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Merchants' moves around town



IN A TOWN THAT LIKES ITS COFFEE - Too many to get in one story or even name are all the coffee shops in La Conner. Cruser Coffee, left, opened on Morris Street Jan. 30 in the NW Fuel space. Lulu's Espresso, right, bought Pam Field's La Conner Coffee on First Street. Raven Cup's Coffee is also on First Street, having taken the Reclamation Candle shop.

Morris and First street business shufflings

By Anne Basye

January and February may be quiet months for La Conner, but town businesses are in the midst of big changes.

Perhaps the most prominent is the recently opened Firehall Kitchen and Taphouse at 402 Morris Street.

Owned by Pam Alvord of La Conner Brewery, Firehall is located in – natch – the former home of the La Conner Fire Department. Old-time LCFD photos on the walls honor the building's history.

"We are growing organically as the staff settle into a new kitchen and a new menu," says manager Tessa McLeod. "It's nice that our first patrons have been people who live here and have given us lots of good feedback.

Firehall offers small plates, beer and wine from all over the Pacific Northwest, and cocktails with a fire theme. Out back are tables for people who want to dine with their pets. As the weather improves, expect some cornhole matches.

While this new town landmark is in 'soft launch" mode (McLeod recommends checking Facebook for current hours) three long-time landmarks are on the market.

At the south end of town, the Hotel Planter and shops at 713-719 First Street were first listed for sale in 2020. Earthenworks Gallery and other retail

businesses are not included.

Owner Don Hoskins had some offers, but took the building off the market to get some foundation work done. Soon it will be listed again.

Owning the hotel for over 40 years makes him "picky" about prospective buyers. He turned down an offer from someone who wanted to turn the hotel into apartments.

"The Planter Hotel is an historic part of La Conner," he said. "I want someone to keep it the same or make it better.'

The Go Outside store and building at 111 E. Morris is also for sale. Owner Mark Epstein purchased the store in 1990 from Jane Chesnut.

"She was a very visionary retailer who had an eye for finding things nobody else had," he remembered. "It was eclectic, and it has stayed that way. People want the experience of being in a smaller store that has been thought through."

Epstein says sales have been very good since the 2020 lockdown, when demand for cookbooks and lifestyle books featuring cabins leaped as customers hunkered down at home.

While 2021 was his best year ever, he feels that it's time to do something else. Like Hoskins, he has also turned down some offers in the search for the right successor. The Ginger Grater building at 602-

604 S. First, on the market for \$1.25

million, has two new tenants.

Last fall Mo's Eclectic Gifts and Apparel moved from Morris Street to the space previously occupied by Yalta's Custom and Sewing Shop. Owner Marjie Jensen is glad that when Yalta Mager closed her business, "she thought of me."

Jensen has rented six locations in her seven years in La Conner, and while she has no lease yet, she hopes to get one and stay awhile. "I'm really getting tired of having to move!" she

Jensen's new space is tucked behind the former La Conner Coffee.

In August 2022, Pam Fields sold that business to Shaylen Anderson, who now operates Lulu's Espresso and Ice Cream – named for her dog.

Anderson has been working in coffee for a few years, most recently operating the coffee stand at Skagit Speedway.

"I wanted something more full time and year round, so I started looking around," she said. "Right then, La Conner Coffee came up. It felt so

Family connections were one reason the purchase felt right. Anderson's grandma is La Conner elementary kindergarten teacher Judy Zimmerman.

Her plans for the future? "Pam had a great business going, and I want to keep it growing.'

Electronic billboard at Conway I-5 exit proposed

By Ken Stern

The Conway I-5 interchange will have an electronic billboard sign on Cedardale Road "40foot tall 10-foot wide by 30-foot long (300 square feet total)" owned by Pacific Outdoor Advertising if Skagit County planning staff approve a January administrative special use permit application.

The public comment period closes 4:30 p.m. Feb. 17. Submit comments via the PDS website under the "recent legal notices" tab. Email correspondence will not be accepted. A public hearing is not required and there will not be one.

Comments in opposition have already been submitted by Feb. 6, said Kevin Cricchio, County senior planner.

Bird watchers and others are organizing opposition, including La Conner residents. One outreach email called the sign an "affront to human sensibilities, but imagine the disruption to the migratory birds who visit our area. And of course it's one more blow to night skies. Remember when we used to be able to see the stars here?

She wrote the signs "are horribly disruptive and I cannot imagine the confusion they will cause for birds."

The property address for the billboard location is 21049 Cedardale Road, Mount Vernon.

The application, including its environmental checklist and site plan, can be reviewed. There has been a SEPA (State Environmental Policy

(continued on page 8)

January cloudy and damp

By Ken Stern

January was cloudy and felt damp, but it was not wet. The 1.7 inches of rain was only 43% of the century's average for the month and 2.3 inches below the 4.0 average inches of January rains since 2000. It clusters with the other years of less than two inches of rain: 2017, 1.6 inches and 2019, 1.8 inches.

There have been four or more inches of rain 11 Januarys, with five years since 2013.

Almost half the month's rain, 0.8 inches, came down Jan. 24-27, with 0.35 inches the 27th and 0.6 inches Jan. 26-27. While there were 16 days of precipitation, nine times it was less than 0.10 inch.

The month started and ended cold, frosting Jan. 2-3 and 29-31, five of the eight frosts. The 30th was the coldest morning, 21.4 degrees. It was only the second time below 24.5, which was Jan. 29.

Eleven of the first 16 days were above 50 degrees, however, and six had highs above 55 degrees. Jan 5 set a record high temperature, 60.4 degrees, the month's high. The day's average temperature was above 50 degrees five times during that period.

This January was warmer than the century average, with the average daily minimum of 35.5 degrees almost a degree higher and the average daily high and the month's daily average temperature both 1.3 degrees above average for the past 24 years.

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

What a week: accidents, burglary, power outages

By Bill Reynolds

The full moon didn't rise until Sunday, but a lot of crazy things happened in the La Conner area days prior.

It started with a burglary at Pioneer Market and included a pair of power outages, the sinking of a boat on the waterfront and a car slamming into a house and flipping onto its top side off Shelter Bay Drive Friday night.

The early Wednesday break-in at the Morris Street grocery store didn't net the burglars much. They got away with five cartons of cigarettes and apparently had their images captured on the store's security camera system for their troubles.

"They rifled through our cash drawers but didn't find anything there," store manager Bob Carter told the Weekly News. "We don't keep anything in those."

Carter said the front-door window broken by the burglars was replaced within a couple days. He said the Skagit County Sheriff's Office has

collected all evidence in the case.

The first of the two power outages occurred Thursday afternoon when a car struck and severed a pole on La Conner-Whitney Road at the curve south of McLean Road.

"The car was wedged between the pole and the guide wires," Skagit County Fire District 13 Chief Wood Weiss, whose crews were on scene for over three hours, said afterward. "There was one driver and he was able to extricate himself and suffered no apparent injuries.

"The power lines were intact and there was no arcing or sparking," said Weiss. "PSE (Puget Sound Energy) had to shut off the power to replace the pole."

Power was out briefly for about 1,500 customers in and around La Conner, though about three dozen residents near the accident scene didn't have electrical service restored until later that evening.

The lights went out at La Conner Schools as students were preparing

baked goods in teacher Peter Voorhees' classroom for the local PTSA chapter's weekend play performances at the Bruce Performing Arts Center.

We were in the middle of baking chocolate chip cookies," said Voorhees, who teaches culinary arts and world history. "But the kids were able to carry on the old-school way."

Voorhees said students hand-mixed dough with spoons and used their cell phone flashlights to brighten up the

Down wires in front of Calico Cupboard on South First Street 7:40 p.m. Friday created a power outage coinciding with a Skagit Community Band concert at Maple Hall. But the

show did go on. The music continued thanks to emergency wall lights and music stand

Everyone was in good humor and stayed to the end," said Ken Stern. "Selections included Apollo 13 and that was commented on."

And, the band played an encore. (continued on page 8)



NOT YOUR TYPICAL SHELTER BAY HOUSE GUEST The last in a string of way too many accidents last week was Friday night's car crashing into a Shelter Bay Drive home. Whether it was a straight flush or a full house, totaling up the burglary and two power outage damages has yet to be determined. - Photo contributed From the editor —

Debt ceiling not the problem

The good news is raising the nation's debt limit is not a problem. The U.S. Congress has always voted to pay its bills – and will this year. The source of those debts, of course, came from Congress first approving the annual budget and the corresponding appropriations. Our elected officials have a matching obligation to agree to pay for what they already committed to spend.

That is what running the government – or a business, or a family – is. There is planning, spending to execute programs agreed to and paying all the bills as they come due. Our congresspeople talk - often high flown rhetoric. Congress sets or agrees to policies and in running the federal government, Congress approves the spending of trillions of dollars annually. Congress has an equal obligation to pay for what it already bought.

All that bombast about running the government like a business? Horse feathers. Those grandstanding congressional representatives would be first shown the door then fired if they pulled those shenanigans at Microsoft or Pioneer Market or The Slider Café.

Does this concern people in La Conner? It concerns people in every community in the country. Can you say catastrophe?

Holding the debt ceiling hostage is like watching a bad comedian poorly perform the skit where he takes himself hostage and then threatens to shoot himself if he does not get his way. What is the outcome if his demand is not met?

That is how crazy, sad, ugly and catastrophic it will be to not raise the debt limit. Can you say March 2020 newly discovered coronavirus pandemic? How did every household in America fare there? Can you say 2008 burst housing bubble?

We have had only one recession with the adjective great and capital letters used: Great Recession of 2008. Of course there was the Great Depression of 1929-1941. That ended when the whole world went to war, which really ramped up production and provided a job for everyone. But what a way to get to full employment. Can you say 12 years of misery, day in and day out, all across the

Rep. Rick Larsen, in his centrist Democrat pragmatic way, has cosponsored a bill that eliminates the debt ceiling. The House of Representatives could vote on that. No, it has to be brought to the floor and the Republican Party controls the movement of legislation into the chamber for discussion and approval. That bill seeing the light of day is unlikely.

That commonsense legislation is The End the Threat of Default Act, introduced by Congressman Bill Foster (D-IL). It repeals the national debt ceiling. The bill has 42 cosponsors in the House, all

It is really quite simple. Congress needs to agree to amend "the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 by striking 'debt subject to limit (in section 3101 of title 31 of the United States Code)' and inserting 'face value of obligations issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, and the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government (except guaranteed obligations held by the Secretary of the

The debt limit has no impact on government spending. Every representative knows that. All the debt ceiling does is restrict the U.S. Treasury from paying for those expenditures already made

Once this artificial limiting of debt payments is eliminated, the curtain will come down on this silly melodrama and the production will never be revived again. It is past time to close this

– Ken Stern

LETTER

Funding Town fireboat

Last July, Adam Avery made an excellent pitch for a new fireboat to the La Conner Town Council. The old one doesn't work well. Adam said that a new boat would cost between \$275,000 and \$375,000. The administrator referred to grants that might help and stated that we are more at risk than anyone in the county for fires such as what we might face. Adam said that he and his team would seek out the perfect boat for our needs and Mayor Ramon Hayes "pledged that the Town would help with a strategy for bringing on project partners."

That was then and this is now. Avery, along with Aaron Reinstra, the fire department's chief, came back to the town recently after searching for the perfect boat within the range of cost first suggested. It has everything we need. It is a from a local company looking to make their name as a fireboat building firm. Adam found supporters for this project but they won't commit unless the town commits first. Inflation is not on our side with the cost of this boat.

But the town will not commit unless Adam can find supporters first. (The Town suggested that Adam secure partners.) Why not the mayor – or the administrator - who is paid well to do just such a job? What about the mayor, who pledged to find partners six short months ago? Why not trust our volunteer firefighters (who paid off their fire truck in three short years through a tiny tax during a time of good revenues) and let volunteers resume doing what they do best - analyzing our needs and helping us day and night?

We need a fireboat to protect our old wooden waterfront, perform water rescues and enable the volunteers to do their firefighter jobs - helping the people of La Conner. Our firefighters risk their lives for us.

The least we can do is give them good equipment. Linda Talman La Conner



Ron Muzzall Senator



Ideology not making communities safer

There are lies, dang lies and statistics, but in the debate on fixing the failed "police reform" laws from 2021, it seems that no amount of research, pleading, facts or lived experience can overcome ideology. In my estimation, that is exactly the sticking point. Advocates of the public safety status quo that has facilitated significant upticks in police evasions, violent crimes and thefts are unwilling to entertain any reasonable arguments for why their ideologically driven approach may need some revisions.

Let's be clear. When the Washington Legislature was considering a slate of bills related to law enforcement practices in 2021, there were numerous warning signs that the intended results would not bear fruit. I recall dire warnings by law enforcement agencies from around the state asking lawmakers to slow down and consider the full range of facts, rather than giving in to reactionary, national pressure for sweeping police reform.

At issue is the threshold by which police are allowed to pursue fleeing suspects. Prior to House Bill 1054, law enforcement officers were trusted to make judgment calls on when to give chase with a standard of reasonable suspicion. Now, their hands are in effect tied because the law requires a much higher standard of probable cause.

So, what's the effect? After Governor Inslee signed the police pursuit bill into law, vehicle thefts skyrocketed 99%. In King County, evasions from 2020 to 2022 increased 201%. The number of vehicles fleeing the Washington State Patrol more than doubled and 3,110 drivers fled and were not pursued due to this flawed law.

The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs note that, "Data available is both convincing and self-evident that [HB 1054] has led to more dangerous roadways, contributed to increased crime and allowed criminals to act with impunity." I agree and the people of our state know it.

While we did some good by providing more resources to law enforcement and model policies on training, the police pursuit legislation that we are now desperately trying to fix is facing concerning roadblocks when it really shouldn't. Despite the evidence, uproar and genuine concern by communities around the state, I am concerned this sorely needed, bipartisan fix may not happen.

The Senate Law and Justice Committee chair is obstinate, saying that the data doesn't support a fix and even if it did, the reaction is merely emotional. The only "solutions" on the table: Kick the can down the road with meaningless studies or ceding legislative oversight to unaccountable commissions. Important deadlines for passing legislation are looming and even these proposals aren't gaining traction.

Being principled is one thing but refusing to fix mistakes because of ideological stubbornness is another and it is no way to govern. It surely won't make our communities any safer. Presented with the facts and the concerns of the people whom we represent seeing their communities descend into the grips of lawlessness, we must act now.

LETTER



By Greg Whiting

most people can do to cut their electric and natural gas bills is reduce the amount of energy they use for heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC). This is because most – up to two-thirds – of money spent on energy in a home is for climate control. The rest is split between lighting, water heating, cooking, refrigeration, electronics like TV and computers and a variety of specialized devices.

The most important thing

The HVAC system itself is probably the most important part of the HVAC portion of a residential energy bill. Replacing an old HVAC system with a modern heat pump will include air conditioning. If you haven't had air conditioning before, it is still likely to produce energy savings: The heat pump may save more energy during the heating season than it will consume during the Pacific Northwest's short cooling season. Ducted furnaces can be

replaced with ducted heat pumps. Strip heaters and wall unit air conditioners can be replaced with ductless heat pumps.

Conserving energy and reducing heating costs

Insulation is probably the second most important factor in the HVAC portion of the energy bill and the most important if the building is poorly insulated. Old building codes may have required little or no insulation. Adding insulation to a previously uninsulated building can cut total energy use by almost half. Even in newer buildings, which were insulated originally, an insulation retrofit may reduce total home energy bills by 20% or more.

Total HVAC energy use can be significantly reduced by lesser-known technologies, too. For instance, radiant barriers essentially, reinforced aluminum foil - can be hung under roof rafters to reflect heat back into the home in winter and to reflect heat back out through the roof in summer. Radiant barriers require some space above and below them to allow heat reflection. If they are too close to the roof. they just transfer heat through the metal foil. If space is available, they are usually inexpensive to buy and install and can reduce HVAC energy use by as much as another 20%.

Modern two- or three-pane windows with reflective coatings should be used to replace older single-pane, damaged two-pane, or uncoated two-pane windows. Replace thermally conductive aluminum frames with vinyl or wood frames. Aluminum window frames don't provide much resistance to building heat transfers. Full-house replacement of uncoated single-pane windows in aluminum frames, with coated three-pane vinyl-framed windows, can reduce HVAC energy use by still another 10–20%.

Our average winter electric bill, in a single-family home in Shelter Bay, was \$750/month when we moved in. The house had a 25-year old electric furnace, damaged aluminum-frame two-pane windows and 40+ year old insulation. After installing new windows and a new heat pump and upgrading the insulation, our winter electric bill averages \$300/month.

Even with that great result, we can do more. We haven't installed radiant barriers yet. The new heat pump came with a programmable thermostat, which we haven't programmed. Setting the thermostat at lower temperatures when Jenelle and I are out, while getting it back to comfortable temperatures before we get home, could reduce our HVAC energy use by another 10–20%.

Clyde Shavers holds La Conner town hall

Late Saturday afternoon, approximately 40 people came to the La Conner Civic Garden Club to hear from newly elected Rep. Clyde Shavers of the 10th Legislative District. Shavers began by sharing three principles that guide him when researching, drafting and submitting legislation to the

1) Does the legislative policy reflect a story or an issue that was shared by a constituent?

2) Does the policy positively affect not just one individual, but the entire district and state?

3) Can we carry this policy forward into the future? In other words, can we build upon the policy in the future?

In the short time that Shavers has been in office, he has been hard at work – as he promised. Along with his team, he submitted 12 bills in four weeks, among the most submitted by freshman representatives. He also proposed two amendments to bills sponsored by others and submitted numerous budget requests for projects that would benefit our communities. Three of the 12 bills of which he is the primary sponsor are:

H.B. 1560: Senior and Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption: This bill would expand the current program by increasing the income threshold to qualify and by shortening from 5 to 3 years the timeframe during which a qualifying individual's income is assessed A public hearing before the committee was held Feb. 7.

H.B. 1412: This bill would prohibit the purchase of farmland by foreign governments and entities. Shavers hopes that his bill will keep ownership of our farmland local and affordable to the

future generations of farmers. H.B. 1658: This bill would allow public high school students to earn credit for paid work experience and provide for the teaching of financial assistance in public schools.

Shavers is the vice-chair of the Education Committee and sits on the Capital Budget; the Innovation, Community and Economic Development; and Veterans committees.

Shavers also held a town hall in Langley earlier Saturday.

Thank you, Rep. Shavers for taking time from your busy schedule to meet with your constituents. Alix Foster Pleasant Ridge

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Bernice Jane Stevens 10/1/1927 - 7/10/2022

Bernice Jane Stevens, longtime resident of Mount Vernon, Washington, died July 10, 2022 at the age of 94. She was born on a forty-acre farm in Mount Vernon to James and Elizabeth. She had three older sisters: Isabelle, Joyce, and Gladys.

Bernice went to Ridgeway Grade School and she usually got there on her roller-skates.

She graduated from Mount Vernon High School in 1945. Her position as a song leader and a cheerleader in high school set her up for a lifetime of friends. The connections with her classmates continued as they met regularly in the years to come. She also met with her monthly "Lunch Bunch Crew" at Max Dale's Steakhouse.

Bernice married Wendell Dean Stevens in December of 1948, sharing 18 years of marriage's ups and downs.

While she spent many notable years as a bank teller, she held a variety of jobs in her lifetime. First and foremost Birdy worked for many years at the Skagit County Court House. enjoyed working with Katie and the many costume parties as well as decorating for the holidays. Bernice worked at a Woolworth Department Store, Brassy's Gift Store (La Conner), Red Apple Market (as a bookkeeper), and on the local Election Board for Voting. Bernice attended First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon for many years.

Bernice enjoyed gardening, shopping, and travelling. She consistently worked 2-3 jobs well into her 80's; anything to keep her farm on Starbird Road. She loved her birds and would feed them only the best food.

She was preceded in death by her husband Wendell, as well as her special friend Virgil. Virgil and Bernice enjoyed numerous parties, traveling, and boating trips with their many friends, as members of the Swinomish Yacht

Bernice is survived by her daughters, Karen and Wendy, and her sister, Darlene, along with many cousins, grandchildren, and

great-grandchildren. There will be a Memorial Service with a reception to follow for Bernice at 1 p.m., Friday, Feb. 17, 2023 at Kern Funeral Home

of Mount Vernon. offer You may condolences and share memories of Bernice to her family online at www.kernfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the care of Kern Funeral Home.

Happy birthday Lisa!

It is not every day that someone has a birthday, but Lisa Simpson in St. Petersburg Florida has one the week. This is a major milestone year, too. Happy birthday, Lisa!

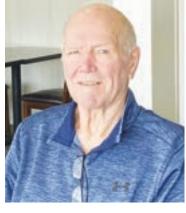
This unique Lisa Simpson is not to be confused with the other



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James (Jim) L. Frey

James (Jim) L. Frey, 83, a longtime resident of the Skagit Valley passed away in Mount Vernon on Monday, January 30, 2023. He was born in Madison, Nebraska on March 14, 1939 to Ervin and Alice Frey. He graduated from Mount Vernon High School with the Class of 1956, and earned his college degree from Bob Jones University in Greenville, SC in 1963.

In 1961 Jim married Kay Randles in Mount Vernon. He taught school in La Conner for 13 years and then started his own business as Frey Construction.

He and his wife raised their three children on Pleasant Ridge, near La Conner, and began Downey House Bed and Breakfast when their children were grown. After nine years of innkeeping, they moved to Mount Vernon. Jim continued working as a contractor until he retired, eventually settling in Heather Village where he and Kay enjoyed tending their garden and hosting neighbors, friends and family.

Jim was active in various ministries at Emmanuel Baptist Church since he began there when in high school. He enjoyed sports, both participating when younger, and coaching basketball and football at La Conner High School. Being a farm boy, cultivating a garden was a joy, as was sharing it with others.

Survivors are his wife Kay, brother Warren Frey, sister Jane Fleshman, daughter Korynn (John) Tronsdal of Mount Vernon; son Jim (Jeanette) Frey of Bellingham, and son John (Michelle) Frey of Mount Vernon. Grandchildren; Lauren (Beau) Keown, Kristen (Andrew) Clarke, and Taryn Frey. Great Grandchildren; Camden and Jackson Clarke, Noah and Emily

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother-in-law,

A memorial service will be held at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Mount Vernon on February 18, at 1PM. You may offer your condolences and share memories of Jim for his family online at www.kernfuneralhome.com.

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AND THEY'RE OFF - Saturday paddlers headed north as the Sound Rowers Open Water Rowing and Paddling Club opened its season with its annual race in La Conner. High winds forced a course change from the traditional route around Goat Island. – Photo by Ken Stern

U.S. EPA blocks Bristol Bay, gold mine in Alaska

WASHINGTON, DC. — The United States Environmental Protection Agency announced their final determination Jan. 30 to approve permanent Clean Water Act protections for Alaska's Bristol Bay, blocking the Pebble Mine proposal, after a 12 year-long battle.

Bristol Bay is one of the most productive salmon runs in the world; 40-60 million salmon return to the watershed every

The Pebble Mine proposal, which would have extracted gold, copper and molybdenum located in the headwaters of the Kvichak and Nushagak Rivers, two of the eight major rivers that feed Bristol Bay, threatened irreparable harm to the watershed.

In 2020, the EPA found that more than 191 miles of streams and 4,614 acres of wetlands would be impacted during construction of the Pebble Mine, with 185 miles ad 3,841 acres of wetlands permanently damaged or destroyed.

A 2014 EPA report noted

that the Bristol Bay watershed supports the largest sockeye salmon run in the world, producing 46% of the world's wild sockeye harvest. The Nushagak River that feeds into Bristol Bay supports one of the world's largest Chinook salmon runs, which is essential to the survival of Puget Sound's Southern resident orcas.

"This is the final nail in the coffin for the Pebble Mine. The science is clear, the mine would have devastated Bristol Bay salmon and the thousands of hardworking families that depend on salmon for their livelihoods, subsistence and recreation," said Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Washington). "The EPA's decision to permanently protect Bristol Bay is the culmination of a hard fought battle and I am proud to have stood with fishing families, communities, Tribes and the whole Pacific Northwest Region to oppose the Pebble Mine for more than a decade. Now, we will have a thriving Bristol Bay salmon run for

generations to come."

Cantwell was the first U.S. Senator to oppose the Pebble Mine and for more than a decade has been the leading Senate voice against the project. In 2011, Cantwell called on the EPA to block the Pebble Mine proposal if the EPA found that the development would harm Bristol Bay salmon, which she called "economic lynchpins" for commercial fishermen in Alaska and the State of Washington.

Her office notes that harvesting, processing and selling Bristol Bay salmon generates \$1.5 billion in annual economic activity across the United States. Bristol Bay salmon generate an annual value of at least \$500 million for commercial and recreational fisheries in the State of Washington. Bristol Bay salmon support over 5,000 fishery jobs in Washington state and 14,000 jobs globally.

Source: Sen. Cantwell's office

Rep. Rick Larson reflects on raising debt limit

By Ken Stern

Rep. Rick Larsen (D-Arlington) has a solution for Congress reaching the debt ceiling: pass legislation removing the budgetary ceiling.

Rep. Bill Foster (D-IL) has again introduced a bill, The End the Threat of Default Act, that strikes from the U.S. Federal Code the term "debt subject to limit" and inserts "the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government."

The U.S. is one of two democratic countries that has a statutory limit that, being set, has to be raised, Larsen says.

The bill has 42 cosponsors,

in the Republican controlled House of Representatives, Larsen said while in La Conner Jan. 26.

The 13 term congressman had little to say about Republican intransigence and political crisis creation, though he experienced the 2011 government shutdown.

He noted that though the debt ceiling was reached Jan. 19, it will be May or June before the federal government runs out of money and that the Biden administration has initiated discussion early.

"The amount of hair I have, it is not yet on fire," the balding Democrat remarked.

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Boys basketball —

Braves secure playoffs with comeback win

By Bill Reynolds

Funny the difference a few days makes.

The La Conner Braves started last week suffering one of their toughest defeats Jan. 31, a humbling 56-31 home loss to Mount Vernon Christian. They rebounded quickly, first winning Feb. 3 over Friday Harbor, clinching a 2B bi-district playoff berth. They earned a earned a moral victory the next night in a hard-fought loss to 2A Burlington-Edison.

"These kids play hard, real hard and it's starting to pay off," head coach C.J. Woods said after the B-EHS game Saturday night.

"I think a lot of it comes back to all the games this group played during the summer," said Woods. "We're at the point where we really know who we are."

That identity as a relentless, never-say-die ball-hawking defensive unit was shown Friday night with a 38-17 rally erasing a seemingly hopeless 19-point halftime deficit, securing an improbable 59-57 victory.

All seemed lost at the break. The first two quarters Friday Harbor banked in long three-pointers, gathered in every 50-50 ball and scored off putbacks and turnovers in transition.

The Wolverines built their largest lead, 35-15, on a bucket with 3:20 left in the half.

La Conner barely survived thanks to three-pointers from Brayden Pedroza and Braden Thomas.

The second half was a different story entirely.

The Braves emerged from intermission employing a full-court press, spurring an immediate 9-0 run fueled by two free throws each from Ivory Damien and Isaiah Price, a three-pointer by Thomas and an inside score by Price off a Damien assist.

Price scored six straight points – including two charity tosses courtesy of a technical foul on the visitors' bench – to pull within 42-36 with two minutes

remaining in the third frame.

That advantage extended to eight points, at 55-47 on a C.J. Edwards layup at the 4:17 mark.

Friday Harbor then responded with a 10-2 spurt capped by a Drake Goodrich floater to tie matters at 57-57 in the final minute.

Thomas, who finished with a game-high 23 points, provided the winning margin with a deft post-up move with 0:25 left.

Price (12) joined Thomas in

Price (12) joined Thomas in double figure scoring for La Conner. Damien (9), Eisen (8), Pedroza (5) and Edwards (2) rounded out the Braves attack.

The following night, B-EHS prevailed behind 25 points.

La Conner kept within striking distance with its perimeter game, delivering eight treys, three each by Thomas and Price, who led the hosts with 15 and 13 points, respectively. Damien (7), Pedroza (4), Edwards (4) and Eisen (3) also scored.

La Conner (9-11 overall) wrapped up regular season play at Coupeville last night.

Josie Harper joins 1,000-point club —

Lady Braves hoops team wins thrice

By Bill Reynolds

Though shorthanded at times, the La Conner High School Lady Braves held the upper hand in three lopsided hoops wins last week.

La Conner defeated 1A Meridian and NW1B/2B rivals Mount Vernon Christian and Friday Harbor by double digits to improve to 16-4 going into last night's late action at league foe Coupeville.

The 65-18 weekend home victory over Friday Harbor was especially impressive since the team was without injured point guard Shaniquah Casey and leading scorer Ellie Marble saw only limited duty while nursing a lower back strain.

Marble scored a game-high 23 points in La Conner's 60-41 win at Meridian Feb. 1. Casey, who took a blow to the head in a physical contest, finished with seven points.

Josie Harper meshed 13 points against Meridian. She joined Marble in the 1,000-point career scoring club two nights later.

The Lady Braves were stingy on defense, holding Meridian to just 15 second half points after trailing the hosts 26-23 at intermission.

That defensive intensity carried over from their 48-28 romp over MVC last Tuesday. La Conner held the Lady Hurricanes to just 13 points through three periods, avenging an earlier one-point loss.

"They hurt us with three-pointers against our zone when we played over there," coach Harper said of the December 46-45 loss. "So we went with a man-to-man defense this time around."

With Marble (19) and Makayla Herrera (10) combining for 29 boards there were few opportunities for visitor offensive rebounds.

Against Friday Harbor, Marble made just a brief cameo appearance and Casey was sidelined for the entire non-contest. Other players picked up the scoring slack.

Harper, who as a sophomore took top county scoring honors, paced the winners with 26 points, hitting five deep treys and several coast-to-coast left-handed layups.

Herrera delivered 21 points on nine of 16 shooting from the floor and a perfect three-forthree night at the foul stripe. She also grabbed a game-best 16 rebounds.

Kennedy Miller contributed 11 points, highlighted by a trio of first half three-pointers. Maeve McCormick rounded out the scoring with a perimeter trey and seven points.

The team shot 45 per cent (24 of 53) from the floor and was eight of nine (89 per cent) on free throw attempts.

Friday Harbor, held scoreless

in the fourth quarter, was led by senior guard Mia Blackmon, who scored her nine points before halftime. Coach Harper, mindful of

his club's nagging injuries, was grateful last night's date at Coupeville was the only scheduled tipoff until mid-month bi-district play.

"It gives us some time to heal," he said.

After that, the plan is for La Conner to put a hurt of its own on whoever it draws in post-season brackets.

Senior moment: Marble passes career 1,000-point scoring mark

By Bill Reynolds

In an age of specialization, senior Ellie Marble is having a ball as a multi-sport standout.

The proof was provided Jan. 31 before a standing room only crowd at Landy James Gym.

That's when Marble, a prized Central Washington University volleyball recruit, was presented a commemorative basketball in recognition of having passed the elite 1,000-point career hoops scoring mark.

Marble, the reigning state 2B Volleyball Player of the Year, was honored in front of the scorer's table by Lady Braves head coach Joe Harper as part of Senior Night festivities and prior to her delivering 19 points and 19 rebounds in a 48-28 La

Conner rout of Mount Vernon Christian.

Among those offering Marble congratulations was former La Conner High School boys' basketball coach Nate DuChesne, now the principal at Snohomish High School.

"I love that an all-state college-bound volleyball player is still playing high school basketball," DuChesne said in a social media post afterward.

That's not all.

Marble is also a state qualifier in track and field, having represented the school in the 300-meter hurdles, shot put, high jump and 4x200 meter relay at the state tournament 2B meet in Cheney last spring.

The Marble presentation was part of a full slate of senior

night ceremonies. Class of 2023 members who have participated in boys' and girls' basketball, cheerleading, Knowledge Bowl and Associated Student Body leadership were introduced by middle and high school principal Christine Tripp.

Tripp acknowledged each student's accomplishments and shared their future plans.

A class raffle fundraiser featuring items donated by local businesses was held throughout the evening. The monies collected will help defray costs of the senior class trip at the end of the school year.

Another of the night's highlights was the unfurling of the 2022 state 2B volleyball championship – the seventh in program history, all under the guidance of Ellie Marble's mom, state hall of fame coach Suzanne Marble.

Lady Braves volleyball players were likewise saluted holding the state title trophy and acknowledged as the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association Team of the Month for November 2022.

"We're proud of you guys and want to thank the community for all the love," said coach Marble, who is retiring after having completed her 30th season as head coach.

Tripp joined in the praise.
"We're so proud of our La
Conner Lady Braves volleyball
team."

Jan. 23 school board meeting —

Marble recognized for WIAA Hall of Fame

By Bill Reynolds

On a night when La Conner School Board members were recognized for their service to the district, the panel first deflected attention to retiring faculty member and coach Suzanne Marble. At its two-and-one-half hour Jan. 23 hybrid meeting, the championship volleyball mentor was lauded for her upcoming induction into the Hall of Fame of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association, the state's governing body for schools athletics and extracurricular programs.

Marble joins the 2023 WIAA Hall of Fame class in a May ceremony. She guided the high school volleyball program to seven state title over a 30-year career.

"It's really a huge honor," said

board president Susie Gardner Deyo. "It's a very big deal."

Marble last fall surpassed the 550- career win mark and earned her fifth state coach of the year award last fall her team won the 2022 Washington 2B crown,.

Deyo spent several minutes citing the long list of Marble's career highlights. Still, she didn't get to every detail.

Board meeting summary

Teachers Jan Auman and Liz Baun reported math performance has improved using the new math curricula. "Student comprehension of math concepts is improving," Auman said. High school senior Hadley Shears made a statistics class

(continued on page 5)







THE REX BAR & GRILL

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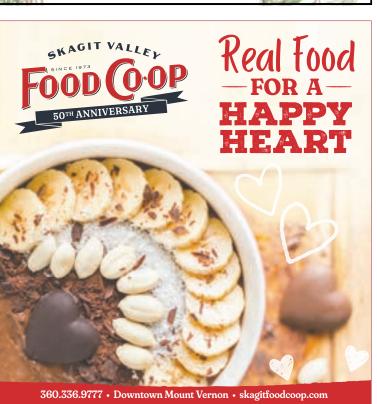
Chevron Market at the Casino:12939 Casino Dr., Anacortes

FRIDAY 3-6 from our Retail Store:

11455 Moorage Way, La Conner ORDER ONLINE FOR PICK-UP

mer ee

www.swinomishshellfishcompany.com





'Barefoot in the Park' at Whidbey Playhouse

By Ken Stern

The timing is perfect to go see "Barefoot in the Park," playing for two more weekends at Whidbey Playhouse after opening Feb. 3. It is set in a New York City brownstone in February 1963. It is February here and even more so in the apartment there, which has a hole in the skylight, allowing snow in

Don't worry. Neil Simon's script is taken to heart in this well acted and directed production. You will keep warm from laughter. The cast uniformly hits all their cues and play well with each other. The action swirls around Corrie (Karina Andrew), married for all of six days in the opening scene.

Corrie is everything a male imagined an early 1960s prefeminist era bride to be: young, innocent, energetic and overly romantic. Andrew exudes all that and more, confident in her love and loving making love. Her husband Paul (Connor Magnoli, equally strong in his portrayal). however, is a literally buttoneddown newly minted lawyer, who, while loving Corrie, is more comfortable with being an early 1960s lawyer. Magnoli's performance defines straight-

The only backstory is the newlyweds are newly in their top floor apartment after their six night honeymoon at the

Park Plaza Hotel. The two are an odd pair, but that is Simon experimenting with his odd couple formula.

Don't worry about the plot, which is improbable, a mere device for comedy sketches.

The near full house audience did not. They enjoyed the show as much as the cast did.

No sooner does Paul enters his new living space, out of breath a running gag throughout than he sees the potential for his mother in law being unwilling to visit. The apartment, and more so, the building, is also a character, experienced and referenced by each person trudging up its five floors, plus stoop. The barebones apartment could hardly be smaller and the bathroom and bedroom are criticized plenty.

But the newly installed princess model telephone rings. Mom is on the line, in the neighborhood and soon to huff and puff her way up the stairs.

Mom (Shealyn Christie) is widowed, worried about her only daughter and lives to be helpful. Daughter Corrie immediately sees the match meeting potential in attic dwelling Victor (Steve DeHaven, with an enthusiastic, and European accent, and bold worldly experience). Here is odd couple number two, but a generation older and thus mature.

Andrew has a wide range, going from full-throated goofy laughter to heart-wrenching sobbing. She is, metaphorically, the lead sax player. Cast members, in turn, riff with and off her, each getting chances to shine with laugh lines. They do.

Corrie confidently, cluelessly and ineptly as a bartender, hosts a foursome dinner party date with her mom and Victor. The evening ends with Victor driving Ethel home in her car and Paul blowing up at Corrie. Divorce is the argument clinching term, with screaming, door slamming, Paul ending up on the couch and Corrie sobbing uncontrollably in the bedroom.

Paul is accused of not understanding going barefoot in Washington Park. That line will come up again.

Will the married couple stay married? Will Ethel surprise her daughter, showing depth and nuance?

Chris Kehoe and Lachlan Waterbury made large contributions in their small roles.

Credit Director David Frazer and his assistant, Ben Honeycutt, for a tight, crisp, smartly paced production. The simple, open set could be 1960s New York.

Mike Nichols won a Tony Awards for directing the Broadway production. The 1967 movie starred Jane Fonda and Robert Redford.

For show dates, times and ticket reservations: 360-679-2237; whidbeyplayhose.com.

Kiwanis January students of month



NATHAN HALEY



EVA PORTER



RORY BIRD

The La Conner Kiwanis Club's High School Student of the Month for January is Nathan Haley. Nathan's parents are John Haley and Bonnie Beddall. He is a freshman at La Conner High School. Nathan enjoys his English and art classes. He has been part of ETC – a service club at school. Outside cof school he enjoys video games and drawing He is not sure what his future career will be but plans to go to

Middle school Student of the Month is Eva Porter. Her parents are Brian and Laura Porter. She is in eighth grade at the La Conner Middle School. She plays soccer on the school team. Her favorite class is computer science. Outside of school she enjoys baking for family and friends. After graduating she would like to attend the University of Washington and study design engineering.

The Elementary Student of the Month is Rory Bird. Her parents are Nate Bird and Paige Zimmer. Rory is in fifth grade at the La Conner Elementary School. She likes math, reading, writing and science. She plays the clarinet in the school band. She also participates in soccer and basketball outside of school. After graduating she would like to study to be a doctor.

Source: La Conner Kiwanis

The honor rolls for the La Conner middle and high schools will be online later this week at laconnerweeklynews.com.

Marble . . . (from page 4)

assignment presentation, saying, "I had felt some anxiety about math, but she (Baun) has helped me increase my confidence and has made math fun."

The playing surface at Landy James Gym will sport a new look: The board approved a bid of \$141,165 by the Edmonds-based Gifford firm to repaint the gym floor. The work will include placement of the new Braves logo at midcourt. It is paid out of \$852,000 in state funds to remove images deemed offensive to Native American culture.

The board accepted and thanked the Town of La Conner for its \$10,000 donation to the Braves Club.

The district administration and staff offered gifts and kudos in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month. Several administrative staff read aloud the proclamation issued by Gov. Jay Inslee saluting the work of school board members.

The public support of arts education at the meeting was reported in the Feb. 1 Weekly News.

Must be 18 to gamble. Management reserves all rights.

Juna Swanson earns dean's list

Juna Swanson has been named to the fall semester Pacific University dean's list. A freshman at the Forest Grove, Oregon school, she earned a grade point average of at least 3.7 (of 4.0) while completing 12 or more credit hours.

Swanson participates in women's basketball at Pacific, which competes at the NCAA Division III level.

Pacific University has nearly 4,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs..

Clothing drive

Drop off coats, socks, hats, gloves and shoes and women's supplies at the La Conner Washington Federal Bank through Feb. 17 for the Winter Daytime Shelter in Mount Vernon. There is a dire need for women's supplies.

The Winter Daytime Shelter is open and located at First United Methodist Church, 1607 East Division, Mount Vernon.

The bank is at 620 Morris Street. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Valentine & Poetry Workshop Feb. 11

Join poet Jeffrey Morgan and paper artist Nancy Scagliotti to create love poems and valentines 1-3 p.m. Feb.11 at Habibi, 407 South First Street, Mount Vernon. Fee of \$10 includes supplies. Families welcome.

Register: directorsrpp@gmail.

Source: Skagit River Poetry Foundation



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASH-INGTON IN AND FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In re Estate of WILLIAM R. HARTLEY, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS No. 23-4-00050-29

Benjamin P. Hartley 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 presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the dates 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 as-

Date of filing Notice to Creditors: January 31, 2023 Date of first publication:

February 8, 2023 DATED this 30th day of January, 2023.

JONES BUTLER DOLAN,

JAMES B. DOLAN, WSBA No. 29190

Counsel for Personal Representative BENJAMIN P. HARTLEY P.O. Box 458 Stanwood, WA 98292 360-629-3833

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Feb. 8, 15, 22, 2023.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASH-INGTON IN AND FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In re Estate of MARIANNE E.

FORTMANN, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS No. 23-4-00051-29

Gertrud D. Hipp has been appointed as Personal Repre-

AGENDA

Town Council Agenda Feb. 14, 6 p.m. 104 Commercial St. Maple Center And Zoom. Info is on the Town Website I. Call to Order II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comments

IV. Presentations: V. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes:

Council Meeting of Jan. 14. 2. Finance: Approval of Accounts Payable. Approval Payroll

B. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda VI. Reports

1. Chamber Report 2. Revenue /Expenditure Re-

4. Mayor's Report

3. Department Head Reports

5. Committee Reports

VII. Unfinished Business:

1. Center Street Project 2. Jenson Property

3. Ordinance - Capital Im-

provements Parks and Fire 4. Resolution - Parks and

Fire Impact Fees 5. Agreement - CLS Con-

tracting

VIII. New Business: 1. DE Agreement - Snapdragon Flats Infrastructure

Improvement 2. Surplus – 1994 Chev 2500 Truck & 1988 John Deere 310L Backhoe

IX. Mayor Roundtable: X. Executive Session

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 presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the dates of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except

sentative of this estate. Any

person having a claim against

Date of filing Notice to Creditors: February 1, 2023

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 as-

Date of first publication: February 8, 2023

DATED this 31st day of January, 2023. JONES BUTLER DOLAN,

JAMES B. DOLAN, WSBA

Counsel for Personal Representative GERTRUD D. HIPP P.O. Box 458 Stanwood, WA 98292 360-629-3833

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Feb. 8, 15, 22,

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY Estates of WILLA JOSEPHINE HAN-SEN and DONALD DUANE HANSEN, Deceased. NO. 23-4-00034-29 PROBATE NO-TICE TO CREDITORS

(RCW 11.40.030) PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The above Court has appointed me as Personal Representative of the Decedents' estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedents 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: 02/07/2023

Barbara J. Murphy, Personal Representative

Gilbert & Gilbert Lawyers, Inc.

Jayne Marsh Gilbert, WSBA

#24656 Attorney for Personal Representative 314 Pine Street,

Weekly SUDOKU _

Answer

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LEGAL NOTICES

Washington Published in the La Conner Weekly News Feb. 8, 15, 22,

Suite 211 Mount Vernon,

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of Claudia Leigh Nasi, Deceased.

Cause No. 23-4-00058-29 PROBATE NOTICE T **CREDITORS**

(RCW 11.40.030) The Personal Representa-

tive 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 non-probate as-

Date of First Publication: Feb. 8, 2023

Personal Representative: Keith Nasi

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: 360-733-0212

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Feb. 8, 15, 22,

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON SKAGIT COUNTY No. 23-4-00047-29 PROBATE NO-TICE TO CREDITORS

(RCW 11.40.030) In the Matter of the Estate of Robert Patrick Farrell, 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 therwise 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 as-

Date of first publication: Feb. 8, 2023

Merrily L. Farrell 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 Feb. 8, 15, 22,

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON **FOR** SKAGIT COUNTY No. 23-4-00038-29 PROBATE NO-

TICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

In the Matter of the Estate of Stanley G. Bakke, Deceased The co-personal representatives named below have been appointed as co-personal representatives 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 co-personal representatives or the co-personal representatives' attorney at the address stated below, a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the co-personal representatives 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: February 1, 2023

Stephen G. Bakke Co-Personal Representative

98273

Kenneth V. Bakke Co-Personal Representative

SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC MEGAN OTIS MA-WSBA SONHOLDER. #29495 Attorneys for Co-Personal Representatives P.O. Box 336/227 Freeway Drive, Suite B Mount Vernon, WA

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Feb. 1, 8, 15, 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON **FOR** SKAGIT COUNTY No. 23-4-00037-29 PROBATE NO-TICE TO CREDITORS

(RCW 11.40.030) In the Matter of the Estate of

Roy A. Griffith, 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 as-

Date of first publication: February 1, 2023

David R. Griffith

Personal Representative SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC MEGAN OTIS MA-SONHOLDER, 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 Feb. 1, 8, 15, 2023.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASH-INGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SKAGIT

TERESA LORI GRAGE, an individual, Plaintiff, vs. MICHAEL MOSCONE, an individual, and SANDRO MOSCONE, an individual, Defendants. NO. 22-2-00041-29 SUMMONS BY

PUBLICATION THE STATE OF WASH-INGTON TO THE DEFEN-DANTS NAMED ABOVE:

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 1st day of February, 2023, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of plaintiff Teresa Lori Grage, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for plaintiff 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.

DATED this 25th day of January, 2023.

GOURLEY LAW GROUP

Thomas L. Hause, WSBA No. 35245 P.O. Box 1091/1002 10th Street. Snohomish, WA 98291 Telephone: (360) 568-5068 Fax: (360) 568-8092 E-mail: Tom@glgmail.com Published in the La Conner Weekly News Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1, 8, 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON SKAGIT COUNTY No. PROBATE 23-4-00031-29 NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) In the Matter of the Estate of

Joel D. Zediker, 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 as-

Date of first publication: February 1, 2023

Jamie S. Zediker

Personal Representative SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC MEGAN OTIS MA-SONHOLDER, #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 Feb. 1, 8, 15,

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON SKAGIT COUNTY Estate of PAMELA SUZZANNE

GROMUS, Deceased. NO. 22-4-00611-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

(RCW 11.40.030) PLEASE TAKE NOTICE The above Court has appoint-

ed me as Personal Representative of the 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 effec-

the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets. Date of First Publication of this Notice: Jan. 25, 2023.

tive for claims against both

Traci Gywn Gromus, Personal Representative c/o Gilbert & Gilbert Lawyers, Inc. Jayne Marsh Gilbert, Attorney for PR 314 Pine St., Ste 211 Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Published in the La Conner Weekly News Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 2023.

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Edward Jones



Scott A. Price Financial Advisor

708 E. Morris St. Ste C La Conner, WA 98257 360-466-2933

edwardjones.com

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30-5:30 SATURDAY 9-1 . GRAPHIC DESIGN)STAL and • OFFICE SUPPLIES • PRINTING * SHIPPING . PO Boxes NOTARY PUBLIC AND MORE! 521 MORIS ST, LA CONNER, WA 98257



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Answers to February 8 puzzles

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Complete Events Calendar on laconnerweeklynews.com

NOT TO BE MISSED

Anacortes Family Center.

Dine & Shop to End Homelessness. Feb. 9, all day in Anacortes. Visit one of the participating restaurants and retailers and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Anacortes Family Center. List of participants at anacortesfamily.org.

ART & THEATRE

Anacortes Community Theatre. 918 M Ave, Anacortes. 360-293-6829. acttheatre.com.

As You Like It. Through Feb. 25, Thurs-Sat 7:30 p.m. and Sun 2 p.m. Purchase tickets online.

Gallery W. 101 N 1st St, La Conner. 360-265-2374. galleryw.art

Exhibit: "Connected" featuring Sherry Ying Ruden. Through Feb. 26.

Museum of Northwest Art. monamuseum.org, 360-466-4446.

Teen Art Club. Every Friday, 3-5 p.m. Free for grades 6-12. Pizza, snacks and art supplies are provided.

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.

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

Tech Help. Every weekday at library front desk. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Drop-in for hands-on help.

Yoga at the Library. Every first and third Saturday, 9 a.m. Great for beginners. Bring your own yoga mat.

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

Virtual Reality. Every Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Must be 18 or older. Baby Storytime. Every Friday 10:30-11

Burlington Public Library.

360-755-0760, burlingtonwa.gov. 820 E Washington Ave, Burlington.

Valentine's Day Crafting Pawty. Feb. 14, 6 p.m. Create treats for your pets. Fun for the whole family. SVGS Geneology Program. Feb. 11,

12:45-3 p.m. Zoom and in-person. Request Zoom link by Feb. 10 by emailing genealogy0715@gmail.com.

MUSEUM EXHIBITS

Museum of Northwest Art. Open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m. monamuseum. org, 360-466-4446.

Exhibit: Permanent Immigrant, Italo Scanga in the Dale and Leslie Chihuly Collection. Feb 18-May 14.

Exhibit: Geppetto's Children, Italo Scanga at Pilchuck Glass School. Feb 18-May 14.

Pacific Northwest Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum. Wed-Sun, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. qfamuseum.org, 360-466-4288. 703 S

Second St, La Conner. Exhibit: Birds of a Fiber. International and national bird themed quilts and

Exhibit: Our Voices in Fiber. African American quilters today. Through Feb.

April 30.

Skagit County Historical Museum. Exhibit: Quilt Until You Wilt. Through

MUSIC

Meet every Thursday. 4:30-6:30 p.m., Shelter Bay Clubhouse. No auditions required, just a joy for singing. Rehearsals are resuming for Spring Concert. Questions, call Joan 360-941-7507.

Lincoln Theatre.

712 S 1st St, Mount Vernon. 360-336-8955. lincolntheatre.org.

Mark Hummel's Blues Harmonica Blowout. Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m.



MEETINGS

Town of La Conner

204 Douglas St, La Conner. 360-466-3125. Zoom info @Townoflaconner. org/calendar.

Arts Commission. Feb. 9, 9:30 a.m. at Maple Hall.

Town Council. Feb. 14, 6 p.m. at Maple Hall.

Planning Commission. Feb. 21, 6 p.m. at Maple Hall.

La Conner School District

305 N 6th St, La Conner. 360-466-4113. lcsd.wednet.edu.

Community voice outreach meeting. Feb. 8, 5:30 p.m. at Maple Hall. School Board. Feb. 13, 1 p.m. at District Office Board Room.

Skagit Conservation District 2021 E. College Way #203, Mt. Vernon. 360-428-4313. Zoom info @ skagitcd.

Board meetings. Every fourth Wednesday 7:30-9 a.m.

Rotary Club of La Conner.

laconnerrotary.org. Meetings Monday, 6-7 p.m. at the Farmhouse restaurant optional dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Skagit Cemetery District One.

Regular meetings. Every second Thursday, 5 p.m. at Lori Buher's home, 17604 Valentine Rd., Mount Vernon.

Little Mountain Gamblers.

Gamblers Anonymous. Every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Senior Center in Mount Vernon. 1401 Cleveland Ave. Any guestions, call Washington State Gamblers Anonymous hotline at 855-222-5542.

SERVICE & VOLUNTEER

La Conner Sunrise Food Bank. Food distribution every Monday from 2:30-5 p.m. 602 S. 3rd St., La Conner. 360-488-3878. laconnerfoodbank.com.

Swinomish Helping Hands Food Bank. Food distribution every Thursday from 2-5 p.m. Non-essentials every first Thursday. 17444 Snee Oosh Rd, La Conner. 360-856-2211. helpinghandsfoodbank.org.

Skagit Valley Humane Society. 18841 Kelleher Rd, Burlington. 360-757-0445. skagithumane.org. Find volunteer/donation opportunites online.

Skagit Land Trust.

Tope Ryan Volunteer Event. Feb. 10, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Tope Ryan Conservation Area in Sedro-Woolley.

🛼 Aqiimuk's Kitchen

By Patricia Agiimuk Paul, Esq., Food Editor.

Cranberry Honey Butter

There are many ways to enjoy this recipe. Try it on warm toast or a toasted bagel. This recipe makes enough to gift to that special someone who admires and enjoys your cooking. I chose to use fresh cranberries that I keep in the freezer. I took out just enough for this recipe and let them sit at room temperature, alongside the butter. If you want more sweetness, you can always add it directly, after you have buttered your toast.

Ingredients

- Butter, unsalted, 1 cup softened
- Cranberries, ½ cup, fresh or dried
- Honey, ¼ cup
- Orange zest, 2 tbsp
- Kosher salt, 1/8 tsp

Preparation

Leave butter at room temperature to soften. Chop cranberries and mix into the butter. Add honey, orange zest and salt. Mix well. Put into a ja or tub, cover and refrigerate. Use within two weeks.



AqiimuksKitchen@outlook.com





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Classified ads now in print and online • same low price

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

FOR SALE. RadMini Electric Folding Bike purchased Feb. 2021. Has 231 miles, front and back racks with basket ight kit, cell phone holder, helmet, bike cover, battery charger, cable lock cooler and tire repair kit. \$1,300 firm. Call Ken at 360-708-6204.

JO'S HEALING HANDS. Massage therapy is shown to provide real benefits to people who need help managing their pain. Give it a try - call Jo's Healing

Hands LM I 360-708-2022 **SALES REP WANTED.** The sky's the limit. Name your salary and earn it selling display ads for the La Conner Weekly News. A good listener who can close the deal wanted. 15+ hours weekly. Wage and commission, Let's talk, Ken

360-202-4660. STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle 6



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆



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Puzzle Answers Page 6

fiber art pieces. Through Feb. 26.

Exhibit: Bedtime Stitches. Through

360-466-3365 or skagitcounty.net/museum. Hours: Thurs-Sun 11 a.m-4 p.m. June 2023. Design your own paper quilts.

Ukelele Fun & Song Circle.

Meet every Wednesday. 1- 2 p.m., Burlington Senior Center. For more info, email yogaheartspace0@gmail.

Shelter Bay Chorus.



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POLICE BLOTTER

SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Tuesday, January 31 7:58 a.m.: Broken glass – Sometime overnight a section of glass on the front door of the business was broken. No entry by a suspect into the building was reported. A suspect has not yet been identified. Morris St., La Conner. 6:56 p.m.: Suspicious drivers -An unknown vehicle pulled into the driveway and left. About 30 minutes passed and another vehicle did the same thing. It was determined the vehicles might have been going to a nearby business and went to the wrong driveway. McLean Rd.,

Wednesday, February 1 3:14 a.m.: Public disturbance An intoxicated female who was causing a disturbance was provided a courtesy ride by law enforcement to the Swinomish Casino where she was staying. 3rd/Morris Streets, La Conner.

Greater La Conner.

4:34 a.m.: Cigarette heist – A paper delivery employee noticed the front door to the Pioneer Market glass was shattered. Sometime overnight a burglary suspect entered the store

Ag Summit Friday

The Skagit County Ag Summit

is Friday, Feb. 10 from 9 a.m.-3

p.m. at WSU NWREC, 16650

SR-536, Mount Vernon. This

and took most of the Marlboro Red cigarettes out of a glass case. The suspect then fled the store. See story page 1. Morris St., La Conner.

1:39 p.m.: Utility pole crash - A vehicle collided into a utility pole on La Conner Whitney Road. The utility pole was broken, and wires were hanging low to the ground. The driver of the vehicle was checked by Fire and EMS personnel on scene. As a result of the downed pole and wires La Conner Whitney road was closed until the hazard could be removed. See photo to right. La Conner Whitney Rd., Greater La

3:14 a.m.: Dog rescued from boat - An unoccupied boat docked in the Swinomish Channel partially sunk. The cabin portion of the boat was above water when fire and law enforcement personnel heard a dog bark inside the boat. The dog was rescued and returned to its owner. A crew from the Department of Ecology recovered the sunken boat. 1st St., La Conner.

event is free to the public and no registration is necessary. Discuss water, economic viability, innovation and leadership. Questions: 360-395-2357 or

dmcmoran@wsu.edu. Source: WSU NWREC

Thursday, February 2

DIDN'T SLOW DOWN; MOVED TOO FAST - Twice in the past year vehicles have missed the curve on La Conner Whitney Road south of McLean Road. A vehicle collided into a utility pole around 1:30 p.m. Feb. 2. Power was out in La Conner Shelter Bay and the Swinomish Reservation briefly.

– Photo by Marissa Conklin

"The wall, cabinets, applianc-

Outages...

(from page 1)

La Conner Fire Chief Aaron Reinstra said the outage was due to a bad line at the south end of First Street. "The line had to be replaced and PSE took care of it," he said.

La Conner resident Vernon Washington, Sr., who often walks the waterfront boardwalk, called in the downed line and stood by until the fire department arrived.

The fire department was among numerous agencies that earlier Friday responded to the sinking of a 22-24-foot vessel. Swinomish Police, Fire District 13, the Port of Skagit, Skagit County Sheriff's Office, Department of Emergency

Billboard...

Act) review: County staff

anticipate issuing an MDNS

(mitigated determination of

nonsignificance). The DNS

To be a party of record, submit

written comments, including a

mailing address, to the Skagit

County Planning & Development

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

process is being utilized.

(from page 1)

Management, Washington Department of Ecology and U.S. Coast guard were all involved. DOE took charge of the boat's removal, Reinstra said. Late Friday night residents

along Shelter Bay Drive between Skagit Way and Elwha Drive heard what sounded like a loud explosion in their neighborhood. "There was this big boom,"

said a neighbor, who stepped outside her house and heard someone yell to call 911.

The unsettling noise was from a car crashing into a house's kitchen area after the driver lost control. Those rushing to the scene said they found the driver had exited the car and was conscious and communicative, having suffered what Weiss termed non-life threatening injuries.

Services Department.

Review the application

and case file at the planning

department, 1800 Continental

Place, Mount Vernon 98273. A

decision on this application will

Information: Kevin Cricchio,

skagitcounty.net/pdscomments.

The proposal ID is PL23-0007.

be made within 120 days from

the date of completeness.

360-416-1423; kcricchio@

Submit comments:

co.skagit.wa.us.

es, water pipes and countertops were significantly damaged,' Weiss said. "Thankfully, the occupants were unscathed but shaken in the living room."

By Sunday, when the full moon - though shrouded here by clouds - rose, a large sheet of plywood had been attached to the exterior wall struck by the car. A stretch of tire tracks leading from Shelter Bay Drive to the house was still clearly visible.

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pendant accented with 0.24-carat diamonds set in 14 k white gold \$1829.00



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