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LYNNWOOD

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“Nick Coelho offers voters an opportunity they should not miss.”

Paid for by Committee to Elect Nick Coelho, PO box 2345, Lynnwood, WA

CITY COUNCIL POS 4

**LYNNWOOD TIMES**

Letters to the Editor: Vote Adam Fortney to keep our deputies from leaving the county

Letters to the Editor: Vote to Retain Judge Patrick Moriarty

Letters to the Editor: Evaluating Contested Edmonds School Board Races

Real News Real Impact

# Gloves are off, heated Alderwood Water & Wastewater District race hits boiling point

By KIENAN BRISCOE

LYNNWOOD—As general elections approach, Mike Pivec, former Alderwood Water & Wastewater District employee now running for Commissioner Position 3, is alleging incumbent Jack Broyles Jr. is actually a resident of Alaska. However, the Snohomish County Auditor’s office has dismissed these claims citing a lack of evidence.

The decision came at a hearing on September 5, signed by Snohomish County Auditor Garth Fell.

In Snohomish County, Commissioners must have been residents of the county for at least two years, may not be county employees or public officials, and no more than two can be from the same political party.

On August 15, 2023, Pivec filed a Washington State Voter Registration Challenge form to the Snohomish County Auditor’s Office claiming his opponent does not reside at the address listed on his registration form – a residence in Bothell – pursuant of chapter 29A.08 RCW. He did not provide an alternative address where he believed



Alderwood Water & Wastewater District Commissioner Jack Broyles, Jr. (left) and challenger Mike Pivec (right) face-off in the November 7th General Election.

Broyles was actually living.

Broyles has been a registered voter in Washington State since 1991 and informed the Lynnwood Times he is not registered to vote in any other state. In

order to register to vote in the state of Washington a voter must provide their actual physical residence on their voter registration form. Knowingly pro-

Continued PAGE 4 >>

# Lynnwood Times takes home 11 awards at WNPA 2023 Journalism Conference

By KIENAN BRISCOE

LYNNWOOD—The Lynnwood Times took home an incredible 11 awards in the prestigious Tier 4 category at the Washington Newspaper Publisher Association’s (WNPA) 136th annual Journalism Convention, Saturday, October 7, as part of its 2023 Better Newspaper Contest. The competition pitted newspapers from all over the state, divided into groups by circulation, and spanned a variety of categories.

“Kienan and Bo are talented journalists,” Lynnwood Times publisher Mario Lotmore said. “In just four years we have built an online readership of approximately 150,000 per month by returning facts, honesty, and truth to journalism.”

Briscoe also won third place in News Story Long for his Church in full force at Sound Transit forum, third place for Social Issues Story for his A mother’s cry for help to the dangers of fentanyl, second place in General Feature Story Long for Helping Ukrainians find peace in Snohomish County, second place in Arts Feature or Story for National distributor picks up high school film, first place in Personality Profile Long for Local student represents Washington State in DC, and second place in Investigative Reporting for Church continues to struggle with abuse disclosure.

“Very well written,” a judge commented on Briscoe’s first place winning story, Local student represents Washington State in DC. “Very detailed, but not so much that you get overwhelmed and

Continued PAGE 2 >>

# Anderson speaks out against political smear campaign

By MARIO LOTMORE

LYNNWOOD—Snohomish County Superior Court candidate for judge, Mary Anderson, retains her endorsement by the Snohomish County Democratic Committee after a failed challenge by no more than 10 of its members in a Special Meeting held on October 17.

A total of 76 people attended the meeting of which 67 were eligible to vote—a minimum of 39 are required

for quorum. A motion to not approve the only agenda item for Tuesday’s discussion of the endorsement rescindment of Mary Anderson was made by Lynnwood resident Elisabeth Lunsford. The motion passed 31-22, which effectively ended the matter.

A motion was then made to adjourn the meeting which was approved 31-27, ending the meeting.

Continued PAGE 7 >>



Snohomish County Superior Court Judge candidate Mary Anderson. SOURCE: Mary Anderson.

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LYNNWOOD

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CITY COUNCIL POS 4

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# Mill Creek's annual Veterans Day Ceremony and Parade returns this November 10th

By THE CITY OF MILL CREEK

**LYNNWOOD**—The City of Mill Creek's annual Veterans Day Ceremony and Parade returns this November 10 to honor all who serve in our United States Military.

"We are delighted to bring back this event once again," said Communications and Marketing Coordinators for the City of Mill Creek, Scott Harder & Jody Hawkins. "We've spent months working with our dedicated committee and are genuinely thankful for their leadership and direction."

The day will commence with a Commemorative Ceremony at the Library Park Veterans Monument, located at 15429 Bothell-Everett Highway, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The ceremony will include a presentation by city staff, including remarks by Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Vignal and Chaplain Nick Lewis before the raising of the colors accompanied by Bugler George Mofat.

Following the morning ceremony, a parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. from L.A. Fitness on 15024 Main Street, through Mill Creek Town Center, south to City Hall at 15728 Main Street. The parade, which is scheduled to last



The City's annual Veterans Day Ceremony and Parade in 2022. SOURCE: City of Mill Creek.

about one hour, will feature Veterans and their families, four Grand Marshals, military and high school bands, including America's First Corps Big-foot Brass Band, Navy Band Northwest, the Glacier Peak High School Grizzly Band, and the Snohomish High School Panther Band, as well as color guards, vintage and military vehicles, and community organizations. Emcees Stitch Mitchel of KXA/KRKO Radio and Chris Jones of State Farm Insurance will announce participants at the

start and mid-way through the parade.

For the first time ever the Heroes' Café Sock Drive and Giving Tree will provide opportunities for the community to help Veterans this holiday season by donating new socks or choosing a name from the Giving Tree. Members of the public can visit the Heroes' Café tent near Boston's Restaurant on Main Street during the parade or the lobby at Mill Creek City Hall North afterwards.

The Heroes' Café is a nonprofit organization focused on veterans' and supporters' camaraderie, personal safety, positive outreach, healthy interactions, and improving the welfare within their community. Heroes' Café founder and Executive Director Gary Walderman also sits on Mill Creek's Veterans Day Committee.

The city expects a large turnout and urges interested parties to plan accordingly regarding traffic and parking. Main Street between 148th Street and City Hall will be closed to all parking between 10:30 a.m. and noon. 153rd Street Southeast will be blocked to through traffic beginning at 10:30 a.m. and reopen once the parade passes. From Mill Creek Boulevard, traffic can turn north on Main Street but will be diverted to an access road south of Town Center. Lastly, the north L.A. Fitness parking lot will close at 8:00 a.m. for parade staging; patrons can park in the south lot; however, once the parade begins at 11:00 a.m., access in and out will be temporarily stopped.

If you or your organization is interested in participating in the parade, please fill out the Parade Entry Form. Questions or concerns, contact communications@millcreekwa.gov.

from page 1 **LYNNWOOD TIMES AWARDS**

lose site of the story."

For Briscoe's second place investigative story, a judge wrote, "Extremely detailed, comprehensive piece on an issue that will resonate with anyone in organized religion."

Publisher Mario Lotmore won First Place in Government Story for Community protests opening of methadone clinic.

"Extremely detailed narrative about a controversial local issue that successfully navigates the dynamics of the potential methadone clinic without parroting anti-poor talking points from NIMBY community members," judges wrote about Lotmore's winning submission.

Former reporter Bo John Brusco won First Place in General Feature Story Long for Cut by Curt: crafting a life post-diagnosis and swept the Video category, winning first place for Cut by Curt: Crafting a life post-diagnosis, second place for Verizon workers in

Everett form union after landslide vote, and third place for Local eats: Brianna's Cafe in Marysville.

The awards ceremony capped off the second night of the convention, which took place at the Red Lion/Columbia Center in Kennewick, Washington from Friday, October 6, through Sunday, October 7.

At last year's ceremony the Lynnwood Times also won 14 awards for its work in 2021.

**About the WNPA**

Washington Newspaper Publishers Association is an advocate for community newspapers, freedom of the press and open government. WNPA represents community newspapers in Washington state. It is the successor to the Washington Press Association, founded in 1887 by newspapers in Dayton, Ellensburg, Seattle, Tacoma, Yakima and Walla Walla.

Today, WNPA operates a statewide advertising network, manages a website containing all the legal advertisements that were published in print newspapers,

and provides training and legal advice to its members. In collaboration with Allied Daily Newspapers and the Wash-

ington Coalition on Open Government, WNPA advocates for transparent government and press freedom.

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**LYNNWOOD TIMES**

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**LYNNWOOD TIMES**

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# City council considers new zoning code for smaller emergency medical facilities

By MARIO LOTMORE

**LYNNWOOD**—The Lynnwood City Council is considering updating the zoning code to recognize and allow for smaller emergency medical facilities that can receive ambulances. Lynnwood Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts Director, Lynn D. Sordel, announced his retirement. He has been with the city of Lynnwood for 17 years. His last day with the city is March 15, 2024.

## Emergency Medical Department Ordinance Discussion

The council received a presentation from Community Planning Manager Karl Almgren during their business meeting on October 23 outlining what these emergency medical facilities are and where they could be built.

“What it is is a step up from an urgent care facility,” Almgren said. “So, it is an emergency room facility, it does not have a trauma facility attached to it, it is not in a full-fledged hospital, but it does provide 24-7 care opportunities.”

Calling them “off-campus emergency departments,” city staff defines them as: “a building or portion of a building providing emergency services with or without ambulance service, including but not limited to observation beds (limited to less than 48 hours), a diagnostic lab, radiology services, and

point-of-care pharmacy.”

Almgren noted that these facilities can be public or private and can “help alleviate” the volume of patients at local hospital emergency rooms.

Such facilities are operating in the South Puget Sound area in cities like Tacoma, Puyallup and Bonney Lake, but Almgren stated they have not made their way north until this recent proposal in Lynnwood. This would be notably different from the MultiCare Urgent Care facilities in Mill Creek, Shoreline and Bothell.

According to city staff, the current “Lynnwood Municipal Code narrowly defines healthcare services which omit an emerging trend for emergency medical departments that are off-campus from a hospital.”

“We’re seeing this as a changing land use that we’d like to, instead of just leaving it kind of in the gray zone, let’s define it,” Almgren said. “Let’s say where we as a community want to see it and then let’s make sure that those regulations work for what we’d like to see.”

Staff selected commercial zones as potential areas for off-campus emergency departments, ultimately eliminating neighborhood commercial zones from consideration due to the 24-hour operations of these facilities.

“It may work for a small dental office to have it near a residential area, but that may not fit well having a facility that is open late into the evenings,” Almgren said.

The planning commission will be holding a public hearing on the proposed zoning amendment on October 26, with the city council’s public hearing scheduled for November 13.

## Use of City Attorney Discussion

Council President Shannon Sessions led a discussion regarding the city attorney, citing concerns over potential over or unnecessary usage of the attorney by the council and the subsequent 28% increase in costs compared to this time last year.

“Personally, I am very pleased with our city attorney and her approachability and availability to us, and so I don’t want any of that changed,” Sessions said. “The reason why I brought it up before was that I had started noticing that there’s some duplication — council members reaching out after we’ve already received official information from the attorney... So, duplicating our city attorney’s work and not paying attention to stuff that was already presented to us, whether in email or in a public meeting.”

At the current rate of use, the city “will use over 60% of the budget in year

one.” Sessions did acknowledge that part of the cost increase was the result of having a different law firm representing the city last year but had recommendations to help reduce costs.

Sessions first recommended that council members utilize the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and the Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) for legal advice, as they are free resources for city leadership. She stated that while these entities often

Continued PAGE 07 >>



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Re-elect

# Jim Smith

Lynnwood City Council

*“As the Mayor of Lynnwood and Councilmember for decades, I personally know Jim Smith to be consistently dedicated to the people of Lynnwood. He has been unwavering in his dedication to our seniors, keeping our families safe, a fighter against unneeded taxes as well as continuously working to help the street homeless and their drug addiction. There is no doubt in my mind that Jim is by far the best candidate to serve the people of Lynnwood. His history, knowledge, education and devotion cannot be matched.”*

**-Mayor Tina Roberts-Martinez**

# Lynnwood Times Community Letters-to-Editor

*The views and comments expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lynnwood Times nor any of its affiliates.*

## **Vote Adam Fortney to keep our deputies from leaving the county**

Re-Elect Adam Fortney for Sheriff, the best person that will keep us and our kids safe for the next four years!

The soft-on-crime establishment wants Snohomish County voters to bend-the-knee to Olympia bureaucrats and their failed law enforcement policies. Do you want to have a Snohomish County Sheriff's Office protecting victims and doing policing or an administration on the side of criminals?

Gone are the days of catch-and-release under the former Sheriff Ty Trenary and Susanna Johnson Administration where she served as his Bureau Chief of Operations. Adam fulfilled his promise

to end this disastrous Seattle-like policy. During COVID, facing immense pressure from Olympia, Adam kept the jail open to keep residents safe.

Seattle is now paying the price with the blood of innocent victims for failed policies Susanna supports. These same policies resulted in minimum staffing levels down 50% for Seattle PD. Could you image Snohomish County with 50% less deputies especially with the threat of organized crime and rise in gang-related shootings?

Has Ty ever shown up to his office as Senior Policy Analyst within the last four years after he was hooked up with the county job just months after losing to Adam? Has Ty ever submitted any reports as Senior Policy Analyst for the County to help with the county's deadly fentanyl crisis or testified to the to the County Council within the last four years? No. Talk about using taxpayer's money for a politically cushy job with

no accountability.

The good ole "political" players club, with Susanna as their new face, opens an opportunity for a return of the failed policies of the Ty-Susanna Administration.

Why is it that ALL police officer guilds in ALL of Snohomish County support Adam? Because his proven policies in the last four years are the policing balance we need in Snohomish County.

Why would Susanna accept endorsements from vocal defund the police and anti-police groups and elected officials? They put Snohomish County at risk at a time we need good policing most.

During the "Summer of Love" riots throughout Puget Sound in 2020, rioters didn't dare release their mayhem on Snohomish County. Fortney stands up to criminals and refuses to bend-the-

knee. They knew this then and they know this now.

Snohomish County voters, we are at the crossroads for safety in our county. Re-Elect Adam Fortney for Sheriff, the best person that will keep us and our kids safe for the next four years!

*Jason Moore, Lynnwood*

## **Retain Judge Patrick Moriarty**

This November, you will have the opportunity to vote to retain Judge Patrick Moriarty, Snohomish County Superior Court, Pos. 17. Judge Moriarty is endorsed by every sitting judge in the Superior, District and Municipal Courts in Snohomish County. We urge you to cast your vote to keep this hard-working, experienced, smart, and fair judge on our bench.

*Continued PAGE 05 >>*

## **from page 3 ALDERWOOD WATER DISTRICT RACE SPAT**

viding false information on this form is considered a Class C felony (RCW 29A.08.210).

Pivec argued that Broyles' remote participation in Alderwood Water and Wastewater District meetings, of which he serves as an elected Commissioner, coupled with his current full-time employment status as Finance Director for Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility, is sufficient enough to believe Broyles is actually working and living in Alaska a majority of the time – something that would disqualify him from his current position in office.

Broyles does in fact work full-time in Anchorage, which he says he has never denied nor kept a secret. He informed the Lynnwood Times his time spent in Washington, compared to Alaska, can vary from "fifty-fifty, to eighty-twenty." He said he's in Washington at least half of the time.

"It really doesn't matter where I am, I can perform my duties as a commissioner wherever I am at," Broyles told the Lynnwood Times. "Thanks to technological advances since the pandemic, online collaboration is now the rule, not the exception. I have zero unexcused absences since I accepted my new role as CFO of the Anchorage Water & Wastewater District."

While Broyles tunes in to Alderwood Water District meetings remotely, a majority of the time he works in-house in Alaska, he continued.

Despite his position in Alaska, Broyles says he lives in Bothell with his family and his dog Abel. According to real estate sales records, the residence Broyles submitted on his voter registration forms is titled under his fiancé's name. Both Broyles and his fiancé testified, under oath, that Broyles lives at the Bothell residence at the hearing on September 5.

Broyles compared his traveling to Alaska for work to truck drivers, airliners, and onboard fishing vessels who all work out of state on a regular basis. He added that Pivec's challenge is an attempt to "disenfranchise" out-

of-state workers like these and himself, calling him a "disgruntled former employee" who left the Water District under "questionable circumstances."

Pivec formally worked as the head of Alderwood Water and Wastewater District's Department of Administrative Services for 12 years.

But Pivec isn't the only former employee to leave a Water District position under "questionable circumstances," Broyles told the Lynnwood Times. Prior to accepting his position in Anchorage in March of 2023, Broyles worked as a Finance Director for the Woodinville Water District for 11 years. Broyles informed the Lynnwood Times he left this position for his position in Alaska because it was "time for new challenges in [his] professional career." Both jobs pay around \$131 thousand a year.

"I needed to serve a much larger organization. My current position has me learning and growing professionally again at an organization that is five times larger than Woodinville," said Broyles.

Why Broyles would leave a position in Washington — where he could keep a keener eye on local water and wastewater issues as Commissioner — for a similar position in Alaska, with similar pay, is one of the reasons Pivec is still skeptical Broyles may not be telling the whole story despite the Auditor's decision.

"It's pretty evident that he's living up there because there's been about 30 meetings since he's been up there, but he's only attended, in-person, about a handful of them," Pivec told the Lynnwood Times. "He claims he's living in the area; everything points to the fact that he's full-time up in Alaska as their Finance Director."

The board passed a resolution on August 7 that lifts the restriction of how many meetings a member can attend virtually, which Pivec believes was meant to cover for Broyles, and other board members who may be living out of state. Pivec has attended the last 11 Water District meetings and informed the Lynnwood Times Broyles has only attended one of those meetings in per-

son. That meeting fell on August 7, which coincided with the vote.

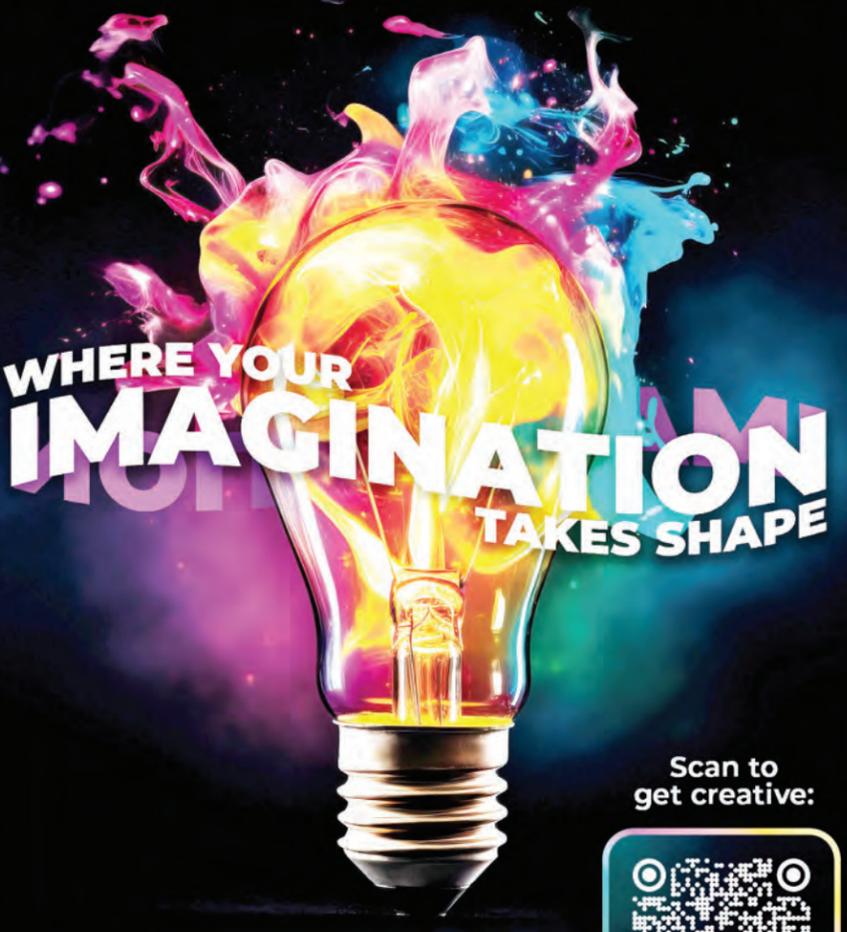
"The key thing is there aren't any specific residency requirements that Snohomish County has," said Pivec. "Basically, this guy could be elected, move out of the area, remote into the meetings and there's really nothing they could do about it."

A flight from Anchorage to Seattle takes roughly 3 and a half hours. There's approximately 2,260 miles between the two cities.

ec has relentlessly been trying to prove Broyles' residence in Alaska for months to no avail. Public records requests for attendance records and tracing an alleged address have all proved futile. Still, he says the issue is with the county's lack of tracking a voter's residence and Broyles taking advantage of this "loophole."

Broyles won the primary 64.7% to Pivec's 21.7%. The remaining 13.4% went to Alan Rubio who has now supporting Pivec.

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from page 4 **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Judge Moriarty has years of judicial experience, as both a Superior Court Judge and Superior Court Commissioner. His judicial experience follows years of experience as an attorney where he practiced in all areas of the law that routinely come before the court – criminal defense, prosecution, family, juvenile, civil, and dependency. The work we do as judges is complex, varied, and exceedingly consequential – both to the individuals who come before us as well as the community. It is clear to us that Judge Moriarty’s decades of experience both inform and enhance his ability to meet the unique demands of our work.

Judge Moriarty is the epitome of a knowledgeable, experienced, thoughtful, and conscientious judge – the kind of judge we need to keep on our Superior Court bench. The extent and breadth of his community endorsements (<https://judgepatrickmoriarty.org/endorsements/>) speak volumes about how seriously he takes his responsibility to treat everyone who appears before him fairly and impartially. Over 200 lawyers who practice in our court have endorsed him for election. We cannot afford to lose this important, hard-working, member of our court. Vote to retain Judge Moriarty in November.

Judge Anita Farris, Judge Bruce Weiss, Judge George Appel, Judge Joseph Wilson, Judge Marybeth Dingley, Judge Richard Okrent, Judge Cindy Larsen, Judge Jennifer Langbehn, Judge Paul Thompson, Judge Edirin Okoloko, Judge Karen Moore, Judge Jon Scot.

Karen D. Moore, Everett

**Evaluating Contested Edmonds School Board Races**

Edmonds School District includes the cities of Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Brier, Woodway and of course Edmonds. Two of the current races for director positions, #1 and #5, offer clear choices to the voters.

Recent ESD students’ low test scores and low attendance (as reported by the Edmonds Beacon) ought to be thought provoking for all. Should these low performance facts be considered as due to the pandemic and the long lockdown of public schools when the same pandemic threat did not cause such long disruptions for private or parochial students and teachers?

So now I ask, did the ESD incumbents demonstrate rightful independence from teachers’ union demands to keep public schools closed? Did incumbents Chase and Katims lobby the superintendent and the powers that be in Olympia to re-open public schools? If not, given the sad results of the long public school lockdown, do those incumbents deserve reelection?

Voters have clear choices, and for the sake of students and society may we choose wisely in this very meaningful election in the ESD and others in Washington State.

*Shirley Oczkewicz Edmonds*

**Sheriff Fortney has our vote!**

I am writing in the hopes that you may

*Continued PAGE 06 >>*



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**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2023**

9:00 A.M.

COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY AT VETERANS MEMORIAL AT LIBRARY PARK

11:00 A.M.

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from page 5 **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

hear from business owners and residents of Snohomish County and not judge people on a one-sided forum.

First, I would like to say, having known Sheriff Adam Fortney for some time now, I really appreciate his passion, safety and all-around concern for our community and Snohomish County.

Sheriff Adam Fortney is a man of the highest integrity. From what I have seen he will refuse to compromise on matters of principle, which is very appreciated!

I would like to speak a little bit about his character, Sheriff Adam Fortney shows compassion, is honest and fair. He makes good judgements, shows respect to others, and shows courage in standing up for his beliefs. He has a good sense of responsibility. Sheriff Fortney is more than capable, competent, qualified and suitable for the Sheriff of Snohomish County for another four years and beyond. I have never come across another Sheriff who will go out into the community to see what issues are out there and get them corrected. His involvement within the community is beyond commendable.

In terms of ethics, Sheriff Fortney is willing to make difficult choices and stand behind them and think about big questions good and bad, right and wrong.

Sheriff Fortney's management team also plays a very important role within the community. I ran into Bureau Chief Scott Robertson at the coffee shop awhile back, we started talking about what's going on in Snohomish County changes that have taken place in the last 3.5 years for the good, and what other changes are taking place. I asked Bureau Chief Scott Robertson if he and Sheriff Adam Fortney would be willing to come and talk to our employees at our business here in Arlington, WA, and without hesitation he said absolutely. Our employees and I really appreciated it as we all had questions and Sheriff Fortney answered the questions with honesty.

I told Sheriff Fortney we had our business in King County for several years and had nothing but heartache and hardship and lies. Without going into everything and all the problems in King County we moved our business to Snohomish County. We are very pleased to say we will never move our business out of Snohomish County.

It is so nice to see Sheriff Fortney's involvement within the community along with his management team.

I am very honored, and I know many other companies and individuals here in Snohomish County are pleased to have Sheriff Fortney and his management team here Snohomish County!

Sheriff Fortney has our vote!

*Maria Case, Case Marine & Industrial*

**Re-elect Adam Fortney, a vote for public Safety**

Sheriff Adam Fortney has the support of nine police unions in Snohomish County, demonstrating his strong leadership and dedication to improving public safety. Over the past four years, Sheriff Fortney has shown unwavering integrity, compassion, and commitment to serving all residents.

One of Fortney's notable achievements is his efforts to bridge the gap between law enforcement and communities of color. Through partnerships with organizations like America's Promise Project and the establishment of a diverse Sheriff's community advisory board, he has actively worked towards fostering understanding and inclusivity. Additionally, Sheriff Fortney has taken the initiative to develop a groundbreaking law enforcement program for at-risk youth, personally dedicating his time to teach the program after hours.

Under his leadership, communication and transparency have been paramount. He has made it a priority to engage with residents from all walks of life, utilizing innovative video messages to the community and monthly meetings with business owners at Patty's Egg Nest. By actively participating in community events and attending neighborhood meetings, Sheriff Fortney ensures that he remains accessible and responsive to the concerns of all residents.

Recognizing the longstanding issues on Highway 99 and Airport Road, Sheriff Fortney took action. He organized graffiti cleanups, trail cleanups, and patrol operations targeting crime in these areas. Demonstrating his personal commitment to the cause, Fortney spent Saturdays painting over gang graffiti and cleaning up the walking trails, instilling a sense of safety for families.

Furthermore, Sheriff Fortney implemented the first crime data dashboard, providing real-time access to current crime data in our county. This allows residents to stay informed and actively participate in maintaining the safety of our neighborhoods.

Sheriff Fortney's vision for Snohomish County aligns with the aspirations of hardworking individuals who desire safe communities for their children to grow up in. Re-elect Sheriff Adam Fortney and vote to support his unwavering commitment to the safety of our community.

*Ben Wise*

**Sheriff Fortney equals remarkable leadership**

I am writing to express my unequivocal support for the re-election of Adam Fortney as Snohomish County Sheriff. Sheriff Fortney has made positive changes to the Sheriff's Office and our community through collaboration, transparency, dedication, justice, communication, honesty, servant leadership, and integrity.

For the last 31 years of my law enforcement career, I've worked for 7 Police Chiefs and Sheriffs; and I was appointed to the previous sheriff's command staff. From experience, I can share that no law enforcement leader gets it right all the time. Even fewer admit when they were wrong, apologize, and have the courage to make changes and move forward in a different direction. Sheriff Fortney represents that group of rare leaders. He's honest, intelligent, humble, courageous, hardworking, impartial, committed, and a dedicated public servant that truly believes that law enforcement is for all.

Unfortunately, resumes and achievements have been a large topic of this election; and one candidate has more than the other. However, if you stay away from all the political rhetoric, consider who Sheriff Fortney appointed to manage the 4 Sheriff's Office bureaus. I'd put their resumes, education, and experience against anyone in law enforcement leadership positions today; and anyone who has been, or is currently seeking, the office of Sheriff.

Sheriff Fortney's character, faith, dedication, and commitment to protecting our communities make him a remarkable leader. I wholeheartedly support Sheriff Fortney and am grateful for his unwavering commitment and service to our community.

*Scott Robertson, Arlington*

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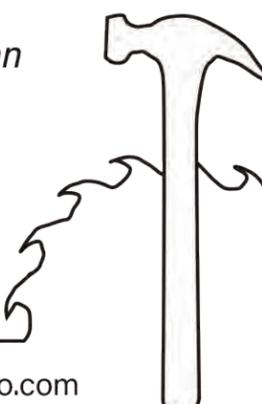


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from page 1 **MARY ANDERSON**

After the meeting, Stasti Conrad, Chair of the Washington State Democratic Party echoed Senator John Lovick's message of "culture eats strategy."

"We have to get out of this...where we are sitting in rooms fighting with other Democrats," Conrad told fellow Democrats. "We have got to focus on doing the work."

Conrad called for everyone to focus their efforts on electing Suzanna Johnson for Snohomish County Sheriff as her opponent is "one of great white nationalist of this country."

Just days earlier, Anderson, hit former Lynnwood City Council Candidate and Democratic Precinct Committee Officer, Rosamaria Graziani, with a Cease-and-Desist letter for allegedly spreading lies to intentionally defame her character ahead of the contentious judicial race.

Anderson conveyed her disappointment that as a person running on her merits is being "smeared" and "belittled" by someone at the detriment of the democratic process.

"This is just a complete distraction," Anderson told the Lynnwood Times. "I need to be focused on meeting voters and inspiring voters to go out there and vote for the best person for the position. It is sad for me as a trial attorney, with my good reputation...I have a stellar reputation...this type of negative campaigning for the benefit of one person to the detriment of myself is devastating."

Research revealed that Graziani, who is also a member of the Democratic Endorsement Committee for both the Snohomish County Democratic Committee and the 32nd Legislative Democrats, was actively leading an effort to rescind endorsements of Anderson.

An investigation by the 32 Legislative Democrats found Graziani's allegations against Anderson failed to warrant its rescindment of its endorsement against Anderson. The Democratic Legislative Districts parties of the 21st and 44th also rejected attempts to rescind their endorsements of Anderson. The 38th Legislative District of the Democratic Party did rescind its endorsement of Anderson in a 15-1 vote.

Anderson, an Afro-Latina who is endorsed by both the Snohomish County Democratic Committee and the Snohomish County Republican Party, is not letting the tactics by Graziani impact her spirits. She is actively meeting with voters and hosting events throughout Snohomish County.

"The judiciary needs a fresh perspective and not the same-ole-same-ole," Anderson said. "This is Snohomish County; this is my home. I make a conscience decision to make sure to reach and talk with everyone. It doesn't matter if you have an 'R' behind your name or a 'D'; I am not about division, I am about including everyone."

The potential legal action against Graziani stemmed from a video she posted on her personal Facebook Page alleging that Anderson "took food from low-income families" and "children."

The video shows a man whose face is covered, alleging that he and oth-

ers "worked" for the Mary Anderson campaign and during those four hours, she was "very disrespectful." Graziani confirmed that the video was taken on a separate day after the incident and that there is no video of the incident in question.

A voice in the video, later confirmed to be that of Graziani, asks the man, "How did she [Anderson] treat Rosamaria?" To which the man responded, "She was quite disrespectful when Rosamaria went to talk to her about it."

The man speaking in the video, who the Lynnwood Times cannot confirm attended the envelope stuffing event, volunteers for the Diversity Council of Snohomish County, which Graziani confirmed with the Lynnwood Times for which she is President and that the group represents over 500 local families through her nonprofit, Academia Latina. She confirmed with the Lynnwood Times that the Diversity Council of Snohomish County is not registered with the PDC nor is affiliated with any government agency.

"It is unconscionable that a person running for Superior Court judge resorts to a defamation lawsuit for something so, basically, trivial," Graziani told the Lynnwood Times. "That is an incredible waste of judicial resources. That, in itself, disqualifies her to be honest."

After interviewing both Anderson and Graziani, the Lynnwood Times has confirmed that the incident occurred on July 16, 2023, at the home of Mary Anderson. Volunteers from both Graziani (five) and Anderson (eight people) were there from 9 a.m. to approximately 10 p.m., cycling in as teams to help stuff thousands of envelopes with letters encouraging voters to support Anderson. Food was provided in the afternoon by Anderson for the volunteers – five large Costco pizzas, cookies, muffins, and sodas.

At approximately 9:30 p.m. two of Graziani's volunteers, who arrived at 7:30 p.m. that evening, proceeded to pack up and leave. In preparing to leave, they attempted to take a whole pizza pie, along with all the cookies and muffins. Anderson shared that the remaining food is to be shared with the remaining volunteers.

According to Anderson, the remaining pizza was then divided amongst the remaining volunteers. All the remaining muffins and cookies the two departing volunteers and their two children wanted, they received. She told the Lynnwood Times that each departing volunteer received four slices of pizza.

Graziani refuted this claim, telling the Lynnwood Times that Anderson "grabbed" the pizza and the cookies from the mouths of children.

"We demand from our electeds is human decency, and there-and-then, I saw she has no human decency," Graziani told the Lynnwood Times.

Graziani added, "I am a community mother...I couldn't believe my eyes."

Back in May of this year, Graziani donated \$1,000 to the Mary Anderson campaign. Now, she told the Lynnwood Times, she supports Anderson's opponent Patrick Moriarty.

When asked why she released the video almost three months after the incident at the home of Mary Anderson

and only weeks prior to the General Election, Graziani said she was waiting for an apology.

"I was hoping it was a misunderstanding, sometimes you have a bad day," Graziani told the Lynnwood Times.

Graziani agreed to delete the video from her social media account, which the Lynnwood Times has confirmed is now removed.

"I have an obligation for myself and my reputation for what I have built in Snohomish County," Anderson said when asked why send Graziani the Cease-and-Desist letter. "I am not going to allow anyone to smear my good name through the mud. This was a legal action that I have every right to take when someone is misleading the public about my character."

**PREVIOUS LAWSUIT AGAINST GRAZIANI FOR LIBEL & DEFAMATION**  
This isn't the first legal action against Graziani by a political candidate involving alleged libel and defamation.

"I lost almost \$20,000 when Julieta sued me," Graziani said told the Lynnwood Times.

On November 5, 2019, Election Day, Graziani was served with a lawsuit from then-candidate Lynnwood City Council Vice President Julieta Altamirano-Crosby for libel and defamation.

Weeks earlier, around October 18, 2019, fliers from former Lynnwood City Council Candidate Rosamaria Graziani with statements opposing Julieta Altamirano-Crosby were being left at houses along with other candidates' literature. Graziani previously ran for Lynnwood City Council during the primary against Altamirano-Crosby but lost. Former chair of the 32nd Republican Party, David "Doc" Schirle, and Altamirano-Crosby advanced to the General Election that year.

Graziani, agreed to help Schirle in his effort to defeat Altamirano-Crosby by distributing his campaign literature. She then affixed her campaign related material to Schirle's and others without their knowledge nor consent.

"It has come to my attention that a flier was created that had negative comments and information about a candidate for Lynnwood City Council. This is my opponent. I had no knowledge or part in making this flier," Schirle told the Lynnwood Times when the story originally broke in 2019. "I wholeheartedly support freedom of speech, but I am adamantly opposed to involving others without their approval. I do not condone negative campaign tactics or rhetoric."

The tactic used by Graziani was also criticized by her friend, Lynnwood City Councilman George Hurst, who supported Schirle at that time.

"It has come to my attention that there is a flier being distributed that attacks a council candidate and that flier has my name on it," Hurst told the Lynnwood Times when the story originally broke in 2019. "I repudiate this flier and any implication that I had any part in endorsing this negative ad. We can all disagree on issues but personal attacks like this cannot be tolerated."

A complaint filed with the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission followed, alleging Graziani violated

RCW 42.17A.335 for political advertising that contains false statements constituting libel or defamation. The PDC dismissed the case in February of 2020 stating, it "does not amount to a violation warranting further investigation."

According to the pamphlet by Graziani, she accused Altamirano-Crosby of being a "carpet bagger" and having an unrecognized doctoral degree, all of which were proven to be untrue in a Lynnwood Times investigation with assistance from the Snohomish County Auditor's Office.

Back in May of that year, a voter registration challenge was filed with the Snohomish County Auditor's office by then Lynnwood City Council candidate Rosamaria Graziani against Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, an opponent for the District 5 council seat. The challenge was dismissed by the Snohomish County Auditor's office on grounds that it was incomplete and did not support factual allegations.

During public comments at a Lynnwood City Council Business Meeting on September 9, 2019, Graziani demanded her former opponent, Altamirano-Crosby, drop out of the race insinuating that Altamirano-Crosby is a communist.

"These dirty tactics are only heard of under totalitarian governments," Graziani told the Lynnwood Times. "Crosby must have picked up this kind of tactics while she lived in Havana... She studied a PhD in Communications under a regime that has a media monopoly for their propaganda and infamously tramples on political freedoms and human rights."

Graziani added, "At this point, I want her to drop out of the race. She does not deserve the confidence of the Lynnwood voters. I do not want communist tactics in our city."

Altamirano-Crosby, over a year later, dropped her lawsuit against Graziani.

from page 3 **LYNNWOOD CC**

recommend confirming with the city attorney, it isn't necessary for "basic" or "non-controversial" inquiries.

Sessions then suggested that council take advantage of the city attorney's office hours prior to council business meetings or having the council executive assistant keep previous legal answers from the attorney on file.

"I think that if we all just did a couple of these things to be a little bit more careful with our speaking to the city attorney, I think we'll be just fine," Sessions said. "We've had a lot... of controversial, high-liability issues going on this year, probably more than my entire eight years I've been here, and so it's understandable why we've all done that."

The mayor and council proclamations

- The first recognizes November 11 as Veterans Day. The mayor and the council "urge all people of Lynnwood to recognize the valor and sacrifice of our nation's veterans."
- The second declared October 28 as National First Responders Day to "honor our brave first responders and to pay tribute to those who have lost their lives in the line of duty."

# Dr. Julieta Altamirano Crosby

VOTE  
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 5  
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*“Julieta doesn’t go around patting herself on the back for everything that she does for the community. She gives others the credit for the great work that gets done — that is true leadership! I am proud to endorse Julieta. Not only does Julieta engage all people of every background to get things done, she puts others first..”*

*– Washington State Senator  
John Lovick*

## Crosby 4Community

Julieta Altamirano Crosby  
Lynnwood City Council, Pos. 5



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