

VOTE 2021

Ford accused of domestic violence in '15

Washougal mayoral candidate was sentenced to 2 years probation after violating a restraining order

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record editor

Oregon court records show Washougal mayoral candidate Derik Ford was accused of domestic violence in 2015 and later sentenced to serve two

years of formal probation and attend a domestic violence intervention program after violating a restraining order.

In May 2015, Ford's then-wife filed for a restraining order to prevent abuse, alleging Ford had attempted to physically

harm her and placed her "in fear of imminent bodily injury" after an argument allegedly turned physical. According to Oregon court records obtained by the Post-Record, Ford's wife told police her husband had grabbed her as she tried to go up a flight of stairs following an argument, causing her to fall backward and hit the floor and the wall.

In her restraining order petition, she said Ford

continued to harass her in the weeks following this incident, allegedly making "verbally abusive phone calls," hacking into her social media accounts, becoming "progressively



Derik Ford

more erratic," repeatedly calling her cell and work phones and making "various threats to ruin (her), make (her) suffer ... make (her) life miserable."

Ford's then-wife told the court she believed her husband was angry about losing his assets and money after she had filed for a divorce.

"He is ex-law enforcement and (has) an ex-

See Ford, page A9



DOUG FLANAGAN/POST-RECORD

Signs promote the Washougal mayoral campaigns of Paul Greenlee and Derik Ford in downtown Washougal. Both candidates have reported stolen signs in the lead up to the Aug. 3 primary election.

Campaign signs going missing in Washougal

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

Sign-stealing has apparently become a popular summer activity in Washougal.

Washougal mayoral candidates Paul Greenlee, Rochelle Ramos and Derik Ford have reported incidents of placard theft in the past several weeks, a disappointing turn of events for the League of Women Voters of Clark County organization, which asked the candidates to sign its "fair-campaign pledge" at the start of the primary election season.

"By doing so, they have agreed to focus on the issues and their qualifications as well as to avoid unfair attacks on opponents and distortions or misrepresentations of fact as they campaign," League president Nancy Halvorson wrote in a letter to the Post-Record. "Despite this positive start, we are witnessing a negative turn in this race."

None of the candidates have publicly accused the other aspirants of theft, however.

"That all of the candidates pledged to conduct themselves in an upright and honest manner makes us conclude that this behavior must be that of overly zealous supporters whose actions are without the knowledge or support of the candidates," Halvorson wrote.

The act of stealing a candidate's signs is illegal under Washington state law 29A.84.040, which states: "A person who removes or defaces lawfully

See Signs, page A2

Camas, Meet Your Candidates

8 vying for 2 council seats in Aug. 3 primary; top vote-getters move on to November general election

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record editor

Voters in Camas will decide the fate of two of three open city council seats in the upcoming Aug. 3 primary election.

Though the city has three council seats and its mayoral position headed to the November general election, only two of those races — for city council members' Melissa Smith and Ellen Burton's respective Ward 1, Position 2 and Ward 3, Position 2 seats — garnered enough candidate interest to warrant a primary run-off election.



WARD 1, POSITION 2 RACE

Camas Councilwoman Melissa Smith, who was appointed to the council in 2004, elected to her first term in 2005 and lost a write-in mayoral bid in 2019, is not running for re-election in 2021.

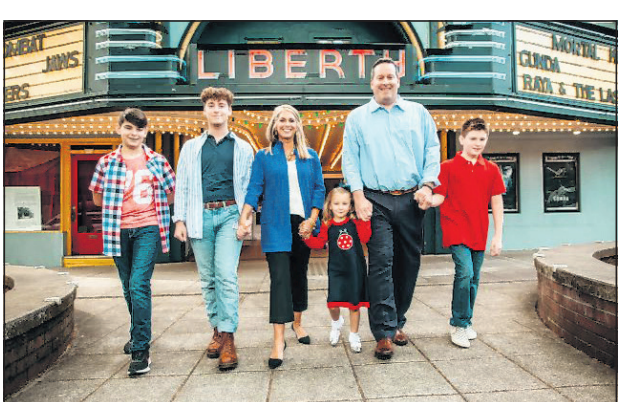
Instead, four candidates — Marilyn Dale-Boerke, Shawn High, Geoerl W. Niles and Gary Perman — are on the Aug. 3 primary ballot, competing for Smith's Ward 1, Position 2 council seat. The top two vote-getters in each race will move on to the November general election.

Marilyn Dale-Boerke

Asked in early July, during a League of Women Voters of Clark County candidate forum what skills and abilities she might bring to the table if elected to the Camas City

Council, Marilyn Dale-Boerke, a 35-year resident of Camas and current head of human resources at the Camas School District, highlighted her desire to listen to her would-be constituents and bring people together to tackle some of the big issues facing the city right now.

"What can we collectively do to solve (problems)?" Dale-Boerke asked. "People are angrier than they



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS COURTESY OF INDIVIDUAL CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Voters in the Aug. 3 primary election will decide which candidates move on to the November general election to compete for two open Camas City Council seats. Candidates pictured (top row, left to right): Jennifer McDaniel; Alicia King (right) with her family; and Gary Perman. Candidates pictured (middle row, left to right): Geoerl Niles; Leslie Lewallen (third from left) with her family; and Marilyn Dale-Boerke. Candidates pictured (bottom row, left to right): John Svilarich and Shawn High.

have been, or at least than they've been willing to show ... and we're at a pivotal point in our city and nation. So, how do we harvest our collective energy?"

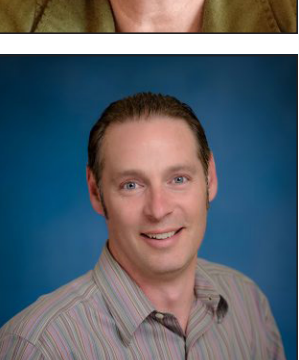
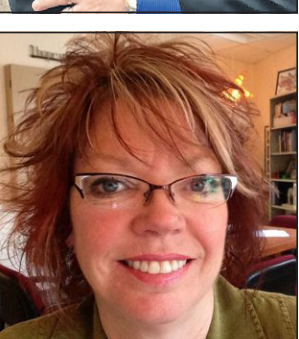
If elected, Dale-Boerke said she would want to be more inclusive in the city's public outreach to its citizens.

"I think we rely a lot on surveys," she said of the city's current outreach efforts. "If you're in the know,

you can take the survey. If you're not, you cannot."

Dale-Boerke would like to reach out to a broader swath of Camas residents, hitting not only those who follow local politics online and those who frequent the city's historic downtown, but also people who may not be as connected to things Camas officials are planning.

Having learned from her leadership role with the



school district that many Camasonians might be more willing or tuned in if city leaders went to the people instead of having the people come to them, Dale-Boerke suggested hosting listening posts at local elementary or middle schools, where even people who did not have children in the school district could "know how to get there and

See Primary, page A7

PYTHONS IN THE PARK

Officers find 8 live snakes near Round Lake

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record editor

Camas police responding to a report of large snakes in Lacamas Park early Thursday morning, July 22, discovered eight medium-sized pythons near the parking area by Round Lake.

Camas Police Sergeant Scot Boyles said the snakes, which ranged in length from 3 to 6 feet, were lethargic, possibly due to the cooler temperatures.

Officers conducted "an extensive search" of the area, but did not find any other snake, Boyles said.

In a press release, Camas police said the snakes were pythons — possibly

ball or Burmese pythons, according to Boyles — not native to the Pacific Northwest and typically owned as pets.

Authorities believe a previous owner may have left the snakes at the park.

Officers working with Clark County Animal Control were able to contain the snakes and have them transported to an animal shelter. The snakes will be examined and could be rehomed.

Boyles said the discovery was unusual.

"I've been here 23 years and I remember a snapping turtle was found (near Lacamas Lake) about 10 or 12 years ago, but I don't recall finding (pythons) — at least not eight of them," Boyles said.

WSD technology coach to lead teachers union
Schools, Page A5



Washougal player heads to QB event
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Ellen Burton appointed Camas' interim mayor

Former council member to lead city until voters choose new mayor in November

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record editor

Ellen Burton, Camas' acting mayor, will continue to lead the city for the next four months.

Camas City Council members voted unanimously on Monday, July 26, to appoint Burton as the city's interim mayor.

Burton, an elected city council member who was named the city's acting mayor in May after the unexpected resignation of then-Mayor Barry McDonnell, will remain in the mayoral position through the certification the Nov. 2 general election — when Camas voters will choose McDonnell's replacement.

Only two people applied for the role of interim mayor.

City council members interviewed the two candidates — Burton and Jack Derington — during a special meeting Monday evening.

Derington, a regional manager and entrepreneur who moved with his family to Camas four years ago, said he wanted to see Camas "continue to flourish" while remaining the same "small town" people love.

"I see genuine improvements and progress (in Camas) and also see the challenges we face," Derington wrote in his application to be considered as interim mayor.

The mayoral hopeful touted Camas' strengths and said he would like to see the city "continue to promote and



Camas Interim Mayor Ellen Burton

See Burton, page A10

Ford:

From page A1

tremely aggressive personality,” she wrote in her restraining order petition, adding Ford also had access to firearms.

The Washington County Circuit Court in Oregon granted Ford’s wife a restraining order in late May 2015.

Less than three months later, according to court records, Ford was back in court, charged with violating the terms of the restraining order after “sending numerous text messages to (a) friend in an attempt to reconcile with Mrs. Ford.”

According to the Oregon State Bar, a person arrested for violating a restraining order may be charged with “contempt of court,” which carries a maximum penalty of six months in jail and/or a fine, but could also be reduced to a warning, suspended sentence

or probation.

According to a sentencing memorandum dated Aug. 10, 2015, Ford pled “no contest” to one count of contempt of court. Before his sentencing, in recognition that a sentence would likely require him to relinquish his firearms and ammunition, Ford asked the court to make a special allowance, allowing him to retain use of his bow and arrows and go on two out-of-state hunting trips during his probation.

“(Ford) is an avid bow hunter and has two non-refundable bow-hunting trips scheduled in the coming months,” Ford’s attorney, Michael De Muniz, wrote in the Aug. 10, 2015, sentencing memorandum. “(He) has already paid \$23,650 for a trip to Alaska (to hunt brown bears) and \$3,080 for a trip to New Mexico (to hunt elk).”

The judge sentenced Ford to two years of formal probation and ordered him to seek evaluation, treatment and counseling

for “batterer specific/domestic violence.”

The judge also set domestic violence conditions on Ford’s probation:

- no direct or indirect contact with his then-wife;
- successfully completing a domestic violence intervention program;
- notifying his probation officer within 24 hours “of any new arrest, citation for criminal or stalking matters and petitions for restraining orders or stalking protective orders filed against (him);
- attending a Washington County Survivors’ Impact Panel as directed by his probation officer;
- consenting to his probation officer “communicating with others about the defendant’s domestic violence history;”
- submitting to polygraph testing; and
- agreeing to “not menace, intimidate, threaten or have offensive physical contact with anyone including, but not limited to, intimate partners.”

The judge also ordered Ford to not possess any firearms or ammunition or apply for a license or permit authorizing the possession of a firearm during his probation period. He was allowed, however, to retain his bow and arrows and attend his out-of-state hunting trips.

Contacted on Thursday, July 22, about the domestic violence accusations and sentence for violating a restraining order to prevent abuse, Ford claimed “there was absolutely no domestic violence,” and said the restraining order violation was “a mistake.”

“I sent a text message to a friend, which was third-party communication,” Ford said. “It wasn’t stalking down (her) street or anything of that nature.”

Asked what lessons he gained from attending the required domestic violence intervention program ordered by the judge, Ford claimed he only had to attend “a couple of classes.”

“They released me and

felt I didn’t need it,” Ford told The Post-Record.

Court records dispute this account. On July 21, 2016, Ford’s attorney filed a motion to terminate Ford’s probation, claiming Ford “completed the domestic violence program (and) the probation department informed (Ford) it would recommend that (his) probation be reduced to bench probation.”

An order filed a little over two weeks later, on Aug. 8, 2016, shows the district attorney denied Ford’s attorney’s motion, noting: “If you are arraigned on a domestic violence or sex crime, you are prohibited from contacting the named victim even while in custody.”

Community members in the Camas-Washougal region have questioned Ford’s background since he decided to run in the mayoral campaign earlier this year. As noted in other Post-Record articles, in addition to the 2015 domestic violence ac-

cusations and restraining order violation, the Washougal pub owner has been questioned for a lawsuit he filed against the city of Sweet Home, Oregon, and its police chief after being fired from his job as a probationary police officer, as well as for several cases involving sexual abuse by massage therapists that worked for Ford’s Massage Envy franchises.

Asked why he would expose himself to intense scrutiny by running for such a public position, Ford said he did not feel his campaign would be impacted by his past lawsuits, job dismissals or domestic violence accusations. He also said he has no intention of dropping out of the Washougal mayoral race.

“Everybody has a past, things in their life they’re not happy about,” Ford said. “I think I can do some good out here.”

Editor’s note: The Post-Record does not publish the names of domestic violence or sexual assault survivors.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY

Case No. 21-4-00810-06

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

RCW 11.40.030

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARJORIE A. BECK, Deceased.

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: July 22, 2021

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: WENDY A. BECK

ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Carolyn A. Simms, WSBA #18258

Of Carolyn A. Simms, Attorney at Law ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: Carolyn A. Simms, Attorney at Law 2035 NE 3rd Loop Camas, WA 98607 (360) 833-2174

COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND CAUSE NUMBER: Superior Court of Clark County No. 21-4-00810-06 No. 579740 - July 22, 29 August 5

WASHINGTON FOR CLARK COUNTY

Case No. 21-4-00859-06

PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

RCW 11.40.030

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HAROUN A. HAROUN, Deceased.

The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court in which the probate proceedings were commenced. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets.

DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION: July 29, 2021

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: ZEANA HAROUN

ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Carolyn A. Simms, WSBA #18258

Of Carolyn A. Simms, Attorney at Law ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE: Carolyn A. Simms, Attorney at Law 2035 NE 3rd Loop Camas, WA 98607 (360) 833-2174

COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS AND CAUSE NUMBER: Superior Court of Clark County No. 21-4-00859-06 No. 580930 - July 29, August 5, 12

ORD No. 21-008

AN ORDINANCE annexing real property to the City of Camas.

The full text of the ordinance will be mailed upon request. Contact Jennifer Gorsuch, Public Records Officer, at 360.817.1591, or via <http://www.cityofcamas.us/index.php/yourgovernment/minuteagenda/video> (Go to Legislation tab).

DATED 7/21/2021.

Bernie Bacon, Deputy City Clerk City of Camas

No. 580850 - July 29

PUBLIC NOTICE

[Vancouver] Public Auction/ Landlord Lien Foreclosure Sale [08/05/21 at 9:00 AM - 1989 SKYLI 56/28 mobile home, VIN: 06910798YAB; Orland Villa, LLC, 2720 NE 80th Street, 503-718-0637.]

No. 578920 - July 22, 29

State Environmental Policy Act Determination of Non-Significance

Non-Project Action

CASE NO: SEPA21-02 Vanport Comprehensive Plan Amendment

APPLICANT: Vanport Manufacturing, Inc.

REQUEST: Proposed amendments to the City of Camas' comprehensive plan map and zoning map. There is one individual amendment request, which would change 4.80 acres from "industrial" to "commercial" designation.

LOCATION: 4555 and 4615 NW Camas Meadows Drive, Camas, WA 98607

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: TAX PARCELS 986035-733 AND 172970-000. LOCATION ALSO DESCRIBED AS NE1/4, S29, T2N, R3E, CLARK COUNTY.

SEPA DETERMINATION: DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) NON-PROJECT ACTION

COMMENT DEADLINE: AUGUST 12, 2021, AT 5:00 P.M.

As lead agency under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Rules [Chapter 197-11, Washington Administrative Code (WAC)], the City of Camas must determine if there are possible significant adverse environmental impacts associated with this proposal. The options include the following:

- DS = Determination of Significance (The impacts cannot be mitigated through conditions of approval and, therefore, requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)).
- MDNS = Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (The impacts can be addressed through conditions of approval), or;
- DNS = Determination of Non-Significance (The impacts can be addressed by applying the Camas Municipal Code).

Determination: Determination of Non-Significance (DNS). The City of Camas, as lead agency for review of this proposal, has determined that this proposal does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist, and other information on file with the City of Camas.

Date of Publication & Comment Period: Publication date of this DNS is July 29, 2021, and is issued under WAC 197-11-340. The lead agency will not act on this proposal until the close of the 14-day comment period which ends on August 12, 2021. Comments may be sent by email to communitydevelopment@cityofcamas.us or regular mail to: City of Camas SEPA Official Community Development Department 616 NE Fourth Avenue Camas, Washington 98607

Responsible Official: Robert Maul (360) 817-1568

Robert Maul, Planning Manager and Responsible Official

July 29, 2021 Date of publication

No. 581760 - July 29

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK JUVENILE DIVISION

Case No: 21-7-00149-06

NOTICE AND SUMMONS OF PUBLICATION (Dependency)

In re the Interest of: Elijah Mac Blomdahl DOB: 03/03/2021

Minor Child

TO: Armon Marcus Attaran and John Doe, Alleged Fathers,

A Dependency Petition was filed on May 11, 2021, and a Fact-Finding hearing will be held on this matter at 8:30 a.m. on August 24th, 2021, at: Clark County Superior Court Family Law Annex 601 West Evergreen Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98660

YOU SHOULD BE PRESENT AT THIS HEARING.

THIS HEARING WILL DETERMINE IF YOUR CHILD IS DEPENDENT AS DEFINED IN RCW 13.34.050(5). THIS BEGINS A JUDICIAL PROCESS WHICH COULD RESULT IN PERMANENT LOSS OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR AT THE HEARING, THE COURT MAY ENTER A DEPENDENCY ORDER IN YOUR ABSENCE.

To request a copy of the Notice, Summons and Dependency Petition, call DCYF at 360-993-7900. To view information about your rights in this proceeding, go to www.atg.wa.gov/DPY.

DATED: July 14, 2021, by Scott G. Weber, Clark County Clerk.

No. 578910 - July 22, 29, August 5

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK JUVENILE DIVISION

Case No: 21-7-00170-06 & 21-7-00171-06

NOTICE AND SUMMONS OF PUBLICATION (Dependency)

In re the Interest of: Blake Lee Roy Smith DOB: 04/14/16

Blaze Timothy Smith DOB: 08/19/18

Minor Child

TO: Justin James Smith, Alleged Father,

A Dependency Petition was filed on June 8, 2021, and a Fact-Finding hearing will be held on this matter at 8:30 a.m. on August 31, 2021, at: Clark County Superior Court Family Law Annex 601 West Evergreen Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98660

YOU SHOULD BE PRESENT AT THIS HEARING.

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RCW 13.34.050(5). THIS BEGINS A JUDICIAL PROCESS WHICH COULD RESULT IN PERMANENT LOSS OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR AT THE HEARING, THE COURT MAY ENTER A DEPENDENCY ORDER IN YOUR ABSENCE.

To request a copy of the Notice, Summons and Dependency Petition, call DCYF at 360-993-7900. To view information about your rights in this proceeding, go to www.atg.wa.gov/DPY.

DATED: July 22, 2021, by Scott G. Weber, Clark County Clerk.

No. 581110 - July 29, August 5, 12

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK JUVENILE DIVISION

Case No: 21-7-00180-06

NOTICE AND SUMMONS OF PUBLICATION (Dependency)

In re the Interest of: Tejay Castle, Jr. DOB: 06/10/21

Minor Child

TO: John Doe, Alleged Father, A Dependency Petition was filed on June 17, 2021, and a Fact Finding hearing will be held on this matter at 8:30 a.m. on August 24, 2021, at: Clark County Superior Court Family Law Annex 601 West Evergreen Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98660

YOU SHOULD BE PRESENT AT THIS HEARING.

THIS HEARING WILL DETERMINE IF YOUR CHILD IS DEPENDENT AS DEFINED IN RCW 13.34.050(5). THIS BEGINS A JUDICIAL PROCESS WHICH COULD RESULT IN PERMANENT LOSS OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR AT THE HEARING, THE COURT MAY ENTER A DEPENDENCY ORDER IN YOUR ABSENCE.

To request a copy of the Notice, Summons and Dependency Petition, call DCYF at 360-993-7900. To view information about your rights in this proceeding, go to www.atg.wa.gov/DPY.

DATED: July 22, 2021, by Scott G. Weber, Clark County Clerk

No. 581130 - July 27, August 5, 12

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF

‘Safety is the most important thing’

Local teachers union presidents react to WA’s new COVID-19 mandate requiring staff vaccinations by Oct. 18

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record editor

Presidents of the local Camas and Washougal teachers union recently weighed in on a new state mandate requiring all K-12 school teachers, staff, coaches, bus drivers and volunteers be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 by Oct. 18 or lose their jobs.

Shelley Houle, president of the Camas Educational Association, a union representing more than 460 educators, school counselors and teacher-librarians in the Camas School District, said she believes

about 70 percent of Camas K-12 teachers have already been vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, but is urging the remainder of her union’s members to talk to their medical physician if they have concerns about the vaccine.

“Staff and students safety is the most important thing to me and the board,” Houle said. “We encourage (educators), if they’re able, to get the vaccination and, if they have concerns, to talk to their doctor.”

While the union is not taking “sides” on the state mandate, Houle said she personally thinks the vac-

cines, which are available for free to every Washingtonian 12 years old and older, are “the most effective way to stop the spread of COVID.”

Houle has only heard from a few members since Gov. Jay Inslee announced the vaccine requirement on Aug. 18.

“Some are reluctant (to get vaccinated), but I’ve also heard from those who hope everybody is vaccinated,” Houle said.

There seem to be more educators in the Washougal School District with concerns about the new vaccine requirement.

James Bennett, the

president of the Washougal Association of Educators, a union representing about 200 teachers in the Washougal district, said the announcement was “a bit stressful” despite the fact that the majority of Washougal educators — Bennett estimates about 60 to 70 percent — are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

“The majority of our members are vaccinated, but there are people who can’t get vaccinated or who have some objection to getting the vaccine,” Bennett said. “It’s pretty stressful to find out a week before school starts that you could lose your job.”

Bennett said the union is working with the district to “see what the exemption process looks like” and to figure out the timeline for teachers and other school district staff who must be fully vaccinated by Oct. 18.

On Monday, Aug. 23, Doug Hood, interim superintendent of the Camas School District, said the requirement would mean unvaccinated individuals would need to have their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine, which requires two doses, 21 days apart, by Sept. 13; of the Moderna vaccine, which requires two doses, 28 days apart, by Sept. 6, and of the sin-

gle-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine by Oct. 4 to be considered fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by Oct. 18.

“We’ve had calls from people on all sides,” Bennett said. “The most common is from people who were uncomfortable getting the vaccine, but will now do it. They feel stuck.”

The one thing nearly all Washougal educators can agree on is the fact that they support returning to a five-day school week after more than a year of remote and hybrid learning, Bennett said.

See Schools, page A5

‘Beautiful things unfolding’

Community groups, supporters help TreeSong thrive despite pandemic

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

Michelle Fox is overcome with joy, gratitude and a bit of disbelief when she thinks about how the TreeSong Nature Awareness and Retreat Center’s two recent major projects were completed thanks to the hard work and financial assistance from a variety of community members, organizations and businesses who love nature and believe in her mission.



TreeSong’s director Michelle Fox

The rural Washougal, nonprofit nature awareness center recently debuted its new outdoor shelter, built free of charge by Vancouver-based Design Doctors Construction; and is working to finish its native plant circle garden, funded with a \$2,500 grant from the Camas-Washougal Rotary Club and Camas-Washougal Community Chest and constructed by local volunteers.

In March 2020, Fox was unsure if TreeSong would survive the COVID-19 pandemic. Seventeen months later, the organization is not only surviving but thriving thanks in part



The TreeSong Nature Awareness and Retreat Center used grant funding from the Camas-Washougal Community Chest to construct this circle garden in 2021.



A Vancouver construction firm built a new wooden shelter at TreeSong Nature Awareness and Retreat Center in August 2021.

to the generosity of its supporters.

“To sit here right now and (witness the) abundance, with gardens and shelters and all

of these people wanting to support these things, it’s been so positive,” said Fox, TreeSong’s founder and executive director. “Part of TreeSong’s mission is community-building and (providing) connections beyond just what’s happening right here into the greater community. That’s what I’ve seen with both projects — the joy, the connection, and the knowledge that they are going

to give for years and years and years. Honestly, in a time when there’s a lot of heaviness and divisiveness out there, it’s nice to know that there are beautiful things unfolding in our community.”

Fox suddenly found herself in need of a new shelter to house TreeSong’s youth programs when her previous structure

See TreeSong, page A6

Camas School Board OKs budget

Enrollment losses, pandemic costs force district to dip into reserves

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record editor

The Camas School Board this week approved a \$132 million 2021-22 budget that includes using \$6.5 million out of fund balances to make up for revenue shortfalls caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, decreased student enrollment and COVID-19 relief funds that were disproportionately low compared to similarly sized school districts in Washington.

“The 2020-21 fiscal year was perhaps the most uncertain in the history of K-12 educa-

tion,” Jasen McEathron, the district’s director of business services, told the Camas School Board on Monday, Aug. 23. “The COVID-driven changes in policy and educational practices made 2020-21 extremely difficult to forecast.”

The school district also has had “unprecedented enrollment volatility” since the start of the pandemic in 2020, McEathron added.

“We experienced a 6- to 7-percent enrollment loss this past year,” McEathron said.

The 2021-22 school district budget is based on an assumption that the district will recover

roughly half of that lost enrollment.

“We felt as though that was a conservative approach to take,” McEathron said, adding that the district’s enrollment losses “were consistent” with other districts in the region and throughout Washington state.

“Through the work of the budget committee, we decided on a projected 2021-22 enrollment of 7,018 students ... “This represents a net gain of 3 percent over our current enrollment,” McEathron said, but is still below the district’s pre-pandemic enrollment levels.

“Given the high level of new development in our community and the opportunity to welcome back students to

full-time, in-person instruction, we believe the 3 percent increase in enrollment is a reasonable budget parameter. However, from a service standpoint, we will be striving to safely welcome back all students in the community and hope to exceed our budgeted enrollment.”

A four-year projection shows Camas school officials also believe enrollment rates will start to rebound, but may level off over the next four years.

“In this model we’ve put enrollment gains where we were pre-COVID,” but then the trend starts to level off due to “declining birth rates,” McEathron said. “We know that COVID

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Camas Vintage & Art Faire returns Saturday
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Camas Heat dominates in hoops contest
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Schools:

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“I think, by and large, everybody is excited about returning to five days a week,” Bennett said. “The more back to normal we can get, the better.”

Previous to mandating COVID-19 vaccines for all public and private K-12 school staff and volunteers — as well as educators and staff at the state’s colleges, universities and early learning childcare centers — Inslee had announced that K-12 schools would return to a five-day-a-week schedule but would continue to require staff, visitors and students to wear face coverings to prevent the spread of COVID-19 during the 2021-22 school year.

Houle and Bennett agreed the continuation of the mask mandate is not a big issue for most of their union members — or for most students.

“I think everybody is used to it at this point,” Bennett said of the mandate to wear masks during school. “I don’t really like the masks, mostly because they fog up my glasses, but it is what it is ... and, on average, the students have been very good about wearing their masks.”

Houle agreed: “The kids are really good at doing that,” she said of wearing masks during class and even during recess time. “They can have mask fatigue, but the teachers have been good about taking them outside for a snack and a mask break, while staying six feet apart.”

Houle said Camas educators also are excited to return to a five-day-a-week school year, and are confident the mask mandate will help keep staff and students safe.

“The delta variant is hitting kids, and we want our kids to be safe,” Houle said. “We know (wearing masks) works. We had exposures last year and nobody else in the room got it.”

Though a small group of community members have come to Camas School Board meetings throughout the summer to express their anger over the mask mandates, Houle said she has heard of very few instances of students refusing to wear masks at school.

‘Delta variant is a game-changer’

Inslee announced the vaccine requirement for school staff on Aug. 18, during a press conference with Washington’s superintendent of public education, Chris Reykdal, and the state’s secretary of health, Dr. Umair Shah.

With COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations “exploding across our state,” Inslee said he had to act to save lives and protect the health care system from being overwhelmed by COVID patients.

“We can go back to the painful days of closing our businesses, closing our schools, or we can use the known, effective and safe tools at our disposal,” Inslee said. “We are fortunate, blessed, to have two tools — masks and vaccines — that are safe ... and we should use them.”

Washington is one of the most protective states when it comes to keeping students and staff safe inside classrooms, Inslee added, and “cannot afford to continue to gamble with the health of educators, students, parents and the communities (educators) serve.”

The governor said the new vaccine requirement will impact nearly 155,000 educators, school leaders and staff in Washington’s K-12 schools, as well as about 118,000 early education workers and 90,000 staff, faculty and graduate students in Washington’s college and universities.

“These vaccines are incredibly, amazingly effective,” Inslee said, adding that 95 percent of COVID patients in Washington hospitals today are not vaccinated against the disease. Adding that the delta

variant is a “new challenge to the state of Washington” in the fight against COVID-19, the governor said he, along with the state’s public health officials, felt it necessary to mandate vaccines at this point in the pandemic.

“We are convinced we are at the point that, without these vaccine requirements, we will continue to be susceptible to new variants,” Inslee said. “We will do our level best to share accurate medical information with Washingtonians. The more people who don’t fall prey to misinformation on the internet, the more lives will be saved.”

After the state broke its COVID-19 hospitalization record last week, Inslee said state leaders knew they had to act fast.

“This virus mutated, and there is a new game in town. Our hospitals are swamped. Our health care workers are exhausted. Our communities are stressed. And we have not seen a trend that shows it’s going to slow down without new action,” Inslee said. “We know the vaccines work. We know masks work. And, together, these tools will help us forge a new path in our state.”

Reykdal and Shah agreed.

“We know we can open our schools, and keep them open, and keep students and staff safe,” Reykdal said. “We had a successful opening of schools this spring and kept our COVID case loads down. But delta is different. It is more transmissible as we now know ... and our face coverings — which were already a requirement in all of our schools — and this new requirement to get folks in contact with students vaccinated is, in fact, our best way to keep schools open.”

Shah said the state is “in a serious situation right now” when it comes to COVID-19 and the highly transmissible delta variant. “We have had a serious rise in cases and hospitalizations, the vast majority due to the delta variant,

across the state.”

The increase in illnesses is stressing Washington’s health system, Shah said.

“We are seeing staff shortages. We are seeing (hospitals) discharge patients early and divert patients from care they need because they’re too full to accept new (patients).”

Delta is a game-changer,” Shah said, adding that the two million eligible Washingtonians who have not yet been vaccinated against the coronavirus are “helping drive up our surge” of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations across the state.

“So, here we are, wishing we did not have to act as we are today,” Shah said, referring to the new vaccine requirements, as well as a new state order that requires all residents

to wear face coverings in public indoor spaces. “Vaccination (rates) are increasing, but it will take weeks to see an impact. People are getting sick today from the delta variant, which means we have no choice but to act. Masks and vaccines together, we know, work better. We urge you to get vaccinated and to talk to your health care provider (about COVID-19 vaccines).”

Anti-mask sentiment persists

Despite statements from the Centers for Disease Control that masks are “an effective way to lessen the transmission of the coronavirus,” a small but vocal group of Camas-Washougal community members have shown up to recent school board meetings to voice opposition to mask mandates.

At the Camas School Board’s meeting on Monday, Aug. 23, a 20-year Camas resident and a Washougal health care provider spoke out against the district’s state-mandated mask policy for students.

“I believe putting masks on schoolchildren is unconscionable,” said Camas resident Liz Rondeau, who came to a July 26 Camas school board meeting with a “Take Masks Off” sign. “We have this fantasy that wearing a mask is making any difference at all.”

Washougal physician assistant Scott Miller also came to the Monday night Camas School Board meeting to speak against the mask mandate. Turning his back on the school board and lowering his mask, Miller said “we know

(masks) are useless.”

Some parents and students have thanked the school board for their COVID-19 precautions.

At the board’s first meeting in August, 14-year-old Camas student Elspeth Ediliah Feb wrote to board members to tell them she believed they were “all doing great” and to support the board’s COVID-19 prevention measures.

“I am a 14-year-old girl who has lived in Camas for 12 years now,” Feb wrote in a letter to the school board. “I used to be proud of my country, of my hometown; used to call this place my hometown. Now I’m just ... completely and utterly embarrassed. ... Please, don’t let up on masks. They are a vital part of our survival.”

Interim Superintendent Doug Hood said Monday the state’s superintendent of public instruction, Chris Reykdal, had made it “very clear that any board that decided to go in a different direction than the governor would lose funding.”

“It is not an option to go in a different direction when it comes to our mitigation strategies,” he said. “Face masks are a state, not a local, requirement.”

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Budget:

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has further declined those (birth) rates.”

The school district plans to return to a pre-pandemic learning schedule this fall, with five full days of in-person instruction each week and a fully remote, five-day-a-week Camas Connect Academy option for families who do not want to return to in-person classes.

The 2021-22 school district budget includes \$114.4 million in general fund expenditures, which includes funding for 483.7 full-time equivalent (FTE) certificated staff (teachers, principals, central office administrators) and 274.5 FTE classified staff.

McEathron said revenues are expected to be 4.3 percent higher in 2021-22 than in 2020-21, and include \$1.6 million in federal and state COVID-19 relief funds as well as the planned use of the \$6.5 million from the district’s fund

balance. Expenditures also are expected to be 11.4 percent higher in 2021-22 over 2020-21 levels, with 87 percent of the district’s

general fund expenses going toward personnel costs.

The district will end the 2021-22 school year with a 9.7 percent fund balance.

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Board approves school resource officer contract

Washougal school, city officials say police needed in schools for 'safe, drug-free, violence-free learning'

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

The Washougal Police Department is going back to school. The city of Washougal and Washougal School District have renewed their agreement to provide a school resource officer (SRO) in Washougal schools during the 2021-22 school year, with officer Kevin Wooldridge set to take on the role. "We've had (an SRO for) 15 or 16

years, and we appreciate having one within our system," the school district's assistant superintendent, Aaron Hansen, said during the Washougal School Board's Aug. 10 meeting. "We're looking forward to working with officer Wooldridge and appreciate the partnership we have with the Washougal Police Department and Chief (Wendi) Steinbronn."

Wooldridge was originally named to the SRO role for the 2020-21 school year, but the city and school

district temporarily eliminated the position after the COVID-19 pandemic forced school closures throughout Washington state. Wooldridge previously served as an SRO in Georgia and has completed basic and advanced training through the National Association of School Resource Officers. "He's excited to move into that role, and we think he'll be a fantastic fit for our district," Washougal Police Department Captain Zane Freschette told The Post-Record. "I

think he really embraces what both our police department and (school) district are going for — a guiding, helpful, mentoring role versus an enforcement capacity, which frankly mirrors what we're trying to do (throughout the) department."

The Washougal School District's updated school safety and security services program policy states: "(SROs) shall support a positive school climate by developing posi-

See Officer, page A2

KEEPING THEIR DISTANCE

For many Camas families, 'back to school' in 2021-22 will not include a school building

About 200 CSD students to remain fully remote, attend Camas Connect Academy

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record editor

While most Camas-Washougal families with K-12 students returned to five full days of in-person instruction this week, some have opted to remain remote. "It's safer," said Fernanda Titcomb. "And I work from home, so I can be there with them."

Titcomb, a Camas mother of two young children — 6-year-old Santiago, a first-grader and 9-year-old Anela, a fourth-grader — said she worried about her children's health in light of rapidly escalating COVID-19 rates and hospitalizations in Clark County this summer. "The hospitals are filling up, so where would we go if they get sick?" she said.

With no way to have her children vaccinated against COVID-19 since children younger than 12 are not yet eligible for the COVID vaccines, Titcomb had opted instead to enroll Anela and Santiago in the Camas School District's fully remote option — Camas Connect Academy.

On Tuesday, Aug. 24, dozens of families filed into the district's Zellerbach Administration Center to meet with Camas Connect Academy staff and collect their students' school supplies, including the Chromebook Connect Academy students will rely on throughout the 2021-22 school year.

Daniel Huld, the Connect Academy's new principal, said he's been talking to families who have



Fernanda Titcomb (center) attends a back-to-school event for the Camas Connect Academy with her children, Anela (left) and Santiago, on Aug. 24, 2021. Titcomb said safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic prompted her family to enroll in the district's remote school.



A sign welcomes families to a back-to-school event for the Camas School District's fully remote Camas Connect Academy on Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021.

either already enrolled in the remote school or are interested in learning more about the Connect Academy. Most, Huld said, are concerned about the pandemic's impact on their children and families. "We have two groups of people — one group

who really want an online school, who would be with us, COVID or not, and another group whose main concern is COVID," Huld said. "There are two fields of 'COVID families' — those who are concerned about the delta variant and those who don't want their kids

wearing a mask." Connect Academy staff are building a program that will meet the needs of all students, regardless of their family's reasoning behind enrolling in the remote school, Huld added. The remote school kicked off in 2020 to provide more stability for families who wanted their students to remain remote when their neighborhood schools moved to a hybrid of remote and in-person teaching. District leaders decided in early 2021 to keep the Connect Academy going, even after the pandemic ended. "The world changed during the pandemic and

See Connect, page A7



Washougal football coach Dave Hajek talks to his team after a jamboree at Fishback Stadium on Aug. 26, 2021. The Panthers will open their season against Prairie High on Friday, Sept. 3.

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?

Papermakers, Panthers kick off 2021-22 season on Friday, Sept. 3

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

Friday night lights are returning to East Clark County. The Camas and Washougal football teams will open their 2021 campaigns this week on Friday, Sept. 3, with the Papermakers traveling to play Central Catholic (Oregon) and the Panthers taking on Prairie at Fishback Stadium. Both games start at 7 p.m. Jack Hathaway will make his head coaching debut for Camas, which won the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association's most recent 4A state championship game in 2019. "I feel like we always have that target on our backs, and that comes with the success of the teams before," Hathaway said. "We talk about (having) to rise to or above the bar ... or else you're thought of differently. We want to continue to set that bar high. That's our mentality." Washougal, meanwhile, will try to main-

tain the momentum it built in 2019, when the football team advanced to the 2A state tournament quarterfinal round. "We have a pretty solid sophomore group that reminds me a lot of that 2019 group we had," Panthers coach Dave Hajek said. "As we get further into this season, and definitely next season and the season after, we're going to be a pretty good team."

New coach, same expectations for state champs

Hathaway will serve as the Papermakers' interim head coach this season, taking over for Jon Eagle, who led Camas to a 4-1 record in 2020 before resigning to take a coaching position at Portland State University. Hathaway, who served as Heritage High's head football coach from 2011-13 before joining Eagle's staff in 2014, said he isn't planning to make any wholesale changes to the program, which Eagle led

See Football, page A5

Washougal School Board OKs \$52 million budget

District projects increased student enrollment in 2021-22

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

The Washougal School District is projecting an enrollment of 2,992 students for the upcoming school year, 214 more than it had at the end of the 2020-21 school year. District financial manager Kris Grindy revealed the projection as part of a presentation of the district's 2021-22 budget, which was subsequently adopted by the Washougal School Board, during an Aug. 24 meeting.

"As we reopen this fall for five-days-per-week in-person (learning), we have a number of families who have re-enrolled, and we are hoping that trend continues so we can continue to serve students and their families," Les Brown, the district's director of communication and technology, told the Post-Record. The \$52 million budget includes investments in accelerated programming, modern curriculums, career and technical education, fine arts, the district's one-to-one technology initiative, staff development, facility maintenance, enhanced summer learning opportunities, outreach to Span-

See Budget, page A2

Port OKs contract for new building
News, Page A5



Poppy & Hawk retail shop opens in Camas
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Art takes center stage in Camas this weekend

Artists will paint 'en plein air,' followed by art-themed First Friday event on Sept. 3

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record editor

Anyone who loves to catch a behind-the-scenes glimpse of artists in action will want to attend this week's Plein Air & Art Event in downtown Camas. Artists will set up their easels and paint "en plein air" (outdoors) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 3, throughout the city's historic downtown area. The artists will show their finished paintings from 4 to 8 p.m. in front of the Camas Gallery, at 408 N.E. Fourth Ave. on Friday evening, during the Downtown Camas Association's art-themed First Friday event and visitors can vote for their favorite plein air painting.



Artist Liz Pike paints outside the Camas Hotel during the 2018 Plein Air event in Camas.

The September First Friday celebration is set for 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 3, also throughout downtown Camas. The art-themed event will include a "Name that famous artist" guessing game with prizes; a downtown mural tour game; an art show and reception for artist Jean Schwalbe at Attic Gallery, 421 N.E. Cedar St.; art demonstrations at

See Art, page A3



Artwork by Washington artist Lindsey Fox of Le Fox Studio is sold at Poppy & Hawk, a new retail shop in downtown Camas.

Boutique:

From page A6

things (from big corporations), but the quality just isn't there."

At Poppy & Hawk, customers will find unique items made in the U.S.

"These are things that are heirloom quality," Cano says. "That's important to me. My father has given his leather wallets to my sons, and someday they may pass them down."

Cano hopes her customers will be interested in the stories of the artists who have crafted the ceramics, paintings, leather goods, bath and body products and jewelry she carries at Poppy & Hawk.

On the front counter, a box holds one-of-a-kind rings by Lilly Barrack out of Albuquerque, New Mexico, made from sterling silver and rare Cerrillos turquoise that is mined in New Mexico.

Nearby sits a collection of colorful bowls by Oregon artist Nancy Froehlich. The bowls — with their raw, white porcelain outsides and glossy interiors glazed in greens, blues, peaches, greys and yellows — look so uniform, many customers ask if they're made by a machine. "But they're not," Cano says. "Each one is hand-thrown."

Cano has curated ev-

ery aspect of Poppy & Hawk and customers on the hunt for unique gifts will not be disappointed. Look for artwork by Washington artist Lindsey Fox of Le Fox Studio, who says she "uses pattern to create paintings that balance between abstract and landscape to capture the awe and grandeur of the outdoors;" earrings made of hand-cut juniper, hand-forged sterling silver and light-reflecting resin by Branch and Barrel, a Bend, Oregon-based studio that plants a tree for every pair of earrings sold; Seek & Swoon blankets made from recycled yarn at a Portland-area, family-owned knitting mill; and ceramic snakes handmade by the Portland-based Carter & Rose studio.

"It's an eclectic mix," Cano says of her shop's offerings. "And these are all things I would buy for myself or as gifts."

Poppy & Hawk — Poppy for the nickname Cano's mother gave her and Hawk for the fact that Cano saw hawks after her mother and favorite aunt died, and came to think of the stunning birds as a symbol of comfort, strength and peace — is located at 223 N.E. Fourth Ave., Camas, and open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

For more information, visit poppyandhawk.com or call 360-210-4463.

Connect:

From page A1

many families realized that online learning fits their lifestyle or worked really well for their students," the district states on the Connect Academy website. "Camas Connect Academy will be around for a long time to ... serve digital learners."

The Connect Academy had a high level of student engagement during the 2020-21 school year, with nearly 89 percent of students regularly attending their online classes and just 15 percent of students reporting more than two absences per month.

Huld, a Camas native and graduate of Camas High School, moved back to his hometown in 2011, with his wife, Karah Huld, a preschool music and dance teacher at Camas Christian Academy, and the couple's now 11-year-old twin daughters, Adalie and Ava. Having served as an administrator of virtual charter schools in Oregon for 13 years and as the president of the Oregon Digital Leaders Coalition, Huld lent his expertise to the Camas School District in 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic caused school districts throughout Washington state to pivot from in-person to remote learning. When former Camas schools superintendent Jeff Snell reached out to Huld in January 2021 to ask if he'd be interested in heading the new Camas Connect Academy, the Camas father and digital learning enthusiast jumped at the opportunity.

"It was my dream come true," Huld said. "I loved my staff in southern Oregon, but Camas is my home, and I'm excited to be more local and get to be a part of this community."

Huld said his hope for



Camas Connect Academy Principal Daniel Huld (center) speaks to a family during "back-to-school night" on Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021.

the new Camas Connect Academy is that it will help serve the Camas families who have longed for an alternative to in-person schooling that was not a complete departure from the school district.

"Even though this is a new program, I'm trying to bring in the right people, with the right experience, and build something that's lasting for families in this area who have wanted an online school but haven't had that option," Huld said.

Connect Academy students will still have access to a variety of extra-curricular and athletic programs at their neighborhood schools, and elementary students can even attend in-person music classes at Lacamas Lake Elementary School.

Connect Academy students in middle and high school grades will have a more flexible schedule than elementary students, who are expected to be on Zoom with their teachers and classmates every school day from 8 to 11:30 a.m. before elementary teachers break into one-on-one and small group sessions for elementary students who need extra support during the afternoon hours. At the middle and high school levels, students are more indepen-

dent — checking in with their teachers for advisory visits but with the ability to plan their school schedules around the times of day that work best for them and their family.

"The 6-12 environment is a little more flexible, and more focused on advisory visits with teachers," Huld said.

The Connect Academy's more accommodating schedule was what drew 14-year-old Sophia Johnson to the new school. A ninth-grader who was homeschooled prior to signing up for the Connect Academy, Johnson said she has been taking figure-skating lessons since she was 7 years old, and liked the fact that the new remote school will not make her choose between schoolwork and her athletic pursuits.

"I like the flexibility," Johnson said.

Bre-Ann Richardson, the Connect Academy's counselor, came to the remote school after working at Camas High School for the past five years. She said the new remote academy is ideal for students like Johnson, who "enjoy being able to work at their own pace and ... build a schedule that works for them."

And though many Camas families said during

the 2020-21 school year that their students needed to be back inside school buildings and around their peers for the sake of their social-emotional health, Richardson said she has found that many Connect Academy students have a rich social life outside of school.

"A lot of our families and students are still connected to their community through extracurriculars and athletics, or church," Richardson said. "And we will have some opportunities for students to log on and be together and interact."

Camas Connect Academy students also can choose to participate in in-person activities such as robotics clubs, in-person band and music classes and play high school sports through Camas High.

"As our school grows, we will have more of those types of opportunities," Richardson said.

Heading into the Connect Academy's first year as a dedicated school, Richardson and Huld said they're excited by the possibilities the remote academy provides for students, families and educators.

"I'm excited because we get to be really innovative in the ways we meet the needs of our students and families," Richardson said.

The enrollment deadline for Camas School District students already enrolled in their neighborhood school but hoping to enroll in the Camas Connect Academy for the current, 2021-22 school year, is Friday, Sept. 3. For students not currently registered with the Camas School District or for those who are homeschooled, the deadline for enrolling in the Connect Academy is Oct. 15.

For more information about the virtual school, visit camas.wednet.edu/schools/cc.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In the Superior Court of the State of Washington for the County of Clark

No. 20-2-01144-06
Brent Carter, Plaintiff,
vs.
Lester Riley, an individual, Morningview Inc, a South Dakota corporation, and Riley & Associates, LLC, a Washington limited liability company, Defendants.
The State of Washington to the said Defendants, Lester Riley, Morningview Inc., and Riley & Associates, LLC:

You are hereby summoned to appear within sixty days after the date of the first publication of this summons, to wit, within sixty days after the 19th day of August, 2021, and defend the above entitled action in the above entitled court, and answer the complaint of the plaintiff, Brent Carter, and serve a copy of your answer upon the undersigned attorney for plaintiff, Thomas Foley, at his office below stated; and in case of your failure so to do, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the complaint, which has been filed with the clerk of said court. The object of the complaint is to recover damages from the breach of contract and/or unjust enrichment of the defendants.

Thomas Foley,
Plaintiff's Attorney.
1111 Broadway Street, PO Box 609, Vancouver, Washington, 98666.
County of Clark, Washington.
No. 587540 - Aug. 19, 26 Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK

NO. 21-5-00076-06
SUMMONS AND NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF PETITION/HEARING RE TERMINATION OF PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP

In the Matter of the Adoption: Of:1 Ava Nicole Fromherz
2. Emma Grace Fromherz
3. Thomas James Fromherz,
A person under the age of eighteen
TO: Patrick James Fromherz, non-consenting father/alleged father
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear within (30) days after the date of first publication of this summons, to-wit, within thirty (30) days after the 19th day of August, 2021, and defend the above-entitled action in the termination of parent-child relationship, and serve a copy of your answer upon the PETITIONER at the address below stated; if you fail to do so, judgement may be rendered against you according to the request of the Petition for Adoption and the Petition for Termination of Parent-Child Relationship which was been filed with the Clerk of the said court.
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a petition has been filed with the clerk of the above court requesting that the parent-child relationship between you and the above-named child be terminated. The object of the action is to seek and order terminating the parent-child relationship between you and the child and a Decree of Adoption declaring the petitioner(s) to be the legal parent(s) of the child.
BORN CHILD. The child was

born on 1. (Ava) October 20, 2010 2. (Emma) December 16, 2011 3. (Thomas) October 10, 2016 in the City of 1. Portland 2. Portland 3. Vancouver, State of 1. Oregon 2. Oregon 3. Washington. The name of the child's mother was Melissa Nicole Fromherz at the time the child was born, The name of the child's mother is now Melissa Nicole Crumbaker. You have been named as the father or a possible father of the child.

The court hearing on the Petition for Termination of Parent-Child Relationship shall be on the 1st day of October, 2021, at 1:30 pm in the Family Law Annex, 601 West Evergreen Boulevard, Vancouver, WA 98660
YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING MAY RESULT IN A DEFAULT ORDER PERMANENTLY TERMINATING ALL OF YOUR RIGHTS TO THE ABOVE-NAMED CHILD.

You may respond to this summons and notice by filing a written response with the Clerk of the Court and serving a copy of your response on the PETITIONER whose name and address appear at the end of this summons and notice. If you do not serve your written response within thirty (30) days after the date of first publication of this summons and notice, the court may enter and Order of Default against you permanently terminating all of your rights to the above-named child. The court may, without further notice to you, enter an order terminating your parent-child relationship and approving or providing for the adoption of the above-named child.

You are further notified that you have the right to be represented by an attorney, and if you are indigent and request an attorney, an attorney will be appointed for you.

You are further notified that your failure to respond to this termination action within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication of this summons and notice will result in the termination of you parent-child relationship with respect to the child.

You are further notified that you have a right to file a claim of paternity under Chapter 26.26 of the Revised Code of Washington. You are further notified that your failure to file a claim of paternity under Chapter 26.26 of the Revised Code of Washington or to respond to the petition for termination of parent-child relationship which has been filed herein, within (30) days of the first publication of this summons and notice is grounds to termination your parent-child relationship with respect to the child.
YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT IF THE CHILD IS EITHER:
(A) A MEMBER OF AN INDIAN TRIBE OR
(B) ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN AN INDIAN TRIBE AND THE BIOLOGICAL CHILD OF A MEMBER OF AN INDIAN TRIBE AND IF YOU ACKNOWLEDGE PATERNITY OF THE CHILD OR IF YOUR PATERNITY OF THE CHILD IS ESTABLISHED PRIOR TO THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY NOT BE TERMINATED, UNLESS:

(A) YOU GIVE VALID CONSENT TO TERMINATION OR
(B) YOUR PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP IS TERMINATED INVOLUNTARILY PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 26.33 OR CHAPTER 13.34 OF THE REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON.
NOTE: "INDIAN TRIBE" IS DEFINED IN 25 U.S.C 1903. IT REFERS TO AMERICAN INDIANS OR ALASKA NATIVES.
One method of filing your response and serving a copy on the petitioner is to send them by certified mail with return receipt request.
Dated this 10th day of August, 2021.
/s/Scott G. Weber
Scott Weber
Clark County Superior Court Clerk
FILE RESPONSE WITH:
Clerk of the Court
Clark County Superior Court
1200 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA 98660
SERVE A COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE ON:
Petitioner/Attorney for Petitioner:
Jeffery Michael Crumbaker
1813 SE 186th Place
Vancouver, WA 98683
No. 587580 - Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2

LEGAL NOTICE

Beginning at 8:00 a.m., on Monday, September 13th, 2021, the City of Camas Public Works Department will be reducing the level of Lacamas Lake approximately six-feet (6') to about the 5' level to facilitate dam inspections and repairs. The minimum lake level will be achieved approximately on Friday, September 27, 2021. Refilling the lake is scheduled to begin on October 25, 2021, and will take several weeks depending on rainfall volumes.
No. 588980 - Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR WASHOUGAL RIVER OAKS COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT

(File no. SUB20-01)
Zone Change (ZC20-01); Design Review (DR20-07); Critical Areas Review (CA20-07); State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA20-13); Archaeological Review (ARCH20-07);
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an application for the "Washougal River Oaks Cottage development" a 22-lot single-family residential subdivision with cottage homes requesting preliminary plat approval was received on November 16, 2020 and deemed technically complete on August 23, 2021. The application also includes a zone change request from a multi-family (MF-18) zone to a multi-family cottage (MF-C) overlay zone. A public hearing is required for the development proposal and will be scheduled at a later date. A separate public hearing notice will be mailed to all property owners within 300-feet of the subject development and published in the Post Record.
Location: The 3.16-acre site is zoned multi-family residential (MF-18) in the City of Camas. The site is located at 2515, 2523, 2527 & 2531 NE 3rd Avenue in the NE ¼ of Section 12 Township 1 North, Range 3 East, Camas, WA, Parcel Numbers: 89884000, 89883000,

89881000 and 89875000.
Application Materials: The application included the following: project narratives, SEPA checklist, preliminary plat plans, tree report, traffic study, archaeological predetermination, preliminary stormwater report, traffic study and critical area reports including mitigation plans. Application materials are available for review from the Community Development Department during regular business hours Monday Friday 8am-5pm.
Questions/Comments: For questions related to this application, please contact Lauren Hollenbeck, Senior Planner, at (360) 817-7253 or by email at communitydevelopment@cityofcamas.us.
*consistent with RCW 42.56.300, Archaeological information is exempt from public disclosure .
No. 591700 - September 2

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Amendment to Development Agreement

with Green Mountain Land, LLC
Regarding Sewer Improvements
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, September 20, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Camas City Hall, 616 NE 4th Avenue and via an online ZOOM meeting, details below.

The purpose of this public hearing is to review and consider the proposed Amendment to the Development Agreement entered by and between the City of Camas and Green Mountain Land, LLC, on February 5, 2016 pertaining to sewer system improvements required to serve the Green Mountain Planned Residential Development. Location: The subject properties are generally located on the east side of NE Ingles Road, north of NE Goodwin Road/NE 28th Ave, and south of Green Mountain.
Public Comment: Any interested party may be heard at the hearing. In addition, the City Clerk will receive written testimony at any time between this publication and the completion of the hearing.
Participate in this Council Meeting and Public Hearing with the online ZOOM application and/or by phone. Note: The Zoom app may require an update prior to joining to ensure compatibility and security.
OPTION 1 - Join the virtual meeting from any device: 1. First-time ZOOM users, go to <https://zoom.us>.
· To download the free ZOOM Cloud Meetings app for your device
· Or, click the Join Meeting link in the top right corner and paste 957 8352 2703 2. From any device click the meeting link - <https://zoom.us/j/9578352703>
3. Enter your email and name, then join webinar
4. Wait for host to start the meeting
OPTION 2 - Join the virtual meeting from your phone (audio only):
1. Dial 877-853-5257
2. When prompted, enter meeting ID 957 8352 2703 #, and then #
To Make Public Comment:
1. In the meeting, click the "raise hand" icon to be called upon to comment for up to 3 minutes
· By phone, press *9 to "raise hand" and to be called upon to comment for up to 3 minutes
2. Email public comments to

publiccomments@cityofcamas.us (limit 300 words), which are entered into the meeting record. All emails received by 1-hour before the start of the meeting are emailed to the Council prior to the meeting. In the meeting, each email will be announced as received and will include submitter's name, the subject, and the date/time it was received. Comments for this meeting will be accepted up to 1-hour after the meeting and forwarded to the Council no later than the end of the next business day.
To simply observe the hearing, go to the City's Public Meetings page www.cityofcamas.us/meetings and click the "Watch Livestream" on the left of the page.

More Information: The City Council's meeting agendas and supporting materials will be available on the city's website generally within a few days prior to the meeting at <http://www.cityofcamas.us/index.php/yourgovernment/minuteagendavideo>. Further information may be obtained at City Hall, 616 Northeast Fourth Avenue.
Questions related to this notice may be directed to Steven R. Wall, Public Works Director, at (360) 817-1561 or email to: swall@cityofcamas.us.

Title VI Notice to the Public. The City of Camas hereby gives public notice that it is the Agency's policy to assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities.
Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Information. This material can be made available in an alternate format by contacting the City of Camas City Clerk at (360) 817-1591 with 24 hours advance notice. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711.
CITY OF CAMAS
Jennifer Gorsuch
City Clerk
No. 591560 - September 2

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Amendment to Development Agreement

Green Mountain Planned Residential Development (PRD)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, September 20, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Camas City Hall, 616 NE 4th Avenue and via an online ZOOM meeting, details below.

The purpose of this public hearing is to review and consider proposed Amendments to the Development Agreement entered into by and between the City of Camas and Green Mountain Land, LLC, on January 6, 2015.
Location: The subject properties are generally located on the east side of NE Ingles Road, north of NE Goodwin Road/NE 28th Ave, and south of Green Mountain.
Public Comment: Any interested party may be heard at the hearing. In addition, the City Clerk will receive written testimony at any time between this publication and the completion of the hearing.
Participate in this Council Meeting and Public Hearing with the online ZOOM application and/or by

phone. Note: The Zoom app may require an update prior to joining to ensure compatibility and security.

OPTION 1 - Join the virtual meeting from any device:
1. First-time ZOOM users, go to <https://zoom.us>

· To download the free ZOOM Cloud Meetings app for your device
· Or, click the Join Meeting link in the top right corner and paste 957 8352 2703

2. From any device click the meeting link - <https://zoom.us/j/9578352703>

3. Enter your email and name, then join webinar
4. Wait for host to start the meeting

OPTION 2 - Join the virtual meeting from your phone (audio only):

1. Dial 877-853-5257
2. When prompted, enter meeting ID 957 8352 2703 #, and then #

To Make Public Comment:

1. In the meeting, click the "raise hand" icon to be called upon to comment for up to 3 minutes

· By phone, press *9 to "raise hand" and to be called upon to comment for up to 3 minutes

2. Email public comments to publiccomments@cityofcamas.us (limit 300 words), which are entered into the meeting record. All emails received by 1-hour before the start of the meeting are emailed to the Council prior to the meeting. In the meeting, each email will be announced as received and will include submitter's name, the subject, and the date/time it was received. Comments for this meeting will be accepted up to 1-hour after the meeting and forwarded to the Council no later than the end of the next business day.
To simply observe the meeting, go to the City's Public Meetings page - www.cityofcamas.us/meetings and click the "Watch Livestream" on the left of the page.

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CITY OF CAMAS
Jennifer Gorsuch
City Clerk
No. 591570 - September 2

Report spells out costs of CWFD needs

At least \$33M to replace, build fire stations over the next decade

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record staff writer

According to a consultant's report delivered to Camas and Washougal city council members this month, in order to meet the needs of current and future Camas and Wash-

ougal residents, the cities' joint fire department will need to replace two fire stations and build a third within the next 10 years. "We projected out to 50 years from now to meet the needs of Camas and Washougal," Cathy Bowman, the project manager for Mackenzie, the consultant group hired by Camas in early 2021 to conduct a capital facilities plan for the Camas-Washougal Fire Department (CWFD) told Camas City Council members on Oct. 4. The report lines up with

another consultant evaluation in 2019, which examined the fire department's response times and said CWFD would likely need to relocate the downtown Camas Station 41 as well as the Washougal-based Station 43 and build a new station to respond to fires and emergency medical calls within the 4-minute (for initial response) and 8-minute (for a full response) standards set by the National Fire Protection Association and the Center for Public Safety Excellence.

The 2021 Mackenzie report presented to Camas and Washougal city councils this month recommends:

- Replacing the downtown Camas-based CWFD headquarters — which consultants warned does not currently meet the guidelines for "an essential facility" and would not withstand a major earthquake — in the next two to three years;
- Replacing the Washougal fire station in the next five to seven years; and
- Building a third fire

station in Camas within the next 10 years. Excluding any necessary land purchases, the consultants projected the total cost of replacing the two existing CWFD fire stations and building a third station would be between \$33 million and \$36.5 million. After accounting for the cities' fire impact fees, local officials would still face a funding gap of between \$27.5 million and \$30.8 million, the consultants' report showed. City leaders will likely consider a mix of tools to

help fund the necessary fire department facility needs, including increasing fire impact fees; asking voters to approve construction bonds, a public-safety sales tax and/or an excess levy; and selling surplus land. The consultants told Camas City Council members on Oct. 4, that fire impact fees in Camas-Washougal are lower compared to other comparable jurisdictions. The fire impact fees on a single

See CWFD, page A5

WANTED: Good communicator to lead schools, engage community

Search for new Camas schools chief goes nationwide, community weighs in

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record staff writer

A good listener. An effective communicator dedicated to being transparent. A person who will engage the community, exemplify kindness and unity, work well with staff and lead a school district that helps students develop strong critical-thinking skills. These are just a few of the top qualities Camasonians say they hope to see in the next Camas School District superintendent. "Someone who is) strategic, engaging and courageous," Camas Mayor Ellen Burton said when asked what skills the next Camas schools chief should bring to the table during an Oct. 7 Camas School District forum that included current and former Camas mayors — Burton and Nan Henriksen — as well as David Ripp, executive director of the Port of Camas-Washougal; Tim Hein, president of the Camas Planning Commission; and other notable Camas stakeholders. Forum moderator Steven Lowder, a retired superintendent who works with McPherson and Jacobson, the Nebraska-based administrator search firm leading the hunt for Camas' next superintendent, had asked Burton and the other stakeholders to name the skills they hoped the next Camas superintendent would embody. "(They) have got to be out



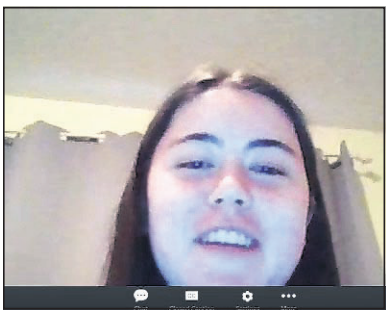
Camas School Board members Corey McEnry (left) and Connie Hennessey (second from left) listen as community members share the qualities they hope the next Camas schools superintendent will bring to the district during a community "listening post," held at Lacamas Lake Elementary School on Sept. 25, 2021.

in the community right now ... ensuring (their) behavior is consistent with (their) words, because that's what people watch," Burton said, adding she also hoped the new superintendent would help bring people who might be "quieter, more marginalized" into the conversations that help guide the school district, which Burton pointed out is becoming increasingly diverse. Henriksen, the former Camas mayor often associated with shifting Camas out of its "one-mill town" mindset, bringing in high-tech companies and helping the town evolve into one of Clark County's most successful and affluent communities, said she admired former Camas School District Superintendent Jeff Snell — who left

Camas in July 2021 to lead the nearby Vancouver Public Schools district. "I was always impressed with Jeff Snell's empathy for every student, no matter where they were," Henriksen said. "(Snell) wasn't just out there in the community, he was in the schools, talking to kids and listening to kids ... and that was a huge gift." Henriksen said she hoped the district's new superintendent also might demonstrate these "palpable" empathy and active-listening skills. Burton, Ripp and the other stakeholders said building partnerships would be a critical part of any new superintendent's responsibilities. "The school district has always cultivated strong partnerships ... with parents,

businesses, organizations. It is core to the district's success," Burton said. "Now, in the public sector, with costs increasing, it is even more important to take advantage of the resources that are here ... and in the best interest of community members to build strong partnerships." Community members have had several chances to weigh in on the school district's months-long search for a new superintendent. The district held two, in-person "listening posts" in late September and launched an online "ThoughtExchange" in early October. Though only a handful of community members turned out for the second in-person

See Search, page A2



Washougal High School senior Lana White speaks via Zoom during the Washougal School Board's Sept. 28, 2021 meeting. White is one of four students selected to represent students at school board meetings during the 2021-22 school year.

Student reps get seat at table

WHS principal: 'These 4 students will ensure all voices are heard'

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

Washougal High School students have a voice at Washougal School Board meetings once again. Seniors Lana White and Robert Stevens and juniors Kaitanna Burk and Daisha Paz-Mendoza are representing the school's student body at meetings during the 2021-22 school year. The school didn't select representatives during the 2020-21 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "These four students will serve with honesty and integrity, ensure that all voices are heard, and truly represent our pillars of pride — perseverance, respect, integrity, diversity and empathy," Washougal High principal Sheree Clark said during the board's Sept. 28 meeting. "These students are not future leaders. They are current leaders — they lead now in AVID, fine arts, athletics, classroom (activities) and all that they do, and this opportunity will only continue to grow their leadership skills." The students were nominated for the positions by Washougal High staff members who "see their unique abilities, their drive for excellence and (desire) to be a part of a school system where they are challenged and cared for," according to Clark. "I want to be a student representative so that I can provide the school board with (information) and gain some perspective from the school board," White said via Zoom during the meeting. "I think that's really important." Clark has also formed a "student guiding coalition," whose members will meet regularly with

See Students, page A8

'Pretty in Pink' in Washougal

Student and her mother lift spirits with homecoming dress giveaway

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

When Taylor Poulsen sees people at Washougal High School's upcoming homecoming dance wearing dresses that they otherwise wouldn't have had access to if it wasn't for her efforts, an already special evening will become all the more memorable. Poulsen, a Washougal High senior, and her mother Tara are collecting previously worn formal gowns to give to students

for the school's homecoming dance, which will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16. "It's really fun to do something like this because (the dresses) are going to people I go to school with, people I know," Taylor said during the "Giving Gown Gala" event, held Oct. 8 at the high school's upper gymnasium. "That's what's really exciting. I've been thinking about seeing people (at the dance and saying to them), 'Oh my gosh, I helped pick out that dress. I'm so excited that you're wearing it.' It's

really cool." Tara came up with the idea several weeks ago, motivated by the prospect of doing something to help lift the spirits of local teenagers, many of whom have been struggling during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. "I think (this project) is such a unifier, and we need unifiers right now," Tara said. "We need some common ground in our community, and I think lifting up our kids is the perfect

See Dresses, page A9



Students look through dresses during the "Giving Gown Gala" event at Washougal High School on Oct. 8, 2021.

Q&A with Washougal Panthers' softball infielder Natalie Collins
Sports, Page A6



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Death Notices.....	A2	Classifieds.....	A9
Opinion	A4	Public Notices.....	A10



OBITUARIES



ZAIN MATTHEW JUSTIS
September 5, 2003 ~ September 29, 2021

It is with unimaginable sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved son Zain Matthew Justis. Zain passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family and embraced with love Sept. 29, 2021, at the age of 18. Zain was born Sept. 5, 2003, to parents Matthew Justis and Linnea (Ackerman) Justis of Washougal, WA. Zain battled non-Hodgkins lymphoma with fierce determination not to allow his disease to define him. He faced the uncertainties of his battle with a level of courage and maturity that amazed us daily and will inspire us perpetually. He was a warrior in the truest sense. Zain loved fishing, playing basketball, going on drives to nowhere in particular and all of his pets, but mostly his two cats. He was a picky eater but loved blue cheese. He was a cautious daredevil. He loved his job at Chuck's Produce, albeit only for a short time, and would regularly drop by to check in between treatments. Zain was a loyal friend. He stayed close with a core group of friends, many of whom he'd known since birth. In his final days, his greatest joy came from marrying his longtime girlfriend Amy. That day was proof that perfect doesn't need planning. Beauty in simplicity and simply beautiful. Zain proved that the only things necessary to live a life fulfilled was to fill your life with friends, family and love. Zain is survived by his wife, Amy (Benson) Justis; parents, Matthew and Linnea (Ackerman) Justis; his brother, Barrett; his paternal grandparents, Bryant and Susan Justis of Tucson, AZ; his paternal aunt and uncle, Amy and Charles Weier; and cousins, Elliot and Caroline of Minneapolis, MN; his maternal grandparents, Kenneth Ackerman, Connie Collins and Tom Simmons; and his maternal uncle, Heath Benard of Hammond, LA. Anyone who knew Zain or was impacted by his story are welcome to attend a celebration of his life to be held on Saturday, Oct. 23, at the Washougal High School Gymnasium at 12:00. A graveside service at the Washougal Cemetery and reception at Klopman Farms (40910 SE 30th St. Washougal) immediately following. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to Make a Wish-Oregon Chapter (www.wish.org). Please contact Straub's Funeral Home in Camas, WA, for more detailed service information.

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Search:

From page A1

listening post, held Saturday, Sept. 25, at Lacamas Lake Elementary School, nearly 400 have participated in the online ThoughtExchange, which asks community members to weigh in on the school district's "most important strengths and challenges." As of Oct. 11, 385 people had participated in the confidential ThoughtExchange, which closes Friday, Oct. 15.

The ThoughtExchange also asked participants to rank each other's statements about the skills important to the district's next superintendent. The comments with the highest ratings included:

- "Being a good listener and engaged with the community;"
- "Keeping technology, science, math, coding, robotics (and) different sports programs like running club up to date;"
- "Focus on providing excellent education to all Camas students;"
- "The ability to communicate clearly and on issues, especially when it comes to difficult topics;"
- "The importance of developing smart and critical thinkers to be successful citizens of the world;"
- "Works well with staff,

understands what is happening in classrooms;" and

- "Teach and exemplify kindness and unity."

Most of the comments that have received low ratings on the ThoughtExchange were those trying to bring politically charged topics like "critical race theory" or championing anti-mask and anti-vaccine stances. Among the lowest-rated comments:

- "Masking is a form of abuse. Our kids should not be wearing them;"
- "Remove all COVID protocols;"
- "Leave Critical Race Theories out of the schools;"
- "Returning our schools to SCHOOLS again. They are not HOSPITALS. They are not PRISONS;"
- "Not a communist. We have too many as it is."

Lowder, who is leading McPherson and Jacobson's hunt for a new Camas schools superintendent, has been regularly updating the Camas School Board during the Board's workshops and meetings. On Monday, Oct. 11, Lowder said the search is "going really well" and said the district's nationwide job posting, which went out on Oct. 1, has already garnered five inquiries and seven applicants.

"It's very early," Lowder added. "We normally get some of our highest quality applicants in the last few days before a (job posting)



KELLY MOYER/POST-RECORD

Community members speak during a Camas School District "listening post" event designed to gather information that will guide the district's superintendent search at Lacamas Lake Elementary School on Sept. 25, 2021.

closes. I'm not sure why, maybe because people are very busy and want to get all their ducks in a row before it closes."

The job posting, which is advertising for a superintendent who is "a mature leader with strong interpersonal and communications skills ... who has proven success at navigating an organization through difficult or polarizing times ... (and) values accessibility and transparency in all things ... who will be highly visible and engaged in the community and schools," with a salary range between \$210,000 and \$235,000 a year, closes on Nov. 3.

The Camas School Board will select finalists to interview by Nov. 22, and will interview top candidates the last week of

November and first week of December. The Board plans to select a new superintendent in mid-December, and has said community members will have a chance to learn more about the top candidates before the Board's final selection.

In April, the Camas School Board appointed the district's director of elementary education, Doug Hood, to be the district's interim superintendent for the 2021-22 school year. The new superintendent will start their new position with the Camas School District on July 1, 2022.

To learn more about the district's search for a superintendent, or to participate in the ThoughtExchange, visit camas.wednet.edu.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Port of Camas-Washougal: The Port Commission will hold a remote meeting at noon on Monday, Oct. 18. Attend by calling 253-215-8782. The meeting ID is 97751978968. The passcode is 091071. For more information, visit portcw.com.

Camas City Council: The Council will hold a remote workshop at 4:30 p.m. and a remote regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 18. Both meetings will be held on Zoom. For more information, visit cityofcamas.us/yourgovernment/

minuteagendaideo

Camas Planning Commission: The Commission will hold a remote meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19. For more information, visit cityofcamas.us.

East County Fire and Rescue Board of Commissioners: The Board will meet remotely at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19. Members of the public may attend this meeting by calling in to 253-215-8782. The passcode is 811718. For more information, visit ecfr.us.

DEATH NOTICES

Carroll, Willard M., 94, Vancouver, died Oct. 9, 2021. Straub's Funeral Home & Columbia River Cremation, 360-834-4563.

DeLong, Muriel "Peggy," 89, Washougal, died Oct. 8, 2021. Straub's Funeral Home & Columbia River Cremation, 360-834-4563.

Stroup, Clarice York, 92, Vancouver, died Oct. 8, 2021. Brown's Funeral Home, 360-834-3692.



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State suspends Washougal PA’s license

Scott Miller, of Miller Family Pediatrics, accused of prescribing unfounded COVID-19 ‘cures’ in wake of patient deaths

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record staff writer

The Washington Medical Commission (WMC) has suspended the license of a Washougal physician assistant accused of promoting unfounded COVID-19 “cures” and interfering with hospitalized COVID-19 patients.

The WMC said today it has suspended the license

of Scott C. Miller, head of the Miller Family Pediatrics clinic in Washougal “pending further administrative proceedings.”

Miller is accused of promoting the ivermectin as a cure for COVID-19 and has prescribed the drug, typically used a dewormer, “without adequate examination to at least one person, with no reliable clinical studies that establish its efficacy in preventing

or treating COVID-19,” according to the WMC.

The Commission also alleges that Miller, who has been a vocal opponent of COVID-19 mandates, and often appears in-person at Camas School Board meetings to rail against mask requirements and remote education, interfered with the care of hospitalized COVID-19 patients, “engaging in a hostile and threatening public campaign against both hospitals and individual physicians regarding COVID-19 treatment.”

Complaint: At least two people being treated by Miller have died of COVID-19

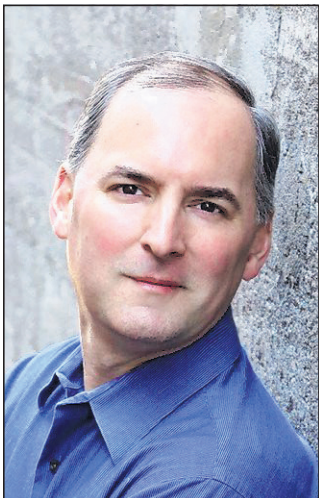
The WMC has accused Miller of treating at least four COVID-19 patients with medication not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Those patients included a 39-year-old man who spoke to Miller over the phone for about 20 minutes in May 2021, and told Miller he was experiencing congestion, cough, headache and fatigue and had tested positive for COVID-19. Miller

See Miller, page A2

== VOTE 2021 ==

4 vie for Camas School Board



Four people are competing for election to the Camas School Board in the Nov. 2 General and Special Election. From left to right are: Incumbent Corey McEnry (Position 1) and his challenger, Ernie Geigenmiller, and incumbent Erika Cox (Position 2) and her challenger, Jeremiah Stephen.

Candidates discuss the Camas School District’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ongoing superintendent search, funding challenges and recent outcry over ‘critical race theory’

By KELLY MOYER
Post-Record staff writer

There are four people vying for two seats on the Camas School Board in the Nov. 2 General and Special Election.

Incumbents Erika Cox and Corey McEnry each face one challenger: Jeremiah Chevrolet Stephen, a Vancouver insurance agent, is competing for Cox’s District 2 seat, while Ernie Geigenmiller, the owner of Lacamas Magazine, is competing against McEnry for the board’s District 1 seat.

The Post-Record reached out to all four candidates to learn more about why they want to be a part of the school board and heard back from both incumbents and Geigenmiller in time for this newspaper’s print deadlines. Stephen’s responses will be included in an online version of this article at camaspostrecord.com on Thursday, Oct. 21.

Position No. 1: Corey McEnry

Like Cox, incumbent Camas School Board member Corey McEnry said he is devoted to improving and strengthening the public education system.

“I believe in public education,” McEnry, Camas native who has been a music teacher in the Hockinson School District since 2008, and served on the Camas School Board since 2018, told

The Post-Record this week. “I have devoted my life and career to public education. Public education is the great equalizer in our society, and I volunteer as a member of the Camas School Board to make sure that each student has the resources, tools and experiences they need to be successful throughout their time in our schools so that they may grow up to be thoughtful, creative, and contributing members of our community.”

McEnry said he also believes experience matters.

“As a National Board-certified high school teacher of over 13 years here in Clark County, I have used my experiences in the classroom to guide my decisions as a board member,” McEnry said. “These experiences give me a unique perspective on the board. I understand how the decisions made by a board can have a profound impact, directly and indirectly, on the students and teachers in our classrooms because I have experienced the intended and unintended consequences of those decisions myself. Every decision I have made as a board member has been weighed and examined through the eyes of a teacher wanting what is best for kids.”

The school board director also sees public education in Camas through the eyes of a parent these days. McEnry and his wife, Kristin — also a teacher — have one daughter, Molly, a fourth-grader at Helen Baller Elementary School. In 2030,

Molly will be the fourth generation in McEnry’s family to graduate from Camas schools.

“I’m proud to have grown up and lived in Camas, and I’m optimistic about raising my daughter in the same hometown that allowed my grandparents, parents and myself to become who we are today,” McEnry said. “I realize how fortunate I was to receive the education I received in Camas, and (voters) can count on me to unite traditional Camas values and experiences with innovative, 21st-century skills and knowledge to position each Camas student for success in their chosen pathway after graduation.”

Asked to name what he believes to be the school board’s top-three responsibilities, McEnry said “leading by example; responsibly managing taxpayer funds and resources and engaging with stakeholders.”

“The primary responsibility of a school board member is to collaborate with their board colleagues, superintendent and district staff on articulating a mission and vision for the district and overseeing its execution,” McEnry explained, adding that the current Camas School Board members all bring “unique experiences and backgrounds to the position” while still striving “to make informed decisions based on reviewing all the facts and data presented to us while leading in a respectful and civil manner that Camas deserves.”

Being fiscally responsible

with taxpayer dollars also plays a huge role in McEnry’s work on the school board, he said.

“One of the biggest reasons for our district’s success has been the consistent support from our taxpayers. A majority of our voters throughout our recent history have consistently supported bonds and levies in order to maintain the Camas School District’s tradition of caring, quality and growth,” he said. “As a steward of taxpayer funds, I take the responsibility of efficiently and carefully allocating those precious resources very seriously. Through my efforts and those of my board colleagues, we have sought not only to invest in new and updated facilities in Camas, but also to maintain our existing facilities to prolong their usefulness. We have adapted to new funding models forced on us by the state legislature and sought to balance tax burdens on our patrons with the quality of programs we deliver and that our community has come to expect.”

McEnry said the board has pursued “both conventional and creative opportunities to invest in projects for our district’s future that will yield a high rate of return for our community, such as modernizing our bus fleet, partnering with Sharp to develop our project-based learning campus, and the acquisition of the Leadbetter Campus (formerly Underwriters Laboratories).”

See Camas, page A8

Washougal mayoral candidate Ford dies

Derik Ford suspended campaign in September after being arrested for domestic violence

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

Former Washougal mayoral candidate Derik Ford, 45, has died.

The Washougal Police Department received word of Ford’s death from the Fairview, Ohio, police department on Friday, Oct. 15, according to Washougal sergeant Kyle Kinnan.

Kinnan said the Fairview Police Department did not divulge additional details about Ford’s death, but added that the Ohio police department was at the “very beginning” of its investigation and would likely send a copy of their report to Washougal police once it was complete.

The Washougal Police Department is “scrambling to get more info” about Ford’s death and hoping to release additional details as soon as Monday, Oct. 19, Kinnan told The Post-Record. As of this newspaper’s print deadline, police had no updates on the circumstances surrounding Ford’s death.

Ford, who owned 2 Rivers Bar and Grill in Washougal and several massage parlors in Oregon, finished in second place in the August primary election, beating Washougal City Councilman Paul Greenlee for a chance to compete against the top vote-getter, Rochelle Ramos, as Washougal’s next mayor in the Nov. 2 general election.

Ford suspended his campaign after being arrested on a domestic violence charge on Sept. 15. He was scheduled to appear in court on Nov. 2, and had already pleaded not guilty to a fourth-degree assault charge as well as to additional allegations that he had repeatedly violated a no-contact order.

Ford’s name appears on the Nov. 2 General and Special Election ballots sent to Washougal voters.



Derik Ford

Washougal eyes more parks improvements

With Hamllik Park upgrades nearly complete, city leaders hope to replace aging playground at Lower Hathaway Park

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Record staff writer

Washougal residents may soon notice a few park

upgrades around their city. The city is finishing up a series of upgrades at Hamllik Park and is now setting its sights on upgrading the more than 20-year-old

playground equipment at Lower Hathaway Park. Work at Hamllik Park shifted into high gear this month, with the removal of two unused, deteriorat-

ing sheds; the installation of new benches and tables; and repainted restrooms. Now, the city is working to repair a bicycle track at Hamllik Park and replace leaky roofs on the dugouts at the baseball field.

The city also has ordered a new playground

for Hamllik, which should arrive by mid-November, according to Michelle Wright, the city’s public works business administrator.

“I think the playground was 23 years old, so it was definitely time for some upgrades there,” Wright

said of the Hamllik Park improvements. “This is a really special park. It’s got amazing parking and allows neighbors to play and recreate and have barbecues.”

The city used \$100,000

See Parks, page A7

VOLLEYBALL HERO

Senior player a rock for team in turmoil:

Sports, Page A6

Death Notices.....A2

Public Meetings.....A2

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Washougal Physician Assistant Scott Miller (left), the founder of Miller Family Pediatrics, pulls his mask down to speak against COVID-19 mask mandates during a Camas School Board meeting on Aug. 23, 2021.

Miller:

From page A1

placed the patient on a regimen of vitamins as well as ivermectin, dexamethasone and azithromycin without conducting a physical examination, according to the WMC complaint, and “failed to counsel (the patient) on the possible interaction between ivermectin and dexamethasone and did not order follow-up testing to monitor and address possible impact on (the patient’s liver) function.”

Miller also is accused of prescribing ivermectin to an unvaccinated patient who had been admitted to the hospital after becoming “unresponsive with unreadable stats” and respiratory failure due to COVID-19. After refusing intubation and leaving the hospital against medical advice on Sept. 3, 2021, the patient received a prescription from Miller for ivermectin “to treat head lice,” according to the WMC complaint. The patient’s wife called 911 that same day because her husband “had acute hypoxic respiratory failure and needed to be sedated and intubated.” That man died eight days later.

The WMC also alleges that, in July 2021, Miller treated another unvaccinated COVID-19 patient with ivermectin and sent her an oxygen tank to use at home. The patient came into the hospital one week later, on July 19, and died on July 27.

The WMC states in its complaint against Miller: “Ivermectin is not part of the hospital protocol in treating COVID-19 patients. Ivermectin is not part of the NIH protocol for treating COVID-19 patients. These protocols are not considered standard of care treatment for COVID-19.”

Miller also is accused of threatening hospital staff and physicians and of convincing family members of ill COVID-19 patients to push for their loved ones to receive unproven treatments.

One patient sought care from a local hospital emergency room

on July 17, 2021, according to the WMC complaint. He was unvaccinated and suffering from symptoms of COVID-19. The patient’s family sought an emergency injunction to have the man treated with ivermectin — something the patient’s wife told hospital staff that her children had pushed her to go after the injunction on Miller’s advice, despite the fact that Miller had never treated or examined her husband. The man died from COVID-19 complications less than three weeks later.

The WMC complaint states that Miller has violated state code related to unprofessional conduct for a medical provider, including “incompetence, negligence or malpractice, which results in injury to a patient or which creates an unreasonable risk that a patient may be harmed,” as well as “an act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or corruption ... whether that act constitutes a crime or not,” and “promotion for personal gain of any unnecessary or inefficient drug, device, treatment, procedure or service.”

Miller cited by California Physician Assistant board in 2014

Miller also is accused of lying on his initial Washington medical licensing application by denying another investigation by the California Physician Assistant Board.

Public records show that, in March 2014, the California Physician Assistant Board cited Miller for providing medical care to patients “without supervising physician authorization to do so,” writing prescriptions “without conducting physical examinations,” writing drug orders for controlled substances “without the approval of a supervising physician,” and for failing to document and maintain medical records for patients.

“The case was initiated based on a complaint submitted to the Medical Board of California alleging that while employed at Cal Family Health you wrote drug or-

ders for controlled substances for family and friends who were not patients of Cal Family Health,” wrote the executive director of the Physician Assistant Board in the citation order. “You were not authorized (by) your supervising physician to provide medical treatment or write drug orders for persons who were not patients of your supervising physician or Cal Family Health. You did not receive the approval from your supervising physician to write drug orders for controlled substances.”

The board ordered Miller to “immediately cease treating persons and issuing drug orders for persons that are not patients of your supervising physician or the practice where you are employed,” pay a \$2,500 fine and enroll in an ethics course.

According to California records, Miller, who graduated from San Joaquin Valley College in 2006, relinquished his California physician assistant license before it came up for renewal in 2015. Miller and his wife, Shelly, moved to the Camas-Washougal area in 2014, according to the Miller Family Pediatrics’ website.

The WMC said Miller applied to the Washington Medical Commission for a physician assistant credential in October 2013. Though the California investigation had started in August 2012, with investigators interviewing Miller in February 2013, the WMC said Miller marked “no” on his application when asked if he was the subject of an investigation by any licensing board.

During its investigation into Miller in October 2020, the WMC asked the Washougal physician assistant about any past investigations by other licensing boards. The WMC said Miller falsely claimed he had already disclosed the California investigation in his initial application.

GoFundMe raises \$47K to help fund Miller’s legal defense

Miller has hundreds of supporters in the Camas-Washougal area

who have spoken in defense of the Washougal pediatric care provider since the WMC investigation began.

In July, a Camas man named Joshua Brock started a GoFundMe to raise money for Miller’s legal fund in the face of the Washington Medical Commission complaints.

“Our community’s beloved family health practitioner, Scott Miller, P.A., is the subject of multiple unfounded complaints to the (Washington Medical Commission),” Brock wrote on the GoFundMe page. “The expenses to defend his license to practice medicine and managing those who are denied access to care are mounting. He needs our help if he is to continue serving our community.”

On the GoFundMe page, Brock describes Miller as a health care practitioner many parents turn to after striking out with other providers.

“He is known to readily find answers to difficult childhood health issues that other pediatricians are either stumped by or brush off as something that will pass,” Brock wrote about Miller. “Scott is sought out by parents who have tried multiple physicians, therapists and practitioners without success. In so many cases, Scott is able to find solutions for these children and their distraught parents.”

As of Oct. 15, the GoFundMe had been shared more than 2,000 times, and nearly 300 people had donated a total of \$46,947 to help Miller fund his legal defense.

Miller has 20 days to respond to the WMC’s suspension notice.

Stephanie Mason, the WMC’s public information officer, told The Post-Record in late September the Commission was investigating 17 cases and had three new allegations against Miller and had also authorized an investigation into Miller’s supervising physician, Dr. Rick L. Jackson, with the Vancouver-based Ashbrook Medical clinic.

Neither Miller nor Jackson responded to The Post-Record’s request for comment in time for this newspaper’s print deadline.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Washougal City Council: The Council will hold a remote workshop at 5 p.m. and remote regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 25. For more information about the agenda or about how to watch or listen to the meetings, visit cityofwashougal.us/129/Agenda-Minutes.

Camas School District: The Camas School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 25, in the Dennison board room at the Zellerbach Administration Center, 841 N.E. 22nd Ave., Camas. Masks are required for in-person meeting attendees. To watch a livestream of the board meeting, visit the Camas School Board’s YouTube channel at bit.ly/camassb. Citizen comments will be accepted in written form and in-person. To send a written comment, email gail.gast@camas.wednet.edu by 3 p.m. Oct. 25.

Washougal School District: The Washougal School Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26, on Zoom and in-person at Canyon Creek Middle School, 9731 Washougal River Road, Washougal. Masks are required for in-person attendees. To submit a written comment, email kori.kelly@washougalsd.org by 3 p.m. Oct. 26.

DEATH NOTICES

Dawson, George Frederick, Jr., 91, Vancouver, died Oct. 10, 2021. Brown’s Funeral Home, 360-834-3692.

Hood, David Adam, 71, Camas, died Oct. 15, 2021. Brown’s Funeral Home, 360-834-3692.

Kitchen, Mac, 90, Washougal, died Oct. 17, 2021. Straub’s Funeral Home & Columbia River Cremation, 360-834-4563.

Knapp, John A., 90, Washougal, died Oct. 10, 2021. Straub’s Funeral Home & Columbia River Cremation, 360-834-4563.

Kulani, Cheryl Joanne, 72, Brush Prairie, died Oct. 12, 2021. Brown’s Funeral Home, 360-834-3692.



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