

*60% approval required*

School district wants simple majority

Levy to be considered for February 2022 ballot

BY BRIAN SOERGEL

EDMONDSEEDITOR@YOURBEACON.NET

To address escalating capital demands, the Edmonds School District is asking the state Legislature for a constitutional amendment to change the bond validation rate from a 60% supermajority to a 50%, plus one, majority of ballots cast.

While a school levy passes with a simple majority, a bond requires 60% approval. In recent years, the district has been on the losing end of bond votes.

In February 2020, 58% of eligible voters approved a \$96 million replacement technology and capital levy.

At the same time, however, voters rejected a six-year, \$600 million Edmonds School District capital bond, with just over 56% of voters supporting it.

The bond, in addition to replacing College Place Middle School, would have replaced Oak Heights and Beverly elementary schools, and completed improvements to Spruce Elementary School.

Capital bonds and levies are the primary funding source for school districts. They receive no state or federal funding for improvements to school buildings, and only limited state funding for new construction.

The Edmonds School District relies on voter-approved capital bonds and levies to fund school construction and renovations, safety and security upgrades, building systems improvements, and major maintenance.

The district also has transportation and staffing concerns, which were spelled out Tuesday, Oct. 26, when school board directors laid out their legislative priorities for 2022.

There was no specific discussion concerning the bond vote.

During the 2022 legislative session, the district said it's urgent that the ongoing educational concerns for preschool through 12th grades are addressed.

Transportation

The current transportation allocation model doesn't adequately support district

see **SCHOOL DISTRICT** page 10 ▶

A tale of 2 parks: One new, one old



This 1-acre property on Bowdoin Way was donated to the City of Edmonds.

Beacon photo by Brian Soergel

A gift for Edmonds

*Donated 1-acre site on Bowdoin Way will be used for a park or public garden*BY BRIAN SOERGEL
EDMONDSEEDITOR@YOURBEACON.NET

Empty lots for sale in Edmonds quickly fall to hungry developers, but there's one on Bowdoin Way that's off-limits, thanks to a generous gift from a longtime resident.

Before she died in January, Shirley A. Johnson (nee Spicer) worked to donate her 1.14-acre property at 9019 Bowdoin Way to the City of Edmonds to be used as a

park or community garden to cultivate and grow plants, fruits, and vegetables for the citizens of Edmonds and the local community as the City deemed best.

"It's a fantastic parcel," said Parks Director Angie Feser. "It's an incredibly generous donation."

That is.

The property, which connects to Yost Park, has a market value of \$1.5 million. It's zoned single-family, and has the potential for up to six lots. It now has Johnson's

1925 house in disrepair, set back from the street and shrouded by fruit trees and tangled blackberry vines.

Johnson lived by herself and had outlived her husband and son.

The City met with Johnson in the past to purchase the property through a lifetime estate agreement, but negotiations came to an impasse with the onset of COVID and the departure of former Parks Director

see **GIFT FOR EDMONDS** page 7 ▶

A history of Southwest County Park

*117 acres of trails, trees and more in Edmonds*BY PHILO CALHOUN
FOR THE BEACON

Editor's note: This story follows one written by the author in April, "The lost railroad tracks of an Edmonds park."

One of the most popular hiking spots in Edmonds has a history few are familiar with. That history has to with lumber, no surprise if you've ever walked its trails.

Little has been written about the history of Southwest County Park, the largest park within Edmonds city limits. The park –

overseen by Snohomish County – covers 117 acres of densely wooded terrain of Douglas fir, alders, and western hemlock.

Ferns, nettles, salmonberries and wild flowers line wandering paths.

Wildlife? Coyotes, owls, and the occasional bear call it home. And Perrinville Creek, once a breeding ground for salmon, cuts deeply through the park.

Prior to 1855, the area around Southwest County Park was sparsely populated, and

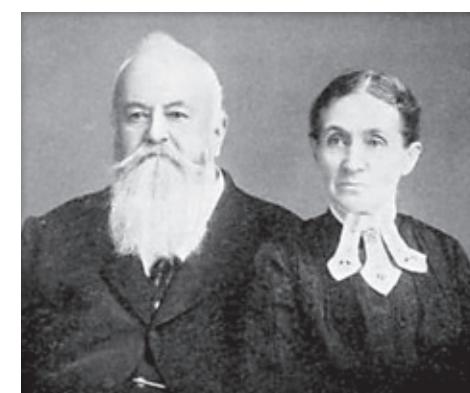
see **SOUTHWEST COUNTY PARK** page 7 ▶

Photo courtesy of Eugene Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Smith. In 1862, Eugene Smith opened a lumber camp in the area that is now Southwest County Park.



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BRANDY

Debby Grant solves her retirement conundrum

Knitted Knockers an option for women with breast cancer

BY MANYA VEE
FOR THE BEACON

In the end, it was her knitting that did the job.

With retirement looming and free time available, Edmonds resident Debby Grant mused about how best to use that extra time.

She knew that she wanted to give back something to her community. She also knew that she wanted to meet people.

That's when she ran into Knitted Knockers. Before we go any further, exactly what are "knitted knockers"?

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, and about one in eight women will develop invasive breast cancer in her lifetime, according to BreastCancer.org. A single or double mastectomy is a common treatment, leaving a woman struggling to come to terms with her new appearance.

Knitted Knockers are an ingenious option for those women who, for some reason or other, cannot – or choose not to – undergo reconstructive surgery.

They are "special hand-made breast prosthesis for women who have undergone mastectomies or other procedures to the breast," according to KnittedKnockers.org, the 10-year-old parent organization, headquartered in Bellingham.

All knitted knockers are donated and cost nothing to the recipient.

One day while shopping for yarn at Strand-



Photo courtesy of Debby Grant

Debby Grant knitting a knocker, with two stuffed examples.

ed By The Sea on the Edmonds waterfront, Grant saw a notice for knitted knockers. Intrigued, she decided to make a pair.

The first knocker she knitted and stuffed went to an acquaintance who needed only one. She needed a C-cup size, and Grant was nearly done knitting one that very size.

She finished it, stuffed it, and gave it to the woman – who was very happy with the results. Grant said she really enjoyed that experience.

Grant still wanted to meet other like-mind-

Through Your Lens | After the Rain



Photo courtesy of Steve Christiansen

We all know the end of the rainbow lands in Edmonds. On this day, after the rain stopped and the sun came out, Steve Christiansen captured this image of the ferry at the Edmonds dock.

ed people.

To that end, she started a Facebook group in April called Hook & Needle Knockers. So far, Grant has attracted both newer and master knitters to her group, making it an excellent resource for questions arising about the pattern used to create each knocker, or how to repair a mistake.

But it's even better to chat with people in person.

Now that COVID restrictions are easing, Grant is realizing this goal twice a month, on the first and third Tuesdays from 4:30-6 p.m. in a large room provided by Stranded by The Sea.

The circles are still small, for now.

"There's plenty of room to remain safely distanced," said Grant, confident the group will grow. So far, Grant and her fellow knitters have created about 50 sets of knockers, all of

which have been donated.

Surprisingly, the prosthetic is flexible.

"Women receive their knockers fully stuffed," Grant said, "but it's easy to remove a bit, or spread it out a bit, whatever you need to do to get the size and shape you want."

There are patterns for all bra cup sizes, including number of stitches per side, number of needles needed, and number of inches per side."

For example, an A cup is 4.5 inches across; a B cup is 5 inches and so on.

"Most women choose a color close to their skin color," Grant said, but sometimes a cheerful color is fun to knit, too.

The parent organization has a list of approved yarns chosen for softness, consistency, and ease of acquiring. Most of these are natu-

see **KNITTED KNOCKERS** page 9 ▶

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GUESTVIEW

What's the rush with the 2022 CIP/CFP?

The rate increases you see in your utility bills are due to projections on two critical budgetary tools: the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and the Capital Facilities Plan (CFP).

In addition to rushing approval of the budget (scheduled for Nov. 16 this year), Council President Susan Paine and Mayor Mike Nelson are rushing approval of the CIP/CFP as well.

GUESTVIEW

BY JOAN BLOOM
FORMER EDMONDS CITY COUNCILMEMBER

In 2019, Councilmember Diane Buckshnis wrote a Guest View for the Edmonds Beacon called "What's the hubbub over CIP/CFP" (bit.ly/3pCypb).

The administration had moved the designated \$10 million for the Edmonds Marsh restoration from parks construction projects to Public Works under stormwater, at a price tag of \$16 million, even though only a small fraction of the restoration deals with stormwater. (One has to wonder if this would have happened if Carrie Hite were still parks director.)

Your stormwater utility rates are based on that near-shore marsh estuary being classified by the administration as a stormwater project. For two years now (2019, 2020), the council simple majority have voted to leave that now \$17 million in stormwater, despite the numerous letters and comments from scientists, citizens and some councilmembers.

One of that majority of four is appointed Councilmember Luke Distelhorst, who will again be able to vote on this issue if the budget is approved, as per the current review schedule, on Nov. 16, his last day in office.

Why is this distinction important?

There are millions of state and federal dollars available for salmon recovery and our near-shore estuary restoration. If classified as a regional park and wildlife sanctuary and placed back in parks as a construction project, these millions of federal and state dollars for salmon recovery would be available.

I don't want my utility rates to pay for the marsh when such funds are available. Do you? This should be treated as a holistic project (as before), with the restoration beginning at Marina Beach. Marina Beach should not be considered as a separate park construction project for this reason.

Council had a presentation on the CIP/CFP on Oct. 26, one day before the Planning Board's Oct. 27 public hearing and deliberations on the CIP/CFP. Why was a presentation being scheduled for council before the Planning Board's review and recommendations regarding the CIP/CFP are received by council?

This is disrespectful of the work of volunteer Planning Board members.

Do Mayor Nelson and Council President Paine want the Planning Board to merely rubber stamp the CIP/CFP so as to keep to their aggressive budgetary schedule? What if more time is needed to deliberate their recommendations?

What if some Planning Board members want to discuss in detail the marsh restoration, or the Perrinville Creek restoration, which is also part of this document? The Perrinville Creek situation is deserving of careful consideration as well.

CARGO SHIPS
ARE BACKLOGGED...



AND THERE'S A
TRUCKER SHORTAGE...



WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

ARTS AND APPETITE
A few rainy-day bites

The weather forecasters are telling us to prepare for a longer, cooler, and wetter fall and winter than we have experienced for the last few years. If the rain this week is any indication, we definitely need to seek out restaurants that warm us up.

Nothing tastes better to me on a blustery day than a big bowl of pho. I have written about pho before, the delicious Vietnamese soup traditionally made with broth, rice noodles, herbs, and beef.

People have been telling me about Pho 99 Authentic Vietnamese, a restaurant just south of the Home Depot on Highway 99, for a while, so this weather gave me the impetus to try it.

My mom joined us, and we decided to dine in since they maintain good COVID protocols (self-serve cutlery and napkins, menus posted instead of paper copies). The interior is pretty basic, but the room has many windows, so most of the wooden tables are pleasantly set in natural light.

You are greeted with a glass of lychee-sweetened water and a tough choice of what to order, since they feature far more than just pho on the menu – fried rice dishes, chicken and other soups, teriyaki, rice vermicelli dishes, and a number of vegetarian plates serviced with rice.

We started with the spring rolls because, well, they are always so yummy, with that rice paper roll and



Photo courtesy of Maria A. Montalvo

The duck pho at Pho 99 in Shoreline.

the thin vermicelli noodles along with Thai basil, shrimp, and herbs, and of course, the peanut sauce. A perfect way to start our lunch.

The pho comes out with all of the usual accoutrements – bean sprouts, jalapenos, fresh basil, and a variety of chili sauces. My mom and I both tried the

see ARTS & APPETITE page 5 ▶

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor's note: Due to an editing error, a letter in the Oct. 14 issue of The Beacon was missing a key point. Here is the letter, in full.

Serious traffic fixes needed on Dayton and Third

Your issue of Sept. 23 had an article regarding the speeding and dangerous driving on Dayton Street around the Frances Anderson Center, including people using the traffic circle as a skateboard ramp. What are they thinking – with that very busy playfield right there?

We see people fly right through there or making "California stops." Multiple times a day we hear people lean on their horn at someone else who is not taking their turn, including making right or left turns out of turn.

The other part of Dayton Street that needs attention is the intersection of Third

Avenue South and Dayton Street. It is a four-way stop now, but you wouldn't know it. Our condo overlooks this intersection, and every day we see people fly right through there or make "California stops."

Multiple times a day we hear people lean on their horn at someone else who is not taking their turn, including making right or left turns out of turn.

The other issue is the crosswalks. There are a lot of elderly and/or handicapped people who live in the area who walk, some with canes. Walkers, or their dogs. Many, many, many drivers do not let these people clear the crosswalk before they decide to take off.

This intersection needs a stop light – badly. Another alternative would be to station a traffic officer nearby who could hand out tickets right and left. Feasibly, just the presence of this officer would cause drivers

to be more careful. There is going to be a serious accident or fatality otherwise.

Helen Jolly
Edmonds

This is just ducky

Perhaps columnist Maria Montalvo ("Rubber Ducky at the Beach," Moment's Notice, Oct. 7) should go immediately to the Edmonds Library and check out a book titled "Moby-Duck: The True Story of 28,800 Bath Toys Lost at Sea," by Donovan Hohn.

It is possible that there are simpler explanations for rubber duckies found at the beach than those she proposed – explanations that don't involve string theory.

Dennis Caldriola
Edmonds

Direct connection to Northgate needed for Edmonds residents

I am writing to advocate that Edmonds needs a direct bus connection to the new Northgate light rail station. Currently, to get to the Northgate by bus takes at least an hour and requires at least one transfer, depending on how one does it.

Additionally, most buses tend to run infrequently outside of typical commuting hours. I haven't met one person who seems interested in making this trip by current options, and I don't blame them. I have however, met plenty of people who would enjoy not having to find and pay for parking when going to the airport, a sports game, downtown Seattle, or the University of Washington.

I am disappointed that neither the mayor nor any councilmember has made working with Community Transit on this a priority. It's an easy win for everyone involved, and there is no reason why it wouldn't work.

Edmonds is a high-density suburb outside of a major city, and is already a transportation crossroads with the ferry and train station.

Online Poll

Last week's question & results:

Many state employees have lost their jobs due to vaccination noncompliance. Do you agree that employees should lose their jobs if not vaccinated against COVID-19?

• 60% Said YES • 40% Said NO

This week's summary:

The Edmonds School District will ask the state Legislature to lower the approval percentage of 60% to pass bonds.

This week's poll question:

Do you agree that the approval percentage

should be lowered to 50%?

We want to know what you think:

Vote online now at www.edmondsbeacon.com and look for the results in the Nov. 4 issue of The Beacon.

www.edmondsbeacon.com

see LETTERS page 5 ▶

HISTORY FILES

Snohomish County home to billion-dollar companies

Why does it matter that Seagen is now the sixth most valuable company in Washington, and who cares other than shareholders? Would the jobs at Seagen still be as valuable if the headquarters were based in Hoboken?

In the 150-year history of Snohomish County, only eight Snohomish County companies have reached a market capitalization of \$1 billion or more. (Market capitalization is calculated by multiplying the value of one share by the total number of shares.)

Market capitalization gives a snapshot value of a company at any given moment.

HISTORY FILES



BY TIM RAETZLOFF
TIM@ABARIM.COM

Snohomish County was always the younger, smaller sibling among central Puget Sound counties. King and Pierce counties came into being earlier. The largest city and county seat, Everett, is 40 years younger than Seattle, and 20 years younger than Tacoma.

Even Walla Walla, Vancouver, and Spokane had a head start.

Starting from behind, Snohomish County has played from behind for more than a century. It did not have the rich coalfields that the other Puget Sound counties possessed. Coal enabled heavy industry. Snohomish County depended on timber, agriculture, fishing, and a brief boost from precious metals in the now-ghost town of Monte Cristo.

Railroads came later to Snohomish County than Pierce and King counties. Though the "Mosquito Fleet" called on ports such as Edmonds, Mukilteo, Stanwood, and Florence, none was ever a hub like Seattle and Tacoma.

At the time that I began the Abarim Snohomish County Stock Index in November 1994, the companies of the entire county were only worth \$830 million. Three companies at that time were each worth more than \$200 million. One of the three no longer exists. The other two are now divisions of larger companies.

HistoryLink says that Snohomish County was created January 14, 1861, formed from a portion of Island County. It took nearly 140 years before a Snohomish County company reached \$1 billion in market capitalization for the first time in 1998.

That company was Icos, based in the Canyon Park area of Bothell.

The second \$1 billion company in Snohomish County was Unova



Photo courtesy of Zumiez

The Zumiez store located at Alderwood Mall in Lynnwood.

(Intermecc), based in Everett. Frontier Financial was the third company to reach that milestone, followed by Zumiez (co-founded by former Edmonds Mayor Gary Haakenson) and Seattle Genetics (Seagen).

Fortive joined the club immediately when it was founded as a spin-off from Danaher in July 2016. Since then, Funko and Biolife Solutions each topped \$1 billion.

Icos was the first Snohomish County company to reach \$1 billion, \$2 billion, and \$3 billion.

Seagen was the first company to reach \$4 billion and \$5 billion. Fortive was born as a more than \$10 billion company in 2016, and it was the first to reach \$20 billion. Seagen was the first to reach \$30 billion.

Four of the companies have been Everett-based, while three were in Bothell, and one in Lynnwood. The most valuable company in Snohomish County on the day I am writing this is Seagen, at \$31.8 billion. Three other companies are worth \$1 billion or more as I write this: Fortive at \$26.7 billion, Biolife Solutions at \$1.7 billion, and Zumiez at \$1.01 billion.

King County is still ahead with 28 companies over \$1 billion as I write this, and two over \$1 trillion. But Snohomish County is ahead of every other county in the state. Spokane County has three companies over \$1 billion, and Clark and Pierce counties have two. Snohomish County has done well to catch up after a late start.

The answer is that it does matter that Seagen or the other companies mentioned have chosen Snohomish County as their home, because the headquarters is the head and heart of a company. Their families and interests are here.

Charitable causes and potential start-up companies looking for capital benefit from proximity to headquarters of successful companies in ways that are more important than just jobs. I had the opportunity to witness this action two or three years ago.

At a local charity auction, the CEO of one of the largest local companies and his wife not only donated, but also encouraged other donations by matching them.

Early in its history Snohomish County depended on hopes for a military road that never materialized, for a railroad that went on through and made its terminus elsewhere, and Rockefeller money that disappeared when quick profits were not at hand.

Far better to have local investment and local interest.

Propeller Airports acquires Castle & Cooke

Castle & Cooke and Propeller anticipate closing the deal on or before Nov. 30

Propeller Airports announced last week the acquisition of Castle & Cooke's fixed-based operation (FBO) at Paine Field. The company also announced the formation of Propeller Aero Services, a new subsidiary that will focus on FBO development and will operate the FBO at Paine Field.

"Our goal is to bring the same award-winning, world-class service and operational excellence to our private aviation clients that our airline passengers have come to expect.



Courtesy of Propeller Airports

Propeller Airports plans to build a new fixed-based operation facility at Paine Field.

This makes a tremendous amount of sense given our understanding of the airport and our home market," said Brett Smith, CEO of Propeller Airports.

"Propeller clearly understands the needs of the area and is committed

to providing a high level of service," said Tony Marlow President of Castle & Cooke Aviation. "Brett and the Propeller team have a deep understanding of the market and as anyone who has traveled through the passenger terminal here can tell you, they're committed to great service and the best possible customer experience." Propeller plans include a new FBO terminal and hangar complex, along with ancillary facilities.

Castle & Cooke and Propeller anticipate closing on or before Nov. 30 at which time Propeller will assume the management of the fixed-based operation at Paine Field that includes aircraft fueling, catering, cleaning and hangar services.

▶ from ARTS & APPETITE page 4

tofu, which was prepared with just the right texture, while my husband tried the special pho made with duck (\$9.75 to \$14.75, depending on size).

Both were so warm and satisfying, the noodles balanced well with broccoli, onions, carrots, cabbage, and fresh herbs. The duck special featured extra garnishes of crispy garlic, peanuts, and a divine sweet and spicy citrus chile sauce for the duck. Yum! Next time, I might try the stir fry lemongrass, unless it is raining again, and I will have to get the pho.

As we settle in for the November rains, I thought I would also mention two other options for comforting food this time of year, both located in Edmonds. (Most of the restaurants across Edmonds have been reviewed by this newspaper, but you can find updates in at edmondsbeacon.com with the "Return Visit" highlights.)

Last week, before enjoying the new exhibit at Cascadia Art Museum (which will be reviewed in two weeks), we stopped by Epulo Bistro next door for an early dinner. (Original review of Epulo, in its current location in September 2020.)

Everyone was very happy with



Photo courtesy of Maria A. Montalvo

The tofu pho at Pho 99 in Shoreline.

their meals, especially my mom with her wonderful bowl of Local Manilla Clams served with a parsnip brodo, bacon, scallions, and perfectly crunchy toasted bread. But these cooler temperatures cry out for wonderful warm desserts, and the housemade apple bread pudding from Epulo is delectable.

The bread pudding is served hot with whipped cream and topped with ice cream ... lovely. It is almost cakelike in texture, somehow, and yet you can still taste the apple pieces. It is just really good and will definitely have you leaving happy!

My other rainy-day recommendation is from an old standard in Edmonds, Bar Dojo, and its Co-

conut Red Curry noodle bowl. I have written about this and other winter-wonderful dishes from Dojo before (original review of Bar Dojo in November 2017).

The coconut red curry broth always arrives steaming and is so rich and delicious, while the many wonderful tastes and textures (chicken, shrimp, cucumber, noodles, and that yummy squash tempura), make this dish about as close to perfect as any, especially in our Pacific Northwest winters.

Pho 99 Authentic Vietnamese is at 19828 Aurora Ave N/Highway 99, Shoreline. It's open every day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. You can find the bread pudding and much more at downtown Edmonds' Epulo Bistro, and Bar Dojo is still representing the restaurant beginnings of the ever-growing Feedme Hospitality (and all of us in Edmonds are so proud of them). Look up Pho 99 on Yelp or Google and for more information on Epulo and Bar Dojo, go to epulobistro.com/ and www.bar-dojo.com/.

Oh, and in grocery store news, the new Go Go International Groceries on 196th, just across Highway 99, is almost as good as going on an international journey. You can get a wide variety of international favorites (even my childhood favorite, CoCo Rico, a coconut soda), and learn a few new recipes along the way.

force multiplier."

The youngest military joint chief of staffs and the first African American secretary of state, Colin Powell autographed his assignments as his hallmark signature.

Colin Powell served this nation with distinction and was an inspiration for all aspiring Americans to do likewise.

We shall miss this great American.

William J. Keppler, PhD
Civilian Aide to the Secretary of
Army Emeritus
Edmonds

▶ from LETTERS page 4

Edmonds could be a great place for public transportation, so let's try and make that happen.

Kevin Oliver
Edmonds

Downtown looks like a shantytown

I love the old Edmonds.

The restaurants can serve indoors now, so why do we have to still look like a shantytown? Those plastic eyesores were necessary for a while, but let's get our beautiful town back.

Go back inside.

Glenna Zuanich
Edmonds

Colin Powell was a great statesman – and a great man

Our nation has lost a great American, general, and former Secretary of State with the passing

of Colin Powell on Oct. 18. He left a legacy of distinguished service.

We had the honor and distinction of having then-Gen. Colin Powell as our speaker at a Civilian Aides to the Secretary of the Army Conference in Washington, D.C., several years ago. It was an opportunity to spend some quality time with him, up close and personal.

Powell had the time and wisdom for anyone who sought it. We memorized "Colin Powell's Rules," the last one the most important: "Perpetual optimism is a

Sudoku solution

5	7	9	8	4	2	3	6	1
4	3	1	7	9	6	5	2	8
2	6	8	1	3	5	4	9	7
9	4	7	2	1	3	8	8	5
1	5	6	4	7	8	2	3	9
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8	1	4	6	2	7	9	5	3

News Tips

The Beacon invites readers to share story tips and ideas. If you see or know of some news deserving of coverage, email Editor Brian Soergel at edmondseditor@yourbeacon.net or call the newsroom at 425-347-5634 ext. 235.



S	T	A	B	C	H	A	F	F	T	B	S
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A	M	I	R	G	R	I	T	S	F	A	R
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Edmonds man's movie on TCM Halloween night

BY BRIAN SOERGEL
EDMONDSEEDITOR@YOURBEACON.NET

Movie producer Ed Hartman, whom the Beacon profiled in April (bit.ly/3Cj2QXX), will have his silent film "As the Earth Turns" on the Turner Classic Movies channel 9 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 31.

It's the network debut of the 45-minute sci-fi directed by Seattle's Richard H. Lyford in the late 1930s and resurrected and restored by Hartman, who also composed a new score.

The Edmonds Arts Commission screened the film in May during a Zoom meeting, with Hartman discussing the film after it finished.

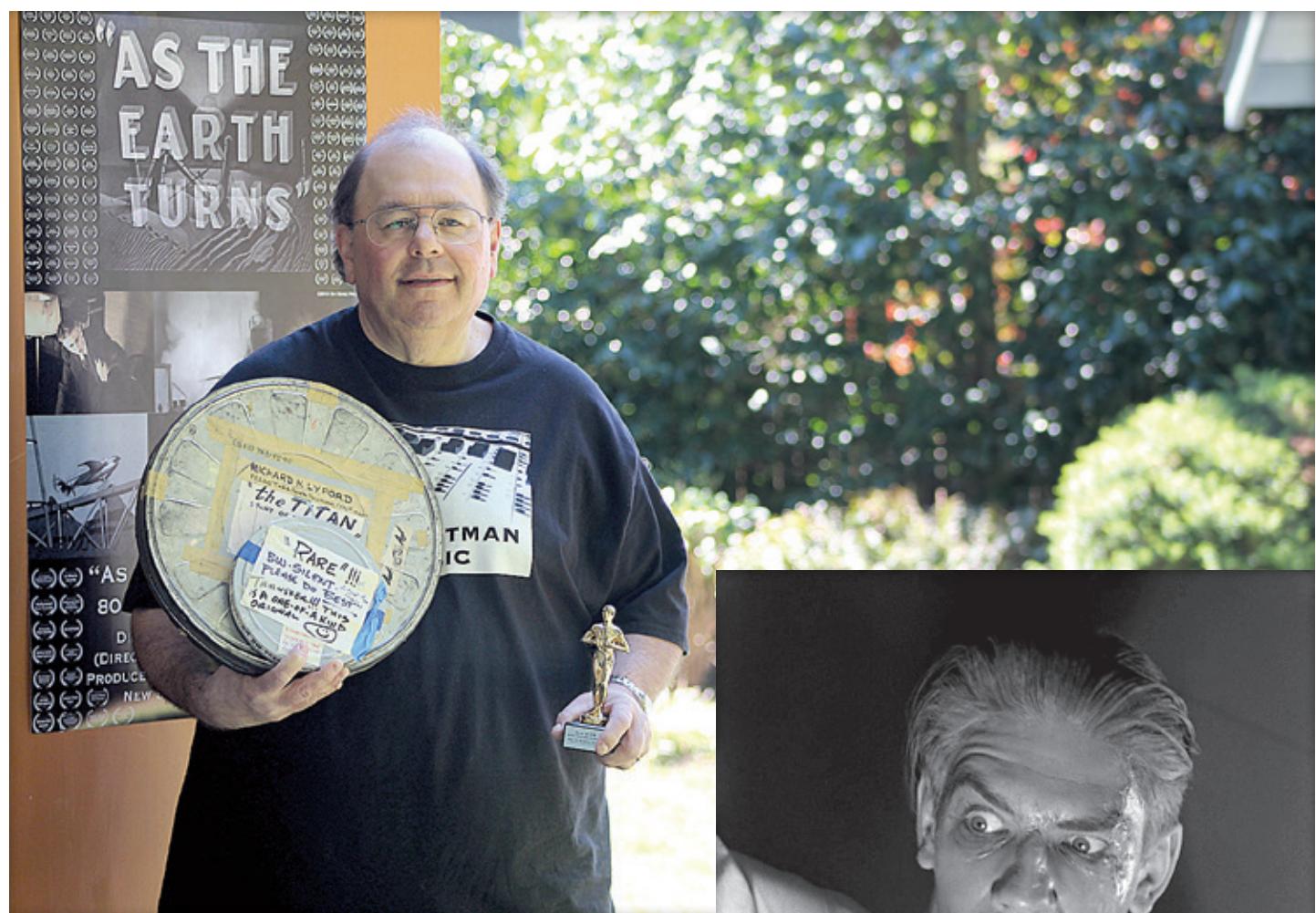
Although he has had a lot of his music in films and TV, this one is special for Hartman.

"In this case, though, this is an entirely different kind of project," Hartman said. "I not only scored the film, but also produced, edited, and even own the film-estate of the director, Richard Lyford. I have been thoroughly entangled with Lyford's work for over three years."

"As the Earth Turns" started out as a legacy project for the Lyford family. It grew exponentially, and now can be seen worldwide on streaming services.

"Turner Classic Movies was always the gold-standard goal for the project," Hartman said. "This is a historic event for an 80-plus-year-old film that was never released. The 45-minute silent film is end-to-end music, so it's closer to hearing my own symphony broadcast on TV."

"I can only hope that a lot of film fans get to see it and appreciate what Lyford was able to do. The TCM broadcast, which I negotiated myself, is tremendously gratifying, and I can't thank the Lyford family enough for supporting the project."



Beacon photo by Brian Soergel

Ed Hartman's score for a long-lost silent movie has helped it win film festival awards. A screening on Turner Classic Movies is on Halloween.

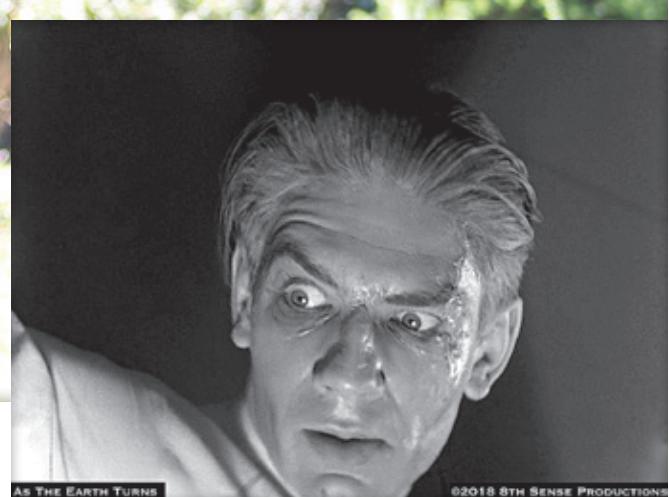


Photo courtesy of Ed Hartman

Richard Lyford starred in his production of "As the Earth Turns."

Short documentary

"As the Earth Turns" has been a staple at film festivals.

And Hartman's short documentary "It Gets in Your Blood" has enjoyed an equally popular festival run. The 14-minute docu-

mentary explores Lyford's life, is currently in 107 festivals, and has won 85 awards or nominations.

"I have traveled to Las Vegas and Los Angeles recently to screen the film," said Hart-

man, "including at the historic TCL Chinese Theatre in Hollywood. That was off the charts! I have toured Lyford's original home in Seattle, and continue to get more family background. That experience was actually emotionally intense, considering my closeness to the family history."

Hartman hopes both films' exposure will drive interest in his biopic screenplay about Lyford's first 20 years in Seattle before working for Disney and beyond. Hartman hopes to involve both Seattle and Hollywood producers to create a Northwest-filmed version of the story.

A DVD/BluRay is now available on Amazon, Walmart, and the TCM Shop.

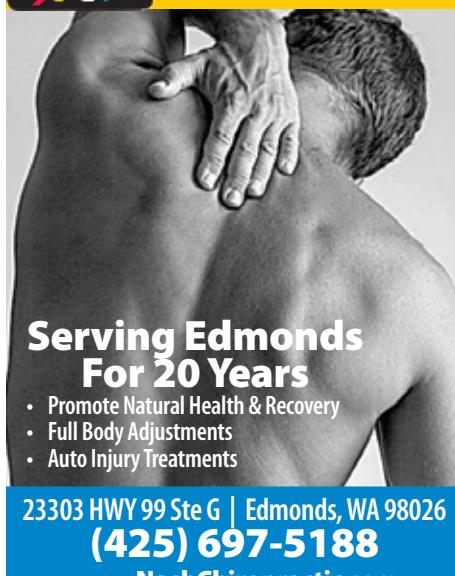
It contains the documentary, two other Lyford scenes, a Lyford home movie, missing footage from "As the Earth Turns," and a few other surprises.

"This entire experience has been absolutely life-changing," Hartman said, "and has greatly inspired me and other filmmakers, composers, and creators. Lyford's work in his youth demonstrates his amazing ability as a storyteller and filmmaker. I can only hope my future as a creator will ever be as good as his."

Watch a trailer for "As the Earth Turns" narrated by Ed Hartman: bit.ly/3CjWFK.



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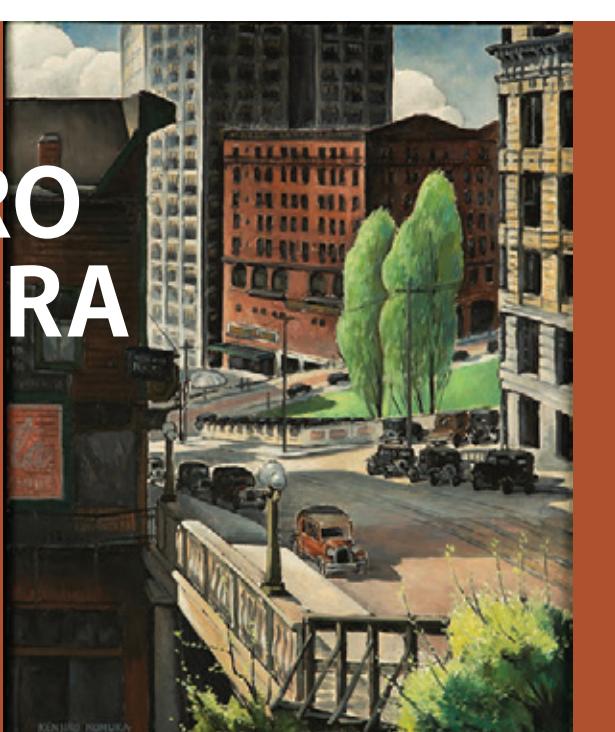
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EDITOR'S NOTE: The Beacon publishes nonprofit events, as space allows, open to the public in Edmonds. Although some events are now being held in person, many are still virtual on Zoom, Facebook or other sites. It is recommended to call or email the event ahead of time to make sure a particular event is still happening.

Submit calendar events two weeks in advance of Thursday publication date to The Beacon through mail or online at edmondsbeacon.com. Select "Submit events to event calendar."

OCT. 26-31

TRICK-OR-TREAT DOWNTOWN

Businesses in Edmonds are welcoming trick-or-treaters into their locations. This will allow kids to gather candy and keep everyone safe. View the map of all businesses who are passing out candy: EdmondsHalloween.com.

Around Town

OCT. 28

VIRTUAL TRIVIA

6:30 p.m. Edmonds Waterfront Center, 220 Railroad Ave., Edmonds. RSVP to get a link. schedulesplus.com/edmonds/kiosk/

OCT. 30

TRUNK OR TREAT

5:30 p.m. All ages welcome, no drop-offs (responsible adult must accompany children!), please maintain appropriate physical distancing, and masks must be worn by all over 2. Trinity Lutheran Church and Schools, 6215 196th St. SW, Lynnwood. A safe way to celebrate Halloween for the whole family. Info: david@tlics.org

NOV. 18-DEC. 18

EDMONDS HOLIDAY MARKET

10 a.m.-3 p.m. for six Saturdays through Dec. 18; no market Thanksgiving weekend. The market is centered around Fifth Avenue North and Bell Street, near the holiday tree. Sixty-plus vendors will have a selection of holiday gifts and specialty items, produce, food, wines, flowers, treats, and music. Shoppers are encouraged to wear masks while at the market. Info: facebook.com/edmondsholidaymarket/

The Holiday Trolley also returns this year after skipping 2020 due to the pandemic.

NOV. 18

ART WALK EDMONDS

5-8 p.m. Various locations around downtown. Info: artwalkedmonds.com

walkedmonds.com.

ONGOING

HELP RESTORE YOST PARK

Edmonds Stewards meet every Saturday from 9-11 a.m. to remove invasive plants and restore natives. Helpers meet near the tennis courts and bring their own gardening gloves. To join, just show up or sign-in at <http://www.soundsalmonsolutions.org/edmonds-stewards>.

SOUTH COUNTY WALKS

9:30 a.m. Tuesdays through Sept. 2. Walkers meet at the Edmonds Waterfront Center, 220 Railroad Ave. Walks are typically two to three miles, varying by location. Sponsored by Verdant Health Commission. Info: <https://bit.ly/3iR9eh>.

AROUND TOWN ONLINE AT EDMONDSBEACON.COM



Beacon photos by Brian Soergel



Top: Shirley Johnson lived in this house, owned by her family, for years. The house will likely be demolished as the City decides how to proceed with the donated property. Above, the area will need to be cleaned up.

family had an egg-laying business. People would stop by to buy them.

"It was part of my childhood experience,"



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a subsidiary of Pope & Talbot, snatched up most of the surrounding land the same year.

In 1862, a year after the formation of Snohomish County, two men – Eugene D. Smith and Otis Wilson – set up a lumber camp in the area that is now the park. Other than the lumber mill in Tulalip, it was the first lumber camp on the east side of Puget Sound. They chose the site 2 miles north of what is now Edmonds, around Browns Bay, as the harbor gave some shelter from winds and allowed ship access.

Logging, of course, was a major player in the Puget Sound's growth. The first trees were felled at Port Gamble in 1853, on the west side of Puget Sound. That same year, loggers set up a camp on the other side of the Sound, in Tulalip in Snohomish County. But that camp closed in 1855 with the treaty of Point Elliott.

No other logging occurred in Snohomish County for seven years.

University of Washington purchase

In 1861, the University of Washington purchased the land where Southwest County Park is now. Puget Mill Lumber Company,

Johnson said, "so I was really happy when I was able to help Shirley envision (the property) as a donation because she couldn't figure out exactly how to save her land."

According to Washington state law, "Every city and town by ordinance may accept any money or property donated, devised, or bequeathed to it, and carry out the terms of the donation, devise, or bequest, if with-



in the powers granted by law. If no terms or conditions are attached to the donation, devise, or bequest, the city or town may expend or use it for any municipal purpose."

The terms are there, and Edmonds welcomes the open space.

Kiwanis
Mukilteo Kiwanis Foundation

2021
Coolest Pet in Mukilteo
PHOTO CONTEST



Are you ready for some fun this Winter and support youth in your community?

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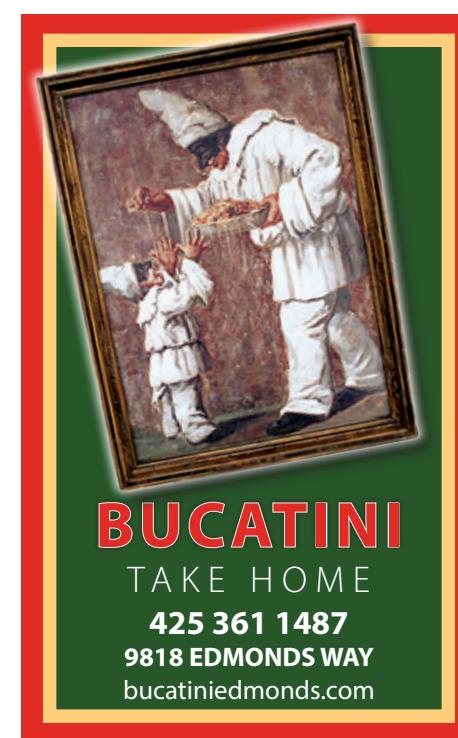
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South County Fire names state Fire Educator of the Year

Shawneri Guzman led team to innovative means of extending public education

South County Fire Community Outreach Manager Shawneri Guzman has been named Educator of the Year by the Washington Public Fire Educators.

According to South County Fire, throughout the pandemic Guzman has led her team in finding innovative ways to continue to provide public education and outreach using video and online technology.

The success of these programs has served as a model for other public safety agencies throughout the state and region.

Guzman stepped outside her traditional role to support vaccine efforts in Snohomish County. Drawing on her established relationships with community partners, she helped develop a program to reach those in need who were unable to travel to mass vaccination sites. More than 6,000 vaccinations were provided to homebound residents, adult family homes, long-term care facilities, schools, and BIPOC communities.

Guzman's contributions extend beyond the boundaries of South County Fire. She serves on five different county, regional, or statewide committees and professional membership associations as a director or officer.



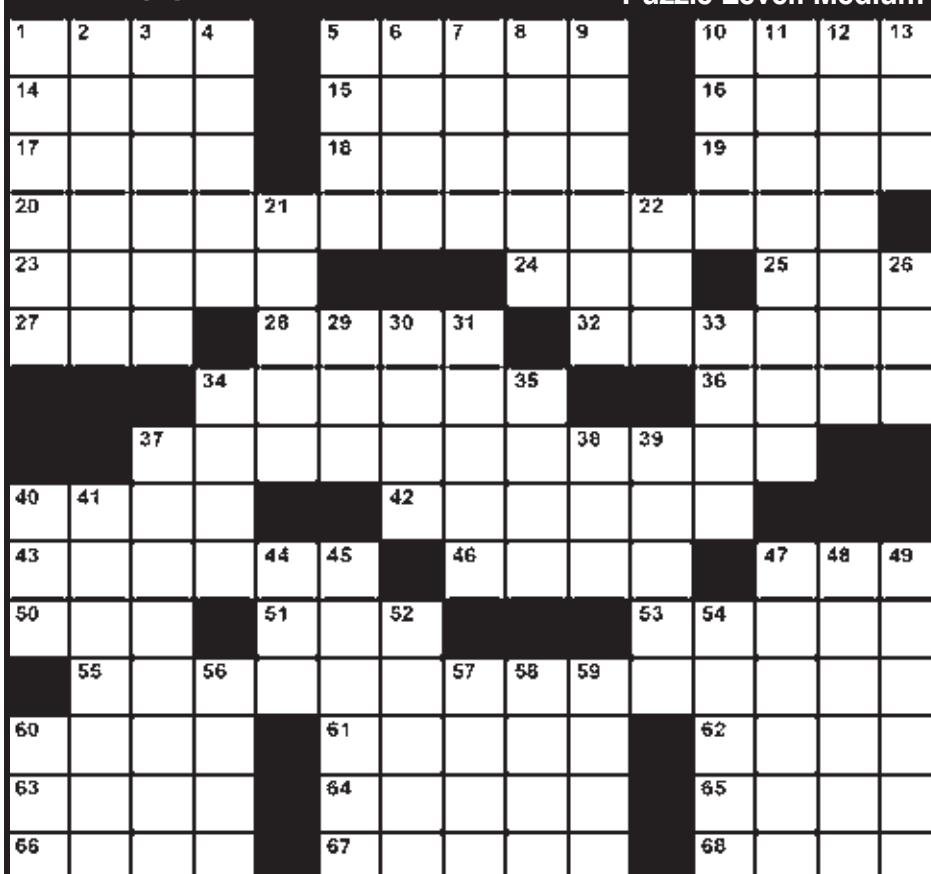
Photo courtesy of South County Fire

South County Fire's Shawneri Guzman helped develop a program to reach those in need who were unable to travel to mass vaccination sites.

She is the president of the Snohomish County Fire Prevention Association and coordinator for Safe Kids Snohomish County.

CROSSWORD

Puzzle Level: Medium



Puzzle by Myles Mellor

Across

1. Lance
5. Refuse
10. Recipe amt.
14. It's often hard to live up to
15. Sound
16. Sea World attraction
17. Middle Eastern ruler
18. Boiled breakfast dish
19. Cultivate
20. Marinara, for one
23. Anklebones
24. Mont Blanc part
25. Fraternity party staple
27. None's opposite
28. Be skittish
32. Veneer
34. Garam ___ (Indian spice mixture)
36. Old Soviet Union
37. Middle-eastern appetizer, with many spellings
40. Wrapped garment
42. Organized protests
43. Coral islands
46. Kosher-style store
47. In the style of
50. Jabber

Down

1. Mount in the Cascades
2. Percussion instrument
3. Bee colony
4. Frozen floaters
5. Zoo structure
6. Distress
7. Underground passage
8. Naturally belong
9. Paleontologist's find
10. Vegetarian staple
11. Neither freshwater nor marine
51. Body part
53. Gun, of a kind
55. Lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, cucumbers and peppers, perhaps
60. Maths term
61. Letter-perfect
62. Drift
63. ___ of Man
64. On and off items
65. Willing to consider new ideas
66. Ophthalmologic concern
67. Eliminate
68. Snug retreat
12. Shields
13. Nonstick spray brand
21. Muslim woman's veil
22. Court group
26. Needlefish
29. Red-white-and-blue inits.
30. Periodical publications
31. Checkered
33. Disorder
34. Armor
35. ___ chamber
37. Not in a flowing manner
38. Olive or castor
39. Individual items
40. Articulate
41. Throwback
44. Florida county
45. Lampoon
47. Not even
48. Goes off
49. Passionate
52. Cockpit device
54. Sorkin of "The West Wing"
56. Clarified butter of India
57. Rabbi's rostrum
58. Pool exercise
59. Ultimatum ender
60. Your mother's daughter



Photo courtesy of Edmonds Municipal Court

Edmonds Municipal Court is inside the Public Safety Complex at 250 Fifth Ave. N.

Municipal Court to begin relicensing program and passport processing

Edmonds Municipal Court will begin its new relicensing program Nov. 2. The goal of the program is to enable people to get their driver's licenses and drive legally while making payments towards outstanding legal financial obligations.

Individuals who have unresolved fines, tickets, or other legal financial obligations are encouraged to come to the program's walk-in calendar, which will be held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. at Edmonds Municipal Court, 250 Fifth Ave. N.

Participants will have the opportunity to speak with a court clerk about any outstanding fines and fees they may have. A person's legal financial obligations do not need to originate in Edmonds Municipal Court.

The clerk can help set up payments

through the Unified Payment (UP) Program, which provides an opportunity for anyone owing money in participating courts to set up one affordable monthly payment.

If you have an outstanding balance in a court that does not participate in the Unified Payment (UP) Program, the clerk will provide court contact information with instructions on next steps.

Beginning at 10:30 a.m., Judge Whitney Rivera will come on the bench to hold hearings for any requests that require judicial action, including recalling legal financial obligations from collections, waiving interest, converting an obligation to community service, or reducing previously imposed obligations depending on a person's financial circumstances.

Edmonds Municipal Court stopped processing failures to respond to infractions during the COVID-19 pandemic, but may restart reporting to the Department of Licensing in the near future.

see **MUNICIPAL COURT** page 9 ▶

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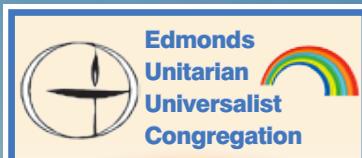
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NOTE: SOME EVENTS WILL BE CANCELLED DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS EPIDEMIC.
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Community Schools

Edmonds School District: High school options

Eighth grade students in the Edmonds School District have a transition into high school that is coming up quickly. Families have options available to their students as they head into high school next school year.

Neighborhood high schools

All comprehensive neighborhood high schools have feeder patterns decided by a student's home addresses. Each of these high schools, Edmonds-Woodway, Lynnwood, Meadowdale and Mountlake Terrace, offer career and technical education courses, College in High School (CIHS), Advanced Placement (AP) and during junior and senior year the option of Running Start.

They also provide transportation and a wide variety of clubs, activities and athletics.

As alternatives, there are a few schools and programs that are available to Edmonds School District students as high

school options.

STEM Magnet Program at Mountlake Terrace High

The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Magnet Program at Mountlake Terrace High School provides a four-year program of study which deeply engages students in the STEM disciplines while allowing for a range of student elective choices, including Advanced Placement, College in High School, music, and other classes based on student interests.

STEM Information Night: 6:30 p.m. Nov. 10. Info: bit.ly/3nu8j85.

International Baccalaureate Program at Edmonds-Woodway High

The IB Diploma Program is designed as an academically challenging and balanced program that prepares students for success in college – and in life.

Students take advanced classes in every subject area (including science, math, English, history, language, and electives) and are actively encouraged to participate in music, athletics, and clubs.

The program is open for all Edmonds-Woodway High neighborhood students, but students in other neighborhood high schools need to apply.

IB parent meeting: 6:30 p.m. Nov. 2. Info: <https://bit.ly/3bbH24n>.

Scriber Lake High School

Scriber Lake High School is a school of choice and a small alternative learning high school with about 250 students. Students who attend Scriber Lake are expected to meet all district and state standards and they graduate with an Edmonds School District diploma.

Many students are more successful with experiential learning and classes are offered

to meet these needs. Students are also more successful due to small class sizes, more one-on-one attention, and careful monitoring of progress.

Information meeting: 7 p.m. Nov. 3 and Dec. 1.

Edmonds eLearning Academy

Edmonds eLearning Academy is a school of choice and an Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) school. This is a fully remote option for high school students.

Edmonds Heights K-12

Edmonds Heights K-12 is a school for families who prefer to individualize the education of their students with parents as primary educators. It is one of two ALE (Alternative Learning Experience) programs in the Edmonds School District.

For more information district schools: edmonds.wednet.edu.

COMMUNITY SPORTS

COVID cases cancel E-W homecoming game

The pandemic has altered the schedule of Edmonds-Woodway football, forcing the cancellation of last week's homecoming game against Mountlake Terrace High School.

On Oct. 22, Edmonds-Woodway Principal Allison Larsen sent a letter to students and families that, due to multiple COVID-19 cases associated with the varsity/JV football program, the Snohomish County Health District ordered the school to halt football activity for 14 days.

The closure includes all football practices and games scheduled during that time,



Larsen said.

The school's ASB leadership team decided to cancel the annual homecoming tailgate Oct. 22, but plans a future event.

"We know the student athletes, band, cheerleaders, and dance team pour so much of themselves into each practice and game," Larsen said. "Our school, community, and the Edmonds School District celebrate their commitment to the team and our school."

The Warriors (4-3) were scheduled to play Arlington (7-1) Friday, Oct. 29, at Edmonds Stadium.

▶ from KNITTED KNOCKERS page 2

ral fibers, but certain acrylic yarns are perfect for swimmers.

While all that might look like success to the rest of us, Grant wants to do even more. Her next goal is to select and team up with a local breast cancer center and provide knitted knockers for them directly.

For this to happen, additional volunteers are needed for things like fixing minor flaws in submitted knockers – a job for master knitters – as well as stuffing and tagging each pair.

Then, too, there's delivering the collection to the local center. These tasks are perfect for those who want to get involved, but don't know how to knit.

In the end, it was the yarn that made all the difference.

Those interested in helping out in any way can join the Facebook group, or simply show up at one of the Tuesday afternoon knitting sessions at Stranded by The Sea.

▶ from MUNICIPAL COURT page 8

If you have an outstanding infraction that you need to address with the court, you are welcome to attend the walk-in calendar. The 2021 dates for the relicensing program are Nov. 2, Nov. 16, Dec. 7, and Dec. 21.

Edmonds Municipal Court will continue this Relicensing Program in 2022 on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Additionally, Edmonds Municipal Court will restart passport processing on Nov. 1.

Visit the court's website after that date for information on scheduling an appointment.



Athlete of the Week



Senior Noah Fulford is a starting offensive and defensive lineman for the Mavericks. Noah has spent his entire high school career being a skilled player, more specifically a wide receiver, but has made the switch to offensive lineman out of necessity. That is Noah. He does whatever is needed for the betterment of the team. Noah is also a valued member of the basketball team, who is respected by his coaches for his work ethic at every practice. Last year during an unusual year of sports, Noah took up golf and became a solid member of our Boys' Golf Team at Meadowdale. An eye for detail, Noah even held a job at a local car dealership over the summer, detailing cars. That is why Noah Fulford is our Meadowdale High School Athlete of the Week.



Noah Fulford
Football

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Athlete of the Week



This week's Edmonds Woodway athlete of the week is senior Cross Country runner Jemma Wilcox. Wilcox finished 1st this past week in the Edmonds School District XC meet with a time of a 15:43. She was one of four Edmonds Woodway runners to finish in the top 5 which led the Warriors to the 1st place finish. Coach David Whalen said "Jemma is a great representation of our program with her work ethic, leadership, and her running ability. The Warriors are preparing to for the Wesco and District Cross Country meets over the next two weekends.



Jemma Wilcox
Girls Cross Country

Adam Cobb Realty proudly recognizes Edmonds-Woodway Athletes



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- Experience** - 30 Years Professional Planner
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reelectkristiana.com

PAID FOR BY: The Committee to Re-elect Kristiana | P.O. Box 1541 | Edmonds, WA 98020



SCHOOL DISTRICT page 1

operations across Washington state, the district said. The gaps created due to the current funding formula negatively impact districts, which impacts students and families.

The district urges the Legislature to address these gaps by adjusting the current formula and related reporting.

Equity in education through updated staffing allocations

The district wants legislators to begin a biennial review of staffing ratios to ensure staffing allocations support the changing needs of students, staff, and families.

Levy reform

Certain school districts are allowed to collect twice as much per pupil in enrichment levies than other districts, the district said.

It urges the Legislature to adopt a levy model that supports different student needs. Until levy reform is implemented, and while the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting the school enrollment, the district said, it wants the Legislature to "mitigate the effects of temporarily reduced enrollment by stabilizing the impact on local enrichment levies."

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Luis D. Cantu: 1933-2021

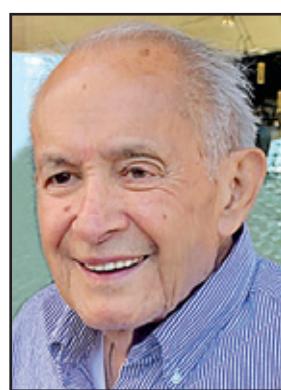
Luis "Louie" D. Cantu went to be with the Lord on Oct. 15, 2021. Louie and his loving wife, Marylou, shared 67 years of marriage together.

Louie was born in Corpus Christi, Texas, on Jan. 14, 1933. He was the son of Juan M. Cantu and Cleotilde D. Cantu.

Louie is survived by wife Marylou; son Ray; daughters Sylvia (Pat), Dian (Don), and Lorie (John); grandchildren Desiree, Brandon, Sarah, Michelle, Stewart, Preston, and Tyler; great-grandchildren Andre, Ariana, and Kevin; and his brothers Ray and Eddie.

Louie was preceded in death by his son Michael and brothers Raymond and Johnny, and sister Connie.

Louie attended high school in Corpus Christi. He is

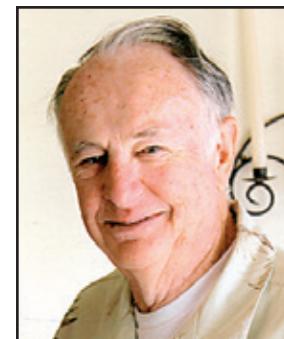


a veteran of the United States Air Force and served for four years. In serving, he learned the art of upholstery, and later opened his own business, Louie's Custom Upholstery, for over 40 years.

Louie was devoted to God, his wife, family, many friends, Classic F-100 Ford trucks and cars, delicious food with family and friends, and card games.

Louie will be remembered for his big heart and kind, tough, gentle, fun, and beautiful spirit.

A service to celebrate Louie's life will be at Holy Rosary Parish in Edmonds Thursday, October 28, at 10 a.m. A memorial will follow at The Edmonds Yacht Club for remembrance.

**Richard Cassutt
1931-2021**

Richard A. (Dick) Cassutt passed away peacefully on the 7th of October at his home with his wife Virginia by his side. He was very active in Edmonds Kiwanis for 40 years, and participated actively in all their fundraising.

He was particularly fond of his work with the Kiwanis Key Club at Edmonds-Woodway H.S. He served in the Korean Conflict and was active in VFW. He is also survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Glynnis & Bill Reece. No services are planned.

Fully fund special education

According to the district, the Legislature has made critical investments in special education over the last three years, but they continue to fall short of fully funding special

education.

Districts continue to heavily rely on both local levies or by making cuts in other areas to provide the necessary and mandated support of its students.

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Sudoku solution on page 5

Levy could be on ballot in February

Meanwhile, on Tuesday, Nov. 9, the school board of directors will vote on whether to ask the community to replace the expiring educational programs and operations levy as part of the Feb. 8 ballot.

The district said the levy would "help bridge the gap between what the state funds as basic education and the cost of all the programs, services and essential staff the Edmonds School District provides for our students."

Nearly four years ago, voters approved a programs and operations levy with an estimated tax rate of \$1.50. The proposed replacement levy would keep a consistent tax rate. This would not be a new tax, the district said.

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► from **TRAILS AND TREES** page 7

as China, Tahiti, and Australia. According to "Old Growth and New Directions: 150 years of Pope & Talbot": "The Puget Mill Company operated in a Washington territory where timber wealth was all but free for the taking. With the exception of Native Americans, Northwesterners generally considered frontier land a public commons free for everybody to use if it was unsurveyed and unreserved."

"People helped themselves to the timber around Puget Sound in much the same fashion that miners, farmers, and ranchers helped themselves to other resources in the public domain. ... A 1831 federal law prohibiting removal of timber on public domain was not enforced. Trespassing was so common as to be recognized in regional folklore."

By 1876, more than five million feet of logs had been cut in Snohomish County from 28 different logging camps. During the 1880s, the parcel of land owned by the University of Washington was logged by T. E. Davis, and he placed pillars in Browns Bay to deposit the timber.

Steam donkey and a railroad

Davis sold his logging rights and equipment to J. T. Sinclair, who brought the first steam donkey – a double cylinder, single drum engine to the land in 1901. It is likely that lumber was shipped to Ballard, as both Davis and Sinclair lived in Ballard, and Sinclair managed a large sawmill there.

This was the period that Ballard was called the "Shingle Capital of the World," and de-

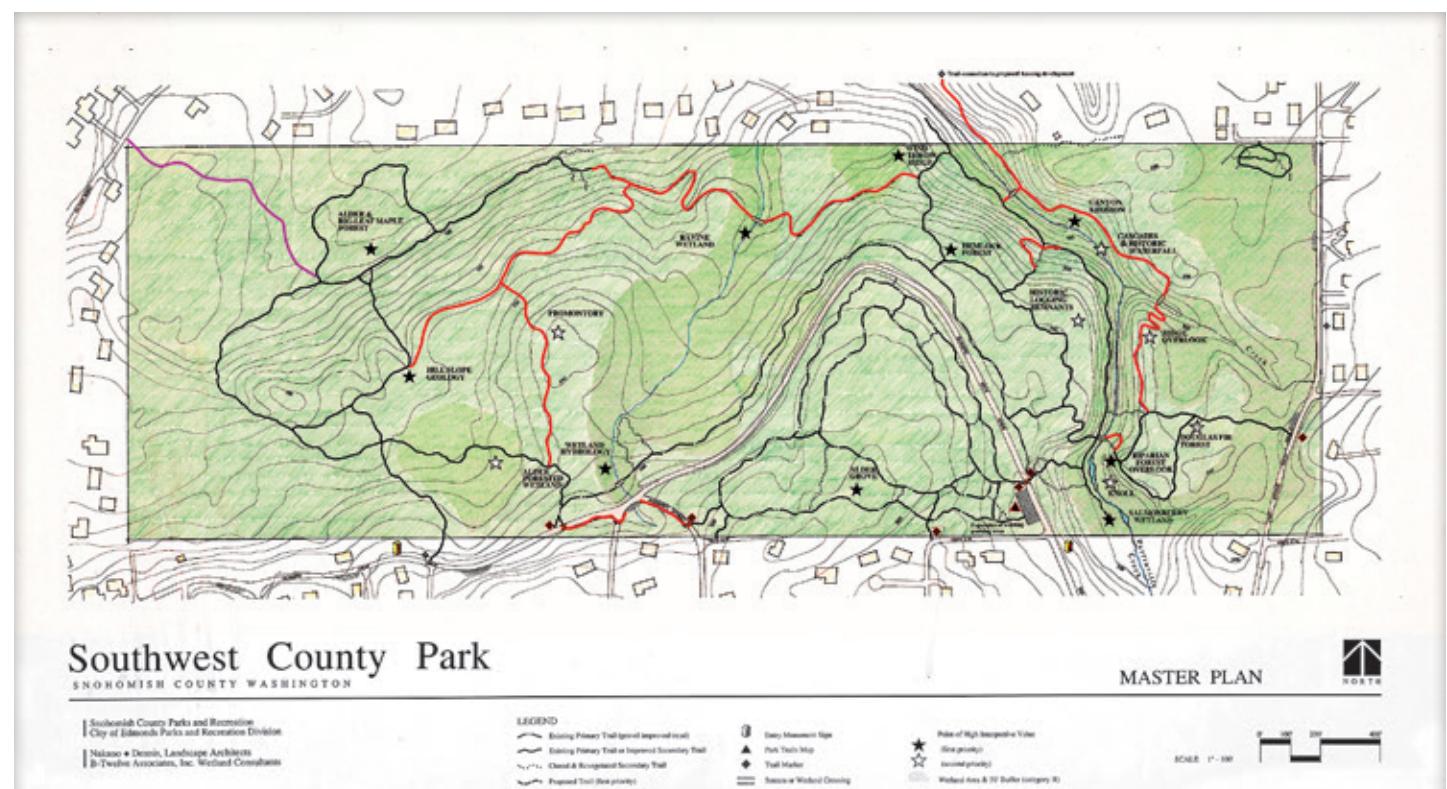


Photo courtesy of Snohomish County

A map of the proposed map before Southwest County Park became a city park.

scribed as "a raw, feisty little logging town, with shingle mills and saloons far outnumbering churches and schools."

The panic of 1893 caused the worst depression up until that time in the nation's history, and the lumber companies suffered economic losses. Lumber prices plummeted; three-quarters of the shingle mills closed.

It was so bad that Davis sold his logging

rights around Olympic View Drive to the first Browns Bay Milling and Logging Company (owned by Andrew Mackie, who became mayor of Ballard) in 1902.

In the early 1900s, three logging companies controlled the area near what is now Southwest County Park: Mosher and McDonald, Ballard's Browns Bay Milling & Logging Company, and the Puget Mill

Company.

A new Browns Bay Logging Company, founded in 1903 by J. Joseph Irving, Edward Brehm, and C. Matthews, bought the logging rights on the previously similarly named but unrelated Ballard's Browns Bay Company.

New state tax laws heavily taxed unhar-

see **PARK HISTORY** page 12 ►

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► from PARK HISTORY page 11

vested lands, but had minimal taxes for previously cut acreage. To extract timber that had been difficult to harvest, in 1906 they cleared land to build a railroad through what is now Southwest County Park.

This standard gauge railroad connected with a spur to the Great Northern Railroad 2 miles north of Brackett's Landing to ship some timber in to the various shingle mills in Edmonds, but also had a trellis to dump larger logs into Browns Bay for shipment to various sawmills.

This railway remained in place until 1916, and the connection with the Great Northern Railroad was removed in 1923.

The site of the old railway was recently mapped out using a metal detector. (See Edmonds Beacon story at [#](https://bit.ly/3b8xOGj).)

Although the years between 1897-1907 were profitable for Pope & Talbot, increased taxes on lumber beginning in 1906 helped create a recession in the lumber industry. Timber land became more valuable as real estate than for growing trees, so Puget Mill began to sell its lands in western Washington.

By 1905, Puget Mill owned 6,000 acres of land between Seattle and Everett. At the same time, Edmonds had become a thriving community.

Walter Ames, who replaced Cyrus Walker as manager of Puget Mills, entered into an agreement with E. E. Brehm, owner of Browns Bay Logging company in July 1910, to harvest timber in that area.

A year later, Brehm – depressed over the contract and feeling the stresses of his job – killed himself. Browns Bay Lumber Company liquidated and became Admiralty Lumber Company. The company later closed and became part of



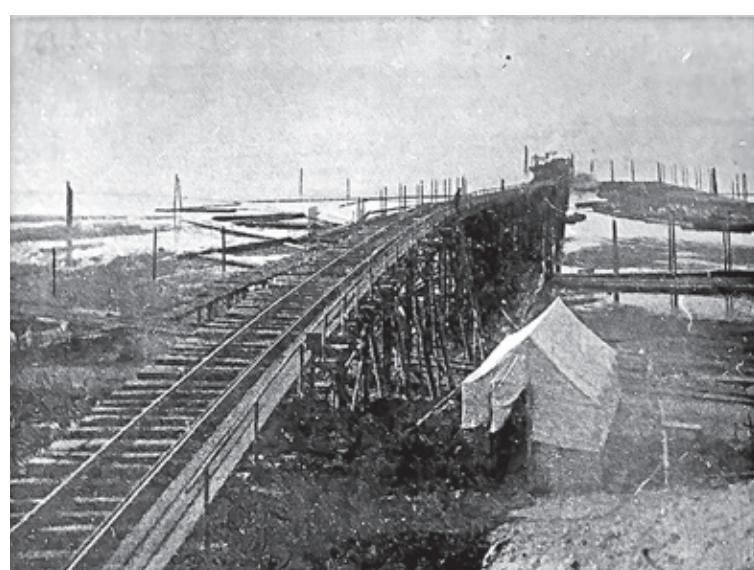
Puget Mill Company in 1922.

Puget Mill tried to convert some of its property to real estate. It sold the land owned in Seattle as Washington Park and, when Seattle brought water to the area, Puget Mill Company deeded 67 to 70 acres of land that became the University of Washington Arboretum.

Puget Mill built the 7,000-acre farming settlement in 1917 as Alderwood Manor in what is now Lynnwood. The area of Southwest County Park owned by the University of Washington was used for timber removal until the early 1920s.

The railway tracks through the park had been removed in 1916, and all lumber railways between Seattle and Everett had been removed by 1928.

Little is known as to why the University of Washington held on to the land rather than sell it, as it had most of the surrounding area to Puget Mill Lumber Company.



Photos courtesy of Eugene Smith

Top: oxen haul timber from what is now Southwest County Park in Edmonds in the late 1800s. Above: Browns Bay Pier, from around 1910.

In the 1940s, Dr. Erna Gunther, a famous University of Washington anthropologist, taught some classes

at that area, but it was rarely used by the general public as "no trespassing" signs had been put up by

the university.

In 1971, Snohomish County obtained the site from the University through a State of Washington Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) grant. The deed transfer from the University contained conditions on the future development of the parcel, insuring that the parcel is forever managed as a passive woodland open space.

Snohomish County developed a master plan for the park in 1991, designating the park as a passive/sensitive wildlife preserve, and mapped out the current trails. Only about half the current trails existed at that time.

As a result of that study, several additional options for expansion of trails were proposed. One of the proposals included a route to the northwest corner of the park to Talbot Road and proposed building several small picnic areas in the park.

The decision did not include this route, but added several trails to allow visitors to walk in a loop through the park.

The Eagle Scout projects built extensive trails throughout the northern part of the park, following the master plan's recommendations in 1992. Almost half of the current trails were created by these projects.

A separate Eagle Scout project put up historic plaques outlining the logging history in the area in 2011, though some of the photographic images are not from the area.

The current trails of the park were mapped using GPS averaging in 2020. Many of these trails were likely not made by the park service and some are overgrown, steep, and should not be maintained for environmental reasons, but they show where visitors explore.

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