

Rainier Teen Sends Hundreds of Care Packages to Troops
A3



NISQUALLY VALLEY NEWS

Wolverines Return to Mount Rainier After 100 Years
A7

\$100



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Managers of McKenna Housing Facility Decry Misinformation

Transitional Housing Program Leaders Answer Questions From Pierce County Council

BY ERIC ROSANE
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Management with Fresh Start Housing LLC, a for-profit transitional program that operates sober housing in five counties, took questions from county council members and one community

member Wednesday morning, Aug. 19, during a presentation at the Pierce County Council's Public Safety Committee meeting.

Questions posed by the committee and one critic of the program's planned facility in McKenna, Joni Jensen, 62, of Lake Lawrence, were limited to broader discussion on the operation of sober living facilities and potential public risks during the video conferencing meeting.

Fresh Start Housing is looking to open a transitional sober-

living facility in McKenna in the old Nisqually Valley Care Center building located on the corner of 95th Avenue and 357th Street.

The 140-bed facility is expected to open sometime this fall. Tenants will pay around \$500 a month for services and be required to stay sober as they transition back into regular society.

Tim Timmer, managing member of Fresh Start, said their goal of attending the meeting was to



Fresh Start managing members John Green, left, and Tim Timmer appear Aug. 19 at an online Pierce County Public Safety Committee meeting to answer questions.

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COVID-19 Outbreak Reported at Thurston County Jail

County Reports 12th Death Related to Virus, Nears 1,000 Cases

BY ERIC ROSANE
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Thurston County Public Health and Social Services staff are currently investigating a confirmed COVID-19 outbreak at the Thurston County Corrections Center, the county confirmed last week.

After having tested 300 employees and inmates Wednesday, Aug. 19, the first round of tests returned six positive diagnoses. Those who were tested for the virus were immediately put into quarantine.

Thurston County is currently investigating seven outbreaks at congregate care facilities, mostly at long-term health and wellness settings.

"We expect to have more results in the coming days and plan to retest all inmates and employees next week," Public Health Director Schelli Slaughter said in a prepared statement.

Public Health investigators identified the first case at the jail as an inmate who was released from the facility on Monday, Aug. 17. The county says the person is currently isolating per

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Prairie Lanes Preps for Return

Yelm Bowling Alley Eyes September Reopening Under New State Guidelines

BY ERIC ROSANE
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Yelm Prairie Lanes bowling alley was on track to have one of its best years financially — but then COVID-19 hit like a gutterball in the final frame.

After the most profitable two months ever for the business in January and February, state-mandated business closures in March shuttered economic activity, sending the beloved local entertainment establishment into hibernation.

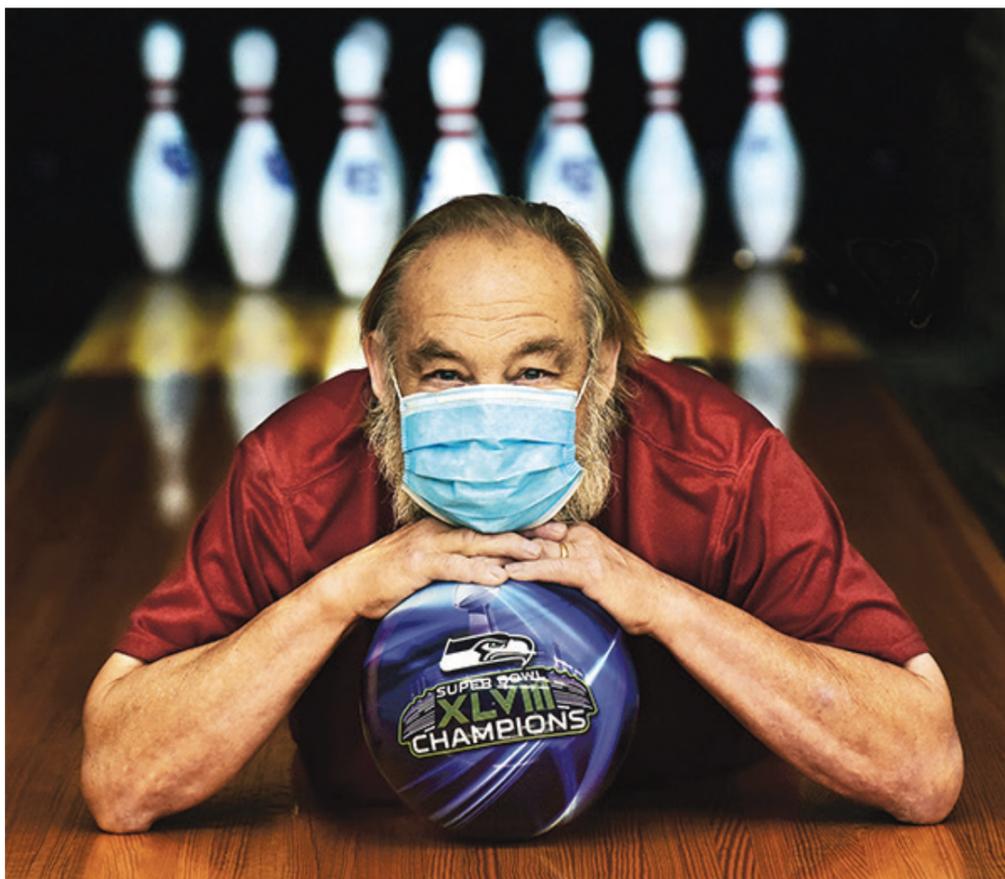
They didn't think much of it at first, but then weeks turned into months.

"We thought when the weather got warmer it would go away," said owner Mickey Beadle, 66.

After more than five months of closure since the start of the pandemic, Prairie Lanes is looking to reopen in early September to league play and food-drink service, thanks in part to new guidance on bowling alleys published Aug. 20 by Gov. Jay Inslee's office.

Bowling alleys operating in counties in either Phase 2 or 3 of Inslee's "Safe Start" plan will be

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Paul Dunn/Nisqually Valley News

Mickey Beadle, 66, owner of Prairie Lanes bowling in Yelm, is enthusiastic about reopening the facility after it closed due to COVID-19.



The interior of Yelm's Prairie Lanes bowling alley sports multiple televisions, a rotating light show and other amenities for patrons.

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