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Tribune

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Miracle League lets everyone play the game



Doug Ramsay photo

Seven-year-old Dominic Pineda takes a swing at the ball during the season-opener of Miracle League Baseball on Rotary Field in Monroe on Saturday, April 22. The Monroe / Sky Valley YMCA's Miracle League gives children with physical and mental disabilities the experience and fun of playing baseball. In Miracle League games, every player gets to hit, get on base, and score every inning, with the help of a volunteer buddy. The local league is open to kids of all ages and with any type of physical or mental disability from the anywhere in the Puget Sound area. The league's season runs through mid-June with games each Saturday.

Forest Park pool's future to be studied

By MICHAEL WHITNEY

EVERETT — The city of Everett is considering what to do with the long-closed Forest Park pool.

Depending on how big a renovation project is contemplated, it could be in line for a big upgrade. The city believes its population is increasing enough to need two available pools in its future, parks director Bob Leonard told a City Council

committee last week.

The city has a deal with the YMCA giving residents access to swim at the Everett Y's two pools at 4730 Colby Ave. without an annual membership.

The city closed the Forest Park Swim Center at the start of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. It's been drained and winterized since, Leonard said.

It closed as a budget cut. The pool consistently operated at a loss, capturing

under 60% of its operating costs in its best years, Leonard said.

The Forest Park pool feasibility study should begin sometime next month after the City Council approves the hiring contract, city spokeswoman Simone Tarver said. It should take 90 days to complete.

The study's questions will include how the Everett Y pool is affecting business,

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Snohomish Farmers Market opens May 4

By MICHAEL WHITNEY

SNOHOMISH — Fresh fruits, vegetables and delights are all for the choosing as farmers market is nearly here.

The Snohomish Farmers Market opens Thursday, May 4 on Cedar Avenue and part of Pearl Street in Historic Downtown Snohomish. The market in Everett opens about a week later and Monroe and Lake Stevens open soon after that.

Snohomish market manager Sarah Dylan Jensen said this year's roster of between 125 to 150 vendors is making this season's market one of its largest in its 32-year history.

See MARKET, page 2

More "no-sit/no-lie" zones in Everett discussed

By NATHAN WHALEN
contributing writer

EVERETT — The City Council is weighing an ordinance expanding the city's "no-sit / no-lie" buffer zones to give the mayor the option to include all public spaces, such as parks, and service facilities.

The proposed ordinance would allow the mayor to designate new two-block radius zones around social service providers, including homeless shelters, or any area highly impacted by street-level issues.

The City Council is scheduled make a decision at its Wednesday, May 3 meeting.

"No-sit / no-lie" zones forbid people experiencing homelessness from laying down or camping in the zone. The city already established one such multi-block zone along Smith Avenue in 2021 that includes the Everett Gospel Mission and Everett Station.

Last week, Community Development Director Julie

See ZONES, page 4

Local governments act after state drug law fails in Legislature

By MICHAEL WHITNEY

Local legislators are lining up laws to make drug possession and use illegal locally after a statewide law didn't clear the Legislature.

County Councilman Nate Nehring, for one, announced he plans to introduce a countywide criminaliza-

tion of drug possession.

The city of Everett is working on its own local law for all public spaces. Everett's law proposes a misdemeanor penalty for public drug consumption or possession, except cannabis, without clauses asking prosecutors to send violators into drug diversion.

In Olympia, a rejection of late-call alterations to the state's drug possession law means the current one has nothing to replace it when the law expires July 1. On Sunday, the state House voted 43-55 against SB 5536 on the last day of the legislative session.

According to the Northwest Pro-

gressive Institute, now there are calls to have a special Legislative session geared specifically to create and pass a fixed version after this week's failure.

The House's altered version of the bill kept drug possession as a gross misdemeanor, but softened down open drug use in public to a

misdemeanor from being a gross misdemeanor, and made it legal to possess "smoking supplies" without risk of civil infraction. Both versions contained many ways to have a conviction vacated, including if someone completes a substance use disorder treatment program.

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Oldest Panthers search still being compiled

The *Tribune* thanks everyone so far who attended Snohomish High in the 1940s who we've spoken with, either through interviews or through family. We have a few more folks to speak with but want to publish soon. Know someone? Please do not hesitate to reach us at 360-568-4121.