



'Surge' weaves art, science at MoNA • p 5
Ramon Hayes reflects on being mayor • p 10

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Snow Geese are back in the Valley



THE GEESE ARE BACK — Snowgeese started arriving in small groups early last week. According to local bird expert, Maynard Axelson, the first large groups began appearing on Wednesday, Oct. 4. Hunting season opens Oct. 14.

—Photo by Nancy Crowell

Earthquake rattles La Conner Sunday

King tides prep: sand bags placed

By Bill Reynolds

Ted Taylor is fondly dubbed “Captain Catastrophe” because of his persistent calls for local emergency preparedness.

But the Skagit County Fire District 13 captain and emergency management coordinator might more accurately be called a realist.

That is especially true this week after the magnitude 4.3 earthquake centered south of Port Townsend that struck Sunday night and was felt in La Conner households and other locales throughout Western Washington.

Numerous La Conner area residents reported that the quake rattled furniture, some likening it to a strong gust of wind hitting their homes.

“I felt my bed shake,” said Jill Harden. “I was watching TV. I looked to see if my dog was moving around. She was sound asleep. It was a good three seconds, I’d say.”

Another resident, Nancy Alvord, initially thought – given that Halloween is just around the corner – that she and husband Dave were being pranked by her brother (and neighbor) Tom Zimmerman.

“We heard the screen door rattle and thought my brother was pranking us,” she said. “Both our recliners shook and our bedroom door was open and went almost closed.”

Interestingly, while numerous people felt the effects, others said they weren’t aware an earthquake had occurred.

Still, for Taylor, the brief rumble was affirmation of his ongoing efforts. In September, he led an emergency preparedness discussion in Shelter Bay and last week Taylor addressed the Oct. 19 Great ShakeOut event during his monthly report to fire district commissioners.

“It’s not a matter of if, but when, the Big One hits,” he said, repeating the refrain for which Taylor is perhaps best known.

Taylor’s sentiments were echoed late Sunday by Harold Tobin, director of the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network, who told the media the quake was felt as far north as Vancouver, B.C. and as far south as Olympia.

“I really see an earthquake like this as a wakeup call for all of us,” said Tobin, “and a reminder that we live in earthquake country.”

Sandbags on the boardwalk

In La Conner, the threat of saltwater flooding has been foremost in the minds of Town officials all year. At the end of last week public works department staff placed sandbags at strategic points along the waterfront. Public Works Director Brian Lease said additional bags, designed to last two or three king tide flood seasons, are filled and ready to be moved as needed from behind the department’s building

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Town sales tax monthly revenue a record again

By Ken Stern

Up. The Town of La Conner’s sales tax revenue is \$63,276 for September, reported by the state Department of Revenue for July sales. It is the highest report for the month, the highest 2023 monthly total and the third highest monthly total ever, behind two 2022 summer months. It brings the year-to-date revenue to 76% of budget projections. This is the first 2023 month to top a 2022 same month total.

As always, the special use fire tax tracks sales tax. The \$6,284 matches in most ways: it is the highest 2023 monthly total, and a record for the collection month. The \$49,965 collected to date is 92% of the projected budget. More money will be available in 2024 for purchasing fire equipment.

The \$26,001 collected for the hotel motel tax pushes that budget over 100% of the projected total for 2023. It is \$545 short of a monthly record, though it, too, is the third highest total for the month.

These totals are based on July collection from town stores and online purchases delivered to La Conner addresses and reported to town council from the state’s Department of Revenue.

The \$14,275 in REET (Real Estate Excise Tax) revenue is much higher and out of synch with other months. Collection stands at 91.8% of the year’s total.

The \$1,714 collected in property tax is typical for a summer month. The total to date is 55.9% of the year, but October and November collections total a sizable fraction of

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29 newspaper contest awards for Weekly News

By Ken Stern

Staff at the La Conner Weekly News continue to be recognized for their excellent work. They received 29 WNPA best newspaper awards at the annual Better Newspaper Contest of Washington’s community newspapers in Kennewick Oct. 7. News editor Bill Reynolds led with 10, including first for his “Rehabbed bald eagle released near McGlenn Island” in the animal features story category. Reynolds added five seconds and four thirds across categories ranging from an arts feature story on Maggie Wilder leading the repainting of the mural under the Rainbow Bridge to social issues and news sports stories. Reynolds sly and nuanced use of words gained him second and third place for headlines - sample: “Pet parade raises the woof.”

Craig Barber took first for his photo essay, “A big day for our little town,” a centerfold capturing the community moving books to the new La Conner Swinomish Library. Nancy Crowell won first for her pictorial photo of “A blizzard of snow geese,” taken just about a year ago.

Madoc Hiller won the first photo award of his career, second for his sports feature photo of retiring volleyball coach Susan Marble hugging Peg Seeling. Former staffer Marissa Conklin took three third place photo awards, including “A top flight costume for Halloween,” a young pilot at last year’s parade.

Mel Damski gained second place for a set of his “If I ran the Zoo” in the general interest column category.

(continued on page 7)

State lawmaker studies mastery-based learning in La Conner

By Bill Reynolds

The eyes of Olympia were on La Conner Schools last week focusing on the district’s innovative approach to assessing student learning.

And state leaders visiting the local campus liked what they saw.

State Sen. Lisa Wellman, chair of its early learning and K-12 education committee and Alissa Muller, director of the state board of education’s mastery-based learning collaborative, met with students and staff here Oct. 4 to view and receive feedback on the La Conner district’s mastery-based learning initiative.

Wellman even joined students to help prepare and bake apple galettes in teacher Peter Voorhees’ Breads and Pastries class.

That classroom visit was one of several as Wellman and Muller witnessed the district’s implementation of mastery-based learning, which evaluates students on how well they can practically apply lessons and demonstrate higher-order critical thinking skills as opposed to using rote memorization in pursuit of standard letter or percentage grades.

The objective is to reduce “busy work” and increase more meaningful and relative assignments, staff said.

School officials are in the process of highlighting for parents key details related to mastery-based learning goals and assessments, said Director of Teaching and Learning Beth Clothier.

“We’re working on a one-page document to share with parents why this is an accurate reflection of their child’s learning,” Clothier said during a brief tour break.

Wellman, in an earlier roundtable discussion with

students, noted that some of the nation’s top universities, including Yale and Stanford, are now accepting mastery-based learning portfolios from applicants as a substitute for traditional grade transcripts.

Student feedback indicated that mastery-based learning requires greater rigor but has far fewer failing grades than the traditional system which limits passing scores to those above the 60 per cent level.

“Everyone is used to a grading system,” Clothier explained, “that has a huge chunk – 0 to 60 per cent – that’s failing and only a small percentage that’s in the passing range.”

Under standard grading, the students said, the priority is often securing top grades rather than mastering and utilizing course material.

“The idea,” Clothier said, “is to be a learner rather than an ‘A-getter.’”

In Suzanne Keith’s sophomore English class, student Maeve McCormick was called upon to analyze for the visitors the key points of a short story – plot, setting, theme and mood, for instance – rather than memorize certain facts from a selected story. She did so by alluding to the impacts of rising action and important themes.

Wellman worked 25 years in the technology field prior to her 2016 election to the senate’s 41st District, which



EVERYONE CAN LEARN A NEW SKILL - State Sen. Lisa Williams studied the La Conner School District implementation of mastery-based learning at Peter Voorhees bread and pastries class Oct. 4.

—Photo by Bill Reynolds

includes Mercer Island and other King County suburbs. She was pleased to see the La Conner Schools commitment to career and technology education.

“It’s great to see a digital photography classroom in

(continued on page 7)

From the editor—

Citizens: Time to participate

All of a sudden there are a slew of opportunities to be active civically – democratically – in the community. You do not have to live in La Conner to involve yourself. And the October activities end, appropriately, with our school children – indeed anyone with a costume, with or without a child – parading up First Street for the Halloween parade. Come on out for that, for sure.

Activities extend into Nov. 7 election day. Because only one area resident chose to contest only one of the La Conner school board or Town of La Conner council seats, only the Director District 2 school board race between John Agen and Janie Beasley offers a choice.

For other municipal elections for school board, town council and mayor, incumbents will win once they fill out their ballots: They are unopposed. Either all residents believe all local elected officials are doing a great job or no resident had the gumption to assist their neighbors by becoming a candidate and voicing their hopes for the school board and council to do a better, or at least different, job.

The League of Women Voters of Skagit County has organized a candidates for the county's contested school board races for La Conner, Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley Oct. 16 at 6:15 p.m. at Skagit PUD in Mount Vernon. To attend in person or view the recorded video, go to the League's website: [.skagitlwv.org/Election-Forums.html](https://www.skagitlwv.org/Election-Forums.html).

If you live on Fidalgo Island in Port of Anacortes District 4, there is a competitive port commissioners race on which to vote.

Ballots and voters' guides are mailed out by Oct. 20. Your filled-out ballot must be in a Skagit County election drop box or U.S. mail postmarked by 8 p.m. Nov. 7. Complain that there are not choices, do research, call your officials running for reelection, and vote.

La Conner residents can show up Oct. 17 for the forum on short term rental regulations organized by the planning commission at the La Conner Civic Garden Club. Are more rigorous – or less strict – regulations needed in the town code? Show up to ask questions and discuss, or come to learn.

And a handful of residents can get on the bus and go to Langley Oct. 19 for a planning commission road trip to Langley to meet with architect Ross Chapin, whose specialty is designing affordable homes. The van seats 12. File your written request with planning staff.

The La Conner Swinomish Library gets dedicated Saturday, Oct. 14 with an open house starting at 3 p.m. The library is about the most important institution in any community. RSVP: 360-466-3352.

Before that, Friday night, go to Maple Hall for the Skagit Community Band's 7:30 p.m. fall concert. Its theme: "Explorations: Come explore music from around the world."

After that is the annual Great ShakeOut Day Oct. 19. Launched in 2009, the day promotes ways people can protect themselves during earthquakes and tsunamis. Plug into this ongoing effort to protect yourself and loved ones: [shakeout.org/washington/howtoparticipate/](https://www.shakeout.org/washington/howtoparticipate/)

Protect yourself and everyone you come into contact with by, yes, wearing a facemask whenever you are in a public space. Get four free at-home COVID-19 tests from the federal government: [covid.gov/tests](https://www.covid.gov/tests).

If Woody Allen did say "Showing up is 80 percent of life," that gets you a B-. That is better than a C and lower grades but your family, neighbors and community need more for democracy in the United States to get the infusion it needs from our participation to get healthy. As happy as you may be in your home and neighborhood or as satisfied or dissatisfied as you are with the governments in either Washington, objectively speaking, the collective "we" is doing very poorly – indeed failing ourselves and each other – in our local, state and national communities.

Go ahead, dispute, argue or agree with that point. Maybe you want to start with writing a letter to the editor of your local newspaper. Maybe you want to go to your local library and do research. Both are healthy responses to what you read on this page today.

—Ken Stern

Annular solar eclipse this Saturday

by Nancy Crowell

This Saturday, October 14, millions of viewers across the United States will be treated to an unusual sight. An annular solar "ring of fire" eclipse will occur across a narrow path from Oregon to Brazil. We may be able to see it in Western Washington, weather permitting. The event will start about 8:00 a.m. PDT and will peak about an hour later. The event will last for about four minutes.

There won't be another annular eclipse until 2046, although you may be aware of the total solar eclipse coming on April 8, 2024.

Total eclipse vs. annular

The difference between a total eclipse and an annular eclipse is that with the annular eclipse the moon will not completely block the sun. A bright border will appear around the moon for up to five minutes, depending on where you are watching. You will not be able to see the "diamond ring" that appears at the peak of a total solar eclipse.

Never look directly at the sun

Just like a total eclipse, one should never look directly at the sun during an annular eclipse unless you have special eclipse glasses. You risk blindness by doing so. If you don't have eclipse glasses to watch the event, it's possible to get the effect by creating a pinhole camera. You can find directions for making a simple pinhole camera on the website of California's Jet Propulsion Laboratory: <https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/learn/project/how-to-make-a-pinhole-camera/>

It may be tempting to use your

Don't point your phone at the sun

phone or digital camera to try to photograph the event. Unless you have special solar filter paper over your lens you risk burning the sensor. There may be time between now and Saturday to acquire some from a large camera store, and there are plenty of YouTube videos of how to make a simple lens filter, but with the current weather prediction we might not get to see the event anyway.

Slough Slosh Symphony

So the slough slowly flows, back and forth it goes, out to the Salish Sea and Pacific Ocean, before it returns as rain and tidal slosh. So effortless and timeless, it stimulates the phosphorous' sparkly glow. It's quite simple really, we just have to have a spinning orb, that tilts this way and that. Yeah, one with a moon and numerous planets, affecting how our waters cycle and flow.

Wind whipped waves lap and lash at our shores, sometimes smashing, sometimes as smooth as glass, giving us glimpses of our past, before we crashed ashore. What would we be if we didn't go through that door, would we have gills, or a blowhole with lungs? Would we filter oxygen from the fluid in which we'd swim, or would we be like an octopus or platypus? So simple, so complex, what more will we learn next? Are we bits of cosmic dust, mixed with minerals from the oceans and seas, or something else that's as equally difficult to believe? Is it possible that we are a little bit of everything, from the fungi, to the trees with leaves, and the fishes in the sea, to the wind that carries the bees? Could it be that we're as complicated as a combination of all of these? Yeah, all these questions can bring us to our knees, where we pray for answers, from a creator of our choice, to believe.

Glen Johnson
Skagit Valley

Celebrate our new library this Saturday

Reminder: the official La Conner Swinomish Library Dedication and Ceremony will be this Saturday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Tour the library if you haven't yet. Presentations: 3:15 p.m..

School board election forum

Candidates for La Conner's School District John Agen, and Janie Beasley will appear in a pre-election candidate forum

Facts on Skagit Habitat Humanity purchase story

To the Editor,
Your article this past week related to Habitat for Humanity's purchase of property in La Conner ("Skagit Habitat for Humanity buys La Conner property," Oct. 4) is factually incorrect. While representatives of Habitat for Humanity have met with town staff regarding their purchase of this property, the town has made no indication regarding the zoning of this property to enable the development described in your article. Moreover, no application has been made to the town requesting any such amendment to our Comprehensive Plan.

As you know, the town is in the process of updating our Comprehensive Plan in accordance with state mandates. We expect to complete this process on schedule by July of 2025. And while we will be looking at ways to enable the development of more affordable housing, we have not made any representation to any applicant that a specific property would be rezoned to accommodate such development at this time.

As you are also aware, the town's staff has been actively involved in encouraging public participation in the Comprehensive Plan update process. Any suggestion that there is a "done deal" on any property within the community would, in my opinion, serve to discourage public participation in the process.

The town remains committed to working with members of the community to enable more housing for lower-income and working class families. Our Comprehensive Plan update process, which focuses on community involvement, will help to make that happen
Michael Davolio
Planning Director
Town of La Conner

sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Skagit County Oct. 16 at 6:15 p.m. at Skagit PUD.

Register at the League's website: [.skagitlwv.org/Election-Forums.html](https://www.skagitlwv.org/Election-Forums.html).

CORRECTION

The Sept. 27 story "Skagit Habitat for Humanity buys La Conner lot" incorrectly stated "The Town of La Conner plans to change its comprehensive plan to allow multifamily housing" That is an aspiration of Skagit Habitat for Humanity.

The sentence: "If all goes as planned, the city will change its comprehensive plan to allow multifamily housing" was edited and revised from the reporter's submittal.

The editor is responsible for accurate editing. The publisher regrets the poor editing.

CORRECTION

The La Conner Arts Foundation donated 11 ukeleles to the La Conner School District, not the Town of La Conner's art commission, as incorrectly reported in the Sept. 27 story "School board reviews service graduation requirement."

The Arts Foundation is a nonprofit doing "Good Deeds Through the Arts."

The editor regrets the error.

CLARIFICATION

The Sept. 13 Clean Energy Cooperative column "EV costs are predictable" stated that net metering in Washington allows people to be paid for power they feed to the grid. That sentence should have ended, "to the grid, up to but not exceeding the amount you actually use each year."

The editor regrets the error.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

Please write! Letters to the editor of up to 350 words are welcome, as are longer analyses and statements. Write a 500-word guest column.

Deadline: 5 p.m. Sunday for next issue.

Include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters are edited for civility clarity and style.

SEND TO
editor@laconnernews.com

E-bikes just the option for local commutes

By Greg Whiting

A few weeks ago, I wrote about the possibility of buying a second electric car. I'm still giving that some consideration. However, before making a final decision, I'm going to wait till the recently-announced process is finalized for the (up to \$7,500) federal tax rebate to be directly deducted from the price at the time of purchase is in place. That's expected by January.

While looking at the state of the art of electric cars, I found out that another electric vehicle type has been getting better and better and I'm now also interested another option: an electric bicycle.

For about three-quarters of her trips and a third of mine, Jenelle and I can use her electric car. We've put about 14,000 miles on it over two years, thus avoiding the purchase of 700 gallons of gas (about \$3,200) in favor of 4,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity (about \$500). We do almost all our charging at home. The home charger (about \$2,000) has been long since paid for. Jenelle hasn't touched a gas pump in two years. We haven't even noticed the change in our electric bill. Weather affects that more.

About two-thirds of the trips I



still take by myself in a gasoline car are between our home in Shelter Bay and the coffee shop we own in downtown La Conner, or similar distances for activities like local shopping. This probably accounts for another 4,000 miles a year (200 gallons of gas and my car takes premium, so these trips cost over \$1,000 a year for gasoline). Replacing the car with an electric bike for the two-thirds of these trips that can be taken when it's not raining would save about \$700 a year.

An electric bicycle, which works like a regular bicycle but offers considerable assistance from an electric motor, might be a realistic option to eliminate gasoline on these trips. Electric bikes are around 10 times as energy efficient as electric cars, so I'd need about 120 kWh/year, or \$15 worth of electricity. I haven't looked into e-bikes in detail yet. A quick internet search suggests that a basic model for a Shelter Bay – La Conner commute would probably cost

about \$1,500-\$3,000, so it would offer a two- to four-year payback from gasoline savings, without considering lower gas car maintenance.

Like electric cars, electric bikes are benefiting significantly from better, lower-cost batteries. The last time I looked at an electric bike, several years ago, the price point was around \$10,000. There have been other improvements, too. Some e-bikes now feature removable batteries for convenient charging. On some of the more expensive models, options like integrated GPS and smartphone connectivity offer some of the conveniences of modern travel that I've gotten used to. Safety features, like automatic lights, integrated brake lights and collision avoidance systems are even available.

Riding a conventional bicycle isn't a realistic option. The hills in Shelter Bay are a little steep for a time-efficient commute and there isn't a place for me to take a shower when I get to work. A speedier e-bike still requires effort, but much less. They're designed for long distances and hilly terrain. I need to test one to see how significant this issue is. The coffee shop has to continue smelling like coffee when I'm there.

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2024 hotel-motel fund grants

By Ken Stern

The La Conner Town Council almost doubled its hotel-motel allocation in the 2024 budget, voting to spend \$342,111 at its Sept. 26 meeting. Almost 64%, \$217,461 are internal expenditures, mostly for Maple Hall improvements, \$132,866, up from \$6,000 for security cameras for 2023. The Morris and First street restrooms and landscaping will get \$63,995, a \$10,139 increase. And the Town advertising budget jumped to \$20,600 from \$600. Grants to community organi-

zations total \$124,650. The La Conner Chamber of Commerce received \$90,000 to fund its operations, a \$7,000 increase and nine community organizations will have \$34,650 to spend, up \$4,845 and 16.3% from last year.

The organizations' grants range from \$1,000 to the Lincoln Theatre in Mount Vernon and \$1,000 to Skagit Artists Together, to \$8,250 to the Museum of Northwest Art and \$8,000 to La Conner Arts Foundation, which manages Art's Alive.

Hotel/Motel tax allocations were \$173,26 this year, drawn

from the 2022 fund balance of \$286,832. The Town has reported revenue through September of \$138,064. Another \$50,000-\$60,000 may be collected this year if tourism continues the trend of the last two years.

The draft 2024 budget lists \$140,000 for hotel/motel revenues.

The decision was unanimous and followed the council finance committee's recommendation after \$10,866 was added for maintenance for the Maple Hall elevator.

Great ShakeOut drill next week

By Bill Reynolds

Emergency management is more than a hot current topic. It will have great significance in the future as well.

Which is why Skagit County Fire District 13 Capt. Ted Taylor is proposing that local schools consider teaching their students important community emergency response skills.

Taylor floated the idea during the fire district's 90-minute monthly meeting at the Sneeh-Oosh Road station Oct. 5. He reported on a well-received presentation he gave in September as the district's emergency management coordinator on preparedness for natural disasters.

"It went well and there was a good turnout," said Taylor. "But demographics in Shelter Bay is a challenge. The average age there is 65."

So, he pitched starting preparedness programs in the schools, introducing Community Emergency Response Team training as part of the civics curriculum. He noted it has been done successfully elsewhere, notably in areas prone to earthquakes and tornadoes, disaster phenomena that aren't going away.

"Earthquakes," he pointed out, "are rare and random. The

question becomes, 'how much preparedness do you do for something that could happen in the next few minutes when it's rare that would be the case?'"

To help, the fire district - which serves Swinomish Reservation and rural La Conner - will once again participate in Great ShakeOut Day Oct. 19. Launched in 2009, the day promotes ways people can protect themselves during earthquakes and tsunamis.

The fire district is discussing mutual firefighting equipment needs with Town of La Conner officials.

"I'm not sure exactly where it's going," said Fire Chief Wood Weiss, "but it makes sense to have a discussion."

A new ladder truck and fire-boat are needed by the Town and fire district. The district's priority is the truck. The Town, said Weiss, "is pushing for a boat."

Commissioner John Doyle, retired town administrator, said a goal is to avoid redundancy.

"At the very least," Doyle said, "we need to see what can be done to accommodate other jurisdictions with our purchases."

"I would certainly encourage us to have a discussion," added Commission Chair Bruce

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Town of La Conner 2024 Grants from hotel/motel tax funds.

Organization	2024	2023	Increase	% of Total
Chamber of Commerce	90,000	83,000	7,000	26.3%
Skagit Valley Tulip Festival	3,000	3,000	0	0.9%
Skagit County Historical Museum	1,500	1,000	500	0.4%
Pacific NW Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum	0	1,500	(1,500)	0.0%
Museum of NW Art	8,250	7,500	750	2.4%
La Conner Live Concerts	10,000	9,000	1,000	2.9%
Skagit Artists Together	1,000	1,000	0	0.3%
Lincoln Theater	1,000	5,000	(4,000)	0.3%
Skagit Community Band	1,900	1,805	95	0.6%
La Conner Arts Foundation	8,000	0	8,000	2.3%
Town Public Restroom/Landscape	63,995	53,856	10,139	18.7%
Maple Hall Upgrades	132,866	6,000	126,866	38.8%
Town Advertising	20,600	600	20,000	6.0%
	\$ 342,111	\$ 173,261	\$ 168,850	100%

Public input wanted at short-term rentals forum Oct. 17

By Bill Reynolds

The status of short-term rentals in La Conner tops the agenda of a special 6 p.m. Oct. 17 public forum at the La Conner Civic Garden Club.

"It will be a specific and targeted meeting," Town Assistant Planner Ajah Eills said at the planning commission's meeting Oct. 3 in Maple Hall.

The meeting addressing short-term rentals will not be hybrid since there is no WiFi service at the Second Street building.

"We think it will be more of a conversational setting," Eills said. "We're hoping for a more intimate conversation."

The question of whether to change restrictions in residential zones here governing short-term rentals surfaced last year but was postponed to 2023 to foster greater dialogue on a subject being discussed nationally, especially in communities such as La Conner for which permanent housing options are limited.

Planning Director Michael Davolio said the issue requires study from top to bottom.

"We need to have a definition of what a short-term rental is,"

he explained. "We don't have it in our code. We can't regulate what we can't define."

The Town's municipal code, 15.10.503, defines guest-house or guest rental: "'Guest-house' or 'guest rental' means a commercial use of a single-family dwelling unit, residential unit or boat rented on a daily or weekly basis (i.e., less than monthly rental)."

At the forum planning commissioners will be seated at separate tables to encourage more casual conversation.

Housing is likewise the focal point of an Oct. 19 planning commission road trip to Langley, on south Whidbey Island, where members and others interested in attending will meet with architect Ross Chapin, whose specialty is designing affordable homes. File

a written request with planning staff for a seat on the 12-seat passenger van.

At their hour-long meeting, commissioners resumed reviewing comprehensive plan's transportation element and opportunities for greater public participation.

Commissioners John Leaver and Bruce Bradburn, the transportation subcommittee, reported on firms that provide paid park-

ing services.

Davolio said he would schedule a joint planning commission-town council meeting to hear formal presentations from the businesses Leaver and Bradburn contacted.

The commission revisited the idea of extending First Street south to Caledonia Street, which would open Maple Avenue as an

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Edward Jones

Member SIPC

The market is always changing. You can be prepared.

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La Conner sports roundup: Oct. 6-7



ANOTHER RUN ON THE WAY TO THE GOAL LINE – Turning the corner and heading for a score last week, this was only one of the several scores that added up to a 30-0 victory over Mahton.

—Photo by Sarah Walls

By Bill Reynolds

The traffic volume in town last weekend teased that it was the height of tourist season.

That wasn't the case, of course. But it was a peak weekend in terms of La Conner High School's fall sports schedule.

The football and volleyball teams played simultaneously on campus Saturday afternoon, less than 24 hours after the Braves' boys soccer team hosted league rival Mount Vernon Christian.

Results were mixed.

The La Conner grid program broke into the win column with a convincing 30-0 shutout win over visiting Mabton of the Eastern Washington 2B East District. The Lady Braves' net

team fell 3-0 (25-11, 25-11, 25-9) to undefeated Central Washington 2B power Manson. The Braves' soccer squad came up just short against MVC, falling 1-0 in the late going of a key NW2B/1B match.

Football

Kenai Zimmerman rushed for two touchdowns and Ivory Damien completed a pair of scoring tosses to Logan Burks as La Conner imposed its will on both sides of the line of scrimmage against the Vikings.

Tommy Murdock also had a big day. The reigning state hurdles champion teamed with Damien defensively to wreak havoc in the Mabton backfield, recording repeated sacks of beleaguered signal caller Marco

Espinoza.

La Conner set the tone early by recovering an onside kick to start the game. That set up a five-minute touchdown drive capped by the first of Zimmerman's two TD blasts – this one from two-yards out – and keyed by a 21-yard pass play on fourth-and-11 from Damien to C.J. Edwards.

On its next series, La Conner marched 58 yards to paydirt. The big play was a 36-yard pass reception by Murdock. That set up a 20-yard Damien TD strike to Burks with 3:51 to play in the first period.

Damien's two-point conversion pass to Tai Nelson gave the hosts a 16-0 lead that held through the opening half.

The Braves extended their lead to 24-0 midway through the third quarter on a six-yard Zimmerman run. The drive was kept alive when Edwards bulled for 11 yards on a fourth-and-one from the Mabton 26. Edwards' conversion run stretched La Conner's margin to 24-0.

The Braves later added an insurance score on another Damien to Burks hookup.

"Our boys played great," La Conner head coach Charlie Edwards, whose club improved to 1-4 overall – with two of those losses coming to 2A foes – told the Weekly News afterward. "The line did its job. The defense played with intensity.

"I'm so proud and happy for this team," he added, "to realize

how they are capable of playing. I can't thank the players enough for always playing with heart. And I can't thank my coaching staff enough."

La Conner returns to league action Friday at conference leading Friday Harbor. The Wolverines (3-2 overall, 2-0 in league) defeated La Conner 41-0 Sept. 14.

Volleyball

Despite several big hits by Morgan Huizenga, crisp setting from Abi Udlock and strong play at the net by Abi Poulton, La Conner couldn't keep pace with a veteran Manson team that the Lady Braves defeated in postseason a year ago en route to their seventh state title.

Manson junior outside hitter Stella Petersen was a force throughout the three-set match, repeatedly delivering kills from both the front line and back row.

often than not, were decided by spikes from Petersen or teammates Teagan Byquist and Camille Hutton.

In the third set, La Conner trailed from wire-to-wire, but closed the gap a bit late on a Huizenga block and kills by Poulton and Reece Bird.

"Manson," head coach Pam Keller acknowledged afterward, "is a very solid team stacked with older players."

The good news is the Manson match does not affect NW2B/1B standings where La Conner (5-0) remains unbeaten. The Lady Braves, 6-5 overall, were at league rival Darrington Tuesday night. They visit 4A Glacier Peak tomorrow (Thursday).

Soccer

The La Conner boys' soccer team nearly forced overtime with MVC on Friday in a match that was a scoreless defensive



UP FOR THE SPIKE AND A POINT - La Conner's Maeve McCormick eye on the ball concentration may lead to another score for the Lady Braves last week.

—Photo by Sarah Walls

Manson bolted to a 10-1 lead in the opening set before Huizenga stopped the run with a kill to the back left corner. La Conner pulled to within 15-8 on a service ace by Maeve McCormick but could get no closer.

It was a similar story in the second set. Manson, fueled by two Petersen kills, took an early 8-1 lead and was never threatened despite a series of long rallies. Those rallies, more

battle until the late going.

"We dominated most of the game," said Braves head coach Galen McKnight, "but we let up on a late throw-in with three minutes in regulation."

With the loss, La Conner fell to 1-2 in league standings and 3-5 in all matches. The Braves hosted Lopez Island Tuesday afternoon. They entertain Orcas Island tomorrow.

In addition, the La Conner High School girls' soccer team visits Friday Harbor today (Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. They travel to North Mason on Friday and are at Sultan Saturday afternoon.



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'Surge' intersects art and science; opens at MoNA Saturday

By Adams Sowards

We know about climate change through science; we feel it through art. The combination is a powerful one and is on display at the Museum of Northwest Art starting Saturday as "Surge: Mapping Transition, Displacement and Agency in Times of Climate Change." It opens Oct 14, 1-4 p.m.

This is the fourth iteration of "Surge." Each one has grown, from a one-day event in 2015 to a year-long collaboration this year with artists pairing with scientists to study and create climate change-inspired art. The Skagit Climate Science Consortium has partnered with the museum through them all. Chloe Dye Sherpe is the exhibit guest curator. She has been involved with all of them and said each year has provided learning opportunities and a chance to adapt.

That kind of trial and error for the exhibition format mimics the kind of experimentation common in climate change science and art. The artists and scientists involved in "Surge" have collaborated in distinct ways, such as sharing and discussing scientific papers or going on bird walks

together. Their partnerships deepened the art.

One of the artists, Tesla Kawakami, praised the interdisciplinary relationship formed through "Surge" as a way to help her "move through stagnancy" and ensure her work "is still grounded in science and real experiences." Another artist, Ann Chadwick Reid, concurred. She described her work as being more scientific and accurate because of the partnership and that gives the work more value to her.

Jamie Donatuto, staff at Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, is the scientific collaborator with the Indigenous artist Jackie Qataliña Schaeffer. They hope their project presents a fresh perspective on climate change, moving beyond dry recitation of data. "We can create all the data that we want," said Donatuto, "but it is useless unless, one, it makes sense to the people who are in question and, two, they understand it and ..., three, they can do something with it." Art may be one way to accomplish this act of translation.

Natalie Niblack had begun working on an art project related to western Washington birds. When the opportunity to work collaboratively arose, she

jumped. Partnering with ornithologist John Bower of Western Washington University helped Niblack produce work that was more scientifically nuanced than she had understood at the outset. "I was stepping out of my comfort level and dealing with a scientific study that required ... [a] different set of skills than I have," said Niblack. "So I found it very exciting to find somebody to bounce this off of and get feedback from somebody who was extremely knowledgeable."

That is a key goal of how the museum and the consortium envisions "Surge." It generates exciting results and might deepen viewers' appreciation of climate change impacts.

Several participants described art as a mediator or bridge that can touch people in new ways. Many also see this collaborative work as a call to action, inspired by emotion more than graphs. "I really applaud the museum for having this show," said Reid.

Sherpe hopes the accessible information "provides some familiar foundation for people so that they can have conversations with fellow guests or take some of these questions home to their communities and just continue to talk about this important topic."



'TSUNAMI' – is one of three 25" x 25" oil on canvas paintings by artist Karen Hackenberg in the show "Surge."

—Photo courtesy of MoNA

The concerns that have prompted "Surge" have always combined the local and the global, so wherever visitors come from, they will have opportunities to have their hearts and minds engaged.

Opening afternoon events includes a panel discussion with

artist-scientist teams at 1 p.m. The galleries open at 3 p.m. Artists and scientists will be on hand to discuss their collaboration and resulting artwork.

The exhibit runs through Jan. 21, 2024. The museum is at 121 South First Street, La Conner.

Shelter Bay's Paul Fadoul directs 'The Mousetrap' in Anacortes

By Mel Damski

"The Mousetrap" is running through Saturday at the Anacortes Community Theatre and it has been selling out every show. It is a wonderful murder mystery by Agatha Christie, her first play. It opened in London's West End in 1952 and has run successfully around the world since.

Paul Fadoul is the director. He has worked around the country in Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles and Las Vegas and has happily settled into Shelter Bay with his husband after 25 years in film and television. He first studied film and theatre at Tisch School of the Arts at New York University.

Fadoul moved to Los Angeles in 1986 and was a production assistant on commercials and was successful in film production and eventually owned his own production company making commercials, but he was always involved in theatre.

He moved to San Francisco in 1999 but some close friends from New York moved to Seattle so Fadoul joined them in 2001 after a detour to Las Vegas. He soon found he wasn't loving life there. Friends had settled from Vancouver WA to Vancouver BC

and he connected with a realtor in La Conner, who showed him a nice house in Shelter Bay with a dock for his boat. He bought it and he is very happy living here.

He feels very much at home in the Northwest.

At Seattle University he got a masters degree in teaching, then taught second grade and middle school theatre in Bellevue.

"Theatre is life," he said. "It is a discipline that is a microcosm of life that requires confidence, improvisation and the ability to solve problems."

Fadoul is glad he got involved with the nearby ACT. "There is a lot of talent around here," he said, including people from

Arlington and Whidbey Island.

He is very happy with the script of "Mousetrap" and followed Christie's every stage direction. "There was no reason that the play wouldn't work as written so I did not screw around with that stuff," he said. His goal as a director is to follow the author's intent. He took feedback from his cast because he views theatre as "a collaborate art form at its best".

When the play opened, he said he totally learned from the audience and was pleasantly surprised by their laughter. He is grateful to the cast and the crew. Everyone is a volunteer except for the person who is

directing the tech and designed the lighting.

Because this is a nonprofit, they purchased everything the audience sees on stage from Goodwill and Habitat for Humanity. A couple of items had to be purchased on Craig's List. The skis in the play were borrowed from Nasty Jack's Antiques in La Conner.

Fadoul is also a highly accomplished chef and owns a sailboat. He learned how to sail from a Coast Guard captain. He also plays the cello, which he started in elementary school, taking lessons from third through eighth grade. He started up again at the age of 69. He is truly a

renaissance man.

It is still possible to reserve tickets to the final performances of "The Mousetrap" but tickets are about gone so decide now to attend a wonderful night of theatre.

"Elf the Musical" is next up at the ACT for the holidays. It is the story of Buddy, a young orphan, who mistakenly crawls into Santa's bag of gifts and is transported to the North Pole. The would-be elf is unaware that he is actually human. With Santa's permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to discover his true identity.

Skagit Candidate Forums for 2023 General Election

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When: Monday October 16 - 6:15 PM to 8:30 PM
Where: Skagit PUD, 1415 Freeway Dr, Mt Vernon

Burlington Mayor, Contested City Council and Burlington School District Director Races

When: Wednesday October 11 - 6:15 PM to 8:30 PM
Where: Burlington City Hall, 833 S Spruce St.
In partnership with Burlington Chamber of Commerce

Anacortes Contested City Council, Contested Port District Commissioner and School District Director Races

When: Tuesday October 10 - 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
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Barbers as historians new museum exhibit

By Adam Sowards

Ed Marlow brought some old photos into his barbershop many decades ago. People starting adding to his collection. Even when he changed locations, customers kept bringing them; he pinned them to the wall. "It just mushroomed," said Marlow. He thinks he has "probably the biggest collection around."

Some of those historical photographs are displayed in the Skagit County Historical Museum's new exhibit, "More than Just a Little Off the Top: Barbershop Historians," which opened Oct. 5.

Marlow was an honored guest Thursday. He greeted old friends, including the son of a man with whom he cut hair. He told stories about his barbering years, such as how he left a large, tail-shaped patch of hair on one obnoxious, drunk customer. "I just got fed up," he said. A photo proving it happened adorns the wall. It is one of many snapshots bringing alive Skagit barbering history.

As Marlow with his full head of white hair held forth in one corner, more than 75 local residents moved throughout temporary exhibit room at the museum. The idea for the exhibit sparked because the museum staff had previously borrowed from Marlow's collection and that of another county barber and historical photo collector, Roger Fox.

On the walls and in display cases, artifacts and photographs tell the history of barbering, the history of Skagit County and the history of barbering in Skagit County. This represents "a lot of work by a lot of people," said Mari Densmore, exhibit curator and museum archivist. This rich and fascinating history includes items from the museum's permanent record.

At the center of the room is a replica barbershop, complete with chair, clippers, brushes, scissors, razor strop and more. Its walls are appropriately covered

in black-and-white photos of logging and local communities. Display cases contain collections of brushes, razors and custom-made and locally-made mugs, reminders that shaving accompanied many haircuts in decades past.

In her introduction, museum Director Jo Wolfe highlighted many in attendance who still cut hair in the county. One wall is devoted to these modern-day barbers. They continue the long practice of barbershops being social centers for communities.

The younger barbers at the opening never expected their work would land them in a museum. "We're just going to work," said Brady Parker, Dr. J's Barber Shop in Burlington.

Barbering as something museum-worthy may surprise them, but they recognize their work falls in a long line of history. Parker and Tyler Long started going to Dr. J's before either started working there. "The vibe was always super cool," said Long. Now, as they cut hair, they consider the antique barber chairs at the shop and wonder how many people have sat in them. It connects them to the past.

Travis Switalski operates The Temple of Groom shop in Anacortes. When Switalski told his grandpa, who was a police officer, that he was opening a barbershop, his grandpa told him free haircuts for police officers and firefighters in uniform were required. Customs have changed and that is no longer allowed, but it helped Switalski feel like he was "part of something" with a long tradition. People bring him old strops or mugs and he is always looking in antique stores for artifacts. His daughter works with him, so perhaps this tradition will continue.

At the opening, "More than Just a Little Off the Top," like barbershops, brought people together to celebrate the past and community. It is on display into 2024.

Hours are Thursday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Hayes

(from page 10)

- Development of the Sixth Street skateboard park.
- Construction of the new Caledonia Street pump station.
- Installation of I-5 freeway signage highlighting the town's historic waterfront.
- Creation of the waterfront park and reinforced shoreline below Rainbow Bridge.
- Swinomish Channel dredging during a period of tight federal budgets.
- Expansion of the wastewater treatment plant, including the innovative and award-winning composting feature that has proved an economically sustainable and soil replenishment resource universally looked upon as a model program.
- Downtown placement of electric vehicle charging stations.
- Negotiation of sale of their one-half acre land with the Jensen family.
- Designation of Maple Hall as a green energy building with solar panels.
- Renewed nighttime lighting of Rainbow Bridge.

Then there is the crown jewel – the popular downtown boardwalk, which required much patience and the delicate forging of a coalition of stakeholders at various levels of government and in the private sector.

"There were so many things," Hayes said in retrospect, "that could have stopped the boardwalk. But we focused on the retail core area and that proved successful. Prior to its implementation, there was about 10 per cent public access to the waterfront. Now we have more than 80 per cent waterfront access."

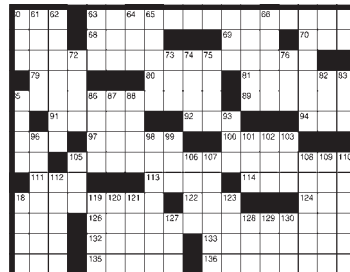
Every time, said Hayes, it was "the team" that pushed the ball over the goal line.

The rest of the story next week.

Mayors serving La Conner, 1892 to present.

Name	Start of Term	End of Term
B. L. Martin	1892	January 10, 1893
James Power	January 10, 1893	July 11, 1893
N. Riplinger	September 5, 1893	April 20, 1894
G. V. Calhoun	April 20, 1894	December 1894
J. F. Dwelly	January 1895	December 1895
J. W. Lackaberg	January 1896	December 1896
Edwin Wells	January 1897	December 1898
Olaf Polson	January 1899	April 1903
R. H. Boll	May 1903	December 1905
John P. McGlinn	January 1906	December 1906
Eric R. Anderson	January 1907	December 1908
J. F. Dwelly	January 1909	December 1910
Eric R. Anderson	January 1911	December 1912
J. F. Dwelly	January 1913	December 1914
Nels A. Nelson	January 1915	December 1917
Carl Blade	January 1918	December 1920
Ivan Alexandar	January 1921	December 1928
Hal Smith	January 1929	December 1930
J. Frank Savage	January 1931	December 1932
Milo Moore	January 1933	December 1942
Bert Carlson	January 1943	December 1944
Art Herrold	January 1945	December 1948
H. E. Reynolds	January 1949	May 1953
Ralph Nelson	June 1953	June 1958
Alfred M. Nelson	June 1958	May 1962
Emma Bjorkland	June 1962	May 1965
Joe Reinstra	June 1965	December 1968
Gerald Dalan	January 1969	December 1971
Frederick S. Martin	January 1972	December 1979
Mary M. Lam	January 1980	December 1987
Bud Moore	January 1988	December 1991
Dan O'Donnell	January 1992	December 1995
Bud Moore	January 1996	December 1999
Eron Berg	January 2000	December 2003
Wayne Everton	January 2004	December 2007
Ramon Hayes	January 2008	December 2023

Source: Town of La Conner



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Awards

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

Anne Basye won a second and third place for a general feature story and an environmental story, respectively.

Ken Stern took three first place awards, in breaking news, government and for a theatre review, three seconds, including his feature story on the “Good old days of typewriters” and a third place in the general interest column category for a set of his “Musings - on the editor’s mind.”

Design and Layout Editor Ronda Hundertmark won three awards, including first for her use of clip art in promoting the La Conner Chamber of Commerce Ice Cream Social.

The paper is this good because of the efforts of many people, who are all unrecognized winners. The behind the scenes staff of Rhonda Hundertmark, Eileen Engelstad and Nancy Crowell ensure each week’s publication.

The contest time period was for newspapers published from April 2022 through March 2023 Awards are presented in four groups based on circulation. The Weekly News is in group 1, circulation under 2,000. Judging was by members of the Montana Newspaper Association.

In 2022 staff win 34 awards. The community can be rightfully proud of the well-crafted stories, photos and ads that are in every issue of the Weekly News. Thank you, everyone.

Earthquake

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

at La Conner Marina.

Meanwhile, Ecology Blocks are in place on the south waterfront off Caledonia Street and on the spacious Upper Skagit Indian Tribe property between Swinomish Channel and South Third Street. Blocks are stacked in reserve near the Town’s Caledonia Street pump station.

La Conner residents and business owners sustained nearly \$2 million in flood damages last December when a combination of morning high tides, low atmospheric pressure, strong winds and rapid snow and ice melt-off pushed water from the channel onto low-lying areas in a matter of minutes.

Shake Out

■ ■ ■ (from page 3)

Shellhamer. “It’s important that we make sure to not duplicate (purchases) if it’s not necessary.”

Fire district and Skagit Bay Search & Rescue official Gary Ladd reported that SBS&R wants to continue training under the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office, but would also like to be dispatched with the district on marine calls.

Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution to conduct an annual open house, citing

the success of September’s with its dedication of the new Larry Kibbee residential unit.

There was a large turnout—despite steady rain—to honor Kibbee, a former commissioner and tour the new firefighter/EMT facility.

“The rain,” Taylor quipped, “was planned in order to reduce the wildland fire risk.”

Start your participation in next week’s Great ShakeOut and get prepared all the time at: shakeout.org/washington/howtoparticipate/

Forum . . . (from page 3)

engages the public, to close what she termed “the feedback loop.”

Commissioner Marna Hanneman noted how residents interact: “People here,” she pointed out, “prefer face-to-face communication.”

Davolio said the Town has undertaken extraordinary efforts at community outreach, seeking input from senior citizens, students and school district officials, Port of Skagit and Swinomish Indian Tribal Community representatives, and business leaders.

The La Conner Swinomish Library has applied for the designation of an essential public facility. It is the only comprehensive plan update request.

“The reason the library has asked for this,” said Hanneman, “is that it might open up some grant awards for them.”

Action on the library request and designating Maple Hall, also,

exit from downtown.

The long vacant, former Moore Clark warehouse extending onto the public right-of-way has to be resolved.

“The building has to come down at some point,” said Davolio. “It’s unsafe.”

Davolio reminded commissioners that a planning grant includes a consultant to map the south end below town hall, a step toward developing a future uses plan.

To increase public input, Eills is researching installing a feedback section on the Town website.

“It’s something I’ve looked into since I’ve been here,” she said.

Commissioner Summer Holt suggested a new technology, such as a digital platform that

Lawmaker

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

your high school,” she told teacher Ryan Hiller.

Clothier said that this school year each middle and high school teacher was asked to make at least one of their classes a mastery-based learning course.

In 2022-23, middle school teacher and soccer coach Mad-die Huscher embraced mastery-based learning. Last spring, she was named the Northwest Educational Service District’s Regional Teacher of the Year.

The mastery-based learning concept is designed to give students more freedom to learn in the ways in which they are most comfortable, said Clothier.

“It really encourages active engagement,” she said.

For generations, noted Clothier, students have been under pressure to achieve the highest possible grade point averages for

college admission.

“But this,” she said of mastery-based learning, “can better prepare our students for college.”

Wellman and Muller finished their visit in Todd Hinderman’s science lab, where he was conducting a chemistry lesson on gas laws. Adorning the walls was a collection of illustrated thematic posters created by students that showcased both their artistic talents and ability to demonstrate command of key material from units he has taught.

Wellman, who in the 1980s was a public school teacher before becoming a systems analyst and programmer, showed a genuine interest in how well Hinderman’s students navigated his lab assignment.

As she had on her previous classroom stops, Wellman literally developed chemistry with the students – just minus an apple gelatte.

Tax . . (from page 1)

the year’s budget.

These tax sources are not the major source of La Conner’s revenue and pale compared to the four water and wastewater treatment funds which together account for over 60% of the town’s income. The water, sewer and compost funds revenues to date have brought in \$3.2 million, 52.3% of the town’s revenues. Total revenues to date are \$5.99 million, \$880,000 ahead of the entire 2023 projection of \$5.1 million with one quarter of the year left.

The four water and wastewater treatment funds are all above their year’s projected totals, by as much as 18% for the compost fund, with the fourth quarter to go.

Water and compost capital expenditures are close to 90% of their budget allocation.

The budget table does not indicate fourth quarter expenses in any program fund. More information is needed to analyze the expense side of the town’s budget.

La Conner has a calendar fiscal year.

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Edison, WA 98232

Please Note: While Willow and Quartz is an exceptional venue, it's important to mention that we do not have access to power or water. As such, it's not suitable for food vendors.

2023 **MEDICARE** 2023
OPEN ENROLLMENT
with SHIBA

MAPLE HALL
Tuesday
November 7
9am to 3pm
104 Commercial Street
Hosted by the Senior Center at Maple Hall

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT
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What is SHIBA?
The Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) program is a statewide network of trained volunteers who educate and advocate for people of all ages who have Medicare.

Our volunteer counselors help you understand your rights and Medicare insurance choices. We do not sell anything. As part of the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner, our volunteers and our services are unbiased.

What can SHIBA do for you?
Our advisors can help you explore your Medicare options based on your coverage & prescription needs.

SHIBA advisors can explore money saving options and help you apply for federal and state programs which may help you pay for your Medicare costs.

OFFICE of the INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
SHIBA WASHINGTON STATE

For more information about SHIBA and your Medicare options please visit www.insurance.wa.gov

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LA CONNER COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION FUND DRIVE

Fund Drive 100K Goal

Now through November 30th

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90,000
80,000
60,000
40,000
20,000

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Visit Raven's Cup for your fall and Halloween treats!

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Our pumpkin spice lattes are made with pumpkin maple syrup and real nutmeg. Mmmm.

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State creates Indian boarding schools Truth & Reconciliation Committee

OLYMPIA — Following the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools Sept. 30, Attorney General Bob Ferguson announced the five members of his office's Truth & Reconciliation Tribal Advisory Committee on Oct. 4. The committee will study how Washington state can address the harms caused by the government's historical role in the shameful legacy of Indian boarding schools.

The National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools, also known as "orange shirt day," is observed on Sept. 30 to raise awareness about residential boarding schools.

The Tribal Advisory Committee will hold public listening sessions across the state over the next year to begin a two-year journey toward uncovering the full history of Indian boarding schools in Washington.

The state legislature directed the Attorney General's Office this year to convene the Tribal

Advisory Committee to study boarding schools in Washington through a truth and reconciliation model. The committee's five members must be citizens from federally recognized tribes in diverse geographic areas across the state.

Members are: Rebecca Black (Quinalt), Diana Bob (Lummi), Edward Washines (Yakama), Abriel Johnny (Tlingit and Cowichan First Nations) and Tamika LaMere (Anishinaabe enrolled with the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana).

The Tribal Advisory Committee will hold the first of its public listening sessions around the state in January 2024.

The committee will submit a report in 2025 that will deliver recommendations on how the state can address the harm done by Indian boarding schools and other cultural and linguistic termination practices through a truth and reconciliation model.

Source: Washington Attorney General's Office

In the superior court of the State of Washington for the county of Skagit. Sentry Select Insurance Company, a/s/o Consumer Rental LLC., Plaintiff, vs. No. 22-2-00670-29 Logan Shull, Defendant. The State of Washington to the said Logan Shull:

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 20th day of September, 2023, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Sentry Select Insurance Company, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorneys for plaintiff, Lovik & Juhl, PLLC, at their 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 suit alleges Breach of Contract and Unjust Enrichment.

Nicholas W. Juhl Lovik & Juhl, PLLC Plaintiff's Attorneys. 936 N 34th St, Ste 300 Seattle, WA 98103 Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25 2023.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY IN RE THE ESTATE OF ROBERT LEROY HUNT Deceased No. 23-4 00471 29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) (NTRCD)

The person 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 Representatives' 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) 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. PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS - 1 (N-TCRD) RCW 11.40.030

MICHELLE SUSAN CAVE 4412 Carmel Mountain Dr. Date of First Publication: Personal Representative Print Name: Michelle Susan Cave NA Attorneys for Personal Representative Print Name and Bar#:

Address for Mailing or Service: 4412 Carmel Mountain Drive McKinney, TX 75070 Court of probate proceedings and cause number: Skagit County Superior Court No. 23-4 00471 29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS - 2 (NTRCD) RCW 11.40.030 MICHELLE SUSAN CAVE 4412 Carmel Mountain Dr. Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 27th, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 2023

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY In Re The Estate of: FRANKLIN M STROHECKER, JR., Deceased. No. 23-4-06437-0 SEA PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) (NTRCD)

DOUGLAS RICHARD THOMPSON 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 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: September 27, 2023. /s/ Michael Geoghegan Michael Geoghegan, WSBA #43238 Attorney for Personal Representative Address for Mailing or Service: NW Strategy & Planning, PLLC 4700 51st PL SW Seattle, WA 98116-4332 Court of probate proceedings and cause number: King County Superior Court 23-4-06437-0 SEA Dates of Publication: September 27, October 4, and 11, 2023 Published in the La Conner Weekly News Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of Merle H. Berger, Deceased. Cause No. 23-4-00484-29 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 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) 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 non-probate assets.

Date of First Publication: September 27, 2023 Personal Representative: Teresa Lahrmann Attorney for Personal Representative: Aaron M. Rasmussen, WSBA #29496 Address for Mailing or Service: North Sound Law Group, PLLC, 300 N. Commercial St., Bellingham, WA 98225; Phone: 360-671-7700 Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLALLAM JUVENILE COURT No: 23-7-00035-05

Notice and Summons by Publication (Dependency) (SMPB) Dependency of: JAYCE CARTER DEMMON DOB: 02/04/2023 To: The alleged FATHER CHARLES PRESNELL, and the UNKNOWN FATHER name and identity UNKNOWN and/or anyone else with a paternal interest in the child, in conformity with RCW 13.34.080.

A Dependency Petition was filed on FEBRUARY 9TH, 2023; A Dependency First Set Fact Finding hearing will be held on this matter on: Oct. 25, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at Clallam County Juvenile Services, 1912 W. 18th Street, Port Angeles, WA, 98363. To appear remotely by Phone (888) 475-4499 toll free, or Video (Zoom), enter Meeting ID 978- 5492-0434 and Passcode 12345.

You should be present at this hearing. The hearing will determine if your child is dependent as defined in RCW 13.34.030(6). This begins a judicial process which could result in permanent loss of your parental rights. If you do not appear at the hearing, the court may enter a dependency order in your absence.

To request a copy of the Notice & Summons and Dependency Petition, call DCYF at 360-912-8440 and contact your social worker. To view information about your rights, including right to a lawyer, go to www.atg.wa.gov/DPY.aspx. Dated: SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 NIKKI BOTNEN, County Clerk PUBLISH: September 27th October 4th, October 11th Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 2023

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY Estate of FLORENCE B. LOCKREM (a/k/a FLORENCE BEATRICE LOCKREM),

Deceased. NO. 23-4-00493-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) PLEASE TAKE NOTICE The above Court has appointed me as Personal Representative of Decedent's estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must present the claim: (a) Before the time when the claim would be barred by any applicable statute of limitations, and (b) In the manner provided in RCW 11.40.070: (i) By filing the original of the claim with the foregoing Court, and (ii) By serving on or mailing to me at the address below a copy of the claim. The claim must be presented by the later of: (a) Thirty (30) days after I served or mailed this Notice as provided in RCW 11.40.020(1)(c), or (b) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice. If the claim is not presented within this time period, the claim will be forever barred except as provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective for claims against both the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets. Date of First Publication of this Notice: October 11, 2023 /s/

Michael Lockrem, Personal Representative c/o Jayne Marsh Gilbert, WSBA #24656 Attorney for Personal Representative 314 Pine Street, Suite 211 Mount Vernon, WA 98273 Published in La Conner Weekly News Oct. 11, 18, 25 2023

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON KING COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of JOHN B. CLAUSER, Deceased.))))) No. 23-4-06618-6 SEA PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030

The personal representative named below has been appointed and has qualified 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 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) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed 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 FILING: October 4, 2023 DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: October 11, 2023 Daniel M. Greenwald Personal Representative Attorney for the Personal Representative: DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP By James A. Flaggert, WSBA No. 20965 Address for Mailing or Service: c/o Davis Wright Tremaine LLP 920 Fifth Avenue Suite 3300 Seattle, Washington 98104 1610 (206) 622 3150 Court of Probate Proceedings and Cause Number: King County Superior Court, Seattle, Washington Cause Number: 23-4-06618-6 SEA Published in La Conner Weekly News Oct. 11, 18, 25, 2023.

The Garden Bug Purple Honey In North Carolina, there are areas where some local honeybees have been known to produce honey that has a purple or bluish hue. No one is sure what makes this happen exactly or how many conditions affect this process. Some researchers theorize that some hives collecting nectar from sourwood tree blossoms in summer are the reason; others say hydrangea flowers, titi plants, kudzu blossoms or elderberry flowers cause the unusual coloration. Beekeepers who find their hives producing this rare honey say it tastes fruity. Sources: newsobserver.com, honeybeesuite.com - Brenda Weaver © 2023 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

AGENDA Joint Town of La Conner and Planning Commission Meeting Notice Oct. 17, 2023, 6 p.m. Agenda I. Convene II. New Business a. Community Discussion about Short Term Rental Regulations III. Public Comments (Topics not otherwise on the Agenda) - Time Limit 3 Minutes

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Super Crossword Answers DAMASK TENDS ONUS PCS OPINER STARTAFIRE SAP WHATWOULDYOUCALLA ANY DIMGTOPDPAIGLLOO DISHEATENBYPOLICEMEN PORSOYROLEO IFEARATTA SEERS GHWB GIVINGTHEMSPICIAL E IN GLENOKIESHULK ERNIE YERGRIN SIRE AREARUG STRENGTHANDENERGY HEIRESS ROTSDITSVET ANNIEHORS LIMACIAO TICTOCAPTUREFUGITIVE EDENRAVES AMYS TRIES BROWETOACUESL BRITISHCONSERVATIVES RESETAOKORCCOM EMUCHICKENCATCHATORY WIZHANGSLOOSEEYELLET STUSISISTOPPRELISH

CLASSIFIEDS

Submit your ad by Sunday noon for next issue publishing • laconnerweeklynews.com/classifiedads or 360-466-3315

WANTED: LaConner apartment rental wanted by a mature, able-bodied veteran with excellent local references. 360-421-2423

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FREE FORTUNES! Go get your fortune from Lolita! In front of post office.

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS ADVERTISE STATEWIDE with a \$325 classified listing or \$1,600 for a display ad. Call this newspaper or 360-344-2938 for details.

Weekly SUDOKU Answer 8 5 6 3 4 7 9 1 2 2 3 7 9 1 6 8 4 5 4 9 1 8 2 5 6 3 7 1 8 5 4 3 2 7 9 6 3 4 2 7 6 9 5 8 1 7 6 9 1 5 8 3 2 4 9 2 8 6 7 1 4 5 3 6 1 4 5 8 3 2 7 9 5 7 3 2 9 4 1 6 8

CLASSIFIEDS

To run an ad, please stop by the office (119 N. Third), call 360-466-3315, or email: production@laconnernews.com BEFORE NOON ON FRIDAYS

Love Puzzles!

See our new online puzzle page laconnerweeklynews.com/puzzles

Have you seen our new website? laconnerweeklynews.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Complete Events Calendar on laconnerweeklynews.com



By Patricia Aqimuk Paul, Esq., Food Editor.

Eggplant with Tomatoes



Made with locally grown produce. This is a hearty dish as a stand-alone vegetarian meal. Give yourself some time as this recipe takes over an hour of preparation. But worth it!

Ingredients

- Eggplants, 2 medium
- Water 2 quarts
- Salt, 1 tablespoon
- Olive oil, 3 tablespoons
- Tomatoes, 2 medium
- Onion, two thick slices

Preparation

Rinse the eggplant and slice into ½ inches pieces. Do not peel. Place in bowl, cover with water, add salt and swish around. Let it sit for 30 minutes. Prepare baking sheet by adding 2 tablespoons of the olive oil. Drain the eggplant. Put the eggplant slices in the oil on the baking sheet. Use your fingers to cover both sides with oil and cover the bottom of the pan with oil. The eggplant will be in a single layer. Bake in preheated 375-degree oven for 35 minutes, flipping over halfway through. While it is baking. Rinse the tomatoes and cut into chunks. Cut onion into smaller chunks. Add the remaining one tablespoon olive oil to a sauté pan. Add the tomatoes and onion. Cook slowly for 25 minutes. Keep warm. When the eggplant has baked and is soft, add to the tomato mixture. Gently mix.

AqimukKitchen@outlook.com

NOT TO BE MISSED

Skagit Symphony begins its 2023-24 season with "Second Chances" on Oct. 21.

The concert features Sandra Shen on piano playing "Stars" by Mary Howe, Rachmaninoff's second piano concerto and concludes with Mussorgsky's legendary "Pictures at an Exhibition." Info: www.skagitsymphony.com/second-chances

Community Pizza Night WSU Bread Lab

Oct. 13 4-7 p.m.
\$15 at the door, cash only. You get: whole grain crust, sauce, cheese, a short lesson on shaping, and the use of King Arthur Baking School's deck oven to bake your pizza. Just bring your favorite toppings.
11768 Westar Lane
Burlington, WA

Free Master Gardener Know & Grow: Mosses & Lichens

Tue. Oct. 17 1:00-2:30 p.m.
NWREC Sakuma Auditorium, 16650 Washington 536, Mount Vernon, WA 98273, USA

Annular solar eclipse

Oct. 14 starting at 8:00 a.m. peaking about an hour later. Protect your eyes and your digital devices - do NOT look directly at the eclipse without proper eclipse glasses, do not point devices without special filters. More info:

<https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2023/where-when/>

LIBRARIES

La Conner Swinomish Library. 520 Morris St., La Conner. 360-466-3352. www.lclib.lib.wa.us. Open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

- Storytime for Children. 11 a.m. every Friday.
- Book Club. Meets at 2 p.m. every fourth Wednesday. Info: Richard Wisniewski at wisniew10@gmail.com
- Tech Help. 4-6 p.m. every Monday. One-on-one technical support in 30-minute blocks.
- Dungeons & Dragons Club. 3-5 p.m. every Tuesday. No previous gaming experience necessary.

Mount Vernon Public Library. 315 Snoqualmie St., Mount Vernon. 360-336-6209, mountvernonwa.gov.

- Virtual Reality. Every Saturday, 1-3 p.m. Must be 12 or older.

Anacortes Public Library.

1220 10th St., Anacortes. 360-299-8067, CityofAnacortes.org.

Burlington Public Library.

820 E. Washington Ave., Burlington. 360-755-0760, burlingtonwa.gov/library.
• Knitting Club. All ages, Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Pacific Northwest Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum.

703 S. Second St., La Conner. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. qfamuseum.org, 360-466-4288. See two new exhibits: .

- David Owen Hastings: Paper + Stitch, through Oct. 29.

Skagit County Historical Museum. 360-466-3365 or skagitcounty.net/museum. Hours 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday-Sunday.

- Exhibit: "More than just a little off the top: barber-shop historians."

Museum of Northwest Art. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday and Monday. monamuseum.org, 360-466-4446.

- Teen Art Club. A free program for youth in grades 6-12, where you can bring your friends and your creativity to make art together and inspire your art. Pizza, snacks, and art supplies will be provided.

MUSIC

Skagit Community Band Maple Hall, La Conner

Oct. 13 7:30 p.m.

Ukelele Fun & Song Circle. Meets 1-2 p.m.

Wednesdays, Burlington Senior Center. For info, email yogaheartspace0@gmail.com.

Shelter Bay Chorus.

Meets 4:30-6:30 p.m. every Thursday, Shelter Bay Clubhouse. No auditions required. Questions, call Joan at 360-941-7507..

SERVICE & VOLUNTEER

La Conner Sunrise Food Bank. Food distribution from 2:30-5 p.m. every Monday, 602 S. Third St., La Conner. 360-488-3878, laconnerfoodbank.com.

Swinomish Helping Hands Food Bank.

Food distribution from 2-5 p.m. every Thursday. Non-essentials every first Thursday. 17444 Sneek Oosh Road, La Conner. 360-856-2211, helpinghandsfoodbank.org.

Skagit Valley Humane Society. 18841 Kelleher Road, Burlington. 360-757-0445. Find volunteer and donation opportunities online at skagithumane.org.

MEETINGS

La Conner Swinomish Regional Library. Library board of trustees meets at 5 p.m. the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the library, 520 Morris St., La Conner.

Skagit Cemetery Dist. 1. Regular meetings at 5 p.m. every second Thursday, at Lori Buher's home, 17604 Valentine Road, Mount Vernon.

POTENT POULTRY

Super Crossword

ACROSS	DOWN	ACROSS	DOWN	ACROSS	DOWN
1 Durable, lustrous fabric for table linen	1 Op-ed columnist Maureen	1 Durable, lustrous fabric for table linen	1 Op-ed columnist Maureen	1 Durable, lustrous fabric for table linen	1 Op-ed columnist Maureen
7 Babysits, e.g.	2 Green garden pest	7 Babysits, e.g.	2 Green garden pest	7 Babysits, e.g.	2 Green garden pest
12 Heavy burden	3 Marlins' city	12 Heavy burden	3 Marlins' city	12 Heavy burden	3 Marlins' city
16 Machines connected to mice	4 House pest	16 Machines connected to mice	4 House pest	16 Machines connected to mice	4 House pest
19 Person expressing viewpoints	5 Stitch up	19 Person expressing viewpoints	5 Stitch up	19 Person expressing viewpoints	5 Stitch up
20 Do some igniting	6 Food chain	20 Do some igniting	6 Food chain	20 Do some igniting	6 Food chain
22 Syrup source	7 Letter-shaped opening in a machine shop	22 Syrup source	7 Letter-shaped opening in a machine shop	22 Syrup source	7 Letter-shaped opening in a machine shop
23 Beginning of a riddle	8 LAX abbr.	23 Beginning of a riddle	8 LAX abbr.	23 Beginning of a riddle	8 LAX abbr.
25 Even a hint of	9 Certain caucus reply	25 Even a hint of	9 Certain caucus reply	25 Even a hint of	9 Certain caucus reply
26 Not so bright		26 Not so bright		26 Not so bright	
27 Old sporty Pontiac		27 Old sporty Pontiac		27 Old sporty Pontiac	
28 The Palm Treo was one, in brief		28 The Palm Treo was one, in brief		28 The Palm Treo was one, in brief	
29 Arctic home		29 Arctic home		29 Arctic home	
31 Riddle, part 2		31 Riddle, part 2		31 Riddle, part 2	
39 "— qué?" ("Why?" to Juanita)		39 "— qué?" ("Why?" to Juanita)		39 "— qué?" ("Why?" to Juanita)	
40 Tofu base		40 Tofu base		40 Tofu base	
41 Contest involving balancing on a floating log		41 Contest involving balancing on a floating log		41 Contest involving balancing on a floating log	
42 Lead-in to bad news		42 Lead-in to bad news		42 Lead-in to bad news	
45 "— girl!"		45 "— girl!"		45 "— girl!"	
47 Fortunetellers		47 Fortunetellers		47 Fortunetellers	
49 U.S. pres. during the Gulf War		49 U.S. pres. during the Gulf War		49 U.S. pres. during the Gulf War	
53 Riddle, part 3		53 Riddle, part 3		53 Riddle, part 3	
57 Austrian "a"	107 Put back to 0, perhaps	57 Austrian "a"	107 Put back to 0, perhaps	57 Austrian "a"	107 Put back to 0, perhaps
58 Hidden valley	108 NASA "yes"	58 Hidden valley	108 NASA "yes"	58 Hidden valley	108 NASA "yes"
59 "— From Muskogee"	109 Tolkien meanie	59 "— From Muskogee"	109 Tolkien meanie	59 "— From Muskogee"	109 Tolkien meanie
60 "Incredible" superhero	110 Rom- (film genre)	60 "Incredible" superhero	110 Rom- (film genre)	60 "Incredible" superhero	110 Rom- (film genre)
61 Bert's Muppet pal	112 Aussie avian	61 Bert's Muppet pal	112 Aussie avian	61 Bert's Muppet pal	112 Aussie avian
63 "— darn tootin'!"	113 Riddle's answer	63 "— darn tootin'!"	113 Riddle's answer	63 "— darn tootin'!"	113 Riddle's answer
64 Broad smile	121 Diana Ross musical, with "The"	64 Broad smile	121 Diana Ross musical, with "The"	64 Broad smile	121 Diana Ross musical, with "The"
65 Foal's father	122 Relaxes, informally	65 Foal's father	122 Relaxes, informally	65 Foal's father	122 Relaxes, informally
66 Mini-carpet	123 Shoelace hole	66 Mini-carpet	123 Shoelace hole	66 Mini-carpet	123 Shoelace hole
68 Riddle, part 4	124 Disco (guy on "The Simpsons")	68 Riddle, part 4	124 Disco (guy on "The Simpsons")	68 Riddle, part 4	124 Disco (guy on "The Simpsons")
72 Woman with will power?	125 "Yes, yes!" in Yucatán	72 Woman with will power?	125 "Yes, yes!" in Yucatán	72 Woman with will power?	125 "Yes, yes!" in Yucatán
74 Deteriorates	126 Discontinues	74 Deteriorates	126 Discontinues	74 Deteriorates	126 Discontinues
75 Dahs' Morse counterparts	127 Cookout condiment	75 Dahs' Morse counterparts	127 Cookout condiment	75 Dahs' Morse counterparts	127 Cookout condiment
76 Pet treater		76 Pet treater		76 Pet treater	
79 "Tomorrow" musical		79 "Tomorrow" musical		79 "Tomorrow" musical	
80 — d'oeuvres		80 — d'oeuvres		80 — d'oeuvres	
81 Peru's capital		81 Peru's capital		81 Peru's capital	
82 "Gotta go!"		82 "Gotta go!"		82 "Gotta go!"	
83 Muscle jerk		83 Muscle jerk		83 Muscle jerk	
84 Riddle, part 5		84 Riddle, part 5		84 Riddle, part 5	
89 Tree of Life's garden		89 Tree of Life's garden		89 Tree of Life's garden	
91 Boffo reviews		91 Boffo reviews		91 Boffo reviews	
92 Funnywomen Schumer and Poehler		92 Funnywomen Schumer and Poehler		92 Funnywomen Schumer and Poehler	
93 Has a go at		93 Has a go at		93 Has a go at	
94 Have a loan from		94 Have a loan from		94 Have a loan from	
96 Lead-in to puncture or pressure		96 Lead-in to puncture or pressure		96 Lead-in to puncture or pressure	
97 Class for U.S. immigrants		97 Class for U.S. immigrants		97 Class for U.S. immigrants	
98 End of the riddle		98 End of the riddle		98 End of the riddle	

Moments in time

• On Oct. 26, 1977, the last natural case of smallpox was discovered in Merca District, Somalia. Three years later, the World Health Organization declared the disease eradicated. To date it remains the sole infectious disease to have achieved that distinction.

• On Oct. 27, 2013, singer-songwriter Lou Reed died at the age of 71 from a liver-related illness. The Velvet Underground frontman had undergone a liver transplant and was known for his heavy alcohol and drug use.

• On Oct. 28, 2011, British Commonwealth leaders unanimously agreed that female heirs to the throne would be equal in the rules of succession. The previous rules, in place for over three centuries, had decreed that first-born sons had the right to the throne, while daughters would only inherit the monarchy if no sons had been born or survived. It was also agreed to lift the ban barring British monarchs from marrying Roman Catholics.

• On Oct. 29, 1982, Lindy Chamberlain was found guilty of the murder of her 9-week-old daughter, Azaria, after a jury dismissed her claim that a wild dingo actually took the baby during a family camping trip.

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• On Oct. 23, 1964, French existentialist philosopher and writer Jean-Paul Sartre published a letter in the newspaper Le Figaro to explain why he didn't want to accept the Nobel Prize for Literature that he'd been awarded the day before, stating he didn't wish to take sides in the East and West struggle of the Cold War by accepting an award given by Western institutions.

• On Oct. 24, 1926, the world famous escape artist Harry Houdini, though ill with a high fever, cold sweats and pain, gave what would be his last performance at the Garrick Theater in Detroit, Michigan. Immediately afterward, he was rushed to a local hospital, where he died a week later on Halloween.

• On Oct. 25, 1955, Tappan sold the first microwave oven, a large, 220-volt model priced at \$1,295. Only 34 units were produced that year, and didn't sell well. But by 2000, the ovens could be found in 90% of American homes.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Sudoku, Crossword answers on page 8

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POLICE BLOTTER

SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sunday, October 1

12:26 p.m. Dog watcher – Report of a dog left in a vehicle that the caller thought might be in distress. The dog was checked on and found to be in good health and was ok in the car. S. 1st St., La Conner.

12:59 p.m. No longer lost – A subject who appeared to be confused and possibly on drugs was walking up people's driveways and seemed to be lost. A deputy contacted the subject who thought he was in Mount Vernon and did not know what he was doing. Warrants were confirmed on the subject and he was arrested and transported from the area. Valentine Rd., Greater La Conner.

Monday, October 2

11:28 p.m. Teens with car – Report of two vehicles with teenagers doing doughnuts and driving recklessly in the marina parking lot. A deputy was able to contact them but did not observe the driving. A warning was given and the subjects were asked to leave the area. N. 2nd St., La Conner.

Tuesday, October 3

6:32 a.m. Car vs. Pedestrian – Subjects working in the area of Fir Island tried to cross the road in front of oncoming traffic. One of the subjects was struck by a vehicle at a high speed. The road was shut down for some time and the patient was first taken to

Skagit Valley Hospital and then airlifted to Harborview. No impairment or crimes reported for the driver. Fir Island Rd., Conway.

Thursday, October 4

7:49 p.m. Road killed – Report of a dead deer blocking the roadway. No report of an MVA. The deer was removed from the area. Maple Ave. / Pioneer Pkwy., La Conner.

Friday, October 5

2:22 p.m. Slip slid away – Boat stolen from the marina sometime over the past two days. Boat has not been recovered and no suspect information. Small dinghy style with 25hp outboard. N. 2nd St., La Conner.

8:05 p.m. Left behind – Report of an abandoned vehicle on private property. The caller was directed to the health department who deals with junk or hulk vehicles. The VIN was run and was confirmed as NOT stolen. Bradshaw Rd., Greater La Conner.

Saturday, October 6

6:41 p.m. Hit and skipped – Hit and run MVA where the suspect had fled south on Best and towards Conway. Witnesses lost sight of the vehicle and a deputy tried to head it off in Conway but did not locate it. Unknown suspect info. McLean / Best Rds., Greater La Conner.

Sweet 16: Ramon Hayes reflects on four terms as Town of La Conner's mayor

By Bill Reynolds

As a youth whose World War II veteran father was a booking agent in the entertainment industry, Ramon Hayes grew up familiar with the celebrities who gained fame amid the emerging new world of television.

"I was invited to Liberace's birthday party," Hayes, 54, recently recalled with a chuckle. "I didn't attend."

Hayes was perhaps reflecting on how later in life as a long-serving public official, he would be called upon to make decisions of far greater importance.

"I like to think of myself as being pretty thick-skinned," he told the Weekly News, while looking back upon 16 years at the Town's helm, the longest mayoral tenure in La Conner history.

The four-term La Conner mayor will vacate Town Hall in December. Yet while battle-tested in the realm of local politics, Hayes, a classically trained pianist, readily yields to the example set by his father, Raymond, who served in the legendary Devil's Brigade that sustained an 80 per cent casualty rate in the European theater of the Second World War.

An elite American-Canadian unit – formally named the First Special Service Force – its men trained for difficult cold-weather mountain-warfare missions.

Hayes' father, though wound-



OUTGOING MAYOR— Ramon Hayes, with wife Heidi, was first elected in 2007, a long time ago.

– Photo courtesy of Ramon Hayes

ed, survived combat in Italy and returned to launch a career in show biz. One of his clients was superstar Canadian singer Anne Murray, who has sold nearly 60 million album copies and regularly performed for more than four decades, starting in 1967.

Because of his dad's work, the son spent one summer living at the Aladdin Hotel on the Las Vegas strip.

In retrospect, it was something of a gamble for Hayes to file for office in 2007. True, he ran unopposed. But Hayes said he had to quickly solve the learning curve that goes with the job while juggling the stresses of running a business. On top of that, his and wife Heidi's daughter, Victoria,

now a student at the University of Washington, was then just entering kindergarten.

Hayes said he quickly learned to compartmentalize, separating as much as possible his mayoral duties from other aspects of his life.

He also learned the value of seeking out the counsel of others. "I got great advice from John Doyle, when he was our town administrator," said Hayes. "He said to focus on the projects."

Over time, those would be many.

Too many, in fact, for Hayes to cite in a single interview. Nor will he claim sole ownership of them, always careful to credit what he terms "the team" of staff, elected and appointed officials, community leaders and key partners engaged in stewarding those projects to completion.

That's been the case for:

- Upgraded drainage, sidewalks and paving on the Washington Street loop.
- Replacement of the Sherman Street boat launch.
- Development of the Sixth Street skateboard park.
- Construction of the new Caledonia Street pump station.
- Installation of I-5 freeway signage highlighting the town's historic waterfront. (continued on page 6)

MARINA MOORINGS

Port of Skagit

The Port of Skagit hosted two massive events on the last weekend of September to benefit and promote the Genuine Skagit Valley program. The Tidewater Boil and Skagit Farm to Pint Fest were, as reported in this paper, both big successes. More than 150 people for dinner the first night and about 600 for

the Farm to Pint Fest made for a busy and exciting weekend, especially for the La Conner Marina's first time hosting. The Genuine Skagit Valley program does outstanding work showcasing local farms and enhancing the value of Skagit Valley agricultural products and services. The Port of Skagit

is proud to be a part of this important work.

The weather is staying nice and we still have guests coming, especially into the RV park. There are a few boating guests on F dock enjoying the weather but there is plenty of room for more if anyone is thinking about taking the boat out.

Safety and Maintenance: 'Tis the season for winterizing your boat. There are lots of resources out there about how to do it and procedures vary for each engine and piece of equipment. How-

ever, there are some things that apply to everyone. First, water will freeze and expand when it does. Drain everything that can be drained (as per owner's manuals) and don't forget your waste water system. Second, if you have a water-lift muffler you most likely have an anti-siphon valve on your raw water system. Clean this to make sure it's not blocked up with salt or debris so air can freely move through it and prevent water siphoning into your exhaust manifold. Third, exercise the seacocks on your through hull fittings. They should turn easily and while you are winterizing is a good time to work them.

One thing that does not

always get noticed is to turn off all of your pumps. A tenant had an on-demand washdown pump with a hose and nozzle on it. When he left the boat, the pump stayed on and somehow the nozzle blew off. Luckily the hose landed on the swimstep and the water flowed away. It could just as easily have been in the boat and it's unlikely that the bilge pump could have matched the flow. Just something to think about.

Finally, we still have the row boat we found in the slough. If anyone would like to claim it we would be happy for it to have a new home.

See you on the Channel!

— Chris Omdal, harbormaster

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