

LYNNWOOD

TIMES



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Real News ⚡
Real Impact

Signarama of Lynnwood Grand Opening



(L-R) Rochell Hatfield, Designer and Production associate at Signarama, Lynnwood Council President George Hurst, Rajesh and wife Punita Bansal, and Lynnwood Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Linda Jones.

By **DIO ALEXANDER**

LYNNWOOD, Wash. — Signarama Lynnwood celebrated their grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony and a tour of the business Wednesday, August 4 at 1:30 p.m.

Franchise owners Punita and Rajesh Bansal were joined by Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Linda Jones and Lynnwood City Councilmembers Jim Smith and George Hurst.

Lynnwood City Council President Hurst said during the ribbon cutting ceremony that the City is committed to small businesses and their entrepreneurial “spirit that drives our community forward.”

57-year-old Rajesh and 53-year-old Punita moved from Bangalore, the capital and largest city of the Indian state of Karnataka two years ago. The

Bansals came to the United States to be with their son and daughter who had attended college and settled in Lynnwood and Carnation, respectively.

It was a tough decision for the married couple of 31 years as they already had a highly successful customized lighting business in Bangalore but the prospect of being close with family won out.

So then came the question: what kind of business to start?

“The idea was a business that would resonate, help, and ultimately be a part of the community,” Punita said.

After arriving Stateside, Punita spent six months researching what kind of business to start. They went with Signarama because of the support system the parent company UFG offers. In fact, the owners of the Everett and Redmond locations came to the Ban-

sals’ grand opening.

The Bansals already had businessowner experience in India but being a franchisee was helpful especially being new to the country.

John Fleming, United Franchise Group Regional Vice President, met the Bansals about six months after they arrived and helped them discover that Signarama was the right franchise for them. Once the franchise agreement was signed, it took 7-8 months to get the business running.

But right when the Bansals had found the location, the pandemic hit. The 2,466 square-foot facility’s soft opening was supposed to be in June 2020 but was delayed to June 1st, 2021.

Signarama is a sign and graphic business and offers services including business signs, vehicle wraps, digital

signs, and advertising and marketing services. Signarama is part of UFG, which operates an affiliated family of franchise brands and development services.

Rajesh said that being a businessowner is a rich and rewarding experience, particularly as a member of the sign industry as he gets to contribute to fellow businesses’ success and helping them grow.

“When you own a business, you are master of that business,” Rajesh said. “You plan everything and look forward to contributing to the community and to other businesses. When the day is over, you feel that you accomplished something.”

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy’s

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Innovations in aerospace: Science fiction becoming reality

By KIENAN BRISCOE

Washington D.C. – Science Fiction often depicts the year 2000 as a year of flying cars, artificial intelligence, and autonomous computers. Although it may seem like we are a long way from realizing the Jetsons vision of 2062, recent innovations in the U.S. aerospace industry indicate that the future may be closer than most would expect.

“It becomes clear that within the next ten years aerospace is going to evolve,” U.S. Rep. Garret Graves (LA-06) said at a Subcommittee Hearing on “Leading Edge: Innovation in U.S. Aerospace” chaired by U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen (WA-02).

Aerospace innovators discussed a series of projects at April 27th’s Aviation Subcommittee hearing that included electric aircraft, supersonic aircraft, and unmanned aircraft systems that could be certified as early as next year.

“This is a long-overdue discussion to explore promising opportunities for U.S. aerospace, including emerging airspace entrants and new aviation technologies with potential societal, safety, and environmental benefits,” Representative Larsen, Aviation Subcommittee chair, opened.

“Fostering innovation is one of my top priorities as Chair because it will help bolster U.S. jobs and grow the nation’s leadership in the aerospace industry.”

Advanced Air Mobility/Electric Aircraft

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti presented their city’s approach to safe, equitable, and zero-emission mobility options which include Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) options.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) defines the AAM as a “safe and efficient aviation transportation system that will use a highly automated aircraft to transport people and goods at lower altitudes.”

“Once only seen in science fiction or dropping Judy and Elroy off at school, ‘flying cars’ and ‘air taxis’ will soon be a reality with over 70 advanced air mobility (AAM) concepts in development,” Larsen said.

According to Mayor Garcetti, these “flying cars,” or Urban Air Mobility (UAM), add a third dimension for moving people and are capable of carrying one to five passengers, flying at speeds of 150 to 200 miles per hour over a range of 60 to 200 miles.



INNOVATION IN U.S. AEROSPACE INDUSTRY



“With these capabilities, UAM has the potential to add a new option for connectivity and accessibility throughout the Southern California region, particularly for difficult commutes where non-auto options are lacking,” Garcetti said.

The city of Los Angeles has already begun work on these projects including public-private partnerships to delineate clear lines of responsibility, accountability, and information exchanges, as well as planning and design efforts that integrate communities and infrastructure.

“I think that over time the use of advanced air mobility can play a part in reducing congestion with the use of air taxis. Our technology has advanced a long way since we used to watch the Jetsons, and now it’s actually a reality, and a lot of companies are investing a lot to make air mobility a reality as well,” Larsen told the Lynnwood Times concerning how air mobility options could reduce traffic congestion in Snohomish County sometime in the future.

Although air taxis are projected to become a reality by 2050, Larsen believes it could be much sooner.

While Los Angeles explores urban mobility, Everett’s magniX looks to a more sustainable and energy-efficient aircraft that has already undergone test flight and aims to be certified by 2022.

The first all-electric, commercially-focused aircraft, the five-passenger eBeaver, took flight on December 10, 2019, in Vancouver, British Columbia, and has been flying ever since, collecting

data, testing performance, and measuring noise, according to magniX CEO Roei Ganzarski.

A few months after the eBeaver’s flight, in Moses Lake, WA, magniX started flying the world’s largest all-electric commercially-focused plane – the magnified 9- to 12- passenger Cessna 208B Grand Caravan, now known as the eCaravan.

“With this aircraft flying at 8,000 feet, new heights were literally and figuratively achieved in terms of electric aircraft power and performance,” Ganzarski said. “Both of our aircraft flew without creating emissions. Not one ounce of CO2 was emitted from these flights.”

Later this year, the nine-passenger, all-electric Aviation Alice, the first aircraft to be designed from the ground up as an electric commuter, will be taking flight for the first time in Arlington, WA. According to Ganzarski, this will be a “monumental watershed moment” for the aerospace industry and is expected to fly without any emissions.

“While this may sound like an unrealistic utopia, for the most part, the technology and infrastructure to provide such an aerospace environment is being developed, flight-proven, and on the path to FAA certification today. It is called the ‘Electric Age of Aviation.’

It will happen. The question is, will the United States lead or lag?” Ganzarski said.

Ganzarski noted that the United States has always been a leader on the world stage, particularly in aviation dating back to the Wright Brothers, but is recently “falling short” behind countries like Sweden and Norway who recently pledged that all domestic flights will be emission-free by 2030 and 2040, respectively.

In this future aviation system, average Americans, including in more rural areas, should be able to drive no more than 15 minutes to their nearest airport, arrive only 15 minutes ahead of their flight, walk onboard without hassles or waiting in lines since the airport is smaller, fly for up to a few hours, land, and arrive at their destination in another 15 minutes because their smaller arrival airport is closer to their final destination.

“The United States must act in unity and continue to move rapidly, aggressively, intentionally and with focus, if we want to lead this global electric aviation revolution that is happening,” Ganzarski said.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems

The FAA projects the use of drones *Continued* **PAGE 08** >>

LYNNWOOD TIMES

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Community Justice Center on hold and an eleventh-hour letter

By KIENAN BRISCOE

LYNNWOOD, Wash., August 4, 2021 – The Lynnwood City Council voted, at its business meeting Monday, to postpone the vote to award the construction contract of the new \$64 million Community Justice Center to FORMA Construction Company until September 13. The Council hopes that postponing the vote will allow more time to further investigate the Lynnwood Jail in-custody suicide of Tirhas Tesfatsion and utilize a task force that will reexamine the justice center's programs and purpose.

Following a series of emotional public comments, many involving vulgarity insulting council members, council president George Hurst motioned to postpone the contract award for the Lynnwood Community Justice Center. The motion passed 4-3 with councilmembers Shannon Session, Christine Frizzell, George Hurst, and Ruth Ross voting yes. Councilmembers Patrick Decker, Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, and Jim Smith dissented.

Council president Hurst supports Mayor Nicola Smith in establishing a task force which, according to Julie Moore, Public Affairs Officer for the city of Lynnwood, is intended to pull together a focus group that will examine the scope of the Community Justice Center project and evaluate if the city can incorporate additional mental health or diversion services.

The Kirkland Police Department completed its independent investigation

two weeks ago which has been submitted to the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office for review.

Last Monday the city council requested a second independent investigation by the Washington State Attorney General's Office into the suicide of Tirhas Tesfatsion. The next day, the Attorney General's Office declined the Council's request.

"We legally cannot initiate an investigation or prosecution without a formal referral from the county prosecuting attorney or the Governor. We have received no such referral," their response stated.

"My opinion is this isn't enough. I've authorized a full internal investigation so that we can truly understand what happened from the moment our officers made contact with Tirhas," Mayor Smith said during Monday's meeting.

Mayor Smith shared that she has asked Louis Harris, Mukilteo councilman and Vice President of the NAACP of Snohomish County, and former Edmonds city councilman Tom Mesaros, to lead this investigation. The City has appointed a family liaison, commander Cole Langdon, who has been in contact with Tirhas' family and attorney James Bible.

Participating in public comments was Tirhas' family's attorney James Bible who urged the council to focus on affordable housing rather than focusing on a justice center. As someone who

has seen the surveillance footage, Bible observed that nobody came to Tesfatsion's aid as she died.

According to the Kirkland PD's report, Tesfatsion's shadow stopped moving at 2:02 p.m. The next physical check was conducted at 3:00 p.m. Adhering to Lynnwood Police Department Policy #C602, the next physical checks after her meal at 12:06 p.m. would have been at no later than 1:06 p.m. and 2:06 p.m.

Between 12:50 p.m. and 1:20 p.m. Tesfatsion was pacing in her cell. She can made several phone calls that were not accepted by the caller between between 1:22 p.m. and 1:27 p.m.

Here are a few question on everybody's mind.

Would physical checks no later than 1:06 p.m., 2:06 p.m., or 2:27 p.m. (last time she used the phone) have prevented this tragedy? Did officers virtually observe Tesfatsion make the phone calls between 1:22 p.m. and 1:27 p.m. that went unanswered? What if the receiving party had accepted just one of

calls, could that have prevented this tragedy? Was there a delay in obtaining Tesfatsion's medication?

The U.S. National Library of Medicine states that "permanent brain damage begins after only 4 minutes without oxygen, and death can occur as soon as 4 to 6 minutes later."

Bible also stated that the justice center makes no "financial" or "human rights" sense citing that there are only a couple people in the Lynnwood jail currently and the facility rarely sees more than three to five inmates.

Joanna Small, Public Affairs and Communications Manager for Lynnwood PD, informed the Lynnwood Times that Bible's numbers are correct given COVID protocols put in place in March, but added that the Lynnwood Jail, under normal circumstances, averages at full-capacity, or almost full capacity, of about 46 inmates.

Washington State Representative Lauren Davis' Letter to Council

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Official report into the death of Tesfatsion released

By KIENAN BRISCOE

LYNNWOOD, Wash. – Tirhas Berhand Tesfatsion, a 47-year old woman was found dead at the Lynnwood Jail on July 13 leading to an outside investigation and protest by a defund the police movement on Monday, July 26. This was the first in-custody death at Lynnwood Jail since its opening in 1994.

According to Lynnwood Police Department Policy #C602, inmate safety checks are required at least once every 60 minutes. The policy allows for camera monitoring to supplement safety checks but not replace the need for direct visual observation.

DUI Arrest July 12, 2021

Tesfatsion was pulled over by Lynnwood Officer Brittany Orlosky around 12:30 a.m. on July 12 after swerving and driving 15 miles below the speed limit on Highway 99. The speed limit in the location of Highway 99 where Tesfatsion was pulled over is 45 m.p.h.

According to Orlovsky's report, Tesfatsion's speech was slurred and she seemed confused. Tesfatsion admitted to not consuming any alcohol that eve-

ning but pointed to an injection mark on her arm and informed the officer she had taken anti-depressants before confessing to using oxycodone.

Tesfatsion then submitted to a field sobriety test, which upon the officer's observations led to probable cause of her arrest for DUI. She did not have a valid driver's license nor insurance. This was her second DUI within seven months.

After several failed attempts at a breathalyzer test, Tesfatsion agreed to a blood test and was transported to the Lynnwood jail for booking.

Lynnwood Jail Timeline

On the morning of July 12 at 1:15 a.m., Tesfatsion was turned over to the Lynnwood Jail to begin the booking process. She informed the jail that she suffered from depression but had no thoughts, nor ever attempted suicide. Based on an infectious injury to her arm, a concern for drug withdrawal, and a disclosure of mental illness, Tesfatsion was filed under "special consideration."

At 2:06 a.m. she was placed in Holding

Cell 1 then transported to Swedish hospital at 3:16 a.m. for blood withdrawal. Tesfatsion was returned to the Lynnwood Jail at 5:04 a.m. and was placed back into Holding Cell 1 where she remained until being transferred to Cell 7 at 3:28 p.m. July 12.

Over the next 20 hours Tesfatsion called four different numbers for a total of nine phone calls, watched tv, slept or laid in bed, and used the restroom. None of her calls were accepted by the called party and her last call was at 1:28 p.m.

According to the Kirkland Police report, at 1:51 p.m. July 13, video footage shows Tesfatsion tying her jail uniform into a ligature and testing it around her neck as she sat on the bottom bunk. Tesfatsion then tested the ligature, unsuccessfully, several times. She then moved to the next set of bunk beds and climbed the ladder to the top bunk where she appeared to attach the ligature to the railing before stepping back down.

Tesfatsion had a blanket draped over her body like a cape during this time, partially or fully obscuring the ligature from camera view.

At 2 p.m. video footage shows Tesfatsion taking a plastic chair into the bathroom area with the ligature attached to her neck but partially obscured by the blanket draped over her.

According to the report, her jail uniform was placed over the blue partition between the sink and toilet while standing on something. Her head lowered and then moved slightly. Through shadows cast upon the wall looking at the cell 7 wall camera, no movement can be seen just after 2:02 p.m. She did not re-emerge from the bathroom.

The actual hanging was not seen or captured on video. Tesfatsion ended her life in the shower area. This portion of the field of view by the camera on video is covered by a digitally created artifact that blocks the view into the shower area for privacy reasons. When asked how she hung herself, by the KPD investigator, one of the officers responded, "[Tesfatsion] used her jail jumpsuit and somehow affixed it to the top of the bathroom stall."

Officers Discover Tesfatsion Unresponsive

Around 3:01 p.m. Officer Szalda entered Tesfatsion's cell intending to administer medications prescribed by Dr. Scott McAfree of the Lynnwood

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County and Lake Stevens pass the first Interlocal Annexation

By **BO JOHN BRUSCO**

The Lake Stevens Southeast Interlocal Annexation is the first of its kind. Before state legislation passed in early 2020, residents were able to vote on annexation. But now, counties and cities can do so through interlocal agreements in order to comply with the Growth Management Act. The county land that will soon become a part of the City of Lake Stevens will make it so that the entire lake becomes part of the city. Excited at this notion, Mayor Gailey explains how this brings to life the vision of being “one city around the lake.”

The First Annexation of its Kind

On Wednesday, July 28th, Snohomish County officials approved the annexation of county territory with the City of Lake Stevens. The property is located Southeast of the city and encompasses 500 acres of land and 1,000 acres of lake. This annexation is an indication of the city’s growth, but neither county nor city residents voted on the matter as officials used a new method of annexation called interlocal annexation.

Senate Bill 5522, passed in March of 2020, provides “cities with the ability to annex unincorporated areas pursuant to a jointly approved interlocal agreement with the county.” Essentially, annexations can be enacted in Washington as long as the county and city governments agree to do so.

According to the City of Lake Stevens’s Mayor, Brett Gailey, this is the first instance where the interlocal method of annexation has been used, as the bill became effective during the first half of 2020. “Lake Stevens is the first city to do an annexation like this,” he said. “We’re the first city that I know of to use this procedure.”

There is a series of requirements to the process, as the Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington (MRSC) explains in an official document titled “Annexation by Washington Cities and Towns,” dated Jun 2020.

On page 89, after mentioning the recent passing of bill SB 5522 that introduced the interlocal method of annexation, it reiterates how “under the new method, a code city may annex unincorporated territory pursuant to an interlocal agreement between the city and county.” But, the document also notes how the said agreement is subject to several requirements.

The first requirement noted in the document details that a city must notify the governing authorities of the following entities:

“Fire protection districts, regional fire protection service authorities, water-sewer districts, and transportation benefit districts within the proposed

annexation area;”

“Any city adjacent to the proposed annexation area where the sole access or majority of egress and ingress of the area is served by the transportation network of the impacted city.”

Then, according to the MRSC, each entity that the annexation would impact has 30 days from the time they have been notified to tell “the code city whether it would like to be a party to the interlocal agreement with the city and county. If timely notice is provided, the notifying district(s) and/or city must be included as a party to the agreement.”

Additionally, if any district or city disagrees with the annexation, then, as MRSC states, the motion cannot proceed using this interlocal method.

The rest of the requirements involve having a public hearing, the interlocal agreement itself (which gets into the details of land boundaries and jurisdictions), and an annexation ordinance. All the details of which are available to the public at mrsc.org.

Speaking to the practicality of the Lake Stevens Southeast Interlocal Annexation, Mayor Gailey details how this motion to annex results from the city’s projected growth and how said growth must comply with the Growth Management Act.

The Growth Management Act and Urban Growth Areas

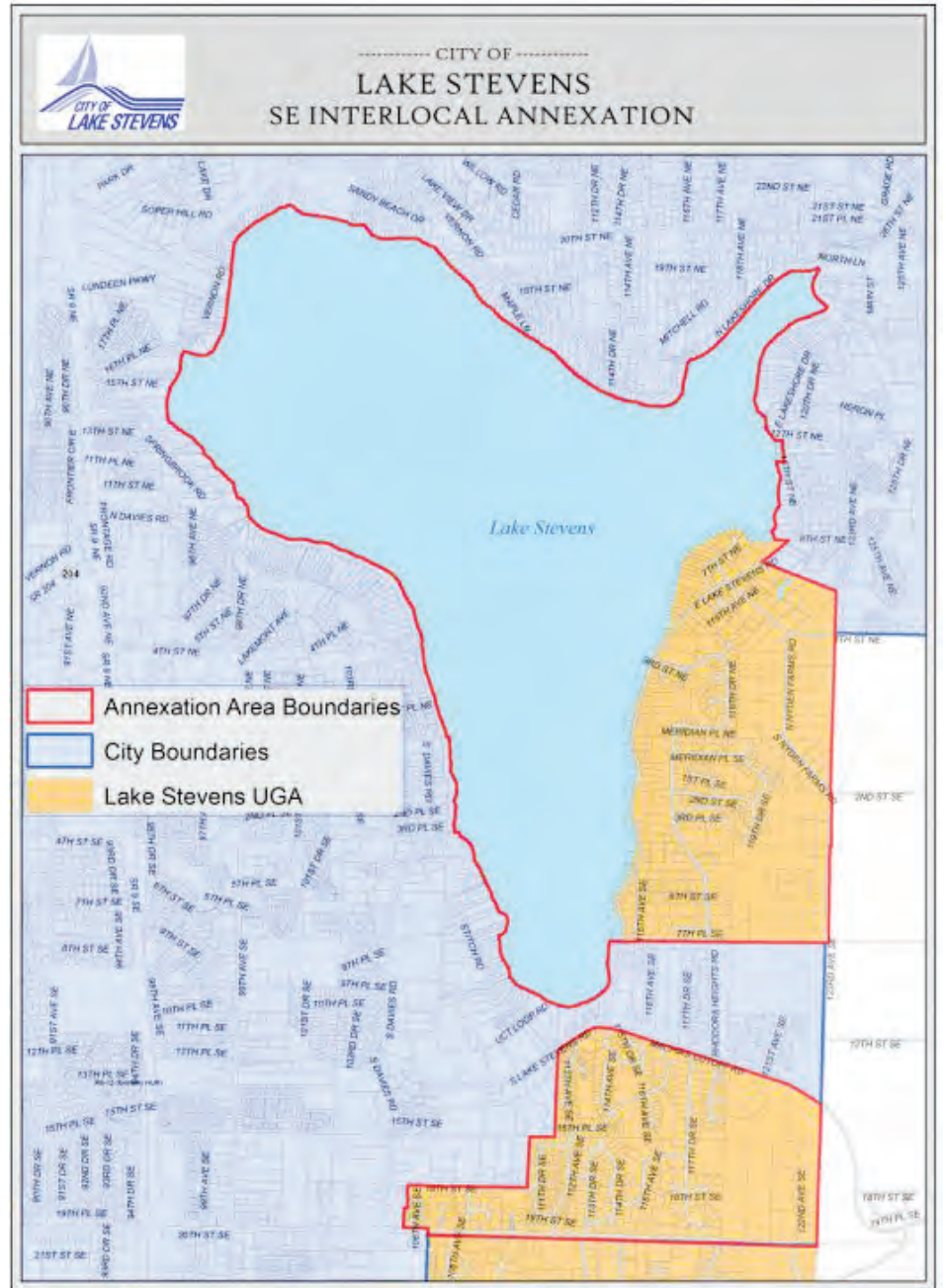
The Growth Management Act (GMA) was first adopted in 1990. According to mrsc.org, the GMA is “a series of state statutes [...] that requires fast-growing cities and counties to develop a comprehensive plan to manage their population growth.”

The act established 13 goals that serve as the parameters for all comprehensive growth plans. Some of the goals include developing “concentrated urban growth” and focusing on “sprawl reduction.”

“For us, as part of the GMA, we have our Urban Growth Area that we need to eventually grow into to comply with the GMA,” explains Mayor Gailey. “So, in this case, that’s what we’re doing. That area is in our UGA, and we have to grow into it, and that’s what this annexation is about.”

One statute in particular that Mayor Gailey focused on involves “public facilities and services.” Under the GMA, the mayor explains how cities are expected “to provide services in their UGAs and expand their cities limits into that area” when they are able.

Giving an example of a specific service, Mayor Gailey notes emergency response time concerns for county residents in that Southeast growth area.



Lake Stevens Annexation Map. Source: City of Lake Stevens

“So for example,” he says, “and nothing against the county, the county has just a couple of deputies that cover [the entire] county that go all the way out to Sultan, right? So if there’s a response time issue, it’s because the county could be so far away, whereas Lake Stevens is a block away.”

“Our guys transit through that area all the time, getting from the police station to downtown,” he continues, “so our response times are going to be so much faster than the county’s.”

Mayor Gailey also mentioned how, in dire emergencies, Lake Stevens’s law enforcement have often responded to emergency calls in the city’s UGA, as they can arrive at the scene sooner and then hand the situation over to county deputies once they reach the destination.

“So that’s where we’re at as city right now with Lake Stevens and this annexation; we have the ability to take care of those folks, provide more local and accessible services in those areas, so that’s what triggers that annexation — is being able to do that,” he says.

One City Around the Lake

While the legislative text describes the annexation jurisdiction as 500 acres

of land and 1000 acres of lake, Mayor Gailey explains how this simply implies that the entire lake will now be a part of the City of Lake Stevens.

According to the mayor, the part of the lake in the Southeast UGA will not change, as it is already developed. But, in a way, it makes the City of Lake Stevens feel complete. “What it does do,” he explains, “is it creates, you know, our vision as a city is to be one city around the lake, and this completes that vision.”

Lake Stevens Annexation Map. Source: City of Lake Stevens

Elaborating on the lake in relation to the city and the county, he says, “Beforehand we had a third of the lake that was in the county and so one of the things with that is that a third of the costs go with the county and a third maintenance of the lake is with the county,” he explains. “Whereas now it won’t be, it’ll all be within the city.”

Even though voters weren’t involved in this annexation decision, Mayor Gailey explains how county residents — soon to become city residents — will have more opportunities to vote in the future due to the annexation.

Continued **PAGE 05** >>

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Maple Park Church welcomes Lynnwood Police and council members for National Night Out

By KIENAN BRISCOE

LYNNWOOD, Wash., August 3, 2021 - Lynnwood Police, Fire, and community members alike gathered on the evening of August 3 at Maple Park Church for the this year's National Night Out.

National Night Out is a night when people from across the entire United States meet and connect with each other and law enforcement to help prevent crime in their neighborhoods.

"To be effective in our mission, the Sheriff's Office must maintain a strong partnership with the communities we serve. Together, we send a message to criminals: we are organized and fighting back against crime," the Snohomish County website states.

The evening aims to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. It strives to provide an opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Maple Park Church provided an assortment of entertainment including dunk tanks, free throw challenges, cotton candy machines and popcorn, as well as a line of complimentary BBQ for all attendees. In addition to the entertainment and food, the church also provided free raffle tickets for toys and gift cards to Fred Meyer and Seattle Mariners games, all of which were donated by churchgoers. This is the third year Maple Park Church has hosted Nation-



Support 7 Executive Director Shannon Session attending Tuesday's National Night Out at Maple Park Church.

al night out.

One of the Police Officers dunked in the tank was Officer Burke, a Community Safety Officer serving nine years with Lynnwood PD. In the time spent on the force he has never missed a National Night Out and always loves the opportunity to talk with his community members.

"A lot of people are kind of intimidated to talk to police some times. They think we're super busy all the time - which we can be, but times like this we have time allotted to come and talk to the community members and have time to listen so that's awesome," Officer Burke said.

Also in attendance was council members Jim Smith, Christine Frizzell, and Shannon Sessions along with Mayor Nicola Smith.

"National Night Out is my famous time of year," council woman Sessions, who formerly worked for Lynnwood Police, said. "It's so fun because all over the whole nation people are shutting their porch lights off, locking their doors, and going out to meet their neighbors in the name of crime prevention; and that's what this night is truly about."

Sessions believes that the best way to protect your neighborhood, family, and home is to get to know your neighbors.

Community, to Sessions, is all about helping your neighbor so to her National Night Out is the perfect opportunity for those in the community of Lynnwood to get to know each other.

Usually, every other year, Sessions travels to different events among the community but tonight she was with Support 7 where she serves as Executive Director. Support 7 directly and practically partners with South Snohomish County fire, police, and first responder agencies to come alongside people in need at the moment of crisis by helping victims, survivors, and their families move from trauma by offering a private place to get out of the weather, away from onlookers or harm.

National Night Out was introduced in August of 1984 through an already established network of law enforcement agencies, neighborhood watch groups, civic groups, state and regional crime prevention associations and volunteers across the nation. The first annual National Night Out involved 2.5 million neighbors across 400 communities in 23 states.

"National Night Out grew to become a celebration beyond just front porch vigils and symbolic efforts amongst neighbors to send a message of neighborhood camaraderie. Neighborhoods across the nation began to host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and more," the Lynnwood city website states.

CDC: Vaccinated people can spread delta variant



ATLANTA, Ga., July 30, 2021 - On July 27th, CDC updated its guidance for fully vaccinated people, recommending that everyone wear a mask in indoor public settings in areas of substantial and high transmission, regardless of vaccination status. This decision was made with the data and science available to CDC at the time, including a valuable public health partnership resulting in rapid receipt and review of unpublished data.

Today, some of those data were pub-

lished in CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), demonstrating that Delta infection resulted in similarly high SARS-CoV-2 viral loads in vaccinated and unvaccinated people. High viral loads suggest an increased risk of transmission and raised concern that, unlike with other variants, vaccinated people infected with Delta can transmit the virus.

This finding is concerning and was a pivotal discovery leading to CDC's updated mask recommendation. The

masking recommendation was updated to ensure the vaccinated public would not unknowingly transmit virus to others, including their unvaccinated or immunocompromised loved ones.

This outbreak investigation and the published report were a collaboration between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health and CDC.

This outbreak investigation is one of many CDC has been involved in

from page 4 ANNEXATION

"We have four city council races that are up, and they'll be able to vote in those council races now," he says, "and choose who they want to have local representation with, whereas if they were still in the UGA, they wouldn't have that capability."

More than anything, Mayor Gailey is optimistic about the future and about bringing more citizens into the city's fold. "I'm excited about it. It's exciting to complete the city around the lake vision," he says, "and bringing in those folks into the city and being able to provide services for them and they'll have the ability to vote on local elections that affect them directly, and just continue to build a great city: Lake Stevens."

The Southeast interlocal annexation is scheduled to become effective on August 24, 2021. For more information, visit lakestevenswa.gov.

across the country and data from those investigations will be rapidly shared with the public when available. The agency works every day to use the best available science and data to quickly and transparently inform the American public about threats to health.

This news comes after a leaked CDC document to the New York Times hinted at these findings, showcasing data that suggests the Delta variant is as contagious as chickenpox.



August could be a month of two halves. The early couple of weeks being a time containing more potential for self-expression and fun, while the latter part being possibly more testing – especially if caution in actions is not exercised. So, if you're a creative person, definitely try to express yourself primarily in early August, with later in the month being a time reserved for restraint, as well as dotting all "I's" and crossing all "T's".

ARIES: Your fiery energies may well get you into trouble later in the month especially, if you're not careful. You should definitely take advantage of that extra energy, expressing yourself creatively from the get-go!

TAURUS: Your more relaxed and down-to-earth manner should help you cope with any instincts for risk-taking towards the end of the month, unlike others. But creatively you should definitely put some work in before then.

GEMINI: As your natural instinct is to communicate and circulate with others, you should find lots of opportunity for fun early on. Just don't get carried away with impulsive thinking later on.

CANCER: Caution and protectiveness are two of your strongest instincts. So watch out for the well-being of others later in the month, although there's no reason why you don't fully express yourself before then!

LEO: The second week of August especially is where you might really come into your own and let your light shine brightly. However, getting too overconfident as the month closes out may not be so rewarding.

VIRGO: Unlike most others, your critical and detailed thinking could well come into it's own later in the month. Before that however, be prepared to let those with a greater skill for self-expression strut their stuff.

LIBRA: Impetuousness is generally not your thing. So the second half of the month should bring much more comfort to you, than the first half. Team up with a more assertive partner in the nearer term though.

SCORPIO: Standing out in the glare of the world is not in your nature. So let others have their moment in the sun early on. Your cautious, somewhat intense, nature will help you avoid any impulsive rashness later on.

SAGITTARIUS: So, keeping your feet on the ground this month could well be a challenge for the more impulsive natured you. Enjoy things in early August but try to hold yourself back a little, later in the month.

CAPRICORN: Your hard-working, ambitious nature should find lots of energy earlier in the month. But don't take any rash decisions later – although that is probably not like you anyway.

AQUARIUS: You may find yourself exhausted by those more showy, extrovert types over the first couple of weeks of the month. However, you should come into our own later - as long as you don't act rashly.

PISCES: Just make sure that your initial fascination for the bright and dramatic early in the month doesn't lead you on into things you might regret as the month draws to a close.

August Horoscope featured days at a glance ...

- AUGUST 08 / MOON in opposition to SATURN: Could be a time where your feelings feel somewhat at a low ebb! Hard work is the best therapy on days like this.
- AUGUST 11 / MOON in LIBRA / MERCURY in VIRGO: Could be a day to bring some mellowness to your more critical thinking. Relax, but still attend to minor details if the mood takes you later.
- AUGUST 17 / VENUS in LIBRA: A perfect opportunity for letting creative, or even romantic, issues color your thinking today. It's a day that's more about caring than daring!
- AUGUST 19 / URANUS retrograde / SUN opposition JUPITER: Over confidence today could bring some unexpected results – and not the positive kind if you act too incautiously!
- AUGUST 21 / MOON in AQUARIUS / MARS trine URANUS: Definitely not a day to charge off on your own with a wrong-headed attitude. Could be an exciting today, but definitely look before you leap!
- AUGUST 27 / FULL MOON in TAURUS: Creature comforts should come first today! Rest, relax and take it easy. A time to let the world pass you by. Working with the soil today would be perfect.
- AUGUST 30 / MERCURY in LIBRA: Time to let your mind relax. Stop worrying and forget those details. Today is all about balance, of thought and deed. Some may even find it fun to read a romantic novel today.

from page 3 **TESFATSION'S DEATH**

Jail's nursing station. However, he found Tesfatsion unresponsive near the shower and toilet area of her cell.

On July 12, Tesfatsion was prescribed Sulfamethoxazole (an antibiotic), Promethazine HCL, Hydroxyzin, Hydroxyzine (an antihistamine), Naproxen (an anti-inflammatory), Mupirocin (an antibiotic for skin infections), and an anti-diarrheal. On three occasions she received some of all or the medications. During the booking process, Tesfatsion stated on the questionnaire that she had no known allergies to medications.

Within 30 seconds of Officer Szalda's discovery of Tesfatsion's body, Officer Lindgren unraveled the jail uniform from the vertical partition between the sink and toilet while Officer Rittgarn lowered her 106-lb, 5-foot 3-inch body to the floor.

At 3:02 p.m. officers Lindgren and Williams began administering chest compressions and radio calls went out for Emergency Medical Service (EMS) personnel.

At 3:05 EMS personnel arrive and by 3:06 p.m. CPR was being performed. At 3:29 p.m., resuscitation efforts were terminated.

Tirhas Berhand Tesfatsion, was pronounced dead at 3:30 p.m. on July 13, 2021. She is survived by her two sons, Jonathan Johannes and Eliyas Blanchfield; her father Berhane Tesfatsion, her mother Hideat Yiman, and sisters Shishan Tesfatsion and Frewoini Tesfatsion.

Tesfatsion was the only female inmate at this time and according to the report, surveillance records indicated there was no interaction with any of the other three inmates (all male), adhering to Lynnwood Jail policy.

There was a total of five on-duty Lynnwood Jail staff during the time of the in-custody death. Routine hourly physical cell checks on Tesfatsion commenced 6:35 a.m. on July 12 to 5:03 a.m. on July 13. There was a meal service at 7:21 a.m. The next routine physical cell check on Tesfatsion was not until 8:45 a.m. which continued until 11:05 a.m.

Between 11:05 a.m. and 1:28 p.m., there was a meal service around noon, and she performed several outgoing calls. During the time Tesfatsion formed the ligature at 1:51 p.m. to the time the shadow cast upon the wall stop moving at 2:02 p.m., there was no physical cell check until 3:01 p.m. when Officer Szalda entered Tesfatsion's cell to administer medications.

According to the report, Officer Lindgren was not in the jail during the period Tesfatsion hung herself. Other officers were in the booking area where remote monitoring can be performed. Two of the officers have at least fifteen years with the Lynnwood Police, whereas the other three have less than five years.

According to Tesfatsion's autopsy, conducted by Dr. Robert Johnston of the Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office, the cause of her death was "asphyxia by ligature hanging/suicide." She had marijuana, methamphetamine, amphetamine and fentanyl in her system the report also indicated.

Kirkland Police Department Investigation

The Lynnwood Police Department requested the assistance of Snohomish County Multiple Agency Response Team (SMART) to investigate the death, but since there was no indication of police or custody use of force, they declined. Lynnwood PD then contacted the Kirkland Police Department who agreed to take on the death investigation.

The request for mutual aid was authorized by Kirkland Police Chief Cherie Harris who assigned a team of experienced detectives – A. Haas, R. Kaufman, A. O'Neill, Sgt. D. Quiggle – and sergeants – M. Vickers and C. Slominski.

Lynnwood Police Department released full access to its facilities, staff, reports and electronic video/data to the investigators. A summary of the investigation was given by the lead Kirkland Detective to members of the Lynnwood Police Command Staff on July 21.

Support for the Family

A gofundme account was created by Tesfatsion's family to raise funds for her funeral and memorial where many friends and family members shared their condolences and memories of their dear friend and family member.

"Will never forget my beautiful Auntie Tirhas and all the memories we created together. You will continue to live on in all of our hearts and through your sons Jonathan and Eliyas. We will protect them and guide them for the rest of our lives & we can't wait to see you on the other side," Deanna Robinson, Tesfatsion's niece wrote.

As of July 27, \$15,665 of the \$40,000 goal has been obtained through 246 donors.

Tesfatsion's death sparked an emotional protest at Lynnwood City Hall Monday, organized by the Seattle-based group Decriminalize Seattle who describe themselves as a "coalition that builds power in Seattle to invest in pro-community, pro-people initiatives and divest from policing and the criminal legal system."

Nearly 100 met outside City Hall, which included Tesfatsion's sister and niece, expressing concerns over in-custody safety and suspicions surrounding the cause of death. The city council voted to allow the Washington state Attorney General's Office to conduct its own independent investigation.

The state Attorney General's Office replied July 28 stating that it does not have the authority to investigate Tesfatsion's death and that it is up to the Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office to pursue.

If you or someone you know is contemplating suicide, please contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK or www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

If you or someone you know is struggling with substance abuse, seek out a local narcotics anonymous group at <https://everettna.org/>.

from page 3 **COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER**

Lynnwood councilmembers collectively received a letter, 18 minutes before the meeting, signed by state representatives of the 32nd legislative district – Rep. Cindy Ryu (D), Rep. Lauren Davis (D), and Senator Jesse Salomon (D) – lending support to the notion of dedicating a portion of the Community Justice Center to be allocated for community behavioral health beds. The letter also requested a six-week delay of the construction contract vote to allow for a small stakeholder group to rethink the design the Community Justice Center.

Rep. Davis shared with the Lynnwood Times that her intent reaching out to the council was to ask “council members to consider a time-limited delay of the vote in order to explore a potential partnership with the state wherein we could construct a portion of the proposed project as a behavioral health facility, in lieu of additional jail beds.”

Davis made contact with Mayor Smith and some council members privately to discuss the tension of the Community Justice Center project and a potential path forward that could bring healing to the city of Lynnwood. While she initiated this conversation, for the most part, there was one instance in which councilwoman Frizzell reached out to her.

Although Davis attended Monday’s meeting, she did not share any public comments on her request.

“I attended the entire meeting but chose not to speak during public comment because I wanted to cede my time to our Black and Brown community members to have their voices heard,” Davis told the Lynnwood Times.

Lynnwood Citation Statistics

According to the City’s 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, it is believed that Lynnwood’s daytime population is considerably more than its residential population of 39,600 as Lynnwood is the retail mecca of Snohomish County with 3,573 business licenses and employs over 21,700 people.

By 2035, Lynnwood is expected to grow to a population of 85,000 with more than 24,000 Lynnwood Link Extension commuters.

In 2020, a total of 3,854 infractions/citations were issued by the Lynnwood PD. Total citations issued to whites and blacks were slightly higher relative to residential population in Lynnwood. Asians were significantly lower; whereas, Hispanic and those identified as “Other” were slightly lower.

In terms of criminal citations, whites and black were issued significantly higher citations relative to residential population in Lynnwood compared to other races. Asians were significantly lower.

Blacks and other were issued a slightly higher number of infractions relative to residential population in Lynnwood compared to other races. Asians were significantly lower.

In its 2020 Biased-Based Policing/Racial Profiling Annual Report, each Lynnwood police officer is required to complete anti-bias training. In 2020,

over 100 officers completed such training of 106 fulltime staff and personnel. Department personnel, in conjunction with other city staff, participated in multiple trainings for the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) throughout 2019.

Discussion to Delay Project

Councilmembers heard many infuriated speakers during the public comments section enduring insults and scrutiny. Out of 51 public comments, one was in favor of the Community Justice Center; however, majority of those that spoke did not live in Lynnwood.

Comments shared a common belief that the council’s consideration of a new justice center is ultimately rooted in racism and that the funding toward the justice center could better be utilized toward behavior health, substance abuse, and affordable housing.

Among those speaking in opposition was Tirhas’ niece Makda Gray.

“I think it’s ridiculous that we’re grieving, and you guys are talking about a jail you’re trying to build and it’s not doing anything for the community but depopulating people from the streets – to put them in a cage...Jail brings mental illness to these people, it don’t help them at all,” Gray said. “Show some respect for my family and I, please.”

The singular voice in favor was Lynnwood resident Sandy Trevino.

“I understand where everyone is coming from, but we cannot make this political, this is about what’s best for the city. I know people are mad but there is a lot of things we can do in our community. We need representation in our criminal justice system,” Trevino said.

During the council meeting, dozens of Lynnwood residents held a “Keep Lynnwood Safe” rally in front of the Lynnwood Police Department.

“I think it is very sad what happened to Tirhas Tesfatsion. But I think it is also sad that they are using that to block the construction of the new [justice] center,” said one Lynnwood resident at the rally.

“I am a Lynnwood resident. I am here to support our police and to let the city council know that low crime rates are the best thing you can do for the city of Lynnwood,” Julie Anderson, another

rally attendee told the Lynnwood Times.

Councilwomen Sessions and Frizzell shared common sentiments in delaying the project.

“If we can to that [reduce recidivism] in a compassionate way, I think we owe it to people,” said Frizzell. “I am willing to put our decision on hold until the 13th of September, to gather more information, to gather more perspective.”

Councilmen Smith and Decker argued that the decision to delay awarding the contract to FORMA Construction Company only delays implementing improvements to the current facility.

Councilman Decker supported going forward with the Justice Center noting that an improved justice center would potentially been able to prevent the tragedy of Tirhas’ death with better technology, better facilities, better monitoring, and better health care.

“The medical center in our current jail is in what literally used to be a broom closet,” Decker said. “That is not how we should be prepared to treat medical emergencies in our jail.”

Decker also mentioned that an improved justice facility would bring mental health providers and drug abuse counselors “literally to the doors of those who need it most.”

Councilman Smith empathized with the family and believes the new facility addresses a far majority of the concern from callers.

“... I cannot even imagine if one of my daughters had done something like that.. I cannot understand the sadness,” Councilman Smith said.

He continued, “The Community Jus-

tice Center is a multifaceted building that will greatly improve the facility we currently have. The Criminal [Community] Justice Center will offer more services to 95% of the subject matter that was talked about tonight. If we do not move forward, we still have the old jail. This was 20 years in the making and should have been done a long time ago.”

In March of this year, the council passed the bond funding to pay for the Community Justice Center. Currently Lynnwood PD outsources to the Snohomish County Sheriff’s Jail and facilities as far as Yakima to house inmates when at capacity at a cost of \$175 per day. In the project’s feasibility study, the city estimated it would avoid an expense of \$1.5 million a year by housing inmates at the new Community Justice Center.

Councilwoman Altamirano-Crosby shared that she received threats and intimidation to delay awarding the Community Justice Center contract. During the meeting, she was called a “c*nt” twice by callers and was singled out.

“To the family I am very sorry for your lost,” Altamirano-Crosby stated in her opening remarks. “... I was raised to believe in a civil discussion... I have also received threaten emails and phone calls to intimidate me to change my vote. These actions do not serve our election process and does not promote fair representation for all.”



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from page 2 **AEROSPACE**

will reach over 2 million units by 2024, combining both private and commercial use. Drones are used today to perform critical infrastructure inspections, assist in recovery efforts following natural disasters, and deliver critical medical supplies during the pandemic.

James L. Grimsley of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the first and only tribal government to be selected by the U.S. Department of Transportation to participate in the Drone Integration Pilot Program, discussed the Choctaw Nation's ongoing project, under the FAA's BEYOND program, to test advanced drone operations and analyze the impact of this technology on tribal and rural communities. These include rural and remote infrastructure inspection, medical response in rural areas, farming and ranching occupation hazards, impacts on STEM and Workforce Preparation, and enhancing weather research and forecasting.

A Presidential Memorandum by President Donald J. Trump, established the Unmanned Aircraft System Integration Pilot Program (IPP) in October 2017. FAA's BEYOND program is a Memoranda of Agreement with 10 local, state, and tribal governments to conduct advanced UAS operations to advance safe and secure integration under this IPP.

In December 2020, the FAA issued two long-awaited UAS final rules, which took effect in April – one requiring the remote identification (ID) of UAS and another permitting more routine UAS operations over people under certain conditions.

Speaking on the importance of the drone industry was Adam Bry, Chief Executive of Skydio, the largest U.S. drone manufacturer by volume and a world leader in autonomous flight.

According to Bry, autonomous aviation severely slashes away at carbon emissions compared to traditional methods.

Helicopters, for example, burn more fuel and emit far more CO2 emissions than cars do over the same distance. Additionally, under-bridge inspections achieve around 5 mpg.

"Drones shatter this paradigm. If a state with 14,000 bridges could inspect 5,000 of them using drones, the carbon savings would be equivalent to removing 1,000 cars from the road," Bry said.

North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT), a partner and customer of Skydio, has become a national leader in the employment of drone technology for bridge inspection and other purposes. Eric Boyette, North Carolina's Secretary of Transportation, has stated that "drones are a fantastic new tool for our Bridge Inspection Units."

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers has observed that "drones can perform hazardous inspections and maintenance scans much more quickly and with greater ease, lessening the perils on the American worker."

About 70% of the drone market accounts for foreign companies, largely in China. The Chinese Government has the legal ability to demand data from Chinese companies operating anywhere in the world, according to a report by CNBC.

In addition to offering a greener solution to inspections, supply delivery, and economic benefits, Bry also noted that maintaining a viable domestic drone manufacturing base could aid in cybersecurity.

Last month NASA published a report concerning data and reasoning fabrics for what they call a "smart city" which envisions a digital "marketplace" where providers such as weather services, mapping and surveying firms, air traffic management, can offer their data to aircraft operators via digital agreements using drone technology.

Supersonic Aircraft

Recent advancements in propulsion technology, materials, and domestic manufacturing have also made supersonic flights more of a reality. Traveling faster than the speed of sound, these flights are projected to significantly reduce trans-oceanic travel times and open new gateways to support international commerce.

However, challenges persist to full deployment of supersonic flight, most notably, the lack of internationally recognized certification, noise, or emission standards for supersonic aircraft.

In response to the 2018 FAA reauthorization law, the FAA recently issued a final rule to help facilitate supersonic flight testing and the safe development of such aircraft.

Boom Supersonic has already begun flight tests for their Overture supersonic aircraft that would enable oceanic flight between New York and London within three and half hours.

"Until the middle of the twentieth century, people could expect continued innovation in travel speeds. Railroads, steamships, piston-powered airliners, and jets each represented a significant improvement in how we got around. But in 2021, we're flying no faster than we were in 1960," Blake Scholl, founder and CEO of Boom Supersonic said. "With Overture, three-day business trips could be done in just one day—you could attend meetings across an ocean and be home in time to tuck your children into bed."

Due to noise standards, Boom Supersonic is only working on commercial flights over water but hopes to someday expand to continental travel as noise solutions are met. The company hopes to launch the Overture for commercial travel by 2026.

"Traditional wisdom says that supersonic flights are expensive, uncomfortable, noisy, and unsustainable. Thanks to key breakthroughs at Boom and innovations across the industry, super-

sonic flight can now be not just faster but also more comfortable, more affordable, and sustainable," Scholl said.

Representative Larsen told the Lynnwood Times there are currently companies in Washington State that are partnering with supersonic aircraft developers to establish noise standards in preparation for future continental supersonic air travel.

Larsen on preparing District 2 for the future of Aerospace

Representative Larsen believes there are many steps Washington State's congressional district two has to make to prepare for these innovations in aerospace, but the process is underway.

"A lot of what needs to be done is to ensure that we're educating the next generation of aerospace workers, aerospace engineers, scientists, and the support network that's necessary in part of developing and maintaining these new innovations," Larsen told the Lynnwood Times.

Concerning safety, Larsen has spent a lot of time on the aviation subcommittee holding oversight hearings that resulted in the development and passage of a major aircraft certification reform. That certification reform bill became law at the end of last year and the FAA has been implementing pieces and parts of it that he hopes will return the FAA to the gold standard of aircraft safety and certification.

"We think that the United States has set the standard for safety certification and we need to continue to live up to that," Larsen told the Lynnwood Times.

"I think in the Northwest we have to think about aerospace beyond Boeing and including Boeing because that's where the opportunity is and if we're going to maintain our title as the aerospace capital of the world we have to think about all of aerospace and not just a piece of it."

from page 1 **SIGNARAMA**

2020 Small Business Profile which measures small business metrics from 2019, there are 31.7 million small businesses who employ 47.1% of the country's workforce. Small businesses comprise 99.9% of all businesses in the United States and created 1.6 million jobs in 2019. There are 5.2 million self-employed minorities in the U.S.

Councilman Smith praised the variety of services Signarama Lynnwood offers and encourages Lynnwood residents to stop by the store.

"It's rewarding to be here and witness the grand opening of a new Lynnwood small business," Councilman Smith said. "I look forward to the Bansals' success and doing business with them."

Rochell Hatfield, one of the 60.6 million Americans employed by a small business, is a designer and production worker. Hatfield loves her job because there's always a new challenge. She also enjoys working with the Bansals and the family environment.

"They're like a second family to me," Hatfield said as her daughter plays with Bansal's grandkids. "We have that connection and know each other very well."

The Bansals typically arrive well before the store opens and usually stay later than their official 5:30 p.m. closing time. But when Rajesh gets home, it's time to unwind.

"When I'm at work, I work," Rajesh said. "But once I'm home, I'm done with work. I relax, get comfortable, and switch myself off from the office!"

Reflecting on the grand opening, the Bansals are grateful for the community and look forward to taking care of sign needs for local businesses in and around Lynnwood.

"I appreciate that people came to support us," Punita said. "I feel like a part of the community, like I belong here."

Signarama Lynnwood is located on 4210 196th Street SE and is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and Saturday by appointment only.

For more information, call 425-361-7452 or follow them on @SignaramaLynnwoodWA Facebook. Signarama Lynnwood is actively hiring. To apply visit www.signarama.com/locations/wa-lynnwood.

Job Fair Coming to Lynnwood

The City of Lynnwood, Lynnwood Chamber and Lynnwood Convention Center have partnered to host a Lynnwood Job Fair on August 10th at the Lynnwood Convention Center. Bring copies of your resume, meet with businesses looking to hire and even interview on-site.

WorkSource, Edmonds College and Sno-Isle Libraries will also be available during the Job Fair to provide resume review, career and education information and employment resources.

This event will be held at the Lynnwood Convention Center on Tuesday, August 10th, from 3pm – 7pm.

Learn more by visiting the Lynnwood City Event Calendar or contacting Christy Murray at cmurray@LynnwoodWA.gov or 425-670-5044.

Employers Attending:

- Althea's Footwear Solutions, Inc
- Careforce
- Chipotle
- City of Lynnwood
- Claim Jumper
- Community 1st Credit Union
- Compass Health
- Costco Wholesale
- DJ/Journey School Lynnwood/DRC
- Hops N Drops
- lululemon
- Macy's
- Mary Grace Allstate Insurance
- Mr. Kleen 76 Stations
- Oil & Vinegar
- Pacific Bridge Pediatric Therapy
- PF Changs
- PSC Security
- PTY Services
- Service Alternatives
- SERVPRO of Lynnwood
- The Terrace at Beverly Lake Memory Care
- U.S. Bank
- Washington National Guard
- ZARA USA, Inc
- More businesses joining now!