



**Ashley Sweeney signing her new novel Oct. 10 • p 5**

**Old fashioned spaghetti fundraiser is new again • p 8**

*Your Independent Hometown Award-winning Newspaper*

# LA CONNER WEEKLY NEWS

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## Joining together in resilience



**SOMBER DANCE**— La Conner eighth grader Ayona Cayou helped fellow Swinomish youth take steps toward healing cultural trauma during a school district Orange Shirt Day program dance at Whittaker Field Sept. 30. The campus event honored indigenous victims and survivors of residential school systems in the U.S. and Canada. — Photo by Marissa Conklin

## Students, staff honor victims of residential school trauma

By Bill Reynolds

It wasn't yellow flags that dotted dry and brownish Whittaker Field Friday morning.

It was instead the orange shirts worn by La Conner students and staff that colored the school district's football field Sept. 30 in honor of Native American youth who over generations suffered cultural trauma while attending residential campuses in the U.S. and Canada.

La Conner Schools is one of the first districts in western Washington to observe Orange Shirt Day, which in Canada is a national day of truth and reconciliation.

La Conner's school family assembled at Whittaker Field for an aerial photo, an emotional song and dance performance by the Swinomish Canoe Family and speakers' remarks.

Superintendent Will Nelson opened the ceremony with a bilingual message — alternating between his native Blackfoot language and English — that stressed the Orange Shirt Day

movement's commitment to valuing all children.

"This is an important day for me," Nelson noted. "My mom, grandma and great-grandma all went to boarding schools. Members of my family are the people we are talking about. I could write a book about it."

Jae Jefferson, assistant director of cultural events for the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, said support for Orange Shirt Day has become more widespread since the discovery in 2021 of more than 200 graves of indigenous children who had died while attending a residential school at Kamloops, British Columbia.

Dr. Kisha Supernant, a La Conner High School alumnus teaching at the University of Alberta, is heading up the effort to locate unmarked graves of other residential school students to help bring closure to their families.

Jefferson told La Conner students and staff that thousands of native children did not return from the boarding schools where they were placed.

"We honor those who survived and

those who didn't make it back from the residential schools," Jefferson said. "It's an honor to be here today to start the healing process for our people. We do this in honor of those who didn't make it back and those who endured the trauma."

The boarding schools sought to assimilate native youth into white culture, a campaign which wrought many unintended consequences.

"The history of this day is marked with suffering and promoting awareness that can help us take more steps toward community building and cooperation," said Clarissa Williams, the district's community and cultural liaison, who coordinated Orange Shirt Day activities.

Williams credited Phyllis Webstad of British Columbia as the founder of Orange Shirt Day.

"In 1973, when she was six-years-old," Williams said of Webstad, "she was sent to a mission school near Williams Lake, B.C. She was excited to

(continued on page 5)

Sept. 27 town council meeting

## Town impact fees can support fire department and parks

By Bill Reynolds

As his job title suggests, Michael Davolio is a man with a plan.

And in this case, it's one not likely to stir debate or controversy.

The La Conner Town planner has drafted a proposed impact fee ordinance that the Town Council began studying last week to bolster stressed department budgets.

The plan is to add revenue to support the fire department and parks. After a lengthy discussion at its Sept. 27 hybrid meeting at Maple Hall, the council asked Davolio for further research so an impact fee schedule can be adopted on a yet wider scale.

The key point hinges on more funds for parks. State guidelines allow fire departments to benefit from fees imposed on all development but parks receive funding related only to residential development, Davolio explained.

Councilmember Mary Wohleb pointed out that "Our restaurants and tourist industry benefit from our pocket parks."

Davolio agreed and will research the possibility.

A presentation by Assistant Fire Chief Adam Avery started Davolio on the project.

"A few weeks ago," Davolio recalled, "the fire department gave a presentation on its need for a fire boat and there have been discussions on the need for a ladder truck and there have also been discussions about our parks," Davolio told council members.

"The big question becomes: 'How do we pay for the things we need?' Davolio explained.

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## Volunteers young and old will be moving library books

By Bill Reynolds

A novel approach will move books and other materials from the La Conner Regional Library building to the new La Conner Swinomish Library a block away on Morris Street this week.

A literal "book brigade" of volunteers spearheaded by library staffer Katryna Barber is being enlisted on Thursday, Friday and Saturday to undertake the task.

"Volunteers have been signing up for one-hour shifts and they can sign up for more than one shift if they want," new library director Jean Markert told the Weekly News.

Those still wishing to participate may do so by calling 360-466-3352 or emailing library@lclib.wa.us.

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Promoted from interim

## Jean Markert hired as permanent director for the new La Conner Swinomish Library

By Bill Reynolds

Because Jean Markert has always enjoyed reading and books, the next chapter in her career could not have been better scripted.

Markert, previously an instructor at Skagit Valley College and manager of the Northwest Workforce Council, has been named the new director of the La Conner-Swinomish Library set to open on Morris Street in mid-October.

The La Conner resident had served for just over a month as interim library director. That interim label is now lifted from Markert's job title, library board member Jim Airy confirmed last Thursday.

Markert had served seven years on the library panel prior to the summer appointment.

The Burlington native succeeded Jared Fair, whose 30-month tenure at the library ended abruptly in August.

Markert brings to the position an extensive background in education and an affinity for literature with tastes running to historical fiction.

At present, however, her focus is on the future.

"The staff and I want to make the new library a hub for the community,"

Markert told the Weekly News. "We want it to be a place where everyone is welcome.

"Everybody can be part of the library," she added, "because we want it to be a vibrant place where people of all ages and backgrounds can come and learn. We're going to work hard at making that happen."

Markert and the staff have crafted a specific playbook to achieve that goal. They plan to use the library's human and material resources to encourage lifelong learning, cultural literacy, innovation and community engagement.

"We have a small staff with big ideas," Markert said of library employees Char Langendorfer, Katryna Barber and Mat Wend.

The ongoing mission, said Markert, will be for the library team to achieve its vision by creating a safe, supportive and welcoming venue.

Markert said the library will value diversity, equity and inclusion. As an institution devoted to learning and literacy, the library will likewise promote intellectual freedom, individuality, the natural environment and dedication to a spirit of service.

(continued on page 5)



**NEW BUILDING AND NEW DIRECTOR** — Before the end of October the new La Conner Swinomish Library will be open and welcoming residents. Volunteers bringing books over from the old location will be able to come inside this week. When you get inside, say hello to new Director Jean Markert. — Photo by Marissa Conklin

From the editor —

## Check out books, don't ban them

Good news. The new La Conner Swinomish Library is on the move, literally, as volunteer book brigades shuttle its precious cargo from the old library site to the new building at 520 Morris Street. A new library, what a wonderful idea realized. Take part in making it happen this week. Call to volunteer.

With the library closed and the Weekly News concerned about its — and the public's — access to Town of La Conner documents, this editorial against censorship and for celebrating access to all reading material comes after September's national week against banned books. But it is never too late to praise the freedom to think for one's self — for that is what universal access to words is — the opportunity to reach toward tomorrow.

More pedestrianly, libraries allow time alone to relax, to wonder, to wander among words and concepts, whether old or new, and to have unbridled freedom to pull the book of your choice from the shelf. In this modern age it also means full access to websites.

This year's theme was "Books Unite Us. Censorship Divides Us" for Banned Books Week. The top 10 books banned at school and public libraries overwhelmingly explore the alphabet soup theme of being gay, queer and gender transcending. Books with these themes open a new world to kids, whether they find themselves not fitting into the majority society or whether they are wondering about classmates and friends who are not like them.

Too much divides our larger society and our individual communities. Minds, like books, only work when they are open. But fear — and that is at the core of saying no, of shaming and shunning what people do not comprehend, much less understand — turns into commands and rules of shall not. Specific communities choose to hold onto an imagined yesterday against the necessity — obligation and responsibility, both — of reaching into the unknown and uncertain tomorrow. The future is where everyone, but especially our children, will live.

Books will unite us. Any and everything will divide us if a few are allowed to impose their private "no" on the community. In the privacy of their home parents can raise their children as they choose, restricting books and delaying exploration in a world that is larger than any one of us can know. That is what freedom to choose any book on any shelf is, an invitation to a tomorrow more complex and interesting than we can explain to children or adults.

Books Unite Us. Censorship Divides Us. Every day, every week of the year, be aware of the need to stand for the freedom to read what we choose. That freedom is the bedrock of this country, this republic whose founders insisted on adding ten amendments to the Constitution. They started with your freedom to speak and to read. That is what the First Amendment states: "Congress shall make no law." And if Congress cannot, no parent, teacher, preacher or school or library board can restrict the right to read.

And in this day and age we keep our rights by standing up for them.

— Ken Stern

## Getting electric vehicles recharged



By Greg Whiting

Where's the electricity for electric vehicles going to come from? Why has California recently asked people to stop charging electric cars and, at the same time, changed regulations so that only electric cars will be sold there in 2035?

As EVs grow to a larger fraction of the vehicle population, they can be expected to help, not hurt, both power availability and grid stability.

Most electricity for EVs can be produced simply by running existing power plants more. During non-peak hours, generation capacity is available, but not used. For example, in the northwest, about 200 "peak" electric-use hours for the 8,760-hours in a year have historically occurred during early mornings on winter days, when heaters are running and people start turning appliances and lights on. In Florida, the peak may only occur for about 40 hours a year, during heat waves when most air conditioners run at the same time. EVs can be charged by using that unused generation capacity. EVs reduce energy costs, energy use and carbon emissions relative to gas and diesel vehicles even when coal and gas are part of the electric generation mix.

To the extent additional generation capacity will be needed, power plants of any type can be built. The financial justification for new power plants will include the increased electricity sales for EVs. Electric utilities will

make money by taking market share away from gas stations. Power plants added to increase capacity for EVs will increase capacity for other electric uses.

On-peak charging can be addressed through market-based demand management programs. Such programs have been proven via several decades of experience in the southeast, where utilities use financial incentives to get customers to voluntarily help control air conditioning demand peaks.

Systems are being tested to enable utilities to use EVs to supplement peak hour electric supplies via reverse charging, i.e., supplying energy to the grid from voluntarily participating EVs. "Vehicle to grid" payment rates would be structured, just as current utility conservation programs are, to reduce costs for all utility customers, not just EV owners.

For transmission and distribution (T&D), EVs will use the existing grid. They will not require a completely new grid. A Level 2 (240 Volt) EV charger is, electrically, about the same as a clothes dryer. Utilities easily accommodated those when they were introduced.

Required T&D investments will include chargers at homes and in public areas and some transformers. New transmission lines will be developed along with new power plants they will serve. The private sector can fund most of this. Utilities can fund their part by selling energy for EVs. Some government funding is likely, e.g., for fast chargers in remote locations. This is comparable to funding paved roads before everyone in the country had a car.

Independent of EV growth, California, Texas and all other states, are working

(continued on page 3)

## LETTERS

Share dreams by mediation

An open letter to towns-people, town council, town staff and project developers:

The town is growing. New construction is coming into neighborhoods. We as a town have long felt that infilling is the best way to grow rather than sprawling out into the farmlands.

New projects need consistent guidelines from the town government on what specific regulations would apply to their developments. The guidelines that we would ordinarily depend on for 306 Center St. project have failed. The ensuing chaos has affected our beloved community.

Although we, Livable La Conner, filed an appeal to the town planner's latest decision permitting the 306 Center Street proposal, we wish to be as welcoming and inclusive as possible within the Town's codes. And, we hope new developers in La Conner will be sensitive to La Conner's community, history and culture. As we accommodate growth, everyone must give a little.

In this spirit, we invite Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson to sit down with a representative from the neighborhood and a mediator agreeable to all parties to share our dreams.

Please call the Weekly News to reach us. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Joan Cross  
Maggie Wilder  
For Livable La Conner

Port great business partner

La Conner Maritime Service is a second generation La Conner family owned and operated business providing marine services since 1992. We employ about 30 individuals in living wage jobs. Several of those individuals, including myself, call La Conner home. I consider it a great privilege to work and live in such a beautiful area.

Over the years our business has grown and attracted new clientele to the area, many with larger boats. With this growth we've realized a need for indoor space to accommodate larger boats and maintain year-round work flow, including more comfortable work environments for our valued employees. Reducing impacts to our neighbors and the environment are also important reasons for moving work indoors.

The Port of Skagit has been a great partner for our business by facilitating infrastructure expansion and improvements, and, from my observation, always with the goal to support La Conner and its citizens.

One of many examples of how the Port has helped the town is through their effort and expense — on more than one occasion — to secure funding for dredging of the Swinomish Channel. Keeping this as a navigable waterway is vital to maintaining tourism in the town, and other local, culturally significant activities.

Our mission as a company is to create exceptional customer service experiences while providing quality marine services. La Conner's small-town charm and personality contribute to this experience for many of our customers, and it is our goal to keep our business growth in harmony with this "vibe".

Respectfully,  
Isaac Oczkewicz  
La Conner Maritime Service  
A letter sent to La Conner Town Council

A citizen's view —

## A recall of Shelter Bay directors

By Roberta Fontenet

This isn't just about the clearcut of Shelter Bay's Rainbow Park. This is about a legal obligation imposed upon the community's board of directors by the state of Washington to meet certain legal standards of care when acting as representatives of the homeowners. Under the Revised Code of Washington, homeowner association board members are bound by law to act in accordance with the laws and regulations that govern the actions of officers of a corporation. This isn't about feelings. It's about a board that lacks the skill and knowledge to fulfill their fiduciary duty to the residents.

The recall is also about removing board directors who have betrayed the community members and installing people who actually care about the welfare of the residents of Shelter Bay. In the past four months alone, the board members being challenged have passed a budget without adhering to the legal notice requirements to residents, resulting in hundreds of people seeing their fees increase by hundreds of dollars with no notice or explanation.

The contested board members have also appointed a "confidential" negotiation committee for the lease with the Swinomish Tribe, made up of their personal friends rather than board representatives. They have hidden the identities of the committee members not only from the residents, but also from the new members of the board. Crucial negotiations that are essential to the lives of all the residents of Shelter Bay are being done in secret, in direct contravention of Washington law.

The contested board members have signed binding contracts for the dredging and dock construction in the marina, without securing funding first. There has been no oversight of the project by a qualified professional, resulting in the residents being locked into a contract that will cost them millions of dollars, with no insight from an accountant or a qualified attorney.

The contested board members are also spending hundreds of thousands of dollars of residents' funds paying incompetent staff who work against the interests of the residents. Philip Buri, the lawyer ostensibly paid to protect the interests of the residents, has been supplying the contested board members with "confidential" legal opinions that are designed to allow the board to take advantage of the residents and remove any opportunity for financial oversight from the people paying the bills. This is not just poor business practice, it is legal malpractice, and the residents are paying this lawyer \$300 an hour to betray them and his oath of office.

There are many more examples of fraud and mismanagement, far too many to fit in a single letter to the editor. The above examples are only the most recent, and most immediate, examples of malfeasance committed by the contested board members and their hired lackeys.

This is not about a personal vendetta against the contested board members. It's about standing up for the rights and interests of hundreds of people who have been taken advantage of by people who have a legal obligation to protect their interests. It's about the law, which has been violated many times over.

Fontenet, a lawyer, moved to Shelter Bay this spring.

## LETTERS

Youthful organizers hopeful

In May of 2022 Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau proposed sweeping gun control measures making it illegal to buy, sell or import handguns anywhere in Canada; a buy-back program for assault-style weapons; higher penalties for gun-smugglers and trafficking; increased red-flag laws for domestic violence offenders; and limiting guns to five rounds. "This is about freedom," he said. "People should be free to go to the supermarket, their school or place of worship without fear," (The Guardian).

At the Seeds of Change event in Edison on Sept. 17 Sam Locke, a young community organizing coordinator for the Alliance for Gun Responsibility, described all American childhoods post Columbine, as was hers, growing up with an awareness of gun violence in schools, locked doors, pulled blinds, prayers. She was 14 when the 15-year-old-shooter, student Jaylen Fryberg, shot five other students at Marysville Pilchuck High, fatally wounding four before fatally shooting himself, (Seattle Times). "All our lives were forever changed, but nothing happened."

Sam joined the Alliance after graduating from college "because I want to work for an organization that can truly make change." Her comments opened an afternoon of presentation, commentary and discussion hosted by Safe and Sane Skagit, a chapter of the Alliance for Gun Responsibility. Spokespersons from eight Skagit non-profits: League of Women Voter's, (voter education); Transition Fidalgo and Friends, (climate awareness and resilience to fight carbon increase); Be Smart, (promoting safe gun storage); Indivisible Skagit, (connecting opportunities for citizens to take action); No More Bombs, (standing against global violence); Evergreen Islands, (protecting Skagit waters); Home Rule Skagit, (creating local government with broader representation); and Skagit Valley

Clean Energy Cooperative (a new 100% clean energy cooperative).

After daily news of unprovoked wars, lies believed, fires and floods, I came away with hope. Sincerely,  
Christine Wardenburg-Skinner  
Edison

La Conner's hidden treasures

I will be writing a series of letters about La Conner residents I have met during my frequent walks around town. Today I am writing about Glen who lives on North Third Street and can be found most mornings walking from his home along Center Street to Sixth Street and back. Glen is in his nineties and when we encounter each other, we always stop and chat.

He is bright and cheerful even if he is a little slow in his gait. We talk of many things. If I encounter him while he is walking back to his house, I always walk with him. Last week, he mentioned he was a retired Skagit Valley College English Professor and that he retired in 1984.

I said I graduated from SVC in 1982 with a degree in civil engineering and I asked if he knew John Biggers, my most beloved college professor throughout my nearly five years of college. Glen said he knew John and we talked about him for a bit. It brought back memories, one of which still gets me through difficult times to this day. John would be passing out a particularly difficult exam and he would always say, "Keep your wits about you, and you will get through this." I did, and I did.

If you should encounter Glen, stop and talk. I am reminded of the John Prine song "Hello in There."

Next week: English Colin Mondays.  
Rick Dole  
La Conner

CLARIFICATION

The \$481.50 invoice from Kenyon Disend was for August only. September work for the Town of La Conner will incur additional costs.

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## Ken Stern, Publisher & Editor

editor@laconnernews.com

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### Postmaster:

Send change of address to:

La Conner Weekly News

PO Box 1465, La Conner, WA 98257

Michelle Havist, General Manager  
michelle@laconnernews.com

Bill Reynolds, News Editor  
news@laconnernews.com

Rhonda Hundertmark, Design and Layout Editor  
production@laconnernews.com

Marissa Conklin, Production Manager  
marissa@laconnernews.com

Kathleen Anderson, Sales Representative  
kathleen@laconnernews.com

Eileen Engelstad, Proofreader  
Rick Shorten, Special Projects

### Contributors:

Anne Basye, Judy Booth, Robin Carneen, Nancy Crowell, Don Coyote, Mel Damski, MaryRose Denton, John Doyle, Janna Gage, Bob Hamblin, Ollie Iversen, Katie Kramer, Bobbi Krebs-McMullen, Patricia Paul, Brad Reynolds, Claire Swedberg, Sarah Walls.

Sept. 26 council meeting

# Residents speak out at town council meeting

By Bill Reynolds

The people have spoken. But unlike at the polls, where such voices are heard in the form of marked ballot choices, Maple Hall was filled with residents and property owners expressing views on a host of pressing issues last week.

Public comments filled about 30 minutes of the two-hour Sept. 26 La Conner Town Council hybrid meeting.

Nearly a dozen people addressed the council at the meeting's start, covering topics ranging from zoning changes proposed by the Port of Skagit at La Conner Marina and the lingering controversy over a three-story condo project planned on Center Street to future uses of the Jenson family property the Town is purchasing and support for La Conner Hook & Ladder's campaign to acquire a new fire boat and ladder truck.

Center Street resident Debbie Aldrich set the tone early. She reminded council that there was once an indoor public swimming pool at La Conner Marina and that Town officials should push for another aquatic facility here given the health and recreation benefits it could provide.

"We should have a swimming pool at the marina," Aldrich said. "There used to be a pool here at the Potlatch RV Resort. It was an asset and an attraction."

Linda Talman, the North Fifth Street resident whose exhaustive research located the 1986 contract rezone of property behind The Slider Café asked the Council to more closely assess off-street parking options in the area around the 20-unit building.

La Conner artist Maggie Wilder spoke in favor of a strong council-weak mayor form

of government, with greater emphasis placed upon public input. She endorsed surveying the public on key issues and praised the strides made during the Sept. 19 town hall meeting.

"We heard a lot of great, creative ideas," she said, suggesting the same type of energy can be tapped to decide how best to utilize the Jenson property.

"Last time," she said, referring to development of the Hedlin's Maple Avenue property, "I don't think it went the way the citizens really wanted."

Leslie Smith, another Center Street resident, suggested the Jenson property matter be made a regular Town Council meeting agenda item.

Jim Matthews, a North Third Street resident, echoed others in supporting the effectiveness of the town forum. He also asked council to consider hiring a full-time planner who lives locally, saying that approach could provide a layer of protection against rampant growth.

"It seems like there's been a green light for developers and that's not what the citizens want," he said. "Yes, development needs to happen, but not what we've seen."

Lifelong La Conner resident Gary Nelson, who like Talman is a past planning commission member, cautioned against allowing increased residential use in commercial buildings and supported the fire department's bid to upgrade its equipment.

Resident Nancy Crowell joined others in thanking council communications committee members MaryLee Chamberlain and Rick Dole for shepherding the town forum. A master gardener, Crowell asked for designating space on the Jenson

property for a community garden. She also said she found the Port plan for changes at the marina lacking in specifics.

Georgia Johnson, a retired La Conner Schools teacher and Center Street property owner, endorsed a strong council-weak mayor format and urged that Mayor Ramon Hayes refrain from expressing opinions on current issues. She said there are drawbacks with one person serving as both town attorney and town administrator, as is the case presently.

Joan Cross, another longtime La Conner resident who has served on local governing panels, cited advantages of employing an independent attorney.

"Back in the day," she recalled, "we had a developer come to town who wanted to change our zoning. But we had an independent counsel with us."

Ron Blair said Town officials find themselves at a "watershed moment" as they weigh decisions that will likely define the community for a generation.

"You have to make sure that La Conner stays true to its history and culture while also managing growth," he said.

To do so, Blair sided with Matthews in calling for a planner who lives here – someone "who is vested in this community."

Town leaders generally don't respond to views shared during the public comments section of their meetings. That was the case again a week ago Tuesday, though Hayes did say he strongly supports seeking public input on uses for the Jenson property and acknowledged that the Town faces challenges – especially in terms of infrastructure costs – going forward.

306 Center Street permit challenged again

# Town determination appealed

By Ken Stern

Residents Debbie Aldrich and Linda Talman are appealing the Town of La Conner's Sept. 20 administrative determination approving a conditional use permit for condominium units at 306 Center Street. Monday the two filed a challenge of Town Hearing Examiner David Lowell's May decision supporting owners Brandon and Katie Atkinson.

The appeal disputes planner Michael Davolio's decision that the 1986 contract rezone is unenforceable. It notes that the Town Council decision was a legislative act amending the comprehensive plan and zoning code and is binding today.

Since the property is zoned residential, not commercial, the appeal states the proposed short term rental units are conditional uses, not permitted by right. The present commercial zoning is in error.

Davolio had determined that "original decision of the Hearing Examiner, together with the Examiner's subsequent decisions following his review of the Requests for Reconsideration, remain valid. The Contract Rezone Agreement is unenforceable as a matter of law. The proposed development is therefore approved."

Some area lawyers disagree with the Kenyon Disend firm's assessment that the 1986 council action was administrative, not legislative and point out that the state's vesting laws make the zoning decision valid. The failure to record it with the county auditor is not an issue, they say.

They find the Kenyon Disend memo states the firm's opinion and cites cases as illustrative but does not directly cite case law because no authority exist to apply, so the analysis is their assessment.

# Gary Ladd on Shelter Bay board

Gary Ladd was appointed to the Shelter Bay board of directors in September, selected to fill the seat of Rod Proctor. Ladd was chosen from four candidates to finish Proctor's term, through June 30, 2023.

Ladd has been a resident of Shelter Bay since 2014 and chaired the Safety Committee for six years. He volunteers as community relations officer and Good Morning District 13 coordinator with Fire District 13.

Source: Shelter Bay Community.

# Happy Birthday, Bill!

Bill Reynolds is now a senior. His 65th birthday was Friday. Congratulations, Bill, on joining your new class.

# Energy. . . (from page 2)

on generation and T&D upgrades. These upgrades will address system resilience, population changes and increased electricity use. Recent conservation requests in California and Texas have not been for all hours, but for short-term local system peak hours, which have been exacerbated by hot weather and by fire safety considerations in California. EVs are likely to make situations like these better, not worse, by helping to finance new generation capacity and by providing utilities with new peak management tools.



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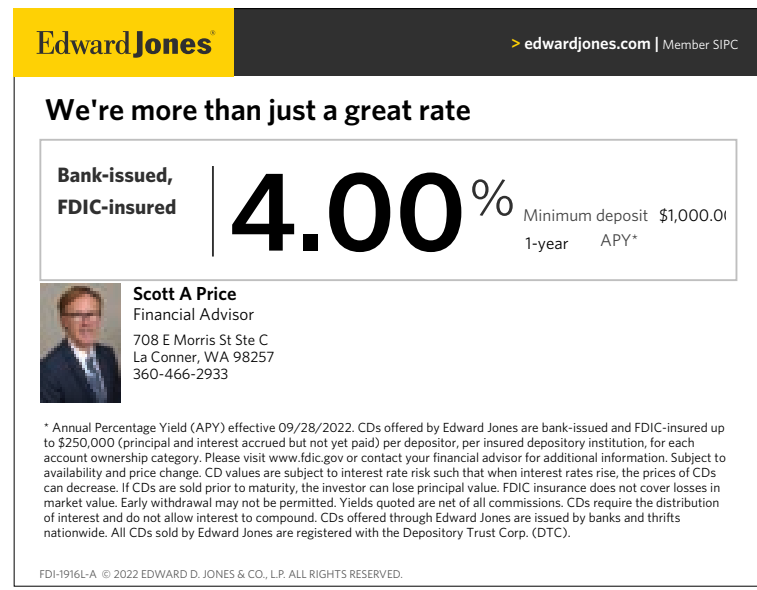
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## Honoring Hall of Fame coach Suzanne Marble Oct. 13

By Bill Reynolds

La Conner High School volleyball players have given their fans plenty of reasons to celebrate over the past three decades – starting with six state titles.

Now the La Conner community has an opportunity to celebrate the Hall of Fame coach who since 1993 has been the program's guiding force.

Suzanne Marble, who topped the 500-career win mark two years ago, again has her team aiming for top state honors in her 30th and final net campaign.

In recognition of Marble's many contributions here as a teacher and coach, longtime assistant Pam Keller and other Lady Braves alumni have organized "Celebrating Coach Marble" Oct. 13, coinciding with a home match with Mount Vernon.

Event coordinators say the gathering, set for 6:30 p.m. at Landy James Gym, provides a chance for the public "to thank and support coach Marble for all she has done for La Conner volleyball."

During her tenure, teams have collected a half-dozen state championship trophies along with other hardware reflecting strong state and invitational tourney finishes.

From the start, Marble had the look of a winner. Her youthful enthusiasm in the classroom and on the court made a quick – and favorable – impression.

"I was an elementary parent when Suzanne came to La Conner," recalls middle and high school counselor Lori Buher. "I remember her funny little 'college car' that she parked out in front each day. I used to smile to myself every time I saw it – fresh out of college and into the real world!"

When Buher later came on staff, she saw first-hand the passion Marble brought to her role as a teacher-coach.

"As the elementary secretary so many years ago," said Buher, "I always appreciated how Suzanne fought for her students. When she saw a need, she didn't stop until



**SUZANNE MARBLE**

that need was met. She is still that person today."

Her current and former players concur.

"What makes her a great coach and how she was so successful over 30 years was how she always brought a team together by hard work and mutual respect," said Julie Hulbert Marble, one of the celebration coordinators and who is among players who later competed at the collegiate level. "Every year there was different talent, but she always encouraged a positive team dynamic."

Coach Marble, grew up in Spokane and attended college in coastal California, arriving at a time when La Conner volleyball was on the ascent, having achieved regular state qualifier status under Lady Braves mentor Maureen McMahan.

Marble built upon that foundation, raising the program to new heights, starting with a 2002 state championship run.

State crowns followed in 2006, when the Lady Braves won 60 consecutive sets, and again in 2007.

Before that, there were near misses when La Conner competed at the 1A level. They were state runners-up to Colfax in 2004 and 2005.

Always in contention, teams nevertheless had to endure a decade's wait before returning to the gold standard. The Lady Braves captured a fourth state champi-

onship in 2018 – three years after Marble's hall of fame induction – behind tournament most valuable player Matty Lagerwey, now competing in track and field at Western Washington University.

They repeated as state champs in 2019 with Marble reaching the 500-win plateau early on.

Typically, she deflected attention from herself.

"Five hundred is a big number," Marble told the Weekly News at the time, "but it truly isn't about the wins. Instead, it's the relationships, community and volleyball culture for us."

La Conner was the odds-on favorite to win state once more in 2020, but that season was shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. An abbreviated 11-match schedule was employed the following spring. Not surprisingly, La Conner went undefeated.

A dominant fall 2021 season, during which Marble's daughter, Ellie, an outside hitter, was named state 2B Player of the Year, ended with La Conner claiming state gold a sixth time.

Naturally, Marble has long been on the radar of larger schools, and La Conner has defeated many in non-conference meetings. But she has never felt tempted to leave.

"The great thing about a school our size," she said in a prior interview with the Weekly News, "is we're always building upon what you have. At a big school, they might cut 70 kids or more. Here, with our smaller enrollment, you have the opportunity to help all players develop their skills."

Marble shares credit with Keller for the school's extraordinary success.

"Pam," she stressed, "is a huge factor and we're so fortunate to have her."

Fans, of course, have been saying the same about Marble

## Braves Preschool opens with 11 students

By Bill Reynolds

Build it and they will come.

This famous line from a popular movie is also a mantra for the new Little Braves Preschool on the La Conner Schools campus.

Eleven students attended last week's reopening of the district preschool, which has been resurrected on a one-year trial basis following successful lobbying of the school board last summer.

The school district had operated a Pre-K program but stopped it a year ago when the classes shifted to the Swinomish Tribal Community.

Parents and school staff convinced the board earlier this year that a preschool supported by a variety of funding sources, including monthly tuition, would benefit all stakeholders – children, families and the district itself.

A compelling argument was that students tend to remain enrolled in the district where they attend preschool. Enrollment declined this year, which translates to reduced state financial support and staff cutbacks.

The district, which a decade ago boasted more than 600 full-time students, projected a K-12 enrollment of 530 this fall. Superintendent Will Nelson told the Weekly News that 531 students were enrolled here in September – just one above summer projections.

"Our first day with students was on Wednesday," said Director of Special Programs Andy Wheeler,

who had presented to the board the merits of preschool. "So, we're up and running and the kids are doing really well."

Students were greeted by a three-member staff led by retired longtime Elementary School teacher Jenny Mortenson. She is joined by Coral Harper and Joreen McDonald in the modular building behind the district administrative offices.

Elementary Principal Heather Fakkema-Hovde is administering the program, which will balance age-appropriate academic skills instruction with social-emotional development, Wheeler said.

The board approved a preschool format of up to 15 students, so four slots remain open, he said.

"Parents interested in enrolling a child can call the elementary school for more information," Wheeler said.

According to Wheeler, monthly preschool tuition is \$275. However, that is waived for families who are Head Start eligible.

Wheeler said he is grateful for the widespread support the Little Braves Preschool has received. The La Conner Co-Op Preschool, Swinomish Preschool and regional Head Start program based in Mount Vernon have all stepped up. Head Start has purchased furniture for the Little Braves classroom, said Wheeler.

"It's really been a collaborative effort," he said,

## Liberty Bell rings up 54-0 win over Braves

By Bill Reynolds

There were no cracks in a Liberty Bell defense that held La Conner to 67 yards total offense – all on the ground – in an impressive 54-0 non-conference eight-man triumph at Whittaker Field Saturday, Oct. 1.

The visitors amassed 339 yards in offense, almost evenly split between rushing and passing.

La Conner struggled to generate offense all afternoon. The Braves managed just two first downs, one via penalty when La Conner quarterback Ivory Damien's hard count drew successive encroachment flags during the first series in the second half.

Braves running back Tommy Murdock moved the sticks with a 15-yard dash in the final frame.

Damien led the home team with

25 hard-earned yards on 19 carries. Murdock netted 23 yards on eight attempts while C.J. Edwards totaled 19 yards on five runs.

Damien gave La Conner its best field position of the game, at the Mountain Lion 38, with a 48-yard kickoff return near the end of the third quarter. But the Braves could not capitalize, turning the ball over on downs at the Liberty Bell 30.

The visitors took an 8-0 lead less than two minutes into the first quarter when Lidey hooked up with Remington Paz on a 50-yard TD bomb.

The visitors blew open the game with a 24-0 second period run.

The score climbed to 46-0 entering the final stanza.

La Conner is scheduled for another non-league test this Friday against Charles Wright Academy in Tacoma at 7 p.m.

## 'Variations on America' concert

The Skagit Community Band presents "Variations On America," music selections that reflect the spirit of America, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m. in La Conner's Maple Hall and in Anacortes 3 p.m. Oct. 16 at Brodriak Hall

Information: Skagitcommunityband.org. Source: Skagit Community Band

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Book review —

# Ruby Fortune's life shines in 'Hardland'

By Ken Stern

With the main character's name Ruby Fortune, the novel's setting in the Arizona Territory at the turn into the 20th century and its title "Hardland," the reader can guess this read is going to be quite a ride. And it is from the first page, when a woman who is more philosophical and self-assured than tough talking, introduces herself with the statement – not confession – that she killed her husband.

She is wounded from that deed as well. While she wonders if she will ever be forgiven, she understands she would do it again. All that is in the first two pages. Historical novelist Ashley Sweeney will take another 350 pages to share Ruby's life with you. It is a tale and a journey that starts in the character's teenage years in her father's traveling wild west carnival in Texas. Picture a minor league Buffalo Bill.

Big Burl is the star of this show. More than her father, he is owner and ring master. He is one of a host of characters Sweeney populates Ruby's life with. Alas. He is soon gone, dead from a

heart attack. Death in the 19th century was all too common and unexpected, often happening too soon.

Pushing into the inhospitable west was always hard. Most of the novel takes place in Jericho, a small mining town south of Tucson, though it is not on maps.

Ruby has quite the struggle as her next 25 years spin out. Marrying Willie Fortune and having four sons was not fortunate but a battle with a wife-beating husband who controlled her through her addiction to laudanum, an opiate. For her to realize her dreams and gain a healthy life – and to protect her children – she shoots Willie dead in their home. Through a forged deed and the local sheriff's support, that leads to the purchase of a road house, which she renovates as the Jericho Inn.

Live is never easy or without conflict but also constantly present are Ruby's friends. Divina, whom her dad depended on and who has moved back to Jericho, is a rock and the mother she never had. In Tucson there is Vi, owner of a brothel, the place where Ruby was likely born.

There is the Shakespeare quoting Wink, a help when he is not drunk. And there is Sheldon, the big hunk of a sheriff, and helpful in the most critical ways to Ruby. She ought to fall for and marry him, but Sweeney insists that Ruby have a complicated journey. She certainly does. The love of her life will be Percival George Washington, Jr., a dangerous choice in the Arizona Territory in 1900, one they will get him killed if their romance is found out.

Nature is a character, too. As in "Eliza Waite" and "Answer Creek," her first two novels, the beauty and delicacy, sights and sounds of the natural environment are woven into the novel, whether Ruby is headed up to the silver mine or taking a walk in the desert with her son Sam.

The story ends a little too happily ever after, but not all the loose ends are tied up. Ruby does not get her man, or any man. She is at peace with the good and bad she has done, a complex life well lived in a hard land.

Sweeney will read from and sign her novel, 2-5 p.m. at Seaport Books in La Conner.

# Enjoy La Conner Poetry Festival 'a la carte' this week

Tickets are still available for the Skagit Poetry Festival, which starts Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m.

While a full Festival pass costs \$300, you can purchase daily passes. Pick and choose and chase favorite poets and sessions on your schedule.

For \$50, you can attend the "Welcome to Indian Country" reading at 8:00 pm Thursday, featuring Washington state Poet Laureate Rena Priest, Upper Salish poet Sasha LaPointe, and Meskwaki (Red Earth People) tribal member Ray Young Bear from Iowa.

Swinomish carver Kevin Paul and his daughter Katherine Paul, whose music has been featured on the FX show "Reservation Dogs", will offer music and a blessing.

An \$80 pass for Friday entitles you to afternoon sessions plus the 7:30 p.m. all-poet reading in Maple Hall.

"It's thrilling," says Skagit River Poetry Foundation board member Georgia Johnson. "35 poets, one poem each, running up the aisles, awing everyone."

You can also read your own poems at the open mic that follows.

On Saturday, a \$95 pass lets you access over 30 sessions and readings, plus the 7:30 p.m. read-

ing by nationally known poets Lorna Crozier, Terrance Hayes, Jane Hirschfield and Karen Solie.

Two-day passes for Friday and Saturday are also still available. They cost \$150 and may be purchased online or at Maple Hall.

Is everything ready? Yes, says Skagit River Poetry Foundation executive director Molly McNulty.



# Moving. . . (from page 1)

Already about 100 La Conner High students have been recruited to form a "human chain" to move books on Thursday, principal Christine Tripp confirmed last week. Members of the school's sports teams are also being drafted to supplement their regular weight training by hoisting and handing off books.

Saturday has been designated as "Family Day" in the library moving process. The children's collection will be relocated from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.. Kids accompanied by parents or guardians are encouraged to bring their carts, bags and, of course, strong arms to the mission.

"We want this to be a true community event that's also a fun event," Markert said.

The Friends of the Library will pitch in, providing snacks and helping check in volunteers, she said.

The new library will start greeting patrons in mid-October, said Markert, with hours set at Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. The grand opening has been postponed until spring.

"Usually the weather is better then," she explained, "and for now the idea is to finish the move and get settled in first." Instead, the new library will be launched with a "soft opening" later this month.

Next week, from Monday on, looms busy as well.

"That's when we'll be getting prepared to open," she said. "The shelves are coming in now and there are lots of little details to wok on during that week. As you can tell, we're very excited."

Nor will that excitement wear off anytime soon, the director vowed.

"We want everybody involved in the new library," she said. "We want there to be a welcoming and sharing atmosphere that reflects the theme of the story pole out front."

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# Orange. . . (from page 1)

wear her shiny new orange shirt as she was to attend school for the first time. But her first day at the St. Joseph Mission Residential School was nothing like she expected. Her orange shirt was taken away from her, never to be returned."

Williams said Sept. 30 was tabbed across Canada and at various American locales as a day for truth and reconciliation because it was the time of year when children were removed from their homes and placed in residential schools.

"Phyllis emphasized the importance of continuing the conversation so that no one forgets the suffering endured by indigenous people due to racism and discrimination," said Williams.

"Today's remembrance and celebration," she added, "is an opportunity for indigenous peoples, local governments, schools and communities to all come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for future generations of children.

"It's a day," Williams said, "to reaffirm that every child matters."

Jefferson, who drummed with the tribal canoe family, expressed gratitude: "We thank the La Conner School District for honoring these children and

our people."

As the canoe family drummed, Swinomish youth performed two dances around the cheer boxes on the stadium's track. Most wore orange shirts designed by Marcus Joe bearing the message "Every Child Matters."

Joe said the shirt design "was inspired by the many indigenous children who were stolen from their families and placed in residential schools. This shirt is meant to honor the survivors of these horrible circumstances that has cast a dark shadow over our indigenous history in the U.S. and Canada."

The program also featured students reading sections of an official school board proclamation recognizing Orange Shirt Day.

Nelson closed with two poetry readings. One piece was penned in 1933 by an anonymous writer lamenting the boarding school experience. The other was composed by Pawnee poet Abigail Echo-Hawk last year.

"I wrote this for our people," Nelson quoted Echo-Hawk as saying. "I wrote it because I couldn't quit crying as I read newspaper reports of this genocide against indigenous people. I wrote it because my heart was crying justice that my tongue couldn't shape words for, so my hand did."

# Director. . . (from pg 1)

If anyone has the stamina to see such an ambitious approach bear fruit, it is Markert, whose patience is borne out through her devotion to gardening and who regularly tests her endurance with distance running.

She has a half-marathon on her resume to go along with shorter road races, including the Smelt Run in La Conner.

"It was pretty cold, nasty weather," she recalls of the race day.

The library, on the other hand, will offer patrons a warm and cozy haven, assures Markert.

A graduate of Western Washington University with a degree in elementary education, Markert is especially excited for the children's area in the new library, a space to be anchored

by a replica tugboat highlighting the impact of Dunlap Towing and the maritime industry on La Conner's development.

Markert's and husband Kevin's son and daughter, now adults and both La Conner High grads, spent much of their youth engaged in the local library's summer children's programs.

"Our kids," Markert reflected, "were always involved."

It was, after all, in their DNA.

"I've always been interested in libraries," Markert noted. As a college student she worked in the WWU research library.

Her desire is that others will share her love of libraries in general and the La Conner Swinomish Library in particular.

"We want this to be everybody's place," she stressed. "We want everyone to feel at home here."

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**AGENDA**

**LA CONNER PARK COMMISSION AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 12TH 2022**  
 9:30 AM MAPLE HALL  
 FIRESIDE ROOM 104 COMMERCIAL STREET, LA CONNER AND BY ZOOM  
 Information Below and on the Town Website.  
 Public comments  
 Old Business  
 A. Park Impact Fees, Michael Davolio Town Planner  
 B. Pavilion Update  
 C. Fish Slide Repairs  
 D. Maple Street Park  
 E. Roger Small Sculpture at Benton Street Stairs  
 New Business  
 Meeting ID: 844 7752 3623  
 Passcode: n02wng

**TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA**  
 October 11, 2022, 6PM  
 104 Commercial Street  
 Upper Maple Center  
 And by Zoom  
 Information is below and on the Town Website  
 I. Call to Order  
 II. Pledge of Allegiance  
 III. Public Comments (Limit: 3 minutes per person)  
 IV. Presentations:  
 V. CONSENT AGENDA  
 A. Consent Agenda (Approved without objection 5/0)  
 1. Approval of the Minutes of September 27, 2022  
 2. Finance:  
 Approval of Accounts Payable  
 Approval Payroll  
 B. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda  
 VI. REPORTS  
 1. Chamber Report  
 2. Revenue /Expenditure Report  
 3. Department Head Reports  
 4. Mayor's Report  
 5. Council Committee Reports  
 VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:  
 1. Center Street Project  
 2. 2023 Budget Discussions  
 VIII. NEW BUSINESS:  
 1. Ordinance – Amending Section 7.05.060 of the LMC (Noise)  
 2. Agreement – C. Johnson (WWTP Paving)  
 IX. MAYOR ROUNDTABLE:  
 X. EXECUTIVE SESSION:  
 There may be an executive session immediately preceding or following the meeting as allowed by RCW 42.30.110 and as announced by the presiding officer.  
 Meeting ID: 852 8748 7840  
 Passcode: 3enKtx

**TOWN of LA CONNER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Town of La Conner is processing a permit application for the following project that may be of interest to you. You are invited to comment on the proposal.  
 Application File #: LU22-23HDR  
 Applicant: Keith and Sylvia Padgett  
 Owner: Keith and Sylvia Padgett  
 Project Location: 213 Calhoun Street; parcel number P74032  
 Project Description: The applicants propose to remove and replace roofing, windows, and siding on a house and an attached garage. The proposal also includes the installation of a fence and landscaping, and the attachment of a garden shed to the west side of the garage. The public hearing is being held solely to consider the impacts of the exterior construction as it impacts the town's historic district.  
 Environmental Review: Not required  
 Date of Permit Application: June 28, 2022  
 Date of Determination of Completeness: July 12, 2022  
 Required Permits: The following local, state and federal permits/approvals are needed for this project:  
 Historic Design Review & Building Permit – Town of La Conner  
 Building Permit – Town of La Conner/Skagit County  
 Consistency Overview: This property is located in the Residential zone, within the Historic Preservation District. The proposal is for repairs and improvements to an existing residential structure. The repairs, improvements, addition, and roofing will complement the character of the existing structure in materials, colors, and scale.  
 The proposed project must receive historic design review approval from the Planning Commission prior to issuance of a Certificate of Authorization.  
 Preliminary determination of the development regulations that will be used for project mitigation:  
 Town of La Conner Municipal Code  
 15.35 Commercial Zone  
 15.50 Historic Preservation District  
 Public Hearing – Planning Commission  
 Date: October 18, 2022  
 Time: 6:00 p.m.  
 Location: Maple Hall, 204 Douglas Street, La Conner, Washington. Zoom meeting details to be available on the Town website one week prior to the Planning Commission meeting.  
 Comments: Comments on this application must be submitted in writing to Michael Davolio, AICP, Planning Director, P.O. Box 400, La Conner, WA 98257, no later than 3:30 PM on October 18, 2022. Comments will also be accepted at the public hearing. Anyone submitting comments will automatically become a party of record and will be notified of any decision on the project.  
 If you have any questions concerning this project, contact Town Hall at (360) 466-3125 or email planner@town-of-laconner.org.  
 Issued: October 3, 2022  
 Published: October 5, 2022  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 5, 12, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR THE COUNTY OF SKAGIT In the Matter of the Estate of BETTY J. WILSON, Deceased. Case No. 22-4-00508-29 NONPROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
 RCW 11.42.030

The notice agent named below has elected to give notice to creditors of the above-named decedent. As of the date of the filing of a copy of this notice with the court, the notice agent has no knowledge of any other person acting as notice agent or of the appointment of a personal representative of the decedent's estate in the state of Washington. According to the records of the court as are available on the date of the filing of this notice with the court, a cause number regarding the decedent has not been issued to any other notice agent and a personal representative of the decedent's estate has not been appointed.  
 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 11.42.070 by serving on or mailing to the notice agent or the notice agent'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 notice agent served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.42.020(2)(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 11.42.050 and 11.42.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets.  
 Date of Filing Notice With Court: September 29, 2022  
 The notice agent declares under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington on September 27, 2022, at La Conner, Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.  
 Notice Agent: Kathleen M. Paulson  
 Attorney for Notice Agent: FELICIA VALUE  
 WSB No. 27635  
 PO Box 578  
 La Conner, WA 98257  
 (360) 466-2088  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 5, 12, 19, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of Derek Michael Gannon, Deceased., Cause No. 22-4-00505-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
 (RCW 11.40.030)

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) 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 probate assets and nonprobate assets of the decedent.  
 Date of First Publication: October 5, 2022  
 Personal Representative: Gabrielle Valencia Pla  
 Attorney for Personal Representative:  
 Aaron M. Rasmussen, WSBA #29496  
 Address for Mailing or Service:  
 Barron Smith Daugert PLLC, 300 N. Commercial St., Bellingham, WA 98225; Phone: 360-733-0212  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 5, 12, 19, 2022.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KING**  
 In re the Estate of GARY CARL ANDERSON Deceased. Case No.: 22-4-06559-9 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 per-

**LEGAL NOTICES**

sonal 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: October 5, 2022  
 Personal Representative: Erica Lynne Turner  
 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 cause number: King County, WA  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 5, 12, 19, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of Derek Michael Gannon, Deceased., Cause No. 22-4-00505-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
 (RCW 11.40.030)  
 The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) 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 probate assets and nonprobate assets of the decedent.  
 Date of First Publication: October 5, 2022  
 Personal Representative: Gabrielle Valencia Pla  
 Attorney for Personal Representative:  
 Aaron M. Rasmussen, WSBA #29496  
 Address for Mailing or Service:  
 Barron Smith Daugert PLLC, 300 N. Commercial St., Bellingham, WA 98225; Phone: 360-733-0212  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News October 5, 12, 19, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of BARBARA JOAN BISSELL, Deceased. Case No. 22-4-00458-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
 (RCW 11.40.020, 11.40.030)

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed and has qualified as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner 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 RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the probate assets and nonprobate assets of the decedent.  
 Date of First Publication: September 21, 2022  
 Personal Representative: Lexie Lamborn  
 Attorney for Personal Representative: BARRON SMITH DAUGERT PLLC  
 Felicia Value, WSBA No. 27635  
 PO Box 578  
 La Conner, WA 98257  
 (360) 466-2088  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News September 21, 28, October 5, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00473-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Gene Sargent, Deceased

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 non-probate assets.  
 Date of first publication: September 21, 2022  
 Michael L. Sargent  
 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 September 21, 28, October 5, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00474-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Roger D. Hurd, Deceased

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 per-

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: September 28, 2022.  
 Personal Representative: Kathy Anstensen  
 1004 Commercial Ave., Ste. 157 Anacortes, WA 98221  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News September 28, October 5, 12, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of BARBARA JOAN BISSELL, Deceased. Case No. 22-4-00458-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
 (RCW 11.40.020, 11.40.030)

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed and has qualified as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner 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 RCW 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the probate assets and nonprobate assets of the decedent.  
 Date of First Publication: September 21, 2022  
 Personal Representative: Lexie Lamborn  
 Attorney for Personal Representative: BARRON SMITH DAUGERT PLLC  
 Felicia Value, WSBA No. 27635  
 PO Box 578  
 La Conner, WA 98257  
 (360) 466-2088  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News September 21, 28, October 5, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00473-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Gene Sargent, Deceased

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 non-probate assets.  
 Date of first publication: September 21, 2022  
 Michael L. Sargent  
 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 September 21, 28, October 5, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00474-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Roger D. Hurd, Deceased

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 per-

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 non-probate assets.  
 Date of first publication: September 21, 2022  
 Roger Mark Hurd  
 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 September 21, 28, October 5, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00473-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Gene Sargent, Deceased  
 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 non-probate assets.  
 Date of first publication: September 21, 2022  
 Michael L. Sargent  
 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 September 21, 28, October 5, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00473-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Gene Sargent, Deceased  
 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 non-probate assets.  
 Date of first publication: September 21, 2022  
 Michael L. Sargent  
 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 September 21, 28, October 5, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00474-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Roger D. Hurd, Deceased  
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**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00473-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Gene Sargent, Deceased  
 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 non-probate assets.  
 Date of first publication: September 21, 2022  
 Michael L. Sargent  
 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 September 21, 28, October 5, 2022.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 22-4-00474-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**  
 In the Matter of the Estate of Roger D. Hurd, Deceased  
 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 per-



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 Answer

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

**Super Crossword**

**Answers**

S	A	K	S	O	R	E	N	E	S	S	E	B	B	T	T	O	P						
A	S	I	O	P	E	R	E	T	T	A	Y	O	U	R	I	V	A						
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	T	U	R	K	E	Y	S	U	T	E	S				
R	E	O	S	T	E	T	E	D	D	Y	B	E	A	R	S								
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E	L	E	A	W	O	A	B	U	T	S	I	S	P	Y									
C	O	C	K	T	A	I	L	O	L	I	V	E	S	E	M	O							
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A	N	O	A	S	I	N	P	I	N	C	U	S	H	I	O	N	S						
H	U	N	G	R	Y	M	O	U	T	H	S	R	I	O									
I	S	E	N	T	G	U	S	S	U	I	T	C	A	S	E	S							
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I	B	E	T	H	E	Y	C	A	N	B	E	S	T	U	F	F	E	D					
A	L	L	E	T	U	N	A	D	O	R	N	E	R	S	E	R	G						

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

## SERVICE

**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](http://laconnerfoodbank.com).  
**Camano Animal Shelter Association.** 198 North Can Ku Rd, Camano. 360-387-1902. [camanoanimalshelter.com](http://camanoanimalshelter.com).  
*Free microchip clinic.* Oct. 8, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the shelter.

## LIBRARIES

**La Conner Library.** 614 Morris St, La Conner. 360-466-3352. [lclib.wa.us](http://lclib.wa.us). Closed indefinitely to start the move process to new building.  
**Anacortes Public Library.** 360-299-8067. [CityofAnacortes.org](http://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.  
**Mount Vernon Public Library.** 360-336-6209. [mountvernonwa.gov](http://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 a.m.  
**Burlington Public Library.** 360-755-0760. [burlingtonwa.gov](http://burlingtonwa.gov). 820 E Washington Ave, Burlington.  
*Costume Swap.* Oct. 10-31. Bring your old costume and leave with a new one. All ages. Donations accepted.

## MUSEUM EXHIBITS

**Museum of Northwest Art.** Hours: Mon-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-4 p.m. [monmuseum.org](http://monmuseum.org), 360-466-4446.  
*Exhibit: In Pursuit of Abstraction.* Instructors at the UW School of Art in the 1960s. Through Oct. 9.  
**Pacific Northwest Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum.** Hours: Wed-Sun 11 a.m.-5 p.m. [qfamuseum.org](http://qfamuseum.org), 360-466-4288. 703 S Second St, La Conner.  
*International Quilt and Fiber Arts Festival.* Oct. 7-9. Fri-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Edward D. Hansen Conference Center, 2000 Hewitt Ave, Everett.  
*Exhibit: Essence of Japan.* Through October 9.  
*Exhibit: Tangled Fibers.* Through October 30.  
**Skagit County Historical Museum.** 360-466-3365 or [skagitcounty.net/museum](http://skagitcounty.net/museum). Hours: Thurs-Sun 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
*Exhibit: Hunt and Peck.* Through October 31.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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**REPORTER WANTED** Like to write? Want to see your name in print? Part-time writer needed for: Freelance, contract work. Some weekends. Send letter of interest and writing samples to: Ken Stern, publisher: [editor@laconnernews.com](mailto:editor@laconnernews.com)  
**JO'S HEALING HANDS.** Start fall off right by taking care of yourself. Call to make an appt. for massage at Jo's Healing Hands LMT 360-708-2022.  
**FIND YOUR CHURCH CONNECTION** at Skagit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Our welcoming and loving congregation promotes spiritual growth, justice and cares for the planet. Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. in person and on-line Please request a link to the service: [skagituu@gmail.com](mailto:skagituu@gmail.com). Address: 500 W Section St, Mount Vernon.

**STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS**  
**ADVERTISE STATEWIDE** with a \$325 classified listing or \$1600 for a display ad. Call this newspaper or 360-344-2938 for details.  
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## NOT TO BE MISSED

**Love La Conner.**  
*Halloween costume parade.* Oct. 31, 3 p.m. Parade will run south down 1st St. Staging on State St. Adults, kids and pets welcome.

## MUSIC

**La Conner Sips.** 608 1st St, La Conner. 360-610-9773. [laconnersips.com](http://laconnersips.com).  
*Live music.* 5-7 p.m. No cover charge. Steve Padilla, Oct. 7, No Tonic Press, Oct. 8, Steve Padilla, Oct. 29.  
**Buxtons.** 1904 Commercial Ave, Anacortes. 360-588-4521. [buxtons.co](http://buxtons.co).  
*Jazz 2nd Sunday Series.* 2-3:30 p.m. Free live jazz concert presents Cal Trio.  
**Skagit Community Band.**  
*Variations on America.* Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m. at Maple Hall. Oct. 16, 3 p.m. at Brodriak Hall in Anacortes. Free admission. More info at [skagitcommunityband.org](http://skagitcommunityband.org).  
**Skagit Symphony.**  
*Ukraine Benefit Concert.* Oct. 15, 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Edison Lutheran Church, 14201 Church Rd, Bow. \$35 suggested donation goes to Doctors without Borders. Skagit Symphony will perform and Susan Rich will read her poetry.  
**Ukelele Fun & Song Circle.**  
*Meet every Wednesday.* 1-2 p.m., Burlington Senior Center. Beginners and all ages are welcome. Loaner ukus available. For more info, email [yogaheartspace0@gmail.com](mailto:yogaheartspace0@gmail.com).

## ART & THEATRE

**Lincoln Theatre.** 712 S 1st St, Mount Vernon. 360-336-8955. [lincoltheatre.org](http://lincoltheatre.org).  
*The Rocky Horror Show.* Oct. 21-Nov. 4. Purchase tickets online.  
**McIntyre Hall.** 2501 E College Way, Mount Vernon. [mcintyrehall.org](http://mcintyrehall.org).  
*Show: "Capitol Comedy."* Oct. 7, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35-\$45. Students are free. Poking fun at today's political and social events.  
*The Northwest Tower Brass.* Oct. 9, 2-4 p.m. Tickets are \$25.

## MEETINGS

**Town of La Conner**  
 204 Douglas St, La Conner. 360-466-3125. Zoom info @Townoflaconner.org/calendar.  
*Town Council.* Oct. 11, 6 p.m. at Maple Hall.  
*Parks Commission.* Oct. 12, 9:30 a.m. at Maple Hall and Zoom.  
*Arts Commission.* Oct. 13, 9:30 a.m. at Civic Garden Club.  
*Planning Commission.* Oct. 18, 6 p.m. on Zoom.  
**La Conner School District**  
 305 N 6th St, La Conner. 360-466-4113. [lcsd.wednet.edu](http://lcsd.wednet.edu).  
*School Board Special Meeting.* Oct. 10, 1-3 p.m. at district office board room.  
**Skagit Conservation District 2021**  
 E. College Way #203, Mt. Vernon. 360-428-4313. Zoom info @skagitcd.org.  
*Board meetings.* Every fourth Wednesday 7:30-9 a.m. Next meeting Oct. 26.  
**Rotary Club of La Conner.**  
[laconnerrotary.org](http://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 questions, call Washington State Gamblers Anonymous hotline at 855-222-5542.

## VOLUNTEER

**Skagit Land Trust.**  
*Grandy Creek Volunteer Event.* Oct. 14, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Grandy Creek Conservation Area. Parking is limited so meet at Rasar State Park to carpool. Visit [skagitlandtrust.org](http://skagitlandtrust.org) to RSVP.



By Patricia Aqiimuk Paul, Esq., Food Editor.

## Hot Pepper Vinegar

A condiment I learned about while traveling in the south. Available in many restaurants, as a condiment on the tables of diners. Then, returning home, I found a similar brand in grocery stores. I began looking for hot peppers at area farm-stands. At one, a box of tiny hot peppers was \$20. I couldn't understand the Spanish descriptions, except they were hot. Back at home, I had recently emptied some red wine vinegar bottles. This year I went shopping for food safe bottles. Washed them. Then sterilized them by adding small amounts of boiling water, until full. Drained and ready for use. I have had a plastic funnel for over ten years. It has yellowed with age. It's time to upgrade to a newer one. For our family cooks, I gifted a bottle of this batch. I also recommended using some in a bbq recipe or a stew.



## Ingredients

- Serrano peppers, 20 to 30
- White vinegar. 2 cups
- Two bottles with lids

## Preparation

Wearing lined, kitchen rubber gloves, prepare the hot peppers. Cut off some of the stem. Make five small cuts in each pepper. Push them into the sterilized bottles. Bring the vinegar to boiling. Remove from the heat. Use a funnel and gradually fill the bottles. Using wood chopstick, push the peppers down, so the bubbles rise. Place the lids on. Allow to sit in a cool location for 1 day or 1 week, before using.

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



## Ragweed

Ragweed pollen is perhaps the worst single seasonal allergen in North America. Skin contact may even cause dermatitis. The much more colorful goldenrod plant is often mistaken for ragweed, as they are similar in appearance, come into flower about the same time (late summer through autumn) and share farm fields, urban landscapes and areas along roadways and riverbanks. Ragweed heights can range up to several feet; the "giant" variety grows up to 18 feet. - Brenda Weaver  
 Source: [pollen.com](http://pollen.com)

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## Super Crossword

FILL IT UP!

### ACROSS

- 1 Cinch — (Hefty brand)
- 4 Achy feeling
- 12 Recede
- 15 Sporty car roof feature
- 19 "Just — expected!"
- 20 "Babes in Toyland," e.g.
- 21 What "U" may mean
- 22 — Ridge (1972 Kentucky Derby winner)
- 23 Birds for Yuletide dinners
- 26 Some Pac-12 players
- 27 Some antique autos
- 28 Fr. woman with a halo
- 29 Cuddly crib toys
- 31 Letter holders
- 35 Irritate
- 36 Post office scale unit
- 37 It flows in la Loire
- 38 Vegetable pizza toppings
- 42 Polling place containers
- 48 Feels ill
- 49 Weep audibly

- 50 Zeno of — (Greek philosopher)
- 51 Vie for the affection of
- 52 Lies next to
- 54 Guessing game for kids
- 55 Garnishes for martinis
- 60 Broody rock genre
- 62 Nonbeliever in God
- 63 Record half with the hit, usually
- 65 Forces out
- 69 Larry and Curly's pal
- 70 Parts of respiratory systems
- 75 "Fake-Out" co-star Zadora
- 76 Zac of "The Lorax"
- 78 "—: Battle Angel" (2019 action film)
- 79 Grilled corned beef sandwiches
- 81 "Yes" vote
- 83 Things hanging from rims
- 87 Put into a snug spot
- 90 Base before home

- 92 Oahu gift
- 93 As straight as — (totally honest)
- 94 Year, in Portuguese
- 95 Speller's clarifying words
- 96 Sewing kit accessories
- 100 Chicks awaiting meals have them
- 104 '16 Olympics host city
- 105 "— a Letter to My Love"
- 106 "Milk" director Van Sant
- 107 Bellhops' burdens
- 113 Hard or soft Tex-Mex items
- 117 Exhaust
- 118 Socko review
- 119 "Sure, sure!"
- 120 Fact about 12 long answers in this puzzle
- 125 100%, in Germany
- 126 Winery cask
- 127 People prettifying
- 128 Unit of work
- 129 Shopkeeper Oleson on "Little House on the Prairie"

- 130 Hi-tech organizer
  - 131 Currently
  - 132 Cereal grass
- ### DOWN
- 1 "— bleu!"
  - 2 Pale-faced
  - 3 Russian ballet company
  - 4 "Help us!"
  - 5 Elect (to)
  - 6 Sleep phase
  - 7 Expunge
  - 8 Tree homes
  - 9 Suffix with towel
  - 10 Apt name for a chef?
  - 11 "No Exit" playwright
  - 12 Looked at
  - 13 Hopalong Cassidy portrayer William
  - 14 On the go
  - 15 Make level
  - 16 Female giant of myth
  - 17 Cultivate to excess
  - 18 Ticks away
  - 24 British verb suffix
  - 25 "Akeelah and the Bee" star Palmer
  - 30 Conks on the head
  - 32 August sign
  - 33 Cereal grass

- 34 Brit's bar
- 35 U.S. tax org.
- 38 An earth sci.
- 39 Carsick feeling
- 40 Deep hole
- 41 Besides that
- 42 Turned into
- 43 Numerous
- 44 Rakish guy
- 45 Body of water
- 46 Night hooter
- 47 Losing row in tic-tac-toe
- 52 Zipcar owner
- 53 Hotel stock
- 54 Debt slip
- 56 Thin-loned
- 57 White — sheet
- 58 "— girl!"
- 59 "Wicked Game" singer Chris
- 61 City in Iraq
- 64 City in India
- 66 Big name in tight trunks
- 67 "The Adventures of —" (2011 Spielberg film)
- 68 Lips off to
- 71 White rat, say
- 72 Tale twearer
- 73 War vet's affliction, for short
- 74 Jellied fish
- 77 Sturdy tree

- 80 — B'rith
- 82 Website for craft vendors
- 84 Yalies
- 85 What "X" may mean
- 86 Pen choice
- 87 Papeete native
- 88 Of no avail
- 89 Color-sensitive retina part
- 91 That chap
- 95 Song and dance
- 96 Measures of acidity
- 97 Geller of psychic acts
- 98 Grab a chair
- 99 Ad —
- 101 \$1,000 bills, informally
- 102 Unpretty
- 103 From Florence, e.g.
- 107 Israeli native
- 108 Overturn
- 109 Pooch's bark
- 110 Less perilous
- 111 Each and —
- 112 Bog plant
- 114 URL starter
- 115 Israel's Barak
- 116 Singer Home
- 117 White sheet?
- 121 Fuss
- 122 Body of water
- 123 Give it a go
- 124 Navy inits.

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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	3				2		4	

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: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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# POLICE BLOTTER

SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Sunday, September 25**  
**6:07 p.m.: Gun shot** – One gunshot was heard in the area. The area was checked by a deputy but the source of the noise was not located. McLean/La Conner Whitney Rds, Greater La Conner.

**7:30 p.m.: Lost kayak** – Caller brought a kayak to the beach and left it for the tide to come in. Upon return to the location, the kayak was no longer there and was believed to have sunk. Similk Bay, Greater La Conner.

**Tuesday, September 27**  
**5:53 p.m.: Suspicious Cadillac** – A suspicious black Cadillac CTS was reported in the area which was believed to be associated with a previous burglary. The area was checked by deputies, but the Cadillac was no longer around. Christianson Rd., Greater La Conner.

**Wednesday, September 28**  
**7:33 p.m.: Stakes removed** – Report of property markers being removed. A survey stake was pulled out and laying on the ground. McLean Rd., Greater La Conner.

**Friday, September 30**  
**10:57 a.m.: Ditch slide** – A one vehicle non-injury collision. The driver of the vehicle swerved to miss a car coming into his lane. When the vehicle hit the shoulder of the road it began to slide and ended up in the ditch. The vehicle had to be removed by a tow truck. La Conner Whitney Rd., Greater La Conner.

**Saturday, October 1**  
**9:22 a.m.: Found bank checks** – Bank checks were found on the property and turned into law enforcement. Maple Ave., La Conner.

## Ukraine benefit Oct. 15

Support the people of Ukraine by attending a benefit featuring music and poetry Oct. 15, 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Edison Lutheran Church in Bow. Members of the Skagit Symphony will perform and Susan Rich will read her poetry.

The \$35 suggested donations will go to Doctors without Borders. The benefit is sponsored by the Skagit Symphony, Skagit River Poetry Foundation, Perry and Carlson, Peggy and Jerry Anderson and the Carson family.

Edison Lutheran Church is at 14201 Church Road, Bow 98232.

## LGBTQ+ speaker at Lincoln Theatre

Jennifer Knapp, a nationally known music singer/songwriter, will speak at the Lincoln Theatre Oct. 7 as part of the "Faithfully Queer (and Allied)" series.

This event, drawing on her popular Inside Out Faith tour, will include songs that inform her story.

Hosted by Burlington Lutheran Church, the Q&A will be moderated by Pastor Charis Weathers. This event is free, with donations accepted.

Source: Lincoln Theatre



**A FUN WAY TO FUND THE BUDGET** – EMT Christiane Finch and Firefighter Kyle Ekkelkamp were among the 30-plus volunteers who shopped, cooked, set up tables, served and cleaned up after the 650 folks who attended the McLean Road Fire Department's Spaghetti Feed last Saturday. Pent-up demand for a good plate of post-pandemic pasta was so great that revenue was 40 percent over the previous record-setting meal. The McLean Road squad has responded to 359 incidents in the last twelve months and recently welcomed a brush truck for responding to brush fires. During the pandemic, the fire hall's community meeting room was remodeled, kitchen upgraded and bathrooms upgraded for better handicapped access. A new camera and alarm system in the District's Memorial Highway Station will help prevent burglaries. Learn more about District 2 trainings and events on its new Facebook page, McLean Road Firefighters Association.

– Photo and text by Anne Basye

## Impact... (from page 1)

"Having an impact fee as a budget item can help pay for these things."

After a successful state review, Town department heads will revise respective capital budgets and create a separate resolution identifying specific impact fees and their amounts.

Council member Rick Dole said the timing is right for impact fees in La Conner.

"Budgets are tight," said Dole. "I'm in favor of developers paying for these services."

Wohleb, liaison to the parks commission, said that town parks have been "sorely underfunded." She said citizens have had to make up shortfalls with private donations.

"It's time for developers to pay up," she said.

### 306 Center Street got attention

A draft ordinance prepared by Dan O'Donnell, a former mayor, confirming validity of the 1986 contract rezone of the property behind The Slider Café did not receive a council motion. The Kenyon Disend firm retained by the Town opined that the failure to record the Contract Rezone with the Skagit County Auditor's Office likely means that it does not bind subsequent purchasers or owners, they wrote.

Town Administrator Scott

Thomas recommended the proposed ordinance not be approved and Davolio cautioned that repeated use of the word "shall" in its draft "gives no option" for council action were the ordinance enacted.

Councilmember Ivan Carlson, however, did endorse reaching out to Kate and Brandon Atkinson, owners of the property whose application has been approved for a 20-unit building on the site, to negotiate an accord.

"Maybe they would be amenable if we could offer some kind of compromise," Carlson said.

The Atkinsons' application for a conditional use permit to construct a three-story building in the residential neighborhood has bounced back and forth between the Town and Hearing Examiner David Lowell since March.

Thomas and Mayor Ramon Hayes revealed that the Town had approached the Atkinsons "some time ago" but said they did not receive "a receptive audience."

"We spoke with the developer on behalf of the Town and asked if some accommodations might be made to get past this issue and come up with something the neighbors would find more acceptable," Thomas said.

Dole said a hands-off approach should be taken since the matter is under appeal.

"We're in an appeals process," he said. "We have to be careful we don't make a misstep here."

"We don't have a contract

rezone," Dole added. "We have an approved project. We need to let this play out legally."

"We inherited an extremely complicated situation from 1986," Hayes said. "It's left to you, the administration and myself to figure this out."

Carlson, though, said further dialogue could prove beneficial.

"I don't think it hurts to just talk to them and ask what would it take to redesign (the project) to meet the residents' wishes," he said.

Due to potential legal ramifications, it was proposed that the dialogue be between the Atkinsons and interested citizens as opposed to Town officials.

"If citizens want to work with them," said Thomas, "have at it."

"I'm encouraged if you want to talk to the Atkinsons," Dole said to the audience, "and see if you can come up with something. We as an official body have to avoid appearing to interfere."

Wohleb concurred. "This is a really tough situation," she said. "I have no problem with somebody in the community talking to the developer. But we're in a process and need to respect that."

In a related note: Councilmember MaryLee Chamberlain suggested scheduling more joint planning commission-council meetings, saying, "I think it would be great for us to have these conversations."

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