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Senate candidate hopes for victory



PLANNING TO GO TO D.C. VIA LA CONNER – U.S. senate candidate Tiffany Smiley made a late in the campaign stop here Saturday morning, firing up a crowd of about 100 people filling the Civic Garden Club. Votes are being counted all over the state. Has she, or will she, defeat Senator Patty Murray?
– Photos by Bill Reynolds and Ken Stern

U.S. Senate candidate Smiley stopped in La Conner Saturday

By Bill Reynolds

In a U.S. Senate race being touted as surprisingly close as election day approached, surging GOP candidate Tiffany Smiley made La Conner one of her final weekend campaign stops Saturday morning.

The 39 year-old veterans' advocate and former triage nurse was greeted by an enthusiastic standing room only crowd at the La Conner Civic Garden Club during a 30-minute appearance, part of her statewide "There's a New Mom in Town" bus tour.

Smiley, who was introduced by Republican Second Congressional District challenger Dan Matthews, appeared buoyed by the large, supportive 8:30 a.m. turnout.

"I started this campaign by getting out and talking to people," she said, "and I'm ending it by getting out and talking to people."

Smiley drew repeated applause by addressing themes she has raised on the stump and in debates with five-term incumbent Patty Murray, one of the more senior members of the U.S. Senate and a leader in the chamber's Democratic Party caucus.

Smiley was critical of Murray's legislative record.

"We can't afford six more years of Sen. Murray phoning it in," said Smiley.

"I was 11 when she was first elect-

ed," Smiley added. "She has been in the senate for 30 years and only nine bills with her name on it have crossed the line."

Murray, who famously launched her senate career as "a mom in tennis shoes" in 1992, has countered by highlighting her role in the passage of infrastructure legislation and the Inflation Reduction Act.

Smiley questioned the latter bill's effectiveness in combating rising costs and noted its provision that calls for expansion and modernization of the Internal Revenue Service. She said the act allows the IRS to add 87,000 new personnel to its ranks.

"That's 87,000 IRS agents that can come after small businesses and any of you," Smiley said, adding that persons making as little as \$25,000 annually are "more likely" to be audited.

"If her legislation is working," asked Smiley, "why are these bills not working?"

Proponents of the inflation reduction legislation, citing a U.S. Treasury Department report, note not all new IRS hires will be agents. Many will work in customer service and information technology or replace an estimated 50,000 IRS workers expected to retire within five years. Increased tax enforcement, they add, will focus on high-income earners and corporate entities.

The bill, according to Murray, will

lower prescription drug costs for nearly 1.5 million people in Washington state.

Of Murray, Smiley said "tax and spend is the name of her game." She also called out Murray for alleged inaction related to the fentanyl crisis plaguing communities across the nation.

"This is a crisis that's killing our kids," said Smiley. "We have to save our kids. That's what's on the ballot in Washington state."

Smiley called for national energy independence, bolstering law enforcement and improving public education.

"We need to make sure the money follows our children," she said.

Smiley shared her experience caring for her husband after he was severely wounded while serving with the U.S. Army in Iraq. She said she refused to sign documents consenting to his discharge while he was undergoing trauma care at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. She said she didn't want her husband's recovery to be compromised and fought to prevent him from becoming a mere number in the Veterans Affairs system. Smiley said she was successful in her perseverance.

"I was given a zero per cent chance of taking on the Army for my husband," she said, "so I like my odds

(continued on page 5)

Shelter Bay manager sued for libel by board member

By Ken Stern

When Rick Tanner ends his Shelter Bay general manager job, he is taking with him a libel lawsuit Shelter Bay Community board member Judy Kontos filed in Skagit County's small claims court Friday. Kontos, as an individual, is suing Tanner personally for the maximum \$10,000 allowed in small claims court for statements he wrote in his Oct. 28 resignation letter. The case is filed in Skagit County District Court

Elected to the board in May, Kontos is not named, but Tanner wrote: "Some new members seem more interested in disruption than cooperation. They harassed some of the most dedicated Board and committee members into resigning. That loss of vital institutional knowledge is tragic. Important decisions are now deferred by parliamentary wrangling and baseless assertions.

"Paralyzing the Board is bad enough, but they also harass my staff. There is simply no excuse for confronting and publicly criticizing employees instead of coming to me with any complaints."

In a Facebook post Nov. 5, Kontos explained "I absolutely will not let go unanswered and (un)defended the statements and attributions made in his resignation letter. I will defend my character and reputation in a Court of Law, not on social media. This lawsuit is a personal civil matter."

(continued on page 5)

Summer Town tax receipts were hot

By Ken Stern

The \$66,648 in Town of La Conner sales tax revenue reported for October continued the year's record setting trend. This was the fourth month above \$66,000, driving the year-to-date total to \$573,848, 16.6% and \$81,545 above annual projections with two months left. The year's total will almost certainly top \$675,000. The 2022 budget estimated sales tax revenues of \$492,303.

Revenues from all tax sources are over \$5 million and 99% of the annual projections, led by the sales tax, REET – real estate excise taxes – and public works street program revenues. All expenditures are at 67% of budget, well below the forecasted expenses

The \$24,803 in hotel/motel tax revenues is the highest October total ever. Collections are at 121% of annual projections and may top \$190,000 in 2022.

The \$6,659 collected for the firetruck sales tax was also a record. Totals are at 125.4% of the year's revenue estimates.

These totals are based on August collections from town stores and online purchases delivered to La Conner addresses and reported to town council from the state's Department of Revenue. Tourists have flocked to town through the summer, apparently unaffected by national economic news of inflation and interest rate hikes.

Town council held its first 2023 budget discussions Tuesday. They intend to pass a budget at their Dec. 14 meeting.

La Conner has a calendar fiscal year.



GATHERING FOR A LAST TIME WITH FATHER WILLIAM TREACY – Friends from near and far gathered in Seattle's St. James Cathedral for Rev. Treacy's memorial service Oct. 28. Archbishop Paul D. Etienne presided. Fr. Michael G. Ryan gave the homily.
– Photo courtesy of Mel Damski

Seaport Books tops magazine's list to visit on state road trip

By Bill Reynolds

La Conner is not just a prime destination for travelers. It is also one for those in search of a good book or three.

That according to Seattle Met magazine. Seaport Books, in Gilkey Square near the intersection of First and Morris streets, tops the Seattle publication's current list of the "Best Bookstores to Visit on a Washington Road Trip."

Seven stores in all are listed in an article by correspondent Allison Williams.

"The state has many a cute small-town bookseller worth a road trip," she wrote in the latest edition of Seattle Met, singling out Seaport Books for specializing in Pacific Northwest titles and displaying works from local artists.

"Home to museums and quilt shops," Williams noted, "it (La Conner) is the quintessential spot for strolling and shopping, and Seaport's sign invites visitors to

'come hook a book.'"

Known for its friendly, casual vibe, the bookstore focuses on Pacific Northwest topics of interest. It also regularly hosts "Meet the Author" sessions with those who penned some of the books displayed on its shelves.

Owner Janna Gage, fondly dubbed the store's "book guru," shared the positive Seattle Met review on social media Sunday afternoon.

"Seattle Met Magazine featured us in their latest issue," Gage posted. "We're atop the list of 'Best Bookstores to Visit on a Road Trip in Washington' and we love that they used our photo for the heading."

That photo includes the store's signature 'come hook a book' sandwich board sign.

"The sign outside Seaport Books," the Seattle Met staff emphasizes, "is a whole mood."

It is one that is as inviting as the cover of any bestseller.

From the editor —

On ending state's COVID-19 emergency

Gov. Jay Inslee's COVID 19 emergency declaration expired Oct. 31, fading away 31 months after he first declared a state-wide emergency Feb. 29, 2020. Recall his TV appearances through March as the coronavirus spread worldwide and Inslee moved to expand public health measures.

Reflect on the earliest dark days of the coronavirus pandemic when it was an unknown threat whose scourge seemed limitless. Increasingly, everything was shut down and we were all told to stay home. We locked ourselves up in our houses. Schools were shut, church services canceled, businesses closed. We gave each other a wide berth passing on the sidewalk, wore masks on the beach and in the woods, followed arrows on the floor in the grocery store and stood on circle decals marked six feet apart.

Into and during this chaos of fear, our six-foot-six-inch governor expanded to his full height. He marshaled good staff across agencies, leaning on the state health department and his executive team. One proclamation after another was issued and daily briefings and press conferences were the norm.

Aiming for health, using science and expecting normalcy, goals and plans were created. A caseload of 25 infections per 100,000 people was set as the metric allowing the reopening of the state. Stages to measure progress from staggering high numbers of infections were set, as if we could step down in an orderly way from this once-in-a-century plague.

Looking back over the months since March 2020, how well did Inslee lead? Exceedingly well. Objectively, exceedingly well. Washington ranks 47th of 52 in the nation in deaths from COVID-19 per 100,000 people (including Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia). Alaska, Puerto Rico, Utah, Hawaii and Vermont, the states and territories below us, have small populations and wide open spaces: .

Washington outperforms all higher population states in keeping its residents alive. Our state's population is 7.8 million. We are struggling with 191 deaths per 100,000 people. California is the only large population state that comes close to protecting its population, ranked 39th, with 245 deaths per 100,000 people. The vilified blue state governors fulfilled their oaths and protected their populations.

No one was purposefully or rhetorically sacrificed on the altar of political ideology or for partisan gain.

Tragically, 14,530 people have died from COVID-19 in Washington since 2020.

Our circles of parents, grandparents, neighbors and coworkers who are alive can in large measure thank Inslee and state government staff that the pain, suffering and, yes, death, was not worse.

In a time when society on every level is splintering into factions and too many people are elevating their heartfelt beliefs into facts they expect the community to follow, it is impossible to find widespread agreement that an elected official succeeded at working for the good of all.

In this time of insanity, the cliché the facts don't lie is, sadly, a quaint phrase falling on too many deaf ears. Yet for the too long dark period of a pandemic that is not over, political leaders and healthcare professionals in the state of Washington have shepherded its population closer to health, if not sanity, better than any larger populated state.

In the old days people would be carrying the governor around on their shoulders. Thank you cards mailed with a stamp are nearly a past relic. Take the time to email the governor or go to his office's website and attach an emoji heart and a thumbs up to express a heartfelt job well done, for that is a true fact.

Thank you, Gov. Inslee for your steadfast leadership through the still-not-over coronavirus pandemic.

— Ken Stern

Free at-home COVID-19 tests

Washington state ships free COVID-19 tests. Orders can be made monthly at: sayyescovidhometest.org.

Dramatic drop in new Skagit COVID-19 cases

By Ken Stern

New cases of coronavirus infections in Skagit County have dropped dramatically, 71% since July, when 1,078 people tested positive. The 315 positive tests in October are a 35.3% drop from the 487 new cases in September. In August 578 people had tested positive, itself a 55% reduction from July.

Likewise, the seven day case rate has plummeted, from 95 cases per 100,000 people the last week of September to 45 new cases per 100,000 people the last week of October.

Case rates have declined greatly throughout the region. San Juan and Island counties continue to have fewer cases, San Juan recording 34.6 cases per 100,000 people the last week of October and Island County reporting 38.6 people per 100,000 the same period. Skagit County's case rate for that time was 45.2 cases per 100,000 people, below Whatcom County's 46.5 cases per 100,000 people. Snohomish county recorded 57.1 cases per 100,000 people the last week of October.

While 19 people were hospitalized the first half of October in the county, half as many, 10, were admitted the last half of the month.

The 29 hospitalizations exceeded September's 25 by four, a 16% increase. Only 5% of county hospital beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients Nov. 1.

Deaths are way down in the county. There were two the second week of October after four deaths in September.

The Skagit County Public Health Department has reduced the hours its Cascade Mall drive-thru testing site is open to 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mondays and 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Thursdays for COVID-19 rapid antigen testing and Flu A and B testing.

COVID-19 prime, pediatric and booster vaccinations are available at the downtown Mount Vernon Skagit Public Health office, 700 South Second Street. The clinic is open Wednesdays-Fridays 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m.

Make appointments at premod.doh.wa.gov/ by searching for "Skagit County Public Health" under Name of Location.

Walking-in is an option.

Since the state has ended its COVID-19 emergency proclamations and state of emergency the Washington State Department of Health is ending its weekly COVID-19 Bulletin Nov. 10.

LETTERS

Is the council listening?

I find it useless to go to town council meetings.

This it how goes. You arrive. The mayor may smile at you.

You get your three minutes of time. Someone times you. The bodies at the front tables may stare at you. Or not.

But they don't respond. Not then. Not ever. (One intrepid council person does sometimes respond later in the meeting but the council, particularly the fellow who sits next to mayor, shoots him down. Almost always.

In the last couple years a group has grown that wants to improve things here in terms of community involvement — in terms of affordable housing. In terms of fairness and transparency. And the bodies at the front continue to stare. (The group grew out of a neighborhood need but evolved into wanting to learn how things work — or don't — here).

We asked for a special planning commission meeting to actually have a dialogue. (Back in the day we sat together in a square format and conversed). Much to our surprise, the planning commission granted it.

But the council did an end run and scheduled their special meeting to undo the planning commission special meeting.

I learned since these are the reasons they gave. No planning commission quorum. There was. It wasn't proper process, they said. (Check RCW 42.30.080.) Oh — and the weirdest complaint — the planning commission action happened as the last thing in their meeting.

And the council said the special meeting would not get everyone there.

Seriously? When have they ever cared? They don't seem to like people there. Have they not been listening when I have asked them for more outreach? Have they not read my editorials encouraging people to go to meetings? The community meetings organized by the communications committee were pretty feel-good but they are powerless. They are a distraction!

Why would they think that continuing to do things exactly the same time after time would have a different outcome?

What was it that Einstein said about that?

"Insanity is doing the same thing, over and over again, but expecting different results."

Linda Talman
La Conner

Young Life helps kids

Since 1941, Young Life has been making a difference in the lives of teenagers around the world. Young Life is in more than 90 countries, offering hope with Christian values to approximately two million teenagers each year. Young Life is for every teenager regardless of race, religious tradition or culture.

A little over 20 years ago Vern and Elaine Lovelace and John Hackstadt had a vision to start a Young Life chapter in La Conner. Today 20 years later I'm happy to report that Young Life is alive and well in La Conner

Young Life starts with concerned adults who spend time building bridges of authentic friendship with teens — where they are, as they are. Because their leaders believe in them unconditionally, teenagers begin to see that their lives have great worth, meaning and purpose. Exciting action, heart-pounding adventure and a caring community. That's what most young people want and that's what Young Life delivers through a variety of activities.

Young Life might be best known for its first class summer camps where kids can get away for a week in a beautiful setting and consider some of life's biggest questions without the distraction of peer pressure or their electronics. Many of the kids report that not having their phones for a week was the best part of camp.

Overseeing the work with teens is a group of local parents and others who volunteer their time and resources to give valuable assistance in planning, accountability and fundraising. Each Young Life area is self-supporting, relying on tax-deductible gifts from concerned adults and businesses who share the goal of reaching every teenager.

Young Life wants to extend a special thanks to the Swinomish Tribal Community for their generous financial support over the years. That support along with other generous donations from both sides of the channel have allowed Young Life to take hundreds of La Conner students to camp over the years for what many of them say was the best week of their lives. Mike Carrigan
Stanwood

Heat pumps practical for cooling, heating and reducing energy use and costs



By Greg Whiting

Is it possible to reduce your energy bill and carbon dioxide emissions and get air conditioning for a home that didn't have it, all at the same time?

Sometimes it is. Changing your home's climate control system to a heat pump, from the typical Washington combination of a gas furnace or electric resistance units and no air conditioner, may reduce your energy costs significantly even though doing this adds

air conditioning. You are likely to save more energy during the heating season while the system is heating, than you'll use during the short northwestern cooling season while the system is running in the air conditioning direction. Cost assistance may be available from PSE's energy efficiency rebate program and/or federal tax credits.

A heat pump is an energy efficient combined heater and air conditioner. Think of it as a very efficient air conditioner with a reversing valve which enables heat to flow in two directions, instead of just one. This simple idea makes it possible to use the same system for both heating and air conditioning, instead of having separate furnaces and air conditioners.

Heat pumps are energy efficient

because the physics on which their design is based enables them to capture thermal energy from the outside environment. Most of the heating or cooling energy comes from the outside air, ground or water. This greatly reduces the amount of energy you need to buy to change the temperature in your house. I will explain briefly at the end.

Heat pumps are a proven technology. They evolved from the conventional air conditioning systems which have been in use for decades. They are made for buildings with HVAC system ducts and as through-the-wall units for buildings without ducts. New heat pumps are readily available from many local heating system contractors. Most homes don't have heat pumps yet, simply

because people usually don't replace their furnace till the furnace stops working.

Heat pumps work best in a climate like ours, where outside temperatures are usually above freezing in the winter. Your heat pump will need a supplemental form of heat for cold days, although that supplemental heater usually won't run. Heat pumps are available with supplemental gas or electric heat. In this climate, electric supplemental heat will be more common.

Heat pumps significantly reduce the carbon footprint of your climate control system. They use less energy than old systems. As PSE eliminates coal power over the next few years, local heat pump carbon footprints will fall further. Some of the energy they use and

will use is electricity generated from renewable sources.

How it works: A heat pump uses electricity to compress a gas into a liquid, and then captures thermal energy from the phase change that occurs when the pressure is released and the liquid changes back into a gas. The electric energy required to run the compressor is less than the heat energy released during the phase change. It is far less than the energy required to heat the building with resistance heaters or fueled furnaces.

Typical heat pumps are "air-source." They reject excess heat into the air. A ground-source (geothermal) heat pump can be coupled with water or the ground instead of air. Geothermal heat pumps are even more efficient, but are more expensive to install.

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OBITUARY



Rudy Pedroza

Rodolfo "Rudy" A. Pedroza, 83, a longtime resident of the Skagit Valley died in Everett, WA on Monday, October 31, 2022. He was born in Cerralvo, N.L. Mexico on June 20, 1939, the second of eight children to Refugio and Concepcion A. Pedroza. His family migrated from Mexico and his early years were spent traveling to the most fruitful labor opportunities along the west coast.

The family settled in Dinuba, a farming region in the Central Valley of California. Soon after and motivated by more work opportunities, Washington state became his new home and the place where he met and married his late wife Maria Guadalupe (Lupe) Vizcaya. The couple settled in Mount Vernon where they raised their family. Rudy was a teamster and worked for 25 years at Moore & Clark in La Conner, WA. After Moore & Clark closed, he went back to work in agriculture, back to the beginning. He worked at Twin City Foods and Smith Morrison Farm before retiring.

He had a great work ethic that he passed onto his children. He also made friends wherever he worked. Rudy loved to call family and past co-workers just to see what was happening around the valley. He loved living on Fir Island, sitting out on the deck where he could watch the seasons change by what was being planted and harvested and the snow geese arriving and leaving. Rudy loved sports and encouraged all his children to participate in school athletics. You could see him at every game that he could physically attend; he even helped coach little league baseball alongside his son. He took pride in watching his children and grandchildren excel in all they did scholastically and professionally.

Our Father (Rudy) wanted the best for his family, we never wanted for anything especially security, love and a legacy. Rudy is survived by all eight of his children, Rene (Kim), Roel (Lori), Rosa Hulbert, Tina Mercier (Andy), Rudy Jr., Laura, Joe, and Lupe Wills (Rick). Rudy is also survived by his eighteen grandchildren, Alicia (Tobias), Candice, Taylor, Alexander, Olivia, Harley, James, Joshua, Adam, Maria, John, Ashley, Hailey, Anthony, Liana, Brayden, Jalieah and Jaylyn; four great grandchildren, Areaya, Vienna, River & Brom. Rudy is also survived by his stepmother Dolly Pedroza, sisters Marcolfa Pedroza and Imelda Pedroza; brothers Armando Pedroza (Irma), Humberto Pedroza; sister-in-law Connie Pedroza, and numerous nieces and nephews. Rudy was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Lupe Pedroza, brothers Alvaro Pedroza, Oscar Pedroza, Herculano Pedroza, parents and grandparents.

The Funeral Mass will be at Immaculate Conception Church located at 400 N 15th Street, Mount Vernon, WA 98273 on Monday, November 7, 2022 at 12:15pm. There will be a rosary prior to the funeral mass at 11:30am at the same location. You may offer your condolences and share memories of Rudy to his family online at www.kernfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the care of Kern Funeral Home.

**Holiday Closings
Veterans Day**

Friday, November 11

- Bank:** Closed
- Buses:** Regular service
- Library:** Closed
- Post Office:** Closed
- Schools:** Closed
- Town Hall:** Closed
- County Gov't:** Closed
- Trash:** Regular service

Did town council err in nixing special planning meeting?

By Ken Stern

At its own special meeting Oct. 28, the La Conner Town Council voted to cancel a special planning commission meeting called for Nov. 1, directing "the Planning Commission to only conduct special meetings called by the chair, the chair pro-tern or requested by three commissioners; the same as the Town Council. The motion by Councilmember Rick Dole carried 4-0, with Councilmember Carlson abstaining.

Dole's concerns, summarized in the council's meeting minutes, were that "the Agenda that included items that were not legal, such as term limits. Also, it includes items that do not pertain to the Planning Commission's purview, such as admin and attorney separation, accountability to code and transparency. A special meeting should be on a special purpose or action item."

The minutes record Town Administrator Scott Thomas explaining "there was intent to identify language amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, but there was no language presented for other members of the community, that may be affected, to have the opportunity to participate in any meaningful fashion."

The minutes also cite a concern over the "lack of participation of the community due to these meetings scheduled during the holiday season. We want to be sure everyone has an equal opportunity to participate."

The minutes note that Dole and Councilmember MaryLee Chamberlain "feel many of the items on the Agenda could be discussed at a communication forum for public input."

The Council is correct that three planning commission members are able to request a meeting. But are their other concerns, and vote, supported by the wording in the Revised Code of Washington? RCW 42.30.080, Special meetings states:

"(1) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding officer of the governing body of a public agency or by a majority of the members of the governing body by delivering

written notice personally, by mail, by fax, or by email to each member of the governing body."

Thomas responded to the Weekly News that the meeting's agenda, from a resident, listed "a broad array of topics; the commission itself did not identify the nature of the topics to be discussed." To him, that was not an agenda and did not specify "the topics of discussion, it would not be possible to notify the public at large of the business to be conducted at the meeting, and thus place us in violation of the Open Public Meetings Act. While this approach is admittedly conservative, the OPMA is to be liberally construed."

Thomas cites RCW 42.30.010, Legislative declaration. The section includes:

"all other public agencies of this state and subdivisions thereof exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of this chapter that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly.

"The people of this state do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed and informing the people's public servants of their views so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created. For these reasons, even when not required by law, public agencies are encouraged to incorporate and accept public comment during their decision-making process."

Thomas noted "the scope of topics veered away from the responsibilities delegated to the planning commission by the town council ... (and) the planning commission is a recommending body. The council has retained its authority to provide direction to the commission."

Town residents have been attending planning commission meetings for months to offer and support possible amendments to the comprehensive plan.

Elections results will be online

Polls closed in Washington state at 8 p.m. Tuesday, after the Weekly News went to press. Vote totals for Skagit County offices and offices voted on by greater La Conner and county voters will be posted online throughout the week as they become available. Local election results through the weekend will be reported on in the Nov. 16 issue.

BURTON JEWELERS
Celebrating 92 Years



We're Very Excited about this New Oval Diamond!
It is beautifully cut, 1.68ct, G color and SI1 clarity. This grade of "slightly included" we feel is more like "very slightly included" and therefore an excellent value at \$17,000

NATURAL DIAMONDS!



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REGISTERED JEWELER AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY

Spotlight on Missy

Missy is approximately eight and a half years young and full of love for that special someone. She is an indoor cat; spayed and litter-box trained.

This pretty lady was surrendered to the shelter after the death of her person. She's a wonderful, loving companion kitty that needs someone to help her feel secure and provide her with a loving, quiet, and calm home.

Missy loves tummy rubs, lap time, window perches, cat trees & toys, and hideouts.

Missy is shy and fearful of other animals and commotion. She would do best in a home as the only cat (no dogs) with a mature owner who is home a lot to spend time with her.

If interested, or for more information, contact HSSV at 360-757-0445 or via email at shelter@skagitthmanec.org.

Rain again returned in October

By Ken Stern

The headline a year ago was "Lots of October rain" after 4.3 inches fell in 2021. Rains have returned, though they waited till Oct. 21 to start. That was 36 days since September's 0.02 total rainfall.

Rain fell eight days in a row and 10 of the last 11, totaling 3.6 inches for the month. Over half, 1.9 inches came down Oct. 30-31, with 1.5 inch Oct. 30. No rain fell during La Conner's Halloween Parade.

Fourteen years more than three inches of rain has fallen since 2000. Six of those years have been since 2014. In 2019 and 2021 over 4.2 inches came down. This is only the twelfth wettest October this century, right at the average.

October is wet: nine years this century have had over four inches of rain, six have had five-plus inches and 6.1 inches fell in 2014.

Nine years it rained less than three inches, seven years less than two inches and the 1.1 inch in 2002 was the least this century.

The rain deficit for the year is now 7.4 inches with 16.6 inches the first 10 months. The 23 year average is 24 inches through October, 31% more.

The month's high of 76.3 degrees was Oct. 16. That was the last of eight record highs; only one was below 70 degrees. There were nine days above 70 degrees and 12 above the month's average high temperature of 63.4 degrees. The month's average high was an astounding five degrees above the century's 58.4 degrees.

Mornings were cold, but no frost, with Oct. 19's 36.2 the month's low, one of 10 nights below 40 degrees. Sixteen times the low was below the month's daily average low of 41.8 degrees.

The 51.6 degree month's average temperature was only 0.6 degrees above the average the past 23 years, 1.4 degrees below normal this century.

Records were set 22 days for minimum wind speeds with 21 days recording zero mph miles per hour.

Measurements and data are at Washington State University's Mount Vernon weather station on Memorial Highway.

Rain Report: October

Rainfall in Oct: 3.6
Number of rain days: 11
Least rain, one day: 0.01, Oct. 21
Most rain, one day: 1.5, Oct. 30
Least rain: 1.07, 2002
Most rain: 6.07, 2014
Average rainfall, Oct. 2000-2022: 3.6
Rainfall last month, Sept.: 0.02
All total in inches.
Data from WSU Mount Vernon.

Lights out in La Conner Friday night

By Ken Stern

Electricity went out in greater La Conner Friday, perhaps after 10 p.m., and was restored within hours within at least parts of the town. Around greater La Conner 584 customers lost power: 540 around Peth's Corner, and 44 on Josh Wilson Road near Bayview.

Skagit County totaled approximately 4,600 outages during the storm, with the majority of those outages occurring in western Skagit county where there were high winds.

Winds rose from 11 mph at 7 p.m. Friday to 28.4 mph at 9 p.m., reaching sustained speed of over 35 mph in the 10 p.m.-1 a.m. period. Winds continued to gust between 18.5 mph-27.8 mph till 3 p.m. Saturday and remained as high as 15.9 mph, measured at WSU's research station on Memorial Highway west of Mount Vernon.

Mount Vernon.

Gusts reached 26.1 mph in the 12 a.m. hour Sunday and continued to rise to as high as 22.5 mph at 10 a.m. Sunday, with winds blowing between 10.5 mph-18.3 mph through 5 p.m.

There was not much rain, only 0.1 inch after 5 p.m. Friday and no rain Saturday measured at the Mount Vernon station.

By Sunday evening, fewer than 60 customers were without power and all Skagit County accounts were restored by Monday morning.

Staff report about 115,000 customers without power at the peak of the storm. Whidbey Island was hardest hit in the PSE service area, but most customers had power on by Monday night.

Nearly 1,000 storm response personnel worked on outage restoration efforts.

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La Conner wins bi-district net title against a tough Coupeville team

By Bill Reynolds

If practice makes perfect, the La Conner High School volleyball team should be perfectly ready to defend the state 2B net crown it has worn since 2019. Just moments after securing a berth to the state tournament in Yakima by sweeping Coupeville in straight sets Nov. 2 at Landy James Gym, head coach Suzanne Marble put her bi-district title team through a practice session. Work remains to be done for the Lady Braves, who bring a 14-3 overall mark to the Sun-Dome tomorrow, Nov. 10, when they begin navigating a highly competitive 16-team bracket. Coupeville offered a true test in a match determining the lone entrant to Yakima from Northwest Districts 1 and 2. The home team prevailed 25-21, 25-19, 25-13. But it wasn't easy. "They definitely came here wanting to go to state," Marble said. Coupeville played inspired volleyball, uplifted by a loud and supportive cheering section. The visitors set the tone early, taking a quick 2-0 lead in the first set on a Madalynn Georges service ace and rare unforced error. La Conner recovered to take a 12-9 lead on kills from Morgan

Huizenga and Makayla Herrera, the latter courtesy of a nice set from Abby Udlock. The hosts extended their lead to 13-9 on the first of Herrera's four blocks of the night. The teams played on even terms the remainder of the frame with Herrera and Ellie Marble trading kills with Coupeville's Madison McMillan and Rynne Knoblich. Marble had the final say, though, on a huge set point spike. In the second set, Coupeville began committing miscues that allowed La Conner to maintain healthy leads for the most part. The Lady Wolves did bounce back from a 16-9 deficit to within 21-18 before a kill by Josie Harper ended the threat. Herrera closed out the set with two consecutive kills, a block, and by forcing an errant Coupeville hit into the net. Huizenga and Marble strung together key spikes to open the third, decisive set. La Conner led throughout, sparked by an 18-6 run that clinched the match. Udlock fueled the attack with 32 assists. Marble was the prime beneficiary of her passing, recording a match-high 16 kills. Herrera also reached double-digits, finishing with 10 kills. Lady Braves players gathered immediately after the match to

sing the school's alma mater in front of their student section, which had stood most of the match. Then it was back to midcourt for the bi-district trophy presentation by director of athletics C.J. Woods and a series of quick photo ops. But the team didn't rest long on its laurels. It began its post-match workout before the last fans had left the gym. Practice, after all, makes perfect – the level of play necessary at the state tourney level.

Volleyball state tourney tomorrow

The volleyball team begins defense of the state 2B tournament title it has held since 2019 tomorrow, Nov. 10, against Okanogan at 9:45 a.m. at the Yakima SunDome. The victor faces the winner between Goldendale and Lind-Ritzville-Sprague 3:15 p.m. Thursday. The losing team will be paired against the loser of Goldendale-LRS, also at 3:15 p.m. Kalama is the 2022 state tourney's top seed. Manson, the No. 2 seed, edged La Conner in October.

Braves close out season with win

By Bill Reynolds

It was a case of less is more when the eight-man La Conner High School football team closed out its season at Lummi Nov. 1. The Braves (2-6) exceeded their prior season point total with an explosive 56-6 non-conference victory. La Conner, which normally plays an 11-man format, had just four days to prepare for this contest. Looking to end a rebuilding year on a positive note, the Braves had little trouble adjusting to the quick turnaround and eight-man game. "It was a fun game to be a part of," head coach Charlie Edwards said afterward. "Everyone got a good deal of playing time, and the pigskin was passed around well." Quarterback Ivory Damien had his hand in four touchdowns, throwing for two scores – both to receiver C.J. Edwards – and running twice for TDs. Edwards also ran for one score and connected with Austin McClure on a TD pass. Edwards also intercepted a pass, as did McClure. Tommy Murdock added a rushing touchdown, while Isaiah Miller, Jacob Pommels and Isaac Kitchen rounded out the Braves onslaught by each tacking on a two-point conversion. Kitchen, who had a touchdown reception in the league home defeat to Friday Harbor last month, helped fill the Braves' stat sheet with a forced fumble and fumble recovery. Lummi's lone score came courtesy of Jerome Tobey, who has extensive family in the Swinomish and La Conner communities. For coach Edwards, the lopsided win was bittersweet. "It was sad to see Jacob Pommels play his last game," Edwards said, "but it was great to have Scott Cayou there for his last game. He didn't get to play all season due to injury, but he's still a huge part of the team. His senior leadership was missed on the field." The Braves will return 17 players – nearly their entire roster – for the 2023 season, which bodes well for the future. The team this fall rebounded from three straight shutout losses to open the season before winning with a 30-6 victory at Charles Wright Academy. After falling 67-18 to Friday Harbor and being blanked by Coupeville and Ilwaco, the Braves finished with a huge win. The next step, of course, will be to play deeper in November – as in post-season action – going forward.

State parks free Saturday

Washington State Parks, Washington Department of Natural Resources and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife offer free entrance to state recreation lands Friday, Nov. 11. Visitors to state lands will not need a Discover Pass to park. Park entrance will be free on Nov. 25, the day after Thanksgiving, also. These are the final free days in 2022. Source: Washington State Parks

Agritourism meeting next week

Skagit County is looking for your feedback on policy options for agritourism in the community. You are invited to attend the in-person public meetings held on Nov. 16 at Maple Hall from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and Dec. 6 at the Skagit County Commissioner's

Hearing Room from 6-8 p.m. For more information on the agritourism study and to take the online survey, please go to our project website here: skagitcounty.net/departments/planningandpermit/agtourismmain.htm Source: Skagit County Gov't

Epting Foundation funds La Conner Schools' new kiln

By Bill Reynolds

La Conner Schools officials are fired up about the district's arts program's newest addition. It is, after all, a kiln for students to use to fire pottery. The acquisition is made possible by a \$2,500 donation from the Anacortes-based Rick Epting Foundation, accepted at the school board's October meeting. Director of Special Programs Andy Wheeler explained that the Epting Foundation, an all-

volunteer organization that raises money for the arts, had decided on a gift of up to \$1,500. Wheeler checked with teachers and heard from Steve DeLeon that a new kiln would be appreciated. The Foundation then offered the larger sum. Foundation representatives are coming to campus today (Wednesday) for a 3 p.m. presentation. "We're thankful the Foundation is helping the district buy a new kiln," said Wheeler. The Epting Foundation's mission is to raise money to promote and encourage the arts in Skagit County. It is named for the late Rick Epting, a founding member of the Lincoln Theatre Center and Skagit Performing Arts Council. He was instrumental in the planning for Skagit Valley College's McIntyre Hall and a member of the Washington State Arts Commission. Epting supported county arts groups and organizations until his death in 2005. The La Conner Fourth of July concert at the marina is a fundraiser benefiting the Foundation.

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Music from early keyboard museum floats back to Europe's classical era

By Bill Reynolds

Neither time nor distance was an issue at a local museum during an October tour.

About two dozen visitors to the Skagit Early Keyboard Museum near Snee-Oosh Beach were transported back centuries and across the Atlantic to the birthplaces of classical music.

Museum curators Tamara Friedman and George Bozarth literally pulled strings to make it happen.

Friedman, an acclaimed pianist, played selections from famed composers on several of the museum's original and replica instruments while Bozarth, a professor emeritus of music history at the University of Washington, shed light with insightful commentary on Europe's Classical era.

It was all part of a three-hour musical tour of the museum and its impressive collection of old-school fortepianos and related keyboard instruments.

Bozarth, noted for his expertise in early pianos (1700-1900), said the museum features concert quality Baroque and Classical clavichords, a Baroque Lautenwerck and numerous square and grand pianofortes in the Viennese and English traditions dating back to 1795.

Friedman, lauded for her renditions of Mozart, played lesser

known of the legendary Austrian's works along with a French overture that was used to usher royalty and dignitaries into their theater boxes. She then moved over to a restored Broadwood square piano, which Bozarth said was "the most colorful in our collection."

"We coveted this instrument," Bozarth said, explaining it was purchased when the owner sold it to pay for custom work on a vehicle.

"It has a very colorful sound," Bozarth said before Friedman cued up a Joseph Haydn piece she said was "something extroverted, but not wildly extroverted."

"The whole classical style," said Bozarth, "is so rhetorical. This piece is a prime example of that with some humorous effects."

Traces of "Three Blind Mice" the popular nursery rhyme is, interestingly, rooted in the serious political climate of the English Tudor period. The three blind mice refer to Protestant loyalists accused of plotting against Queen Mary I, daughter of Henry VIII. Many were ultimately burned at the stake. The mice's blindness represented their Protestant beliefs.

Haydn, among the great Viennese composers, is known as "Father of the String Quartet."

"Haydn," noted Bozarth, "loved to put nationalistic things in his pieces."

Bozarth said Jane Austen, perhaps best known for penning

"Pride and Prejudice" in 1813, played a similar instrument to the Broadwood.

From there, Friedman performed works by Mozart on a replica Anton Walter fortepiano.

"Mozart purchased an Anton Walter grand fortepiano when he moved from Salzburg to Vienna and resumed composing piano concertos," said Bozarth. "Mozart wanted the loudest piano he could find, something that would carry over orchestras."

Friedman's interpretation highlighted Mozart's playfully creative side.

"Anybody who has read about Mozart," Bozarth explained, "knows he had a silly streak about himself."

When she finished, a tour attendee remarked that her play "sounded like the spoken word."

Bozarth stressed that "Mozart's loud piano" produces a sound aesthetic that clearly defines the difference between English and Viennese instruments.

He pointed out that all the museum keyboard instruments are straight strung: the bass strings don't cross over the middle and treble strings, making the registers more distinct in tone, he said and less homogenous than modern pianos.

"The inner voices in music," said Bozarth, "stand out easily since their color is distinct."

Tanner. . . (from page 1)

Earlier in her post she stated, "The cause of action is for Libel, also known as defamation."

Kontos emphasized her belief that Shelter Bay, as an organization, is not to pay his legal costs.

Tanner declined to comment on the suit.

More Shelter Bay difficulties

Tanner has also been served with a legal summons by Roberta Fontenot, a lawyer living in Shelter Bay. In his resignation letter he wrote her complaint is "over the way I performed tasks basic to my job."

Tanner shared Fontenot's Nov. 1 Tweet of the status of her lawsuit against four board members, two former board members, Tanner and legal counsel Phil Buri. She wrote she was filing by Nov. 7 and was amending her complaint "to include Louise Kari attacking me at the last

regular board meeting and add Joe Hurley as a plaintiff for intentional infliction of emotional distress after he doxxed me in that newsletter" (sent to Shelter Bay residents Oct. 17). Hurley identified Fortenot's address in the letter.

Her complaint was served Oct. 13 against Shelter Bay board members Elaine Dixon, Monte Hicks, Louise Kari and Wendy Poulton. Former board members Jack Galbraith, president in 2021-2022, and Steve Swigert were also believed to have been

served.

The Shelter Bay Company was four months late in filing its annual report with the Washington Secretary of State, an unnamed "concerned citizen" emailed the Weekly News. The company's annual report was filed by Kontos Oct. 24, after the June 30 due date. Kontos apparently paid the \$85 fee.

The email to the Weekly News stated that the Shelter Bay Community and Company "was in danger of dissolution or termination."

Super Crossword

Answers

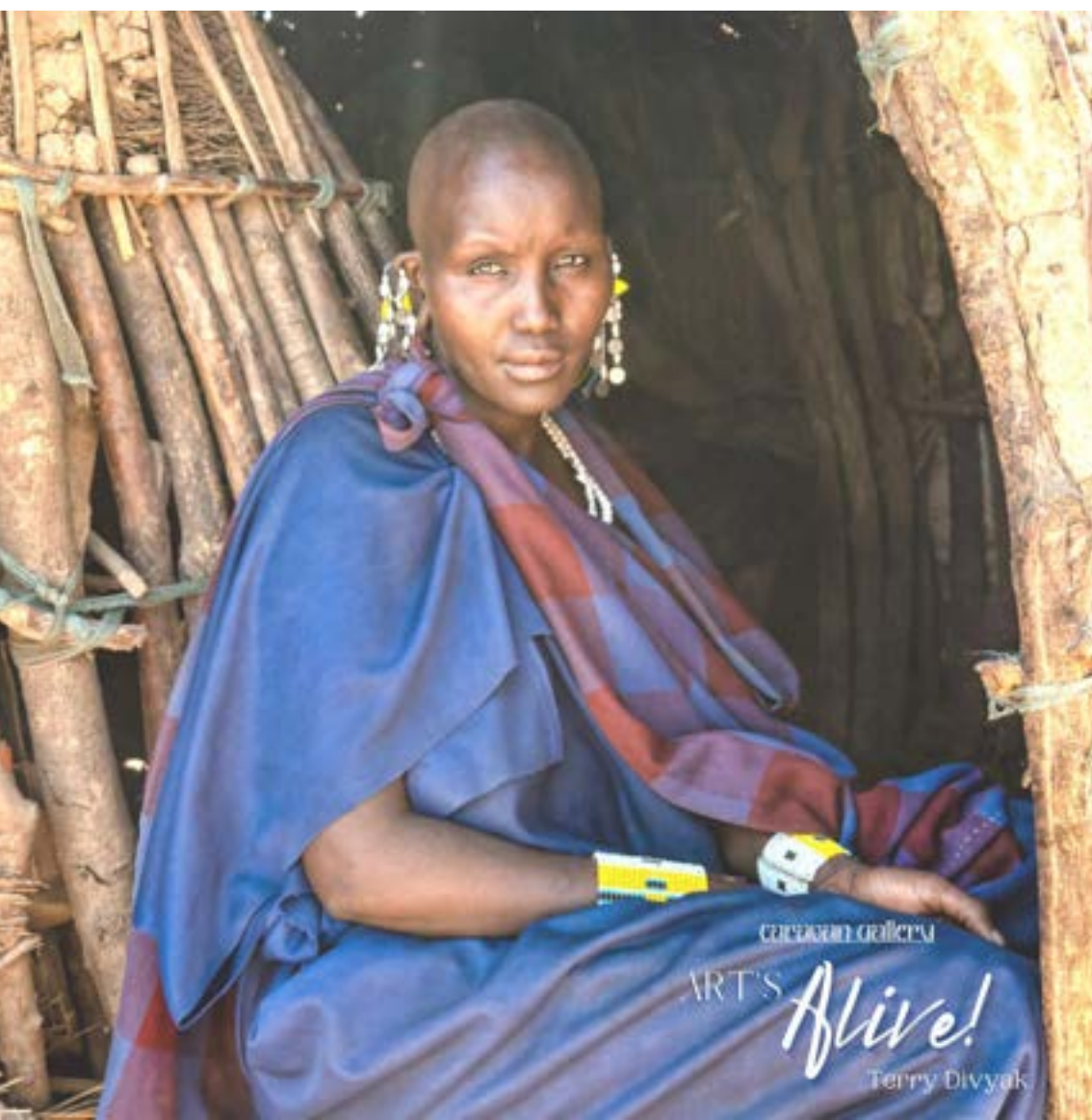
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Answers to November 9 puzzles

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



38th Art's Alive! opens Friday with gala

Art's Alive! opens Friday with a 5 p.m. gala in Maple Hall, just like in the old days, pre-coronavirus pandemic. This year's fitting theme is "Peace and Solidarity."

The 12 chosen to exhibit are a mix of local and regional artists. Many will be familiar with the works of Tracy Powell, Maggie Wilder, Nancy Crowell, Alfred Currier and Anne Schreivogl. Peter Boome, Ria Harboe, Amy Ferron, Janie Olsen, Janice Wall, Barbara Noonan, and Lynn Zimmerman round out the group.

The second floor open show exhibits the work of some 60 area artists.

Doors open to the public Friday at 1 p.m. so COVID-19-hesitant people may enjoy the show without crowds. Hall hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday.

Art's Alive! is managed by La Conner Arts Foundation under a contract with the Town of La Conner, using funds from hotel-motel tax revenues.

State of the Lincoln meeting Nov. 14

All Lincoln Theatre members in good standing are invited to the Theatre's annual membership meeting: The State of the Lincoln, Monday, Nov 14, 6 p.m.-7 p.m. Get a brief view of the last fiscal year at the Lincoln, where the Theatre stands financially post-COVID, hopes for the future and a chance to vote on new officers of the Lincoln Theatre Center Foundation.

Come between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. to enjoy snacks and beverages, meet with staff and board of directors and tour front-of-house renovations. All members in attendance are invited to return for the film of their choice, for free! If you are not yet a member, you can join that evening.

Smiley

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

with Washington state."

While often passionate in her remarks, Smiley did lighten the tone prior to closing and re-boarding her bus for a trip down I-5 to Marysville.

"People come up to me a lot at these forums," she said, "and

once there was a man who told me he's a Republican but that this is the first election where his wife won't cancel out his vote."

La Conner resident Lynn Moore, an independent, said she could relate.

"That," she chuckled, from the back of the room, "sounds a lot like Bud and me."



Gather up your bubble of friends and support our local businesses; La Conner is hosting the annual community-inspired

Jingle Belles

A Ladies' Night of Shopping on Friday, November 18th! 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Check in at the Chamber office on 210 Morris St.

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Citizen input on transportation program wanted

Skagit County Public Works is compiling proposed projects for the 2023-2028 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. These include new construction or improvements to the transportation system such as road, bridge, ferry and trail projects.

The County will be accepting public comment until 4:30 p.m. Nov. 23. All comments must be submitted using the online form at skagitcounty.net/TIPcomments.

Electronic comments are preferred, however, written comments may also be submitted by mail or hand delivered to the following address: Skagit County Public Works Comments, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon.

To review the draft STIP, visit skagitcounty.net
 Source: *Skagit County Public Works*

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR WHATCOM COUNTY

In re the Estate of: JAMES F. CAREY, JR., Deceased.

Cause No. 22-4-01036-37
 NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 RCW 11.40.030

The Administrator named below has been appointed and has qualified as Administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the administrator or the administrator's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probated proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 AND 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: November 9th, 2022.

Name of Administrator: TONY A. CAREY

Attorneys for Administrator: David M. Neubeck, WSBA #31321 Sara LC Hulford, WSBA #52098 Todd L. Sliva, WSBA #54298

Address for Mailing or Service: Elder Law Offices of Meyers, Neubeck & Hulford, P.S. 2828 Northwest Avenue Bellingham WA 98225-2335 Telephone: (360) 647-8846 Facsimile: (360) 647-8854.

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Nov. 9, 16, 23, 2022.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY

DWANE E. PORTER & STEPHANIE L. PORTER, h/w Plaintiff vs.

ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN OR TO THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY

Defendants. No. 22-2-00832-29 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO: ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN OR TO THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY, Defendants:

You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the 9th day of November, 2022, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiffs, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for plaintiffs at his office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to

the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court.

The object of this action is to quiet title to certain real property, located in Skagit County, Washington, and described as follows:

That portion of the platted alleyway appurtenant to Lots 1-6 inclusive, and that portion of the platted alleyway appurtenant to Lots 28-31 inclusive, Block 19, "TOWN OF McMURRAY, SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON", as per the plat thereof recorded in Volume 2 of Plats, page 107, records of Skagit County, Wash.

EXCEPT any portion thereof that may lie within the right-of-way of the P.S. Pulp & Timber Co., a Delaware corporation, as conveyed by the English Lumber Co., a Washington corporation, by instrument dated January 1st, 1945 and recorded November 3rd, 1948 under Skagit County Auditor's File No. 424512. (P75144 & P75146)

DATED: November 2nd, 2022.

CRAIG SJOSTROM #21149 Attorney for Plaintiff 1204 Cleveland Ave. Mount Vernon, WA 98273 (360) 848-0339

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30, Dec. 7, 14, 2022.

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY

Estate of W. LOUIS BARRETT, Deceased.

No. 22-4-07231-5 SEA PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.020, .030

Laurie V. Little has been appointed as personal representative ("personal representative") of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) 30 days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: November 9, 2022

Personal Representative: Laurie V. Little Attorney for Personal Representative: Sarah C. Smith, WSBA #45798

Address for Mailing or Service: CONDIE & ADAMS, PLLC 611 Fourth Avenue, Suite A Kirkland, WA 98033

Court of probate proceedings and cause number: King County Superior Court, Cause No. 22-4-07231-5 SEA

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Nov. 9, 16, 23, 2022.

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY

Estate of ANNE E. MACLEAN, Deceased.

No. 22-4-07342-7 SEA PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.020, .030

James B. MacLean has been appointed as personal representative ("personal representative") of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the attorney of the personal representative at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) 30 days after the attorney served or mailed the no-

tice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: November 2, 2022.

James B. MacLean, Personal Representative Attorneys for Personal Representative: Joseph T. Kaempf, WSBA #45837 Ako Miyaki-Murphy, WSBA #38131 Perkins Coie LLP 10885 NE Fourth Street, Suite 700 Bellevue, WA 98004 (425) 635-1400

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Nov. 2, 9, 16, 2022.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR SKAGIT COUNTY

In the matter of the Estate of JENNY F. KINGSBURY Deceased. No. 22-4-00537-29

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: November 2, 2022.

Personal Representative: CAROL F. HALL c/o OLYMPIC LEGAL SERVICES, P.S. 2114 Commercial Avenue P.O. Box 1031 Anacortes, WA 98221-1031 Attorney for the Estate: NELI T. ESPE, WSBA # 29783

Address for Mailing or Service: OLYMPIC LEGAL SERVICES, P.S. 2114 Commercial Avenue P.O. Box 1031 Anacortes, WA 98221-1031

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Nov. 2, 9, 16, 2022.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Estate of LYNN ALICE SINGER SUPERIOR COURT OF THE State of Washington for Skagit County.

LEGAL NOTICES

Estate of Lynn Alice Singer, Deceased. No. 22-4 00375-29. Probate Notice to Creditors. RCW 11.40.030.

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: Personal Representative: Justin Honsinger

Address for Mailing or Service: 3365 Pine View Dr., Simi Valley, CA 93065 (805) 857-2705

Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 26, Nov. 2, 9, 2022.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SKAGIT

In Re: the Estate of Roger Howard DEWALD, Deceased, Bonnie J. COLE, Petitioner.

NO. 22-4-00530-29

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO: ALL CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT YOU AND EACH OF YOU TAKE NOTE that the Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this Estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: October 26, 2022.

Personal Representative: Jennifer CRAIG

Address for Mailing or Service: JOSEPH D. BOWEN ATTORNEY AT LAW 401 South Second Street Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 26, Nov. 2, 9, 2022.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY Case No. 22-2-00734-29

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION MOE BROTHERS, LLC, a Washington limited liability company, Plaintiffs, vs. ARLYN PACHECO, individually, and all lawful Heirs, Devises and Assigns of FRANKLIN BUCK and MAGGIE BUCK, husband and wife, deceased; Defendants.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO THE SAID DEFENDANTS: ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED HEREIN YOU ARE HEREBY summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the 26th day of October, 2022, and defend the above-entitled action in the above-entitled court, and

answer the Complaint of the Plaintiff, Moe Brothers, LLC, a Washington limited liability company, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for Plaintiff, Craig E. Cammock of Skagit Law Group, PLLC, at his office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the Complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. The object of the action is to quiet title on real property in Skagit County, Washington against the claim of Defendants, "ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT," which real estate is situated in Skagit County, Washington, and is legally described as follows:

Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 26, Nov. 2, 9, 2022.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SKAGIT

In Re: the Estate of Kyle Richard CRAIG, Deceased, Jennifer CRAIG, Petitioner.

NO. 22-4-00520-29

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO: ALL CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT YOU AND EACH OF YOU TAKE NOTE that the Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this Estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: October 26, 2022.

Personal Representative: Jennifer CRAIG

Address for Mailing or Service: JOSEPH D. BOWEN ATTORNEY AT LAW 401 South Second Street Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 26, Nov. 2, 9, 2022.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY Case No. 22-2-00734-29

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION MOE BROTHERS, LLC, a Washington limited liability company, Plaintiffs, vs. ARLYN PACHECO, individually, and all lawful Heirs, Devises and Assigns of FRANKLIN BUCK and MAGGIE BUCK, husband and wife, deceased; Defendants.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO THE SAID DEFENDANTS: ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED HEREIN YOU ARE HEREBY summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the 26th day of October, 2022, and defend the above-entitled action in the above-entitled court, and

answer the Complaint of the Plaintiff, Moe Brothers, LLC, a Washington limited liability company, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for Plaintiff, Craig E. Cammock of Skagit Law Group, PLLC, at his office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the Complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. The object of the action is to quiet title on real property in Skagit County, Washington against the claim of Defendants, "ALL OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT," which real estate is situated in Skagit County, Washington, and is legally described as follows:

That portion of Government Lot 6, Section 25, Township 34 North, Range 3 East, W.M., described as follows: BEGINNING at the Northwest corner of said Section 25, Township 34 North, Range 3 East, W.M.; thence South 89°48'21" East along the North line of the Northwest ¼ of said Section 25 for a distance of 1,330.62 feet to the Northwest corner of said Government Lot 6; thence South 0°48'58" East along the West line of said government Lot 6 for a distance of 1,056.06 feet, more or less, to the South line of the North 1,056.00 feet (as measured perpendicular to the North line) of said Government Lot 6 and being the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; thence South 89°58'21" East along said South line for a distance of 1,216.10 feet, more or less, to a point on a non-tangent curve on the Westerly right-of-way margin of Penn Road; thence along arc of said curve to the left, concave to the East, from which the center bears South 87°35'45" East, a radius of 1,289.70 feet, through a central angle of 0°22'12", an arc distance of 8.33 feet, more or less, to the North line of the South 264.00 feet (16 rods) as measured perpendicular to the South line of said Government Lot 6; thence North 89°56'56" West along said North line for a distance of 180.01 feet, more or less, to the Northwest corner of the lot created for Skagit County Short Plat No. 25-81 (Revised April 15, 1981) and recorded under Skagit County Auditor's File No. 8104220036; thence continue North 89°56'56" West along said north line for a distance of 1,035.91 feet, more or less, to the West line of said Government Lot 6 at a point bearing South 0°48'58" West from the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; SUBJECT TO and TOGETHER WITH easements, reservations, restrictions, covenants, liens, leases, court causes, and other instruments of record.

Situate in the County of Skagit, State of Washington.

DATED this 26 day of October, 2022.

SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC By CRAIG E. CAMMOCK, WSBA #24185 Attorney for Plaintiff

Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2022.

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End of the line: Plug Ugly fishing gear store will close Nov. 30

By Bill Reynolds

Their business is a throwback many wish could go on forever. But, alas, all good things must come to an end.

Jon and Linda Peterson's much celebrated Plug Ugly store of vintage fishing gear and one-of-a-kind collectibles for over three decades, is closing at the end of November.

Its many loyal customers, near and far, are chagrined.

For Jon Peterson, the time just seems right to retire – again.

Peterson served various roles in the Seattle Police Department, including motorcycle and bomb squad duty. The late Bill Shears was a colleague. Shears also found his way to La Conner, serving five years as manager of the Shelter Bay community.

Peterson could hardly have expected a second act as exciting as the first, having done detective work while in law enforcement. On one memorable undercover assignment, Linda was enlisted to join him.

Yet since the early 1990s the couple – Linda is their bookkeeper and “the backbone of the business,” said Jon – has, if anything, stepped up their sleuthing. They have followed leads all over the country for distinctive nautical merchandise and antiques.

Even with the Petersons now selling their stock to big-time auction houses, Jon couldn't resist joining longtime friend Ricky Roulst on a road trip last week to a major National Fishing Lure Collectors Club show.

“I love to hunt old stuff down,” said Roulst. “I've been one of Jon's pickers and it has helped me with my own collection. Jon has had some fabulous fishing tackle in his hand, especially some really rare salmon plugs.

“I can't even begin to explain how much fun it's been to know Jon,” Roulst said, echoing a sentiment shared by scores of customers and suppliers.

“It's a special place,” said Scott Price, an avid fisherman and local financial advisor. “The inventory has been so special.

It's been one of the most unique stores that I've ever been in. Some clients were brought to tears when they learned the store was closing. I'm happy for them, but really, really sad that Plug Ugly is going away.”

Price noted the irony of “local fisher people who don't know about it, but there are fisher people around the globe who know about it well.”

The Petersons got their start almost by accident. Having sold their Seattle area home, they were building a new home in the Hope Island area while discovering La Conner, then emerging as a destination town after decades as a sleepy fishing village.

“I had no idea what I was going to do,” said Jon, “but I had walked around La Conner and noticed there were no ‘guy's shops’ here.”

As a fisherman, opening a fishing-oriented store came to mind. The question was building an inventory.

“I had the idea for a store in La Conner,” he said, “but needed to get some stock.”

Fortunately, he knew a Seattle warehouse outlet owner who carried fishing and camping gear. Peterson signed a contract— an agreement simply drawn up on a pocket-sized notepad – to purchase \$1,100 of merchandise.

“I loaded up my station wagon and drove back to La Conner,” he recalled.

Peterson secured shop space from Jerry and Donna Blades in their Station House building at Fourth and Morris streets, put up an open sign on the storefront and picked up a cigar box for use as a money till.

Those first years in the 1990s, Peterson would go “picking” most mornings and return to sell his new stock later in the day. He soon met John Wells, whose family owned the bustling Station House restaurant next door. Wells, a top-flight tyer of fishing flies, was pretty much on the job 24/7 then. A friendship and business relationship was forged that still continues.

“Jon is one of the kindest men I've known,” Wells said. “He's



BEING CAST INTO A NEW ROLE - For more than three decades, Jon Peterson has been a familiar sight in the La Conner business community, starting each work day setting up the array of high-end collectibles and vintage fishing gear that has defined his and wife Linda's Plug Ugly store. Plug Ugly, which enjoys a national following, closes at the end of the month as Jon, a former Seattle Police Department detective, pursues a second retirement.

-Photo by Marissa Conklin

a positive, friendly remembrance of how things were in La Conner in the 1980s, 1990s and early 2000s. People came here because there were these small, independently owned eclectic businesses like Plug Ugly.”

Plug Ugly's big break came on a chance visit by an attorney and champion fly fisherman with homes in Arizona and Jackson Hole.

“This well-dressed guy walked in the store, looked around and said ‘I think we can do some business,’” Peterson related. “He said he would be back the next day. And, sure enough, he came back. He started picking stuff off the walls. In two days, he spent \$17,800 at a time when we were making maybe \$30-\$50 a day.”

In all, he purchased so many items that his private plane had to be loaded twice for delivery. “That got us going,” Peterson said. “He cleaned us out. He left our walls bare.”

The massive sale provided cash the Petersons used to scour major shows in search of new stock, with an emphasis on high-end collectibles.

Eventually, they relocated to the former Doug's Frame Shop building north of Fifth and Morris streets. It, too, was almost immediately filled with classic rods, reels, hand-made duck decoys, ship's clocks, David Hagerbaumer waterfowl paintings, a life preserver from the USS Baltimore and items from historic sailing vessels and pirate ships, including a silver lamp lit with whale oil. Another

collectible is a basketball signed by members of the 1979 Seattle Sonics NBA championship team.

“It got to the point where I realized I had to diversify,” Peterson noted. “So, the last few years we've added lots of other stuff.”

Through it all, he has retained his unique brand of salesmanship. On a recent Saturday morning he offered a significant price discount to a repeat customer.

“No,” she insisted, “I'll pay full price.”

Peterson wasn't having it. “You'll pay what I charge,” he chuckled.

“I really enjoy my customers,” said Peterson. “They're more than customers, they're friends. Great friends.”

Soon, many of those friends will likely be fishing partners as he embarks on a well-earned second retirement.

“He's known throughout the country,” Roulst said of Peterson, “and I'm excited that now he'll have the time to get out and do some fishing.”

National Hospice and Palliative Care month

Throughout the month of November, Hospice of the Northwest is joining organizations nationally to celebrate National Hospice and Palliative Care Month.

This year's theme is “Meeting You Where You Are.” The Hospice of the Northwest team embraces end-of-life care with a holistic approach that meets patients where they are in more than just a physical sense.

Hospice of the Northwest will conduct several community outreach activities this month focused on increasing awareness about hospice services and advance care planning. To learn more about Hospice of the Northwest, visit HospiceNW.org.

Source: Hospice of the Northwest

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