



Your thoughts on Town's comp plan wanted • p 3

Juli Olson now retired from La Conner Schools • p 4

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# LA CONNER WEEKLY NEWS

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## Polo players charge into summer



EYES ON THE PRIZE: Rene' Sewell Skaggs leads the pack as she beelines for the ball in the Pretty Woman Polo tournament Saturday, June 24 at the La Conner Polo Club on La Conner-Whitney Road at George and Rhoda Dill's farm. For \$25 a carload, spectators got to tailgate the event. Many showed up by 9 a.m. with their own chairs, tents and coolers to sit and cheer on the competitors. Finals were Sunday. — Photo by Nancy Crowell

## 9 La Conner homes sold: \$795,000 median price

By Ken Stern

May was a good month to sell a home in Skagit County, especially in the Anacortes and La Conner markets. In Anacortes \$845,000 was the median price for the 32 homes that closed. In the La Conner area, \$759,000 was the median price for the nine homes that closed. County wide, 131 homes closed at a median price of \$605,500.

A 2,900 square foot home on Sunset Drive, on Skagit Bay, sold for \$1.6 million, while a marina frontage Swinomish Drive home sold for just over \$1 million.

On the low end, one sale was below \$400,000, at \$304,900 for a 1,024 square foot home. The Landed Gentry sold home on Maple Avenue was at the \$759,000 median price.

Skagit County sold home prices have climbed steadily in 2023, up 27.5%, to \$605,500, with almost twice the number of homes selling in May versus January, 131 to 67.

The 46 homes that closed in Mount Vernon brought a median price of \$615,000, while the 10 homes closing in the Burlington area averaged a median price of \$541,500. Upriver, in the Concrete market, eight homes sold at a lower median price this year, \$255,000, than in 2022.

The Northwest Multiple Listing Service estimates 1.6 months of inventory countywide, though it is three months in the La Conner market and 2.7 months in Burlington. Supply is tighter in Mount Vernon, which has 0.85 months of inventory.

Don Elliott, managing broker at Coldwell Banker Bain Real Estate, noted, "We are still seeing buyers having a hard time finding a home in lower-to-mid ranges. And we don't think that will change unless we have cause for a major correction. But even so, supply is low and demand is still there, and people will always need housing. Homes in all ranges are selling. While more inventory has made it to the market in mid- to higher ranges, buyers are tending to become more selective. If a property is priced correctly, it should sell in a reasonable amount of time."

May was more active than April, when only 92 homes closed in Skagit County at a median price of \$552,500, below 2022's closing prices. La Conner and Anacortes outperformed the rest of the county's markets, with the seven La Conner area sold homes having a median price of \$555,000. Anacortes, as always, topped the price chart at \$800,000 median price for the 23 homes that closed.

Data are from the Northwest Multiple Listing Service.

### CLOSED TUESDAY

July 4th

- Almost everything:
- Bank: Closed
- Buses: No service
- Library: Closed
- Schools: No school
- Town Hall: Closed
- County government: Closed
- Post Office: Closed
- Trash pick up: Regular service

Independent and united, both

## Sunny weather and events aplenty here last weekend

By Bill Reynolds

Halloween was in the air on summer solstice weekend, which goes to show all things are possible in La Conner.

It was a truly spellbinding weekend here – perhaps best embodied by upbeat witches' dance flash mob performances at Maple Center's Spirit Wheel Courtyard – with ideal weather greeting those taking part in an array of events on both sides of the channel.

La Conner cast its spell on locals and visitors alike with an eclectic brew of attractions. There were traditional go-to activities like the Shelter Bay Garage Sale and the Kiwanis Club Craft Fair Saturday and Sunday's live music at Gilkey Square. Just north of town was the Pretty Women Polo Tournament at the La Conner Polo Club on La Conner-Whitney Road organized by George and Rhoda Dill. Finals were Sunday at the two-day event. Tailgating was encouraged.

The Swinomish Indian Tribal Community hosted a major sobriety conference and powwow and Stephanie Banaszak coordinated an Intuitive Arts Fair at Maple Hall.

The outdoor flash mob dancing was a highlight of that fair, a celebration of spirituality and metaphysics that featured tarot card readings, psychic forecasts and vendors versed in energy healing and aura photography.



WITCHES DANCING UP A SPELL – During the work week, she is mild-mannered Connie Moore. Saturday and Sunday in the Maple Center's Spirit Wheel Courtyard she was part of flash-mob dances by Witches of Skagit. Moore was, well, bewitching. — Photo by Madoc Hiller

The choreographed performances were presented by a new troupe that has joined the global dance movement inspired by Wolfshager Hexenbrut that celebrates the season. It decided upon a witchcraft theme aligned with German Reggae-Pop artist Peter Fox's 2008 composition "Schuettel Deinen Speck."

The English translation of Fox's work is "Shake Your Bacon," which onlookers chanted as the dance was enthusiastically performed Saturday. The flash mob repeated Sunday. The Witches of Skagit had promoted

practices ahead of participating.

Lisa Judy of La Conner Artists' Gallery Co-op is among the local troupe's performers and joined them for rehearsals at the courtyard the week prior to the festival.

The flash mob, with dancers in witches' garb, was must-see entertainment.

"It's all about bringing peace, love and joy," said Judy, who strode up and down First Street and the boardwalk promoting the flash mobbing.

(continued on page 8)

## Construction started on La Conner Heights homes

By Ken Stern

Construction of the first two homes on La Conner Heights began at the start of June. The structures are visible on the property residents long called Snapdragon Hill east of Whatcom Street and south of Hill Street, near Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

BYK Construction of Sedro Woolley, as Snapdragon Hills Estate, LLC, owns the property, platted as seven lots on the newly constructed High Street. The two houses under construction are each over 2,600 square feet. "I know the size seems large but a lot of retirees have larger homes and this is considered downsizing for them," Paul Woodmansee, BYK Construction president, told the Weekly News. He terms the style northwest modern. The development is marketed as

"luxury homes features fee simple lots with 360-degree views" by Windemere Real Estate, Anacortes. The website states "homes starting at \$1M."

He wrote that larger homes were planned but they have been redesigned. The stress remains on the view, with the homes offering "airy living spaces, walls of glass" and the natural beauty of farm fields and Skagit Bay states the Windemere website.

The structures are visible from Maple Avenue, Whatcom Street and Caledonia Street looking up Park Street. Construction is on-schedule with a fall 2024 completion date.

The last homes will take up to three years to complete, based on market condition, Woodmansee states. He describes prospective buyers as active retirees looking "to be out of the larger county areas but also be close to the boating and walkable environment

that La Conner provides." La Conner amenities, from shopping and dining to the marina and museums are emphasized.

The homes are not yet listed. Pre-purchasing is an option.

At its June 13 town council meeting, residents complained about loud construction noise at 6:45 a.m., well before the Town's 8 a.m. required start time. Code Enforcement Officer Aaron Reinstra, following Mayor Ramon Hayes lead, said he would meet with construction staff. He emailed the Weekly News June 26 that he did that, reminding the foreman of the town's start and stop times on June 14. Neighboring residents told him that the early noise had not been repeated.

Woodmansee noted "noise is always a big deal" and asked to be contacted directly with complaints at

(continued on page 3)



BUILDING UNABASHEDLY LUXURY HOMES – Construction of the first two homes in the La Conner Heights development began in early June. Developer BYK Construction has rebranded what has long been known as The Rock, or Snapdragon Hill. — Photo by Marissa Conklin

From the editor —

## The people behind the Weekly News

Probably not even the most loyal reader of the Weekly News noticed that this issue is volume 10, issue 11. Every week the issue number advances one and on the paper's birth-anniversary date the volume increases one. This is the 312th issue under my ownership, completing my sixth year editing and managing the Weekly News. Year seven, with issue 313, starts next week.

News editor Bill Reynolds has quoted me, "I own it but it is the community's newspaper." I do own it but my hope for and ask of readers has always been for engagement and participation.

Today I hold up all the participants – wage staff, freelance contributors and volunteers – whose contributions over the past six years have made each issue possible.

I start with Cindy Vest, former co-owner, and columnists Mel Damski and Pat Paul, inherited in the paper's purchase from her and Sandy Stokes. Mel and Pat are still contributing. Katie Kramer and Joy Neal wrote until the pandemic and a board of directors ended their times, respectively. Janet Saunders was calendar editor until then, also.

Judy Booth and Don Coyote still occasionally write and submit photos, as Robin Carmen has.

Writers and photographers who have knocked on my door or whom I recruited include. Anne Basye, Brad Bradford, Sherry Chavers, Nancy Crowell, MaryRose Denton, John Doyle, Max Drews, Kylee Fortygin, Janna Gage, Bob Hamblin, Madoc Hiller, Meg Holgate, Ollie Iversen, Paul Magnano, Jean Markert, Kit Muehlman, Bob Skeelee, Claire Swedberg, Sarah Walls, Greg Whiting, Maggie Wilder and Aven Wright-McIntosh. Thank you one and all.

On the back side, to manage the office and account for the paper's finances, Mark Stephens came early. Bobbi Krebs McMullen was pulled in around 2018. Michelle Havist spent three committed years as general manager. Sally Riggers performed heroically at the start of this year.

Rick Shorten, Tony Harrah and Bill Taylor are special beyond being friends and Rick's special projects manager title. They value the role of the Weekly News in the community and care about me, so they volunteer in ways small and large.

Finally, the staff. Bill Reynolds is a town treasure. Bless him for chronicling the news here. Rhonda Hundertmark has designed ads from the first year and been design and layout editor the last two. Marissa Conklin started out selling ads in 2021 and has become a skillful production manager. Eileen Engelstad first volunteered to proofread, then agreed to get paid for that. Jennifer Spritzer now keeps the books. Thank you. You are valued.

These are the people who have made the publication of the Weekly News possible the last 312 weeks.

And then there is Dick Wittenberg, who like most of us, loves to see his name in print. I am having my sixth anniversary as publisher – owner – of this newspaper because Dick called on a Friday afternoon in August 2016 and asked, "Did you see the story in the New York Times?"

I had not, did not know that the owner of the Hardwick Gazette was selecting the next owner of his weekly newspaper through an essay contest. Dick insisted I enter: "You can win that newspaper," he said. I did not, but I entered three times. After the contest collapsed I searched google for "weekly newspaper for sale," and here I am, in Washington state from Ohio via Vermont.

I love to tell that story, for my history of the La Conner Weekly News starts with friendship, love and an enduring belief in me. Who can ask for anything more?

Not me.

In a year, goes the song "Seasons of Love" in the musical "Rent:" "Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes / Five hundred twenty-five thousand moments so dear. / Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes.e / How do you measure, measure a year?"

In six years it is 3,153,600 minutes.

They have gone by so fast.

Thank you, everyone.

– Ken Stern

## La Conner Schools hires new counselor

By Bill Reynolds

La Conner School board members did something Monday night that they haven't done in a very long time: They approved hiring a new counselor for the middle and high school campus.

Eric Crinklaw, most recently with Bonney Lake High School in the Sumner School District, will succeed Lori Buher, who is retiring after 27 years.

The decision took place during a 75-minute hybrid session ahead of its annual retreat scheduled from 2-8 p.m. today.

"It's an honor to be here," said Crinklaw, who has ties to the Concrete and Friday Harbor school districts.

"Eric will be returning to the Northwest 2B (League)," Middle and High School Principal Christine Tripp told board members. "We're really excited about him joining our team."

A new student representative was also welcomed. Board President Susie Deyo administered the oath of office to Josi Straathof, who fills the vacancy created by Eleanor Drews' graduation.

In other business, Deyo read into the record a letter submitted by parent Jennifer Fix asking that district safety specialist John Aguilar not be a victim of budget cuts for the 2023-24 school year.

Fix cited Aguilar's ability to connect with students in an upbeat, positive manner. She noted how he greets students in the morning and is the last person to leave school after a nighttime athletics contest or special event.

"He's on call 24/7," she wrote, adding that reducing Aguilar's role could cost the district more than any salary savings it might

(continued on page 8)

### CORRECTION

Business license renewals are now renewed on the anniversary date of the original license application with the Washington Department of Revenue. The anniversary date renewal was incorrectly stated in the June 14 issue.

### Notice of meeting cancellation

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 4th, 2023 is canceled. The next scheduled meeting is on July 18th, 2023.



Women, women everywhere.

I noticed more women recently in places where we hadn't seen them before, such as covering men's sporting events on television and serving as governors and in the police and military. You can even watch all-women's basketball on television – or attend and watch them play live.

This gave me hope that we were making good progress in gender equality until I looked it up and found that the experts predict equality in gender will not be achieved for another 137 years.

That just blew my mind. I did a little research and found that in Missouri, for instance, a woman makes 78 cents for every dollar a man makes in the same job. Countrywide, women have much less access to capital when looking for loans. There are still great gender gaps when it comes to participation in local boards and commissions. Obligatory childcare is a major need.

We do have more women in elected office than in past decades, but the gap is still big. Only 45 women have served as governors of a state since the founding of the United States. Running a state as a governor is very similar to running a country as a president. I'm hoping that our next president will be a woman and I'm leaning towards Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

I wish Joe Biden would realize that he's too old to run for reelection but I'm thinking maybe his idea is to get reelected and step down when his memory gets too weak. That would make Kamala Harris the first woman president, but from everything I've heard about her, she would not be our best choice.

My first job in journalism was as a sportswriter, and I'm a big sport's fan. I'm hoping to see women end up playing basketball in the NBA and baseball in MLB. I doubt we'll see a woman playing football in the NFL but you never know.

Obviously they won't be able to share the men's locker room but that's just a small adjustment to make.

Let's hope and pray that young women in the future will have unlimited opportunities!

Poem —

## Yeah, All I Wanna Do is Dance

Oh dear god it's almost all I wanna do, to hear music that makes my body move, yeah, like it's in a smooth groove.

Some might see me in my trance, moving from a slide to prance, jumping and gliding like a bird, from branch to branch.

Yeah, all I wanna do is dance!

Oh dear god, it's what you made me pretty good at, I think I'm supposed to move the way I do, besides, it's you that takes ahold of my feet, and flaps them around like they're on high heat.

Yeah, all I wanna do is dance!

Oh dear god, what would they do if they saw me in France, would they give me a second glance, would they even give me a chance? Give me just about any good music, and I'll tinkle my toes, and twinkle my nose, but you won't see it, because I'll be in the throes of my feet on the go!

Yeah, all I wanna do is dance!

Oh my lord, has this fella lost his gourd, does he not know how he looks as stiff as a board? Besides, that doesn't matter none, dance is in the dancer, and we're not done until the white dove takes flight, and the prancer dances even faster, off into the night.

Oh yeah, all I wanna do is dance!

I can see your smile in the way you make my feet move, oh dear creator of my myth, I thank you from the bottom of my heart, for giving me a skill, that people can partake in if they wish. Yeah, come join me as I flop around like a fish!

Oh yeah, all I wanna do is dance!

Sincerely,

Flash Figaroa

# 100% renewable electricity means hydropower in Washington



By Greg Whiting

First, a clarification: Last week's headline said we can expect 100% solar and wind energy on the grid in the future. Although that's likely to become feasible within the next 20-30 years, I don't think it'll happen in Washington. We are, however, likely to have 100% renewable energy by 2050. Solar and wind will be prominent, but hydroelectric generation will still be used and geothermal energy may even be developed. Iceland and New Zealand have 100% renewable electric systems

already because both are rich in hydroelectric and geothermal resources.

Hydroelectric power is the most prevalent renewable generation source other than solar and wind. Water acts as the source of energy to turn the generators.

Run-of-river hydro power, with running water diverted through mechanical devices, was used long before electricity, for grain mills powered by water wheels. River hydro power has been used since the earliest days of commercial electricity. Hawaiian King David Kalakaua put electricity into the royal palace in Honolulu in 1886, powered by the Nu'uuanu river. Run-of-river hydro generation is still in use, although, like solar and wind power, it is intermittent and seasonal.

Today, most hydro power is

generated by capturing water at a high elevation behind a dam and choosing when the water falls through a turbine, turning it and producing power. Hydroelectric generation supplies over half of this state's electricity.

Dam-based hydro isn't just renewable; it is advantageous in two other major ways. First, water can be released to produce power on demand. Dam-based hydro isn't dependent on the sun being up or the wind blowing. Second, water can be pumped back above the dam when electricity demand is low, enabling more generation when demand is high. This is called "pumped storage." Although batteries are making progress, pumped storage is the largest-scale, lowest-cost form of electric storage in existence. The combination of hydroelectric

generation and pumped hydro storage has kept Washington's electric rates among the lowest and most stable in the U.S. for decades.

R&D is being done on tidal energy, wave energy and the thermal differences between surface and deep ocean water. Tide and wave energy have been obvious potential sources of electricity for decades. Recent developments in deep-water construction and in materials science (for corrosion and biofouling resistance) are improving their economics and reliability. Tide and wave power are approaching commercial viability.

Geothermal generation turns a turbine using the expansion of a fluid into a gas (usually, liquid water into steam). The energy to boil the liquid is supplied by the heat of the deep earth itself. In areas in which

volcanic activity is high, rocks are porous (to store water) and permeable (so that water can run through them) and there is enough underground water, the earth itself provides enough steam to run power plants.

Geothermal plants have been in use for decades. They take very little space and run continuously, with shutdowns mostly for scheduled maintenance. However, they require specific geologic conditions that don't exist everywhere.

In Washington, Mt. Baker and Mt. Rainier are potential sources of geothermal energy, but their underground geology is complex and no one has yet located the particular combination of heat and water that would enable generation at either of them.

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*The Weekly News sits on the original homelands of the Coastal Salish peoples*

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**OBITUARY**



**Barbara Birkeland Hulbert**

Barbara Birkeland Hulbert died peacefully at home in La Conner on June 17. She was 96.

“Barb” was born March 25, 1927, in Fort Benton, Mont., to Ingolf and Elizabeth (Flagler) Birkeland. She was one of seven children, which included Francis, Helen, Margaret, Beverly, Phyllis, and Thomas. Barb grew up a self-described “tomboy” on the family ranch, where she drove grain trucks and tractors and ran a combine.

Upon earning her degree in Microbiology from Montana State College, an adventurous Barb relocated to Hawaii to teach at Kamehameha High School. But after two years of living in the U.S. territory, “the island got small.” A move back to the mainland settled her for a time in Seattle, where she worked at Boeing as a “computer,” running calculations for engineers designing the B-52 bomber.

Barbara soon met La Conner farmer James H. “Jim” Hulbert Jr., through friends and family, and the couple were married in 1954. The newlyweds lived at the Gaches Mansion in La Conner, where they occupied the coveted front apartment on the third floor. A year later, they moved to the farm and welcomed the first of three sons before building the home they would live in for more than six decades.

Throughout the years, Barb partnered with Jim to grow the business, Hulbert Farms, taking on responsibilities that ranged from operating equipment to delivering produce to markets throughout the Valley. She also kept the farm’s books and handled payroll for large crews until she retired in 1992, all while raising three boys, maintaining a generous supply of her famous brownies and chocolate chip cookies, and honing her notable bridge-playing skills.

Barbara is survived by sons Jay (Jodi), Tom (Phyllis), and Jack (René); eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and sister, Beverly Carlson of Polson, MT. Her husband, Jim, predeceased her in 2010.

A celebration of life will be planned later this summer, with a date yet to be determined. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Rotary Club of La Conner Jim Hulbert Vocational Scholarship, P.O. Box 2111, La Conner, WA 98257.

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

You may offer your condolences and share your memories of Barb online at [www.kernfuneralhome.com](http://www.kernfuneralhome.com).

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**OBITUARY**

**James “Jim” Henry Foster**  
09/12/1939 - 05/25/2023

Jim Foster, beloved husband, father, and friend, has died. He was born in Seattle, Washington to John Henry Foster and Viola Mae Foster. Jim spent his childhood years in Greenwood and remained in the greater Seattle area his entire life.

He was a devoted husband, sharing a loving marriage of 50 years with his late wife, Betty Jean Foster (d. 2019). Together, they raised two sons, Jason John Foster (49) and Mathew James Foster (47). Jim was a pharmacist, and eventually became the owner of LD Bracken Pharmacies.

He loved boating, camping, fishing, especially with friends and family. He enjoyed building improvements to his house, various boats, and campers. He loved animals, and he cherished the companionship they brought to his life.

As a father, Jim was an incredible source of kindness, generosity, and support. He always put time with his family first. Jim had a wonderful sense of humor; you could always find him with a smile on his face. His warmth and care will forever resonate in the hearts of those who knew him. The twinkle in his eyes will be a cherished memory.

Jim is survived by his sons, his sister Betty Johnson, his grandchildren Mackenzie and Ashton, and his dog Iris, who was adopted by Matthew. May the memories of James Henry Foster bring comfort and solace during this difficult time.

Details of the memorial service on July 1 can be obtained by contacting Kern Funeral Home in Mt. Vernon, Washington.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to Washington State Parks.

**Residents’ input on comp plan update sought**

By Bill Reynolds

Town officials are charged with regularly updating La Conner’s comprehensive plan, the document that determines community goals and aspirations going forward.

But the plan’s new verbiage won’t consist of their words alone.

Residents are having a say in the process, Planning Director Michael Davolio and Assistant Planner Ajah Eills assured planning commissioners – including the panel’s newest member, Summer Holt – last week.

Davolio and Eills visited the La Conner Senior Center recently to outline details and field questions.

“We had some interesting conversations,” Eills told commissioners during their June 20 hybrid meeting at Maple Hall. “We’re looking to include a lot of their insights into the comp plan.”

About two dozen people attended the presentation, Davolio said.

Commissioner Marna Hanneman noted a public forum

there in January brought much constructive input.

The senior center dialogue included housing, sea level rise, climate change and transportation issues, staff reported, with housing, as is so often the case in La Conner-centric conversations, emphasized.

“We talked about ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units),” said Davolio, “and how older people can build an ADU and rent out their main home.”

The discussion didn’t end there.

“We anticipate getting more questions on this as the year goes forward,” said Eills.

The commissioners had plenty of housing questions of their own.

Chair Carol Hedlin asked about regulating short-term rentals.

“It’s all about striking a balance,” said Davolio. “As a town that attracts tourists, you want to accommodate them (with short-term rentals). But when you have small neighborhoods, you wouldn’t necessarily want that.

Short-term rentals are allowed in the commercial zone, but people

will argue that we need more commercial than residential uses there. Again, it’s about striking a balance.”

A major criticism of short-term rentals is they reduce local permanent housing options. Another issue is what time limit should be imposed on short-term rentals. Is 30 days preferable, or something longer?

Commissioner Bruce Bradburn pointed out some people prefer wintering in warmer environs and can defray travel costs and protect against burglaries if their homes are occupied by tenants.

“A lot of folks like to go to Arizona in the winter,” said Bradburn. “Might it not be better that their house not be vacant and to have someone in it who will go to restaurants and shop in stores here?”

“Right now,” Davolio said, “we don’t have any clear language in our code. “I’m definitely open to suggestions.”

Hanneman cautioned careful study. “We’ve got to be respectful of the possibilities beyond what we might anticipate,” she said.

**County Stewardship Program Watershed Group seeks members**

Skagit County seeks two residents for two-year terms on the Voluntary Stewardship Program’s advisory watershed group. This group of local producers, partner organizations and county staff advises VSP staff for best operation of the Voluntary Stewardship Program in Skagit County.

Serving on the Watershed Group will require serving a two-year term and attending quarterly meetings. Candidates need watershed experience or expertise and

be able to work well with others. Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. July 3.

For information and to apply: [skagitcounty.net/vsp](http://skagitcounty.net/vsp). Send letter of interest to [jennej@co.skagit.wa.us](mailto:jennej@co.skagit.wa.us) or Skagit County Commissioners, 1800 Continental Place, Suite 100, Mount Vernon, WA 98273.

**Homes**

■■■ (from page 1)  
[info@bykconstruction.com](mailto:info@bykconstruction.com).

BYK Construction bought the property in June 2021 for \$ 1.57 million from from C.J. Ebert, Skagit County assessor records show. Ebert bought the property in late 2019 from brothers David and Michael Bird’s family.

Ebert retains ownership of property at Park and Hill streets and Maple Avenue and is developing Snapdragon Flats, two triplex apartment buildings.

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**A NEW TAX CREDIT FOR WASHINGTON WORKERS**  
UN NUEVO PAGO PARA TRABAJADORES DE WASHINGTON

Who is eligible for a tax credit?  

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

¿Quién es elegible para recibir un pago?  

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

Number of Children under age 18	Single filer	Married (joint)	Maximum refund per month
0	\$16,480	\$22,610	\$300
1	\$40,492	\$49,622	\$600
2	\$49,399	\$55,529	\$900
3+	\$53,067	\$59,187	\$1,200

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[www.skagit.humane.org](http://www.skagit.humane.org)

# Juli Olson retires from school office

By Anne Basye

After 20 years, Juli Olson is finally graduating from middle school.

The La Conner middle and high school administrative assistant retires at the end of June after working under six principals and through a school remodel and a pandemic.

Besides keeping attendance and other critical records, she has helped plan the 8th grade promotion and filled in as school nurse, lunch lady and field trip chaperone. Driving the school bus is the only job she hasn't tackled.

Not all of her records have been official. During the years when middle school classes took place in the school district offices, she took notes on how many times the bathroom plumbing was broken and how Mr. Novak kept his students' attention while a bulldozer worked outside his window.

All that upheaval led to a big plus: an office at the heart of the middle and high school, where she has been able to watch kids grow and mature. "That's the best part of my job," she says.

"That growth is exciting to watch and I'm going to miss it," she says.

As the self-proclaimed "school mom," Olson "wants to make sure kids are taken care of in the way you take care of your own kids."

Sometimes that means connecting them to resources. "Being here so long, you know where to go when a kid has a problem and who can help that child the most."

She has also heard plenty of secrets. They are safe with her. "I call myself the vault," she says, "because you can't share their business with anyone."

Three semesters of online pandemic learning meant mastering several new computer systems and finding ways to help kids at a distance. While she says all those challenges "kept the synapses firing," it was wonderful to return to face-to-face instruction and seeing staff and students in person again.

Throughout all the changes in school buildings, leadership and instruction methods, says Olson, La Conner Schools staff has "really been here for the kids."

We are a family and we have our ups and downs, but we pull together. I will miss them."

She will miss the funny gifts kids and families have given her, like her red clown nose and the postcards they bring back from trips. Even the dead flying squirrel she was once asked to store in the office freezer.

She'll miss encouraging candidates for the Kiwanis student of the month to say more about themselves. "I tell them, I know your parents tell you not to brag about yourself, but this is the one time I want you to say every single thing you do."

She'll miss feeling proud as kids who have struggled turn into confident high school graduates.

She knows her replacement will bring new ideas and fresh approaches to her position. And being on the substitute list means she can still be at school now and then – just not full time.

"I never thought I would stay so long, but I just loved it," she says. "It's been a fun career."

# Ellie Marble is state girls' 2B senior athlete of year

By Bill Reynolds

A major sports website has confirmed what La Conner fans have known for months.

That being Ellie Marble, who just graduated from La Conner High School and will attend Central Washington University on a volleyball scholarship in the fall, was the best girls' 2B senior athlete in the state this past year.

Marble, who played in a combined six volleyball and basketball state tournaments – it likely would have been eight had it not been for the COVID-19 pandemic – has been named the SBLive WaFd Bank Class 2B Senior Athlete of the Year.

Marble, also a National Honor Society student, was a state qualifier in track-and-field as well.

Her ability to excel across the sports spectrum made Marble an obvious choice for the SBLive selection team.

As a 6-foot tall outside hitter, Marble collected her fourth consecutive NW1B/2B Most Valuable Player award as a senior.

Playing for her mom, retiring state Hall of Fame coach Suzanne Marble, she delivered 497 kills and 554 digs and served at a .942 clip during the 2022-23 campaign. After helping secure the school's seventh state volleyball crown, she was voted Washington's 2B Player of the Year for a third time.



Ellie Marble

As a freshman, Marble played a key role on La Conner's 2019 title run. There was no 2020 state tourney due to the pandemic. La Conner won the 2021 state championship in dominating fashion, not dropping a single set.

Marble and her teammates defeated Colfax in the 2022 state net finals.

But Marble's senior year was far from complete. She seamlessly transitioned to the basketball court, averaging nearly 22 points, 11 rebounds and two steals per contest as La Conner placed fourth at state for the second straight season.

Marble clinched an all-state basketball nod by fueling a late comeback against Adna in the trophy round. She scored 22 of her 26 points in the second half as the team erased a double-digit deficit enroute to a 52-46 triumph.

At Central, Marble plans to major in either kinesiology or software development while competing for a program that finished 17-11 a year ago and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division II West Region tournament.

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## Library Happenings

**By Jean Markert, La Conner Swinomish Library Director**

Summer is going to “bee” busy at the library. Summer reading is now in full swing, and we have fun weekly events coming up all summer long. Our theme this year is “All Together Now;” the honeybee is our mascot – because they work together as a team to keep their hives humming.

If you haven’t signed up yet, stop by the library to pick up a summer reading packet and a calendar to see all the exciting events we have coming up. If you have already signed up, keep buzzing through those books so you can turn in your completed packet for a prize.

Here is a sampling of what we have coming:

**Kids summer reading programs:**

June 28, come to our “Book Café” to taste a variety of books. You might find a new genre!

Bee in the Fourth of July parade with the library, wear your bee-est yellow tee or bee costume and walk with the library contingent. Meet us at the Port of Skagit parking lot on State Street at 11:45 a.m..

All participants under 16 need a parent to sign a release form that will be provided before the parade. Either stop by the library before the Fourth or sign the day of the parade.

Need a relaxing activity after the busy Fourth of July events, come to the library at 11 a.m. July 5 to try out some fun board games. We have a variety of games for the whole family.

Drum Along with Ray Soriano on Saturday, July 8, 12-1 p.m.. Come to the library to drum along with Ray. Mr. Soriano will bring a variety of drums for everyone to try.

Come to the library July 12 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. to meet a fireman and his fire truck.

July 19 at 11 a.m. Don’t miss out on making fun shapes and

patterns with tessellations and tiling.

On July 26 at 11 a.m. we will have an old-fashioned campfire sing-along in the library. This event will be fun for kids of all ages.

The tooth fairy will be here on July 28 at 11 a.m., so be sure to brush those pearly white teeth and come meet a real tooth fairy.

**For adults:**

Local author and co-founder of Tulip Town, Jeanette DeGoede, will be here on July 13 at 1 p.m. to talk about her memoir “Remembering Tulip Town.” This is a don’t miss event!

We are going to have another fun, interactive ukulele concert August 7. 1-2:30 p.m. Come sing and clap along with the ukulele group.

The library has an opening on our board of trustees. If you are interested in becoming part of our exciting new library, stop by the front desk for an application or come to a board meeting. Board meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at the library. All board meetings are open to the public.

Stay tuned to our website for more exciting event announcements! [www.laconnerswinomishlibrary.org](http://www.laconnerswinomishlibrary.org).

## Bird births, lives, longevity and mortality

**By Bob Hamblin**

The wandering albatross has the longest wingspan of all living birds at over nine feet. This species may live to be 40 years old and start breeding at eight years old. They only lay one egg every two years and it can take up to two years to raise a chick.

The nest is built in a wind-swept area to help the adult get airborne. Ninety mph winds are not uncommon, and these winds may blow the chick out of the raised nest, in which case the adult does not recognize it and will not feed it. Unless they are in the nests, chicks will starve to death.

Adults may go several hundred miles to sea and may be gone over two weeks at a time. Adults consume large amounts of plastic while feeding. Some may die from this. The chicks are also fed plastic. Their stomach cannot digest it and they starve to death, while feeding adults take bait on long-line baited hooks and drown.

Hummingbirds only lay a couple of eggs. Their lives are much shorter. They may live 10 years or less. Only the female takes care of the young. Individuals can consume up to 6,000 calories a day. Humans’ average consumption can be 2,000 calories plus a day. The male Rufous hummer fights so much it has to go into torpor at night, meaning a very deep

sleep so it has enough energy to fight the next day. This bird weighs only a bit more than the equivalent of a dime.

On the positive side of survival is the starling population rise. The starling is not a native species; it came from England and was introduced by British immigrants in New York City in the 18th century. In winter, starlings can be seen in flocks of over 10,000 birds.

They roost in large flocks in nesting season which begins in March and may continue through to November. They nest in old buildings and woodpecker holes, sometimes driving the owner out even though the owner is sitting on eggs or feeding young.

To avoid predators, the large flock twists and swirls making it difficult for the predator to pick out a victim. They tolerate people in their nesting areas, often entering knot holes in the building wall and then travel several feet inside to find a secure nesting area. They lay from four to six eggs per nesting and feed their young after fledging.

Population wise, they are the most numerous of North American birds.

The grouse family has its

highest mortality in good habitat areas. Related to grouse, quail suffer the greatest mortality of the group. Up to 18 eggs may be found in a nest and mortality can see an entire nest lost. They need dryer areas for chicks to survive because they suffer if they get too wet. They take sand baths instead of water.

Both parents take care of the young and stay with them until adulthood. Predators take a large number of young birds. Without sand in your area, you won’t have quail.

### July 4th parade Tuesday, 12 p.m.

The Town of La Conner’s annual July Fourth parade will march up First Street at 12 p.m. Tuesday. Staging starts at 11 a.m. on State Street, at the La Conner Marina south basin parking area.

Liability waivers are needed to participate.

At 5 p.m., food vendors and a beer and wine garden will open at the marina.

Music on the La Conner Marina lawn starts at 5:30 p.m.

Fireworks start at 10 p.m. from the west side of the Swinomish Channel.

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

**TOWN OF LA CONNER  
FINAL DETERMINATION  
OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE  
(FDNS)**

Date: June 21, 2023  
Application File #: LU23-07LCMC-UDC, LU23-08SE-PA  
Applicant: Town of La Conner  
Owner: Town of La Conner  
Town Contact Person: Michael Davolio, AICP, Planning Director; P.O. Box 400, La Conner, WA 98257; 360-466-3125  
Project Location: Town of La Conner  
Assessor Tax Parcel: N/A effects entire Town  
Project Description: Updates to the Uniform Development Code regulating zoning of Adult Businesses.  
Lead Agency: Town of La Conner

**FINAL DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (FDNS):** As the Lead Agency, the Town of La Conner has determined that significant environmental impacts are unlikely to result from the proposed project. The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355. A 10-day appeal period follows the issuance of this DNS.

Consistency overview:  
Date of Permit Application: April 12, 2023  
Date of Determination of Completeness: April 14, 2023  
Land Use Designation: N/A  
Environmental Documents That Evaluate the Proposed Project: SEPA Checklist dated April 14, 2023

The application and materials submitted by the applicant are available for review at Town Hall.

If you have any questions concerning this project, contact Town Hall at (360) 466-3125 or email planner@townoflaconner.org.

Issued: June 21, 2023  
Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 28, 2023.

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:** June 28, 2023  
**DANIEL SHECKLER** Attorneys for Estate 500 N. Government Way, Suite 600 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 Telephone: (208) 292-4649  
Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 28, July 5, 12, 2023.

**THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY IN RE THE ESTATE OF: THERL WILLIAM GOULD JR., Deceased. Case No. 23-4-04332-1 SEA 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 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: June 21, 2023  
Personal Representative: Susan E. Russell

Attorney for Personal Representative: Julia M. Lindeman, WSBA #53600 NORTHWEST ELDER LAW GROUP PLLC

Address for Mailing or Service: 2150 N. 107th Street, Suite 501 Seattle, WA 98133

Court of Probate Proceedings and Case Number: King County Superior Court Case Number 23-4-04332-1 SEA

SIGNED this 16th day of June, 2023.  
Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 21, 28, July 5, 2023.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY** In the Matter of the Estate of FREDERICK W. HILLER, Deceased. No. 23-4-00341-29 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 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: June 21, 2023.  
RYAN H. HILLER  
Personal Representative

SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC MEGAN OTIS MASONHOLTER, WSBA #29495 Attorneys for Personal Representative P.O. Box 336/227 Freeway Drive, Suite B Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 21, 28, July 5, 2023.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON IN THE ESTATE OF VICKI SUE HOLTE, Deceased. No.: 23-4-00167-15 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.020, 11.40.030**

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

Date of First Publication: June 21, 2023  
Personal Representative: Maureen Erin Wilbur

Attorney for the Personal Representative: Ian P. McCurdy

Address for Mailing or Service: PO Box 5158, Bellingham, WA 98227 or 400 N. Commercial Street, Bellingham, WA 98225

Court of probate proceedings and cause number: Skagit County Superior Court Cause No.: 23-4-00081-29

Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 21, 28, July 5, 2023.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SKAGIT IN PROBATE No. 23-4-00312-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030**

In the Matter of the Estate of MARGARET S. DAY, Deceased.

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which

Address for actual Service: 5575 Harbor Ave, Ste. 207B, Freeland, WA 98249

Court of probate proceedings and cause number: Island County Superior Court #23-4-00167-15

Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 21, 28, July 5, 2023.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR SKAGIT COUNTY** In Re the Estate of: ERIN NIA MOBERG, Deceased. NO. 23-4-00081-29 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: June 21, 2023.  
Personal Representative: HELEN SCHNEIDER, Deceased. NO. 23-4-00324-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

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

Date of First Publication: June 21, 2023  
Personal Representative: Ian P. McCurdy

Address for Mailing or Service: PO Box 5158, Bellingham, WA 98227 or 400 N. Commercial Street, Bellingham, WA 98225

Court of probate proceedings and cause number: Skagit County Superior Court Cause No.: 23-4-00081-29

Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 21, 28, July 5, 2023.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SKAGIT IN PROBATE No. 23-4-00312-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030**

In the Matter of the Estate of MARGARET S. DAY, Deceased.

The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which

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

Date of filing copy of NOTICE TO CREDITORS with Clerk of Court: 6/8/2023.  
Date of first publication: June 14, 2023.

Deborah G. Ruble  
Personal Representative  
LAW OFFICE OF COLE & GILDAY, P.C. By Gregory L. Gilday WSBA #36608 Attorney for Personal Representative 10101 270th St NW Stanwood, WA 98292 Office: 360-629-2900 or FAX: 360-629-0220

Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 14, 21, 28, 2023.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR COUNTY Estate of LORETTAMAE HELEN SCHNEIDER, Deceased. NO. 23-4-00324-29 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)**

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

Date of First Publication: June 21, 2023  
Personal Representative: Gloria M. Schneider Kyle, Personal Representative c/o Jayne Marsh Gilbert, WSBA #24656 Attorney for Personal Representative 314 Pine Street, Suite 211 Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 21, 28, July 5, 2023.

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR SKAGIT COUNTY** In re Estate of CHONG C. BROWN, Deceased. No. 23-4-00305-29 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Sun-ah Lee Park 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: June 14, 2023.  
Nancy L. Oczkewicz  
Personal Representative  
SKAGIT LAW GROUP, PLLC MEGAN OTIS MASONHOLTER, WSBA #29495 Attorneys for Personal Representative P.O. Box 336/227 Freeway Drive, Suite B Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 14, 21, 28, 2023.

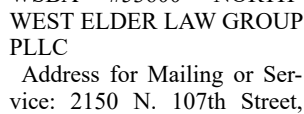
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR SKAGIT COUNTY** In re Estate of CHONG C. BROWN, Deceased. No. 23-4-00305-29 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Sun-ah Lee Park 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

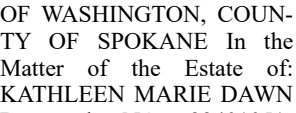
by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below, a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with 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.

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Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 14, 21, 28, 2023.



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**Super Crossword**

**Answers**

W	A	S	H	E	R	L	I	M	B	O	S	O	N	P	O	I	N	T
I	M	P	E	D	E	A	T	E	A	S	E	P	E	R	U	S	E	R
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Answers to June 28 puzzles

**AT YOUR SERVICE DIRECTORY**

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

## NOT TO BE MISSED

**Town of La Conner.**  
**4th of July Celebration.** July 4, 5-10 p.m. at the La Conner Marina. Music by Randy Weeks and the Chris Eger Band.  
**Whidbey Camano Land Trust.**  
*Sea, Trees & Pie Bike Ride.* July 8, 9:30 a.m. starting in Coupeville. Register online at [wclt.org](http://wclt.org).  
**Skagit Valley Highland Games.**  
 July 8-9, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Edgewater Park, Mount Vernon. Purchase tickets at [celticarts.org](http://celticarts.org)

360-299-8067, CityofAnacortes.org. 1220 10th St, Anacortes.  
**Mount Vernon Public Library.**  
 360-336-6209, [mountvernonwa.gov](http://mountvernonwa.gov). 315 Snoqualmie St, Mount Vernon.  
*Virtual Reality.* Every Saturday 1-3 p.m. Must be 12 or older.  
**Burlington Public Library.**  
 360-755-0760, [burlingtonwa.gov](http://burlingtonwa.gov)/library. 820 E Washington Ave, Burlington.  
*Knitting Club.* Every Wednesday at 6 p.m. All ages.

## MUSIC

**Ukelele Fun & Song Circle.**  
*Meet every Wednesday.* 1-2 p.m., Burlington Senior Center. For more info, email [yogaheartspace0@gmail.com](mailto:yogaheartspace0@gmail.com).  
**Shelter Bay Chorus.**  
*Meet every Thursday.* 4:30-6:30 p.m., Shelter Bay Clubhouse. No auditions required. Questions, call Joan 360-941-7507.  
**Lincoln Theatre.**  
 712 S 1st St, Mount Vernon. 360-336-8955. [lincoltheatre.org](http://lincoltheatre.org).  
*Live Music: Jonathan Richman.* July 1, 8 p.m.  
**Shipwreck Music Fest.**  
 July 15, 12-6:30 p.m. at Causland Park, Anacortes. All ages, free.  
**La Conner Live Concert Series.**  
*Live Music Every Sunday.* 1-4 p.m. in Gilkey Square.  
**Burlington Summer Nights.**  
*Live Music Every Friday.* 6-8 p.m. at the Burlington Visitor Center Amphitheater, 520 E Fairhaven Ave, Burlington.  
**Port of Anacortes Free Summer Concert Series.**  
*Live Music Every Wednesday and Friday.* 6-8 p.m. at Seafarers' Memorial Park, 601 Seafarers Way, Anacortes.

## ART & THEATRE

**Anacortes Community Theatre.** 918 M Ave, Anacortes. [acttheatre.com](http://acttheatre.com).  
*Live Theatre: On Golden Pond.* July 7-29. Thurs-Sat shows at 7:30 p.m. and Sun matinees at 2 p.m.  
**i.e. gallery.** 5800 Cains Court, Bow. [ieedison.com](http://ieedison.com).  
*Opening Reception: Terrebone.* July 1, 3-5 p.m. i.e. welcomes Josh Ryan McDonald on his first solo exhibit.

## LIBRARIES

**La Conner Swinomish Library.** 520 Morris St, La Conner. 360-466-3352. [lclib.wa.us](http://lclib.wa.us). Open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.  
*Storytime.* Every Friday at 11 a.m.  
*Tech Help.* Every Monday, 4-6 p.m. One on one technical support.  
*Dungeons & Dragons Club.* Every Tuesday, 3-5 p.m. No previous gaming experience necessary.  
**Anacortes Public Library.**

## MUSEUM EXHIBITS


**Museum of Northwest Art.** Closed through Aug. 4. Museum Store open during regular hours: Tues-Sat, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sun-Mon, 12-5 p.m. [monamuseum.org](http://monamuseum.org), 360-466-4446.  
**Pacific Northwest Quilt & Fiber Arts Museum.** Wed-Sun, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. [qfamuseum.org](http://qfamuseum.org), 360-466-4288. 703 S Second St, La Conner.  
*Exhibit: The Undead.* Through July 2.  
*Exhibit: Unfolding.* Through July 23.  
*Exhibit: Life in the Mountain West.* Through July 30.  
**Skagit County Historical Museum.** 360-466-3365 or [skagitcounty.net/museum](http://skagitcounty.net/museum). Hours: Thurs-Sun 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
*Exhibit: Quilt Until You Wilt.* Through June 2023. Design your own paper quilts.  
*Exhibit: "I Do" the History of Weddings.* Through Sept. 24.

## SERVICE & VOLUNTEER

**La Conner Sunrise Food Bank.** Food distribution every Monday from 2:30-5 p.m. 602 S. 3rd St., La Conner. 360-488-3878. [laconnerfoodbank.com](http://laconnerfoodbank.com).  
**Swinomish Helping Hands Food Bank.** Food distribution every Thursday from 2-5 p.m. Non-essentials every first Thursday. 17444 Sneeh Oosh Rd, La Conner. 360-856-2211. [helpinghandsfoodbank.org](http://helpinghandsfoodbank.org).  
**Skagit Valley Humane Society.** 18841 Kelleher Rd, Burlington. 360-757-0445. [skagithumane.org](http://skagithumane.org). Find volunteer/donation opportunities online.

## MEETINGS

**Town of La Conner**  
 204 Douglas St, La Conner. 360-466-3125. Zoom info @ [Townoflaconner.org/calendar](http://Townoflaconner.org/calendar).  
**Planning Commission.** July 4, 6 p.m. at Maple Hall.  
**Emergency Management Commission.** July 11, 4:30 p.m. at Maple Hall.  
**Town Council.** July 11, 6 p.m. at Maple Hall.  
**Skagit Conservation District**  
 2021 E. College Way #203, Mt. Vernon. 360-428-4313. Zoom info @ [skagitcd.org](http://skagitcd.org).  
**Board meetings.** Every fourth Wednesday 7:30-9 a.m.  
**Rotary Club of La Conner.** [laconnerrotary.org](http://laconnerrotary.org). Meetings Monday, 6-7 p.m. at Shawn O'Donnell's Farmhouse restaurant - optional dinner at 5:30 p.m.  
**Skagit Cemetery District One.**  
**Regular meetings.** Every second Thursday, 5 p.m. at Lori Buher's home, 17604 Valentine Rd., Mount Vernon.  
**Little Mountain Gamblers.**  
*Gamblers Anonymous.* Every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Senior Center in Mount Vernon. 1401 Cleveland Ave. Any questions, call 855-222-5542.



## Aqimuk's Kitchen

By Patricia Aqimuk Paul, Esq., Food Editor.

### Saucy Salsa

These fresh ingredients create a saucy salsa. I used vine ripened tomatoes. A Roma tomato has a thicker pulp if you prefer a thicker salsa. Just three Serrano hot peppers, with the seeds, gives this salsa a spicy punch. For flavor, a little goes a long way!


**Ingredients**

- Vine ripened tomatoes, 5 medium
- Serrano peppers, 3 large
- Cilantro, 1 bunch
- Lime, 1
- Salt, 2 tsp

**Preparation**

This recipe uses a blender and it's easiest to add each ingredient as they are cut. Cut out the small area at the top of the tomato, where the stem attaches. Cut the tomatoes into quarters. Chop the Serrano peppers, removing the stem. Chop the leafy area of the cilantro. Add the salt and freshly squeeze the lime. Blend on a low setting. Store in glass jars in the refrigerator. Use within 4 days.

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



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**STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS ADVERTISE STATEWIDE** with a \$325 classified listing or \$1600 for a display ad. Call this newspaper or 360-344-2938 for details.  
**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.  
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## LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR SKAGIT COUNTY IN PROBATE In re the estate of: PATRICIA GALLIGANI, Deceased. No. 23-4-00328-29 NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

- 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 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 of this Notice: June 28, 2023.  
 Luke D. Larson #46531 Attorney for Personal Representative, Michelle Hanson 114 W. Magnolia Street, Suite 432 Bellingham, WA 98225  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 28, July 5, 12, 2023.

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR WHATCOM COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of, ALLAN ROY CROSBY, Deceased. Cause No. 23-4-00494-37 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) PLEASE TAKE NOTICE The above Court has appointed me as Personal Representative of Decedent's estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must present the claim: (a) Before the time when the claim would be barred by any applicable statute of limitations, and (b) In the manner provided in RCW 11.40.070: (i) By filing the original of the claim with the foregoing Court, and (ii) By serving on or mailing to me at the address below a copy of the claim. The claim must be presented by the later of: (a) Thirty (30) days after I served or mailed this Notice as provided in RCW 11.40.020(1) (c), or (b) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice. If the claim is not presented within this time period, the claim will be forever barred except as provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective for claims against both the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

Date of First Publication of this Notice: June 28, 2023.  
 Luke D. Larson #46531 Attorney for Personal Representative, Michelle Hanson 114 W. Magnolia Street, Suite 432 Bellingham, WA 98225  
 Published in the La Conner Weekly News June 28, July 5, 12, 2023.



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## Super Crossword

MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU

- ACROSS**
- 1 Dryer's partner
  - 7 Neither-here-nor-there states
  - 13 Not straying off topic
  - 20 Get in the way of
  - 21 "You may relax, soldier"
  - 22 One looking something over
  - 23 "The Delta Force" actor Chuck
  - 24 Question after a chat interruption
  - 26 Latched on firmly
  - 28 Space balls
  - 29 San Luis —, California
  - 30 Mount, as a jewel
  - 31 "Diane" star Turner
  - 32 "Carrie" star Spacek
  - 35 Mutineers
  - 37 2012 Robert Pattinson film based on a Maupassant novel
  - 39 Chou En —
  - 40 Fictional "Warrior Princess"
  - 41 Lax in duty
  - 44 British remake of "That '70s Show"
  - 50 Say for sure
  - 51 Trepidation
  - 53 Fathered, as a horse
  - 54 Start of many rapper names
  - 55 Realities that are tough to face
  - 58 "E-e-ew!"
  - 59 Vodka brand, informally
  - 61 Reply to "You are not!"
  - 62 Fulfill, as standards
  - 65 Wiseacre
  - 69 River to the Rhine
  - 70 Hint at
  - 71 "That's impossible!"
  - 74 Reagan adviser Edwin
  - 76 Flooring units
  - 77 "... bug — feature?"
  - 78 Identify before turning over a new leaf
  - 83 City in Oklahoma
  - 84 Trig function
  - 86 Away from the wind, nautically
  - 87 Non-iron club
  - 88 Revealing interference with the contents, as a package
  - 92 Key related to D major
  - 94 Saharan
  - 95 Oct.-Dec. link
  - 96 Creek, e.g.
  - 99 Garbage collectors
  - 102 Very easy thing
  - 104 "Back in Black" band
  - 105 Italian monk's title
  - 108 Runner Sebastian
  - 109 Really eager
  - 111 With
  - 114-Across, source of the phrase formed by the ends of eight answers in this puzzle
  - 114 See
  - 111-Across
  - 118 Is identical to
  - 119 Famed French mime
  - 120 Interfere
  - 121 Nuanced
  - 122 Places in categories
  - 123 Flip one's lid
  - 124 Plant with prickly leaves
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Hot bar food
  - 2 Roman love
  - 3 Fat avoider Jack
  - 4 Sage, e.g.
  - 5 Items of food
  - 6 Closes tightly again
  - 7 Suburb of D.C. in Maryland
  - 8 "Am — late?"
  - 9 Cries weakly
  - 10 In a ribald way
  - 11 —Kosh B'gosh
  - 12 Notice
  - 13 Phone button abbr.
  - 14 Novel kind
  - 15 Not absent
  - 16 "— Gang"
  - 17 River to the Rhone
  - 18 Stairway post
  - 19 Low cards
  - 25 Banjoist Clark
  - 27 Genetic helix
  - 33 More cheeky
  - 34 Stuff in sand
  - 36 "Humbug!"
  - 37 Avian creature
  - 38 Boise's home
  - 40 1960s Jaguar model
  - 41 Team booster
  - 42 Actress Longoria
  - 43 Sea, to Gigi
  - 45 "— longa ..."
  - 46 Vexes
  - 47 Flee to wed
  - 48 Sediments
  - 49 Writer T.S.
  - 51 Showed rage
  - 52 UFO fliers
  - 56 "— Andronicus" (Shakespeare play)
  - 57 Locomotive supporter
  - 59 Singer Bob
  - 60 Yank
  - 62 Actress West
  - 63 "I'm here to help"
  - 64 Bit of artifice
  - 65 Join, as a table
  - 66 Peak in W. Turkey
  - 67 Happy as —
  - 68 Fish eggs
  - 69 Run out on
  - 72 Tube lover's punishment
  - 73 57-Down vehicles
  - 74 De-feathers
  - 75 Prior to, poetically
  - 78 Team booster
  - 79 Exercise in a pool
  - 80 Long time
  - 81 Leicester lav
  - 82 WWII prez
  - 84 Recoil from
  - 85 Multivolume Brit. lexicon
  - 89 Dawber of "Mork & Mindy"
  - 90 Amazon Kindle, e.g.
  - 91 Dodgers
  - 92 Recuperation by lying down
  - 93 Asian monkey
  - 97 Natural gift
  - 98 Rival of Sony
  - 99 In — (not just sleeping)
  - 100 Big couches
  - 101 Many future kings
  - 102 Long time
  - 103 Tubular pasta
  - 105 Edicts
  - 106 Esther of "Good Times"
  - 107 Photographer Adams
  - 110 Creative work
  - 112 CI doubled
  - 113 Big brass instrument
  - 115 Sarge, e.g.
  - 116 Sports org. with skaters
  - 117 Scooby- —

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# POLICE BLOTTER

SKAGIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Monday, June 19**

**3:12 p.m.: Car accident** – 2 car motor vehicle accident. Driver 1 was stopped at the intersection and started to travel eastbound and did not see driver 2 and collided with driver 2. Calhoun Rd., Greater La Conner.

**Tuesday, June 20**

**3:28 p.m.: Lost keys** – Caller advised they had lost their car and house key within the last week. Nothing has been turned in at this time. La Conner.

**10:27 p.m.: Abandoned motor home** – Report of an abandoned vehicle. Deputies contacted a male subject who was in a motor home in the area. The male advised he was in the process of moving the motor home to a different location. Bay View Edison Rd., Greater La Conner.

**Wednesday, June 21**

**1:29 p.m.: Missing chihuahua** – Caller reported they were missing their 10-12 lb chihuahua and were wanting to know if anyone had located it. Deputies had not received any calls yet but would contact him to reunite him with his dog. Beaver Marsh Rd., Greater La Conner.

**Friday, June 23**

**12:49 p.m.: Assaulter arrested** – Report of a suspicious male in the area. The caller advised that his neighbor reported to them that a male was watching their residence and they were concerned. Deputies arrived in the area and contacted the neighbor and caller. Through investigation deputies learned that a roommate of the neighbor had allegedly assaulted the neighbor. The subject was arrested and booked into Skagit County Jail. Maple Ave., La Conner.

## Counselor

■ ■ ■ (from page 2)

than any salary savings it might realize.

Director of Planning and Operations Bobby Vaughn shared the excellent report received by the transportation department following the Washington State Patrol's bi-annual safety inspection.

"This award and recognition is huge," said Vaughn, "given the obstacles the department had to overcome last semester."

Vaughn referred to retirements and resignations of several department veterans, including longtime director Kim Pedroza – now a school board member – who took a transportation job mid-year with the Stanwood school district.

The district is actively seeking bus drivers for the upcoming school year, Vaughn said.



**SUMMER COMES TO THE SKAGIT** – On the first full day of summer, when the sun rose just after 5 a.m. over the Skagit Valley, hard working farmers prepared to harvest the tulip bulbs that once dazzled this landscape in April. Every season has a cycle here. Come fall the bulbs travel to gardeners across the nation so that they can be planted and enjoyed next spring – a piece of the #MagicSkagit shared in another form.

– Photo by Sarah Walls

## MARINA MOORINGS

Port of Skagit

The guest docks have been slammed this week. We have been docking boats and fielding reservations left and right. And yet, even as the summer rush is upon us we generally still have space available during the week. Boaters who are not tied to the weekend have their choice of moorings. We have had a lot of people asking about crab season opening, with audible disappointment when we tell them we are not the ones who set the season.

Talking with these people has made me realize once again what a gem La Conner is. Where else in the world can you launch a boat, keep it at the dock, go crabbing every day of the season, camp out in your RV and still walk into a cool town with tons going on every evening? Many places can be one of those things, but almost none can be all of them. Lots of visitors to the marina and RV park truly feel the place is special and love coming back every year.

On the docks, we have two research boats this week, one of which has been here for much of the spring. It does mini-trawls for fish counts and the other has a ROV (remotely operated vehicle) and other instruments aboard.

I love supporting research here in the Channel and in our local bays. In my opinion, more knowledge is better and these teams are out to gather facts which we can use to improve salmon runs or the environment in general. Either way, it is important work.

I wrote last week that the Fourth of July is coming soon, but now it is coming very soon! The Marina is hosting the bulk of the holiday extravaganza. The noon parade will gather in the South Basin parking lot (same as last year) and proceed from there. After that, the food trucks will be opening up at 5 pm.. Music from the Enthusiasts, a popular Anacortes-based band will start the evening's entertainment at about 5:30 p.m. and Chris Eger and his band will take it from there to the fireworks! It is amazing how much musical talent we have here in the Skagit Valley and since the Port is sponsoring the show you can see it for free. Happy Independence Day indeed!

The Town fireworks will cap off the evening. This is a fabulous show that should not be missed.

See you on the Channel!

— Chris Omdal, *harbormaster*

## Weekend

■ ■ ■ (from page 1)

"We really want to get people to dance with us," she said.

And, indeed, following the performances, spectators were invited to learn the steps to "Shake Your Bacon." Many accepted the challenge.

Dancing was also when popular blues band Mojo Cannon played its Sunday afternoon concert. Between sets, Mojo Cannon – known for its big brass sound – held a dance contest for young and old alike. Gilkey Square was filled with

concertgoers, who enjoyed the sunny weather and soulful music – the band's rendition of "Roadhouse Blues" by Jim Morrison and The Doors was a particular favorite – in equal measure.

The weekend kicked off with the Shelter Bay Garage Sale, long a Mecca for bargain hunters seeking quality items at discount prices. Volunteers met motorists at the community's entrance gate bright and early Saturday with handouts including a QR code that located sales addresses among the 900 residential lots.

By 9 a.m. cars and cycles

were parked on both sides of Swinomish Drive near the Shelter Bay Marina, an area where some of the more popular sales were, leaving the narrowest of traffic lanes to navigate.

Those seeking arts and crafts items could browse a wide selection of handmade goods under one roof – the Braves Clubhouse on the La Conner Schools campus, where Kiwanian Joy Neal oversaw conversion of the former industrial arts building into a user-friendly sales floor.

"It suits our needs quite well," Neal said.

At Swinomish, the 10th annual "Carrying the Message" Sobriety Conference started its three-day gathering Friday.

In addition to the "mini-powwow," the event included meals, meetings, a raffle fundraiser and camping opportunities. The conference opened the day after the annual Swinomish Education Dinner and Program was held at the tents on the north end of John K. Bob Ball Park.

On a late June weekend where thoughts of trick-or-treating were surprisingly at the forefront, there was no masking the fact that La Conner was the place to be for folks of all ages and interests.



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## Port of Anacortes presents Free Summer CONCERT SERIES 2023

- July 7: Chris Eger Band and the Powerhouse Horns
- July 12: Herding Kats
- July 14: Free Rain
- July 19: Cascadia Groove
- July 21: Davanos
- July 26: Ranger and the "Re-Arrangers"
- July 28: Point of Sail
- August 11: Dusty 45's
- August 18: Victims of Love
- August 25: Eden

Seafarers' Memorial Park  
601 Seafarers Way Anacortes  
6-8pm



## JULY 4th A Hometown Celebration AT THE LA CONNER MARINA

GIGANTIC FIREWORKS DISPLAY  
ENTERTAINMENT AND FOOD

**THE CHRIS EGER BAND**  
FEATURING THE POWERHOUSE HORNS  
**BroHamm**

5:00 ~ Food, Beer & Wine Garden Open  
5:30 ~ BroHamm  
7:30 ~ Chris Eger  
featuring THE POWER HOUSE HORNS  
10:00 ~ Fireworks

Event is a fundraiser for the Rick Eging Foundation Fund for music lessons for local underserved kids. For more information: 360-466-3123

## LINCOLN THEATRE

**Jonathan Richman.**  
feat. Tommy Larkins on the drums

Sat July 1 8:00 PM

712 S. 1st St • Mount Vernon  
360.336.8955  
lincolnthatre.org

VINTAGE LaCONNER THRIFT SHOP

**THE LATEST NEW ARRIVALS**  
Are On  
The Vintage Facebook Page  
www.Facebook.com/VintageLaConner

Changes made each week on Thursday night Check it out!  
Bargains Galore in our local nonprofit thrift and consignment store  
**Donations only accepted each Monday from 1pm to 3pm**  
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301 Morris  
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## Raven's Cup Coffee & Art Gallery

Redecorate with an original painting  
Art by Sharon Achtyes, John Osgood, Alex Kargopolsev, Natalia Slizovska, Jenelle and narboo!  
We also have high-quality reproductions  
Henry paintings for indoor walls, smaller than the outdoor wall of a building in Seattle!  
Native American giclees by Richard Shorty, Kurt Flett, Betty Albert, Maxine Noel and more!



Coming soon: Evening entertainment! Art courses in July – stay tuned for details!

106 S 1st St. La Conner

Open 7 days a week, starting at 7 am. Hot and cold coffee, tea and cocoa!