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Jokumsen cold case trial scheduled to begin

Kevin Jokumsen, a former Enumclaw local, will soon face a jury of his peers for the alleged killing of his wife, Donna Mae Jokumsen, in 1987.

Though long suspected of the crime, it took 30 years for detectives to bring the case to a grand

jury, which indicted Jokumsen, 56, in August 2017.

Just over two years later, it appears the case is ready to go to trial, with the first day scheduled for Sept. 30.

Prosecutors may have a difficult time during the trial,

as Donna Mae (maiden name Douglas) has never been found dead or alive. Although the case was re-opened in 2016 by detectives in Chandler, Arizona, it's been reported little to no new evidence has been discovered since the original police

investigation.

Here's what we know, according to original 1987 testimonies and follow-up interviews in 1996 and 2016.

While living in Enumclaw,

See **CASE**, Page 7

Buckley Columbia Bank branch to close Nov. 15

By **RAY MILLER-STILL**
Editor

Buckley residents will soon have to add another destination to their list of errands when they leave town to shop.

As of Nov. 15, the local Columbia Bank branch will close after serving the community for the last dozen years, leaving the city without any banking services.

There were multiple reasons why the bank decided to close the branch, said Senior Vice President Nicole Sherman.

"These positions are never easy," she said. "Some of what drives [this decision] is the fact that we provide a great client experience, but... clients are choosing different methods to do their banking. One of those methods is digital — mobile banking, online banking, etc. Our branches are definitely an essential part of our business model, but we also have to look at clients banking when, where, and how they want, so balancing that with giving them the continued in-branch experience."

Additionally, there are three other branches within 12 miles of each other, with the Bonney Lake and Enumclaw branches offering extended opening hours on Saturday.

"It just made sense to consolidate Buckley into one of those branches that had extended hours," Sherman continued, adding that the Buckley branch's employees will continue working at other locations

But not everyone is happy with the decision.

See **BANK**, Page 5

Complaints upheld against former councilman, political booster

By **KEVIN HANSON**
Senior Writer

A political feud that swirled for nearly four years in Enumclaw city politics was settled last week in an Olympia meeting room.

The issue was simple, as matters go when falling under the purview of the state's Public Disclosure Commission: cases had been brought — stemming from a 2015 Enumclaw City Council race — against Darrel Dickson, a former councilman, and Karen Jensen, a friend and political supporter.

The outcome was equally straightforward: Dickson settled the case against him prior to any PDC hearing and agreed to punishment. He was fined \$4,000, with half that sum suspended. It will not have to be repaid unless Dickson someday commits another PDC violation.

The case against Jensen and, by extension, Citizens For A Better Enumclaw, was more involved. At the end of an all-day hearing she was fined \$2,000; again, half the sum was suspended and will not require repayment unless she commits another PCD violation.

IT STARTS WITH A CONTENTIOUS RACE

Dickson was a sitting member of the Enumclaw City Council and was, in the fall of 2015, challenged by political newcomer Kim Lauk. While new to the world of city governance, she grew up in a political environment as the daughter of Christopher Hurst, a longtime member of the state House of Representatives.

The race was not particularly cordial and ended with Lauk ousting the one-term councilman. Lauk joined the council in 2016 but her tenure was relatively short; she suddenly

See **HEARING**, Page 4

Getting down and dirty



PHOTOS BY RAY MILLER-STILL

Thousands of athletes descended on Black Diamond last weekend for the city's annual hosting of the Tough Mudder, an event filled with crazy obstacle courses like army-crawling under electrified wires, sprinting over a mud pit on floating platforms, and trusting teammates — or even strangers — to get over insurmountable climbing walls.



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