



**Taking Stock of Flooding**  
Officials Say More Than 100 Homes and Other Structures Damaged as Reports Roll In / Main 2



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\$1.75  
Mid-Week Edition  
**Thursday,**  
**Jan. 27, 2022**

# The Chronicle

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Man Jailed After  
Allegedly Firing  
Shots in Centralia  
**Main 3**

## Deal Would Transfer 180 Acres of State Park Land to Lewis County

**SKATE CREEK:** Property Near Packwood Would Double Land Maintained by the County

By **Eric Rosane**  
[ericr@chronline.com](mailto:ericr@chronline.com)

An agreement currently being drafted between Washington State Parks and Lewis County would set the table for a deed exchange on a 180-acre Packwood area property after the state failed for more than two decades to establish a state park on the land.

This gem — beloved by many locals — sits largely untouched, straddling the Cowlitz River near Packwood. The Packwood Visitor Center characterizes the property as an “orphan in the inventory of lands owned by Washington State Parks.” It remains largely undeveloped for outdoor recreation.

Connie Riker, director of Lewis County Parks and Recreation and Events, said a memorandum of understanding (MOU) stipulating the deed transfer could come before the Board of Lewis County Commissioners as soon as next week, though it’s more likely sometime next month.

Discussions in recent years have focused on a possible sale

*please see* **LAND**, page Main 16

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## Cemetery Clerk Procures Grave Markers for 13 Forgotten Infants

*Community Responds to Improve Resting Place of Babies in Tenino*



Daniel Warn / For The Chronicle

Debi Overlie, clerk and board member of Tenino's Forest Grove Cemetery, displays the unmarked children's graves that she was able to get recent donations for placards to commemorate the forgotten youths.



A wooden grave-marker is seen at Tenino's Forest Grove Cemetery.

By **Daniel Warn**  
*For The Chronicle*

People don’t often volunteer at Tenino’s Forest Grove Cemetery, so when cemetery clerk Debi Overlie put out a call on Facebook to raise funds for placards for the graves of forgotten children, Overlie didn’t expect much.

But the response from the community was overwhelming, she said.

“I received more (donations) than I needed,” she said. “The Lions Club even said they would pay for everything more that I needed up to \$800.”

Overlie was able to procure placards for \$50 a piece, all marking the graves of infants

*please see* **INFANTS**, page Main 16

### Common Target



**Bills Targeting Theft of Catalytic Converters Advance**  
/ Main 11

### Big Win for Bearcats



**W.F. West Boys Upset Tumwater in Front of a Raucous Crowd**  
/ Sports

### Deaths

**Cruz Jr., Jose Benito, 57, Tenino**  
**Backman, Olof A., 87**

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The Flood of 2022

# So Far 120 Homes, Structures Reporting Damage Totaling at Least \$2 Million From January Flooding

**NEW STRATEGIES, Old Squabbles: Latest Event Serves as Yet Another Inflection Point in Chehalis Basin Strategy**

By Emily Fitzgerald and Eric Rosane

The Chronicle

Damage assessments reported to Lewis County Emergency Management so far show that at least 120 individual homes and structures have been damaged from historic flooding that inundated the Chehalis River Basin earlier this month.

Ross McDowell, deputy director of Lewis County Emergency Management, said estimated structural and personal losses have so far surpassed \$2 million, with an expectation that figure will continue to slowly rise.

He said officials believe they’ve tallied the worst of the damage, though more reports continue to be submitted every day.

“I believe there could be more people out there who have had a loss on their houses who we have not heard from. Five to 10 come in a day, so we’re hoping to get the last of the curve,” McDowell told The Chronicle this week.

Homeowners have until the end of the month to report their damage to Emergency Management and file an individual damage assessment. More information on that can be found by contacting the department at 360-740-2600.

The county is hoping to receive a FEMA disaster declaration from President Joe Biden, though cumulative damage sustained from the flood must meet a certain threshold.

McDowell said officials are still working with about 60 individuals who cannot return to their homes yet due to flooding and are currently displaced. Lewis County is currently renting out about 18 hotels for these individuals, and much of the effort is being funded through donations, which can be made to United Way of Lewis County at [www.lewiscountyuw.com](http://www.lewiscountyuw.com).

Cleanup efforts — prominent in the days and weeks following the rise of local rivers from warm rain and lowland snow — have largely concluded.

Compared to floods of recent memory, this latest event has caused minimal amounts of damage.

J. Vander Stoep, a member of the Chehalis Basin Board, said a state commissioned study showed following the devastating 2007 flood — which closed I-5 for multiple days — there was roughly \$930 million in damage.

### Reflecting on the 2022 Flood

Officials have reached the general consensus that, when it comes to the flood of 2022 — on par in some ways with the devastating floods of 2007 and 1996 — the Chehalis Basin was lucky.

Peak flow on the main stem of the Chehalis River this year hit a high of 34,600 cubic feet per second — a relatively smaller number compared to the 49,000 cubic feet seen during the 1996 flood.

Vander Stoep said the difference between the ‘96 and ‘22 floods is roughly 9.6 billion gallons of water flowing through the Chehalis main stem every day.

“You still have a big flood, you still have damage, but you don’t have anywhere near as close the damage had the main stem been full,” Vander Stoep told The Chronicle this week.

There was more than enough water to cause the type of devastation seen in 1996 and in 2007, but because the Chehalis River was lower than it was during previous major flooding events, it was able to take on water from the overflowing Newaukum and Skookumchuck rivers and further drain out the Chehalis Basin.

Peak flow measured on the



Jared Wenzelburger / jared@chronline.com

Posts from The Chronicle and the Washington Emergency Management Division were highlighted in discussions about the Flood Warning System volumes.



Edna Fund talks about recent flooding and warning systems in place Monday evening during a Chehalis City Council meeting.

Skookumchuck near Bucoda and the Newaukum near Chehalis was roughly the same in 1996, 2007 and 2022, but the peak flow measured on the Chehalis River near Grand Mound in 2022 was just 44.6 cubic feet of water per second (CFS), compared to 79.1 in 2007 and 74.8 in 1999, according to data from the Chehalis Basin Flood Authority.

“That’s really important because you can visualize this water flowing down from above, it’s flowing through our communities, and then it goes all the way on down through Grand Mound and on down out towards the harbor. If that system is all filled up and that CFS is up super high, like in the ‘96 or 2007 event, then water is going to back up in the Twin Cities, it’s not going to evacuate out. So what you’re seeing here is you didn’t have the devastation you had in ‘96 and 2007 is a function of water being able to evacuate out in a metered way down the Chehalis, the Chehalis was low enough that it could take that water,” said Scott Boettcher of the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority at Monday’s Chehalis City Council meeting.

### Renewed Discussion Surrounding Flood Dam

Vander Stoep said he believes this flood — among the worst seen in more than a decade — has reinvigorated discussion surrounding a flood retention dam along the Chehalis River that would be located near the town of Pe Ell.

The dam would prevent “catastrophic” flooding along the middle stem of the Chehalis River. Similar 100-year floods, such as the one in 1996, would be reduced to a flood the size of the 2022 flood, perhaps smaller.

As the dam undergoes state and federal environmental reviews, concerns of its impact to fish and aquatic species populations have been raised, though members of the Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District have committed that mitigation efforts would reduce the

impact to nearly zero.

A Local Action Non-Dam Alternative (LAND) Committee was commissioned this last year to look at non-dam alternatives to prevent catastrophic flooding in the Chehalis Basin as the dam studies continue on. Though still in its infancy, that group has begun meeting and will begin finalizing recommendations to the Chehalis Basin Board and the Office of Chehalis Basin this coming summer.

Pro-dam members of the Flood Control Zone District at a meeting earlier this month voiced skepticism of the LAND process and the intent of its members.

“One thing that I see is there are some people on the committee that are going to be mightily tempted to just pursue fish habitat policies and no people policies in the valleys. And that’s because they quite possibly don’t see a valley being full without pulling people out of the valley,” said Dan Maughan, LAND Committee member, at a Flood Control Zone District meeting.

“That’s, in my book, a non-starter, and it’s going to be interesting to see just how far they push their thought process there,” he continued.

Erik Martin, manager of the Flood Control Zone District, said he would like to see the LAND Committee measure their alternatives up side by side, functionally, to the dam and levee projects.

“Compare ‘em side-by-side. How does it stack up with damage? How does it stack up with flood levels? How does it stack up with flows?” Martin said, adding later: “If they can do that, and they can line those numbers up side by side, then I think the public and the board can make a real choice about what alternatives are out there. If they want to come back with something that conflates all that or confuses that, it’s going to be hard to compare the two.”

### Alternative Flood Storage Solutions

The City of Chehalis is con-

sidering the possibility of creating a flood storage facility along the Chehalis River near the Chehalis wastewater treatment plant, but preliminary designs from engineering consulting firm Skillings, Inc., show that it may not be possible to have one flood storage facility that reduces the negative impact of flooding during both major and minor flood events.

“Because of the geometry of the channel and the sinuosity of the channels that we have here and the constraints of the community that’s encroached ... we only have so many places that we can put the water,” said Skillings Vice President Patrick Skillings, who presented alongside Skillings Design Engineer Anthony Guerrero at a Chehalis City Council meeting on Monday.

Skillings and Guerrero focused their presentation on two designs: the initial design Skillings came up with in 2019, which is predicted to reduce flooding by just under 1 foot both upstream and downstream of the project site during a major flood but could increase flood levels downstream by up to 0.2 feet during a smaller flood event; and the most-recent design, which would reduce flooding both upstream and downstream of the project site during minor flood events but would have no effect on downstream flooding during a major flood event.

The primary reason why the company hasn’t been able to develop a design that reduces the negative impacts of both a major and a minor flood, Skillings said, is because there are limited spaces outside the natural floodplain to store water.

“Storing water in the floodplain, that becomes the floodway which is where the current is moving in the flooded area, (which) gets problematic because we’re pretty constrained in here,” he said.

The best option in the long run, Skillings said, would be to move people out of the floodplain and allow the river to overflow its banks during minor flooding events.

“When we talk about flooding it’s always ‘flooding is bad,’ but really in a 2-year event in a natural system, you need flooding to maintain those wetlands and to actually protect the stream channel because that’s when you get those flows coming down, as it can get out of its bank and create a wider cross section, your water slows down and it doesn’t destroy the channel,” he said.

The tricky task going forward is developing a flood storage solution that can maintain wetlands and improve habitat yet not negatively impact people and infrastructure, he said.

Whatever that solution is, Mayor Tony Ketchum was ada-

mant it could not increase flooding downstream of Chehalis.

“If we impact anyone downstream, no matter what we do, we’re not going to get a project approved by anybody,” he said.

Skillings was tasked with refining its designs and coming back to the city council at a later date.

### New Resources Mitigate Damage — And Loss of Life

Social media and the quick spread of information was a prominent factor in mitigating flood damage, said Edna Fund of the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority and an Office of Chehalis Basin voting member, who presented to the Chehalis City Council alongside Boettcher on Monday.

“When we had the flood in 2007 and the one in 2009, one of my friends said, ‘When I look at your webpage and when you’re stopping posting about caseroles, I know we’re having a flood,’ so we’re beyond that now, it’s pretty amazing how we can reach people,” said Fund.

The week of the flood, the Flood Authority had 25,000 unique logins to its website for flood information. During the peak of the flood on Jan. 6 and Jan. 7, the Flood Authority tracked 72,000 hits to the flood inundation maps on its website.

The majority of those came from posts made by The Chronicle and the Washington Emergency Management Division that were shared on social media, Boettcher said.

“Social media really works, I mean we have traditional ways of doing things and the social media route and the sharing of information ... really is the superior way and it reaches the largest number of people,” he said.

The Flood Authority’s gauge alert system, which sends automated alerts when river levels gauge one to two feet below flood stage, was pushing 15,000 unique signups by late January, said Boettcher.

“Some of those people are front-desk people at hotels or nursing homes, hospitals, who in turn get a message and carry it on further into their own networks, so we feel that the flood warning system is occupying an important niche here in that it’s giving people the opportunity to have early information.”

The alarm is purposefully set a few feet below flood stage, Boettcher said, “and that gives people the time they need so they can proactively respond to a impending threat as opposed to waiting until we’re at crisis and then people have to reactively respond to that, leaving them little time.”



# Centralia Man Allegedly Threatens Ex With Firearm, Fires Gun Five Times on West Pine Street

By Emily Fitzgerald  
emily@chronline.com

A 27-year-old Centralia man is facing felony assault and harassment charges after he allegedly threatened an ex-partner with a gun on Sunday.

The victim told police she returned home after receiving a message from her babysitter stating that her ex-partner, whose name is not being released by The Chronicle in order to protect the identity of the victim and her children, was in her West Pine Street residence.

When the victim arrived

home, the man allegedly slapped her in the face and chased her outside, where she reportedly locked herself in the car as the man tried to get in, according to court documents.

The victim soon got out of the car, however, “as it appeared (the man) was going back toward her home where her children were.”

The man then allegedly pulled out a gun, chased her again and threatened to shoot her vehicle while she was standing in front of it.

“When he saw she wasn’t moving, he pointed the gun at the car and pulled the trigger but the

gun didn’t go off,” said the victim, who reported she believed the gun’s safety was on.

He then allegedly threatened to shoot both the victim and the car, then “got frustrated and was walking away” before pointing the gun in the air and shooting five times, according to court documents.

Responding officers with the Centralia Police Department found six .22 caliber casings on the roadway.

When questioned by police, the man stated he believed he and the victim were “still together but separated for now”

and said “he went to the house to confront her” after reportedly learning she was “with other men,” according to court documents.

He allegedly admitted to pointing the gun at the victim’s vehicle and to firing the gun, but not at the victim or the vehicle.

The man stated “he had just bought the gun on the street from a guy for \$100,” according to court documents.

The man has limited criminal history and no history of violent offenses on his record, “however, the allegations in this case are very concerning to the state, es-

pecially the presence and use of a firearm in the allegations,” said Deputy Prosecutor Joe Bassetti at the man’s preliminary hearing in Lewis County Superior Court on Jan. 24.

Given that alleged use of a firearm, Judge James Lawler granted Bassetti’s requests for a \$200,000 bail and a no-contact order protecting the alleged victim, stating that the man “presents a clear threat to community safety based on his alleged actions.”

His next court appearance is an arraignment hearing scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 26.

## Deadly Accident-Scene Wrecks on I-5 Prompt Two Safety Proposals From Sen. Wilson

By The Chronicle staff

Tragic collisions that killed two Southwest Washington tow-truck operators and a pair of stranded motorists along Interstate 5 last year might have been averted with stronger measures to promote safety at accident scenes, claims Sen. Jeff Wilson, R-Longview.

Two Wilson-sponsored bills were heard Tuesday in the Senate Transportation Committee. They aim to improve accident scene safety by improving visibility of tow-trucks and reinforcing the state’s “slow down, move over” law, which requires motorists on multi-lane highways to move out of the adjacent lane if possible when approaching police and emergency vehicles at work on either shoulder. If motorists cannot safely change lanes, they must slow to ten miles below the speed limit.

The bills are:

- Senate Bill 5635, which would allow tow-truck operators to use a rear-facing blue flasher once they reach an accident scene, in addition to the red flasher permitted by state law

when they enter a highway on the way to an accident. The combination of red-and-blue is currently reserved for law-enforcement vehicles. Wilson stated he believes the combined flashers would provide better visibility and greater warning for all emergency responders. The bill also stipulates that motorists unable to change lanes must slow to 50 mph or less when traveling on a highway with a speed limit of 60 mph or higher.

- Senate Bill 5907 would require increased notice and education about the state’s “slow down, move over” law, including roadway signage, electronic-sign messaging and a public awareness campaign.

“Bills like these make a big difference,” Wilson said in a statement. “People need to be reminded that slowing down and moving over is the law. And by using red-and-blue at accident scenes, we remind motorists they must be as cautious around tow-trucks as they are when they see law enforcement vehicles ahead. Four people dead ought to show us that we need to be more care-

ful.”

An April 24 accident south of Castle Rock killed a tow-truck operator and the two motorists he was assisting when another motorist slammed into their disabled vehicle. Another tow truck operator was killed Sept. 22 south of Kalama when a log truck braked suddenly to avoid slow traffic ahead and its empty trailer careened onto the shoulder.

The first accident hit home for Wilson, as he knew the tow-truck driver, according to a news release from Wilson’s office.

At Tuesday’s hearing, numerous tow-truck operators told of the hazards they face as they pull wrecked and disabled vehicles from the roadway, some offering emotional testimony about the injuries they have suffered themselves.

“Tow truck operators are at great risk when they respond to accidents on busy freeways and highways,” Wilson said. “Our state’s slow-down, move over law has no doubt saved many lives. But what happened last year on I-5 ought to show us there is more that needs to be done.”



Sen. Jeff Wilson, R-Longview

## 23 Charged With Staging Washington Car Crashes; The Total Payout Was Nearly \$1M

By The Tri-City Herald

Eleven Tri-Citians are accused of participating in a wide-spread fraud ring that amassed almost \$1 million in insurance payouts from staged car crashes.

The scheme involved at least 14 vehicle accidents over a three-year period, with the conspirators misleading law enforcement officers, medical personnel and insurance companies, according to an 81-page indictment filed in federal court.

The orchestrated collisions between each other’s vehicles often happened on remote roads and at night with no witnesses.

No one was inside the “victim” vehicle during at least three of the staged accidents, hammers were used to break car windows in at least two, and weighted items were placed on the front passenger seat in one vehicle so the airbag would deploy on impact, federal prosecutors said.

After some of the wrecks, the accused “sought emergency room and medical treatment for fictitious, fabricated and exaggerated accident symptoms and injuries,” and even hired personal injury lawyers to pursue their fraudulent claims, the indictment states.

The collected payouts came from claims for bodily injury, loss of wages and property damage to the vehicles.

Now, 23 people from four different states and Canada are charged with the scam in U.S. District Court in Richland.

They include four married couples, three sets of siblings and a father and son.

Ten of the defendants live in Kennewick and one is from Eltopia, just north of Pasco.

One woman — the live-in girlfriend of a key conspirator in Benton County — worked as a “case manager” at a Tri-Cities personal injury law firm, the court document states.

She was responsible for handling phone calls, emails, faxes and mail with insurance companies on behalf of the firm’s clients in connection with the claims.

Four of the defendants have yet to be located and are considered fugitives, according to a news release from the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Washington.

The case was investigated by the FBI and the National Insurance Crime Bureau, and has been assigned to federal Judge Mary K. Dimke.

One defendant faces 64 felony charges.

And only one of the 23 defendants is not charged in the staged accident scheme, but for alleged actions during the ensuing FBI investigation.

The charges for the 23 defendants vary from: mail fraud; wire fraud; conspiracy to commit mail fraud and wire fraud; conspiracy to commit health care fraud; tampering with a witness, attempted tampering with evidence; conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding; and making false statements within jurisdiction of executive branch.

Some of the crimes carry a maximum sentence of 20 years in federal prison if convicted.

Federal prosecutors allege the defendants on occasion transferred ownership or gifted a vehicle to a co-conspirator shortly before or even the day of the staged accident. And sometimes they lied about who was driving, since the real driver left the scene before authorities arrived.

“The defendants would deliberately drive the pre-planned ‘at fault’ vehicle into the pre-planned ‘no fault’ vehicle at a pre-planned location,” the indictment states. “A defendant would then make an emergency call to 911 falsely claiming an ‘accident’ occurred.”

In one planned crash, a 2015 Chevrolet Camaro was driven into a 2004 Hummer H2 at Oak Street and 27th Avenue in Kennewick.

The Hummer was purchased two months earlier for \$200. The buyer then reportedly rolled back the odometer, which likely

## News in Brief

increased the vehicle’s value.

Meanwhile, the owners of the Chevrolet still owed \$12,300 in financing to a Tri-Cities credit union at the time of the crash. The car was declared totaled.

The two drivers and their front seat passengers received insurance payouts totaling about \$88,000, the indictment states.

Two months after the crash,

the salvaged Chevrolet was purchased by a Portland-area used car dealership through an internet automobile auction company. The Chevrolet’s original owner then bought back the salvaged vehicle days later for \$5,138.

Another example of the scheme is when one person bought a 2005 Toyota Sienna from a used car dealership in Or-

egon, then sold it for \$2,000.

The buyer registered the Toyota and got insurance on it.

The very next day, the buyer, seller and four others allegedly staged a crash on Court Street and Road 100 in west Pasco between the Toyota and a 2006 Infiniti FX35. The six participants received a settlement payout totaling almost \$390,000.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

**WILLIAM MUIR**

1962 ~ 2022

Seahawks, Seattle Mariners, the former Seattle Sonics, and was looking forward to the Seattle Kraken. He loved watching car races, and also fishing and playing golf. If it was sports, Bill was into it, even having his “office” at home filled with all his memorabilia.

Bill worked several jobs in King County until he met Laura Lynn Smith of Bothell. Then he went to Boeing and remained there until his passing. He had planned to retire at the end of this month when he would turn 60.

After meeting Laura, sports took a back seat in his life, and as one would say, the rest is history. They were married Sept. 19, 1996 in Bothell. Laura was Bill’s life partner and they worked together through many medical issues.

Having been diagnosed with diabetes at the age of 2, Bill has had a few side effects in dealing with his diabetes. He received a kidney transplant two years ago, and had other issues, but always remained positive. Even though he had a shot of insulin nearly every day of his life, he still hated shots.

The next love of Bill’s life were his four daughters. He

was a dedicated father, filled with love and a little discipline thrown in too. His first daughter, Madison, just turned 18, then the twins, Brooke and Jordan, who are both 15, and Alina, 14. He adored his girls and they adored him also.

Besides his wife Laura, and his four beautiful daughters, Bill is survived by his parents Bob and Charlotte Muir of Morton; Bonnie and Charles Knapp of Napavine; his brothers Todd (Leanna) Muir of Packwood and Robert Chad (Heather) Muir of Glenoma; and his sister Jill Muir of Rancho Santa Margarita, California. Bill is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Jan. 29, 2022 at 2 p.m. at the Bob Lyle building. You are invited to help celebrate Bill’s life. His girls would also love it if you have stories to share about their dad. A light lunch will be served after the service.

A scholarship has been set up in Bill Muir’s name at Key Bank, P.O. Box 429, Morton, Washington, account number 471313010723.

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# Sprinklers Help Douse Fire at Lucky Eagle Casino Tuesday

**RESPONSE:** *Two Employees Treated for Smoke Inhalation*

By The Chronicle staff

Two Lucky Eagle Casino employees were treated for smoke inhalation after an administrative office caught fire Tuesday evening.

One of the two was treated and released at the scene, while the other was transported to a local hospital for medical treatment.

West Thurston Regional Fire Authority responded to the fire at the Lucky Eagle Casino, located near Rochester, at 8:36 p.m. after the fire was discovered by a Lucky Eagle employee. The fire was contained to the single administrative office with the help of a fire sprinkler, according to West Thurston Fire.

"This is a clear example proving

**"This is a clear example proving the worth of fire sprinklers. Tonight's fire was initially controlled by the fire sprinkler system that activated as a result of the fire."**

**Chief Robert Scott**  
*West Thurston Fire Authority chief*

the worth of fire sprinklers. Tonight's fire was initially controlled by the fire sprinkler system that activated as a result of the fire," said Chief Robert Scott after the fire was extinguished on Tuesday.

"The arriving fire units were able to fully extinguish the fire and control the activated fire sprinklers," he said. "Close coordination with casino staff and tribal officials allowed us to

quickly limit further smoke or water damage."

South Thurston Fire and EMS, East Olympia Fire District 6, Riverside Fire and McLane Black Lake Fire Department also responded.

West Thurston Regional Fire Authority investigators are working with casino staff and tribal representatives to investigate the cause of the fire.



Firefighters respond to Lucky Eagle Casino in this photo provided by the West Thurston Regional Fire Authority.

## Centralia Man Arrested On \$100K Warrant for Alleged Sexual Assault of 10-Year-Old Sister

By Emily Fitzgerald  
emily@chronline.com

A Centralia man charged with nine counts of child molestation, incest and sexual assault in September for allegedly assaulting his 10-year-old sister in April 2020 has been arrested on a \$100,000 warrant.

The defendant, whose name is being withheld by The Chron-

icle to protect the identity of the victim, was 16 years old at the time the abuse allegedly occurred. He turned 18 in July 2021 and is being charged as an adult.

The Centralia Police Department became involved on April 22, 2020 after the alleged abuse was reported to Child Protective Services, according to court documents.

The defendant is accused of

sexually assaulting the victim four separate times between April 10 and April 18, 2020.

A \$100,000 warrant for his arrest was issued on Sept. 7, 2021 and he was arrested on Jan. 24, 2022.

While the defendant had no criminal history on his record, Deputy Prosecutor Joe Bassetti said during the defendant's preliminary appearance in Lewis

County Superior Court on Tuesday that he considered the \$100,000 bail amount set in the warrant to be appropriate bail going forward "based on the community safety threat."

Defense attorney Rachael Tiller, however, argued for the man to be released on \$50,000 unsecured bail due to the fact that he is 18 years old and is financially unable to post a high bail.

She added that the man had no objections to a no-contact order protecting the victim.

"I think that should alleviate any safety concerns," she said.

Lawler ultimately granted Bassetti's request for \$100,000 bail and issued a no-contact order protecting the victim.

The man's next court appearance is an arraignment hearing scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 27.

### News in Brief

#### Cause of Saturday House Fire That Killed Three in Rainier Ruled Not Suspicious

By The Olympian

Investigators have determined the cause of a house fire that killed a child and her grandparents in Rainier on Saturday is not suspicious, Southeast Thurston Fire Authority Chief Mark King said Monday.

Investigators also found that there were no working smoke detectors in the house, King said.

Fire crews were dispatched

at around 1:20 a.m. Saturday to the 16100 block of Village Drive Southeast in rural Rainier. When they arrived, they found a house engulfed in flames.

A woman in her early 20s was able to escape the fire, but a couple in their 40s and their 3-year-old granddaughter died in the fire.

King said because the house was down a cul-de-sac with a narrow dirt road, accessibility was difficult. There also was no nearby water supply.

The three fire victims' identities have not been released by Thurston County Coroner Gary Warnock, who said Monday

that examinations will be done Thursday.

#### Public Can Weigh in on Proposed Communication Tower Near Rimrock Lake

By The Yakima Herald-Republic

The U.S. Forest Service's Naches Ranger District is accepting public comments on a proposed communications tower near Rimrock Lake, about 55 miles west of Yakima, according to a news release from the U.S. Forest Service.

The tower would provide wireless coverage to customers and first responders in Yakima County and surrounding mountainous areas along U.S. Highway 12 where gaps in service have been identified, according to the news release. The tower would also extend AT&T coverage to the west of Rimrock Lake.

The plan includes a 195-foot communications tower, an 80-by-80-foot fenced-in compound with antennas and equipment, and adjacent solar panels, according to the news release. The proposed location is the Jumpoff Lookout site east of

Rimrock Lake near Forest Service Road 1302.

Public comments can be submitted electronically on the project webpage or mailed to the Naches Ranger Station, 10237 U.S. Highway 12 in Naches, WA 98937.

#### Washington Attorney General Sues Google Over Location Tracking

By The Seattle Times

Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson is suing Google in an effort to change how the company handles users' personal data.

Ferguson joined attorneys general in Texas, Indiana and the District of Columbia in filing a lawsuit Monday alleging the company misled consumers about its location-tracking services and, at times, collected data without their consent.

In Washington, Ferguson is asking the court to tell Google to change its practices, give up the data it acquired and take back the profits it made from using those tactics in the first place — as well as a \$7,500 fee for each violation.

"Location data is deeply personal for consumers," he said. "Google denied consumers the ability to choose whether [it] could track their sensitive location data to make a profit. Google kept tracking individuals' location data even after consumers told the corporation to stop."

"This is not only dishonest — it's unlawful."

In the lawsuit filed in King County Superior Court, Ferguson claims Google violated the state's Consumer Protection Act by collecting, storing and using consumers' location data without their knowledge or consent and, in some cases, directly against their intent.

It's not yet clear how many Washingtonians were impacted by Google's practices but the attorney general's office estimates there could be "hundreds of thousands of potential violations."

State law requires that any penalties Google pays as a result of violations to the Consumer Protection Act will go to the general fund, Ferguson said.

Google isn't the only company that has been accused of using misleading messages to collect data from users, which can be a way to sell more advertising, said Bennett Cyphers, a staff technologist at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a nonprofit based in San Francisco that focuses on digital privacy and free speech.

But it is one of the most influential.

"There's no one else who does it at the scale that Google does, and there's no one else that has all the different inroads into your life that Google does," Cyphers said.

Google says location data plays an important role in providing useful and meaningful experiences to consumers, according to its website. The data is used for things like directions on Google Maps, making sure websites are shown in the right language and telling consumers what restaurants are nearby — and how crowded they typically are at any given time.

At the start of the coronavirus pandemic, Google began releasing anonymous and aggregated reports to track where people were going, and where they were not, to help remediate the impact of the virus. For example, in Washington last week, visits to grocery stores and pharmacies were down 10% compared to a baseline and visits to parks were up 14%.

Google can track someone's location from real-time signals, like an IP address or a device's location, as well as using past activity on Google sites and services.

In recent years, the company says it has made improvements to make location data easy to manage and understand while also minimizing the amount of data stored.

It launched an Incognito mode for Google Maps to allow users to browse or get directions without saving information to their Google account. And it set up an auto-delete default for all new Google accounts that will automatically delete any activity data older than 18 months.

"The attorneys general are bringing a case based on inaccurate claims and outdated assertions about our settings," said José Castañeda, a Google spokesperson. "We will vigorously defend ourselves and set the record straight."

The complaints lodged Monday come after a 2018 report from The Associated Press that found many Google services on Android devices and iPhones stored users' location data even if the consumer enabled a privacy setting that said it would prevent Google from doing so.

Washington, D.C., opened an investigation into the company in 2018. And in 2020, Arizona's attorney general filed a lawsuit arguing that the company set up its Android mobile operating system in a way that enriched its advertising empire and deceived users about the protections afforded to their personal data.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

# LENA SWETZ

1931 ~ 2022

Our beloved mother, Lena I. Swetz, passed away on Jan. 10, 2022. She was born on Aug. 22, 1931 to Mike and Paulina (Sutter) Betschart in Auburn, Washington. She married Frank Swetz on Oct. 18, 1949. They enjoyed 61 years of marriage. The couple started life together as dairy farmers raising Brown Swiss cows in Graham, Washington. Mom was a proud member of the Lewis County Swiss Society. The Rebekah Lodge was a very special and important part of her life. She achieved the highest level of the lodge becoming a noble grand. She was blessed with many good friends in the lodge and in life. They moved to Morton

in 1974 where dad worked as a chiropractor. Mom spent many years working with him in the office.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, two brothers Tony and Louie Betschart, one sister Ann Pepper, and a grandson Frankie Swetz. She is survived by her four children Frank (Denise) Swetz, Vickie (Larry) Ingerson, Judy (Dan) Zurfluh and John Swetz DC. She is also survived by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren, who made her life complete and brought her great joy.

Services will be held at a later date.

TO VIEW THE OBITUARY, PLEASE GO TO [CHRONLINE.COM/OBITUARIES](https://chronline.com/obituaries).

*Celebration of Life*

## ROY PRATT

Please join us for a Celebration of Life for Roy Pratt on Jan. 29, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. at the Cowlitz Prairie Grange, 5184 Jackson Hwy., Toledo, Washington 98591.

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# Records

## Sirens, Court Records, Lotteries, Commodities

### Sirens

#### MORTON POLICE DEPARTMENT Morton Incidents

- An officer was dispatched to the 500 block of Main Avenue just before 7:15 p.m. on Jan. 16 to assist an individual who had run out of gas. The officer provided the individual with a courtesy transport back to their vehicle.
- An officer was dispatched to the 100 block of Aberdeen Road just after 12:40 p.m. on Jan. 17 regarding a civil dispute over property ownership. The reporting party was advised to seek legal counsel.
- An officer was dispatched to the Morton Country Market just before 4:10 p.m. on Jan. 18 regarding a theft complaint. An informational report was taken.
- An officer was dispatched to the Arbor Health Hospital just after 1:15 a.m. on Jan. 19 regarding a disorderly male who was disoriented. The officer assisted the individual with transportation to a local motel.
- An officer located a stolen utility trailer at Jubilee Park at 1:55 p.m. on Jan. 19. The trailer was returned to the owner and the case is pending further investigation.
- An officer was dispatched to the 500 block of Main Avenue just after 6:05 p.m. on Jan. 20 regarding a disorderly juvenile involved in a domestic dispute. The juvenile was placed under arrest and transported to the Morton Police Department, where custody was transferred to Lewis County Corrections for transport.
- An officer was dispatched to the 100 block of Aberdeen Road regarding a report of suspicious activity just after 8:20 p.m. on Jan. 20. Upon arrival, the officer determined it was the son of the homeowner gathering personal

- belongings.
- An officer was dispatched to the 400 block of Adams Avenue just before 7:55 a.m. on Jan. 21 regarding a death investigation. The reporting party was determined to be a dementia patient reporting the death of a deceased spouse who had passed three years earlier.
  - An officer was dispatched to the 100 block of Aberdeen Road just before 4:20 p.m. on Jan. 21 regarding an ongoing civil matter. An informational report was taken.
  - An officer was dispatched to the 100 block of Aberdeen Road at 6:50 a.m. on Jan. 22 regarding a harassment complaint. An informational report was taken.

#### Mossyrock Incident

- An officer was dispatched to a two-vehicle accident that was reported in the 200 block of Mossyrock Road at 5:25 p.m. on Jan. 19. The driver of a Chevy Cobalt was transported for medical assistance. The driver of a Honda Accord had minor injuries and left with a family member. The officer remained on scene until both vehicles were removed by a local tow company.

#### CENTRALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Assault

- A fourth-degree assault with no injuries was reported in the 1200 block of Lum Road at approximately 11:05 p.m. on Jan. 24.

#### Theft

- A hover board and four PS5 controllers were reported stolen from the 300 block of North Tower Avenue just before 1 p.m. on Jan. 24. The case is under investigation.
- Propane was reported sto-

- len from the 700 block of North Tower Avenue just before 4 p.m. on Jan. 24.
- Tools were reported stolen from the 1600 block of South Gold Street just after 4:20 p.m. on Jan. 24.
  - Just after 10:05 p.m. on Jan. 24, a caller in the 1100 block of Harrison Avenue reported a credit/debit card had been stolen and was used in another city. The case is under investigation.
  - At approximately 6:55 a.m. on Jan. 25, a vehicle was reported stolen from the 2000 block of Earl Street sometime overnight.

#### CHEHALIS POLICE DEPARTMENT Crashes

- A non-injury, two-vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of Northwest Louisiana Avenue and Northwest Chamber of Commerce Way just before 9:20 a.m. on Jan. 24.
- A two-vehicle accident was reported at the intersection of South Market Boulevard and Southwest Fifth Street just after 4:20 p.m. on Jan. 24.

#### Theft

- Just after 8:35 a.m. on Jan. 25, a caller in the 1700 block of Northwest Louisiana Avenue reported they “witnessed people with a full cart run to their vehicles” and stated they believed the subjects stole items from a nearby business. No arrests were made.
- A third-degree theft reported in the 1700 block of Northwest Louisiana Avenue just after 3:10 p.m. on Jan. 25 is under investigation.
- A vehicle prowl reported at the intersection of Northwest Chehalis Avenue and Northwest Prindle Street at approximately

10:05 p.m. on Jan. 25 is under investigation.

#### Suspicious Circumstances

- At approximately 2:45 p.m. on Jan. 25, a caller reported possibly seeing a catalytic converter sale in the 1700 block of Northwest Louisiana Avenue.
- At 2:45 p.m. on Jan. 25, a caller reported seeing a suspect in a pharmacy drive-thru in the 1600 block of Northwest Louisiana Avenue with an open bottle of beer. The caller said they spoke to the male driver, who reportedly replied “it’s just one no big deal.” No arrests were made.
- Just after 4:20 p.m. on Jan. 25, a caller reported seeing a subject “crawling under vehicles” in the 1900 block of Northwest Louisiana Avenue. The subject reportedly took off when the caller confronted them.

#### LEWIS COUNTY JAIL STATISTICS

As of Wednesday morning, the Lewis County Jail had a total system population of 156 inmates, including 142 in the general population and 14 in the Work Ethic and Restitution Center. Of general population inmates, 120 were reported male and 22 were reported female. All WERC inmates were reported male.

...

*Sirens are compiled by reporter Emily Fitzgerald, who can be reached at [emily@chronline.com](mailto:emily@chronline.com). The Centralia Police Department can be reached at 360-330-7680, the Chehalis Police Department can be reached at 360-748-8605 and the Morton Police Department can be reached at 360-496-6636. If you were a victim of physical or sexual abuse, domestic violence or sexual assault, call Hope Alliance at 360-748-6601 or the Youth Advocacy Center of Lewis County at 360-623-1990.*

### News in Brief

## Woman Shot Twice in Fife While Trying to Get Stolen Car Back From Thief, Police Say

By The News Tribune

Fife police say a woman was shot twice Monday morning while chasing down the person who stole a car from outside her home. The woman is in the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Police said a man and woman were letting their vehicle warm up outside their Fife residence Monday morning when a person got in the vehicle and drove off. Fife Police Department assistant chief Dave Woods said the homeowners were alerted to what was happening and got in another vehicle to chase the thief.

The two followed for about two blocks until they came to an intersection at Celebration Avenue East and Radiance Boulevard East where a confrontation between the people in the two vehicles unfolded.

Woods said the person suspected of stealing the car shot the woman in the back and the side, then fled on foot, leaving the stolen car behind. Police responded about 6:40 a.m. after receiving multiple reports of shots fired in that area.

The gunshot victim was transported to an area hospital.

The intersection where the shooting occurred was closed while police processed evidence. Police are continuing to investigate.

## Ex-Boyfriend Fires Gun at Vehicle in Tumwater Parking Lot, Police Say

By The Olympian

Tumwater police are looking for a 34-year-old man who fired

his gun at a vehicle on Sunday.

About noon, police were dispatched to a parking lot in the 2400 block of 93rd Avenue Southwest after a report of a weapons violation, Lt. Jen Kolb said Tuesday.

After talking to a 34-year-old woman at the scene, they learned that she had agreed to meet her ex-boyfriend to exchange some personal property. When she approached her ex’s vehicle, he pulled out a gun and ordered her to get inside. She then ran back to her vehicle while the ex-boyfriend fired two shots at it.

The woman was not hurt and neither was a 31-year-old man driving the vehicle, but in their haste to get away from the ex-boyfriend, they backed into another vehicle in the parking lot and remained at the scene. The ex-boyfriend, along with a 27-year-old male passenger, drove away.

Police are still looking for the ex-boyfriend, although they have his name and other key details, Kolb said. They have not developed probable cause for charges against the 27-year-old male passenger, describing him as an “involved person.”

## Teen Who Killed Popular Puyallup Market Owner Then His Accomplice Sentenced

By The News Tribune

A teenager convicted of killing the 79-year-old owner of a popular Puyallup corner store during a robbery, then fatally shooting his alleged accomplice on a grassy Commencement Bay beach, faced sentencing Friday in Pierce County Superior Court.

Robbrie Thompson, 16 at the time of the armed robbery and 19 now, was sentenced to 40 years

in prison, below the standard sentencing range. During the hearing, Judge James Orlando said the sentence was below the standard range to avoid handing a juvenile offender what would essentially be a life sentence.

“I believe there are two people inside of Mr. Thompson,” Orlando said in court. “There is one who can pretend the picture of being a concerned young man, somebody who could do well in school, who wants to involve themselves, who wants to apologize, but the bottom line is the only person that Mr. Thompson cares about is Mr. Thompson.”

Defense attorneys had asked that Thompson receive 25 years, the minimum term for aggravated murder committed by people between the ages of 16 and 18.

A Pierce County jury in September found Thompson guilty of all eight charges against him. The charges stemmed from the April 27, 2019 armed robbery at the Handy Corner Store where Soon Ja Nam, who owned and operated it with her husband, was killed, and from the death of 16-year-old Franklin Thuo, who allegedly helped rob the store.

Thuo was found dead on the shore of Chinook Marina two days later with a gunshot wound to the back of the head. Prosecutors said Thompson killed Thuo over a fear that he would talk to authorities about Nam’s death.

Jurors found Thompson guilty of two counts of first-degree aggravated murder, first-degree murder, first-degree robbery, conspiracy to commit robbery, two counts of second-degree assault and unlawful possession of a firearm.

Thompson’s second charge, first-degree murder, was dismissed Friday to prevent the possibility of future double jeopardy, Orlando said.

During the hearing, pros-

ecutors presented the facts of the crimes again, noting the steps Thompson took to avoid detection by police. Deputy prosecutor Brian Wasankari said Thompson turned off his phone before going to Puyallup, donned a mask and rubber gloves in Thuo’s Nissan before the robbery and told people close to him not to talk about what happened over text because he knew the messages could find their way to the eyes of law enforcement.

“This is someone who planned crimes over the course of days, deliberated about them with a confidant, considered alternate courses of action and chose those that resulted in the deaths of two people, an elderly shopkeeper who posed no physical threat, and a 16-year-old boy who wound up face down on the beach,” Wasankari said in court.

In the defense’s response, attorney Paula Olsen argued that Thompson’s age at the time of the crime, his upbringing which included some abuses by his father and his difficulties with mental health exhibited after the killings were factors that supported a shorter sentence.

In Thompson’s address to the court, he apologized to the family’s of the victims, but said that he did not commit the crimes. During his trial in September, Thompson testified that he wasn’t the one who actually shot Nam. In regard to Thuo, he testified that he and others — who he wouldn’t name — brought the teenager to Chinook Marina, and that one of those people actually killed Thuo.

### Death Notices

- **JOSE BENITO CRUZ JR.**, 57, Tenino, died Jan. 17 at home. Arrangements are in the care of Funeral Alternatives of Washington.
- **OLOF A. BACKMAN**, 87, died Jan. 24 in Spokane.

## The Chronicle

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# Opinion

Columnists, Our Views,  
Letters to the Editor

Chad Taylor, *Publisher*  
Coralee Taylor, *CEO*

Eric Schwartz, *Editor-in-Chief*  
Franklin Taylor, *Vice President*

## State Would Benefit From Imagination Library as County Has

On June 26, 2020, The Chronicle Editorial Board shared its support of the newly launched Lewis County participation in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The Chronicle also noted the success of the program through the pandemic was in large part thanks to strong partnerships. In part, the editorial read, “The success and continued growth of the program owes much to the support of the community, but also to the strong



By Chad Taylor

### Publisher’s Note

partnership formed by the Chehalis, Centralia and Twin Cities Rotary clubs and United Way, without which thousands of children wouldn’t be getting free books delivered each month.” That partnership saw a boost in a bipartisan way when state Rep. Peter Abbarno, R-Centralia, and state Rep. Monica Stonier, D-Vancouver, partnered to co-sponsor House Bill 2068, creating the imagination library of Washington program. They filed the bill on Jan. 19, Dolly Parton’s 76th birthday. The legislation recognizes the program and authorizes the Office of the Superintendent of

Public Instruction to select a Washington state-based qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to create and operate the program. Ultimately, the legislation recognizes the program so it can be expanded statewide, and likely managed by the United Way of the Pacific Northwest. Locally, it is managed by the United Way of Lewis County. Putting books into the hands of children under the age of 5 should not be partisan. Strengthening families by encouraging reading together should not be partisan. Preparing our children for kindergarten should not be partisan. And, thanks to Reps. Abbarno and Stonier, it isn’t partisan.

I don’t know Rep. Stonier’s involvement in the program prior to the introduction of HB 2068. But, I appreciate her support and leadership. I do know that Rep. Abbarno and his family have supported and advocated for the Imagination Library and early learning for many years. The fact that he collaborated across the political aisle and took his local passion for this program to the state level tells me a lot about his character. We are thankful. A donation of \$25 to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library provides a free age-appropriate book directly to the child’s home for one year. That means a donation of \$150 can provide a book for a child and family to read together

from birth to five years old. Reading together as a family has proven to result in school readiness and family engagement. Not every piece of legislation will be bipartisan or a happy success story. The fact that two legislators from different sides of the political aisle came together, found common ground, and collaborated on this program gives us all hope. We urge the passage of House Bill 2068. For more information on enrolling or donating to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, go to [www.lewiscountyuw.com/dolly-partons-imagination-library](http://www.lewiscountyuw.com/dolly-partons-imagination-library).  
...  
Chad Taylor is co-owner and publisher of The Chronicle.

### COMMENTARY: I Was Just Thinking ...

## More Memories on Wheels

I recently wrote about some vehicles owned by the Moeller Family when — starting in 1960 — we lived on Curtis Hill Road. In 1969, we moved into town and the type of vehicles we needed changed to reflect that decision. We sold the strange Chevrolet truck that I mentioned in the previous column, a truck that one of our horses used to chew on if we parked too close to the fence. In its place we found a 1968 Ford Galaxie 500 fastback sedan — a hot car and one of only a few that were made.



By Bill Moeller

Then, for a second car, I found an Austin-Healey Sprite sports car in Centralia and couldn’t resist. The car had a nickname of “bug-eyed Sprite” because the headlights were on the hood instead of the fenders. My daughter found it perfect for driving to high school each day. As I eased into my delayed hippie years, I bought an old Oldsmobile ambulance. It really was an ambulance but looked more like a large station wagon and, since those were the happy hippie days, I installed self-tied curtains in the back windows. It had a high speed rear end gear and a Centralia fireman once told me that, on one of his off-duty days, he drove it to a hospital in Seattle in 35 minutes. I think he may have been fudging a little but that’s what I think I remember. At this point, my marriage broke up for a while and Frances thought the Ford Galaxie was more car than she could handle, so she bought a Ford Pinto. I drove the ambulance for another year or so (even made a trip to California in it) but a sensible — and less oil-using — car was eventually needed, so I traded it in as a down payment for a new Ford Pinto of my own. I don’t care what anybody said about that car at the time, I loved mine and I still consider it one of the most sensible cars made for the use it had been designed for. Its only flaw — for some people — was that the gas tank was in the rear of the car and a possible rear end collision could lead to a fire or possible explosion. Maybe — if Ford made an electric Pinto today — they could bring it back again, but I don’t imagine anybody thought to save the molds for the first ones? I, eventually, took a job at a store in Olympia that sold bicycles in the summer and skis in the winter and felt I needed

a slightly faster car to make the drive each day. So I traded it in on a bright red used Chrysler sport coupe. It was prone to develop minor malfunctions but was really sharp looking and much faster than the Pinto when needed to get to work on time. Frances and I reconciled and, somewhere along the line, an ad for a Jaguar Mark Ten sedan for sale in Bremerton caught my eye. It was elegant looking, but temperamental as that breed is known to be. It had once been the personal car of the British Ambassador to Greece — the fitting for his flag was still there on the front of its hood or “bonnet,” as they say where it was made. After tinkering with it more than I wanted to — an occupation frequently encountered by Jaguar owners of that period — I spotted its successor. During a drive on Whidbey Island, we passed a field with a half dozen or so Jaguars in it, but there was also an authentic London taxicab there in the grass with them. I offered to trade our Jaguar for it. The offer was accepted. A London taxicab wasn’t very practical to drive either, but it sure got a lot of attention as we brought it home on I-5 with Frances looking as regal and haughty as she could in the back seat. During the only time it was in a local parade, it developed a flat tire and I discovered that the spare tire was only ornamental. Its wheel wouldn’t even fit onto the axle. It was later traded for a small cabin cruiser boat. I was keeping mostly solvent in those days as a traveling actor — touring the Northwest states as Mark Twain — and needed more dependable transportation, so a 1979 Chevrolet pickup truck right off the showroom floor was next. With a solid canopy over the bed, it held all of my stage props and even held me on nights when I couldn’t find lodging. (At this point, can I slip in a plug for my final performance as Twain. It was in the Wickstrom Theater in Centralia College and was recorded by the broadcasting class and is still available at the Timberland Library. Just ask for “Bill Moeller as Mark Twain.”) That large pickup truck was traded in for a much smaller 1992 used Chevrolet S-10 pickup and — some 24 years later — is still running!

...  
Bill Moeller is a former entertainer, mayor, bookstore owner, city council member, paratrooper and pilot living in Centralia. He can be reached at [bookmaven321@comcast.net](mailto:bookmaven321@comcast.net).



## We Must Foster Environment Where Small Businesses Can Grow

### Commentary

We are only a couple of weeks into 2022 and it is already shaping up to be another challenging year for America’s 5.5 million family businesses dealing with the coronavirus pandemic. Rampant inflation, supply chain bottlenecks and acute worker shortages continue. Family businesses are vital to America. According to the Conway Center for Family Business, they account for two-thirds of our nation’s GDP, just over 60% of U.S. jobs, and 78% of all new jobs created. They’re really resilient and nimble. Family businesses, particularly those which are third or fourth generational, have learned from experience to survive through hard times, says José Liberti, a professor of finance at Northwestern University, Chicago. One of many which have dealt with stressful times for nearly a century is the Moriguchi Family. They own and operate Uwajimaya, a chain of Asian grocery and gift markets, which employs more than 400 people in Seattle, Bellevue, Renton and Beaverton, Oregon. Their family business legacy dates back to 1928 — a year prior to the beginning of the Great Depression. Fujimatsu Moriguchi opened a store in Tacoma which grew out his fishcake sales to Japanese farmers, loggers and fishermen at worksites. At the beginning of World War II, 120,000 Americans of



By Don C. Brunell

Japanese ancestry were sent to relocation camps and forced to relinquish their personal possessions — homes, farms, businesses — and especially their freedom. In 1942, the Moriguchi Family was among 18,000 people placed in Tule Lake Internment Camp, the largest of the 10 War Relocation Authority (WRA) camps. It is a desolate area located 30 miles southeast of Klamath Falls, Oregon, in northern California — hot and dusty in summer, and cold and muddy in winter. Upon their release, the Moriguchi Family moved to Seattle and reestablished their shop in the International District. Over the years, they have been mainstays in the Seattle business community. Last year, to honor their community involvement Tomio Moriguchi, retired CEO, and the family were presented the Seattle-King County First Citizen Award. Like other successful family businesses, incorporating the next generation into the operations is critical. Over time, families that bring the next generation into the business and leverage their abilities have a better chance to succeed. They focus on creating various kinds of value (financial, social, relational and reputational) and have an advantage, said John A. Davis, who leads family enterprise programs at M.I.T.’s Sloan School of Management. Umajimaya’s current CEO is Denise Moriguchi, who received her MBA from Sloan. She is a granddaughter of the founder.

She and her family relocated back to Seattle from the East Coast eight years ago and took over the company’s reins in 2017. “At Uwajimaya, our values are to treat our employees and customers well. That started from my grandfather. I heard if his employees or customers needed help, he was always helping them,” she said. One of the best metrics for the success of family businesses is the level of public trust in them. According to the 2016 Edelman Trust Barometer, more respondents trusted family businesses (66%) than public corporations (52%) and state-owned (46%) enterprises. Researchers Josh Baron, adjunct professor at Columbia Business School, and Rob Lachenauer, found, on average, family businesses last far longer than typical publicly traded companies. “Rather than being obsessed with hitting quarterly earnings targets, as public companies are, family businesses tend to think in terms of generations, which allows them to take actions that put them in better position to endure tough times,” Baron and Lachenauer reported. Fostering an environment where family businesses can continue to grow, adapt and develop their business is important for America. They are our nation’s backbone and treasure.  
...  
Don C. Brunell is a business analyst, writer and columnist. He retired as president of the Association of Washington Business, the state’s oldest and largest business organization, and now lives in Vancouver. He can be contacted at [theBrunells@msn.com](mailto:theBrunells@msn.com).

### Editorial Mission Statement

■ We will strive to be the voice of reason for the peaceful settlement of conflict and contention on key local issues. We will work to be fair at all times and to provide a balance of opinions. We will make our opinion pages available for public discussion of vital issues and events affecting the quality of life in Lewis County and adjoining regions. When necessary, we will be willing to take a tough, definitive stance on a controversial issue.

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■ Please type and email opinions, if possible, and limit letters to 500 words. Letters are typically printed in the order in which they are received. Contributors are limited to publication of one item every two weeks, with exceptions as warranted. Items submitted are subject to editing and will become the property of this newspaper. Poetry is not accepted.

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■ Address letters and commentaries to “Our Readers’ Opinions.” Please sign them and include your full address and daytime telephone number for verification and any questions. Send them to 321 N. Pearl, Centralia, WA 98531. E-mail letters can be sent to [letters@chronline.com](mailto:letters@chronline.com).

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### Editorials

■ Editor-in-Chief Eric Schwartz can be reached by email at [eschwartz@chronline.com](mailto:eschwartz@chronline.com).



# An Uphill Battle, Brent Hennrich Continues Democratic Efforts to Flip Washington's 3rd Congressional District

By Eric Rosane

ericr@chronline.com

Public health is something Brent Hennrich has been around his whole life.

"My mother was a public health nurse, public health administrator. (She) was very influential in creating the Oregon Health Plan. She then created a private nonprofit HMO to service the Oregon Health Plan," he said.

"It didn't matter the holiday — they were still talking work and talking about the next domino they needed to get pushed over to expand people's access to health care ... It was just one of those small fires that my mom lit that was always just festering there."

It would make sense then that Hennrich — the son of an influential Multnomah County Health Department mother and aviation mechanic father — would go on to have a career in movie theaters.

But some things tend to come full circle.

Now a stay-at-home father, Hennrich, 42, of Vancouver, is the latest Democrat attempting to flip Washington's 3rd Congressional District after more than a decade of Republican control. Health being a common theme in his life, his campaign logo features a Band-Aid as well as a promise to "heal Washington."

Though early in the race, Hennrich is already among 11 total candidates vying for the seat — including incumbent U.S. Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler, R-Battle Ground, who's competing for her seventh term. Still, Hennrich appears to be primely situated to be the leading Democrat going into August's jungle primary, which will also feature the likes of Republicans Joe Kent and Heidi St. John.

Hennrich has so far courted \$45,366 in donations since fundraising began for him last spring. That number is relatively small compared to the three leading Republicans, which includes Herrera Beutler with more than \$1.7 million and Trump-endorsed Kent with nearly \$1.1 million.

Talk of a Republican red wave has also run rampant nationally, with U.S. voters possibly dissatisfied with the Biden Administration's progress on COVID-19 and the economy, and as congressional Democrats struggle with a slim majority in the House and Senate.

Still, Democrats will no doubt attempt to court vocal excitement to make headway going into the 2024 presidential election.

"He says the reason why he's doing this is because he sees the need that the people aren't being represented," Lewis County Democrats Chair Carol Brock said of Hennrich. "He knows there's a lot of problems. He knows there's a lot of divisiveness. He knows that our health



Brent Hennrich speaks to a Chronicle reporter during an interview on Zoom last week.

care is in something of a crisis."

"He sees that just about everything to keep our society and democracy intact needs healing of some degree, and with that he's willing to help do that. He's a great guy. He takes the time and tries to educate himself ... He doesn't say he knows it all," she continued.

In an interview with The Chronicle last week, Hennrich laid out his background and priorities if elected to the seat. He said he backs proposed legislation on voting rights and infrastructure, including the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and Biden's Build Back Better Act, which was derailed when Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin, of West Virginia, said he would not support it.

When asked about a central issue he's running on, Hennrich said he's running largely on health care — specifically, the discussion around how "everything is health care."

"As far as addressing the climate, it's a matter of health care. Good paying jobs are a step toward people being able to have health care. It's being able to raise the threshold to get on Medicaid, it's reducing the age to get on Medicare — and keep chipping away to work toward a universal health care system that everyone has access to," he said.

Hennrich — a father of three children — notes that he's for the free child care legislation in Build Back Better and is "100% pro choice."

His views on women's reproductive rights stem from experiences he and his wife had, according to his campaign website.

Back in 2012, he and his wife Amber, 20 weeks pregnant, were expecting their second child when she suffered a placental abruption, effectively killing the

child.

The couple was faced with a daunting decision — they could go through with the labor and pray Amber would come out fine, or they could induce labor with Pitocin to save Amber and be able to hold their daughter during her final hours.

"The choice was clear. I had to save my wife and we could hold our daughter while she faded," Hennrich says on his campaign's website. "No doctor, no nurse, no physician's assistant should hold sway over judgment of care at any point. That is why all potential avenues of reproductive care must be accessible and offered at all times to every patient, in any and all situations."

Hennrich has lived in Southwest Washington since 2005, when he and his wife bought a home in Vancouver. The two later married in 2009.

Born in 1979, Hennrich grew up in a southeast neighborhood in Portland, Oregon, where his mother still lives today. His neighborhood hasn't changed much, he said. His father also worked as a small business owner, he said, and was at times a stay-at-home dad similar to himself today.

Before becoming a stay-at-home dad, Hennrich previously worked as a project manager for Dolby Cinema. Over the years, he tallied more than 150,000 miles flying 220 days annually around the world installing movie theaters. A relative newcomer to politics, he holds no previous public office experience, though has supported Democrats in Oregon.

Having grown up in the Portland metro area, Hennrich is aware of the continued issues surrounding the Interstate 5 bridge spanning the two states. He believes replacement of the

bridge falls under the purview of the federal government.

"We need to push and really lean on the administration to say 'This is Interstate 5. It connects from Canada to Mexico. It is the route, north to south, on the west coast. And if this bridge goes into the river in a seismic event, what does that do for being able to connect those two states and being able to move goods up and down the west coast?'" he said.

Hennrich, who just earlier this month held a kick-off over Zoom, said his campaign will largely be driven through online interaction, noting that he doesn't plan to buck the trend of Democratic candidates hosting socially-distanced gatherings. The few in-person events he has been to have been small in scale, he said.

That may prove challenging in an effort to court moderates, who will have a plethora of candidates to choose from come August.

"Brent is a novice politician. He's got a big heart and he's in the right place. This is a major step for someone who has not been involved in politics from what you do in front of your computer," said Marsha Manning, a Clark County Democrat who was a former executive committee member for the Washington State Democrats between 2010 and 2016.

Hennrich said he so far has received "public support" from former Vancouver, Washington Mayor Royce Pollard; Dr. Vin Gupta, an outspoken voice on the COVID-19 pandemic; and even Carolyn Long, the Vancouver Democrat who twice previously challenged Herrera Beutler in the general election.

Long — who didn't return an email request this week to speak for this story — has even been advising Hennrich's campaign,

though he was adamant about emphasizing that she has not yet given an endorsement for any candidate in the race.

"She knows she casts a big shadow," he said.

Manning said Long courted a great deal of support and excitement when she challenged Herrera Beutler in 2018 and 2020. Finding that excitement again may prove tricky.

"Carolyn was a name on our minds for a long time. So, when she ran, everyone involved in Clark County politics were very supportive," Manning said.

The two Democrats as candidates appear completely different, Manning said. Long is something of a stalwart constitutionalist Democrat, who could "see through laws," she said, while Hennrich embraces a more warm, engaging, "average person" persona.

A big focus of this year's midterm will be the response to Herrera Beutler's vote to impeach former President Donald Trump for his role in inciting a mob during the Jan. 6 insurrection.

Could Herrera Beutler court more moderate Democrats this August solely for her impeachment vote? It's something Daily News columnist Andre Stankowky suggested Democrats consider in this upcoming election in a column Wednesday.

Manning, a Texas native, said she wouldn't personally vote for Herrera Beutler, but that doesn't mean others won't. In the end, she feels Herrera Beutler's vote to impeach won't impact her ability to get into the general election.

"It was probably good for her to do that, although for me it doesn't really represent how she thinks or how she votes," she said.

Filing week for candidates in Washington state opens May 16.

## News in Brief

### Lewis County Reports 757 New COVID Cases, 7 Deaths, 27 Hospitalizations; Has Third-Highest Hospitalization Rate in State

By The Chronicle staff

The number of reported COVID-19 cases in Lewis County dropped 32% from the previous week Jan. 14-20 as about 757 new COVID-19 cases were reported to Lewis County Public Health & Social Services. Seven new deaths and 27 new hospitalizations were reported, both also decreases in activity from the previous week.

According to Public Health's weekly COVID-19 report, published Wednesday, 10 active outbreaks at congregate care centers were also reported. Lewis County is currently reporting a case rate of 2,325.5 new cases per 100,000 population over the past two weeks, an increase from the week prior.

Public Health Director JP Anderson during a Wednesday morning meeting with county commissioners said this week's data shows a "significant decrease" from the week before.

"We continue to hope that we're seeing a decrease that is going to continue, and I do hope that it goes down as quickly as it came up. Hopefully, that's what we see next week," he said.

Roughly 1,346 people were tested at the Lewis County Mall Discovery Health testing center the week of Jan. 14-20, according to the report, with about 5,662 tests conducted at the site since it opened back in November.

Lewis County as of Wednesday morning had the third-highest hospitalization rate due to COVID-19 in Washington state, reporting a seven-day hospitalization rate of 48.6 per 100,000 population.

Since the start of the pandemic about 24 months ago, 14,680 cases and 195 deaths have been reported in the county.

A total of 70 outbreaks have also been reported so far at congregate care settings.

### Southwestern Idaho Back in Crisis Standards While Rest of the State Remains in 'Fragile' Situation

By The Spokesman-Review

Omicron is hitting Idaho's health care system hard, as staff call out sick with exposures, blood supply runs low and the number of Idahoans testing positive outpaces health districts' ability to report cases.

On Monday, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Director Dave Jeppesen declared crisis standards of care in the three southwestern health districts, including Boise and the Treasure Valley. That means certain types of care may be rationed. He said other districts and health systems are operating in contingency standards of care, and "on the edge" of crisis standards.

"The situation for the rest of the state remains fragile," Jeppesen told reporters Tuesday. "If current trends continue, I expect

crisis standards of care will be activated in different parts of the state."

The situation in Idaho mirrors what's happening in Eastern Washington, with explosive case counts and hospitals filling faster than before due to staffing shortages, and in some cases, not enough space. To make things even more tenuous, blood supply shortages have hospitals worried about the potential for rationing it in the future.

"Rationing hasn't happened yet, but we're fearful it will," Dr. Steven Nemerson, chief clinical officer for Saint Alphonsus Health System, told reporters on Tuesday.

The vast majority of hospitalized COVID patients in Idaho are unvaccinated. In the Saint Alphonsus Health System, 80% of COVID patients hospitalized are unvaccinated; 10% are partially vaccinated; and 10% are vaccinated and boosted, Nemerson said.

The number of Idahoans testing positive has overwhelmed state lab and health district capacity, and the number of outstanding tests has grown to

39,000 Jeppesen said.

The Department of Health and Welfare estimated that the actual case rate is much higher than what is being reported due to the backlog. The average positivity rate in Idaho is around 34%, but in some regions, it is upward of 60%, meaning well over half of all people getting tested end up positive.

Hospital capacity in the Inland Northwest continues to be stretched as Eastern Washington contends with its omicron surge. Hospitalizations in Spokane County continue to increase as well.

Idaho declaring crisis standards of care again could impact Washington hospitals, Taya Briley, executive vice president at the Washington State Hospital Association, told reporters.

Hospitals like Pullman Regional Medical Center that sit on the state line are already taking some patients from Idaho. Pullman Regional is getting three to five calls per day from facilities in Idaho and Washington asking to transfer patients, said Jeanne Eylar, chief nursing officer at Pullman regional.



# Parking at the New United Learning Center Likely Won't Be a Problem, According to Centralia Official

*ericr@chronline.com*

Other stalls can be found conveniently nearby, too, he said.



A conceptual rendering of the United Learning Center, which will be built on an empty lot at the intersection of North Pearl and Maple streets in Centralia.

**"Concerns about parking means that our downtown is vibrant. That people are coming here and utilizing it, and that's a wonderful sign."**

**Kelly Smith Johnston**  
*mayor*

customer service center, or the number of stalls that we could strike at the outdoor pool. It does not also count the number of stalls of the people who can park

The hope is that families and programs will utilize a nearby alleyway for that drop off, which Pierson said would allow for good “stacking” of vehicles during peak dropoff and pickup times. That would take families off the higher-congested Pearl

"Concerns about parking means that our downtown is vibrant. That people are coming here and utilizing it, and that's a wonderful sign," Smith Johnston said.

## News in Brief

# Boeing Reports Net Loss in 2021 as Cost of 787 Delivery Halt Soars to \$5.5 Billion

*By The Seattle Times*

Boeing said most of those costs will be incurred over the next two years, with \$285 million recorded in the fourth quarter. That's up from Boeing's estimate in the fall that fixing the 787 manufacturing flaws would add about \$1 billion in abnormal manufacturing costs.

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# Annual 'sQuatch Fest' Returns in Cowlitz County

By The Daily News

Bigfoot enthusiasts will get two days to celebrate the mythical ape-like creature at the annual sQuatch Fest set to take place Jan. 28 and 29 at the Cowlitz County Event Center, 1900 Seventh Ave., Longview.

"sQuatch Fest will be two days filled with the latest information from ongoing research and exploration and an opportunity to meet our world-famous speakers," according to the Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce.

Speakers including David Paulides, author Dr. Jeff Meldrum, Ron Morehead, Shane Corson and Cliff Barackman will discuss the elusive beast.

The event also features food and themed merchandise vendors; a Kids Cave with crafts and entertainment, including games, prizes and projects to build and take home; and a Brew Mountain Beer festival featuring local breweries and a winery.



Longview Kelso Chamber of Commerce

Author David Paulides talks to a full house at a previous sQuatch Fest.

Paulides is a writer primarily known for his "Missing 411" series of books documenting the mysterious disappearance of people in national parks and

other areas.

Meldrum is a professor of anatomy and anthropology at Idaho State University. His special emphasis is on the study

of bipedalism, the evolution of walking on two legs.

Morehead is known for his worldwide research into the Bigfoot/Sasquatch phenomenon.

Corson is an active researcher who is a member of the Olympic Project, an association of dedicated researchers, investigators, biologists and trackers committed to documenting the existence of Sasquatch.

Barackman is widely known as the co-host of Animal Planet's hit show "Finding Bigfoot" and he also is the founder and curator of the North American Bigfoot Center.

The festival takes place from 4 to 8 p.m. Jan. 28, and from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Cowlitz County Event Center, 1900 Seventh Ave., Longview. The Kids Cave is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 29.

The cost is \$25 per person for adults and \$5 per person for children. Tickets are available online at <https://www.kelsolongview-chamberorg.ticketleap.com/squatch-fest-2022/>.

For details, visit facebook.com/squatchfestklcc; or call the Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce at 360-423-8400.

## News in Brief

### State Fines Developer \$72,000 for Water Quality Violations at Lacey Townhomes Site

By The Olympian

A Lacey development that initially drew the ire of neighbors has now crossed the line with the state.

The state Department of Ecology announced Tuesday that it has fined Milestone Companies \$72,000 for multiple water quality violations during a year of construction at the Woodbrook Townhomes project in Lacey.

The 124-unit project is on 37th Avenue Southeast, west of College Street Southeast.

Brandon Smith, a managing member of the east Pierce County-based Milestone, declined to comment Tuesday. Milestone has 30 days to appeal the fine to the state Pollution Control Hearings Board, according to Ecology.

State officials say that on at least 12 occasions between September 2020 and October 2021 polluted stormwater was discharged from the development site, despite warnings and technical assistance provided by Ecology and the City of Lacey.

In addition, the company failed to report the violations, or follow best management practices required under its construction stormwater permit, according to the state.

The polluted stormwater included some that was mixed with paint and concrete. Other violations included failing to notify Ecology of high sediment discharges, unprotected inlets, unmaintained silt fences, destabilized soils and discharge of unpermitted septic waste to groundwater.

Lacey's approval of the townhomes in 2019 was appealed by the nearby Schilter Farm homeowners association because of concerns about traffic impacts, but after the Lacey hearings examiner ruled against them, the HOA and the developer worked out their own agreement, The Olympian reported.

### Western Washington Omicron Cases Decline as 'Second Chapter' of Surge Gains Steam in Eastern Washington

By The Seattle Times

Cases of the coronavirus are on the decline in the Seattle metro area, but hospital leaders warned Tuesday that the omicron variant is gaining steam in Eastern Washington and could ravage already stressed health care facilities.

For the first time during the pandemic, the Washington Medical Coordination Center activated its "guaranteed-acceptance rotation protocol," which goes into effect when all hospitals are "full to the point of needing to refuse patients" and need help finding beds, Taya Briley,

vice president of the Washington State Hospital Association, said in a news briefing. It was active for several days last week.

Already some Washington hospitals have received patient transfer requests from health facilities in Idaho.

In King County, data shows the rise in omicron infections peaked on Jan. 10 with 7,563 daily cases. Since then, the county has charted a significant decline in infections, dropping at least 43% in the past week.

Hospitalizations in King County were also showing signs of slowing or even plateauing, county health officer Dr. Jeff Duchin said in a Tuesday statement.

Still, coronavirus levels remain high with the county av-

eraging about 3,100 daily cases and about 60 daily hospitalizations — figures far higher than those during past waves of the pandemic, he said. And the state isn't yet in the clear.

"We are bracing ourselves for the second chapter of the omicron surge as it hits Eastern Washington and Idaho," Briley said. Omicron first surged in larger metro areas, including Seattle.

Briley added that Washington saw an average of 2,286 COVID hospitalizations within the past week, compared to about 2,148 the prior week — about a 6% increase.

At this point in the pandemic, Briley said the pattern is a "well-worn trend."

"The number of COVID cases

goes up, then the number of hospitalizations goes up, number of folks on ventilators goes up, then unfortunately we see more deaths," she said. Last week in particular, she said, was an "extremely rough week" for some hospitalized patients.

Two patients were able to receive urgent care as a result of the guaranteed-acceptance rotation protocol, which was in effect for three days before capacity eased, she added. The protocol, unique to Washington state, was designed by hospitals last fall and is used to help the state's sickest patients find hospital beds.

In Eastern Washington, some hospitals are again beginning to receive requests from Idaho health care facilities looking

for open beds, said Jeannie Eylar, chief nursing officer at Pullman Regional Hospital, a 25-bed critical-access facility in Eastern Washington.

Delayed care issues have hit Pullman Regional Hospital particularly hard, Eylar said during the Tuesday news briefing, referencing one patient whose bowel cancer surgery had been continuously pushed back.

"We're trying to balance getting these people the surgeries they've been waiting for for months and taking care of the emergency patients who come into the doors, and then trying to be good neighbors" to Idaho hospitals, some of which declared crisis standards of care Monday, she said.

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# New Tax to Support Low-Income Housing in Thurston County

By **Martín Bilbao**  
*The Olympian*

Most Thurston County residents will soon have to start paying a new sales tax to support low-income housing, following a 2-1 vote by the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday.

The board approved a 0.1% sales tax increase to create a countywide home fund. The new ordinance includes a tax credit for the cities of Olympia and Tenino, both of which already have similar taxes, effectively excluding them.

With the sales tax, the county expects to generate about \$4.5 million to \$5 million in revenue per year. The funding will be combined with about \$2.3 million in revenue the city of Olympia already generates each year with its own home fund tax.

Funds will be administered by the county commission, but the Regional Housing Council, an advisory committee, will make funding recommendations.

In a news release, Commission Chair Carolina Mejia said she is excited to use the funds to address a "real need" in Thurston County.

"This tax is going to help a lot of the most vulnerable people in our community, including many children, and I know the county and the (Regional Housing Council) are ready to get moving on projects to address

**"I have heard from my constituents that they don't think throwing money at the problem is going to be the solution. Any time we deny voters the right to vote on an issue, we continue to slip further away from democracy."**

**Gary Edwards**  
*Thurston County commissioner*

the growing need," Mejia said.

The funds will support the creation of affordable housing for county residents with income that is at or below 60% of the county median income, according to the ordinance.

Under state law, at least 60% of a home fund must be used to build or purchase affordable housing and mental and behavioral health-related facilities. This includes the cost of acquiring land for these purposes and operations and maintenance costs.

Olympia residents approved a citywide home fund tax in 2018. Since then, housing advocates and city officials have called for a county-wide home fund to address the regional issues of homelessness and affordable housing.

The Regional Housing Council endorsed a countywide

levy in a 3-0 vote on July 28, prompting the board of county commissioners to consider the tax.

The council's recommendation came a year after the passage of House Bill 1590, which allowed city councils and county commissions to create a housing levy without voter approval.

Several dozens of community members shared their support for the county-wide tax in advance of or during a Nov. 23 public hearing.

On Jan. 11, the city of Tenino approved its own home fund tax through a city council vote.

With its final vote on Tuesday, the board of county commissioners ultimately decided to enact the levy via councilmanic action rather than pursuing a public vote.

Commissioner Gary Edwards voted against the levy, cit-

ing his dissatisfaction with the county's response to homelessness and a desire to let the public decide the matter.

"I have heard from my constituents that they don't think throwing money at the problem is going to be the solution," Edwards said. "Any time we deny voters the right to vote on an issue, we continue to slip further away from democracy."

Edwards then reiterated his desire to force those experiencing homelessness into mental health and drug addiction treatment.

"There is no requirement that we have accountability," Edwards said. "There's going to be continued deviant behavior on the part of many because of that."

Commissioner Tye Menser called the vote one of the most significant of his time serving on the board. He likened the tax to an investment that will save the community money in the long run, particularly costs associated with law enforcement, jailing, hospitals and emergency services.

"My wife likes to say you got to spend money to save money," Menser said. "I think that's particularly true when you talk about permanent supportive housing."

Menser said he supported the home fund tax because it would go a long way toward creating ongoing regional support for affordable housing and men-

tal health treatment.

"What you're getting for this is not just a discrete county program," Menser said. "We have built a regional collaborative framework ... in order to create efficient, high-impact projects with good oversight of the money being collected here."

The county has been using American Rescue Plan funds for housing programs, but more funding will be needed to provide continued support, Menser and Mejia said.

Mejia reflected on the long path to creating the home fund.

"There were a lot of different opinions at first, but then we all came together and it's really formidable," Mejia said. "Looking at the other counties' resolutions and looking at ours, I'm really proud of how we've been able to work with our partners in this because it really is a regional issue."

A newly created Community Advisory Subcommittee to the Regional Housing Council will provide recommendations to its parent council, per the ordinance.

Additionally, the ordinance calls for the county to create an interlocal agreement with the city of Olympia to create a framework for combining its home fund with the countywide fund.

The ordinance will take effect five days after the county publishes a notice in The Olympian.

## Thurston County Confirms 10 Deaths, Record Number of COVID-19 Cases Over Past Week

By **Martín Bilbao**  
*The Olympian*

Thurston County has confirmed 10 deaths due to COVID-19 and a record 3,899 cases from Jan. 17-23.

Eight men died due to COVID-19: one in his 30s, one in his 40s, one in his 50s, three in their 70s and two in their 90s. Two women also died: one in her 70s and one in her 90s.

There have been 37,823 confirmed COVID cases and 269 deaths in the county since the beginning of the pandemic, according to Public Health and Social Services. PHSS considered 30,351 cases recovered or recovering on Monday — meaning 7,472 cases remained active.

From Jan. 10-16, the county reported 3,573 cases and one death. The previous record weekly case count was 3,709 from Jan. 3-9.

Thurston County's disease transmission rate rose to record heights over the past two weeks, continuing a trend that started in early December. The records come after the winter holidays when the more transmissible omicron variant solidified its dominance.

State data show the county saw 2,714.8 cases per 100,000 people from Dec. 29 to Jan. 11. During the first two weeks of December, the county had a case rate of 284.9.

The previous record high case rate in the county was 523 from Aug. 19 to Sept. 1, the data show.

### Outbreaks Rise

The county reports it's responding to 56 ongoing outbreaks at congregate care settings, 15 more than the previous week. As of Monday, there have been 167 such outbreaks since the beginning of the pandemic.

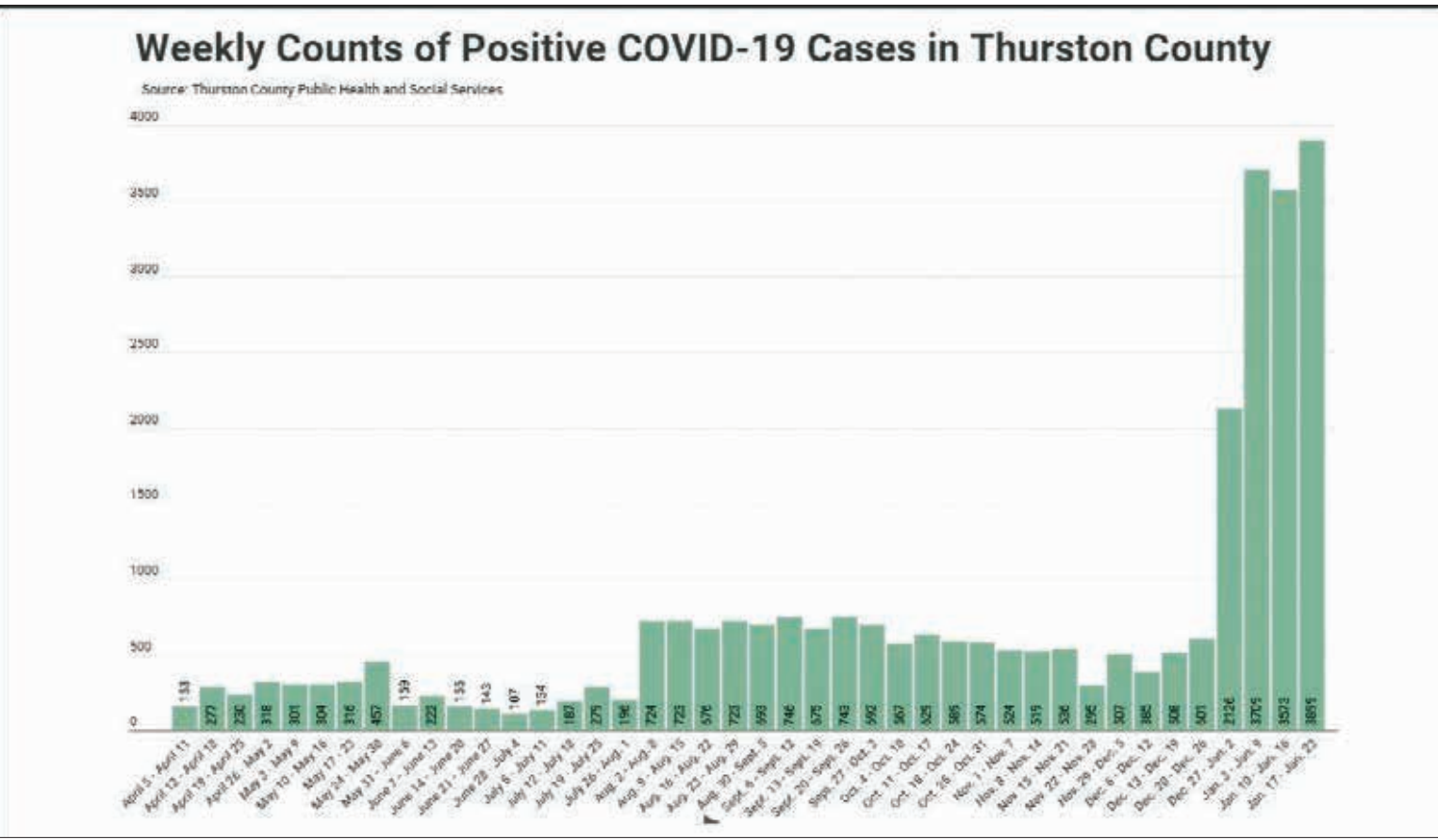
In school settings, updated PHSS data indicates there were four closures involving 12 cases from Jan. 3-9 and 15 closures involving 63 cases from Jan. 10-16.

North Thurston Public Schools saw one closure involving three cases from Jan. 3-9 and eight closures involving 34 cases the next week.

From Jan. 3-9, Rainier School District had one closure involving three cases. There were two closures among private schools involving six cases.

Rochester School District saw one closure at a school setting due to five cases and one closure at an extracurricular setting due to seven cases from Jan. 10-16.

Over the same week, Tenino



School District saw two closures in school settings resulting from six cases and two closures in extracurricular settings resulting from eight cases.

Meanwhile, Tumwater School District had one closure involving three cases.

PHSS did not report any outbreaks at school settings from Jan. 17-23 on Monday.

Over the 2021-2022 school year, PHSS has recorded 131 outbreaks and 777 cases in school settings.

### Hospitalizations Also Rise

Hospitalizations have been rising since mid-December. The county confirmed 13 hospitalizations over the past week.

There were 32.6 hospitalizations per 100,000 people between Jan. 5-11, according to state data. The county's previous record was 19.9 between Aug. 20-26 during the delta variant wave.

Since the start of the pandemic, the data show 1,781 people with COVID-19 have been hospitalized at some point.

As of Sunday, about 88% of ICU beds were occupied over a seven-day period in the West region, which includes Thurston County and some of its neighbors. The data show 47.3% of ICU beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients.

Hospitals in the region were 90.8% full over a seven-day period as of Sunday, per the data, while COVID-19 patients accounted for 34.7%.

From February to December 2021, state data show 67.1% of

**"Hospitals in the region were 90.8% full over a seven-day period as of Sunday, per the data, while COVID-19 patients accounted for 34.7%."**

recorded cases (12,261) in Thurston County were in unvaccinated individuals. Meanwhile, 28.4% of cases (5,188) were in fully vaccinated individuals, per state data.

Across the state, those who were unvaccinated accounted for 75.2% (3,710) of all 12 and older COVID-19 deaths from Feb. 1 to Dec. 21, 2021. Those partially vaccinated made up 5.2% (258) of deaths and those fully vaccinated made up 19.6 % (968) of deaths, the data show.

PHSS does not share the vaccination status of those who die or are hospitalized due to COVID-19 in Thurston County because they do not have access to that data, a county spokesperson previously said.

### Vaccinations and Tests

State data show 61.3% of all Thurston residents were fully vaccinated as of Saturday, and 67.5% had initiated vaccinations.

Meanwhile, the data show 78.6% of Thurston County residents 12 and older have initiated vaccinations and 71.3% had been fully vaccinated.

As of Jan. 18, 78.9% of the state population 5 and older had

received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and 71.6% had been fully vaccinated. This percentage includes aggregate data from the Department of Defense and Veteran Affairs, both of which are not entirely reflected in the state's data dashboard.

The state reports 89,790 people (about 30%) in Thurston County have received a booster dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Across the state, over 2.3 million people have gotten a booster.

Thurston County PHSS continues to offer free vaccination events, including for booster shots. Events are listed on their coronavirus vaccine information website.

Eligible residents can also find appointments at local providers such as pharmacies by visiting the state's Vaccine Locator website.

Those who have difficulty scheduling appointments online can call the Department of Health vaccine hotline at 888-856-5816 or the Thurston County Public Health and Social Services line at 360-867-2610. Information for Spanish speakers is available at these numbers

as well.

There have been no updates to COVID-19 testing data since Sept. 15. The DOH does not expect to restart its reporting of testing data until about Feb. 28, but the release of this data has been repeatedly delayed.

### In the Region

Pierce County had confirmed 140,418 total COVID-19 cases with 1,016 deaths as of Jan. 18. Pierce County has a population of about 927,000.

Grays Harbor County has seen a total of 13,329 confirmed and probable cases, with 164 deaths as of Jan. 23, according to state data. Grays Harbor County has a population of about 75,000.

Mason County has reported 8,331 confirmed cases with 102 deaths as of Jan. 24. Mason County has a population of about 69,000.

### In the State, Nation and World

The state of Washington had reported over 1.2 million COVID-19 cases and 10,206 deaths since the beginning of the pandemic.

In the U.S., about 71.6 million COVID-19 cases had been reported as of Monday with over 868,400 deaths, according to Johns Hopkins University data. The U.S. population is about 330 million.

Globally, more than 354.3 million people had contracted the virus and over 5.6 million people had died of COVID-19 as of Monday, the data show.



# Washington State Supreme Court to Hear Case Arguing Fare Enforcement Is Unconstitutional

By David Kroman

The Seattle Times

On March 18, 2018, three Snohomish County sheriff's deputies boarded a bus in Everett and asked Zachery Meredith to prove he'd paid for his ride. That act of fare enforcement violated his civil rights under the state constitution, Meredith's lawyer argues.

After being rejected by lower courts, the argument has now found its way to the Washington state Supreme Court, where the justices will weigh whether fare enforcement represents an unconstitutional incursion into passengers' right to privacy.

If Meredith's case is successful, transit agencies could be stripped of the authority, granted by the state, to pace the aisles of trains and buses, querying riders for evidence they'd tapped their ORCA cards or bought a ticket. The implications for Sound Transit, King County Metro's RapidRide routes, Snohomish County's Community Transit and other agencies that employ fare enforcement officers are significant.

"There are statewide ramifications for transit in Washington state that will flow from this case," said Nathan Sugg, a deputy prosecuting attorney with the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office who's representing the state in the case.

But for Tobin Klusty, attorney for Meredith, a rejection of the case — which is being supported by the ACLU of Washington, King County Department of Public Defense and the Washington Defender Association — would signal an endorsement of unlawful search and seizures by law enforcement officers. The government "could conduct investigations without any reasonable suspicion or any suspicion of unlawful activities simply because they want to make sure the law's being enforced," he said.

## Proof of Payment

The question at the center of the case is not whether it's legal to charge for public transit but whether it's legal to ask for proof of payment.

Meredith was riding on Community Transit's Swift bus line between Everett Station and the Aurora Village Transit Center in Shoreline. The Swift bus is a form of rapid transit in which passengers pay before boarding and enter and leave through any door to expedite stops.

When the three officers got on the bus and asked for payment, Meredith initially told them he had it, according to court documents. But, after patting his pockets, he did not have an ORCA card or receipt. The officers ordered him to exit and followed him off the bus. Under questioning, Meredith gave the officers a fake name. When the name did not appear in any databases, police identified Meredith using a fingerprint device and found he had outstanding warrants. The officers arrested him on suspicion of making false statements.

In district court in Everett, Klusty sought to have Meredith's



Jared Wenzelburger / jared@chronline.com

The Washington state Supreme Court Temple of Justice is pictured in Olympia in early January.

statement to officers and the evidence collected from the fingerprint device suppressed, arguing that the act of officers asking for proof of payment constituted an unlawful seizure of Meredith. The court denied the motion and a jury sided against Meredith. The conviction was upheld in Superior Court.

Meredith then brought his case to the Division I Court of Appeals. The court also rejected the argument, saying that, by choosing to board the bus, Meredith had consented to the search.

Klusty then petitioned the Supreme Court to take the case. Oral arguments are scheduled for Feb. 17.

## Legal Arguments

Meredith's case relies on whether fare enforcement officers asking for proof of payment constitutes a warrantless seizure or restraint. Klusty argues yes because, in that moment, Meredith had no choice but to engage with the officers.

"No reasonable person in Mr. Meredith's position would have believed that he could terminate the encounter or decline to answer since doing so would have made him liable for an infraction under" the state statute authorizing fare enforcement, Klusty wrote in his petition.

The court of appeals said Meredith had consented to the officers' questioning by boarding the bus in the first place, but Klusty disagrees.

"The statutes do not warn passengers that law enforcement may make requests, and effectively seize them, without any reason to believe they did not have proof of fare," he wrote.

The argument is similar to one made in Maryland last year. The state's highest court there sided with the train passenger, concluding his Fourth Amendment right against a suspicionless search and seizure had been violated when the agency conducted a "fare sweep."

In an interview, Klusty compared the interaction to unlawful traffic stops, noting that officers must have reasonable suspicion to pull someone over. In turn,

whether fare enforcement officers are authorized to query passengers indiscriminately has "pretty broad implications in what the government can do in invading an individual's private affairs," he said.

Magda Baker, an attorney with the Washington Defender Association, said this case is simply asking the court to affirm the status quo that limits search and seizures. Arguing that someone consents to questioning by using a public service disproportionately targets people of color and low-income communities, she said.

"The government can't exchange a good for giving up a constitutional right," she said.

In its response to Klusty's petition, the state says Meredith had no reasonable right to privacy as a passenger. Anyone could have observed him boarding and riding the bus and no personal information is divulged in providing proof of payment. Officers engaging with individuals in public and asking for identification does not qualify as a seizure, the state argued.

"If asking a person for identification ... in a public place is not a seizure under the constitution, then certainly asking for proof of fare compliance cannot be a seizure," the state argues.

Sugg, with the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office, who recently took over the case on behalf of the state, said he's confident the Supreme Court will follow the lead of lower courts. "Every court has found that this was not an unconstitutional seizure, simply asking someone for their fare," he said in an interview. "The statutes that give the authority to do that are straightforward and clear."

## Disproportionate Enforcement

Scrutiny of fares and their enforcement has grown in recent years, even before recent protests against police misconduct. A 2018 audit of King County Metro's RapidRide lines found enforcement was disproportionately landing on homeless riders and that those citations were mostly going unpaid. Data from

budgets. Sound Transit calculates it will take in \$8.3 billion in fare revenue through 2046. "If we have a gap that fare is not covering then it's going to have to come from somewhere else," Cunningham said.

Community Transit in Snohomish County aims to cover 20% of its operating expenses through fare revenue, said spokesperson Monica Spain, although 2020 was well below that because of the pandemic. The agency conducts fare enforcement on its two Swift rapid transit lines, as well as on nonrapid lines, using a mix of unarmed "ambassadors" and police officers contracted through the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office. Not paying the fare can result in a \$124 fine.

Fares make up around 10% of King County Metro's budget. Al Sanders, spokesperson for Metro, said the agency knows that "because mobility is a human right, the ability to pay a fare cannot be a barrier to using transit." Metro has worked to provide subsidized rates for youth and seniors as well as those with lower incomes and disabilities. The county agency is currently reexamining fare-enforcement practices. However, going fare-free would necessitate finding new revenue sources or reducing service, Sanders said.

Spokespeople for Sound Transit, Community Transit and King County Metro all declined to comment on the pending legal case.

Part of Sugg's argument in court is that finding fare enforcement to be unconstitutional would place enormous burden on transit agencies. They'd be left with three options, he said: function on a true honor system, with no enforcement; build infrastructure such as turnstiles; or make the entire system free to ride.

Klusty acknowledged that a ruling in his client's favor would necessitate big changes for some agencies. But, he said, "my biggest concern is just ensuring that people's constitutional rights are protected."

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## Deputies Looking for Man, Woman After Sunday Stabbing Near Pattison Lake in Thurston County

By The Olympian

The Thurston County Sheriff's Office is looking for two people, believed to be adults, who were involved in an altercation near Pattison Lake that resulted in a stabbing on Sunday.

A 16-year-old boy suffered a small stab wound to his stomach and a cut to his arm, Sgt. Chris Packard said Tuesday.

About 5:20 p.m. Sunday, deputies were dispatched to the 7300 block of Fair Oaks Road Southeast after a report of a stabbing.

They arrived to find the

16-year-old with a 17-year-old girl. They had been throwing rocks into the lake when they were approached by a man and woman who were upset because they were fishing in the lake, Packard said.

The woman allegedly attacked the girl, then the boy tried to intervene. That's when the man stabbed him in the stomach and cut his arm, Packard said.

The sheriff's office tried to track the two with a K-9, but they apparently left the area in a vehicle, he said.

The man is described as slen-

der and was last seen wearing jeans, a baseball cap and a sweatshirt with a jersey over it. He also was carrying a tackle box. The woman had dark brown hair and was last seen wearing tight-fitting jeans.

If found, the man faces a possible charge of second-degree assault, a felony. For attacking the girl, the woman faces a possible charge of fourth-degree assault, a gross misdemeanor.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the non-emergency dispatch line at 360-704-2740.



# Having a Fake COVID Vaccine Card Could Become a Crime in Washington

By Laurel Demkovich

The Spokesman-Review

OLYMPIA — Possessing a fake COVID-19 vaccination card may soon be a crime.

A bill being heard in the Legislature would make it a misdemeanor to knowingly display a fraudulent proof of vaccination, punishable by up to 90 days in jail, a \$1,000 fine or both. It would also make it a class C felony to knowingly sell fake COVID-19 vaccine cards, punishable by up to five years in prison, a \$10,000 fine or both.

Sen. Jesse Salomon, D-Shoreline, said he decided to sponsor this bill after hearing about a North Carolina police chief who

told officers how to obtain fake vaccine cards. Salomon then began looking into the prevalence of falsifying vaccine cards.

"Unfortunately, it's out there," he said at a Senate Law and Justice Committee hearing Monday. "It's a real thing."

According to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, more than 30,000 counterfeit vaccine cards have been recovered from nearly 1,200 seizures nationwide since the start of the

## Legislature 2022



pandemic.

This bill follows a similar law in New York that went into effect at the end of last year.

Washington does not have a statewide vaccine mandate but does require state employees, health care workers and educators to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. King County has implemented a vaccine requirement for restaurants, bars, indoor recreation and large outdoor events. Many private businesses statewide have begun doing the same.

At Monday's committee hearing, Republican Sen. Jim McCune, of Graham, criticized the vaccine mandates in King County and at private busi-

nesses, calling them "unconstitutional in law."

This bill would allow private businesses who choose to, or are required to, check vaccine cards and to involve police if they come across fake cards, Salomon said.

"This is not at all about mandates," he said.

Still, those who testified against the bill Monday criticized the decision to ask for vaccine verification at all.

Vaccination requirements, similar to other emergency proclamations during the pandemic, are supposed to be temporary, Yakima County Commissioner Amanda McKinney said. Creating a statute that "spe-

cifically memorializes" a temporary vaccine mandate could be "a dangerous precedent," she said.

Teri Rogers Kemp, a Washington criminal defense lawyer, said the bill would punish those who have different cultural beliefs. She said because King County is the only county currently requiring this, a bill like this may have inequitable effects statewide.

Though the federal government has said it is illegal to buy or make fake vaccine cards, Salomon said Monday it's difficult to ask the FBI to investigate a complaint that comes from a local level.

The bill is scheduled for a vote out of committee Thursday.

# State Lawmakers Considering Bills to Crack Down on Theft of Catalytic Converters

By Joseph O'Sullivan

The Seattle Times

OLYMPIA — As far as thefts go, catalytic converters make for a sweet target: all it takes is a good saw and a minute or three beneath a vehicle to free the prize.

"It's a target-rich environment, right?" Gary Ernsdorff, of the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, told state lawmakers Tuesday. "The vehicles are all around us, no entry required, so car alarms are ineffective. This is easy pickings."

Amid a spike in thefts of catalytic converters — the emissions-control devices that contain precious metals which can be sold for scrap — Washington lawmakers are grappling with how to make the pickings a little less easy.

In King County, for example, 11 catalytic converters were reported stolen in 2019 for the entire year, officials have said. That jumped to 241 reported thefts for just the first half of 2021.

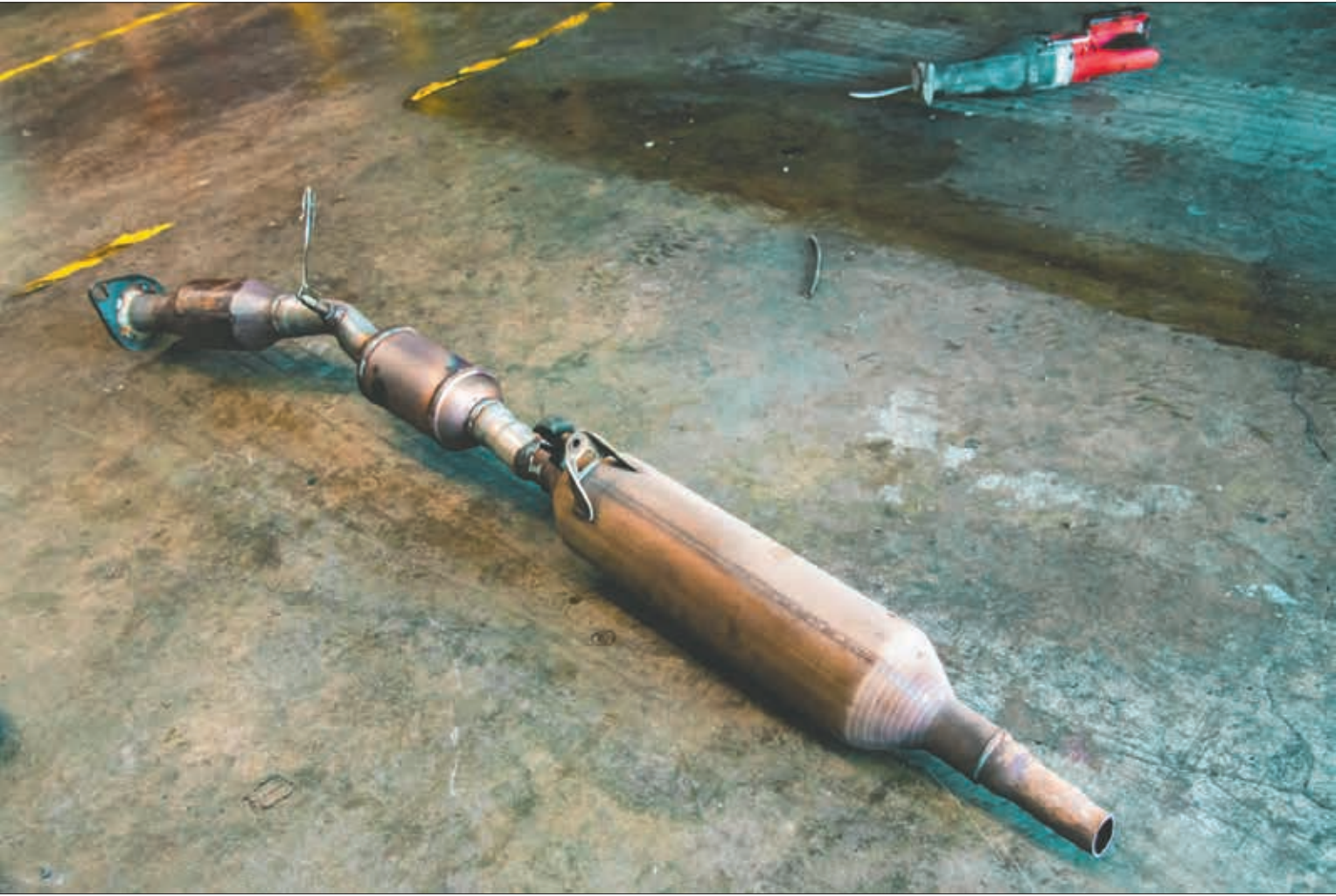
It remains to be seen what lawmakers will do — if anything — with competing proposals by Republicans and Democrats in this year's legislative session.

Ernsdorff spoke Tuesday at a state Senate Law & Justice Committee hearing where lawmakers debated one proposal geared at stopping a spike in thefts that have come amid the pandemic.

Sponsored by Sen. Jeff Wilson, R-Longview, Senate Bill 5495 would add precious metals to a list of transactions that scrap metal businesses must record.

It prohibits such businesses from doing transactions for catalytic converters, unless they are with a commercial enterprise or the owner of the vehicle from which the catalytic converter came, according to a legislative analysis.

Among other things, SB 5495 also creates a gross misdemeanor



A catalytic converter from a hybrid Prius lays on the floor next to an electric reciprocating hand saw in this June 2021 Chronicle file photo.

or penalty — or up to 364 days in jail and as much as a \$5,000 fine — for those businesses to knowingly receive stolen materials.

The bill, which also has Democratic co-sponsors, is scheduled to get a committee vote Thursday.

"Your family car, your church bus, your firetruck, your ambulance, your kid's car, your car," Wilson said at the public hearing. "Any vehicle seems to be a target of this unless you're somebody that may own an all-electric vehicle."

During the hearing, the bill received quick pushback in from lobbyists employed by Schnitzer

Steel, of Tacoma, and the Institute of Scrap Metal Recycling Industries.

"It is already illegal under current law for a scrapyard to purchase stolen material," said Holly Chisa, who represents the institute. Scrapyards are already required to document purchases of personal metal property, she added, and keep those records for five years.

Both lobbyists said they prefer House Bill 1815, which is also scheduled for a committee vote Thursday.

Sponsored by Rep. Cindy Ryu, D-Shoreline, that bill would create a task force to re-

view state laws related to catalytic converter theft and develop recommendations for the future.

The proposal would also establish a pilot project through the Washington State Patrol to somehow put identifying information on people's catalytic converters so they can be tracked, according to a legislative analysis.

That might not be too easy, according to Ernsdorff, who said he has seen transactions for a single catalytic converter go for up to \$500.

"It's a huge ask to have individuals bring their car into a shop for marking," Ernsdorff said Tuesday. "I see impedi-

ments to the enforcement mechanism there."

Ernsdorff was at the hearing, he said, to speak broadly about the thefts and what makes them so difficult to curb. Other than the ease and speed of the theft, criminal investigations can be long and costly, he said, and require that prosecutors prove that the items were stolen.

"And like a lot of the dirty pawnshops I've investigated, the recyclers hide behind the front desk clerk, who's low-paid, does the transactions," he said. "Giving the owners, the people that make that profit, plausible deniability and a straw fall man."

## News in Brief

### Spokane Police: Officers Shoot, Kill Man After He Held Knife to Infant

By The Spokesman-Review

Spokane police officers shot and killed a man after they say he held a knife to an infant's throat Monday afternoon.

Spokane police Chief Craig Meidl said the infant was uninjured in the incident that happened on the 2400 block of East Desmet Avenue.

The man, whose name and age was not yet released, was treated at the hospital where he died of his injuries, Meidl said.

Police responded after a woman called at 12:48 p.m. and said she believed her child had been killed, Meidl said.

When officers arrived the suspect was holding a knife to the infant's neck, and two officers fired their weapons to end the threat, Meidl said.

As of 2:30 p.m. Monday, Meidli said, it was too early to say whether drugs or alcohol played a role. Investigators believe domestic violence was a factor, he said.

It was also too early to know what relationship the suspect had to the caller or the infant, Meidl said.

"I need to stress this is all preliminary information, obviously

subject to change. We're at the very beginning stages of this investigation," Meidl said.

The Spokane County Sheriff's Office and Washington State Patrol were also on scene, Meidl said. The 2400 block of Desmet was closed for several hours amid the investigation.

Meidl said he did not believe the infant would be taken into Child Protective Services.

### Bill Would Pause New Washington Wind and Solar Farms

By The Tri-City Herald

Washington state needs to look at the imbalance in where wind farms are based in the state and where the electricity is used, says a Walla Walla lawmaker.

Republican Rep. Mark Klicker has introduced a bill in the Washington state Legislature that could delay state decisions on new or expanded alternative energy projects, including the proposed Horse Heaven Wind Farm by the Tri-Cities, while solutions to the perceived inequity are investigated.

"Too many rural counties are being forced to house alternative energy facilities, but are seeing nothing in return," Klicker said.

House Bill 1871 would delay any state decisions to allow new

wind farms and other clean energy projects until Dec. 1, 2023. It also would establish a legislative task force to investigate possible solutions to the mismatch in production location versus electricity use.

Now the state approval process considers each project in isolation rather than looking at cumulative impacts that can occur over decades, according to information from Klicker.

"It's time to revisit the process to determine where these sites are located and who is benefiting from them," he said.

A public hearing with remote testimony before a legislative committee is set for Tuesday, Jan. 25, after it was postponed when a Friday hearing ran long.

At the initial committee hearing on the bill Friday, Klicker noted that 80% of comments at a Benton County town hall in Kennewick in March 2021 opposed the Horse Heaven Wind Farm.

Scout Clean Energy of Colorado is proposing a wind farm on a 112-square-mile clean energy production site, with wind turbines that would stretch along 24 miles of the Horse Heaven Hills from south of Finley to south of Benton City.

The developed area of the project would cover about 10 square miles.

The most likely option it is

considering would include 244 turbines standing almost 500 feet tall, with a second proposed option including 150 turbines standing up to 670 feet. That's more than 60 feet taller than the Seattle Space Needle.

"Picture all of those in Elliott Bay in Seattle," Klicker said at the Friday hearing.

Now an expanded environmental study of the Horse Heaven project is expected to be released for public comment this spring.

Then the Washington state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council would make a recommendation on whether the project should be approved for a final decision that will be made by Gov. Jay Inslee.

Now virtually no alternative clean energy projects, such as wind and solar, are located in the Puget Sound, Klicker said. But more than half of the state's population lives there and has a huge appetite for clean energy, he said.

In contrast, Benton and Walla Walla counties have 3.5% of the state's population and already provide 11% of the renewable energy in the state, according to information he provided the legislative committee.

"It's about fairness," he said.

The inequity will get much worse as the state pursues an aggressive strategy of using clean

energy, the bill said.

Wind and solar projects impact communities differently than coal and natural gas plants, he said.

Thermal projects are built on 20 to 40 acres in industrial zones, while wind and solar may be built on farm land, impacting the views in scenic and natural areas that are important to residents there, he said.

The Horse Heaven Wind Farm would use 1,500 times the land of a typical coal or natural gas plant, he said.

"The viewshed, wildlife and land use patterns in specific counties of the state are being permanently impacted to deliver carbon-free energy benefits to the most populous counties of the state," says the proposed bill.

Scout Clean Energy had no comment on the proposed bill.

But its website says that the first phase of construction of Horse Heaven Hills would have an estimated \$70.6 million in economic output, including 458 jobs. In the first year of full operation of both phases, \$11.4 million in school-related property taxes would be generated.

House Bill 1871 would require a comprehensive performance report on the effects of the 2006 Energy Independence Act. The act requires increased use of certain renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar.



# Bills Addressing College Hazing in Washington Moving Through Legislature

By Sarah Kahle

The Seattle Times

Hector Martinez and Jolayne Houtz still grieve for their son.

Sam Martinez died in November 2019 of acute alcohol poisoning while pledging a fraternity at Washington State University, where he was a freshman. He was 19.

Now, three years later, Sam's parents are supporting two bills in the state Legislature that would toughen the penalties for hazing and educate campus groups about the dangerous practice.

Martinez and Houtz testified recently before the House College & Workforce Development Committee, which was discussing one of the two bills.

"I'm here today as a father who still grieves over his lost son," said Hector Martinez via Zoom. He described his son as a loyal, athletic and kind person who stood up to bullies on the school bus and loved volunteering in his community. A graduate of Newport High School, Sam Martinez hoped to study business and entrepreneurship at WSU.

One bill, HB 1751, would make updates and clarifications to the state's 30-year-old hazing laws by redefining the term itself. The new bill would forbid any act "forcing a person to consume any food, liquid, alcohol, drug or other substance which subjects the person to risk of such harm as part of an initiation or recruitment process." It would also now include athletic teams, along with sororities and fraternities, as a type of student organization forbidden from hazing.

The measure, modeled after an Ohio anti-hazing law passed last July, emphasizes education and transparency. It would require all institutions of higher learning in Washington to hold mandatory anti-hazing training and require all students participating in a student organization, athletic team or school-sanctioned living group to attend. The bill would also require universities to maintain a prominent website detailing all past and present hazing investigations. The bill also requires fraternities and sororities to notify the university when they open a hazing investigation.

"Fraternities have proven again and again and again that they are not up to the task of putting an end to hazing by themselves," testified Houtz, a former Seattle Times reporter. "I can't rest until we put in place safeguards to ensure no other family goes through the hell of losing their child to hazing."

Sam Martinez was found dead Nov. 12, 2019, the morning after Alpha Tau Omega's "big/little" night. Pullman police originally recommended hazing charges for two former frater-



Ellen M. Banner / The Seattle Times

Jolayne Houtz and her husband Hector Martinez hold a book Jolayne made for her son Sam Martinez for a high school graduation gift. Sam died of alcohol poisoning while pledging a fraternity at Washington State University in 2019. Jolayne and Hector are now supporting two bills in Olympia that would provide education surrounding hazing and strengthen the penalty for it.

nity members, one of whom was Martinez's "big," a Greek life tradition in which older members act as big brothers to younger pledges.

Martinez's death was classified as an accident by the Whitman County coroner. His family filed a wrong death lawsuit in 2020 against the university, the fraternity, and its WSU chapter. As a result of the tragedy, ATO lost its WSU recognition for six years and admitted to violating the university's standards of conduct.

Houtz and Hector Martinez's testimony last week was joined by that of their son's childhood best friend, Will Carlson.

"Even if this bill has the opportunity to prevent maybe just one person from having to go through what Sam did, I think it'll be worth it," said Carlson. "If this bill is passed into law, I will be able to remember that the last thing my friends and I were able to do for Sam was help make the world at least a little bit better."

HB 1751 is accompanied by another proposed piece of legislation, HB 1758, which would reclassify hazing to a gross misdemeanor, or, in the case of significant bodily harm, a felony.

Paytan Murray, the president of the University of Washington Panhellenic Association, spoke in favor of the bill on behalf of the UW's 18 sororities.

"I am in complete support of more explicitly outlining and updating the hazing policy for all living community groups

across the state," Murray said in an email. "My highest priority is the safety of members in this community and any legislation which further works to increase transparency for the greater Seattle area, with our goal being to completely eradicate hazing, has my full support and the subsequent support of my executive board."

The University of Washington, represented by Associate Director of State Relations Morgan Hickel, voiced its support for the measure's aims, but expressed concerns with some of the new requirements, citing the UW's large student body as a barrier to the anti-hazing education programs the university would be required to run. Hickel also mentioned the UW's Confidential Advocates program, which provides resources and advice to students who have been impacted by sexual harassment or assault. According to the program's website, confidential advocates are not mandated to report hazing to the police or the university, but should the bill pass they would be required to do so.

"A student may not feel safe or comfortable seeking help or guidance from a University employee if they know it will automatically trigger a report and subsequent investigation," said Hickel in an email. "We must ensure that any measure that could further hinder reporting on hazing or other crimes be stringently considered with the victim's safety and wellbeing as the top

priority."

The university is also concerned that the bill would alienate the UW's Greek organizations, discouraging them from registering with the school's Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life. According to Hickel, Greek organizations are private entities and the university thoroughly reviews regulations that may unintentionally discourage them from registering at the UW.

Representatives from WSU's Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life or the UW's Interfraternity Council did not respond to a request for comment.

Gary Jenkins, an officer representing the Pullman Police Department, also testified before the committee, describing the Greek scene at WSU and the school's lack of transparency.

"There's no requirement for colleges or fraternities and sororities to publicly report sanctions," Jenkins said. "How do students and parents know which fraternity or sorority is safe? They don't."

Jenkins' comments echo the sentiments of Houtz and Martinez, as well as testimony from Kathleen Wiant, a mother from Columbus, Ohio, whose son Collin died from hazing three years ago. After Collin announced he was pledging a fraternity, Wiant described her cursory search of the organization that didn't reveal concerning information. The family didn't know that just months prior, another pledge at Ohio University had been sent

to the hospital, requiring eight stitches as a result of hazing.

"Armed with this information, Collin would not have pledged that fraternity and Collin would be alive today," Wiant said during her testimony.

Even parents who have knowledge of or previous experience in Greek life, as Wiant did, can find the system confusing and opaque. First-generation parents find themselves even more in the dark.

"I think about all the parents like me, first-generation immigrants to this country. We don't have any experience with fraternities or the Greek system," said Martinez. He cited language and cultural differences as barriers to clear communication and described the importance of parents having access to information that will help them and their children make informed decisions.

For the Martinez family, advocating for these bills and raising awareness of hazing-related violence is part of the healing process, and it is in Sam's memory that they work to make sure no other family in the state of Washington loses a child to hazing.

"It's about making a difference in somebody else's life because of what we had to go through, and trying to prevent that," said Houtz. "It's hard to make something good come out of something so awful. But if we can do that, I don't know. Maybe we will hurt just a little bit less."

## News in Brief

### Tacoma Man Charged With Murder in 'Random, Brutal' Carjacking in Federal Way

By The Seattle Times

King County prosecutors say a 20-year-old man was eating takeout in his parked car outside a Federal Way shopping center last month when a stranger fatally shot him, pulled him from the vehicle and drove off.

Leonel Gonzalez, 35, of Tacoma, was charged Friday with first-degree murder in the Dec. 8 death of Ruvim Stukov, who was shot three times and died at the scene, charging papers say. Prosecutors have requested that Gonzalez, a felon who was last released from prison in June for a 2015 attempted robbery, be held without bail because of his history of violence and the fact he is facing a potential life sentence if convicted of murder, court records show.

Noting that Stukov and Gonzalez were "complete strangers," Senior Deputy Prosecutor Jennifer Petersen wrote in charging papers that Stukov's killing "appears to be a random, brutal and senseless carjacking."

Gonzalez was arrested Dec. 9

by Pierce County sheriff's deputies after he passed out on a bus and was found with a .38-caliber handgun that had been reported stolen to Lakewood police, according to court records. He is also charged in Pierce County Superior Court with third-degree rape, accused of raping a 17-year-old girl who he lured to a Fife motel room in July under the guise of planning his son's birthday party, say the charges filed in that case.

As of Monday, Gonzalez remained jailed in Pierce County in lieu of \$125,000 bail, jail records show.

Federal Way police responded to a report of a shooting in the parking lot of a frozen yogurt store at The Crossings, a shopping center in the 1400 block of South 348th Street, around 9:45 p.m. on Dec. 8. The 911 caller, who witnessed the shooting, told officers that the shooter had fled in the victim's silver car, charging papers say.

Officers found an unresponsive man, later identified as Stukov, on the ground with gunshot wounds and several .40-caliber shell casings nearby, say the charges.

A friend of Stukov's flagged down an officer at the scene and said Stukov's family contacted

him after Stukov failed to return home from church that night. The friend, who had last seen Stukov at the church around 9 p.m., said Stukov typically stopped at a Panda Express fast-food restaurant at The Crossings for dinner on his way home, according to charging documents.

Family members, who had tracked Stukov's iPhone to The Crossings, also arrived and told police Stukov had been driving his brother's silver Toyota Camry. The car was reported stolen and the next day, the Camry was found abandoned in Tacoma, say the charges.

A fingerprint found inside the Camry was matched to Gonzalez on Jan. 7 and Federal Way police detectives learned he was in custody at the Pierce County Jail, according to the charges. They obtained a warrant to search his property at the jail and found a wallet, bank card and phone charger believed to belong to Stukov, along with a receipt with blood and Stukov's father's name on it, say the charges.

Police also used phone records and video-surveillance footage — including footage of the homicide — to reconstruct Gonzalez's movements in the hours leading up to Stukov's killing, charging papers say.



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# San Jose Is First U.S. City to Mandate Gun Owners Carry Insurance, Pay Fee

By Tribune News Service

SAN JOSE, Calif. — San Jose firearm owners will soon be subject to new gun control laws that no U.S. citizen has faced before.

In two separate votes, the San Jose City Council on Tuesday night passed a first-of-its-kind ordinance requiring residents who own a gun to carry liability insurance and pay an annual fee aimed at reducing gun violence — a divisive move that is sure to set off a series of legal challenges.

Councilwoman Dev Davis dissented on both items, saying that she believed the measures would be ineffective and might even be unconstitutional. Councilmembers Matt Mahan and Pam Foley voted against the fees, voicing concerns about the management structure.

Proponents like Mayor Sam Liccardo acknowledged that the two-pronged ordinance will not affect residents who unlawfully own guns. However, they argue that it will incentivize safer gun ownership, reduce the public cost of gun violence and provide resources and services for residents who are most affected by the use of guns — those who own a firearm or live in a home or are in a relationship with someone who does.

“The point is we can reduce a lot of harm and tragedy and pain, even if we’re not going to magically make a gun fall out of the hands of the crook,” Liccardo said.

The council’s decision came more than two years after Liccardo first unveiled his proposal for the ordinance, and after hearing from nearly 100 speakers on both sides of the



Amy Osborne / AFP via Getty Images/TNS

A girl holds a sign as people attend a vigil for the victims of a shooting at San Jose City Hall in San Jose, California, on May 27, 2021.

debate during Tuesday night’s meeting. While supporters saw the ordinance as an “innovative, nonburdensome way to reduce gun violence,” opponents called it “financial and bureaucratic harassment” and a policy that “taxes law-abiding citizens” while “distracting the city from going after criminals.”

Liccardo initially pushed for these gun control measures in the wake of the mass shooting at the Gilroy Garlic Festival in 2019 where four people, including two San Jose children, were gunned down by a man who cut through a security gate. He then reignited the effort last summer following the Bay Area’s deadliest mass shooting at a VTA rail yard.

“When we think about the horrible shooting at the VTA and so forth, I don’t pretend to know if we could have stopped it or not,” Liccardo said. “But if, in fact, we could have delivered some mental health services,

there may have been a chance.”

The new ordinance, which is set to take effect in August, requires that all San Jose residents who own a gun obtain a homeowner’s, renter’s or gun liability insurance policy that specifically covers losses or damages resulting from negligent or accidental use of their firearm.

Additionally, gun owners will be asked to pay an annual fee of between \$25-\$35 to a nonprofit organization that will be established to manage the funds and distribute them to groups who will offer various services to residents who own a firearm or live with someone who does. Those services will include suicide prevention programs, gender-based violence services, mental health and addiction services, and firearm safety training, according to the city’s ordinance.

“There’s a lot more to gun violence than mass shootings and homicides, and that’s one of the

things that gets lost,” said councilmember David Cohen. “... A large number of incidents are things that happen in the home and what we’re focused on here is to try and reinforce responsible gun ownership.”

Under the city’s vision for the ordinance, the nonprofit will send out letters through the Department of Justice database to registered gun owners who live in San Jose asking them to pay the annual fee. Once a payment is made, the nonprofit will send the gun owner a form with their proof of payment and a space on the form to fill out their insurance information. Gun owners will be required to carry or store a copy of the paperwork with their firearm, according to the mayor.

Residents who are exempted from the ordinance include sworn, active reserve or retired police officers, people who have a license to carry a concealed weapon, and low-income residents facing financial hardships.

Failure to abide by the law could result in a civil fine or temporary forfeiture of a firearm. San Jose Police Chief Anthony Mata has promised that officers will not be going door to door searching for offenders but solely be checking for proof of payment and insurance if they come across a firearm during an investigation.

The new ordinance, which officials call the Gun Harm Reduction Ordinance, is expected to quickly attract legal challenges from Second Amendment advocacy organizations that have been threatening to sue the city from the start. The National Foundation for Gun Rights, for instance, sent San Jose leaders a

cease-and-desist letter last July.

Most opponents argued that the ordinance punishes and taxes law-abiding gun owners while allowing criminals with unregistered guns to fly under the radar.

“This movement attacking our Second Amendment (rights) arises when a mass shooting occurs but San Jose had been unable to protect its citizens from these maddening criminals and is instead going after middle-class law-abiding gun owners,” said resident Cindy Fulk. “Holding 55,000 gun owners responsible for the city’s failure to protect us is shameful.”

Proponents, however, argued that the ordinance gave San Jose the opportunity to take a lead and enact laws that other cities could follow to prevent harm caused by firearms in their communities.

Karen Pandula, a mother of a 20-year-old who was shot and killed in San Jose, said she believed this ordinance would make a “positive difference” and “prevent other families from suffering from gun violence.” Pandula’s daughter, Kristina, and her boyfriend, Eric Kenzo Otokawa, 21, were killed by a gunman at Otokawa’s downtown San Jose apartment in 2011.

The new ordinance is the city’s latest attempt to lessen the impact of gun violence and unintentional shootings in San Jose. The city council last year unanimously adopted a new gun law that requires retailers to video-record all firearm purchases. In 2017, city leaders narrowly approved a measure that mandates gun owners to lock up their firearms when they leave the home.

## Rep. Nancy Pelosi Will Run for Another Term in Congress

By Tribune News Service

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi announced Tuesday she will run for another term, ending months of speculation about whether the 81-year-old would retire.

“Our democracy is at risk,” the California Democrat said in a video message, citing last January’s Capitol insurrection and Republican attempts to limit access to voting. “We don’t agonize, we organize. And that is why I am running for reelection to Congress.”

Pelosi, one of the most powerful lawmakers in the country and a key ally of President Joe Biden, did not say whether she would seek another term as House speaker. She said in 2018 that her current term would mark her final time as speaker, but she has not addressed the issue lately. Her decision will be closely watched as Republicans threaten to take back control of the House in the November midterm elections.

Pelosi thanked her constituents for allowing her to represent “San Francisco values” on the national stage, and said her more than three decades in the U.S. House of Representatives has been dedicated to fighting for young people.

“When you’re in the arena, you have to be able to take a punch or throw a punch for the children,” the Baltimore native said.

Rep. Jackie Speier’s announcement last year that she would not seek another term in Washington, D.C., set off speculation that other San Francisco Bay Area lawmakers — several of them in their 70s and 80s — might also call it quits in districts that are considered safe for Democrats to retain.

But across the region, lawmakers from Oakland Rep. Barbara Lee to Palo Alto Rep. Anna Eshoo to San Jose Rep. Zoe Lofgren have all said they plan to run again. One remaining question mark? Sen. Dianne Feinstein. The 88-year-old lawmaker has not said whether she plans to seek another term in 2024.

It is not clear yet whether Pelosi, who has traditionally won by wide margins, will face a serious challenger, although

some Democrats to the left of the speaker have for years called on her to step aside and allow someone else to represent San Francisco.

## ‘Don’t Wait for the Invasion.’ Graham Calls for Immediate Russian Sanctions

By Tribune News Service

COLUMBIA, S.C. — U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina called for immediate action in response to a possible invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

At a press conference Tuesday in Columbia at the State House, Graham called for sanctions against Russia for provoking the Ukraine and its NATO allies.

“Don’t wait for the invasion,” Graham said. “They’re destroying the Ukrainian economy and they’re throwing Europe into chaos.”

Graham, who was in Columbia to discuss a proposed Constitutional amendment to require a balanced federal budget, added he supported sending 8,500 U.S. troops to Eastern Europe in preparation for the possible invasion.

Earlier this week, the Pentagon put the troops on alert for a possible deployment, which officials said would be used to supplement NATO’s response force.

Graham also called for the U.S. to help to better arm their Ukrainian counterparts so they can better defend themselves.

“What the signal I want to send is, ‘We’re not going to back off,’” Graham said.

Graham warned that the world’s response to the possible invasion could have long-term implications.

The Seneca Republican said the crisis in the Ukraine is a chance for NATO to prove itself capable of stopping “bullies” from taking other states that they want.

“If we get Ukraine right, we can reset the world,” Graham said. “If we get it wrong, God help Taiwan.”

Russian troops have been building along the country’s border with the Ukraine and military exercises have been observed nearby in recent weeks.

Both Russian and Ukrainian officials have denied that there was an invasion in the works,

## Nation and World in Brief

even as Ukraine receives military equipment from the U.S. and NATO allies makes plans to position troops around the area.

## 39 Missing in Ocean After Suspected Smuggling Boat Capsized Days Ago

By Tribune News Service

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — On Saturday night, 40 people boarded a boat from Bimini, Bahamas, and set out toward Florida.

They encountered severe weather later that night, causing the boat to capsize. U.S. Coast Guard rescue crews are now searching for 39 people in the ocean as they near 72 hours in the water.

A man sitting atop the capsized boat about 45 miles east of the Fort Pierce Inlet was rescued by a good Samaritan, who reported it to the Coast Guard Miami Sector about 8:45 a.m. Tuesday.

The U.S. Coast Guard Southeast said in a tweet Tuesday afternoon that several cutters and aircraft are searching the water from Bimini to the Fort Pierce Inlet in St. Lucie County.

Petty Officer Jose Hernandez said officials do not yet know the nationality of the survivor or the others or where they were headed. It is unclear whether the survivor has been taken into custody.

The survivor told authorities that he held onto the capsized vessel until he was rescued Tuesday, Hernandez said.

The survivor said he and 39 others left Bimini on Saturday night, and no one had a life jacket, the U.S. Coast Guard District 7 said in a statement posted to Twitter. Officials said they believe it was an attempt at human smuggling.

Just days ago, Coast Guard crews intercepted a boat known as a sail freighter with 88 Haitians aboard that left from the Bahamas. Sail freighters are what is commonly seen in trips that leave from the Bahamas, Hernandez said.

Ventures that leave from the Bahamas often include people of many nationalities. The Coast Guard has intercepted 559 Haitians since the start of the fiscal year Oct. 1, 2021. In the last fiscal year, authorities intercepted over 1,500 Haitians, according

to a news release issued last week. A total of 127 Cubans have been interdicted since the start of this fiscal year, compared to 838 in the previous year.

## Second NYPD Officer in Harlem Shooting Dies, Donates Organs to Save Fellow New Yorkers

By Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — Officer Wilbert Mora, fatally wounded by a deranged gunman in a Harlem domestic dispute turned deadly ambush, kept giving to New York even after his death.

Mora, 27, clung to life for four days following the shooting, with his family directing doctors to remove his heart, liver, pancreas and both kidneys for donations expected to save multiple lives, officials said.

“Wilbert is three times a hero,” said NYPD Commissioner Keechant Sewell in a statement Tuesday announcing his death. “For choosing a life of service. For sacrificing his life to protect others. For giving life even in death through organ donation. Our heads are bowed & our hearts are heavy.”

Mora, 27, died at NYU Langone Medical Center, where he was transferred Sunday from Harlem Hospital. Fellow Officer Jason Rivera, 22, was shot and killed alongside Mora last Friday while answering a 911 call of a dispute between a Harlem woman and her ex-con son, with sources telling the Daily News the fight started in part over the shooter’s strict vegan diet.

The gunman exited a bedroom and opened fire without warning on the officers, police said.

Mora’s move to NYU Langone was arranged so doctors could remove the dying cop’s organs at the direction of his relatives. A member of the slain officer’s family needs a kidney transplant, two NYPD sources said.

Mora’s liver, kidneys, heart and pancreas were en route Tuesday to three people on the New York state organ donation list and two people out-of-state, said Leonard Achan, president and CEO of LiveOn NY, which oversees and facilitates organ donation in New York.

“His family knew their brave and dedicated son would want to continue to save lives, even in death,” said Achan. “Officer Mo-

ra’s final gift was the gift of life ... so that he may ‘Live On’ while saving the lives of others.”

A police motorcade will carry the officer’s body from the hospital to the medical examiner’s office before Mora is brought Wednesday to a Riverdale Funeral Home.

Rivera’s funeral is Friday at St. Patrick’s Cathedral.

“True heroes never die,” said Patrick Lynch, president of the Police Benevolent Association. “Our brother Police Officer Wilbert Mora has left us, but he will live on in the heart of every New York City police officer from this day forward.”

## Tonga Volcano ‘Hundreds of Times’ More Powerful Than Hiroshima Bomb Explosion, NASA Says

By Tribune News Service

The undersea volcano that erupted off the coast of Tonga this month was “hundreds of times” more powerful than the nuclear bomb that hit Hiroshima in World War II, according to NASA.

The Jan. 15 blast of the Hunga-Tonga-Hunga-Ha’apai volcano, which triggered tsunami waves which stretched to the Pacific Coast in the U.S. The eruption, which spewed ash across the many of Tonga islands, was heard as far away as Alaska.

“The blast released hundreds of times the equivalent mechanical energy of the Hiroshima nuclear explosion,” NASA said in a statement. “For comparison, scientists estimate Mount St. Helens exploded in 1980 with 24 megatons and Krakatoa burst in 1883 with 200 megatons of energy.”

“This is a preliminary estimate, but we think the amount of energy released by the eruption was equivalent to somewhere between 4 to 18 megatons of TNT,” NASA’s Jim Garvin, chief scientist at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center, said. “That number is based on how much was removed, how resistant the rock was, and how high the eruption cloud was blown into the atmosphere at a range of velocities.”

The scientists also noted that several small islands that had risen from the sea after a 2015 volcanic eruption were obliterated by the blast, which sent material as far as 25 miles into the atmosphere.



# JBLM Master Sergeant Receives Medal of Honor

By Daniel Warn

For The Chronicle

Master Sgt. Earl Plumlee, currently stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), received the Medal of Honor from President Joe Biden on Dec. 16, 2021.

Plumlee was the weapons sergeant assigned to Charlie Company, 4th battalion, 1st special forces group airborne at Forward Operating Base Ghazni, when the complex was attacked in 2013.

Sgt. 1st Class Jared Gehmann, with JBLM public affairs, gave a presentation about Plumlee's acts of valor, with Plumlee present, at a media roundtable event on Monday, Jan. 24.

"In Ghazni Province, Afghanistan, on Aug. 28, 2013, then Staff Sgt. Earl Plumlee distinguished himself by acts of gallantry ... above and beyond the call of duty, while engaging with the enemy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom," Gehmann said.

The forces at Forward Operating Base Ghazni were alerted to the attack after an explosion went off, which caused a 60-foot breach in the base's perimeter.

"Ten insurgents wearing Afghan National Army uniforms and suicide vests poured through the breach," Gehmann said. "Sgt. Plumlee instantly responded. He



Master Sergeant Earl Plumlee, currently stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), received the Medal of Honor from President Joe Biden on Dec. 16, 2021. Here, he speaks at a media roundtable in his honor on Monday, Jan. 24.

and five other special operations soldiers intent on defending the base mounted two vehicles and raced toward the detonation site."

Gehmann said the driver of Plumlee's vehicle took a path that protected the other vehicle in the range of the insurgent fire. To protect the driver of his vehicle, Plumlee shielded the soldier, before exiting the vehicle and taking on multiple insurgents alone "with only his pistol," killing two of them.

Moving in and out of cover, along with a small group of other American soldiers, Plumlee mounted a counterattack, Gehmann said. He engaged another in-

surgent as part of the retaliation, before running to a wounded soldier to administer first aid and carrying him to safety.

"Afterwards, he organized three coalition members in a defensive stance, as he methodically cleared the area," Gehmann said. "Throughout the entire engagement, Sgt. Plumlee repeatedly placed himself in extreme danger to protect his team and the base and to defeat the enemy."

Plumlee's arm was injured by a fragmentation of a suicide vest during the battle and he also herniated several disks in his back.

At the roundtable, Plumlee

said his receipt of the Medal of Honor was representative of his teammates who fought with him in Ghazni, and also of the "many valorous actions" of a multitude of other special forces groups across the military who engage with the enemy but go unrecognized.

He said the events of that day back in 2013 are "burned into" his memory, that he can "recall taste, touch and smell and other vivid things" from the day.

"A lot of the things that really stuck with me (were) the facial expressions of the fighters ... of hate or fear," Plumlee said. "Because we were so close, I could really pull that in and remember probably what they were feeling as we were going through it."

He attributed his success in Ghanzi to the training the military had given him, and said it was touching to meet the president and be awarded at the White House for his actions.

"To be able to take my whole family and be honored like that was pretty neat," Plumlee said. "And then also to be in the White House and have the president honor me in front of all my friends and peers that were in the audience, and then see how much it meant to them almost overwhelmed me to be the focus of all that."

He said it was humbling to be placed in the company of the select few that have been awarded

the medal in the past.

"Every Medal of Honor recipient before me was subject to my own hero worship," Plumlee said. "I never would have imagined joining their ranks. To meet all of these guys in person ... it's astounding. To be treated as a peer by them — I haven't figured that out yet."

When Plumlee heard the news about the honor, he was in a JBLM parking lot.

He'd been told the U.S. government was going to call him about a matter of importance.

"I had my suspicions, but they never told me who was calling," Plumlee said, noting he knew he was in the running for the medal.

About 20 minutes before the call, the cell phone service dropped on the base, he said, so Plumlee had to drive over to Madigan Army Medical Center's parking lot before he got service.

That's when the call came through, but it went straight to voicemail.

"I didn't get a chance to answer it and I'm now panicking," Plumlee said. "The only thing I could think of was calling that number back and I got the switchboard at the White House. ... They said hold for the president of the United States and he picked up on the second ring."

"I always tell people, he didn't call me. I called him," Plumlee said.

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Debi Overlie, clerk and board member of Tenino's Forest Grove Cemetery, displays the unmarked children's graves that she was able to get recent donations for placards to commemorate the forgotten youths.

## Infants

*Continued from the front page*

who'd been forgotten. She took it upon herself to be the one who remembered them.

While she was volunteering at the cemetery, Overlie noticed a concrete slab set in the ground in the "old section" of the cemetery, and asked the clerk at that time what, or who, it was supposed to be commemorating.

All she could find was a name and a date of death for an infant with the surname Geron, who died July 24, 1909.

That's when Overlie began to do some of her own digging.

"As I was learning more the longer I was here, and I took over as clerk and had the records, I found that there were 13 unmarked graves of infants," Overlie said.

Two of the graves were marked as Wickman, which were paid for by a local doctor with the same last name at the time of their deaths.

"To me it would seem like if it was his child, he would have had it marked, so I wonder if these were children that he delivered or assisted in the deliveries, and he paid for the graves," Overlie said.

She said she wanted to do something for the forgotten children, so she requested help from the community, and within days she had all the gravemarkers paid for.

"The fact that it was children is what did it," Overlie said. "That's the reason I got such a response. ... No one volunteers (regularly). I hold work parties and no one comes."

Not long after she began volunteering, she became the clerk of the cemetery, and now sits on its board of directors.

She advocated for the voiceless youths, she said, because their stories, or lack thereof,

moved her into action.

"It just touched me," Overlie said.

Now that the graves of the infants will be marked, there is still more work to be done to restore the older sections of the historic site, which has grave-stones dating as far back as the mid-1800s.

Gravestones are coming off their bases, weeds and trees encroach the graves, and cement needs to be poured to stabilize decaying gravesites, among many other restoration activities.

"I can't do it all myself," Overlie said.

Those interested in helping can call 360-481-3316.

Infants that will now have grave markers include those with the surnames Goodwin, two with the surname Wickman, Norberg, Howard, Richardson and Handy, whose dates of death are unknown. There's also Paula Marie Van Blair, who died on July 26, 1975; De Loss Newell, who died in 1916; Candie Deniel Bradford, who died Jan. 24, 1975; an infant with the surname Geron, who died July 24, 1909; another Norberg infant, who died Feb. 14, 1915; and an infant with the surname Work, who died Aug. 11, 1908.

## Land

*Continued from the front page*

between the two governments, but this deed transfer would allow Lewis County rights to the land on the condition it's used for recreational purposes only during the life of its ownership, Riker told The Chronicle.

"Once we have it in our possession, it will convert to a county park and it will go through the process of community input," she said.

The memorandum is also expected to detail the county's formalized interest in the park, implement it into its parks plan and would also list it as an asset in the Packwood subarea plan, which is currently being developed.

With more than 164 acres — including the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds — already in its inventory, this single property would double the acreage Lewis County Parks and Recreation would have to maintain. Fiscal questions have previously been raised, too, with the county department's budget at only about \$65,000, which includes park maintenance, though that does not include the separate fairgrounds budget.

"Part of the financial impact in regards to parks in general is making sure we have access to the funds to be able to maintain them. So, the fact that the state is willing to grant us this park is fantastic, but they want some assurance that we'll be able to maintain that park. That's a big element of this," Riker said, adding that she feels her department can maintain the park.

Though parks are only open Memorial Day to Labor Day, Lewis County is pushing to make investments to keep them open longer and improve their facilities. Riker said it's likely they'll open earlier this upcoming season than they have in years' past with more money in their budget.

The state agency originally



Bill Serrahn walks along Skate Creek in Washington State Parks property in Packwood in this 2019 Chronicle file photo.

came into possession of the land back in the 1990s, according to previous Chronicle reports.

In 2006, Washington State Parks told The Chronicle there was a "50-50" chance of the land being turned into a full-fledged state park by 2012, but those dreams slowly dissipated as funding through the Legislature was never realized. State Parks originally envisioned including campsites, cabins and yurts at the location, but that scope fell apart over the years.

Riker said the county currently doesn't have a use plan established as to what amenities or recreational opportunities would be available, but she noted the county intends to keep the land as natural as possible.

But that has some people worried and skeptical.

Bill Serrahn, president of nonprofit Friends of Skate Creek and also the park's de facto caretaker, said he would rather see the state retain the land than the county take possession without any plan.

"You can put a Ferris wheel in the park and call it recreation. It's just a broad category. It doesn't give you any protection," he said.

He wants to see the land completely undeveloped and left in pristine condition. He mentioned the Seminary Hill Natural Area as a possible model to follow.

Serrahn also said he feels like they've been stuck at square one on this project for many years, fighting back and forth between the county and the state. With the decision that's being con-

sidered, Serrahn said they were gearing up for a "prolonged fight" and that he would "take it as far as we have to."

The park, he said, was just a relative secret a few years ago.

"Ownership doesn't mean anything for us, it's about what's done with the land. Whoever's going to keep the land in its natural state is who we'll support. We don't want a campground here," said Sarah Schmidt, former president of nonprofit Packwood Trail Project.

She noted the nonprofit she's involved with doesn't hold an official stance on which government owns the land. When The Chronicle reached out to Serrahn for comment on this story, he was out with Schmidt on one of his daily walks along the Skate Creek Trail.

"It would be nice if Lewis County could see the wisdom in saving a natural area," Serrahn said.

"In its current state, it's a great natural asset. Development would wreck that."

If the MOU is approved by county commissioners, it will go back to the State Parks board for approval, Riker said. From there, the transaction will be presented to Gov. Jay Inslee for final say.

County commissioners had previously voiced concern around the fiscal cost of maintenance were the park to fall into Lewis County's hands, though little discussion was had on the topic during a Wednesday morning meeting. Commissioner Lee Grose did not return calls Tuesday inquiring about the park.







Tuesday's 2A Bowling

Bearcats Capture Third-Straight Evergreen Conference Title

By The Chronicle staff

W.F. West girls bowling nabbed its third-consecutive 2A Evergreen Conference championship after defeating rival powerhouse Black Hills, 2,179 total pins to 2,114, Tuesday night at Fairway lanes.

“Every time we bowl Black Hills it is an absolute battle to the last frame, and tonight was no different.” W.F. West head coach Don Bunker said.

Both totals were the highest series for both teams all season.

“We are both two of the top teams in the state and it was great to see both teams step up and put on a show in front of a very large crowd,” Bunker said.

“It was an exciting night.”

In Game 1, the Bearcats set the tone by shooting an 884 to the Wolves’ 794. The Bearcats were led by junior Piper Chalmers’ 216 game and junior Clara Bunker’s 182 game.

“These two girls have been clutch performers for us in big games and tournaments their entire careers at W.F. West,” Bunker said. “In three years, they have racked up three league championships, two district championships and a state Championship, and I have a feeling they are not done yet.”

The Wolves were led by Zoey Theophilus’ 246 game, which was the high game of the night.

“Zoey was on fire tonight,” Bunker said. “She is a powerful bowler and has had a great season. She really showed up for the Wolves in a big way tonight.”

In Game 2, Black Hills head coach Nicole Pocklington pulled her team aside and gave the Wolves what looked like a pep talk, Bunker said.

It must have worked because the Wolves came out firing on all cylinders. The Wolves defeated the Cats 983 to 946.

“Black Hills has a two-headed monster in Zoey Theophilus and former individual state champion Hallie Stuart,” W.F. West assistant coach Rich Bunker said. “When Zoey and Hall-

ie get hot, they are hard to beat.”

The Bearcats, however, put together some big performances to keep it close and retain the lead heading into the always-crucial Baker games. Clara Bunker led the Cats with a 220, Piper Chalmers rolled another big 216 and first-year bowler Savannah Hawkins shot a 197.

“Even though we came up a little short in Game 2, it really showcased our depth of talent on this team,” Rich Bunker said. “We have 10 to 12 bowlers that battle for varsity spots every week. They compete but at the same time celebrate each other’s successes. I really think this is what has set us apart from other

teams the last four years.”

The match came down to the Baker Games as it always does between these two squads. The last time they met on Black Hills’ home turf, the Bearcats squeaked out a minuscule two-pin win to take the match. This time around, the Bearcats won 176 to 163 in Baker Game 1. In Game 2, it again came down to the last frame with the Wolves taking the Baker game 174 to 173.

The Bearcats next travel to Triangle Lanes in Longview to defend their 2A District 4 championship, in what once again will be the toughest district in the state. Districts is set to start at 9 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 28.

College Basketball

Gonzaga’s Rising 3-Point Percentage Puts Additional Stress on Opposing Defenses

By Jim Meehan

The Spokesman-Review

The Gonzaga men’s basketball team was shooting 32.9% on 3-pointers when the players woke up Dec. 18 in their Phoenix hotel rooms.

The Zags’ offense was humming along just fine at the time, a few hours before facing No. 25 Texas Tech at Footprint Center. Gonzaga was No. 2 in KenPom’s efficiency ratings and putting up 85.6 points per game on 64.7% accuracy inside the arc.

Fast forward, beginning with Gonzaga totaling a season-high 13 3-pointers on nearly 42% shooting in a 69-55 win over the Red Raiders, and the Zags have been dialed in from long distance.

In that seven-game span, the Zags (15-2, 4-0 West Coast Conference) have produced five of their top six 3-point percentages of the season. They had a string of three straight games with at least 110 points and two more in the 90s.

Gonzaga’s 3-point percentage has climbed from 32.9 after 10 games to 36.3% after 17. That ranks third in the WCC and 63rd nationally. That still ranks among the lower 3-point

percentages — 35.3% in 2010 was the low-water mark — since Gonzaga’s run to the 1999 Elite Eight, but consider that 32.9% would rank 219th in current NCAA stats.

The Zags have connected on 42.2% of 3-pointers in four WCC games, even after finishing 5 of 18 in last Thursday’s win over San Francisco. It adds another layer of stress for opposing defense already focused on Gonzaga’s efficiency inside the arc.

“Our numbers have been spectacular all year offensively, but when we’re making 3s it just takes it to another level and I think that manifested itself in those first three league games,” assistant coach Brian Michaelson said. “The value of the 3, but also the way we were making them with so many guys, it limits where teams can help from.

“We’re on year two of historic 2-point shooting, especially with Drew (Timme), Chet (Holmgren) and Anton (Watson) really all season with the pressure they’ve put on the rim and our guards are very good finishers. So now the defense has some real choices to make with our ability to shoot 2s.”

The Zags scored 69 points on Texas Tech, one of the nation’s

best defenses that yields 60.8 per game after Monday’s 94-91 double-overtime loss to Kansas. Gonzaga had 61 points at half and finished with 110 against a BYU defense that entered the game at 61.9. Gonzaga, even with a subpar 3-point night, scored 78 vs. USF, which was allowing 65.5.

Nearly everyone in the primary eight-man rotation has pitched in from long range in the past seven games, led by Rasir Bolton (12 of 25, 48%), Holmgren (10 of 21, 47.6%), Andrew Nembhard (14 of 30, 46.7%) and Nolan Hickman (12 of 26, 46.2%). Watson is 3 of 6 (50%) and Timme is 3 of 8 (37.5%).

“I’ve said all along we have a lot of really good shooters,” Michaelson said. “I knew Chet would get there. With Anton, you see how well it’s coming off his hand. All those guards, Ju-

lian (Strawther), Andrew and Rasir has been out of this world. Obviously, Nolan can really shoot.”

Strawther, who was at 41.5% after 10 games, has slipped to 36.5%, but he’s made at least one 3-pointer in 15 of 17 games. Bolton is the only other Zag with at least one 3-pointer in 15 games. Bolton and Strawther share the team lead with 31 made 3s. Bolton is first in season-long accuracy (43.7%).

“We work on it every day, all day,” Bolton said after a recent game. “So it feels good when it goes in for sure.”

Sophomore guard Dominick Harris, one of the Zags’ top shooters, is rehabilitating from foot surgery in October. He’s doing some individual drills but hasn’t been cleared to practice with the team.

The Zags don’t rely on

3-pointers as much as most teams because of their interior firepower. Their 3-point accuracy in 15 wins is 36.6% and 34.1% in two losses. They shot 39.1% and hit nine 3s in a loss to Alabama, which drained 13 3s.

“Obviously, when Chet is spacing the floor — he’s always been a good shooter but we’ve seen improvement in the last six weeks — at 7-1 it’s unheard of and it really stretches the defense,” Michaelson said. “I know in the losses Drew hasn’t shot as well from 2, but that’s part of being a star player.

“When you look back on those games, Duke got off to the hot start and we had major turnovers (17). That’s the first thing I’d point to in that game. Alabama, I don’t think our energy was great and we had free-throw issues (13 of 25).”

Five-Star Zag Target Anthony Black Tabbed McDonald’s All-American

By The Spokesman-Review

Gonzaga still has some work to do when it comes to the recruitment of Anthony Black, but if the Bulldogs do secure a signature from the five-star combo guard, it’ll mean they’ve reeled in a McDonald’s All-American for the third time in as many years.

Black, a standout at Duncanville High School in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, was one of 24 high school seniors who earned McDonald’s All-American status on Tuesday afternoon.

Of the 24 players invited

to play in the McDonald’s All-American Game, Black is the only one still undecided on where he’ll be playing his college basketball next season. Black hasn’t given a commitment to a school, nor has he dropped many hints as to which schools he’ll be focusing on before signing a national letter of intent.

Black visited Gonzaga on Oct. 9 for the team’s preseason Kraziness in the Kennel event and spoke highly of the atmosphere, and trip to Spokane, during an interview with The Spokesman-Review.

NBA

Edwards Carries Timberwolves to 109-107 Win in Portland

PORTLAND, Ore. (TNS) — For a good portion of Tuesday night, the Trail Blazers were in the zone, as in a 2-3 zone on defense.

In the second half, Anthony Edwards was also in the zone, as in, he put the Wolves on his back on a night when little else was working.

Edwards willed a sluggish Wolves team to a 109-107 win over Portland with a dynamic fourth-quarter performance in which he took the game over. He finished with 40 points, 14 coming in the fourth when he converted a four-point play, hit another stepback three and a driving three-point play during a crucial stretch that turned a 90-87 Wolves deficit with 8 minutes, 4 seconds to play into a 106-97 lead with 3:06 to play.

Edwards had another brief injury scare after seeming to hurt his left calf, but after a brief stint on the bench, he returned, hit another shot and motioned to the crowd. It was the fourth

40-point performance of Edwards’ career.

But the Blazers got back in it with a 7-0 run to cut it to two with 54.3 seconds left. D’Angelo Russell (22 points) hit one of two free throws to give the Wolves a 107-104 lead with 17.7 seconds left before C.J. McCollum (15 points) hit a 3 to tie it with 10.2 left. Russell drove to the basket and drew a goaltending call on a layup attempt from Anfernee Simons with 2.9 left. Simons missed a 3 before the buzzer.

Portland’s Jusuf Nurkic got in foul trouble in the opening minutes of the third quarter, which helped ground Portland’s offense to a halt after it led 63-55 at halftime. The Blazers had just 19 in the quarter. The Wolves got enough going late in the quarter to make a charge to take the lead 84-82 headed into the fourth. They closed the quarter on a 7-0 run, which included five from Edwards. He was just warming up.

LEWIS COUNTY <i>Sports</i>		SCOREBOARD	
<b>Prep Schedules</b> <b>THURSDAY, Jan. 27</b> <b>Boys Hoops</b> Centralia at Tumwater, 7 p.m. W.F. West at Black Hills, 7 p.m. Tenino at King’s Way Christian, 7 p.m. Stevenson at Morton-White Pass, 7 p.m. <b>Girls Hoops</b> Stevenson at Napavine, 7 p.m. Toutle Lake at Rainier, 7 p.m.		<b>BEARCATS 68, RAMS 64</b> N. Thurston 9 13 22 20 —64 W.F. West 19 13 18 18 —68 North Thurston: Anderson 25 W.F. West: Amoroso 4, Tornow 4, Plakinger 27, Hoff 3, Priest 3, Brumfield 3, Dalan 24	
<b>FRIDAY, Jan. 28</b> <b>Boys Hoops</b> Morton-White Pass at Adna, 7 p.m. Napavine at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Onalaska at Winlock, 7 p.m. Rainier at Toutle Lake, 7 p.m. Toledo at Wahkiakum, 7 p.m. Pe Ell at Mossyrock, 7 p.m. Oakville at Wishkah Valley, 5:45 p.m. <b>Girls Hoops</b> Tumwater at Centralia, 7 p.m. Black Hills at W.F. West, 7 p.m. King’s Way Christian at Tenino, 5 p.m. Napavine at Adna, 5:45 p.m. Mossyrock at Wahkiakum, 4:30 p.m.		<b>RIVERHAWKS 71, CRUISERS 62</b> Toledo 16 19 11 25 —71 Eatonville 15 16 16 15 —62 Toledo: Cournyer 27, Co. Olmstead 18, Ca. Olmstead 6, Gould 14, Winters 6 Eatonville: Mclraith 19	
<b>SATURDAY, Jan. 29</b> <b>Boys Hoops</b> Wahkiakum at Mossyrock, 7 p.m. Rainier at Stevenson, 7 p.m. Tenino at Eatonville, 7 p.m. Mary M. Knight at Pe Ell, 6 p.m. <b>Girls Hoops</b> Montesano at Tenino, 6 p.m. Toutle Lake at Winlock, 1 p.m.		<b>Girls Basketball</b> <b>THUNDERBIRDS 74, TIGERS 13</b> Centralia 3 8 2 0 —13 Tumwater 29 11 14 20 —74 Centralia: Chavez 6, Corwin 2, Wilkerson 4 Tumwater: Sumrok 17, K. Waltermeyer 14, Amendala 13, Lund 11, Brewer 5, McCauley 5, Kaufman 4, Woods 3, A. Waltermeyer 2	
<b>Local Results</b> <b>Monday’s Results</b> <b>Boys Basketball</b> <b>WARRIORS 53, BOBCATS 38</b> Rochester 17 17 9 10 —53 Aberdeen 9 10 8 16 —38 Rochester: Klatush 16, Robbins 8, Rotter 9, Groninger 9, Payne 8, Henderson 3 Aberdeen: Allen 11		<b>WOLVES 45, EAGLES 30</b> Elma 7 7 16 0 —30 Black Hills 4 17 18 6 —45 Black Hills: McMahon 14, Childers 9, Parker 9, Klovas 7, Johnson 4	
<b>VIKINGS 71, LOGGERS 32</b> Onalaska 7 8 10 7 —32 Mossyrock 19 27 18 9 —71 Onalaska: Ibarra 5, Taylor 6, C. McGraw 8 Underhill 3, Russon 2, R. McGraw 8 Mossyrock: K. Kolb 14, E. Kolb 16, Munoz 20, Nelson 11, J. Comer 6, Cruz 4, Isom 2		<b>BOBCATS 48, WARRIORS 31</b> Aberdeen 8 7 8 8 —31 Rochester 12 5 15 16 —48 Aberdeen: Martinez 14, Gore 11, Troch 10 Rochester: Hoover 11	
<b>SEAGULLS 50, RIVERHAWKS 47</b> Raymond 16 5 12 17 —50 Toledo 10 15 14 8 —47 Raymond: Gardner 27, Freeman 15 Toledo: Dillon 3, Stanley 7, Clark 15, Rodriguez 6, Langhaim 14		<b>Tuesday’s Results</b> <b>Boys Basketball</b> <b>BEAVERS 55, GRIZZLIES 44</b> Hoquiam 8 5 12 19 —44 Tenino 13 12 15 15 —55 Hoquiam: Watkins 14 Tenino: Hickle 8, Gonias 13, Schow 21, Burkhardt 5, Feltus 8	
<b>WOLVES 66, TIGERS 45</b> Centralia 7 10 10 18 —45 Black Hills 12 13 24 17 —66 Centralia: Kaut 12, Wasson 11, Ballard 11, Black Hills: Rongen 19, Stallings 17, Ellison 14		<b>BEARCATS 54, T-BIRDS 51</b> Tumwater 10 11 13 17 —51 W.F. West 11 13 15 15 —54 Tumwater: Reid 3, Collins 3, L. Brewer 15, Hopkins 4, Otton 8, Weller 2, Overbay 12, T. Brewer 4 W.F. West: Amoroso 1, Tornow 4, Plakinger 16, Hoff 10, Priest 2, Brumfield 3, Dalan 18	
<b>Girls Basketball</b> <b>CARDINALS 76, CHINOOKS 31</b> Winlock 22 15 24 15 —76 Kalama 10 6 6 9 —31 Winlock: Kelly 9, Vigre 14, Chaney 4, Carper 16, Hall 31, Pipers 2 Kalama: N/A		<b>RIVERHAWKS 62, T-WOLVES 48</b> Toledo 13 11 17 21 —62 Morton-WP 13 11 11 13 —48 Toledo: Langhaim 18, Clark 18, Rodriguez 7, Dillon 11, Stanley 2, Marciel 4 Morton-WP: Armstrong 17, Sams 11, Mays 10	
<b>Bowling</b> <b>W.F. WEST 2,179, BLACK HILLS 2,114</b> W.F. West: Clara Bunker 182, 220; Cami Aldrich 160, 137; Savannah Hawkins 167, 197; Tyran Ozretich 159, 176; Piper Chalmers 216, 216; Audrey Toynbee 167, 175; Emma Hamilton 181; Codi Bieker 157 Black Hills: Kaitlyn Gwinn 136, 176; Kaylene Hall 100, 151; Dana Colley 164, 173; Zoey Theophilus 246, 225; Hallie Stuart 148, 258			



## Monday's 2A Boys Basketball

# Warriors Beat Aberdeen to Snap Two-Game Losing Streak

By The Chronicle staff

Sophomore Tyler Klatush led the Rochester boys basketball team with 16 points as the Warriors beat Aberdeen, 53-38, picking up their fourth win of the season in a 2A Evergreen Conference matchup.

The Warriors came out hot right out of the gates, leading at halftime 34-19. The Bobcats found answers in the second half, outscoring the Warriors 24-19, but it wasn't enough to come back.

"Rochester came out with great intensity and did good moving the ball," Warriors coach

Derrick Pringle said. "The highlight is the leadership of Tyler Klatush, his energy and drive sparked the team, which helped everyone piggyback off his energy."

The Warriors (4-9, 2-5 2A EvCo) play at Shelton on Tuesday.

## Bearcats Inch Past Rams Behind Dalan, Plakinger

W.F. West got its sixth win of the season, as Soren Dalan and Dirk Plakinger combined for 51 points at home in a tightly-contested 68-64 victory to beat the

North Thurston Rams in a non-league matchup.

Senior Dirk Plakinger had a team-high 27 points and had two emphatic dunks.

Junior Soren Dalan added 24 points and a team-high 23 rebounds.

## Monday's Prep Boys Basketball

# Vikings Vanquish Loggers in Non-League Bout

By The Chronicle staff

Four Mossyrock players scored in double digits and the Vikings put Onalaska away early in a 73-32, non-league victory at home on Monday.

"It was nice to finally show ourselves we're capable of doing that," Mossyrock coach Adam Deck said.

The Vikings were led offensively by Zack Munoz' game-high 20 points, while Keegan Kolb added 14 and Warren Nelson knocked in 11.

Freshman Easton Kolb had a breakout game of 16 points, seven steals and six rebounds in an all-around performance. Deck called it Kolb's best game of his high school career.

"Tonight was a good night for him," Deck said. "He needed this game badly."

But Deck said it was the Vikings' defense that made the difference, holding the Loggers to single-digit scoring three quarters.

"We have to understand that defense wins games, and we did that tonight," Deck said. "Overall, it was the first time we played the way we should play."

The Vikings jumped on the Loggers early, starting the game on a 19-7 run before outscoring Ony 27-8 in the second quarter to take a commanding, 46-15 lead at the break. Deck did acknowledge the Loggers were without senior leader Mason Ulery.

The Loggers, who have now lost 10 straight, were led by Rylan McGraw and Case McGraw's eight points each. Kole Raylor chipped in six.

Onalaska (1-11, 0-5 C2BL) faced Toutle Lake on Wednesday Mossyrock (4-5, 1-2 IBCVL) headed to Rainier Wednesday and hosts Pe Ell on senior night Friday.

## Riverhawks Upset 1A Eatonville

Toledo got double-digit offensive output from three players and the Riverhawks toppled Class 1A Eatonville, 71-62, for a non-league road victory Monday.

"We got their best guy in foul trouble and our guys stepped up and made plays," Toledo coach Grady Fallon said. "It was the most team ball we've played. Once we learned to trust each other, good things happened."

Junior point guard Jake Courner led the offensive attack with a game-high 27 points, six assists and three steals, while

Connor Olmstead added 18 points and Carson Gould tallied 14 points and four rebounds.

"It's been in there somewhere, but we haven't had high output from everyone at the same time like tonight," Fallon said.

The Riverhawks led by one after one quarter and by four at the half before the Cruisers came charging back in the third quarter, outscoring Toledo 16-11. But the Riverhawks kept the Cruisers at bay, reeling off a 25-15 run in the final frame to secure the victory.

It was a much-needed win for the Riverhawks, who ended a two-game losing skid and had entered the matchup having lost four of their last six contests. But they stepped up against an Eatonville team that is undefeated in its league (4-0).

"We haven't played our best ball and we finally played a good game," Fallon said.

Toledo (12-5, 2-4 C2BL) hosted league foe Morton-White Pass on Wednesday.

return to Pauley Pavilion after being locked out of their home arena for nearly two months.

The seventh-ranked Bruins rewarded their faithful with a dazzling display during a 75-59 win over third-ranked Arizona, providing one highlight play after another while allowing fans to crank up the decibel level anew.

The calendar may have read late January, but the intensity level was unquestionably March, the Bruins locked in as if their season might end with a loss.

A crowd that filled nearly every seat inside the arena rarely had a moment to catch its breath in the battle between the top two teams in the Pac-12 Conference. The Bruins (14-2 overall, 6-1 Pac-12) eventually moved into a tie alongside the Wildcats (16-2, 6-1) in the conference standings while holding the tiebreaker.

## College Basketball

# No. 7 UCLA Conjures March Madness Intensity in Win Over No. 3 Arizona

By Tribune News Services

For the briefest of moments, Peyton Watson was beaten.

Arizona's Justin Kier saw the opening and drove toward the basket for what looked like a sure layup. The Wildcats guard released the ball only for it to meet an unexpected fate, the shot swatted from behind by an outstretched hand of UCLA's impossibly long-armed freshman.

Kier tumbled to the court along the baseline in disbelief. Watson hovered over his counterpart for a few menacing beats, his lingering presence saying it all.

The Bruins were tougher. The Bruins were savvier. The Bruins were better.

UCLA fans savored it all Tuesday night, roaring and waving tubular balloons behind one basket during what turned into a lengthy celebration in their

It was an ensemble effort, point guard Tyger Campbell poking balls away for turnovers and Jaime Jaquez Jr. repeatedly slapping balls off Arizona counterparts out of bounds to help his team keep possession.

With victory assured in the final minutes, UCLA fans broke out an "O-ver-ra-ted!" chant before Johnny Juzang buried a turnaround jumper to give the Bruins a 16-point cushion. Juzang finished with 15 points, as did Jules Bernard, to lead four Bruins in double figures.

After starting the game on such a tear that it seemed it might never miss, making six of its first seven shots, Arizona endured several lengthy cold spells and shot only 30.7%. Guard Benedict Mathurin led the Wildcats with 16 points but needed 22 shots to get there, making just five.

Predictably from a team

that had not lost in more than a month, Arizona made a run in the second half. The Wildcats buried 3-pointers on back-to-back possessions, stirring some murmurs of unease as they pulled to within 53-46.

Jaquez countered with a 3-pointer and a layup followed by a block to swing the momentum back his team's way, and when Juzang found teammate Myles Johnson for a layup in which Johnson was fouled and made the resulting free throw, the Bruins held a 61-46 lead. There wasn't much remaining doubt about the outcome.

After happily discarding the family fan plan it had adopted in the wake of the worsening COVID-19 pandemic, UCLA welcomed back students and other fans for the first time since the Bruins beat Colorado on Dec. 1.

The students showed their hatred for Arizona a half-hour be-

fore the game when they booed former Wildcats star Richard Jefferson as he walked behind one baseline. Jefferson waved back in jest. The in-game host took another jab at the Wildcats, telling students to make noise if Arizona wasn't even their backup school.

Wildcats fans countered with a brief "U of A!" chant after the Arizona starting lineup was introduced, but it quickly was drowned out by cheers for the Bruins' hype video shown on the scoreboard.

UCLA has cycled through three coaches and nearly four years since losing to Arizona, the Wildcats dropping the last six games in the series. Arizona last vanquished the Bruins in a Pac-12 tournament semifinal in March 2018, needing overtime to pull it out.



Jared Wenzelburger / jared@chronline.com

Mossyrock's Keegan Kolb (1) goes up with the ball during a game against Onalaska Monday night.



Onalaska's Ben Russon (34) dribbles the ball down court Monday night in Mossyrock.



Monday's 2A Girls Basketball

# Black Hills Fends Off Eagles on Senior Night

By The Chronicle staff

TUMWATER — Black Hills overcame a sluggish start offensively to hold off visiting Elma for a 45-30, non-league victory on senior night Monday.

Freshman point guard Kiley McMahon paced the Wolves with a team-high 14 points and four steals to go with four rebounds.

Payton Childers and Madison Parker each added nine points for the Wolves, with Childers hauling in 10 boards and Parker bringing in seven rebounds and swiping four steals. Ava Klovas tallied seven points and seven rebounds.

Black Hills took a while to get going offensively, trailing the Eagles 7-4 after one quarter. But once the Wolves settled in, they started humming. Black Hills ripped off a 17-7 run to end the first half, taking a 21-14 advantage heading into the locker room.

After increasing their lead by two in the third quarter, the Wolves held the Eagles scoreless in the final frame to secure the 15-point victory.

Black Hills (6-8, 3-4 EvCo) played at Centralia on Wednesday.



Alec Dietz / alec@chronline.com

Black Hills guard Madison Parker throws up a layup against Elma on Monday in Tumwater.

## Warriors' Offense Stalls Against Bobcats

Rochester was held to single-digit scoring in all four quarters as visiting Aberdeen handed the Warriors a 84-31 defeat in 2A Evergreen Conference play Monday night.

The Warriors were plagued by poor shooting all night, connecting on just 10 of 52 shots from the field (19%). They were also 2 of 7 from beyond the arc and 9 of 17 from the free throw

line.

“Rough night shooting for the Warriors,” Rochester coach Davina Serdahl said. “Could not get anything going offensively.”

It was a disappointing loss for the Warriors, who entered the match on a two-game win streak. Grace Hoover led Rochester with 11 points.

“Hoover was the spark to-night with aggressive play,” Serdahl said.

The Warriors were held to

eight or fewer points in all four quarters, and were outdistanced in the second half when the Bobcats outscored them 31-16 to put the game out of reach.

Rochester (4-8, 3-6 EvCo) hosted Shelton on Wednesday.

## T-Birds Shut Down Tigers in 74-13 Win

Nine Tumwater players in total scored, including four in double-digits, as the Thunder-

birds hammered visiting Centralia 74-13 in a 2A Evergreen Conference matchup on Monday.

Natalie Sumrok scored 17, Kylie Waltermeter 14, Aubrey Amendala chipped in 13 and Isabella Lund finished with 11 as the Thunderbirds dominated from start to finish.

“She’s got them playing so hard and well,” Centralia coach Doug Ashmore said of Tumwater coach Robin Johnson.

“They’re a tough matchup for us.”

The Tigers were held to just two points in the second half and have now lost six in a row. They were led by Makayla Chavez’ team-high six points, while Emily Wilkerson added four and Maddie Corwin finished with two.

Tumwater (15-1, 8-0 EvCo) hosted league rival W.F. West on Wednesday. Centralia (5-6, 3-4 EvCo) hosted Black Hills on Wednesday.

Monday's 2B Girls Basketball

# Multiple Double-Digit Scorers Send Cards Past Kodiaks

By The Chronicle staff

Four Winlock girls basketball players hit the double-digit mark, and the Cardinals easily dispatched Columbia Adventist at home, 71-38.

The Cards (9-7, 3-3 C2BL) were led by Addison Hall’s 20-point, 11-rebound double-double, and Madison Vigre’s 14 points and game-high 14 rebounds in the win. Charlie Carper also scored 16 points to go along with eight rebounds and Kindyl Kelly scored 13 points to go along with six steals.

“We had a good game,” Cardinals coach Dracy McCoy said. “We’ve been working on our presses and the girls have been doing well with that. Vigre ran the floor well, she played a great game inside and passed the ball really well.”

Vigre’s eight assists were a game-high, and a part of 25 team assists and just 13 turnovers for the Cardinal crew.

Winlock faced Kalama on Tuesday.

## Riverhawks Battle Wire-To-Wire in Loss to Seagulls

Leading for most of the second, third and fourth quarters,



The Chronicle staff

Winlock forward Madison Vigre takes a jumpshot against Columbia Adventist on Monday in Winlock.

Toledo nearly pulled off a short-handed upset of Raymond in a rescheduled contest, but came up just short in a 50-47 loss Monday night.

It’s the Riverhawks fifth straight defeat.

“They gutted it out, short-handed again, and played really well,” Riverhawks coach Randy

Wood said.

Kyra Gardner dropped 27 points for the Seagulls in their return to the court, with Greenlee Clark and Ryah Stanley guarding the all-state guard and Washington State basketball commit as tightly as possible.

Leading the way for Toledo, which suited up just seven play-

ers again, was Clark with 15 points, and Taylor Langhaim who scored 14.

## Boesch Breaks Single-Game 3-Point Record With Nine Treys

Rainier senior Faith Boesch

was on fire from long range, drilling 9 of 18 3-pointers to break Rainier’s single-game 3-point record in a 62-44 road win over Eatonville on Monday.

Boesch’s nine treys broke Ashley Stancil’s previous record of eight set in 2012.

“It was nice to see the ball finally go in the hoop for her,” Rainier coach Brandon Eygabroad said. “She’s been talking about breaking the school record for a while now.”

Boesch’s big night came at the perfect time as the Mountaineers were trailing 13-8 heading into the second quarter. Boesch then drilled 6 of 8 from downtown en route to an 18-point second quarter to give Rainier a 32-24 lead at the break.

Boesch would go on to finish with a game-high 29 points, including a blazing 9 of 18 from beyond the arc.

Bryn Beckman provided some added firepower for the Mountaineers, finishing with 15 points and 14 rebounds on 7 of 14 shooting. Isabella Holmes contributed seven points, nine rebounds and five assists, with all five coming from Boesch 3-pointers.

Rainier (11-4, 5-2 C2BL) continues league play when it hosts Toutle Lake on Thursday.

NHL

# Seattle Kraken Fall to Predators to End Six-Game Homestand

By The Seattle Times

Short-handed on defense for yet another game, the Kraken have had to look deep within their defensive depth.

On Tuesday, Adam Larsson did what he could.

The 29-year-old defenseman not only scored in the second period of a 4-2 loss against the Predators, but played back-to-back shifts of 2:04 and 2:07 on the penalty kill. In a game like Tuesday’s, short Carson Soucy for potentially weeks and Jamie Oleksiak out of his third consecutive contest, that’s the type of effort the Kraken are going to continue to require of their defensemen.

Of course, that type of style can wear out players, especially in these competitive, tight contests that result in a loss. It was the fourth power play of the night that burnt the Kraken, a too-many-men penalty, in a growing trend of late penalties coming back to bite them. On Tuesday, they couldn’t force a comeback despite strong individual efforts like Larsson’s.

All in all, it wasn’t a bad homestand; the Kraken played their most structured, consistent stretch of games in recent memory.

In the finale of that six-game homestand the Kraken’s loss cemented a 3-3 record before a four-game road trip out east to

lead into the All-Star break.

It was a homestand that included a win against the NHL’s top-point getting team, the Panthers, the first shootout win in franchise history, and a strong performance against the Sharks.

Jared McCann struck with his 16th of the year to give the Kraken the first lead. Nashville took a penalty right after granting the Kraken an initial power play, so Seattle had a 5-on-3, and McCann took advantage.

What followed was one of the stronger Kraken first periods in some time, but without the finish. Yanni Gourde had a breakaway stopped by Nashville’s All-Star goalie Juuse Saros, Jordan Eberle’s backhand attempt was

also denied. Marcus Johansson and Eberle had a 2-on-1 near the end of the first where they couldn’t get a shot off.

The Predators made them pay moments later.

Luke Kunin beat Philipp Grubauer with 21 seconds left in the frame to tie the score and send both teams to the intermission knotted up.

Larsson put the Kraken back ahead 12:21 into the second when Gourde found him open sneaking down the slot. He put in his third goal of the season.

Filip Forsberg carried the puck from behind the opposing net all the way down to the Predators offensive zone and rifled it past Grubauer to tie the

score at 2.

It took 1:16 for Nashville to establish its first lead of the game.

This one was tough luck; Mattias Ekholm attempted a wraparound that hit off Vince Dunn’s skate and into the net.

Their second too-many-men penalty of the homestand cost them in the third period, when Matt Duchene scored on the power play with 4:09 left to end a Kraken comeback bid.

Seattle will go on the road for the next week starting with a game in Pittsburgh on Thursday, against a Penguins team that beat them 6-1 on Dec. 6.



Tuesday's 1A Boys Basketball

Freshmen Carry Beavers to Crucial League Win

By The Chronicle staff

A quartet of Tenino freshmen combined for 47 points and the Beavers stymied visiting Hoquiam for a 55-44 victory on senior night in 1A Evergreen League action Tuesday.

The Beavers were led by freshman Noah Schow's game-high 21 points, while fellow freshmen Auston Gonia added 13, Will Feltus chipped in eight and Jack Burkhardt finished with five points and 12 boards as the four scored 47 of the Beavers'

55 points. "Those freshmen carried us," Tenino coach Joe Chirhart said. The Beavers pulled a switcheroo on the Grizzlies, who were expecting the Beavers to come out and run like they did the last time the two squads met.

Chirhart decided to switch it up this time. "We threw them for a loop and slowed the game down a bit and took care of the ball," Chirhart said. "That's a scrappy Hoquiam team." It was also senior night, with

Takari Hickle and Toby Suess each honored before the game. Hickle finished with eight points, nine rebounds and four blocks. Tenno (6-7, 2-3 1A Evergreen) heads to Eatonville on Monday.

Tuesday's 2A Boys Basketball

Wolves Trample Tigers in 2A EvCo Match

**LEAGUE WIN:** Keagan Rongen Scores Game-High 19 for Black Hills; Landon Kaut Leads Centralia With 12

By The Chronicle staff

Three Black Hills players scored in double digits and the Wolves raced past visiting Centralia, 66-45, in a 2A Evergreen Conference matchup on Tuesday. Keagan Rongen's led all scorers with 19 points, while Johnnie Stallings added 17 and Luke Ellison finished with 14 for the Wolves, who have now won three of their last four. It was a frustrating loss for the Tigers, who were coming off a league win over Rochester last week. "I thought we had some stuff dialed in and then we panicked at times tonight," Centralia coach Kyle Donahue said. "The biggest frustration was poor decision-making. Bad passes, choosing when and when not to execute." The Tigers were also hampered by early foul trouble as standout senior Landon Kaut picked up three fouls in the first quarter. Luckily, the rest of the



Jared Wenzelburger / jared@chronline.com

Centralia's Landon Kaut (12) puts up as shot during a game at Black Hills High School Tuesday night.

team stepped up and kept the Tigers in striking distance in the first half as they trailed 25-17 at the break.

"Brandon Yeung did a good job handling pressure and Cohen Ballard shot fairly well. He was 3 for 5 from (3-point range),"

Donahue said. Kaut finished with a team-high 12 points and Cole Wasson and Ballard each chipped in 11.

Black Hills (10-6, 6-2 EvCo) hosts W.F. West on Thursday. Centralia (6-6, 3-5 EvCo) heads to Tumwater on Thursday.

NFL

It's L.A. vs. San Francisco Again, This Time With a Super Bowl Trip at Stake

By Bill Plaschke

Los Angeles Times

The Rams were bent over at the knees, wheezing, gasping, choking. The greatest quarterback in history was swaggering down the field, charging, swinging, steaming. A lingering Gulf Coast chill had suddenly become a raucous inferno, thousands of flag-waving fans at Raymond James Stadium roaring and pleading as if refusing to let the defending champion Tampa Bay Buccaneers go down. Then with two lofty throws, Matthew Stafford put them down. And with two nimble catches, Cooper Kupp kept them down. And with the simple swing of a right foot in the final ticks of a great escape, Matt Gay knocked them out.

On a once-sunny Sunday darkened by rolling clouds and angry pirates, the Rams recovered from a blown 24-point lead to beat Tom Brady and the Buccaneers on Gay's last-second 30-yard field goal, earning a 30-27 NFC divisional-round playoff win. Long pause. Deep breath. Bring on the — are you kidding me? — San Francisco 49ers. The GOAT is gone, just in time for the Rams' bold and bleating Bay Area rivals to show up at SoFi Stadium next Sunday for an NFC championship game with the winner advancing to Super Bowl LVI on Feb. 13 at SoFi. "This is how you write a book," said Rams outside linebacker Von Miller, smile huge, eyes wide. Yes, it's happening again, it's Los Angeles vs. San Francisco in a playoff matchup for the ages, not to mention the second time in less than four months. In case you forgot, the Dodgers beat the Giants in the National League Division Series in October. We didn't forget. "You wouldn't want it no other way. It's like the perfect setting," Rams defensive lineman Aaron Donald said. "Get ready for a dogfight." It has been a dream of the Rams to play the Super Bowl in their sparkling new stadium



Robert Gauthier / Los Angeles Times

Los Angeles Rams quarterback Matthew Stafford (9) moves to avoid pressure from Tampa Bay Buccaneers nose tackle Vita Vea (50) during a second-half drive in the NFC Divisional Playoff at Raymond James Stadium.

since it was built and opened by their owner Stan Kroenke in 2020. Their victory Sunday, on a breathtaking 63-yard drive that required just 42 seconds and consisted of two perfect passes from Stafford to Kupp, moves this vision just one step away. But this is one damn doozy of a step. The nemesis 49ers have beaten them six consecutive times, and their fans recently filled SoFi such that the Rams have limited their available title game tickets to residents of the greater Los Angeles region. Stop rolling those eyes. It's a smart move. It's a fair effort to create a greater home-field advantage. It's like the Giants soaking the Candlestick Park base-paths to slow down Maury Wills in 1962, just not nearly as sleazy. "I can't wait to see the fans show up in Mr. Kroenke's house that he built," Rams coach Sean McVay said. "It's going to be a special opportunity." The 49ers are far more dangerous on the actual field, where they have reached this point by winning taut games at favored Dallas and Green Bay. The Rams are showing up after blowing out the overmatched Arizona Cardinals and then nearly, really, al-

most blowing it against the Buccaneers in what would have been one of the greatest collapses in franchise history. "Man, I'm still trying to process everything," Miller said. "Man, that was a crazy game." The Rams led 27-3 midway through the third quarter, yet they eventually lost four fumbles — two by running back Cam Akers — while Gay missed a 47-yard field-goal attempt. They gave Brady an inch and he took it miles, connecting on a 55-yard touchdown pass to Mike Evans late in the fourth quarter and then directing the tying touchdown drive after Akers' second fumble. "I thought, this has got to be a dream," McVay said. "But our guys just kept battling." The battle was finally reengaged with 42 seconds remaining and the Rams on their 25-yard line with one timeout. This was when Stafford showed why he was worth the massive trade to acquire him from the Detroit Lions last offseason, and when Kupp showed why he's the best wide receiver in football. "Nobody flinched," McVay said. "Nobody blinked." Kupp beat cornerback Sean

Murphy-Bunting down the left side for a 20-yard catch of a perfect bullet. Then, running a route that Kupp called "Love of the Game," he beat safety Antoine Winfield Jr. deep for a 44-yard catch of a soaring spiral to set up the game-winning field goal. The play is called "Love of the Game" because, basically, the receiver just runs like the dickens and hopes to draw enough attention to free up other receivers. "You're never really getting the ball," Stafford said. "You're just clearing out some area." No, the play is not called "Catch of the Game," but that's what happened after Stafford saw Kupp break free and instinctively made the memorable throw. "One of those ones where all you can do is just dig, dig out your route, look up for the ball and hope that it's floating up there," Kupp said. It was, and the Rams were soon floating back to Los Angeles. "It's a whole lot more fun when you've got to make a play like that to win the game and just steal somebody's soul," Stafford said. He could have speaking about Brady, who watched the ending

bundled up on the bench and then walked off the field with no expression on his eternally young 44-year-old face. And no, he wasn't going to address rumors that, after 22 seasons and seven Super Bowl rings, he's finally retiring. "I'm not thinking about anything past five minutes from now," he said. He was still stuck, and might forever be stuck, on those final 42 seconds. "Obviously we showed a lot of fight, but at the end of the day, you lose a game, you lose a game," Brady said, adding, "It all sucks to lose in the end." The Rams narrowly avoided that ending and will now reward their city with another reminder of that delicious San Francisco sports rivalry. The roots of the Rams-49ers rivalry do not run as deep as Dodgers-Giants, but the matchup has deeply affected the Rams nonetheless. They've played the 49ers 145 times, more than any other opponent. They've lost to the 49ers 75 times, more than any other opponent. San Francisco coach Kyle Shanahan, who was once McVay's boss when both were on the staff in Washington, has not only won six consecutive games against his former pupil but seven out of 10 overall. The Rams and 49ers have met only once in the postseason, in the NFC championship game after the 1989 season, with the 49ers winning 30-3 in a game that featured the infamous phantom sack of Rams quarterback Jim Everett. The 49ers' defense was so intimidating, at one point Everett went down without being touched, a play that will live forever in the darkest corners of Rams lore. The Rams emerged from a similar corner late Sunday afternoon — barely — and will now have a chance to rework some more of their history against their longtime nemesis. "It's a big challenge," Stafford said. Somebody call Cody Bellinger.





Alec Dietz / alec@chronline.com

W.F. West’s Dirk Plakinger and Soren Dalan embrace, as teammate Gage Brumfield (left) looks on, after defeating Tumwater in Chehalis on Tuesday night.

## Bearcats

*Continued from page B1*

“Our minds are growing,” White said. “We’re trying to realize that we can be really good if we play hard and stop overthinking the game. I applaud my guys as fighters and never quitting. Couldn’t be prouder.”

For the Thunderbirds, it’s their first defeat within the borders of the state of Washington, and their first league loss.

A tough first half that saw the high-powered offense score

just 21 points, was greatly improved in the second half, thanks to Brewer getting going and in a rhythm while avoiding foul trouble. Brewer finished with 15 points.

While Brewer, and second-leading scorer Andrew Collins, and post presence Otton all sat on the bench during much of the first half, the T-Birds bench kept them in the game, keeping the deficit at just three by the half-time break.

“(The foul trouble) disrupted a whole bunch of things in the first half,” T-Birds coach Josh Wilson said. “I’m proud of my guys off

the bench because I think they did a good job riding it out.”

Behind Brewer’s 15 points, Adam Overbay was the only other Thunderbird in double figures with 12 points in a rough night shooting. Though they clawed their way back into the game after trailing by as much as seven, they couldn’t make enough shots down the stretch to steal another league win.

Brewer’s 3-pointer with just over a minute left was answered immediately by the Bearcats’ Hoff drilling a 3-pointer right back. After trading blows and a couple made free throws from

Dalan, the T-Birds had a chance to tie it up late. Connor Hopkins was fouled on a 3-point attempt with five seconds left, but only made his first free throw.

After Dalan missed the front end of a one-and-one moments later, Tumwater turned it over without getting a chance to tie the game or take the lead. The Thunderbirds last gasp attempt at the buzzer, a full-court heave from Luke Reid, hit rim and bounced off.

“There’s a lot of learning lessons,” Wilson said. “If we take care of the basketball and finish our lay-ins it could’ve been

a different game. Just battling through adversity in a tough environment. Sometimes things don’t go your way but you have to be proud of the effort, we played hard. We didn’t have shots falling, and credit to W.F. West.”

Wilson commended the play of Seth Weller, Brayden Oram, and Tanner Brewer for stepping up in the first half while his normal starters had to sit with fouls.

The T-Birds will look to rebound against Centralia on Thursday at home, while the Bearcats take on Black Hills on the road.

## NFL

# Here’s How the OT Playoff Game Between Chiefs and Bills Could Have Been Even Better

By Matt Calkins

*The Seattle Times*

Unfortunately, it had to end eventually.

That Chiefs-Bills playoff contest Sunday — a reminder of why NFL games are consistently this country’s most-watched events — might have been the best 60-minutes-plus of football we’ll see for the next 10 years.

But it’s the 60-minutes plus that is the point of emphasis here, because two things can be true at once: 1) Fans can feel as though they saw a master class in entertainment and perseverance. 2) Fans can feel as though they still got robbed.

The NFL’s current overtime rules prevented the Bills from getting the ball back after the Chiefs scored a touchdown on their opening drive in the extra period. Had Kansas City kicked a field goal, Buffalo quarterback Josh Allen would have had a chance to lead his team down the field again. Had both teams made field goals, the next score would have won, but in this case a touchdown sealed the win for the Chiefs.

The reaction on social media — and you really never know if that represents how most Americans feel — was not sympathetic to the format. As attorney Xavier Pope tweeted: “We don’t even use coins anymore. Why are we deciding football games with them?”

The implication is that the result of a 50-50 coin toss shouldn’t be more instrumental to the outcome than the prowess of the players. So should there be a rule change?

Let’s first look at some of the data as per NFL research. Since the new overtime rules were implemented in 2010, there have been 163 OT games, including the playoffs. Teams that won the coin toss have a record of 86-67-10 in those games — good for a



David Eulitt / Getty Images

Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen (17) walks off the field after a 42-36 loss against the Kansas City Chiefs in the AFC Divisional Playoff game at Arrowhead Stadium on Jan. 23 in Kansas City, Missouri.

52.8 winning percentage.

This indicates that the coin-toss win is still advantageous, but the results aren’t as lopsided as one might think.

But then you have the playoff games. In the 11 postseason contests that have gone to OT, the coin-toss winners have a record of 10-1. The only team to overcome losing the coin toss were the Rams over the Saints in January 2019, which was most remembered for the no-call on a clear pass-interference penalty that likely cost New Orleans the win.

So if the Saints did get that call and scored a TD in overtime, coin-toss winners would be 11-0 in the playoffs. And that’s where we have a problem.

To some extent, this is where the purity vs. succinctness debate comes into play. One could argue that it would be purer for a soccer game to never end in a shootout, but this would also mean they could go on for three hours. Controversial as it

was, putting a runner on second during extra innings in Major League Baseball games last year did add excitement and speed things up. By not having tie-breakers in the fifth set, Wimbledon might have been purer than other Grand Slams, but there would also be marathon matches — including one that lasted for 11 hours.

But the difference between these formats and the NFL OT rules is that there is no 50-50 game of chance that gives one side a distinct advantage.

This is not to say the OT rules were ill-conceived. Ostensibly, those in charge wanted to strike a balance between suspense and fairness. By making a touchdown mandatory for victory on the first possession as opposed to a field goal, it put the onus on the coin-toss winning team to “earn it” while mitigating the chances of a tie.

It’s been exciting. And based on the aforementioned numbers in the regular season — not

predictable. But the playoffs are different, and this is where common sense should force a rule change.

I’ve heard the argument that if you can’t stop your opponent from scoring a touchdown on the first drive, then you don’t deserve to win. Come on. When you have teams such as the Chiefs and the Bills, whose quarterbacks were playing like first-ballot Hall of Famers on Sunday, it’s incredibly difficult to get a stop.

As for potentially prolonging overtime for an extra few minutes while the two teams duke it out — no fan is going to have a problem with this in the post-season.

Keep the rules for the regular season the same. Change them for the playoffs. Sunday confirmed that. We just saw one of the best games in NFL history. It could — and should — have been even better.

## Hoops

*Continued from page B1*

steals of her own as the Cardinals won their third game in a row.

“Our goal tonight was to steal the ball, run the ball and get to the rim,” Winlock coach Dracy McCoy said. “They had a hard time stopping Addison.”

The goal was accomplished. The Cardinals shot only two 3-pointers, hitting both of them, as Winlock focused on attacking the bucket.

That led the senior post Madison Vigre doing damage down low, scoring 14 points and shooting 6 for 6 from the free throw line.

“Madison was great inside,” McCoy said.

The Cardinals’ defense was equally impressive, holding the Chinooks to single-digit scoring in each of the final three quarters.

“We had a good defensive game tonight and our press worked well,” McCoy said.

Winlock improves to 10-7 overall and 4-3 in the C2BL. The Cards host Toutle Lake in another league matchup at 1 p.m. on Saturday.



# THE ECONOMIC REPORT

A SUPPLEMENT OF The Chronicle

## The Alliance Year In Review

*DeBolt Highlights Building Efficiencies Into Infrastructure Projects in Lewis County Via a ‘Dig Once’ Effort*

BY THE ECONOMIC  
ALLIANCE OF LEWIS COUNTY

The future of economic prosperity and a project to streamline infrastructure projects in Lewis County was highlighted by the Economic Alliance of Lewis County Executive Director Richard DeBolt at Monday’s Chehalis City Council meeting.

“It’s been a good year for us,” DeBolt said, adding his agency has been able to help recruit several companies.

DeBolt touched on Georgia-Pacific moving into Centralia this year with its 85 jobs; as well as the opening of a new 215,000-square-foot facility also in Centralia by Ryerson Steel that aims to open in the third quarter of this year employing about 60 employees. DeBolt also detailed The Alliance’s involvement in a proposed Energy Innovation Center as detailed in a story published below.

The bulk of his presentation, however, focused on a simple yet potentially major cost-cutting project headed up by The Alliance best described as a “dig once” effort on countywide infrastructure projects such as improving culverts, expanding broadband, extending sewer projects and repairing roads. The idea is to create a map of all such projects planned for Lewis County in the next 10 years, and find areas where projects intersect and do all the projects



TODD CHAPUT  
Initiatives Program  
Manager



Courtesy photo

Prairie Creek flows under a culvert on Bunker Creek Road near Adna. The concrete structure replaced a metal pipe that had been obstructing the passage of salmon. The state Supreme Court ruled in 2019 that the state must restore habitat access including an estimated 1,000 state-owned culverts by 2030 at a cost of about \$4 billion. The Economic Alliance of Lewis County has launched a project to cut such costs down by a third for projects in Lewis County.

at that site together.

Dig once is simple, direct and efficient, DeBolt said. It can also lead to substantial development dollars for Lewis County under a new program initiated by the Economic Alliance of Lewis County project to tap into both American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) federal dollars and also dollars tucked into the state Legislature’s Capital Budget. ARPA was signed into law by President

■ SEE **REVIEW**, PAGE C3

### TO SEE A YEAR IN REVIEW OF THE ALLIANCE:

The Economic Alliance of Lewis County Executive Director Richard DeBolt will give a Year In Review presentation at the Centralia City Council meeting from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8 at Centralia City Hall.

## Alliance Supports Creation of Hydrogen Center in Chehalis

BY THE ECONOMIC  
ALLIANCE OF LEWIS COUNTY

Members of the Energy Innovation Coalition (EIC) presented information last week to the Port of Chehalis commissioners regarding their progress in the planning of Washington state’s first hydrogen fueling station — slated to begin construction in the Chehalis Industrial Park off of Bishop Road (at LaBree Road, exit 74) in June.

According to the EIC group, including members of the Economic Alliance of Lewis County, Twin Transit, and others, the plan is to begin construction this summer on what will eventually become a 30 to 40 acre site in the industrial park that will include both a hydrogen fueling station and a business park focused on catering to high-tech hydrogen research, development, and innovation organizations.

Ultimately, this EIC would like to

see Centralia and Chehalis together become what’s called a “hydrogen valley” that both creates energy and facilitates the creation of Washington’s hydrogen energy market. There are currently 36 existing hydrogen valley projects worldwide and they often start in former “coal communities,” meaning those communities that previously had a wide economic base in coal that no longer exists.

“We have been able to meet with several companies that want to move into the hydrogen space,” DeBolt said. “We are looking for opportunities to come to areas in Washington state to further invest into our community. Some of those are as large as \$800 million into our community and some are as small as \$25 million into our community.”

This project utilizes both funding earmarked by the Washington state Legislature and will seek federal and

grant funding, as well. The Lewis Economic Alliance says they will assist with permitting the project and that it will go “online” officially and be completed in 2023.

This planned fueling station would also be providing hydrogen to Twin Transit, who will obtain hydrogen transit vehicles, and also create research opportunities for TOYOTA & Toyota USA, who have already agreed to donate several hydrogen-powered vehicles to local Twin Transit, pending local hydrogen fueling availability.

### HB1792

In addition, a bill is working its way through the Legislature that will expand the ability of public utilities to produce, sell and distribute hydrogen. House Bill 1792 passed its first

■ SEE **CENTER**, PAGE C3

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S CORNER YEAR IN REVIEW

## The Alliance Is Promoting the Building of Infrastructure and Business Support

BY RICHARD DEBOLT

Executive Director  
The Economic Alliance of Lewis County

I know “infrastructure” isn’t the most exciting topic to get your juices flowing, but what it lacks in luster it overflows with the foundational heft that is the basic building block of economic development.

At the Chehalis City Council earlier this week I gave a presentation of the Year In Review for the Economic Alliance of Lewis County. As reported in stories at left in this Economic Report, we discussed a project where we are mapping all the various planned infrastructure projects countywide that we can bunch together to gain efficiencies and save development money in a “dig once” effort (these projects can include fish passage or culvert rehabilitation, broadband expansion, sewer upgrades and roads).

This Alliance report also included an update on a planned hydrogen fueling station at the Port of Chehalis, and on page 2 of this report we detail the exciting news coming out of ToledoTel to expand broadband coverage in South Lewis County.

All three of those projects deserve attention as I believe the infrastructure that comes out of those efforts will lead to future decent paying jobs within new businesses in Lewis County and also the continued health of existing businesses. And while we highlight the mapping, hydrogen center and broadband expansion, there are a few other items of note.

The Alliance pushed forward this past year on recruitment of outside businesses and some direct marketing for Lewis County and the economic opportunities available here in the south sound (stay tuned as we expect to announce two new recruitment projects next month).

Another solid project of The Alliance is our Business Development center. We hired the highly capable Dolly Tardiff to head up the center as Program Manager. Along with monthly workshops that aim to put more tools into the business success toolbelt, Dolly also offers existing and new business help as they plan, start, manage and grow. Dolly offers her free services to Alliance members that includes everything from obtaining the proper permits and licenses, to one-on-one consultations. Dolly is well positioned to offer assistance as she has run her own successful business in Lewis County since 1992.

The Alliance staff recently completed an exercise at our annual retreat on what we believe we do and what is our purpose. Our focus boiled down to our customer is the community, what we can do to better enhance the employees and help our employers, and what can we do to bring more businesses and tax base to Lewis County.

Specifically, for the Chehalis City Council presentation this past Monday, I highlighted several projects we are helping shepherd through, in partnership with the county. They are improved parking at the Rec Park, North Market Boulevard reconstruction, the Chehalis River Raw Water Main replacement and the Chamber Way/ BNSF bridge replacement.

I’m set to give a similar presentation in two weeks before the Centralia City Council where I



RICHARD DEBOLT  
Economic  
Alliance of  
Lewis County



An architect’s drawing illustrates a planned hydrogen fueling station at the Port of Chehalis.

■ SEE **DIRECTOR**, PAGE C3



BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

BOB SPAHR - BUSINESS: CITY OF CHEHALIS / ADOLPHSEN REAL ESTATE

**Q: How long have you been a member of the Economic Alliance of Lewis County?**  
A: A long time, about 10 to 15 years.

**Q: Why did you join The Alliance?**  
A: I'm interested in economic development in Lewis County and creating jobs so young citizens can stay here and live well.

**Q: What is a key for the success of your business?:**  
A: Networking.

**Q: What do you enjoy most about volunteering?**  
A: The satisfaction of improving life for others.

**Q: What do you love most about your industry?**  
A: Making life better for the citizens of Chehalis and helping families purchase their dreams.

**Q: How do you define success?**  
A: Personal happiness and family.

**Q: Who inspires you?**  
A: John F. Kennedy and Babe Ruth.

**Q: What is one thing, either industry-related or not, you learned in the last month?**  
A: Oil machines at bowling alleys can create a lot of problems.

**Q: What's the last book you read?**  
A: Been a long time. There's too much information on the Internet.

**Q: What is your favorite meal?**  
A: New York steak or broccoli and chicken penne in a white sauce.

**Q: What do you do for pleasure outside of running your business?**  
A: Winter bowl and managing bowling tournaments trips for several local bowlers; helping to coach state champion W.F. West Bearcat bowling team.



1958 Chevrolet Impala

**Q: What is the favorite car you have ever owned?**  
A: 1958 Chevrolet Impala.

**Q: What is something about you (a fun fact) that not many people know?**  
A: I enjoy mowing my lawn.

ToledoTel and County Awarded \$23.5M

Money Will Bring Additional High-Speed Internet to South Lewis County

BY THE ECONOMIC ALLIANCE OF LEWIS COUNTY

Lewis County and ToledoTel received the largest chunk of funding last week when the Washington State Broadband Office published its list of awardees for the first round of Infrastructure Acceleration Grants.

About \$23.5 million will be awarded to Lewis County and ToledoTel in a public-private partnership that will aim to bring high-speed, fiber-optic internet to more than 1,800 Winlock residents by the end of 2026.

The Washington State Broadband Office has awarded more than \$145 million in first-grant funding to 13 projects statewide. The Lewis County Public Utility District was not among the awardees listed; the PUD hopes to find funding to bring broadband out to Randle-Packwood.

With more than 1,800 broadband subscribers currently, the Winlock project is expected to double ToledoTel's servicing network and customer base over the next five years. The project would cover 250 miles of fiber construction within the Winlock area.

ToledoTel hopes to break ground on the project sometime later this year and have about 820 new customers connected by the end of 2022.

Lewis County and its partner ToledoTel were the winners of a \$23.5 million grant from the Washington State Broadband Office to build out broadband infrastructure and provide access to high speed internet service to about 2,300 homes in the greater Winlock area.

"Lewis County ranked fifth out of 13 awardees and received the largest maximum award in this round of funding. The proposed project would start this year and wrap up by the end of 2026," read a Friday news release from the county.

"Together, Lewis County, ToledoTel and Lewis County PUD have been awarded a little more than \$36 million in broadband infrastructure funding and will continue to seek future funding opportunities outlined in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act," the news release continued.

"This project is important to us because a lack of broadband access is a major challenge for many residents in Lewis County," ToledoTel stated in a news release. "According to a recent survey, about 77% of customers in the Lewis County Public Utility District's service area don't have reliable access to high-speed broadband internet. The pandemic has proved that access to reliable broadband is a necessity, and fiber internet, with its reliability and longevity, is the best solution. Welcome to the ToledoTel family Winlock."



From left to right: State Rep. Peter Abbarno, R-Centralia; ToledoTel Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Dale Merten; former Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Alicia Bull; and Economic Alliance of Lewis County Executive Director Richard DeBolt stand before a map of expanded broadband coverage at a recent open house at ToledoTel.

Georgia-Pacific Acquires Expansion Property in Centralia Opportunity for New Facility to Meet Growing Demand in the Pacific Northwest

BY THE ECONOMIC ALLIANCE OF LEWIS COUNTY

Georgia-Pacific has acquired property in Centralia with the intent to expand corrugated packaging operations in the Pacific Northwest. Future expansion would help meet the needs of customers in the region.

The newly acquired property in Centralia is convenient to the Interstate 5 corridor and would complement the company's existing operation in Olympia.

"Georgia-Pacific's corrugated business has strong relationships with produce and e-commerce customers, and a new facility will help us serve these growing customer segments," said Travis Dawson, VP – west region for the corrugated business. "The solid performance of our Olympia plant gives us confidence in the ability to expand business in the region."

"The Economic Alliance of Lewis County is excited to have Georgia-Pacific expand to our community. They have a long history of collaboration in working to support families in the Pacific Northwest," said Richard DeBolt, executive director.

Expansion plans are still in the early stages. Once plans are solidified, it is expected a new facility would create about 85 new jobs.

Georgia-Pacific is a leading integrated packaging supplier providing a full range of packaging solutions across the U.S., including containerboard, corrugated boxes and sheets, recyclable mailers for e-commerce, high-graphic packaging through our Color-Box business and digital print for packaging through our Hummingbird business. The company's recycling subsidiary is among the world's largest traders of paper, metal and plastics, contributing to a paper recovery rate of just over 65 percent and a corrugated recovery rate of about 90 percent in the U.S.

For more information, visit: [gppackaging.com](http://gppackaging.com).

**ABOUT GEORGIA-PACIFIC PACKAGING**

Based in Atlanta, Georgia-Pacific is a leading integrated packaging supplier providing a full range of packaging solutions across the U.S., including containerboard, corrugated boxes and sheets, recyclable mailers for e-commerce, high-graphic packaging through our Color-Box business and digital print for packaging through our Hummingbird business. The company's recycling subsidiary is among the world's largest traders of paper, metal and plastics, contributing to a paper recovery rate of just over 65 percent and a corrugated recovery rate of about 90 percent in the U.S.

For more information, visit: [gppackaging.com](http://gppackaging.com).





## REVIEW:

*Continued From Page C1*

Joe Biden last year. The stimulus package will fund \$1.9 trillion in infrastructure projects.

“We’ve never rewarded efficiency very well in government so what we set out to do this year is for The Alliance to create an opportunity where we could create a map that is completely interactive and able to look at all the projects in our county, and try and coordinate these projects,” said DeBolt.

He said every time projects can be coordinated the savings are 30% to 40%, DeBolt said.

With funding from the county and the cities of Centralia and Chehalis, The Alliance is tasked with building and maintaining a layered map of all projects underway or

planned in the county. About 700 infrastructure projects are underway in Lewis County.

Once the interactive map is complete, leaders can examine areas of concurrent development. It could be a new sewer line. It could be fiber for broadband. It could be putting in sidewalks or fish passage culverts.

DeBolt understands how government funding works, spending the past two decades in the state Legislature, with many years serving as the Minority Leader of the House, and then for the past couple years before retiring from politics as the Minority Republican House Leader on the Capital Budget Committee. DeBolt knows how to get projects placed at the top of funding lists, and how government

## TO WATCH THE PAST CHEHALIS CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

Go to [www.ci.chehalis.wa.us](http://www.ci.chehalis.wa.us) and hit the link titled LIVE Streaming and On-Demand Viewing of City Council Meetings and then choose the first video of the council meetings dated Jan. 24 to watch a Year In Review presentation by Economic Alliance of Lewis County Executive Director Richard DeBolt.

deciders choose projects that are multijurisdictional and that can be completed.

By putting together the layered map, Lewis County leaders can pitch the multi-jurisdiction projects that emerge. Specifically, ARPA funds clean water, sewer, road and broadband projects. DeBolt has hired Todd Chaput to run the program for The Alliance with the cooperation of scores of federal, state, county and city agencies. Chaput’s title is Initiatives Program Manager. His primary task is getting the agencies to supply data of their projects underway or planned, and then with the help of county employees, to put together the comprehensive list of layered projects.

The Alliance and other leaders will now lobby Olympia to fund the various projects, starting with this year’s short session in Olympia. Chaput said typically the funding

organizations offer up 80% of the cost of a project, with the county or other entities coming up with the rest of the 20% cost.

The main idea, DeBolt said, was to get local projects on this year’s capital budget, and hope for some funding. But the majority of funding will be done during next year’s capital budget discussions and by getting on lists now, Lewis County projects will have a leg up on other state projects vying for capital budget funding next year.

“The nice thing with this map,” Chaput told the Chehalis City Council, “is that everybody can see what everybody else is going to do over the projected 10-year future.”

## DIRECTOR:

*Continued From Page C1*

will detail projects we are keeping a helpful eye on for the Hub City.

The Economic Alliance of Lewis County will continue to push projects with the

ultimate aim of attracting family wage jobs to Lewis County and also assisting existing businesses. We also will continue our efforts to bring the various state, county and city government entities to work together for our greater good, along with

the help of several groups and agencies that focus on economic development.

It’s been a good year for The Alliance in 2021. This coming year looks to continue with our success as some of our key projects mature.

## PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT — FOR SALE IN CHEHALIS

### Bank Parcel Downtown Chehalis

Price: \$1.6 million

Size: 0.14 acres, about 6,000 square feet

Parking: 0.26 acres, about 11,200 square feet

ATM and Drive Thru parcel: 0.12 acres, about 5,100 square feet

Zoning: Central Business District

• Offering includes three separate parcels

• Main entrance fronting North Market Boulevard which is the dominant arterial in downtown Chehalis

• Marble type finishes on the exterior of the building



• Hard corner location for the building

• Parking on all streets fronting the building

• Neighboring businesses are primarily local operations

• Parking lot parcel located within one block of the main branch

• Drive-thru parcel on the corner of NW Pacific Ave & NW Chehalis Ave



Economic Alliance of Lewis County Executive Director Richard DeBolt and Centralia Mayor Kelly Smith Johnston give a presentation on a planned hydrogen fueling station to the Port of Chehalis commissioners last week.

## CENTER:

*Continued From Page C1*

hurdles as it was approved by the House Environment and Energy Committee last week. The bill is cosponsored by 20th Legislative District Reps. Peter Abbarno, R-Centralia, and Ed Orcutt, R-Kalama.

“HB 1792, which passed unanimously from the House Environment and Energy Committee, authorizes and incentivizes the expansion of hydrogen through tax exemptions. The passage of HB 1792 builds on the green hydrogen refueling station infrastructure funds I was able to help secure in the 2021 Capital Budget,” Abbarno said in a statement.

“There is a lot of effort and focus to help leverage our ideal location between Seattle and Portland to build and

produce this type of clean transportation fuel,” he continued.

Electrolytic hydrogen is produced by way of “electrolysis,” a chemical process which energizes water to separate the compounds into hydrogen and oxygen molecules. Where the energy comes from to produce electrolysis can determine the gas’s cleanliness. Renewable hydrogen is produced through “renewable” sources that cannot be depleted, such as wind or solar.

The bill would also add the production of green electrolytic hydrogen to a number of existing tax exemptions that currently apply to renewable hydrogen, and would create a public utility tax exemption on retail sales tax, use tax and leasehold excise tax through 2025.

## ECONOMIC ALLIANCE OF LEWIS COUNTY & STAFF



### ECONOMIC ALLIANCE OF LEWIS COUNTY EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Ben Kostick CPA Inc.  
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**Bob Spahr**  
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**Chad Taylor**  
The Chronicle,  
The Silver Agency

**Kirk Vigre**  
Dry Box

### STAFF

**Todd Chaput**  
Infrastructure Initiatives  
Program Manager

**Richard DeBolt**  
Executive Director

**Marrienne Schumacher**  
Office Manager

**Eric Sonnenberg**  
External Relations  
Manager

**Dolly Tardiff**  
Business Development  
Center Program Manager

**Michael Wagar**  
Communications Strategist



Puzzles

Find Answers to the Puzzles in the Next Edition

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Volcano's output
  - 5 Musical sign
  - 9 Luau memento
  - 12 Nonstop
  - 13 Very large
  - 14 W-2 collectors
  - 15 Courteous chap
  - 16 Borodin prince
  - 17 Actress Issa
  - 18 Trying experiences
  - 20 Entertainer Della —
  - 22 Hosp. scan
  - 23 Folks
  - 24 Poisonous
  - 27 Feudal tenant
  - 30 Iowa college town
  - 31 Feel poorly
  - 32 Pet shop cutie
  - 34 Auric's creator
  - 35 Namath or Pesci

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15					16					17		
18					19				20	21		
				22				23				
24	25	26				27				28	29	
30					31					32		33
34					35					36		
	37		38	39				40				
				41				42				
43	44	45				46				47	48	49
50					51	52				53		
54					55					56		
57					58					59		

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- 36 "Fancy" singer
- 37 Type of tire
- 40 Used solder
- 41 Foul up
- 42 Light metal
- 43 Ruin
- 46 Capitol worker
- 50 Western treaty grp.
- 51 Osiris' sister
- 53 Relocate
- 54 Backtalk
- 55 Undiluted
- 56 Foretelling
- 57 Take wing
- 58 Strong, as venison
- 59 Superman, incognito

**DOWN**

- 1 Toy block brand
- 2 Say decidedly
- 3 Peddle
- 4 Goddess of the hunt
- 5 Hot pepper

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 6 Carries with difficulty
- 7 The "I"
- 8 — wheel
- 9 Trevi Fountain coins, once
- 10 Bullpen stats
- 11 Shrink's reply (2 wds.)

- 19 Part of a circle
- 21 Printer's measures
- 23 Curly-leafed veggie
- 24 — chi
- 25 General — Bradley
- 26 Lucy Lawless role
- 27 Fat fiddle
- 28 Does a takeoff
- 29 Grease job
- 31 Barely open
- 33 Walk quietly
- 36 Go on a rampage (2 wds.)
- 38 Nov. follower
- 39 Annoying
- 40 Shark feature
- 42 Irascible
- 43 Dog's ancestor
- 44 Travel option
- 45 See
- 46 Thailand, once
- 47 Big book
- 48 Stove part
- 49 Find a tenant
- 52 Wave maker

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to fishing.

CALETK

Answer: Tackle

Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

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

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

HOW TO PLAY:  
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

Manage Time Word Search

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

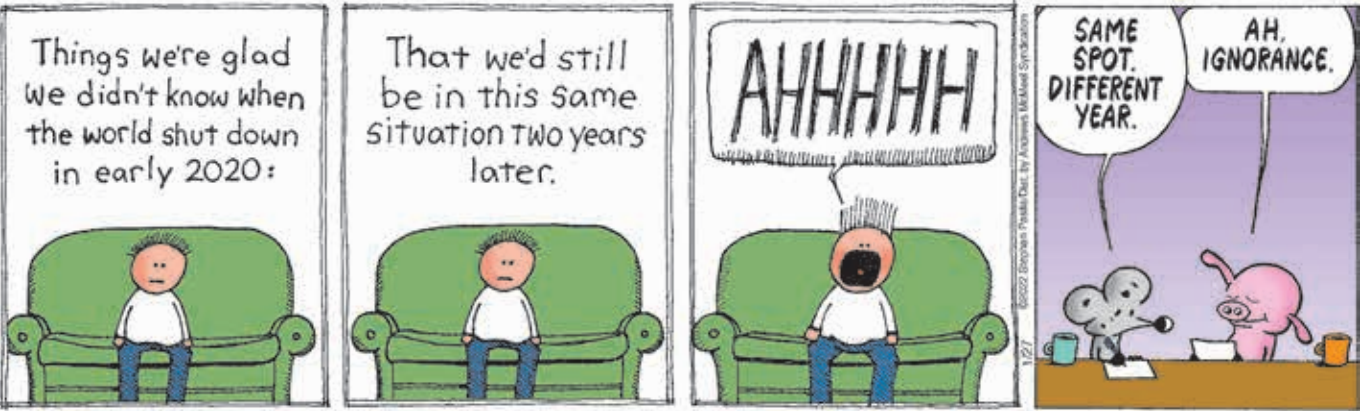
ABSENCE	BALANCE	COST	FILES	MODERATION	PROJECT
ACTION	BLUEPRINT	CRITERIA	FOLLOWUP	OPPORTUNITY	SCHEDULE
ADDRESS	BUSINESS	DAILY	GOALS	ORGANIZED	SOFTWARE
ADJOURN	CLEAN	DATA	MANAGEMENT	PLANNING	SOURCING
AGENDA	CODE	DURATION	MEETING	PRIORITIZE	TIME
APPOINTMENT	CONTEXT	ESTIMATION	MODEL	PROCRASTINATE	TRACKER



GET FUZZY by Darby Conley



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



RHYMES WITH ORANGE by Hilary B. Price



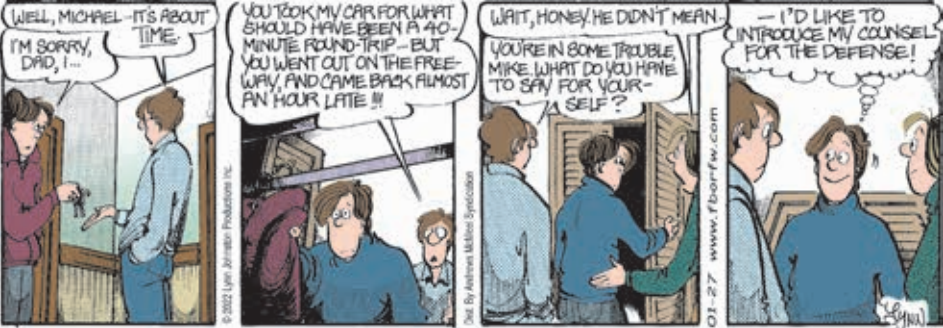
DILBERT by Scott Adams



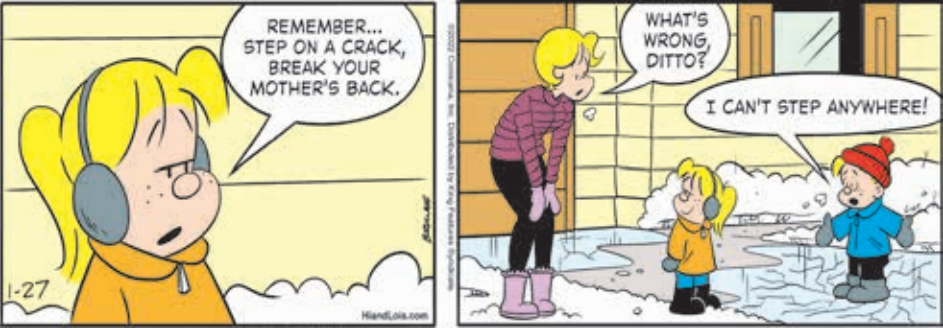
PICKLES by Brian Crane



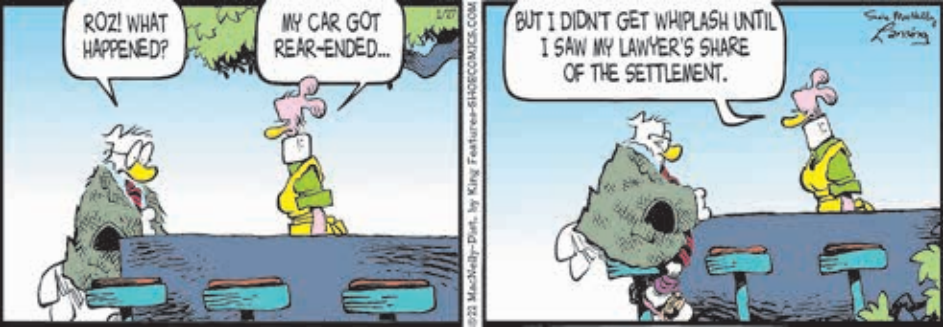
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



HI & LOIS by Greg & Brian Walker



SHOE by Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



B.C. by Mastroianni & Hart



NON SEQUITUR by Wiley



HERMAN by Jim Unger



DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



WIZARD OF ID by Parker & Hart



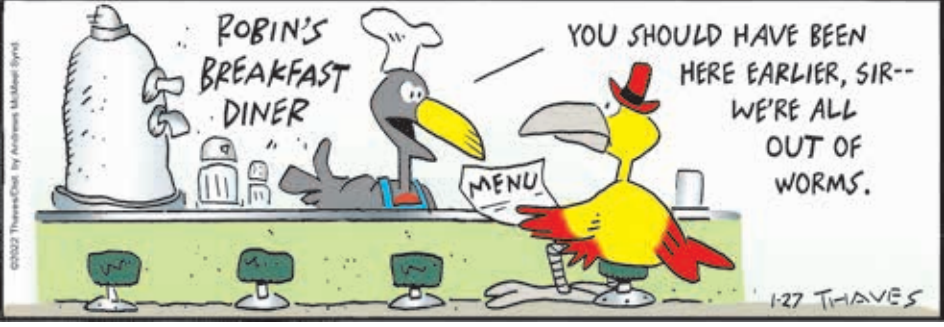
CLASSIC PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



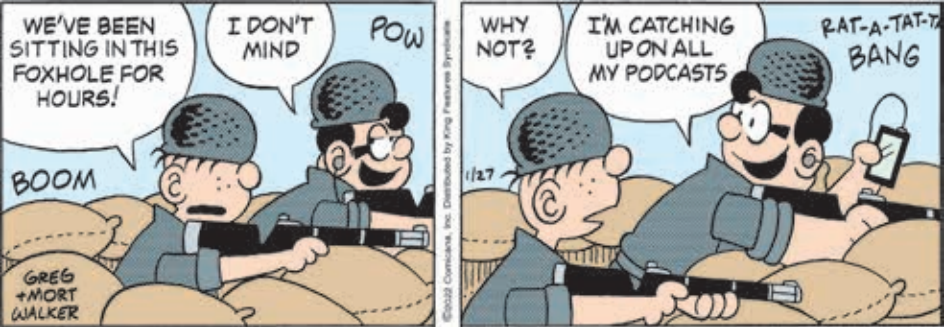
BLONDIE by Dean Young & John Marshall



FRANK & ERNEST by Bob Thaves



BEETLE BAILEY by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker

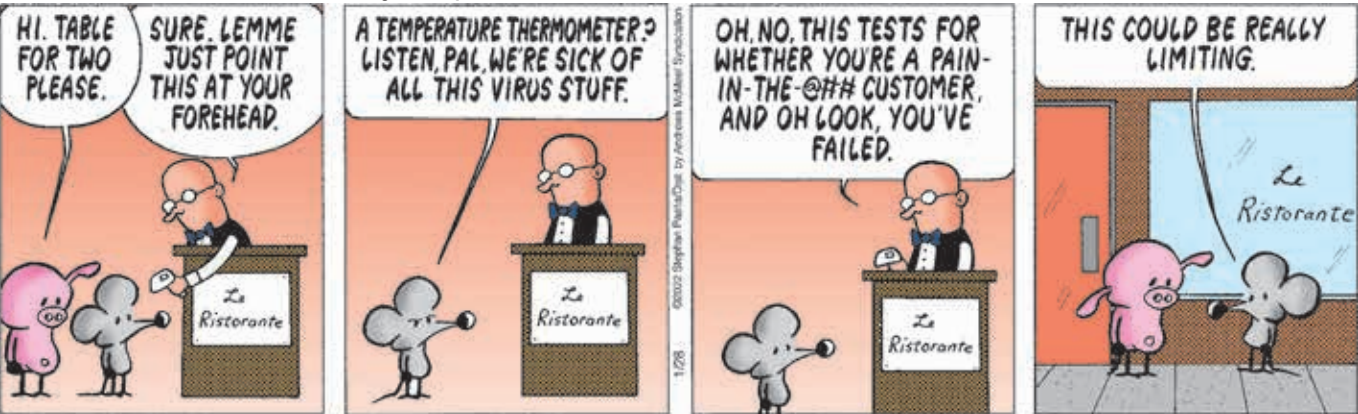




GET FUZZY by Darby Conley



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



RHYMES WITH ORANGE by Hilary B. Price



DILBERT by Scott Adams



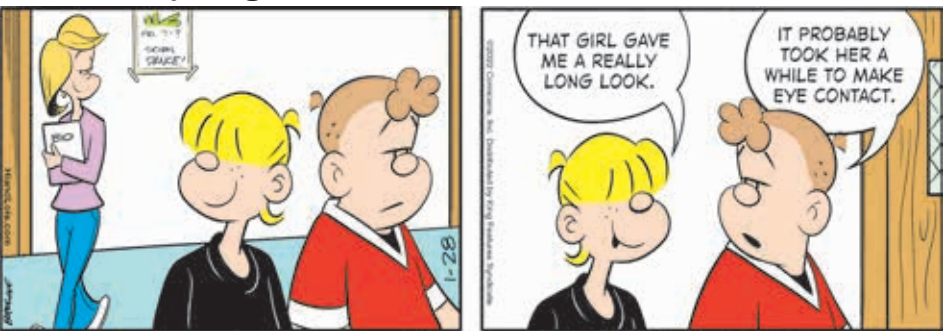
PICKLES by Brian Crane



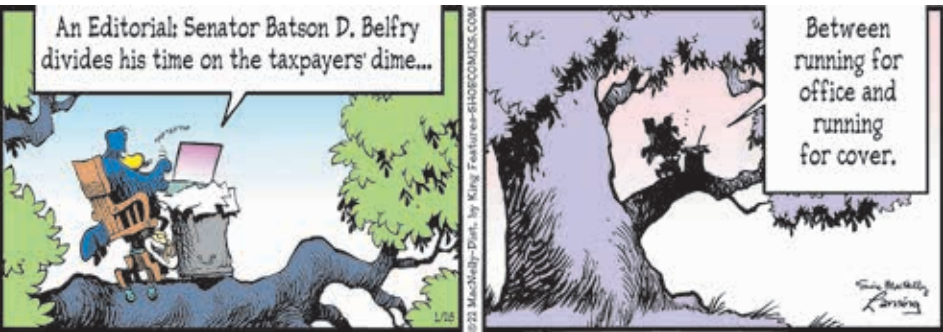
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE by Lynn Johnston



HI & LOIS by Greg & Brian Walker



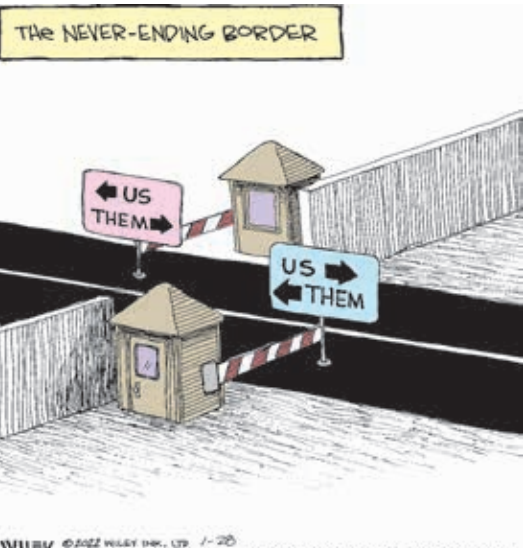
SHOE by Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



B.C. by Mastroianni & Hart



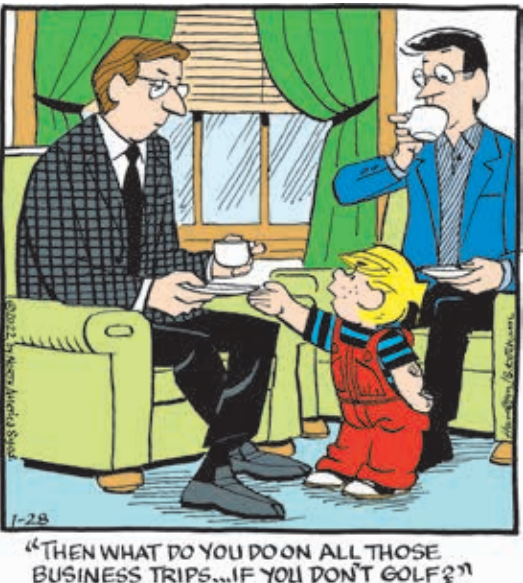
NON SEQUITUR by Wiley



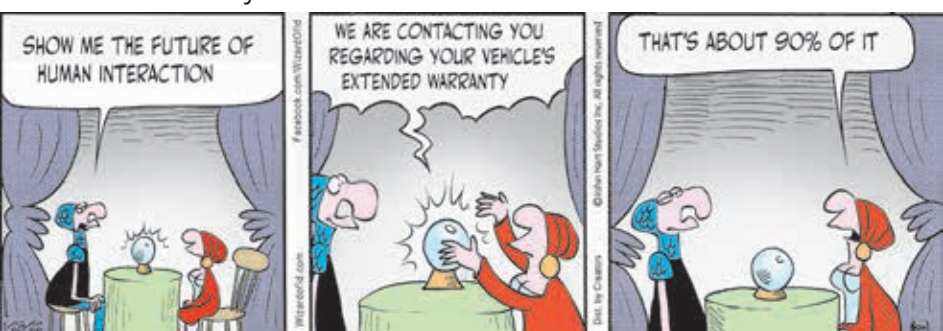
HERMAN by Jim Unger



DENNIS THE MENACE by Hank Ketcham



WIZARD OF ID by Parker & Hart



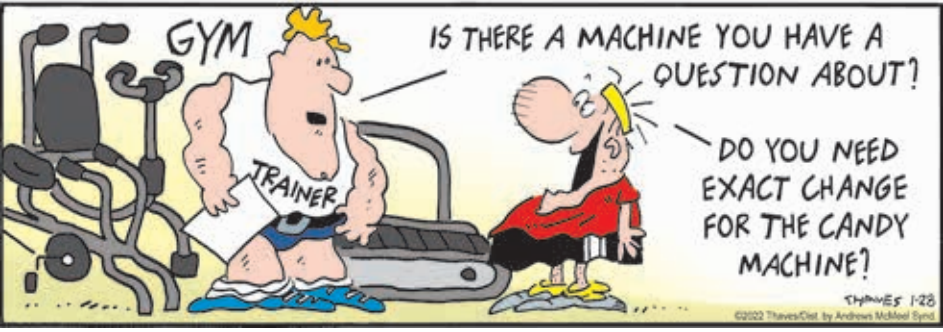
CLASSIC PEANUTS by Charles Schulz



BLONDIE by Dean Young & John Marshall



FRANK & ERNEST by Bob Thaves



BEETLE BAILEY by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker





# Classifieds

360-736-3311

classifieds@chronline.com

## STAND OUT WITH Sign Pro Printing and More

360-736-6322 • Sales@signpro100.com

## PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS

- Business Cards • Letterheads • Banners
- Signs • Vehicle & Window Graphics • & MORE



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CARD OF THANKS

#### REMEMBER...

An ad under Card of Thanks is only \$20 a day for 100 words or less! Call Customer Service at 360-736-3311 to place your ad today!

### Lost & Found

#### FOUND

• Clothing, tools, etc, Rush Road, Chehalis area, case #22C702.

• Saws, catalytic converters, backpack, shoes, 1/16/22, Centralia area, case #22C673. Please note, a deputy will need to talk with you.

Please call Lewis County Sheriff's Office to describe & claim. 360-740-1470

### NEW TODAY!

#### FOUND

• Miscellaneous jewelry, knives, keys, etc from recovered stolen vehicle, Onalaska area, 1/23/22, case #22C973.

Please call Lewis County Sheriff's Office to describe & claim. 360-740-1470

### PERSONALS

### NEW TODAY!

Male seeking female from age 30-70 plus to have fun with. Text or call, 360-520-0542.

### SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Needing a different adventure? Seeking an active adult male/female couple to join a narrowboat excursion with 3 other adult couples on England canals Sept 12-30. Primary cost is transport to/from London and share meal costs. More info call 360-304-8680

### SPECIAL NOTICES

**MAKE YOUR AD STAND OUT!**  
ASK CUSTOMER SERVICE ABOUT ADDING COLOR!  
360 \* 736 \* 3311

Autos sell more quickly when you add a photo.

### SPECIAL NOTICES

### NEW TODAY!

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING The Board of Directors of the Napavine School District announces a special meeting scheduled for Saturday January 29, 2022 via Zoom beginning at 8:00 a.m. The Board will immediately adjourn to executive session to review the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). No action will be taken. Questions may be directed to district office personnel @ 360-262-3303. Shane Schutz Secretary to the Board Dated: January 24, 2022

### CARE SERVICES

### ADULT CARE

### NEW TODAY!

#### CAREGIVERS 4 MOM & DAD



Licensed In-Home Care Agency. We understand staying at home is very important to us all, Our Amazing Caregivers are available to help make your stay at home an enjoyable experience. Now available "A Place 4 Mom & Dad" Independent Living with Caregiver support 24/7. Special Needs: Respite Care, Day Care, Hospice Support. We Specialize in Dementia & Alzheimer's. Gental Care philosophy.  
**Call: Betty 360-880-8749**

**NOTICE TO READERS:** The Chronicle publishes service advertisements from companies and individuals who have been licensed by the State of Washington. We also publish advertisements from unlicensed companies and individuals. For your own protection, ask to see the contractor's license when hiring. It is the advertiser's responsibility to be aware of Federal, State and Local laws and Regulations. For more information, call 1(800)647-0982.

### EMPLOYMENT

### HELP WANTED

### NEW TODAY!



#### DRIVERS

Scot Industries is hiring a full time driver. Class A CDL & clean driving record are required. Must possess an enhanced license or passport. Ideal candidate would have 3 years flatbed experience & must be able to go to Canada. Home on weekends. Canada route drivers pay to be 55¢ per mile plus drop. We offer competitive pay, profit sharing, insurance, paid holidays, & paid vacation. Please apply in person with complete drivers abstract Mon - Fri 8am to 5pm @ 3020 Foron Rd., Centralia, WA 98531.

Federal law prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin or age. The law states that publishing or printing discriminatory advertisements or causing the printing or publishing of such advertisements constitutes an unlawful employment practice. Employment advertisements must not indicate preferences, limitations, or discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin or age, except when religion, sex or national origin is a bona fide occupational qualification for employment.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that positions advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

*\*\*Note: The Chronicle suggests you describe the position you are hiring for, not the person you wish to hire.*

### WORK WANTED

Retired CDL-A Flat-Bed driver seeks part time work, 17+ years experience, clean MVR & physically fit. 360-969-0068

### FINANCIAL

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Seeking a reliable, affordable space or consignment opportunity for my children's clothing, Dandy Duds by Rita. I need a space big enough to hang & display my clothing. Email me, ballard.rita@gmail.com, connect through my Facebook page or website, or text me, 509-929-4528.

### FOR RENT RENTALS

### RENTAL APT. GENERAL

**24 WORDS FOR THE PRICE OF 12! RENTAL AD CALL TODAY!**  
The Chronicle Customer Service 360-736-3311

### ROOMMATE WANTED

Fully furnished private room with key for rent. Clean & sober house, \$500 per month. Utilities & some supplies included. 360-508-5075.

### LIVESTOCK & PETS

### CATTLE FOR SALE

★★★★★★★★★★

DO you have cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or rabbits for sale? We have a deal for you! 10 lines, 3 print days for \$20!  
Call customer service today @ 360-736-3311  
★★★★★★★★★★

### PET & PET SUPPLIES

#### PLACE YOUR PET AD HERE!



Email or call your ad in today!  
classifieds@chronline.com  
360-736-3311

### MERCHANDISE

### APPLIANCES

2013 Tesla Sedan Model S: Excellent condition, 76K original miles, 1 owner, 4 door, red colored, moon roof & aluminum 21 wheels. 360-601-5785 and 360-269-1976.

### FREE MERCHANDISE

Do you have a **FREE ITEM?**

Call Customer Service today to place your **\* FREE AD! \***

The Chronicle 360-736-3311  
Ads run 3 days, 4 lines for FREE!

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

### NEW TODAY!

Bowflex Treadclimber 1000, excellent condition, \$150 or best offer. Black home entertainment center, good condition, \$125 or best offer. 360-219-7270 as for Beverly.

#### BUYERS BEWARE!

If a deal seems too good to be true, **it probably is!** If someone asks you to send money without a transaction, or asks for your credit card - **DON'T** send money or give your credit card out, **especially** if you do not know them!

### \$100 OR LESS

Selling an item for **\$100 or less???** Call customer service today to place your Ad!  
The Chronicle 360-736-3311  
Ads run 3 days, 10 lines for \$20

### MISCELLANEOUS WANTED

#### CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

\* Monday, 11:00 a.m. for Tuesday's paper.  
\* Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. for Thursday's paper.  
\* Friday, 11:00 a.m. for Saturday's paper.

To place your ad, call 360-736-3311! classifieds@chronline.com

60" LG flat screen TV with 2 speakers, \$350. 360-506-8083

WANTED: Old pictures of the original Carlisle Lumber Company Mill workers housing in Onalaska, WA, interior or exterior if available. Call 360-232-4886

The Chronicle Classifieds: a rich resource for both buyers and sellers seeking results. Readers recognize classified as the marketplace for merchandise. Call us today at (360)736-3311, or 1(800)562-6084 to place your ad.

### AUCTIONS SALES

### NEW

Grant's Towing & Automotive/Grant's Centralia/Grant's South Abandoned Vehicle Auction Every Friday 11:30 am at 915 Koontz Rd, Chehalis. Viewing every Friday beginning @ 8:30am. Call 360-330-2442 for current list.

Remember to check your ad for errors and report any changes the first day. (360) 807-8203.

### GARAGE SALES GENERAL

### NEW TODAY!

1 gal cedar trees, \$8, 1 gal Deodar cedar trees, \$15. 360-273-6196

### VISIT VISITED

PE ELL MOVING SALE! Fri & Sat, Jan 28 & 29, 9-4. 417 Tillie Ave, Pe Ell, WA 98572.

West on Hwy 6 to Pe Ell Ave by Mini Mart, left on Spruce, left on Tillie Ave. Hand tools, power tools, yard tools, riding mowers, woodworking, freezer, guitars, amps & some household. All must go!



Scot Industries is a leading manufacturing company ([www.scotindustries.com](http://www.scotindustries.com)) with 12 locations throughout the country. We are looking for energetic candidates with an ability to learn quickly in a fast-paced environment that would like to grow with our company as a material handler for our 2nd shift Centralia WA location

#### Responsibilities:

Material handlers are responsible for the timely stocking of productions equipment, placement of materials into storage locations, and identifying proper stock for orders.

- Load & Unload tractor trailers and move raw materials, in-process inventory, and finished good within plant utilizing overhead cranes
  - Package Materials for shipment
  - Maintain identifying tags and labels on materials
  - Read and follow work orders
  - Band Materials together using steel banding
  - Keep Workplace clean and orderly
- Requirements:
- No experience needed
  - ability to follow instructions and work independently
  - Ability to pass basic math test (tape measure use, concerting fractions to decimals)
  - High school diploma, GED, or equivalent
  - Able to pass drug tests and criminal background check
  - Must be eligible to be legally employed in the United States

#### Benefits:

- Paid Training
- Health insurance with company paid HRA
- Profit Sharing
- Opportunity for advancement
- Vacation available after one year
- Shift premiums
- Competitive wages \$ 16- \$18.00



# HOROSCOPE

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 2022



AQUARIUS

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)**  
Set some guidelines to help you stick to your schedule. A responsible attitude will help you outmaneuver anyone trying to stand in your way. Trust your instincts and proceed with confidence.



PISCES

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)**  
Think before you offer vague information. Leading someone astray will come back to bite you. Let your actions speak for you. Be kind, considerate and helpful.



ARIES

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**  
Complete your to-do list before moving on to fun and games. Take care of stressful matters first so you can spend downtime with someone or do something you love worry-free.



TAURUS

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
Joint ventures aren't in your best interest. Don't trust someone to handle matters appropriately. Use your intelligence and do the legwork yourself if you want things to pan out. Take charge.



GEMINI

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
Emotional deception is prevalent. Whether someone is playing with your feelings or you are refusing to see the truth, shake it off and be realistic about what to do next. Be honest.



CANCER

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
Call on someone who shares your enthusiasm, and you'll have fun. Your ability to turn something simple into a gala affair will win hearts and favors. Love is in the stars, and a romantic gesture is called for.



LEO

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
Socialize, network and connect with people who interest you, but don't overspend or let indulgent behavior take control. Moderation will keep you levelheaded and on top of your game.



VIRGO

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
Stay calm and follow through with your plans. Taking better care of yourself and looking your best will result in compliments that lift your spirits. Wear your heart on your sleeve.



LIBRA

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)**  
Help someone who's feeling vulnerable. Your assistance will make a difference, even if it isn't acknowledged immediately. Refuse to let anyone bring you down or discourage you from doing what's right.



SCORPIO

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)**  
Do what feels right, and use your experience, knowledge and connections to reach your destination. Adjust your surroundings to create a space that unleashes your creativity.



SAGITTARIUS

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)**  
Don't worry about what others believe; choose what's important to you, then proceed. Don't be afraid to do your own thing and to invest your time, effort and money into something important to you.



CAPRICORN

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
A unique change to how you do business, handle your money and move forward will excite you. A change is in the air, and adjustments that turn your space into a playground for your imagination will pay off.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 2022



AQUARIUS

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)**  
Take notes, rely on the experience you gain and protect yourself from anyone trying to change or redirect you. Follow your heart and take responsibility for your happiness.



PISCES

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)**  
You've got what it takes to succeed. Trust and believe in your skills and attributes, and flaunt what you have to offer. Personal improvements will build confidence and attract attention.



ARIES

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**  
Don't worry about the past. Focus on what you want and don't lose sight of your goal. Reach out to someone who can help you get an introduction to or meeting with an influential person.



TAURUS

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
Take responsibility and make updates that keep you current. The changes you implement will show your tenacity and ability to get things done. Celebrate your success with a loved one.



GEMINI

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
Stick to what you know and do well. Don't feel left out if someone decides to take a different route. A joint venture or shared expenses will work better for the other person than for you.



CANCER

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
Unusual individuals and pastimes will draw you. Share your thoughts, and the feedback you receive will help you find a great way to get what you want at a price you can afford.



LEO

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
You'll limit your ability to have a say in the changes around you if you are difficult or unwilling to participate. Keep the peace and maintain control by being resourceful and offering ideas.



VIRGO

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
You're on a roll, so keep the momentum flowing. Socializing with someone you admire will lead to an exciting partnership. Update your look, and you'll receive compliments.



LIBRA

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)**  
Slow down, observe and don't count on someone who is already too busy to take on more. Arguing won't save you time or money. Stand on your own and live up to your promises.



SCORPIO

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)**  
Let your imagination take you on a journey. Explore your options and figure out what you can do to prepare. Doing research and connecting with people who can help you will give you hope.



SAGITTARIUS

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)**  
Put more thought into your words and be mindful of what others say. Don't let anyone invade your privacy or play mind games with you. Stick to the truth and be skeptical of extravagant people.



CAPRICORN

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
Pick up the pace and be productive. Make positive changes. Invite people over who are eager to participate in the transformation you wish to make, and you'll have fun and get things done faster.

## BAZAARS

### WE NOW HAVE BAZAAR & GARAGE SALE PACKAGES AVAILABLE!

\*\*\*\*\*  
Packages include 2 laminated signs, 4 sheets of pricing stickers, 3 sale sheets, a sharpie and balloons! packages are only \$5 with the purchase of a classified ad.



## AUTOMOTIVE

## MOTOR HOMES

**WANTED:**  
Motorhome or truck & travel trailer, any type, size, condition considered, cash buyer. Call Paul or Maryann 360-434-3993

## LEGAL NOTICES

121079 DNS

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Update City of Centralia Water System Plan including, but not limited to, capital improvement projects, new source of supply, water rights, etc.

Proponent: Kim Ashmore, Public Works Director

SEPA File # 2022 0039

Location of proposal: City of Centralia Water Service Plan, north Lewis County

Date of Application: December 22, 2022  
Date of Notice of Completeness: January 17, 2022

Lead agency: Centralia Community Development

Project Permits: SEPA, Building, Civils

Environmental Documents on file: SEPA checklist, Draft Plan, Service Area map

The City of Centralia Community Development Dept. has determined this non-project review does not have a probable significant 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 City. The proposal may include mitigation measures under applicable codes and the project review process may incorporate or require mitigation measures regardless of whether an EIS is prepared.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the City will not act on this proposal for 15-days from the date of publication. Comments are due by: February 14, 2022

Responsible official: Hillary Hoke  
Position/title: Assistant Director, City of Centralia - Community Development  
Phone: (360) 330-7662  
Email: [hhoke@cityofcentralia.com](mailto:hhoke@cityofcentralia.com)  
Address: PO Box 609, Centralia WA 98531

The complete application may be viewed at the Community Development Dept. located at 118 W Maple, Centralia, WA 98531, during regular business hours, M-F 8:00 am-5:00 pm. Any person(s) may comment on the proposal, in writing, via mail or email at the addresses above. You may appeal this determination to City of Centralia - Community Development. All appeals must be filed in writing, with the appropriate fee, by 5:00 pm on February

Ads with no abbreviations get better results!

## LEGAL NOTICES

21, 2022. You should be prepared to make specific factual objections. If you have any questions regarding the SEPA or appeal processes please contact the Responsible Official.

Published: The Chronicle January 27, 2022

121008 Invitation To Bid

### INVITATION TO BID PRECAST REINFORCED CONCRETE STRUCTURES (VAULTS, VAULT COVERS, AND PADS) FOR CENTRALIA CITY LIGHT CONTRACT NO. CCL-22-03GS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for Precast Reinforced Concrete Structures (Vaults, Vault Covers, and Pads) as described in the Technical Specifications, will be received by Centralia City Light, 1100 N Tower Avenue, Centralia, Washington 98531 until 2:00 PM, local time, on February 1, 2022, at which time all complying bids shall be publicly opened and read out loud.

The Contract Documents may be obtained after January 20, 2022 by registering on the City's Website: <https://cityofcentralia.procureware.com/login> and downloading the bid documents. Companies wishing to register may do so by clicking the "Register" tab, entering the required information, and selecting the appropriate categories. Please direct questions regarding obtaining bid documents to Ashley Stahl, (360) 330-7512.

Bids shall be submitted on the Bid Proposal form contained in the contract documents, addressed and mailed, or delivered in a sealed envelope plainly marked "SEALED BID: CCL-22-03GS; PRECAST REINFORCED CONCRETE STRUCTURES (VAULTS, VAULT COVERS, AND PADS)" along with the name and address of the bidder and the date and time of the bid.

A surety bond, cashier's check or certified check of the bidder, made payable to City of Centralia, for five percent (5%) of the bid must accompany each bid. Bid security of all, except the lowest bidder, will be returned upon execution of the contract by the successful bidder.

The City of Centralia reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularities, and to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

Bids submitted with site of manufacture in a country with United States Travel Warning(s) posted, will be considered non-responsive.

The City provides reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities. We invite any person with special needs to contact the Rick Brager at (360) 330-7670 at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the bid opening to discuss any special accommodations that may be necessary.

Published: The Chronicle January 20 & 27, 2022

121064 Invitation to Bid

### INVITATION TO BID ORDER OF 1100 MCM AL EPR URD CABLE CITY OF CENTRALIA CONTRACT NO. CCL-22-04GS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for ORDER OF 1100 MCM AL EPR URD CABLE, as described in the Technical Specifications, will be received by Centralia City Light, 1100 N Tower Avenue, Centralia, Washington 98531 until 2:00 PM, local time, on February 10, 2022, at which time all complying bids shall be publicly opened and read out loud.

The Contract Documents may be obtained after January 27, 2022 by registering on the City's Website: <https://cityofcentralia.procureware.com/login> and downloading the bid documents. Companies wishing to register may do so by clicking the "Register" tab, entering the required information, and selecting the appropriate categories.

Bids shall be submitted on the Bid Proposal form contained in

the Contract Documents, addressed and mailed, or delivered in a sealed envelope plainly marked "SEALED BID: CCL-22-04GS; ORDER OF 1100 MCM AL EPR URD CABLE" along with the name and address of the bidder and the date and time of the bid.

A surety bond, cashier's check or certified check of the bidder, made payable to City of Centralia, for five percent (5%) of the bid must accompany each bid. Bid security of all, except the lowest bidder, will be returned upon execution of the contract by the successful bidder.

The City of Centralia reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularities, and to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

Bids submitted with site of manufacture in a country with United States Travel Warning(s) posted, will be considered non-responsive.

The City provides reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities. We invite any person with special needs to contact the Rick Brager at (360) 330-7512 at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the bid opening to discuss any special accommodations that may be necessary.

Published: The Chronicle January 27, 2022 & February 3, 2022

121069 Notice of Special Meeting

**Notice of Special Meeting**  
The Chehalis City Council will conduct a special meeting on Monday, February 7, 2022, at 5:00 pm in the Chehalis City Hall Council Chamber located at 350 N Market Blvd. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct interviews and appoint a replacement for the At-Large No. 2 vacant City Council position.  
Kiley Franz, City Clerk

Published: The Chronicle January 15, 2022

120954 NTC: Clark

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR LEWIS COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BERNARD "BUD" O. CLARK, Deceased. Case No.: 22-4-00010-21 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 Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

**DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:** January 20, 2022.  
/s/ Allison Clark, Personal Representative c/o VANDER STOEP, BLINKS, JONES & UNZELMAN Attorneys for Personal Representative 345 N. W. Pacific Ave. P. O. Box 867 Chehalis, WA 98532 Telephone: (360) 7489281

Published: The Chronicle January 20 & 27, 2022 & February 3, 2022

## LEGAL NOTICES

120888 NTC: Coleman

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR LEWIS COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BRUCE E. COLEMAN, Deceased. Case No.: 21-4-00440-21 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 nonprobate assets.

**DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:** January 13, 2022.  
/s/ Debrah Lynn Coleman, Personal Representative c/o VANDER STOEP, BLINKS, JONES & UNZELMAN 345 N. W. Pacific Ave. P. O. Box 867 Chehalis, WA 98532 Telephone: (360) 7489281

Published: The Chronicle January 13, 20 & 27, 2022

120932 NTC: Lorentz

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR LEWIS COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARSHA LYNN LORENTZ, Deceased. Case No.: 22-4-00010-21 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030

The 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 Administrator or the Administrator's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Administrator served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

**DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:** January 20, 2022.  
/s/ Brian Juntunen, Administrator c/o VANDER STOEP, BLINKS, JONES & UNZELMAN Attorneys for Administrator 345 N. W. Pacific Ave. P. O. Box 867 Chehalis, WA 98532 Telephone: (360) 7489281

Published: The Chronicle January 20 & 27, 2022 & February 3, 2022

120903 NTC: Riedy

### THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR KING COUNTY Estate of JAMES B. RIEDY, Deceased. NO. 21-4-08740-3 SEA PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The above Court has appointed the personal representative named below as the 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 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: January 13, 2022**  
Personal Representative: Kevin J. Riedy Attorney for Personal Representative: David M. King, WSBA #43031 Address for Mailing or Service: Sound Advocates Law Group PLLC 707 East Harrison St Seattle, WA 98102 Court of Probate Proceedings: King County Superior Court, Seattle, WA Cause No. 21-4-08740-3 SEA

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121056 NTC: Toland

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR LEWIS COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of LOIS MARIE TOLAND, Deceased. No. 22-4-00026-21 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of the Estate of Lois Marie Toland. 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 this 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:** January 27, 2022  
Personal Representative: ROBERT LLOYD BENJAMIN Attorney for Personal Representative: James M.B. Buzzard, WSBA#33555 Address for Mailing or Service: c/o Buzzard O'Rourke, PS 314 Harrison Avenue P.O. Box 59 Centralia, WA 98531

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121084 Ordinance No. 2484, 2485, 2486 & 2487

### Ordinance No. 2484

An ordinance of the City of Centralia, Washington, amending Centralia Municipal Code Section 14.24.010 - Standard Specifications for Road, Bridge, and Municipal Construction Document Adopted by Reference and repealing those sections in conflict herewith

### Ordinance No. 2485

An ordinance of the City of Centralia, Washington, amending Centralia Municipal Code Section 15.04.110 Water Rates and repealing those sections in conflict herewith

### Ordinance No. 2486

An ordinance of the City of Centralia, Washington, amending Centralia Municipal Code Section 15.10.350 Sewer Service Rates and repealing those sections in conflict herewith

### Ordinance No. 2487

An ordinance of the City of Centralia, Washington, amending Centralia Municipal Code Section 15.40.030 Storm and Surface Water Rates and repealing those sections in conflict herewith

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