

LYNNWOOD

TIMES



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Real News ⚡
Real Impact

Lynnwood baker shares her talent for Easter delights



Panoramic eggs have been part of Lynnwood resident and baker Darla Aiken's Easter celebrations for the past 45 years. Source: Darla Aiken.

By **ERIN FREEMAN**

The lost art of the sugar Easter egg with a spring scene in the hollowed out inside has many names: panoramic, scenic, and peek-a-boo. While its origin is unknown, its popularity dates back to the 19th and

20th centuries, with the remembrance of the artistry now reliant on the few individuals who still craft them.

Panoramic eggs have been part of Lynnwood resident Darla Aiken's Easter celebrations for the past 45

years. As a child, she used to frequent a Flea-Mart in Portland, Oregon, where she was first introduced to the eggs while browsing through various vendor stands. Now, with baking and cake decorating

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Working Washington small business grants: Round 4 on March 29

By **WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

The Washington State Department of Commerce will open applications for Working Washington Grants: Round 4 on March 29. Business owners can find information about the program and a link to the application portal at commercegrants.com.

This is the fourth round of the Working Washington grant program. Legislators approved \$240 million for the current round as part of an early action bill that

also provided additional funding for rent assistance and other COVID-19 response efforts.

Some of the criteria outlined in this legislation include:

- Businesses must apply the grant award toward expenses incurred between March 1, 2020 through June 30th, 2021.
- Commerce must take into account previous Working Washington awards distributed by the agency or affiliated partners. This means

grant awards will vary. The maximum grant award will be \$25,000.

- Grants must be equitably distributed statewide and to historically underserved and disadvantaged populations.

These grants are aimed at for-profit small businesses in industries that have hard costs associated with their operations, and faced the most significant challenges to paying those hard costs because they were required to close. Hard costs include but are not limited to rent, utilities, payroll or personal

protective equipment.

Eligible applications will be reviewed based on the following priority criteria:

- Industries that had to close as a result of safety and public health measures.
- Size of the business (measured by 2019 revenue).
- Lost revenue between 2019 and 2020 as well as added expenses to maintain safe operations.

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Bill to decriminalize hard drugs in Washington state introduced

By MARIO LOTMORE

Senator Manka Dhingra (D – Seattle), introduced SB 5476 to establish personal use amounts for hard drugs such as heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine within the state of Washington. The bill is intended to address the State vs. Blake decision on February 25 which ruled that the statute governing simple possession of control substances as unconstitutional.

The bill includes a provision to allow a “forensic navigator” to serve as a care coordinator for persons alleged to be in possession of drugs that are within personal use amount limitations. The forensic navigator must only attempt to contact the individual to offer treatment and recovery services which the person is not required to accept.

The penalties for individuals who knowingly possess more than personal use amounts will range from a gross misdemeanor to a class B felony upon conviction which would result in up to ten years in prison and a \$25,000 fine. The severity of the penalty will depend on if the individual is under 21, and if the drug is a controlled or counterfeit substance.

According to the bill, the following will constitute as personal use amounts within the state of Washington if passed:

- Forty user units of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methadone
- Forty pills, tablets, or capsules of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of oxycodone
- One gram of a mixture or substance

containing a detectable amount of heroin

- One gram or five pills, tablets, or capsules of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of 3,4- 5 methylenedioxyamphetamine or 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamin
- Two grams of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine
- Two grams of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine
- Forty user units of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD)
- Twelve grams of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of psilocybin or psilocin

The bill also gives the Director of the Washington state Health Care Authority, who is currently Sue Birch, the authority to establish personal use amounts for hard drugs by rule for recreational or nonmedical use – a.k.a. a Washington state Drug Czar.

In addition, the bill establishes a State vs. Blake account in the state treasury to be used by state and local jurisdictions to reimburse those individuals whose sentences have been invalidated because of the Washington state Supreme Court decision. The account is to be funded by monies collected from civil infractions of those persons who are caught opening or consuming counterfeit or control substances in public. The class 3 civil infraction will have a maximum penalty of \$125.

Because SB 5476 includes a declaration



Senator Manka Dhingra, Legislative District 45 (D - Seattle). Source: Dhingra's 2018 Campaign.

of emergency, if passed, voters will not be able to use the referendum process to repeal it. The bill would require a simple majority in both chambers and be signed by the governor within five days of its passing to become law and take effect immediately. Sections of the bill that expire July 1, 2022 are replaced with similar sections that take effect on the same day.

The cutoff date to introduce new bills was March 9. However, because SB 5476 contains an appropriation clause that would impact the state’s budget, the bill can bypass the established 2021 session cutoff deadlines. The bill is scheduled for public hearing Wednesday, March 31 at 1:30 p.m.

Senate Bill 5468, which would make it unlawful for any person to “knowingly” possess a controlled substance has stalled in the Law & Justice committee chaired by Senator Jamie Pedersen (Seattle-D). The bipartisan bill is

sponsored by Senators Mullet, Hobbs, Braun, Brown, Hawkins, Holy, King, Muzzall, Padden, Rivers, Salomon, Schoesler, Short, Wagoner, Warnick, and Wilson, L.

A new bipartisan bill, SB 5475, was introduced on March 22 to possibly replace SB 5468. The new bill, also declared an emergency, establishes a legislative work group on the possession of controlled substances. This work group will study the impact of the State v. Blake decision and release its findings to committees by June 30, 2022.

If passed and signed into law by Governor Jay Inslee, SB 5476 would make Washington state the second state in the United States to legalize personal amounts of hard drugs. Last year, Oregon became to the first state to do so with the passing of statewide Measure 110 which took effect February 1, 2021.

Mill Creek may become next city to re-criminalize simple possession of drugs

By KIENAN BRISCOE

Mill Creek, Wash. - In response to the February 25 ruling by the Washington State Supreme Court which eliminated any criminal penalties for simple possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, an ordinance was presented at the Mill Creek City Council on March 23 in support of re-criminalizing simple drug possession.

Mill Creek Councilman Vincent Cavaleri introduced the ordinance by readdressing the State v. Blake case in which, during a legal detention and lawful search of an individual, Shan-

non Blake was found to have drugs in her front pockets and was charged with possession of controlled substance. Her argument was that the pants were not hers and that she had acquired them from a secondhand store, unknowing of the controlled substance found in the pockets.

“The not my pants defense has been tried hundreds of times and has been unsuccessful. This has been one of the times it has been successful,” prosecutor Chad Krepps said. “The Supreme court decided it criminalized what they deemed innocent conduct. Her (Blake’s) position was that she just

bought the pants from a secondhand store. She didn’t use controlled substances and had character witnesses indicated she didn’t use the controlled substance.”

According to Krepps, under previous law, an innocent possession is just as criminal as an intentional possession.

On February 25, the Washington State Supreme Court ruled in the case of State v. Blake, No. 96873-0, that RCW 69.50.4013(1) – the statute that criminalized the possession of a controlled substance without a prescription – exceeds the state’s police power and vi-

olates the due process clauses of the state and federal constitutions.

The 5-4 decision by the Justices concluded that for decades Washington state legislators were aware that the statute did not include “an intent requirement” and hence also violated the requirement for uniform interpretation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act among the states.

Therefore, the entire statute was ruled to be unconstitutional.

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LYNNWOOD TIMES

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Lynnwood prepares for transit expansion and growth

By KIENAN BRISCOE

The Lynnwood Link extension, at 200th St. SW and 48th Ave W., is one third complete as it gears toward its 2024 grand opening.

Civil construction began in October 2020 and by its opening, the Lynnwood station, and other extensions, will more than double the length of the current light rail system.

The Lynnwood Transit Center is projected to be one of the busiest transit centers in the region, serving commuters in Lynnwood and the surrounding areas of Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace. It will offer four elevated stations and a new five-story parking garage that will contain approximately 1,665 spaces as well as 226 stalls in a nearby lot for a total of 1,900 parking spots—500 more than offered on the current site. The parking garage is scheduled to open in the summer of Spring 2023, one year before the Link station's opening.



Construction progress on the L300 Lynnwood Link Extension project. Source: SkanskaUSA.

Upon its completion, commuters can expect a 20-minute ride to the University of Washington, a 27-minute ride to Downtown Seattle, and a 60-minute ride to SeaTac Airport, also serving Eastbound transfers to Downtown Bellevue.

With a projected cost of \$2.9 billion, the project is partly funded by a Full Funding Grant Agreement executed by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Build America Bureau, which issued a \$658 million low-interest loan to support the project's completion. This loan, finalized in a Master Credit Agreement between USDOT and Sound Transit in 2016, is a unique agreement that should save taxpayers between \$200 to \$300 million through its low interest rate.

In preparation for the Lynnwood Link Extension, the city of Lynnwood has been working with Sound Transit with appropriate mitigation for adverse im-

pacts such as crime, affordable housing, and population growth.

Mayor Nicola Smith still maintains safety and affordability as priorities leading into the years ahead. In her 2021-2022 proposed preliminary budget report she highlighted, "Lynnwood remains affordable and attractive for residents and businesses," and "To ensure a safe environment through rigorous criminal and property law enforcement," as her vision and mission.

"It's still a long way off, but we will be working with Sound Transit on it," said Lynnwood Police Chief James Nelson on the topic of regulating potential crime increases.

In a Housing Act Plan published last month, the city has already begun to plan for these potential, and existing, issues by partnering with housing providers, revising the MFTE program, developing a rental registration program, and continuing conversations

about affordable housing.

Lynnwood is conveniently located at the intersections of both I-5 and I-405. With the opening of Lynnwood Link Extension, Lynnwood has an even bet-

ter foothold for convenient access to the region.

"Future residents and businesses will

Continued **PAGE 04** >>

Two Lynnwood commissions are seeking applicants

By MARIO LOTMORE

The Civil Service Commission and Planning Commission are seeking applicants to fill one vacancy for each.

Lynnwood's Civil Service Commission, established in 1959, administers a Civil Service system for certain Lynnwood Police Department personnel pursuant to State Law. Personnel matters included in the Civil Service system are matters relating to the rules that govern the appointment, promotion, transfer, layoff, recruitment, retention, classification, removal, discipline and welfare of Lynnwood Police Department employees.

The Planning Commission is responsible for making decisions on issues relating to development and land use within the City of Lynnwood.

Interested individuals will need to complete an application form and

attend an upcoming commission meeting. Commissioners serve 4-year terms, must live within Lynnwood's city limits, and be a registered voter.

No experience is necessary, just a strong desire to make a difference in your community.

To fill out an application form, visit the city's website at www.lynnwoodwa.gov/Government/Boards-and-Commissions.

For more information regarding the planning commission, contact Planning Manager and Planning Commission Staff Liaison Ashley Winchell at awinchell@lynnwoodwa.gov or 425-670-5411.

For more information regarding the civil service commission, contact Civil Service Staff Liaison Lori Charles at lcharles@lynnwoodwa.gov or 425-670-5082.



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CWU Professor earns distinction as a Kuolt Distinguished Professor of Business



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Prof. Anderson Parks assumed his new role as the Kuolt Distinguished Professor of Business. Source: Central Washington University.

By CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Central Washington University Professor Anderson Parks assumed his new role as the Kuolt Distinguished Professor of Business on January 1. College of Business (CB) Dean Jeffrey Stinson said the appointment will allow Parks, a management professor based at CWU-Lynnwood, to amplify the impact of his teaching and other activities that connect the college and classroom to industry.

“Professor Parks is a great match for the Kuolt Distinguished Professor in Business,” Stinson continued. “With his wealth of industry experience, his ongoing commitment to sharing that experience in the classroom and with the university community, and his outreach to industry through his ‘Emotional

Intelligence for Professionals’ training, he will be a great ambassador for the College of Business and university in this role.”

Parks began teaching following a career in global management with The Coca-Cola Company. After guest lecturing at Bellevue College and teaching at Edmonds Community College, he began leading a marketing and management course at CWU-Lynnwood in 2017.

Parks’s classes are infused with his experience from leading strategic management, marketing, and planning for Coca-Cola’s largest corporate customers across Europe, Latin America, and the Pacific Rim.

“Receiving the Kuolt Distinguished Professor of Business role is a tremendous honor, and I’m very

grateful to be in a position to share what I’ve learned in my business career with students and industry,” Parks said. “My passion is to help build self-aware and mindful leaders, and I’m excited to continue that work in a broader and more impactful way.”

Originally established in 1990 as the Milton G. Kuolt II Distinguished Executive-in-Residence Professorship, the honor was renamed in 2007 as the Kuolt Distinguished Professor in Business. It is named after Milt Kuolt II, the founder and former president and chief executive officer of Horizon Air. He also was named a CB Distinguished Alumnus in 2002.

The focus of the professorship is to help CB retain a faculty member with business experience who can connect the college and others at CWU with industry, Stinson noted.

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value this and choose to relocate here,” Karl Almgren, Lynnwood City Center Program Manager, told the Lynnwood Times. “From a design standpoint, we will likely see the private market drive redevelopment of single-story commercial areas into larger buildings with multiple uses including housing, restaurants, and retail. We are seeing that investment being made near Alderwood with the Lynnwood Place project as well as the Northline Village and Lynnwood 40th project.”

The city of Lynnwood had a community vision for a new downtown, called City Center, undergoing an extensive planning effort in the early 2000s, that was stalled due to the Great Recession of 2008 which began with the collapse of Lehman Brothers, the fourth-largest investment bank in the United States.

That community vision recognized an expansion of public transit which has in turn prepared Lynnwood for its future light rail service. The City Center continues to redevelop with the Northline Village (current site of Lynnwood Square), Kinect at Lynnwood (currently under construction at 4100 Alderwood Mall Blvd), and Lynnwood 40th (proposed at SW corner of 198th and 40th Avenue West).

These types of investments will not

only increase economic opportunities but should also provide housing to emerging neighborhoods. The Lynnwood Link project and City Center are generational changes that are currently proceeding according to schedule, being resilient to the impacts of the pandemic.

“I think it’s important to highlight the variety of projects underway around the Lynnwood Transit Center, said Almgren. “For recreation and access, our Parks Department is rebuilding the Scriber Creek Trail. Our Public Works Department is rebuilding 196th Street SW to be safer and more efficient. The Police Department is partnering with community providers to build a new a facility that reduces recidivism. Community Planning is wrapping up the Housing Action Plan to better provide housing opportunities for all residents.

He continued, “These projects are huge investments for Lynnwood and represent the positive dedication to the City Center by Lynnwood to make it happen. It’s happening right before our eyes.”

To anticipate traffic increases, there is extensive construction underway that will continue into 2023. The city is currently widening 196th Street SW for safety and additional capacity and Sound Transit will widen 200th Street SW. The city and Sound Transit have

also partnered on improvements to the Scriber Creek Trail, providing improved connectivity to the Interurban Trail.

“Part of the Lynnwood Link project is not just the rail service, but also improvements to our streets and trails,” Almgren said.

The City Center around the Lynnwood Transit Center was previously rezoned with height limits to support the new downtown vision. The city’s current height restrictions exceed the market absorption costs but most developers are proposing projects less than the building height maximum.

Crossing building height thresholds trigger additional life/safety requirements and costs that have to be amortized throughout the whole project – if a project triggers those requirements, then the cost of construction may be higher than the rent revenue causing the project to be infeasible.

The city has planned for the population of City Center to increase with redevelopment. With the opening of the Link Extension, Lynnwood plans to continue many design elements to build its City Center as a pedestrian oriented environment with a vibrant commercial landscape connecting neighborhoods throughout the area.

Puget Sound Chick-fil-A Donates \$35,000 to National CASA/GAL

By KIENAN BRISCOE

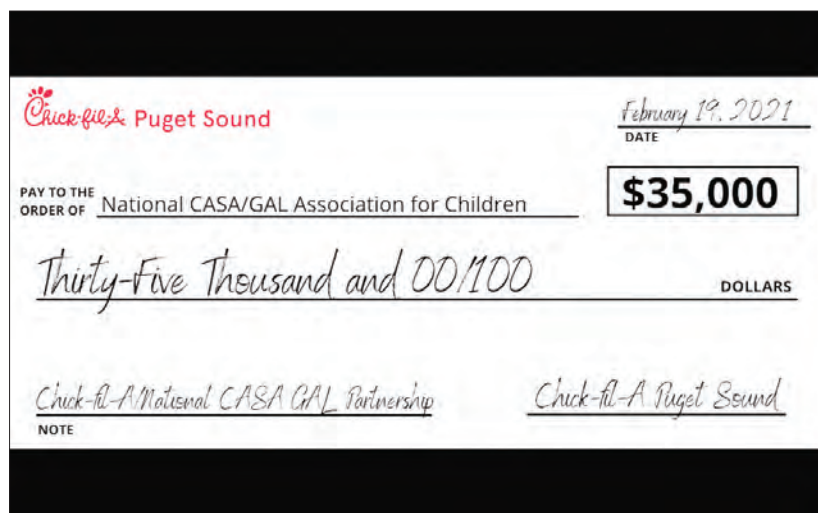
LYNNWOOD, WA - Puget Sound Chick-fil-A presented a virtual check to National CASA/GAL for \$35,000 on February 19, in a recent partnership.

The partnership involved 14 stores throughout the Puget Sound area from Marysville to Lacey, taking a percentage of their sales from the week of January 11-16. The Lynnwood store alone raised over \$3,000.

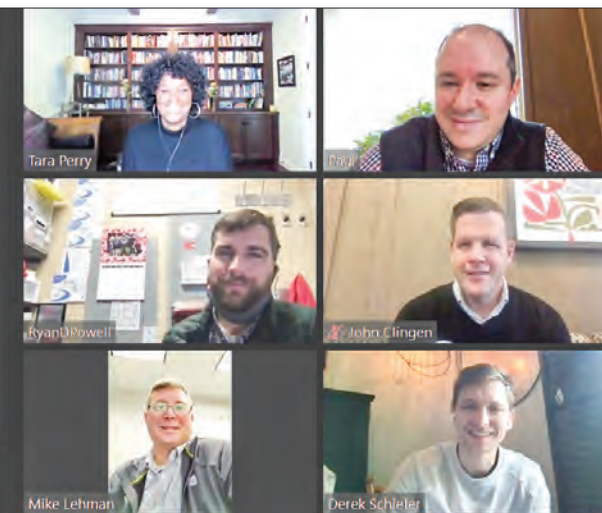
“The people of Lynnwood have a great spirit of generosity and giving back,” said Paul Rosser, owner/operator of the Chick-fil-A Lynnwood location. “For me it is important to give back to our community and we are doing our part at being a good steward to help others.”

Rosser has been a member of Chick-fil-A for over 20 years, serving as owner/operator since 2009 and managing the Lynnwood location since its opening in 2015. He began his career with Chick-fil-A at the age of 16 while attending the University of Tennessee and became an interim manager soon after graduating. He relocated to Lynnwood in 2015 where he has lived ever since.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic had no effect on sales and the subsequent donation. Even with the closing of indoor dining, their innovative technology from mobile ordering to drive-through provided the Lynnwood Chick-fil-A the “infrastructure to remain steady” at no loss of sales,



Chick-fil-A presenting the National CASA/GAL Association for Children with a check for \$35,000. Source: Chick-fil-A.



according to Rosser.

Like many of Puget Sound Chick-fil-A's partnerships, National CASA/GAL was carefully selected.

The National Court Appointed Special Advocate/Guardian ad Litem Association (CASA/GAL) is an organization that helps provide court appointed volunteer advocacy for the best interest of children experiencing abuse and neglect. The mission statement and vision of the organization is, “A world where every child who has experienced abuse and neglect is given the opportunity to thrive in a safe and loving home.”

“We are very appreciative of the generous support from Puget Sound Chick-fil-A restaurants that enables the National CASA/GAL Association for Children to continue advancing our

mission of supporting and promoting best interest advocacy for children who have experienced abuse or neglect,” in a statement provided to the Lynnwood Times by CASA/GAL.

The first CASA program originated in Seattle in 1977 by Superior Court Judge David Soukup.

He advocated to have volunteers speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children in the courtroom, according to CASA's website.

Since then, this first CASA program has expanded into more than 951 CASA and guardian ad litem programs that continue to recruit, train, and support volunteers across 49 states and the District of Columbia. With over 96,000 volunteers, CASA/GAL continues to serve almost 300,000 children annually. Most of the children served are in foster care.

“We often look for organizations to partner with that involve issues like homelessness and hunger,” Rosser said, “And their mission aligned really well with our objective.”

The Lynnwood Chick-fil-A continues to look for opportunities to help within the community. It plans to partner with the Edmonds School District in a ‘Cookies for Kids’ campaign that will donate 25 cents of every cookie sold. Its last school partnership raised over \$2,500.

In the past Chick-fil-A has worked with and donated to the Alderwood Boys and Girls Club.

For more information on National CASA/GAL, including opportunities to volunteer and donate, you can visit their website at www.casaforchildren.org.

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“The Answer Always Lies in the Stars!”

April always kicks off with “April Fools Day”. Pranks may be at an all-time high this year as, on the 1st of the month, the Sun and Moon are both in FIRE (Leo & Sag.) Signs - powerfully aspected to one another. Mercury (trickster/mind games) is aspected to powerful Pluto too! It may therefore be wise to be cautious on the 1st. It also could be amusing to assess how each Sign of the Zodiac might hold up in the “foolish” stakes...

- ARIES:** I'm often thought as foolish because I'm always rushing in where angels fear to tread. However, without people like me there would be no pioneers, fighters or leaders!
- TAURUS:** People often think me foolish because I'm so slow and plodding in many things I do. However without my slow but steady approach, many things can be messed up in haste!
- GEMINI:** People can often make fun of me as I'm such a chatterbox and tend to talk to everyone about anything and everything. But I say, how can you learn if you're not curious?
- CANCER:** OK, so I can be gruff and defensive when I feel emotional from time to time. But isn't it good to want to protect the things and people that I feel are really close to my heart?
- LEO:** People can make fun of me because I tend to lord it over them - and tend to delegate if I possibly can. But when push comes to shove, someone has to take the lead sometime!
- VIRGO:** I'm often teased because I tend to be critical and nit-picky with others. However if no-one checks the details, how can I protect them from getting into trouble by their mistakes!
- LIBRA:** Well, you may laugh at me because I procrastinate at times. But unless I take time to see both sides of a problem, how can I be fair and balanced when helping you?
- SCORPIO:** People always joke about me being dark, suspicious and moody. But I can't help it if I want to discover the deeper truth of a situation - not just what's on the surface!
- SAGITTARIUS:** Go ahead, laugh! I may make big mistakes because I speak too soon and tend to put my foot in my mouth. But it's really only because I can't be anything but truthful!
- CAPRICORN:** People don't realize that behind this serious and often stuffy adherence to form and tradition, there beats the heart of a true joker who really wants to break out!
- AQUARIUS:** I'm often made fun of because I'm eccentric and champion the underdog, the rebel and even our animal friends. But as I see it, someone's got to stick up for those things!
- PISCES:** I'm often laughed at because I'm dream, ditzzy or lost in my own fantasies. Yet without us dreamers or creative types in this world, it really would be a terribly boring place!

APRIL 01 / MOON in SAGITTARIUS: Some will feel that now is a time to shake off shackles and explore new horizons.

APRIL 06 / MOON in AQUARIUS: Some may feel it a good day to be independent in things of the heart and/or creativity.

APRIL 07 / MOON in PISCES: Some may feel this a day of opportunity for selflessly helping those less well off.

APRIL 09 / PISCES MOON square MARS: Some might feel this us a day where sensitivity can lead to action - or conflict.

APRIL 14 / MOON in ARIES: Some may feel today as an emotionally tense day, with everyday comforts being desirable.

APRIL 17 / MOON in CANCER: Home or family issues could be important for some today. Emotions might feel raw - and therefore in great need of protection.

APRIL 19 / MOON in LEO & SUN in TAURUS: Some may feel it a necessary day for self assertion - even stubbornly so.

APRIL 22 / MOON in VIRGO: A danger of feeling nit-picky today - or being picked upon. Be humble, yet not subservient.

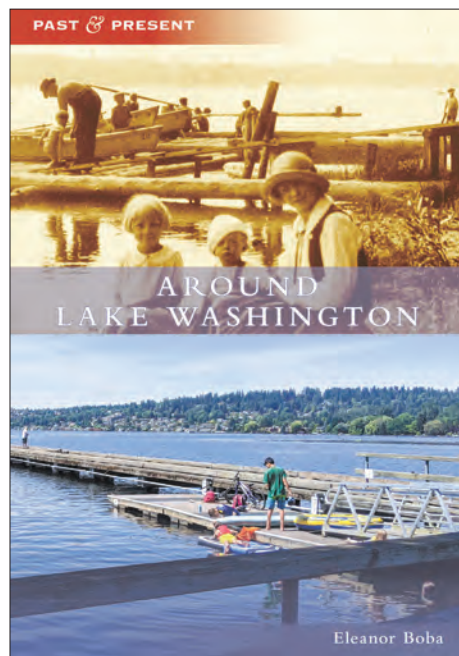
APRIL 26 / MOON in SCORPIO: Could well be an emotionally intense day for some. Good for digging deeper inside though.

APRIL 30 / MOON in CAPRICORN: A great day for some to act in altruistic ways - or optimistically plan, longterm.

If you like my art, please support my animation project on Patreon:
<https://www.patreon.com/Muse2D>

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Around Lake Washington by Eleanor Boba coming April 26



Source: Arcadia Publishing.

About the Author

Eleanor Boba, who grew up on a hill overlooking the lake, has gathered images from a number of historical archives to present the story of the lake and its people.

Overview

Lake Washington is a defining feature in the life of Seattle, Bellevue, Renton, and many other communities. Always important to the Native Americans who fished its water, the lake and its environs have undergone rapid change since the coming of settlers 170 years ago. However, the area still retains much of its natural beauty and offers opportunities for recreation and celebration.

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Fifth annual STEP UP: Moving racial equity forward conference

By LEADERSHIP SNOHOMISH

Leadership Snohomish County is excited to host the 5th annual Step Up: Moving Racial Equity Forward Conference on April 30, 2021 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. PST.

Step Up 2021 is a virtual conference designed for participants to gain deeper understanding and new perspectives about racial equity and social justice in society and their workplace.

Participants will leave with innovative and useful tools on how to address systemic racism in their respective organizations and institutions that will be applicable across business, government, and non-profit sectors. Adults and youth from all backgrounds and experiences are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

The conference is intended to offer a variety of workshops for people with diverse interests and different levels of knowledge and experiences. The workshop sessions cover a variety of topics including how to address institutional racism, white supremacy cultural norms and microaggressions. Attendees will also explore decolonization of education, the intersection of race and LGBTQIA+ people, systems change and more.

Keynote speakers for this virtual event are Rachel Bagby, J.D. and Shakti Butler, Ph.D.

Shakti Butler, Ph.D., is President and Founder of World Trust Educational Services, Inc., a non-profit transformative educational organization.



Shakti Butler, Ph.D.

World Trust produces films, curricula, workshops and programs that are catalysts for institutional, structural and cultural change.

Dr. Butler has produced several documentaries: The Way Home; Mirrors of

Privilege: Making Whiteness Visible; Light in the Shadows and Cracking the Codes: The System of Racial Inequity. In 2017 she premiered Healing Justice, intended to popularize a national conversation about justice, healing, and the youth-to-prison pipeline.

Dr. Butler also served as diversity consultant and advisor on the Oscar-winning Disney animated film, Zootopia, a movie that focused on challenging bias and systemic inequity.

Rachel Bagby, J.D. is an award-winning consultant, vocal and social artist. A graduate of Stanford Law School, she is a poetic innovator and creator of Dekaaaz Facilitation™. Bagby also co-founded Metanoiaa.



Rachel Bagby, J.D.

An International speaker and author of Divine Daughters: Liberating the Power and Passion of Women's Voices, Bagby was a soprano in Bobby McFerrin's original international touring ensemble, Voicestra.

Step Up runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 30. Tickets are available for \$80 and discounted to \$40 for first responders, veterans, students and LSC alumni who are unable to pay the full price. For tickets, visit eventbrite.com and search for “Step Up.”

For questions regarding the event and registration contact Rilee Louangphakdy at rilee@leadershipsc.org. For sponsorship questions, contact Kathy Coffey at kathyc@leadershipsc.org.

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NOTE: Whereas it's popularly believed that astrologers assert that all people of the same Sign of the Zodiac will experience the same things, it is not so. When we are born our Birth Chart shows specific sensitive points that are unique to us and us alone. Consequently, when the planets move through the Zodiac on a regular basis, they can trigger those sensitive points for us - which of course means that not everyone in a Sign is affected in the same way at the same time. Therefore it pays us all to know our personal Birth Charts well!

Lake Stevens teacher wins award for enhancing STEM education

BY LAKE STEVENS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Alex Moll, a teacher at Lake Stevens Middle School (LSMS), was one of six educators recognized with the Gerhard Salinger Award for Enhancing I-STEM Education Through Technological Engineering Design-Based Instruction by the Council on Technology & Engineering Teacher Education (CTETE) of the International Technology & Engineering Educators' Association (ITEEA). Moll was selected for this honor based on his work with the STEM Guitar Project.

Since its inception in 2009, the STEM Guitar Project has trained more than 900 educators, and reached more than 25,000 students.

In 2017, the STEM Guitar Project grew to incorporate 3D CAD modeling, CNC programming, and acoustic guitar building in addition to building solid-body electric guitars. In 2019, the STEM Guitar Project partnered with The American Patriot Music Project to offer guitar building courses to military



Alex Moll, back row, third from right, is one of six winners of the Gerhard Salinger Award for Enhancing I-STEM Education. Source: Lake Stevens School District.

veterans. In just a couple of years, over 150 veterans have built guitars, learned about entrepreneurship, and gained new skills along the way.

Moll started an after-school guitar

building program at LSMS in 2012, and has helped more than 160 students and staff members build guitars and ukuleles. He discovered the STEM Guitar Project in 2013, and attended one of their guitar building workshops

that summer.

The STEM Guitar Project offered Moll an instructor position in 2017. He has trained educators in San Francisco, CA, and Houston, TX, as well as a number of educators and military veterans from the Puget Sound region. Moll quickly became an important part of the project development team, and was instrumental in expanding the project to include military veterans. He is currently teaching his fourth group of veterans remotely via Zoom.

"I've loved woodworking since sixth-grade, and I started playing guitar in seventh-grade," said Moll. "I'm not sure why it took me so many decades to put the pieces together—I can't think of anything cooler you can make out of wood!"

"I'm passionate about building guitars, and I love sharing my knowledge with anyone who wants to learn. Building a guitar appeals to all ages, genders and ethnicities. It has been an absolute joy

Continued PAGE 08 >>

COVID-19 vaccinations enter next tier of eligibility for residents

BY KIENAN BRISCOE

As of March 31, the Washington Department of Health has opened COVID vaccine distribution to Phase 1B tiers 3 and 4.

These new tiers offer eligibility to those who are high-risk critical workers in congregate settings such as agriculture, fishing vessels, grocery stores, food processing, corrections, court of law, public transit, early learning, first responders not covered by an earlier phase, pregnant people, those 60 years and older and those 16 years and older with two or more co-morbidities or underlying conditions.

Vaccination is available for members of this and previous phases regardless of insurance, citizenship, or immigration status.

As of March 23, the Snohomish Health District reports a total of 114,036 county residents have been fully vaccinated with another 81,626 residents partially vaccinated. Snohomish County has an estimated population of 822,000 residents.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has addressed concerns of the vaccine altering one's DNA by stating this to be false. According to the CDC, "mRNA never enters the nucleus of the cell and does not affect or interact with a person's DNA."

According to the World Health Organization, there are many strict protections in place to help ensure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe. Like all vaccines, COVID vaccines are going through a rigorous, multi-stage testing process, including large (phase III) trials that involve tens of thousands of people.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID must be stored in an ultra-cold freezer between -80°C and -60°C and must be pre-warmed prior to administering with a shelf life of hours after warming, as indicated by the CDC.

Despite recent rumors that sites were administering surplus doses to anyone regardless of phase eligibility, the Snohomish Health District claims this is false and that the circulation of these rumors are a detriment to vaccination efforts.

"Healthcare providers should be following the state's current vaccine phases timeline. One exception is if [the] vaccine would otherwise go to waste," said Shelby Anderson, Washington State Department of Health Public Information Officer. "We ask that providers use their best judgement to vaccinate the next available person in the closest vaccination phase or tier rather than waste [the] vaccine."

Vaccination sites are located in at: the Boeing Everett Activity Center, Edmonds College, the Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Arlington Airport and Angel of The Winds Arena in Everett. One must have an appointment, provide proof of appointment, as well as provide a form of ID to show that they are the person for whom the appointment was booked.

To schedule a vaccination appointment visit <http://bit.ly/snocovaccine> and select the desired vaccine site under "Register."

According to a media release by the Snohomish Health District, many links circulating last week were for second

doses only. Residents are encouraged to check with the site prior to registering to ensure it is offering the appropriate dose. Hundreds of people have been turned away from the clinic in Arlington because they arrived for a first dose at a second dose only clinic, the release states. This slows down the established process.

The number of vaccines varies per clinic and the minimum order size and increment for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID vaccine is 195 multidose vials (one tray) per order. A thermal shipping container can hold up to 5 trays or 975 multidose vials. All persons eligible for vaccination should receive 2 doses at least 3 weeks apart. Both doses should be of the same product.

As of March 28, confirmed COVID cases in Washington are 339,761 with 3,245,982 vaccine doses given. In Snohomish County, there are 30,790 confirmed cases with 315,258 vaccines given, according to the COVID-19 Data Dashboard administered by the Washington Department of Health.

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from page 2 **MILL CREEK**

“I don’t think anyone would deny we are in the middle of a drug epidemic,” Cavalieri told the council, “I would categorize it as a drug pandemic in our community. Drug overdoses and suicides have reached numbers that we have never seen before. Addiction is not getting better, it’s getting worse. The potency of the narcotics is more lethal than it’s ever been before and COVID has only amplified it.”

Cavalieri proposed to uphold possession charges, reducing the penalty from a felony to a gross misdemeanor punishable to a max sentence of 365 days in jail with a disputable fine, and argued that the court’s ruling manages to undermine the ruling of the legislative branch and its ability, under the constitution, to make laws. According to Cavalieri, over 90% of people in treatment programs are from law enforcement intervention or court programs and these are the vital conduits to getting the help they need.

“We’re essentially the tip of the spear for crises and drug management. This court ruling serves to undermine the community’s role and the police itself. Substances like heroin, meth, cocaine, [and] pills can be possessed without consequence,” Cavalieri said.

The city of Marysville was the first to issue a similar ordinance, bringing it to the public’s attention two weeks ago.

Simple drug possession was one of the lowest felonies at class C. However, until the legislature addresses the lack of a statute, law enforcement agencies will be forced to use other charges that are similar but with heavier consequences.

Individuals with simple drug possession charges can now be charged with intent to distribute, intent to deliver, conspiracy to distribute, conspiracy to deliver and the manufacturing of a controlled substance.

Drug availability will be more prevalent simply because it’s legal to walk around with it, according to Cavalieri.

“The amount of peripheral crime that comes from drug abuse or drug use accounts for about 75% of all police calls and interactions,” said Cavalieri. “This will undoubtedly get worse. Do we want a society where people can walk around with heroin and methamphetamine in their pockets, perhaps with their children having access to it,

perhaps having their siblings having access to it?”

Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Vignal responded with concerns about the council making a decision that may not be in agreement with possible future state legislation.

“Will this make our arrests go up and do we have the financial budget to meet this increased demand?” Vignal asked.

Prosecutor Krepps responded that there may be some additional city costs for testing for controlled substances but in terms of case increases, Mill Creek Police Chief Jeff Young shared that because typically a dozen cases per year are brought to felony review, the impact, if any, would not be huge.

Councilman Mark Bond, identifying as ‘somewhat libertarian’ and believing responsible adults should have the right to use recreational drugs in the privacy of their own home, was in support of the ordinance.

“I support adults making decisions for their own life even though some of us might view those as harmful,” Bond said. “It’s a very complicated problem. If it wasn’t, we would have already fixed it. I support this because it gives our officers tools.”

Currently three bills have been introduced at the state legislature to address the lack of a simple possession of a control substance statute – SB 5468, SB 5475 and SB 5476. All three add the word “knowingly” to the RCW, which if passed, would be the “intent” portion of the law. Local ordinances would be preempted by the state law. However, SB 5476 proposes the decriminalization of personal use amounts of a controlled substance.

Currently we are in a ‘holding pattern’, according to Krepps.

“I think this legislation gives people the tools to help people in their moment of crisis,” Councilman Adam Morgan responded, who has seen the effects of addiction firsthand in his father and friend.

Cavalieri has been vocally anti-narcotic over the years. Like Lynnwood, Mill Creek is one of the few Washington cities that does not have a recreational marijuana store within its city limits.

The city council will revisit this ordinance the first week of April.

part of creating the eggs, Aiken says. First, she melts and colors the sugar, molding them into eggs, allowing it to dry overnight. Then, she gets to decorating.

The shells of the eggs are dyed a solid pastel hue, where accent icing in another color is piped around the diameter, topped with decorative flowers, chickens, or eggs. Inside of a window cutout at the front of the egg, a nature world is crafted, with scenes of meadows, lakes, bunnies, and chicks.

Known as the TheEGGladByDarla on Etsy, an e-commerce website concentrated on handmade items, Aiken’s sells the decorated eggs in three sizes — 2½ (small), 5 (medium) and 8 inches (large). In addition to her Etsy site, the eggs also are sold on her Facebook page- The EGG Lady.

from page 1 **EASTER EGGS**

experience under her belt, she’s utilized her love of the panorama eggs, making thousands of them for her community for the last 30 years.

Since the sugar Easter eggs are made from a sugar-water mixture, they can be enjoyed as an edible treat, yet Aiken says most customers hold onto them for decades, becoming a treasured part of families’ Easter traditions.

“As a cake decorator I enjoy bringing a smile to somebody else’s face,” Aiken told the Lynnwood Times. “Flowers and small Chickadees and rabbits and candies always puts a smile on someone’s face.”

While the details in the eggs seem to be the most intricate part of the process, decorating is only a small

Washington joins California banning credit scoring for insurance rates

BY MARIO LOTMORE



Mike Kreidler

For all new or existing personal insurance policies on or after June 20, 2021 within the state of Washington, insurers will be prohibited from using credit scoring to determine insurance rates, premiums, or eligibility for coverage. The temporary prohibition will apply to all private passenger automobile, renter’s, and homeowner’s coverages.

On Tuesday, March 23, Washington state Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler issued this emergency rule which will last for three years following the official declaration to the end of the pandemic.

Currently, insurance companies throughout the world use credit-based insurance scoring as a predictive tool to identify risk of loss which is then used to determine premiums charged to each consumer.

In a press release, Kreidler stated that because SB 5010, a bill introduced this session to permanently ban credit scoring stalled in the Business, Financial Services & Trade Committee, he had to act.

“The insurance industry’s dependency on the discriminatory practice of credit scoring has always been unfair,” said Kreidler. “But given that the federal protections from plummeting credit scores could end soon, we need to take action now to protect the public.”

Provisions in the CARES Act that influence personal credit scoring are scheduled to expire 120 days after the president declares an end to the national emergency caused by the pandemic.

from page 7 **STEM**

to be a part of the STEM Guitar Project, and I have become very close to my teammates. We are spread across the country, and it’s been great fun to work with my colleagues that teach at the high school, community college, and university level.”

The prestigious and competitive ITEEA Gerhard Salinger Award “...is presented annually to an individual or team of collaborators whose work has exemplified, promoted, investigated, and/or enhanced teaching and learning in STEM through the effective application of technological/engineering design activity.

“The award was created in honor of Dr.

from page 1 **GRANTS**

To ensure equitable distribution, Commerce will also consider businesses operating in a rural or low-income community or that is owned by someone from a historically underserved population (minority, veteran, LGBTQ+ or women-owned).

The application portal will be open until 5:00 PM PDT on April 9. Appli-

According to section 4021 of the CARES Act, financial institutions are required to not advance the level of delinquency for consumers. Section 4022 of the CARES Act requires certain lenders to impose a moratorium on foreclosures for certain home loans. In addition, section 3513 of the CARES Act allows provisions which result in all suspended federally held student loans to be reported as current.

Also, statewide emergency proclamations placing a moratorium on garnishment actions and evictions prevented creditors from taking actions that are otherwise reportable on a consumer’s credit history.

Kreidler further claims that consumer protections included in both the CARES Act and Governor Jay Inslee’s emergency proclamations have disrupted the credit reporting process. This he states, has resulted in unreliable credit-based insurance models which consequently “degrades any predicative value” and hence makes its use discriminatory within the meaning of RCW 48.19.020.

“Credit scoring is inherently unfair, especially to people with lower incomes and communities of color,” wrote Kreidler. “In Washington state, insurers charge good drivers with low credit scores nearly 80% more for mandatory auto insurance.”

Although temporary, Washington now joins California in banning credit-based scores for rating automobile policies or setting rates for homeowner’s insurance. Hawaii and Massachusetts have similar bans for automobile coverages but not for homeowner’s insurance.

Insurers have until May 6, 2021 to submit rate filings to amend its current rating plans with the Office of the Washington state Insurance Commissioner for all insurance policies impacted by Kreidler’s emergency rule.

Gerhard Salinger, program officer at the National Science Foundation from 1989 to 2014, whose work to promote the use of engineering design activity and whose advocacy for technology and engineering education has widely influenced STEM education. The award is open to classroom teachers, university educators, school administrators, and others whose contributions are consistent with the selection criteria.”

The other educators who received awards include: Dr. Debbie French, Wake Forest University (NC); Dr. Mark French, Purdue University (IN); Doug Hunt, Southern Wells Jr-Sr High School (IN); Matt Peitzman, Pennridge High School (PA); and Thomas Singer, Sinclair Community College (OH).

ation information and technical assistance is available in multiple languages and is accessible to a wide range of people with disabilities.

Businesses can contact Commerce’s technical support center by phone or by email: (855) 602-2722 or commercegrants@submittable.com.