

the Courthouse Journal

W A C O U N T I E S . O R G

May 22, 2009

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*Washington Association of County Officials
Washington State Association of Counties*

Washington Counties Scholarship Winners Announced!



Two independent groups of judges concluded the final round in the selection of winners of the Washington Counties Scholarships for school year 2009/10 last week and announced that the following students (in alphabetical order) will each receive a \$3,000 award:

Amber Rain Allphin of Kittitas County, daughter of Reno and Laura Allphin, whose father is employed by Kittitas County Solid Waste. Amber is a graduating senior and is headed to the Triple Crown Academy of Austin, Texas, where she wants to turn her love for animals into a certification as a dog trainer and behavior specialist. Amber has participated in state level 4-H dog competitions and has been awarded four Senior High Point trophies.

Kristin Elizabeth Glaeser of Walla Walla County plans on attending the University of Idaho and majoring in education and theater. Ultimately Kristin wants to become a full time high school teacher where she can share her passion for drama with her students. Her parents are Randy and Vivian Glaeser. Her dad is employed by Walla Walla Public Works. Kristin has two Drama Varsity letters at Walla Walla High School for her participation in drama productions there.

Kaycee K. Hathaway of Jefferson County been accepted into the pre-nursing program at Finlandia University in Michigan and is planning a career as a pediatric nurse in a children's hospital. While she is at Finlandia, Kaycee also plans on playing softball at the collegiate level. She has lettered in three sports but shares her first love, softball, by coaching Little League and acting as an instructional aide and camp counselor. Kaycee's mother Sabrina is employed with the Jefferson County Treasurer's Office. Her dad is Jeff Hathaway.

Kelley Palmer-McCarty, San Juan County, plans to continue her studies at Fairhaven College at Western Washington University where she a sophomore and plans to "design a concentration of visual arts and environmental studies." Kelley has already produced illustrations for birding pamphlets and a book on food and

Job announcements & links to County Employment pages at:

<http://wacounties.org/>

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We welcome your suggestions and contributions. The weekly / bi-weekly deadline is noon Wednesdays. Direct inquiries and correspondence to - *The Courthouse Journal*, 206 Tenth Av SE, Olympia, WA 98501

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Tonia Sugarman, County Training Institute (CTI) and L&I Retro Project Manager

farming for a biodynamic farm. Her parents Ann Palmer and Charles McCarty live on Lopez Island. Her dad is employed by the San Juan County Sheriff's Office.

Lucia Osei-Shearman of Snohomish County is a high school senior and has plans to become an obstetrician/gynecologist. She credits her fascination with the miracle of birth and the "miracles" of the medical field for giving her the drive to excel scholastically at Mariner High School in Everett and helping her reach her potential. Her parents are Ebenezer Osei-Shearman, a Snohomish County Sheriff's Corrections Department employee and Shevan Osei-Shearman.

Two alternates were named who will receive awards in the event on the first five is unable to accept one. They are (in alphabetical order):

Kyla Marie Duckworth, Kitsap County. Her parents are Steve and Christy Duckworth. Steve is employed by the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office. Kyla is a freshman at Olympic College studying for an associate degree and is an aspiring paramedic.

Kathleen Devin Whelan, Grays Harbor County. Her parents are Sheriff Mike Whelan and his wife Jennifer Wieland, a deputy prosecuting attorney. Her long-range plans are to receive Ph.D. in clinical psychology with a concentration on Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice.

The Washington Counties Scholarship Fund is a joint endeavor of the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) and the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC). The winners are selected after two rounds of review by two groups of individuals who have no affiliation with either WACO or WSAC. For the 2009/10 school year, over 180 applications were received from 35 counties.

Auditor Week in Grand Mound

by James McMahan, WACO Staff

Grand Mound, a Thurston County community, was the hot spot for Auditors the first week of May. The 2009 Elections Conference, hosted by the Washington State Association of County Auditors took place May 4-6 in Grand Mound, followed immediately by the 103rd Annual Auditors' Conference from May 6-8.

The Elections Conference kicked off with a series of 'users group' meetings, where elections administrators meet with vendors and service providers to discuss functionality, troubleshoot, and plan for future upgrades and operations of elections systems. Pierce County Auditor Jan Shabro then presented a case study of the Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) System with her staff. Many will remember that Pierce County was the first Washington

Legislative Committee Schedules and Agendas:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm>

Bill Information: www.leg.wa.gov

County, and one of the largest jurisdictions in the country, to run a RCV election. Jan and her staff wowed the audience with their story of getting such a system up and running, even giving the candidate perspective in an RCV election. Katie Blinn, Assistant Director of Elections, Office of the Secretary of State, moderated the discussion.



The Monday afternoon session brought many elections officials back to 2004 when Nick Handy, Director of Elections, Office of the Secretary of State, introduced his Minnesota counterpart, Gary Poser, to discuss developments in the Minnesota US Senate race. Poser compared and contrasted the Norm Coleman-Al Franken race to the 2004 Chris Gregoire-Dino Rossi race. The election, which took place on November 5, 2008, has still not been settled. Arguments to the Minnesota Supreme Court begin in June, while a chair remains empty in the US Senate. Monday evening continued the recount theme with a viewing of HBO's movie "Recount" - a 2008 made for TV movie about the 2000 Bush-Gore race, focusing primarily on Florida.

Tuesday's agenda at the Elections Conference hosted a variety of break-out sessions. Topics included redistricting 2011, census 2010, canvassing boards, minority languages, ballot design, public disclosure, address confidentiality, recounts, accessibility in voting units, and more.

Wednesday concluded the 2009 Elections Conference with presentations on the Voting Rights Act, a review of the legislative process, and a session on legal issues in elections. Secretary of State Sam Reed presented Pierce County's Lori Augino as the County Election Employee of the Year.

The 103rd Annual Auditors' Conference kicked off with a theme from the hit TV show "24." Happy to have survived the 2009 legislative session, Auditors kicked off the conference with legislative awards and recognitions. With a "stimulus" theme, legislative awards were announced. Awards included the Energizer, Mr. Intelegencia, Chief Navigator, Process Decoder, Mr. Dependable and Mr. Loyal, Ms. Survivor, Ms. Eagle Eye, Phillip (look it up), Secret Weapon, and more. Auditors then got right down to business, giving and receiving updates in recording, finance, elections and licensing. Liz Luce, Director of the Department of Licensing, joined Auditors during their licensing discussion. Director Luce, flanked by DOL Chief Financial Officer Alan Haight and DOL Director of Policy & Legislative Affairs (and WACO veteran) Barbara Sandahl, discussed recent updates relating to DOL driver license office locations, developments in the redesign of vehicle registration renewal forms, and implementation issues with the new opt-out legislation regarding state parks. Wednesday concluded with the President's Reception and a preview of Thursday's agenda from the Executive Advisory Institute.



Thursday brought an all day session themed "24 - A Day in the Auditors' Office." Auditors participated in a challenging and thought provoking leadership and management seminar presented by Doug Mault and John Steber of the Executive

Advisory Institute. Auditors learned to recognize inferences in their reasoning, techniques on effective and efficient meetings, processed the “change cycle,” engaged in the functions of management, leadership styles, and more. Attendees for Thursday evening’s dinner celebrated Sherril Huff’s recognition as the Auditor of the Year. Thursday’s dinner also was the place to witness a memorable skit bringing the “keeping Auditors together is like herding cats” metaphor to real life.

Friday’s Auditor business meeting was rescheduled at the last minute to allow Auditors to join Governor Gregoire as she signed **HB 1018** (Reducing the number of Special Elections) into law.

New Officers in WSACA

by James McMahan, WACO Staff

The Washington State Association of County Auditors (WSACA) recently elected a new slate of officers: President, Kittitas County Auditor Jerry Pettit; Vice President, Pacific County Auditor Pat Gardner; Treasurer, Spokane County Auditor Vicky Dalton; and Secretary, Skamania County Auditor Mike Garvison.

Sheriffs Meet at WASPC Conference

by James McMahan, WACO Staff

The Washington State Sheriffs’ Association (WSSA) met this week during the WASPC Conference in Kennewick, WA. The WSSA meeting was again long on business and short on time.

Sheriffs received a 2009 post-session legislative update from WASPC’s Don Pierce and Joanna Arlow immediately prior to the WSSA meeting. During the meeting, sheriffs conducted the usual business of associations, then heard presentations regarding fundraising for Special Olympics, were briefed on the status of correctional training standards from the Criminal Justice Training Commission, received an update on emergency planning from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and discussed the merger between the Law Enforcement Memorial and the 10-99 Foundation. Additionally, the sheriffs showed their appreciation for retiring Jefferson County Sheriff Mike Brasfield, as well as outgoing U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington State Jim McDevitt.

In a separate order of business, the sheriffs discussed legislation, the Western State’s Sheriffs’ Association, nominated sheriffs for the WASPC Board, and elected a new slate of officers for their own association, among other business.

New Officers in WSSA

by James McMahan, WACO Staff

Due to the retirement of Jefferson County Sheriff (and WSSA Vice President) Mike Brasfield, the Washington State Sheriffs’ Association (WSSA) recently elected Skamania County Sheriff Dave Brown as Vice President. To fill Sheriff Brown’s term as Secretary-Treasurer, Mason County Sheriff Casey Salisbury was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Newly elected WSSA officers are: President, Yakima County Sheriff Ken Irwin; Vice President, Skamania County Sheriff Dave Brown; and Secretary-Treasurer, Mason County Sheriff Casey Salisbury.

You’re on Our list, Can We Be on Yours?

by James McMahan, WACO Staff

We are here to serve our members, and the first step to serving you best is to know what’s happening in your communities. While emails can be overbearing and often create “information overload,” emails also contain vital information that can help us do what we do better.

If you are a WACO or WSAC member and you have a periodic newsletter or publication that you can share with me, please do so. I'm happy to have my inbox filled with information on the goings-on of our members. Please consider this as my request to be added to your list. My email address is jamesm@wacounties.org.

Watch for WACO Conference Survey

by James McMahan, WACO Staff

WACO members should be on the lookout for an email coming to their inbox soon. We're preparing a brief survey (20 questions) regarding the WACO Conferences to help us ensure that our conference estimates are accurate and our programming is useful to our members. The survey will arrive via email and contain a link that will guide you through the process.

This is the first time that we will have conducted a survey like this, so if you experience any difficulties, it will be important that we are aware of them.

WACO members can download the survey directly here: <https://share.acrobat.com/adc/document.do?docid=8ad9d891-b3fe-47ac-80af-f5f6af1a3289>.

If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to call me at (360) 753-7319.

County Employees get Early Retirement Push

from the Spokesman Review, 5/19/2009

Early Retirement

Spokane County Commissioners

Spokane County will offer an incentive to county employees who are eligible to retire but not yet 65 – help with medical insurance they'd have to pay until Medicare kicks in.

It's one way the county will try to convince some higher paid employees to leave voluntarily now and reduce the number of layoffs it may need next year.

County commissioners voted unanimously Tuesday to offer payments of up to \$20,000 over 42 months to special Health Retirement Accounts that would be set up for long-time employees who opt for early retirement.

The county doesn't control the rules of its various employees' retirement plans, which are run by the state, Chief Executive Officer Marshall Farnell said. It can, however, offer incentives to employees who qualify for retirement but aren't considering it because they can't afford medical insurance, by placing money in special accounts that can be used to pay the premiums.

Those who have worked between five and 10 years and are eligible to retire will qualify for \$10,000, with an additional \$1,000 per year of service up to a maximum of \$20,000. The payments would be spread out over three and a half years. But they'll have to decide by June 30, and retire by July 31.

Human Resources Director Cathy Malzahn said there could be as many as 260 employees who would be eligible for some level of payment. In some small departments, more than half the employees might qualify for the insurance payments. If they all opted to retire, it could create a staffing problem, but giving department heads the power to "pick and choose" who could take advantage of the offer could create legal problems, Steve Bartel, the county's risk manager, said.

Commissioner Mark Richard suggested some might be willing to come back and train their replacements. While the plan may be attractive to county workers in their early 60s, it probably won't be much help to sheriff's deputies, Detective David Skogen of the deputies union said. Deputies typically retire after 30 years, in their early to mid 50s.

"Law enforcement officers have earlier retirement age for a reason. Thirty years is a long time to do what I do," Skogen said. But 42 months of payment toward health insurance will leave them far short of qualifying for Medicare. He urged commissioners to remove the cap, arguing that extending the insurance payments would be cheaper than having the deputies stay on the job an extra 10 years and paying their salaries and benefits.

Commissioners said, however, that while the plan wasn't perfect, it was the result of a series of discussions which made several changes, such as extending the time limit from 18 months to 42 months.

Courts, Public Safety, Law & Justice

Meet the Sheriff

From Sheriff Magazine, May/June Issue 2009

Sheriff John Lovick was elected sheriff January 1, 2008, for a four year term. He oversees a county with a population of 700,000 and covers 2,090 square miles. Sheriff Lovick's annual budget is \$90 million.

The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office is the primary law enforcement agency in the county, and is responsible for enforcing all traffic laws, serving civil process, providing courtroom security, enforcing drug laws, running the correctional facility and prisoner transport. They also administer the training academy, as well as offer satellite training academies to augment the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission.

The Sheriff's Office is very active in Community Policing Initiatives such as Neighborhood Watch, Gang Community Response Team, Citizens on Patrol, Project Lifesaver, and the Snohomish County Drug Action Team. They are also involved in the United Way Community Matters Vision Council, Snohomish County Business Crime Prevention Alliance and National Night Out.

Sheriff Lovick has 690 personnel, 527 of them sworn, one part time, 163 civilian, 26 sworn reserves and 42 volunteers. Lovick's deputies patrol by car, boat and motorcycle. Deputies served 10,840 criminal warrants and 964 civil warrants. Snohomish County houses 1,084 inmates; 933 male and 151 female. Sixty-nine are in maximum security, 402 are in medium security and 613 are in minimum security. There are 596 pre-trial inmates and 383 post conviction inmates as well as 105 DOC holds.

Sheriff Lovick has been in law enforcement for 32 years. His inspiration for becoming a sheriff was from growing up in rural Louisiana when segregation and discrimination were a way of life; the county sheriff was a hero to him. Sheriff Lovick said "He was kind and forgiving and treated everyone with dignity and respect, regardless of color or status." The Sheriff was a man of honor, and someone whose values and ethics inspired Sheriff Lovick to be like him.

Lovick lives by the motto "Never give up, never ever, ever give up, never give up!" (a modified excerpt from Winston Churchill's "Never Give In" speech of 1941)

A quote that the sheriff believes in is "People will forget the things you say and they might forget the things you do, but they will never, ever forget the way you make them feel."

Courthouse Ramblings

Change to Directory of County Officials in Washington State. Page 34 – Pierce County Assessor-Treasurer's e-mail address should be dwasham@pierce.wa.us.

General Government

DOL Moves on Driver Licensing Office Consolidation Plans

The Department of Licensing (DOL) is moving forward with plans to consolidate services in 25 Licensing Service Offices (LSOs) around the state.

DOL is working with rural communities to find ways to maintain a presence in their area, but at the same time save taxpayer's dollars by sharing locations with other government agencies.

"We have not taken a cookie cutter approach to our office closures or service changes," said DOL Director Liz Luce. "We recognize each location is unique and we are actively working with community leaders to continue to meet service demand while looking for ways to minimize costs."

Plans to trim service hours or share locations with other state or county departments are being evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Offices under consideration for relocation and service hour changes include: Chelan, Coulee Dam, Davenport, Ephrata, Morton, Newport, Oroville, Port Townsend, Republic and South Bend.

DOL has suspended plans to close offices in some rural communities due to excessive driving distances. These communities include: Walla Walla, Poughkeepsie, Forks, Friday Harbor and Goldendale.

DOL's plan, which was approved by the 2009 Legislature, includes consolidating a total of 10 offices, primarily in urban locations on the west side of the state. Staff in offices closed under this plan will move to nearby offices. The expected cost savings under the plan is \$2 million this biennium and \$2.4 million in the subsequent biennium.

Offices scheduled to be closed this year under the consolidation plan include: Bellevue, Olympia, Bothell, East Seattle, West Tacoma, Yakima Limited Service, and Vancouver Limited Service. All of these offices are within 10 miles of another office. Offices in Auburn, the Greenwood area of Seattle and Othello already have been closed.

Unemployment Benefits Rise as a Result of Stimulus Packages

About \$10 million a week will be pumped into Washington's economy due to unemployment benefit increases that begin showing up in benefit payments today, according to Gov. Chris Gregoire.

"Surviving on unemployment is tough. This additional money will give our state's workers a little extra to pay their bills while they look for a new job," said Gregoire. "Our communities also will benefit, since most of the money will be spent at local businesses."

Unemployment claimants will get two increases, courtesy of separate state and federal economic recovery legislation.

Gregoire and the state Legislature approved a temporary increase in unemployment benefits that applies only to Washington workers. It includes an increase in the minimum benefit amount – from \$129 a week to \$155 – plus an additional \$45 for most unemployment claimants.

"This is a bailout for real people," said Rep. Steve Conway (D – Tacoma), Chair of the House Commerce and Labor Committee and prime sponsor of the law signed by Governor Gregoire. "Raising benefits for unemployed workers has two important effects: first, it puts money directly into the pockets of those who need it most, those who have lost their job and are actively looking for another. Secondly, those folks will take this money and support their local grocery store or buy shoes for their kids. That helps keep our businesses afloat and boosts our economy."

At the federal level, President Obama authorized a \$25-a-week nationwide increase, which took effect on Feb. 22. Since it took time to program the increase into the state Employment Security Department's computer system, qualified

individuals who claimed unemployment benefits between Feb. 22 and May 3 will get lump-sum payment for the back weeks.

Added together, claimants who are eligible for the higher benefits will receive an additional \$70 to \$96 a week. For most individuals, the increase brings the minimum unemployment benefit in Washington to \$225 and the maximum to \$611. However, the increases are only temporary. They apply only to unemployment claims that are opened before the end of 2009. Eligible individuals who file by the deadline will continue to receive the higher benefit amount until at least mid-2010.

The cost of the state-approved increase is covered by the state's unemployment trust fund, while the federally approved increase is paid entirely by the federal government.

According to Employment Security, which manages the unemployment system, about 171,000 people currently are receiving unemployment benefits in Washington. This is down from about 200,000 in March.

People can file new or weekly unemployment claims online at www.esd.wa.gov <<http://www.esd.wa.gov/>> or by phone at 800-318-6022.

Public Health & Human Services

Governor Gregoire Announces Federal Recovery Money to Help Crime Victims

Stimulus money will add 14 new jobs, keep others serving victims statewide

Governor Chris Gregoire announced May 19, 2009 the state Office of Crime Victims Advocacy was awarded \$933,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to support crime victim service providers. This award will create 14 new jobs for victim advocates and retain four other positions across Washington State. Funding will be distributed from the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) to service providers for victims of crimes including sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse will benefit from the services provided by these advocates.

"I am pleased to see recovery funding going straight to our communities to serve crime victims," said Gregoire. "I applaud the hard work of the Office of Crime Victim's Advocacy for recognizing this federal funding opportunity and ensuring Washingtonians can benefit."

The Office of Crime Victims Advocacy, part of the CTED, works in partnership with over 250 local agencies to provide confidential services to victims of crime.

Current victim service contractors in Washington were eligible to compete for the Recovery Act funds. The new crime victim service advocates will be at work in their communities by July. A complete list of contactors receiving grants follows the announcement below.

Last month, events in Washington and across the country marked the 25th anniversary of the Victims of Crime Act. The act affirmed our nation's commitment to helping crime victims rebuild their lives. The Victims of Crime Act established a fund which continues to support Washington's compensation and victim assistance programs.

"Our people and quality of life are among Washington state's most precious assets," said Rogers Weed, Director of the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. "The crime victim advocates hired with this Recovery funding will help preserve a valuable community service during these trying economic times."

Washington State is administering the federal Recovery Act investments with an unprecedented level of transparency and

accountability. Gov. Gregoire created a new Web site <<http://www.recovery.wa.gov/>> (www.recovery.wa.gov) enabling every Washingtonian to see where their tax dollars are going and hold government accountable for the results. On the federal level, President Barack Obama has appointed Vice President Joe Biden to oversee all states' recovery efforts and to root out waste and fraud. This combined oversight will ensure taxpayer dollars are put to good use and recharge the economy.

CTED is the lead state agency charged with enhancing and promoting sustainable community and economic vitality in Washington and is administering more than \$200 million in Recovery funding <<http://www.cted.wa.gov/site/1164/default.aspx>> . For more information, visit www.cted.wa.gov <<http://www.cted.wa.gov/>> .

Where the money is going:

Sexual Assault Services

Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties
Monarch Children's Justice and Advocacy Center
\$65,033/Contact: Tambra Donohue 360-923-1884 ex. 1101

King County Sexual Assault Resource Center
\$64,432/Contact: Mary Ellen Stone 425-282-0354

Thurston County: Partners in Prevention Education
\$62,816/Contact: Rosalinda Noriega 360-357-4472

Kitsap Sexual Assault Center
\$43,843/Contact: Martha Wescott 360-479-1788

Benton & Franklin County: Sexual Assault Response Center
\$40,774/Contact: Jodee Garretson 509-374-5391

Grays Harbor County: Beyond Survival
\$17,602/Contact: Doreen Winningham 360-533-9751

Crime Victim Service Centers

King County: Northwest Immigrant Rights Network
\$90,000/Contact: Jorge L. Barón 206-957-8609

Walla Walla County: Children's Home Society of Washington
\$63,674/Contact: Richard Pankl 509-529-2130

King County: Northwest Network of Bisexual, Trans, Lesbian, and Gay Survivors of Abuse
\$50,414/Contact: Connie Burk 206-568-7777

Skagit County: Brigid Collins House
\$50,413/Contact: Byron Mannering 360-734-4616

Cowlitz County: Emergency Support Shelter
\$39,999/Contact: Sherrie Tinoco 360-425-1176

Domestic Violence Services

King County: NW Network of Bisexual, Trans, Lesbian and Gay Survivors of Abuse
\$81,890/Contact: Connie Burk 206-568-7777

Domestic Violence Services of Benton/Franklin Counties
\$63,593/Contact: Kelly Abken 509-735-1295

Skagit Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services
\$59,331/Contact: Emily O'Connor 360-336-9591

Spokane County: YWCA of Spokane
\$42,108/Contact: Patty Wheeler 509-326-1190 x8291

Lewis County: Human Response Network
\$40,224/Contact: Joan Caywood 360-748-6601

Skamania County Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
\$14,091/Contact: Amy Buettner 509-427-4210

Call the Crime Victims Hotline at 800-822-1067 if you need to find services in your area. For more information contact Grace Call at 360.725.2893 or gracec@cted.wa.gov.

Training & Upcoming Events

Washington Counties – [wacounties.org/Calendar of Events](http://wacounties.org/Calendar%20of%20Events)

County Training Institute – www.countytraininginstitute.org

Good Things

Monument Memorializes Prohibition-Era Sheriff

from Staff writer Lisa Leinberger at the Spokesman Review, 5/21/2009

Historical marker map to be printed

The Fairmount Memorial Association is now printing maps of its historical markers series at Greenwood Memorial Terrace, Riverside Memorial Park and Fairmount Memorial Park. Visitors can now find the markers that tell the stories of James "Curly Jim" Selkoewoyeh, William Rice – Spokane's Connection to the RMS Titanic, Sheriff James Glispin, Levi and May Hutton, Sheriff Floyd Brower, Pfc. Joe E. Mann, Eugene B. Hyde, Spokane's Greatest Tragedy – Sept. 1, 1890, 5:40 p.m., Mary Archard Latham, M.D., Sept. 11, 2001, Spokane County Law Enforcement and Firefighters and Francis H. Cook.

Duane Broyles, president of the Fairmount Memorial Association, said he plans on updating the maps every May.

The maps should be available soon at the main offices of each cemetery.

Floyd Brower was the sheriff of Spokane County from 1925 through 1930. During that time of Prohibition, his dry squad dumped 26,773 gallons of booze in one year, talked a rumrunner and renegade logger out of shooting him and caught serial killers and burglars.

It was a side of life his daughter and grandchildren never knew. They knew him as a loving father and grandfather who liked to cook split-pea soup and cared for his little dog Tootsie.



Twin great-granddaughters of Sheriff Floyd Brower, Emily and Katie Fruin, 10, and Duane Broyles, president of the Fairmount Memorial Association, unveil a monument in honor of Brower on May 14.

He had such a storied career that the Fairmount Memorial Association, the Spokane Police Department History Book Committee and the Spokane Law Enforcement Museum decided to dedicate to him their 11th monument of historical markers.

“It means a lot,” said Dale Fruin, Brower’s grandson. “He was a great man in all of our lives. His honor and his integrity were a tremendous thing.”

Before Brower entered law enforcement, he worked as a plumber and as an inspector for the city of Spokane water department. He also served for three years in the Washington National Guard.

He started working in the Sheriff’s Office in 1919 and by 1924 he became the chief deputy. In 1925 he became the sheriff through an appointment by the county commissioners after the previous sheriff resigned. He won the next general election and served Spokane County until 1930. After he left office, he moved to the West Side and became a King County deputy until 1935. He later became manager of the Burns International Detective Agency for the Northwest District.

In 1929, Brower once chased a shooting suspect, “Black Jack” Rowden, to a cabin near the Canadian border. Brower and a deputy used tear gas and a machine gun to shoot and kill Rowden.

He solved the mystery of the “Spokane Hatchet Slayer” in 1928. A community man and father of five was convicted and sentenced to hang after luring a young woman from Boston by promising to marry her. The man robbed and killed her the day she arrived in town.

It was for these acts Brower was honored during a ceremony last week in Fairmount Memorial Park. The Spokane Sheriff’s Department SCOPE mounted patrol unit brought Pinky, a riderless horse to symbolize a fallen hero and to represent Brower’s career during the transition from horses to automobiles.

Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich spoke at the ceremony, as well as Fruin.

Knezovich talked about Brower’s career and mentioned specifically the time when a bootlegger pointed a gun at Brower after the sheriff interrupted his booze-making operation. Brower talked the bootlegger out of shooting him and took him to jail.

“That shows extreme courage,” Knezovich said.

Brower’s family came to honor him at the ceremony – four generations of them. Among them were Brower’s only child, Mary Elizabeth Fruin, and her children, Dale Fruin and his wife, Lynn, of Spokane; Michael Fruin, of Seattle; and Craig Fruin, of California. The brothers also brought their children and grandchildren and held a mini-reunion at a reception after the ceremony.

Much of the information about Brower was collected by local historian Tony Bamonte, who helped Dale Fruin’s daughter Katie, 10, find information about one of her relatives for a class project at Wilson Elementary School.

Unfortunately, much of the information about Brower’s job was too violent for Katie to read in class. At the ceremony, Katie and her twin sister, Emily, unveiled the new monument dedicated to their great-grandfather.

Former WSAC President Receives Honorary Degree

Congratulations to former Pierce County Councilmember and WSAC President Harold Moss, who on May 17 was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Puget Sound. Read the citation that was read aloud at graduation ceremonies for Mr. Moss here: <http://blogs.thenewstribune.com/politics/2009/05/18/p41541#more41541>

Woodstock: The Music of the First Amendment

by Sam Yasgur, Sullivan County Attorney from Spring 2009 New York State Association of Counties News magazine, and sent to WACO from ex Island County Auditor Suzanne Sinclair

On June 8, 1789, a freshman Congress person James Madison, following up on promises made during debates over ratification of the new Constitution, formally proposed that Civil Liberties amendments be added to the Constitution. Working with quill pens, Congress drafted and adopted twelve such amendments by September of that year and sent them to the states for ratification.

On December 15, 1791 Virginia became the required eleventh of the then fourteen states to ratify ten of those proposed amendments to the Bill of Rights. Amendment number one reads:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Watch the movie Woodstock. Listen to the words of the music. Take in the scenes. They are vivid expressions of the right of the people to freely speak, to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government. Woodstock could not have been held in Tiananmen Square, or Red Square, or Baghdad or Teheran or in hundreds of other places. We should never forget how much that single sentence, the 45 words of the First Amendment, means to each of us.

For over 130 years, the First Amendment was read as it was written, as a restriction only on Congress. Then, in the early twentieth century, the United States Supreme Court, using the doctrine of incorporation, began applying provisions of the First and other Amendments, to state and local governments as well as to the Congress. Since this time, there have been a plethora of major judicial decisions based on the First Amendment: school prayer, flag burning, and pornography, *New York Times v. Sullivan*, marches by radical groups and many others.

When it comes to free speech, we have learned that speech can take many forms: oral, written, pictures, and even music. We sing Francis Scott Key's powerful narrative of the attack on Fort William Henry as our National Anthem. When we recall the inspiring messages of the civil rights movement, we remember not only Reverend King's speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, but also, "We shall overcome." When we think of the anti-war movement of the 1960's, we remember Richie Havens' "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child." By the 1960s, the protections of the First Amendment were very real on a daily basis to us all.

That brings us to 1969, when I was a 27-year-old, clean-shaven prosecutor in the New York County District Attorney's Office Rackets Bureau. The year 1969 was historic: the first walk on the moon, the first heart transplant, and the first flights of the 747 and the Concorde. The Smothers Brothers were thrown off the air due to censorship, but *Penthouse* began publication. We experienced Chappaquiddick, the Stonewall riots in New York City, the Manson murders in California, and 238 people being killed in Mississippi by hurricane Camille. Richard Nixon was inaugurated President, and Mr. Whipple began squeezing Charmin. And as I sometimes tell friends, in August 1969, my 49-year-old conservative Republican, pro-war businessman father invited tens of thousands of his hippie friends to our farm in the tiny Hamlet of Bethel, 90 miles from the Village of Woodstock.

My father grew up on a farm in Sullivan County. Having lost his own father when he was only 17, he moves to New York City to attend NYU to learn real estate law and join his uncle's successful real estate business. After two years he made a choice between financial success in real estate and backbreaking work as a farmer. He returned to Sullivan County, married my mother, and built a beautiful home on the very site where he had proposed to her.

In 1949 he bought his first of nine farms in Bethel, and expanded them rapidly. Though he had a major heart attack while only in his 30s, he built up a prized herd of over 500 registered, pure-bred cattle and acquired over 1500 acres. He grew almost everything the cattle required, and harvested trees for lumber for barns and other buildings. He built pasteurization and bottling plants and set up retail and wholesale milk routes. He did not outsource anything. He could

look at any one of over five hundred animals and tell you her pedigree and production record. He could tell you what it cost him to produce a quart of milk to the tenth of a cent. He was bright, able and very hard working.

In September, 1963, our main barn, one of the largest in the state, burned to the ground. Miraculously, we saved the herd of 120 cattle, but we desperately needed a place to house those animals in winter. Dad then bought his ninth farm, three miles away, the Mel Stevenson farm, which most know as the site of Woodstock.

In describing my father I emphasize the word conservative because it had a much different meaning to him than it does to so many now. To him being a conservative meant defending the rights of others to be heard even if they expounded ideas with which he did not agree. He believed that if he wanted to be heard, he had to be willing to listen.

My father's involvement with the Woodstock festival was the result of two things. Originally when Michael and Johnny approached him the motivation was rain. The summer of 1969 was very rainy and we simply couldn't bale enough hay to feed all the cattle. That meant buying hay at three times the cost and we needed tens of thousands of bales. Renting a field for a few more days was a welcome revenue opportunity. But it soon became much more than that. When some of our neighbors expressed hostility to "those anti-war hippies" Dad became angry and the festival became a cause.

The weekend of the Festival was one of the most stressful I have experienced. The crowds were enormous. Some of our neighbors were angry and vitriolic. Dad saw all he has worked for going down the drain. He experienced a series of debilitating angina attacks. He called a local veterinarian who owned a small helicopter and said, "Doc, I need the bird, I have to see what's happening." When he learned that some people were selling water to thirsty kids, he became irate. He told us to take every empty milk bottle from the plant and fill them with water for the kids and to give away all the milk products that we had. When he learned many of the kids were trampling on neighbor's crops, not realizing that hay fields were not lawns, he quietly met with groups of kids and explained that farmers needed the crops for their cattle. The kids responded by putting up little signs saying, "These are the provider's crops." On Sunday, after days of incredible stress he made it to the site. He was taken to the stage following yet another rainstorm. Tired and haggard, he gazed at the throng, having no prepared words. He greeted them with the peace sign and introduced himself saying, "I'm a farmer." In a little over thirty seconds the crowd knew he was their champion and cheered when he closed by saying: "This is the largest group of people ever assembled in one place and people have proven something to the world: that a half a million kids can get together and have three days of fun and music and have nothing but fun and music and God Bless You for it!"

In the short three and half years he lived following Woodstock he spent countless unsung hours helping kids re-establish relationships with their parents. He let runaways know they could communicate with their parents where they were. He helped many get into narcotic rehabilitation programs. But, he also had to change his own address when the local postmaster made it clear that Dad was not welcome in the Bethel general store.

This year marks the fortieth anniversary of that historic event. I suggest you take the time to go to the site. Visit the magnificent Bethel Woods Museum of the 1960s and Woodstock which now graces the top of the hill. Sit on the field and contemplate how an entire generation, and their views and aspirations became identified and known by that incredible event on that hillside. Contemplate how what could have become a perfect storm became a perfect peaceful expression by a new generation, of their views, their desires and their demands for change. And, when you do, perhaps you might also recall a very special farmer who believed in, and listened to, the next generation, even though he didn't always agree with many of their views—a very special farmer who believed the next generation had the right to peacefully assemble, to speak freely through their music and to petition their government.

Online filing for San Juan County candidates

May 21 2009, 10:17 AM

Beginning on Monday, June 1 and until 4 p.m. on June 5, candidates who wish to run for office in San Juan County will have the option of filing online.

Candidates who file online will not only receive confirmation of their filing, but will also receive updates when other candidates file for the same office. Candidates will be able to file using their personal computers or a computer set up in the Elections Office.

The Elections office is now accepting candidate filings by mail, and will begin accepting filings in person at the Elections Office from June 1 until the filing deadline at 4:30 p.m. on June 5.

Offices open for election in 2009 include Mayor of the Town of Friday Harbor and three Town Council positions, School Directors on San Juan, Orcas, Lopez and Shaw, as well as Port, Fire, Cemetery, Sewer and Water, Park and Recreation, and Hospital commissioners. To see a detailed list of offices open for election and directions for filing online, check out the elections page at www.sanjuanco.com/deptDirectory.aspx.

Attachments

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