

ADDITIONAL: In addition to the Taco Bar, food and drinks (beer, wine, soda) are available for purchase throughout the day

PRIZE: Cash prize to the winning

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jholmes@tacoma.k12.wa.us



#### **THURSDAY, AUG. 8**

• Participants will have a chance to play old favorites and learn new games such as Apples to Apples, Forbidden Island, Ticket to Ride and Mario Kart at Game On, which begins at 2 p.m. at the Yelm Timberland Library. No registration necessary.

• Poets and songwriters are encouraged to attend the monthly Open Mic, held at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at The Triad Arts Theatre. Cost is \$5 for performers and \$10 for attendees.

 Attend "Crafternoon" from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Tenino Timberland Library. At each session, leaders will present a new project to learn and create. The library provides the supplies and instructions. You get to take home a new skill and a finished project.

FRIDAY, AUG. 9 • Participants will have a chance to play old favorites and learn new games such as Apples to Apples,

Forbidden Island, Ticket to Ride and Mario Kart at Game On, which begins at 2 p.m. at the Yelm Timberland Library. No registration necessary.

• Watch "Wall-E" during Music in the Park in Tenino. The event is held at Tenino City Park. Grab a blanket, a lawn chair and your favorite snack and watch the movie on a giant screen. Pre-show activities begin at 8 p.m. and the movie begins at nightfall.

• Attend Chair Yoga for Relaxation at the Yelm Timberland Library from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is practiced sitting on a chair, or standing using a chair for support.

#### SATURDAY, AUG. 10.

• Restorative Yoga is held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Cochran Park, near the second entrance. Restorative Yoga

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involves holding a reclining or sitting pose for 5 to 10 minutes to allow deep relaxation. Props are used to support the body. For example, a folded blanket or bolster on the legs will support the torso in a seated forward fold. Each participant needs to bring a mat, a yoga block, and a blanket. Additional blocks, blanket and bolsters will allow for deeper relaxation, but are not essential.

 Alice Walsh, reiki practitioner, will lead a reiki circle from 1-2 p.m. near the duck pond in Cochrane Park. This event is weather dependant and will be canceled in a heavy rain.

• Yelm Lions Club Movies in The Park presents "Coco," at 8:45 p.m. at Longmire Park.

• The Triad Arts Theater will host a special guest from Las Vegas, impersonator, singer and songwriter Larry G. Jones, known as "The Man of a 1000 Voices." The show begins at 8 p.m. at the Triad, located at 102 East Yelm Avenue. Advanced tickets are \$10. Tickets will be \$15 at the door.

#### • From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., attend the Yelm library for the Mixed Media Collage program. From paper and paint, to

stamps and found objects, attendees will make their own creations with just about everything. All supplies provided. This program is presented by Seniors Creating Art.

#### SUNDAY, AUG. 11 • The Rainier City Reunion will be held at noon in Wilkowski Park.

#### **MEETINGS**

#### MONDAYS

• The Yelm Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. on the first Monday of the month at the Carlson Scout Cabin.

• TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets 6:30-7:30 p.m. every Monday at Yelm Prairie Christian Center. For ages 7 and older.

• Roy City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of the month at Roy City Hall.

• The Yelm Planning Commission meets at 4 p.m. on the third Monday of each month at the Yelm Public Safety Building.

#### **TUESDAYS**

• The Yelm Lions Club morning group meets at 7 a.m. the third Tuesday of the month at Mr. Dougs Restaurant.

• Friends of the Yelm Library meets at 11 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at the Yelm Library.

• Yelm City Council meets at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. It also holds a study session at 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month.

• Rainier City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at Rainier City Hall.

#### **WEDNESDAYS**

• Rainier School Board meets at 6 p.m. on the second to last Wednesday of the month at the Rainier District Office.

• The Southeast Thurston Fire Authority Board of Commissioners meets at 6 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at the fire station on Mill Road.

#### THURSDAYS

• Rotary Club of Yelm meets at 7:30 a.m. every Thursday at Tahoma Valley Bar and Grill.

• Yelm Midday Lions meet at noon on the fourth Thursday of the month at Mr. Dougs Restaurant.

• Yelm Creative Communicators Toastmaster Club meets at noon every Thursday at Yelm City Hall.

• Yelm School Board meets at 6 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Yelm School District Office. On the second Thursday it meets at 5 p.m. for a study session.

\*If your club or organization has a regularly recurring public meeting and you'd like it to appear in this calendar, email yelmnews@yelmonline.com

#### share.

#### WEDNESDAY, AUG. 14 • From 10:15 to 11 a.m., attend Family Storytime at the Tenino Timberland Library. Babies and toddlers (ages 0-2) and kids

in preschool (ages 3-6) are invited. Music, movement and books for the whole family will be offered. Children must be accompanied by participating caregivers.

#### • Take part in Chair Yoga

at 10:30 a.m. at the Yelm Timberland Library. Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is practiced sitting on a chair, or standing using a chair for support. Come relax as Helen leads us through calming stretches and balance.

#### SATURDAY, AUG. 17

• The Yelm Fraternal **Order of the Eagles,** Prairie Aerie 4144, is having its 25th Silver Anniversary. It has been 25 years since the Eagles' building has been built and the organization is having a pig roast to celebrate. Contact 360-458-4144 of 360-458-5374 for more information. The Knights of **Columbus St. Columban** Council 17152 will hold its first Coats for Kids Car Show from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Columban Catholic Church, 506 First St. S. The show is open to all years, makes and models. Everyone is welcome. Food and beverages will be available to purchase. All proceeds help fund a coat drive that helps provide children in the community with new winter jackets, which are distributed on Black Friday. For more information, call Darren Johnson at 253-709-4588 or email darrenejohnson61@gmail.com. • Sign up for your chance to race against the clock in a mobile escape room at the Tenino Library from 1 to 5 p.m. Open to ages 12 to 18. In the scenario, an innocent person has been imprisoned in the AzkaVan. Free them by unlocking clues and solving puzzles. Registration is required. Spots are limited, so call 360-264-2369 or stop by the library for more information.





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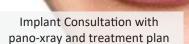
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FRIDAY, AUG. 16



# OUTDOORS V

Page 3 www.yelmonline.com Thursday, August 8, 2019

**HEADING OUT** 

## Escaping the Sweltering Summer Heat at Hugo Peak

Primitive wooden boardwalks line a good portion of the ascent up Hugo Peak through dense thickets.

Eric Rosane / Nisqually Valley New

#### **BY ERIC ROSANE**

erosane@yelmonline.com

**It**'s been almost two months since we first started Heading Out — the Nisqually Valley News' equivalent of a love letter to trails and conservationist efforts in the area. Ever since I took to Little Mashel Falls for our first piece in this series, I've been craving a proper return to the University of Washington Pack Forest near Eatonville.

This weekend, I got just that opportunity.

If you're like me, your love for getting outside is probably contrasted by some minor, yet inconvenient challenge. For some, the pollen that comes around during spring and lasts through summer is, at times, spiritually debilitating. The hurdle I face? Getting burned by the sun. And some trails - if overhead foliage is sparse enough - will turn me into a lobster. So I was pleased when I arrived at the Hugo Peak Trail last Sunday evening because I knew my hike was going to be a cool one. A short 5-mile round-trip hike with an elevation gain of nearly 900 feet, according to the Washington Trail Association, the Hugo Peak Trail is one workout of a hike that offers some pleasing views of the Nisqually Valley and, on a clear day, the Olympic Peninsula.

#### **ABOUT THE TRAIL**

#### Name: Hugo Peak Trail

**Location:** From McKenna, head east on State Route 702 for 10 miles, then south on State Route 7 for another 10 miles. Take a left at the entrance to the University of Washington Pack Forest. The trailhead is located right next to the entrance.

**Distance from Yelm:** 30 minutes

Hike Difficulty: Medium, 880-foot incline

Hike Length: 5-mile round trip

Driving Conditions: Superb

Trail Congestion:



As it goes with the Pack Forest, Hugo Peak Trail is only one of a dozen or so great trails within the small 4,300-acre nature reserve. Other trails, as well as a trail map with more information on Pack Forest, can be found online at packforest.org/ trail-map.

The trail is a trek that whips, whirls and weaves through 2.5 miles of Douglas fir trees and western red cedars. Wild raspberry plants and luscious ferns line the narrow ascent up toward the peak and along the ridge. Simply put, taking time on the trail in this cozy reserve away from the sweltering summer sun is a joy.

With a modest dose of sunscreen on the face and a few apples in the backpack, we headed out from Yelm around 6 p.m. with intentions of a cool, quiet hike. It took us roughly 30 minutes to get to the trailhead, which is at the entrance of Pack Forest just off State Route 7. According to the WTA, only a few vehicles can fit at the entrance, but additional parking can be found up the road near the Little Mashel Falls trailhead. Keep in mind that the Hugo Peak Trail Parking Pass/Fee: None Pets Allowed: Yes

does intersect a few Forest Service roads.

The trails start off a little narrow with some spots of overgrowth. The incline is fairly conservative to start out, but will ramp up within the first 1,000 feet — it's here that you'll also note the addition of primitive wooden boards that line intermittent portions of the trail.

While tennis shoes are perfectly suitable for the excursion up, note that the trail can make for a pesky descent. Make sure to take your time when you trek back and, on wetter days, consider strapping on your hiking boots. If you pick up a map at the entrance of the Pack Forest, you could also pursue a lengthier route by taking one of the many services roads that the trail intersects.



For the first mile up Hugo Peak, brush is extremely dense. Make sure to take in the great amount of biodiversity this trail offers.

A canopy clearing provides a proper view of the south Puget Sound prairie during a Sunday sunset. Portions of the Olympic Mountains can be seen on clearer days.h

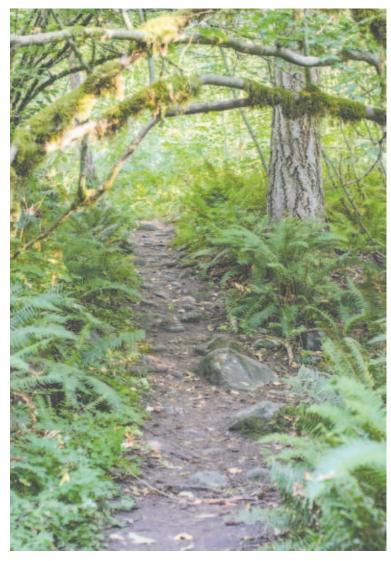
Take note also of the stinging nettle plants that can be found dangling over some portions of the trail. One plant pierced my skin. But don't worry, because there's plenty of ferns to be found.

A half-mile in, you'll notice the grade of the incline begin to increase to somewhere around 35 degrees. You'll also be faced with a few major switchbacks that play host to some tantalizing beautiful views of the prairie. This makes for a good spot for a water break.

The trail's grade will then even out and the tall canopies of the Pack Forest will greet you again on your trek. In another half mile, you'll reach the top where you'll find a view of the valley below, a small meadow and a trail register. Overall, the trail makes for a great mid-week workout spot that's not too far of a drive from anywhere in the South Sound. Bring your family or your pets and enjoy the quaint seclusion of the Pack Forest and Hugo Peak.

#### •••

Eric Rosane is a reporter with Nisqually Valley News and a local hiking enthusiast. For story ideas on hikes off the beaten path, contact him at erosane@ yelmonline.com.



Make sure to watch your step. Jagged rocks can be trecherous for hikers not paying attention on their way up Hugo Peak.



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## **Rainier School District Not Considering Teacher Layoffs as Budget Passes**

### District Cuts Four Classified Staff Positions

**BY ERIC ROSANE** erosane@yelmonline.com

The Rainier School Board on Wednesday, July 24, unanimously passed the 2019-2020 school year budget, a document detailing nearly \$11,921,000 in revenue and \$11,992,000 in expenditures.

provided by Business Manager Debi Holmes, the school district will begin the school year with a fund balance of \$1.9 million and is projected to end the year with around \$1.76 million.

Despite worries that the district would have to cut back on its staff, Holmes and Superintendent Bryon Bahr said the district is no longer considering layoffs but is reconsidering whether or not to renew a few positions.

"At this point it looks like we'll be retaining most of our certifi-

According to a budget report cated staff. We're not sure if we're going to be bringing back some classified staff," she said.

> The district is budgeted to start the school year with 35 classified staff and 58 certified staff — that's four fewer classified positions than last school year and one fewer for certified staff.

Holmes said the district is exmore this year on salaries and benefits. That increase in spending is also expected to come from a 3 percent increase in materials, supplies and operational expenditures.

trict's budget will be spent on last year's budget that will be funding basic education programs. The expense comes out to roughly \$6.18 million in spending to fulfill that, or 52 percent of the district's budget. The district will spend over \$1.4 million on special education programs.

When looking at expenses of pected to spend about \$1 million programs, the district is projected to spend about 76 percent of its budget on certified salaries, school. classified salaries and benefits.

approved roughly \$350,000 of

The largest chunk of the dis- capital fund projects funded by used for paving projects, small athletic facilities enhancements and site repairs.

> Upgrades to the athletic facilities include replacing the baseball field's fencing, grass fields and dugouts. Extensive paving projects will focus primarily around the lot between the middle school and high

The deadline for second-Rainier School District also class districts to pass their budgets was Aug. 1, Holmes said.

## Rainier School Board Members Considering February Levy Measure

#### **BY ERIC ROSANE**

erosane@yelmonline.com

The Rainier School District's Board of Directors and other officials agree that the district will likely need to put a levy measure on the February ballot in order all hands on deck," she said. to properly fund basic education in the district.

During the district's month-

supplement funding for the district

of many other Thurston County school districts that have floated ly meeting on July 24, Busi- the prospect of adding additional full-time students, such as Rain- and that they intend to follow up the February ballot.

ness Manager Debi Holmes told funding, thanks to a piece of leg- ier, to levy \$2.50 per \$1,000 with the public soon and keep board members in a budget re- islation passed last session that of assessed property value or port that going out for a ballot would allow districts to collect \$2,500 per student enrolled. measure would be necessary to additional funding through a levy lift.

Senate Bill 5313, which "We have to pass a levy. (It's) passed the state Senate 25 to 23 and was signed by Gov. Jay In-Rainier will likely join a list slee on the tail end of this year's legislative session, would allow schools with fewer than 40,000

Superintendent Bryon Bahr said more information from the school district will be available soon and that it would be important for them to pass it.

He also said the board is still only in the early stages of idenvoters informed.

The current Rainier School District levy for taxpayers is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and it has been that way since a rollback during last year's legislative session, said Holmes.

Holmes said the district is tifying the needs of the district considering putting a levy lift on

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