants to retire never has the money, and the man who has the money never seems to want to.”

—March 24, 1955

“If you are a student of American history and will observe how politicians gradually took everything the Indians owned, you can see the same thing happening again today. This time the vanishing American is the taxpayer.”

“Nearly everybody was dissatisfied with the past session of the state legislature, including most of the legislators. Consensus of opinion was that the most outstanding bit of business conducted was the motion to adjourn.”

“True contentment is a question of mind over matter. Few find it because they won’t work as hard at developing their mind as they will to produce money that makes matter so easily obtainable.”

—March 31, 1955

“You never can tell just how many uses a new product will find. The new stretchable socks are just right for folks who like to stuff their savings into one.”

—April 21, 1955

“Being a ‘tail-end Charlie’ on modern improvements is not going to be so bad for the Upper Valley in the final reckoning. While other towns have been in the process of gradual modernization of their phone systems, we are going to make the whole jump from twisting a handle for ‘central’ to electronic long-distance calls on dial phones in the short space of a few busy years. It’ll be like a new toy to us and at the same time, we will be ahead of the pack—for a while, at least.”

—May 5, 1955

“You can fish anywhere after Sunday, thereby expanding the long list of places where a fisherman can have his usual bum luck.”

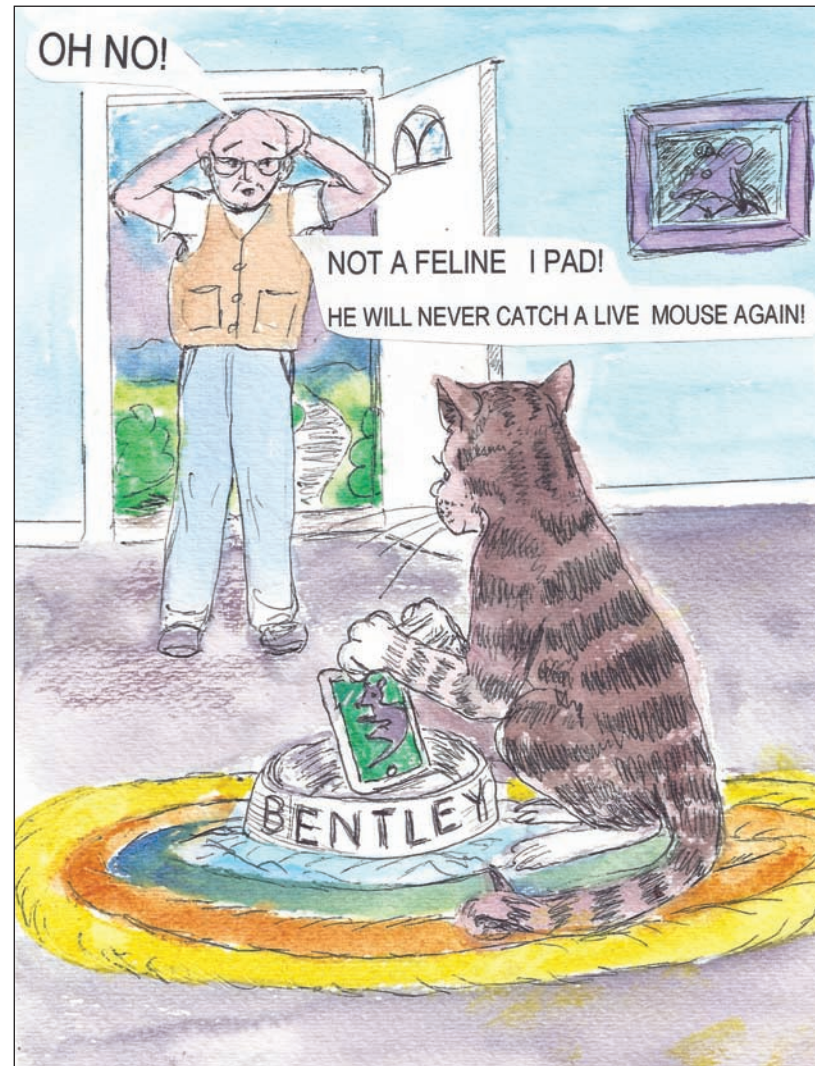
“West Germany is now a free nation and fully qualified to decide whether or not to resume fighting with its neighbors.”

“Courtship is that period of time between ‘Oh, baby’ and ‘Our baby.’”

—May 12, 1955

Concrete Harold

By Joyce Harris



Across

1. “_____ be my pleasure!”
4. Enthralled
8. Quickly, in music
14. Medieval lord
16. Squares things
17. Rental papers
19. Exec’s note
20. Unfamiliar
21. Circular opening?
22. That certain something
25. Carbonium, e.g.
28. Call

29. Home business
34. Singer DiFranco
35. Doorpost
36. Ending of the Bible
37. Houston _____
39. BET alternative
41. Cork’s place
45. “_____Hoo,” 1959 rockabilly song
48. Colossal
51. ‘60s hot spot
52. Vacation spots
57. Fertility clinic stock
58. Half a score
59. Shed
60. Race’s end

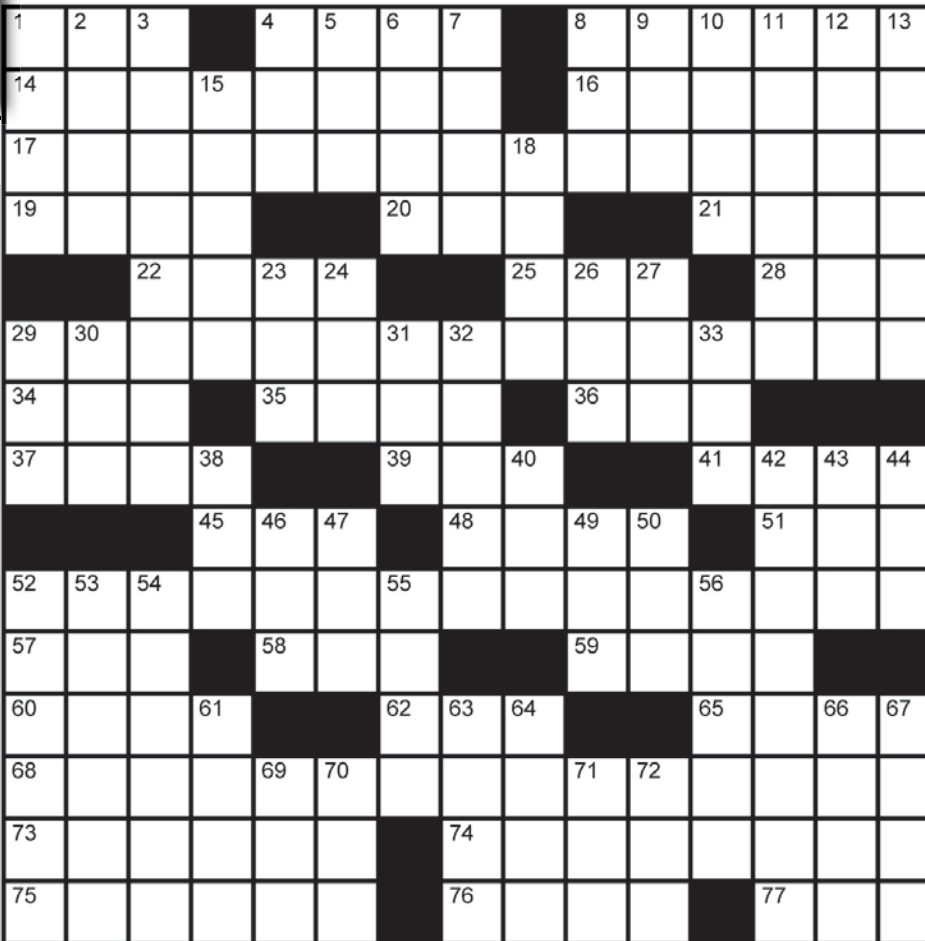
62. “_____ Me,” Withers hit
65. Kind of store
68. Don McLean song
73. Hit
74. Pitcher feat
75. Renter
76. Hardly haute cuisine
77. Some dashes

Down

1. Prayer leader
2. Cash register part
3. Sea rescue adjective
4. Carney or Monk
5. School of whales
6. Beehive, e.g.
7. Tierney
8. “Dog Day Afternoon” character
9. Adaptable truck, for short
10. Drag queen’s collection
11. Supplement
12. Swarming one
13. Make rigid
15. Crack filler
18. _____ Towers
23. Rule opposed by Gandhi
24. Palindromic title
26. Dedicated lines
27. Monogamoo

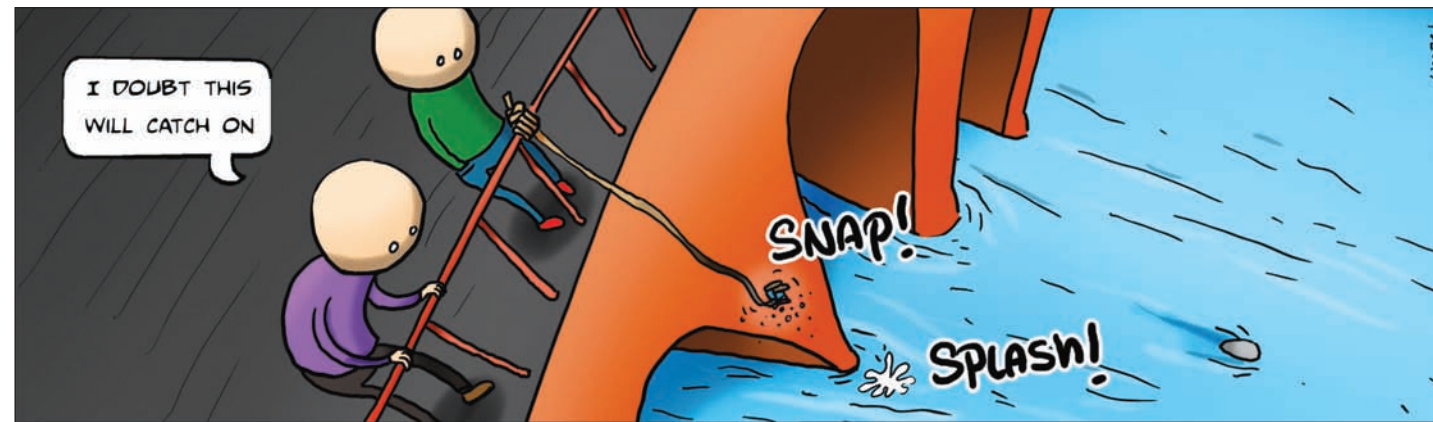
29. Blackguard
30. Wallet find
31. Low-fat meat
32. “Ghosts” writer
33. Wolf or devil preceder
38. Have chits out
40. Clever
42. Get going
43. Tore
44. German river
46. Many a time
47. It needs refinement
49. Diamonds
50. Engine part
52. Diet
53. Do the Wright thing
54. Certain topographies
55. Cross
56. Bathroom cleaner?
61. Greek consonants
63. Be a rat
64. Chemical compound
66. Appearance
67. Stumbles
69. Fabrication
70. Chemical ending
71. Even if, briefly
72. Not square

Crossword: “Home, sweet home”



Public Service Announcement

By Stig Kristensen



BEFORE PEOPLE STARTED USING ELASTIC STRINGS FOR BUNGEE JUMPING

"Skagit's Own"
FISH MARKET
Northwest's Finest Seafood

Dungeness Crab ~ Oysters ~ Fresh Fish ~ Mussels
Shrimp ~ Scallops ~ Clams ~ Smoked Fish

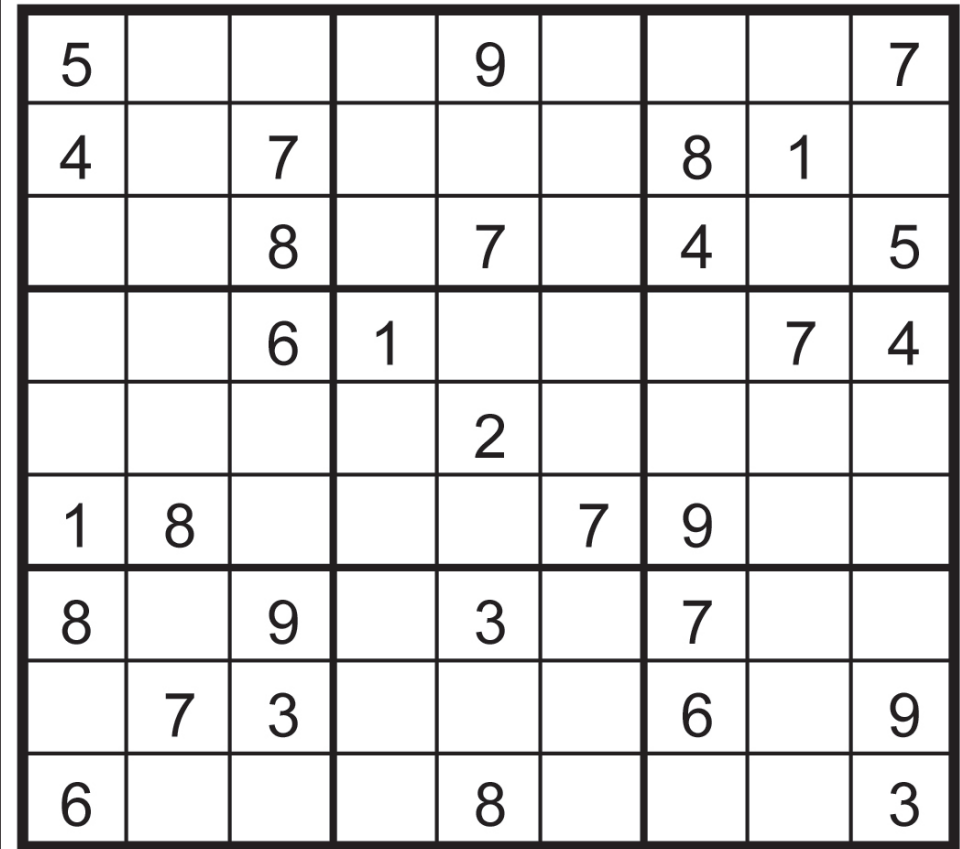
Dungeness Crab sandwiches, halibut or prawn
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homemade clam chowder, oyster shooters.

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Toll-free: 866.707.2722
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18042 Highway 20, Burlington, WA 98233

Sudoku

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



*Solutions to both puzzles are on p. 39.

Funny as Facebook

The following funnies were pulled verbatim from Facebook status updates in August.

- “Husband: ‘There’s a work party. Wanna go?’ Me: ‘Oh god no. Please don’t make me socialize with people I don’t know. You know I’ll slather awkward sauce all over that.’”
- “Silas is going through a phase where he only pushes round buttons. It’s more frustrating than it sounds. I asked him to microwave my coffee for 10 seconds for me and he reminded me, saying, ‘I don’t press square buttons anymore!’ He’s so wonderfully weird.”
- “True love is when you wake your husband up at 6 a.m. because the color of your boogers is startling ... and he isn’t too mad at you.”

VOTE YES!

**Join The Library
This November!**

*Make the Town of Concrete part of
the Upper Skagit Library District.*

Give Concrete residents
equal access to full
library services.

Make a wise investment
in the future of your
community.

Learn more at
Town Hall or the library.

www.UpperSkagit.Lib.wa.us

The Man in the Mud Room

By Nicola Pearson

Editor's note: This is the ninth installment of a monthly serialized story by award-winning author and playwright Nicola Pearson of Sauk City. Future installments will appear on this page each month during 2015 until the story is complete. Previous installments are posted at www.concrete-herald.com.

Callum Lange was up in a Douglas fir tree the next morning, buckling a trail camera to the trunk when Suleka pulled in. He'd thought about this a lot during the night, when he'd found himself wide awake, staring up at the glow from the moon spilling in through the skylight in the pinnacle of his yurt. He'd bought this trail camera to watch for wildlife on this property, but there was no reason he couldn't use it for security too. What was it Suleka had said? He had to think like a pirate to catch a pirate.

The Nissan chugged down the driveway and Lange tucked his head in close to the camera. Sure enough, he heard the clicking sound of photos being taken as the Nissan pulled into view and parked in front of his yurt. This was definitely the right place for it.

Suleka climbed out of the truck and began walking toward his tree. "You need me to drive you around this morning?" "If you would."

She looked up at him, one eye closed against the morning sun. "That nice Prius of yours will turn into rodent habitat if you don't drive it every once in a while." "I drive it!" "Not very often." "I don't prefer to drive—you know that, not after the stress of driving in New York City."

"I don't prefer to drive either, but I do it."

He creased his brow at her. "What are you saying? You don't want to drive me around this morning?"

"No, I'm saying that's a nice Prius you've got sitting outside the Ranger Station at Rockport State Park. Nicer than my old pickup."

"You want to drive my Prius instead of your truck?"

She thought for a second. "Probably not. Does it have one of those new-fangled start buttons?" "Uh-huh."

"Then definitely not."

"So why did you—?" Lange stopped himself, knowing that trying to make sense out of the conversation they'd just had was futile. He changed track. "How did you see me without even looking?"

"You should know me by now," she replied, flicking her eyes toward the Skagit River shimmering silver in the morning sunlight as it slithered through and around the landscape below them. "I see everything."

He huffed and started to climb down the tree. He did know her and he had to admit she was very observant. Others were rarely so observant. Although, he thought, as he looked over his shoulder and stretched his right leg out to touch his toes on the ground, someone had spotted his firewood pile and knew when he was gone, so he definitely shouldn't get complacent. That's how they'd managed to steal from him in the first place. His left foot dropped down to meet the right and he dipped forward to brush off his sweatpants.

"What were you doing up there?" Suleka asked, looking up in the tree again. "Oh, I see it now. Very clever. Is that for your firewood thief or the deer?"

"Both, if I'm lucky." He straightened up and stepped away. His chest puffed out as he filled his lungs with morning mountain air. It was perfectly chill, like good white wine, and smelled like fresh oxygen and icy dew and boundless amounts of chlorophyll. Not that any of those things necessarily had an aroma, but that's what Lange liked most: the absence of smells. Garbage smells, subway smells, exhaust smells, sewer smells, all the things that permeated the streets of NYC.

"We got a good solid frost last night," mentioned Suleka, her eyes on the patches of white twinkling across the ground as the sun hit them.

Lange felt newly invigorated. "What time is it?" he asked, striding toward the yurt.

Suleka trotted along beside him. "Ten till eight."

"That's kind of early for you, isn't it?"

"Tell me about it," she groaned. Then justified her early arrival with, "Deller sent me. Got any coffee made?"

"Sitting on the woodstove," nodded Lange.

"Good. I'll fill you in over a cup."

They climbed the steps and Lange motioned Suleka to go in as he slipped off his dark brown rubber sandals. He stepped over the threshold and immediately his cold, bare feet appreciated the radiant floor heat. He lingered a moment, flexing his toes, before crossing to his sleeping area. "Help yourself," he said, pointing at the ceramic drip coffee pot sitting on the woodstove. "I'm going to change my pants, so don't look."

"Wouldn't dream of it," Suleka shot back, looking down at the coffee pot. She lifted it off the woodstove and turned her back on Lange to carry it over to the kitchen area. "Want me to pour you a cup too?" she asked as she set the pot down on the counter next to the sink.

"Thanks, yes," Lange replied. He pulled off his sweatpants, deposited them at the foot of his bed and climbed into his jeans. Suleka lifted two mugs made by the local potter out of the dish drainer and set them next to the coffee pot. She took the ceramic filter off the top of the pot and filled each mug with dark, aromatic coffee. "Got any milk?" she asked, opening the door to the refrigerator.

Lange was sitting on the bed, pulling on some wool socks. "Don't think so," he answered.

Suleka looked for the quart she'd bought last time she'd gone shopping for Lange, but didn't see it. "Boy, you get through milk fast," she remarked, closing the fridge. She picked up both mugs of coffee and, without turning around, called out, "You decent?"

"Yep," he replied.

He stood up and they crossed the yurt toward each other, meeting at his desk in the center.

"How's the writing going?" she asked, handing him his coffee.

"Better." He lifted the mug to his lips and let the strong, slightly bitter scent tease his palate before taking a gulp. The warmth flowed through his chest and hit the pit of his stomach. "Did you find out about the thefts?"

"I did. I got names and places and I can

point out most of them as we head over to Mary Lynn McCracken's house this morning."

Lange gave her a piercing look. "Why are we going there?"

"Because she was the last person that Margi spoke to on Friday night. And she was the one that called Margi on Saturday morning."

"The missed call."

"Exactly."

"So she didn't just wait for Margi to call her."

"That's what Deller wants you to go find out."

"Is she even home?"

"Who, Mary Lynn?"

Lange nodded.

Suleka was sipping her coffee and made a darned-if-I-know face over the rim of the mug at him. "Deller said the retreat ended at breakfast today, so she figured Mary Lynn's either home or on her way home. And if she's not home, she said you can do some scouting with the SAR dogs around the Breckenridge place. They got there at first light."

Lange was shaking his head no as he gulped down some more coffee. "I want to talk to the girlfriend."

"She works downvalley ..."

"Not before noon. I already checked with Collins." He marched over to the kitchen and set his empty coffee cup on the counter. "You ready?"

Suleka moved her mug around in the air, as if she were looking for a place to set it but was not quite ready to let go of it.

"Bring that with you," ordered Lange. He had the door open already to leave.

"Do you even know where she lives?" she called out after him.

"Marblemount," he called back, slipping his feet into his Redwings outside the door.

Suleka gulped down the last of her coffee and set the mug down on his desk just to annoy him. She hoped he'd know more than just "Marblemount" by the time they got up there.

Continued next month ...

Letters, cont. from p. 3

Native Fish Society is to eliminate hatchery plants of steelhead by establishing wild steelhead gene banks, and turn all these steelhead rivers into catch-and-release fisheries.

They persuade us with vocabulary attractive to our self-identified smarter-than, more-sensitive-than citizens: "diverse," "extinct," "extirpation," "wild steelhead genebank," "wild fish recovery." They disingenuously conflate the terms "wild" and "native," as well as neglect to inform us all that releases of steelhead smolts in Puget Sound have been suspended through 2015 by the WDFW. But what they do not cite is any direct, dispositive, and credible scientific foundation to support their claim that the elimination of hatchery fish will rebound the "wild" strains of steelhead in our rivers.

After the Wild Fish Conservancy's "sue and settle" lawsuit in 2014, the entire Skagit River system was set aside for 12 years as a gene bank. Comparing the now hatchery fish-free Skagit River with the annual release of 180,000 hatchery smolts still permitted in the Skykomish River would have provided science for their unproven gene bank theories. But science is not the goal of these organizations. The goal is for us smarter-than, more-sensitive-than useful idiots to endorse more catch-and-release gene banks.

It has been almost 100 years since some Chambers Creek or other hatchery broodstock steelhead have been spawning with native steelhead rather than returning to the hatchery. During the same period, hybrid surviving smolts along with the pure "native" smolts, if any now, swim to the ocean and return to spawn identified by their adipose fin as "wild" fish. But "wild" does not mean "native." "Wild" could be anything from 100 percent native steelhead genes to 100 percent hatchery genes, or both to an unknown degree. Just what would isolating this unknown gene pool do for "wild steelhead" or science? Anything? Or would it just bypass the ballot box while taking away recreation and livelihood from thousands of our fellow citizens?

At best the organizations cited above are somewhat selfish and naive. At worst, to paraphrase the immortal words of my once teenage nephew, they are racist against not teenagers, but hatchery steelhead. Even this useful idiot can see that.

*Robert R. Rohrberg
Everett*

Thanks to Becky Luttrell

A huge thank you goes to Becky Luttrell and her group of volunteers for a great "Dump Run" during this year's Cascade Days. I love what she said: "We may be small, but thanks to BTI Landscaping Supplies, we have the best mud ever!"

This year was my last time organizing the pie- and watermelon-eating contests, and I'm happy to report that two people have stepped forward and promised to help with those events next year!

*Ember LaBounty
Concrete*

Thanks from Cascade Supply

To all who donated their time and effort to make "Cascade Days" a success again this year, we at Cascade Supply would like to give a big "THANK YOU." Your hard work is very much appreciated!

*Carol Rohan
Cascade Supply, Concrete*

Thanks for a successful book sale

The Upper Skagit Library Foundation and the Upper Skagit Library wish to express our appreciation to all the people who helped make our Cascade Days Book Sale so successful. We had a great turnout of both volunteers and customers.

The canopy crew arrived promptly and provided protection from both rain and sun. The volunteers who helped to sort and display our bounty of books did an outstanding job and enthusiastically explained our donation system for our "price-less" books (no prices shown). You made it a fun and friendly day.

A special thanks goes to our library staff for your help in more ways than we can count.

And last but not least, our thanks go to all of you who donated the books, and to all of those wonderful people who gave a generous donation in exchange for a bag of books. The proceeds from the sale help fund library programs for both children and adults, and special items the library needs.

We send our heartfelt thanks to all.
*Nancy B Johnson, Rockport
John and Gail Boggs, Concrete
Book Sale Coordinators*

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Classifieds

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www.concrete-theatre.com

NOTICES

NOTICE OF TOWN COUNCIL 2016 BUDGET WORKSHOPS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Concrete Town Council will hold workshops on the following dates in preparation for the 2016 Budget:

Sept. 28	6:00 p.m.	2016 Fees/Utility Rates
Oct. 13	6:00 p.m.	Review 2015 Budget
Oct. 26	6:00 p.m.	2016 Salary/Benefit Workshop
Nov. 9	6:00 p.m.	Review 2016 Proposed Budget
Nov. 23	6:00 p.m.	2016 Budget (IF NEEDED)

The Concrete Town Council chambers are handicap accessible. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate the needs of special classes of citizens, including handicap accessibility or interpreter, will be made upon receiving twenty-four (24) hour advance notice. Contact Andrea Fichter at the Concrete Town Hall (360) 853-8401. Published in the September, October and November 2015 editions of the Concrete Herald.

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email: andrea@concretewa.gov

Crossword solution, from p. 37

1	I	T	D	A	G	O	G	S	U	B	I	T	O	
14	M	A	R	G	R	A	V	E	A	T	O	N	E	S
17	A	P	A	R	T	M	E	N	T	L	E	A	S	E
19	M	E	M	O	N	E	W	S	E	M	I			
22	C	A	U	R	A	I	N	D	U	S	T	R	Y	
26	C	O	T	T	A	G	E	I	N	D	U	S	T	R
30	A	N	I	J	A	M	B	E	T	H				
34	D	E	C	O	U	S	A	E	P	I	C	N	A	M
37	L	A	K	E	F	R	O	N	T	C	A	B	I	N
41	O	V	A	T	E	N	E	M	I	T				
45	V	I	R	E	U	S	I	N	T	H	E	A	I	R
49	A	T	T	A	I	N	N	O	H	I	T	T	E	R
53	L	E	S	S	E	E	G	L	O	P	E	N	S	
57														
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73														
77														

PUBLIC NOTICE TO WAVE TV CUSTOMERS

Due to programming cost increases from TV networks owned by A&E Networks, Discovery Communications, Disney/ESPN, FOX Broadcasting Company, HBO, NBCUniversal, Scripps Networks Interactive, Turner Broadcasting System, Viacom, regional sports programmers, and independent channel providers, Wave's Cable TV rates will be adjusted in October.

At Wave, we offer our Expanded Content TV programming tier to customers at a subscription price that is directly equal to the cost we pay for the content included. When network owners increase their monthly fees to us, we pass through the new rate to those customers that subscribe to that tier of service. To make it easy to understand the passed-through programming costs paid to cable networks, this information is detailed on each customer's bill.

At Wave, our number one goal is creating happy, long-term customers. We work diligently on our customers' behalf to manage TV programming costs, while seeking more choices. Unfortunately, cable television networks continue to increase their fees and require us to bundle their channels together which limits your choice in selecting the programming you want to watch. For more information on the costs associated with TV programming, please visit www.wavebroadband.com/content.

Further details, including alternate entertainment options, will be included in your October bill statement. Thank you for choosing Wave.
1-866-WAVE-123

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Headstones. Traditional & One-Of-A-Kind. TODD'S MONUMENTS, 360.708.0403. www.toddsmonuments.com.

Piano Lessons. Sedro-Woolley or arranged in-home. 360.856.4938.

To place a Classified ad, call 360.853.8213 or e-mail ads@concrete-herald.com. Ads are \$5 per every 10 words, rounded up to the nearest 10. Payment is due at time of placement. Deadline for the October 2015 issue is Sept. 28.

Sudoku solution, from p. 37

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

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of the
Month**

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for details

While
Supplies
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11⁹⁷

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Mail-in
Rebate

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Insect Killer

700157

Sale ends 9/30/15



**spotlight
on
savings**

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22-Tine Steel
Leaf Rake

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Sale ends
9/30/15



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Fall Catalog
is out!
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good buys
for all your
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45900 Main St., Concrete • 360.853.8811 • Mon.—Sat., 8:30 to 5:30

You're Invited!

Join PeaceHealth United General Medical Center and United General District 304 for a Fall Health Fair that will help you be your best. With health screenings, interactive presentations, and family-oriented activities, this outdoor event will have something for every member of your clan.

Fall Health Fair and Community Celebration

Saturday, October 3 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

PeaceHealth United General Medical Center, Sedro-Woolley



PeaceHealth
United General Medical Center



UNITED
GENERAL
DISTRICT 304

