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# LA CONNER WEEKLY NEWS

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## SENIOR MOMENT

**FAREWELL TO THIS DIAMOND** – La Conner High School senior baseball players Logan Burks, Ivory Damien, Kenai Zimmerman, Brogan Masonholder and David Holt meet once last time at home plate following their home finale against Coupeville on May 2. The Braves seniors helped lead the team to a winning record (9-8) in regular season play this spring. See Page 4 for the report on La Conner’s final baseball and softball games of the season. – *Karla Reynolds photo*

## Cram set to lead schools for one year

By Bill Reynolds

The La Conner School District should enjoy a smooth leadership transition as the school board on Monday appointed finance chief David Cram to succeed Will Nelson as superintendent for one year, starting July 1.



David Cram

Nelson, who is completing his third year leading La Conner schools, announced in April that he will leave the district June 30 for a teaching post at Western Washington University in Bellingham.

Rather than conducting a potentially costly external search for Nelson’s successor, the board promoted Cram, a La Conner High School alum now in his second tour as the district’s finance director.

Cram has also served as deputy superintendent since returning to the district last year to help it navigate a dire fiscal cycle resulting from significant post-COVID declines in student enrollment.

Enrollment is the main driver of state funding for public schools in Washington.

“We’re honored that you’re willing to step up

(continued on page 6)

## Mayor hears views on Jenson field

By Ken Stern

Some 13 people shared their views on the Town of La Conner’s half-acre Jenson field property with Mayor Marna Hanneman Saturday at the La Conner Swinomish Library.

Most had started the discussion nine days earlier at a town-organized community mingle April 25. This time Channel Drive residents Dave Buchan and Susan Macek and Pull and Be Damned resident Dana Heald came and added their perspectives.

Buchan shared his concern over the dramatically declining enrollment in the local school district, saying a lack of affordable housing prevents families with children from living in town. He also called for a master plan, developed in conjunction with the Port of Skagit. Buchan addressed one of the five issues Hanneman listed from the mingle.

Besides the need for working-class housing, that group identified leaving the property alone, as open space, a community garden, a dog park and a food forest.

Heald advocated for open space, saying, “space has a value. Leave it alone.” She noted her husband, Larry Heald, was an artist, as is Maggie Wilder, the food forest advocate. Heald criticized, as others have, the loss of the Maple Avenue ballfield to the Landed Gentry housing development, repeating, “the ballfield was an open space.”

La Conner must plan for 20-year growth of 124 residents under the state’s Growth Management Act, Buchan pointed out.

“Five to seven houses will not solve



**GATHERED AROUND THE TABLE, AGAIN** – What are the possibilities for the now town-owned Jenson property? La Conner Mayor Marna Hanneman, standing, heard from people who came to the library Saturday morning. – *Photo by Ken Stern*

the housing problem,” Heald said.

Buchan noted the Port has been looking at workforce housing at its north end La Conner Marina property for years and pressed for a townwide assessment.

Hanneman opened the meeting saying again, “The Town wants to know what the community wants it to be” and emphasized, “the Town is not in the business of building.” Instead, partnerships will be needed for any development.

Attendees recognized more housing units and the size of the school district are linked. Buchan initiated that topic, reciting the declining enrollment projections of under 450 students next year compared to 600-plus students two years ago.

Resident Linda Talman believes there are more families and children in town than commonly thought. Parents tell her they are sending their kids to private schools and other districts.

“What I hear is that some people don’t have faith in the schools. Some say the kids are feral. All kids are feral,” she said. Low student test scores are also troubling to parents, she said.

Channel Cove resident Al Williams shared conversations he has had with Swinomish tribal members, reporting some parents are transferring their children to schools in Tulalip and as far as Muckleshoot. Participants agreed parents on both sides of the channel are concerned with years of

(continued on page 8)

## April rains came late, fell hard

By Ken Stern

Daily rain the last week of April, 24-30, totaled 1.7 inches at the Washington State University weather station on Memorial Highway. One inch fell April 28 and 1.25 inches came down April 28-30. It was 64% of the month’s rainfall of 2.6 inches.

While that was 3.7% under the century average of 2.7 inches, it was almost an inch more than in 2023 and the first year of over 2 inches of April rain since 2019. Still, this is the second month in a row of below-average precipitation. March’s two inches was an inch below that month’s century average.

There was a slug of rain April 6-9 totaling 0.6 inch but only eight of the 14 rain events were over one-tenth inch.

Temperatures were near 25-year norms, with the average daily low of 39.8 degrees 1.1 degrees below the average. The average daily high of 56.6 degrees was only 0.1 degrees below the century’s average. The 49.3 degrees average daily tempera-

(continued on page 8)

### Rain Report: April

Rain last week, April 28-May 4: 1.3  
 Rainfall in April: 2.6  
 Number of rain days: 14  
 Least rain, one day: 0.01, 2 days  
 Most rain, one day: 1.0, 28th  
 Least rain: 0.28, 2004  
 Most rain: 4.73, 2018  
 Average rainfall, 2000-2024: 2.6  
 Rainfall last month, March: 2.0  
 Totals in inches. Data from WSU Mount Vernon.



**LET’S RIDE** – Matthew Metcalf, Northwest Educational Service District bicycle education administrative coordinator, helps La Conner fifth-graders get the hang of their new bicycles. – *Photo by Bill Reynolds*

## Studious fifth graders earn new bicycles

By Bill Reynolds

Christmas came early for more than 40 La Conner Elementary School fifth graders.

Rather than waiting to awaken Dec. 25 to find a new bicycle under the tree, students ended their school day May 2 with a bike of their own.

They earned it – in both name and deed.

The bikes were presented as part of a three-tiered, school-based Bicycle Safety Education program and its Earn-a-Bike initiative.

Earn-a-Bike is an equity opportunity allowing youth to apply their new cycling skills in the real world by pedaling to school, exploring their neighborhoods and experiencing the freedom and mobility independence of cycling, said Briana Lindquist, communications specialist with the Anacortes-based Northwest Educational Service District.

Other program components include an in-school “Let’s Go” physical education unit, the largest statewide youth bicycle education curriculum in the United States, and an after-school

youth development project modeled after a Cascade Bicycle Club program.

The Seattle non-profit promotes safe, equitable and sustainable cycling experiences in Washington state. It designed the Bicycle Safety Education program and partnered with NWESD to distribute bikes—plus helmets and locks—in La Conner.

As part of the program, students learned bicycle maintenance, gear shifting and braking.

The bikes were purchased with

(continued on page 8)

From the editor —

## Need 5 to get to 124

Last Saturday some 13 people – mostly La Conner residents, along with Channel Drive and Pull and Be Damned neighbors and the Home Trust of Skagit executive director – met Mayor Marna Hanneman at the La Conner Swinomish Library for her monthly community check-in. There were mostly familiar faces around the conference room table. These residents have attended Hanneman’s earlier library gatherings, as many of them joined in town-organized community mingles on short-term rentals, First Street parking and the town-acquired Jenson property. That was Saturday’s focus.

No one would call this regular group –these 10 or so who consistently show – the mayor’s kitchen cabinet. That is a 200-year-old term referring to trusted advisors tapped informally for guidance. No, while this group is not random, it is not appointed or sought out by Hanneman. Instead, this group of primarily elders has self-selected to maintain an eternal vigilance, responding to the offer of giving input.

And they do. There is a lot of varied and extensive experience as well as the interesting lives these people have lived. Dave Buchan volunteers with a La Conner school district advisory council. He is concerned about the dramatically declining student enrollment here. He was at the Port of Skagit’s presentation to the La Conner town council and planning commission in May 2022. The Port, the school district and the town government are the three essential institutional anchors of our little corner of the world.

Buchan’s advice: a master plan is needed to address all the properties within the boundaries of this municipality, to take the long view and to be comprehensive.

He is right. Leaving housing development to individual property owners and developers is piecemeal, but not even an approach. It leaves the weight of the hand of the free market tilting the scales to maximum individual profit with little to no thought for the common good or the communal long term. It is helter-skelter. And it does not address the state policy of requiring housing projections based on population and income brackets as mandated by the Growth Management Act.

Hanneman said planning staff are inventorying properties town-wide. She said the government is not in the business of building homes. And she championed collaboration, noted the complexities involved and the patience needed to not rush into decisions.

What she did not say was anything about what the town government – the elected council and professional staff – are thinking or saying. For while it is great to repeatedly seek citizen views, in our town of almost 1,000 residents; 30 people is about 3% and 10 people is 1%. More voices are needed to be representative or the pulse of the community. But if there were 80 or 180 and if they were carrying signs and marching, they still might not capture the views of the majority of residents.

But there are five very important voices, critically needed for more than their opinion or analysis. These are the members of the La Conner town council. Their role is to represent the residents. They do not have to rush in or decide or vote. But their willingness to deliberate publicly during council meetings and take time with each other to discuss their concerns, analyses and approaches to the small steps that together will inform the community, will show there is elected leadership on a path to a still-future housing plan.

We know the town government, elected officials and staff, are committed to the biggest project before them – replacing the aged wastewater treatment plant. But that being the most expensive need does not make it the most challenging or most unsolvable project. Municipalities large and small throughout the country are in the same boat with old infrastructure.

Few students because there are not the right-priced places for families to reside; old pipes, water and wastewater needs, a town of 1,000 residents without the budget or staff resources: on our own it is one hand-wringing problem after another. Partnering closely with neighboring fundamental institutions that are also lacking a critical mass on their own is a step – and a decision.

In La Conner, residents will be helped knowing that their town council is deliberating and discussing and advancing these issues well ahead of any decisions or votes they will need to take. — Ken Stern

A citizen’s view

## Human dignity key read of signs of the times

By Father Paul Magnano

A leading theme of the Catholic Church since the Second Vatican Council has been “reading the signs of the times.” The signs of the times are clear: human dignity is under grave threat. The Vatican has issued an important new declaration on human dignity. “Dignitas Infinita” is the title of this 23-page document. In its preface, Pope Francis explicitly asked that the document “highlight topics closely connected to the theme of dignity, such as poverty, the situation of migrants, violence against women, human trafficking, war and other themes.” Thus the declaration goes beyond the focus on single issues and throws a spotlight on the much broader field of violations of human dignity.

In an editorial on Vatican Media, Andrew Tornielli, its editorial director, wrote “The new text contributes to overcoming the dichotomy that exists between those who concentrate exclusively on the defense of life that is unborn or dying and

forget the other attacks against human dignity, and those, on the other hand, who focus only on the defense of the poor and migrants and forget that life has to be defended from conception to natural death.” The introduction and first three chapters present the genesis and development of the concept of human dignity through history, from its emergence in classical antiquity to its development in the Bible and in Christian thought.

The declaration gives considerable space to explaining the concept of human dignity, starting with the statement that “Every human person possesses an infinite dignity, inalienably grounded in his or her very being, which prevails in and beyond every circumstance, state or situation the person may ever encounter.” It says, “human reason alone” recognizes this principle “which underlies the primacy of the human person and the protection of human rights.” It recalls the biblical teaching that “all human beings possess inherent dignity because they are created in the image and likeness of God. It explains

that “to be created in the image of God means that every human being is loved and willed by God and, thus, has an inviolable dignity.”

The declaration’s fourth chapter gives attention to 13 broad areas of violations against human dignity, including some new ones in the field of bioethics. It begins by recalling that the Second Vatican Council emphasized that “all offenses against life itself, such as murder, genocide, abortion, euthanasia and willful suicide” must be recognized as contrary to human dignity. It affirmed, too, that “all violations of the integrity of the human person, such as mutilation, physical and mental torture,” also infringe upon human dignity. Finally, it denounced “all offenses against human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, deportation, slavery, the selling of women and children, working conditions where individuals are treated as mere tools for profit.”

Father Magnano has long been a parish priest with Skagit Valley Catholic churches.

A citizen’s view

## A new resident appreciates La Conner

By Jai Boreen

I have been living here just a year now, but my neighbors and the community as a whole have been so open, friendly and inviting that I feel totally at home here.

One of the things I truly love about our town is its “walkability.” The beautiful new Swinomish La Conner Library is just a few blocks away, with a steep hill to get my heart rate up on the return trip. And what a wonderful place it is to visit. Not only do they offer a lifetime of fiction and non-fiction books to read, but magazines, DVDs, events and programs for all ages.

A new experience for me is having a post office box rather than a mailbox by the side of the road. This gives me another place to walk to, or rather be drug to as it is Rico’s favorite destination. His favorite pal, Sarah, always comes out from behind the counter to give him some pets and spoil him. I have

always been a fan of USPS, the premier department of the federal government, a critical feature since Ben Franklin’s days, necessary to a functioning democracy even in these days of the internet.

Along First Street, Studio 623, Moe’s and many other dog-friendly shops have provided entertainment, inspiration and shelter. We thank you all.

Oh and Rico is nudging me and making little doggie sounds, reminding me to mention Sunrise Food Bank, which is right across the street from us in the old Masonic Lodge. Monday is Rico’s favorite day, when he posts himself on our front porch or at the gate, waiting for food bank volunteers to come over and give him a pet or a treat. He has endeared himself to the point that he feels like the Sunrise mascot. The Food Bank does far more than pet dogs. For over 20 years, it has served those who were concerned about where their next meal would

come from, 130 or so families weekly, delivering to a third of them who can’t come to the distribution center.

And just a few blocks away are three amazing museums. Practically in my back yard is the Skagit County Historical Museum with its fascinating displays, exhibits and programs. Equally handy is the Pacific Northwest Quilt and Fiber Arts Museum in the fabulous 1891 Gaches Mansion, resurrected from a devastating 1973 fire. Down on First Street, next to the post office, is the Museum of Northwest Art, with world-class exhibits and programs for young and old. Don’t let a lack of lucre hold you back as admission is free or by donation.

So, yes, thank you La Conner for taking me in. I look forward to a fun-filled 2024 enjoying your charms.

Still new resident Jai Boreen provides her own biographical summary in her guest viewpoint here.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### More light, less heat on court

The U.S. Supreme Court’s recent questioning of attorneys on both sides in the Trump immunity case has provoked outrage, and personal insults against some justices, by our esteemed editor (Weekly News, May 1).

But the Court made it clear months ago that it may not give an outright “win” to either side, by framing the question before it as “whether, and to what extent,” a president is immune from criminal prosecution for acts while holding office. One appellate court said Trump was not immune from prosecution for any of the acts cited by prosecutors; Trump’s attorneys say he is immune for all of them.

Somewhere between those two positions is a distinction between a president’s official acts in serving the country, and acts serving

his private interest. Where to draw that line has never been entirely clear, and where it is drawn will affect all future presidents of any party. No one should want it drawn differently depending on one’s political loves and hates. So the Court may take some time. If it wanted to serve Trump, it could simply approve his claim of blanket immunity, which the justices clearly do not think is tenable.

Our editor’s disquisitions on national politics sometimes seem ill-informed, generating more heat than light at a time in our history when more of the former is scarcely needed. I would love to see more of the latter.

Richard Doerflinger  
La Conner

### Trust current school staff

This moment, Superintendent Will Nelson’s resignation is an

opportunity for the La Conner Schools.

I am in full agreement with the assessment by the school board, to focus within the district instead of initiating a search for a replacement.

With school funds low, the financial outlay of a search and the salary of a superintendent are funds better spent focused on what already exists and lessening the load placed on staff members due to the funding shortage.

Experts in their fields; David Cram, director of finance and operations, and Beth Clothier, teaching and learning director, are highly qualified to fulfill two crucial roles a superintendent is responsible for: fiscal and academic success of the district.

Other staff members are fully capable to step in to new job opportunities.

And, with a five-year curriculum plan underway, is it not best for the district to see through

what it has carefully implemented before introducing more change?

Trust and confidence from the community will be built by this sign of fiscal responsibility. Strong support will come with a demonstration of faith and confidence in the quality of existing staff.

Go Braves, be brave.  
Katie Carson  
La Conner

### Don’t ignore our town artistic roots

I was sorry to read in last week’s Weekly News concerning the Jenson property (“Residents engage,” May 1) that there was only minimal interest in housing. What worries me is that without diversity La Conner wouldn’t be the rich connection community it is today. People who have received a hand up from supporters of the arts and the appreciation of

that diversity. Creative, brilliant people that gave La Conner its diversity and flavor.

La Conner is built on the history of our heroes: People who lived on Pull and Be Damned, Fishtown, the marsh. People who lived in shacks without power or running water. People who worked in town, opened book stores, sewed dolls, sold flowers, wrote poetry, painted.

All around us are people living among us that without the helping hand of gifted-housing, property and financial aid would be heroes somewhere else!

Please don’t waste endless time in contentious debate! So many missed opportunities lead to exhausted participants with an opening for developers.

Don’t capitulate to an ethos of caution. Jump in there, and life in La Conner might get interesting again.

Marianne Meyer  
Mount Vernon

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#### LETTER POLICY

Please write! Letters up to 350 words are welcome as are longer analyses and statements. Write a 450 word guest column. Deadline: 5 p.m. Sunday for next issue. Include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters are edited for civility clarity and style. Send to: editor@laconnernews.com

## Organic walnuts recalled from Skagit stores

By Ken Stern

The Washington state Department of Health announced a recall of Gibson Farms, Inc. bulk organic walnuts April 30. They were joined by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in advising people to stop eating organic walnut halves and pieces sold in bulk at several stores in Washington because of possible contamination with E. coli bacteria.

The Skagit Valley Food Co-op posted its own announcement on May 2. It does not use Gibson Farms walnuts in its deli or bakery foods. The Department of Health reported at least 12 people in California and Washington state have been infected with E. coli bacteria after eating bulk organic walnut halves and pieces. Six of those people live in Washington. No one has died from their infection. The Skagit Valley Food Co-op calls for discarding nuts bought there between Dec. 1, 2023, and

April 24. It will provide refunds. Organic walnuts bought at the Anacortes Food Co-op are to be discarded, also. The Department of Health advises checking the list of stores on its food recalls and alerts website to see if the walnuts are part of the recall. Stores may repackage bulk walnuts into plastic clamshells or bags. Discard bulk-purchased organic walnut halves and pieces bought at listed stores. Stop eating and discard recalled walnuts, including those stored in your refrigerator or freezer.

## SKAGIT COUNTY HEARINGS

### Solid waste fees could jump 30%

The Skagit County Commissioners will hold a hearing on proposed new solid waste rates at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 21, in the Commissioner's Hearing Room, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon. The county has a new vendor, Waste Management, providing solid waste services in unincorporated areas. Its 2023 contract had a 40% increase in transport and disposal costs. Skagit County Public Works has conducted a solid waste rate study to ensure rates were sufficient to stay solvent. The rate study report is on the county's website.

Public Works staff presented a new proposed rate structure to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Solid Waste System Governance Board, with the new structure ultimately recommended for approval to the Skagit County Commissioners in April.

The proposed rate structure has an average 30% increase in costs for customers.

Submit comments on the proposal via e-mail to Margo Gillaspay: margog@co.skagit.wa.us, or mail to 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. Attend and comment at the public hearing in-person or via Zoom: skagitcounty.net/Departments/

### Give an opinion on comp plan update

The Skagit County public participation program for community involvement in the 2025 comprehensive plan has been adopted by the county commissioners.

Its five features include public meetings as part of multiple engagement channels; transparent communication for the update process, timelines and opportu-

nities for participation; inclusive outreach to ensure all voices are heard and represented; an iterative feedback process to assess if engagement objectives are achieved; and collaborative partnerships with local organizations, community groups and stakeholders to maximize participation and promote shared ownership.

The comprehensive plan is a vital roadmap for the future growth and development of Skagit County.

For staying informed and updated, email pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us or go to skagitcounty.net/2025CPA.

### Comment on drainage rates

The Skagit County Commissioners will hold a public hearing for comment on proposed fee changes in amending an ordinance in Chapter 12.19, Skagit County Code and Rates and Charges for the Skagit County Drainage Utility Assessment, at 2 p.m. Monday, May 20, in the commissioner's hearing room, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon.

Revisions to Skagit County code and the drainage utility rates and charges will more closely reflect the actual costs for services such as drainage concern response, drainage projects, stormwater management, programmatic work related to regulatory NPDES stormwater permit and others. The rates and charges were last revised in 2013.

Call Skagit County Public Works at 360-416-1400, or find the Skagit County drainage utility program webpage.

Submit email written comments to Jenn E. Johnson: jennej@co.skagit.wa.us. Mail to 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. Attend and comment at the public hearing in-person or via Zoom: skagitcounty.net/Departments/CountyCommissioners/main.htm.

## Shelter Bay lawsuit hearing Friday

By Ken Stern

Lawyers for the five Shelter Bay board of directors sued by then-resident Jan Henrie in 2023 will be in Skagit Superior Court Friday morning, May 10, asking that the lawsuit be moved to the Court of Appeals.

Henrie's suit alleged malfeasance and failure in these board members' actions and conduct for their passing an "invalid budget in violation of both the Shelter Bay Community

bylaws and the Revised Code of Washington."

The defendants, Wendy Poulton, Elaine Dixon, Monte Hicks, Joseph Hurley and Louise Kari, have not contested the case's merits. Instead they claim Henrie has no standing to bring the suit. Superior Court Judge Laura Riquelme has ruled against them twice.

The defense is asking the judge to stop the proceeding while they ask the Court of Appeals to grant discretionary review of the

multiple decisions against them by Riquelme.

Defense lawyer Amy Rosario writes in her April 29 motion that the defendants are seeking approval "on the threshold issue of standing." It is their fifth attempt.

The defendants were board of director executive committee members when Henrie filed her case. Poulton and Hicks are still on the board.

A notice for discretionary review to the Court of Appeals was also filed April 29.

## Who's who on Shelter Bay Board of Directors?

By Ken Stern

Residents of the Shelter Bay Community elect three members at their annual meeting in May to serve three year terms on the eight member board of directors. The board convening in July 2024 will look very different from the eight members that ended their terms a year ago, in May 2023. If Wendy Poulton

wins reelection, she will be one of three returning elected board members, with Monte Hicks and Nancy Shimmeall. No longer serving are Louise Kari and Elaine Dixon, who lost election. Joseph Hurley resigned in July and Dan McCaughan resigned in January. Gary Ladd, appointed in October 2022, also resigned in January. Jan Paul, appointed in July, resigned in April.

Board members newly elected in 2023 who are continuing are Rod Proctor and Rick Parnell, elected last May.

Board members appointed in 2024 and continuing are Patrick McGarry (February) and Jack Galbraith and Mike Shannon, both appointed in April.

Lawson Earl, appointed in May to replace the recalled Judy Kontos, resigned in March,

## Shelter Bay Community board elections May 18

By Ken Stern

Shelter Bay Community residents are in the process of voting for three members of their board of directors.

There are four candidates:

Julie Peddy seeks a seat. Monte Hicks, Pat McGarry and Wendy Poulton are current board members. Hicks and Poulton were elected in May 2021. McGarry was appointed in February 2024.

Voting is online via Vote HOA

Now, by mail using election packet ballots or in person 10:15-10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 18, at the annual meeting. Results will be announced after 1 p.m.

If Peddy wins, she will take office in July.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Lane closures on Best Road

Traffic on Best Road will experience lane closures and delays between McLean Road and Chilberg Road during the work week through June 6 while Skagit County crews are grinding and re-asphalting it, the county's public works department announced April 30.

The road will be open to traffic but reduced to one lane during

the day. The county bulletin encourages taking alternate routes. Both lanes of traffic will be open each night.

### County EMS levy passes, certified

Skagit County voters have renewed the county's Emergency Medical Services levy, passing it with 70.8% of the vote, 20,027 yes to 8,240

no votes. The final 163 ballots were counted by Skagit County elections office staff and the vote certified May 3.

The renewal, good through 2030, funds 24/7 EMS response at a rate of \$0.47 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Turnout was 33.1%, with a total of 28,267 votes counted from the 85,647 registered voters.

Source: Skagit County government

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**Skagit Kids Reads Brings Lucky Diaz to the La Conner Swinomish Library**

**Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> 11:00**

**Multi-Grammy Award Winning Musician & Celebrated Latine Author will play songs and read his book for Story Time!**

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WYOMING STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

**FARM MACHINERY SAFETY WORKSHOP**

**Why attend?**  
According to the U.S. Ag Census, the leading sources of fatal injuries to youth on U.S. farms involved machinery and tractors (23%), motor vehicles and ATVs (19%), and drowning (16%). Many of these accidents can be prevented with adequate safety education.

**Who can attend?**  
Individuals in all counties in Washington are eligible to attend the training. Last year's class contained a good mix of middle and high school students and adults who speak English and Spanish. Certification can be obtained for students age 13 and above.

**Spring 2024 Evening classes 5-7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday May 20 - June 19 Burlington**

To register or get more information, call Skagit County Extension: 360.428.4270



ANOTHER RUN FOR THE HOME TEAM – Kaleb Otis, scoring one more time in the final game of the season, helped the La Conner Braves keep it close against Coupeville last week. – Photo by Madoc Hiller

## Braves teams celebrate despite losses to league rival Coupeville

By Bill Reynolds

The La Conner High baseball and softball teams lost their regular season finales at home last week, but each program still had cause to celebrate.

For the Braves and Lady Braves, all wasn't lost last Thursday despite suffering tough setbacks to NW2B/1B archrival Coupeville.

That's because La Conner coaches and fans had occasion to honor senior players who in four years have overcome hurdles imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic to resume their spring pastime.

"This senior class lost time to COVID but became very competitive and showed the younger players how to win," La Conner baseball coach Jeremiah LeSourd said following his club's 8-4 loss to Coupeville.

Across campus, the La Conner softball team wrapped up the 2024 campaign on the short end

of a 14-0 clash with the Lady Wolves, who rode a combined one-hitter tossed by three pitchers.

Lady Braves coaches Loran James and Taysha James-Sherman have adopted a unique season-ending tradition of honoring their seniors by presenting them with jars filled with infield dirt from the diamond on which they have toiled for four years.

The Lady Braves entered their final 2024 contest having swept a doubleheader with Concrete the previous weekend, totaling 43 runs scored during the twinbill.

But offense was harder to come by when La Conner faced the trio of Coupeville hurlers Adeline Maynes, Haylee Armstrong and Capri Anter. The playoff-bound Lady Wolves also benefited from a 14-hit attack while working a dozen free passes.

Sophomore catcher Teagan Calkins led the victors with a two-run inside-the-park homer.

The Lady Braves closed with a 2-13 mark. The Braves, meanwhile,

crafted a 9-8 overall slate and 5-7 league record to clinch the fifth spot in a seven-team conference format. La Conner had downed Friday Harbor 6-1, two days before facing Coupeville.

The Wolves (10-8 overall, 9-2 in league) bolted to an 8-0 lead on Thursday, then withstood two-run La Conner rallies in each of the sixth and seventh innings.

Coop Cooper and Camden Glover each had a double and a single to lead the visitors. Johnny Porter and Wolves pitcher Seth Woollet each lined a pair of singles while Landon Roberts chipped in a lone safety.

Senior Brogan Masonholder led La Conner with a double and a single. Classmates Logan Burks and Ivory Damien added a single apiece, as did Kaleb Otis.

Damien, Masonholder and eighth grader Charles Jackson shared mound duties. Masonholder was especially effective, retiring Coupeville in order in the seventh frame.

With its win, Coupeville advances to Bi-District play in Lakewood on Saturday.

## Track teams run strong; 2nd at league title meet

By Bill Reynolds

The La Conner High School track teams show they have a finishing kick.

The Braves and Lady Braves posted strong performances at the NW2B/1B League Championship Meet in Mount Vernon on May 1, a prelude to Bi-District trials in Coupeville on Saturday, May 11.

La Conner teams placed second on each side of the five-school league title showdown. The Braves were runners-up to Coupeville on the boys' team leaderboard. The Lady Braves were silver medalists behind Mount Vernon Christian.

"I was super proud of how everybody competed," La Conner head track coach Peter Voorhees said. "It was our best team showing of the season."

Coupeville claimed the boys' crown with 148.5 points. La Conner compiled 126 points. MVC (104.5), Orcas Island (73) and Friday Harbor (65) rounded out the field.

MVC outpointed La Conner 174.5-132 in the girls' half of the meet. Coupeville (131), Friday Harbor (51.5), and Orcas Island (46) finished third through fifth.

The Braves were paced by reigning state 2B hurdles champion Tommy Murdock, who was in especially dominant form – winning four individual events – including a sweep of the 110- and 300-meter hurdles.

Murdock captured the 110s in 14.63 and the 300s in 39.46.

And that was only half the story for Murdock. He added gold medal finishes in the 100-meter (11.48) and 200-meter (23.40) dashes.

Thrower Flint Huizenga and jumper Yandel Rosales-Rojas joined Murdock in the winner's circle for the Braves.

Huizenga won the javelin with a toss of 148'-9". Rosales-Rojas, an eighth grader, went 37'-8" to take top honors in the triple jump.

Rosales-Rojas led a 1-2-3 Braves finish in the triple. Lane Tenborg placed second (37'-6.25") and Marlin Bralens was third at 36'-8".

Rosales-Rojas added a second-place finish in the long jump (19'-5.75"). The versatile Tenborg placed third in the long jump (18'-4.5") and fifth in the 400 meters (56.34).

Bralens finished fourth in the 110-meter hurdles (18.86)

and 300-meter hurdles (47.77), respectively. He reached the finish line in the 110s just behind teammate Simon Bouwens, who was timed at 18.09, clinching third place.

Bouwens, who placed second in the 300s with a 46.98 finish, added a third-place finish in the 100 meters with an 11.83 clocking.

Alex Martin placed third in the discus (121'-4") and sixth in the shot put (37'-2").

On the girls' side, La Conner's Kiana Jenkins, Lydia Grossglass and Morgan Huizenga won two events apiece.

Jenkins, another of the La Conner track program's eighth graders, placed first in the 200 (27.64) and 400 meters (1:01.55). Her 200 time was a personal best.

Grossglass swept the hurdles events, hitting the tape first in the 100 (16.79) and 300 (50.65).

Huizenga was best in the javelin (112'-8") and high jump (4'-10").

Grossglass and Huizenga also teamed with Jenkins and Maeve McCormick to win the league sprint relay title, recording a time of 53.23 in the 4x100.

Grossglass also medaled with a third-place finish in the 100-meter dash (13.96), just ahead of McCormick, who was fourth at 13.99.

McCormick added to the Lady Braves point total with a third-place effort in the long jump at 14'-3", matching teammate Aisley Zimmerman, who mined bronze in the triple jump with a 29'-5.5" leap.

Eighth grader Nora McCormick took second in the 100-meter hurdles with an 18.16 finish. Zimmerman was sixth in the event at 19.63.

La Conner's Addison Wigal placed second to Huizenga in the javelin with a toss of 96'-1". Teammate Reese Bird's 86'-1" throw secured fifth place.

Distance runner Finley Hancock was third in the 1600 meters (6:23.92), seventh in the 800 (3:07.76), and joined Bird (sixth in the 800 at 2:50.31), Wigal and Nora McCormick for a fifth-place run in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 2:02.89.

Jenkins shuttled between the oval and jumping area. She finished fourth in the high jump at 4'-8".

Huizenga likewise split time between field events and the sprints, contributing a fifth-place effort in the 200 meters (28.76).

Josie Adams was fifth in the discus (70'-1.5") and sixth in the shot put (22'-2"). Kim Williams had a similar day, placing fifth in the triple jump (28'-5") and sixth in the 400 (1:10.16).

Bird (64'-9") and Wigal (59'-9.5") finished sixth and seventh in the discus, placing just back of Adams.

The May 11 Bi-District competition, which will determine berths to the Washington State 2B Meet, gets under way at 11 a.m. at Coupeville's Mickey Clark Stadium.

Voorhees is confident going into Bi-District based on results at the league meet.

"We had a lot of consistently good performances," he said.

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## Foundation auction proved 'The Force' of Skagit poetry

By Cora Thomas

"The Force" was with the Skagit River Poetry Foundation on Saturday May 4th, Star Wars Day, as 125 community members gathered to support our nonprofit at our fourth annual auction at historic Hillcrest Park Lodge in Mount Vernon. We want to thank everyone who celebrated with us and our donors who could not attend as we hosted our Star Wars-themed fundraiser – even Darth Vader made an appearance.

We are happy to announce that in only three hours the love and support of our guests raised over \$36,000! Our auctioneer and emcees brought the party to life with the night's exciting live and silent auction items. Your support of our organization means we may continue our dedication to our community! The funds raised will help keep poets visiting our local school districts throughout the year in Skagit and Island counties, teaching kids in K-14 classes poetry and encouraging their creative voices to shine.

We had a poet from our Poets in Schools Program, Jeffrey Morgan and one of our Student Poet Laureate's, Natalie Lahr, share their personal stories of how the Foundation makes a difference. A video highlighted how writing poetry is visceral - touching each person uniquely and encourages a creative space for freely expressing your own voice.

The funds will also support our 2024 Skagit River Poetry Festival, Oct. 3-5, as we bring poets from all over the world to converge in La Conner for three



MAY THE FORCE OF POETRY BE WITH YOU — For the 125 people at the Skagit River Poetry Foundation's May 4th fundraiser at Mount Vernon's Hillcrest Park, it was wine, music, food, cookies and song, and a few costumes. Music was provided by the Cincinnatus Duo, Michael Wheatley and Barb Hunter. There was auctions, of course, both live and silent. — Photos courtesy of Cora Thomas

days of community workshops and speaking engagements.

This generous support will keep our starship and mission flying high through the poetic galaxies as we continue bringing literary arts to our community, uplifting voices of all ages and enriching lives as people explore their own stories, one another and their communities through the powerful practice of the written and spoken word.

Our executive director, Molly McNulty, board President Kathleen Bisagna and our board of directors would like to thank all the corporate and individual donors who donated auction items, Aaron Klesick from Stokes Auction Group, our caterer, Josh Van Hine from Simply Sound Catering, emcee David Johnson from Funds for Fun, emcee Georgia Johnson (board vice president), the Cincinnatus Duo, sound by



Kyle Blevins, PEO Chapter JG La Conner, Hillcrest Park and all our volunteers that made this night possible. May the Force of Poetry Be With You. Always.

If you missed the event, but would still like to support us, donate online at [SkagitRiverPoetry.org/Donate](http://SkagitRiverPoetry.org/Donate) or mail checks to P.O. Box 238, La Conner, WA 98257.

Cora Thomas is executive assistant and poets in schools coordinator for the Foundation.



### A&E BRIEFS

Mark your calendars for some fun activities this coming week.

- Gather the kids for a visit from Lucky Diaz, Grammy-winning musician and Latine author, at 11 a.m. Friday, May 10, at the La Conner Swinomish Library. Thanks to Skagit Kids Reads, he'll play songs and read from his books for storytime.
- Shelter Bay Chorus presents "Remember When: Songs We Love from Yesterday," featuring "In the Mood," "At the Hop," "Both Sides Now" and a slew of Beatles tunes. 7 p.m. Friday, May 10, and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at Shelter Bay Clubhouse, 1000 Shoshone Drive. Suggested donation \$10.
- Come to the Celtic Arts

Foundation for Scottish country dancing classes. Free, open to all. 10 a.m. to noon

Saturday, May 11. Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon.

### Natural Wine Educational Tasting

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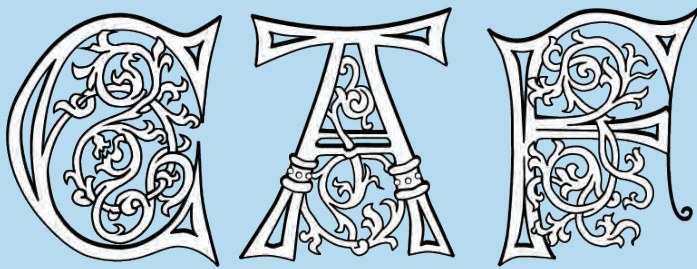
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Scottish County Dance Class  
May 11, 10am

Tony McMmanus Concert  
May 15, 7pm

Scotch Tasting Fundraiser  
members only! May 11, 4pm

Skagit Valley Highland  
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# David Cram

(from page 1)

and lead our school district," board president Susie Deyo said.

The board's approval was unanimous.

Cram will rely upon administrative support provided by Beth Clothier, the district's director of teaching and learning, and herself a La Conner graduate.

"Between the two of you," Deyo said of Cram and Clothier, "we have a great opportunity here and this (leadership arrangement) can save the district money. We know you and Beth are a great team."

It was Cram and Clothier who outlined district policies, procedures and programs during the recent La Conner Rotary Club Farmers and Merchants Dinner at Maple Hall.

Cram told the Weekly News it's too early for him to propose specific goals for the 2024-25 school year.

"I'll have to wait until after the board has its retreat next month," he said. "That's when I'll know where the board is at (in terms of district objectives)."

Cram thanked the board Monday for its expression of support.

Members have praised Cram for his ability to quickly shift the district's finances out of the red and into the black. To get there, the district had to implement painful personnel and program cutbacks ahead of the 2023-24 academic year as K-12 enrollment continues to decline. La Conner had around 700 students in the early 2000s but projects only 460 this fall.

Cram acknowledged before classes convened in late August that the district would have to operate with a "bare-bones budget" this year.

Deyo and board member John Agen said La Conner is fortunate to have someone of Cram's experience and knowledge of the community available to follow

Nelson.

"Dave will be of great benefit to our district as interim superintendent," Agee said.

"You love the school," Deyo told Cram. "You have La Conner in your heart. And you have the skills to lead the school district."

Deyo likewise lauded Nelson, who implemented several educational programs designed to promote student achievement and development of lifelong critical-thinking skills.

"I want to again publicly thank Will for his three years of service," said Deyo. "It's definitely gone fast."

Under Nelson, La Conner has adopted new K-12 math curricula and begun the transition to mastery-based learning while creating increased planning opportunities for staff. Nelson has also advocated for instruction that addresses varied student learning styles.

Early in his career, Cram served as La Conner School District's finance director. He later held similar posts with the Lakewood, Anacortes and Marysville school districts.

In 2023, Cram came back to La Conner, where in addition to finance duties he was assigned oversight of district operations and human resources in his role as assistant superintendent.

Deyo said Cram will be formally sworn in at the board's May 20 meeting. Nelson's final day at La Conner will be June 30, allowing for a gradual six-week administrative transition period.

## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

## Super Crossword

### Answers

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

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### TOWN OF LA CONNER NOTICE OF APPLICATION / NOTICE OF HEARING

The Town of La Conner is processing multiple permit applications that may be of public interest.

Date: April 30, 2024  
Application File #: LU24-16CU-IV/LU24-17CU-IV/LU24-19HDR

Applicant: Jeff Latham / Randy Billings and Rod Mennegar / Linda Banaszak  
Town Contact Person: Michael Davolio AICP, Planning Director; P.O. Box 400, La Conner, WA 98257; 360-466-3125

Project Location: 318 Morris Street, P20890 / 110 N. First Street, P74118 / 619 S. First Street, P74077

Project Description: Use of existing dwelling units in the commercial zone as short-term rentals / Addition of gazebo to courtyard

Public Hearing: Hearing Examiner/Planning Commission

Date/Time/Location: LU24-19HDR: May 21, 6:00 pm, Maple Center. LU24-16CU-IV and LU24-17CU-IV: June 4, 5:00 pm / Maple Center, LU24-16CU-IV to be heard first.

COMMENTS: Comments on this Notice must be submitted, in writing: LU24-19HDR between May 1st - May 21st. LU24-16CU-IV and LU24-17CU-IV: between May 1st - June 4th, end of hearing. Comments should be as specific as possible. Any person may comment on the applications and request a copy of the decisions once they are made. Questions about these proposals and requests for additional notification should be directed to the contact person listed above. The applications and materials submitted by the applicants are available for review from Town Hall. If you have any questions concerning this project, contact Town Hall at (360) 466-3125 or email planner@townoflaconner.org. Issued/Published: May 8th, 2024.

Published in the La Conner Weekly News, May 8, 2024.

### SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY Estate of CHARLENE RACHELE HINOJOSA, Deceased Probate No. 24-4-002098-29, Dated: APRIL 17, 2024 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 RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under \*RCW 11.40.020(1) (c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FILING COPY OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS with the Clerk of the Court: April 22, 2024.  
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: April 24, 2024.  
PR: /S/ Jeanne Lovas  
c/o Resident Agent William G. Knudsen

Address of PR: 119 N. Commercial Street, Ste. 1200, Bellingham, WA 98225-4450  
Attorney: William G. Knudsen WSBA #6064  
Published in the La Conner Weekly News, April 24, May 1, and May 8, 2024.

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SKAGIT In re the Estate of RODRICK FLOYD SIVERSON, Deceased. Case No.: 24-4-00152-29 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**RCW 11.40.010**  
The person named below has been appointed as administrator of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the administrator or the administrator's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

Date of First Publication: May 8, 2024

Personal Representative: Suzette Siverson

Attorney for the Personal Representative: Rachele Eason

Address for Mailing or Service: 515 S 39th Place Mount Vernon, WA 98274

Court of Probate proceedings: Skagit County Superior Court

Cause number: 24-4-00152-29

SIGNED this 30th day of April, 2024.

/s/ Suzette Siverson  
Suzette Siverson, Petitioner  
Personal Representative of the Estate of

Rodrick Siverson  
Prepared by:  
/s/ Rachele Marie Eason  
Rachele Marie Eason,  
WSBA # 29922

Attorney for Petitioner  
Published in the La Conner Weekly News, May 8, 15, and 22, 2024.

### SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY No. 24-4-00210-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) In the Matter of the Estate of Linda D. Adams, 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 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: April 24, 2024

Martyn F. Adams  
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 on April 24, May 1, and May 8, 2024.

### SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY Estate of BARBARA JOYCE SUTHERLAND, Deceased. NO. 24-4-00218-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The above Court has appoint-

ed me as Personal Representative of the Decedent's estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must present the claim: (a) Before the time when the claim would be barred by any applicable statute of limitations, and (b) In the manner provided in RCW 11.40.070: (i) By filing the original of the claim with the foregoing Court, and (ii) By serving on or mailing to me at the address below a copy of the claim. The claim must be presented by the later of: (a) Thirty (30) days after I served or mailed this Notice as provided in RCW 11.40.020(1) (c), or (b) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice. If the claim is not presented within this time period, the claim will be forever barred except as provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective for claims against both the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

Date of First Publication of this Notice: May 1, 2024

/s/ Sindi Rae Moe, Personal Representative  
c/o Jayne Marsh Gilbert, WSBA #24656  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
314 Pine Street, Suite 211  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
Published in the La Conner Weekly News on May 1, 8, and 15, 2024.

### SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY Estate of PETER ROBERT MAHLER, Deceased. NO. 24-4-00251-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The above Court has appointed me as Personal Representative of the Decedent's estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must present the claim: (a) Before the time when the claim would be barred by any applicable statute of limitations, and (b) In the manner provided in RCW 11.40.070: (i) By filing the original of the claim with the foregoing Court, and (ii) By serving on or mailing to me at the address below a copy of the claim. The claim must be presented by the later of: (a) Thirty (30) days after I served or mailed this Notice as provided in RCW 11.40.020(1) (c), or (b) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice. If the claim is not presented within this time period, the claim will be forever barred except as provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective for claims against both the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

Date of First Publication of this Notice: May 8, 2024

/s/ Shiree Lynne Yates, Personal Representative  
c/o Jayne Marsh Gilbert, WSBA #24656  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
314 Pine Street, Suite 211  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
Published in the La Conner Weekly News, May 8, 15, and 22, 2024.

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KING In the Matter of the Estate of RICHARD SNYDER, Deceased. NO. 24-4-03150-0 SEA NONPROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Mark C. Vohr, as President of OHANA FIDUCIARY CORPORATION, the undersigned Notice Agent, 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 attorneys 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) 30 days after the Notice Agent served or mailed the Notice to the creditor as provided in 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 RCW 11.42.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the Decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

Date of first publication of this Notice: May 1, 2024.

The Notice Agent declares under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington on 4/19/2024 at Seattle, Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Mark C. Vohr, President  
OHANA FIDUCIARY CORPORATION  
Notice Agent  
Attorneys for Notice Agent:  
Douglas L. Phillips, WSBA No. 17278  
PHILLIPS ESTATE LAW  
Aaron D. Phillips, WSBA No. 46691  
PHILLIPS ESTATE LAW  
Address for Mailing or Service:

Douglas L. Phillips, Esq.  
PHILLIPS ESTATE LAW  
170 120th Ave NE Suite E204  
Bellevue, Washington 98005  
Court of Notice Agent's Declaration: King County Superior Court  
Oath and cause number: Cause No. 24-4-03150-0 SEA  
Published in the La Conner Weekly News, May 1, 8, and 15, 2024.

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of JOSEPHINE ANN CURNOW, Deceased. Case No. 24-4-00526-06 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of the estate of Josephine Ann Curnow a/k/a JoAnn Curnow. 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 to the personal representatives' attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Clerk of the Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative is served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of the 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: May 8, 2024

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: David Curnow

ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Lindsey George

ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: 1412 NE 134th St. Ste 130  
Vancouver, WA 98685

Dated: April 29, 2024  
MYATT & BELL, P.C.  
/s/ Lindsey George, WSBA #59721

Attorney for Personal Representative  
Myatt & Bell, P.C.

1412 NE 134th St. Ste 130  
Vancouver, WA 98685

Office: 360-360-0212, Fax: 503-546-9724

Email: lindseyg@myattandbell.com  
Personal Representative: David Curnow

Published in the La Conner Weekly News, May 8, 15, and 22, 2024.



By Patricia Aqiimuk Paul, Esq., Food Editor

### Rhubarb Apple Crisp



- Walnuts, 1/2 C chopped
- Cinnamon, 1 t
- Nutmeg, 1/2 t

#### Preparation

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Mix topping ingredients and set aside. Butter a 9 x 13 baking dish. Mix rhubarb, apple and sugar to coat fruit with sugar. Mix in flour and spices. Add to baking dish. Bake for 30 minutes. Spread topping evenly and bake another 30 minutes. Serve warm. I swirled my serving in a bowl to mix around the topping. We loved the walnuts. Serve plain or with vanilla ice cream or whipped cream.

This recipe involves two baking steps. After step one is baked, you can let it cool down until you are ready to bake the second step. It looked so delicious, I was tempted to eat a bowl after the first step. I was in a hurry, so I only used one apple. You could use three or four. Do not skimp on the sugar.

#### Ingredients

- Rhubarb, 4 thick stems cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- Apple, 1 peeled, cored and cubed
- Sugar, 1 C
- Flour, 1/4 C
- Cinnamon, 1 t ground
- Cloves, a pinch of ground

#### Topping

- Butter, 6 T melted
- Brown sugar, 1/4 C packed
- Whole wheat flour, 1/2 C
- Rolled oats, 1/2 C

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

### SUBMIT AN EVENT

Want to get more eyes on your event before the next Weekly News hits the street? Go to [laconnerweeklynews.com/page/community-events-calendar/105](http://laconnerweeklynews.com/page/community-events-calendar/105) and submit your event!

### NOT TO BE MISSED

Shelter Bay Chorus presents Remember When, Songs We Love from Yesterday, featuring "In the Mood," "At the Hop," "Both Sides Now" and a slew of Beatles tunes. 7 p.m. Friday, May 10, and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at Shelter Bay Clubhouse, 1000 Shoshone Drive. Suggested donation \$10.

Come to the Celtic Arts Foundation! All events at Littlefield Celtic Center, 1124 Cleveland Ave., Mount Vernon.

- Scottish country dancing classes, free and open to the public. 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 11.
- An evening of guitar and song with Tony McManus. 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 15. Tickets \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members.

Museum of Northwest Art presents Fantastic Fungi and Where to Find Them, 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday, May 11, 121 S. First St. Dr. Korena Mafune will take you on a fungi-filled educational journey to learn about the

importance of these organisms, their role in ecosystem health, and how they may play a crucial role in the tree canopies of old-growth rainforests.

### LIBRARIES

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

- Storytime for Children. 11 a.m. Fridays.
- Tech Help. 3-5 p.m. Mondays.
- Dungeons & Dragons Club. 3-5 p.m. Tuesdays. No experience necessary.

Mount Vernon Public Library. 315 Snoqualmie St., Mount Vernon. 360-336-6209, [mountvernonwa.gov](http://mountvernonwa.gov).

- Seedling Storytime: 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. For young ones who may be shy.
- Board Games: 1-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Classic board games for a variety of ages.

Anacortes Public Library. 1220 10th St., Anacortes. 360-299-8067, [CityofAnacortes.org](http://CityofAnacortes.org).

- Family Storytime: 10-11:30 a.m. Fridays. For ages birth to 5, siblings welcome.
- LEGO at the Library: 3:30-5:30 p.m. Mondays.

Burlington Public Library. 820 E. Washington Ave., Burlington.

360-755-0760, [burlingtonwa.gov/library](http://burlingtonwa.gov/library).

- Bilingual Storytime: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays. For ages 6 and under and their caregivers. Enjoy stories and songs in English and Spanish.

looks at the "seams," where artistic trends intersect.

- My Roots: Honoring the Cultural Identity of Skagit Valley's Under-Resourced Children: Outside In Gallery.

### SERVICE & VOLUNTEER

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

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

### MEETINGS

Skagit Cemetery District 1. Regular meetings at 5:30 p.m. every second Monday, at Lori Buher's home, 17604 Valentine Road, Mount Vernon.

Town of La Conner Council Meeting, 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 14, at Upper Maple Center. For current agenda, go to [www.townoflaconner.org](http://www.townoflaconner.org). Click "Notify Me" to get current town information.

La Conner Swinomish Regional Library. Library board of trustees meets at 5 p.m. the second Tuesdays in the library, 520 Morris St., La Conner.

Skagit Men's Garden Club. Not just for men, everyone welcome. Meets 6-8 p.m. first Thursdays monthly at Christianson's Nursery, 15806 Best Road, Mount Vernon.

## Super Crossword

### QUALITY COUNTERFEITING

- |                                     |  |                                      |  |  |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                       | <b>56</b> Belgian painter James                  | <b>106</b> End of the riddle         | <b>8</b> "No more for me"                        | <b>45</b> "Rock and Roll, Hoochie—" (1974 hit) | <b>86</b> Sunbathes                 |
| <b>1</b> Pour drippings on          | <b>57</b> Pro photog's camera                    | <b>109</b> See 10-Down               | <b>9</b> Federal health agcy.                    | <b>46</b> Amount of jelly or olives            | <b>87</b> Gumbo, e.g.               |
| <b>6</b> J. Edgar Hoover's org.     | <b>58</b> Bamboozle                              | <b>111</b> Best Picture of 2012      | <b>10</b> With 109-Across, Beatles song or album | <b>47</b> Visit casually                       | <b>89</b> Horse gait                |
| <b>9</b> Blocks up                  | <b>60</b> "Pride and Prejudice" actress Jennifer | <b>112</b> Arbor Day mo.             | <b>11</b> Brand of nail polish                   | <b>49</b> Smeltery stuff                       | <b>91</b> The last Mrs. Chaplin     |
| <b>14</b> Sailing                   | <b>61</b> Fleming who created Bond               | <b>113</b> Poker champion Stu        | <b>12</b> Start to melt                          | <b>50</b> Sammy with 609 homers                | <b>92</b> Rod's partner             |
| <b>19</b> Earthy hue                | <b>62</b> Handheld telescope                     | <b>115</b> "Ticklish" doll           | <b>13</b> Rod's partner                          | <b>52</b> Part of SASE                         | <b>93</b> Not, to Scots             |
| <b>20</b> Arsenal for weapons       | <b>63</b> Riddle, part 4                         | <b>118</b> Top hats go-withs         | <b>14</b> Liable                                 | <b>53</b> — -Pei                               | <b>94</b> Whirling Age singer       |
| <b>22</b> Limericks, e.g.           | <b>64</b> Shaving balm brand                     | <b>120</b> Riddle's answer           | <b>15</b> "It's a shame"                         | <b>54</b> Additionally                         | <b>96</b> "Exile" New               |
| <b>23</b> Start of a riddle         | <b>65</b> Golden-coated horse                    | <b>125</b> Old TV parts              | <b>16</b> Upper House of Congress                | <b>55</b> Polite rural assent to a lady        | <b>99</b> Noisy kisses              |
| <b>25</b> Color qualities           | <b>66</b> "Star Wars" princess                   | <b>126</b> Captive's angry shout     | <b>17</b> Celebrity chef Lagasse                 | <b>59</b> Singer Lovett                        | <b>100</b> Albanian capital         |
| <b>26</b> Drain-clearing chemicals  | <b>67</b> To this point                          | <b>127</b> — Carlo                   | <b>18</b> Size up                                | <b>62</b> Doing the job                        | <b>101</b> Yule drink               |
| <b>27</b> Forster's "— With a View" | <b>68</b> Uganda's Idi                           | <b>128</b> "Full House" actor Bob    | <b>19</b> Rikishi's sport                        | <b>63</b> A ripe old age                       | <b>102</b> Singer Snow              |
| <b>28</b> Frequently, to a bard     | <b>69</b> Side in sports                         | <b>129</b> Walk over                 | <b>21</b> Golfed acceptably                      | <b>65</b> Sports draw                          | <b>103</b> One hanging ten          |
| <b>30</b> Unadorned                 | <b>70</b> Side in sports                         | <b>130</b> Crimson, e.g.             | <b>22</b> Pithy saying                           | <b>66</b> The way things stand                 | <b>104</b> Ember                    |
| <b>31</b> Brandy fruit              | <b>71</b> Pewter metal                           | <b>131</b> Limerick penner Nash      | <b>24</b> Membrane enclosing a fetus             | <b>68</b> Scrams                               | <b>107</b> Eye-teasing paintings    |
| <b>33</b> Riddle, part 2            | <b>72</b> Certain believer in God                | <b>DOWN</b>                          | <b>29</b> "Bye 4 now"                            | <b>69</b> Tablet since 2010                    | <b>108</b> San — Obispo, California |
| <b>38</b> Halt                      | <b>73</b> Kinds                                  | <b>1</b> Cereal holder               | <b>32</b> Pithy saying                           | <b>70</b> Appoint                              | <b>110</b> Envelop in haze          |
| <b>40</b> Everyday worker           | <b>74</b> Certain believer in God                | <b>2</b> In need of a massage, maybe | <b>34</b> Membrane enclosing a fetus             | <b>71</b> Livy's 552                           | <b>114</b> In the sack              |
| <b>42</b> Disembarked               | <b>75</b> Riddle, part 5                         | <b>3</b> Border collies, e.g.        | <b>35</b> Supermodel Heidi                       | <b>72</b> Bits in physics                      | <b>116</b> Put in silent mode       |
| <b>43</b> Sings Alpine-style        | <b>76</b> Marina del —, California               | <b>4</b> In need of a massage, maybe | <b>36</b> — Olay (face cream brand, formerly)    | <b>73</b> Ark crafter                          | <b>117</b> Yaks, e.g.               |
| <b>44</b> "Listen up!"              | <b>77</b> Bucks' mates                           | <b>5</b> History unit                | <b>37</b> Boxer Oscar de la —                    | <b>74</b> Alexander of Reagan's Cabinet        | <b>119</b> Former Brit. Airways jet |
| <b>46</b> Vaping device brand       | <b>78</b> Car fuel                               | <b>6</b> "M*A*S*H" actor Jamie       | <b>38</b> Additionally                           | <b>80</b> Military doc                         | <b>121</b> Corrida shout            |
| <b>47</b> Crafty                    | <b>79</b> Walk over                              | <b>7</b> Small streams               | <b>39</b> 12:00 p.m.                             | <b>82</b> Match under the stars, maybe         | <b>122</b> Stephen of "Roadkill"    |
| <b>48</b> Riddle, part 3            | <b>80</b> Trig ratio                             |                                      | <b>41</b> "Either you do it — will"              | <b>84</b> Hooting bird                         | <b>123</b> Incensed                 |
| <b>51</b> Analyze, as an alloy      | <b>81</b> Uses teeth                             |                                      |  | <b>85</b> Bonn's region                        | <b>124</b> Angsty rock genre        |
|                                     | <b>82</b> Australian state: Abbr.                |                                      |  |  |                                     |

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## CLASSIFIEDS

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

**CLEANING SERVICES OFFERED:** Home or office. Estimates provided. Good quality work. Reasonable rates. Call for estimate. References available. 360-202-1288.

**DOWNTOWN LA CONNER, COMMERCIAL OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE.** 125 E. Washington St., Suite B. 240 square feet, shared restroom, tenant parking lot. \$525 per month. One-year minimum agreement, includes water, sewer, gas, electricity, grounds maintenance, property taxes, building insurance, limited trash removal. Call 360-466-4446 ext. 103

**NICE FLOWERING PLANTS FOR YOUR MOTHER!** Good prices. Right behind the Post Office. Open 24/7 cash or checks. Questions? Call 360-708-2022.

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**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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### FIND PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 6

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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# Jenson property

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

school staff turnover and the workloads staff carry. Turning to the property itself, the high agricultural quality of the soil was noted as was it flooding in 2022. Residents would need flood insurance at a high cost with little benefit, said resident Jim Matthews.

Williams said Channel Cove experiences ponds and the ground sinks during heavy rains. "You go out my back door and there is a lake," he said. Several of his neighbors agree and are against development, he said.

Jerry George remarked that a firetruck cannot pass through the 15-foot-wide easement. An agreement with Home Trust of Skagit for access through their Channel Cove property would be needed.

"It is an undevelopable property by virtue of the fact a firetruck cent get to it," George said.

Felicia Minot, the Trust's executive director, said long-term affordable housing is the vision and mission of her organization and it has to participate in any planning.

Several times, Hanneman acknowledged the issue was complicated, recognizing that she was repeating herself. At the end of the hour she wrapped up, saying, "Overall, I heard just leave it alone, or a food forest." Her last words: "The conversation, everyone, will continue. A decision will not happen overnight or even in a couple of years."

Resident B.J. Carol, a member of a Skagit Transit advisory board, opened the meeting advocating for taking the bus, whether to the Anacortes ferry terminal or from Seattle to La Conner. Doing so mitigates the need for parking and reduces carbon emissions, she said. Hanneman noted there is a loop that includes Shelter Bay.



WEATHER REPORT — Clouds cover the Skagit Valley sky. April recorded nearly two-thirds of its monthly rainfall total in the last week of the month. — Kurt Battdorf photo

## April weather

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

ture was also 1.1 degrees below the average temperature this century.

Mornings were coldest mid-month. The 32.4 degree April 19 was a record low for its date and the month's low temperature. The 34.5 degrees April 23 became that date's record low.

The 32.7 degrees on April 1 was the second coldest morning but not a daily record. Frost was seen several mornings in La Conner.

The 72.4 temperature April 20 was the sole day over 70 degrees.

The daily average temperature topped 50 degrees a large handful of times, including the three day stretch of April 25-27 when April 26's 53.7 degrees was the month's warmest average day.

The rainy season ends with 2.4 inches of rain Jan.-April, a bit below the century average of 2.6 inches. January and February

dumped more rain their the 25 year average for their months, while March an April were under their century averages.

The 4.7 inches of rain in 2018 is the most April precipitation this century, one of four years of over 4 inches.

Data are from Washington State University's Memorial Highway weather station in Mount Vernon.

## NO SHERIFF'S BLOTTER

Due to a software issue that could not be resolved by the La Conner Weekly News press time, the Skagit County Sheriff's Blotter was not available for the May 8 issue.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 18, 9-3**  
 Moving sale after 27 years in Shelter Bay.  
**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!**  
 Watch for location details here next week!

**Sunland**  
Bark & Topsoil

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2024 | CAA PRESENTS the 25th ANNUAL

# CAMANO ISLAND STUDIO TOUR

CELEBRATING  
**25**  
 YEARS

Mother's Day Weekend  
**MAY 10-11-12**  
 10am - 5pm  
 Encore Weekend  
**MAY 18-19**  
 10am - 5pm

By Betty Dorotik

[camanostudiotor.com](http://camanostudiotor.com)

# Celebrate Mom... With Gifts from Burton Jewelers



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Join us for the Art Walk on Friday, May 3 from 5:30 to 7 PM. Refreshments and nibbles will be served for this event. Hope to see you.

## New Art Show "Forest Reflections"

Debut of Michael Painter, photographer  
 Images of Little Cranberry Lake



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## CORRECTION

Due to a production error, the following information was omitted from the May 1 story on Page 8 headlined "Rexville Grange needs members to hasten much-needed repairs."

While membership peaked in the 19th century, Granges still serve as the center of rural life in their farming communities. Nationwide, 150,000 Grange members meet in 1,700 local chapters. Washington alone has over 200 Granges with about 8500 members. At the state and federal level, the Grange still advocates on behalf of farmers and rural residents. A current priority is Pharmacy Benefit Manger (PBM) reform legislation. PBMs control 80% of the prescription drug marketplace and were a factor in the closure of the La Conner Drugstore.

"Since the 1920s, the Rexville Grange has been a place of sanctuary and safety for local farmers and residents," said Cathy Savage, Grange president. "We are still here to serve the community, and we would love your help."

For more information on joining the Grange or making a donation towards kitchen repair, send an email to [rexville815@gmail.com](mailto:rexville815@gmail.com).

## Gifted bikes

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

state Climate Commitment Act grant funding at Trek Bicycle of Bellingham. Trek store manager Gabby Walch and staff member Jon Terzenbach came to La Conner to help students adjust the seats and learn about their bikes.

"This is so exciting. It's been such a fun opportunity," Walch said.

"It's a legislative appropriation that funds the program," NWESD Assistant Superintendent David Forsythe said, referring to Move Ahead Washington grants authorized by the Climate Commitment Act. "The program provides bikes to several schools in the area."

Concrete and Darrington students received bikes last week from NWESD.

The Washington State Department of Transportation program prioritizes schools with the highest need to advance goals of health, safety and equity. It includes adaptive cycling equipment for youth with disabilities.

"Our students are really excited," Elementary School Principal Heather Fakkema said, watching the fifth graders spin across the playground. "It's a great day for them and we had lots of help putting this together today."

The adage that "once you learn to ride a bicycle, you never forget" was evident Thursday.

"I haven't ridden a bike in a while," said student Parker Fischer.

It didn't take long for Fischer to confirm Einstein's observation that keeping one's balance on a bicycle requires constant motion. In no time, Fischer was looping the space behind the elementary gym.

The positive vibes were unmistakable.

"This is a great way to end the school day," said Matthew Metcalf, NWESD Regional Bicycle Education administrative coordinator.

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