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ELECTIONS2020

Legislative races set for November

OLYMPIC PENINSULA NEWS GROUP

Three familiar political faces and one new one emerged as leaders in the Aug. 4 primary election voting for two 24th Legislative District seats.

Incumbent Democratic state Reps. Steve Tharinger of Port Townsend and Mike Chapman of Port Angeles received the bulk of votes in top-two balloting for the House seats, according to the state Secretary of State website at sos.wa.gov.

The district covers Clallam and Jefferson counties and part of Grays Harbor County.



PRUIETT THARINGER

Ballot counts this week show Chapman receiving 33,159 votes or 56.1 percent in the three counties and Tharinger getting 27,434 votes, or 47.2 percent.

Political newcomer and Republican Brian Pruiett of Carlsborg, a real estate investor and retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, was headed for a Nov. 3 Election Day showdown for the Position 2 slot against Tharinger, who has occupied the position for five terms. Pruiett had received 15,638 votes, or 26.9 percent, as of Aug. 11.

The four-person field for Tharinger's seat included Democrat Darren Corcoran of Elma—who received 4,651 votes, or 7.9 percent—and Jodi Wilke, a North Olympic Peninsula Republican who dropped out of the race for personal reasons July 18, three days after ballots were mailed to voters; Wilke still garnered almost 18 percent of the vote district-wide.



CHAPMAN FORDE

Republican Sue Forde of Sequim, the Clallam County Republican Party chair who unsuccessfully ran against then-Clallam County Commissioner Tharinger in 2003, was on her way to earning the right to challenge Chapman for the Position 1 seat he's held for two two-year terms.

She had 16,797 votes, or 28.4 percent, in the regional election.

See ELECTION, A-15

Clallam adds three new COVID-19 cases

BY ZACH JABLONSKI
Olympic Peninsula News Group

Three new COVID-19 cases were confirmed Monday in Clallam County and one new case was confirmed in Jefferson County.

The additional cases bumped Clallam County's total to 136 since March with 26 currently active and Jefferson County's total to 55 since March with four currently active.

Clallam County is in the state's moderate-risk category with 53 cases per 100,000 people for the past two weeks, said Dr. Allison Unthank, the county health officer.

The number reported Sunday, a rate of 36.8 cases per 100,000, was based on a two-week total kept by the state Department of Health that was last updated July 30.

See COVID-19, A-11

'MASKED' REVOLUTION



Vern Frykholm, a mainstay at the Northwest Colonial Festival portraying George Washington, shows off his mask made by Pam Gassman of Tacoma. He said with COVID-19 regulations in place, he and other portrayers are looking into creating educational podcasts and Zoom calls for schools/classrooms. See event recap, A-4. Sequim Gazette photo by Matthew Nash

Fair trade fashion show finds roots in Dungeness



Videographer Silas Crews and photographers Julie Lawrence and Cindy Roth capture Lindsay Sué walk the runway for Impact Fashion's show in New Dungeness Nursery. The event will be readied for its debut online Sept. 4 to promote sustainable fashion. Sequim Gazette photo by Matthew Nash

Debut set for Sept. 4 at Impact Fashion online

BY MATTHEW NASH
Sequim Gazette

Sequim's Sica Schmitz was seeking more greenery for her fifth Impact Fashion Show. She found exactly that—and her new favorite venue—at New Dungeness Nursery.

With a runway surrounded by trees inside a greenhouse, Schmitz moved her annual show from Los Angeles to

Dungeness last week, with a crew of local and Seattle-area models, stylists, photographers and more creating an online version of the event.

"I'm so excited; we have models of all ages, body types and kinds of beauty," she said. "It's definitely the most inclusive thing I've been able to do."

Online and through friends, Schmitz recruited 11 models to share three to five looks from more than two-dozen designers of clothing and accessories that focus on sustainable fashion.

To Schmitz, sustainable fashion is "taking care of this generation without jeopardizing the next generation."

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