

# LYNNWOOD TIMES



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# ABORTION & AMERICA



The Roberts Court, April 23, 2021. Seated from left to right: Justices Samuel A. Alito, Jr. and Clarence Thomas, Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., and Justices Stephen G. Breyer and Sonia Sotomayor Standing from left to right: Justices Brett M. Kavanaugh, Elena Kagan, Neil M. Gorsuch, and Amy Coney Barrett. Photograph by Fred Schilling, Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States

By **BO JOHN BRUSCO**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – On May 2, Politico broke the news that the Supreme Court is poised to overturn *Roe v. Wade* per a leaked draft of the majority opinion, which was penned by Justice Samuel Alito and obtained by Politico.

The U.S. Senate is expected to vote Wednesday on the Women’s Health Protection Act, a Democrat-led bill to codify a right to an abortion. However, it appears that Democrats do not have enough support from Republicans to reach the 60-vote threshold to end a filibuster. Senator Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia) announced that he will not be supporting his party’s bill.

“Washington state voters don’t have to guess with me, they know I will fight with everything I have to protect a woman’s right to abortion,” Senator Patty Murray (D-Washington) wrote in a statement to the Lynnwood Times.

“The vast majority of Americans support a women’s right to make her own health care decisions, especially here in Washington state where abortion was made legal even before *Roe v. Wade*.

“It is stunning and appalling to me that for the first time in decades, mothers in this country will have had more rights than their daughters—but it is not surprising, this has been the ultimate goal of an increasingly extreme and far-right Republican Party.”

The U.S. Senate is split 50-50 and would require Vice President Kamala Harris to break a tie vote. Both Democrats and progressives have urged the party to seek to scrap the filibuster, the Senate rule that requires 60 votes for most legislation.

“If the leaked opinion became the final opinion, legislative bodies – not only at the state level but at the federal level – certainly could legislate in that area,” Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) told USA Today over the weekend, hinting that a nationwide ban on abortion is possible. However, on Tuesday, he told reporters that most of his caucus believes abortion laws should be left to each state.

As of the time of the publishing of this article, the Supreme Court’s minority opinion has not been leaked to the public nor has the Senate vote been taken.

### ROE V. WADE, MISSISSIPPI, AND THE LEAKED DRAFT OPINION

In the draft opinion to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, Justice Alito seemingly side-steps the pro-life v. pro-choice debate altogether, opting instead to challenge the constitutionality of the landmark decision of 1973 that legalized abortions across the U.S.

In *Roe v. Wade*’s decision, the Supreme

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# What it would mean to Washingtonians if SCOTUS overturns Roe vs. Wade decision



U.S. Senator Patty Murray, D-WA

By KIENAN BRISCOE

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Political journalism outlet Politico released a leaked Supreme Court draft opinion on May 2, that would reassess its ruling in Roe v. Wade while considering its pending Dobbs v. Jackson’s Women’s Health Organization case.

Following the leak, New York Democrat and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer introduced The Women’s Health Protection Act of 2022 that would make the Roe decision law. The Senate, which is 50-50 split Republican and Democrat, are set to vote on the bill Wednesday, May 11, which would prevent states from banning abortion before fetal viability.

If the Supreme Court were to overturn Roe v. Wade, a woman’s right to choose will be determined on a state-by-state basis. So what does that mean for Washington?

## STATES WHERE ABORTION WILL REMAIN LEGAL

Access to abortion has already been made a fundamental right in 16 states and the District of Columbia including California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington.

If the Roe v. Wade decision is overturned abortion will remain available to any pregnant person who lives in or who can travel to these states, however some experts speculate that states may make it illegal to travel to a different

state for an abortion in the future.

In Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming pre-Roe laws already exist prohibiting abortion, but are preempted by the Supreme Court’s ruling, and, if overturned, would automatically go into effect.

The removal of Roe protections may also prompt new anti-abortion restrictions in other states without the Supreme Court’s decision standing in the way. So far, in 2022, 1,991 provisions relating to sexual and reproductive health and rights have already been introduced across 46 states and the District of Columbia, a report by Guttmacher Institute states.

However, it is unlikely Washington will be one of the states that restrict or prohibit a woman’s right to have an abortion based on Initiative 120 and the Democratic Party controlling the Governor’s Office, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and both chambers of the state legislature.

State Senator Patty Murray has already begun work codifying Roe v. Wade into law while Republican candidate for State Senate Tiffany Smiley has voiced the opposite proudly stating she is “100% prolife.”

“Washington state can count on Patty Murray to stand up for our values and fight every day for reproductive rights, but Tiffany Smiley will stand with her extreme GOP backers like Mitch McConnell and take reproductive rights away,” Tina Padlodoski, Washington State Democratic Party Chair, released in a statement May 2.

“The fallout of this kind of ruling will be devastating—we are talking about millions of women in this country who will be forced to carry a pregnancy to term no matter their personal circumstance—and, yes, we are talking about situations like rape or incest,” Senator Patty Murray (D-Washington) wrote in a statement to the Lynnwood Times. “What people here in Washington state need to know is that the modern Republican Party won’t stop here: Senate Republicans are already working on a federal abortion ban that would overturn the

protections we have in place here in Washington state and they are fighting to restrict access to birth control and other reproductive health care, too.”

Congressman Rick Larsen (WA-02) has also taken a clear stance on protecting women’s rights to choose stating, “if it stands this will be an outrageous attack on women across America. We must not let it stand.”

“While the draft from the court would send the question on abortion access back to the states – where over half of women and girls of reproductive age could face immediate bans or limits to this basic medical care – I have no doubt that anti-abortion activists will not stop there,” Congresswoman Suzan DelBene (WA-01) said on the House Floor on May 11, 2022.

The Lynnwood Times reached out to Governor Inslee’s Office asking if he would veto any legislation that would restrict a woman’s right to choose but received “we don’t normally comment on hypotheticals” in response.

“It’s unlikely the Legislature would send such a proposal to the governor’s desk restricting access to abortion. It’s much more likely the Legislature would send him policies that help protect access,” Mike Falk, Deputy Communications Director and Press Secretary for Governor Inslee’s Office told the Lynnwood Times.

## INITIATIVE 120

On November 5, 1991, Washington voters approved initiative 120 (50.4% to 49.96%) declaring that a woman has a right to choose physician performed abortion prior to fetal viability (24 to 25 weeks into pregnancy).

The initiative made it Washington State public policy that:

- Every individual has the fundamental right to choose or refuse birth control;
- Every woman has the fundamental right to choose or refuse to have an abortion, except as specifically limited by this act;
- Except as specifically permitted by this act, the state shall not deny or interfere with a woman’s fundamental right to choose or refuse to have an abortion; and
- The state shall not discriminate against the exercise of these rights in the regulation or provision of benefits, facilities, services, or information.

Based on current Washington law, the overturning of Roe v. Wade would not have an immediate effect or impact. However, if the decision is overturned, a woman’s right to choose would not be protected by the Constitution and state legislature in Washington would have the ability at any time to expand or prohibit the termination of a pregnancy.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SEND LETTERS TO

Lynnwood Times, 12918 Mukilteo Speedway C23, PMB-162 Lynnwood, WA 98087 or email [editorial@lynnwoodtimes.com](mailto:editorial@lynnwoodtimes.com).

### LETTERS POLICY

The Lynnwood Times welcomes letters to the editor of no more than 400 words. Letters will be printed as promptly as possible, as space allows.

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# LYNNWOOD TIMES

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# Mayor Frizzell breaks tie vote to award \$25,000 in scholarships



Picture of residents receiving Cinco De Mayo Proclamations from the City of Lynnwood. Front row: Francisco Barajas Owner of Ixtapa restaurant, Soledad Gemiano, Soledad Chavez, Councilwoman Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, Ana Paulino and Zita Paulino. Back row: Council Vice President Jim Smith, Council President George Hurst, Mayor Christine Frizzell, Councilwoman Shannon Sessions, Councilman Josh Binda, and Councilman Patrick Decker.

By MARIO LOTMORE

**LYNNWOOD** – In a high energy council session, Mayor Christine Frizzell was the deciding vote, to break a tie by the council, that allocate \$25,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for providing scholarships on registration for recreational classes through the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department.

The Council received a presentation on April 20 which included a proposal to use \$25,000 in ARPA funds to provide scholarships to support the participation in recreation classes by Lynnwood residents. The program assists with 75% of the cost of the class or activity.

Councilmember Binda

moved to approve the funding of this amount at the April 25th Business Meeting. The motion was postponed to the business meeting on May 9th to allow Director Sordel of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department to provide additional information about the department’s Recreation Benefit Fund (RBF).

RBF is designed to provide financial assistance to residents 17 years and younger, adults 62 and older and disabled adults for recreational classes. A \$25,000 contribution by the council will provide between 125-175 scholarships for our community members. The maximum benefit per person is \$200.00 per year.

At Monday’s meeting, Councilman Josh

Binda made a motion to his original motion of awarding \$25,000 in ARPA funds for recreational scholarships, to double that amount to \$50,000. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Shannon Sessions.

After debate by various councilmembers, the motion was tied 3-3 with Council President George Hurst and councilmembers Binda and Sessions voting for the increase; and Council Vice President Jim Smith and councilmembers Julieta Altamirano-Crosby and Patrick Decker voting against. Councilwoman Shirley Sutton was absent from the meeting.

Mayor Frizzell sided with the nays which

Continued PAGE 08 >>

# Lynnwood City Council launches investigation into one of its own

By MARIO LOTMORE

**LYNNWOOD** – Prior to the council going into executive session, the public was told that the council will take no action at the conclusion of the discussion and that it will adjourn from executive session. All members of the public in attendance of the meeting left the council chambers and it is unknown if anyone remained online.

However, after the executive session that included the City’s attorney on Monday, the Lynnwood City Council voted unanimously, 6-0, to launch an investigation into allegations of inappropriate conduct by a councilmember.

“I move to authorize the City to initiate an investigation of allegations of inappropriate conduct of a councilmember,” President George Hurst motioned that was seconded by Councilwoman

Julieta Altamirano-Crosby. Councilwoman Shirley Sutton did not attend Monday’s meeting.

It is unknown how the allegations were brought to the City’s attention, if it involves a sitting or former councilmember, and if it is of a criminal nature.

The Lynnwood Times is awaiting a response from the City as to the time-frame of the investigation and the possible next steps if the allegations are found to be credible.

“What is discussed in Executive Session may not be discussed in public,” Mayor Christine Frizzell shared with all councilmembers in response to an email inquiry by the Lynnwood Times to prevent a violation of confidentiality and/or to inadvertently compromise the active investigation.

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# Kinwell Health provides new primary care option for Lynnwood



By KIENAN BRISCOE

**LYNNWOOD** – Kinwell Health opened its fifth clinic in Lynnwood on Thursday, April 21, presenting the community with a new primary care option through virtual and in-person visits.

Located at 19723 Highway 99, Kinwell’s latest location in Lynnwood is just one of many clinics opening across Washington this year, including Mill Creek, scheduled to open this summer. Kinwell also has locations in Pasco, Poulsbo, Wenatchee, Yakima, and Renton, most recently opened last March.

Originally planned to open in 2021, Kinwell Lynnwood, like many community partners, was affected by the pandemic and supply chain shortages setting it back about a year. However, as things continue to stabilize for the world and Kinwell, the branch of clinics has been sticking to its goal of opening one clinic a month from as far north as Bellingham to as far south as Olympia.

Dr. Mia Wise, Chief Medical Officer at Kinwell Medical Group, told the Lynnwood Times that Kinwell’s slogan “simply caring” permeates the very fabrics of their design, workflow, and how the clinical model is brought to life. Wise said that what separates Kinwell Health from other primary care clinics in the area is their commitment to availability, comfort, and forming a team relationship that’s supported and,

by extension, able to offer patients the care they deserve.

“If we can create a team culture that reflects this trust, acting with integrity, and acting with inclusivity, then that will be an extension of how we treat our guests,” Wise told the Lynnwood Times.

Offering the full spectrum of primary care services for Primera Blue Cross and LifeWise insurance holders, whether a checkup or diagnosing a more serious issue, Kinwell also offers some behavioral health services, including cognitive behavior therapy, which Dr. Wise stated is often linked to a patient’s physical ailments.

“If you come in with a panic attack we can help you address that by referring you, right then and there, to a behavioral health clinician,” Wise said. “It’s difficult accessing behavioral health clinicians but behavioral health has a voice in meeting a patient where they are in helping them overcome any treatment barriers that are relevant to treating a disease.”

All of these services are provided in one of the clinic’s six comfortable rooms that Dr. Wise said are designed and fashioned to feel less like exam rooms and more like sitting rooms.

“How can we expect a patient to come in and connect and share their story if they’re distracted by a whole bunch of things that make them stressed out?” Wise said.

Wise’s hope is that patient’s always feel that level of comfort throughout their visit, whether it’s scheduling an appointment, at the clinic, or even after looking up their charts, or managing their billing, on the free Kinwell My-Chart app.

The clinic is currently accepting new patients and is always hiring both family and internal medicine physicians and nurse practitioners and physician’s assistants.

Even though Kinwell’s Lynnwood location is now open and “just about fully staffed” Dr. Wise informed the Lynnwood Times they are still just about 80% where they want to be because the

real work begins with getting to know the community they serve and what their needs are on a location basis.

“Kinwell medical group has some great ideas and we’re fortunate to have some wonderful partners to bring this to life. The part that is still yet to come is just getting to know the community we want to serve - figuring out who is in Lynnwood and what do they need from us,” Wise said.

For more information on career opportunities, services, or to schedule an appointment, visit <https://kinwellhealth.com/>

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# Upcoming Community Events in Snohomish County

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Sno-King Community Chorale  
and  
The Kulshan Chorus  
**Directed by Dustin Willetts**

**Date:** Saturday June 4, 2022  
**Time:** 3 PM  
**Place:** Bellingham at Bellingham High School  
**Ticket Prices:** \$25/\$20

**Date:** Saturday June 11, 2022  
**Time:** 3 PM  
**Place:** Edmonds at The Edmonds Center for the Arts  
**Ticket Prices:** \$25/\$22/\$15



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Lynnwood Monday, May 30, 2022 | 11:00 AM

Registration is now open for the Lynnwood Police Camp for youth ages 11 to 14 years. All county youth are encouraged to apply; however, space is limited!

It's a fun week of learning safety skills, team building, leadership development, physical activities and much more!

Camp Dates: July 18-21, 2022. from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. each day  
Registration Fee: \$125 per child, limited scholarships are available  
Application deadline: June 17, 2022

Registration: To register, contact Connie Avalos-Galer at [cgaler@LynnwoodWA.gov](mailto:cgaler@LynnwoodWA.gov) or 425-670-5613. or visit: <https://www.lynnwoodwa.gov>.

This will give youth a chance to interact with law enforcement and have positive experiences with the police, as well as learning safety tips, team building challenges and leadership development. Some highlights include spending a day of team building at High Trek Adventure for a high ropes course challenge. Participants will also learn about police science, work with the K-9 unit and participate in SWAT team activities, plus much more!

## Cops & Kids event in Lynnwood on June 4th

On Saturday, June 4, the Lynnwood Police Department (LPD) will be hosting a Cops & Kids event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Alderwood Mall Terraces.

The LPD will be displaying and giving tours of police cars, motorcycles, and specialty police vehicles. There will also be K-9 demonstrations and giveaways, so bring the kids and get ready to have fun!

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# 36th annual Powwow at Edmonds College



Picture of the Grand Entrance from the 36th annual Powwow. Lynnwood Times | Mario Lotmore.

**LYNNWOOD** – Edmonds College hosted its 36th annual Powwow this weekend, and despite the heavy showers, vendors, dancers, and drummers of all ages participated in spirited celebrations of culture. Several smaller events, such as a presentation on the history and etiquette of Powwows, took place on Thursday and Friday, while the Grand Entry Powwow event was held on Saturday.

“The truest purpose of a powwow is cultural celebrations and cultural sharing,” says Edmonds Powwow Committee Chair Lia Andrews.

A common misconception about Powwows, according to Andrews, is that they’re exclusive to Native people. “People think it’s a closed practice and only Native people go to it—it’s for everyone. We want everyone to come. We want everyone to learn,” she says.

During Saturday’s Grand Entry Powwow, participants competed in traditional drumming and dancing events. One of the non-competitive, social dance categories that highlighted the welcoming nature of the Powwow was the all-tribes circle dance, where the emcee welcomed anyone and everyone to join in and dance as one, regardless of whether or not dancers wore traditional regalia.

Winners of the competition, selected by a panel of Elders, were awarded payouts from the college’s tribal grant. The prize money amount was determined by the number of participants in each event category.

Edmonds College President Dr. Amit Singh looks forward to the Powwow every year and is grateful for the strong partnership the schools have with the Native community.

“It’s wonderful to hold this event at Edmonds College,” he said. “We’ve been doing it for a long-long time, and the real purpose is to acknowledge and celebrate with our indigenous people, their culture and their heritage, and that’s why we are here.”

Vice President of Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging at Edmonds College, Dr. Yvonne Terrell-Powell, also noted the Powwow’s unique opportunity to share culture and values and spoke to how the event nourishes the school’s sense of community.

“Individuals just have an opportunity to come in and share culture, love, pride, and togetherness,” she says. “We know that’s so powerful from a spiritual perspective when you can pull all those together, and what that does for community. I think that’s just really great, just honoring and respecting is

really important to the community and the work that we need to be doing here at the college.”

Saturday’s turnout was slightly smaller than previous years due to the pandemic and rain, but that didn’t diminish the event’s importance whatsoever. As Board of Trustees of Edmonds College Chair Wally Webster explains, “It’s smaller than it was in 2019. We had hundreds of people here. But today, coming out of the pandemic, as well as the rain, we don’t have as many here today. But the meaning is still the same.”

“It’s still uplifting,” he continued. “It’s still educational to see and understand the various cultures that we work with, and that’s absolutely important for us [to continue] welcoming and growing this community.”

## Snohomish County passes resolution in celebration of Cinco de Mayo



Cinco De Mayo Proclamation: Snohomish County Council. Pictured (L-R) Councilman Nate Nehring, Lynnwood Councilwoman Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, and Council Chair Megan Dunn.

**SNOHOMISH COUNTY** - The Snohomish County Council unanimously approved Resolution 2022-030, recognizing May 5 in celebration of Cinco de Mayo, at their General Legislative Session, Wednesday, May 4.

Speaking, on behalf of that resolution, was Lynnwood City Councilwoman Julieta Altamirano-Crosby who introduced a similar proclamation to the Lynnwood City Council Monday, April 25, which

passed with six votes and one abstention. The City of Lynnwood’s proclamation will be signed at its upcoming meeting on Monday, May 9.

“Cinco de Mayo serves as a reminder that the foundation of the United States was built by people from many countries and diverse cultures who were willing to fight and die for freedom,” Councilwoman Altamirano-Crosby said. “By proclaiming and recognizing Cinco de Mayo Snohomish County is

adhering to being a truly welcoming county.”

Snohomish County Councilwoman Stephanie Wright (D-Lynnwood) thanked Councilwoman Altamirano-Crosby for bringing the resolution forward to the County. Council Chair Megan Dunn (D-Everett) thanked both Wright and Dunn for their awareness to recognizing the rich diversity of Snohomish County.

“I want to add my thanks  
*Continued* **PAGE 10 >>**



# How safe is your park? The findings of our park tour through the City of Lynnwood



Picture of Wilcox Park taken on May 10, 2022. Lynnwood Times | Mario Lotmore.

By KIENAN BRISCOE

Times.

LYNNWOOD – After two recent incidences at Lynnwood Parks, including the murder of a 70-year-old man and a woman assaulted by a pellet gun, Lynnwood Times Reporter Kienan Briscoe and Publisher / Owner Mario Lotmore conducted a tour of eight of Lynnwood’s most popular parks to evaluate their cleanliness, upkeep, evidence of drug or gang activity, and to interview park goers on their general experience and perceived safety.

Overall, we found that the City of Lynnwood’s parks were mostly well-kept with clean restrooms, minimal litter, and little to no drug paraphernalia. Many of the park goers we interviewed also felt that their experiences were generally favorable. Their overall impression was that they felt safe visiting Lynnwood parks during park hours and the parks’ overall upkeep is satisfactory.

“Safety of our park patrons is our top priority. The parks are visited and cleaned daily by staff. We have staff working in the parks 365 days a year,” Eric Peterson, Parks Superintendent for the City of Lynnwood told the Lynnwood

Parks Superintendent Peterson informed the Times that evidence of drug use has steadily declined since 2018, which was the highest record of retrieved drug paraphernalia. The Department records all paraphernalia discovered during their daily visits. Drug paraphernalia decreased 43% by 2021, the last year recorded, and is on track to continue decreasing once the 2022 report has been released.

The biggest reoccurring issue the Lynnwood Times noticed was graffiti. While evidence of drug use in Lynnwood Parks has been on a steady decline since 2018, graffiti, on the other hand has been increasing.

“We try to remove graffiti within 24 hours of finding it. Sometimes larger areas take additional time for prep and removal or workload,” Peterson said.

It is also worth noting that the Lynnwood Times filed a public records request with the Lynnwood Police Department to retrieve crime data involving violent crimes at all of the parks visited. However, the request came back stating: “Following a reasonable

search, the City of Lynnwood found no identifiable records responsive to your request,” signifying the Lynnwood PD does not have records of any reported violent crime taking place within the parks visited from 2019 through 2021.

The following is the findings of the Lynnwood Times’ tour based on criteria observing vandalism/graffiti, restroom and overall park cleanliness, evidence of drug or gang activity (especially adventuring through wooded / obscured areas), and interviewing park goers on their personal experiences.

## HERITAGE PARK

Heritage Park celebrates the agricultural, transportation, and social heritage of Lynnwood from its roots in the rural community of Alderwood Manor formed in 1919. Heritage Park exhibits tell stories of life in early Alderwood Manor. Historic structures have been renovated and repurposed as community resource facilities. These include the Wickers Building, the Superintendent’s Cottage, Humble House, Water Tower and Interurban Car No. 55.

Beginning in Lynnwood’s historical Heri-

tage Park set a precedent of the great work the Lynnwood Parks Department has been doing to keep Lynnwood’s parks clean and inviting. The restrooms were

well kept, the \$100,000 playground (funded by the Elizabeth Ruth Wallace Living Trust on the City’s 60th anniversary) was maintained and inviting. As far as we

could see, the park was clean and litter-free.

The City of Lynnwood recently held a ribbon

*Continued* **PAGE 09 >>**

## from page 8 LYNNWOOD CC

killed the motion to increase the scholarship amount to \$50,000.

Councilman Decker questioned how much of the scholarship would be used to reimburse direct cost to the city for the class versus the cost to the end user of the class. After some back-and-forth with Sarah Olson, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department, it was shared that typically participants who qualify receive a 75% discount on course fees.

The remaining 25% is the responsibility of the participant, to which Decker stated that the scholarship monies should only be applied to cover the cost of the resident – 25% of the class fee – which would quadruple the number of eligible residents.

The original motion was tied 3-3 with Council President Hurst and councilmembers Binda and Sessions voting for the increase; and Council Vice President Smith and councilmembers Altamirano-Crosby and Decker voting against.

Mayor Frizzell sided with yeas to pass the motion allocating \$25,000 in ARPA funds for recreational scholarships to eligible Lynnwood residents.

## PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was opened for comments to the proposed corrections

and updates to Title 1, 19, and 21 of the Lynnwood Municipal Code. After no speakers on zoom nor in-person attendance and no comments by the city council, the Public Hearing was closed.

## PROCLAMATION: CINCO DE MAYO

Lynnwood Councilwoman Altamirano-Crosby on behalf of the City of Lynnwood presented Cinco De Mayo proclamations to several residents of Lynnwood. The Proclamation was voted on and passed at the Business Meeting on April 25th.

In addition to those in attendance, the following recipients of the proclamation were on zoom: Daniel Agis Eslava, representing the Governor of Guerrero State (Evelyn Salgado Pineda), Mario Pimienta, owner of Mazatlan Restaurant, Norma Otilia, Hernández Martínez, and Mayor of Chilpancingo de los Bravo, Guerrero.

Lynnwood became the first city in Washington state to recognize and observe Cinco de Mayo, or May 5, as the historic struggle of the people of the Republic of Mexico for independence and freedom against the Empire of France.

The Snohomish County Council unanimously approved a resolution recognizing Cinco de Mayo, at its General Legislative Session, Wednesday, May 4.



## from page 8 LYNNWOOD PARKS

cutting ceremony on April 29 to celebrate the restored Heritage Park Water Tower. It is part of the Phase II Improvement Project supported by the Elizabeth Ruth Wallace Living Trust, Lynnwood Parks and Recreation Foundation, Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission, and the Washington State Historical Society.

**LYNNDALE PARK**

Lynndale Park is located north of Lynndale Elementary School in west Lynnwood and is Lynnwood's largest park. Approximately 22 acres of the park are preserved as native forest. The rest is developed with active recreational uses, including athletic fields and a skate park. The park's baseball complex is jointly maintained by the City of Lynnwood and Pacific Little League. The park also offers an orienteering course and is a popular venue for summer day camps and scouting programs. An amphitheater sits deep in the forest and features popular summer performances of Shakespeare in the Park.

The Lynnwood Times spoke to Lynnwood resident Olivia who was walking her two dogs. She told the Lynnwood Times that she attends the park daily and feels generally safe even as a woman, at least while accompanied by her dogs. She has noticed some recent noteworthy activity including a homeless man living in a tent in the woods and a car getting broke into near the dog park.

Ron, who was visiting from Ohio and visiting Lynndale Park for the first time, told the Lynnwood Times that his first impression was that it was "impressive" and his favorite part was all of the amenities.

Aside from a small amount of litter, including foil which could or could not have been used for smoking opioids, Lynndale's facilities were mostly pristine and well kept. The restrooms were clean and the tennis courts and amphitheater maintained. The skatepark, however, had a myriad of graffiti which the Lynnwood Times could not necessarily identify as gang-related.

**MEADOWDALE PARK AND ATHLETIC COMPLEX**

Meadowdale Park is located in Lynnwood's north Meadowdale neighborhood. This neighborhood park combines active recreation with preservation of the site's natural beauty. Second growth tree stands were protected, and native plantings replaced invasive species to enhance wildlife habitat. Indigenous boulders and timbers were preserved and used in construction of the restroom building and the public art.

Meadowdale Park was probably the greatest example of the increase in vandalism of which Superintendent Peterson spoke with the restrooms being currently closed due to it.

Peterson said the Parks Department has had a "bout of vandalism over the past six months" where kids have been vandalizing the exterior during the evening and the interior during the day.

"Right now, Meadowdale is a hot spot for vandalism due to its proximity to the school. This year has been excep-

tionally bad," Peterson said.

Just a day before the Times conducted our tour, Peterson informed us he had a crew pressure wash and repaint the interior of the bathrooms, which was why it was currently closed. He said around this time of year the Department typically sees an increase in vandalism, but they have been working closely with Lynnwood PD to resolve the issue.

In other parks, Superintendent Peterson and his team have been trying "all kinds of different things" to combat the increase in vandalism, most recently with Interurban Trail's new mural and South Lynnwood Park's remodel. Since adding the mural, Peterson said they have seen a decrease in vandalism at Interurban Trail.

Aside from vandalism, Meadowdale Park was noticeably clean with everyone interviewed saying they feel generally safe when they attend it.

Lynnwood resident Summer has been visiting the park on-and-off for about a year. Her favorite thing about the park is the Athletic Complex where her boyfriend can play basketball while she works out on the field.

**PIONEER PARK**

Pioneer Park is a linear neighborhood park serving as open space between single-family and multi-family housing. The park includes 1.5 acres of forested area to the north, with the rest developed for active recreational use.

Leah, a Lynnwood resident, has lived by Pioneer Park for three years and visits the park every day. She sees a lot of drug activity in the woods, mostly by "young adults in their early 20's" but hasn't witnessed, or is aware, of any violent crime. Within the three years she's lived there, she informed the Lynnwood Times that the drug activity seems to be declining.

The Lynnwood Times explored the wooded area where Leah said she had witnessed "drug activity" but could not find any evidence to Leah's claim.

Scott, who has lived nearby the park and has frequently visited with his dog for the past ten years, told the Lynnwood Times he feels "very safe" visiting and the only noteworthy behavior he has witnessed was a group of "kids" who drove onto the field and peeled out, damaging the grass.

**SPRUCE PARK**

Spruce Park is located in northeast Lynnwood. Approximately half of the site is forested and the rest is developed for active recreational use.

The park property was first owned by Congdon family and purchased in 1952 by William R. Marshall and Louise Burnett Marshall. In 1991, the Marshall family sold the property to the City for development of a park in their neighborhood. The park was developed in 1993 and 1994.

Aside from some litter in the woods, including beer bottles, condoms, and foil, and graffiti on some of the park benches, Spruce Park was mostly clean and well kept.

**WILCOX PARK**

Wilcox Park is Lynnwood's first park, established in 1962. It is a popular ven-

ue for community events. Also known as "Flag Park," the park displays a historical set of 27 United States flags representing the thirteen colonies and the incorporation of states.

The Lynnwood Times spoke to Lynnwood resident and park goer Shawn who said he has witnessed several homeless people in the park and needles up and down the trails.

"I feel safe, but I wouldn't bring a kid here," Shawn told the Lynnwood Times.

The Times visited the sites where Shawn said he saw homeless people and needles but did not find evidence to Shawn's claim.

**GOLD PARK**

Located in south Lynnwood, Gold Park is preserved as forested open space with trails, grassy clearings, and a seasonal stream. The park has a variety of Pacific Northwest plants including ferns, salal, fairybells, trillium, bleeding hearts, and huckleberries surrounding community-built nature trails.

In 1954, Barbara and Morris Gold bought the property and built a 5-bedroom house for their family. Dr. Gold ran an obstetrics practice in the house until 1982. To protect their land from development, the Gold family sold it to the City of Lynnwood in 1997 to preserve the property as a park. The City purchased the land with a Snohomish County Conservation Futures grant. This requires Gold Park to remain a passive park with no active recreational uses.

Out of all of the parks visited, Gold Park seemed to be the least loved and maintained. Immediately stepping out into the parking lot, litter can be seen strewn across the grass and graffiti defaces plaques that educate trailblazers of the rich diverse plant and tree life.

While walking the trails, evidence of alcohol and drug use can be found from beer bottles, canisters of marijuana joints, and even hypodermic needles and burnt foil. Although needles could be used for prescription drugs such as insulin, their juxtaposition to burnt foil most likely indicates a presence of opioid use since foil is used to cook heroin, oxycontin, or other opioids. While burnt foil was a common littered item found through the Time's parks tour, Gold Park was the only park where needles were found.

According to Verdant Health, opioid use in Snohomish County has risen 20% to 30% since 2020. In 2020 alone, 525 people died from opioid use in the county, the second highest county in Washington for opioid deaths.

In 2020, the Lynnwood PD reported 808 drug-related crimes, a 13.5 percent drop from 2019. Of all recorded drug offenses in Lynnwood, opioids make up 34 percent – the largest percentage of drug types reported.

While no evidence of homeless were spotted (tents, settlements, etc.), the Times did find what appeared to be the site of a bonfire with human feces in the woods close by. There are no restrooms at Gold Park.

Parks Superintendent Peterson informed the Lynnwood Times that the Department spends a great deal of time at Gold Park in comparison to the other

parks because of the issues mentioned.

"The area would decline quickly without our staff's constant patrolling and cleanup. Last week, we added a perimeter fence to help protect the environmentally sensitive areas by reducing foot traffic and overnight camping," Peterson said. "We work closely with the Police Department to keep the park free of drug use, overnight camping, and other code violations."

Edmonds Community College acts as partner with Lynnwood Parks and has worked to restore the natural areas by planting native flora. They host two annual clean-up events at Gold Park—Earth Day And National Public Lands Day—a year.

"This urban park has a beautiful forest and offers an oasis from the busy 99 corridor," Peterson said. "The area has its challenges, and we will do what we can to keep it safe and accessible to all."

**DALEWAY PARK**

Daleway Park is located in a west Lynnwood neighborhood and has a skate park, large active play areas, a basketball court, and picnic facilities. The east side of the park is forested and includes a neighborhood trail connection to 60th Avenue West.

A man was found dead in a car Tuesday, April 9, at the park, on 64th Avenue West, following a report of several gunshots.

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed the victim as 70-year-old Lynnwood resident Carl W. Bridgmon. The manner of death was ruled a homicide.

According to a statement released by the family, Bridgmon loved to sit and have his coffee at the park several times a week. The family is distraught over this "senseless" tragedy. Bridgmon was caught in the crossfire between two groups of individuals and tragically murdered.

**SCRIBER CREEK / LAKE PARK**

Scriber Lake Park is a quiet natural refuge in the center of Lynnwood. Scriber Lake and its associated wetlands are located within this urban forest. The lake provides important habitat for fish, waterfowl, songbirds and small mammals. It is also regulated as a stormwater holding facility.

On April 19, Congressman Rick Larsen visited Scriber Creek Trail with Governor Jay Inslee, Mayor Christine Frizzell and City of Lynnwood officials to discuss the implementation of the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in which \$1 million was secured to go toward Lynnwood's Scriber Creek.

Rep. Larsen secured the funds for the Scriber Creek Trail redevelopment project in the bipartisan Fiscal Year 2022 spending package which the City of Lynnwood plans to use to redevelop the trail corridor into a 16-foot wide, ADA-accessible trail with durable, slip-resistant hard surfaces. Where crossing Scriber Creek and associated wetlands, the trail will be constructed on elevated bridge/boardwalk structures.



# Armed suspect arrested at Lynnwood's Hotel International after 3-hour stand-off



BY BO JOHN BRUSCO

**LYNNWOOD** – On May 7, the Lynnwood Police Department responded to an active situation at the Hotel International off 196th St and Scriber Lake Rd in Lynnwood where an armed individual was inside one of the hotel's rooms.

According to police, a man in "crisis" barricaded himself in his room. After hours of effort by the negotiation team and coordination with SWAT, the male surrendered to police without incident. The male was allowed to "come down" from their heightened state and then be evaluated by Fire/AID personnel.

The Lynnwood Police Department,

North Sound Metro SWAT, and South County Fire have all arrived at the scene.

Lynnwood Times staff arrived at the scene around 3:15 p.m. as an LPD officer closed off Fuji Japanese Steak & Sushi House and Bank of North America's parking lots. The officer told staff that there was "a situation at the hotel—possible guns involved."

According to a witness at the scene, the suspect fired a gun that struck a pipe and is currently in hotel room 208. Although there is flooding in the hotel, police haven't confirmed if the suspect discharged a firearm.

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from page 9 **LYNNWOOD PARKS**

Parks not included in tour

The Lynnwood Times did not visit the following parks registered in the city of Lynnwood as a Parks, Trail, or Open Space:

- Maple Mini Park

- Mesika Trail
- North Lynnwood Park
- South Lynnwood Park
- Sprague's Pond Mini Park
- Stadler Ridge Park
- Veteran's Park
- Gold Course and Golf Course Trail
- Interurban Trail
- Lund's Gulch

from page 7 **CINCO DE MAYO**

to Councilmember Crosby and also Councilmember Wright for bringing this forward for the County to also recognize our diverse cultures and be a welcoming County," Chair Dunn said. "Thank you, Julieta, for your work on the vaccine [inaudible] project, it was really important work."

Councilman Jared Mead (D-Mill Creek) made the motion to approve the resolution which was seconded by Councilwoman Wright. All five council members approved the historic resolution.

Altamirano-Crosby presented the Cinco de Mayo resolution to the owners of the following Mexican restaurants

throughout the Lynnwood area on May, 5th:

- Aca las Tortas, 3625 148th St SW UNIT 104, Lynnwood, WA 98087
- Azteca, 22003 66th Avenue West F Terrace Village Shopping Center, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
- Ixtapa, 5031 168th St SW #140, Lynnwood, WA 98037
- Toda Mexico, 4926 196th St SW, Lynnwood, WA 98036
- Mazatlan, 24380 Van Ry Blvd, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
- El Antojo, 20629 Hwy 99, Lynnwood, WA 98036
- El Rinconcito, 19409 36th Ave W, Lynnwood, WA 98036
- Casa Oaxaca, 8402 Bowdoin Way, Edmonds, WA 98026
- Casa Guerrero, 402 164th St SW, Lynnwood, WA 98087

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from page 1 **LEAKED MEMO**

Court determined that the right to an abortion was implicitly protected by the 14th Amendment, which guarantees a citizen's right to privacy. The 1973 decision reads, "This right of privacy, [...] in the Fourteenth Amendment's concept of personal liberty and restrictions upon state action [...] is broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy."

Upon the 1973 ruling, women could decide to terminate a pregnancy in the first trimester (0-13 weeks) of their own accord. Abortions during the second trimester (14-26 weeks) could be regulated by the government but not banned altogether. By the third trimester (27-40 weeks), states could prohibit aborting a fetus that could survive outside of the womb unless the woman's health was threatened.

Almost 50 years later, the Supreme Court began deliberating abortion anew in May after agreeing to review the heated debates surrounding a Mississippi law that bans most abortions after 15 weeks, roughly two months earlier than *Roe v. Wade's* decision allows.

Justice Alito's fundamental take on the matter reverts the power to confer abortion rights back to the states. "It is time to heed the Constitution and return the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives," he wrote in the 98-page Supreme Court opinion that leaked on Monday.

Alito's flagrant rebuke of *Roe v. Wade* refers to the 1973 ruling as an "abuse of judicial authority" and argues against its assertion that the Constitution "confers a broad right to obtain [an abortion]."

"The Constitution makes no reference to abortion, and no such right is implicitly protected by any constitutional provision," Alito writes.

The 2022 opinion further argues that the right to abortion doesn't constitute common law as it is not deeply rooted in the country's history. "Until the latter part of the 20th century," states the opinion, "there was no support in American law for a constitutional right to obtain an abortion. Zero. None. No state constitutional provision had recognized such a right."

In fact, Alito states that the US has "an unbroken tradition of prohibiting abortion on pain of criminal punishment [...] from the earliest days of the common law until 1973."

Ultimately, Alito concludes that decentralizing the Federal government's power to enact abortion rights and redistributing said power to the states "is what the constitution and rule of law demand."

Republican-appointed Justices Clarence Thomas, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett voted with Alito, making their opinion the majority. On the dissenting side are Democratic-appointed Justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan. Which way Chief Justice John Roberts will vote remains unclear, Politico reports.

It should be noted that the leaked draft merely represents the current opinion of the majority, which is subject to change. As Politico reports, "The court's holding will not be final until it is published, likely in the next two months."

### MY STATE, MY CHOICE

An abortion procedure may soon depend wholly on the state in which one resides, and each state is already looking to enact different regulations. Thirteen states, including Idaho, Texas, and Utah, have previously passed "trigger laws" which would automatically restrict or ban abortions upon the Supreme Court's ruling.

While states like Oklahoma have just recently enacted abortion trigger laws, others have had them in place for more than a decade. South Dakota, for example, has had its trigger law ready to go since 2005, which would make abortions illegal in all cases except for when the mother's life is threatened.

On the flip side, 16 states have already codified abortion policy into law, including California, Vermont,

Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. Of these 16 states, 12 of them explicitly permit abortion when necessary to protect a woman's life and before fetus viability, while the other 4 protect the right to abortion without state interference.

Overall in the United States, the law in a vast majority of states permit the termination of a pregnancy no later than the end of the second trimester (14-26 weeks) with 20 or 24 weeks being the preferred limit with exceptions. However, in Mexico, Canada and in European countries, the gestational limits are much less.

Last year, Mexico's Supreme Court unanimously ruled in September to decriminalize abortion. The procedure is allowed until up to the 12th week of pregnancy (first trimester).

Currently, there are no Canadian laws that explicitly guarantee access to abortion after it was decriminalized in Canada in 1988 when the Supreme Court of Canada struck down a federal law. Across Canadian provinces, abortions are regulated similarly to other health-care procedures and according to a study published by Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights in 2019, no providers in Canada offer abortion services after 23 weeks and six days of pregnancy.

Six European countries retain highly restrictive abortion laws and do not permit abortion on request or on broad social grounds – Andorra, Liechtenstein, Malta, Monaco, Poland and San Marino.

While the remaining European countries allow abortions, the most common gestational limit is 12 to 15 weeks (no later than two weeks into the second trimester) with exceptions to the end of the second trimester. Turkey allows for abortions up to 10 weeks and Italy is 90 days with an exception up to 13 weeks. The European countries with the latest gestational limits are Sweden (18 weeks with an expectation up to 22 weeks), Netherlands (24 weeks), and Ireland (22 weeks).

### HOW AMERICANS FEEL ABOUT ABORTION

According to the most recent data from Gallup, 48% of Americans believe abortion should be legal "under certain circumstances," while 32% believe abortion should be legal "under any circumstances," and only 19% believe it should be illegal "in all circumstances."

Though Gallup's poll indicates a lack of consensus on the issue, Pew Research's simplified poll, which only gives surveyees two options to choose from, suggests that the majority of Americans fall under the pro-choice category. In Spring 2021, Pew found that "Around six-in-ten U.S. adults (59%) say that abortion should be legal in all or most cases; 39% say it should be illegal in all or most cases."

Likely to no one's surprise, the political divide in the debate has increased in recent years. According to Pew Research, "Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents are much more likely than Republicans and Republican leaners to say abortion should be legal in all or most cases today (80% vs. 35%)." The 45 percentage point gap is up by 12-points compared to 2016's numbers "when 72% of Democrats and 39% of Republicans supported legal abortion in all or most cases."

Furthermore, as abortion is a key issue every election cycle, it's hardly a passive subject in the nation's collective mind. As Gallup reported in 2020, one in four Americans consider abortion to be a key issue, and when examining the pro-life and pro-choice arguments, it's not hard to see why.

Inherent in the name, the pro-life argument revolves around life and its intrinsic value, as the non-profit organization Family Policy Institute of Washington asserts in its statement on the subject:

"We believe life is sacred and should be protected at every stage and at every opportunity. We agree with the science that overwhelmingly confirms that life begins from the moment of conception or fertilization and continues to the moment of natural death, and that human life is intrinsically and eternally significant."

On the pro-choice side, again, as indicated by the name, the argument centers on bodily autonomy and women's freedom to choose, as the non-profit organization NARAL Pro-Choice America explains in its statement on the issue:

"The right to choose abortion is essential to ensuring a woman can decide for herself if, when and with whom to start or grow a family. [...] When the right to abortion is endangered, the fundamental equality of women is threatened. A woman can never be equal if she is denied the basic right to make decisions for herself and her family."

### FINDING THE LEAKER

Another newsworthy aspect of this story is the leak itself. As of now, it is unknown who leaked the draft opinion. When Politico broke the news at the beginning of the month, it simply stated that the draft "circulated inside the court and [was] obtained by POLITICO," and that the publication got the documents "from a person familiar with the court's proceedings," though it's unclear whether they were electronic or physical copies.

Though the description of the leaker is somewhat vague, it's plausible that it was one of the justice's clerks. As there are four clerks to each of the nine justices, there's still a pool of 36 potential leakers.

However, given Attorney General Merrick B. Garland's somewhat recent announcement, the leaker's identity could remain hidden for quite some time. In a policy memo to federal prosecutors dated July 2021, Garland issued a prohibition against subpoenas, warrants or court orders to seize journalists' communications in an effort to reveal anonymous sources.

"The Department of Justice will no longer use compulsory legal process for the purpose of obtaining information from or records of members of the news media acting within the scope of newsgathering activities," Garland writes before laying out what the scope entails.

Garland makes exceptions for information obtained through criminal activity. He also states that the prohibition does not "affect the Department's traditional ability to use compulsory legal process to obtain information from or records of, for example, a government employee (rather than a member of the news media) who has unlawfully disclosed government information."

It seems then that the Politico journalists who published the draft opinion, Josh Gerstein and Alexander Ward, are off the hook, but if the leaker is a government employee, say a clerk, their communications records could still be seized by the court.

### A HISTORY OF LEAKS

This month's leak is not the first time in U.S. history that the Supreme Court's inner deliberations have been shared with the public before official publication. Coincidentally, a similar situation occurred in 1972 when the Washington Post published a piece that featured a leaked memo from Justice William O. Douglas to his fellow justices regarding *Roe v. Wade*.

Then, in 1973, TIME published the original *Roe v. Wade* decision only hours before the court was set to announce it. NPR reports that then-Chief Justice Warren Burger was enraged over the leak and demanded the culprit be identified and punished.

However, the leaker turned out to be a Supreme Court clerk named Larry Hammond, who immediately came clean, claimed to have been double-crossed, and offered to resign. While Burger was slow to forgive TIME, he ultimately accepted Hammond's apology and allowed him to keep his job.

In this most recent case of a Supreme Court leak, Chief Justice John G. Roberts is outwardly perturbed. In a press release published one day after Politico's report, the Chief Justice called the move a "betrayal of the confidences of the Court" that was "intended to undermine the integrity of our operations."

"Court employees have an exemplary and important



from page 11 **LEAKED MEMO**

tradition of respecting the confidentiality of the judicial process and upholding the trust of the Court,” Roberts continued. “This was a singular and egregious breach of that trust that is an affront to the Court and the community of public servants who work here.”

Roberts ended his statement by announcing that he has tasked the Marshal of the Court to investigate the source of the leak, though it’s difficult to say what consequences the leaker might face.

As the New York Times reports, the First Amendment protects “the publication of a leak, but not the leaker.” This fact was made clear back in 1971 when Daniel Ellsberg leaked the Pentagon Papers, a classified account of U.S. intel on the Vietnam War. Legacy news outlets like the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Boston Globe all published sections of the documents.

When the U.S. Government filed suit against the New York Times that same year, the Supreme Court ruled that the government could not prevent the news outlet from publishing the leaked classified documents.

However, Daniel Ellsberg did not get off so easily. Ellsberg was accused of theft of government property and unauthorized possession of national defense documents by a Federal Grand Jury and faced a 115-year-long prison sentence. The charges would be dropped due to “improper government con-

duct.” Ellsberg essentially was let off the hook only because the Court found the government was more at fault than the leaker of classified documents.

**CONSEQUENCES OF CONFIDENTIALITY BREACH**

Of course, this current case is different because the Court’s draft opinion isn’t considered a classified document, so the leaking thereof is not illegal, though legal experts told the New York Times that a “criminal investigation is not unthinkable.”

However, as Roberts mentioned in his press release, the Supreme Court does hold an “important tradition of respecting [...] confidentiality.”

Multiple reports have suggested that the leaker responsible for violating said confidentiality will likely see the death of their career. One report even quotes former Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia as having told his newly hired clerks, “If I ever discover that you have betrayed the confidences of what goes on in these chambers, I will do everything in my power to ruin your career.”

Confidentiality has been historically sacrosanct among Supreme Court officials. In 1955, Justice Felix Frankfurter suggested that the Court’s commitment to confidentiality not only separated it from the other two branches of government but was even the key to its success. “That the Supreme Court should not be amenable to the forces of publicity to which the Executive and the Congress are subjected is essential to

the effective functioning of the Court,” he said.

In his opinion piece for NBC News, assistant professor of law at Boston College Law School Ryan C. Williams argues that the leak will have immediate and prolonged consequences. After explaining how suspicions have likely arisen between partisan justices thanks to the leak, Williams claims the breach of confidentiality will “seriously impede justices and their respective staffs from working effectively with one another.”

As for the long-term consequences, Williams says the effectiveness of the court could be hindered if justices have to fear further leaks. “The exchange of interim drafts helps justices negotiate over the content of an eventual majority opinion and allows the authoring justice to respond to concerns of the other justices in the majority,” he explains.

“This process cannot function effectively if the justices are unwilling to share their candid views with one another due to fears about potential leaks.”

As for how Justice Roberts feels about the leak, in his previously mentioned statement, he assured the public that “The work of the Court will not be affected in any way.”

**POTENTIAL INTIMIDATION AND PROTESTS**

Some outlets, like the Heritage Foundation, also claim the leak was an attempt to intimidate or bully justices

into changing their votes, though it’s unclear whether or not leaking the draft opinion constitutes intimidation.

The same can’t be said for pro-choice protestors who have gathered at the homes of Justices John Roberts Jr., Brett Kavanaugh, Clarence Thomas, Amy Coney Barrett, Neil Gorsuch, and Chief Justice Samuel Alito following Politico’s report.

During a primetime show on Fox News, Former US Attorney General Bill Barr said of the demonstrators, “There’s a time and place for protest. And the federal statute makes it clear that if you go to the house of a judge, the residence of a judge, to influence the judge in his decisions and demonstrate that that’s a federal crime.”

The federal statute Barr may have been referring to is 18 U.S. Code 1503, which states that anyone who “endeavors to influence or intimidate, or impede any grand or petit juror, or officer in or of any court of the United States” could face a fine or imprisonment.

However, the White House has not recognized these protests as forms of intimidation. When asked about the issue during a brief on May 9, White House Secretary Jen Psaki said, “Yes, we are a country that promotes democracy, and we certainly allow for peaceful protests in a range of places in the country. None of it should violate the law. No one is suggesting that, and it should never resort to violence, to threats, to intimidation in any way, shape or form. But that is what our position is, and the President’s position is.”



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