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September 2, 2026

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Battle Ground schools approve budget with $14 million gap

CADE BARKER
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The Battle Ground Public Schools Board of Directors approved a $227 million budget that relies on fund balance reserves to cover a $14 million gap between projected revenue and expenditures as the district enters its first full school year without local levy funding.

The board voted 5-0 on Monday, Aug. 24, to approve the 2026-27 budget following a public hearing. The general fund budget projects $212,992,846 in revenue and $227,003,616 in expenditures, leaving expenditures $14,010,770 higher than revenue.

Michelle Scott, the district's financial administrator, said the budget was shaped by the loss of levy revenue and reductions already made by the district.

The district's February election "required a $20 million reduction in programs, in addition to the already $14 million that we had already done, and then use of fund balance reserves," Scott said.

The 2026-27 school year will be

See **BUDGET** *on Page* **A5**

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Rockin' Youth Rodeo brings hundreds of young competitors to Battle Ground

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What began in 2021 as an effort to give young people in Clark County an opportunity to get involved in rodeo has grown into one of the largest youth rodeos in the Pacific Northwest.

The Rockin' Youth Rodeo returned last weekend from Friday, Aug. 28, through Sunday, Aug. 30, at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground, bringing an estimated 270 competitors from across Washington, Oregon and Idaho, according to organizer Lacy Keller.

"We started it in 2021, just as we felt like there was a need to have an opportunity for kids in rodeo, especially in Clark County," Keller said. "And so we started, you know, we have events and opportunities for kids, especially the little littles, which is really unique a lot of times."

The event includes children at a variety of ages and skill levels, including some of the youngest participants in the sport.

"I feel like the little littles are overlooked, and by little littles, I mean like we have kids that sometimes aren't even 1 year old out there on a little pony," Keller said.

The rodeo is designed not only as a competition, but as

See **RODEO** *on Page* **A13**



Photo by Chris Barker

A Rockin' Youth Rodeo competitor awaits his run in the pole bending event at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground on Saturday, Aug. 29.



Photo by Chris Barker

Youth compete in the pole bending event during the Rockin' Youth Rodeo at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground on Saturday, Aug. 29.



Photo by Cade Barker

A youth competitor makes the final turn around a barrel during the barrel racing event in the Rockin' Youth Rodeo at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground on Saturday, Aug. 29.



Photo by Cade Barker

A youth competitor chases down a calf in an attempt to rope the neck during the rope breakaway event in the Rockin' Youth Rodeo at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground on Saturday, Aug. 29.

Heavy collaboration contained Hidden Meadows Fire before it could grow

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A rapid, coordinated response involving fire agencies from across Clark and Cowlitz counties, law enforcement, emergency management and state resources helped keep the Hidden Meadows Fire north of Battle Ground to about 12 acres, despite conditions that threatened nearby homes just hundreds of feet away.

The fire began around 11 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 24, near the Fargher Lake area, where limited access, heavy brush, timber and shifting winds created challenges for firefighters.

Fire District 10 Deputy Chief Galen Sarkinen said the incident demonstrated the importance of agencies being able to quickly bring additional resources to a fire outside their normal jurisdictions.

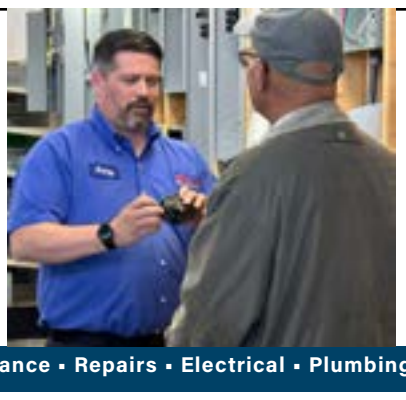
See **FIRE** *on Page* **A10**



Photo by Cade Barker

Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) hand crews work to combat a smoldering stump at the Hidden Meadows Fire near Battle Ground on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

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Battle Ground National Night Out finds new home, builds stronger community connections



Photo by Cade Barker

A pair of youth bicycle riders complete the bike safety rodeo course with Battle Ground Police Department officers at National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 25.



Photo by Cade Barker

A kid learns about fire tools with Clark County Fire District 3 at Battle Ground's National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 25.



Photo by Cade Barker

Attendees visit vendor booths during Battle Ground's National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 25.



Photo by Cade Barker

Battle Ground Deputy Mayor Aimee Vaile assists with distributing free youth bicycle helmets at Battle Ground's National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 25.



Photo by Cade Barker

Attendees of Battle Ground National Night Out spray a fire hose with Clark County Fire District 3 on Tuesday, Aug. 25.

CADE BARKER
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A new location and an expanded lineup of community vendors helped Battle Ground's National Night Out event grow Tuesday, Aug. 25, while giving residents and first responders more opportunities to connect outside of emergency situations.

The annual event, hosted by the Battle Ground Police Department (BGPD), was held at Chief Umtuch Middle School this year after being postponed from its original date. Police Lt. Jim Keller said the change in venue helped create more space for vendors, activities and residents to interact with BGPD personnel, Fire District 3 personnel, and vendor booths.

"I think the event went really well," Keller said. "The new location allowed the vendors to spread out a little bit more, which at Kiwanis Park we were having a little trouble doing just because of the way the park was laid out."

The larger layout allowed attendees to move through the event without feeling crowded, Keller said, while also separating the vendor area from the seating and food areas.

"It allowed us to kind of make it more community friendly, allowing people to really take their time to go through the vendors," he said, "go through and talk to people, get the resources that they need, and really let the vendors have a lot more fun and a lot more excitement talking to the community members that were showing up."

The event also featured more participating organizations than the previous year. Keller said National Night Out grew from 23 vendors in 2025 to 35 this year, including the bike safety rodeo and fire department. Although a few vendors were unable to attend because of scheduling conflicts created by the postponement, still more than 30 vendors ultimately participated.

"So, we had more things to offer," Keller said. "I think there are a lot more resources available. A lot more community members showed up, I believe, for this one just based on what I observed."

Keller said he did not have an exact attendance count, but residents and vendors repeatedly told him they appreciated the new location, additional parking and ability to spend more time at the event.

One of the most active areas was the expanded bike safety rodeo, which Keller said was designed to keep participants moving through a continuous course. Officers remained stationed at the rodeo throughout the evening, allowing children to interact with police while participating.

Children received free helmets and raffle tickets for a chance to win bicycles. Keller estimated that about 300 helmets were distributed from the 555 helmets purchased for the event.

The new location is likely to become the event's home moving forward.

"The new site I think is going to be the future site," Keller said. "If we have it on the actual night, barring any kind of air quality issues, I think the event will actually continue to increase in size."

For Keller, the success of National Night Out is measured by more than attendance.

He said the event provides residents an opportunity to interact with police officers in a setting that is separate from the tense circumstances that typically bring law enforcement and community members together.

"Because with National Night Out, it's not about highlighting the department," Keller said. "It's about highlighting the community, the relationships that community members can build with the vendors, with the resources that are there."

He said children in particular may primarily encounter police officers during difficult situations, making events such as National Night Out an opportunity to change that perception.

"Coming out here, they can actually put a name to a face and know that the officers are somebody they can go to and not be afraid of," Keller said.

The positive interactions benefit officers, too. Keller said law enforcement personnel frequently respond to tense calls where their role is enforcement, but community events allow officers to see residents in a different setting.

"I think it's huge for officer wellness because … we see families kind of at their worst," Keller said. "And I think officers getting that positive interaction, just like community members, is a huge benefit because we see people in the best light at these community events."

Ultimately, Keller said National Night Out is about creating meaningful connections rather than simply drawing the largest possible crowd.

"Our goal is to have meaningful interactions with people who live, work, and raise their families here," he said.

"Those meaningful interactions are the key to building those relationships," Keller said. "The growth of the event, I would love to continue to grow this as big as I can. And that growth, I think, is a huge indicator that people in the community want to connect with the department."







Citizens honored after saving girls and their father from drowning



Photo by Marcus McCormic

Award recipients Sabrina Taylor, Alexis DuBay and Jessie Dorsey in front of a Clark Cowlitz Fire District 10 fire engine after the ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 27, in Ridgefield.

MARCUS MCCORMIC
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Cousins Alexis DuBay and Jessie Dorsey as well as their aunt Sabrina Taylor were awarded the Clark Cowlitz Fire and Rescue Letter of Commendation for saving a drowning father and his two daughters at Paradise Point on July 19.

Two of Chad Cowan's daughters had gone off to play in what he thought was the shallows of Paradise Point in Ridgefield, but the situation took a turn when one of his other daughters shouted at him to go help the two in the water.

"I look over and my other two daughters are going underwater, and they're panicking," Cowan said. "When I went out to get there as quick as I could, it took all my energy."

When Cowan reached the kids he was unable to get them out of danger because they were at a dropoff in the river, and the sandy bottom provided him with no traction to move.

For five to 10 minutes, Cowan bobbed up and down while doing his best to hold his daughters above the water.

Sabrina Taylor had taken notice of the scene unfolding and alerted her two nieces, who were paddleboarding nearby.

"I guess I yelled for help a couple of times, and that caught their attention," Cowan said.

The two teenage girls responded immediately and made their way to the family, DuBay on her board and Dorsey in the water.

"I've never been in that situation, so I just hopped off the paddleboard and swam as quick as I could, because that's the right thing to do if someone needs help," Dorsey said.

Dorsey and DuBay were able to safely secure the daughters to the paddleboard before turning their attention to Cowan.

"As soon as I got the girls onto the paddleboard, I went down to relax a second and I passed out, and then I woke up with just my nose above the water, treading water," Cowan said.

After making sure the girls were safe, the two cousins turned their attention to the father and checked on him and his troubled state.

Several minutes later, everybody was back at shore and the emergency services had been called to the scene.

"If those girls hadn't been there, we wouldn't be here right now, because I couldn't get them to shallower water," Cowan said.

According to District 10 Fire Chief John Nohr, while Paradise Point can be a fun place for families to enjoy the Lewis River, it can also be dangerous due to the underwater terrain changes.

"There is a dropoff, what we call a ledge," Nohr said. "You don't necessarily see it when you're standing right there in the water. You take another step and it gets really deep. We've had multiple incidents there over the years."

Having himself been subject to the dangers of the area, Cowan spoke with the chief and is planning to make an alert platform with his welding school and donate it to the chief to install at Paradise Point.

The setup is planned to be fitted with a bell and life preservers to make rescues easier should it happen again.

"If we don't get notified, get in route and get there quickly, it can be a negative outcome," Nohr said. "Many times, everyday citizens are right there to step in and make a difference, and this is one of those opportunities where Lexi and Jessie made a difference."

Just over a month after the incident, on Thursday, Aug. 27, a ceremony was held to award the three citizen heroes with letters of commendation from the fire department.

Though the recognition was fun for the heroes, the act of doing what was right outweighed everything else.

"I'm very grateful, but my main concern was if the girls were going to be OK," DuBay said. "I wasn't worried about getting an award or being recognized, because I know in my heart that I did help someone and didn't need the world to see it."

The same sentiment was echoed by both Taylor and Dorsey, who agreed that the recognition was nice, but it wasn't necessary because they were just doing what they felt was right.

"Don't be afraid to help somebody. If it's something that needs attention immediately, help them," Taylor said. "If it's something you can call to 911, let them handle it."



Photo courtesy of Lauren Garetto

Award recipients, at far right, Sabrina Taylor, Alexis DuBay and Jessie Dorsey stand with Chad Cowan, left, his daughters and his wife in front of a Clark Cowlitz Fire District 10 fire engine after the ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 27, in Ridgefield.



Photo courtesy of Lauren Garetto

Alexis DuBay and Jessie Dorsey receive their letters of commendation from Fire Chief John Nohr during the ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 27, in Ridgefield.



Photo courtesy of Lauren Garetto

Sabrina Taylor receives her letter of commendation from Fire Chief John Nohr during the ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 27, in Ridgefield.

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(#70) Never Ending Story of Redemption

John the Baptist saw for the first time while in prison, that the kingdom of God was not what the church believed it to be. The church had taught its people that the Massiah's coming would rid them of this foreign power that ruled from Rome. John the Baptist also believed this false assertion. He couldn't understand why Jesus made no moves to place Himself as king on David's throne. The church believed and taught that God's kingdom would be established by force, at a time when Jesus showed nothing of the kind, but went about doing good to those that were in need. Doing good to others requires a love that is not of this world. Jesus, God's Son, came to this world born of a woman with the same desires that are common to man. This means, it was possible for Jesus to think more of Himself than of others. But His love was not His own, it was a love that came to Him through a relationship He had by faith with His Father in heaven. This love is the kingdom that Jesus came to establish, saying, "Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleaned, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them" (Matthew 11:4,5). This was a revelation to John, for he now understood the kingdom of God with a foundation built on a ministry of good works would not be accepted by the masses of this world. Because of this, John the Baptist saw what would be the result of One that differed in practice then what the church then taught as its main doctrine.

Love produces two different kingdoms. Kingdoms are important; as inhabitants of this world, we are subjects of either one or the other. The book of Revelation tells us only one of these kingdoms is going to be seen as victorious. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son" (Revelation 21:7). Overcoming what Jesus overcame of self is what is necessary for each one that sees the love of God that differs than a love manifested in this world. Spiritualism speaks of love, it's hard not to see this, it's a love that is easy to accept, but it is not a love "that keepeth the sayings of this book" (Revelation 22:7). Isn't that what John the Babtist recognized in Christ? He saw a love that was not of this world, for it was a love that ministered to the needs of others. This righteous kingdom is the only one that will be allowed entrance into the gates of heaven. Are we seeing these truths for the first time? If so, we are not alone. "And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things" (Revelation 22:8). At times when something is revealed to us in all its simplicity, a feeling of adoration comes over us that lifts our burdened heart above the thinks of this earth, and for this we are so thankful for the words that made all this possible, so thankful we idolize the messenger. "Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God" (Revelation 22:9). This is our example. Angels are not to be worshiped; they live by the same law that is to govern the life of man as he worships the God of creation. "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love" (1 John 4:7,8). What is important to "Behold, [is] what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not" (1 John 3:1). What manner of love is everything. Love has become all-inclusive in what the world would have us recognize as an acceptable practice. The works of the flesh also display much love, "which are these, Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness," (Galatians 5:19). True love carries with it the graces and practices of God's law, the same law that governs in the life of each angel that kept their faith in the One that created them, not in one that told them God's law was mutable.

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Saving Grace Church hosts free community haircut event

THE REFLECTOR

Saving Grace Church of the Nazarene provided 37 free haircuts during its second-annual Community Cuts event Aug. 23 in Battle Ground.

Vancouver-based Hidden Gem Salon owner Yecenia Armus and barber Angel Cruz volunteered their time to provide the haircuts. The two stylists stayed an additional hour to accommodate more people, according to a Saving Grace Church press release.

"We had all available time slots filled before the event started," said Will Swaney, pastor at Saving Grace Church. "We had originally planned for 32 haircuts, but we ended the day with a total of 37."

In addition to haircuts, the church also provided a free meal featuring hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings. In total, the event served 110 community members.

Founded in 1951, Saving Grace Church describes its mission as welcoming people, building relationships and serving the community. The church is located at 203 S. Parkway, Battle Ground, and hosts community events throughout the year. To learn more, visit SavingGraceBG.com.



Photo courtesy of Saving Grace Church of the Nazarene

A 3-year-old boy receives a haircut from Angel Cruz, a barber with Hidden Gem Salon, during the Community Cuts event at Saving Grace Church on Aug. 23.



Photo courtesy of Saving Grace Church of the Nazarene

Yecenia Armus, owner of Hidden Gem Salon, cuts a young woman's hair during the Community Cuts event at Saving Grace Church on Aug. 23.

Washington Imagination Library seeks support for Dolly Parton's legacy

THE REFLECTOR

Imagination Library of Washington is encouraging residents and state lawmakers to support the continuation of Dolly Parton's book-gifting program following the singer's death.

The program mails free, age-appropriate books each month to enrolled Washington children from birth to age 5. Local partners, donors, foundations and businesses help fund the program, according to a press release from Imagination Library of Washington.

"The best way we can honor Dolly is to ensure the work she started continues," Brooke Fisher-Clark, executive director of Imagination Library of Washington, said in the release. "Her legacy will live on in every child who discovers a favorite story and every family that reads together."

The organization is also calling on the Washington Legislature to restore the 50% state match for the program, saying the funding is important to its stability and ability to reach more children.

Washington families can register eligible children for the program at imaginationlibrary.com. To learn more about partnering with the Washington program or make a donation, visit imaginationlibrarywashington.org.

Volunteers harvest 350 pounds of blueberries for school cafeterias

THE REFLECTOR

Community volunteers helped harvest 350 pounds of blueberries Aug. 4 at Majestic Farms, continuing a six-year partnership that brings locally grown berries to area school cafeterias.

Representatives from Chartwells Food Services, area school district employees and community volunteers joined to glean the farm's end-of-season blueberries, according to a Hockinson School District news release.

The berries will be distributed to cafeterias in the Hockinson, Battle Ground, Ridgefield and Washougal school districts.

Majestic Farms has donated its end-of-season blueberries to Hockinson School District's Nutrition Services program for the past six years. The farm-to-school partnership provides the berries at no cost and helps bring fresh produce to students' meals.



Photo courtesy of Hockinson School District

Volunteers picked 350 pounds of end-of-season blueberries Aug. 4 at Majestic Farms. The berries will be distributed to cafeterias in the Hockinson, Battle Ground, Ridgefield and Washougal school districts.



Photo courtesy of Hockinson School District

From left, Hockinson Heights Elementary School administrators Colleen Rush, Meredith Gannon and Michael Olson help harvest blueberries at Majestic Farms.

Vitals Birth, Obituaries and Death Notices

Birth Notice

Dixie Anne Muonio, daughter of Julia Halberg and Ryan Muonio of Woodland, was born Aug. 8, weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces.

Death Notices

Ryan Patrick, 42, of Vancouver, died Aug. 12. Arrangements are under the care of Brown's Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 360-834-3692.

James Fisher, 64, of Orchards, died Aug. 13. Arrangements are under the care of Omega Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 360-231-6030.

Colleen Carroll, 58, of Yacolt, died Aug. 14. Arrangements are under the care of Evergreen Staples Funeral Home, 360-693-3649.

Trent Richardson, 18, of Ridgefield, died Aug. 15. Arrangements are under the care of Layne's Funeral Services, 360-687-3143.

Graham Mottola, 66, of Vancouver, died Aug. 19. Arrangements are under the care of Northwood Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 360-574-4252.

Peggy Olson, 83, of Vancouver, died Aug. 20. Arrangements are under the care of Layne's Funeral Services, 360-687-3143.

Kara Kent, 49, of Vancouver, died Aug. 20. Arrangements are under the care of Layne's Funeral Services, 360-687-3143.

Joyce Hawkins, 73, of Woodland, died Aug. 21. Arrangements are under the care of Woodland Funeral Home, 360-225-8441.

Harry Brown, 73, of Vancouver, died Aug. 22. Arrangements are under the care of Layne's Funeral Services, 360-687-3143.

Eldonna "Donna" Parker, 87, of Battle Ground, died Aug. 24. Arrangements are under the care of Northwood Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 360-574-4252.

Richard Zach, 65, of Woodland, died Aug. 24. Arrangements are under the care of Woodland Funeral Home, 360-225-8441.

IN LOVING Memory

Victoria Werth, 75, of Battle Ground, died Aug. 25. Arrangements are under the care of Layne's Funeral Services, 360-687-3143.

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Budget

Continued from page A1

the district's first full year without levy funds.

"This would be our first full year without any levy funds," Scott said. "So we are going to be required to use fund balance to have to help support that in addition to cuts."

The district also faces rising operating costs and state funding that does not fully cover those increases. The budget includes a 39.4% increase in fuel costs and an 8% increase in insurance costs.

Scott said the district will receive $372,000 more in basic education materials, supplies and operating costs funding than it received in 2025-26. That increase, however, does not cover the district's increased fuel and insurance expenses.

"So $372,000 doesn't even cover our fuel increase of $345,000 and our insurance increase of $200,000," Scott said. "So this is why we show that even though we have an IPD that we're receiving, it's not always enough to keep up with the actual cost that the district is incurring."

Staffing reductions also account for a significant portion of the district's budget changes. Scott said 137.2 positions were identified for reduction for the 2026-27 school year. Most of those reductions occurred, although the district added some staffing back to address critical needs in areas including nursing and special education.

Over the past two years, the district has reduced staffing by about 16% compared with 2024-25, with the largest percentage of reductions focused on district and building administration.

The district's projected beginning fund balance is $25,686,284. After using reserves to help balance the budget, the projected ending balance is $11,675,514.

Scott said the district will completely drain its assigned fund balance under the budget. That reserve can be used for purposes including major curriculum adoptions and unexpected costs.



File photo

The Battle Ground Public Schools district is entering its first full school year with zero levy funding in this decade.

"In our case, we will be draining that completely out under this budget," Scott said. "And there will be $0 projected to be left in that balance, which is quite worrisome because when we get to 27-28, we do have curriculum adoptions that are starting to clip off."

The district's fund balance policy calls for reserves equal to 4% to 6% of expenditures. Under the adopted budget, the district is projected to have 3.13%.

Scott said the district is about $2 million short of reaching the 4% level and will have to closely monitor its finances during the coming fiscal year.

The district's four-year projection assumes no levy revenue. Under that projection, the district would need to make additional cuts for the 2027-28 school year if additional funding is not approved.

"If funding is not approved in 27, the district will need to make an additional $13 to $15 million in cuts for 27-28," Scott said.

Scott also projected a negative $4 million unassigned fund balance in 2027-28. Returning the district to its 4% fund balance policy would require another $9.3 million, putting the total need at approximately $13.3 million.

Without levy funding, Scott projected the district's OSPI financial health score would fall to 1.25, compared with 3.35 in 2023-24. A score of 1.25 places the district in the financial warning category, she said.

"As you can tell this is a failing score basically," Scott said. "It is a good summary of how we are going to be very close to being able to maintain operations."

Scott said the district could face increased financial oversight if a future levy does not pass.

"Should the levy not pass, we would be looking at (being) unable to create a viable two year financial plan potentially," she said. "So, we would be closer to the financial oversight with contract approval requiring losing local control basically of decisions for the district."

During public comment, Jessica Cole thanked Scott and district staff for preparing the budget.

"I'm super sorry that this is going to be our first year with no levy at all," Cole said. "And I support all the work that the staff has done."

The school board approved the 2026-27 budget 5-0.

RTC seeks input on transportation access plan

THE REFLECTOR

The Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC) is seeking public comment on a plan designed to improve transportation access for people with disabilities, seniors, youth, low-income residents and people in rural areas.

The draft 2026 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan aims to coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple state and federal programs. The plan covers Clark, Skamania and Klickitat counties, according to an RTC news release.

The plan is intended to improve access, reduce duplication of services and encourage cost-effective transportation. Its development has included transportation service providers, agencies that distribute funds, service users and community members, according to the RTC website.

The formal public comment period runs through Oct. 1. The draft plan is available at shorturl.at/7TZDj. Comments can be submitted through the RTC's online public feedback form at shorturl.at/yAtyl or by mail to P.O. Box 1366, Vancouver, WA 98666-1366.

The RTC Board is scheduled to consider comments during its 4 p.m. Oct. 6 public meeting and approve the final plan Nov. 3.

Woodland opens applications for lodging tax tourism funding

THE REFLECTOR

The City of Woodland is accepting applications for projects and programs funded through its Lodging Tax Fund, which supports local tourism promotion efforts. Completed applications are due by 12 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9.

The city uses lodging tax revenue to fund activities designed to increase tourism, with priority given to projects expected to drive overnight stays in Woodland lodging establishments, according to a City of Woodland news release.

Applicants must provide project details, budget information and an explanation of how the proposal benefits the community, particularly through tourism and overnight stays. Information about an applicant's previous projects is also required.

Applications may be submitted in person at Woodland City Hall, 230 Davidson Ave., or emailed to Amanda Hougan at hougana@ci.woodland.wa.us. For questions, call 360-225-8281.

County health officer retires after 20 years, interim officer appointed

THE REFLECTOR

The Clark County Board of Health unanimously appointed Dr. Brianna da Silva Bhatia as the county's interim health officer this week following the retirement of Dr. Alan Melnick.

Da Silva Bhatia joined Clark County Public Health as deputy health officer in February 2025. She is a board-certified internal medicine physician and holds a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Washington School of Public Health, according to a Clark County news release.

Melnick retired Aug. 25 after more than 20 years with the county. He served as health officer and director of Public Health.

"On behalf of the Clark County Board of Health, I thank Dr. Melnick for his service to the county," Council Chair Sue Marshall said in the release. "He saw our community through some difficult times, including the COVID pandemic and measles outbreaks. We wish him the best in his retirement."

The Board of Health and Public Health Advisory Council will discuss the process for selecting a permanent health officer at upcoming meetings.



Photo courtesy of Physicians for Human Rights

Brianna da Silva Bhatia







Photo panels bring Ridgefield history and culture to downtown Greely Building

CADE BARKER
cade.barker@thereflector.com

A prominent downtown Ridgefield building recently received a new look while showcasing the people, places and experiences that have helped shape the community.

Ridgefield Main Street, in partnership with the Port of Ridgefield, has installed large-scale photo panels on the Greely Building as part of a downtown beautification project led by the organization's Design Committee.

The panels feature images representing Ridgefield's history, natural landscape, culture and traditions, including the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, Chinookan Plankhouse, dragon boats and other recognizable parts of the community.

"This project really represents what Ridgefield Main Street is working to do downtown — create spaces that are welcoming, interesting and distinctly Ridgefield," said Kelliana Cole, interim executive director of Ridgefield Main Street, in a news release. "We're investing in the physical experience of downtown while also creating a connection to the history, places and experiences that make this community special."

> **"What we're trying to build here in Ridgefield is a connected community."**
>
> **— Kelliana Cole, interim executive director**
> *Ridgefield Main Street*

The project grew out of an effort to improve the appearance of the Greely Building, a structure that Greg Stemp said dates to 1920, when it was constructed as a 10,000-square-foot new car and tractor dealership.

At the time, Ridgefield had a population of just over 600 residents.

Stemp, chair of Ridgefield Main Street's Design Committee, said the idea came after someone challenged the organization to take on the building as a beautification project.

"And, of course, everybody laughed, but I have no sense of humor. So, I didn't laugh. Instead, I'm thinking, yeah, why don't we fix up the Greeley building?" Stemp said.

Several months later, Stemp said he was walking downtown when he came up with the idea of covering the building's windows with photographs. The concept was quickly embraced by the Main Street group.

The project was then developed through a collaboration involving the Port of Ridgefield, Ridgefield Main Street, local organizations, individual residents and local company Ballyhoo, which is installing the panels.

Cole said the involvement of a local large-scale printing company was especially helpful in bringing the project to life.

"Large-scale print, it can be a big undertaking, especially for a small nonprofit," Cole said. "So, to do it and to bring old, tiny photos and make them big is also a huge feat, too."

The photographs came from a wide range of community contributors, including Alder Creek Kayaks, Chinook Nation, Friends of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, the Community Dragon Boat Program, Ridgefield School District, Ridgefield Heritage Society, Ridgefield Multicultural Initiative and the Ridgefield American Legion, among others.

The result is intended to be more than a visual upgrade to the building.

Sherry Varela, who was involved in the project, said residents have enjoyed seeing their own history represented in the photographs.

She said the project offers an opportunity to celebrate Ridgefield's identity while the building remains in place.

"It's just a way to beautify something that we probably all know the end result that is going to happen, which that building will come down," Varela said. "But, in the meantime, it represents who we are."

Cole said the project also reflects a broader goal of connecting residents and visitors with downtown.

"We have over 30 nonprofits just right here in this small city," Cole said. "And we were able to really engage them at the beginning of this year. And then Greg was able to then bridge the gap to get them connected to this project because we knew people had pictures."

That connection is particularly important as Ridgefield continues to grow, Cole said.

The project's organizers hope the photographs encourage people to stop and look, whether they recognize a piece of Ridgefield's history or discover something new.

Stemp said different photographs are likely to appeal to different age groups.

For Varela, the photographs offer a reminder of the community's shared history.

"I think that represents our community as a whole," she said of the project. "There's so much history I did not know about until going into the multicultural museum."

Varela said that history is important not only to longtime residents but also to people who have moved to Ridgefield more recently.

"For those of us that are newer transplants, it's a really special place. And I feel so proud that we get to be a part of this community," Varela said. "I never would have ever dreamed of being part of a community like I get to be here."

The project has already generated conversations among people visiting downtown. Stemp said people have approached him with questions about individual photographs, even though many did not know he was involved in the project.



Photo by Cade Barker

From left to right, Ridgefield Main Street volunteer Greg Stemp, Ridgefield Main Street Interim Executive Director Kelliana Cole and volunteer Sherry Varela stand in front of newly completed window art of photographs that highlight Ridgefield's heritage and culture on the 1920-built Greely Building on Wednesday, Aug. 26.



Photo by Cade Barker

Large photos highlighting the city's heritage and culture now fill the windows of downtown Ridgefield's historic Greely Building.

FALL EVENINGS WORD SEARCH

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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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TWILIGHT
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Photo by Cade Barker

Reimagined old murals that were on the Greely Building are in the windows on the back side of the historic building where the Nest food cart is.



Photo by Cade Barker

Photos highlight parades past and present as part of newly completed window art of photographs that highlight Ridgefield's heritage and culture on the 1920-built Greely Building in downtown.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTORS FOR GREELY BUILDING

- ALDER CREEK KAYAKS (DAVE SLOVER AND E)
- CHINOOK NATION (AMIRAN WHITE)
- FRIENDS OF THE RIDGEFIELD NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (SAMANTHA ZEINER)
- COMMUNITY DRAGON BOAT PROGRAM (GAIL ALEXANDER)
- HEATHER GORDON
- RIDGEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT (JOANNIE JEQUINTO)
- KRISTEN RIGGS
- MERRILEE ASLA LEE
- MICHAEL KAY
- PORT OF RIDGEFIELD (ABBI RUSSELL AND ETHAN PERRY)
- RENEE SERFACE
- RIDGEFIELD AMERICAN LEGION (JEN MCDONNELL AND BRYAN LAYCOE)
- RIDGEFIELD HERITAGE SOCIETY (SEAN MCGILL)
- RIDGEFIELD MULTICULTURAL INITIATIVE (MEGAN DUDLEY)
- SUZY RYLANDER



Photo by Cade Barker

Photos highlight the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge's wide variety of critters on the side of the Greely Building in downtown Ridgefield on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

"And so this is sparking talking. People are talking to me," Stemp said.

Varela said the reaction demonstrates how a relatively small project can make a noticeable difference.

"I think it's just that whole thing. A small thing can bring such a huge change," she said. "And that's a great example that it sparks conversation."

Cole said those conversations are part of what Ridgefield Main Street hopes to encourage downtown.

"And I really think that's what we're trying to build here in Ridgefield is a connected community," Cole said. "And especially here in downtown, we want everyone to feel connected to this place somehow."

The project also could serve as a starting point for future efforts to preserve and share Ridgefield's history.

Cole said preservation can take many forms, particularly when it comes to a building whose future is uncertain.

"Preservation comes in all different shapes and sizes," Cole said. "And I think one thing that I'd love to see is like, how do we preserve different parts of that?"

The Greely Building's history includes its use as an auto body shop, car dealership and bus barn. Cole said those stories should continue to be shared regardless of what ultimately happens to the structure.

"I think it has a story. And I think that story needs to continue to be told," Cole said.

Varela hopes the project will lead to additional community history projects, potentially including a museum.

"I hope this sparks other projects and other ways that we can show our history," she said.

For Stemp, the photographs could even provide a model for future development if the Greely Building is eventually replaced.

"I'd say, 'Hey, let's do it all over again.' Get a different set of pictures, or whatever," Stemp said. "And then that way not only is that something brand new and cool for the brand new building, but it ties the new building together."

He said maintaining that connection to Ridgefield's past will be important as the downtown continues to change.

"You can build anything you want on there, but if it doesn't tie into the past, nobody cares," Stemp said.

Ridgefield Main Street described the Greely Building project as one of several ways the nonprofit is investing directly in downtown through beautification, preservation and improvements to the physical environment.

Cole characterized projects such as the photo panels as potential catalysts for additional changes.

"In Main Street organizations, they call those types of projects, catalyst projects," Cole said. "They're the projects that are the catalyst to other changes."

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Evening finds at the wildlife refuge

In late August, the water was nearly completely gone at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge's River S Unit, which isn't uncommon for the time of year.

The wildlife abundance may not be at its highest point during fall, winter and spring migration seasons for birds, but in the morning and evening hours, an abundance of Columbian white-tailed bucks were frolicking distantly in the fields.

After rains begin and water returns to lake areas surrounding the River S Unit auto tour route, a wide variety of ducks and more avian species will make for entertaining visits to the refuge.



Photo by Cade Barker

A great blue heron preens during sunset at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge River S Unit on Wednesday, Aug. 26.



Photo by Cade Barker

A great blue heron stands in a tree during the evening at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge River S Unit on Wednesday, Aug. 26.



Photo by Cade Barker

A red-tailed hawk rests in a tree at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge River S Unit on Wednesday, Aug. 26.



Photo by Cade Barker

A great egret awaits prey in a field at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge River S Unit on Wednesday, Aug. 26.



Photo by Cade Barker

An American bittern waits for prey in a marshy area of the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge River S Unit on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

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Clark County prepares to seek proposals for long-term lease of Tri-Mountain Golf Course



File Photo

Clark County will seek proposals for long-term leases at Tri-Mountain Golf Course in Ridgefield, with the request for proposals going out to interested parties this month.

CADE BARKER
cade.barker@thereflector.com

Clark County is preparing to seek proposals for a long-term lease of Tri-Mountain Golf Course in Ridgefield, with the county looking for an operator willing to take on the course's day-to-day management as well as its maintenance and capital improvement needs.

The county plans to release the request for proposals (RFP) on Sept. 9, with proposals tentatively due Oct. 13. The selected operator would initially lease the county-owned golf course for 10 years beginning Jan. 1, 2027, with the potential for four additional 10-year extensions — creating a possible lease term of up to 50 years.

Michelle Schuster, director of Internal Services, presented the proposed RFP to the Clark County Council on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

The county's goals include having management, operations and maintenance performed professionally with minimal county support, preserving the physical condition of the course, improving its facilities and amenities, and maintaining a quality, family-friendly experience at affordable rates for Clark County residents.

The county also wants to maximize the return on the golf course as a county asset while minimizing its financial and liability risk.

Under the proposed RFP, prospective operators will be asked to provide information including resumes, experience operating similar properties, a business plan, proposed improvements to the course, and plans for routine maintenance and operations.

The county is also seeking a significantly different arrangement from its existing management contract.

Schuster said the current agreement pays the operator a flat operating fee, meaning the operator receives the same amount regardless of how much business the golf course generates.

"So, it really incentivizes them to get that course up, make it a great course, drive in tons of business, because they're going to see all that revenue and then just be paying us a commission from it," she explained to the council.

The longer lease term is intended to give an operator enough time to make significant investments in the property and recover those costs.

"That way we feel we would get someone who would actually invest in the course, bring the course up, build out capital facilities in the course, and bring stuff up."

Council members acknowledged the importance of preserving Tri-Mountain as a community asset.

"I really hope that we can find someone that's interested that keeps the golf course running efficiently. I know our community really cares about this golf course," Councilor Michelle Belkot said.

Councilor Matt Little and Chair Sue Marshall said the RFP will be able to provide assurance to the community, contractors and Clark County staff on the golf course maintaining operations.

The RFP also shifts responsibility for the course's capital needs more heavily onto the future operator.

When asked whether the selected company would be responsible for deferred maintenance that existed before the lease began, Schuster said, "Yes, we're wanting them to take on the full means of operation, capital improvements, whether they're existing or ones that pop up in the future."

The course's capital needs have been a concern for the county. Schuster said the most recent facilities condition assessment was conducted in 2019 and estimated the capital needs at approximately $2.7 million at that time.

Rather than prescribing exactly how those improvements must be made, the county plans to allow prospective operators to develop their own approaches and include them in their proposals.

"They'll be proposing to us how they plan on doing that," Schuster said.

Affordability also emerged as a priority during the council discussion. Schuster said proposed rates will be part of the prospective operators' business plans.

The county has already received interest from potential operators. Schuster said about eight parties were currently on a plan-holder list, and the county intends to reach out to other professional golf organizations that manage similar properties.

"There are a lot of professional golf organizations that do this type of management," she said. "I have been reached out to about eight different parties that are interested in getting this when it goes out."

Councilor Glen Yung thanked the existing operator for its stewardship of the course and said the county had received positive feedback from residents about how it has been operated.

"I've gotten a lot of comments, a lot of emails from folks that really appreciate that course and how it's been operated," Yung said.

The current operator has managed the course for roughly two decades under various company names, Schuster said, including Indigo and Billy Casper before the company became Troon.

The proposed lease would also give the county an ability to terminate the agreement with 90 days of written notice if, in the county's sole judgment, the requirements of the lease are not being satisfactorily met.

Battle Ground Public Schools seeks Citizens Advisory Committee volunteers

THE REFLECTOR

Battle Ground Public Schools is seeking parents, guardians and community members to join its Citizens Advisory Committee, which meets monthly to share community perspectives with district leaders.

Formed in 2021, the committee includes parents, guardians, senior citizens, volunteers and business, municipal and faith-based leaders from across the district, according to a Battle Ground Public Schools news release.

The first two meetings are open to the public and do not require an application or RSVP. Both meetings will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Battle Ground High School media center, 300 W. Main St., Battle Ground.

The Sept. 10 meeting will focus on organizations that support the school district. The Oct. 8 meeting will provide information and answer questions about the student safety and academic support levy.

For more information about the Citizens Advisory Committee, contact executive assistant Carla Barrett at 360-885-5302 or barrett.carla@battlegroundps.org.









Photo by Cade Barker

A possible origin point for the Hidden Meadows Fires near Battle Ground is seen taped off on Wednesday, Aug. 26.



Photo by Cade Barker

Burnt timber sits in a clearing where the Hidden Meadows Fire near Battle Ground occurred.

Fire

Continued from page A1

"In Clark County, all of the fire departments, there're eight fire departments in Clark County, they're all signatory to a countywide mutual aid contract," Sarkinen said. "So what that means is, even if we don't touch borders with somebody, we'll go anywhere in the county to help somebody who needs the help."

That agreement allowed agencies from across Clark County to respond as the fire grew. Sarkinen said the system is designed so the closest available resources can respond to an incident, regardless of which department's jurisdiction the fire is in.

At one point, the PulsePoint app showed 43 local fire units dispatched to the blaze.

"You won't see that very often," Sarkinen said of the countywide agreement. "Usually it's just a seamless move up or what we call automatic aid to somebody that's on your border."

The response also extended beyond Clark County.

Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue Chief John Nohr said Clark County has mutual aid agreements with neighboring counties, allowing additional resources to be requested when an incident exceeds what local agencies can comfortably handle.

"And then the counties have some mutual aid pacts between the counties," Nohr said. "So we have a mutual aid pact with Cowlitz County, and so we can call on some Cowlitz County resources."

Those agreements brought Cowlitz County resources to the Hidden Meadows Fire, including brush units and a strike team leader.

> **"What happened is we did a good job and we held it."**
>
> **— John Nohr**
> *chief, Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue*

Sarkinen said Fire District 10 initially had limited staffing because the department relies heavily on volunteers, many of whom work during the day.

"On the initial response, it was just our first two staffed rigs that had two people on each rig," Sarkinen said. "And then we had the initial incident commander, who was one of our volunteers who was covering as the district officer that day."

As additional personnel became available, Fire District 10 was able to expand its presence while allowing mutual aid agencies to eventually return to their own districts.

"We were able to backfill," Sarkinen said, adding that later in the evening more volunteers were available, allowing other fire districts to return home.

The fire's location added another layer of difficulty. Hidden Meadows and nearby neighborhoods have limited access, with some areas accessible by only one road.

"Hidden Meadow, one way in, one way out. Valley View, Mountain View, one way in, one way out," Sarkinen said of the surrounding roads. "If that gets cut off, we've got ourselves a real problem."

He described the incident as a textbook example of the wildland-urban interface, where homes and developed neighborhoods border areas of heavy vegetation. The Level 3 "Go Now" evacuation area included approximately 250 homes at one point.

"We talk a lot about the wildland-urban interface type stuff. This is it," Sarkinen said of the Hidden Meadows Fire.

Getting resources to the fire quickly was particularly important because the fire was not initially associated with a residential address, making access more difficult for the first crews arriving.

"The earlier you call for help, the sooner they're going to get there," Sarkinen said. "We have a lot of really great mutual aid partners."

The response ultimately included resources from outside the immediate area. Sarkinen said

See **FIRE** *on Page* **A11**



Photo by Cade Barker

A pool of water charges hose lines that extend fully around the 12-acre Hidden Meadows Fire near Battle Ground on Wednesday, Aug. 26.



Photo by Cade Barker

Burnt hose line and connections sit at the site of the Hidden Meadows Fire near Battle Ground on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

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Washington's newest Fish and Wildlife commissioner dies

BY JERRY CORNFIELD
Washington State Standard



Photo courtesy of Department of Fish and Wildlife

Victor Garcia, a hunter, fisherman and retired teacher who was appointed to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission in April 2025, has died.

Victor Garcia, an educator, hunter and fisherman appointed to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission last year, has died.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife announced his death Monday. No cause was provided.

"Commissioner Garcia loved this state, and cared deeply for fish and wildlife," said Commission Chair Jim Anderson. "He was ready to do the hard work, and he will be missed."

Kelly Susewind, director of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, said in a statement that Garcia "leaves a lasting legacy from his work on the commission to care for the fish, wildlife, and wild spaces that he was so passionate about."

Garcia, of Skagit County, was named to the commission in April 2025 amid ongoing tensions pitting conservationists and environmentalists against hunting and fishing groups over membership of the nine-member citizen panel.

Gov. Bob Ferguson appointed Garcia at the same time that he reappointed Anderson and Commissioner Molly Linville. He acted months after rejecting two nominees of his predecessor, Jay Inslee, who some environmental groups had embraced.

Hunters and fishers endorsed Anderson and Linville and appreciated the selection of Garcia.

"Incredibly sad news. Commissioner Garcia was a steady presence in the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission," the Sportsmen's Alliance, a national voice for the hunting community, said in a statement.

Garcia, a native of Grays Harbor County, taught math, biology and other science courses in Washington schools before retiring. He earned a bachelor's degree in marine zoology from the University of Washington and a master's in science education from Vanderbilt University in Tennessee.

In an interview with the Standard last year, he described himself as having a wide variety of interests in the outdoors and suggested it would give him a unique perspective as a commissioner.

"I'm a hunter, but I'm also in Audubon," he said at the time. "I've gone all over the world to view specific birds. But, every now and then, I do hunt some of them."

Before becoming an educator, Garcia was a commercial fisherman in the Bering Sea region and worked as a biologist for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Garcia's term runs through December 2030. He held one of the panel's western Washington seats. It will be up to Ferguson to name a replacement.

Fire

Continued from page A10

a commissioner from Cowlitz County Fire District 7 contacted him to offer assistance, and a strike team of engines from Cowlitz County was sent to the fire.

Aircraft also played a major role. Helicopters initially worked from nearby water sources, and a larger helicopter from Olympia was brought in because it could carry substantially more water.

"That one held way more water, like five times the amount of water," Sarkinen said.

> **"We have a lot of really great mutual aid partners."**
>
> **— Galen Sarkinen**
> *deputy chief, Fire District 10*

Two large air tankers also responded, with one coming from Moses Lake and another from Olympia. Each made a retardant drop that helped establish a line on the far side of the fire, Sarkinen said.

The response was not limited to firefighting operations, which is often an overlooked portion of wildland fires near urbanized areas.

Nohr said emergency management volunteers from the Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency, or CRESA, worked behind the scenes at an evacuation site established at Charter Oak Community Church.

"There is so much that goes on behind the scenes that when something's on fire, what you see are the red rigs and the yellow shirts running around and pulling hoses, putting water on the fire," Nohr said. "But it's all of the other things happening in the background that need to happen."

CRESA's Community Emergency Response Team volunteers helped track evacuees and vehicles, including recording license plate numbers so officials could determine whether people who remained in an area had safely evacuated or had been transported elsewhere.

"So we just want to make sure we're able to follow up on people and see where they're at, just kind of check them in," Nohr said.

Law enforcement also became a major part of the response as evacuations were ordered.

Nohr said one of the incident commanders involved in the operation, who had nearly 30 years of experience, told him he had never seen such strong coordination between law enforcement and fire agencies during an incident of that type.

"CCSO went above and beyond in their quickness of going around, making contact at all of these houses, attempting to get people out, hanging right there at the command post, being that instant communication to the law enforcement side," Nohr said of the Clark County Sheriff's Office.

Sarkinen said the Clark County Sheriff's Office ultimately sent 33 deputies to the area, helping keep evacuation routes clear and giving firefighters room to operate.

"The Sheriff's office, I think their post on Facebook said they ended up sending 33 deputies out here," Sarkinen said. "But yeah, they did an excellent job of making sure we had the space and notifying."

Fire crews also divided their efforts between attacking the fire and protecting structures that were most at risk.

"There's a lot of actions, but two major actions is the people that are jumping on the fire and trying to get a ring around the fire, a line around the fire, put the fire out, knock it down, hold the heat down, keep the embers down and contain it and eventually extinguish it," Nohr said.

"The second group were the folks in the fire engines, the big fire engines that you're used to seeing around town," Nohr added. "And they were staged in driveways to protect houses that we thought were most at risk."

The coordinated response included local fire agencies, Cowlitz County resources, the Sheriff's Office and other law enforcement agencies, CRESA, the Washington Department of Natural Resources and aerial resources from outside the region.

Nohr said the outcome was possible because agencies quickly recognized the potential threat and established a unified structure for the response.

"Everybody came together quickly, recognized the issue, was able to get resources en route and on scene and do what we call dividing it up or put in proper divisions so that you have the right people in the right places and the right command structure for who's answering to who to make it happen," Nohr said.

The fire ultimately remained at about 12 acres. Nohr said the relatively small size should not diminish the significance of the response.

"What happened is we did a good job and we held it," Nohr said.

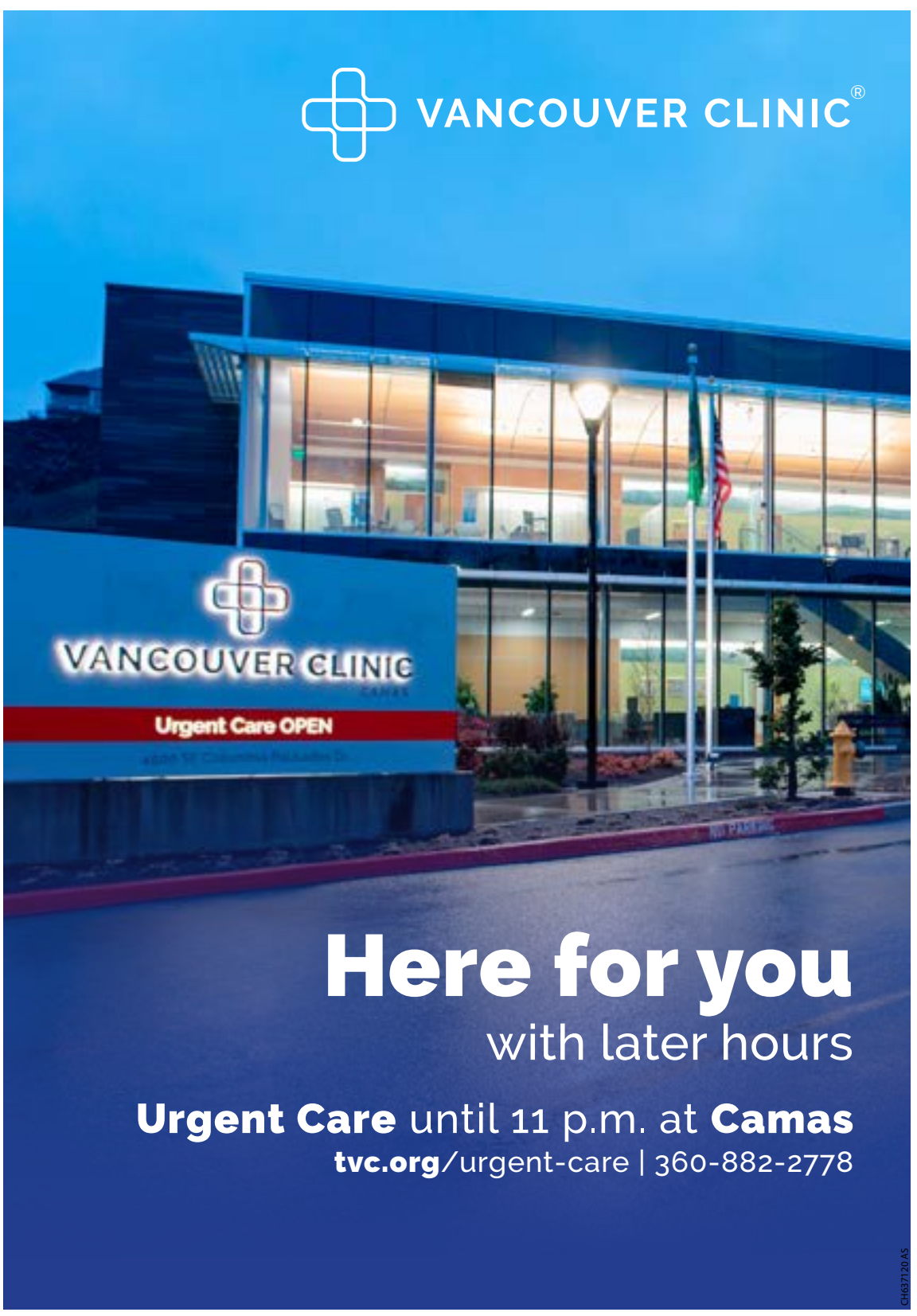
For Sarkinen, the incident underscored both the value of mutual aid and the growing importance of preparing for wildfires near residential neighborhoods.

"The earlier you call for help, the sooner they're going to get there," he said.

As more homes are built among timbered lots, Sarkinen said the Hidden Meadows Fire may not be the last large wildland incident Fire District 10 faces.

"This was the first big one that I've been a part of inside District 10," Sarkinen said. "It's probably not going to be the last as we get more and more homes built inside of timbered lots."





Reflections Op-Eds • Letters to the Editor

Letters To The Editor

Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing to the editor of The Reflector.

Email: letters@thereflector.com

Mail: The Reflector, Attention: Letters to the Editor, 209 E Main St., Suite 121 Battle Ground, WA 98604

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- **Frequency:** Limited to one submission per writer every 30 days.
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Don't let polluters off the hook for toxic coal ash

The Environmental Protection Agency is proposing dangerous rollbacks to coal ash protections that would endanger the health of communities across the country. Coal ash, the toxic waste produced from burning coal, contains arsenic, mercury, lead and other hazardous pollutants that are linked to cancer and serious illness.

For decades, utilities dumped this waste into unlined ponds and landfills, allowing it to leak into drinking water. Strong federal safeguards put in place in 2015 and expanded in 2024 finally began holding polluters accountable. Now, those protections are being dismantled, exempting hundreds of toxic dump sites and allowing companies to delay or avoid cleanup altogether.

This is a direct threat to public health. Industry data already shows that groundwater at most coal plant sites is contaminated above federal safety standards. Weakening these rules only ensures more pollution, more illness, and more communities left to deal with the consequences.

The EPA's job is to protect people, not corporate polluters. We must speak out and demand that these safeguards remain in place. Our health, our water and our future depend on it.

Lenora L. O'Neill
Lewis County

Lack of Battle Ground Pride Day coverage a gross oversight

I have enjoyed your coverage of Harvest Days, various town celebrations, the Clark County Fair, etc. However, I find it completely unacceptable that your publication chose to ignore the Battle Ground Pride Day held on Aug. 1, 2026. As an ally of LGBTQ+, I attended the celebration and found it to be full of great music, food, information and amazing people!

My question to you: Is The Reflector going to ignore activities that do not align with the mayor's Christian nationalism agenda? Is The Reflector going to discount families that are not "nuclear?" Is The Reflector going to pick and choose what types of events to cover based on sexual identity?

I realize you must choose what is published in The Reflector but to completely ignore the Battle Ground Pride Day was a gross oversight on your part. I hope that in the future you choose to include all types of community events and not just ignore events that happen to ruffle the feathers of The Reflector's new owners and the politicians of Battle Ground.

Dr. Jennifer Bohn-Hodapp
Battle Ground

A sign of possible regulatory relief for Spokane fire victims

By Madi Clark
Mountain States Policy Center

It takes an average of 18 to 36 months to rebuild a home burnt by wildfire in mere minutes, and most communities ravaged in an afternoon will take decades to be restored. Every day of this process is a day too long, but bureaucratic delays should not be adding months to the permitting process.



MADI CLARK

In the wake of last month's devastating Spokane wildfires, Washington's governor appears to agree.

Gov. Bob Ferguson issued an emergency proclamation order on Aug. 10 titled "Wildfires — Immediate Relief and Response." For those hoping to rebuild their homes and buildings, one section might relieve some of the immense pressure of waiting for stable shelter. The order requires a report within 30 days (plus updates every 60 days) identifying regulations that could be waived or suspended to expedite the rebuilding process.

The order directs the State Environmental Protection Act, the Growth Management Act, the Shoreline Management Act and the State Building Code to deliver a report identifying any regulations "that should be waived or suspended on the grounds that strict compliance would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency, including by preventing, hindering or delaying the rebuilding of housing and other structures, while this State of Emergency is in effect."

Hopefully, this effort is diligently followed by Washington's regulating agencies and real relief is provided. Policymakers in the Evergreen State can learn from the recent failures of others who failed to deliver. One example is the still too-long recovery timeline for the Los Angeles Pacific Palisades Fire.

Wildfire victims in Los Angeles understand best that the promises of politicians may not be enough to expedite the rebuilding timeline. Six months after the fire, Mayor Karen Bass said, "we continue to lead the fastest recovery in state history."

But in July 2025, 15 months after the fire, rebuilding was much slower than proclaimed. Damage from other California wildfires had rebuilt at least over 60 homes in that same time frame (Paradise, November 2018) and up to 111 in Santa Rosa (October 2017). Altadena is less than half at 24 homes. and Pacific Palisades rebuilt just 10 homes in 15 months. A pathetic showing when the economic and bureaucratic engine of Los Angeles is much more robust than the small urban community of Santa Rosa or the rural town of Paradise.

Despite executive orders from both the Los Angeles city mayor and the California governor, the Pacific Palisades and Altadena neighborhoods are still slow to recover. Mayor Bass's Executive Order 1 (E01) reads that the order, "streamlines and expedites the permitting process to allow for the rapid rebuilding of the Palisades."

"Rapid" rebuilding has not happened, but bureaucracy and unfair taxes continue to block recovery efforts a year and a half after the fire.

Washington lawmakers may also want to reconsider a prior reform they failed to act on to provide relief for wildfire victims. During the 2023 and the 2024 legislative session, the original version of House Bill 1899 in 2023 would have allowed victims to use the 2023 version of building codes, not the later adoption of Washington's higher energy code requirements.

Instead, the bill was amended to make assistance available to ensure that repairs and rebuilds met the state's new and fluctuating definition of energy efficiency and environmentally friendly. A move that still made wildfire victims responsible for the added cost of updated energy codes, up to $28,000 per house with natural gas requirements.

Bill sponsor Rep. Mike Volz said: "The people affected by these wildfires should not be hit with additional burdens and red tape. We need to do everything we can to get them back into their homes and a stable living situation as quickly as possible. That's really the ultimate goal of this legislation. However, the bill as amended, falls far short of the original. It does not allow people to choose which codes they will use, and it doesn't get the financial relief to the victims fast enough."

Washington officials can learn from the failures of true expedited rebuilding in L.A. communities recovering from wildfires need reliable, streamlined permitting and politicians who help, not hinder, rebuilding efforts. Governor Ferguson's executive order is a good start.

Now, agencies need to identify significant and unnecessary red tape and take action to put out the blaze of bureaucracy likely to hurt rebuilding efforts in Spokane and other western communities.

Madi Clark is a senior policy analyst for the Mountain States Policy Center, an independent research organization based in Idaho, Montana, Washington and Wyoming. Online at mountainstatespolicy.org.

A dying Fish and Wildlife commissioner's parting letter to WA's governor

By Victor Garcia
The Washington State Standard

Editor's note: Victor Garcia, who was appointed to the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission in April 2025, died over the weekend. Before he passed, the hunter, fisherman and retired educator penned a letter to Gov. Bob Ferguson, offering a roadmap for choosing a successor who could help forge stronger ties between commissioners and with the diverse interests with whom they interact. Here is an unedited copy of the letter provided by his son.



VICTOR GARCIA

Dear Honorable Governor Ferguson:

This letter is in regard to my position on the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission. I was appointed April 5, 2025, and was to continue until the end of 2030, serving from Skagit County in western Washington. In fact, I had applied twice to serve on the Commission before that time, but my health was considered a potential impediment to fulfilling Commission responsibilities as a citizen representative. I was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer almost 10 years ago and told I had less than a year to live.

Despite this prognosis, however, I have lived a particularly rich life, with more experiences in that timeframe than most people have the fortune to enjoy over their entire lives. Among these were the birth of my grandson and serving on the Fish and Wildlife Commission. My gratitude to you is boundless for appointing me to the Commission despite the previous administration's concerns around my health. I hope my service to the Washington public and our magnificent wildlife heritage has met your expectations.

Regrettably, my cancer has returned with terminal intensity, leaving me no choice but to resign from my seat on the Commission with this letter. These 17 months of service have meant the world to me, having allowed me to hopefully repay some of the debt I feel I owe to nature and to our beautiful region, which have so enriched my life. It has been an honor to support the men and women of the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) and the reliable science that they provide to the Commission for critical management decisions.

It saddens me to leave you with the task of having to fill my seat prematurely. I hope you will indulge me in the opportunity to offer my thoughts on the qualities I believe are important for whoever you may consider to move the Commission and Department forward. I would like to express how deeply impressed I have been by the professionalism and skill of the Department's leadership and staff, and it is my sincere hope that the Commission will position itself strongly in their support.

I am also fully supportive of the agency's mission: "To preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities." I hope you will seek commissioners who are fully committed to that mission as stated, and I would like to suggest certain litmus tests be met to ensure an effective replacement for my position:

1. The candidate should support the Department's mandate in full and as is — not cherry-pick only the parts that they like — and must acknowledge that any change to that mandate must come from the Legislature. It is not the purview of the Commission on its own to modify the mandate.
2. The candidate must accept the Boldt Decision (the 1974 court ruling affirming certain treaty-protected fishing rights for tribes) as the "law of the land" and embrace co-management of fish and wildlife resources with our Tribal partners.
3. They must accept the scientific products of our dedicated Department staff as the foundation of the decision-making process.
4. They must put aside their personal agendas and focus on the total of species and habitats of greatest concern — not only on the more iconic or charismatic species.
5. Appointment of a centrist candidate who is willing to work with both sides of an issue and build bridges rather than present roadblocks and lawsuits would alleviate what currently seems to be a state of polarization on the Commission, which is unproductive.
6. The candidate should believe in a collaborative approach to conservation, working with Tribes and stakeholders to find middle ground; this will best serve our species and ecosystems.
7. I firmly believe that Tribes need to retain the authorization and ability to manage wildlife and collect data on their reservations and usual and accustomed hunting grounds in the ways that they see fit (e.g., the Colville Tribe's wolf management program).
8. Candidates should embrace the premise that hunting/fishing and conservation are not mutually exclusive; I would like to suggest that a candidate who has experience in hunting and either sport or commercial fishing brings an understanding of multiple perspectives that can help achieve the best balance.
9. I would hope that a new nominee would take up WDFW's Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Committee (ADAAC) mantle to ensure equal opportunity for all citizens of our State.

The Commission is struggling from a lack of public trust, as you well know. I believe the root causes of those struggles are Commissioners and interests not fully aligned with the stated mission, but instead aiming to impose elements of their own belief systems or agendas.

This imposition manifests in unproductive disputes that fail to recognize cultural traditions and sovereign Tribal rights. It also results in the Commission (and Department) putting excessive time and effort into controversial or popularized issues such as black bear and gray wolf management, while leaving little time for larger but less-publicized issues of habitat protection and recovery, which support all species within an ecosystem.

This misdirection of effort undermines efficient focus on the massive list of critical tasks necessary to address the resource and public challenges called for by the mission, such as those enumerated in the State Wildlife Action Plan.

I have a hope that animal rights activists and sportsmen can come together to steward the species we all cherish through projects such as wildlife overpasses to promote predator genetic diversity in southwestern Washington. We make the greatest contribution to our natural resources when we collaborate to solve problems rather than engage in copious vanity lawsuits.

Honorable Governor Ferguson, I am at peace with my situation in large part because I had the opportunity to lead a full and meaningful life of public service, including with the Commission. I thank you again for allowing me one of the very richest opportunities to serve and wish you and those at the Department much success.



Photo by Chris Barker

Youth compete in the pole bending event during the Rockin' Youth Rodeo at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground on Saturday, Aug. 29.



Photo by Cade Barker

A youth competitor gets ready to rope a calf during the rope breakaway event in the Rockin' Youth Rodeo at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground on Saturday, Aug. 29.

Rodeo

Continued from page A1

an introduction to the sport for families who may not know how to navigate the process of entering a rodeo.

"The rodeo provides kids an opportunity to try and get involved in the rodeo world," Keller said. "Sometimes it can be hard to understand even downright entering a rodeo and how that process works."

Keller said a major part of her role as a producer is helping families become comfortable with the process.

"And so I really built a lot of focus around helping guide parents to do this and be friendly and understanding," she said.

This year marked the second time the rodeo was held at the Clark County Saddle Club. Organizers also expanded the competition by adding a high school-age division for competitors ages 14 to 19.

The event also served as a last-chance qualifier for Vegas Tuffest, giving competitors an opportunity to earn a spot to compete in Las Vegas during the National Finals Rodeo in December.

The regional reach of the rodeo has continued to grow, with competitors traveling from throughout the Pacific Northwest, including as far south as Klamath Falls, Oregon and east to Idaho.

"I feel pretty confident when I say it's grown to be one of the biggest youth rodeos in the whole Pacific Northwest," Keller said.

The event's emphasis on teaching fundamentals is one of the ways Keller said it stands apart from other youth rodeos. Competitors can use sleds and dummies to learn skills before progressing to live cattle events.

For Keller, the value of rodeo extends beyond competition. Having grown up around the sport, she said it taught her lessons about resilience, respect and perseverance that have carried into other areas of her life.

"Rodeo gives that type of community to our kids. It teaches them those lessons," Keller said. "Life isn't fair. Life can be hard at times, but you get back up and you continue to move forward. You should be respectful. You should be kind."

She said caring for animals also provides another important lesson.

"You have a thousand-pound animal. That's your teammate that relies on you for your care," Keller said. "These are the things that are truly spectacular about rodeo."

Keller said the relationships formed through the sport are another reason she continues to organize the event.

"Outside the arena, kids play hard. They love each other in and out of the arena," she said. "These kids aren't falling asleep with a tablet in their hand or staying up late. They're falling asleep early with dirty feet, dirty faces, and dirty jeans."



Photo by Cade Barker

A youth competitor looks toward the final barrel during the barrel racing event in the Rockin' Youth Rodeo at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground on Saturday, Aug. 29.



Photo by Cade Barker

A youth competitor successfully gets the rope around a calf during the rope breakaway event in the Rockin' Youth Rodeo at the Clark County Saddle Club in Battle Ground on Saturday, Aug. 29.

Despite the work involved in producing an event that has grown quickly, Keller said seeing the impact on the young competitors makes the effort worthwhile.

"But it's a lot of kids' best day ever, right?" Keller said. "They look forward to it year after year after year. So I can't not do that."

The rodeo's continued growth has also been supported by local sponsors and volunteers, Keller said.

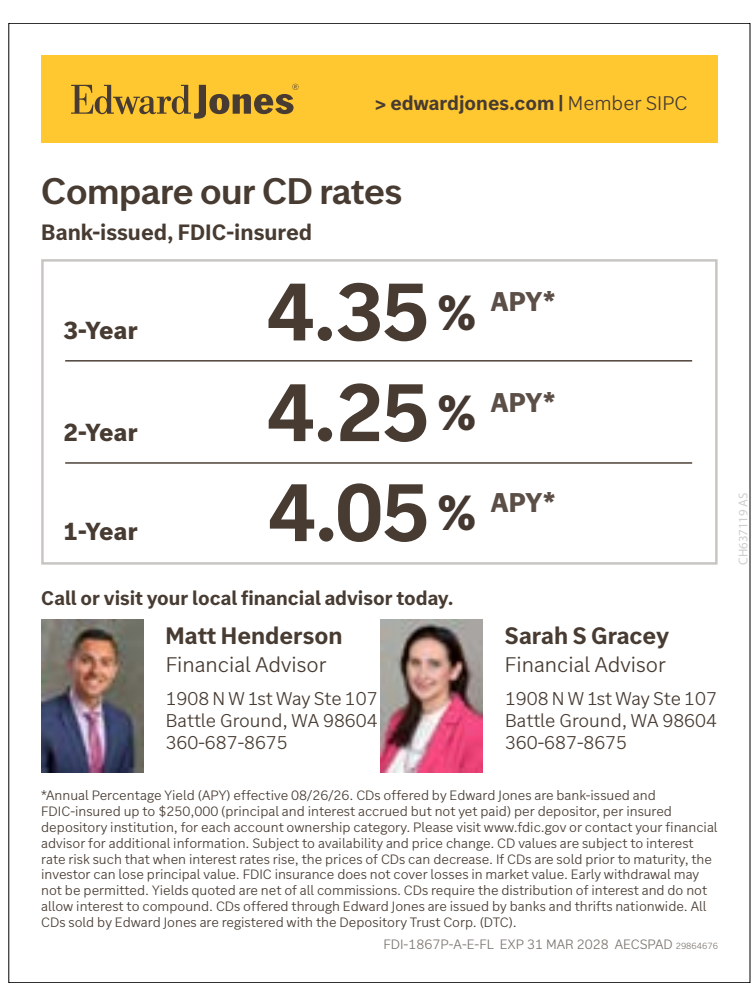
"We cannot do this without our community," she said. "The biggest advertisement and testament I could ever give is for somebody to come to our rodeo."

For Keller, the goal remains bigger than the size of the event itself.

"And I'm not going to lie, that will be the goal one day," she said of growing into one of the Pacific Northwest's largest youth rodeos. "And it's not about being the biggest, but it's just I believe in what we're doing."







Share Your Harvest: The Reflector launches local hunting photo project

The Reflector is inviting hunters across Clark and Cowlitz counties to share photos of their harvests through this fall as the general hunting season gets underway this month.

Selected submissions will be featured in The Reflector's newspaper and across its social media platforms as part of a community-focused project highlighting local hunters.

Those interested in participating are asked to submit a photo along with their full name and address, which will be used to confirm local residency.

Photos and information can be submitted to community@thereflector.com.

Potential advertisers such as butcher shops, sporting goods stores and others wishing to partner with The Reflector on this project are encouraged to email billy.armstrong@thereflector.com.

We look forward to seeing your harvests.

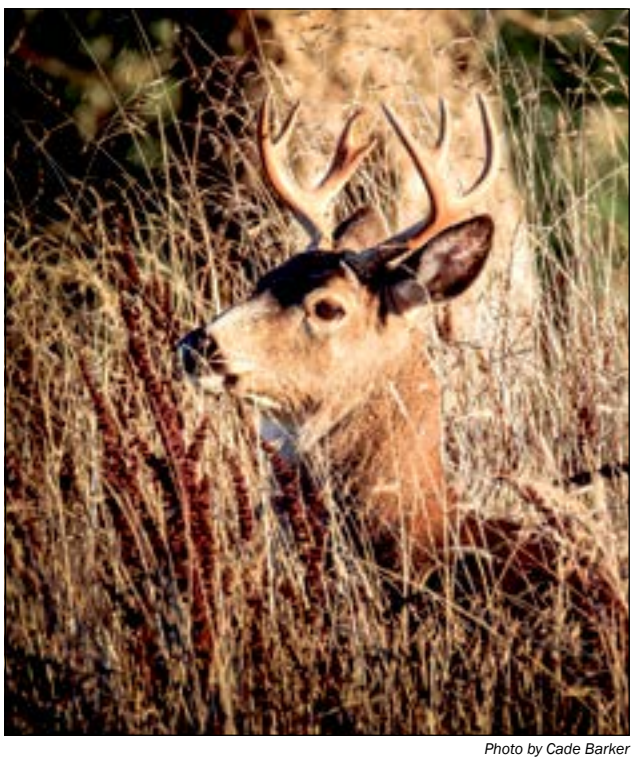


Photo by Cade Barker

Columbian black-tailed buck



Photo by Cade Barker

Rocky Mountain bull elk



Photo by Cade Barker

Mule deer bucks

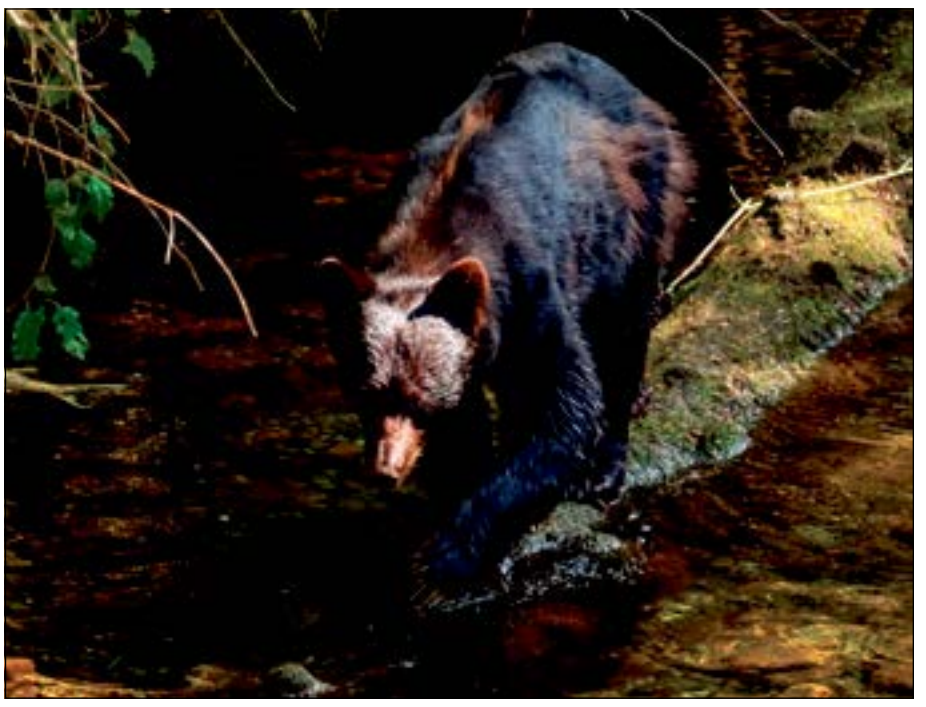


Photo by Cade Barker

American black bear

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Calendar 8

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS ARE BACK









A new season of high school football in the region officially kicks off with week one matchups on Friday, Sept. 4.

For communities across the area, high school football often brings community members together to rally around high school student athletes playing their hardest. Along with spirited play on the gridiron, cheerleaders, marching bands and student sections create an unforgettable atmosphere every Friday night.

On Friday, Aug. 28, the high school football itch was scratched at Clark County's "Big House" at McKenzie Stadium as C-teams, junior varsity and varsity squads from Battle Ground, La Center, Ridgefield and Heritage high schools met for a jamboree to test their stuff against fresh competition.

PHOTOS BY CADE BARKER



CONTINUE FOR PREVIEWS ON:

BATTLE GROUND TIGERS · PRAIRIE FALCONS · LA CENTER WILDCATS · RIDGEFIELD SPUDDERS · WOODLAND BEAVERS · HOCKINSON HAWKS

TIGERS

Battle Ground carries deeper meaning into season

HEAD COACH:
Mike Woodward

CLASSIFICATION: **4A** LEAGUE: **GSHL**

2025 SEASON STATS

REGULAR SEASON: **5-4**

LEAGUE RECORD: **2-1**



PHOTO BY CADE BARKER

Battle Ground quarterback Jacob Bryant throws a pass during the Tigers' Wednesday, Aug. 26, practice.

BATTLE GROUND HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 4	7 p.m.	versus Ridgefield Spudders
Friday, Sept. 11	7 p.m.	at Prairie Falcons (District Stadium)
Friday, Sept. 18	7 p.m.	at Union Titans (McKenzie Stadium)
Friday, Sept. 25	7 p.m.	versus Skyview Storm
Friday, Oct. 2	7 p.m.	versus Camas Papermakers
Friday, Oct. 9	4:30 p.m.	at Evergreen Plainsmen (McKenzie Stadium)
Friday, Oct. 16	7 p.m.	versus Union Titans
Friday, Oct. 23	7 p.m.	at Skyview Storm (Kiggins Bowl)
Friday, Oct. 30	7 p.m.	at Camas Papermakers (Doc Harris Stadium)



PHOTO BY CADE BARKER

Battle Ground Tigers football players clash during a drill on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

CADE BARKER
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For Battle Ground football, the 2026 season will be about more than what happens on the scoreboard.

The Tigers enter the season following the death of recent graduate Trent Richardson, a loss that has affected players and coaches throughout the program.

Head coach Mike Woodward said Richardson's presence continues to be felt as Battle Ground prepares for another season.

"We felt like we've got a little special angel watching over us," Woodward said. "Kids are inspired by the right way to go about this and the wrong way. Everybody handles grief differently. But all these kids were (impacted) by Trent."

Richardson's impact, Woodward said, extended well beyond the Battle Ground football program. Although Richardson was homeschooled and did not attend Battle Ground High School, he regularly attended games and practices involving younger players in the community.

Woodward said he recently realized just how far Richardson's influence reached when he addressed the team before its first practice.

"I realized once I was done it was mostly about Trent," Woodward said. "How we're going to respond to this and how we need each other, including the coaches and the players, too. We're hurting just as much."

Woodward later asked a group of freshmen — former eighth graders — whether they knew Richardson. Every one of the approximately 15 players he asked knew him personally.

"That tells you that Trent was going to these CCYF games, watching these eighth graders, going to their practices, being a part of their lives," Woodward said.

On the field, Battle Ground will lean on a group of returning leaders to replace a senior class that graduated last season. Seth Waldal has emerged as a leading voice, while Turner Avery, Marcus Castro and Dom McDonald are also expected to play important leading roles.

Woodward said the leadership foundation was established during the offseason, with players taking responsibility in the weight room and holding teammates accountable.

The Tigers will also turn to junior Jacob Bryant at quarterback. Woodward believes Bryant's athleticism and arm talent can help ease the transition following the departure of standout Ethan Adams.

"He can run. He can throw. He's got a really strong arm," Woodward said. "He's going to be just fine. Trust me."

As Battle Ground begins another season, Woodward said his players have responded to their loss with inspiration and togetherness — carrying Richardson's memory with them when they take the field.

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FALCONS

New Prairie head coach embraces challenge of building Falcons

HEAD COACH:
James Young-Lewis
CLASSIFICATION: **3A** LEAGUE: **GSHL**

2025 SEASON STATS
REGULAR SEASON: **6-3**
LEAGUE RECORD: **3-2**

PHOTO BY CADE BARKER



The Prairie Falcons football team will be led by first-year head coach James Young-Lewis, bringing big visions of being in contention for years to come.

PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 4	7 p.m.	at Columbia River Rapids
Friday, Sept. 11	7 p.m.	versus Battle Ground Tigers
Friday, Sept. 18	7 p.m.	versus Timberline Blazers
Friday, Sept. 25	7 p.m.	at Kelso Hilanders
Friday, Oct. 2	4 p.m.	versus Evergreen Plainsmen (McKenzie Stadium)
Friday, Oct. 9	7 p.m.	at Skyview Storm (Kiggins Bowl)
Friday, Oct. 16	7 p.m.	at Heritage Timberwolves (McKenzie Stadium)
Friday, Oct. 23	7 p.m.	versus Shelton Highclimbers
Friday, Oct. 30	7 p.m.	versus Mountain View Thunder

PHOTO BY CADE BARKER



Prairie Falcons football players run a play during practice on Tuesday, Aug. 25.

CADE BARKER
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James Young-Lewis isn't looking at his return to Prairie as a temporary, interim stop.

The Falcons' new head football coach is back at the school for his second stint, bringing with him an ambitious vision for a program he hopes to establish as a consistent league title contender.

Young-Lewis previously coached at Prairie from 2018 to 2021 before leaving for Union High School. He returned in 2024 with previous head coach Junior Miller with the goal of helping rebuild the program.

Now in charge, Young-Lewis said he is enjoying the opportunity.

"I'm loving it. I'm living it, like where my feet are and just trying to take it day by day and make it the best day ever with these guys," Young-Lewis said.

The Falcons will have plenty to prove after losing key starters to graduation, including a league MVP at quarterback.

Prairie currently has a two-man competition at quarterback between Jace Bellcoff and Brennen Lumby. Young-Lewis said both have embraced the opportunity and, perhaps more importantly, have supported each other throughout the competition.

Other players are stepping into larger roles and emerging as key leaders, too, Young-Lewis added.

Young-Lewis said developing a player-led team is central to Prairie's approach.

"When it's a player-led team, they have that better success because it's peers buying into each other and not just buying into what coaches say," he said.

The Falcons also have high expectations for a schedule that includes playoff-caliber competition. Young-Lewis said Prairie wants to eventually become a top-10 program and needs to challenge itself against strong opponents to reach that level.

Within the league, Young-Lewis believes Prairie can contend near the top, but consistency will be critical.

"Staying consistent. Not worrying about who it is we're going against, but knowing that we've got to put our best foot forward every week," he said.

For Young-Lewis, the bigger goal extends beyond wins.

"I'm not here to rent this thing. I'm here to buy it," he said.

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WILDCATS

Wildcats enter season with experience, challenging schedule

HEAD COACH:
John Lambert
CLASSIFICATION: **1A** LEAGUE: **Trico**

2025 SEASON STATS
REGULAR SEASON: **7-2**
LEAGUE RECORD: **5-1**


PHOTO BY CADE BARKER

La Center sophomore quarterback Brody Mills pump fakes the ball during offensive practice on Thursday, Aug. 27.

LA CENTER HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 4	7 p.m.	at Montesano Bulldogs
Friday, Sept. 11	7 p.m.	at Woodland Beavers
Friday, Sept. 18	7 p.m.	versus Stevenson Bulldogs
Friday, Sept. 25	2 p.m.	at Lynden Christian Lyncs
Friday, Oct. 2	7 p.m.	versus King's Way Christian Knights
Friday, Oct. 9	7 p.m.	at Kalama Chinooks
Friday, Oct. 16	7 p.m.	at Seton Catholic Cougars
Friday, Oct. 23	7 p.m.	versus Castle Rock Rockets
Friday, Oct. 30	7 p.m.	versus Fort Vancouver Trappers


PHOTO BY CADE BARKER

La Center senior standout Nate Rembisz prepares to make an end zone catch during practice on Thursday, Aug. 27.

CADE BARKER
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The La Center Wildcats enter the 2026 football season with a combination of new opportunity and veteran leadership, led by a senior class that has embraced the work required to compete.

At the center of that transition is sophomore quarterback Brody Mills, who coach John Lambert said has shown the confidence and physical tools needed to take on the position.

"He's fearless, and he has great anticipation with the ball," Lambert said of Mills. "He has a confidence to him that you need to have in a quarterback along with the size and the arm talent."

Mills represents a change at a position where La Center has seen a different starting quarterback each season since Lambert's son graduated in 2021. Lambert said Mills has bought into the program's expectations, including putting in work in the weight room.

His development also gives the Wildcats more flexibility with senior Nate Rembisz, allowing La Center to move one of its key players around the field.

Rembisz emerged as one of the team's leading workers during the offseason, something Lambert said has translated into his role as a leader.

"He leads from the front, and that's really important," Lambert said. "He's a great help for Brody (Mills), a great resource for the guys."

Lambert also pointed to senior Zayne Latham as another important piece of the Wildcats' leadership group. Latham and Rembisz were among the team's top performers in workouts, while Lambert said both have encouraged younger players around them.

The Wildcats will also rely on an experienced senior group across the roster, including linemen, tight end and running backs.

"It's a good group of seniors that we have that really want to be successful and put the work in to get there," Lambert said.

La Center's schedule will provide plenty of tests prior to postseason ambitions. Lambert said the Wildcats do not want an easy nonleague slate, pointing to teams such as Woodland, Montesano and Lynden Christian, along with league opponents he described as dangerous.

"I don't want easy games, that doesn't help us at all," Lambert said.

Rather than looking too far ahead, Lambert said La Center's focus remains on improving each day and being ready when the biggest games arrive.

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SPUDDERS

Ridgefield embraces daunting schedule with young roster

HEAD COACH: **Scott Rice**

CLASSIFICATION: **2A** LEAGUE: **GSHL**

2025 SEASON STATS

REGULAR SEASON: **5-4**

LEAGUE RECORD: **5-2**



PHOTO BY CADE BARKER

Ridgefield quarterback Ekolu Poki passes the ball during practice on Thursday, Aug. 20.

CADE BARKER
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The Ridgefield Spudders are entering the 2026 football season with plenty of uncertainty, but head coach Scott Rice believes that uncertainty can become an opportunity.

After intentionally scheduling challenging nonleague opponents, Ridgefield now faces what Rice described as potentially the toughest schedule in school history following changes to the league alignment.

"We went out and intentionally picked up Battle Ground, intentionally picked up Skyview," Rice said. "And then all the league change stuff happened where it was like, then you add Tumwater and Washougal and River and everybody into the mix. And it turns into arguably the toughest schedule in school history."

The Spudders will also have plenty of new faces stepping into significant roles. Ridgefield returns just one starter on each side of the ball and has no returning starters along the offensive line.

At quarterback, juniors Ethan Rovira and Ekolu Poki are competing for the starting job during the first two weeks of practice.

"We've got two guys that have done a good job in the offseason," Rice said. "And so we've got to figure out who the guy's going to be."

The opening nonleague games will offer an immediate test. Ridgefield will face two 4A programs Rice described as playoff-caliber opponents, giving younger players a chance to prove themselves before league play.

"Those two non-league games that don't count for anything, like having that gut check and having the opportunity to see who is going to rise to the occasion?" Rice said. "Who's going to tough it out? Who's going to compete against the two 4A programs who are both playoff caliber teams?"

The Spudders also have 2A powerhouse Tumwater Thunderbirds on the schedule.

Despite the youth, Rice is encouraged by the group's work ethic. The Spudders will primarily be led by sophomores and juniors this season, with a talented freshman class developing behind them.

"I really like this crew. I think it's a bunch of really good kids, and they work really hard," Rice said. "But they're young."

With roughly 12 seniors on the roster, Ridgefield cannot rely on experience alone. Instead, Rice expects those veterans to help guide a young team through a season designed to test how quickly the Spudders can grow.

The challenge begins immediately, but the Spudders are embracing it.

RIDGEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 4	7 p.m.	at Battle Ground Tigers (District Stadium)
Friday, Sept. 11	7 p.m.	versus Skyview Storm
Friday, Sept. 18	7 p.m.	at Washougal Panthers
Friday, Sept. 25	7 p.m.	at Hockinson Hawks
Friday, Oct. 2	7 p.m.	versus Columbia River Rapids
Friday, Oct. 9	7 p.m.	at Tumwater Thunderbirds
Friday, Oct. 16	7 p.m.	versus Mark Morris Monarchs
Friday, Oct. 23	7 p.m.	versus R.A. Long Lumberjacks
Friday, Oct. 30	7 p.m.	at Woodland Beavers



PHOTO BY CADE BARKER

Ridgefield Spudder players clash in drills on Thursday, Aug. 20.



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BEAVERS

Woodland leans on returning core, depth and special teams

HEAD COACH:
Glen Flanagan

CLASSIFICATION: **2A** LEAGUE: **GSHL**

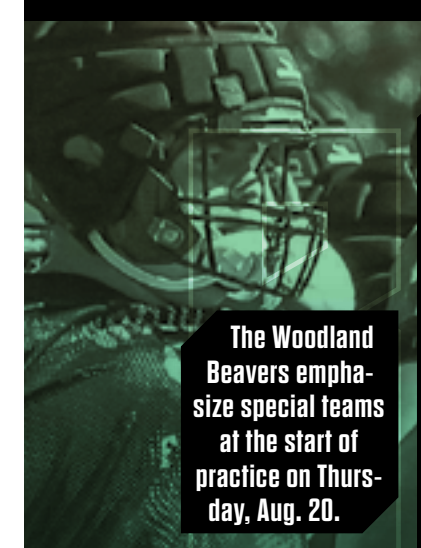
2025 SEASON STATS

REGULAR SEASON: **5-4**

LEAGUE RECORD: **4-3**

WOODLAND HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 4	7 p.m.	at Kalama Chinooks
Friday, Sept. 11	7 p.m.	versus La Center Wildcats
Friday, Sept. 18	7 p.m.	at Hockinson Hawks
Friday, Sept. 25	7 p.m.	versus Tumwater Thunderbirds
Friday, Oct. 2	7 p.m.	versus Aberdeen Bobcats
Friday, Oct. 9	7 p.m.	at Washougal Panthers
Friday, Oct. 16	7 p.m.	at R.A. Long Lumberjacks (Longview Memorial Stadium)
Friday, Oct. 23	7 p.m.	at Mark Morris Monarchs (Longview Memorial Stadium)
Friday, Oct. 30	7 p.m.	versus Ridgefield Spudders



The Woodland Beavers emphasize special teams at the start of practice on Thursday, Aug. 20.



PHOTO BY CADE BARKER

CADE BARKER
cade.barker@thereflector.com

The Woodland Beavers enter the 2026 football season with a familiar roster, an experienced coaching staff and an emphasis on doing the little things well.

Head coach Glen Flanagan said much of the team's offensive personnel returns from last season, giving the Beavers added chemistry heading into the year.

"It's a very similar squad," Flanagan said, adding the offensive coordinator and run game coordinator also return for another year of collaboration. "So there's a lot more chemistry. There's a lot more flow."

One of the biggest competitions entering the season is at quarterback. Junior Michael Belvin returns after earning first-team all-league honors, but he is being challenged by sophomore Jackson Andrews, a talented multi-sport athlete who earned quarterback MVP honors at a team camp at George Fox University.

Belvin remains the No. 1 option, Flanagan said, but Andrews gives Woodland a strong second option.

"Mikey is our number one, but we have a very solid 1B," Flanagan said.

The Beavers also return several playmakers, including running back Dayton Morris, who earned second-team all-league honors as a freshman, along with Tanner Cusick and Josh Graham.



PHOTO BY CADE BARKER

The Woodland Beavers perform jumping jacks prior to practice on Thursday, Aug. 20.

For Woodland, staying healthy will be one of the biggest keys to the season. Flanagan said the Beavers have quality players but lack the depth of some larger programs.

"We're not deep," Flanagan said, adding the school population totals differ from some 2A powerhouses. "You know, we got our kids. And so we got to stay healthy."

The offensive and defensive lines could be another strength. Flanagan said several experienced linemen give Woodland a foundation in the trenches.

"I think you have to start with the line," Flanagan said. "Those guys in the trenches are really important."

Special teams will also receive increased attention. Junior long snapper Evan Martynowicz has turned the specialized position into a potential path to playing football at the next level, while Josh Graham takes over as the team's kicker.

Flanagan said special teams can be especially important at the high school level because of field position.

"You can't win without good special teams," Flanagan said.

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HAWKS

Hockinson's day-to-day improvement goals not altered by league shake-up

HEAD COACH:
Ben Nelson

CLASSIFICATION: **2A** LEAGUE: **GSHL**

2025 SEASON STATS

REGULAR SEASON: **2-7**

LEAGUE RECORD: **2-5**

HOCKINSON HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 4	7 p.m.	versus Fort Vancouver Trappers
Friday, Sept. 11	6 p.m.	at Medical Lake Cardinals
Friday, Sept. 18	7 p.m.	versus Woodland Beavers
Friday, Sept. 25	7 p.m.	versus Ridgefield Spudders
Friday, Oct. 2	4 p.m.	at Black Hills Wolves
Friday, Oct. 9	7 p.m.	versus W.F. West Bearcats
Friday, Oct. 16	7 p.m.	versus Hudson's Bay Eagles
Friday, Oct. 23	7 p.m.	at Columbia River Rapids
Friday, Oct. 30	7 p.m.	at Washougal Panthers

PHOTO BY CADE BARKER



Hockinson football players celebrate after a touchdown during red zone drills in practice on Thursday, Aug. 27.

PHOTO BY CADE BARKER



Hockinson performs red zone drills in practice on Thursday, Aug. 27.

CADE BARKER
cade.barker@thereflector.com

Hockinson enters the 2026 football season with a veteran senior group providing leadership as the Hawks navigate a reshaped 2A Greater St. Helens League schedule.

For second-year head coach Ben Nelson, the focus heading into the season is less about worrying over a schedule the team cannot control and more about making the most of the opportunities in front of it.

"Football is football. And so we focused a lot about controlling what we can control," Nelson said.

The Hawks have several seniors stepping into leadership roles, including captains Jack Robinson and Erdalbek Mailov. Rowen Matson is another returning two-way starter, while Mailov also returns as a two-way starter on the offensive and defensive lines.

Nelson said the senior group has embraced its responsibility, particularly with a large freshmen class joining the program.

"They've been good about being vocal leaders for the team," Nelson said. "We got a big freshmen class, so they've been good about trying to lead that group and just set an example, which has been nice to see."

Hockinson's schedule presents a different challenge this season, with some former league matchups now classified as nonleague games. The Hawks have six games to develop before entering three division contests in weeks seven, eight and nine, when playoff opportunities will be at stake.

Nelson said the unusual format does not change the team's overall objective.

"We know right now that we got six games to try to get better, and then we got three division games where the playoffs are on the line," Nelson said.

With the division games still many weeks away, Nelson believes looking too far ahead would be counterproductive. Instead, Hockinson is concentrating on its opening game and building from there.

"We're just trying to focus on the here and now and understand that we'll put our best foot forward for week one," Nelson said.

The Hawks' immediate goal is straightforward: continue improving, build chemistry and put themselves in position to compete when the games carrying playoff implications arrive.

"I'm really only worried about week one right now and trying to put the best football team I can on the field together," Nelson said.

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Community Calendar

Brewing & Distilling in the Pacific Northwest: Thursday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m., Clark County Historical Museum, 1511 Main St., Vancouver. Learn the history of alcohol in the Pacific Northwest from Dr. Sam Busick. The program will discuss how brewing and distilling shaped the region's history, prohibition, craft brewing and more. Attendance is free for museum members, and $5 for non-members.

Senior Toenail Care Clinic: Friday, Sept. 4 and 18, 12-3 p.m., Woodland Community Center, 782 Park St., Woodland. Seniors are invited to learn about toenail and foot health during a clinic hosted by Woodland Senior Enrichment Group. Participants will also receive foot care. The fee is $10 per person.

Haunted History Walking Tour: Fridays and Saturdays, Sept. 4-Oct. 31, 7-8 p.m., Clark County Historical Museum, 1511 Main St., Vancouver. Explore Vancouver's haunted history during a tour hosted by Clark County Historical Museum. Participants will walk approximately a mile and will make frequent stops along the way. Tickets are available for purchase at cchmuseum.org/programs-events.

Ridgefield Multicultural Festival: Saturday, Sept. 5, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Ridgefield Overlook Park, 113-131 S. Main Ave., Ridgefield. Celebrate Ridgefield's diversity with a free, all-ages festival. The festival will include live musical performances, children's activities, shopping and more. For more information, visit ridgefieldculture.org.

Flora of Battle Ground Lake: Saturday, Sept. 5, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Battle Ground Lake, 18002 NE 249th St., Battle Ground. Take a 1-mile informative plant hike of Battle Ground Lake's upper trail, guided by park aide Easton Lane. The group will meet at the first covered picnic shelter near the day-use parking lot. The hike is limited to 20 people. To register, email battle.ground@parks.wa.gov.

The Warrior Expo: Saturday, Sept. 5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 6, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Donald Farms, 425 Whalen Road, Woodland. Participate in feats of strength, such as Heaviest Highlander and Iron Grip Trials, during an event hosted by Psychotic Strength. Team games, vendors and other outdoor activities will also be available. Registration is available at psychoticstrength.com.

Mushroom Hunting for Beginners: Saturday, Sept. 5, 2-4 p.m., Ridgefield Community Library, 210 N. Main Ave., Ridgefield. Learn about Pacific Northwest mushroom foraging during a beginner-friendly class, hosted by Ridgefield Community Library. The class will discuss the skills and tools needed for accurate mushroom identification.

Sunflower Senior Garden Club: Tuesday, Sept. 8, Battle Ground Senior Center, 116 NE Third Ave., Battle Ground. Learn about gardening and connect with fellow seniors during the quarterly Sunflower Seniors Garden Club. This inaugural meeting will discuss future gardening topics and group activities. Contact Terri Risling at 360-903-6160 for more information.

Adult Bad Art: Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2-3 p.m., Woodland Community Library, 411 Lakeshore Dr., Woodland. Create intentionally imperfect artwork during this lighthearted art program, hosted by Woodland Community Library. Participants can make their worst art, discuss the process, and vote on the most impressively bad piece.

Woodland Seniors Paint & Sip: Thursday, Sept. 10, 1-3 p.m., Matranga Vineyard, 1044 B. St., Woodland. Join fellow seniors for a day of painting and wine, hosted by Woodland Senior Enrichment Group. Attendance and fees vary by canvas size, with 8-by-10-inch canvases costing $27 and 5-by-7-inch canvases costing $17. A charcuterie board and soda will also be available. To register, email seniorinfo55up@yahoo.com.

Ghost Town Poetry Open Mic: Thursday, Sept. 10, 7 p.m., Art at the Cave, 108 E. Evergreen Blvd., Vancouver. Hear poetry during an open mic featuring poet and musician Adrienne Awen. A $5 donation is suggested.

LADY Mad Hatter's Meeting: Friday, Sept. 11, 11:30 a.m., Red Robin, 1112 SW Scotton Way, Battle Ground. Monthly meeting for the Battle Ground Senior Citizens LADY Mad Hatters. Participants are responsible for their own meal costs. The doors do not open until 11 a.m. For more information, email BattleGroundSeniorCitizens@gmail.com or call Sharon Wodtke at 360-953-3278.

Battle Ground Legacy Night: Friday, Sept. 11, 6:15 p.m., Battle Ground High School district stadium, 300 W. Main St., Battle Ground. Battle Ground School District staff and alumni are invited to the annual Legacy Night. The event will take place during the Battle Ground High School vs. Prairie High School football game. Alumni will be invited onto the field for special recognition. Attendees are encouraged to dress in the style of their graduation decade. Tickets are available at the door or online at shorturl.at/tLUvW.

Friends of Woodland Community Library Used Book Sale: Friday, Sept. 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Woodland Community Library, 411 Lakeshore Dr., Woodland. Find deals on used items during a book sale, hosted by Friends of Woodland Community Library. Proceeds from the sale will support the library.

Battle Ground Class of 1961 Reunion: Saturday, Sept. 12, 4 p.m., La Center Historical Museum, 410 W. Fifth St., La Center. Reminisce with classmates during the Battle Ground class of 1961 reunion. Chicken will be served for dinner, and participants are asked to bring a side dish to share. To attend, call Merle Bradford, 503-407-9847, or Joanne Hoftikkaoja, 360-892-0336 by Monday, Sept. 7.

Friends of La Center Community Library Used Book Sale: Saturday, Sept. 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., La Center Community Library, 1411 NE Lockwood Creek Road, La Center. Find deals on used items during a book sale, hosted by Friends of La Center Community Library. Proceeds from the sale will support the library.

Kelso Highlander Festival & Scottish Games: Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12-13, 8 a.m., Tam O'Shanter Park, Tam O'Shanter Way, Kelso. Celebrate Scottish heritage during the annual Highlander Festival and Scottish Games. The full-day free event will include dance competitions, live Celtic music, hammer throwing and more. For more information, visit kelsohighlanderfestival.com.

Friends of Clark County Dinner: Sunday, Sept. 13, 4-7 p.m., Cedars Public House, 15001 NE 181st Ave., Brush Prairie. Support the conservation work of Friends of Clark County during its annual Dinner with Friends fundraiser. Tickets are available for purchase online at friendsofclarkcounty.org.

Senior Luncheon: Monday, Sept. 14, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Battle Ground Event Center, 912 E. Main St., Battle Ground. Learn about senior advisory services during the monthly Battle Ground Senior Citizens luncheon. Lunch will include gluten-free and vegetarian options. The doors will open at 10:30 a.m., and a $7 donation is suggested. To attend, RSVP by emailing BattleGroundSeniorCitizens@gmail.com or calling Sharon Wodtke at 360-953-3278.

Senior Lunch and Learn: Wednesday, Sept. 16, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Battle Ground Senior Center, 116 NE Third Ave., Battle Ground. Learn about fall prevention during a seminar hosted by Battle Ground Senior Citizens. Cash donations will be accepted. To attend, RSVP by emailing BattleGroundSeniorCitizens@gmail.com or calling Sharon Wodtke at 360-953-3278.

Growing Vegetables without Soil: Friday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 78th Street Heritage Farm, 1919 NE 78th St., Vancouver. Learn how to grow vegetables from seedling to harvest using the Kratky hydroponic method during a workshop hosted by the WSU Extension Clark County Master Gardener Program. Participants who wish to plant a seedling during class may bring one opaque, lidded container that holds 1/2 to 5 gallons. Bucket kits will be available for $7, cash only. Cost is $10 plus taxes and fees. Register online at shorturl.at/DDdYh.

BG Senior Citizens Veterans Lunch Club: Friday, Sept. 18, 11:30 a.m., The Prairie Tavern, 14925 NE Caples Road, Brush Prairie. Meet fellow veterans at the monthly lunch club hosted by Battle Ground Senior Citizens. Participants are responsible for their own meal costs. For more information, email BattleGroundSeniorCitizens@gmail.com or call Sharon Wodtke at 360-953-3278.

Realms Unknown Fantasy Festival: Friday-Sunday, Sept. 18-20, Lewis River Golf Course, 3209 Old Lewis River Road, Woodland. Participate in an interactive fantasy-themed, family-friendly event featuring story-based activities, vendors and live music. On-site camping is available during the festival. To purchase tickets, visit realmsunknown.com.

Plant Propagation Class: Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., CASEE Center, Building B, 11104 NE 149th St., Brush Prairie. Learn about propagation timing and techniques from Clark County Master Gardener and NatureScaping coordinator Julie Carlsen. The class will discuss various methods of propagation, including stem cuttings and plant division. The class is free for NatureScaping Wildlife Botanical Gardens members and $15 for non-members. Register by emailing info@naturescaping.org.

Winterize Your Garden For Spring Success: Saturday, Sept. 19, 4-5 p.m., La Center Community Library, 1411 NE Lockwood Creek Road, La Center. Learn how to winterize your garden and ensure spring success during a Master Gardener seminar. Topics will include plant protection, soil enrichment and winterizing irrigation systems.

Community Clothing Swap: Saturday, Sept. 19, 2-4 p.m., Battle Ground Community Library, 1207 SE Eighth Way, Battle Ground. Refresh your wardrobe at this all-ages community clothing swap. Drop off donations at the library Sept. 13-18 during open hours or bring them directly to the event. Items must be dry, clean, scent-free and in good condition. Socks and undergarments will not be accepted. Dressing rooms will not be available at the event. Donations are not required to participate.

Americana 250 Fall Fest: Saturday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens, 115 S. Pekin Road, Woodland. Celebrate America 250 during a festival at the Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens. Vendors, music, family-friendly games and more will be available. Participants may also enter a chili cook-off or apple pie contest. For more information, visit lilacgardens.com/americana-fest.

"A Million Miles Away" Film Screening: Sunday, Sept. 20, 3-5:30 p.m., Battle Ground Community Library, 1207 SE Eighth Way, Battle Ground. Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a community screening of "A Million Miles Away," a biopic about José Hernández and his path from farm worker to NASA astronaut.

Putting Your Garden to Bed: Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6-7 p.m., Woodland Community Library, 411 Lakeshore Dr., Woodland. Learn how to prepare your garden for winter and set it up for spring success during a Master Gardener seminar. Topics will include garden maintenance and ways to reduce springtime work.

Music Fest Food Drive: Saturday, Sept. 26, 6:30 p.m., Battle Ground Community United Methodist Church, 10300 NE 99th St., Battle Ground. Raise money and donate nonperishable food to North County Community Food Bank during a concert hosted by Battle Ground Community United Methodist Church. A $25 donation is suggested, with all proceeds benefiting the food bank. This year the band Three Together, an acoustic trio, will perform folk, pop and soft rock songs from the 1960s and 1970s. For more information, call 360-687-2542 or email BGCUMC@gmail.com.

BG Senior Citizens Cellphone Class: 11 a.m.- 1 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28, Battle Ground Senior Center, 116 NE Third Ave., Battle Ground. Learn how to use a cellphone and maximize its capabilities during a class hosted by Battle Ground Senior Citizens. For more information, email BattleGroundSeniorCitizens@gmail.com or call Sharon Wodtke at 360-953-3278.

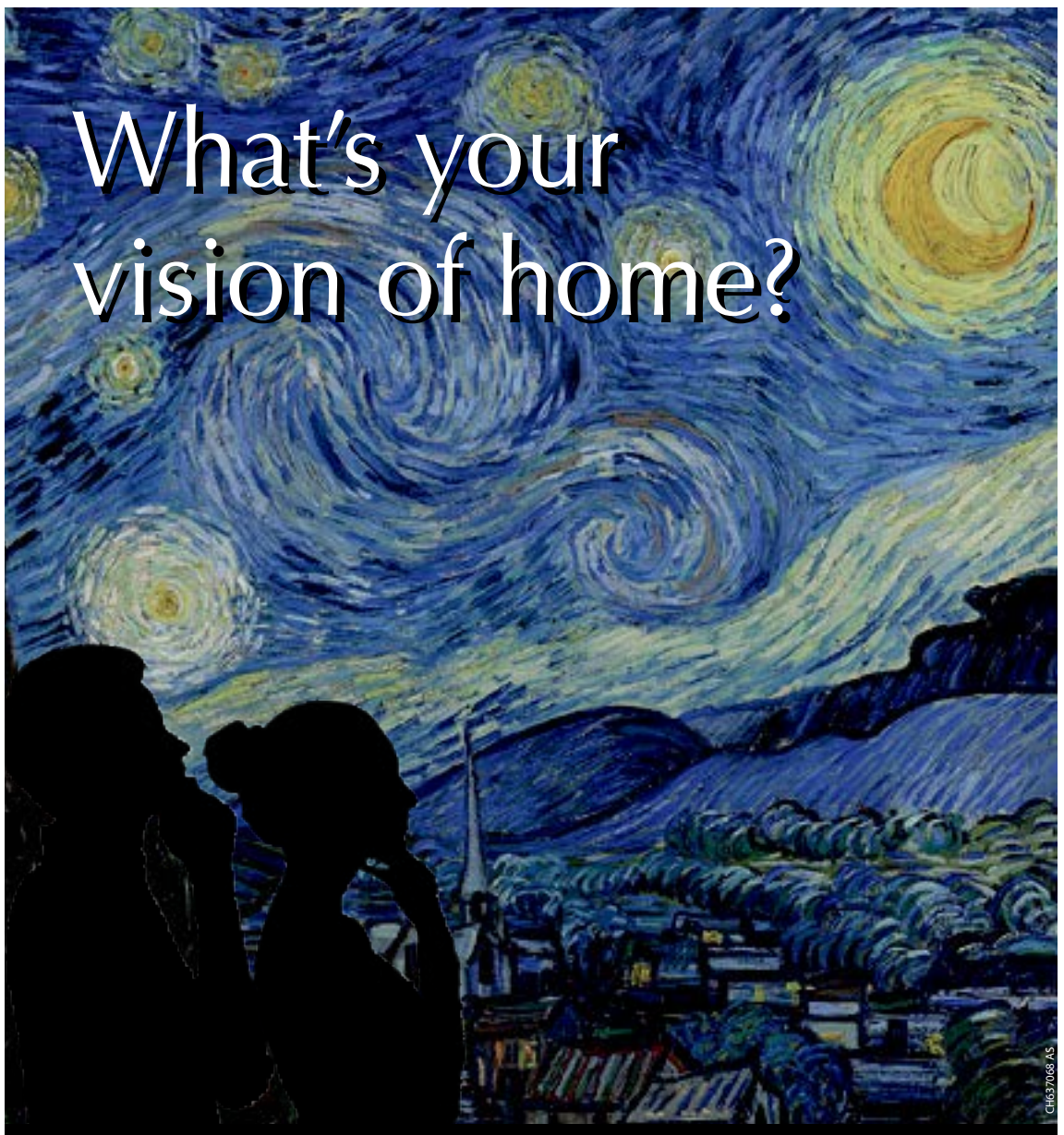
Walk to End Alzheimer's: Saturday, Oct. 3, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Esther Short Park, 605 Esther St., Vancouver. Join Clark County locals in raising awareness and funds to end Alzheimer's disease. Proceeds from the 3.1-mile walk will benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Registration is required to join the walk and is available online at shorturl.at/c7cQ4.

Fireside Tales of Horror: Saturdays, Oct. 3-24, 7-8 p.m., The Historic Covington House, 4201 Main St., Vancouver. Listen to an evening of bone-chilling stories around the fireplace at Covington House during an event hosted by Clark County Historical Museum. The event is intended for those aged 13 and older. Tickets are available for purchase at cchmuseum.org/programs-events.

FVRL Foundation Authors & Illustrators Gala: Tuesday, Oct. 6, 5:30 p.m., Hilton Vancouver, 301 W. Sixth St., Vancouver. Raise funds for programs at Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries during the foundation's annual gala. This year's event will feature author Amy Tan, known for "The Joy Luck Club" and "The Bonesetter's Daughter." The event will include a silent auction, cocktail hour and gourmet dinner. Tickets are available at shorturl.at/hD2Mo.

Furry Friends Annual Dinner and Auction: Saturday, Oct. 17, 4:30-8:30 p.m., Royal Oaks Country Club, 8917 NE Fourth Plain Blvd., Vancouver. Raise funds for the care of felines at Furry Friends cat shelter during a western-themed dinner. The evening will feature auctions and gourmet dining. Tickets are available for purchase at shorturl.at/g1jxl. To

See **CALENDAR** *on Page* **B10**





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BG middle schooler's dedication to basketball helps lead to championship; his ultimate goal is the NBA



Photo by Marcus McCormic

Raiden Jones shoots a three-pointer on the basketball court at Kiwanis Park on Friday, Aug. 28.



Photo by Marcus McCormic

Raiden Jones dribbles to a third cone in his drill on the basketball courts at Kiwanis Park on Friday, Aug. 28.



Photo by Marcus McCormic

Raiden Jones drives to the hoop to make a shot on the basketball courts at Kiwanis Park on Friday, Aug. 28.

MARCUS MCCORMIC
marcus.mccormic@thereflector.com

A swishing net and bouncing basketball can be heard at least twice a day at Kiwanis Park in Battle Ground thanks to Raiden Jones.

Jones is a seventh grader at Tukes Valley Middle School and has been practicing at the park, making around 600 shots per day.

In early August, his family set up an online crowdsourcing campaign via a GoFundMe page so that he could travel with his AAU basketball team Gametime to compete in a tournament in California.

"They're in Vancouver and Tacoma, and we just won the Washington state title earlier this winter," Jones said.

In California this summer, the team had a great record, only losing one out of the many games they played at the G365 The Crown Tournament in Oakland.

"We only lost one game, but we beat them in the championship, and I'd say I did good," Jones said. "Our whole team did good. We were doing good at ball movement, and we won."

Of course, his ambitions for basketball don't end with a tournament win in another state.

"I'm here because I want to get better and I want to win a state championship again," Jones said.

Jones practices at the park twice a day, running ball-handling drills, working various types of shots and practicing his endurance.

Developing his skill through routines and exercises on the court is one thing, but Jones also does some training in the weight gym.

"I practice at the court about two times a day, and then I do either jumping or lifting weights at home," Jones said.

His practice schedule has taken up a lot of time in his daily life, yet, for him, it isn't a problem at all.

"It's fun to play. I like winning. I'm competitive, and I want to go to the NBA," Jones said.

When school comes around, Jones practices on his own in the morning before the school day begins, in the afternoon when classes are done, and, on top of that, practices with his team on their regular schedule.

As fun as it is for him to progress personally, something he really looks forward to is helping his teammates to get better with him.

"I meet new people doing it. It's fun winning, and making your teammates do good also," Jones said.

With the recent win from California under his team's belt, and adding to his own personal record, along with the support of his community behind him, Jones has continued to look forward to his next goals.

"I want to say thank you for helping me get to California and always believing in me," Jones said. "Soon, you'll see me in the NBA."

To stay up to date on what's happening in his basketball career, follow Jones and his team on Instagram @raidenjonesbasketball and @gametimeaaubasketball



Photo by Marcus McCormic

Raiden Jones practices a crossover drill in front of a cone on the basketball courts at Kiwanis Park on Friday, Aug. 28.







Calendar

Continued from page B8

learn more, visit furryfriendswa.org.

Ongoing

Battle Ground Senior Citizens Coffee Social: Every fourth Monday of the month, 9-10 a.m., Battle Ground Senior Center, 116 NE Third Ave., Battle Ground. Enjoy a morning with fellow senior citizens. For more information, email BattleGroundSeniorCitizens@gmail.com or call Sharon Wodtke at 360-953-3278.

Thursday Walkers: Every second and fourth Thursday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Kiwanis Park, 422 SW Second Ave., Battle Ground. Join fellow seniors for a walk around the park, organized by Battle Ground Senior Citizens. For more information, email BattleGroundSeniorCitizens@gmail.com or call Sharon Wodtke at 360-953-3278.

Enhance Fitness Class: Every Wednesday and Friday, 10-11 a.m., Bethel Lutheran Church, 12919 NE 159th St., Brush Prairie. Seniors over 60 are invited to participate in an evidence-based exercise class hosted by the Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities of Southwest Washington. Instructors tailor the activities to match the participants' abilities. For more information, call 360-694-8144.

Enhance Fitness Class: Every Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30-9:30 a.m. and 10-11 a.m., Battle Ground Senior Center, 116 NE Third Ave., Battle Ground. Seniors over 60 are invited to partake in an evidence-based exercise class, hosted by the Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities of Southwest Washington. Instructors tailor the activities to match the participants' abilities. For more information, call 360-694-8144.

Woodland Seniors Bunco: Every first Wednesday of the month, 5-8 p.m.; every third Wednesday of the month, 2-5 p.m., Old Woodland Library, 770 Park St., Woodland. Play games with local seniors during the Woodland Senior Enrichment Group's bimonthly meeting. For more information, email seniorinfo55up@yahoo.com.

Woodland Seniors Fun & Games: Every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Old Woodland Library, 770 Park St., Woodland. Play games with local seniors during the bimonthly meeting, hosted by Woodland Senior Enrichment Group. For more information, email seniorinfo55up@yahoo.com.

Woodland Seniors Widows & Widowers: Every first and third Monday of the month, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., The Church of the Nazarene, 2000 Lewis River Road, Woodland. Socialize with local seniors experiencing loss during a bimonthly meeting hosted by Woodland Senior Enrichment Group. For more information, email seniorinfo55up@yahoo.com.

Woodland Seniors Walking Group: Every Tuesday and Friday, 9 a.m., Horseshoe Lake Park, Park Road, Woodland. Enjoy a gentle stroll with fellow seniors during an event hosted by Woodland Senior Enrichment Group. For more information, email seniorinfo55up@yahoo.com.

Pairs & Spares Seniors Club: Join a Vancouver-based social group for seniors aged 50 and older. Each month features a calendar packed with activities, such as social gatherings, sing-alongs, outdoor activities and more. To learn more and receive a complimentary event calendar, call 360-892-8944.

Silver & Fit Senior Virtual Fitness Classes: Every weekday, 10 a.m., Join Silver & Fit for free fitness classes for seniors. Monday is low-impact cardio, Tuesday is easy-going yoga, Wednesday is body-weight exercises, Thursday is balance and flexibility, and Friday is a mix of favorite exercises of the week. To find classes, visit facebook.com/silverandfit. For more information, call 877-427-4788 or email silverandfitonfacebook@ashn.com.

Battle Ground Lions Club: Every second and fourth Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., Old Town Burger and Breakfast, 813 W. Main St., Battle Ground. Join the Battle Ground Lions Club for fun and volunteer opportunities.

Ridgefield Lions Club: Every second Tuesday of the month, 6:45-8 a.m., Rosauers Supermarket Coffee Shop, 101 S. 47th Ave., Ridgefield. Business meeting: every fourth Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m., Ridgefield Administrative and Civic Center, 510 Pioneer St., Ridgefield. Go to ridgefieldlions.org for more information.

La Center Lions Club: Every first and third Thursday of the month, 6-7:30 p.m., New Phoenix Casino, 225 W. Fourth St., La Center. Learn about the community projects undertaken by the La Center Lions Club and how to volunteer. For more information, email secretary@lacenterlions.org.

Ridgefield La Center Kiwanis Club: Every first Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., La Center Church, 111 E. Fifth St., La Center. Learn about the Kiwanis Club of Ridgefield and La Center community projects impacting children and families. To learn more, visit facebook.com/RidgefieldWAKiwanis.

Greater Woodland-Kalama Kiwanis Club: Every first Wednesday of the month, 5:30 p.m., Oak Tree Restaurant, 1020 Atlantic Ave., Woodland. Learn how the Greater Woodland-Kalama Kiwanis Club is helping local children, families and the community. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6 p.m.

Battle Ground Rotary Club Meeting: Every Wednesday, 5:30 p.m., 715 E. Main St., Battle Ground. Learn about the community projects undertaken by the Battle Ground Rotary Club and how to volunteer.

Rotary Club of Three Creeks Meeting: Every first and third Thursday of the month, 5-6:30 p.m., Columbia Ridge Winery, 3006 NW 199th St., Ridgefield. Learn about the community service projects and programs during the bimonthly Rotary Club of Three Creeks meetings. Social time is from 5-5:30 p.m. To learn more, visit rotaryofthethreecreeks.com.

La Center American Legion Meeting: Every second Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., La Center Church, 111 E. Fifth St., La Center. Learn about the community works and veteran fellowship of the La Center American Legion Post #189.

Ridgefield American Legion Meeting: Every first Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Ridgefield Fire Station, 911 N. 65th Ave., Ridgefield. Learn about the community works and veteran fellowship of the Ridgefield American Legion Post #44. Meetings feature community guest speakers and planning for the Parade of Flags program.

Columbia Mothers of Twins Club: Every first Thursday of the month, 7:30 p.m., St. John Lutheran Church, 11005 NE Highway 99, Vancouver. The Columbia Mothers of Twins Club meets monthly to provide support and fellowship for mothers of twins. For more information, email columbiamot@gmail.com or visit columbiamotc.com.

Vancouver Sons & Daughters of Italy: Every second Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 3500 NW 129th St., Vancouver. Celebrate Italian heritage at the monthly Vancouver Sons and Daughters of Italy meeting. For more information, call Paul Zanobelli at 360-521-5584 or visit osdia.org.

Columbia River Chorus Meeting: Every Monday, 7 p.m., Clark College, Beacock Music Hall, 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Join the Columbia River Chorus, part of Sweet Adelines International, to dive into the world of female barbershop music. To learn more, visit Columbiariverchorus.org or text 360-518-7829.

Garden Chat: Every second Saturday of the month, 2-3:30 p.m., Ridgefield Community Library, 210 N. Main Ave., Ridgefield. Learn new gardening techniques and share personal strategies during a gardeners' meetup hosted by the Ridgefield Community Library.

Southwest Washington Woodturners Meeting: Every second Thursday of the month, 7-9 p.m., Friends of the Carpenter, 1600 W. 20th St., Vancouver. Learn woodturning techniques from experts at the Southwest Washington Woodturners' monthly meeting. Meetings are free and open to hobbyists, experts and those curious about woodworking. For more information, visit southwestwashingtonwoodturners.org.

Woodland Planters Days Celebration meetings: Every third Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Veterans of Foreign Wars, 434 Davidson Ave., Woodland. Meetings discuss the planning of the annual Planters Days community celebration. For more information, visit planters-days.com.

Vancouver Chrysanthemum Society Monthly Meeting: Every third Monday of the month, 2:40 p.m., 78th Street Heritage Farm, 1919 NE 78th St., Vancouver. Learn how to propagate, cultivate and care for chrysanthemums. For more information, visit chrysanthemumsvancouver.com.

Venersborg Historic Preservation Society: Every second Tuesday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m., The Historic Venersborg Schoolhouse, 24309 NE 209th St., Battle Ground. Help preserve the historic 1912 schoolhouse while assisting with organizing community events. Learn more at venersborgschoolhouse.com.

Columbia River Square Dancers: Sundays, lessons 6-8 p.m.; first and third Fridays of each month, plus-level dances at 7 p.m. and mainstream dances 8-9:45 p.m., 17901 NE 72nd Ave., Battle Ground. The cost is $7 per dancer. For more information, contact Dale Smith at 360-606-8849.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Battle Ground: Every Thursday, 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Collective Community Battle Ground, 300 SW Seventh Ave., Battle Ground. The meeting starts with a private weigh-in. For more information or directions, call Linda at 360-977-8689.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Woodland: Every Tuesday, 8:30-10:45 a.m., Woodland Community Center, 782 Park St., Woodland. The meeting starts with a private weigh-in, followed by a meeting. For more information, call Vera Porter at 503-806-0795.

Virtual Professional Connections Weekly Meeting: Every Monday, 11:45 a.m. Meet like-minded professionals and network with others in similar career fields. To join, go to zoom.com, click on Join a Meeting, and enter the meeting ID 8092456202 and the password 311397, if applicable. For more information, call 503-348-5330.

Kinship Caregiving Virtual Support Group: Every first and third Wednesday of the month, 10-11:30 a.m., on Zoom. The group offers family caregivers a safe place to connect with others, discuss the challenges of caregiving and learn about community resources. To register, call ADRC Information and Assistance at 360-694-8144 or email ClarkADRC@dshs.wa.gov.

Kinship Caregiving Support Group: Every second Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., on Zoom; every fourth Wednesday of the month, 10-11:30 a.m., in person at Bridgeview Resource Center, 505 Omaha Way, Vancouver. Meet with other caregivers who are relatives caring for one or more children. Registration for the in-person group is not required. To register, call ADRC Information and Assistance at 360-694-8144 or email ClarkADRC@dshs.wa.gov.

NAMI Connection: Every Thursday, 3:30-5 p.m. Meet and discuss mental health during a structured support group hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Register by visiting namiswwa.org/support-groups.

NAMI Veterans' Support: Every first and third Monday of each month, 4:30-6 p.m., Clark County Veterans Assistance Center, 907 Harney St., Suite 200, Vancouver. Meet and discuss mental health with local veterans during a structured support group hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Illness in partnership with the Clark County Veterans Assistance Center. Register by visiting namiswwa.org/support-groups. Drop-ins are also welcome.

NAMI Women's Support: Every Wednesday, 10-11:30 a.m. Meet and discuss mental health during a structured support group for women hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Register by visiting namiswwa.org/support-groups.

NAMI Family Support: Every first and third Tuesday of each month, 6:30-8 p.m. Meet and discuss mental health during a structured support group for families hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Register by visiting namiswwa.org/support-groups.

NAMI LGBTQ+ Support: Every first and third Thursday of each month, 4:30-6 p.m. Meet and discuss mental health during a structured support group for LGBTQ+ individuals hosted by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Register by visiting namiswwa.org/support-groups.

Southwest Washington Gold Prospectors: Every second Sunday of each month except May, 2 p.m., Minnehaha Grange Hall, 4905 NE St. Johns Road, Vancouver. Learn about prospecting, small-scale mining, ecological conservation and more. All ages are welcome. For more information, visit swwgoldprospectors.org.

Meetings

Battle Ground City Council: Every first and third Monday of the month, except observed holidays, 7 p.m., Battle Ground City Hall, 109 SW First St., Battle Ground. A 6 p.m. study session is held before regular meetings. Updates are available at cityofbg.org/96/City-Council.

La Center City Council: Every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., council chambers, La Center City Hall, 210 E. Fourth St., La Center. Updates are available at ci.lacenter.wa.us.

Ridgefield City Council: Every second and fourth Thursday of the month, and every first and third Thursday in November and December, 6:30 p.m., Columbia Assembly Room, Ridgefield Administrative and Civic Center, 510 Pioneer St., Ridgefield. Updates are available at ridgefieldwa.us/163/city-council.

Woodland City Council: Every first and third Monday of the month, 7 p.m., council chambers, 200 E. Scott Ave., Woodland. Updates are available at ci.woodland.wa.us/citycouncil.

Battle Ground Public Schools Board of Directors: Every second and fourth Monday of the month, most months, 6 p.m., Lewisville Campus, Room C-26, 406 NW Fifth Ave., Battle Ground. Work sessions are added as deemed necessary at the second meeting of the month. Updates are available at battlegroundps.org/board-meetings.

Ridgefield School District Board of Directors: Every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 5 p.m., Columbia Assembly Room, Ridgefield Administrative and Civic Center, 510 Pioneer St., or at other times and places as determined by the board. Updates are available at ridgefieldsd.org/page/board-of-directors.

Woodland School District Board of Directors: Every second and fourth Thursday of the month, and every third Thursday in November and December, 6:30 p.m., Woodland High School, Room 1204, 1500 Dike Access Road, Woodland. Updates are available at woodlandschools.org.

La Center School District Board of Directors: Every fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., La Center High School Library, 725 NE Highland Ave., La Center. Updates are available at lacenterschools.org/school-board.

Clark County Community Action Advisory Board meeting: Every first Wednesday of odd-numbered months, 9 a.m., Center for Community Health, Room C210B, 1601 E. Fourth Plain Blvd., Vancouver. The Community Action Advisory Board advocates on behalf of low-income residents at the state and federal levels. For more information, visit shorturl.at/re7Eb.

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THURSDAY, September 10, 2026
2:00 PM

2016 MAZDA CX-5 CTP8608
2005 CHEVROLET SILVERADO C86163V
1996 TOYOTA RAV4 CRE9676
2014 FORD FOCUS BMT9975
2006 KIA SORENTO 189FSX
2000 KIA SEPHIA CGB6601
2008 HYOSUNG GV250 M627701 MOTORCYCLE
2001 FORD RANGER C46701N
1996 HONDA CIVIC 403LQB

Viewing day of sale after 9:00 AM
JACKS TOWING
535 Park St. Woodland, WA 98674
360-225-8765

Auctions Sales

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
LANGLEY'S ACE
LANGLEY'S TOWING
LANGLEY'S AUTO WRECKING & TOWING
Thursday,
September 10, 2026
at 11am. Viewing at 9am.
19809 NE 58th St.,
Vancouver, WA 98682.
Cash only. All sales final.
Valid ID required.

Garage Sales General

Mult-Family Garage Sale

Vintage & new items ex bike, punching, bag, tires ~ clothing, vintage scarves, glassware, collectibles, handbags, furniture, too much to list. Wheat dishes, Franciscan crab apple.
8am to 5pm.
Sept. 4th & 5th.
28400 NE Fall Rd 98675
Special Instructions:
Please do not block Yacolt View Rd.

Legal Notices

137831 SBP Kibbee

SERVICE BY PUBLICATION IN THE SUPERIOR COURT STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY Cause #: 25-2-01606-06

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff
vs
SEAN PATRICK KIBBEE AND JORDAN H. KIBBEE, HUSBAND AND WIFE; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES; COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE ADMINISTRATION; STATE OF WASHINGTON; AND OCCUPANTS OF THE PREMISES, Defendant

TO: SEAN PATRICK KIBBEE
A writ of execution has been issued in the above captioned case, directed to the sheriff of Clark County, commanding the sheriff as follows: On April 21, 2026, a DEFAULT JUDGMENT AND DECREE OF FORECLOSURE in favor of Plaintiff LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC was entered in the Superior Court of Washington, County of Clark, against defendant SEAN PATRICK KIBBEE ("Judgment Debtor, In Rem"); JORDAN H. KIBBEE; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES; COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CODE ADMINISTRATION; STATE OF WASHINGTON; and OCCUPANTS OF THE PREMISES ("Judgment Defendants, In Rem"). It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed that the land and premises legally described as follows: LOT 2, EL-NATHAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT TEHREOF, RECORDED IN VOLUME H OF PLATS, PAGE 688, RECORDS OF CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON. SITUATE IN THE COUNTY OF CLARK, STATE OF WASHINGTON. APN: 118261240 Commonly referred to as: 119 NW 103rd Street, Vancouver, WA 98685 referred to in the Judgment, be sold at public auction, as particularly set out in said Judgment. The total amount due and owing on the Judgment through June 26, 2026 is $381,331.04 consisting of the following: the judgment amount of $369,033.58, principal and interest; $9,728.64 awarded for attorneys' fees and costs; plus pre-judgment interest accruing from April 2, 2026 through April 21, 2026, $597.40 ($29.87 per diem x 20 days); plus post-judgment interest accruing from April 22, 2026 through June 26, 2026, at the rate of 3.50% per annum, of $1,971.42 ($29.87 per diem x 66 days); pursuant to the Judgment, post-judgment amounts advanced for attorneys' fees, and costs for publication and Sheriff's fees of an unknown amount. It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed that the Sheriff is hereby authorized to make the return within 60 days after issuance by the court. For purposes of the sale, the Order may be automatically extended for 30 days, pursuant to RCW 6.21.050.In the name of the State of Washington, you are hereby commanded and required to proceed to notice for sale and to sell the Subject Property, which is more particularly described in the Notice of Sale, and apply the proceeds of said sale as in said Judgment and Decree directed, and to make and file your report of such sale with the Clerk of this Court, and do all things according to the terms and requirements of said Judgment, and the provisions of Washington Law. The court will establish a twelve-month redemption period from the date of the Sheriff's foreclosure sale, and the Sheriff should be ordered to issue a Sheriff's Deed to the successful bidder at the termination of the redemption period pursuant to RCW 6.23.020. The sale date has been set for September 11, 2026. YOU MAY HAVE A RIGHT TO EXEMPT PROPERTY from the sale under statutes of this state, including sections 6.13.010, 6.13.030, 6.13.040, 6.15.010, and 6.15.060 of the Revised Code of Washington, in the manner described in those statutes.
JOHN HORCH,
SHERIFF
CLARK COUNTY,
WASHINGTON
By: EVELINA KURILENKO
Civil Department
P.O. Box 410
Vancouver, Washington 98666
(564) 397-2225

Published in The Reflector:
July 29 & Aug 5, 12,19, 26 & Sept 2, 2026

137834 SBP AUMILLER

SERVICE BY PUBLICATION IN THE SUPERIOR COURT STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY Cause #: 25-2-04340-06

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC Plaintiff
vs
ERNEST AUMILLER AND ALYSHIA AUMILLER, HUSBAND AND WIFE; THE WASHINGTON STATE HOUSING FINANCE COMMISSION; THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC.; COLUMBIA COLLECTORS INC.; AND UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS OF THE PREMISES,
Defendant

TO: ERNEST AUMILLER AND ALYSHIA AUMILLER, HUSBAND AND WIFE
A writ of execution has been issued in the above-captioned case, directed to the Sheriff of Clark County, commanding the Sheriff as follows: On June 9, 2026, a DEFAULT JUDGMENT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, REFORMATION OF DEED OF TRUST, JUDGMENT AND DECREE OF FORECLOSURE in favor of Plaintiff LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC was entered in the Superior Court of Washington, County of Clark, against defendants ERNEST AUMILLER and ALYSHIA AUMILLER, husband and wife ("Judgment Debtors, In Rem"); THE WASHINGTON STATE HOUSING FINANCE COMMISSION; THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; MIDLAND CREDIT MANAGEMENT, INC.; COLUMBIA COLLECTORS INC.; and UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS OF THE PREMISES ("Judgment Defendants, In Rem"). It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed that the land and premises legally described as follows: LOT 9, ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY RECORDED IN BOOK 48, PAGE 108, RECORDS OF CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON. SAID SURVEY IS A RE-RECORD OF SURVEY RECORDED IN BOOK 48, PAGE 75. ALSO KNOWN AS A PORTION OF BLOCKS 6, 7, 8 AND 9, MCDONALD'S ADDITION TO YACOLT, WASH., ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN VOLUME "C" OF PLATS, PAGE 93, RECORDS OF CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON. APN: 67322018. Commonly referred to as: 406 E. Wilson Street, Yacolt, WA 98675, referred to in the Judgment, be sold at public auction, as particularly set out in said Judgment. The total amount due and owing on the Judgment through June 26, 2026 is $352,156.34 consisting of the following: the judgment amount of $343,134.08, principal and interest; $8,325.90 awarded for attorneys' fees and costs; plus pre-judgment interest accruing from May 30, 2026 through June 9, 2026, $273.57 ($24.87 per diem x 11 days); plus post-judgment interest accruing from June 10, 2026 through June 26, 2026, at the rate of 3.00% per annum, of $422.79 ($24.87 per diem x 17 days); pursuant to the Judgment, post-judgment amounts advanced for attorneys' fees, and costs for publication and Sheriff's fees of an unknown amount. It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed that the Sheriff is hereby authorized to make the return within 60 days after issuance by the court. For purposes of the sale, the Order may be automatically extended for 30 days, pursuant to RCW 6.21.050. In the name of the State of Washington, you are hereby commanded and required to proceed to notice for sale and to sell the Subject Property, which is more particularly described in the Notice of Sale, and apply the proceeds of said sale as in said Judgment and Decree directed, and to make and file your report of such sale with the Clerk of this Court, and do all things according to the terms and requirements of said Judgment, and the provisions of Washington Law. The court will establish a twelve-month redemption period from the date of the Sheriff's foreclosure sale, and the Sheriff should be ordered to issue a Sheriff's Deed to the successful bidder at the termination of the redemption period pursuant to RCW 6.23.020. The sale date has been set for September 11, 2026. YOU MAY HAVE A RIGHT TO EXEMPT PROPERTY from the sale under statutes of this state, including sections 6.13.010, 6.13.030, 6.13.040, 6.15.010, and 6.15.060 of the Revised Code of Washington, in the manner described in those statutes.
JOHN HORCH,
SHERIFF
CLARK COUNTY,
WASHINGTON
By: EVELINA KURILENKO
Civil DepartmentP.O. Box 410
Vancouver, Washington 98666
(564) 397-2225

Published in The Reflector:
July 29, August 5, 12, 19, 26 & Sept 2,2026

137837 NTC White

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK No. 26-4-01055-06 NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

In the Matter of the Estate of: MARILYNN ALICE WHITE, Deceased.
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed 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 attorneys at the address stated below, a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the Decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. Date of Filing Copy of Notice to Creditors with Clerk of Court: August 24, 2026
Date of First Publication: September 2, 2026
Personal Representative:
MOMENTOUS TRUST COMPANY
c/o Rachael A. Young
Senescu & Babich, PLLC
Attorneys at Law
1409 Franklin Street, Suite 207
Vancouver, WA 98660
Phone: (360) 696-7494

Published in The Reflector:
Sept 2, 9, & 16, 2026

137898 NTC Castro

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK
Case No. 26-4-00971-06
NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.020 & .030)

In the Matter of the Estate of RENATO T. CASTRO, Deceased. The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: AUGUST 19, 2026
Personal Representative:
DARIN WARD
Attorney for the Personal Representative:
LORI L. GASCON
1014 FRANKLIN STREET
VANCOUVER, WA 98660
(360) 694-9601
Court of probate proceedings and cause number:
Clark County, Washington
Superior Court
Cause No. 26 4 00423 06
CLARK COUNTY
COURTHOUSE
1200 FRANKLIN
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:
August 19, 2026
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:
Ryan V. Castro
LOREN JONER, Attorney
Joner Law, PLLC
PO Box 928
Battle Ground, WA 98604
Clark County, Washington
Superior Court Case
No. 26-4-00971-06

Published in The Reflector:
August 19, 26, & Sept 2, 2026

137900 NTC Haines

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK No. 26-4-00985-06 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of: THOMAS EVERETT HAINES, Deceased.
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed and has qualified as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney, at the address stated below, a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against the decedent's probate and non-probate assets. Date of First Publication: 08/19/2026.
Dated and signed this 10th day of August, 2026,
by: S/ ANGELA R. MARTIN
Personal Representative of the Estate of Thomas Everett Haines, Deceased
DATE S/ 08/10/2026
SUBMITTED BY:
STEVEN M. SOWARDS, WSBA #20815
Attorney for Personal Representative
Boyd, Gaffney, Sowards & Treosti, P.L.L.C.
713 W. Main St., Ste. 101, PO Box 5
Battle Ground, WA 98604
Ph. (360) 687-3149,
Fax (360) 687-3148

Published in The Reflector:
August 19, 26, & Sept 2, 2026

137905 NTC Ward

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON NO. 264 00995 06 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In re the Estate of: SHERRY LEE WARD, Deceased.
The personal representative named below has been appointed 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 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: AUGUST 19, 2026
Personal Representative:
DARIN WARD
Attorney for the Personal Representative:
LORI L. GASCON
1014 FRANKLIN STREET
VANCOUVER, WA 98660
(360) 694-9601
Court of probate proceedings and cause number:
Clark County, Washington
Superior Court
Cause No. 26 4 00423 06
CLARK COUNTY
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P. O. BOX 5000
VANCOUVER, WA 98668
LORI L. GASCON,
WSBA#37866
Attorney for Personal Representative

Published in The Reflector:
August 19, 26, and September 2, 2026

137909 NOD Orchard Hills Estates

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION ORCHARD HILLS ESTATES, INC.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Orchard Hills Estates, Inc. filed articles of its dissolution with the Washington Secretary of State on August 13, 2026. Any person or entity with a claim against Orchard Hills Estates, Inc. must provide a notice of claim to Orchard Hills Estates, Inc. no later than December 12, 2026. All claims will be barred if a written notice of claim describing the claim with reasonable particularity has not been delivered to Orchard Hills Estates, Inc. on or before the above deadline. Orchard Hills Estates, Inc. has the right to reject any or all such claims by notice. The holder of any rejected claim has 90 days from receipt of the notice of rejection to commence a proceeding to enforce the claim. All notices of claims shall be mailed to:
Orchard Hills Estates, Inc.
4610 NE 77th Ave., Suite 100
Vancouver, WA 98662
DATED this 13th day of August, 2026.

Published in The Reflector:
August 19, 26 &
September 2, 2026

137911 NTC Thipado

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY No. 26-4-00952-06 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030

IN THE ESTATE OF:
RITA A. THIPADO, Deceased
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this Estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty (30) 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 (4) 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: August 26, 2026
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Robin A. Hess
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES:
Alexa N. Ritchie,
WSBA #54200
Pabst Holland & Reynolds, PLLC
ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE:
900 Washington Street, Suite 820
Vancouver, WA 98660
COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS:
Superior Court of Washington for Clark County
CAUSE NUMBER:
26-4-00952-06

Published in The Reflector:
August 26, September 2 & 9, 2026

137915 NTC Foey

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY NO. 26 4 00746 06 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

Estate of BRENDA T. FOEY, Deceased.
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. This Notice will be published in Columbia County.
Date of first publication: August 26, 2026

Administrator: STANLEY FOEY
Attorney for Administrator:

Robin A. Smith
(WSBA # 32438)
Address for Mailing or Service:
BUTCHER & SMITH LAW, LLC
1636 SE 25th Ave
Suite 1000
Portland, Oregon 97214
Court of probate proceedings and cause no.: 26 4 00746 06

Published in The Reflector:
Aug 26, Sept 2 & Sept 9, 2026

137917 NTC Hood

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY No. 26-4-00921-06 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030)

In the matter of the Estate of: ESTELLE YVONNE HOOD, Deceased.
The Administrator named below has been appointed and has qualified as Administrator of this estate. Persons having claims against the decedent that arose before the decedent's death must, prior to the time such claims 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. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty (30) days after the Administrator is served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim will be 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: Wednesday, August 26, 2026
S/ Ronald Hood, Administrator
S/ Grant C. Broer,
WSBA#25588,
Attorney for Administrator
Broer & Passannante, PS
8904 NE Hazel Dell Avenue,
Vancouver WA 98665
360-576-7947

Published in The Reflector:
Aug 26, Sept 2 & 9, 2026

137923 NTC HAMBLIN

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS (RCW 11.40.030) Probate Department Case No. 26-4-01038-06

In the Matter of the Estate of: LOUISE MARIE HAMBLIN, Deceased.
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or to the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Clerk of the Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and non-probate assets. DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: August 26, 2026
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:
Jeremiah Jacob Peil
ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:
Lindsey George
ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE:
1412 NE 134th St. Ste 130
Vancouver, WA 98685
Dated: August 20, 2026
MYATT & BELL, P.C.
S/ Lindsey George,
WSBA #59721
Attorney for Personal Representative

Published in The Reflector:
Aug 26, Sept 2 & 9, 2026

137931 BGR Condemnation

BATTLE GROUND CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PLANNED FINAL ACTION FOR CONDEMNATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with sections 8.12.005 and 8.25.290 of the Revised Code of Washington, the Battle Ground City Council, at a meeting on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026**, will consider an ordinance authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to commence condemnation actions to acquire land, rights-of-way, and/or easements relating to the SW Eaton Boulevard Improvements Project. The Council may take final action relating to said ordinance during the meeting. According to the tax rolls of Clark County, the ownership and tax parcel numbers of the property affected by this proposed final action for condemnation are as follows:

Legal Notices

Ownership: Phillip Matoy and Celeste Matoy
Tax parcel numbers: 192406000; 192363000
The meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Battle Ground City Hall, 109 SW 1 st Street, 2nd Floor, Battle Ground, Washington. Further information can be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (360) 342-5008 or cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org. Please refer to the City Council agenda for meeting instructions.

Public Notices:
Persons requiring special arrangements in order to participate in meetings should call the City Clerk's office at (360) 342 5008 or email cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org at least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled meeting.The public is invited to view the full City Council Meeting Agenda on our website at www.cityofbg.org. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Any subject placed on the agenda, regardless of how the matter is stated on the agenda, may be acted on by the City Council.

Información será traducida al español a petición de cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
Информация имеется на русском языке по запросу на cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
[illegible]
Gửi yêu cầu nhận thông tin sẵn có bằng tiếng Việt đến cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
Za informacije na bosanskom jeziku obratite se na adresu cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
Ang impormasyon ay makukuha sa Tagalog sa pamamagitan ng kahilingan sa cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.

Published in The Reflector: September 2 & 9, 2026

137932 Peru Condemnation

BATTLE GROUND CITY COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PLANNED FINAL ACTION FOR CONDEMNATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in accordance with sections 8.12.005 and 8.25.290 of the Revised Code of Washington, the Battle Ground City Council, at a meeting on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026**, will consider Ordinance 2026-14 authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to commence condemnation actions to acquire land, rights-of-way, and/or easements relating to the SW Eaton Boulevard Improvements Project. The Council may take final action relating to said ordinance during the meeting. According to the tax rolls of Clark County, the ownership and tax parcel numbers of the property affected by this proposed final action for condemnation are as follows:
Ownership: Shelley Peru and Rayna Peru
Tax parcel numbers: 192385000; 192378000; 192366000
The meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Battle Ground City Hall, 109 SW 1 st Street, 2nd Floor, Battle Ground, Washington. Further information can be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (360)342-5008 or cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org. Please refer to the City Council agenda for meeting instructions. *Public Notices:*
Persons requiring special arrangements in order to participate in meetings should call the City Clerk's office at (360) 342 5008 or email cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org at least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled meeting.The public is invited to view the full City Council Meeting Agenda on our website at www.cityofbg.org. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Any subject placed on the agenda, regardless of how the matter is stated on the agenda, may be acted on by the City Council.

Información será traducida al español a petición de cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
Информация имеется на русском языке по запросу на cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
[illegible]
Gửi yêu cầu nhận thông tin sẵn có bằng tiếng Việt đến cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
Za informacije na bosanskom jeziku obratite se na adresu cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
Ang impormasyon ay makukuha sa Tagalog sa pamamagitan ng kahilingan sa cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.

Published in The Reflector: September 2 & 9, 2026

137933 Ord. No. 2026-15

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-13 (Summary Ordinance)
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BATTLE GROUND, CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON GRANTING A NON-EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE TO MASHELL TELECOM, INC. DBA LIGHTCURVE, TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, OPERATE,REPLACE, AND REPAIR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN, ACROSS, OVER, ALONG, UNDER, THROUGH, AND BELOW CERTAIN DESIGNATED PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY OF THE CITY OF BATTLE GROUND, WASHINGTON, FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM. This ordinance shall be published in summary form and be in full force and effective five (5) days from the final passage date in accordance with law. THIS ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED IN AN OPEN MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BATTLE GROUND, WASHINGTON, ON AUGUST 3, 2026. Approved: Mayor Eric Overholser Attest: City Clerk Elizabeth Halili Ordinance 2026-15 is available for public inspection at Battle Ground City Hall, 109 SW 1 st Street, Suite 221, Battle Ground, WA, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, or a copy will be mailed or emailed to those who request through the City Clerk at (360)342-5008 or cityclerk.info @cityofbg.org.

Public Notices:
- Información será traducida al español a petición de cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.
- Информация имеется на русском языке по запросу на cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org.

Published in The Reflector: September 2, 2026

137935 172nd Ave

Notice of Temporary Road Closure per RCW 47.48.020

Notice of temporary road closure per RCW 47.48.020 Starting on Sept. 2, 2026 Northeast Cole Witter Road will close between the end of the road and approximately 150 feet from Northeast 172nd Avenue. This closure is required for chip sealing treatment of the roadway's surface. The road will reopen no later than Sept. 6. County Public Works will provide access for emergency vehicles, and work directly with adjacent property owners. For more information, contact Clark County Public Works Customer Service at 564.397.2446.

Published in The Reflector: September 2, 2026

137961 NTC HANCOCK

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Probate No. 26-4-01059-06
In the Matter of the Estate of:
JANET HANCOCK,
Deceased.
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed and has qualified as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the deceased must, prior to the time such claims 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 file the original of the claim with the Clerk of this Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided in RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) Four months after the date of first publication of this notice or within four months after the date of the filing of the copy of this notice with the Clerk of the Court, whichever is later. 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 deceased's probate and nonprobate assets. DATE OF FILING COPY OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS WITH CLERK OF THE COURT: August 21, 2026
DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:
September 2, 2026
Personal Representative:
Sherrie Lynn Rhodes
1660 N. 18 th St, Unit 19
Washougal WA 98671
Attorney for Estate:
Joe F. Yonek, WSB #17763
Address: 13023 NE HWY 99 STE 7 PMB 301
Vancouver, WA 98686
Telephone Number:
(360) 571-7321

Published in The Reflector: September 2, 9 & 16 2026

137962 2027-2032 Parks Plan

SEPA NOTICE - DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS)
2027-2032 Clark County Parks and Lands Capital Improvement Plan Adoption

Clark County Public Works has issued a determination of non-significance (DNS) under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Rules (Chapter 192-11 WAC) to adopt an update to the Parks and Lands Capital Improvement Plan for the years 2027 through 2032, as a non-project SEPA review required by law. The Parks and Lands CIP identifies park and legacy land acquisition and improvement project phases to be completed during the next six-year period within unincorporated Clark County. The purpose of this program is to prepare a comprehensive park, open space and conservation improvement work schedule that addresses resident needs and financial constraints while considering environmental Concerns. After review of a completed environmental checklist and other supporting information on file with the agency, Clark County Public Works has determined that this proposal will not have a probable significant impact on the environment. Project specific environmental impacts shall be evaluated during individual project design processes. The DNS is available electronically at *www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/sepa.* Copies are also available at no charge from David Stipe, Parks Planning and Development Manager, (564) 397-5881. The public is invited to comment on this DNS by submitting written comments no later than September 17, 2026, to *david.stipe@clark.wa.gov.* Written comments may also be submitted to David Stipe, Clark County Public Works, 1300 Franklin Street, PO Box 9810, Vancouver, WA 98666-9810.

Published in The Reflector: September 2 & 9, 2026

137963 2027-2032 TIP SEPA DNS

SEPA NOTICE - DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Clark County Public Works has issued a determination of non-significance (DNS) under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Rules (Chapter 192-11 WAC) to update and adopt changes in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the years 2027 through 2032, as a non-project SEPA review required by law. The TIP identifies public works capital projects including new construction, reconstruction, bridges, bicycle and pedestrian safety, hot mix preservation improvements, and signalization construction to maintain and enhance Clark County's transportation system in unincorporated Clark County. After review of a completed environmental checklist and other supporting information on file with the agency, Clark County Public Works has determined that this proposal will not have a probable significant impact on the environment. Project specific environmental impacts shall be evaluated during individual project design processes. The DNS is available electronically at https://www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/sepa . Copies are also available at no charge from Chris Carle, Capital Programming Manager, (564) 397-4523. The public is invited to comment on this DNS by submitting written comments no later than September 17, 2026, to chris.carle @clark.wa.gov. Written comments may also be submitted to Chris Carle, Clark County Public Works, 1300 Franklin Street, PO Box 9810, Vancouver, WA 98666-9810.

Published in The Reflector: September 2 & 9, 2026

137972 NOH Scott

THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR CLARK COUNTY
NO. 16-4-00349-5
NOTICE OF HEARING
In the Estate of:
ROBERT M. SCOTT,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Final Report and Petition for Decree of Distribution of the above-referenced estate has been filed in the Clark County Superior Court by the Personal Representative; that the Court is asked to settle such report, distribute the property to the heirs or persons entitled to the same and discharge the Personal Representative, and that the Petition shall be heard on September 25, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. before Judge Gonzales of Clark County Superior Court, Clark County Courthouse, 1200 Franklin Street, Vancouver, WA 98660. For Zoom Hearing login information go to:*https://www.clark.wa.gov/superior-court/zoom-information.*
DATED: 8/26/2026
By: Marissa Bartolucci,
WSBA #53689
Attorney for Personal Representative

Published in The Reflector: September 2, 2026

137973 NTC Gameson

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK IN PROBATE
NO. 26-4-01065-06
PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS
RCW 11.40.030
In Re the Estate of Lloyd William Gameson III,
Deceased.
The personal representative named below has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(3); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.
Date of First Publication:
September 2, 2026.
Renee Long
Personal Representative
Robert M. Gregg,
WSBA #12553
Attorney for Personal Representatives
Address for Mailing or Service:
12503 SE Mill Plain Blvd, Ste 240
Vancouver, WA 98684
Telephone: (360) 694-6505

Published in The Reflector: September 2, 6 & 9, 2026

Ad# 137205 IDSPub# 314769

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington 61.24, et seq.108 1st Ave South, Suite 450 Seattle, WA 98104 Trustee Sale No.: WA-26-1035469-RM Title Order No.: CTT26061767 OF COMMERCIAL LOAN(S) Reference Number of Deed of Trust: Instrument No. 6272654 Parcel Number(s): 29373058 Grantor(s) for Recording Purposes under RCW 65.04.015: Lindsey Melchert, single, as her sole and separate property Current Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust and Grantee (for Recording Purposes under RCW 65.04.015): Apollo - IAPLRT1PR1 Current Trustee of the Deed of Trust: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION Current Loan Mortgage Servicer of the Deed of Trust: NewRez LLC, d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing I.NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION, the undersigned Trustee, will on 9/11/2026, at 11:00AM At the Public Service Center Gazebo in Clark County, located at 1300 Franklin St, Vancouver, WA 98660 sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder, payable in the form of credit bid or cash bid in the form of cashier's check or certified checks from federally or State chartered banks, at the time of sale the following described real property, situated in the County of CLARK, State of Washington, to-wit: PARCEL I: THAT PORTION OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST OF THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON, LYING WITHIN THE EDWARD MOORE DONATION LAND CLAIM, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT THAT IS 777.85 FEET EAST AND 844.0 FEET SOUTH OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 1 OF NORRIS ACRE TRACTS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN VOLUME "B" OF PLATS, PAGE 49, RECORDS OF CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON, THENCE SOUTH 55.0 FEET; THENCE EAST 215.86 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF BRANDT ROAD; THENCE NORTH 15° 05' 30" WEST 56.79 FEET; THENCE WEST 202.08 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT THE SOUTH 1 FOOT THEREOF. ALSO EXCEPT THE WEST 14 FEET THEREOF. PARCEL II: THAT PORTION OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST OF THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON, LYING WITHIN THE EDWARD MOORE DONATION LAND CLAIM, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT THAT IS 777.85 FEET EAST AND 844.0 FEET SOUTH OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 1 OF NORRIS ACRE TRACTS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN VOLUME "B" OF PLATS, PAGE 49, RECORDS OF CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON, SAID POINT BEING THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THAT PARCEL CONVEYED TO ALBERT SFORZA, ET AL, BY STATUTORY WARRANTY DEED FILED APRIL 28, 1969, UNDER AUDITOR'S FILE NO. G-534576; THENCE EAST 215.56 FEET ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SFORZA PARCEL TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER THEREOF, SAID POINT BEING THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE WEST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SFORZA PARCEL 113 FEET; THENCE SOUTH PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SAID SFORZA PARCEL 11.6 FEET; THENCE EAST 113 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING. More commonly known as: 1602 BRANDT ROAD, VANCOUVER, WA 98661 Subject to that certain Deed of Trust dated 9/4/2025, recorded 9/8/2025, under Instrument No. 6272654 records of CLARK County, Washington, from Lindsey Melchert, single, as her sole and separate property, as grantor(s), to Vantage Point Title, Inc., as original trustee, to secure an obligation in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for OCMBC, Inc., Its Successors and Assigns, as original beneficiary, the beneficial interest in which was subsequently assigned to Apollo - IAPLRT1PR1, the Beneficiary, under an assignment recorded under Auditors File Number 6302577 II. No action commenced by the Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust as referenced in RCW 61.21.030(4) is now pending to seek satisfaction of the obligation in any Court by reason of the Borrower's or Grantor's default on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust/Mortgage. III. The default(s) for which this foreclosure is made is/are as follows: Failure to pay when due the following amounts which are now in arrears: $11,336.79. IV. The sum owing on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust is: The principal sum of $164,400.00, together with interest as provided in the Note from 10/1/2025 on, and such other costs, fees, and charges as are due under the Note, Deed of Trust, or other instrument secured, and as are provided by statute. V. The above-described real property will be sold to satisfy the expense of sale and the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust as provided by statute. Said sale will be made without warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances on 9/11/2026. The defaults referred to in Paragraph III must be cured by 8/31/2026 (11 days before the sale date), or by other date as permitted in the Note or Deed of Trust, to cause a discontinuance of the sale. The sale will be discontinued and terminated if at any time before 8/31/2026 (11 days before the sale), or by other date as permitted in the Note or Deed of Trust, the default as set forth in Paragraph III is cured and the Trustee's fees and costs are paid. Payment must be in cash or with cashiers or certified checks from a State or federally chartered bank. The sale may be terminated any time after the 8/31/2026 (11 days before the sale date) and before the sale, by the Borrower or Grantor or the holder of any recorded junior lien or encumbrance by paying the principal and interest, plus costs, fees and advances, if any, made pursuant to the terms of the obligation and/or Deed of Trust, and curing all other defaults. VI. A written Notice of Default was transmitted by the Beneficiary or Trustee to the Borrower(s) and Grantor(s) by both first class and certified mail, proof of which is in the possession of the Trustee; and the Borrower and Grantor were personally served, if applicable, with said written Notice of Default or the written Notice of Default was posted in a conspicuous place on the real property described in Paragraph I above, and the Trustee has possession of proof of such service or posting. The list of recipients of the Notice of Default is listed within the Notice of Foreclosure provided to the Borrower(s) and Grantor(s). These requirements were completed as of 3/31/2026. VII. The Trustee whose name and address are set forth below will provide in writing to anyone requesting it, a statement of all costs and fees due at any time prior to the sale. VIII. The effect of the sale will be to deprive the Grantor and all those who hold by, through or under the Grantor of all their interest in the above-described property. IX. Anyone having any objections to this sale on any grounds whatsoever will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the sale pursuant to RCW 61.24.130. Failure to bring such a lawsuit may result in a waiver of any proper grounds for invalidating the Trustee's sale. X. NOTICE TO OCCUPANTS OR TENANTS - The purchaser at the Trustee's Sale is entitled to possession of the property on the 20th day following the sale, as against the Grantor under the deed of trust (the owner) and anyone having an interest junior to the deed of trust, including occupants who are not tenants. After the 20th day following the sale the purchaser has the right to evict occupants who are not tenants by summary proceedings under Chapter 59.12 RCW. For tenant-occupied property, the purchaser shall provide a tenant with written notice in accordance with RCW 61.24.060. XI. SPECIAL NOTICE TO GUARANTOR CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR POTENTIAL DEFICIENCY JUDGMENT Pursuant to RCW 61.24.042: (1) The guarantor may be liable for a deficiency judgment to the extent the sale price obtained at the trustee's sale is less than the debt secured by the deed of trust; (2) The guarantor has the same rights to reinstate the debt, cure the default, or repay the debt as is given to the grantor in order to avoid the trustee's sale; (3) The guarantor will have no right to redeem the property after the trustee's sale; (4) Subject to such longer periods as are provided in the Washington deed of trust act, chapter 61.24 RCW, any action brought to enforce a guaranty must be commenced within one year after the trustee's sale, or the last trustee's sale under any deed of trust granted to secure the same debt; and (5) In any action for a deficiency, the guarantor will have the right to establish the fair value of the property as of the date of the trustee's sale, less prior liens and encumbrances, and to limit its liability for a deficiency to the difference between the debt and the greater of such fair value or the sale price paid at the trustee's sale, plus interest and costs. THIS NOTICE IS THE FINAL STEP BEFORE THE FORECLOSURE SALE OF YOUR HOME. You may be eligible for mediation. You have only until 90 calendar days BEFORE the date of sale listed in this Notice of Trustee Sale to be referred to mediation. If this is an amended Notice of Trustee Sale providing a 45-day notice of the sale, mediation must be requested no later than 25 calendar days BEFORE the date of sale listed in this amended Notice of Trustee Sale. DO NOT DELAY. CONTACT A HOUSING COUNSELOR OR AN ATTORNEY LICENSED IN WASHINGTON NOW to assess your situation and refer you to mediation if you are eligible and it may help you save your home. See below for safe sources of help. SEEKING ASSISTANCE Housing counselors and legal assistance may be available at little or no cost to you. If you would like assistance in determining your rights and opportunities to keep your house, you may contact the following: The statewide foreclosure hotline for assistance and referral to housing counselors recommended by the Housing Finance Commission: Toll-free: 1-877-894-HOME (1-877-894-4663) or Web site: https://www.homeownership-wa.org/ The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development: Toll-free: 1-800-569-4287 or National Web Site: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD or for Local counseling agencies in Washington: https://answers.hud.gov/housingcounseling/s/?language=en_US The statewide civil legal aid hotline for assistance and referrals to other housing counselors and attorneys: Telephone: 1-800-606-4819 or Web site: https://nwjustice.org/home Additional information provided by the Trustee: If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note-holders rights against the real property only. The Trustee's Sale Number is WA-26-1035469-RM. Note: This form has been modified to account for the loan type. Dated: 5/6/2026 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION, as Trustee By: Jeff Stenman, President Trustee's Address: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 108 1 st Ave South, Suite 450, Seattle, WA 98104 For questions call toll-free: (866) 925-0241 Trustee Sale Number: WA-26-1035469-RM Sale Line: 916-939-0772 or Login to: http://www.qualityloan.com
IDSPub #0314769
8/12/2026 9/2/2026

Published in The Reflector: Aug. 12 & Sept. 2, 2026

Snoops Investigating-Private Investigator 15640 NE 4th Plain Blvd #106-152, Vancouver Lic#2039 Domestic/Civil/Fraud **Free Consult.** Call/Text 360-910-9564 snoops-investigating.com



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TREE SERVICE



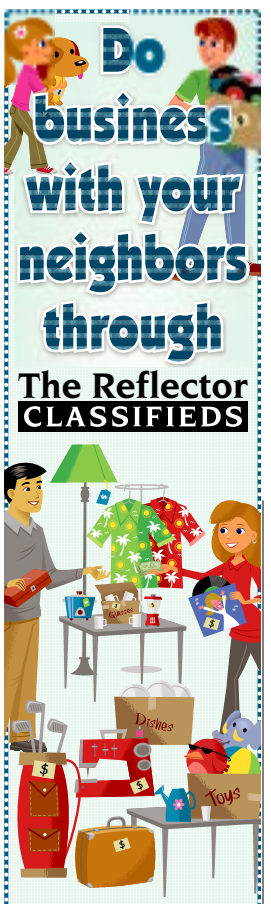
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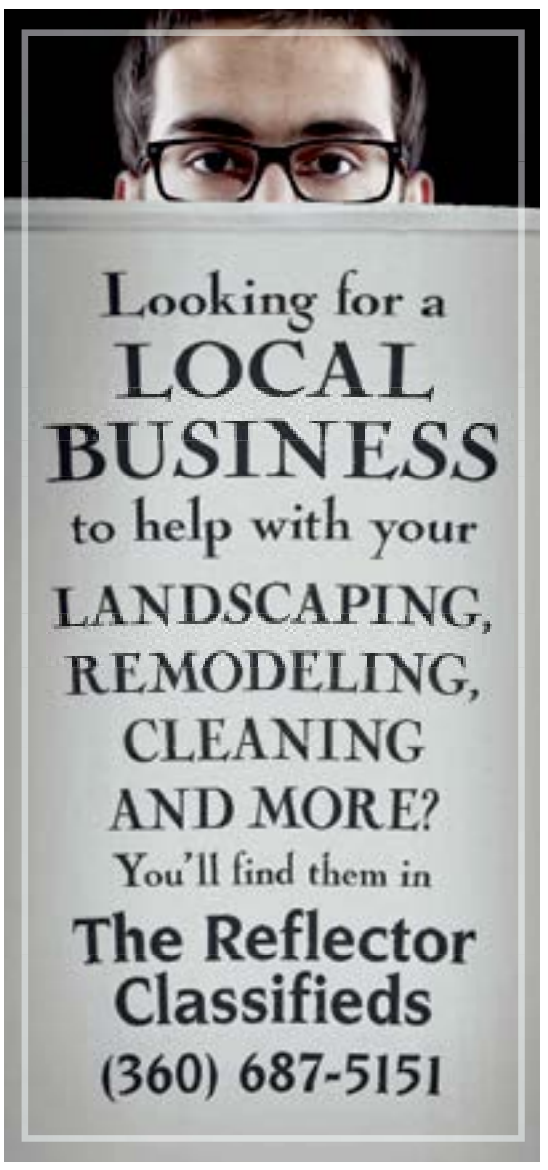
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Septic & Drain Fields
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Rock Wall Building

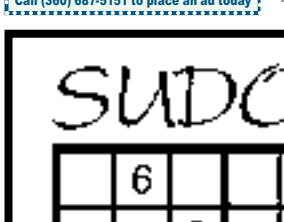
Brian Brown 360.606.0311 LIC. CCBROWNRE838RK

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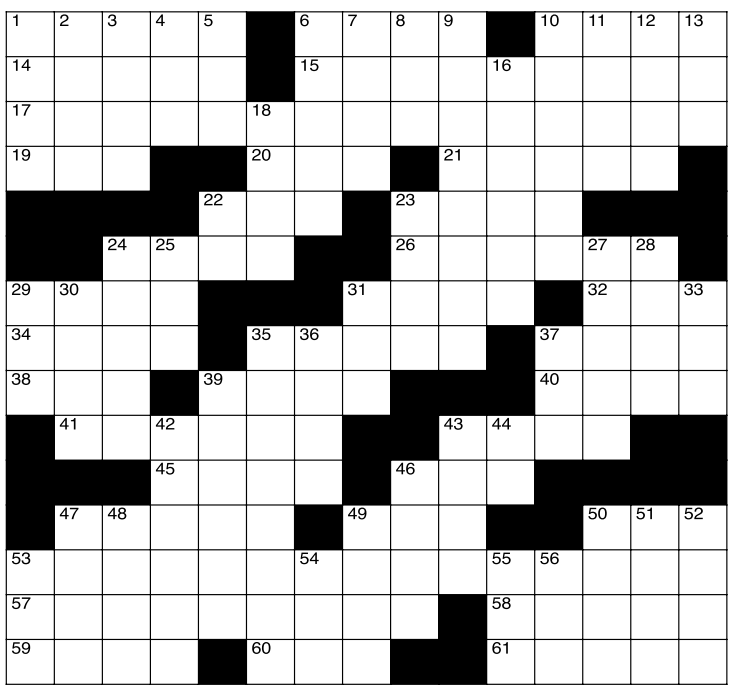








CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

1. Manila hemp plant
6. Turkish river
10. Something to read
14. In a way, initiated
15. Popular Apple TV series
17. King Charles is part of it
19. Earlier
20. Foot (Latin)
21. Zodiac sign
22. A browning of the skin
23. Remain as is
24. Turfs
26. It's used to slaughter animals
29. Volcanic crater
31. The mother of Jesus
32. One's life story
34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot
35. Counterparts
37. Jacob __, American journalist
38. Digital audiotape
39. River in South Africa
40. Kimono sashes
41. Rooting somewhere
43. American spy Aldrich
45. A way to call for
46. Taxi
47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
49. Swiss river
50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)
53. Have surgery
57. Formal withdrawal from a union
58. Performs spoken improv
59. Greek war god
60. 2,000 lbs.
61. Helps to evade capture

CLUES DOWN

1. Swedish rock group
2. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter
3. Currency exchange fee
4. Feline
5. Folk singer DiFranco
6. Ghastly pale from distress
7. Rapid eye movements
8. Monetary unit of Macao
9. Lawmakers
10. Colorless mineral
11. At some prior time
12. American protest singer
13. Opener
16. Seldom
18. Relaxing places
22. Touchdown
23. From end to end
24. Kids love him
25. Metal-bearing solid
27. Skin care product manufacturer
28. Thirteen
29. Angry
30. Member of a Semitic people
31. One-thousandth of an inch
33. Former CIA
35. Most lemony
36. Engage in
37. Mass of fish eggs
39. Food supplies
42. Backbones
43. American real estate investment firm
44. Megabyte
46. "Three Coins in the Fountain" songwriter
47. Dutch colonist
48. Full-grown pike fish
49. Emergency prep expert Edwards
50. Flute
51. Dismissive sound
52. Slang term for marijuana
53. Young women's association
54. Cosmopolitan city
55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand
56. Pointed end of a pen

CH601253 AS

Answers on Page A7

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Answers on Page A7

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