

Shelton PD investigates homicide

By Journal staff
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A tip received midday Monday by the Shelton Police Department regarding a possible homicide led to the remains of what is believed to be a previously reported missing adult.

Shelton Police and Mason County Sheriff's Office discovered the remains in a rural area of Mason County, outside the city limits.

Law enforcement authorities suspect the victim was killed in Shelton, according to a release from the Sheriff's Office.

It doesn't appear to be a random act because the victim and suspect knew each other, authorities say.

Shelton Police and Mason County Sheriff's deputies, including the county's SWAT team, arrested the suspects around 7 p.m. Monday at a residence near the 500 block of North Fifth Street in Shelton.

The area was cordoned off for several hours Monday night as law enforcement searched the home.

The investigation is ongoing and no further information was available at the *Shelton-Mason County Journal's* press time. An update will be provided in next week's edition of the *Journal*.



In the bubble

The Boat House Restaurant & Bar in Allyn recently created a distinctive outdoor dining experience with five outdoor bubbles named after fictional ships. The dining option has been popular, drawing patrons from around the region. The bubbles are booked into December. See story on Page A-25. Courtesy photo

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Brothers in law

By Gordon Weeks
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After a 38-year legal partnership, attorney brothers Richard Hoss and Rob Wilson-Hoss are removing the shingle they hung at their law office on Birch Street in downtown Shelton.

Rick retired last week, and Rob plans to retire by the end of the month, except for advising nonprofit groups pro bono. They will also continue their volunteer work in the community, including the 9-year-drive to bring a YMCA to Shelton; the \$13-million facility is being constructed at the intersection of Shelton Springs Road and East Wallace-Kneeland Boulevard.

Their law firm's website states Rick is the "younger, smart brother." Is this true?

"I'm younger and better looking," said Rick, 67. "He's older and much smarter."

"There's no one smarter than Rick," said Rob, 69.

Rick specializes in business, trusts and estates. Rob specializes in real property, homeowner associations and nonprofits.

"It's been as awesome partnership," Rick said.

Rob was born in Anchorage, Alaska, Rick in Portland. They have an older



Siblings Rob Wilson-Hoss, left, and Rick Hoss have shared a law practice in Shelton since 1982. They are both retiring this month. Journal photo by Gordon Weeks

sister. Their father, a World War veteran, worked for Honeywell in Anchorage.

The family moved to Longview when Rob was 5 and Rick was 3. They lived on a golf course and enjoyed activities at the local YMCA.

Neither brother had a career path when they graduated from Mark Morris High School in Longview.

"I wanted to work outside, from morning to night," Rick said.

Rob said he wanted to go to college to postpone his life decisions. He went to a small liberal arts college, Willamette University, in Salem, Oregon, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy and English.

He then joined the Peace Corps and served in Tunisia from 1972-73, where

he and his wife, Wendy, taught at a secondary school.

At University of Washington law school, Rob became interested in Native American rights. He helped put together an intertribal court system among the tribes in Western Washington. In 1978, he became the first reservation attorney for the Squaxin Island Tribe.

Rick worked as a logger at Mount St. Helens. Their father, then an executive for Weyerhaeuser, encouraged him to go back to college. At Willamette University, he earned a master's degree in business administration and a Juris Doctorate degree in 1982.

That year, Rick joined his older brother in a partnership in a house in Shelton, where they would remain. Toni Sheldon, sister of state Sen. Tim Sheldon and a future Mason County Superior Court judge, was the third partner.

Both brothers helmed landmark decisions. Rob's representation changed the face of the Mason County Sheriff's Department.

In *Davis vs. Mason County*, a circuit judge found Mason County, its sheriff and several deputies guilty and liable for damages for excessive force used while arresting men in four

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