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Genuine Skagit Valley Friday fundraiser



BOUNTY FROM LAND AND SEA – The first Genuine Skagit Valley Tidewater Boil fundraiser invited patrons to dig in with their hands and get messy while they ate. No one seemed to mind as their meal under a big tent on a nice fall evening was accompanied by a little live music. —Photo by Nancy Crowell

Tidewater Boil draws sold-out crowd to La Conner Marina

By Bill Reynolds

Southern hospitality La Conner-style was on the menu at the La Conner Marina Friday night.

A sold-out crowd enjoyed favorite dishes from farm and sea during the inaugural Skagit Tidewater Boil fundraiser for Genuine Skagit Valley, the organization established in 2013 to recognize the area's unique agricultural heritage.

Literally taking a page from the Gulf Coast's famed southern crab boils, with prawns, spicy sausage, sweet corn, red potatoes and Dungeness crab dumped onto the two dozen tables covered by back issues of the Weekly News, the La Conner event honored more than a century of Skagit Delta farming and fishing.

Also highlighted during the three-hour festivities were the region's brewers, a precursor to the Skagit Farm to Pint Beer Festival under the same tent Saturday, presented by the Port of Skagit.

Planning a tidewater boil in this northern clime has long been on GSV Director Blake Vanfield's to-do list.

"This is something I've always wanted to do," she said. "It's a great opportunity to celebrate the foods of the Skagit Valley in a relaxed setting, eating with your hands, while sitting next to and visiting with friends and family."

It proved to be a recipe for success. Vanfield said over 160 tickets were sold and another two dozen people were turned away from the venue next



Past issues of La Conner Weekly News were put to good use. —Photo by Nancy Crowell

to the Marina's offices because the tent had no room for additional diners.

Skagit County Assessor Danny Hagen was among the lucky ticketholders.

"It's an incredible event," Hagen said midway through the meal. "It shows incredible support for a great organization."

Food preparation involved what Vanfield called "an all-day adventure," with six boiling pots in use simultaneously.

"It probably took eight to 10 hours," she said.

Such a festive gathering wasn't possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"COVID threw us a curveball," Vanfield said. "We couldn't have any community events for a couple years."

GSV had all the bases covered Friday. The Artful Dodgers, popular for their southern twang and dance tunes, entertained prior to and after the dinner bell rang.

Of course, organizers couldn't dial up a warm southern night here in late

September. Diners wore layers for comfort on a cool night further chilled by a breeze out of the north.

"I can't tell you how impressed I am with our guests coming out on a chilly evening," Vanfield said. "Our Pacific Northwest folks are real hardy."

Vanfield knows of what she speaks, having grown up in rural Oregon. Her family raised both dairy and beef cattle, allowing her to easily relate to Skagit Valley's well-established farm community.

The Skagit area, according to GSV accounts, saw its first commercial crop of cultivated potatoes planted on March Point, seven miles north of La Conner, a decade before the outbreak of the Civil War.

Oats from the La Conner flats and elsewhere in Skagit Valley were first sent to Seattle markets in the 1870s. During World War I, farmers here provided oats to Europe when its farm fields were torn asunder by armies still relying on horses to move troops and equipment.

Today, the Skagit Valley continues to supply a multitude of crops globally that are grown on some of the most fertile soil in the world.

Vanfield likewise admires the local fishing industry, an integral part of the tidewater boil format.

"And when you want to honor farming and fishing," she stressed, "there's no better location than La Conner. I hope we can do this every year in La Conner."

Gov. Inslee comes to Anacortes for housing discussion

By Adam Sowards

Gov. Jay Inslee visited Anacortes last week to listen to locals discuss housing supply challenges. He left saying, "I got some good ideas here today," while also noting, "We have more work to do."

The Tenant's Housing Roundtable, in Anacortes on Sept. 26, included about a dozen community members and elected officials from Skagit, Whatcom and Island counties. Inslee heard stories of high rent increases and frustrating regulatory and permitting processes. His questions emphasized efforts the state can take to best address the housing crisis.

Fortieth District State Rep. Alex Ramel (D-Bellingham) suggested the roundtable topic and, with the governor's team invited a representative group. Guiding the conversation, Ramel emphasized U.S. Census Bureau survey data that suggests 73,000 people in Washington have experienced rent increases of more than \$500 in the last year. The trend nationally finds raising rent by \$100 increases homelessness by nine percent, he said. That is the case for more than 400,000 Washingtonians in 2023.

The governor focused on big, statewide numbers: A million new residents have arrived in the state in the last decade. Roughly 300,000 new

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Skagit Habitat for Humanity buys La Conner property

By Adam Sowards

Skagit Habitat for Humanity recently purchased the property on the corner of Caledonia and Third streets in La Conner. The Town of La Conner plans to change its comprehensive plan to allow multifamily housing, and the nonprofit will help build six new townhomes three years from now. The project would help alleviate the housing crisis.

Tina Tate, CEO of Skagit Habitat, said these homes are for people who fall on the lower end of the median income continuum. "These are hard-working families. They have good jobs. They have to qualify to buy a home," said Tate. Not only that but, "they help build the home, so they have a great deal of pride in ownership. We know that our home buyers are people who upkeep their home."

Speaking to some of the neighbors, Tate has heard support for the plan.

Skagit Habitat is expanding to meet its board's goal of building 15 homes a year by 2028. It is changing its focus from single-family homes to multifamily projects, which will add more starter homes more quickly. Building multifamily homes is also less expensive. The La Conner property will be the organization's first true multifamily project.

Finding land, especially for larger projects, is a stumbling block. "We're always on the lookout for any land, but particularly larger pieces of land where we can build more units in one space," said Tate. This lot is a boon, fitting the organization's goals.

Habitat for Humanity focuses on low-income housing and "pretty much everybody in Skagit County qualifies as low income," said Tate. "These are people that work at grocery stores, at



BIRD'S EYE VIEW—Lots for multi-family homes. —Photo by Don Elliott

Rain once again fell from sky in September

By Ken Stern

Finally, a significant rainfall at autumn's start, 0.9 inches Sept. 23. That led six days in a row of precipitation totaling 1.4 inches for 82.8% of the month's 1.8 inch total. The other 0.3 inches fell Sept 3-4, with a quarter inch of rain the 4th.

The 1.8 inches of rain is one of four years that has occurred since 2000, making it the tenth wettest September in the last 24 years and about average for this century.

The September rainfall average for this century has been pushed down to 1.9 inches. This year's rainfall is the closest to average for its month in 2023.

Fourteen Septembers there have had less

Rain Report: September

- Rain last week, Sept. 24-30: 0.46
 - Rainfall in Sept: 1.8
 - Number of rain days: 12
 - Least rain, one day: 0.01, 20th, 26th
 - Most rain, one day: 0.92, 23rd
 - Year least rain: 0.02, 2022
 - Year most rain: 5.24, 2019
 - Average rainfall, Sept. 2000-2023, 1.9
 - Rainfall in, August: 0.5
- All totals in inches.
Data from WСУ Mount Vernon.

than two inches of rain, including 2016-2018 when between 1.3 and 1.6 inches fell.

The 3.2 inches in 2021 was a very different story and one of four years over three inches came down. The 5.2 inches in 2019 is the

century's record rainfall.

Last year's 0.02 inches is by far the lowest amount of September moisture.

Rainfall has been below average every month of 2023. The 12.2 inches to date is 7.9 inches below the century average of 20.1 inches for January-September.

As fall approached, morning low temperatures fell, with three days below 39 degrees. Sept 21's 38.2 degrees was the month's low. It was 39.6 degrees Sept. 22 and Sept. 30 dipped to 38.6, a record for that date. The 42.8 degrees low Sept. 9 was a record for the date.

The 47.7 degrees average daily average low was 1.1 below the century's average.

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From the editor—

Governing is not posturing

Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy acted rightly as the mature adult in the room last weekend, taking responsibility for passing a spending bill to fund the United States government.

When you read this, McCarthy has already been voted out of the speaker's chair by a cabal of extremist right wing Republican representatives, their retribution for McCarthy committing the act of governing.

The Constitution obligates the House of Representatives to initiate budget bills funding the federal government. Voters in 435 districts elect their representatives every two years to participate in legislating for the nation. Each district has about 761,179 residents. Twenty districts contain less than 5% of the country's population.

Good for the self-titled Freedom Caucus to band together and march in lock step. But those 20 are 10% of the Republican representatives. That group passionately and vociferously speaks for their constituents. But when they fail to win the day, they still need to govern, to get the business of the people and the government done. They do not get to rule. They do not get to wag the dog. They are only deal breakers. They are not deal makers.

Any red-blooded American will accurately assess that this small cadre of extremists – that is way outside of the mainstream of general, common society – are enjoying living out their fantasy that they impose their ideology and force that into legislation. And civic-minded citizens know that House-passed bills go to the Senate. Laws are passed when both the House and Senate approve the same bill and the president signs it.

So, adults in the House chamber shape laws by crafting bills that start with internal-party agreement and contain conditions that the Democratic-controlled U.S. Senate will negotiate with to find common ground.

When McCarthy gave up Saturday on listening to and supporting fantasies that would not become law, he was not betraying his party. What political party puts partisan ideology above the most fundamental work of paying the nation's bills?

Now McCarthy, the third official in line to be president, fulfilled his most basic duty: shepherding a budget through passage and sending it to the Senate. That it is barely governing. It is certainly not leading.

McCarthy must have realized that he is part of Congress governing for the nation. His party, with a four-vote margin in the House, does not – and cannot, in the most basic manner – rule over the country.

McCarthy is no liberal. He is not abandoning the Republican Party. Until last weekend he declined bi-partisanship. Until last weekend he declined that lowest common denominator of governing: being realistic.

The Republican Party in the House of Representatives is neither governing nor ruling. Instead, it lurches from one manufactured crisis to the next. To what real purpose? The list of horrific tragedies our society and world are facing is too terribly long. The one issue of substance Republicans in the House united on was defeating aid to Ukraine. On that, they are on the wrong side of history.

Sunday there were 45 days of federal government funding. The fiscal year starting Oct. 1 ends 365 days later, on Sept. 30, 2024. How many Continuing Resolution dramas will the nation have to endure over the next year? How many times will a manufactured crisis for raising the debt ceiling have to be faced and faced down?

Now Republicans in the House of Representatives have to organize themselves, gather together and go through the process of choosing a new speaker. It took 15 ballots before McCarthy sufficiently groveled to get the job this summer. Are there any appeasers left willing to put their heads in these lions' jaws?

As a political party, Republican elected officials and movers and shakers are able to accomplish one thing: run for and win re-election. High drama keeps the attention of the basest of their constituents but it is not an act that adults follow with approval or applaud.

—Ken Stern

Musings—On the editor's mind

If my parents were alive, they would be stepping through their second century in America. My mom, born in 1920, would be 103. My dad would be 109. They were children of the Depression. I have long called myself a child of children of the Depression, typically recalling my mother's insistence on buying on sale everything from clothes to Kleenex. She did not waste and collected cottage cheese container and egg cartons.

The United Auto Workers on strike made me think of my dad. My family grew up in Toledo, Ohio, where Jeeps are made. Jeeps are rooted in Toledo's history: Automobiles were first built at the original factory in 1910, originally for Willys-Overland. It was a long road to Stellantis buying Fiat Chrysler in 2021.

My dad was a union member, but of the Newspaper Guild. A journalist, for over twenty years from about 1954, he was editor of the Toledo Union Journal, a weekly newspaper for Local 12, the Jeep workers local. Imagine that, a union local so big – 10,000 members, maybe – that it had its own newspaper.

The sense of justice that leads one into journalism for a labor newspaper may have been developed during the Depression. I just thought of that this week, recalling the small monthly magazine all UAW members received in the mail. It was called "Ammunition" and the point was to provide useful information to help workers understand and know which side they were on. As a young teenager in the sixties I read it for the cartoons, single frames like in The New Yorker. They were something like Woodie Guthrie's sketch of a worker "Punching the Clock," a guy in work clothes with boxing gloves giving a hard jab to a time clock. There is tons of solidarity in that cartoon.

Maybe it was just a job when he got an offer of employment, but I want to believe and hope the values my dad earned by the life he lived and the world he grew up into made him decide to keep that job for the rest of his career. He did.

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A citizen's view—

Reflecting on this dry summer dust

By Glen Johnson

I have been a part of our local farming community for sixty plus years now. I've seen more than half of the farm history in the region. I was able to observe the demise of peas, sweet corn and carrots. Now I've seen the arrival of dry beans, peppers, specialty grains and brussels sprouts. What new crop will we someday learn to grow, perhaps a new variety of quinoa or cauliflower? We could grow fish, but we'd rather grow cows and chickens.

When I was young I worked the land, planted and tended the peas until they brought the industry to its knees. I spent my youth studying what the source of the trouble might be, what is this fusarium fungus and why did it suddenly attack our peas? We already knew about a different species that was devastating to spinach grown for seed. Scientists studied new chemicals, bred resistance into the seed, but the peas just couldn't succeed, so off they went to the Columbia basin.

We still grow spinach for seed, but it is not easy.

I started studying the soil all over the place, where did the peas grow best, what was the solution to the disease. Turns out it's the organic matter in the soil that makes the show go good. It'll go without the stuff, but it's much more difficult to work and prepare, to plant and keep moist. Dust flying high in the sky is not a good sign. Most of our Skagit soils are terribly short of the valuable stuff. We could use a million tons of the carbon that

yearly burns in our nearby forests. Without enough organic matter where we grow our food, our soil is probably short of the micronutrients that we need. Now we're in a drought, which is worsened by this lack of organic matter. Most of our soils contain less than half the organic matter that they should: 1.5-2.5% is just not enough.

Most farmers believe in better living through chemistry, but I believe in smarter living through biology. Beneficial bacteria and fungi can help balance the mechanisms at work beneath our feet, we just must learn more than we used to.

We're going to have to learn how to store more irrigation water down near the fields where the water will wet them. We need to see bigger than the past, we must see the future coming at us, covering us with dust. Meteorologists are telling us to prepare for a warmer winter, with less snowpack, aka our next year's crops! We should strategically put small lakes in our lowest ground where we could grow new crops and still irrigate the land. We could grow as much protein in our irrigation water as the crops in soil without having to plow and pulverize our super fine silty clay.

We should take advantage of our current dry soils and dig some small lakes and ponds, widen and deepen more of our ditches and sloughs. There's money available for this sort of undertaking. Let's make it so.

Glen Johnson has farmed for decades in the Skagit Valley.

A citizen's view—

Prepare: One day the Big One will come

By Jerry George

On Oct. 19 at 9 a.m. 800,000 or so folks in Washington will take part in the Great Shakeout drill to practice the steps necessary to effectively respond to a major earthquake. Unlike floods and maybe wild fires, there is no way science has discovered to prevent earthquakes. There are rumors that Italian scientists are experimenting with warning signs of oncoming earthquakes, but so far the warnings are limited to Italian earthquakes and they can't warn more than a few minutes before the shaking starts.

The only available option in Washington, the second most seismically active state in the U.S. after California, is to prepare for survival and recovery from whatever destruction a quake might cause.

La Conner sits atop one of the largest earthquake faults on the planet, where the bottom of the Pacific Ocean scratches beneath the North American continent. Scientists, not too long ago, thought this fault was shallow and not likely to produce a major

earthquake. Then a vacationing geologist discovered records in a temple journal of a tsunami striking Japan in January 1700 and linked that event to previously unexplained mud rings on Washington coastal cedar trees and Native stories of tidal flooding. Mud cores taken from the continental shelf have subsequently pointed to at least five earlier giant earthquakes. Now, according to a Federal Emergency Management Agency regional director, "everything west of I-5 will be toast" when the subduction quake next strikes.

That will include La Conner.

The 1906 earthquake that nearly destroyed San Francisco has been calculated at an 8.2 on the Richter scale. The 1700 subduction quake was a 9.0, nearly 100 times stronger than San Francisco's 1906 shaker. That's why the future subduction quake has gotten so much frightening press and why Washington is having the Great Shakeout drill

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wayfinder Market fabulous

A friend and I had the good fortune to attend The Wayfinder Market's "First supper club of the fall season" on Friday night Sept. 29. I say fortunate because if you missed out you are truly unlucky. We had a fabulous time. Twenty guests sat at a big L-shaped table and spent 2-1/2 hours getting to know each other over a delicious five-course meal. Food was fantastic. The company was fabulous. The staff members were wonderful.

If you get the chance to make reservations for one of these supper club meals I say go for it. It was 2-1/2 hours well spent.

Thank you, Wayfinder Market, for such a nice evening.

*Judy Wiefels
Shelter Bay*

Solution: Rename column

When I first started reading Mel Damski's column today, I thought he was going to say that the Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss) estate had sued the La Conner Weekly News for plagiarizing the beloved author's book title. Yikes! That didn't happen, but why doesn't Damski take this as a perfect opportunity to come up with a new name for his column? He is a writer, after all. I'm sure he could come up with something original.

*Annabelle Massey Malloy
Shelter Bay*

FD 13 thanked

Thank you for covering the Sept. 24 Fire District 13 Open House event and for consistently providing your readers with information from and about this outstanding group of firefighter/EMTs who serve the community.

Your article centers on the dedication of a new residence facility that will house FD 13 volunteer first responders when they commit to a 24 hour, or perhaps 48 hour, shift and become part of a team that answers emergency fire and medical 911 calls every hour, every day of the year. That residence will see to the personal care and wellbeing of men and women who, in many cases, leave their homes and families to be on site and ready to respond in mere minutes to over 1,300 emergency calls annually.

To have my name, my family's name, associated with that significant FD 13 asset is at once deeply humbling and a special honor for which I will be forever grateful.

To those who live, work or travel through FD 13's vast service area: You are professionally served by highly skilled and trained volunteer individuals willing to make your safety and security a priority in their lives. Offer your support, your words of encouragement and appreciation in return.

To the FD 13 family: Your public service mission is critical, your success in consistently meeting that mission is without rival. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to work for and with you during my tenure as commissioner.

*Larry Kibbee
Bothell*

OBITUARY



Darrell Bruce McCormick
October 31, 1949 – September 20, 2023

Darrell McCormick died peacefully with his wife by his side on Sept. 20, 2023. Darrell was born and raised in La Conner. He spent much of his youth hunting with his dad, Bruce, and brothers Larry and Gail. Darrell loved working long hours on his grandparent's farm which instilled a, "Let's make hay while the sun is up!" attitude. In school, Darrell was a stand-out athlete who helped draw town locals out to cheer on the Braves. After graduating from La Conner High, he married his high school sweetheart, Jacque Jensen, and they had two children, Teresa and Bryan. As an adult, Darrell is remembered with great fondness by many throughout the Valley for his musical talents as a one-man band who would, on most occasions, fill the establishments he was playing to capacity. Darrell's career would span thirty-three years on the water, first as a deckhand and soon after as a captain for Dunlap Towing and later Puget Sound Freight Lines. In 1990 he married Charmaine (Stemhagen) Allen, and they soon moved to Republic, WA, to escape the seasonal barrage of tourists seeking a glimpse of the renowned Skagit Valley tulips. They later moved to Addy, WA for greener pastures. He is survived by his wife, Char, brothers Larry (Patty), Gail (Kathy), David (Sandy), and Michael (Marilyn) and sister Sharon, daughter Teresa (Carl), son Bryan (Allyson), stepdaughters Dawn Falls and Jaclyn Allen, grandchildren Matthew Orlando, Ian, Maeve and Nora McCormick, Laura Orlando (Derek Smith), Kayla Marvulli, Karly Ploghoft (George), Haileigh Allen (Thomas Harris), Anlysse Regan and Nikolas Brown. Family and friends are invited to celebrate his life on Friday, October 6, 12:30-3:30 at the Vinery at Christianson's Nursery.

Channel flood barriers ready for placement

Town council meeting Sept. 26
By Bill Reynolds

Town Emergency Management Commission chair Bill Stokes spoke glowingly last week of how fast La Conner's public works department has acquired and made ready for use a variety of flood barriers ahead of peak king tide season.

"Things are moving quickly, as quick as I've seen anything move around here," Stokes, a former town council member, told commission members during their Sept. 26 hybrid meeting at Maple Hall.

Within days of receiving council approval, pre-filled sandbags and Ecology Blocks are now staged and ready to be placed along low-lying areas of the historic waterfront, said Stokes.

Over 7,000 sandbags are now on pallets ready to stage. A forklift has been rented for seven months to move those sandbags, most made from strong commercial plastic polypropylene. The Town can also deploy 169 full-sized Ecology Blocks and 16 half blocks, Stokes said.

Stokes added that Upper Skagit Indian Tribe officials have approved in principle plans to place Ecology Blocks on their waterfront industrial property off Caledonia Street to help prevent saltwater from flowing onto south end residential areas.

Councilmember Rick Dole, liaison to the commission, said once necessary paperwork is



READY TO GO - Sandbags behind the Town of La Conner public works building on North Third Street are filled, collated and labeled for location in preparation for the coming king tide season.

—Photo by Nancy Crowell

signed flood barriers can be placed on private property.

Town council meeting

Dole reported at the council meeting immediately after the commission's that installation of a tide gauge at the La Conner Marina is being discussed with Port of Skagit staff. The Swinomish Indian Tribal Community reached out to be a partner, also.

Collaboration with La Conner Schools is also in the works, though on other topics. Town and school district leaders share concerns over the limited housing supply that is making it difficult for families to afford to live here. Sharing costs to install a community reader board is also being considered. Staff plan to

meet later this month.

Parking issues – no surprise – captured much of the council's attention.

Center Street resident Debbie Aldrich, as had her neighbor, Jerry George, at a prior meeting, addressed the loss of parking spaces caused by placing a construction safety fence for the future multi-residential unit Talmon Project behind The Slider Café.

"It's an example of the parking problem that we'll have when the project is completed," Aldrich said.

Council discussed the pros and cons of imposing paid parking on First Street, a theme explored by the town planning commission. There is a growing trend

of municipalities throughout the Puget Sound region installing pay stations or smartphone apps to generate parking revenue.

"I won't be here but if there's any interest in this," said Mayor Ramon Hayes, who is retiring this year, "I will research it."

Hayes noted that Stokes "showed the revenue stream from paid parking would be significant" when he researched paid parking while on council.

Potential traffic and parking congestion on First Street shifting to residential neighborhoods has to be addressed, too.

"The fear," said Councilmember Mary Wohleb, "is that people will park in front of residences. People will do what people do and they end up impacting residents. We need to pay attention to how this would impact our residential population."

Residents can share their thoughts with council and staff at a forum on short-term rentals at the Civic Garden Club Oct. 17.

Planning commissioners and interested residents will bus to Langley Oct. 19 to meet with architect Ross Chapin to discuss affordable and workforce housing options, Planning Director Michael Davolio reminded the group.

"Our upper-income (housing) range appears well satisfied at this point," said Davolio. "Now, we're addressing housing that allows people who work here to also live here."

Town Council begins 2024 budget with public works

By Bill Reynolds

Money talks. But last week it was Town officials who did the talking – about money, it turns out.

Town Council members kicked off the 2024 budget season with a special 5 p.m. Sept. 26 hybrid meeting at Maple Hall.

Public works director Brian Lease and Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Aaron Reinstra presented their budgets.

Council is addressing two rare anticipated line-item shortfalls: the streets and facilities funds.

Delaying purchase of additional speed cushions like those in use on Talbott and Center streets could reduce the streets budget.

That could be a hard decision. "Everywhere in town," said Lease, who along with finance director Maria DeGoede said that the streets fund has been a struggle for some time, "we get requests for the speed cushions."

"I've heard that the ones on Talbott Street have been very effective," added Councilmember Mary Wohleb.

Council this fall will explore

the possibility of adopting a one-tenth of one per cent sales tax increase to fund a transportation improvement district.

A transportation benefit tax would raise between \$45,000 and \$60,000, Lease said.

"Forty thousand dollars," he said, "would be a huge help."

La Conner's population growth and popularity as a tourist destination add significant wear and tear to the streets, Wohleb pointed out.

Several long-range, big ticket budget items will be topics of lengthy conversations this fall, including acquisition of a fire boat, upgrading the aging Skagit Beach water main, replacing the Sherman Street boat launch and continued fiscal planning for state-mandated improvements at the half-century-old wastewater treatment plant.

"We're working on funding for the fire boat," said DeGoede, who praised the budgets Reinstra presented.

"He's done really well in my opinion," she said.

The Skagit Beach water line serves about 100 homes and has required numerous repairs. Lease

said the Town will likely "require grants or loan opportunities" to undertake the necessary work.

Town Administrator Scott Thomas estimated the project could run north of \$3 million. He agreed that help will be needed and said a local improvement district (LID), in which property owners pay to help cover the cost of a project from which they directly benefit, could be an option.

Similarly, council discussed prospects for an LID bounded by Whatcom Street and Maple Avenue and Laurel to Washington streets to tackle stormwater runoff from the hill to the south and west.

"It's an aging drainage system," Thomas said, "and an upgrade would benefit a lot of residents on the east side of the hill."

The draft budget projects a 2024 ending fund balance of nearly \$4.5 million. The fund balance was 5.7 million at the end of 2022.

County burn ban over

The Skagit County Fire Marshal's Office ended the burn ban in unincorporated Skagit County Sept. 27. Residential yard and land-clearing fires are again permitted.

In unincorporated Skagit County, burn permits are required for piles exceeding four feet by four feet. Burn permit requests may be phoned to 360-416-1840.

Residents living in incorporated areas, or within an urban growth area need to contact their fire department for burn restriction information. In La Conner, call 360-466-3125.

Contact the Skagit County Fire Marshal's Office with questions: 360-416-1840, skagitcounty.net/firemarshal

Source: Skagit County Fire Marshal

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La Conner Schools has outdoor celebration of Orange Shirt Day

By Bill Reynolds

Orange is a color that has long linked the La Conner and Swinomish communities, perhaps never more so than now, 66 years after the Rainbow Bridge was built.

That was much in evidence Friday afternoon when La Conner students, most wearing bright orange shirts bearing the phrase “Every Child Matters,” gathered at Whittaker Field to pay homage to victims and survivors of the Indian Residential School era.

Superintendent Will Nelson, a member of the Blackfeet Nation, said the annual fall event promotes awareness of the residential school system in place in the U.S. and Canada during the 19th and 20th centuries. It continues

to impact tribes today.

Nelson termed the 30-minute remembrance ceremony “very powerful,” and praised the solemn, spiritual performances of the Swinomish Canoe Family, whose drumming and singing was highlighted by tribal youth and La Conner students dancing on the stadium track.

“You all give us hope for the future,” Nelson told the dancers.

Orange Shirt Day, which is observed across North America, has a local connection beyond the La Conner Schools focus.

La Conner alum Dr. Kisha Supernant, an anthropologist at the University of Alberta, has headed up the effort to locate unmarked graves of those tribal children who died while attending residential schools in western Canada.

Schools on both sides of the border were developed to assimilate Native children, teaching them Euro-American history and culture while stripping them of their own language, customs, music and traditions.

Canadian Phyllis Jack Webstad created and inspired Sept. 30 as Orange Shirt Day. The observance here was moved to Sept. 29, a Friday, so that La Conner students who had been studying the residential school period could participate in a campus program.

“Part of my job,” said campus Community and Cultural Liaison Clarissa Williams, “is to make sure we have this day of remembrance on our calendar.”

Williams noted that about 40 per cent of the student population identifies as Native American.



ORANGE SHIRTS FOR A REASON – Kialah Seymour, reigning Miss Swinomish, in the La Conner Schools’ Orange Shirt Day ceremony. — Photo by Madoc Hillier

“So, it’s really important that we honor this day,” she said.

La Conner Schools was fully on board with that, lining up student speakers – including reigning Miss Swinomish Kialah

Seymour – to share their family lineages.

Swinomish elders served as special guests, most attending in the

(continued on page 7)

La Conner defeats two league rivals, 2A Sedro-Woolley in key net tests

By Bill Reynolds

It’s often said in sports that the best defense is a good offense.

For the youthful La Conner High School volleyball team, which carries three eighth graders – Nora McCormick, Abi Poulton and Reese Bird – on its nine-player roster, the opposite is the case.

The Lady Braves, adjusting to heavy graduation losses from its state championship net program, have transitioned this fall from a power hitting team to relying on solid defense and crisp passing.

They worked that new approach to good effect last week with two key NW2B/1B home victories over Coupeville and Friday Harbor, respectively.

La Conner (5-4 overall, 3-0 in league) also sandwiched in a mid-week straight-sets triumph at 2A Sedro-Woolley.

“We’re getting better every match,” first-year head coach



ABI UDLOCK

—Photo by Bill Reynolds

Pam Keller told the Weekly News after her club breezed to a 3-0 win Thursday against Friday Harbor. “And this is a group that really cares about each other.”

Keller utilized her entire

roster in a fast-paced match that featured several extended rallies, with players covering the floor nicely and repelling Friday Harbor attacks with repeated digs, deft passes and timely kills.

“We’re definitely doing it with defense right now,” Keller said. “With a young team like this, we’ve been figuring out the right spots for everybody to play.”

After dropping four of five non-conference tests to start the season, the team figured things out fast last week, rallying to edge Coupeville in five sets on Sept. 26, then posting the first of two straight 3-0 verdicts at Sedro-Woolley the next night.

Against Coupeville, La Conner survived five ties and a brief 12-11 deficit in the decisive fifth set before scoring the final four points for a tight 15-12 verdict.

La Conner had won the first two sets by scores of 25-23 and 25-14. Coupeville forced the tie-breaking fifth set by winning

the third and fourth frames 25-23 and 25-20.

The three-set line score with Friday Harbor was far less dramatic, at 25-9, 25-10 and 25-5.

Poulton set the tone early, serving four consecutive points to open the first set. Nora McCormick and Maeve McCormick each delivered kills during that mini-run.

Defensive specialist Addison Wigal fueled another opening set spurt with a sliding dig as the Lady Braves built a 12-6 edge. Maeve McCormick and Udlock gave the hosts a 23-9 lead with service aces before Morgan Huizenga closed out the set with a pair of kills.

Huizenga continued doing damage at the net in the second set. Her two kills and back-to-back aces from Udlock put the team ahead 13-9. Bird then took over with two kills and successive aces, the second capping a 6-0 run that clinched the set.

Friday Harbor took a 2-0 lead at the outset of the third set, but La Conner responded with a 25-3 run the rest of the way. Huizenga rang up five kills and a block, Poulton and Nora McCormick had one kill each and libero Addison Keller thwarted several Friday Harbor attacks to secure the match.

La Conner, however, has had no time to rest on its laurels. The Lady Braves now face a tough stretch of their schedule, starting with last night’s league home match opposite Orcas Island. La Conner entertains Mount Vernon Christian tomorrow (Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. and hosts eastern Washington power Manson in a 2 p.m. matinee match Saturday.

“This,” said Keller, “is a really big week for us.”

And her hope, in the midst of a busy slate of matches – and to borrow from the famed courtroom phrase – is that the defense never rests.

High school sports roundup: soccer, football scores

By Bill Reynolds

The La Conner High School boys’ soccer team defeated Grace Academy 3-1 Friday at home for the Braves’ second straight triumph, improving to 2-3 on the campaign going into a big match with NW2B/1B power Mount Vernon Christian Friday, Oct. 6.

Coach Galen McKnight’s charges will look to square their season ledger when they host the

Hurricanes in a 4 p.m. start.

MVC sports a 6-2-1 mark entering this week’s play, having most recently tied St. Georges of Spokane 2-2, blanked Friday Harbor 1-0 and dropped a tough 1-0 decision to Orcas Island.

Hurricane senior Christian Kilvert paces the MVC attack with six goals in nine contests. Kilvert and his teammates edged the Braves 2-0 in September in Mount Vernon.

La Conner has stepped up its game since then, most impressively in a 5-0 win over Crosspoint Academy on Sept. 23. In that clash, Lane Tenborg scored two goals and assisted on three others. Corran Eisen, Sammy Williams and Kale Navarette Higgins each scored and goalkeeper Tyler Cicotte preserved the shutout for La Conner.

Girls Soccer

The Lady Braves’ soccer team (1-6-1) fell last week to MVC, 1A Sultan and 2B Forks last week. The 4-1 home setback to Forks was Saturday. The team came up short, 4-1 to Sultan, also at home, last Thursday.

Against MVC Sept. 26, goalkeeper Josi Straathof recorded a slew of saves.

“She came off the line and charged the opposing forwards time after time,” La Conner head coach Maddie Huscher told the Weekly News. “Her aggression won us back the ball and stopped many potential goals.”

Maddy Miller playing the entire game at midfield and center defender, also helped protect La Conner’s net, said Huscher.

La Conner travels today (Wednesday) to Forest Ridge of Bellevue, whom the Lady Braves defeated in September, for a 3:45 p.m. non-conference match.

Football

The Braves football team (0-4) averted a shutout late at Bellingham on Friday when quarterback Ivory

Damien tossed a touchdown pass to C.J. Edwards in the waning moments. Damien tacked on a two-point conversion run to make the final score 40-8.

It was the second time this season the team has squared off against a school with a student enrollment topping 1,000.

Bellingham quarterback Josh Leonard led the victors with four touchdown strikes, three to Arlo Vergillo. With the win, the Bayhawks improved to 2-3 at the campaign’s midway point.

La Conner continues non-league action this Saturday (2 p.m.) at Whittaker Field opposite Eastern shington 2B foe Mabton.

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Technology advances methods for tracking bird migrations

By Bob Hamblin

In the 1950s bird migration information was sketchy without a good format. Most banding research was done with metal tags as leg bands on waterfowl. Not much information was useful. The leg bands counted birds killed in the field by hunters.

Passerine research was provided by field birders who knew the flight songs of Swainson's thrush and other more common night migrants. On full moon nights spotting scopes were used to count birds passing through more reflective light arcs.

Mist nets and aluminum bands were used on smaller birds. The problem then is to mist net and equip these birds with transmitters. Today digitized transmitters are used, reducing the size and weight of transmitters. By 1970 radio transmitters weighed only one-third of an ounce. Now tags with microchips are less than two grams and are mounted on a bird's back.

Often transmitters are solar powered and tied into satellites. Birds are located by GPS, but four to five ground sites are needed for a good fix.

To get tagged, birds are usually captured in mist nets, weighed and feathers taken along with blood samples. All information is digitized. The tags are geolocators, some even have microphones and soundtracks. Information is retrieved at ground stations.

Feather samples are taken to locate where nesting occurred. These are analyzed for DNA to produce a profile of the bird's movements over time. Warblers have faced the greatest challenge in North America. Due to the

five major ice movements over a wide area, over many major movements, warblers had to adjust their routes of travel and nesting areas and eventually turned into separate species.

Old feathers from early museum collections can also be used, helping to develop migration trends over the years.

A feather library is developing. Migration routes of small birds have changed with each of five ice age changes in North America. DNA changes in migration can be traced over the years. This information is processed by Genoscope, a genome sequencing research center, to map improvements.

Your atoms can be traced in the lab through stable isotopes analysis locating where you have been and what you ate over time. Geolocators are more commonplace for use on birds. They are used on uncommon warblers using feathers as locators. As to where the bird goes and what it eats, they also use stable isotopes.

This includes research on deuterium, a water particle molecule signature that is very scarce. This molecule may be eaten by animals and tracked years later. It becomes a locator after it is ingested. It is traced in the lab through stable isotopes analysis indicating where it was found. This locator can also be used on bats, reptiles and insects.

Deuterium is used extensively in North America research. In the environment it begins to fade in the soil as it moves north into Canada. Soil deposits in North America define regions allowing for dating of material a bird has eaten.



FREE FORTUNES —Lolita the fortune teller has returned to La Conner. She is stationed outside the Post Office with a pocketful of positive fortunes for any passerby, courtesy of her friend, Jo Mitchell.

—Photo by Nancy Crowell

Theatre review

Go get caught by 'The Mousetrap'

By Ken Stern

Over ominous music playing in a darkened theatre a scream shrieks out. When the curtains open onto an early 1950s English inn's sitting room, the news on the radio is of a murder of a woman in London. But that is hardly background noise even after the headline in the day's newspaper is read by an arriving guest, Mrs. Boyle (Beth Morgan-Cleland), one of an ensemble cast, each actor well defining his or her unique characters and thus standing out individually.

Five guests will soon be greeted by Mollie (Amanda Wells) and Giles (Rob Hanson) Ralston, owners of the newly opened Monkswell Manor. But, besides Mrs. Boyle and Christopher Wren (Mike Riverun) getting on each other's nerves, as the tics of each guest's personality is annoying to the others, they are all upset by the unexpected arrival on skis of detective Sargeant Trotter (Dale Aspelund). He has come in the midst of a record-breaking snowfall (great set design and technique from Jim Reeder) in pursuit of the woman's killer. He tells the group: two of the guests will die. "One of you is a killer," he says matter-of-factly. They are all suspects in a murder case.

Welcome to "The Mousetrap," Agatha Christie's 1952 play in performance at Anacortes Community Theatre weekends through Oct. 14.

Trotter has evidence, in the music to "Three Blind Mice," informing him that three connected killings is the murderer's goal, vengeance sought by one of two abused brothers from a foster care couple the boys had lived with years earlier.

"Mousetrap" has echoes of the board game Clue. Each character is defined by rooms they repeatedly go to, but instead of a variety of weapons what could each's specific motive be? And, obviously strangers to each other, how could some have a link to the past abuse?

This energetic and well-paced production has the cast moving on and off stage, into the drawing room, the dining room, the library, the basement and out the front door. And, Trotter came in through the sitting room's window.

As each visitor arrived, they momentarily stepped out of the play to share something of themselves. Are they offering clues to their past or their reason for coming to the inn?

There is Major Metcalf (Jim Weaver), the bearded retired military officer. Miss Casewell (Emmy Bateman) says she is 25. She lives abroad. What brought her back? Only Mr. Paravicini (Keving Cobby) seems an accidental tourist. His car overturned in a snowdrift so he sought nearby shelter. But neither he nor anyone else can call for help: someone cut the telephone wires.

The guests and the Ralstons are united in disliking the snobbish, criticizing Mrs. Boyle. She suggests to Giles that she could leave early. He agrees. She stays. Paravicini whistles the "Three Blind Mice" tune and says, yes, he was playing it on the drawing room piano. There is distinct tension among the guests.

Then, a hand reaches out from

the dining room and turns off the lights. Then screams, and another victim, a guest murdered and lying on the sofa. Just like that. Then, intermission.

On the radio the announcer shares a detail from the scene of the crime: the escaping murderer was wearing a black overcoat, a fedora and a light scarf. Ralston has a dark overcoat and a copy of the London Evening News in the pocket.

Trotter continues his investigation, questioning each, alone or in combinations. His inquiry into each of the Ralstons surreptitiously going to London the day before has them doubting their married partner on the eve of their first anniversary. "I don't know you." "You don't know me," they exchange, though earlier there had been hugs by the fireplace.

The tension increases with the interrogation. Everyone is unnerved. Who will be killed? Who is the killer?

The world's longest running play, for over 70 years at a London theatre, has a tradition with every performance: the audience is asked not to reveal the ending. You will have to see for yourself.

Shelter Bay resident Paul Fadoul ably directs the cast. Jim Reeder designed the set and lighting, using some items from Nasty Jack's. The production team's strong support showed in Saturday night's performance.

"The Mousetrap" plays through Oct. 14. Tickets and times: acttheatre.com/.

School board election forum

John Agen and Janie Beasley are vying for La Conner School District Director Position 2

Greater La Conner residents living in the district can attend a candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Skagit County Oct. 16 at 6:15 p.m. at Skagit PUD.

Register at the League's website: .skagitlv.org/Election-Forums.html.

The Garden Bug

If a potted plant looks poorly, gently remove the plant from the pot and examine the root system. Healthy roots should be white or tan in color, sturdy, very numerous and reaching deeply into the soil. If any roots are discolored, limp, crumbly or have a bad smell to them, the plant may have "root rot" and will need your intervention. Hold its roots under running water, and remove any rotten sections with scissors or nips. Then place into a new pot with fresh soil.

—Brenda Weaver

Sources: www.greenwaybiotech.com, humboldtsecretssupplies.com

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Contested School Board Races for:
School Districts: La Conner, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Woolley
When: Monday October 16 - 6:15 PM to 8:30 PM
Where: Skagit PUD, 1415 Freeway Dr, Mt Vernon

Burlington Mayor, Contested City Council and Burlington School District Director Races
When: Wednesday October 11 - 6:15 PM to 8:30 PM
Where: Burlington City Hall, 833 S Spruce St.
In partnership with Burlington Chamber of Commerce

Anacortes Contested City Council, Contested Port District Commissioner and School District Director Races
When: Tuesday October 10 - 5:00 PM to 8:00PM
Where: Anacortes City Hall, 904 6th St.
In partnership with Anacortes Chamber of Commerce

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Energy planning grants awarded to schools and fire department

By Greg Whiting

The La Conner School District and the La Conner Fire Department have each been awarded a grant from the Washington state Department of Commerce. These grants will fund work required for each to evaluate the feasibility of and complete a preliminary design for installation and use of combined solar generation and energy storage systems.

Both grant applications were submitted to DOC with assistance from the Skagit Valley Clean Energy Cooperative. Co-op volunteers Mary Wohleb and Marylee Chamberlain helped the district and the fire department identify the grant opportunities and write both applications. The Co-op is working with DOC and local governments to pursue state and federal funds to use modern energy technologies in Skagit County.

The schools grant will enable it to conduct a feasibility study to define the readiness, costs, capacity, community benefits and technical design options for a solar photovoltaic generation system combined with an energy storage system. The fire department grant has the same purpose for a solar plus storage system at the fire station. Each electric generation plus energy storage system will improve energy resilience by providing enough energy to back up essential loads and continue limited operations during a power outage, enabling the schools and fire station to function as emergency shelters.

The elementary and middle schools and fire station are designated emergency shelters for the service area of the school district and the town. These facilities meet a critical need for the community, as there are few structures large enough, with kitchen facilities, that could be used for emergency shelter. The school district buildings are



ADA compliant and will soon have updated HVAC systems and the fire department provides first aid services.

Over the next year, the two institutions will work closely with Cascadia Renewables, a Bellingham-based energy consulting firm, to coordinate development of preliminary system designs for each of their relevant buildings. Cascadia will assist the district and the fire department with technical elements of the designs and with soliciting and including input into the designs from other critical parties, such as local emergency response agencies and local utilities. Outcomes of the first-phase work will include definition of the capacity necessary to support essential loads during power outages and relevant technical design options.

Community input will also be sought. Cascadia will work with the school district and the fire department to promote and schedule community workshops to further discuss the grant opportunities, potential systems, use case scenarios and emergency planning. This will provide an opportunity for community feedback to be considered before applying for construction funding.

The town and the Co-op expect to follow up next year with second-phase grant proposals requesting further funds from DOC to complete the design and installation of these advanced energy resilience systems. Applications are expected to be requested by DOC in April 2024. Phase II funding will probably be awarded in the fall of 2025, for final design and construction in 2025-2026.

Views of the news: An image from the past week



FULL MOON MEANT A HIGH TIDE – King tide season rolls our way in November, but the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's tide chart listed 10.8 feet for the high tide at La Conner Saturday, Sept. 28 at 6:27 p.m. This is the view from the dock west of the boardwalk at the foot of Washington Street

—Photo by Nancy Crowell

Motor vehicle collision caused brief local power outage last week

By Bill Reynolds

Over 3,000 greater La Conner residents were without power for several hours Sept. 26 following a vehicle collision north of town.

The areas affected by the outage was southern Fidalgo Island east across the La Conner Flats to Pleasant Ridge and the North Fork Skagit River bridge and along McLean Road to Best Road.

According to the Safely HQ community health platform, electrical service was interrupted when a motor vehicle crash occurred near the intersection of McLean and La Conner-Whitney roads around 1:40 p.m.

Outages were reported on Fir Island, in La Conner, Shelter Bay and on Swinomish Reservation.

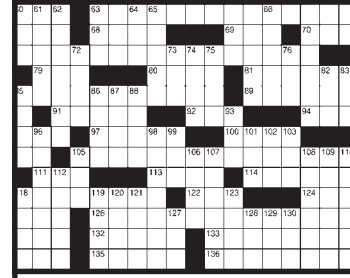
Power was restored in La Conner within a couple hours,

in time for a series of meetings held at Maple Hall. The Town's emergency management commission met as scheduled at 4 p.m., followed by a town council budget session and its regular meeting.

Some Puget Sound Energy customers on Fidalgo Island did not have power restored until just before 7 p.m.

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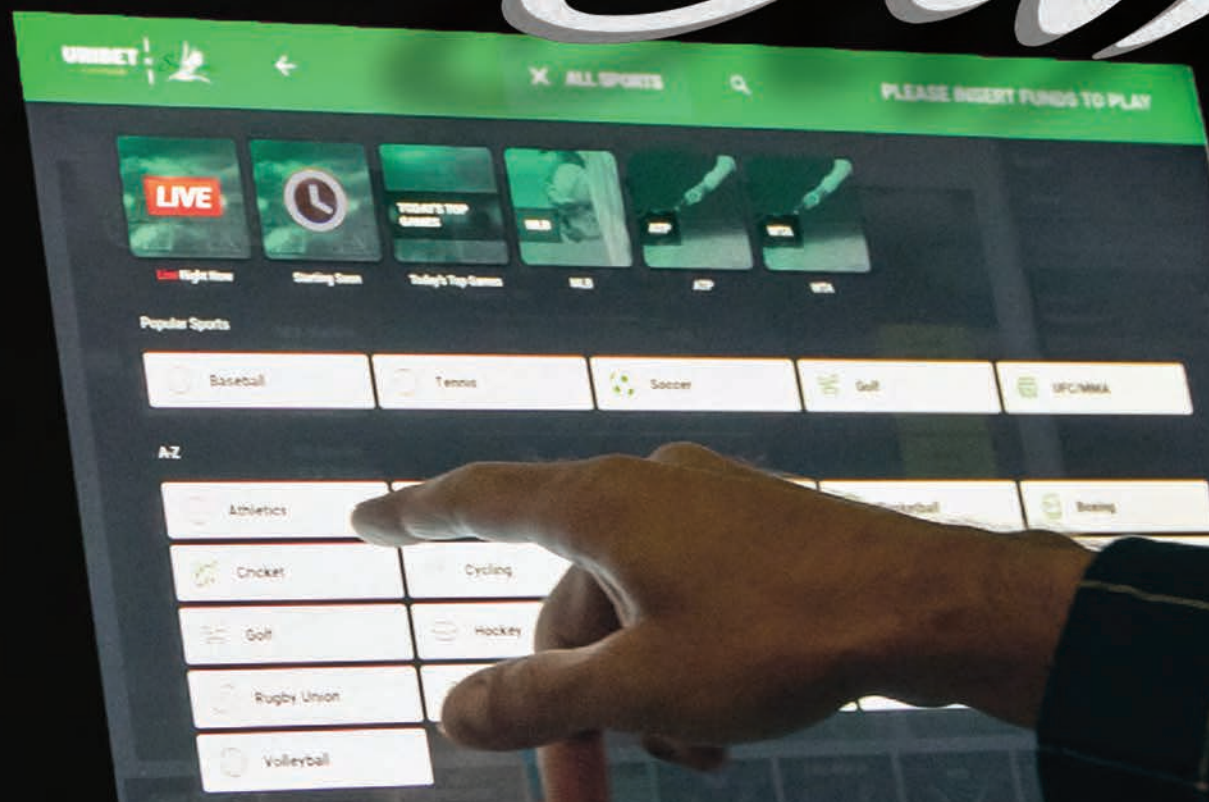
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Inslee

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

housing units have been built. He asked the legislature for \$4 billion last session to help address the challenge. The \$1 billion allocated “is a start,” said Inslee.

Those around the table related immediate issues.

Anne Sadler of the Association of Manufactured Home Owners read testimonies from people who faced rent increases of 45%-185% and others who balanced paying for medications, food or heat. Rapid rent increases have

displaced maintenance issues as the leading reason people leave their residences, increasing homelessness, said Kerri Burnside, of the Bellingham Tenants Union. These and other examples personalized the housing crisis in northwest Washington.

The governor noted “These are the same stories all over the state of Washington.” The short-term picture, he acknowledged, is not cheery.

The limited housing supply is a significant problem. Representatives from the construction industry and property management shared their experiences,

too.

Josh Baldwin, of Quantum Construction in Anacortes, emphasized the need to reduce risk for builders, especially for multifamily projects that can take several years longer than a single-family residence. Costs add up during that period without returns on the investment.

“The best way to increase that supply,” said Baldwin, “is to minimize our risk, to speed up time to market, to lower regulatory hurdles and otherwise find carrots for people who want to build.”

Different jurisdictions and offices interpret zoning and

permitting rules inconsistently, delaying or stymieing construction, Baldwin and others noted.

“One of the things we can do is get enough personnel in these agencies to do the work that’s necessary,” said Inslee, insisting we must “have people to do this work.”

The governor wondered if there was a way to distinguish between those who are trying to solve the housing problems and those who are simply trying to maximize profits. Ramel told the Weekly News that he was “really pleased” to hear Inslee separate “problematic landlords from the good ones who are ...

doing their best to provide good, stable housing to people.”

The state purchasing properties was offered as an alternative to predatory investors, to prevent drastic rent increases and to grow the options for low-cost housing. Whatever the legislature proposes in the next term for rent stabilization, Ramel told the Weekly News, needs to be well thought out for tenants, builders and landlords.

For next steps, Ramel intends to be “part of the team that’s moving forward with legislation to try to find a way to stabilize rent for as many people in Washington as we can.”

Habitat

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

at restaurants. They work at the hospital. They work in various different places where they don’t make enough money to purchase a home or pay rent without paying more than 50 percent of their income.”

If the comprehensive plan is not changed, the organization will build three homes. Skagit Habit, though, envisions six, three-bedroom, two-story town-homes. If successful, eighteen more bedrooms will be coming to La Conner.

Rain

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

The temperature topped 80 degrees Sept. 2, at 81.2 degrees. Only two other days rose above 78 degrees, 78.1 Sept. 10 and 79.3 degrees Sept. 16.

There were 12 days above 70 degrees that helped to raise the month’s daily average maximum temperature to 68.6 degrees,

0.4 degrees above the century’s September high.

Ten mornings were below 45 degrees.

September’s monthly daily average temperature of 57.4 degrees was 0.6 degrees below the century’s average of 58.1.

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

Have you seen our new website?

Laconnerweeklynews.com

Quake

■ ■ ■ (from page 2)

the third Thursday morning in October.

La Conner will not fare well when that quake happens, but neither will the town fare well when earthquakes 1,000 times less strong, magnitude 7 on the Richter scale, are produced by

local faults, as they have been in the historical past.

La Conner’s water comes by way of a single large, vulnerable pipe that engineers say is unlikely to survive a magnitude 7 earthquake. Without water, it is very hard to fight fires which are a common result of broken gas pipes. La Conner sits on a river delta where the soil is subject to liquefaction caused by the shak-

ing of groundwater soaked soil. Our wonderful historic buildings, all built since the last major earthquake, are quite vulnerable to major damage.

How to prepare:

1. Make a map of your neighborhood including who lives where and whether they have special needs or special skills.
2. Put together a “go bag” that includes credit cards, money,

deeds, insurance policies, picture IDs, medicines for two weeks.

3. Secure bookcases and other furniture to the wall to prevent falling.

4. Train everyone in your household how to shut off water, electricity and gas.

5. Remember your animal’s needs: shelter, food, etc.

6. Set aside in an accessible place: safely store food for a

week, water (if you have a tank water heater, you have water), basic first aid kit, fire extinguisher.

7. Make an evacuation plan to follow if ordered to evacuate.

8. Know what escape routes are available; what bridges are safe; what roads are passable.

Jerry George has spent decades researching northern climate environments and volcanoes.

Festival of Family Farms this weekend

The 25th annual Festival of Family Farms free tour is throughout Skagit County this

weekend, Oct. 7-8. The popular annual event offers visitors hands on experience at a wide variety

of farms across the Skagit Valley.

You don’t have to be a city slicker to enjoy the many activities available for everyone in the family including:

- Educational Exhibits
- Farm Tours, Harvest Markets
- Gardening Demonstrations
- Free Samples
- Kids Activities
- Corn and Hay Mazes
- Animal Exhibits
- Pumpkin Patches
- Scenic Tours and More

For complete details of the event, including which farms are hosts participating in this year’s festival, please refer to their website: <https://festivaloffamilyfarms.com/>

Orange Shirt

■ ■ ■ (from page 4)

Whittaker Field home bleachers though tribal senator Barb James stood on the track with Canoe Family members.

The orange shirt was chosen to symbolize residential school remembrances because of a traumatic event in Webstad’s life. As a youth she was forced to give up a favorite gifted orange shirt upon arrival at the residential school near Williams

Lake, British Columbia.

The color orange over time reminded Webstad of her experience and how her feelings as a six-year-old away from home did not matter to the residential school staff. But rather than invoking bitter memories, the orange shirt today fuels desires for truth and reconciliation.

Both, of course, remain works in progress – thus the designation of Orange Shirt Day as an ongoing annual event.

Or, as Webstad often explains, “The truth is not yet fully told.”

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Moving?

Email your address change to info@laconnernews.com



SENIOR CENTER at MAPLE HALL

Tuesdays 9-3

Activities:
Fitness Class, Woodcarving Group, Creative Writing, Games & Crafts, Art Circle, Special Events & More!



Full Schedule:
Town of La Conner website
Or call/email
360-855-5440
seniorcenter@townoflaconner.org



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Raven's Cup Coffee & Tea & Art Gallery

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

- Autumn-scented candles and wax melts
- Black cat candles and art
- And lots of art and gift items with our favorite: Ravens!

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

New paintings in our ravens drinking coffee series feature Santa and his raven helper; and Captain Ahab and the Great White Raven! Santa art available on a cup.



Reclamation
CANDLE COMPANY



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Open at 7 am daily!

AGENDA

Town of La Conner
Town Council Agenda
October 10, 2023, 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. C O N S E N T

AGENDA

A. Consent Agenda
(Approved without objection 5/0)

1. Approval of the Minutes: September 26, 2023
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 - Discussion
2. Jenson Property - Discussion
3. Ordinance - Amending Titles 5 & 15 LMC (Adult Businesses)
4. Budget Discussions

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance - Dissolve LMC 2.05.015 (Notice Publishing)
2. Resolution - Adopting Meeting Notification Policy
3. Formation of Transportation Benefit District - Discussion

IX. M A Y O R ROUNDTABLE:

X. E X E C U T I V E 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.

Join Zoom Meeting - This Meeting will be Recorded
<https://phadowud-online.zoom.us/j/82672241836?pwd=OHBBdnBja09zZEJqc1NwRHJPejJjZz09>
Meeting ID: 826 7224 1836
Passcode: 942729
One tap mobile
Phone Number:
1-253-215-8782
Find your local number:
<https://phadowud-online.zoom.us/j/kZvAU5k66>

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of La Conner, Washington, passed Ordinance No. 1230 at the September 26, 2023, Town Council meeting. A summary of Ordinance No. 1230 is as follows:
An Ordinance adopting Chapter 11.70 of the La Conner Municipal Code for news box regulations.

Complete copies of Ordinance No. 1230 are available at La Conner Town Hall, P.O. Box 400, La Conner, WA 98257

Dated this 27th Day of September, 2023

Maria DeGoede, Town Clerk
Published in La Conner Weekly News Oct. 4, 2023.

RCW 11.40.030 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY

Estate of: MARIA PILAR CODINA aka PILAR CODINA, Deceased.

(Date of death: January 6, 2022)
No. 23-4-00413-29

The Estate Administrator 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 the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Estate Administrator or the Estate 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 (30) days after the Estate Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four (4) 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 filing with the Clerk of the Court: _____
Date of first publication _____

Estate Administrator: Douglas J. Kiehn c/o Wendy K Anderson, attorney for Estate Administrator, Wendy K Anderson, PS, P.O. Box 7853, Olympia, WA 98507 (206)

420-3516
400 Union Ave SE, Ste. 200-3425, Olympia, WA 98501
(206) 420-3516
Published in the La Conner Weekly News on Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 2023.

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

In the Matter of the Estate of: ETHEL R. ADAMS Deceased.

NO. 23-4-00136-33
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of:

(1) thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the Creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice.

If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: September 20, 2023

Deborah "Debi" A. Adams, Personal Representative, c/o McGrane & Schuerman Alison K. McGrane, WSBA #37417, Attorney at Law 298 South Main #304, Colville, Washington 99114, 509 684-8484
Published in the La Conner Weekly News on Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 2023.

In the superior court of the State of Washington for the county of Skagit.

Sentry Select Insurance Company, a/s/o Consumer Rental LLC., Plaintiff, vs. No. 22-2-00670-29

LEGAL NOTICES

Logan Shull, Defendant.
The State of Washington to the said Logan Shull:

You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the 20th day of September, 2023, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Sentry Select Insurance Company, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorneys for plaintiff, Lovik & Juhl, PLLC, at their office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. The suit alleges Breach of Contract and Unjust Enrichment.
Nicholas W. Juhl
Lovik & Juhl, PLLC
Plaintiff's Attorneys.
936 N 34th St, Ste 300
Seattle, WA 98103
Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25 2023.

In the superior court of the State of Washington for the county of Skagit.

Sentry Select Insurance Company, a/s/o Consumer Rental LLC., Plaintiff, vs. No. 22-2-00670-29
Logan Shull, Defendant.

The State of Washington to the said Logan Shull:

You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the 20th day of September, 2023, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Sentry Select Insurance Company, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorneys for plaintiff, Lovik & Juhl, PLLC, at their office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. The suit alleges Breach of Contract and Unjust Enrichment.
Nicholas W. Juhl
Lovik & Juhl, PLLC
Plaintiff's Attorneys.
936 N 34th St, Ste 300
Seattle, WA 98103
Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25 2023.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY

IN RE THE ESTATE OF ROBERT LEROY HUNT Deceased

No. 23-4 00471 29
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) (N-TCRD)

The person named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this Estate.

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

Date of First Publication: September 27, 2023.

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

the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. 1 The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS - 1 (N-TCRD) RCW 11.40.030

MICHELLE SUSAN CAVE

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

Address for Mailing or Service:
4412 Carmel Mountain Drive
McKinney, TX 75070

Court of probate proceedings and cause number: Skagit County Superior Court No. 23-4 00471 29

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS - 2 (N-TCRD) RCW 11.40.030

MICHELLE SUSAN CAVE
4412 Carmel Mountain Dr.
Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 27th, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 2023

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY

In Re The Estate of: FRANKLIN M STROHECKER, JR., Deceased.

No. 23-4-06437-0 SEA
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) (N-TCRD)

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

Date of First Publication: September 27, 2023.

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

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY

In the Matter of the Estate of Merle H. Berger, Deceased.

Cause No. 23-4-00484-29
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) 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 27, 2023

Personal Representative: Teresa Lahrmann

Attorney for Personal Representative: Aaron M. Rasmussen, WSBA #29496

Address for Mailing or Service: North Sound Law Group, PLLC, 300 N. Commercial St., Bellingham, WA 98225; Phone: 360-671-7700

Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLALLAM

JUVENILE COURT No: 23-7-00035-05

Notice and Summons by Publication (Dependency) (SMPB)

Dependency of: JAYCE CARTER DEMMON DOB: 02/04/2023

To: The alleged FATHER CHARLES PRESNELL, and the UNKNOWN FATHER name and identity UNKNOWN and/or anyone else with a paternal interest in the child, in conformity with RCW 13.34.080.

A Dependency Petition was filed on FEBRUARY 9TH, 2023; A Dependency First Set Fact Finding hearing will be held on this matter on: Oct. 25, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at Clallam County Juvenile Services, 1912 W. 18th Street, Port Angeles, WA, 98363.

To appear remotely by Phone (888) 475-4499 toll free, or Video (Zoom), enter Meeting ID 978- 5492-0434 and Passcode 12345.

You should be present at this hearing.

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

To request a copy of the Notice & Summons and Dependency Petition, call DCYF at 360-912-8440 and contact your social worker. To view information about your rights, including right to a lawyer, go to www.atg.wa.gov/DPY.aspx.

Dated: SEPTEMBER 21, 2023
NIKKI BOTNEN, County Clerk

PUBLISH: September 27th October 4th, October 11th
Published in La Conner Weekly News Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and Oct. 11 2020

Super Crossword

Answers

O	S	H	A	A	R	F	A	R	F	D	O	T	H	E	W	A	V	E
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T	E	E	N	T	I	T	A	N	E	R	A	N	T	A	F	E	N	D

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads now in print and online • same low price
Submit your ad by Sunday noon for next issue publishing • laconnerweeklynews.com/classifiedads or 360-466-3315

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

WANTED PART TIME CAREGIVING JOB: 3-4 hours per day. Licensed CNA 15 yrs exp. Errands, light housekeeping, small pet care, meal prep. Melanie 206-551-6343

Fall is coming. Best time to plant your perennials. LaFountains is located right behind the Post Office. Open 24/7. Check it out.

APARTMENT FOR RENT: On First St., channel view, center of town. Ideal for retirement, 1 bedroom over the Red Door. \$2,500 a month. 206-669-2447 or 360-708-6495

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details, 855-635-4229.

JO'S HEALING HANDS. You worked hard all summer. Time to reward your body by getting a massage. Call Jo's Healing Hands LMT 360-708-2022

RENTAL WANTED: Mature La Conner business owner seeking 1 or 2 bedroom (one occupant) house, apartment, or condo in La Conner vicinity. Need before October 30. 360-299-2353.

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

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-888-360-1582.

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES today with a GENERAC home standby generator. \$0 money down + low monthly payment options. Request a FREE Quote. Call now before the next power outage: 1-888-674-7053.

Have you seen our new website?
Laconnerweeklynews.com

CLASSIFIEDS

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

Love Puzzles!

See our new online puzzle page
laconnerweeklynews.com/puzzles

Moving?

Email your address change to info@laconnernews.com

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Complete Events Calendar on laconnerweeklynews.com



Aqimuk's Kitchen

By Patricia Aqimuk Paul, Esq., Food Editor.

Baked Green Tomato



Slices is an alternative to a fried green tomato recipe I published here in August 2017. My garden was off to a late start, yet I was so pleased to harvest green tomatoes!

- Ingredients**
- Green tomatoes, 3 medium
 - Flour, 1 and 1/2 cup
 - Salt & pepper, 1/8 teaspoon each
 - Plain yogurt, 1/2 cup
 - Panko bread crumbs, 1 cup
 - Oil spray
 - Olive oil, 2 tablespoons
 - Parchment paper, cut to fit

Preparation

Rinse the tomatoes, cut a bit of the stem end. Use three shallow bowls. Add the flour, salt and pepper in one bowl, mix with a fork. Add yogurt to a second bowl. Add the panko to a third. Cut or fold the parchment paper to fit a large baking/cookie sheet. Cut the tomatoes into 1/4 inch slices. Working with one slice at a time, coat with flour. Then place in the yogurt. I smeared a thin coat of yogurt, using my finger. Then place in the panko and pat the panko to coat both sides. Place on the baking sheet. Create a single layer, spaced apart. Spray the coated slices with oil. Bake in a preheated 350-degree oven for 10 minutes. Use a spatula to flip. Drizzle olive oil over each slice. Bake for 20 minutes. Test for doneness with a fork. They will be firm and soft when done.

AqimuksKitchen@outlook.com

NOT TO BE MISSED

Skagit Symphony begins its 2023-24 season with "Second Chances" on Oct. 21. The concert features Sandra Shen on piano playing "Stars" by Mary Howe, Rachmaninoff's second piano concerto and concludes with Mussorgsky's legendary "Pictures at an Exhibition." Info: www.skagitsymphony.com/second-chances

Free Master Gardener Know & Grow: Mosses & Lichens Tue. Oct. 17 1:00-2:30 p.m. NWREC Sakuma Auditorium, 16650 Washington 536, Mount Vernon, WA 98273, USA

LIBRARIES

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

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

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

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

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

Burlington Public Library. 820 E. Washington Ave., Burlington. 360-755-0760, burlingtonwa.gov/library.

- Knitting Club. All ages, Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Pacific Northwest Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum. 703 S. Second St., La Conner. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. qfamuseum.org, 360-466-4288. See two new exhibits:

- Bojagi Journey 2023; curated by Patti King, through Oct. 8.
- David Owen Hastings: Paper + Stitch, through Oct. 29.

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

- Exhibit: "I Do, the History of Weddings," through Sept. 24.

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

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

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

MUSIC

Skagit Community Band Maple Hall, La Conner Oct. 13 7:30 p.m.

Ukelele Fun & Song Circle. Meets 1-2 p.m. Wednesdays, Burlington Senior Center. For more info, email yogaheartspace0@gmail.com.

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

SERVICE & VOLUNTEER

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

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

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

MEETINGS

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

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

Skagit Conservation District. 2021 E. College Way No. 203, Mount Vernon. 360-428-4313. Zoom info at skagitcd.org. Board meetings 7:30-9 a.m. every fourth Wednesday.

Rotary Club of La Conner. laconnerrotary.org. Meetings 6-7 p.m. every Monday at Shawn O'Donnell's restaurant. Optional dinner, 5:30 p.m.

Ownership Management and Circulation Statement

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- Kenneth Stern
Editor and Publisher

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Sudoku, Crossword answers on page 8

AT YOUR SERVICE DIRECTORY

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Super Crossword

STARTING SUBGENRES

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Worker welfare gp.	1 Globe
5 Bark syllables	2 — Paulo
11 Perform a dynamic crowd action in a stadium	3 Coxa, more familiarly
20 Hospital bed attachment	4 Some nuts
21 Nomadic type	5 Jason's ship
22 Turpentine, for one	6 Horse hue
23 1983-2014 periodical for adolescents	7 Perturb
25 Reins are parts of them	8 Parisian bud
26 The first task on the to-do list	9 Title anew
27 Help-wanted, e.g.	10 One of the Corleones in "The Godfather"
29 Musician Nugent	11 Cry from Homer
30 Musician DiFranco	12 City in Kansas
31 Africa's Sierra —	13 Actress Wright
33 No-problem advancement	14 Fit carmaker
37 What a bitingly sarcastic person has	15 Up 'til
41 Ostrich lookalike	16 "Cursed" director
42 Olympic swimmer Tom	17 Really attack
43 Royal heirs, often	18 Capital of Austria
44 Veep's boss	19 Junior naval officer
45 NYC subway org.	24 Assist illicitly
46 Shocking fish, at times	28 More or less
47 Stuff causing a blowup	31 Keep going
48 Conservative moral principles	32 Business coll. topic
55 Like Ikea assemblies, for short	33 Rocker Quatro
56 Sitcom alien	34 Lighter — air
57 Sloop, e.g.	35 Imagine
58 Sch. group	36 Laze about
59 Summits	38 Grand Ole —
62 Smell terrible	
65 Splendid	
67 Special times	
68 Span rotating horizontally to allow ships through	
70 Sci-fi guru	
71 Natives of Palermo or Catania	
73 Runs slowly	
74 Peeled	
75 Above, in poems	
76 Meara of "Southie"	
77 Photo lab blowup: Abbr.	
78 Ryder vehicle	
79 Alternative to bifocals	
85 Naples loc.	
88 Deep, as a voice	
89 Month, to Manuela	
90 Put a rip in	
91 Luau favors	
92 De Mille of choreography	
95 Game-airing channel	
97 Welcome wind on a hot day	
99 Entry at no charge	
102 Key just above D	
103 Tell untruths	
104 Strike caller	
105 "... boy — girl?"	
106 Trial blasts, for short	
109 They die hard, it's said	
113 Bob Fosse film title relevant to the starts of eight answers in this puzzle	
117 Distributes in shares	
118 Shape-fitting game	
119 For — (not pro bono)	
120 Young superhero of DC Comics	
121 Off the mark	
122 Road curve	
39 Firearm rights org.	
40 H.S.-level exam	
45 Popular dog biscuits	
46 Shirk	
48 — the season ..."	
49 Sharp taste	
50 Place to live	
51 Pines	
52 Willing to participate in	
53 Musical exercise	
54 Mixed greens	
55 Lover of Lucy	
59 Fable penner	
60 Town shouter	
61 User's shortcut	
62 Relatives of geese	
63 Rake parts	
64 Those elected	
65 Rapper — Khalifa	
66 Actress Meg	
68 Tendon	
69 Croissant, e.g.	
72 Crooner Julius	
74 Dads	
77 "Yeah, but still ..."	
78 Noun follower, often	
80 Open delight	
81 Devilkins	
82 School in Berkshire	
83 Natal lead-in	
84 Bando of baseball	
85 Sense no danger	
86 Oscar winner Minnelli	
87 Play — (enjoy some tennis)	
91 Alternative to a right hook	
92 Drifting at sea	
93 Car part between headlights	
94 Acupuncture item	
95 NFL rusher Smith	
96 Savor pekee, say	
97 Certain fuel-carrying ship	
98 Take a break	
100 Burj Khalifa locale	
101 Super-angry	
106 Razor brand	
107 Skinny	
108 Toward dawn	
110 Sweetie	
111 Make a move	
112 IRS ID	
114 Env. insert	
115 Buddhist discipline	
116 Brits' alphabet ender	

POLICE BLOTTER

SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sunday, Sept. 24

12:53 p.m. Fair or fowl? – Caller is concerned about the large amount of ducks and chickens her neighbor has and wants to know if there is a limit. Animal control is following up with this to make sure the animals are healthy and (she) follow(s) county code. Main St., Conway.

1:12 p.m. Slip slid away – Single motorcycle accident with minor injury. Male rider taken to the hospital for leg and pelvic pain. Road shut down for a short time. Dodge Valley / Best Rds., Greater La Conner.

2:43 p.m. Kid squirting gun – Caller called to advise the two subjects on motorcycles and had been yelling at her and were very angry. She called this in as road rage but the actual problem was that her small child had a squirt gun and was shooting out the window at motorcycle riders. The caller was contacted about the road rage but also warned about the dangers of allowing her child to shoot water at passing motorcycles. Caller stated she was not aware her child was doing that. Conner Wy / Pioneer Pkwy., La Conner.

Monday, Sept. 25

3:57 p.m. Boat broke loose – 25 foot sailboat broke loose of moorage during the wind and was floating in the Deception Pass area. North Whidbey Fire responded to secure the vessel. Deception Pass channel.

Wednesday, Sept. 27

10:32 a.m. Caller (en)raged – Caller was very upset with a truck he often saw driving over the speed limit and wanted them contacted. The caller had tried to block them in at a gas station but the driver was able to leave after some words were exchanged. A deputy was unable to locate the speeding vehicle and the caller was warned about blocking cars in and taking the law into his own hands. La Conner Whitney Rd., Greater La Conner.

Thursday, Sept. 28

9:41 a.m. Bad boat owners – Two boats tied to the public boat launch that may be abandoned. Code enforcement was advised and they will be attempting to find owners for removal. Rainbow Bridge, La Conner.

County tire collection at fairgrounds Oct. 5-6

Skagit County will host a free tire-round up for county residents Thursday-Friday Oct. 5-6 at the Skagit County Fairgrounds. Residents must register online. There is a limit of twelve road tires per household, including car, truck, motorcycle and semi-trucks. Tractor tires will not be accepted. Drop-off is at the north entrance of the fairgrounds, 1410 Virginia Street, Mount Vernon 98273. In the 2022 collection, over 40 tons of used road tires were dropped off in one day. County staff hope to collect at least that quantity again.

Proper tire disposal has many benefits. Tires are a significant source of solid waste and they can be expensive to dispose of and clean up properly, since they are laden with toxic chemicals that can leach into ground and surface water as they sit out in the landscape, harming fish, wildlife and the environment. Information: call the Skagit County Solid Waste Division: 360-416-1570. Register at: skagitcounty.net/Forms/TireRoundUp Source: Skagit County government

Views of the news: Images from this past week



READ 'EM DON'T BAN 'EM – Get thee to your local library by its 2 p.m. Saturday close and thank and hug a librarian for their championing of our "Freedom to Read," this year's American Library Association banned books theme. Find something upsetting to read. Be brave.

—Photo by Ken Stern



GREAT DAY TO DRINK BEER – Saturday was the first Farm to Pint Beer Festival at the La Conner Marina, presented by the Port of Skagit in support of Genuine Skagit Valley.

—Photo by Nancy Crowell



THE HEIGHT OF SUNFLOWER SEASON - The sunflowers at the edge of a Hedlins farm field on Chilberg Road east of La Conner welcome the foggy season of fall

—Photo by Nancy Crowell

Skagit Community Band Presents:

Explorations

Come Explore Music from Around the World

Our 2023-2024 Season begins with Concerts at

Maple Hall in La Conner
Friday Oct. 13th at 7:30

Brodniak Hall in Anacortes
Sunday Oct. 15th at 3:00



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DEDICATION OF LA CONNER SWINOMISH LIBRARY

Saturday, October 14, 2023
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Dedication & Program 3:15 pm
Self-guided tours to follow

The contributions of our amazing partners
and community members brought
our new library to life.

Kindly RSVP 360-466-3352

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new website?
Laconnerweeklynews.com

Something special is happening
Set your Calendar Events

Saturday Oct. 7th
Octoberfest, a great tradition!
A popular yearly event featuring Chef Dagmar's German Favorites: includes Schnitzel, beer brats, Champagne Sauerkraut Spaetzle, German Potato salad, and Chocolate mousse...

Saturday Nov. 4th
Prime Rib Night
A customer favorite is back every first Saturday of the winter months which always includes our delicious cheesy garlic mashed potatoes and a veggie.

Waterfront Cafe
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LINCOLN THEATRE

TALES FROM THE SILVER SCREEN

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