



**Unlawful police raid of Kansas newspaper • p 2**  
**Lots to do Saturday in and out of town • p 8**

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# LA CONNER WEEKLY NEWS

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## Air you could cut with a knife



A SMOKE-COLORED SUNSET — Forest fire smoke from British Columbia and Eastern Washington blew our way last weekend, cooling air temperatures. This was Sunday evening's sunset from La Conner's eastern shore. Monday's breezes blew the smoke away ending air quality alerts Tuesday at 12:01 a.m. — Photo by Nancy Crowell

## Thick, smoky haze gives eerie weekend sunsets

*Breeze clears out wildfire smoke by Monday afternoon*

By Bill Reynolds

A hazy blanket hovered above La Conner last weekend as smoke from multiple wildfires in north central Washington and southern British Columbia drifted into the area, shrouding typical summer views of the snow-capped Cascades but providing brilliant red sunsets over Swinomish Channel and Skagit Bay.

By Monday, though, local air quality was much improved as weekend north winds returned to onshore flows, bringing relief in the form of slightly cooler morning temperatures and easier breathing.

At 3 p.m. the Northwest Clean Air Agency announced its Stage 2 air quality burn ban for Skagit, Whatcom and Island Counties would end at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday as shifting winds cleared out wildfire smoke, improving air quality.

The Skagit County burn ban is active until local fire officials determine that fire danger has passed. The NWCAA air quality burn ban is separate from the three counties' fire safety burn bans.

"The air quality is better today, thank goodness," new La Conner High School girls' soccer coach Maddie Huscher told the Weekly News as the Lady Braves met for their first

pre-season workout Monday morning. "We're able to practice outdoors, but we'll ease back a little bit."

Fortunately for La Conner residents and weekend tourists air quality conditions here were better than those in east Skagit County.

"I could see the difference coming in today," Pat Ball, owner of The Slider Café and a Sedro-Woolley resident, said Saturday morning. "It's a lot better here." Still, he closed his café Monday, the handwritten sign taped to the door citing poor air quality.

The numbers bore him out. The Air Quality Index for Sedro-Woolley registered 153 — "unhealthy" — Sunday afternoon. Residents were advised to consider remaining indoors.

The La Conner-Anacortes-Oak Harbor areas measured in the 50s and air quality here was deemed moderate. It was recommended that people unusually sensitive to increased particles in the air cut back on outdoor activities.

While the hazy sky blocked his usual mountain views, La Conner marathoner Toby Walls set off Sunday on a 6-mile training run, his son Syllas alongside on a bicycle.

Walls noted that wildfire smoke is becoming a more frequent nuisance. "It's a question now of whether we get it in early summer or late summer,"

Walls said.

Last year the high school football team had its home opener with Forks canceled because of poor air quality, also the result of wildfire smoke.

This most recent round of smoky skies, while less severe than last September, was expected to clear mid-week. Still, due diligence has been much in evidence.

La Conner Middle and High School Principal and Athletic Director Christine Tripp put in several hours Sunday at her office preparing in case local air quality worsened overnight. The high school's two soccer teams had their first workouts scheduled for Monday morning and there was the possibility those would be postponed if conditions didn't improve.

Ironically, the smoky air here provided some bright spots. Saturday evening tourists lined the channel boardwalk to watch the shrouded sun, appearing bright red rather than yellow, set over Fidalgo Island.

Beth Friedman of the Washington Department of Ecology offered an optimistic outlook late Monday morning.

"We're already seeing improvements in Western Washington with the arrival of westerly onshore winds," Friedman posted. "The smoke will likely linger through today, but skies should be clear by tomorrow morning."

## Construction fence blocks parking spots

*Slider Cafe customers and workers must park elsewhere*

By Bill Reynolds

Good fences make good neighbors. That adage is being put to the test — at least for the short term — at the 306 Center St. construction site, where safety fencing installed ahead of mandated soil removal has blocked nearly a dozen parking spaces of several businesses, including two cafes, at the adjacent commercial building.

The fencing went up on Aug. 15.

Since then, employees and customers of businesses in what locals refer to as the Station House Building, have sought parking elsewhere.

Options have included Fourth Street, Morris Street and seven parking spots west of the building leased by the Fire Hall Kitchen and Taphouse and made available when that restaurant, which operates afternoons and evenings six days a week, isn't open.

Business owners and employees were alerted beforehand by developer Brandon Atkinson that fencing would be erected along the perimeter of the property where his KSA Investments will build a 19-unit apartment/condo complex.

Dale King of Faber Construction, project manager for the KSA development, submitted applications for two on-site permits, Town Assistant Planner Ajah Eils confirmed last week.

"One of them," she told the Weekly News, "was for a fill-and-grade permit for the soil remediation process."

Removing contaminated soil from the area, which was formerly part of a full-service fuel station and storage facility, is required under a conditional use permit granted to KSA for construction of the three-story structure.

KSA representatives and Town officials held a recent pre-construction meeting to literally go over ground rules prior to the soil removal. No date had been set to begin that work as of last Thursday, Eils said.

"The second (application)," she said, "was a right-of-way permit application for on-site safety fencing."

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CONSTRUCTING THE TALMON — Construction fencing went up Aug. 15 at the 306 Center Street site for the 3-story 19-unit residential building. — Photo by Ken Stern

## La Conner to honor Tom Robbins' wit, wisdom Sept. 2

By Bill Reynolds

La Conner is taking a novel approach when it comes to celebrating the best things in life.

The town will be the scene for "Tom Robbins Day" Sept. 2, an event designed to promote fun, friendship, wit, whimsy and positive vibes, all reflective of themes and characters in books penned by La Conner's famed best-selling author.

It will also be an opportunity to support mentoring opportunities in the arts for local youth at the new La Conner Swinomish Library.

A full slate of activities is planned, including a parade, raffle, trivia games and costume and spam carving contests.

Plus much, much more.

"The idea," Robbins' wife, Alexa, told the Weekly News, "is for us to

come together as a community and celebrate what we can be as a human family. It's about Tom's work and imagination, but there's also a larger concept. Happiness is really the goal."

Plans for "Tom Robbins Day" took root earlier this year at the Enchanted Locks Hair Salon on Morris Street.

"We were sitting here one day," recalls salon owner Gina McCarthy, "and Tom jokingly said, 'I could be king for a day.' The more I thought about it, I began to think we could do this."

La Conner artist Meg Holgate was on the same page as well.

"It made sense to do something in honor of our great celebrity writer," Holgate said. "My thought was, 'we need to check with Alexa and see what she thinks about this.' She said, 'yes' right away."

And, right away, McCarthy got to

work organizing the celebration. She has been busy collecting donated raffle items from La Conner merchants, proceeds from which will go to the library's youth outreach programs.

"The merchants have been amazing," said McCarthy. "Everyone has been more than fantastic. Everybody is definitely excited about it. This is just an amazing town."

Alexa Robbins envisions the funds supporting a rotating format devoted to various means of artistic expression.

"You could do a four-part camp at the library," she said. "You could start with drama and then hand it off to music. There are talented people in the community with expertise who could be mentors. It could be a tag team of mentors who can help kids launch their dreams and focus on something

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TOM ROBBINS WILL BE KING FOR A DAY — A lifetime of words and a longtime La Conner address combine for a townwide celebration Sept. 2 for author Tom Robbins. Gina McCarthy, above, is chief planner, if not court jester. She exhibits some of the novels she has read. — Photo by Bill Reynolds



From the editor —

## The publisher and the politician

Finally. A witch hunt exposed, captured on the front page of newspapers all across the country and blaring from TV screens. Yes, corrupt law enforcement staff exist, backed up by a law-breaking judge willing to bend the law to punish those nipping at their heels. Cronyism run amok, on steroids!

Kurt Batdorf's story, below, sums up the unprecedented-in-time attack on a Kansas newspaper, the Marion County Record, gone after for doing its job. Small town cronies tried to out-muscle the 69-year-old publisher and his 98-year-old mother, the co-owner. It was thuggish, more fitting for Russia and those who admire Russia than for a country whose First Amendment to its Constitution enshrines freedom of the press. That's the United States, where the federal Privacy Protection Act of 1980 protects the flow of information to journalists, barring law enforcement, including local agencies, from searching for or seizing reporters' product or documentary materials.

Evidence abounds here. Reporters watched their own office being raided. They made videotapes. This will be prosecuted.

Evidence exists of wrongdoing by justice officials claiming to uphold the law. Evidence exists of misuse of the justice system. And investigation into these actions will hold lawbreakers to account, if they broke the law. That is the American system of justice.

Contrast that with the accusations of former President Donald Trump and his constant drumbeat since the Mueller investigation started in May 2017. Fast forward to November 2020 or get current with the three federal indictments since spring and now the fourth criminal case in a Georgia county court.

Trump and his lawyers have plenty of documents – millions and millions of pages – they can claim as false evidence and say prosecutors and law enforcement officials are hounding them. To date, going all the way back to over 60 court cases claiming the 2020 election was stolen, they have not had a state or federal judge agree with any significant evidence they have brought forth.

Witch hunts are either true or false. Law and justice officials either have integrity or are corrupt. The press either does its job or it doesn't. In each case, the proof is in the pudding – or in the actions of officials and staffs. Trump excels at presenting his case in the so-called court of public opinion. But there are neither judges nor jurors there that can exonerate him.

True patriots have the example of our Founding Fathers, who made a case against King George III as a tyrant. In the Declaration of Independence the king was called out for “a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.”

Eric Meyer, the publisher of the Marion County Record, has plenty of facts that a witch hunt was executed against him. The Marion police chief will get his day in court to defend himself.

Trump has been defending himself for decades in various courts of law. His record is not good. Now he has four more chances to prove himself innocent. Let him present his facts before a candid world. If there are witches out there, they need to be exposed.

**Note:** *The Marion County Record has a circulation of 4,000 and serves a county of about 11,000 people. It is a much better investigative newspaper than the present La Conner Weekly News, which has not pursued in-depth government records or closely examined actions or decisions of local staff or elected officials.*

— Ken Stern

## Police raid of Kansas newspaper condemned

By Kurt Batdorf

The Kansas Bureau of Investigation is looking into how and why Marion County sheriff's deputies and local police raided the Marion County Record newspaper office and the homes of its owners and the town's vice mayor Aug. 11.

Police seized computer equipment and cell phones from Record staff and the vice mayor. The case quickly gained national attention as an unprecedented violation of established American press rights.

“Freedom of the press is the core value when we think about our democracy,” White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Aug. 16. “We'll continue to reaffirm and protect this fundamental right enshrined in the First Amendment. And so, you can certainly count on us to continue to do that.”

According to reporting by the Marion County Record, Marion police claimed Record staff had illegally accessed and disseminated the driving record of Kari Newell, a local restaurateur whose license was suspended for a driving under the influence

conviction in 2008. She filed a police report claiming identity theft.

The Record didn't release the document to anyone, but Newell accused the paper at a city council meeting Aug. 7 of providing the information to Vice Mayor Ruth Herbel, and she accused Herbel of sharing it.

Herbel received the document from the same source as the newspaper. She said she shared it only with City Administrator Brogan Jones because Newell was seeking endorsement of a catering liquor license at the meeting.

Marion Police Chief Gideon Cody applied for search warrants, which were signed by Marion County District Court Magistrate Judge Laura Viar. However, federal law requires police to subpoena journalists' materials if law enforcement believes it has reason to investigate a newspaper. Viar did not respond to questions from the Kansas Reflector newspaper to explain why she approved a search warrant.

Kansas Attorney General Kris

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Biden's Afghanistan failure

I am at this moment (early August – *ed.*) watching these heartbroken Moms testify about their beloved sons and daughters who lost their lives, needlessly, at the hands of the U.S. Government. They are asking for the truth about who made the decision to pull out of Afghanistan in a deadly, foolish, coldly calculating, absolutely horrendous method.

It was a complete failure. Shame on this administration. Disgusting and unforgiveable decisions that cost 13 lives needlessly. Also, other questions that need to be answered, which this government seems to think is not their responsibility. These parents are in a world of extreme hurt and this president and some military officials go about their self-centered, egotistical, pitiful lives.

The president of our country did not even have the decency to meet or contact these grieving families. He is supposed to be the commander in chief. Shame on Joe Biden. He is supposed to meet, talk with these families, answer their heart questions,

treat them with dignity, compassion. In my opinion, he has not the ability to be the commander in chief. Perhaps his heart is so self-centered that only his power and money matter. Just eat your ice cream, Joe Biden; and go lie on the beach and ride your bicycle.

People, it is time we stop being Republicans, Democrats, independents. It is way past time that we all put our country first. We are losing this constitutional republic. If you don't know that, you are not paying attention. Please, please request or look up on the internet, the platforms for the two parties. Decide which platform you agree with and then vote accordingly. To vote not knowing what the party believes and stands for, currently, is not caring what direction your own country will be taken; not caring the type of life you and your loved ones will be subjected to.

“There are two ways to conquer and enslave a nation ... one is by the sword ... the other is by debt.” John Adams 1826.

Nancy Burlison  
Shelter Bay

### Beware door-to-door sales

On Wednesday, Aug. 16, a young, seemingly likable, fast-talking fellow knocked on our door to pitch his pest control services. My wife and I listened for a short while and I went back indoors since I was busy. He kept talking to my wife and wanted to quickly check our shed for signs of pests.

Later, my wife mentioned she had made an appointment for him to come back on Thursday, assuming it was for a more detailed discussion about whether to sign up for the services. To make that appointment, he asked her to sign and initial a form on his smart phone. It was in very small print and my wife felt sort of rushed to sign. She felt he seemed trustworthy. A few hours later, we were surprised to get an email copy of an annual contract, with the “appointment” on Thursday to be the initial service.

There is a Federal Trade Commission rule allowing up to three days for a customer to cancel a door-to-door sale: [consumer.ftc.gov/articles/buyers-remorse-ftcs-cooling-rule-may-help](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/buyers-remorse-ftcs-cooling-rule-may-help).

### Short-term rentals damaging

What is it like to use a short term rental? Simple. You look for a mega corporation site (VRBO or Airbnb or similar – one that advertises units in a location you wish to visit and then sign up for a rental of choice. (They are usually expensive once all the charges are added in, which doesn't happen till the final page of your agreement.)

Financial advisors suggest that people “put their money to work” by buying property in a place where said client might want to hang out. Easy money for the owner, they say. A contract is signed with AIRBNB or VRBO etc., which then sets up the contract, the cleaning people, the advice for the owners – and the contract restrictions. (In La Conner there are a couple places that are legally permitted bed and breakfasts that use the corporate entities to advertise –which is fine.)

The last place we stayed at was so darn cute. We could imagine living there. We could imagine a family in the darling little home. There was a whole street of the little homes. We felt that they loved

us. They left a bottle of wine. Snacks, soap for the washing machine. Menus. Why, these owners must be Super Hosts! (a real thing) (and they were)

What's the problem?

A family was displaced. The school population decreased. Low income housing evaporated. The schools lost population. Hotels lost business.

In La Conner short term rentals are allowed in commercial zone only – primarily on Morris and First streets. The same places as hotels. Bed and breakfasts on the other hand are allowed in owner occupied residences in the residential zones.

Will the renters eat out? Possibly. So do residents. However, the kitchens are quite complete. Are the actual owners part of the community? No. In our example, the owners were permanently three states away. The unit runs on remote.

Do you want to live in a neighborhood where you have no idea who the neighbors are and where party houses are a possibility?

We don't need to subsidize this investment tool.  
Linda Talman  
La Conner

A citizen's view —

### Affordable housing or short-term rentals?

By Kathy Shiner

Affordable housing is the issue nearly every city and county in our region is struggling with, including La Conner. And, with the town considering new code changes, it seems the situation may only get worse.

Over the past few years, I've attended many planning commission meetings and at every meeting, the urgent need for affordable housing is discussed. Yet, instead of pursuing policies that will produce more affordable permanent housing, the town is considering encouraging even more short-term rentals by expanding the rules for short-term rentals to include the residential zone. There has already been discussion, from a local developer, to include a row of short term rentals within his housing plans in the lot behind Pioneer Market. These lots are in the residential zone.

With the need and state mandate for affordable housing, why is short term housing in the residential zone even on the table? The current code already allows homeowners the flexibility of opening up their homes as bed and breakfasts so long as it is owner occupied. And accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in the residential zone can be rented out month-to-month or longer.

The existing code is clear: short-term (less than 30 days) rentals and nightly rentals are not allowed in the residential zone. That is the code that has

served our community well – and that is the code on the books when the home and lot owners bought or acquired their properties.

Much has been written over the past years about the impacts of short-term rentals in small towns. Among the key findings is that short term rentals for vacationers displace long-term rental housing which is a real equity issue given that home ownership has become so expensive. Additionally, short term rentals can increase neighborhood conflicts with more traffic and noise.

Of course, tourism is important to our economy. Already the commercial zone allows a lot of options for tourists: Airbnbs, VRBOs, inns and hotels in addition to several B & Bs within the residential zone. The 306 Center Street project, located in the commercial zone, includes plans for adding about five short term rentals on the ground floor of their condominium/apartment project. Most of these tourist accommodations are long-term businesses with deep ties to the community who also contribute a substantial share of city revenue. We need to think of their interests, too.

La Conner is a small town defined by the bordering farmland and water that has attracted a strong and diverse community. It is why this has been my home for more than 30 years. Our town plan needs to balance the importance of tourism with the

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**OBITUARY**

**Robert LeRoy Hunt**

Robert LeRoy Hunt died on Friday, Aug. 11, 2023, in Mount Vernon, Washington, at the age of 85 surrounded by his children.

Born on the family farm in Gunn Hill in Lenox Township, Pennsylvania, on Dec. 10, 1937, Bob's life journey would take him to every corner of the globe where he discovered and loved the oceans, mountains, rivers and exploring any new destination and any road less travelled. Together with his beloved wife, Phyllis, who preceded him in death in 2015, the two set forth in January 1958 to create a lifetime of memories spanning their 57 years of marriage built on the love of family, traveling adventures and each other.

Bob served a majority of his life in the United States Navy as a machinist, advisor and teacher in many assignments from the Mediterranean, Scotland, the Eastern, Gulf and Western seaboard of the U.S., and Southeast Asia, earning numerous awards including the Gallantry Cross. In 1967, Bob brought his family to the Skagit Valley where he served as a Navy recruiter stationed in Mount Vernon, settling his family in La Conner. During this time, Bob volunteered for two tours of service in Vietnam. He retired from the U.S. Navy in 1975 and returned to La Conner. Shortly after, the family then moved to Lynnwood, where Bob retired from the United States Postal Service after 20 years of service.

Bob dearly loved the Pacific Northwest with the glacier-covered mountains, eagles, rivers, Pacific Beach and a scoop of Tillamook ice cream atop almost any kind of pie. He spent many years hunting with friends and family and hiking or driving mountain backroads. Always enjoying a good game of cribbage, those able to peg out ahead of him found themselves fortunate. Adorning Bob's front door, the flag of his beloved Boston Red Sox proudly declared his lifetime devotion to his cherished team. An avid learner, Bob enjoyed reading, researching and taking classes to earn his Associates of Arts Degree through Skagit Valley College. He was a lifelong member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Disabled American Veterans whose hat he wore proudly wherever he went.

His greatest love and pride above all was his family. Together, Bob and Phyllis raised their own four children and welcomed numerous others into the Hunt household over the years, enlarging the family circle year after year. Bob traveled far and wide to attend any and all events



grandchild-related: track meets, basketball games, music recitals, ballet productions, birthday parties, theater productions and many more. If there was an event that involved one of his grandchildren, Bob was more than often the first one in the stands or seats and the last one to leave.

Bob is survived by his children: Michelle (Doug) Cave, Robert (Michelle) Hunt, Deborah (Eric) Grant and James (Debbie) Hunt; his grandchildren Jim, Kathy, Angela, Rob, Amanda, Mitchell, Hannah, Olivia and Dane; and his great-grandchildren Sean, Marin, David, Anna, Kasen, Kyler, Bently, Ellie and Oskar. Bob is also survived by his two sisters, Alzada Bice and Catherine LaFevers, and sisters-in-law Patricia DiBlasi and Judy Wells. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Glenn and Christine Davis and his sister, Sherry Mosley.

A private family graveside gathering with military honors will be held at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery in September. Donations as memorials in Bob's name may be made to the Navy-Marine Corp Relief Society ([www.nmcrs.org](http://www.nmcrs.org)) or to the Disabled American Veterans Charity ([www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)).

Arrangements are under the care of Kern Funeral Home, Mount Vernon.

**Parking spaces**

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

There has been an immediate effect.

"I have 12 students in my 5 p.m. class," explained John Alcorn, instructor at USTA Martial Arts, which occupies the northeast corner of the building, "and their parents have asked where they can park."

The building also houses Fifi's Bubble Palace Dog Bar, Crusier Coffee and The Slider Café.

Alcorn is hopeful he can reclaim parking spaces once the soil removal work is completed.

"My hope," he said, "is that the owner (Atkinson) believes in a grandfather clause for us."

As for the long term, there is optimism among some that once built and occupied the Center Street residential units will provide customers within walking distance for the next store businesses.

**A Citizen's View**

■ ■ ■ (from page 2)

needs of the people who actually live here by ensuring that our neighborhoods include affordable homes, both ownership and long-term rentals, so that families and a local workforce can afford to live here.

There is a community feeling here in town. We all like where we live and feel that the balance between business and residents must be balanced, beneficial and equitable to all.

A planning commission meeting on this topic is planned for some time mid-September. Please plan to attend.

*Kathy Shiner has family in the beautiful Skagit Valley, and lives in La Conner because of its charm, amenities and small-town atmosphere.*

**Kansas raid**

■ ■ ■ (from page 2)

Kobach said the bureau had not been involved in the searches and was not notified in advance.

At the bureau's suggestion, Marion County Attorney Joel Ensey admitted the search warrant Cody obtained from Viar had serious shortcomings.

In a news release, Ensey said he reviewed the warrant applications three days after the search.

"Upon further review, I have come to the conclusion that insufficient evidence exists to establish a legally sufficient nexus between this alleged crime and the places searched and the items seized," Ensey wrote.

Cody refused to comment to a Marion County Record reporter.

Separately, Publisher Eric Meyer said the newspaper was investigating tips that Cody left his Kansas City, Missouri, police captain's job in April to avoid repercussions for sexual misconduct allegations. Though the paper never published the information, details about the investigation – including the identities of Cody's accusers – were in a computer seized by police.

Marion County Sheriff Jeff Soyez returned the newspaper's property to its attorney on Aug. 16. Included were a computer and cell phone owned by Herbel, whose home was also raided. She said the warrant to search her house was unsigned.

A data forensics expert examined the devices to determine if police had attempted to access any of them.

In the Record's account of the search:

Two reporters were outside the newspaper's office when Cody and other officers arrived to execute the warrant. Cody gave reporter Deb Gruver a copy of a search warrant, then forcibly took her personal cell phone and confiscated Phyllis Zorn's phone.

Police would not let staff inside and refused to let them answer or make any calls.

As police raided the Record office, they also raided the home Joan Meyer, the newspaper's 98-year-old co-owner with her son, Eric Meyer. She watched police take her computer and a router and searched and photographed her son's personal bank and investment statements.

Joan Meyer died the next day of "sudden cardiac arrest," the Marion County coroner's report stated.

Eric Meyer told the Kansas Reflector that police were motivated by a confidential source who leaked sensitive documents to the newspaper, and the message was clear: "Mind your own business or we're going to step on you."

Kobach said state authorities were reviewing alleged crimes associated with the raid and were interested in whether someone had breached the Kansas Criminal Justice Information System.

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3+	\$53,057	\$59,187	\$1,200

**KERN**

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# Boys' soccer season has promise with depth

By Bill Reynolds

A year ago, the best offense for the La Conner High School boys' soccer team was a good defense. That script will flip in 2023, however, as a deep roster with plenty of playmakers will be more aggressive on the offensive side of the pitch.

Blessed with a solid core of returnees from a club that dropped tight 2-0 and 3-0 matches with Mount Vernon Christian and highlighted the 2022 campaign with a 1-0 shutout win over NW2B/1B rival Coupeville, head coach Galen McKnight envisions a more robust attack this fall. "We have a big incoming

junior class," McKnight told the Weekly News during the team's second pre-season workout on Tuesday morning last week. "We'll have around 20 players all together, so we'll try to be more aggressive offensively."

During much of the 2022 season, La Conner was content to shorten matches by extending possessions with perimeter passing.

Now the approach will be to strike fast and often.

McKnight and assistant coach Joel Hingston believe they have the players to push the NW-1B/2B loop's elite programs.

(continued on page 8)

# Girls' soccer coach already a winner

By Bill Reynolds

Maddie Huscher has swapped out her rock-climbing boots for soccer coaching cleats this fall.

Huscher, the reigning Northwest Region Teacher of the Year and who has sponsored the middle school climbing club, will spend the next few weeks on flat ground as La Conner High School's new girls' soccer coach.

Huscher greeted a young but enthusiastic roster to pre-season workouts this week.

In a way, though, Huscher will be employing climbing techniques with the Lady Braves. She will be looking to help guide the youthful Lady Braves up NW1B/2B standings after the program slipped to 0-9

a year ago, suffering shutout losses to league foes Mount Vernon Christian, Friday Harbor and Coupeville.

The lineup blends newcomers and returning letter winners, including Kendall Lee, Baylee Smith, Lydia Grossglass and Josi Straathof.

Youth will also be served.

"We have a lot of eighth graders who are coming up," said Huscher, who exuded enthusiasm throughout the team's inaugural practice. "We're looking to have fun and a great season."

One of those eighth graders, Kim Williams, showed her athleticism by winning a competitive soccer ball tag contest Monday morning.

The constantly upbeat

Huscher, who as a teen played soccer in the Sacramento, California area – she graduated from Franklin High in Elk Grove prior to attending Cal State-Fullerton – directed her charges through a rapid-fire series of conditioning and skills-building drills.

"Are you guys excited?" Huscher asked at one point, quipping: "Conditioning is so much fun."

Huscher also instructed players on proper footwork and passing and how best to execute headers.

"You have to be on your toes at all times in soccer," she noted. "If you're flat-footed, you'll miss the ball."

Nearby rival Mount Vernon Christian, the defending league champion, is expected to be strong again. La Conner hosts MVC Sept. 26.

The Lady Braves open at home opposite North Mason Sept. 5.

La Conner is scheduled away from Whittaker Field for two early clashes, visiting Northwest of Seattle Sept. 7 and traveling to Auburn Adventist Sept. 11.

The team is home Sept. 14 to play Forest Ridge Sacred Heart of Bellevue.

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# Library Happenings

By **Katryna Barber**

Youth Services, La Conner  
Swinomish Library

Our summer reading program, All Together Now, has officially ended, but please don't stop reading. Make sure to turn in your reading log so you can get your reward for all your reading during summer vacation. We hope you read some terrific books and discovered new genres and authors while meeting your reading goal. When you stop by the library to turn in your log, please tell us about the best book you read this summer. You can fill out a bookmark to tell others about your book so others will check it out.

We had a wide variety of summer reading activities. Thanks to all the helpers and people who contributed. Remember way back to June when we learned about honeybees and then some of us dressed up as bees to walk in the Fourth of July parade? Or when we listened to Harmonica Pocket play his songs? Ray Soriano brought 20 djembes and we learned to drum together. We had a Book Tasting in the Library Bistro, tried knitting and painted rocks fun colors. Our last summer reading event was Aug. 16. Tony Cladoosby and Jay Bowen spoke and told Salish stories, then the group moved to the conference room for an art project and smoked salmon snack. Many thanks to Michelle Calvin of Beaver Tales Coffee who provided the idea and delicious food.

Last Thursday local author Gail Noble-Sanderson spoke about how she started writing her historical novel trilogy. It takes a lot of research to create an accurate historical novel. Once she was done writing those books, she turned her attention to mysteries. She chose the cozy mystery style and defined that for us. She donated all four of her books to the library. Aren't we lucky! Look for them on the shelf soon!

We wrap up summer events Thursday, Aug. 24, 5-6 p.m., with the sweet singing of the Harmonaires, live and in person, all the way from Anacortes! Please join us.

It's been a busy summer at the library. The community room has accommodated diverse groups and meetings. We are currently planning our fall/winter activity calendar. If you have suggestions for activities, please tell us. This library is here for you.

One event you might want to plan for is our seed swap, Thursday, Nov. 2, 3-5 p.m.. As you deadhead your garden, save some seeds for the swap! We plan to have Jennifer Edelman speak. She is a master gardener and enthusiastic about growing plants to use as natural dyes. This is perfect for thinking about next year's garden or learn about a new craft.

We hope to see you all at Tom Robbins Day, Saturday, Sept 2. Dress up as a Tom Robbins' character and come to the parade down First Street at 1 p.m.!

# 'Small Expressions' at Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum

Atlanta, GA – The Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA) announces its 2023 annual juried exhibit of small works: Small Expressions. Featuring 35 contemporary small-scale artworks by artists from 18 states and 2 countries, Small Expressions will tour galleries in the United States from July 2023 through June 2024. The exhibit opened July 5 in La Conner at the Pacific Northwest Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum.

The show's juror is Allyce Wood, a textile artist based in Seattle. Wood began weaving as part of her master's degree at Oslo National Academy of the Arts. She furthered her textile studies through the KUNO Digital Jacquard Tapestry program at the University of Bergen, a mentorship with Hilde Hauan Johnsen, and assisting artists Eline Mugaas and Elise Storsveen. Wood has had the honor of being artist in residence

at the Praxis Fiber Workshop in Cleveland, Ohio, the Icelandic Textile Center, and is the artist in residence at the Mary Olson Farm this summer. A collector of codes and processes, Wood currently creates work on a vintage Bergman floor loom, Scandinavian frame looms, a marudai, and a knitting machine. She lectures and teaches in and around Seattle with a focus on contemporary tapestry.

Wood has exhibited her work locally and internationally for over 10 years. Recent Seattle exhibitions include Soft Systems at The Vestibule, Daylights with Shunpike Storefronts, and And

so it Goes at the En Gallery.

Exhibition hours: Wednesday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday. Admission to Small Expressions is free for museum members, \$7 for non-museum members, \$5 students and retired military with ID. The museum is located at 703 S. Second St., La Conner. For parking and directions visit QFAMuseum.org or call 360-466-4288.

Founded in 1969, the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit association of fiber artists with the mission to educate, support, and inspire the fiber art community.

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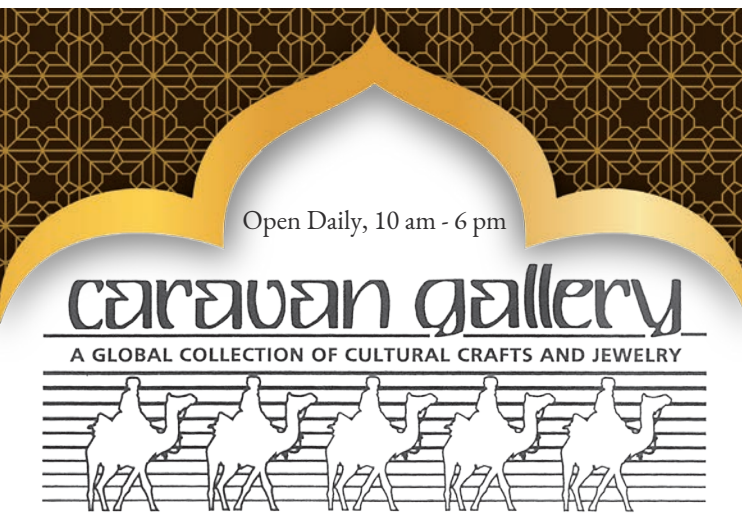
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If kittens are clean and sleeping in a heap, then mama is likely out looking for food and will be back.  
If kittens are cold, dirty, thin, making a lot of noise or appear sick or hurt, mama might be MIA and possibly gone for good. If you have observed for 12 to 24 hrs and mama still hasn't returned, she's probably not coming back.

**MAKE A GAME PLAN**  
If kittens are in obvious distress and mama is clearly not coming back, call HSSV at 360-757-0445 to discuss bringing them into us for care.  
If the kittens appear to be well fed and in good health and mama seems to be nearby or has obviously been there recently, then wait and try to see if you can bring mama in as well. If she's friendly scoop them up, and give us a call. If she isn't keen on contact, again, call us at 360-757-0445 for advice on trapping so you can bring them all in together safely. A trap might be necessary and it's important to get mom first, so you don't scoop up the babies and then realize you can't get mama.

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- July 28: Point of Sail
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- August 18: Victims of Love
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	Christi and Chris King		La Conner Seafood & Prime Rib
			Guardian N.W. Title
			La Conner Weekly News

2023 Annual Auction & Dinner Supporting Literacy & Education

Saturday, August 26, 2023, 5:30pm  
Maple Hall, 104 Commercial St

[f/rotarycluboflaconner](https://www.facebook.com/rotarycluboflaconner)  
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# BACK TO SCHOOL!

## Everything students and parents need to know

### Welcome

La Conner School District teachers, staff and administrators are excited to welcome back to campus all students in grades kindergarten through 12.

The school campus is located at the north end of Sixth Street. The district website is <https://www.lcsd.wednet.edu/>.

Braves' Day on Tuesday, Aug. 29, is officially the first day of school for first graders through high school seniors, with classes for kindergarten through 12th grade beginning on Wednesday, Aug. 30.

The first days for Little Braves' preschool are Sept. 7 and 8, with one half of class attending each day from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

### Registration

Parents who have not yet registered their children for kindergarten are asked to phone the elementary school at 360-466-3172 as soon as possible.

In addition, it is possible that spots can be made available in the elementary's preschool program.

Preschool classes also are available on the Swinomish Reservation and with co-operative program on the La Conner school campus.

All students must register each year. The link to Final Forms for families to register their students of any age for the 2023-24 school year is <https://laconner-wa.finalforms.com/>.

### Braves' Day

Braves' Day has become a special tradition at La Conner's schools.

Think of it as an open house or conferences, with families encouraged to attend and meet teachers and staff. Teachers will take attendance, as this is considered a school day.

Aug. 29, students will finalize any registration forms, get their schedules, meet with their advisers or home room teachers and set goals for the year. Students in grades 6-12 will have their photos taken, pick up their laptop, and sign up for clubs and activities. Families can pay fees (ASB, sports, yearbook) online at InTouch, <https://wa-laconner.in-touchrecepting.com/signin>.

### Braves' Day Schedule

Students and families will check in at the welcome table in the elementary school parking loop.

- While families are invited to come when they can throughout the day, parents are asked to bring students on the following schedule to help with flow of traffic:
  - 8 to 9 a.m.: Student last names beginning with A through D
  - 9 to 10 a.m.: E - H
  - 10 to 11 a.m.: I - M
  - 11 to noon: classrooms closed for lunch and prep
  - Noon to 1 p.m.: N - R
  - 1 to 2 p.m.: S - V
  - 2 to 3 p.m.: W - Z
- Following the completion of registration tasks, students and families are free to go.

There will be no district transportation available on Braves' Day.



HANDS-ON LEARNING — Students get to touch starfish and other marine life right in their classroom with Mrs. Huscher, Northwest Region's Teacher of the Year.

## Prepare for some adjustments this year

### First Day, Aug. 30

As has been the La Conner tradition, the first day of classes will be an early release day, with students dismissed at 11:40 a.m. Students will have breakfast after the bell, and sack lunches will be available.

### Transportation

This school year, buses will drop students off at school between 7:55 and 8 a.m. This later arrival time means that students will be picked up at home by bus drivers roughly 10 minutes later than in past years. Look for bus routes to be posted on the school website.

### Doors Open Later

School buildings will not open until 7:55 a.m., about 10 minutes later than in previous years. Parents who drop their children off at school need to plan ahead for this change. The first bell will sound at 8:05 and classes begin at 8:10 a.m. School is out at 2:40 p.m. each day.

### Free Breakfast for All

La Conner School District is fortunate to receive funding that enables staff to provide breakfast for all students at the start of each school day. Students can enjoy a free breakfast in their homeroom or first period classes, delivered by food service each day.

## Join the legacy La Conner Braves sports teams offer

Participation rates in high school athletics are important for the school and community, said middle/high school principal and athletic director Christine Tripp. All teams could use more members.

"We want students to join the legacy and enjoy the pride in sports at La Conner. Come out and give it a try. It's a good way to build community and stay healthy," Tripp said. "And research has shown that kids who participate in sports do better in school overall."

Football turnout has started already, but to join the team or

learn more about the program, contact Charlie Edwards at [cedwards@lc.k12.wa.us](mailto:cedwards@lc.k12.wa.us).

Coaching volleyball this year is Pam Keller, who was with the award-winning program for many years as an assistant coach. Longtime cheerleading coach Theresa James is back working with the squad.

Boys soccer is being coached by Galen McKnight. The girls' soccer coach is Maddie Huscher.

Students who participate must obtain a valid physical. To learn more about high school athletics or to join a fall team, contact Tripp at [ctripp@lc.k12.wa.us](mailto:ctripp@lc.k12.wa.us).



PRE-SEASON POINTERS—La Conner High assistant football coach Wil James shares pointers with Braves players as head coach Charlie Edwards (left) looks on during a workout last Thursday. La Conner, coming off a 2-6 campaign, has 16 players on its pre-season roster. The school's other fall sports programs—volleyball and boys' and girls' soccer—launched pre-season practices on Aug. 14.

— Photo by Bill Reynolds

## District joins effort to involve community in education study

La Conner School District educators are pleased to be participating in a program that will begin to shift the power dynamics between the school system and the students, families and communities it serves.

The Co-Designing with Families and Communities Fellowship is offered through Region 16 Comprehensive Center, which is a network of 29 educational service districts across three states.

The Co-Design Fellowship is a year-long study by educational leaders committed to systems

change. The La Conner team will co-design outcomes with local families and communities to better understand and address gaps in our current school system.

If you would like more information, contact Superintendent Will Nelson at 360-466-3171 or [wnelson@lc.k12.wa.us](mailto:wnelson@lc.k12.wa.us).

and will be seeking participants, particularly from those communities that have been historically underrepresented in education.

The district will receive support, funding and training through the fellowship program,

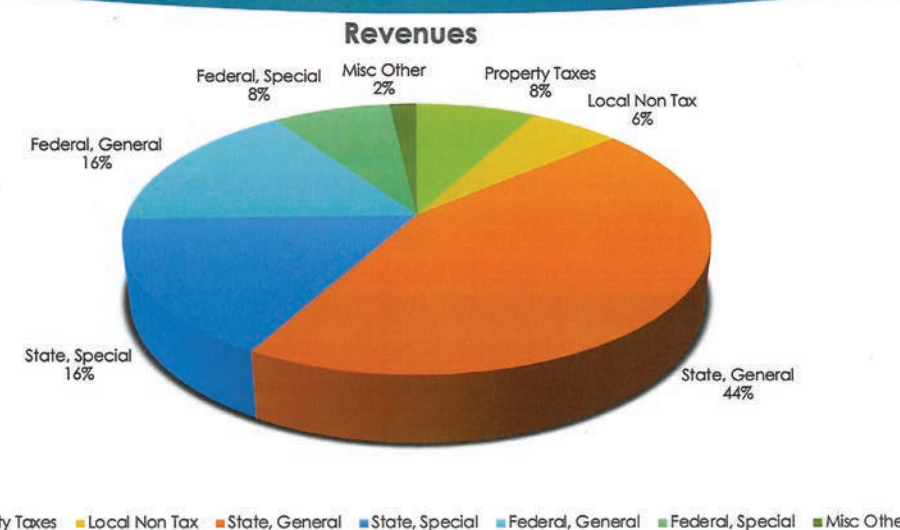
## Here's what else is happening in La Conner Schools through September

- High school sports: football, volleyball and soccer for girls and boys have started turnouts
- Braves' Day open house, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 29
- First day of class, 8:10 to 11:40 a.m. Aug. 30
- First full day of class, 8:10 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. Aug. 31
- Labor Day holiday, Sept. 4
- First late start, Sept. 6
- First days of Little Braves' preschool, Sept. 7 and 8
- Picture day for elementary students, Sept. 11
- Native American Parent Advisory Committee meets 6:30 to 8 p.m. Sept. 6
- Advisory Committee for Education meets 5 to 6:30 p.m. Sept. 13
- La Conner School Board meets 5 p.m. Sept. 25



## La Conner finances, by the numbers

### Revenues



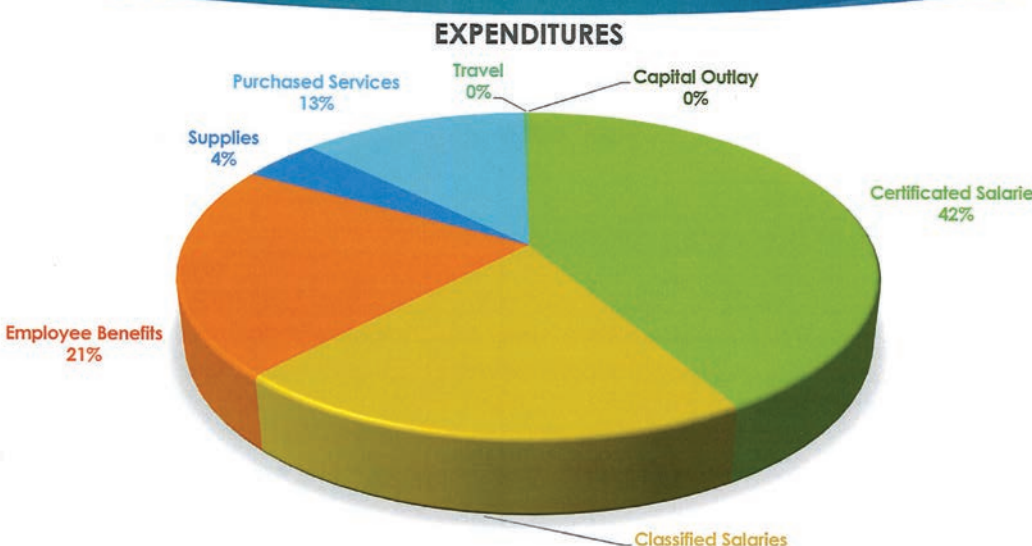
### 2023-24 Revenue/Resources

Property Taxes	\$1,010,408
Local Non Tax	\$756,750
State, General	\$5,721,603
State, Special	\$2,135,680
Federal, General	\$2,068,000
Federal, Special	\$994,350
Misc. Other	\$225,000
<b>PROJECTED TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,911,781</b>

### 2023-24 Expenditures

Certificated Salaries	\$4,990,796
Classified Salaries	\$2,454,103
Employee Benefits	\$2,523,963
Supplies	\$510,984
Purchased Services	\$1,493,862
Travel	\$37,750
Capital Outlay	\$0
<b>PROJECTED TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,011,458</b>

### Expenditures



Lower school enrollment has forced reductions in staffing and some programs, but district officials are optimistic about the school year.

The school district has applied for a federal 21st Century Grant to fund after-school programs such as Braves Club, but whether or not that money is granted likely won't be known before this issue of La Conner

Weekly goes to press.

"It's a very competitive grant, but we worked with a successful grant writer from the Educational Service District, and have the support of the town of La Conner and the Swinomish Tribe," said Beth Clothier, the district's director of teaching and learning. "The grant would make it possible for a more robust after-school

program."

If the grant is not obtained, Braves Club will continue as before, but with reduced hours and staffing.

The district has received a state grant to upgrade the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system in the high school building. Construction is expected to take place next summer.

## New courses, new teachers, new options

### High School Students Can Try College

High school students can take advantage of opportunities to earn college credits through Central Washington University.

Suzann Keith is set to teach advanced English and humanities classes, and Joel Hingston is on board to teach an advanced Spanish class.

These college credits are free to students upon successful completion of these high school classes.

### Other High School Course News

New science classes at the high school include animal science (a biology equivalent) and natural resources and ecology.

A freshman academy course with a heavy technology com-

ponent is planned, and plans are in the works for a class in artificial intelligence, which should help students use AI for good purposes, said the district's teaching and learning director Beth Clothier.

### New Faculty

Karen Rentko is the new elementary school music teacher. She has experience teaching in the Marysville School District.

Aaron Gruber, from Arizona, is the new secondary physical education and health teacher.

Julia Johnson, a mechanical engineer, comes to La Conner from the Kent School District. She will be teaching algebra, statistics and business math.

Eric Crinklaw is the new secondary school counselor. He moves to La Conner from the Bonney Lake High School, with more than 20 years of secondary school counseling experience.

### Elementary Changes

Principal Heather Fakkema has announced that one combined grade level classes will be introduced this year. The elementary has one fourth grade class, one fifth grade class and a 4/5 "split" class scheduled.

"These will be taught by a team with expertise in combined classroom settings," Fakkema said.

These teachers plan to rotate sections, so students in these grades will see Mrs. Funk for math, Mrs. Malcomson for language arts, and Mrs. Alumbres for social studies and science.



SHIFT IN FOCUS — Students at the middle school and high school will need to show their mastery of key skills and content learning as the district expands its pilot mastery-based learning program this year.

# Grades 6-12 will emphasize skills mastery

Important this school year is the district's expanded pilot of a mastery-based learning program that encourages students to demonstrate mastery of standards.

"We're so excited this year to be expanding our pilot of Mastery Based Learning in grades 6-12," said Beth Clothier, the district's director of teaching and learning.

"In mastery-based learning, teachers plan and assess in a way that gives students multiple and varied opportunities to practice and demonstrate growth and mastery of key skills and content knowledge."

These skills are aligned with standards and the district-wide shared outcomes defined by our *Portrait of a La Conner Learner*. The district seeks to help each student nurture curiosity, cultivate literacy, think critically, communicate effectively, solve problems, build relationships, appreciate diversity, develop resilience, pursue wellness and take action.

With mastery-based learning, all students must demonstrate what they have learned before moving on. Before students can

pass a course, move on to the next grade level or graduate, they must demonstrate that they have mastered the skills and knowledge they were expected to learn.

"Our shared outcomes endure across units, content, and grade levels so students can see their progress over time," Clothier said. "We believe mastery of these outcomes encompasses the knowledge and skills needed for a purposeful, meaningful and productive life in the world beyond school."

Teachers are expected to implement mastery-based learning in at least one class this year. During this pilot year, there may be an adjustment period as teachers and students adapt to this new approach. Changes in assessment methods and communication about student progress might occur.

The district welcomes and appreciates comments and support this year as it prepares for a full Mastery Based Learning implementation next school year.

"We're aiming to create an even more equitable, enriching, and effective educational experience," Clothier said.



## Help as a sub, advisor, volunteer or bus driver

Always needed are school bus drivers (there is a nationwide shortage), and those interested will receive paid training. The district also is looking for a list of substitute teachers, para-educators and custodians. Call Laurie Crothers, HR Specialist, for more information at 360-466-3171.

Classroom volunteers are welcome as well. Again, contact the district office for forms and information.

The district's citizen Advisory Committee for Education (ACE) also needs more members. It meets from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesdays of each month. Run by Superintendent Will Nelson under the auspices

of the school board, ACE concerns itself with ways to help the district be successful. Bring your ideas. Comment on programs under development. This is a great way to help the La Conner community as a whole. And you don't need to have a kid in school to be part of the committee. Wendy Poulton is president of the committee and Connie Milliken is vice president. Call Cherri Kahns at the district administration office if you are interested. 360-466-3171.

La Conner School Board meetings generally are scheduled for 5 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month in the district administration building. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.



## Saturday events to consider

- First, today, Aug. 23: **Roger Small's opening** for his paintings at La Conner Brewing Co. on First Street is 5-7 p.m.
- The **Skagit Community Band Summer Concert** is at 2 p.m. Aug 26 in Gilkey Square. Bring your chair.
- The **La Conner Rotary Club 2023 Harvesting Hope annual auction and dinner** "Hope Springs Eternal" is Saturday at Maple Hall, 5:30 p.m. La Conner Mayor Ramon Hayes will be honored as recipient of the Paul Harris award. Tickets are \$100. rclcf.ejoinme.org/2023hopespringseternal.
- **Stuff the Bus Saturday** at Radius Church to support the CHOW (Cutting Hunger On Weekends) program and diaper drive to support the Diaper Bank of Skagit County. Bring non-perishable food items, monetary donations, and diapers. Details: 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 2111 Riverside Drive, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. This is in partnership with Marathon Petroleum and Skagit Transit. Donate to the CHOW program: HelpingHandsFoodBank.org/stuffthebus.

## Boys' soccer

■ ■ ■ (from page 4)

"This might be the most complete roster I've had," McKnight said.

All he is missing at this point is a goalkeeper, though Braves hoopster Tyler Cicotte is a leading candidate to fit the role. That maintains McKnight's long-held tradition of having basketball players guard the net.

Simon Bouwens, Isaac Kitchen, Corran Eisen and Logan Burks will be among those pressing the action for La Conner's amped up offense. Rueben Hall, a transfer from MVC, Lane Tenborg, Flint Huizenga and Sammy Williams will likewise be key contributors for the Braves.

"Sammy," McKnight said,

"is my utility guy. I can put him anywhere."

The Braves' early season slate includes a Sept. 9 home contest with Sound Christian. La Conner visits Lopez Island Sept 12 before returning to Whittaker Field Sept. 15 for a key conference clash with Friday Harbor.

A critical road test at MVC follows Sept. 18.

McKnight anticipates another tough NW2B/1B title chase as the league traditionally fields a handful of the state's top small-school boys' soccer teams—MVC, 2021 state champion Orcas Island and defending state title winner Friday Harbor.

MVC is coming off a fourth place state tourney finish.

Nor can Coupeville be overlooked. The Wolves handed Friday Harbor one of its two losses last year.

## Apply for town tourist tax grant funds

Nonprofit organizations promoting La Conner tourist activities beyond Skagit County can apply for Town of La Conner Hotel/Motel tax distributions for 2024.

The deadline is 3:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, for proposals to be received at Town Hall, 204 Douglas, P.O. Box 400, La Conner, WA 98257.

No late submissions, including postmarked submissions.

The Lodging Tax Fund Request for Proposal is on the website: townoflaconner.org.

Questions? Ask Maria DeGoede, finance director: financiedirector@townoflaconner.org or 360.466-3125.

## Tom Robbins

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

they can create in their own voice.

"Art is the key," she added. "It lets us all think outside the box."

She noted how Tom Robbins' forte is thinking outside the box and in La Conner he has found no shortage of kindred souls.

"In our community," she stressed, "we learn how to problem-solve in a right brain, intuitive way. And it germinates in our youth."

Robbins has lived in La Conner for more than half a century. He is known for seriocomedies such as "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues," his 1976 novel that covers topics ranging from feminism and political rebellion to animal rights and religion.

And yams. "Cowgirls," one of nine Robbins best-sellers, was made into a 1993 film starring Uma Thurman, Pat Morita, Angie Dickinson, Keanu Reeves, Ed Begley, Jr. and Roseanne Arnold among other well-known Hollywood stars. Robbins himself served as narrator.

Prior to devoting his writing full-time to novels, Robbins was a sportswriter for the Richmond Times-Dispatch, an art critic with the Seattle Times, a columnist for Seattle Magazine and worked at the copy desk of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

He celebrated his 91st birthday last month.

Now it's he who can be celebrated, though his preference would be for those attending "Tom Robbins Day" to embrace first and foremost the powers of community, joy and creative thought.

"Tom is the kind of person," Alexa Robbins explained, "who never makes it about himself. He's a conduit for those who choose joy in spite of everything, who choose to bring joy to one another."

## GOT NEWS?

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Complete Events Calendar on [laconnerweeklynews.com](http://laconnerweeklynews.com)

## NOT TO BE MISSED

**The Skagit Community Band** will play a free concert in Gilkey Square in La Conner at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26.

**Head to Oak Harbor on Saturday, Aug. 26, and cheer on special-needs kids and their gravity racers.** Teams will take the starting line at the top of SE Barrington Drive hill at 10 a.m. in the 31st annual Challenge Series downhill gravity race. It gives youth with special needs the opportunity to "drive" a race car. Each car will be piloted by a trained volunteer youth to help guide the race car. The event raises funds for sensory toys and aides, home health devices, enrichment programs and activities for children and youth with special needs through donations from local businesses, organizations and individuals

**Come celebrate the birthday of La Conner's favorite fiction author, Tom Robbins.** Come one, come all for Tom Robbins Day from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2. Dress up as your favorite Tom Robbins character "or as crazy as you want." Festivities include a parade, food and drink, arts and shopping, fun gifts and gaiety, and a raffle to benefit children's reading programs at La Conner Swinomish Library.

## LIBRARIES

**La Conner Swinomish Library.** 520 Morris St., La Conner. 360-466-3352. lclib.wa.us. Open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.  
 • Storytime. Every Friday at 11 a.m.  
 • Tech Help. Every Monday, 4-6 p.m. One-on-one technical support.  
 • Dungeons & Dragons Club.

Every Tuesday, 3-5 p.m. No previous gaming experience necessary.

**Mount Vernon Public Library.** 315 Snoqualmie St., Mount Vernon. 360-336-6209, mount-vernionwa.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:  
 • Bojagi Journey 2023; curated by Patti King. July 26 - Oct. 8  
 • David Owen Hastings: Paper + Stitch. Aug. 2 - Oct 29

**Skagit County Historical Museum.** 360-466-3365 or skagitcounty.net/museum. Hours 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday-Sunday.  
 • Exhibit: "I Do, the History of Weddings," through Sept. 24.

**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.

## MUSIC

**Ukelele Fun & Song Circle.** Meets 1-2 p.m. every Wednesday, Burlington Senior Center. For more info, email [yogaheartspace0@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**La Conner Live Concert Series.** Live music 1-4 p.m. every Sunday in Gilkey Square.

**Burlington Summer Nights.** Live music from 6-8 p.m. every Friday at the Burlington Visitor Center Amphitheater, 520 E. Fairhaven Ave., Burlington.

**Port of Anacortes.** Free Summer Concert Series. Live music from 6-8 p.m. every Wednesday and Friday at Seafarers' Memorial Park, 601 Seafarers Way, Anacortes.

## 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](http://laconnerfoodbank.com).

**Swinomish Helping Hands Food Bank.** Food distribution from 2-5 p.m. every Thursday. Non-essentials every first Thursday. 17444 Snee Oosh Road, La Conner. 360-856-2211. [helpinghandsfoodbank.org](http://helpinghandsfoodbank.org).

**Skagit Valley Humane Society.** 18841 Kelleher Road, Burlington. 360-757-0445. Find volunteer and donation opportunities online at [skagithumane.org](http://skagithumane.org).

## MEETINGS

**Skagit Conservation District.** 2021 E. College Way No. 203, Mount Vernon. 360-428-4313. Zoom info at [skagitcd.org](http://skagitcd.org). Board meetings 7:30-9 a.m. every fourth Wednesday. Next meeting is Aug. 23.



# Aqiumuk's Kitchen

By Patricia Aqiumuk Paul, Esq., Food Editor.

## Spicy Peach Jam

Yum! Longtime friend Roxanne Wilbur offered to bring us peaches from her travels over the mountains. From a case of peaches, I made three batches of jam, a galette and a peach cobbler. This recipe makes 3 to 4 pints. This is a water bath canning recipe.



### Ingredients

- Peaches, 10 freestone; 5 cups chopped
- Sugar, 3 cups
- Lemon, 1
- Cinnamon, 1 teaspoon
- Nutmeg, ½ teaspoon, freshly grated
- Liquid pectin, one 3-ounce packet

the lemon juice and zest, the cinnamon and nutmeg. Cook over high heat for 15 minutes, stirring continuously. Add the pectin, bring to a rolling boil, stirring for 1 minute. Immediately remove from the heat.

### Preparation

Remove the skin of the peaches, remove pit and chop small. Remove the zest of the lemon, squeeze all the lemon juice and put together in a small bowl. Measure the sugar and place in a heavy duty, non-reactive cooking pot. Put in the chopped peaches and mix thoroughly. Bring to a boil and add in

Use sterilized 1 pint canning jars. Fill your heated jars to within ¼-inch from the top. Wipe rim of jar and seal lids. Water bath process for 10 minutes. Remove and allow to sit, undisturbed for 24 hours. Contents will keep for one year.

[AqiumuksKitchen@outlook.com](mailto:AqiumuksKitchen@outlook.com)

# MARINA MOORINGS

Port of Skagit

The smoke from fires across the western U.S. and Canada is across the sky, and with it we have people coming in who cannot get home due to the fires in their home areas. We have had a family from Maui here as well, and they are wondering not just "when" they can go back but "if." Everyone else we have spoken with is waiting for either Highway 20 to reopen or one of the Canadian fires to die down enough they can pass through the affected areas.

We had the largest vessel of the year put in yesterday, at 114 feet long. It was really impressive to watch it turn around in the channel! I know it was an illusion, but it looked like the boat was touching each side of the channel as it spun slowly to starboard. They handled it flawlessly and left the marina as smoothly as any weekend runabout.

**Safety and Maintenance:** Our dockhands handle lines for many boats per day, and the biggest safety factor they observe is boats moving too fast while docking. Remember, slower is better! Take it easy with the throttles, being careful not to put on too much momentum. The boat will respond slightly after the throttles are applied, so anticipate this delay.

Remember that you do not have any brakes. Reverse is adding acceleration, not just slowing the vessel. Put on too much reverse and the boat will surge back. Put on too much brake in your car and it will eventually stop – a significant difference.

Speaking of moving too fast, we have had two incidents this week where operators got ahead of themselves. The first was in the RV park, where a guest backed into the power pedestal of the neighboring site as he was leaving. He thought he had enough room behind and so his spotter moved around to the other side of the vehicle. The second was on F dock, where a boater got in a hurry and did not take time to methodically run his departure checklist. He was out in the channel when he looked back and saw the yellow shore power cable streaming behind him. Luckily the sharp edge of the pedestal sliced through the cord like a knife, so repairs are minimal.

Slow down, go step by step, and save time in the end. See you on the Channel!

— Chris Omdal, *harbormaster*

## Find us on Social Media

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# POLICE BLOTTER

## SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

### Tuesday, Aug. 15

**10:07 a.m. Roasted RV** – Fully engulfed RV fire at N. First and Morris. Driver stated they believed it had started near the refrigerator unit and they were unable to put it out before it was out of control. A deputy and Swinomish PD arrived on scene with fire extinguishers but ultimately it was La Conner Fire that arrived and put out the fire. N. First / Morris Sts., La Conner.

### Friday, Aug. 18

**6:31 p.m. Out of mind** – Subject waved down a deputy and advised he had lost a backpack somewhere in town and wanted contact if it was found. Backpack contained personal items with a value of about \$100. La Conner.

### Saturday, Aug. 19

**1:16 p.m. Accused chicken killer** – Loose pit bull-type dog was wandering near Third and State Street. Caller stated the dog had killed three chickens and was still loose. The dog was later caught and returned to the owner. Animal control to follow up on any crimes. Third and State Sts., La Conner.

**4:32 p.m. Good deed done** – A wallet was found near Nasty Jacks. The owner was immediately found with no need of a law response. Morris St., La Conner.

**10:53 p.m. Air cannon firing** – Subject called reporting possible gunshots in the area. A deputy was also driving the area and believed it to be a bird diversion cannon. The deputy did find the propane cannon in a nearby field. No gunshots. Best / Young Rds., Greater La Conner.

### Sunday, Aug. 20

**1:13 a.m. Spinning his wheels** – Subject at Conway boat launch got stuck in the sand and eventually dug in deep enough that he could not get out. A deputy gave him a ride home to get his truck and he advised that he could take care of it from there. Dike Rd., Conway.



## A NEW TAX CREDIT FOR WASHINGTON WORKERS

UN NUEVO PAGO PARA TRABAJADORES DE WASHINGTON

### Who is eligible for a tax credit?

- Lived in Washington a minimum of 183 days.
- Are at least 25 and under 65 years of age OR have a qualifying child in 2022.
- Filed a 2022 federal tax return with a SSN or ITIN.
- Low to moderate income families who meet the income thresholds.

### ¿Quién es elegible para recibir un pago?

- Haber vivido en Washington durante 183 días como mínimo
- Tener entre 25 y 65 años o tener un hijo que cumpla con los requisitos en 2022
- Haber presentado una declaración de impuestos federales en 2022 usando un SSN or ITIN
- Cumplir con los límites de ingresos

You can apply online, by paper, or through a tax preparer company.

Puede solicitarlo por Internet, en papel o a través de una empresa de preparación de impuestos.

### FIND OUT MORE | OBTENGA MÁS INFORMACIÓN



(360) 763-7300

[WorkingFamiliesCredit.wa.gov](http://WorkingFamiliesCredit.wa.gov)

Number of Children Número de hijos	Annual Income Ingresos Anuales	Maximum refund Pago máximo
0	\$16,480	\$300
1	\$43,492	\$600
2	\$49,399	\$900
3+	\$53,057	\$1,200



BALANCE POINT  
PHYSICAL THERAPY

# Congratulations on Your Retirement!



Lisa Nelson MSPT

After over 17 years of dedicated service to Balance Point Physical Therapy Clinic, and our local community, it is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of Lisa Nelson MSPT, a true asset to our healthcare community. Throughout her illustrious 30 year career, Lisa has made an indelible mark on the field of physical therapy with her personal commitment to life-long learning in order to serve her patients. Lisa has been an integral part of our community, going beyond the role of a physical therapist and becoming a friend and confidante to all who walked through our doors. With a warm smile and a genuine interest in the well-being of others, she has been an unwavering advocate for patient care, consistently providing the highest level of treatment and support to countless individuals on their journey to recovery. Lisa's commitment to professional

growth and excellence has not only positively impacted patients but also inspired her colleagues and peers. She is compassionate, knowledgeable, and pushes patients to take responsibility for their own healing, as well as taking time to share stories and laugh with those she treats. One of her favorite parts of the job was watching patients

achieving their goals and living their lives to the fullest. The impact of Lisa's dedication is immeasurable. She has helped generations of La Conner and Skagit Valley residents regain their strength, mobility, and independence, fostering a sense of hope and determination that extended beyond the clinic walls. The void left by Lisa's departure will be difficult to fill, but we wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement. While we are sad to see her go, we are so excited for her future endeavors: she is looking forward to traveling and enjoying time with family and friends, especially her husband, her children, and her dog! As she embarks on this new chapter of her life, we are confident that she will continue to make a difference in whatever she chooses to pursue. If you would like to offer a message of congratulations or thanks, feel free to drop it off at Balance Point Physical Therapy Clinic or mail it to Lisa Nelson, % Balance Point Physical Therapy, P.O. Box 505, La Conner, WA 98257.



LEGAL NOTICES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of Hazel Cherry Monahan, Deceased.

Cause No. 23-4-00420-29 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.

Date of First Publication: August 9, 2023

Personal Representative: Martin William Monahan 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 the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 9, 16, 23, 2023.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY LISTED BELOW

The Plaintiffs Kevin Paul and Patricia Paul are initiating a Quiet Title action on the building located at the following address: 17544 Pioneer Parkway, La Conner, WA 98257.

Quiet Title actions are used to determine the ownership interests in homes and other buildings. The Quiet Title action has been filed in the Swinomish Tribal Court. The matter has been set for hearing on September 12, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., at the location below. Any person wishing to assert a right, title, or interest in any of the buildings at the address listed above, should contact the Swinomish Tribal Court to obtain the necessary paperwork to file a claim.

QUIET TITLE HEARING LOCATION

Swinomish Tribal Court Social Services Building, 17337 Reservation Road La Conner, WA, 98257 CONTACT FOR QUIET TITLE HEARING SCHEDULE Blair Page, Swinomish Tribal Court Clerk Phone: (360) 466.7217 Email: bpage@swinomish.msn.us Date of first publication of this notice: July 26, 2023.

Published in the La Conner Weekly News July 26, and Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2023.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY CHRISTINA EGERER, as Successor Trustee of the Wilson Family Trust dated June 19th, 1997 Plaintiff vs.

THE HEIRS & DEVISEES OF JOHN JOHNSON & WILHEMINA JOHNSON, h/w; AND, ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN OR TO THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY Defendants No. 23-2-00565-29 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO: ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN CLAIMING ANY INTEREST IN OR TO THE SUBJECT REAL PROPERTY, Defendants:

You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the 26th day of July, 2023, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiffs, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for plaintiffs at his office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court.

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

That portion of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 14, Township 35 North, Range 3 East, W.M., lying East of the Pacific Highway; EXCEPT one acre, also showing as one acre square, also showing as the North 208.7 feet of the East 208.7 feet thereof.

DATED: July 26, 2023. CRAIG SJOSTROM #21149 Attorney for Plaintiff 1204 Cleveland Ave. Mount Vernon, WA 98273 (360) 848-0339 Published in the La Conner Weekly News July 26, Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 23-4-00416-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

In the Matter of the Estate of Donna M. Zeltinger, Deceased The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having 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 non-probate assets.

Date of first publication: August 16, 2023 Michelle M. Foggin Personal Representative SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC MEGAN OTIS MASON-HOLDER, WSBA #29495 Attorneys for Personal Representative P.O. Box 336/227 Freeway Drive, Suite B Mount Vernon, WA 98273 Published in the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 16, 23, 30, 2023.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LODGING TAX FUNDING

The Town of La Conner is accepting requests for Hotel/Motel tax distributions for budget year 2024. The 2024 Lodging Tax Fund Request for Proposal may be found on the Town website under the Finance Department at www.townoflaconner.org. All requests must be received (no postmarks) at La Conner Town Hall, 204 Douglas, P.O. Box 400, La Conner, WA 98257, by 3:30 p.m. on September 8, 2023. Please address any questions to Maria DeGoede, Finance Director, at financedirector@townoflaconner.org or call 360.466-3125. Late submissions will not be accepted.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 23-4-00417-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

In the Matter of the Estates of Glen K. and Betty R. Loy, husband and wife, Deceased The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having 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 non-probate assets.

Date of first publication: August 16, 2023 Glenda R. Gundersen Personal Representative SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC MEGAN OTIS MASON-HOLDER, WSBA #29495 Attorneys for Personal Representative P.O. Box 336/227 Freeway Drive, Suite B Mount Vernon, WA 98273 Published in the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 16, 23, 30, 2023.

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

In re the Estate of STEPHEN E. WICKS, Deceased Case No.: 23-4-05210-OSEA 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 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: Aug. 16, 2023 Personal Representative: Cindy Maxwell Attorney for the Personal Representative: Michael Biesheuvel

Address for Mailing or Service: 114 Second Ave. S., Suite 101, Edmonds, WA 98020

Court of probate proceedings and case number: King County, WA Law Offices of Kyle G. Ray, P.S. 114 Second Ave. S., Suite 101, Edmonds, WA 98020 (425) 712-0279 Published in the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 16, 23, 30, 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY Estate of C. SUSAN COOPER (a/k/a SUSAN COOPER), Deceased.

NO. 23-4-00405-29 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: August 16, 2023

Jerald Allen, Personal Representative c/o Jayne Marsh Gilbert, WSBA #24656 Attorney for Personal Representative 314 Pine Street, Sute 211 Mount Vernon, WA 98273 Published in the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 16, 23, 30, 2023.

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

In the Matter of the Estate of: NANCY M. HUSTED, Deceased.

NO. 23-4-05572-9 KNT PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Jami L. Wallace has been appointed as the 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: (a) filing the original of the claim with the Court, and (b) serving the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below with a copy of the claim. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) THIRTY DAYS after the Personal Representative has served actual notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) FOUR MONTHS after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW sections 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 OPENING PROBATE: August 9, 2023 DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: August 16, 2023

Attorney for Personal Representative Michael K. DuBeau, WSBA # 15581 Michael DuBeau & Associates, PS 2135 - 112th Avenue, N.E., Suite 200 Bellevue, WA 98004. (425) 455-9787 Published in the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 16, 23, 30, 2023.

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

The Estate of Joshua E. MARQUEZ, Deceased, Cathy MARQUEZ, Petitioner

NO. 23-4-01042-31 NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO: ALL CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT

YOU AND EACH OF YOU TAKE NOTE that the Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this Estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2)

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

Date of First Publication August 23, 2023

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

Published in the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 23, 30, Sept. 6, 2023.

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

In Re the Estate of LEONNA J. GRAY, Deceased.

NO. 23-4-04266-0 SEA PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the 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: (a) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of First Publication: August 23, 2023

Personal Representative: Brenda D.R. Warner Attorneys for Personal Representative: OSTREM LAW, PLLC

Address for Mailing or Service: 8905 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Published in the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 23, 30, Sept. 6, 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 23-4-00426-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

In the Matter of the Estate of Steven J. Hill, Deceased

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having 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 non-probate assets.

Date of first publication: August 23, 2023

Drusilla A. Hill Personal Representative SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC

MEGAN OTIS MASON-HOLDER, WSBA #29495 Attorneys for Personal Representative P.O. Box 336/227 Freeway Drive, Suite B Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Published in the La Conner Weekly News, Aug. 23, 30, Sept. 6, 2023.

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Super Crossword

Answers

Grid of crossword puzzle answers: P I T A P A T A R A B I C R E P E A T U S E C A R E M I N O S O E V O L V E M A R E W I N N I N G H A M K I S S E S P A R S A T R O B I N L E A C H C A T S T E V E N S N O G S T O R Y B A T M A S T E R S O N S T R E A M S C R O O G E N A I V E A H A C O M I C S L O T I N L E T J E N N Y M C C A R T H Y F U T O N S A R G U S C A R G O C R I S K E E N W O L F B L I T Z E R G A Z A P O O L E R R E D F A R E D A L I S O N K I T T Y C A R L I S L E H U M O R A D O S O H S A Y O I L A L A C K N O N A G O N T W I N G E B U C K B U C H A N A N A T E A M A S H B E A R B R Y A N T T I G E R W O O D S C E O A R A S O R A R E T H E H U M A N A N I M A L A N I S E S R E L A T E E M I N E N T R E M E L T A D A G E S S O A N D S O

Answers to Aug. 23 puzzle



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## Super Crossword "YOU'RE A BEAST!"

- |   |   |  |                                    |                                    |   |
|---|---|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                               | 56 Cove, e.g.   | 99 Gray color  | 12 Golfer Aoki                     | 53 Singer Marilyn                  | 85 chili (pepper type)                          |
| 1 Quick heartbeat sound                     | 57 2013-14 co-host of "The View"                        | 100 1958-82 Crimson Tide football coach              | 13 Barber's tool                   | 54 Bluff-busting poker words       | 86 Cry of Homer Simpson                         |
| 8 Jordanian's language                      | 61 Foldable beds  | 104 Champion of 15 golf majors                       | 14 Tie again, as a necktie         | 58 Prioress, e.g.                  | 91 Chin-wag                                     |
| 14 Do over again                            | 62 100-eyed mythical giant                              | 111 Corp. kahuna                                     | 15 Supersmart supervillain         | 59 Abbr. for three primary colors  | 92 Nearly zero                                  |
| 20 Exercise caution                         | 63 Boat's load  | 112 Parseghian of Notre Dame                         | 16 Emulate a supermodel            | 60 Words on a flat rental sign     | 94 "Little Teapot"                              |
| 21 Baseballer Minnie                        | 64 NFL Hall of Famer Carter                             | 114 Like a day in June, in a Lowell poem             | 17 Snow queen in "Frozen"          | 61 Yule tree                       | 96 A "Baby Bell" phone co.                      |
| 22 Come about over time                     | 66 Well-honed   | 115 People ... or an alternate title for this puzzle | 18 With, to Fifi                   | 64 Prague native                   | 97 Environs                                     |
| 23 Oscar-nominated actress for "Georgia"    | 67 "The Situation Room" host                            | 121 Flavorings for absinthes                         | 19 "Concetta" pianist John         | 65 a beet                          | 98 Choice loin steaks                           |
| 25 The X's of XOXO                          | 70 Middle East's Strip                                  | 122 Tell, as a tale                                  | 24 SEAL's group                    | 67 Prevailed                       | 101 Tiptops                                     |
| 26 Even, in golf                            | 74 Diving venue   | 123 Outstanding                                      | 29 Map of Hawaii, often            | 68 NYC subway inits.               | 102 Dubbed                                      |
| 27 Was in a pew                             | 75 Made a typo, e.g.                                    | 124 Liquefy anew                                     | 31 Lao- —                          | 69 Test in a fitting room          | 103 The "T" of LGBT, in brief                   |
| 28 "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" host | 76 Got along  | 126 No-goodnik                                       | 32 Actor Keach and singer Lattisaw | 70 Moo goo — pan                   | 104 Old overlord                                |
| 30 "Morning Has Broken" singer              | 77 "GLOW" star  | <b>DOWN</b>  | 33 Greeting on a May greeting card | 71 Fire felony                     | 105 "XOXO" actress                              |
| 36 Eggy holiday drink                       | 81 Longtime panelist on "To Tell the Truth"             | 1 Tire-filling tool                                  | 34 "Chicago Med" aier              | 72 1983 Woody Allen movie          | 106 Ghastly                                     |
| 37 Building floor                           | 84 Funny stuff  | 2 "I, Robot" writer Asimov                           | 35 Fraternal patriotic org.        | 73 "Hello" singer                  | 107 Loosen up                                   |
| 38 Noted Dodge City sheriff                 | 85 Hooplas  | 3 Cotta or firma preceder                            | 39 Reggae singer Peter             | 74 Political patronage, informally | 108 Other, in Oaxaca                            |
| 46 Watch via Hulu, e.g.                     | 87 "Hey, I was thinking ..."                            | 4 Virtuoso   | 40 "Holy —!"                       | 76 Migrating birds' regular route  | 109 Batted without playing the field, for short |
| 49 "A Christmas Carol" miser                | 88 Crude liquid   | 5 Fido's foot  | 41 In the past                     | 77 "Moby-Dick" helmsman            | 110 "CSI: NY" actress                           |
| 50 Too trusting                             | 89 Partner of alas                                      | 6 Newsman Melber                                     | 42 Throw a fit                     | 78 Real doozie                     | 113 Choral voice                                |
| 51 "Got ya!"                                | 90 Nine-sided figure                                    | 7 More jittery                                       | 43 Fodder tower                    | 79 Apple option since 1998         | 116 Ugly witch                                  |
| 52 Jesting sort                             | 93 Sharp pang   | 8 Very slightly                                      | 44 Cooking appliance               | 80 Ankle coverer                   | 117 Pickup's kin                                |
| 55 Opening in a schedule                    | 95 Defensive tackle whose #86 was retired by the Chiefs | 9 — Tin Tin  | 45 Clears, as profit               | 81 Coffee from Hawaii              | 118 "I love," to Luisa                          |
|   | 97 Best athletes  | 10 "Lust, Caution" director Lee                      | 46 Pat of "Wheel of Fortune"       | 82 "This — emergency!"             | 119 "I Hate Valentine's Day" actress            |
|   |   | 11 Atom modeler Niels                                | 47 At that place                   | 83 Star-giving critic, e.g.        | 120 Quaint hotel                                |

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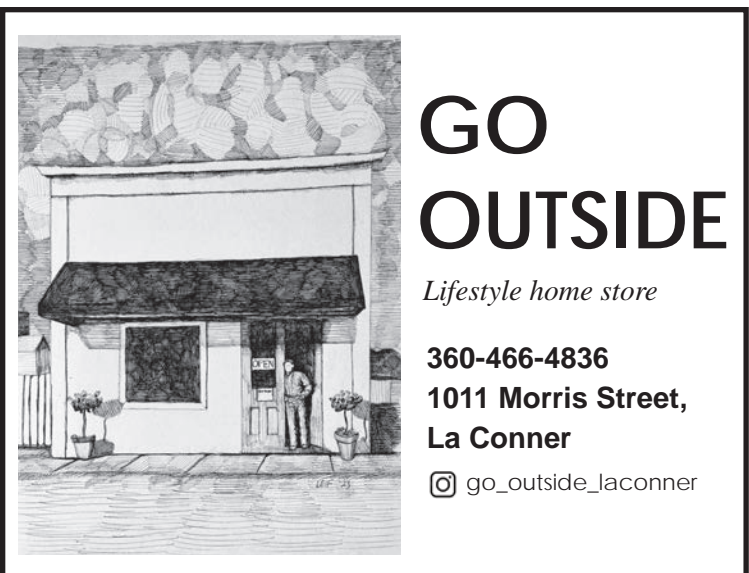
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 ...The beet is the murderer returned to the scene of the crime. The beet is what happens when the cherry finishes with the carrot. The beet is the ancient ancestor of the autumn moon, bearded, buried, all but fossilized; the dark green sails of the grounded moon-boat stitched with veins of primordial plasma; the kite string that once connected the moon to the Earth now a muddy whisker drilling desperately for rubies."  
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