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# LYNNWOOD TIMES

*Real News* ⚡  
*Real Impact*



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## National distributor picks up high school film



The cast of Archbishop Murphy High School's original student film, Bridgehurst Asylum for the Sane. Photo by Brent Stainer.

By KIENAN BRISCOE

**EVERETT** – When COVID hit, many high school drama departments were forced to put their productions on hold but Archbishop Murphy High School turned to feature films as a way to reach audiences remotely.

Typically, the Everett-based private school performs two productions a year – a musical in the spring and a dramatic play in the fall. When Director Brent Stainer was notified by the school, two years ago, the fall play could not be conducted as a live performance due to pandemic restrictions, he began brainstorming with Program Director Carrie Wright to find alternative options.

“We didn’t want a student to go through their senior year of high school and not have that theater experience — when you’re in the fine arts program that’s an important aspect, at least it was for me when I was in high school,” Stainer told the Lynnwood Times.

The two decided they’d take a stab at cinema. It was a way they could still engage the drama department while shooting under COVID-conscious guidelines and reaching an audience without packing an auditorium.

“We went into the film side of it reluctantly, quite honestly, but it was the only real option we could provide students that year and now I don’t think there’s any looking back,” Stainer said.

The first film AMHS’ fine arts Department made was Love at First Zoom, a hilarious and heartfelt story of a high school class trying to maintain normalcy during remote learning. The script was written by Julia Hawkins, Adriana Hilerio, and Brent Stainer utilizing social distancing to create a story told mostly through zoom call footage.

“Love at First Zoom was made out of the need to bring the arts back to AMHS because at the time musicals were kinda off the table because of the global pandemic. Mine and Brent’s solution

was to create a film that could be made under COVID protocol. After that it became this big thing for students because it was such a unique opportunity,” Hawkins, Co-writer of Love at First Zoom, told the Lynnwood Times.

Following the success of the department’s first film, they decided to return this year to make Bridgehurst Asylum for the Sane, a thriller about a woman wrongly incarcerated in an insane asylum driven by control, manipulation, and greed.

The idea came to Stainer while working on a production of Sweeney Todd and becoming interested in women’s insane asylums during its asylum scene. To research the subject further, he picked up a copy of Women of the Asylum, a series of firsthand accounts written from 1840 to 1945 by women committed to insane asylums against their will, which eventually formed the basis of Bridgehurst’s story.

Co-directing and co-writing the proj-

ect with Stainer was Julia Hawkins, returning after co-writing Love at First Zoom. Hawkins just graduated this year and will go on to study creative writing at Western Washington University this fall.

When filming for Bridgehurst began in September 2021, many COVID precautions were still being taken such as temperature checks and wearing masks when shooting indoors. To explain the actors’ wearing masks from a narrative perspective, Stainer and Hawkins rewrote the story to take place during the 1918 influenza pandemic, more commonly known by the misnomer the Spanish flu.

“It actually ended up working quite well, we simply swapped one pandemic for the other,” Stainer said.

Many of the scenes were also rewritten to take place outside where actors weren’t required to wear masks.

Continued **PAGE 3** >>

# Supreme Court rules Bremerton football coach has right to pray with students after game



Coach Joseph Kennedy at Bremerton High School Football Field.

By MARIO LOTMORE

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In a 6-3 ruling, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of Coach Joseph Kennedy, a public high school football coach in Bremerton, Wash., that his constitutional right to pray at the 50-yard line after his team’s games was protected by the First Amendment. The district recommended not rehiring Coach Kennedy alleging he “failed to follow district policy.”

The Bremerton School District serves approximately 5,057 students and employs 332 teachers and 400 nonteaching personnel in Kitsap County, Washington. For years, the lower Federal courts agreed with the District that its actions had not violated Kennedy’s rights of free speech and free exercise clauses of the Constitution. However, in an historic ruling, the justices reversed the Ninth Circuit court’s ruling.

According to the New York Times, “the court rejected the school district’s argument that allowing Kennedy’s prayers to continue would have violated the Constitution’s establishment clause, which bars the government from both establishing an official religion and preferring one religion over another.”

Justice Neil Gorsuch provide the

majority opinion with Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., and Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel A. Alito Jr. and Amy Coney Barrett joined all of his opinion. Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh joined most of it. Justice Stephen G. Breyer and Elena Kagan joined Justice Sotomayor’s dissent.

“The Constitution and the best of our traditions,” Justice Gorsuch wrote, “counsel mutual respect and tolerance, not censorship and suppression, for religious and nonreligious views alike.”

Justice Gorsuch wrote that Mr. Kennedy’s “three prayers that resulted in his suspension... was not engaged in speech ‘ordinarily within the scope’ of his duties as a coach.”

“The timing and circumstances of Mr. Kennedy’s prayers—during the postgame period when coaches were free to attend briefly to personal matters and students were engaged in other activities—confirms that Mr. Kennedy did not offer his prayers while acting within the scope of his duties as a coach,” Gorsuch wrote.

He added, “To hold otherwise is to posit an ‘excessively broad job descriptio[n]’ by treating everything teachers and coaches say in the workplace as government speech

subject to government control. That Mr. Kennedy used available time to pray does not transform his speech into government speech.”

Not everything school employees do during work hours is official conduct, Justice Gorsuch wrote.

“Teachers and coaches often serve as vital role models. But this argument commits the error of positing an

‘excessively broad job descriptio[n]’ by treating everything teachers and coaches say in the workplace as government speech subject to government control. On this understanding, a school could fire a Muslim teacher for wearing a headscarf in the classroom or prohibit a Christian aide from praying quietly over her lunch in the cafeteria.”

In dissent, Justice Sotomayor totally disagreed with the majority’s decision.

“The Court ignores this history,” Sotomayor wrote, “The Court also ignores the severe disruption to school events caused by Kennedy’s conduct, viewing it as irrelevant because the Bremerton School District (District) stated that it was suspending Kennedy to avoid it being viewed as endorsing religion.”

She also stressed that today’s decision overrules decades of the so-called Lemon Test. A 1971 ruling that according to the New York Times, “Requires courts to consider whether the challenged government practice has a secular purpose, whether its primary effect is to advance or inhibit religion, and whether it fosters excessive government entanglement with religion.”

Sotomayor wrote, “Today’s decision goes beyond merely misreading the record. The Court overrules *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, 403 U. S. 602 (1971), and

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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# Lynnwood Mayor Frizzell talks recovery, public safety, and equity during State of the City address



Lynnwood Mayor Christine Frizzell speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony of the Orange Swift BRT Line in Lynnwood. Lynnwood Times | Mario Lotmore.

By **BO JOHN BRUSCO**

**LYNNWOOD** — Mayor Christine Frizzell delivered her first State of the City address on Tuesday, June 28, via online video. Her major talking points included Covid recovery, public safety, city projects, and equity. Throughout her remarks, she reiterated that Lynnwood is a welcoming place for everyone and even invited residents to share their input on how they envision the City’s future.

Mayor Frizzell began by conveying her passion for the City and explaining why she opted to deliver her remarks in a virtual setting. “[W]ith Covid case rates still unsettled in our county, I don’t want anyone to have to make a decision on attending an event that could potentially jeopardize their health,” she said.

Continuing on the Covid subject, Mayor Frizzell expressed her gratitude for the city staff who kept things running during the last two years and the technology that has increased access to services and enabled leaders and residents to stay connected. After acknowledging how Covid has been the main focus in the past, Mayor Frizzell turned her comments to the future. “Now is the time to focus our attention on recovery and resiliency,” she said.

Addressing the issue of public safety, Mayor Frizzell noted the City’s recent increase in crime and the emboldened criminal element—making some crimes even more distressing. She also dived into the staffing challenges facing the Lynnwood City Police Department.

The mayor assured viewers that public safety has always been a top priority in Lynnwood and remains a priority now. In fact, just recently, Mayor Frizzell joined several other Snohomish County mayors in penning a letter imploring community members to do their part to secure public safety.

“It is important that, as a community, we remain vigilant and help to make it known that criminal activity is not welcome here,” she said. “We will contin-

ue to monitor and respond to changing conditions in our community and we will remain committed to making Lynnwood a safe community for all people.”

After mentioning how cranes have dotted the City’s skyline, she highlighted Lynnwood’s growth. “Most growth is intentionally concentrated in our City Center and Alderwood Mall area,” she noted.

Another testament to the City’s development is the construction of Lynnwood’s new light rail station. “Sound Transit is a crucial piece of our City Center plan and multimodal connectivity,” Mayor Frizzell said, adding how seriously she takes her responsibility as a member of Sound Transit and Community Transit’s Board of Directors.

In tandem with the light rail station, a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of Community Transit’s new Swift Orange Bus Line in Lynnwood just took place in April, which Mayor Frizzell attended. The light rail station and bus line are both expected to be operational in 2024.

Mayor Frizzell listed other projects currently in development, such as the major redevelopment of 196th street, which she stated is halfway complete. “Thank you, thank you, thank you, for your patience during construction,” she said of the 196th project, “we know that it’s been inconvenient, but these improvements are very necessary.”

Other projects she highlighted were the Sribber Creek Trail redevelopment, which is expected to be complete in time for the light rail link extension, and the construction of the Community Justice Center and the Community Recovery Center. Both centers are anticipated to be complete in late 2023. Concluding her remarks on city projects, Mayor Frizzell encouraged residents to check out all of the City’s projects, programs, and initiatives by visiting [lynnwoodwa.gov](http://lynnwoodwa.gov) (or clicking here).

Lynnwood’s private development has

Continued **PAGE 11** >>



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# Remembering James “Jim” Corcoran, a local hero



Jim Corcoran (center with ball cap) with former County Councilman Terry Ryan (front row right) along with members of the Snohomish County Conservation and Natural Resources Department. Source: Snohomish County Government.

By KIENAN BRISCOE

**BOTHELL** – Anyone who knew Jim Corcoran would describe him as active, outgoing, and profoundly generous. In the last 25 years there was hardly a day you wouldn’t catch Corcoran sponsoring sports teams at the Alderwood Boys and Girls Club, sharing his military expertise at the Northwest Veteran Museum, or sitting on the Board of Directors for the Lynnwood-Alderwood Manor Heritage Association where he met his most recent partner, Sharon Jungers.

A Memorial Service will be held 1 p.m. on July 23, at the Alderwood Boys and Girls Club on what would be Jim’s 82nd birthday.

It was because of Corcoran’s intensely involved, and tremendously altruistic lifestyle, that when he began slowing down his community service his friends and family knew it had to be serious. After being in-and-out of the hospital for the past six weeks, Corcoran ultimately passed away on Tuesday, June 14, due to aplastic anemia and complications with his heart. He was 81-years-old.

“He was not one to lay around and do nothing,” Jungers, his partner, said. “When I would visit him in the hospital, he would joke, ‘they’re keeping me captive, take me home.’”

Jungers first met Corcoran in 2013 when she joined the Board of Directors at the Lynnwood-Alderwood Manor Heritage Association, where he served on the board. The two got along immediately and Corcoran asked her to go to Jewell, his hometown with him, two years later. According to Jungers, the Corcoran family embraced her immediately.

A year later Corcoran and Jungers took a trip to the East Coast, to visit Maine, the only U.S. state Corcoran had yet to visit, and then North Carolina to visit an old army buddy who served with him in Okinawa.

“I can’t say enough about him,” Jungers told the Lynnwood Times. “He was just an amazing man, and an amazing friend. He had an incredible sense of humor and was very, very active. I’m still in shock, and I still can’t believe that he’s gone.”

Corcoran’s fast-paced life began at a young age growing up in Jewell, Oregon where he played sports and made friends with just about everybody. Even though his life eventually would lead him to Washington State, he always returned to Jewell once a year during Memorial Day, for a family reunion. This year marked that reunion’s 70th anniversary.

“He was somebody who could talk to anyone. We would be standing in line at McDonald’s or we would be at the gas station, it didn’t matter where we were, he could strike up a conversation with anybody. It always embarrassed me as a kid, but it really influenced me in my

adult life where, now I talk to everyone and always laugh because it reminds me of him,” Alex Hendrick, Jim’s grandson told the Lynnwood Times.

When Corcoran was approximately five years of age, his family relocated to Raymond, Washington, where his active lifestyle brought him through drama, choir, high school student government, and playing football and running track.

After high school, Corcoran joined the U.S. Army fighting in Vietnam, where he earned a bronze star, and the Korean War quickly working his way up to a Green Beret in Special Forces. He retired from the military a Lieutenant Colonel after about 20 years of service. Corcoran remained actively involved in the Veteran community, volunteering his time at Lynnwood’s Northwest Veteran’s Museum where he even generously paid for the museum’s utility bills.

“It’s really sad to have lost Jim so quickly. I had a chance to visit him at Manor Care. I called him Jim ‘the Colonel’ Corcoran,” Myra Rintamaki, with the Veteran Museum, told the Lynnwood Times.

Corcoran was also an extremely dedicated volunteer and club supporter at the Alderwood Boys and Girls Club, where he visited almost daily, and was named Volunteer of the Year.

“One funny story...when COVID hit, we could no longer have adults, other than staff, in the building and we have

*Continued* **PAGE 10 >>**

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# Special Olympics Washington returns to in-person Law Enforcement Torch Run

By KIENAN BRISCOE

**SNOHOMISH COUNTY** – Law Enforcement agencies throughout Washington state returned in-person for this year’s Law Enforcement Torch run, held June 15-17, raising funds and awareness for Special Olympics Washington.

The main Torch Run route started at Peace Arch Historical State Park in Blaine and made its way south to Pacific Lutheran University where the Opening Ceremony for the State Spring Games was held. Stops along the way included Bellingham, Lake Stevens, Mukilteo, Lynnwood, Everett, Shoreline and Seattle. Concurrently, there were smaller Torch Runs in Kitsap County, Clallam County and Lewis County.

The State Spring Games, held June 17 through 19, was the first state games in more than two years after a pandemic pause. At this year’s State Spring Games more than 1,800 athletes, Unified partners (athletes without intellectual disabilities) and coaches competed in athletics, powerlifting, soccer and swimming. Federal Way Police Officer Donovan Heavener and Special Olympics Athlete Colton Schmidt of Othello carried the torch into the Opening Ceremony to light the cauldron and proclaim the start of the Games.

While the spring season and State Spring games came to a close last week, Special Olympics Washington is kicking off their summer season this week which will continue until August 20. The summer season sports include bocce, softball and golf with regional tournaments for these sports being held in August.

2022 marks the 41st Anniversary of the Law Enforcement Torch Run Campaign for Special Olympics raising \$904 million for athletes worldwide. Over the past four decades, law enforcement through the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, has worked to improve the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities.

To date, more than \$17,500 has been raised this year for Special Olympics Washington with more donations to come in over the next two weeks, Jaymelina Esmele informed the Lynnwood Times.

“I’m very proud that my agency is a part of the Law Enforcement torch run supporting special Olympics. The Special Olympics has done so much for [my son] and allowed him to participate in a lot of sports and keep the torch running,” Sgt. Craig Hess, of the Snohomish County Sherriff’s Office, said.

Impacts of COVID

On April 27, 2021, the state office for Special Olympics Washington announced that, due to the evolving COVID-19 situation, Special Olympics Washington would remain virtual through the 2021 spring season and would not be hosting local, region or state events. No in-person training, practices, or gatherings of any kind would be permitted as well.

On August 24, 2021, it was announced that the summer season would return with limited in-person events, beginning August 24 and running through October 12, hosting challenges such as running and walking sports, bocce, cycling, golf, tennis, and fitness activities taking place in various locations throughout Washington.

The in-person events offered were:

- Flag Football
- Volleyball
- Bowling
- Gymnastics
- SONA Move Challenge
- Unified Robotics
- Unified Fitness Clubs

“Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, we have been unable to hold any in-person competitions so far this year, including our State Summer Games. We’ve just started going back to limited in-person practices and it’s our hope

to offer some smaller regional competitions this fall,” Jaymelina Esmele, Vice President, Marketing and Communications for Special Olympics Washington told the Lynnwood Times.

Last year, Saturday, October 23, Special Olympics Washington returned in-person for their 2021 Tasting Room event to raise money for athletes to participate in this year’s 2022 Special Olympics USA games in Orlando, Florida.

The event will be held both in-person, at Fremont Studios, and virtually, via YouTube, for attendees wanting to maintain social distancing. Featured Special Olympics athlete Jacqueline Diaz will speak while guests enjoy delicious meals prepared by chef Ethan Stowell of Ethan Stowell restaurants. An auction by Kilbreath auctions also helped raise money for the cause.

## ABOUT SPECIAL OLYMPICS WASHINGTON

Special Olympics was started by Eunice Kennedy Shriver in 1968 as a way to provide people with intellectual disabilities a place to play and feel included.

Today, her vision has become a global movement with more than 5.7 million

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- 6:00-8:00 Swingy Band

**Saturday July 9th**

- 11:00-1:00 Marcia Kester
- 1:30-2:30 Magician Jeff Martin
- 3:00-4:45 Mother Blue
- 5:30-7:30 Moon Pie Ramblers

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For more information visit: www.lynnwoodwa.gov/Community/Community-Events-Calendar

LYNNWOOD WASHINGTON

# Where in Snohomish County to enjoy the sun

By **KIENAN BRISCOE**

For links to each of the activities mentioned in this article, scan the QR code to the right.



**SNOHOMISH COUNTY** – We made it to summer Washingtonians! After months of being cooped up in our houses avoiding the particularly cold and wet Spring, cuddled up with our happy lights, and eating vitamin D pills like candy to soften the effects of Seasonal Depression Disorder, we have finally been reunited with this fabled, mythic thing, called “sun”.

And now that the time of year is here, the one you always promise exists to your relatives who comment on how “gray and wet” it is when they visit from out of town, the question is: How do we make the most of the limited number of blue skies we get before the Fall returns us to drizzled, introverted homebodies again?

Well lucky for you the Lynnwood Times is here to provide, at least, a steppingstone for your summer planning so you can make the most of the warm weather while it’s here. May you take these suggestions to heart, get outside, and bulk up on rays like a bear gorges on fish before it, too, succumbs to a winter of cold hibernation.

## BEACH FUN THIS SUMMER

Snohomish County beaches may not be the tropical, white sand, palm tree-lined, turquoise watered scenes you’d find on a “wish you were here” postcard but that doesn’t mean they aren’t beautiful in their own way. From the jagged silhouettes of not-too faraway mountains to the evergreen coasts, Pacific Northwest beaches are really something unrivaled especially when the weather cooperates.

If swimming isn’t your thing consider a picnic, reading a book, shaping a sand castle (you’re never too old), or making new friends in a pick-up game of beach volleyball. However you decide to pass the time, doing so with the scent of fresh sea-breeze and sun-warmed sand between your toes is bound to be a summer day well spent. Here is just a short list of Snohomish County beaches well worth a visit.

**Edmonds Marina Beach Park:** Located at 470 Admiral Way (near a bus stop for those who don’t drive), Edmonds Marina Beach Park has 230 acres of BBQ stands, picnic areas, a playground, off-leash dog park, boat launch, and a volleyball net and sand court throughout 47 park and open space sites. The park resides on 1-mile of shoreline looking out into Kingston over gorgeous Puget Sound.

**Edmonds Underwater Park:** You read that right, a park completely submerged in water! And unless you are a rockfish, octopus, or any of the other rich and vibrant marine life that calls this conservation home, it may be best to bring your scuba gear. Established in 1970 by the City of Edmonds and Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Edmonds Underwater Park is one of the Pacific Northwest’s most popular dive destinations with over 25,000 visits from scuba divers a year. Divers can expect to see jellyfish,

sea lions, crabs, multiple species of fish (including salmon), and even the occasional orca while traveling the 27 acre underwater trail. For those who are not certified divers, an above-water beach area makes for the perfect viewpoint for watching divers enter and exit the Salish Sea.

**Howarth Park:** Everett’s Howarth Park is a perfect place to bring your dog, children, family, friends or loved ones. Located at 1127 Olympic Boulevard, right off Mukilteo Boulevard, the parks has multiple walking trails, viewpoints that look out into Possession Sound, an off-leash dog park, and a sandy beach area where you can look for seashells or watch the sunset over the mountains.

**Kayak Point County Park:** A spectacular saltwater beach park located along the shores of picturesque Port Susan at 15610 Marine Drive in Stanwood. From its 3,300 feet of shoreline to its evergreen forests, Kayak Point Park offers a beautiful setting for pier fishing, windsurfing, picnicking, hiking, camping, boat launching and more. Have an ocean view picnic at one of the picnic shelters, a beach bonfire at one of the fire pits, set up some crab pots for Dungeness and red rocks or fish for flounder, sole, true cod, rockfish and walleye pollock year-round and have a fresh seafood feast right on the beach.

**Mukilteo Lighthouse Park:** Perhaps one of the most unique, definitely historical, destinations in Snohomish County is Mukilteo’s Lighthouse Park. Constructed in 1950 on a filled tideland the park has beach access as well as a Historical Society and gift shop for beachgoers looking for a history lesson. This upcoming September 9 through 11 Lighthouse Park will also be the site of Mukilteo’s annual Lighthouse Festival with live music, a beer garden, booths, and food trucks. This year’s festival is especially commemorative as the city will be celebrating its 75th anniversary. Grab a beer or ice cream at Diamond Knot Brewery, some fish n chips from Ivar’s, take a tour of the lighthouse, or watch the seals and sea lions bob their heads in Possession Sound from the beach or pier.

**Picnic Point County Park:** Located on the shores of Puget Sound, Picnic Point Park offers a tranquil and scenic setting for picnicking and beach activities. Tables and charcoal cookers are available for picnicking enjoyment while watching the sunset over Whidbey Island and the distant Olympic Mountain range. With its large pedestrian overpass, the park provides convenient access to the beach, picnic areas, and restrooms. However, those who are physically challenged may require assistance.

**Jetty Island:** While island hopping the 35 unique islands in the Puget Sound is a great adventure any time of year, Everett’s 1-mile-long Jetty Island is a summer must visit for its kiteboarding, beaches, and swimming in the shallow, warm, frothy waters. The adventure of getting to Jetty Island is all part of the fun and open to anyone who can boat, paddle board, or canoe out to the man-made island. A ferry is also available from July 6 to September 5 (Labor Day) Wednesday, Thursdays, and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. and on Friday and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. departing from Jetty Landing on 10th Street and West Marine View

Drive in Everett.

## SUMMER CAMPING ACTIVITIES

Of course what would living in the beautiful Pacific Northwest be like without reconnecting with nature with a camping excursion? Turn the cell-phones and social media off for a weekend, gather a book and board games, pack some simple camp fire meals and retreat to the mountains or forests to reintroduce yourselves to the spirituality of wilderness. While Washington State is certainly not without its surplus of campsites, consider these for some local Snohomish County destinations.

**Kayak Point:** Previously listed as a great beach location, Stanwood’s Kayak Point also offers a great campsite opportunity. What better way to experience a great beach then to call it home for a few days? After a day of fishing at the beach walk back to camp to throw your fresh catches over the fire or explore the surrounding nature trails for your morning exercise.

**Wenberg:** Also, near Stanwood’s waterfront is the award-winning Wenberg Park campsite which

offers splendid opportunities for picnicking, sunbathing, and boating across 45 acres. The park has 70 campsites spread out across three loops, three picnic shelters, an enclosed swim beach with rinse shower, and 1,140 feet of freshwater shoreline with a two-lane concrete boat launch for all your water works.

**River Meadows:** Arlington’s 150-acre River Meadows campsite, 20416 Jordan Road, rests on open meadows and forests along the banks of the Stillaguamish River. You can fish along the mile-long riverbank, camp in the summer or rent a yurt year-round, picnic, hike, geocache, bird watch, or play catch in the meadow. The park’s expansive meadows offer a great location for large events, such as family reunions, scout jamborees, weddings, and community celebrations.

**Flowing Lake:** Flowing Lake Regional Park, also known as Leckie’s Beach, is an immensely popular park that offers a variety of recreational activities. The day-use area provides access to the beach and amenities which include a boat launch, fishing dock, playground, picnic tables, picnic shelters and an amphitheater. For those that wish to stay a little longer, the park includes a campground with a mix of cabins and campsites and a heated restroom with showers. A nature trail encompasses a portion of the campground for those seeking a little solitude. The park and campsite is located at 17900 48th Street Southeast in the city of Snohomish.

**Lake Roesiger:** This beautiful campground is located on the southeast end of Lake Roesiger (across the road from Lake Roesiger County Park), densely wooded and perfect for scout, church, educational groups or family reunions. There are 10 walk-in campsites that can host a total of up to 50 people and all sites are walk-in only with guests

Continued **PAGE 08** >>

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# Dr. Rebecca Miner: Superintendent of Edmonds School District



Edmonds School District Superintendent Dr. Rebecca Miner meeting with students and staff at Woodway Center (preschool and kindergarten campus) on June 9, 2022. Source: Edmonds School District.

## By KIENAN BRISCOE

**LYNNWOOD** – Former Shoreline Superintendent Dr. Rebecca Miner has been selected by the Edmonds School District Board of Directors to serve as interim Superintendent for the 2022 through 2023 school year.

Beginning July 1, Dr. Miner will replace Superintendent Dr. Gustavo Balderas, temporarily, until the school board can find a permanent replacement for the Superintendent position.

After Dr. Balderas announced in March he would be resigning at the end of June for a position in Oregon, the Edmonds School Board has been actively searching for an interim candidate who had superintendent experience as well as a knowledge of Washington State, more specifically Snohomish County. After hiring a search firm and interviewing their top candidates, asking questions provided by stakeholder groups, Dr. Miner was voted to be the board's top pick at their meeting held April 26.

"There are lots of things that a poten-

tial candidate wants to look at," Miner told the Lynnwood Times. "I was very fortunate not to be in a position where I had to take anything that came my way, so I was really able to look at the District and see if I thought the alignment for what they need in the coming year was a good fit for my skillset."

As the school year proceeds Miner hopes to focus her efforts on teaching and learning hoping to reach equitable outcomes for her students while tending to their social, emotional, and mental health needs.

"In the early days I just plan to get to know people as best I can, get to know our facilities, and visiting all of the schools," Dr. Miner shared. "In the summer, our office will be housed in transportation and maintenance so I'm looking forward to getting to know a lot of our staff there since a lot happens in transportation and maintenance over the summer."

Dr. Miner has served as Shoreline School District's Superintendent for seven years and Superintendent with

connections.

## HIKING SUMMER FUN

As quintessential to Northwest life as camping, hiking is spiritually rejuvenating and a great exercise with often rewarding views. Not only will you return back to work, after a weekend of hiking, de-stressed and ready to tackle the weekly grind, you'll also have some pretty impressive photos for your social media or online dating profiles as well. Whether you do it for meditation, urban detachment, exercise, or social media glamor, at the very least you should feel accomplished you utilized the summer weather to participate in a self-care activity with multiple health benefits.

**Mount Pilchuck:** Mount Pilchuck is a 5.4-mile (roundtrip) trail with a 2,300-elevation gain rising up to 5,327 feet in the air. It is considered an intermediate difficulty but one of the most rewarding hikes in the area with 360-degree views of Mount Baker, Mount Rainier, and the Olympics from the shelter lookout at its summit. It is located in the North Cascades off the Mountain Loop Highway.

**Heather Lake:** For inexperienced hikers, or children breaking in their hiking boots, Heather Lake may be a more approachable option than Mount Pilchuck

White Pass School District, just south of Mount Rainier, for three years prior to that. She is currently working with the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA) as inclusionary practices project lead and serves as the interim assistant superintendent for teaching, learning and equity in the Evergreen School District.

After serving as a superintendent for ten years, Miner decided to step down from her position in Shoreline because she felt it was about time for a "tinge of adventure" and to "try something different."

"Like many of us, the pandemic really limited the things we could engage in that we love. After ten years, it seemed like a perfect time for me to take a break and I was very, very, grateful to have the opportunity to do that and do that WASA work for a year before coming back into the work of superintendency," Miner said.

Miner shared with the Lynnwood Times the areas of opportunity and challenges she has observed in the Edmonds School District are not too different than the challenges faced in most districts in the public school system such as transitioning out of remote learning, and staffing shortages.

"Continuing to recruit and retain a high quality, passionate workforce to support district operations will continue to be a priority," Miner told the Lynnwood Times.

Through touring many schools in the District, most recently Spruce Elementary, Miner was impressed with the school staff's commitment to student learning and intentional focus on students and their needs.

Miner began her extensive history working in public education teaching special education and language arts at

the high school level, and Spanish language and special education at the middle school level.

"The opportunity I've had to work as a special educator, working with families...it's a lens I look through with all of the work I do having those experiences. It helped shape me as an educator and drives my work going forward," Miner told the Lynnwood Times.

Before becoming an educator, Miner had always had a tremendous love for school even spending her summers creating lesson plans for her friends, three sisters, or stuffed animals when she was a child. When her father returned home from serving in World War II, he attended college on the G.I. bill. Around the same time, Miner's mother, who had an eighth-grade education and grew up on a farm in North Dakota, received her G.E.D. Her sister attended college and eventually received her Doctorate. Seeing the impact a college education had on her family, solidified Miner's love for education and inspired her to become an educator herself one day.

"I just always saw education as pretty fun and something that could really open doors for you," Miner said.

Miner grew up in Vancouver, Washington. She and her husband, Timothy Buckley, look forward to relocating to the Snohomish County area where she imagines many of her neighbors will often spot her walking her one-year-old pug mix, Stanley, in the surrounding parks. When she's not serving in public education, she prides herself on being a "somewhat pro" knitter.

The school board will begin an extensive national search for the District's next permanent superintendent position, seeking input from key stakehold-

*Continued* **PAGE 10 >>**

## from page 7 SUMMER FUN

carrying their belongings to the sites from the nearby parking lot. While the hike to each of the campsites is short it is also steep and may be strenuous for some. However, a ADA site is also available to those who need it.

**Squire Creek:** Just outside the Town of Darrington, at 41415 State Road 530, enjoy a peaceful camping experience among the trees. Squire Creek offers camping among the beautiful moss-laden trees of an old-growth forest. The park is a perfect staging area for adventures into the Mount Baker – Snoqualmie National Forest, hiking to the base of Whitehorse Mountain, or participating in the Bluegrass Festival in Darrington and the Summer Melt-down Festival (see Summer events). Access to the Sauk River is just five minutes away at Backman Park and two large picnic shelters are located near the crystal clear waters of Squire Creek.

**Whitehorse:** Also located just outside the Town of Darrington, Whitehorse Regional Park Campground becomes the ultimate "gate-a-way" in Snohomish County, with close access to the Whitehorse Trail, North Mountain bike trails, and other DNR and Forest Service lands. 15 of the 18 spacious sites have water, 50 amp power, and sewer

with only 1,034 miles of elevation gain in a 4.6-mile roundtrip. Although not as challenging as Mount Pilchuck, the sights are just as rewarding opening up into a scenic lake on the Southeast slope of Mount Pilchuck after a series of manageable switchbacks. The trailhead is also located in the North Cascades off the Mountain Loop Highway.

**Lake 22:** The curiously named Lake Twenty-two is the center of an oasis of alpine wetland nestled on the northern shoulder of Mount Pilchuck. The hike to the lake combines the best of mountain rainforests, old-growth, wetlands, and mountain views, yet it is readily accessible. In winter, the route to Lake 22 can be avalanche prone in winter. It's best to wait until the snow is melted on this popular Mountain Loop Highway trail. The trail is 5.4 miles roundtrip with a 1,350 feet elevation gain ending in gorgeous views of a lake enshrouded by the cliffs of Mount Pilchuck.

**Walt Bailey Trail and Cutthroat Lakes:** At 6.8 miles roundtrip and 2,300 feet of elevation, the Walt Bailey Trail in Granite Falls will take you through the stunning Morning Star Natural Resources Conservation area and ending at Cutthroat Lake, a perfect destination to celebrate your achievement with a well-deserved picnic. The trailhead can be found in the North Cascades off the Mountain Loop Highway.

**Greider Lakes Trail:** For those seeking alpine vistas and a solid workout this 8.6-mile roundtrip trail scaling 2,035 feet of elevation, may be just what you need. Located in the Central Cascades, by Stevens Pass. Be sure to pack a hearty lunch and good hiking boots, you may be needing some replenishment after conquering the 40 switchbacks and 1,000 feet elevation in less than 1.5 miles.

**Wallace Falls:** Wallace Falls, located in the Central Cascades by Stevens Pass, is an approachable and rewarding hike with a relatively low difficulty. At just 5.6 miles roundtrip and 1,300 feet of elevation gain, the trail follows the breathtaking, eponymous, nine water falls branching off into several viewpoints and picnic areas along the way. If you're looking for a first hike of the year this may be a good start as the multiple viewing points allow you to go at your own pace and gauge your stamina before deciding to proceed or head back.

## SUMMER OF FUN EVENTS

**Summer Melt-down Festival:** If you enjoy multi-day, camping, sleepless electronic dance music festivals featuring artists like Griz, STS9, Greensky Bluegrass, and Jade Cicada, well Sum-

*Continued* **PAGE 10 >>**



# Armed daylight carjacking in Lynnwood City Center



Right: Picture of Isaac Faletego. Top: Picture of white RV. Photos courtesy of Lynnwood PD.

By KIENAN BRISCOE

**LYNNWOOD** – On June 24, at approximately 2:41 p.m. Lynnwood Police responded to an assault weapon located at 3611 196th Street Southwest Unit 106 (Lamps Plus). Dispatch stated that “someone held someone up with a gun” and the reporting party heard a single gunshot and ran away.

While officers were en route, reports that the subject had carjacked a burgundy-colored Honda were made. Incoming units spotted a vehicle matching that description driving recklessly down 196th Street Southwest running multiple red lights, completely driving off the road onto pedestrian sidewalks, and committing multiple hit-and-runs with occupied motorists. While attempts to stop the vehicle were made, no pursuit was initiated to remain in accordance with new legislation regarding an Officer’s authority to pursue a vehicle as no probable cause was found for qualifying violent crime or a continued threat to the public.

Just moments before a shirtless individual wearing a black hat and bearing a .38 revolver approached a 72-year-old woman (Victim A), in her mint-colored Prius right outside of Lamps Plus. The man, later identified as Isaac Faletego, 38, pointed his pistol at her and demanded she give him a ride to Seattle several times before commanding her to exit the vehicle so he could steal

it. She complied, exited her vehicle, and Faletego demanded she start the vehicle, which was already running, appearing to not be familiar with electric vehicles. When he unfastened the emergency break causing the vehicle to roll backwards, Victim A, ran towards Lamps Plus for her own protection hearing two gun shots behind her which she believed were targeted at the woman parked beside her.

The 56-year-old woman beside her, Victim B, was sitting in her vehicle eating her lunch when she witnessed Faletego approach Victim A’s vehicle, demanding she take him to Seattle and eventually attempting to carjack her. At one point Victim B told Officers that Faletego turned his attention on her and fired two shots in her direction hitting her vehicle. When Victim A fled her vehicle toward Lamps Plus, Victim B observed Faletego attempt to pursue her before heading out into the intersection at 196th Street Southwest and 36th Avenue West where he attempted to steal a car from another woman.

A third woman, Victim C, was approached by Faletego, as she was stopped in her vehicle at the traffic light on 36th Avenue West and 196th Street Southwest. Faletego pointed a firearm at her and demanded she exit her vehicle, firing two additional rounds in the back seat of her vehicle which did not hit strike her. She exited her vehicle and fled towards the Lynnwood Con-

vention Center for her safety. Victim A’s vehicle key fob was eventually found where this struggle ensued and was returned to her.

Multiple witnesses on scene told Officers they observed a white RV involved in a collision on the south side of Lamps Plus. Its driver, a shirtless man wearing a black hat and carrying a revolver, exited the RV and began walking towards the southwest side of Lamps Plus. Later it was discovered the driver of the RV was involved in multiple hit-and-runs on I-5 and surrounding jurisdictions before entering the city of Lynnwood and abandoning it by Lamps Plus. Its driver, Faletego, had been approached within weeks of the incident by Lynnwood PD while he had been living there.

One witness took a photo of Faletego

as he exited his RV. Another witness captured video of his attempted carjacking as he was leaving a nearby restaurant with some friends. Both of these were used to later identify Faletego after he had been apprehended.

Faletego was contacted in Victim C’s stolen vehicle in Seattle near the 8500 block of Aurora Avenue and was taken into custody by Seattle PD. He was identified by video and photos of his committed crimes, as well as the LPD Sergeant involved in the attempted stop of his vehicle, and a victim of his carjacking.

He was booked at the Snohomish County Jail under the charges of three counts of Robbery with a gun in the first degree and three counts of assault with a gun in the first degree. His bail was set at \$120,000.

from page 5 **SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

athletes competing in 200 countries and jurisdictions.

Special Olympics is run almost entirely by volunteers and provides year-round competition opportunities for athletes at the local, area and state levels contributing to their physical, social, and psychological development. Through successful experiences in sports, the athletes gain confidence and build a positive self-image which carries over into the classroom, home, job and com-

munity.

Special Olympics Washington is a registered charitable organization governed under Federal Statutes of the State of Washington. Contribution may be considered tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law. Please note that valuations listed are a good faith estimate and any amount paid in excess of value is allowable as a charitable deduction.

from page 7 **SUMMER FUN**

mer Meltdown at Snohomish's Sky Meadows Park might be right up your alley. Get down with the cool kids July 18 through 31, dress up in your favorite thrift finds, break out the neon and glow sticks, and head to what I imagine will be an exhausting, but memorable, weekend. Tickets for this event range from \$275 to \$340 for the multi-day festival.

**Snohomish Cider Festival:** Of course hiking and camping are all good fun in the spirit of Washington Culture, but so is enjoying our state's most famous fruit. The fact that its fermented and turned into an alcoholic beverage is only another reason why the 2022 Snohomish Cider Festival is bound to be a good time. On Sunday, August 7, at Thomas Family Farm, participate in an afternoon sampling some great Northwest brewed ciders and meads while grubbing out on one of the many food trucks and listening to some live tunes. Tickets range from \$5 to \$45.

**2022 Upper Left Beerfest:** Pretty much in the same wheelhouse as the Cider Festival, you can probably gather what

the Upper Left Beerfest is by its name alone. On April 12 through 13, at 2930 Wetmore Avenue, you can take to the streets of downtown Everett tasting local brews to your hearts content while feasting on the wares of food trucks and embarrassing yourself with your dance moves to live music (depending on how much you sample). Tickets are \$20 a day (\$30 for two days) and \$5 for designated drivers.

**Midgard Viking Festival:** While most Snohomish County residents of European descent claim Irish or German heritage, there's still a surprising amount of Scandinavians descendants in our county with Seattle basically being the last outpost for Scandinavian immigrants whose first stop were the midwestern cities. Whether or not you can trace your lineage back to the Vikings of old, you can at least play the part at Arlington's Viking Festival on September 10 through 11, throwing axes, foam sword fighting, or drinking aquavit from a Kantis while holding on to your horned helmets. Tickets are \$10 for the day.

**Lynnwood Shakespeare in the Park:**

The Alderwood Terrace Rotary is presenting four of the Bard's plays at the Lynndale Park Amphitheater this summer for absolutely zero cost. On July 13 the Seattle Shakespeare Company will be performing the strange, but iconic, *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

On July 14 the troop will switch their gears to tragedy with *Cymbelina*, about a famed, but doomed, Celtic King. On July 28 the players perform the Jacobean *Pericles* and conclude with the historical *Henry V* on August 4. Bring some wine and picnic food for a cheap, enjoyable, date night, or teach the kids cultural drama while supporting the local arts.

**Mill Creek Festival:** Right in the heart of downtown Mill Creek, at 16300 Mill Creek Boulevard, the Mill Creek Chamber of Commerce will be holding its 2022 Mill Creek Festival and Street Fair on July 16 with two stages of music from 9 local bands, arts and crafts by 60 different artists, 10 food booths, and plenty of things to do and see for the whole family.

At 20,000 attendees each year, the Mill

Creek Festival and Street Fair is one of the city's largest events and is sure to offer a variety of fun, summer fun.

**WHAT MATTERS TO YOU?**

The Lynnwood Times wants to know what issues you would like us investigate Email [editorial@lynnwoodtimes.com](mailto:editorial@lynnwoodtimes.com).

from page 8 **DR. MINER**

ers, beginning this fall. When the Lynnwood Times asked Dr. Miner if she had any plans of remaining in the ESD superintendent position or, if not, what came next, she said:

"My career goal, at its most foundational, is just to serve public education in a place where my skills match up with the needs of the district or organization I'm working for. I don't have any firm plans other than just doing a great job in the coming year."

To follow Dr. Miner on Twitter, click here or search @SuptMiner.

from page 4 **JIM CORCORAN**

to put a hold on having volunteers. This was very upsetting to Jim since he enjoyed his daily visits with staff and kids. The day he was told that we could not have people in the building, he called my office and said, "This is Jim Corcoran and I guess you are putting me on the payroll." We were able to work out parking lot visits instead," Marci Volmer, Boys and Girls Club South County Chief Operating Officer, told the Lynnwood Times.

Through the Club, Corcoran sponsored around 7-10 youth sports teams for many years including the basketball teams his grandson, Alex, coaches. His sponsorship did not end with donations and his name on the jersey, however. He also became very involved with the teams he sponsored, attending every game they played to show his support.

"If we weren't [at the Boys and Girls Club] every day something was wrong," Alex Hendrick said. "Every time I was at the Boys and Girls club there was at least one team with the Corcoran name on their back."

Corcoran was extremely close to his grandson Alex as he grew up, encouraging him to be the athlete he once was. By the time Alex was walking, his grandfather had him throwing a tennis ball up in the air and trying to hit it with a bat on his 3.45-acres of land in Bothell.

"James, (Jim) Corcoran, 'The Colonel' as I referred to him, was a 'straightforward enigma,'" Tom Teigen, Director for the Snohomish County Conservation and Natural Resources Department wrote in a statement to the Lynnwood Times regarding Corcoran. "He was a Special Forces, Green Beret, Veteran Warrior, Seasoned Colonel, and truly a caring, teddy bear at heart. He loved his community and invested in our youth by sponsoring hundreds of youth sport teams and programs over many decades.

"He approached the County in 2007 and together we started a 13-year journey that would have him gifting his beautiful 3.34-acre property to the residents of Snohomish County.

Because of his wisdom and foresight, we were together able to create an amazing public park space. He was my friend and collaborator, and I dearly miss him."

On September 11, 2019, Corcoran pushed his generosity and love for his community to new heights by donating this land to Snohomish County to be turned into Corcoran Memorial Park. The land at that time was valued at \$1,573,800 making it one of the highest-valued land donations in Snohomish County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department's 57-year history.

"We're not a real wealthy family and for someone to give that kind of property away is tremendously generous," Dean Corcoran, Jim's nephew and Executor of his uncle's estate, told the Lynnwood Times.

While the park may be a couple years away from opening, a playground was open just this year allowing Corcoran to see his dream at least begin to take shape. Alex informed the Lynnwood Times that his grandfather loved children and dogs so two "must haves" he had, while envisioning the park, were a playground where children could play and an off-leash dog park. The park will also feature parking and a picnic area for visitors to enjoy for generations.

"It was something he talked about my entire life...I just want it to be everything he always wanted, and to be able to walk around with my kids and tell them all the memories I had here," Alex said.

The property will be known as the Corcoran Memorial Park in memory of Mr. Corcoran's younger brother who died in 1970 shortly after serving in Vietnam with the 82nd Airborne Division, his nephew who perished in the 2014 Oso Mudslide, and the memory of other loved ones lost in a plane crash in 1960 while serving in the Navy. Most recently the park will also honor Jim Corcoran himself and his life, legacy, and extremely generous contributions to his community.

"He wanted it to be the way he wanted it to be, so that's why it took such a long time. He had a lot of requests about

the park to make sure he supported the community around it," Lynnwood City Council member Shannon Sessions told the Lynnwood Times. "He was hoping Lynnwood would annex that area so it could become a Lynnwood Park but that didn't happen, so it went to the County."

Councilwoman Sessions first met Corcoran 30 years ago as a husband to her best friend's mother. In a lot of ways, she has felt like a member of Corcoran's family, attending many of the potlucks, picnics, and events he would host on his land. Councilwoman Sessions, a fellow Air Force veteran, recalled her working relationship with Corcoran over the years helping many of Lynnwood's Veteran community.

"If you were on Jim's good side you were certainly a fortunate person. If he saw that you were a hard worker and wanted to get to the next level, he would make sure that you got to do that," Sessions told the Lynnwood Times. "If you were one of the lucky ones, he cared about you very deeply."

Sessions and her husband Keith, also a close friend with Corcoran, visited him in the hospital during his final days on earth and asked if he was ready to go. Corcoran replied he was...that he had a good life, and that he was just waiting around to see his park come into fruition.

"When he was in the hospital one of the nurses read an article about Jim giving his land away and said, 'Oh my gosh Jim, you are a saint' and he said, 'No, I just want to share the wealth' and that's what he did his entire life," Sharon Jungers, Corcoran's partner, said.

During his last six to eight weeks, daily tasks became harder for Corcoran. To those who knew him best, not seeing him attend the Boys and Girls Club to root on his teams was concerning. After struggling with his health for the past couple months Jim William Corcoran passed away on Tuesday, June 14, 2022.

**BELOW IS A STATEMENT FROM ONE OF JIM'S MENTEES AND FRIENDS, JEFF HILL**

"I've known Jim Corcoran since 1971,

when we met in the Army at Ft Holabird, MD. His brother, Richard, had recently been killed in an automobile accident, and I apparently resembled Richard in mannerisms and humor. I became a surrogate younger brother. Jim was 30 and I was 22. Jim and I became fast friends, but it developed into much more than that.

"We ended up in the same Special Forces unit in Okinawa, where he became not only my Commanding Officer, but my mentor. Jim was a great CO who enjoyed the confidence and respect of his Enlisted men and Officers, including his superior officers. He read people exceedingly well and was able to identify their strengths and bring out the best in them, be it fellow soldiers or the ROTC students that he had great success in recruiting in the mid-late 70's, post-Vietnam, when public opinion of the Army was at a nadir.

"I know about the ROTC students because, as it happened, Jim was sent to be an ROTC instructor at the same university that I was attending after I left the service. The students loved him.

"On graduation, Jim was adamant that I apply to the FBI, based on my background in Special Forces, languages, and Counterintelligence (which also happened to be among the many qualifications in his background). I was accepted and spent 26 years in the FBI as a Special Agent. I was assigned to offices in Detroit, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Baltimore, and Milwaukee. Jim visited me and my family at each one of those assignments – we maintained big brother – little brother relationship for 51 years.

"I have visited him in Washington several times. We reminisced a lot of the old times, but of all of his accomplishments – in his military career, a career with Boeing, in his retirement – the things that mattered most to him were the Boys and Girls Club, and the donation of his property for construction of a public park to be named, in part, after his brother, Richard.

"RIP, Jim. You were a wonderful friend, Great CO, mentor, and big brother."

from page 1 **ARCHBISHOP MURPHY**

“Acting on film is very different than acting on stage, in some respects, like transmitting emotion so much clearer through your face because you can get the camera right there. With a face mask you lose some of that so several of our scenes were rewritten to be outside,” Stainer said.

Starring in the film are students Emma Kormanyos, 17, playing the part of Holly Emerson, and Steven Locke, 18, playing the part of Harry Rogers. Co-writer and assistant director Julia Hawkins also makes an appearance as Margaret Lytte.

Kormanyos, who also designed some of the costumes, joined the cast of Bridgehurst with virtually no acting background, coming from a background as an accomplished figure skater. She drew her inspiration, for her character, from Anne of Green Gables.

Director Brent Steiner explained to the Lynnwood Times that accommodating their filming schedule with Kormanyos’ skating schedule was another noticeable benefit of working with film rather than stage where actors are typically required to meet for ten to twelve weeks for rehearsals and performances. In film, the shooting schedule allows more flexibility for students like Emma, who had other demanding extracurricular commitments.

“I thought it would be fun to do acting but I never really had the chance because I was always skating. I heard people talking about the movie in choir, so I auditioned and ended up getting a pretty cool role,” Kormanyos told the Lynnwood Times.

Kormanyos’ co-star Locke has been acting in stage plays since the 8th grade and participated in every AMHS production, with the exception of their first film Love at First Zoom, due to complications with COVID. He drew inspiration, in preparation for his role, from a part he played in What Love Looks Like. His favorite memory of working on the project was watching it for the first time at the premier.

“Brent fully believes in giving students as much responsibility as they’re willing to take on and I really appreciate that,” Locke said.

In addition to the film being co-written, co-directed, and starred by high school students, it was also completely film scored by student Elliot Montoya, 17, who has participated in AMHS’s musical programs through jazz band and choir for the last three years.

Montoya informed the Lynnwood Times that when he was approached to do the score for the film, he was told “think Pirates of the Caribbean.” He did this by studying what he called “classic film” – scores from the 50’s

and 60’s that eventually became the inspiration for the score of Bridgehurst.

“I was thinking, ok, I’m a sixteen-year-old kid with no access to an orchestra so we’re going to have to work something out here,” Montoya said.

Following the completion of the film, a red-carpet premier was held on April 8 at Historic Everett Theater. It also ran at Stanwood Cinemas until May 28.

After receiving some traction on its IMDB page, film broker TMA and New Jersey-based BayView Entertainment contacted Stainer to discuss distribution rights and, after striking a deal, Bridgehurst Asylum for the Sane will also be releasing to streaming services, like Amazon and Hulu, and DVD at a yet-to-be-determined date.

“I’m very much a theater purist but film has done things I wasn’t expecting,” Stainer told the Lynnwood Times.

“One thing about film is we have a product years later that’s just as viable as when we first did it. In stage we can record a live show but it’s still just a recording that doesn’t carry the weight of that life show. In film years later it’s going to be just as good of a performance as it was when we first made it.”

from page 3 **MAYOR FRIZZELL**

been increasing at a rapid pace, too. According to Frizzell, “Since 2015, Lynnwood has seen over \$1 billion in private investment.” Also, in compliance with the State’s Growth Management Act, Lynnwood is constructing a legion of new apartments. “Currently, we have nearly 3700 units either in the permitting process or under construction,” she said.

Later in her remarks, Mayor Frizzell circled back to roads. “When we ask our community what Lynnwood needs to improve, the overwhelming response is ‘our roads!’” After reiterating how several improvement projects are underway in the City, Frizzell assured residents that small neighborhood streets have not been forgotten.

“Our public works crews are busy keeping up maintenance of our more than 300 lane-miles of roads,” said Frizzell. “This crew works on crack sealings, pothole repairs, and other road maintenance so we can extend the life of our streets and sidewalks.”

The City also has a 5-year Pavement Management Plan funded by the Transportation Benefit District’s tax revenue, and the City Council even recently allocated American Rescue Plan Act funds to address road maintenance needs.

Funding for all of these projects and more, according to Frizzell, is secured largely through partnerships and collaborations. “It is imperative that we work collaboratively with our community partners, with our neighboring jurisdictions, and especially with our federal and state legislative representatives.”

The City’s close relationship with the State’s representatives is evident in the \$12 million awarded for the construction of the Community Recovery Center from the State’s capital budget, the \$10 million for the Poplar Way Bridge extension from the Move Ahead Washington Transportation package, and the

final \$1 million needed to complete phase two of the Scribber Creek Trail project mentioned earlier, which was secured by Rep. Rick Larsen as part of the 2022 bipartisan spending package.

Mayor Frizzell publicly thanked Senators Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray, Congressman Rick Larsen, Washington State Senators Jesse Salomon, Marko Liias, and Representatives Lauren Davis, Cindy Ryu, Strom Peterson, and Lilian Ortiz-Self for their recognition of Lynnwood’s priorities.

Speaking of finances, Frizzell shared how the City was able to fully restore its reserves after the pandemic and is currently working on its 2024 Comprehensive Plan. Similar to how Lynnwood’s Development and Business Services Department (DBS) encouraged residents to share their ideas for the City’s future during ‘Big Ideas Month,’ Mayor Frizzell said, “The City Council and I invite you to provide your thoughts and input to help us identify our highest priorities for the upcoming years,” and announced that a public hearing will be held in September to receive community input on budget priorities.

Mayor Frizzell also spoke about the City’s increased focus on equity and removing barriers that prevent community members from receiving city services. A part of this emphasis on equity has been hiring Lynnwood’s first Race and Social Justice Coordinator, who is working to help “move our city forward” to create “more equitable and inclusive policies, programs, and services.”

“In Lynnwood, we believe that all are welcome, and we believe that all belong,” Frizzell continued. “Over the past several decades, the demographics of Lynnwood have greatly diversified. Our 2020 Census data shows that Lynnwood is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse cities in Snohomish County.”

For Mayor Frizzell, this exceptional diversity places an added importance on inclusive engagement in the City. After describing the city staff’s efforts to actively reach all members of the community so that everyone’s voices can be heard, she said, “We still have lots of work to do, but we are making great efforts towards making more room at the table.”

In closing, Frizzell thanked city staff again for their tremendous work, expressed her excitement for the upcoming community events this summer, and said, “We want to make Lynnwood more lovable, more livable, more safe, more welcoming, and to do this, we need your help. We are asking that you join us. Get informed about what’s going on. Join us at community events and public meetings—both virtually and in person. Give us your feedback, your thoughts and ideas. It’s going to take all of us working together to imagine an even better Lynnwood.”

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from page 2 **COACH KENNEDY**

calls into question decades of subsequent precedents that it deems “offshoot[s]” of that decision.”

**STATEMENT FROM OSPI  
CHRIS REYKDAL**

Chris Reykdal, State Superintendent of the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, released the following statement regarding the landmark U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in the Kennedy v. Bremerton School District case.

“Today, the Court ruled in Kennedy v. Bremerton School District that public school employees may engage in voluntary prayer during school activities so long as they do not require or coerce students to participate.

“This case challenged a directive by the Bremerton School District that suspended a high school football coach for conducting prayers on the football field after high school football games. In its ruling, the Court affirmed that public school employees have a legal right to engage in individual prayer during school activities so long as it is not part of the employee’s official responsibilities and there is not an explicit or implied expectation that students or other staff join the prayer.

“It remains illegal and unethical for public school employees to coerce, pressure, persuade, or force students, players, staff, or other participants to engage in any religious practice as a condition of playing, employment,

belonging, or participation. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and local school districts will continue to investigate complaints of any public school official who attempts to use their positional authority or taxpayer resources to compel anybody associated with the school, including students, to participate in religious expression of any form.

**FOOTBALL COACH KENNEDY  
V. BREMERTON SCHOOL  
DISTRICT, NO. 21-418**

In September of 2015, the Bremerton School District learned of Coach Kennedy’s after-game prayers when an opposing coach notified the principal at Mr. Kennedy’s school. From 2008 to 2015, Coach Kennedy served as an assistant coach for the Bremerton High School’s (BHS) varsity football team and head coach for the school’s junior varsity squad. According to court documents, he would “give thanks through prayer at the conclusion of each game for what the players accomplished and for the opportunity to be part of their lives through football.” The prayer was voluntary.

A BHS administrator then “expressed disapproval” to Kennedy, prompting him to post on Facebook: “I think I just might have been fired for praying.”

On September 17, 2015, the superintendent, Aaron Leavell, sent Kennedy a letter informing him of the district’s investigation into whether “District staff have appropriately complied” with the school board’s policy on “Religious-Related Activities

and Practices.”

The District concluded its investigation stating that Kennedy violated its policy. The district also set forth new guidelines for Kennedy’s religious expression. Kennedy could “engage in religious activity, including prayer, so long as it does not interfere with job responsibilities,” the activity is “physically separate from any student activity, and students [are] not ... allowed to join such activity.”

On October 14, 2015, Coach Kennedy sent a letter to Supt. Leavell and the school board informing them of his held religious belief that he is compelled to pray following each football game. He also formally requested a religious accommodation under Title VII to engage in a brief, quiet, solitary prayer at midfield at the conclusion of BHS games.

At his next football game, as instructed by the September 17 letter, Kennedy waited until the students began engaging in other conduct “physically separate” from him—namely, walking toward the stands to sing the post-game fight song. He then knelt at the 50-yard line, closed his eyes, and prayed a brief, quiet prayer.

While he was kneeling with his eyes closed, coaches and players from the opposing team, along with members of the public, decided to join him on the field and to kneel beside him.

Various media documented the gathering, as “media attention” regarding the district’s efforts to stop

Kennedy’s prayer had by then “gained steam.”

On October 23, 2015, the district prohibited Kennedy from engaging in any “demonstrative religious activity” that is “readily observable to (if not intended to be observed by) students and the attending public.” The district offered to “accommodate” Kennedy’s religious exercise by permitting him to pray in secret in a “private location within the school building, athletic facility[,] or press box.”

At the next game, Coach Kennedy knelt alone at the 50-yard line and bowed his head for a brief, quiet prayer. Two days later, the district placed Kennedy on paid administrative leave and prohibited him from “participating in any capacity in the BHS football program.”

In a public document entitled “Bremerton School District Statement and Q&A Regarding Assistant Football Coach Joe Kennedy,” the district stated that Kennedy “will not participate, in any capacity, in BHS football program activities” until he “affirms his intention to comply with the District’s directives.”

In November 2015, for the first time in Kennedy’s BHS coaching career, the district gave him a poor performance evaluation. The evaluation advised against rehiring Kennedy because he allegedly “failed to follow district policy” regarding religious expression and “failed to supervise student athletes after games.”

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for 21st Senate



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for 2nd Congressional Representative

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