

Should the city of Lynnwood allow an opioid treatment center to open next to a Boys & Girls Club?

Yes: 4.79% (19 votes)

No: 95.21% (378 votes)

Lynnwood mama and papa bears protest opening of methadone clinic



Pictured (L-R) Yucong He, Yang Xu, Joe Hou, Vivian Dong, Rachel Zhang, Nancy Guo and Boshan. Some of the parents the attended the City Council Meeting on January 9, 2023, to voice their concern to the Lynnwood City Council on the opening of a proposed opioid treatment center near the Alderwood Boys & Girls Club. Lynnwood Times

By MARIO LOTMORE

LYNNWOOD—Roughly 70 parents, children and concerned community members forgo Saturday’s Wild Card game between the Seahawks and 49ers to voice their outrage to a proposed methadone clinic just 433 feet away from the Alderwood Boys & Girls Club and 200 feet from the Alderwood Little League in Lynnwood. Officially called the Lynnwood Comprehensive Treatment Center, the proposed Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) is scheduled to open on January 30, according to Acadia Healthcare.

Last Saturday’s rally in front of proposed opioid treatment center was led by Vivian Dong, a Lynnwood “Mama Bear” of three and spokeswoman for Safe Lynnwood, a growing grassroots movement of approximately 600 residents opposing the location of the treatment facility near the local Boys & Girls Club.

“I want to make it clear that our coalition supports treatment centers, our concern is the potential impact on the safety of the kids who will be playing baseball less than 200 feet away, as well as the potential increase in crime, homelessness, and traffic congestion in an area without adequate parking and local infrastructure support,” Dong told attendees.

“Acadia submitted an incomplete Community Relations Plan and violated DOH guidelines. The Department of Health should put this project on hold and reject Acadia’s OTP certifica-

tion application,” Dong added.

Dong criticized the Washington Department of Health and Representative Lauren Davis (D-Shoreline) for not putting “children before money,” and not putting “public safety before a mega billion corporation.” Dong called on Rep. Davis to “put the needs of the community before political agendas.”

Davis, who is advocating for the OTP, shared with the Lynnwood Times days earlier that she “wholeheartedly understand[s] the frustration of community members” and that this “acrimonious situation could’ve been prevented or lessened by improved communication.”

“I believe Acadia could have and should have done a much better job regarding outreach to neighbors, community organizations, law enforcement, and city electeds,” Davis told the Lynnwood Times. “Acadia has a significant amount of making up to do and I have shared this feedback with them directly.”

Davis confirmed with the Lynnwood Times that she was not involved in relocating the Acadia Healthcare treatment center from Bothell to Lynnwood and was unaware of the facility’s opening until Councilman Hurst informed her in late December.

Four Lynnwood City Council members joined Saturday’s protest – Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, Shirley Sutton, Jim Smith, and Patrick Decker. Council President Shannon Session, who sup-

ports moving the clinic to a better location, told the Lynnwood Times that she had a conflict but did watch part of the protest on the Lynnwood Times livestream. Councilman Joshua Binda, who confirmed his attendance with Safe Lynnwood, did not show up to the rally.

Councilman George Hurst was also unable to attend but provided a statement to be read on his behalf.

Hurst sharply criticized the mayor’s leadership in failing “all the people of Lynnwood” and in her staff concealing the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy and business license during public testimony by city councilmembers.

“The City administration has failed to be part of what should have been a transparent process,” Hurst wrote a statement that was read on his behalf at Saturday’s rally. “On December 14, the Mayor told me that no one at the City knew about this proposed location for a methadone clinic. But the truth is, Acadia applied for City permits in June, started the remodel of the space in October and passed a final City inspection on December 16.

“For our January 3rd Council meeting I asked the Director of the City Development Business Services (DBS) to provide a complete timeline regarding this site. At that meeting he withheld the fact that a Lynnwood business license was given to Acadia on December 7th and that on December 19th a City Certificate of Occupation (COO) was given to Acadia.

“These last steps of City staff approval for Acadia’s methadone clinic were only revealed after I emailed the Director on January 10th and asked him specifically if there was a Certificate of Occupation and a business license.”

Lynnwood Mayor Christine Frizzell told the Lynnwood Times that she will not consider disciplinary action against Development & Business Services Director David Kleitsch nor any members of his staff for concealing the proposed opioid treatment facility from the public, the city council, and her office.

“Director Kleitsch and other employees did what was in their authority to do under the current code and based on the occupants claims to outreach, acted within their scope of work,” Mayor Frizzell replied in an email response to the Lynnwood Times inquiring if she will fire or ask for Dir. Kleitsch’s resignation. “There was not any abuse of power and no firings or resignations are warranted.”

In March, Acadia Healthcare requested a zoning clarification to use the proposed commercial space for medical use in which the planning department confirmed. Because “substance abuse facilities” are considered essential public facilities, according to the RCW 71.24.590, as long as it meets the zoning requirements, it can lawfully be considered for licensing and certification by DOH.

According to permits obtained by the

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PORT OF EVERETT NAMED 2022 PORT OF THE YEAR



The Port of Everett was named 2022 Port of the Year by the Washington Public

Ports Association (WPPA) – a member organization representing the interests of the 75 public port districts in Washington state through government relations, education, and advocacy programs.

Since 1987, WPPA has presented its prestigious President’s Port of the Year Award to recognize a member port that has demonstrated exceptional success in the port industry. The award honors the Port of Everett for its leadership in innovation in the Everett community and the Port world.

24 HOUR FITNESS RISES FROM THE ASHES OF PANDEMIC-LED BANKRUPTCY



Gym industry giant 24 Hour Fitness, like many health clubs, was hit hard by pandemic restrictions in 2020 that resulted in the closure of over 100 locations and the company filing bankruptcy that same year. However, 24 Hour Fitness was far from throwing in the towel. By December of 2021, the company rose from the ashes of bankruptcy, re-branded, with a new Board of Directors, offering new innovative services and a new vision to reel back its members.

The fitness company released its 24Go fitness app before the pandemic hit but became a useful tool when gyms shut down. The app allows members to have access to thousands of virtual workouts straight from their smartphones or televisions. The app is intended for those who may still feel uncomfortable re-

turning to a community-based fitness facility, or otherwise unable to visit, and accommodates a wide variety of fitness goals and member’s access to equipment.

Other innovative rollouts include MODUS small group training, HIIT+ mindfulness programs, Nutrishop, iCRYO (focusing on recovery such as vitamin shots), and 9 Round, but these services are currently only offered in select locations, none of them currently in Washington.

PAINE FIELD EMPLOYEES GAIN ESTEEMED AAAE CERTIFICATIONS



Three Paine Field Airport employees have received esteemed certifications from the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) last year including Joshua Marcy, Deputy Airport Director, who earned his Accredited Airport Executive (AAE) – one of the AAAE’s highest, and most difficult, certifications to acquire. The airport now has 18 employees who have received certifications and designations from the AAAE.

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AGAINST ALL ODDS HONEST REMODELING EXPERIENCED SUCCESS



Starting a business can be a risky decision under normal circumstances but during the economic landscape of the pandemic, which left nearly 100,000 business across the state permanently shut down, some might consider the risk outright insanity. Despite all odds, Seattle resident, Dru De-Long, formed his own home remodeling company last year and has seen immediate, and consistent, success since.

Honest Remodeling is a new

home remodeling company offering everything from lighting replacements to flooring services throughout North King and Snohomish counties. In addition to a commitment to quality, honest relationships, and free in-person estimates, Honest Remodeling also offers first responders, educators, and veterans a 10% discount for all labor – a decision, De-Long, a veteran himself, says is the least he can do to give back to his community and the honorable professions who put their lives on the line during the pandemic.

SEATTLE CREDIT UNION OPENS BRANCH AT THE LYNNWOOD CROSSROADS



Seattle Credit Union celebrated its ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, September 23, commemorating its Lynnwood branch opening for the not-for-profit financial cooperative.

In addition to moving 1.5 miles down 196th Street Southwest, the Lynnwood location has undergone a few changes – namely removing its traditional teller line. Instead, the branch is taking a more personal approach with

comfortable seating to facilitate conversations between members and staff, returning to its philosophy of forming relationships first. The Lynnwood Seattle Credit Union is located at 19718 Highway 99, Suite 101, and is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and closed on Sundays.

MARYSVILLE’S REBOOT RECOVERY CENTER OPENS



Kathy Jo Kahn, Regional Program Coordinator for Re-

boot Recovery, picked up her keys last fall to a new recovery center that opened in Marysville to help everyday people overcome trauma through peer-led, faith-based, courses.

Reboot offers three main, twelve-week, courses held both virtually and in-person; Trauma REBOOT empowers everyday people from all walks of life to break free from the pain of the past, find renewed purpose and strength, and embrace a brighter future, REBOOT Combat Recovery helps veterans, active-duty military, and their families achieve breakthrough in their battle against service-related trauma, and REBOOT First Responders helps those with-

in the law enforcement, fire, EMS, emergency communications, hospital emergency, and corrections communities heal from critical incident stress and trauma.

REP. LARSEN MEETS WITH MAGNIX TO DISCUSS SUSTAINABLE AVIATION



Representative Rick Larsen (WA-02) met with new magniX CEO Nuno Taborda, and

staff on August 25, to discuss the company’s ongoing efforts, and associated challenges, in bringing electric propulsion to the commercial airline industry.

One of Larsen’s priorities, as chair of the House Aviation Committee, has been U.S. aerospace innovation particularly in sustainability. In 2021, he also chaired an Aviation Subcommittee hearing on innovation in U.S. aerospace, which included testimony from then-magniX CEO Roei Ganzarski.

The meeting began with a tour of the 40,000 square foot facility where the aviation startup conducts its headquartered operations, design, production, testing, and delivery of its motors and power systems.

KINWELL HEALTH PROVIDES LYNNWOOD NEW PRIMARY CARE OPTION



Kinwell Health opened its fifth clinic in Lynnwood on 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

Continued PAGE 03 >>



Seattle Credit Union’s CEO Richard Romero (right) at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Lynnwood branch on September 23, 2022. Lynnwood Times | Mario Lotmore.

BUSINESS

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

from page 02 **KINWELL**

Mill Creek. Kinwell also has locations in Pasco, Poulsbo, Wenatchee, Yakima, and Renton, most recently opened last March.

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, Chief Medical Officer for Kinwell, stated is often linked to a patient's physical ailments.

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.

AMAZON OPENS FIRST SNOHOMISH COUNTY GRAB-AND-GO STORE IN MILL CREEK



Amazon expanded its Amazon Go store portfolio with a new, suburban, location in Mill Creek on Tuesday, April 26, to serve

Snohomish County customers closer to their home. This location is the first Washington store to be located outside of Seattle.

Amazon Go is a line of Amazon grocery stores that utilizes "Just Walk Out Technology", a checkout-free shopping experience that detects when

products are taken from, or returned to, a shelf and keeps track of them in a virtual cart. When customers are done shopping, they simply leave the store with their items which are charged to their Amazon account.

Despite no checkout counters, the Amazon Go location still offers a team of store employees who restock shelves, greet you at the door, and are available to answer any questions a customer may have while providing product recommendations.

ELON MUSK VENTURES: NEURALINK, TESLA SMARTPHONE AND STARLINK



SpaceX received approval to launch 7,500 Starlink satellites by the Federal Communications Commission on December 1st. The

FCC only partially approved SpaceX's application, as the company aims to launch 30,000 "Gen2" Starlink satellites into low Earth orbit.

This approval by the FCC is vital for the recently announced partnership between SpaceX and T-Mobile back in August. Dubbed "Coverage Above & Beyond," the two companies aim to utilize Starlink's Gen2 satellites with T-Mobile's mid-band spectrum — which roughly equates to their 3G network.

Rumors have also been circulating since early 2021 about a Tesla smart-

phone, often referred to as the model Pi or Pi phone. Tesla and Musk have been notably quiet on the subject, but that hasn't stopped enthusiasts from speculating on the features. Some seem likely, such as satellite internet, vehicle control features on Tesla models, and even astrophotography — powerful cameras aided by AI to photograph the night sky. Other speculations are arguably a bit more farfetched: solar charging, crypto mining, communication with settlers on Mars, and Neuralink support to name a few.

LIVE, WORK, PLAY: ALDERWOOD MALL AND AVALONBAY, THE NEXT EVOLUTION



The innovative concept of Brookfield Properties to reinvent Alderwood Mall into a mixed-use shopping and residential experience with the

new Avalon Alderwood Place has been an overwhelming success according to Jerry Irwin, Senior General Manager of Alderwood.

Brookfield Properties teamed with AvalonBay Communities to redevelop the mall's East entrance into a mixed-use six story development. The 328-unit property serves as the "front door" to the mall and provides much-needed housing in one of the fastest growing counties in Washington state.

Opening in September of last year, the thriving 328-multi-family residen-

tial community of Avalon Alderwood Place is at 96 percent capacity with several ground-floor retail businesses coming in 2023. The 40,000-square-foot Dave & Buster's restaurant and arcade opened in August.

From job postings on indeed and a statement to the Seattle Times by Todd Hall, planning manager for City of Lynnwood, Dick's Sporting Goods is also to be opening in the former 100,000-square-foot Sears parcel.

LYNNWOOD CONVENTION CENTER UNVEILS NEW NAME



The Lynnwood Public Facilities District announced December the new name for the Lynnwood Convention Center. The former

convention center has officially been renamed the Lynnwood Event Center, and the Public Facilities District will be known as the much simpler "The District."

Along with the name change, The District revealed its new mission, vision and values for the property, including the Event Center.

The Event Center's new website and logo launched on December 14th, while The District will fully launch its new branding and website in early 2023 and reveal exciting new plans for the 13-acre property surrounding the Event Center.



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2022 YEAR IN REVIEW TRANSPORTATION

“TAKE A TRIP ON THE ZIP,” LYNNWOOD AND COMMUNITY TRANSIT LAUNCH NEW RIDE-SHARE SERVICE



Community Transit’s latest innovation to public transportation hit Lynnwood October with Zip Shuttle, an on-demand ride service within the Alderwood area, a shopping and dining hub, known throughout the region.

Lynnwood commuters can now book a trip through the GOIN’ – Rides for All app, designate a pick-up and drop-off location, and within minutes, a blue and white Community Transit Zip vehicle will arrive offering easy and affordable access to Alderwood Mall, the library, and nearby multimodal transit centers.

For the technologically challenged, or non-native English speakers, commuters can also call a phone number to book their ride with interpreter services available in just about every language.

NEW MULTIMODAL \$79.4 MILLION SWIFT ORANGE BUS RAPID TRANSIT LINE BREAKS GROUND IN LYNNWOOD



Sticking with its mission to “help people get from where they are to where they want to be,” Community Transit, joined by federal and community partners, held its groundbreaking ceremony for the new Swift Orange Line at the Lynnwood Transit and Community Center in April.

The new Swift Orange Line, scheduled to be operational in 2024, will be Snohomish County’s third Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line and its first route to connect with Sound Transit’s Link light rail when the station opens in Lynnwood. In October, Community Transit made its first connection to light rail at the new Sound Transit Link light rail station at Northgate.

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA PRESENTED WITH \$1 MILLION FOR LYNNWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER



The executive team from Volunteers of America Western Washington (VOAWW) along with members of Lutheran Trinity Church, and the Lynnwood Neighborhood Center Steering Committee, were presented with a generous \$1 million check from Stephanie Wright on Monday in her last official act, concluding 12 years of service on the Snohomish County Council.

The Lynnwood Neighborhood Center will be a 40,000 square-foot Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified facility on approximately two acres of land located at Trinity Lutheran Church near 196th St and HWY 99. Monday’s contribution by then-Councilwoman Wright brings the total monies pledge to \$14 million, just about 60% of the project’s total pre-pandemic funding goal of \$20 million.



Swift Orange BRT line groundbreaking ceremony. Lynnwood Times



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Plans call for the site to be leased to the Snohomish County offices of Volunteers of America for \$1 per year for the next 50 years as part of the social service hub envisioned on the property. The next phase of the project is expected to break ground by mid-2023.

The new space will be anchored with a new Boys and Girls Club and provide an integrated facility with multiple nonprofits working to engage the community and support low-income families through the complex struggles they may experience. The building will include gathering spaces, training facilities, and event space, an Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) classroom, and behavioral, medical, and dental services.

LYNNWOOD PUBLIC WORKS: BUILDING A BETTER LYNNWOOD



The Lynnwood Public Works Department had a busy year in 2021 with many more projects coming through in 2022 and beyond!

Even though this year will be mostly “designing and planning”, Public Works Director Bill Franz told the Lynnwood Times, the prep work will pay off as the city continues to prepare for growth.

In addition to capital projects, the Department paved Scriber Lake Road (just south of 196th), 200th (just east of Highway 99), 48th (just west of Fred Meyer), and 44th (just south of 212th) last year. Paving will continue through-

out 2022 allocating \$2.5 million from its budget as well as an additional \$2.5 million from American Rescue Plan Act funds.

The Department also upgraded water and sewer around the light rail station construction (48th and 200th), completed Sewer Lift Station #8 (just south of Alderwood Mall) and activated new sewer force mains in the mall and city center areas which were constructed over the past few years, while completing the ADA Transition Plan to make the city more ADA accessible, to name a few.

MUKILTEO PUBLIC WORKS CONTINUES TO SERVE ITS RESIDENTS



Despite a challenging couple of years that included staffing shortages, supply chain issues, and a global pandemic, the Mukilteo Public

Works Department has been busier than ever serving residents with much needed improvements.

Just last year the Department succeeded in building a new Decant Facility at the Public Works Shop, which will help and restore water quality in Washington by reducing stormwater impacts from existing infrastructure and development. The Decant Facility has been needed for years in order to be in compliance with NPDES Stormwater Permits Matt Nienhuis, Public Works Director for the City of Mukilteo, told the Lynnwood Times. Another bonus is that the project was funded by a grant

from the Washington Department of Ecology.

Continuing through the last half of 2022, the Department’s priorities continue to be staffing in both operations and engineering due to attrition, following the Stormwater Comprehensive Plan, and improvements to make streets and pathways more accessible. In addition to adding sidewalks and ADA compliance pathways, the Department is currently working on adding a topcoat of slurry seal to the City’s pavement – an overlay of very fine rock and oil.

EXCITING PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT AT MARYSVILLE’S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



On March 28th, the City of Marysville entered an interlocal agreement with Snohomish County to fund a little more than a facelift for the

City’s Strawberry Fields Athletic Complex, a 72-acre regional sports field facility in North Marysville, that first opened in 2005. The update includes converting one of the area’s natural turf soccer fields to synthetic turf and other improvements to the playground, bleachers, and trails.

One of the largest projects in the works right now is the widening of the State Avenue corridor between 100th St. NE and 116th St NE from a 3-lane to a 5-lane highway. It was initially expected to be completed by the end of 2021 but has been delayed due to the pandemic.

Looking forward to the rejuvenation of Marysville’s historic Downtown, one of the key projects for the area is the Downtown Stormwater Treatment project.

Of course, one of the most exciting and expensive projects in Marysville has been the construction of the new Civic Center, located right by Comeford Park and Marysville’s iconic water tower. The new center will house multiple city departments, including Police, Jail, Municipal Court, City Council chambers, City Hall, Community Development, and Engineering offices.

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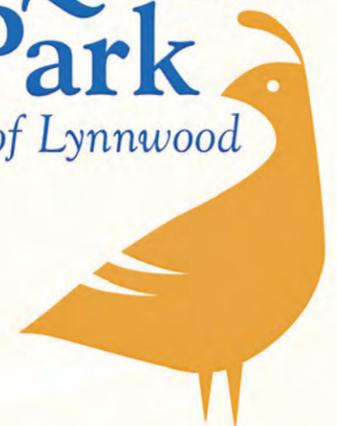
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2022 YEAR IN REVIEW EDUCATION

HOLIDAY BOOKS AND SNACKS DRIVE COLLECTS HUNDREDS OF DONATIONS



The Lynnwood Police Department, in partnership with the Foundation for Edmonds School District, collected approximately

500 books and 700 food items for their Books and Snacks Drive on December 12. The collections were donated to the Nourishing Network and the Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County.

Leading up to the event, donors could drop off books and easy to open food items such as juice boxes, pasta, chips, granola bars, peanut butter, and fruit to the Lynnwood Police Department. Additionally, donors could pledge their donations via the Lynnwood PD's website. Based on the location of these pledges, Lynnwood PD officers then drove to pick up sites collecting donations from homes.

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY EXPANDS IN WA, RECEIVES \$100 MILLION FROM BEZOS FOR CHARITY



Singer-songwriter Dolly Parton received the \$100 million Courage and Civility Award from Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, last month,

to be used on whatever charity she sees fit.

Parton is known for giving back to her community, specifically as it relates to strengthening literacy and education. She founded the Imagination Library in 1994, a book gifting program that mails books to children regardless of their economic status, and recently expanded to more zip codes around Washington.

Parton also donated \$1 million to Vanderbilt Medical Center, during the COVID-19 outbreak, to aid in their vaccination research, established the Dollywood Foundation in 1988, and established the Dolly Parton Scholarship which provides \$15,000 toward college tuition.

BIDEN'S BIG LIE: STUDENT LOAN DEBT FORGIVENESS DEEMED ILLEGAL



Federal Judge Mark T. Pittman of the US District Court for the Northern District of Texas, on November 10, declares President Joe Biden's

plan to cancel up to \$20,000 in student loan debt for eligible borrowers "UNLAWFUL" and orders that the Administration "VACATES the Program."

This latest ruling comes less than a month after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit granted an administrative stay while it considers the plaintiffs' request for an injunction to put billions of dollars in federal student loan forgiveness on hold until the court issues a final ruling on the case. This lawsuit was filed in a federal court in Missouri last month by state attorneys general from, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and South Carolina, and legal representatives from Iowa.

Judge Pittman's final judgement last week was in response to a lawsuit filed by two student-loan borrowers, Myra Brown and Alexander Taylor, who sued because they didn't qualify for the full relief.

WASHINGTON KIDS IN TRANSITION, KEEPING OVER 5,000 FOOD INSECURE CHILDREN FED



In September of 2014, an Edmonds School District bus driver noticed one of his passengers drinking a jelly packet in the backseat.

The student appeared frightened that someone would take it away from her. When he approached the young girl, he learned that this modest snack would be all she would have to eat until the next school day.

When Kim Gorney heard this, she jumped into action. Gorney assembled a coalition of four parents and started a certified 501(c)3 a month later. Paid for by the Lynnwood Elks Club, her team assembled bags of food for bus drivers to distribute to food insecure children. This nonprofit would eventually become known as Washington Kids in Transition – helping over 5,000 families connect to resources such as food, housing, and clothing since 2015.

What started as a grassroots effort has since grown into a community-wide passion in collaboration with community partners and licensed social workers embedded within the Edmonds School District. Hundreds of food bags are still distributed on buses daily but the organization has grown to providing hotel/motel vouchers, and "emergency closets" offering anything from clothes to hygiene products to gift cards.

PLAN TO EXPAND DUAL LANGUAGE EDUCATION ACROSS WASHINGTON STATE



In dual language education programs, students learn classroom content partly in English and partly in a partner language, providing the

opportunity to build biliteracy and bilingualism while learning content. In a media briefing yesterday, State Superintendent Chris Reykdal announced his plan to expand access to these programs to all Washington students.

The Washington State Legislature has invested in steadily building student access to dual language education since 2015. Under Reykdal's proposal, the Legislature would invest \$18.9 million in 2023–25 to continue expanding dual language programs to more school districts while simultaneously building the educator workforce, setting Washington on a path to meet statewide implementation by 2040.

OSPI SUBMITS \$6.5 BILLION BIENNIAL BUDGET FOR 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



At the center of Superintendent Reykdal's budget priorities for the 2023 Legislative Session is an unwavering commitment to



supporting all of Washington's learners with a K–12 public education that is geared toward their interests, prepares them to serve as tomorrow's leaders, and allows them to thrive as themselves.

The Superintendent's budget priorities will remove financial barriers to student learning, fill gaps in the educator workforce, follow through on changes and innovations set forth by the Legislature, strengthen core elements of the education system, and make further progress on transformations developed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY SCHOOLS: HOW THE PANDEMIC AFFECTED STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



The first round of test scores since the pandemic is in for Snohomish County schools. Almost entirely across the board, fewer students met standards for English, Math, and Science, indicating how the last two years have affected public education. However, this decrease in the number of students that met standards is not unique to the County but is also a state and national issue.

From the data, overall proficiency scores for all Snohomish County school districts dropped between 9 to 40 percent. The Snohomish School District experienced the least disruption in proficiency scores with a 9 percent drop, whereas the Monroe School District experienced the greatest at 40 percent and is now ranked the lowest in Snohomish County. Both Northshore School District and Everett Public Schools retained their top 1 and 2 ranking respectively; however, Snohomish School District jumped from fifth to third this year surpassing both Lake

Stevens and Arlington who dropped to fourth and sixth respectively. Edmonds School District increased its ranking to the number five spot of the nine school districts in the county.

ARCHBISHOP MURPHY HIGH SCHOOL FILM PICKED UP BY NATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR



During the pandemic 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. One of those films, Bridgehurst Asylum for the Sane, was picked up by New Jersey-based BayView Entertainment.

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.

DR. REBECCA MINER, NEW INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT FOR EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT



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.

EDUCATION 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

from page 06 **MINER**

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.

EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT FAMILY RESOURCE ADVOCATES



When Belen Robasti immigrated to the United States in 2013 from her home country of Argentina, she was overwhelmed by the culture shock. She didn't speak a word of English, she was 7,000 miles from her family, and she didn't know where to turn to find resources needed to settle into her new life here in the Pacific Northwest.

Robasti is just one of four Family Resource Advocates working in the Edmonds School



District, along with Rashanah Botley at Beverly Elementary School, Angela Garrido at Cedar Valley Community School and Carmen Zaranda at College Place Elementary School. Together, these Advocates play an immense role in their schools helping children and their families struggling with poverty, homelessness, and other needs. Some of the services provided by Family Resource Advocates include housing, legal advice, child support, child development, food banks, transportation services, accessing

mental health and health care resources, parent support and skill building, helping families navigate the school system, and accessing training and education.

YOUNG LEADERS INSPIRED TO FIGHT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AT STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Edmonds School District hosted a student leadership conference focusing on the theme "Becoming Leaders of Change" at the Edmonds Cen-



ter of the Arts April 20.

Notable speakers included Superintendent Dr. Gustavo Balderas and Dolores Huerta, civil rights activist and co-founder of the National Farmworkers Association.

After speaking, Huerta was joined by seven high school students and members of the student leadership committee who took turns asking how they can be leaders of change

and social justice in their community. A key theme of Huerta's responses was the importance of education.

MEADOWDALE HIGH SCHOOL'S BETH MARRIOTT INDUCTED INTO 2022 WACA HALL OF FAME



The intercom rang at Meadowdale High School a little after 2 p.m. on Thursday, February 24, asking Beth Marriott, ASB Advisor and Athletic Director, to report to the Great Hall where, little did she know, she would be attending her, surprise, induction into the Washington Activities Coordinators Association (WACA) Hall of Fame.

An eruption of applause immediately greeted Marriott when she walked through the doors, sporting her school spirit with a Meadowdale hockey jersey. Staff and students smiled behind their masks and met her with a standing ovation, including her daughter who flew in from West Virginia for the ceremony.

Beth Marriott is a woman whose reputation resonates

Continued **PAGE 16 >>**

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Virginia Mason Medical Center has been awarded several *U.S. News & World Report's* highest honors in health care. These accolades are a reflection of our team's commitment to deliver world-class care with the healing power of humankindness. From cardiac care and spine, to digestive health, we offer the most comprehensive range of services in the region. When the best care is in your neighborhood, healing is right around the corner. Learn more at vmfh.org.

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2022 YEAR IN REVIEW LIFESTYLES

EVERETT FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVES 275 FREE THANKSGIVING MEALS TO SENIORS



The Sunday before this year's Thanksgiving, the Everett Fire Department and their families distributed 275 hot meals to seniors in need, carrying on a 21-year tradition.

Food was donated by the Everett Firefighters Association and included turkey, mashed potatoes, veggies, rolls, and pumpkin pie served by a staff of over 50 volunteers including firefighters, civilian staff, and firefighter's families.

Live music was also provided by local musical group 12th Fret Band, a four-piece acoustic band, entertaining guests as they enjoyed their free, hot meals, in the 20,000 square foot Carl Gibson Center.

DREW BRAMMEIER: ONE MAN'S BATTLE TO OVERCOME CANCER



Andrew Brammeier was an athletic man. He ate healthy, ran two to three times a week and even competed in a 5K marathon just months before the doctors gave him the news: he had metastasized testicular cancer.

After several surgeries and hospital visits, Brammeier completed his last round of chemotherapy in July of 2022. He has since been home, carrying out physical therapy to regain the function of his legs. He routinely checks back with his doctors for the occasional computerized tomography (CT) scan.



Even though Brammeier has finished his treatment, he won't be considered "cancer free" for at least a couple years while doctors continue to monitor his progress. Typically, Brammeier's cancer won't be considered in remission until around six of chemotherapy.

28 CASA VOLUNTEERS HONORED WITH FIRST-EVER PVSA AWARD



28 Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers were honored with the, first ever, President's Volunteer Service

Award (PVSA) on August 28, which recognizes the nation's most outstanding volunteers for contributing significant amounts of time to the organizations they support.

Linda Goodwin, Kathryn Greenburg, Anna Pasztirko, and Lisa White were awarded the Silver PVSA for volunteering between 100 and 250 hours of service, advocating for 109 abused or neglected children collectively, and totaling 21 years of combined experience as CASA volunteers.

Bronze PCSA recipients were Julie Berg, Zachary Coffee, Carol Cooper, Denise Crosby, Rachel Escoto, Emily Fountain, Kristina Jipson, Janet Matta, Rosie Midget, Judith Miller, Janis Nantz, Christine Osburn, Garnet Parish, Virginia Rathburn, McKenna Rector, Renee Robinson, Robin Rothbart, Suzanne Schmitt, Kalyani Sendil, Kimberly Thomas, Lorraine Voss, Kenneth Weisenbach, Dean Wilkinson, and Erica Wilkinson for volunteering 100 hours of service or more.



At the 50th annual Operation Skyhook flying competition, held this year at Grider Field, Arkansas, that the Red-Tailed Hawkes took second place overall. Pictured (L-R) Dr. Jesse Hayes and Jaylen Palmer. Photo courtesy of Jesse Hayes.

CASA anticipates awarding their Gold recipients this year, 2023.

HELPING OVER 400 UKRAINIAN FAMILIES FIND PEACE IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY



Van Dinh-Kuno, Executive Director of Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest in Everett, has helped over 400 Ukrainian families

immigrate to Snohomish County following the Russian invasion of their home country on February 24, 2022.

For more than 40 years, Refugee & Immigrant Services Northwest (RISNW) has been helping newly arrived refugees and immigrants rebuild their lives and achieve their full potential as contributing citizens in their new country by aiding with the immigration process, enrolling families in English classes, signing up for medical and food assistance, and much more.

NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES, SOME WEAR BIKER JACKETS

Hollywood depictions of bikers over the years have helped perpetuate the stereotype that biker gangs are violent outlaws who spend their time between rides frequenting dive bars and running guns. While these clubs only make up 1% of Motorcycle clubs in the country,



according to the American Motorcycle Association, even the most infamous MC's come together with the rest to support the Guardians

of the Children (GOC) – a nonprofit organization focused on using motorcycles as a tool for children to overcome child abuse.

GOC's mission, in short, is to improve the quality of life in their community by educating the public and making them aware of the steps to take to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to the reality of child abuse.

RED-TAILED HAWKES FLYING CLUB TAKES 2ND PLACE AT NATIONAL FLYING COMPETITION

At the 50th annual Operation Skyhook flying competition, held this year at



Grider Field, Arkansas, the Red-Tailed Hawkes took second place overall and President, and founder of the club, Jesse Hayes was awarded Top Gun – the highest individual honor. Although the club has received numerous individual trophies in the past, this was its first time winning a team trophy.

Continued PAGE 11 >>



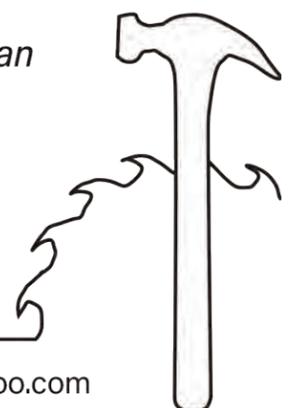
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LIFESTYLES

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

The competition consisted of approximately 30 pilots from different chapters of Black Pilots of America competing in challenges such as spot landing (trying to land as close to a spot on a runway as possible), balloon burst (popping as many balloons with your propeller as possible), a pylon race (flying a course as fast as possible), and a flour bomb drop (dropping a bag of flour from the plane as close to a target as possible). The competition awards points according to how well the pilots complete each individual challenge.

The Red-Tailed Hawks is a Northwest chapter of Black Pilots of America presenting unrepresented youths the opportunity to become pilots.

PROJECT GIRL EMPOWERS YOUNG WOMEN OF COLOR

At Project Girl, young women of color are provided a safe place where they can feel appreciated and connected. Through various resources including mentorship, counseling, life-skill coaching, and even working with courts to get troubled teens' lives back on track. At Project Girl, young women of color are empowered to be proud of themselves.

The entire approach to Project Girl is taking a holistic approach to building a community not only through mentorship, but family dinners, music, affirmations and much more.

Staff members are available to help

these girls with their homework and teach on issues such as hair care, self-esteem, attitude, and family life. Although Project Girl abides by the 8-pillars of wellness as its basic guide, the girls and young women are empowered to lead conversations because many of them may not have the same control at home.

CUT BY CURT: CRAFTING A LIFE POST-DIAGNOSIS

At the age when most Americans retire, Curtis Gregory, 61, from Redmond, WA, opened his own business: Cut by Curt Woodworking. Curt specializes in crafting unique cutting boards, but he's recently branched out to cabinets and even made an intricate chessboard the size of a coffee table. But the passionate owner behind Cut by Curt never anticipated becoming a craftsman because just a few years earlier—Curt was in a wheelchair due to terminal lung cancer.

Despite his battle with cancer - which forced him to leave his job working in a casino - and the fact that he had never dabbled in this sort of craftsmanship before, Curt began teaching himself woodworking out of his garage in 2020 and opened his own woodworking business a year later.

Curtis Gregory, according to his own definition, exemplifies greatness. He's not only rebounded from his devastating diagnosis, but he's living life as fully as he can and refuses to be relegated

to his medical status. And through his hand-crafted pieces, Curt believes he has found a way to leave a lasting impression after he's gone.

RED CROSS NW VOLUNTEER, DEB PHELPS, IS JUST ONE OF MANY WHO SAVE LIVES NATIONALLY

Deb Phelps keeps a bag packed at all times in anticipation to respond to calls all over the country, as a Disaster Health Service co-lead volunteer for the Red Cross Northwest and has every day since joining. After hearing about the California wildfires from her daughter in 2017, Phelps "dropped everything," including her career as a nurse, to help any way she could.

Phelps has many titles and roles as a volunteer. She is an instructor for new disaster volunteers, she teaches community preparedness education, provides disaster health services, prepares for disasters, trains new nurses, and readies supplies in case an evacuation is in order. If there is a disaster or an emergency, she first responds by providing whatever medicine or medical equipment that may have been lost.

Deb Phelps is just one of over 300,000 volunteers offering their services to the Red Cross, more than 90% of their workforce, assisting in anything from blood donations to providing services for veterans all over the world for more than 140 years.

PINK PISTOLS AIMS TO ARM THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY AGAINST HATE CRIMES

"Pick on someone your own caliber" is the motto of the Pink Pistols, an LGBTQ gun rights organization in the United States and Canada that advocates for the use of lawfully-owned and concealed firearms for the self-defense of the sexual minority community.

The Seattle-Tacoma chapter meets once a month, typically at local shooting ranges, to teach firearm safety and answer any questions they may have about guns in general.

These meetups are not exclusive to those who identify as LGBTQ nor to those who own a firearm. In many cases, participants have never before touched a firearm. The Pink Pistols are there to inform and instruct in these situations.

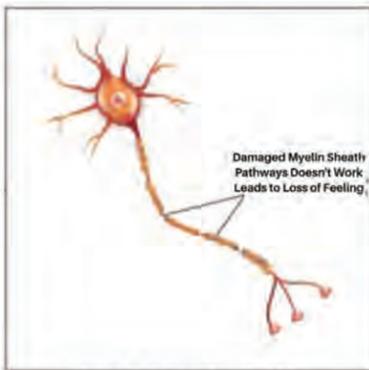
THE CENTER AT NORTH MARYSVILLE: A NEW COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER HELPING FAMILIES

The adage "every cloud has a silver lining" gained truth this past year as Marysville welcomed a new community resource center - The Center at North Marys-

Continued PAGE 14 >>

NUMBNESS? TINGLING? PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?

The most common method your doctor will recommend to treat your neuropathy is with prescription drugs that may temporarily reduce your symptoms like Gabapentin, Lyrica, Cymbalta, and Neurontin, and are primarily antidepressant or anti-seizure drugs. These drugs may cause you to feel uncomfortable and have a variety of harmful side effects.



UNHEALTHY NERVE CELL

Peripheral neuropathy is a result of damage to the nerves often causing weakness, pain, numbness, tingling, and the most debilitating balance problems.

This damage is commonly caused by a lack of blood flow to the nerves in the hands and feet which causes the nerves to begin to degenerate due to lack of nutrient flow. As you can see in Figure 2, as the blood vessels that surround the nerves become diseased, they shrivel up. This prevents the nerves from getting the needed nutrients to continue to survive. When these nerves begin to "die" they cause you to have balance problems, pain, numbness, tingling, burning, and many additional symptoms.

Three Factors to Effectively Treat Neuropathy:

- 1.) Underlying Cause?
- 2.) Amount of nerve damage sustained?
- 3.) How much treatment is required?

Three goals of treatment at Starting Point:

- 1.) Increase Blood Flow
- 2.) Stimulate fiber nerves
- 3.) Decrease brain-based pain

The main problem is that your doctor has told you to just live with the symptoms or try the drugs which you don't like taking because they make you feel uncomfortable. However, there is hope for reducing your neuropathy symptoms!

There is an integrative clinic practicing in Bothell for over 10 years that offers you hope without taking those endless drugs with serious side effects.

The treatment to increase blood flow utilizes several specialized therapies including ATP Resonance BioTherapy™ and specific acupuncture protocols. The ATP therapy is like watering a plant. This therapy will stimulate blood flow to aid in the health of the nerves. The amount of treatment needed to allow nerves to heal and recover varies from person to person and can be determined after a detailed neurological and sensory evaluation, which we do at your first visit.

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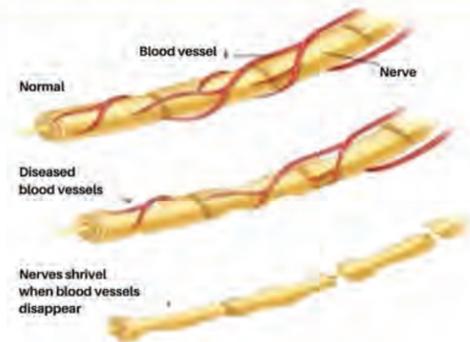


Figure 2: When these very small blood vessels become diseased they begin to shrivel up and the nerves begin to degenerate.

Dr. Heintze, founder of Starting Point Acupuncture & Wellness, will do a neuropathy severity evaluation to determine the extent of nerve damage. This exam consists of a detailed, sensory, vascular testing, and an analysis of neurological findings.

Specializing in chronic pain and complex cases, specifically those that have been deemed 'hopeless' or 'untreatable', she consistently generates unparalleled results. If you feel you are missing out on life, it's time to call, (425) 403-7943 to see if you are a good candidate for care.



PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY?
Call (425) 403-7943
to schedule a consultation!

www.StartingPointAcupuncture.com

12900 NE 180th ST, Suite 155
Bothell, WA 98011

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

PUBLIC SAFETY

ARMED MAN IN COUNTY COURTHOUSE HAS EVERETT IN LOCKDOWN



The Snohomish County Courthouse entered a three hour lockdown around 1 p.m. Monday, December 12, after an armed suspect entered

the lobby.

The 32-year-old suspect was David Hsu from Woodinville, who, armed with half a dozen firearms and over 300 rounds of ammunition, demanded to see two judges and the Sheriff over a lost child-custody battle.

Negotiations were successful and Hsu was arrested on scene without incident. His bail was set for \$1 million and he was charged with obstructing a law enforcement officer, carrying with intent to intimidate, disorderly conduct, concealing a firearm without permit, resisting arrest, intimidating a judge, unlawful possession of a firearm, and having weapons in a prohibited place. He is still currently in the Snohomish County Jail.

THE HONORABLE KETANJI BROWN JACKSON SWORN IN JUNE 30



The Honorable Ketanji Brown Jackson was sworn in as the 104th Associate Justice of the Supreme Court on Thursday, June 30, at

the Supreme Court of the United States. Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., administered the Constitutional Oath and Associate Justice Stephen G. Breyer administered the Judicial Oath in a ceremony in the West Conference Room before a small gathering was held with Judge Jackson's family.

MAN BARRICADES HIMSELF IN LYNNWOOD BUSINESS, ATTEMPTS TO BLOW IT UP



On November 25, Lynnwood Police and North County SWAT arrested a man who attempted to blow up a local business, on the

1700 block off Highway 99, after barricading himself in the establishment and threatening the owner.

The suspect, Michael Hargett, was charged with one count of assault, one count of theft of a motor vehicle, one count of arson, one count of malicious mischief, and one count of obstruction of law enforcement officer.

EXECUTIVE SOMERS PROPOSES 340 BODY CAMERAS FOR DEPUTIES AND DETECTIVES



Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers proposed a motion to the Snohomish County Council, in August, for the purchase of 340

body worn cameras for Snohomish County Sheriff's Office Deputies and Detectives. These cameras are intended to improve the transparency of interactions between law enforcement and the public.

Detectives began wearing body cams in December and other law enforce-

ment personnel will be trained and outfitted for them beginning the first quarter of 2023.

LYNNWOOD AWARDS \$14M CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR CRC



The Lynnwood City Council voted to approve a contract award for the new Community Recovery Center (CRC) at their Business Meeting, July 25, with all council members voting in favor except Councilman Joshua Binda who chose to abstain.

Representative Lauren Davis (LD-32), was brought in to co-chair a Justice Center Project Taskforce after the city decided to reimagine its Community Justice Center following an in-custody suicide. The CRC will serve individuals over the age of 18 who are experiencing a mental health or substance use-related crisis in a facility attached to the Community Justice Center.

LAW ENFORCEMENT USE-OF-FORCE AND PURSUIT BILLS PASS; MURDERS RECORDS HIGH WHILE OFFICERS RECORDS LOW



Governor Jay Inslee signed into law two bills aimed to clarify police enforcement and accountability laws passed last year.

SB5919, concerning detaining, and HB1735, concerning use of force, were passed to amend the police reform legislation of 2021 after police agencies across the state criticized them for being vague.

In July the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) released a report that showed violent crime in Washington State increased 12.3% in 2021, while the number of commissioned officers able to respond decreased 4.4% (a 495 net loss statewide). Washington State retains its ranking as the lowest in the nation for commissioned officers per thousand residents.

NOTABLE SOLVED COLD CASES

On Monday, November 28, Marysville Police Department detectives arrested 52-year-old Jeffrey Paul Premo, a Renton man, in the cold case connection with the 1998 murder of then-19-year-old Jennifer Brinkman.

Another cold case was solved thanks to advancements in DNA technology leading to the Snohomish County Medical Examiner Office's (SCMEO) staff identifying the body of "I-5 Stilly Doe," an individual who had been found in the Stillaguamish River over 40 years ago, as Othaniel Philip Ames.

LYNNWOOD TOWNHOME FIRE KILLS ONE, DISPLACES DOZENS



Crews from South County Fire, Everett Fire, Northshore and Shoreline responded to a late morning fa-

tal townhome fire December, at 6707 196th St SW in Lynnwood, that left one person dead, two injured, and more than 20 residents displaced.

A man and a boy escaped the fire before firefighters arrived. Both had serious injuries and were transported by ambulance to Harborview Medical Center. No one else was injured.

The fire damaged three apartments in an eight-unit building and it took crews about an hour to get the fire under control.

OVER 200 FIREARMS RELINQUISHED IN GUNS FOR GIFT CARDS EVENT



On Saturday, December 17, the Everett Police Department held its first Guns for Gift Cards drive-thru event at the South Precinct

giving residents the opportunity to relinquish unwanted firearms. Everett Police exchanged an incredible 241 firearms for VISA gift cards valued up to \$300 (totaled \$25,000).

The goal of the event was to reduce the possibility of an unwanted firearm being used in a tragic accident, suicide, or possibly stolen and used in a violent crime.

15 ARRESTED BY LPD INCLUDING MEMBERS OF RETAIL THEFT RING

The Lynnwood Police Department conducted an emphasis operation with Lowes, Target, and Kohls in December where officers were placed in the store with Asset Protection personnel. This was done to immediately detain and charge subjects for theft and/or other charges associated with shoplifting or other crimes associated with theft.

In total 15 were arrested, seven were charged with a felony, and eight were charged with misdemeanors. Most notably Lynnwood Police arrested an Organized Retail Theft (ORT) group consisting of two adults and one juvenile that is hitting Target stores nationwide.

In addition to the chain of department store thefts, several retail cannabis store in the area were subject to armed robbery for their predominantly cash-only businesses models since the federal government still considers cannabis an illegal narcotic.

UNIFORMED SNOHOMISH COUNTY DEPUTY ACCUSED OF STEALING FROM HOME DEPOT

In August, a uniformed Snohomish County Deputy was put on leave following accusations of stealing approximately \$1,000 worth of merchandise from an Everett Home Depot where he worked as a security guard. A warrant was issued, his patrol car was impounded, and he was placed under investigation following his leave.

LYNNWOOD SHOOTINGS

Several shootings, many of them fatal, were reported in Lynnwood this year including back-to-back, gang-related, drive by shootings that left two teens dead in July. The two separate incidents took place in, and around, Spruce Park

just one day apart from each other.

In June, a 70-year-old man was shot and killed in Daleway park when a drug deal turned sideways and he was caught in crossfire.

Also in July, a 26-year-old man fired at a Lynnwood Police Sergeant at the Pick-N-Pull on Highway 99 before fleeing.

On May 10, 2022, a 14-year-old juvenile was shot while walking with a group of friends near 186th PL SW and Highway 99 in Lynnwood.

Several shootings also occurred in Everett, Mill Creek, and Edmonds during 2022. Visit lynnwoodtimes.com to see our complete coverage.

CACHE OF WEAPONS SEIZED FROM FELONY WARRANT ARREST IN EVERETT



In November, the new Violent Crime Reduction Unit (VCRU), with members of Everett Police Department and the Sheriff's Office,

responded to a residence in the 1700 block of 96th St SW in Everett for a wanted subject with active felony warrants.

The 28-year-old suspect was found, with the help of K-9 Knox, hiding within a hidden crawlspace inside of a wall insert. The suspect then raised his hands and surrendered without incident. VCRU seized multiple guns and weapons from the home as evidence.

THIRTEEN ARRESTS IN WASHINGTON AND CALIFORNIA FOR CARTEL-CONNECTED DRUG TRAFFICKING



Federal investigators – FBI and DEA – along with Seattle police seized two RVs packed with methamphetamine and fake pills after that

were driven from California to Washington up the I-5 corridor. A total of 19 persons associated with three drug trafficking groups have been arrested and are facing federal charges of conspiracy to distribute controlled substances and possession of controlled substances with intent to distribute.

Law enforcement officials seized more than two kilos of fentanyl, 4.5 kilos of heroin, ten pounds of methamphetamine and 67 firearms in last Tuesday's bust. Also taken by law enforcement: high-capacity rifle magazines, thousands of rounds of ammunition, two sets of body armor, one ballistic shield.

SOMERS, FORTNEY, KRAJCAR SIGN HISTORIC PUBLIC SAFETY LABOR AGREEMENT

Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers, along with Sheriff Adam Fortney, and Snohomish County Deputy Sheriff's Association (DSA) President Jonathan Krajcar signed a new four-year labor agreement for the County's approximately 250 commissioned officers on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, in a united commitment to public safety.

PUBLIC SAFETY 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW



Signing of the 2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Snohomish County Dave Somers (left), Sheriff Adam Fortney (middle) and Snohomish County Deputy Sheriff's Association President Jonathan Krajcar (right) on November 2, 2022. Photo Courtesy of Snohomish Sheriff's Office twitter page.

The 2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement between Snohomish County and the DSA is the largest in over two decades according to Sheriff Fortney.



Citing the need to protect the general public and maintain a safe community, the Marysville City Council adopted new laws prohibiting drug use in public places and disruptive or inappropriate transit behavior on December 12.

Similar to existing state laws that prohibit the use of alcohol and marijuana in public, the Marysville ordinance prohibits the use of controlled substances in public without a prescription. Violation of the new ordinance is a misdemeanor subject to arrest.

The second action makes a misdemeanor of disruptive and inappropriate conduct on transit vehicles and at transit stations and facilities, such as park-and-ride lots and bus stops. Adopting this ordinance allows Marysville police officers to enforce the existing state law through the municipal court instead of filing a case through the Snohomish County court system.

SHERIFF ANNOUNCES STAFFING CHANGES TO OFFSET ATTRITION

The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office announces a permanent reassignment of specialty units to patrol to offset staffing shortages and provide a safer working environment for deputies. The staffing changes took effect in June.

MILL CREEK AND EDMONDS GET NEW POLICE CHIEFS

After a nationwide search, City Manager Martin Yamamoto announced on

November 1, the hiring of Stan White as Chief of Police. Before his appointment, Chief White served as the City's Acting Police Chief since December 31, 2021.

The City of Edmonds also hired a new Police Chief in 2022, Michelle Bennett who has been Interim Police Chief for the city since 2021.

THREE LYNNWOOD POLICE OFFICERS INJURED WHEN EVIDENCE EXPLODED

Shortly after 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 16, three Lynnwood Police Officers were injured when evidence that was being processed exploded inside the police station.

All three officers were sent to hospital and have been released with nonlife threatening injuries. Both the Washington State Patrol and the Bureau of

Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are investigating the incident.

STRING OF PREGNANCY CENTER VANDALISMS SINCE ROE V. WADE DECISION

On Wednesday, May 25, at approximately 2 a.m., Next Step Pregnancy Services' ADT alarm system went off. When Executive Director Heather Vasquez and her team showed up for work later that morning, they found five of their clinic's windows smashed and hateful graffiti painted across the front and back doors reading "if abortions aren't safe neither are you" and "Jane's revenge".

Next Step pregnancy services is just one of several targeted vandalism cases against pregnancy clinics across the nation following the SCOTUS leak on May 2.



Back in June over 100 people gathered in Marysville's Opera House for a Snohomish County Public Safety Town Hall. The panel, comprised of Snohomish County Sheriff Adam Fortney, Chief Criminal Deputy Matt Baldock, and Councilmen Sam Low and Nate Nehring, answered questions ranging from staffing shortages to police reform policies.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DRUG TRAFFICKER "MAC WAYNE" SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS



A legally blind rapper who was profiled in an Amazon Prime documentary, was sentenced yesterday in U.S. District Court in Seattle to six years in prison, announced U.S. Attorney Nick Brown. Wayne Frisby aka "Mac Wayne," 37, of Snohomish County, Washington was arrested in December 2020, for his role in a large drug trafficking ring. Investigators had numerous recorded phone calls of Frisby making drug deals and even one discussing his efforts to help a murder suspect hide from law enforcement. U.S. District Judge John C. Coughenour imposed four years of supervised release to follow prison, noting "the massive size of the conspiracy and the huge quantity of drugs involved."

MARYSVILLE GETS TOUGH ON PUBLIC DRUG USE AND INAPPROPRIATE TRANSIT BEHAVIOR



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WASHINGTON STATE ELECTION RESULTS 2022

As of December 30, an estimated 99% of votes have been counted in the 2022 Washington State election. If the results stay as tallied, the following are the winners of their respective races for Senator, Secretary of State, and House of Representatives.

Patty Murray (D) will win against Tiffany Smiley (R) for the Senate race, 57.3%-42.7%.

Steve Hobbs (D) will win the Secretary of State seat by 49.8% against Julie Anderson (NPP).

Suzan DelBene (D) will win the Congressional District 1 seat against Vincent Cavalieri (R), 63.6%-36.4%.

Rick Larsen (D) will win the Congressional District 2 seat against Dan Matthews (R), 60.2%-39.8%.

Kim Schrier (D) will win the Congressional District 8 seat against Matt Larkin (R) 53.4%-46.6%. Larkin gained more votes in Snohomish County.

Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D) will win the Congressional District 3 seat against Joe Kent (R), 50.4%-49.6%. Perez lost to Kemp in the primaries.

Dan Newhouse (R) will win the the Congressional District 4 seat against Doug White (D), 68.1%-31.9%.

Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R) will win the Congressional District 5 seat against Natasha Hill (D), 59.7%-40.3%.

Derek Kilmer (D) will win the Congressional District 6 seat against Elizabeth Kreiselmaier (R), 60.1%-39.9%.

Pramila Jayapal (D) will win the Congressional District 7 seat against Cliff Moon (R), 85.7%-14.3%.

Adam Smith (D) will win the Congressional District 9 seat against Doug Basler (R), 71.7%-28.3%.

Marilyn Strickland (D), will win the Congressional District 10 seat against Keith Swank (R), 57.1%-42.9%.

HOUSE AND SENATE PASS \$1.7 TRILLION OMNIBUS SPENDING BILL

The House of Representatives passed the \$1.7 trillion Fiscal Year 2023 Omnibus Appropriations bill in December that in addition to funding federal agencies through September 30, 2023, waives an approaching deadline for the Boeing 737 MAX aircraft to meet



new FAA safety requirements. The Senate passed the bill that previous Thursday and it now awaits the President's signature.

The \$1.7 trillion Omnibus federal spending bill spans approximately 4,200 pages and includes \$772.5 billion for non-defense discretionary programs and \$858 billion in defense funding.

Locally the spending bill will fund Link Light Rail extensions to Federal Way and Lynnwood, fund multiple construction projects, environmental conservation, and help with food insecure families among any other things. For a complete list visit our coverage at LynnwoodTimes.com

CLYDE SHAVERS, A CAMPAIGN BUILT UPON LIES

In a letter obtained by the Lynnwood Times in November, authored by Brett Shavers, Clyde Shavers' (D-10) father, Brett alleged Shavers was never a U.S. Navy Submarine Officer, exaggerated his mother's immigration status, has not experienced homelessness, did not grow up in a farming family, and does not reside in the 10th Legislative District all of which his son and 10th LD candidate Clyde Shavers, claimed during his campaign.

The Lynnwood Times' investigations proved these allegations to be true by verifying the information with the Washington State Bar Association, Perkins Coie LLP, The United States Navy at the Pentagon, and a variety of other sources.

Despite Shavers embellishing his credentials, he won against Republican Greg Gilday in the General Election, 50.1%-49.8%. He assumes office on January 9, 2023.

SUZAN DELBENE TO CHAIR DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Incoming Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries announced in December that he has tapped Congresswoman Suzan DelBene of Washington to lead the House Democratic effort to take back the Majority in 2024. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) is the official campaign arm of the Democrat Party in the U.S. House of Representatives, according to its website.

SOUTH CAROLINA SET TO LEAD 2024 DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

The Democratic National Committee (DNC) voted to approve a drastic change to the 2024 presidential nominating calendar on Friday, December 2, which would make South Carolina the first state to hold a primary. If approved by the rest of the DNC membership, South Carolina's primary would be held February 3, followed by Nevada and New Hampshire on February 6, Georgia on February 13, and Michigan on February 27.

NANCY PELOSI STEPS DOWN AS SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, HAKEEM JEFFRIES SET TO REPLACE

Representative Nancy Pelosi (CA-12), 82, announces that she is stepping down as Speaker of the House of Representatives. In 2007, Pelosi become the first most powerful woman elected to office after being selected by her colleagues as Speaker of the House, a position second in line to the presidency. Both Majority Leader Steny Hoyer and Majority Whip Jim Clyburn also stepped down today from leading the Democratic caucus.

Representative Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08) was selected as top leadership to replace Pelosi as Speaker. If elected by House Democrats, he would

be the first Black party leader in either the House or Senate.

WA STATE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE REP ROBERT SUTHERLAND FOR MISCONDUCT

In March, the State of Washington House of Representatives issued a formal reprimand against Republican Rep. Robert Sutherland (R-Granite Falls) for inappropriate behavior towards a Sergeant-at-Arms. Also, the House found that Rep. Sutherland acted in a retaliatory manner when he filed a counter complaint and spoke to the press disparagingly about the Sergeant-at-Arms. According to the formal letter of reprimand, the Legislative Ethics Board will continue with its investigation.

A public hearing was held December 5 for Sutherland's actions.

Sam Low (R) defeated Sutherland for the Washington State House of Representatives District 39, position 1, on November 8, 2022.

PDC OPENS FORMAL INVESTIGATION INTO LYNNWOOD COUNCILMAN JOSHUA BINDA

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) staff has opened a formal investigation and held an Initial Case Status Review hearing, January 20, concerning complaints filed against Lynnwood City Councilman Joshua Binda for allegedly using thousands of dollars of campaign funds for personal, non-campaign related, expenses.

Throughout his campaign leading up to his eventual election, Councilman Binda recorded almost \$4,848.19 in expenditures towards rent, towing fees, event tickets, jewelry, laptops, airfare, groceries, dental work, haircuts, and office furniture. An additional, over 100 purchases to-

taling, \$4,952.12 was recorded as "Expenses of \$50 or less."

COUNTY TO PURCHASE SECOND HOTEL FOR HOMELESS

Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers announced that the County is using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to purchase a second hotel to convert to time-limited bridge housing with wraparound services. The America's Best Value Inn in Edmonds will provide 55 new units of time-limited, bridge housing for individuals living without shelter.

Snohomish County purchased its first hotel, Days Inn in Everett, for the homeless on April, 2022.

LYNNWOOD COUNCILMAN JIM SMITH RACISM REPORT

In a third-party investigation by Haggard & Ganson LLP of allegations against Councilman Jim Smith concluded that "claims of race and sex discrimination" by City Executive Assistant Leah Jensen is substantiated but the claim of a hostile work environment by City of Lynnwood Race and Social Justice Coordinator Douglas Raiford was "not substantiated."

After an executive session that included the City's attorney on May 10, the Lynnwood City Council voted unanimously, 6-0, to launch an investigation into allegations of inappropriate conduct by Smith.

It was overwhelming agreed upon by a majority of councilmembers to move forward without action any against Smith at council's meeting September 26. Council President Hurst's recommendation to strip Smith of his Vice President leadership title went nowhere. Council's recommended Smith undergo sensitivity training.

ABORTION BECOMES A STATE-BY-STATE ISSUE AFTER ROE V WADE OVERTURNED

Continued **PAGE 13 >>**

In June, the Supreme Court overturned the 50-year-old landmark Roe v. Wade decision, 6-3, that established a right of personal privacy protected by the Due Process Clause which include the right of a woman to determine whether or not to bear a child. Access to an abortion would now become a state issue, with some states implementing "trigger laws."

Within moments of the Court's decision, abortion and pro-life advocates alike clashed out-

POLITICS 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

from page 12 **WRIGHT**

side the Supreme Court that Friday, with megaphones and signs representing the split and deeply contentious stance the country takes on a woman's right to choose. U.S. Capitol Police said protestors are allowed to peacefully demonstrate as long as they follow officer's directions, however D.C. police were on "high alert" to ensure the demonstrations didn't get out of hand.

STEPHANIE WRIGHT RESIGNS TO BE EXECUTIVE POLICY OFFICER

In August, Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers announced the hiring of Stephanie Wright as Executive Policy Officer for Snohomish County. In this role, she will focus on the county's state and federal legislative priorities, develop and implement important policy goals, including Snohomish Health District integration, assist with outreach to regional organizations, and maintain strong relationships with Cities, Tribes, and other partners.

Representative Strom Peterson (LD-21) was selected to fill the County seat vacancy.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY INCREASES SALES TAX 0.1%

Beginning April 1, one tenth of one percent – or one cent for every \$10 spent – was added to local sales and use tax resulting in the highest sales tax rate in Washington state at 10.6% for unincorporated areas of Snohomish County, and the cities of Lynnwood, Mill Creek and Mukilteo. While it may seem small, this fraction of a penny equates to annual projected revenues of \$23 million a year for the county.

The tax was approved on December 15, 2021, when the Snohomish County Council voted 3-2 in favor of Ordinance 21-098. The two no votes came from county council members Nate Nehring and Sam Low.

The revenue from the 1/10 of 1% sales tax will go directly to housing veterans, domestic violence survivors, people with mental health and substance abuse issues and homeless residents. Sales tax is not applied to rent, most food or gas which are the types of purchases experiencing the largest increase in inflation.

LYNNWOOD COUNCIL PASSES CAR TAB RELIEF, INCREASES UTILITY TAX RATES

The Lynnwood City Council passed car tab relief, rejected utility tax relief yet approved increased Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Utility Rates at its Business Meeting last Monday, October 24.

Car tab relief, titled Ordinance 3416, ultimately passed 4-2 with Councilman Joshua Binda abstaining, indecisive

on where he stood. Councilmembers George Hurst, Jim Smith, Shirley Sutton, and Patrick Decker voted yes with Councilmembers Shannon Sessions and Julieta Altamirano-Crosby voting no.

In 2007, the Washington State Legislature allowed city governments to create transportation benefit districts (TBD) and impose a sales tax to fund local transportation projects. In November 2016, voters approved a 0.1% sales tax increase to fund Lynnwood roads through the TBD. The tax increase went into effect on April 1, 2017, lasts for 10 years, and is expected to generate approximately \$2.5M per year.

ALTAMIRANO-CROSBY ELECTED CHAIR OF HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD

The Board of Health of the Snohomish Health District unanimously elected Lynnwood Councilwoman Dr. Julieta Altamirano-Crosby as its Chair July 12.

Chair Dr. Altamirano-Crosby was preceded by Snohomish County Councilwoman Stephanie Wright, who announced her resignation from the Board in an email a week before.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY LAUNCHES COMMERCIAL PROPERTY CLEAN ENERGY & RESILIENCY PROGRAM

On Monday, December 8, Snohomish County Department of Conservation & Natural Resources' Office of Energy and Sustainability launched the Commercial Property Clean Energy & Resiliency (C-PACER) Program. This new program provides a financial tool for commercial property owners to obtain low-cost financing for energy efficiency, natural disaster and resiliency upgrades that carry with the life of the property instead of the property owner. The C-PACER program supports the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in line with Snohomish County Joint Resolution 19-006 that committed to a goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2045.

NEW CITY COUNCIL APPOINTEES FOR MARYSVILLE, LAKE STEVENS, AND EDMONDS

Peter Condyles was appointed to Marysville City Council July 27, 2022. Condyles is the president of the Marysville Historical Society, where he has been involved since 2014, and also serves on the board of the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations. He served on the Mayor's Task Force on Growth Management and on the city's Community Development Block Grant committee. He also chairs the Snohomish County Policy Advisory Board, which meets quarterly to make recommendations to the County Council on funding related to housing

and homelessness.

Lake Stevens also welcomed a new city council member this year, Ryan Donoghue, for position 3, and Edmonds welcomed Jenna Nand, for city council position 7.

JULIE MOORE REPLACES ART CENIZA AS ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR FOR LYNNWOOD

Mayor Christine Frizzell, in August, selected Julie Moore to serve as Lynnwood's next Assistant City Administrator filling a vacancy left by the retirement of Art Ceniza who served the role for the last 12 years.

Moore now assists the Mayor in the overall management of the City, supporting internal and external operations, and implementing City policies, programs, and procedures. Moore's new salary will fall between an hourly rate range of \$74.97 to \$96.51 per hour, a 35% increase from a previous 20.94% pay grade increase in December of 2021 with an hourly rate range of \$55.32 to \$71.22 per hour.

MILL CREEK WELCOMES MARTIN YAMAMOTO AS NEW CITY MANAGER

At its June 28 meeting, the Mill Creek City Council voted, 5-1, appointing Martin Yamamoto for the City Manager position.

Yamamoto has been Mill Creek's Deputy City Manager since 2021 and took over City Manager, as Interim, following Michael Ciaravino's resignation back in November of 2021. After a grueling interview process, Yamamoto was found to be the most qualified, out of the four finalists, given his extensive resume and achievements. Just some of his accomplishments, as Interim City Manager, include rolling out the first phase in Mill Creek's rebuilding process, consisting of building an organizational strategy to incorporate the Council's and City's operational priorities, and hiring Acting Police Chief Stan White.

THE TWITTER FILES

Several investigative journalists, un-

der the blessing of Twitter CEO Elon Musk, released a plethora of emails involving Twitter employees suppressing the circulation of information - including information on COVID vaccines - "shadow banning" some users for exercising free speech, and the FBI and intelligence community's involvement in regulating election disinformation spreading, and moderating accounts supporting the January 6 attacks on the capitol, as well as the circulation of a New York Post article regarding President Joe Biden's son's, Hunter Biden, abandoned laptop containing tens of thousands of emails alleging corrupt business dealings between the pair in Ukraine and China

These twitter threads, which are separated in eight different installments, have since been criticized for exaggerating its content and partial reporting - including omission of certain information - in order to "leverage the platform for a partisan end" as Politico writer Joan Donovan wrote, leading many mainstream and corporate media outlets to choose not to remain skeptical and choose not to report on them.

The eight twitter file installments can be read in their entirety on the social media platform. Links to each of the journalists who released installments can be found on Elon Musk's page (@elonmusk).

MAJOR LEGISLATIVE PASSES IN WASHINGTON STATE

The 2022 legislative session was a short, but busy, time for Washington State lawmakers which include increasing state spending to approximately \$64 billion over two years, delaying the WA Care act until July 2023, banning large-capacity gun magazines, amending police reform laws that were enacted in 2021, and approving a \$17 transportation revenue package that will invests in transportation infrastructure over the next 16 years.

Lawmakers also approve pickleball as the state's official sport, an amber alert for indigenous people, a tax break for farmer's markets, and a measure to establish minimum wage for on demand ride services like Uber and Lyft, among many other things.

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2022 YEAR IN REVIEW LIFESTYLES

from page 09 **MARYSVILLE**
ville – from the ashes of the pandemic.

The Center at North Marysville located at 1424 172nd St. NE could not have been any more perfectly located – based in an old church that shares a chain-link fence with every school in Lakewood, providing counseling, utility and rent assistance, food, clothing, and more to students and families in need.

Together, Ryan Brown, Executive Director, and Erin Maas, Student and Family Advocate, are co-coordinators for what they call Lakewood United, a substance abuse coalition, funded by the Healthcare Authority Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) grant, providing substance abuse support for the Lakewood school district.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY REPAIR'S BRIER COUPLE'S "FOREVER HOME"

Dee Grayson, 77, and her husband have lived in their "forever home" for 31 years – a gorgeous pink Victorian house named "Brier Rose." The Grayson family have always loved their home and community, but after suffering some tragedies, risked losing it all if it weren't for the efforts of Habitat for Humanity Snohomish County.

Grayson was struck by an uninsured driver three years ago resulting in a traumatic brain injury affecting her speech and balance. Last year, her husband woke up paralyzed due to an adverse reaction to a past surgery. Life, to say the least, became a challenge for the Grayson household.

After some research, Dee's daughter discovered the Home Repair Service program offered by Habitat for Humanity of Snohomish County last October. An assessment of the Dee's home, Brier Rose, led Habitat for Humanity to complete several smaller repairs, leading up to a full roof replacement that began January 10, 2022.

VAUGHN'S TEACHING FARM RETURNS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, BIGGER, AND BETTER THAN EVER

For the last two years Vaughns Teaching Farm and Kitchen has become a must-go holiday favorite for Lynnwood residents offering cocoa and treats, impressive light displays, yard games, and even photo opportunities with Santa. This year they nearly doubled their lights from last, added more interactive games – including "nut putt", where visitors can attempt to golf a nut into a bucket for a chance to win fresh donuts – a barrel train, and even a mini market.

The mini mart sells everything from farm fresh eggs to goat lotion; to local honey; to stuffed animals; to more. While some of the items found at the mini mart come directly from Vaughn's Farm, such as the farm fresh eggs, other products are made elsewhere such as the goat lotion and soaps from vet-

eran-owned Bates Family Farm in Virginia. The Vaughns try to focus on veteran-owned businesses as much as they can when selling products from other small, family-owned farms like Bates.

In addition to opening their farm to visitors for a fun unique holiday spectacle, Vaughn's Farm holds a Christmas fundraiser each year, collecting food for the Lynnwood Food Bank. At last year's gathering, the farm collected over 200 pounds of food and a few hundred dollars in cash.

MUKILTEO PD AND NIC'S BARBERSHOP TAKE A CUT FOR PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS



Nic's Barbershop hosted its fourth annual Cuts with Cops event to raise awareness for prostate cancer on November 5. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., community members came in to get their hair cut by officers of the Mukilteo Police Department. Donuts and coffee were available for patrons.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to someone in need locally or a men's health awareness charity. Donations can also be made directly to the Prostate Cancer Research Institute at <https://pcri.org/donate>.

AWARD WINNING LYNNWOOD-BASED ACTOR JON MEGGISON TO MAKE THEATRICAL DEBUT



Lynnwood-based actor Jon Meggison hit the ground running when he began his acting career in January 2020, working through the challenges of the pandemic, self-promoting, and quickly landing roles in films alongside big names like Eric Roberts and Stephen Sorrentino. Within his first year, he acted in 10 films and four commercials, winning the Best Lead Actor award for his performance in the indie film *It Takes Talent*, which also won Best Drama at the Paris Film Festival.

While Meggison's projects have experienced their individual successes on streaming platforms, and even DVD releases, he has yet to appear on the big screen – until now. Next year in October of 2023, Meggison will be making his theatrical debut as Alton in *The Legend of Johnny Jones*, a slasher-horror film starring Danny Trejo, Jake Busey, Clifton Powell, Kevin Sorbo, Tom Sizemore among many others.

The Legend of Johnny Jones is about a young African American man (played by Robert Crayton), living in the housing projects of New Jersey, who suffers a mental breakdown that leads to an uncontrollable killing spree. The film begins shooting on April 23, 2023, in New Jersey and will be releasing in movie theaters across the country sometime that October.

JUNETEENTH BECOMES FEDERAL HOLIDAY, RECOGNIZED BY SNOHOMISH COUNTY AND LYNNWOOD

Juneteenth became a federal holiday last year. All 50 U.S. states and the Dis-



trict of Columbia recognize Juneteenth either as a state holiday, a ceremonial holiday, or a day of observance. At least 24 states and the

District of Columbia will legally recognize Juneteenth as a public holiday this year – meaning state government offices are closed and state workers have a paid day off, according to a Pew Research Center.

At its June 13, 2022, meeting, Lynnwood Councilwoman Shirley Sutton approached the podium, joined by councilman Joshua Binda, to read a Juneteenth Proclamation recognizing Sunday, June 19, as Juneteenth in the City of Lynnwood for the first time in the city's history. Other cities in Snohomish County, including Mill Creek, also signed proclamations recognizing Juneteenth as a government holiday.

On June 20, in a historic first, the Juneteenth flag flew at the Snohomish County Government campus just one day after Governor Jay Inslee, along with members of Blacks United in Leadership and Diversity (BUILD), held the State's official first Juneteenth flag raising ceremony on the State Capitol Campus in Olympia.

MENORAH LIGHTING CEREMONY IN LYNNWOOD AND ANTISEMITISM PROCLAMATIONS



The Lynnwood public Menorah Lighting Celebration took place on Sunday, December 18, at the Lynnwood City Hall. The event featured the kindling of the giant nine-foot Menorah, delicious Holiday treats, face painting, personal Menorah kits, and a Hanukkah musical performance by the Seattle based Klez Katz Klezmer band. Remarks were also shared by Rabbi Berel Paltiel of the Chabad Jewish Center of Snohomish County, as well as by local officials.

Following the example of Snohomish County Government and the City of Bellevue, Mill Creek adopted a proclamation condemning antisemitism at its Regular Meeting Tuesday, December 13, making it the first city in Snohomish County to do so. Everett was quick to follow.

MY VIEW FROM THE BACK OF THE BUS, IS AN EMOTIONAL AND CRITICAL GLIMPSE OF RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION

Meritt D. Long read snippets from his 2020 book, *My View From the Back*



of the Bus, at Mukilteo's Rosehill Community Center October, 2022. The book is told in a series of vignettes that place readers in

the shoes of an African-American man coming-of-age in a world where the color of his skin dictates which doors he could walk through, where he could eat, and which water fountains he could drink from. Along the way he met and was inspired by the likes of Muhammed Ali, Rosa Parks, and Julian Bond.

LOCAL IRANIANS CALL UPON BIDEN ADMIN TO SUPPORT REGIME CHANGE



Shortly after the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini – who was killed in Iran for not wearing her hijab in a required manner two months ago – Homeira Bakhtiari, Bothell resident, activist, and Iranian-American, decided to devote her life to raising awareness for regime change within her native country. She quit her job as a dental assistant to focus on her activism full-time and has since organized seven large rallies around Washington State with no plans of slowing down until Iran gains the U.S. and U.N. support needed to put an end to what she calls a "terrorist" government.

On November 19, 2022, Bakhtiari held a joint demonstration with Ukrainian Americans at Seattle's KOMO Plaza, to stand in solidarity with each other's respective country's conflicts. The situation in Iran is further linked to the Ukrainian and Russian conflict by Iran's supplying of troops and military equipment in support of Russia. The last shipment included 450 drones, which Russia has already used to devastating effects, and the Middle Eastern country is planning to send 1,000 additional weapons, including surface-to-surface short range ballistic missiles and more drones, officials told CNN.

MUKILTEO HOLDS ITS FIRST KOREAN AMERICAN APPRECIATION DAY



Mukilteo celebrated its first ever, Korean American Appreciation Day at Kamiak High School, Saturday, August 13. It was emceed by Mukilteo Councilman Jason Moon, the council's first Korean American

Continued PAGE 16 >>

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from page 1 **METHADONE CLINIC**

Lynnwood Times from the Lynnwood Development & Business Services online portal, primary applicant, Donovan Colon of Permit Advisors, representing Acadia, applied for a Tenant Improvement remodel on June 24, 2022, with the City of Lynnwood. The valuation of the remodel was recorded as \$321,132 for “existing assembly occupancy converted to medical clinic.”

Dr. David Buck, owner of Balance Epigenetic Orthodontics and a current tenant in the same building as the proposed methadone clinic, shared at the rally that he was “never informed or advised” by Dr. Tien-Dat Nguyen, owner of the building, and is concerned he may suffer financial damages if Acadia Healthcare is approved the license.

“How can this community accept the idea of a methadone treatment facility essentially right next an orthodontics practice that sees children,” Dr. Buck said. “I have a practice and if my child patients are somehow either threatened or annoyed or made to feel unsafe, I will lose my practice.”

Prior to protestors marching to the Alderwood Boys & Girls Club and then to the intersection of 196th Street and Alderwood Mall Parkway, Councilwoman Shirley Sutton thanked attendees for their support and called on demonstrators to remain steadfast.

“Sometimes it takes time to get things changed and that is what we are here for to see who is going to be on our side,” Sutton said. “I was raised in a segregated community, I know what drug does and I don’t want to see that to happen anywhere for any reason in terms of money... they want to get money.”

King County GOP Chair Mathew Patrick Thomas, who was involved in the successful halt of a planned 270-bed shelter in Seattle’s Chinatown-International District (CID) last October, shared with the crowd the similarities in tactics between that project and the proposed methadone clinic in Lynnwood.

“They will have a project, they will punch this thing through at the last minute with minimal public input, and it is not the right way to engage the community,” Thomas said. “Just like you don’t put nitroglycerin next to fireworks, you don’t put kids next to drug addicts.”

He added, “The one thing I am so encouraged about today, and seeing all of you, this is exactly how you stop behavior like this...this is exactly how you hold these people accountable!”

Acadia’s three-page single-spaced document responding to community concerns just two days earlier, addressed neighborhood security, patient volume, patient profiles, and site prospecting process. According to the document, Acadia will employ a “security guard immediately prior to, during, and immediately following operating hours to discourage loitering at the facility or surrounding areas.”

“I understand that our state and county is experiencing an opioid epidemic, and our community needs treatment options, but the process and manner during the Lynnwood location selection process shows that there was lack of transparency and accountability; not

to mention the poor communication and engagement with the community by Acadia itself,” Council Vice President Julieta Altamirano-Crosby said at the rally. “It is outrageous that this facility is so close to the Boys & Girls Club.”

Rep. Davis will be meeting with Safe Lynnwood spokeswoman Vivian Dong on Wednesday to address residents’ concerns.

Just over half of the residents who live near the proposed methadone clinic that is located within Lynnwood city limits, reside within county jurisdiction. Dong attended the Snohomish County Council Administrative meeting on January 17, to plea for help.

Lynnwood Councilman Jim Smith on January 16, sent a letter to Governor Jay Inslee asking of him to “freeze the approval” of the OTP until the council can “come up with solutions.”

Several days earlier, Lynnwood Mayor Christine Frizzell sent an official request to Secretary of Health for Washington State, Dr. Umair A. Shah, to delay the approval of a proposed opioid treatment center near the Alderwood Boys & Girls Club.

Neither request asks for Washington State Department of Health (DOH) to be denied approval of an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) license for Acadia Healthcare but rather pause the approval process until proper fulfillment of the required Community Relations Plan and a collaboration for a safety plan with law enforcement.

A delay, which isn’t the preferred option by residents who live near the proposed site, may provide the time needed by the City and Acadia Healthcare to come up with a solution.

Vivian Dong, spokeswoman for Safe Lynnwood representing hundreds of residents opposing the location of the treatment facility, shared that the OTP need not be near the local Boys & Girls Club.

“If Acadia wants to regain the trust of the community, we urge them to do things correctly from the start,” Dong told the Lynnwood Times when asked to provide a statement to the mayor’s letter.

She continued, “As a stakeholder group, we are offering to work with the City and Acadia to identify appropriate locations for the clinic that takes into account the needs and concerns of the community. We are willing to assist you in gathering and organizing community comments and concerns early in the search process and work with the Lynnwood City Council to help vet any potential locations.”

ACADIA HEALTHCARE AND WA DOH COMMUNITY RESPONSES

Acadia’s three-page single-spaced document responding to community concerns addressed neighborhood security, patient volume, patient profiles, and site prospecting process.

According to the document, Acadia will employ a “security guard immediately prior to, during, and immediately following operating hours to discourage loitering at the facility or surrounding areas.”

The facility is expected to initially “dose” approximately 150 patients daily with treatment ending no later than 11:30 a.m. Patients utilizing this substance abuse service must be at least 18 years of age, addicted to opioids, and entered treatment voluntarily, according to Acadia Healthcare.

Patients will be educated to community standards to prevent loitering and those struggling with Opioid Use Disorder will be offered counseling and behavioral therapy, but not required.

The company expects most patients to have their own transportation; however, the nearest bus stop, located at 196th Street and Alderwood Mall Parkway, is approximately 0.3 miles (or six-minute walk) away for those utilizing public transportation.

New information from Acadia revealed that its regional director met with Lynnwood Mayor Christine Frizzell and Assistant City Administrator Julie Moore on December 29, 2022, in which they discussed facilities services and safety concerns.

The seven-page single-spaced DOH response to community concerns addressed the licensing process, including the purpose of the public hearing and community relations plan, and what actions the community can take to appeal the Department’s decision.

According to DOH, all OTP licensing approvals are final and cannot be appealed.

“There is not a State administrative process for the public to request further review of a licensing decision,” DOH stated in its document responding to community questions.

As of the date of this article, DOH has not made a decision in licensing the Lynnwood CTC. It is awaiting city licensing requirements to be met and outreach from Acadia to Snohomish County. As the proposed site location borders Snohomish County, majority of residential neighborhoods lie at the southeast-most part of District 3, represented by newly appointed County Councilman Strom Peterson, and District 4, represented by Snohomish County Council Chair Jared Mead.

DOH confirmed that the purpose of its Public Hearing that took place on December 29 was to listen for comments that may indicate that the proposed OTP did not meet “minimum licensing requirements” and for residents to share their concerns for the agency to amend Acadia’s “community relations plan to mitigate those concerns.”

If approved an OTP license from DOH, concerns from stakeholders will continue to be worked through outreach by Acadia Healthcare and documented on its Community Relations Plan document.

ACADIA HEALTHCARE \$17 MILLION FRAUD SETTLEMENT

The Substance use And Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services requested \$10.7 billion for its 2023 fiscal budget. As federal and state governments continue to funnel billions of dollars into behavioral health initiatives, providers are facing scrutiny of their business practices.

Acadia Healthcare is the largest Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) provider in the United States with a network of 246 behavioral healthcare facilities with approximately 10,800 beds in 39 states and Puerto Rico. With more than 22,500 employees serving approximately 70,000 patients daily, it specializes in behavioral health, substance abuse and addiction, eating disorders, methadone maintenance, and PTSD & Trauma.

It is a publicly traded (Nasdaq: ACHC) with a \$7.5 billion valuation. According to statements by Councilman Patrick Decker at a Work Session on January 3, Acadia had a 13.5% increase in profit last year (or \$666 million) and operates at a 49.3% gross margin.

In 2019, Acadia agreed to a settlement of \$17 million to resolve allegations of a “billing scheme that defrauded Medicaid of \$8.5 million,” according to the Department of Justice.

“\$17 million – the largest healthcare fraud settlement in the history of West Virginia,” said United States Attorney Mike Stuart. “\$8.5 million in Medicaid fraud means \$8.5 million in fraud to the taxpayers.”

Acadia, acting through its subsidiary, CRC Health, L.L.C. (“CRC”), operated seven drug treatment centers in West Virginia to provide outpatient drug treatment, including the administration of Methadone and the prescribing of Suboxone and Subutex. According to DOJ, Acadia fraudulently billed West Virginia Medicaid for drug testing performed in California. Also, the Medicaid reimbursement claims submitted by Acadia’s treatment centers were a “substantially higher amount than the San Diego Lab charged to actually perform the testing.”

“Fraudulent billing by these Acadia/CRC drug treatment clinics, as contended by the government, limits the State’s ability to provide desperately needed addiction treatment services,” said Maureen R. Dixon, Special Agent in Charge of the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Region including West Virginia.

TENTATIVE TIMELINE OF EVENTS

- March 2022: Acadia met with Lynnwood planning department for a zoning clarification to use the proposed commercial space for medical use in which the planning department confirmed
- March 2022: Acadia signed 10-year lease with property owner
- June 24, 2022: Date the Tenant Improvement Building Remodel permit was requested by Acadia Healthcare with the city of Lynnwood. Permit #: TI-031558-2022.
- August 16, 2022: Originally dated Public Hearing for the proposed opioid treatment center in an email received four months later by Council President Hurst on December 12, 2022. The Lynnwood Times is awaiting confirmation if this August 16 notification was ever sent to stakeholders or why was the date changed. The Times is also confirming the date of application for Lynnwood Comprehensive Treatment Center by the DOH – estimated Public Request fulfillment date is April 5, 2023.

from page 09 **KOREAN APPRECIATION DAY**

member, and organized in partnership with the newly formed Mukilteo Korean Community Association.

Around 400 attendees packed the school's cafeteria to feast on Korean dishes, such as kimchi and bulgogi donated by local restaurants, and watch traditional Korean dance, Tae Kwan Do, and even K-Pop demonstrations.

Councilman Moon, accompanied by Representative Cindy Ryu (D-Lynnwood) and SeaTac City Council member Peter Kwon, also attended the Korean American Grassroots Conference (KAGC) in our Nation's Capital on July 27 through July 29, 2022.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PASSES RESOLUTION IN CELEBRATION OF CINCO DE MAYO

The Snohomish County Council unanimously approved Resolution 2022-030, recognizing May 5 in celebration of Cinco de Mayo ON Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

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 was signed at its meeting on Monday, May 9.

Lynnwood became the first city, and Snohomish the first county, in Washington state to recognize and observe Cinco de Mayo.

FROM SMALL TOWN TO CITY, "THE LYNNWOOD SONG" BY JOANNE DAVIS

For years, Joanne Davis, 83, has been coming to Lynnwood's Veterans Park to play her guitar and sing among the flowers and birds. She favors classics from Elvis and Creedance Clearwater Revival to Jimmy Rogers and Marty Robbins.

One of the songs she's most proud of is "The Lynnwood Song." Having grown up in the area, she's seen Lynnwood grow from a small town into a city.

from page 3 **METHADONE CLINIC**

- September 11, 2022: Date the 45-page drawing specifications document dated June 24, 2022 and marked "Acadia Healthcare-Treatment Center" approved with conditions by the city of Lynnwood.
- October 4, 2022: Date the Tenant Improvement Building Remodel permit, applied on June 24, 2022, by Acadia Healthcare, was approved by the city of Lynnwood.
- October 6, 2022: Date on Acadia Healthcare's Community Relations Plan
- October 13, 2022: Date Acadia Healthcare OTP application received by DOH
- December 7, 2022: Lynnwood Development and Business Services Department issues business license for Acadia to operate
- December 12, 2022: DOH notifies the Lynnwood Times at 9:39 a.m. of Public Hearing dated December 29, 2022, for proposed opioid treatment center in Lynnwood.
- December 12, 2022: City Council notified at 11 a.m. by DOH via email of Public Hearing dated August 16, 2022, for proposed opioid treatment center according to Council President Hurst.
- December 12, 2022: Last Lynnwood City Council meeting of the year.
- December 13, 2022: Lynnwood Times posts notification of Public Hearing dated December 29, 2022, for proposed opioid treatment center.
- December 13, 2022: Snohomish County Council notified during its Administrative Session on December 13, of a notice from the Department of Health of a proposed opioid treatment clinic in Lynnwood.
- December 14, 2022: During Snohomish County Council's General Legislative Session, Councilmembers agreed to ask for an extension of DOH to December 28 for a response by the County.
- Between Dec 12 to Dec 20: DOH emails the correct dated notification to Council President Hurst with Public Hearing dated December 29, 2022, for proposed opioid treatment center.
- December 16, 2022: Final Building inspection passed and complete. Fire has not approved their final and are scheduled for 12-19-2022. After Fire has approved final, building okay to occupy and okay to issue Certificate of Occupancy.
- December 19, 2022: Fire Inspection passed with conditions, Certificate of Occupancy issued.
- December 20, 2022: Hurst was told by DOH official that Acadia Healthcare was unaware they needed to connect with city of Lynnwood and will now do so.
- December 27, 2022: Julie Moore, Assistant City Administrator for Lynnwood, shared with Beazizo, County Council Chief of Staff, on December 27, that the city was approved for an extension by DOH of additional outreach on the proposed opioid treatment center.
- December 28, 2022: At its General Legislative Meeting, the Snohomish County Council agreed to wait on providing DOH a response "pending further outreach" by the city of Lynnwood.
- December 28, 2022: First time Hurst was contacted by Acadia Healthcare.
- December 29, 2022: Date of DOH public hearing of proposed opioid treatment center.
- January 3, 2023: Dates of Lynnwood City Council work session with stakeholders and community members.
- January 9, 2023: Dates of Lynnwood City Council Work Session and Business Meeting with stakeholders and community members.
- January 12, 2023: Acadia Healthcare and DOH release official responses to community concerns.
- January 12, 2023: Mayor Christine Frizzell submits letter to Secretary of Health, Dr. Umair A. Shah, requesting that he delay approval of proposed opioid treatment center
- January 14, 2023: Safe Lynnwood Protest in front of proposed opioid treatment center
- January 16, 2023: Councilman Jim Smith submits letter to Governor Jay Insee requesting that he "freeze" approval of proposed opioid treatment center
- January 16, 2023: Councilman Jim Smith submits letter to Governor Jay Insee requesting that he "freeze" approval of proposed opioid treatment center
- January 17, 2023: Lynnwood City Council drafts letter to Secretary of Health, Dr. Umair A. Shah, to delay issuance Acadia's OTP permit

from page 09 **MARRIOTT**

through the Meadowdale High School grounds as someone who takes her role in education, and her love for her students, to heart. She has been the Activities Director since 2007 but stepped into the Athletics Department in 2013, a role she has always wanted since being a high school student herself, having an admiration for her own Athletic Director.

MUKILTEO REMOVES 'TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD' FROM CURRICULUM

On January 24, Mukilteo School District board members voted to remove "To Kill a Mockingbird" from the district's ninth-grade English curriculum. The book was reviewed by a committee after Kamiak High School received a complaint from a community member who cited the novel's repeated use of the "n-word" and claimed the book promotes "white saviorhood."

Harper Lee's novel, which focuses on themes of injustice and prejudice, tells

the story of a Black man falsely accused of raping a White woman in the 1930s and the lawyer who defied social conventions to defend him. Harper Lee became the 1961 Pulitzer prize winner for her work, and the book remains lauded as a "Great American Novel."

This is not the first school district to remove the book from English classes. In 2017, a Mississippi school sparked controversy when it removed the book from its curriculum after receiving complaints about the use of the "n-word." A year later, a Minnesota school district removed both "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" from its curriculum for their use of racial slurs.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SHORTAGE

The Edmonds School District announced that student transportation may be affected the week of January 10, 2022. The district is experiencing an increasingly severe shortage of school bus drivers due to illness and Department of Health requirements.

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