Feb. 28, 2020

**Whatcom Museum opens heritage exhibits to indigenous people; part of 'bigger conversation'**

By Kimberly Cauvel

The exhibit “Tribal Canoe Journeys” has helped open conversation locally about indigenous peoples’ access to museum displays of heritage items. Above, an image from the exhibit shows a canoe navigating the Salish Sea during the 2019 Paddle to Lummi. Photo courtesy of Children of the Setting Sun Productions, Inc.

Feb. 24, 2020 — By Kimberly Cauvel — New exhibits and a new perspective on access at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art have become threads in a national conversation about the relationship between museums and indigenous people... Read more here.

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News from around the region ...

**Steep budget cuts left Alaska with only one operating mainline ferry. Then it broke down.**
A 30 percent budget cut imposed on the Alaska Marine Highway System meant the *Matanuska* was the only mainline ferry operating to and from Bellingham. It broke down late last month and it will be mid-April before ferry service resumes. (Washington Post)

**Elenbaas likens environmental nonprofit group to domestic terrorists**
At a February 11 Whatcom County Council meeting debate on a $65,000 education outreach contract, Councilmember Ben Elenbaas likened Bellingham-based RE Sources, a nonprofit organization founded in 1982 to advocate for the environment, to domestic terrorists. (Northern Light)
Mobile homeowners fight to stay
Mobile homeowners in Bellingham want an extension of a one-year moratorium protecting 10 mobile home parks from being redeveloped. (Western Front)

City reviewing tiny home encampment
The city of Bellingham is reviewing a new site for a tiny home village at the former city “Clean Green” yard waste disposal site between Lakeway Drive and Old Woburn Street near Bayview Cemetery. (Western Front)

Ferndale School Board to take revised levy proposal to voters in April
After rejecting a 4-year Ferndale School levy at a $2.50 mil rate on February 11, voters will vote on a 2-year levy at a $2.17 mil rate at the April 28 Special Election. (My Ferndale News)

Ecology fines BP Cherry Point Refinery for environmental violations
The Washington State Department of Ecology fined BP Cherry Point Refinery $8,000 having incomplete labels on dangerous waste containers, improper management of universal wastes, and missing inspection logs. (Bellingham Herald)

Port’s plans for events center meet opposition
The Port of Anacortes’ long-standing proposal to build a new events center at Cap Sante Marina is moving its way forward, but some residents and marina tenants are expressing their opposition. (Anacortes American)

The hunt is on in Whatcom for invasive, bee-killing giant hornets with painful stings
The state will set “sap traps” and ask people to make homemade bottle traps in an effort to find and destroy invasive Asian giant hornets and keep them from making a home in the Pacific Northwest. (Bellingham Herald)

Wastewater treatment plant repair requires maintenance rate increase
Sewer users of the Eastsound Water and Sewer District will pay $15 a month more to refurbish and upgrade the existing wastewater treatment system. (Orcas Issues)

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