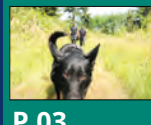


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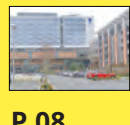
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Real News ⚡
Real Impact

Youth football season kicks off thanks to the Mukilteo Boys & Girls Club



Coach Jack Baker with his team on Monday, March 2, 2021 at the Mukilteo Boys and Girls Club baseball field. Source: Lynnwood Times.

By **NOEL PAI-YOUNG** and **MARIO LOTMORE**

Mukilteo, Wash., March 3, 2021 – Monday was the first night of practice for the Kamiak Youth Football league since November of 2019. Coaches and parents were excited to have kids out playing sports again.

“We had two parents that started crying,” said coach Thomas Waverly, President of the Kamiak Youth Football league. Waverly has been with the league for 14 years.

Kamiak Youth Football is a feeder model youth football program for Kamiak High School located in

Mukilteo, WA that serves athletes between the ages of 5 to 14 years old within the Mukilteo School District. It is a member of the North Sound Junior Football League which is dedicated to instructing young players in the safe and proper fundamentals of tackle

Continued **PAGE 08** >>

Lynnwood City Council President George Hurst running for Mayor

By **NOEL PAI-YOUNG**

Lynnwood City Council President George Hurst is announcing his candidacy for Lynnwood City Mayor.

George Hurst is currently serving his 6th year as a Councilmember, first elected to office in 2015, and is the current City Council President. He and his wife Pam Hurst have lived in Lynnwood for 27 years, raised their children here and watched them graduate from Lynnwood High School. George has actively been involved with local government, currently serving on the 911 Personnel Committee and Future Facilities Committee, Snohomish Emergency Radio Advisory Board, I-405 BRT Elected Advisory Group, Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Board and the Lynnwood Planning Commission Liaison.



George knows strong leadership will be required to meet the ongoing and upcoming issues that will enable Lynnwood to navigate the upcoming changes for Lynnwood residents, commuters and businesses.

While the arrival Light Rail takes much of the city’s focus, George realizes that on top of this there are many other issues facing our community:

Continued **PAGE 11** >>

Snohomish County Volunteer Search and Rescue find missing man



Jake, the Search and Rescue K-9 handler and his dog Clyde. Source: Snohomish County Sheriff’s Department.

By **ERIN FREEMAN**

Darrington, Wash.- Snohomish County Volunteer Search and Rescue (SCVSAR) K9 and Tracker teams followed boot prints to locate a man who went missing around Squire Creek Road on February 11.

Greg Sanders, Sergeant for SCVSAR, said the man in his 50s had gone for a short hike in the Squire Creek Road area with a friend when they got separated. The man’s friend, whom he had been with, contacted the Snohomish County Sheriff’s Office, reporting him as missing. The SCVSAR office was contacted 24 hours after the man had gone missing.

It is believed the man hiked down below the trail and then began to hike along the creek itself. SCVSAR suspects that he then attempted to get back up to the trail where the creek crosses but was farther away from the starting point than he thought.

“There are multiple creek crossings the farther you hike in,” said Sanders. “From there he continued to lose track of where he was. With no other people in the area at that time and the amount

of snow coming down, he simply was lost and wandered.”

The man was wearing only jeans and a couple of sweatshirts at the time of his disappearance, with a significant amount of snowfall and the temperature dipping below freezing in the area.

The SCVSAR teams deployed quickly, attempting to track the man going into his second night lost in the snow without the adequate cold-weather clothing and provisions. Sergeant Sanders arrived at the trail parking lot around 5:45 p.m. with four human trackers and three K9 teams, each comprised of a handler, field support person and the K9 partner, commencing their search at about 8:20 p.m.

Snow continued to fall as the teams began their search. One of the trackers spotted the man’s boot tread pattern, pushing one of the responding K9 teams to stretch the search area to just over two miles from where the parking area is from the trail. That same K9 team was then able to discover a boot print where they believed the man had gone off the trail.

Continued **PAGE 11** >>

Low appointed by Gov. Inslee to serve on the WA Traffic Safety Commission

By MARIO LOTMORE

SNOHMISH COUNTY, Wash., February 15, 2021 – Snohomish County Councilman Sam Low was appointed by Governor Jay Inslee to serve as Commissioner on the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC). Low is the Washington State Association of Counties representative for the Commission.

WTSC is made up of 26 employees and ten Commissioners chaired by Governor Jay Inslee. Low will be joining nine other Commissioners: Roger Millar, Washington Secretary of Transportation, Chief John Batiste, Chief of the Washington State Patrol, Teresa Berntsen, Director of the Washington State Department of Licensing, Dr. Umair Shah, Washington Secretary of Health, George Steele, Mason County District Court Judge, Chris Reykdal, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Sue Birch, Director of Health Care Authority, and Brandi Peetz, Spokane Valley Deputy Mayor.

WTSC was created in 1967 by HB 269 and codified into the Revised Code of Washington under RCW 43.59. Pam Pannkuk is the Acting Director for the Commission, whose position is required for the state to qualify for federal traffic safety funding.



The overall purpose of the commission is to reduce traffic accidents and fatalities, promote uniform enforcement of traffic safety laws, and establish standards for investigation and reporting of traffic accidents.

The Commission's current Strategic Highway Safety Plan is Target Zero which is a goal for the state to achieve zero deaths and serious injuries on Washington's roadways by 2030. It plans to achieve this through high visibility enforcement efforts, new roadway designs, campaigns to change traffic safety culture, and data-driven decision making.

According to the Washington Department of Transportation

(WSDOT), there was a total of 86,059 crashes in the state for 2020, of which 2,094 resulted in serious injury and 524 were fatal. Although there was a significant reduction in the number of crashes in 2020 – 25,593 crashes or 23% – when compared to 2019, both the fatality and serious injury count increased by eight and 160, respectively. This would make 2020 the deadliest year for traffic accidents since 2017 – according to the latest WSDOT data.

In Snohomish County, there were a total of 9,574 crashes in 2020, a 26.5% reduction when compared to 2019. However, the data shows that Snohomish County saw a similar uptick as in the statewide trend in

fatalities and serious injuries with 44 fatalities compared to 39 a year earlier and 181 serious injuries compared to 175 in 2019. However, in both King and Pierce counties the total number of crashes, number of fatalities, and crashes resulting in serious injury were all lower in 2020 when compared to 2019.

“Traffic safety has long been a priority of mine. We must find equitable traffic solutions when it comes to rural vs. urban transportation needs,” Low told the Lynnwood Times when asked on his thoughts to being appointed as the newest WTSC Commissioner.

“We need to draw attention to the traffic safety needs of HWY-2 and SR-522,” Low continued. “The safety need is increased capacity. SR-522 goes from four to two back to four lanes and HWY-2 is one lane in each direction, it needs more capacity.”

Low told the Lynnwood Times that he looks forward to addressing all the transportation needs across the state.

On January 22, Low was unanimously elected as the 2021-2022 Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) Chair by the 21 member Washington State

Continued PAGE 11 >>

Washington state Senate approves new 7% capital gains tax

By MARIO LOTMORE

Olympia, Wash., March 6, 2021 – Today the Washington state Senate narrowly passed SB 5096 to impose a 7% capital tax on the sale of stocks, bonds, and other high-end assets in excess of \$250,000 for both individuals and couples. Those persons who profit more than \$250,000 in the sale of their business and if that business makes more than \$10 million per year, it is also subject to capital gains tax.

The final vote was 25-24 in the Democrat majority chamber with all twenty Republican Senators and four Democrat Senators voting against, but it was not enough to defeat the measure. The Democrat Senators who broke ranks with their party were: Sen. Annette Cleveland (LD49 – Vancouver), Sen. Steve Hobbs, (44LD – Lake Stevens), Sen. Mark Mullet (5LD – Issaquah), and Sen. Tim Sheldon (35LD – Potlatch).

“Our hardworking Washington families are ready for us to reform and rebuild our tax code,” said Democratic

Sen. June Robinson, the bill's primary sponsor.

Key leaders in the Senate Republican Caucus reacted strongly after the Senate's Democratic majority approved legislation to create what they call a state income tax, despite knowing an income tax has been unconstitutional in Washington since 1932.

Since 1934, Washington voters have rejected 10 attempts to enact an income tax, either through amending the state constitution or a citizen initiative. If Senate Bill 5096 becomes law as passed today, on a 25-24 vote, voters will have to mount a challenge by qualifying a referendum themselves. A proposal to send the bill directly to the November ballot as a referendum was among all 15 Republican amendments rejected by the Democratic majority.

“There is absolutely no budgetary justification for any new taxes this year – especially not after billions and billions of federal dollars have been injected into our state over the past year, with the prospect of at least



Sen. June Robinson (LD38 - EVERETT), the bill's primary sponsor. Source: TVW.

\$4 billion more coming this month,” said Sen. Lynda Wilson, R-Vancouver, Republican Leader, Senate Ways and Means Committee.”

She continued, “We’ve seen the emails revealing that the strategy behind this bill is to get a state income tax in front of the current Supreme Court, with the hope that it will be found constitutional. Should that happen, it’s a foot in the

door toward imposing a full-blown income tax that would hit countless more people down the line.”

Retirement accounts, real estate, farms and forestry would be exempt from the proposed tax. The measure now heads to the Democratic majority House for vote. If approved it would take effect Jan. 1, 2022 and is expected to bring in about \$500 million a year.

LYNNWOOD TIMES

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RSJ Coordinator position brings to question whether the City of Lynnwood ever implemented a hiring freeze

By **NOEL PAI-YOUNG & MARIO LOTMORE**

Lynnwood, Wash., February 27, 2021 – A motion to delay the Race and Social Justice (RSJ) Coordinator position passed at Monday’s city council meeting. Majority of the council stated that the work scope of the position is ambiguous and the timing for the creation of a new position as the city is recovering from last year’s financial hardship isn’t prudent.

From Monday’s meeting there seems to be some confusion on whether the city ever implemented a hiring freeze the Mayor stated in a May 8 memorandum.

RSJ Coordinator Discussion

The city council voted 4-3 to delay the hiring of an RSJ Coordinator until the outcome measures based on the city’s Budgeting for Outcomes model is defined and the results of the Lynnwood Community Equity Survey be presented to the council. Councilmembers Christine Frizzell, Ruth Ross, and Shannon Sessions were the dissenting votes.

Council President Hurst expressed that presentations by various parties in the council’s work session on Feb 16 lacked a defined job description and outcome measures based on the city’s Budgeting for Outcomes model. He further added that the research presented at the work session was the same information on the table before the council at its November 23 meeting last year when a motion to delay hiring for the position passed by a 4-3 vote.

Hurst clarified that he is not against the position but simply wants to make sure it is set up for success.

Councilmembers Frizzell, Ross and

Sessions expressed their disagreement, asserting that the position is needed, ready for hiring, and wanted by the community.

Jim Smith shared his support of more research, data and structure around the RSJ Coordinator position and added that the city was in a hiring freeze.

“On March 31 the Mayor implemented some initial remedial steps to address fiscal adjustments necessitated by underperforming revenues and instructed department directors to address the following policies that include a temporary hiring freeze as described in A and B below,” Smith read from an April 9, 2020 report sent to all city council members and the Council Finance Committee by former Finance Director Sonja Springer.

Smith continued, “No new employee positions will be considered” and that “hiring to fill vacant positions is discouraged. Filling vacant positions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.”

Smith added that hiring is only permissible when “operationally essential” according to the report from the previous finance director. He also shared that to his recollection, the city laid off 30 persons because of the pandemic.

“The word games don’t work with me. This is a brand-new position. If you look at what was on the city council or on the books for the city three years ago, there was no position that was called this. So, I agree that there may be a time to add this position but now is not the time.”

In a statement to the Lynnwood Times regarding the Mayor’s hiring freeze and when it was lifted, Lynnwood Communications and Public Affairs

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Lynnwood City Council members in the council chambers at city hall. Pictured left to right: Ian Cotton, Ruth Ross, Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, Christine Frizzell, George Hurst, Shannon Sessions and Jim Smith.



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LPD K9 Officer Earl dies following battle with cancer



Lynnwood K9 Officer Earl. Source: Lynnwood Police Department.

By **ERIN FREEMAN**

A recently retired Lynnwood Police Department dog, who patrolled the city of Lynnwood, has died, battling recurrent cancer.

Earl, an eight-year-old German Shepherd, served with Officer Warren Creech until the dog retired in late December following a recurrent cancer diagnosis. The longtime member of the Lynnwood Police Department’s (LPD) K9 unit died on February 1, 2021.

In March 2020, Earl began targeted radiation therapy, treating a small, red growth on his gums that had been growing slowly for the past few months, determined to be cancerous, and diagnosed as oral malignant melanoma in January 2020.

Between March and April, Earl received a course of four radiation treatments, resulting in the growth falling off. He then received a melanoma vaccine therapy, designed to stimulate his

immune system to destroy melanoma cells and prevent any further spread elsewhere in his body.

For several months Earl appeared to be cancer-free, x-rays at his follow-up appointments not revealing spread within his body. Yet through the fall and winter months, the K9 began showing signs of increased fatigue, discomfort and labored breathing in December.

A large tumor was later discovered in his throat, partially blocking his airway and protruding into his larynx. Based on the size and location of the tumor, it was inoperable in practice, resulting in a vet recommendation for palliative care for the remainder of Earl’s life.

Earl retired from police service on December 31.

“I kept Earl working as a police dog for as long as possible while his body allowed it,” Creech said. “Earl was an extremely driven dog who was truly his happiest while working. His energy and desire to keep working with me never faded despite his increasing symptoms and he probably would have kept going indefinitely if I wasn’t concerned about

taxing his blocked airway.”

He spent the month of January 2021 at home, but the tumor progressively interfered with his ability to eat, drink, and breathe. After a noticeable decline in his quality-of-life, Officer Creech made the tough decision to have Earl euthanized.

Over the seven years working together, Earl served as a patrol generalist primarily tracking criminal suspects. For five of those years, the K9 was also cross-trained for narcotics detection.

He excelled in arresting suspects who would have otherwise evaded arrest, says Creech, such as tracking suspects through the snow and finding them hiding in swamps, finding them hiding in cars, and those who had climbed up trees. In one case, his skills allowed him to track a suspect from a burglarized business, through the city to a local Lynnwood hotel. The crime would have likely gone unsolved without Earl’s track, stated Crime.

According to Officer Creech, Earl was

Continued **PAGE 08** >>



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Trump to CPAC, Trumpism must define the Republican party



President Donald J Trump giving his keynote address at CPAC in Orlando on February 28, 2021.

By **MARIO LOTMORE**

Orlando, Fla., February 28, 2021 – Former President Donald J Trump, in his keynote address Sunday afternoon at the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), delivered an America First message that defined Trumpism as the convictions of the Republican party in the years ahead.

During his speech, the former president criticized current President Joe Biden's first month in office, accused the Democrat party of adopting philosophies of "disdain for America," criticized the U.S. Supreme Court for lacking the "courage to act" in cases alleging that the lower courts violated the Electors Clause of the U.S. Constitution, and laid out the guidelines to election reform.

President Trump lamented on the passing of conservative talk radio host Rush Limbaugh by saying, "Rush is irreplaceable but his spirit lives on" and adamantly proclaimed that he is not going to start a new political party.

"Fake news...Wouldn't that be brilliant? Let's start a new party and divide our vote so that you can never win. We aren't interested in that."

However, the former president did hint at another run for the White House by saying, "I may even decide to beat them for a third time!"

Children are at increased risk of harm online during pandemic

By **ERIN FREEMAN**

With a newly developing environment for children amid the coronavirus pandemic, with school closures and increased online presence, there is an increased risk for children to be a click away from inadvertent risk.

On March 23, 2020, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) warned that the lack of face-to-face contact with others outside of their households and increased time online may expose children to harmful content and connections, explained the FBI.

Offenders may make casual contact with children online, said the FBI, gaining their trust and eventually introducing increasingly sexual conversation over time. The online relationship may be maintained and include sexual conversation and an exchange of illicit images, with the minor either compelled or coerced to do so through offender threats. The possibility of physically meeting the child in-person increases during this stage.

Throughout the address, the former president contrasted his accomplishments with the policies adopted by President Joe Biden.

"Already the Biden administration has proven that they are anti-jobs, anti-family, anti-borders, anti-energy, anti-women, and anti-science. In just one short month we have gone from America first to America last."

He asserted that President Biden has "triggered a massive flood of illegal immigration" that will aide human traffickers and drug smugglers, refused to allow millions of children back to school, entered the Paris Climate Accord as the detriment of U.S. industry, cancelled the Keystone pipeline at the expense of not only losing 42,000 jobs but by removing America's energy independence, and pushed policies that will end women's sports.

President Trump also called for Republicans to repeal Section 230 liability protections for Big Tech giants such as Facebook and Twitter to combat the attack on free speech and protect the American discourse.

What is Trumpism?

President Trump asserted that the mission of the Republican Party and his movement – Trumpism – must be

to create a future of good jobs, strong families, safe communities, a vibrant culture, and a great nation for all Americans.

"These are the convictions that define our movement today and must define the Republican party in the years ahead."

He defined Trumpism as:

- Great trade deals such as the USMCA
- Low taxes and eliminating job killing legislation
- Strong borders with merit-based immigration
- No rioting in the streets
- Protection for the Second Amendment and the right to bear arms
- Polices that support the everyday American
- A strong military and taking care of veterans
- Belief that America is an exceptional Nation blessed by God
- Teaching the truth about history
- Celebrate America's heritage and traditions
- Respect the United States flag
- Patriotic education and oppose indoctrination of America's youth
- Commit to defending the unborn
- Upholding Judeo-Christian values of the United States Founders and of its founding
- Embrace free thought, stand up to political correctness, and reject cancel culture
- Affirm that the U.S. Constitution means exactly what it says as written
- Support, not defund the police
- Stand up to China, discourage outsourcing, and ensure America dominates the future of the world
- Ensure fair, honest, and secure elections

Election Reform

Many lawsuits were brought before the Supreme Court claiming the lower courts, particularly the state supreme courts of Wisconsin, Georgia, Michigan and Pennsylvania allowed

Continued **PAGE 05** >>

- apps before they are downloaded.
- Ensure privacy settings are set to the strictest level possible for online gaming systems and electronic devices.
- Monitor your children's use of the Internet; keep electronic devices in an open, common room of the house.
- Check your children's profiles and what they post online.
- Explain to your children that images posted online will be permanently on the Internet.
- Make sure children know that anyone who asks a child to engage in sexually explicit activity online should be reported to a parent, guardian, or other trusted adult and law enforcement.
- Remember that victims should not be afraid to tell law enforcement if they are being sexually exploited. It is not a crime for a child to send sexually explicit images to someone if they are compelled or coerced to do so.

Continued **PAGE 07** >>

Lynnwood resident Daniela Altamirano-Crosby accepts job in Washington D.C.



Daniela Altamirano-Crosby.

By NOEL PAI-YOUNG

Lynnwood, Wash., March 3, 2021 – Daniela Altamirano-Crosby, President of WAGRO Foundation, accepted a position as a scheduler for Congressman Brad Schneider (IL-10 D) in February. She is currently working remotely until pandemic restrictions are lifted.

Graduate of the University of Washington, Altamirano-Crosby completed her degree in Political Science and International Relations in December of 2020. She plans to move to D.C. in April.

Her dad, Patrick Crosby, originally from Lynnwood, and mom, Lynnwood City Councilmember Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, originally from Mexico, are

both proud of their daughter.

“They’re proud that I stuck to my goals and pursued what I wanted to do,” Altamirano-Crosby told the Lynnwood Times.

Her family stressed the importance of an education for success and freedom throughout her life. She recalled that during middle school she told herself, “I want to be that when I’m older” when observing her first legislative session in person in Olympia.

Altamirano-Crosby expressed that her mission and goal for pursuing a career in public service is to be an advocate for Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

This opportunity comes on the heels of an internship with U.S. Congresswoman Suzan DelBene (WA-01 D). Her past experience in Chicago where she spent her first year studying microbiology at Loyola University, as well as representative Schneider’s reputation as a champion in women’s rights, Medicare, Social Security and international relations, drew her to accept this particular opportunity. She plans to work for no more than two years then pursue higher education in inter-national relations.

Altamirano-Crosby grew up in Mexico in Ixtapa, Guerrero for the first nine years of her life. She was thankful for the opportunity to go to a school that taught both English and Spanish growing up.

She shared with the Lynnwood Times that one of the hardest parts of moving to the U.S. was the language barrier.

“Everyone was speaking so fast,” she recalled, feeling lost and overwhelmed

at first in the U.S. Although she was taught English growing up and spoke it with her father at home, being fully immersed in a new culture and language was a challenge.

“I came here in the 5th grade and my grades suffered,” said Altamirano-Crosby.

Her community came together to tutor and help her catch up. Within a few months she caught up and now sees the upside of the initial struggle, proudly stating, “I’m not only American but I’m also Mexican.”

When asked how she feels about another relocation, this time across the country, she answered, “I’m looking forward to the changes that are going to come through the move.”

She will miss being near WAGRO but will continue to operate remotely as its president. She’ll especially miss her family and her dogs Luke and Olly during her time away.

Two Lynnwood students earn prestigious Eagle Scout rank



Noah Reid (right) and fellow scouts construct staircase at Pioneer Park.

Lynnwood, Wash.- In efforts to earn scouting’s highest honor, a Meadowdale High School student worked to improve access on a wooded trail at Pioneer Park.

17-year-old Noah Reid of Troop 312 completed his Eagle Scout service project on January 31, designing, constructing and installing a set of stairs on a steep incline at the park.

Serving as an important connection from Pioneer Park and 36th Ave, the steep trail has been in need of improvements, said city of Lynnwood spokesperson Julie Moore.

“His work has improved access and addressed an important deferred maintenance issue at Pioneer Park,” she said.

Before settling on a service project, Reid began exploring potential projects that would make a difference in the lives of the community. That’s when he noticed the lacking accessible walkway at Pioneer Park and its potential safety hazards.

have a lasting impact,” he said.

The labor of building and installing the staircase took about four days, said Reid. However, gathering all of the necessary materials, and having his project approved by the city of Lynnwood and by the Eagle Scout Board took almost two months.

Local construction companies donated the materials. Without their support, the project would have cost \$2,000, Reid said.

While completing his service project, a family strolling down the trail noticed the under-construction staircase. They were incredibly interested and appreciative, remembers Reid.

“I feel like that was the response I wanted from my project, from the people that are living there and using the trail,” Reid said.

According to the Boy Scouts of America, only 8% percent of all Scouts earned the Eagle Scout rank in 2019.



from page 4 TRUMP

local officials or the state Supreme Court, to change election laws without legislative approval in violation of the Election Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

“This election was rigged, and the Supreme Court and other courts didn’t want to do anything about it,” said President Trump. “The Supreme Court didn’t have the courage to act but instead used process and lack of standing.”

He then accused local courts and local politicians of using the pandemic to cheat by changing the laws just days before the elections. President Trump then laid out the framework to election reform, for fair and secure elections:

- One Election Day
- Eliminate mail-in voting
- Vote-by-mail should be reserved

for members of the military, citizens out of the country, or those that are too sick to vote in person

- Legitimate reason to vote absentee
- Implement a National Voter ID
- Citizenship verification
- Universal signature matching
- Chain of Custody protection for every ballot

President Trump concluded by asking supporters to donate at www.donaldjtrump.com to support his ongoing efforts to fight Big Tech, the radical left and the D.C. establishment. He asked Republicans to not give up and to continue pushing forward.

“We will go on to victory. We will summon the spirits of generations of American patriots before us. Like those heroes who crossed the Delaware, conquered the Rockies, stormed the beaches, won the battles, and tamed the unknown frontiers, we will persist, and we will prevail.”

JANUARY HIGH SCHOOL S

By OSCAR HALPERT

EDMONDS ELEARNING ACADEMY

Macey Farr

Mother's Name: Heather Farr
Interests: I love music, writing and reading, crystals, movies, and the color pink.

Community Service/work: I foster puppies with NOAH Animal Shelter in Stanwood, and always carry a bag to put trash in when I'm outside or on the beach.

Education Goals: I hope to attend Whitman College and major in either journalism, political science, or English. I may or may not pursue getting a doctorate.

Career Goals: My dream job is to be a world-renowned author/journalist, but realistically I hope to work for a news broadcasting company or publisher.

Anything else you want us to know? I'm so thankful for this nomination!

EDMONDS HEIGHTS K-12

Sophie Jenness

Mother's Name: Anne Jenness
Father's first and Last Name: William Jenness

GPA: 3.95 at Everett Community College

Clubs & Activities: As a junior and a senior I participated in the Regional Ocean Sciences Bowl (Orca Bowl). In 2019, I also competed in ESD's Battle of the Books competition. I have volunteered to work backstage with the Edmonds Driftwood Players, Madrona Children's Theatre, and with Bigfoot Players. I have also been in Girl Scouts since second grade. At the Ocean Research College Academy (ORCA) I have been involved in their National Science Foundation funded Geopaths program conducting research.

I have presented at multiple conferences, including the University of Washington Undergraduate Research Symposium in May 2020, the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program in September 2020, and ORCA's Possession Sound Student Showcase Talks last June.

Athletics: I have done martial arts through Edmonds Heights since I was in first grade, and I earned my

first degree black belt in 2018.

Honors: I am currently taking college courses through ORCA at Everett Community College. I am a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and in Fall 2020 I was on the President's List at Everett Community College.

Awards: Tied for first place at the Edmonds School District's Battle of the Books in 2019; first degree black belt; Girl Scout Silver Award. Significant School Project: This academic year, I have been independently researching spatial and temporal changes in pH at various depths in the water column in the Snohomish River Estuary. I have been analyzing the data with R Studio, and I will be presenting my research at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in April of this year. I am also applying to present my research from this year at the University of Washington Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Educational Goals: I plan to major in oceanography or a related field with a focus on chemical and physical oceanography. I plan to pursue graduate studies.

Career Goals: I hope to work at either the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) or the Washington Department of Ecology.

Makayla Barcelo

Mother's first and Last Name: Alana Milan
Father's first and Last Name: Cory Milan
GPA: 3.51

EDMONDS-WOODWAY HIGH

Ava Gardner

Mother's Name: Corinna Obar
Father's Name: Mark Gardner
GPA: 3.97

Clubs & Activities: FCCLA - Chapter Co-President.

Sports Medicine Club - Co-President; Acts of Kindness Club; Link Crew; Feminism Club; Tutor for EWHS Tutoring Group

ASB: Sophomore Class Vice-President; Junior Year Welcoming Team; Senior Class Vice-President



Sophie Jenness
Edmonds Heights
K-12



Makayla Barcelo
Edmonds Heights
K-12



Ava Gardner
Edmonds-Woodway
High



Jacob Sawyer
Edmonds
High



Bitanya Getahun
Lynnwood High



Juan Carlo "Jay" Valdevieso
Lynnwood High



Aron Ghebreslase
Meadowdale High

Athletics: Volleyball, Basketball
Honors: Member of National Honor Society; Edmonds College Honor Roll.

Awards: Most Inspirational Player - JV Basketball.

Community Service: Community Clean-Ups

Current Employment: Tutor and Babysitter.

Educational Goals: I hope to go to a four-year university to study International Relations and Political Science and receive a Bachelor's degree. I am thinking of minoring in Psychology or even Film.

Career Goals: I tend to change my mind about my career path a lot, but it always manages to stay in the political world. Since this past summer, I've been really driven to study politics, economics, social justice, and government and I want to make a change in the world we live in.

Anything else we should know? I've been using quarantine to read a lot! My all-time favorite book is Six

of Crows and I recommend it 1,000 times over!

Jacob Sawyer

Mother's Name: Lisa Sawyer
Father's Name: Michael Sawyer
GPA: 4.0

Clubs & Activities: Speech and Debate, Jazz Band, Wind Symphony, Edmonds City Youth Commission, Rocketry, and Astronomy

Honors: National Honors Society Member.

Community Service: I work with the City Council and advocate for student issues on the Edmonds City Youth Commission.

Educational Goals: I intend to pursue at least Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering and potentially get a Master's degree in the same field if it is still financially possible and relevant to my career options.

Career Goals: My dream is to eventually work at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory or Applied Physics Laboratory to help engineer the next generation of NASA robotic explo-

ration.

LYNNWOOD

Bitanya Getahun

Mother's Name: V
Father's first and
faye Getahun

GPA: 3.7

Clubs & Activities: Rotary Club (Sec

lations), Debate C

ASB: Vice Preside

Community Serv

in annual food an

ganized by Tri-M

in projects with S

Hospital, Ronald I

and Clothes For

Club.

Educational Goals

Psychology with a

tional Relations; c

School thereon.

Career Goals: To c

form of public off

Educational Goal

year university to

Psychology with a

Three Washington teachers announced as STEM award finalists

BY OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

OLYMPIA—February 17, 2021—Three elementary science teachers in Washington have been selected as state-level finalists for the 2020 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), the highest honor bestowed on science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), and computer science teachers.

"We are living through a once-in-a-century global event that will inform how we engage with science for generations," said Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal. "Our schools are shaping the vaccine researchers and public health experts

2020 WASHINGTON PAEMST FINALISTS



TINA NICPAN BROWN
WENATCHEE



JULIE FRY
YAKIMA



ALLISON GREENBERG
EVERETT

of tomorrow, and it is thrilling to see teachers like Julie, Allison, and Tina embrace this moment."

The state-level finalists are:

- Allison Greenberg, K-5 STEM Coordinator, Woodside Elementary School, Everett School District
- Julie Fry, First Grade Teacher, Roosevelt Elementary, Yakima

School District

- Tina Nicpan Brown, Fifth Grade Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, Wenatchee School District

The finalists were selected by a statewide selection committee comprised of content area experts and award-winning teachers.

After being selected as state-level finalists, the PAEMST committee will determine national awardees based on content mastery, use of effective instructional methods, strategic use of assessments, reflective practice and life-long learning, and leadership in education inside and outside of the classroom.

Continued PAGE 07 >>

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Sawyer
Lynnwood High



Saloni Sanger
Mountlake Terrace High



Nina Otebele
Mountlake Terrace High



Paul Tiersma
Scriber Lake High



Nicole Martinez
Meadowdale High



Macey Farr
Edmonds eLearning Academy



Brandon Cram
VOICE

complete a degree, then go to medical school.
Career Goals: I want to become a psychiatrist.

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE HIGH

Saloni Sanger

Mother's Name: Rita Sanger
Father's Name: Nitten Sanger
GPA: 4.0
Clubs & Activities: President of Key Club.
Athletics: I have a second degree black belt in Taekwondo and will soon test for third degree.
Awards: I received special recognition by American Association of University Women.
Community Service: Key club, volunteering by making lunches for homeless people in Seattle
Significant School Project: It's in progress as I am in Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) English 12.
Educational Goals: Computer science bachelor's degree

Nina Otebele

Mother's Name: Claire Otebele
Father's Name: David Otebele
GPA: 3.6
Clubs & Activities: Washington Aerospace Scholars Program, Museum of Flight Apprenticeship Program, Rocketry Club, Girl Scouts, Hawk-eye (Journalism), Vex Robotics, Battle of the Books.

Honors: Washington Aerospace Scholar Program Alumna, Washington Aerospace Scholar Program Ambassador, National Honors Society Member

Awards: Girl Scout Silver Award, Reinvent the Rover Wheel Challenge: NASA Gold Star, Washington Journalism Education Association Excellent Award in Editorial Cartooning.

Community Service: For Girl Scouts, I've hosted donation drives for struggling families, mentored younger Girl Scouts, babysat children for parents during PTA meetings, and worked in a soup kitchen where I cooked for homeless people. I earned my Silver Award by installing an interpretive trail that identified different plant species at

Lynndale Park.

During my Museum of Flight apprenticeship, I created and installed an exhibit of models of international spacecraft for community education. Entertained children for the "Santa Landing" Event and helped construct and set up the haunted house for the "Museum of Fright" event.

Also, for FoodLife Line in Seattle, I sorted food into smaller packages for delivery.

Finally, with Wellspring Family Services in Seattle, I sorted clothes and raked leaves for their playground.

Significant School Project: STEM English 12 Research Project. I am developing a small robot that can sense and collect garbage located in neighborhoods and forests. For Principles of Engineering, I worked with a team of students to design a bridge that could withstand 500 lbs.
Educational Goals: I plan to attend a four-year college and work towards earning a bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering. I intend to obtain a postgraduate degree.

Career Goals: I want to be an Aerospace Engineer with focus on propulsion systems. I would like to work for NASA, Boeing, or Aerojet Rocketdyne.

Anything else we should know? As a Washington Aerospace Scholars Program Ambassador, I've publicly promoted the WAS program through question and answer events.

SCRIBER LAKE HIGH

Paul Tiersma

Mother's Name: Julie Tiersma
Father's Name: Mike Tiersma
Educational Goals: Major in marine biology

VOICE TRANSITION PROGRAM

Brandon Cram

Mother's Name: Nicola Cram
Father's Name: Brian Cram
Educational Goals: Complete VOICE program this year.

tional Relations, then attend graduate school.
Career Goals: Corporate Law

Jay Valdevieso

Mother's Name: Amanda Valdevieso
Father's Name: Arnold Valdevieso
GPA: 3.65
Clubs & Activities: Jazz Band, Chamber Orchestra, WeMatter, Liberty In North Korea, Key Club, Debate Club
Significant School Project: Traveled to our sister school in Damyang, Korea.
Current Employment: Quail Park of Lynnwood.
Career Goals: Nursing Student

MEADOWDALE HIGH

Aron Ghebreslase

Mother's Name: Emebet Gebremedhin
Father's Name: Tesfaldet Tekle
Clubs & Activities: I participated in the UNCF program for College.
Athletics: I play soccer.

Awards: I got Student of the Quarter from my English teacher.
Community Service: I taught Eritrean kids how to read and write their native language until COVID started.
Educational Goals: I want to attend Edmonds College and transfer to University of Washington after two years.
Career Goals: I am interested in becoming an engineer or an accountant.

Nicole-Martinez

Mother's Name: Carmen Hernandez
Father's Name: Rigoberto Martinez
GPA: 3.95
Honors: NHS
Awards: Prudential Spirit of Community Award-Local and have been nominated for state recognition.
Community Service: I put in 105 hours at Lynnwood food bank and 15 hours at school.
Current Employment: Host at a restaurant in Edmonds.
Educational Goals: Go to college,

WOOD HIGH

Wosene Mengistu
Last Name: Tes-

Clubs: Tri-M, Interact
Secretary/ Public Relations Club (President).
Activities: Volunteered at blood drives and heavily involved in Seattle Children's McDonald House, Kids via Interact

Goals: Attain a B.S. in a minor in International continue with Law

Activities: one day hold some

Goals: Attend a four to attain a B.S. in a minor in Interna-

in the STEM fields. The President may recognize up to 108 educators each year. Since 1983, 91 Washington educators have received the award.

from page 4 ONLINE SAFETY

The Lynnwood Police Department is also requesting parents have a conversation about online safety, following the February 26, 2021 arrest of a 32-year-old man arranging to meet and then harboring a 12-year-old girl from Lynnwood in Kitsap County.

There are numerous resources available to both parents and children, including through the Federal Trade Commission and the FBI:

- <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/protecting-kids-online>
- <https://www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety/protecting-your-kids>

from page 6 STEM FINALIST

If any of the three finalists are selected as national awardees, they will receive a certificate signed by the President of the United States as well as a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation. Awardees will also receive a trip to Washington, D.C. where they will be honored and invited to attend professional development opportunities. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this has been postponed.

The national PAEMST program typically announces national award recipients within a year of selecting state-level finalists. State-level finalists are also recognized by regional and state math and science associations and invited to several annual state events for award-winning educators.

The PAEMST program was first established by Congress in 1983. The program recognizes exemplary teaching

Quilters Anonymous 39th Annual Quilt Show

Anonymous Quilted Treasures

Virtual Online show at www.QAVQS.org
March 12 to May 1, 2021

View our members' quilts plus:

- Quilts of Beth Hanson
- Guild Challenge Quilts
- Special Exhibits
- Video Demonstrations
- Virtual Merchant Mall

Visit our guild at www.QuiltersAnonymous.org

Kitsap man confesses to assaulting Lynnwood minor

BY ERIN FREEMAN

Lynnwood, Wash., March 5, 2021 – New details have emerged in the case of the 32-year-old man arrested last week for arranging to meet an underage Lynnwood girl. Documents revealed that the suspect drove the 12-year-old to a residence in Kitsap County and repeated assaulted her.

The defendant, Anthony Vernon Weber, confessed that he knew her age and to sexually assaulting the victim multiple times, according to the case's police report.

"I knew she was 12," he told police. "It was wrong to do."

Weber was arrested on February 26 for Child Molestation in the 2nd degree and unlawful harboring of a minor. He has no known criminal history.

According to the deputy prosecuting attorney, Jacqueline Lawrence, there are several counts of rape of a child in the 1st-degree charges pending out of Kitsap County. The State anticipates filing additional charges by March 19, 2021. If convicted, Weber could be facing up to life in prison and fines of up to \$50,000.

At the time of her disappearance, the 12-year-old Lynnwood middle school student was home alone, having just finished breakfast and preparing for a day of online schoolwork due to the coronavirus pandemic.

At approximately 9:43 a.m. on February 25, a family member received a Facebook message from the girl that a vehicle – an unfamiliar blue 2000s Chevy Cavalier – was parked in front of their home and that she was scared. The family member called her and could hear her crying. At 9:54 a.m. the girl notified the family that she was safe. 10:20 a.m. was the last time family heard from her, no longer receiving any replies from the girl, with all phone calls going straight to voicemail.

The Lynnwood Police Department spoke on the phone with a friend of the girl from Wisconsin who had contacted her family following her disappearance, claiming the two had been in an online relationship for the last two months, but had never met in person.

He told police that the two had been messaging the morning of her disappearance, last hearing from her at 9:30 a.m. According to him, the girl stated that she had met an adult online who lived in her area.

Subsequent messages stated that she did not know who the adult was, was afraid, and believed that he would hurt her if she did not go outside. He added that the girl told him that the adult did not like her being on her phone.

While the LPD was reviewing the messages and emails on the girl's school-issued laptop, they noticed an ad from the dating network "Badoo" in her email box. Detectives were able to locate her account, observing that she was in multiple conversations with male adults, some of whom believed she was 21 years old.

None of the messages under her Badoo account showed that she was meeting with anyone.

Badoo is an online dating platform founded by Russian entrepreneur Andrey Andreev in 2006.

On February 26, detectives with the LPD contacted the FBI Crimes Against Children unit, asking for assistance in locating the missing girl. The FBI was able to obtain cell phone information and records. Text messages exchanged between Weber's phone and the girl showing that he had come to Lynnwood to pick her up outside of the house on the morning of February 25.

Weber was contacted at his home in Kitsap County, where the girl was found with him. She was taken to St. Michael Medical Center where she

submitted to the exam of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), whom she told she met Weber online, and was afraid something would happen if she didn't get into the car.

While at Weber's residence, she alleged he coerced her into a nonconsensual sexual relationship several times over 24 hours, she told the nurse.

The Kitsap County Sheriff's Office interviewed Weber, who said he met the minor on a dating site called Joy Ride about four weeks ago. He stated that at the time, he believed her to be 18 years old, as per the minimum age requirement of the site. He learned of her real age approximately three weeks prior when he and the victim first met in person at a Lynnwood middle school. Since then, they had exchanged explicit images via text messaging.

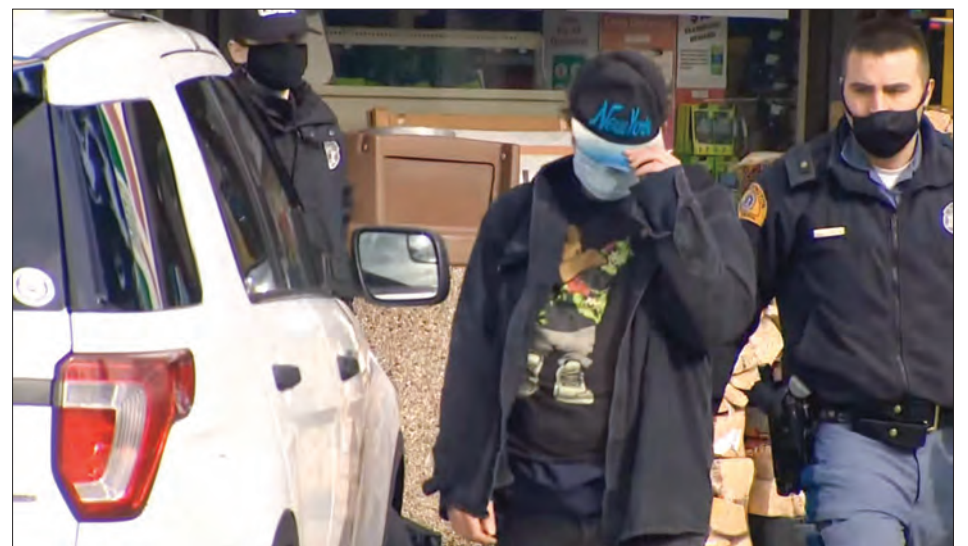
According to Joy Ride's website, its slogan is "Play First, Date Later."

Following this case, the Lynnwood Police Department is requesting that parents and guardians have a conversation about online safety with their children. There are numerous resources available, including through the Federal Trade Commission and the FBI:

- <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/protecting-kids-online>
- <https://www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety/protecting-your-kids>

The Lynnwood Times is following up with Badoo and Joy Ride to understand the security measures being taken to safeguard against its online services being accessible to minors.

Two pedestrians, including a Lynnwood man, killed in hit-and-run



Suspected hit-and-run driver into custody at a 7-Eleven on SR 524 on Friday, Feb. 19, 2021.

BY MARIO LOTMORE

Lynnwood, Wash., February 22, 2021 – A 27-year old Bothell man was arrested by the Washington State Patrol (WSP) on Friday, February 19 for a deadly hit-and-run killing two pedestrians- including a Lynnwood resident.

32-year-old Carson Cox of Lynnwood and 39-year-old Sarah Foxheath of Marysville were found lifeless in a ditch along State Route 524 near Nellis Road in Bothell around 10 a.m. Friday after being struck by a silver Chevrolet Malibu while walking alongside the highway earlier that morning.

The Chevrolet Malibu, driven by Alec Gajdos, had substantial damage to the right front and right side of the windshield, according to Captain Neil Weaver, spokesperson for the WSP.

A WSP Trooper was at a nearby 7-Eleven reviewing surveillance footage when he noticed the vehicle with substantial damage outside. Gajdos had stopped for gas on his way to his

home in Bothell after completing his shift at work.

"Unknown to him, WSP troopers were at the gas station reviewing surveillance video footage," Weaver said.

The trooper detained and questioned Gajdos, who told them he was on his way to work when he believed he had struck a garbage can, continuing to work without stopping.

Gajdos was later booked into the Snohomish County Jail for two counts of felony hit-and-run. Bail is set at half a million dollars for each charge.

WSP detectives are looking for witnesses to the collision and anyone that may have seen the vehicle driving in the area, or of the pedestrians in the area.

If you have any information to provide, please contact Trooper Rocky Oliphant at (425)923-6244 or Rocky.Oliphant@wsp.wa.gov

20-year-old woman drowns in Lake Stevens

BY MARIO LOTMORE

Lake Stevens, Wash., February 22, 2021 – A 20-year old woman drowned in Lake Stevens Saturday, February 20, according to the Lake Stevens Police Department.

At approximately 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, Lake Stevens resident Anna Marie Lopez got out of a vehicle off of North Lakeshore Drive and ran down a dock before jumping into Lake Stevens, said Commander Jeff Beazizo.

Witnesses and speculation indicate that Lopez had been drinking and was highly intoxicated at the time, Cmdr. Bea-

zizo told the Lynnwood Times. Within 30 to 60 days a medical examiner's report will conclude what was in the victim's system at the time of death.

An independent witness in the parking lot told police that three of Marie's friends were in the vehicle when the incident occurred.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responded and attempted CPR for 50 minutes.

According to Weatherspak, the average surface water temperature in Lake Stevens for February is between 45°F and 47°F.

fellow officers safer, found criminals who would have otherwise gotten away, and helped us get drugs off the streets. He was a truly talented police dog, a great partner, and a cherished member of our family whose memories I will cherish forever."



LYNNWOODTIMES



@LYNNWOODTIMES

from page 3 **EARL**

well-suited for police work due to his incredible drive, power, and energy all packaged in a social dog with an even temperament. Continuing, he said he is incredibly grateful to have had so many years with such an amazing police partner and family member by his side.

"I am so proud of the way he served our city and the surrounding community," he said. "He kept me safe, made my

from page 1 **YOUTH FOOTBALL**

football.

Approximately 60 athletes from multiple team divisions – peewees (ages 5 through 7), 89ers (ages 8 and 9), juniors (ages 10 and 11) and seniors (ages 13 and 14) – practiced at the Mukilteo Boys and Girls Club baseball field for 90 minutes doing basic conditioning drills - handoffs, catching, bear crawls, and high knees. They will use the field four days a week.

"We understand the situation with the pandemic and the risks associated with it," Waverly shared when asked of his thoughts to returning to the field. "However, we also understand children need some kind of interaction, they need the exercise."

Before practice begins, each athlete is screened with a temperature gun. Sanitizer wipes are available, and masks are required, and state guidelines are followed.



Coach Thomas Waverly (center) with Daniel Zieve, Teandre, Ashtin, Tupoo, Davon, and Coach Arron at the Mukilteo Boys and Girls Club baseball field on Monday, March 2, 2021. Source: Lynnwood Times.

from page 8 **YOUTH FOOTBALL**

Coach Waverly described his athletes as being amazed at seeing each other after a year and explained the importance of exercise and camaraderie that football brings them.

“Football is just the tool. We are trying to develop young men and, in some cases, young women out here,” said Waverly. “Football is just the tool to do it.”

Although the first game of the league is within two weeks, games will be what is called “away games” as local fields in the area are not open for use.

“Up until Saturday we have been reaching out to schools, city of Everett, parks, anywhere to get a field,” said Waverly. “We were blessed with this opportunity to get this field Saturday at 3 o’clock.”

Parents received notice a few weeks prior to football season that practice would start on March 1. However, for one Mukilteo School District parent, Peter Zieve, he found it odd when the Saturday before the start of practice his son hadn’t received confirmation from the coaches to receive equipment.

After some inquiries, Zieve discovered the coaches were out of ideas on how to get the team playing again due to the lack of an available field by the school district.

Zieve asked Coach Waverly, “Why not just use the Boys and Girls Club field?”

After some quick negotiating by Zieve and Waverly with the Mukilteo Boys and Girls club, the baseball field was approved for use. Zieve owns the parking lot used by the club.

After learning the challenges basketball coaches are having, Zieve told the Lynnwood Times that he is now clearing out a building at Electroimpact for basketball teams to use.

With regards to using school district facilities, Zieve reported that he heard nothing from the Mukilteo School District.

“I think there’s something very disingenuous going on,” said Zieve. “Everywhere I go schools are opening. Everett schools are opening but Mukilteo School District is saying that parents don’t want schools open. But every parent I talk to says they do want it open.”

All school districts in the area began the school year with 100% remote

learning. However, each school district reopening plan varies.

Everett Public Schools, which commenced hybrid learning on January 19 for developmental Kindergarten students is currently in Stage 4a of its model. This allows for restricted optional in-person learning for Kindergarten through grade 3. Everett Public Schools anticipates expanding its hybrid learning model to grades 4 and 5 on March 15.

Within the Lake Stevens School District, grades K to 2 returned to hybrid in-person learning February 16. Grades 3 to 5 began school on March 2 with plans to expand to grades 6 and 7 by mid-March and grades 8 to 12 after Spring Break.

Snohomish School District welcomed back grades 5 and 6 on March 3 to its in-person hybrid learning model. In-person learning commenced for developmental preschool and Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) students on February 2; whereas, Kindergarten through grade 2 began on February 22.

For Marysville School District students in grades 2 and 3, in-person hybrid learning will return March 8 and expand to grades 4 and 5 on March 22. Marysville School District is currently in Step 3 of its six step Reconnect Plan which commenced February 17. Kindergarten and first grade students are also participating in the District’s hybrid in-person learning model.

According to the Mukilteo School District’s website, first grade is tentatively scheduled to return to optional in-person learning on March 22. ECEAP and preschool students are currently allowed to participate in the District’s hybrid learning model with Kindergarten tentatively scheduled for March 29. No decision to expand hybrid learning to other grades have been released.

Edmonds School District (ESD) is currently in Stage 1 of its four-stage model – technically there are five stages as post-stage 4 is a full return to normal in-person operations. Stage 1 provides for limited Special Education programs and services in some schools with Stage 2 set to begin March 22. In-person hybrid learning for 2nd grade is scheduled to begin March 22 with 1st grade and Kindergarten scheduled for March 29 and April 12, respectively.

All parents interviewed that attended practice with their kids expressed the need for in-person activities and how hard extended isolation has been

on their children’s mental health and educational development.

Amanda, a mom from the Edmonds School District, told the Lynnwood Times when asked about her thoughts to her six-year-old son returning to practice, “I love it. I’ve been wanting it to start sooner.”

She also shared how remote learning has impacted her son who is in kindergarten at Meadowdale Elementary.

“Every day he’s bored... To sit at a computer, he doesn’t get to have any of that experience of the social aspect.



ANGEL OF THE WINDS
CASINO RESORT
welcomes
K-9 Officer
Odin (SqWbay)
to the
Stillaguamish Tribal Police Department

When you have other kids with you it is competitive and makes you want to learn. It’s been hard on him.”

Amanda shared her concern for returning to in-person learning but remains hopeful.

“I understand people are scared of getting sick, but we can’t stop living. We were made to love and touch and interact and be social. When you take that out, it causes depression.”

“It’s about time,” said coach Jack Baker when asked about his thoughts to returning to practice. “It’s going to be a while to get our kids back into shape... but to have a turnout like this is awesome.”

This is Baker’s forth season coaching with the Kamiak Youth Football league. Previously he was a coach at Meadowdale High School for 17 years and Mountlake Terrence High School for two years.

Tyler’s eight-year-old son attends Picnic Point Elementary. He also expressed gratitude and relief for football to have started again and would like to see a return to in-person learning within the Mukilteo School District, “I think they should be going to school... Definitely.”

from page 5 **EAGLE SCOUT**

“Being an eagle scout is something that distinguishes you because not many people are eagle scouts,” Reid said.

The city of Lynnwood was the recipient of another Eagle Scout project on January 16.

Lynnwood High School student, 18-year-old Musse Michael of Troop 49, built and installed a little library at Heritage Park, allowing community members to freely take or share a book out of a public book-sharing box.

Searching for a project service idea, Michael began asking family and friends about different ways to improve the community. His mother, a book lover, recommended he build a little library. His design was inspired by the historic buildings throughout the park.

Michael says that his little library will provide community members with a convenient way to obtain reading materials, especially during the coronavirus pandemic when access to books at local libraries is limited.

While stocking the shelves of his recently completed project, a passing by family commented on how they appreciated his contribution to Heritage Park- a place that they already enjoy.

Michael also held a book drive to stock the library with reading material.

“I cannot give a number on the number of books I received, all I know is that it was enough to fill up the backseat and the entire trunk of my Honda Civic,” Michael exclaimed. “Way more than enough books.”

Another parent from the Mukilteo School District named Mark whose nine-year-old son attends Fairmount Elementary told the Lynnwood Times, “I couldn’t wait for this moment,” when asked about his thoughts to his son returning to football practice.

“During this pandemic we need to take precautions, but the kids need school,” he continued. “For us parents it is frustrating. All they [kids] do is sit at home and eat.”

Francis a mom with three boys in the Edmonds School District is happy that her son is doing something other than playing video games. “I’m ok with them being out here...there is too much video games...too much screen time at home,” said Francis.

Who ever thought that youth football would bring a community together, to overcome what could have been a crisis for scores of young athletes.

“We want the kids to have fun, we want the kids to stay in shape and we want the kids to understand the responsibility of the precautions and why they are needed,” said Coach Waverly. “But at the end of the day, kids need to associate with each other...they need to have fun. We feel blessed to be able to provide them a vehicle to be able to do it.”



"The Answer Always Lies in the Stars!"

This month the planetary Saturn square Uranus in Fixed Signs really kicks in. With so many planets recently placed in the Sign of Aquarius and Uranus being the Ruling Planet of Aquarius, then radical changes, national and personal, must be anticipated. For best results... "go with the flow"!

- ARIES:** I'm not only prepared to "go with the flow" but I'm more inclined to be ahead of the flow! Not going to fight with you about it though - unless you disagree with me of course!
- TAURUS:** Speaking as a "Fixed Sign" myself, I have to say that nothing will budge me if my mind's made up. I have been noticing some recent threats to my stability however!
- GEMINI:** Change is good! Change is refreshing! Change is educational! I do have to say though that there seems a lot of crazy people saying a lot of crazy things lately! Hmmm?
- CANCER:** I've been noticing a lot of stress and tension around the home recently. I can see lots of ways of fixing it but I'm not sure others are willing to go with the same flow as me!
- LEO:** As long as I don't lose respect I'm up for changing a few things around here. So as long as I can make my own decisions - and as long as I can delegate the changes - I'm in!
- VIRGO:** Change is worrying! I mean, what do you do for the best? Is there ever a perfect answer? I'm often not very good at seeing the big picture but give me details and I'm OK.
- LIBRA:** Hmmm? I'm not sure I want the balance of my life disrupted right now. I can bend a little left and right but it needs negotiation. Nothing too rough and ready you understand!
- SCORPIO:** What is it you're really saying here? There's always a hidden motive to anything and I'm not going to react until I feel safe. Who's going to be the first to blink I wonder?
- SAGITTARIUS:** Try holding me back! I always love new horizons, new scenarios, new ventures of discovery. As long as the change doesn't require me to do nothing, I'm with you!
- CAPRICORN:** I hate being told to change my tried and tested methods. I guess even old traditions were new and radical once upon a time. But "going with the flow" is unsettling!
- AQUARIUS:** About time! I'm always fighting the norm, going with anything that's different. As long as change respects Science and I can still remain an individual, I'm OK with it!
- PISCES:** The "flow" is something I'm always going with! Don't tie me down to too much reality and I'm good. My psychic did tell me about this already I'll have you know!

MARCH 02 / MOON in SCORPIO: Could be that emotions are a little tense today. A day to deal with buried feelings.

MARCH 03 / MARS in GEMINI: A good day to put some effort into communications, writings and/or study.

MARCH 06 MOON in CAPRICORN: Could be that feelings get more business-like today. Practicality and patience is best!

MARCH 11 NEW MOON in AQUARIUS: Go with your new emotional flow. A time to initiate a project, chore or objective.

MARCH 13 / MOON in ARIES: Feelings might get out of hand today. A NEW MOON. So a good time for fresh starts!

MARCH 15 / MERCURY in PISCES: You could be a little more fanciful or imaginative with your thoughts today. A good day for fiction writing, instead of living it!

MARCH 20 / SUN in ARIES: "Assertiveness" has to be the rule of the day here. Move forward from procrastination!

MARCH 21 VENUS in ARIES: A day for "love at first sight"? Or a time to show more confidence in affairs of the heart.

MARCH 28 / FULL MOON in LIBRA: A day to balance out the feelings - or wrap-up something that's past it's due date.

MARCH 29 / MOON in SCORPIO: Just as the start of the month - a good day to deal with deep emotions.

Support my animation project on Patreon:
<https://www.patreon.com/Muse2D>

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from page 3 **RSJ COORDINATOR**

Officer Julie Moore stated, "We never had a hiring freeze. The Mayor refilled vacant positions on a case-by-case basis. She delayed refilling certain positions as a cost savings measure, critical positions were rehired as needed."

Yet a memorandum dated May 8 of last year from Mayor Smith, listed implementing a "hiring freeze" and that "only critical vacancies were being filled" as one of several cost-saving measures that were applied to mitigate the effects of lost revenues because of the pandemic's impact on Lynnwood's budget.

Councilmember Dr. Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, during Monday's council meeting, expressed discontentment with the city council for not listening to the Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) community and for not considering the 200-person survey she facilitated that supported the need of a Social Worker and not an RSJ Coordinator.

In December of last year, Dr. Altamirano-Crosby shared a random survey she conducted that received 200 responses from families, business owners and students in the Lynnwood area. The purpose of the survey was to give Lynnwood residents a voice by asking what they think should be a priority for the city Dr. Altamirano-Crosby told the Lynnwood Times. The survey question asked was:

During this time, with the COVID-19 crisis present, do you believe that the City of Lynnwood should hire:

1. Social Worker and Community Outreach
2. Race and Social Equity Coordinator/Advisor of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
3. Other.

Out of a random sample of 200 responses, 167 (or 83.5%) advocated for a Social Worker, 18 (or 9%) considered neither one, 12 (or 6%) selected Diversity and Inclusion/Social Justice coordinator and three chose other.

In December, Dr. Altamirano-Crosby provided a statement to the Lynnwood Times when asked why she supports the delay of hiring an RSJ Coordinator.

"The recent decision to halt the hire of a Diversity and Inclusion Director/Social Justice Coordinator for the City of Lynnwood, must be understood not as a decision against the very urgent and pressing matter of social justice, but in its favor."

She shared that the original intent back in 2018 was to fulfill an administra-

tive need but after last summer and the Black Lives Matter movement, such a position is now antiquated.

"The demands coming out of our social realities demand that we re-imagine such position to serve our communities in meaningful, on-the-ground initiatives and not only at the administrative level," wrote Dr. Altamirano-Crosby.

"The current economic challenges caused by the pandemic may point out to first dedicate our efforts to make sure our communities can access whatever resources our city can offer to alleviate their situations," Dr. Altamirano-Crosby added referring back to the 200-person survey she facilitated last December.

"The results make clear to me that our scarce resources at the city should focus on hiring a social worker that can help our communities access services. Also, that the Diversity and Inclusion position, while also a priority, must be re-design first to meet the social demands of 2020."

Dr. Altamirano-Crosby, the first and only Latina to serve on the Lynnwood City Council, clearly expressed in her statement that her actions are unequivocally congruent with the needs and the well-being of Lynnwood residents.

"I will never speak for anybody", she wrote. "For two years, when I came to this country, I didn't have a voice; so, I respect the voices of the community."

Public Affairs Officer Julie Moore clarified with the Lynnwood Times that the purpose of the upcoming Lynnwood Community Equity Survey at a cost of \$40,000 was not to justify the need for the RSJ Coordinator but to help shape the scope of work for the position.

"The survey is going to inform and shape the work of the RSJ Coordinator," Moore wrote to the Lynnwood Times. "The position is not contingent on the outcomes of the survey."

However, contrary to Moore's statement, DEI Chair Naz Lashgari in her February 16 statement to the Lynnwood Times after the council's work session indicated that the RSJ Coordinator position was contingent on the community's support.

"The City of Lynnwood is going to be conducting a thorough survey that will be considering Lynnwood's population and the BIPOC communities," wrote Lashgari. "To determine the need for a Race and Social Justice position I believe we need more than 0.54% of the population's opinion to determine the DEI direction of the City."

Continued **PAGE 11** >>

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State Legislature debates proposed pay-per-mile tax

By ERIN FREEMAN

In its 2021 session, the Washington state legislature's Senate Transportation Committee received a hearing on February 18 proposing a mileage-based tax on electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles.

The pay-per-mile proposal - SB 5444 - introduced by state Senator Rebecca Saldana (D-Seattle) aims at initiating a shift in how the state pays for road maintenance and other transportation needs.

According to staff testimony, state gas tax is declining, so the state needs to explore alternative sources of transportation funding, with an emphasis on preservation.

"We've had a decreasing revenue source for transportation and increasing need for preservation and maintenance," Saldana said. "So, I offer this up."

Currently, state residents owning electric cars pay an annual combined fee of \$225. Sen. Saldana's proposal would replace this fee with a 2 cents per mile road usage charge for electric cars and plug-in hybrids as of July 1, 2026.

If drivers presume that the bill will save them money, they may also have the individual opportunity to switch to the pay-per-mile policy from July 2025 to June 2026. The early adoption program also requires the involvement of at least 500 state fleet vehicles.

To tack electric vehicle distance, Sen. Saldana suggests that drivers should be provided with a variety of options to record their mileage to suit their preferences. She proposed a GPS tracker with privacy safeguards as an option, a smartphone app, or an in-person annual odometer reading.

The bill, if adopted, requires privacy of the per-mile funding system data

and information, including making any related personally identifiable information exempt from the public records act.

Several committee members were hesitant, citing the probability of a high cost of tracking the taxable mileage of individual drivers and collecting the resulting charges.

"It doesn't look like a real money maker," said Sen. Curtis King (R-Yakima).

Due to the repeal of the electric vehicle fees, they also argue the legislation will result in less funding for road preservation needs. This needs to get addressed to ensure revenue neutrality and to avoid this unintended consequence.

Transportation committee chairman Senator Steve Hobbs (D-Lake Stevens) said that the per-mile tax may be an equitable solution for Washingtonians

with electric and hybrid vehicles.

"Doing nothing, that is not the answer," said Hobbs. "Right now, there is just a big, giant fee. Nobody likes that. If there is a way to be more fair about this by doing it by the mile, then we should attempt to do that."

Those in opposition to the proposal have refuted that the per-mile system is equitable, saying it fails to address the disproportionate impact of different weights of vehicles. They say that to be truly equitable, that and differences between electric vehicles need to be factored into the rates.

While details of the bill need to be worked out further, sponsors of the proposal say that as the Legislature establishes the appropriate per-mile rates, fairness, predictability, and durability will be considered.

Legislative staff and the Department of Licensing anticipate approximately 142,000 vehicles in 2026 to be impacted if the measure passes.

from page 1 **GEORGE HURST**

Infrastructure to handle the buses and traffic to and from the trains, widening roads is a must, but George knows that many residential roads in Lynnwood are also in need of maintenance and attention and plans to address this.

COVID-19 has impacted the finances of many of our residents and businesses. Many are struggling to make ends meet. George has a plan to ease their tax burden by removing the taxes the city has put on necessities of water, sewer and electricity. 55% of Lynnwood residents voted for \$30 car tabs in 2020 and it was overturned in the courts. George believes that government should uphold the will of the people and, in Lynnwood, remove the \$40 city fee that have been attached to our car tabs. He also feels the city should reassess the head tax burden placed on businesses in Lynnwood, to help them recover and remain a strong part of our community.

Lynnwood has never had a Housing Policy to guide development and af-

fordable housing is a huge issue to those who work and live in our city. With over 3,000 apartments now being planned or built and single-family homes being constructed costing over \$900,000, George feels our city is lacking "the missing middle." George plans to address this to make Lynnwood a more affordable city to live in.

George stated: "The next four years are critical to the future of all Lynnwood community members. Our City deserves a mayor who is ready to face the challenges that will come with the arrival of Light Rail in 2024. The stress on our infrastructure, the added demands on the city budget and a city population that will grow exponentially, will require experience, foresight and strong leadership. As your next Mayor, I will work relentlessly to meet these challenges and fulfill these requirements to better serve the people of Lynnwood."

For more information on George Hurst, his experience, vision and platform, please visit www.Hurst4Lynnwood.com.

The man, despite being exhausted, damp, cold, hungry, and thirsty, was in good spirits, said Sanders. Search and Rescue members guided the man, who was able to walk under his own power, back to the trailhead, where he was taken to medics waiting nearby.

The man was determined to be uninjured and was ultimately brought back home safely.

Mayor Smith requested the confirmation of Meyer calling her, "progressively responsible."

"Her strengths include building diverse, adaptable teams, and enhancing service delivery despite limited resources," said Mayor Smith. "She strives to embody servant leadership in all of her actions and values transparency, collaboration and integrity."

Meyer was the former finance director for the City of Mukilteo from 2017 to September of 2020. Prior to her tenure in Mukilteo, Meyer worked in finance for the City of Bel Aire, Kansas.

In another appointment, Selam Habte was confirmed unanimously to the

from page 1 **RESCUE**

After over two hours of searching, K9 Handler Jake, Field Support Brandon and K9 Clyde located the man wandering off the trail two miles from the parking area at around 10:50 p.m. There were about 10 inches of snow in the area he was found with new snow coming, said Sergeant Sanders.

from page 10 **RSJ COORDINATOR**

When asked by the Lynnwood Times if Mayor Smith has made the decision to move forward with filling the RSJ Coordinator position despite a vote by the council to delay it, Moore wrote, "At this point I do not know what the next steps are after Monday night's council meeting."

Finance Director and DEI Confirmations of Appointments

The council unanimously voted Michelle Meyer as Lynnwood's new finance director effective March 29. Meyer replaces the city's previous Finance Director, Sonja Springer, who retired in December of 2020.



By WASHINGTON STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE

During these challenging times, Attorney General Bob Ferguson is working to put money back in Washingtonians' pockets. He would like Washingtonians to know how to reclaim your unclaimed assets in Washington state.

Where To Go

Over a billion dollars in unclaimed property has been turned into the state since records began in 1955. One in seven Washingtonians currently has unclaimed money sitting in the state treasury.

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and a many other sources.

When these old payments and other property go unclaimed, they are sent to the Department of Revenue and held in the state treasury until the rightful owner claims the money.

Be aware of Scammer
The Unclaimed Property division of the Washington state Department of Revenue will NEVER contact anyone by text message. The division provides a free public service available for owners to claim their property on this site.

All staff are teleworking from home until further notice. Claims filed online continue to be worked; however incoming mail will incur processing delays. It is encouraged to file your claim online.

If you have questions, please connect with a representative by calling 360-534-1502 or via email at ucp@dor.wa.gov.

DEI Commission. Council Vice President Smith shared that Habte will be a good addition to the DEI Commission. Habte thanked the group and shared her eagerness to collaborate with others to better Lynnwood.

Vaccine Distribution

Mayor Nicola Smith addressed concerns by residents of vaccine shortages by sharing that next week residents should see an increase in vaccine availability.

Mayor Smith added that the threshold to receive a second dose is 42 days.

from page 2 **LOW APPOINTMENT**

Transportation Improvement Board.

TIB funds high priority transportation projects in communities throughout the state to enhance the movement of people, goods and services. Currently there are 25 active projects in Snohomish County funded by TIB in the amount of \$33,887,450.

Low, who is also the Snohomish County Council Public Works Chair, also serves on the Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Committee and Operations Committee, The County Board of Health, Chair of the County Conservation Futures Board, and the County Elections Canvassing Board.

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