



## Mayor's Message

by Henry Balensifer III

### It takes a village to build a city

July 13 marked the grand opening of C & S Builders Supply in the former Warrenton Builders Supply building. While there are new owners — Ken and Matthew Culp, they've always been a part of the original Builders Supply, having had a business relationship with the previous owners Marilyn and Dick Walter.

The opening is an exciting moment for Warrenton -- the restoration of our locally owned builders supply. At the grand opening, I was privileged to cut the ribbon alongside the prior owner, Marilyn Walter.

As we finished this time-honored tradition and walked the store's aisles, it was like walking through memory lane. At the end of the walk, Marilyn handed me an envelope, which she'd kept. It was my first business commission statement to Warrenton Builder's Supply!

When I was 12 years old, Derrick Danzl and I started a company called DB Spear Company. We cut down alder trees around our neighborhood and ruined our parents paring knives to create what we thought were the coolest spears ever.

We didn't know much about what we were doing business-wise and our parents were growing tired of us using all their sandpaper and paring knives — so we looked for business partners. We approached our neighborhood hardware store — then Warrenton Builders Supply — and made an arrangement.

In exchange for sponsoring us with sandpaper, we would give them a 30 percent commission for every spear we sold. True to our word, (and lucky to actually make a sale)

we sold one of our spears and issued -- with immeasurable pride -- our first commission of \$1.20 to Warrenton Builders Supply.

I mention this story not only to commemorate the re-establishment of a local staple, but also to note a piece of what makes Warrenton great. The people of our community and our local businesses drive home the truth of the African proverb "It takes a village to raise a child."

Trusting a kid to be responsible and honest to pay out a commission when owed — this sounds small to adults, but to a kid, it was a big deal.

I felt the nervousness of developing a proposal and pitching it to a business, I learned the value of following through with my commitments, and I realized the joy that a successful sale brings and the immense pride in handing over my first commission payment.

This was all possible because adults gave me the opportunity to do something beyond play in the yard or watch TV.

While Warrenton will inevitably grow in population, we can remain true to our small-town roots. I want to commend the Culps for including Marilyn Walter in the ribbon cutting. As we build our future, it's important to remember those who helped us get to the present.

My charge to all of us, as we work to make Warrenton a more perfect place, is to think about opportunities we can offer youth to learn responsibility and progressively build that pride of self that comes with recovering from failure or success earned.

## Life Flight grows its network in Washington

Life Flight Network, the largest nonprofit air medical transport service in the United States, will open a new base in Island County, Wash.

Life Flight, which has its headquarters in Aurora, also is expanding its base at Astoria-Warrenton Regional Airport.

The new base in Washington state comes through a partnership with WhidbeyHealth Medical Center. It's expected to be operational later this summer. The 24/7 air medical helicopter, pilot and medical crew will be based at WhidbeyHealth Medical Center, but will serve Coupeville, other nearby communities and the San Juan Islands.

"We're proud to partner with the exceptional providers at WhidbeyHealth and to work alongside local emergency responders in serving the health care needs of Island County residents," said Michael Griffiths, Life Flight's chief executive. "At the core



of our expansion in Washington is our mission to provide

ICU-level transportation in a safe, compassionate, efficient and expeditious manner."

It provides a second Northwest Washington location; the other is in Port Angeles.

Puget Sound is expected to gain n 1.9 million people by 2050, for a total population of nearly 6 million.

### City renews dispatch service contracts

Warrenton will continue paying the city of Astoria to handle its police and fire dispatch services.

The cost for handling Warrenton's police calls is \$243,320 for the 2019-20 fiscal year, an increase of \$33,464 or about 16 percent higher than last year.

The contract for fire services is \$30,673, an increase of \$786, or 3.6 percent over last year.

There have been discus-

sions between some public officials about consolidating emergency dispatch services.

Seaside Police Department operates a communications center that serves Seaside, Cannon Beach and the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office as well as four south county fire agencies.

Astoria Dispatch also serves the sheriff's office and all other police and fire agencies in the county.

### Public safety calls

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July 19, 33400 block Sunset Beach Lane.

•Female who's not feeling well, 11:02 a.m. July 19, 1700 block Southeast Ensign Lane.

•Male lift assist, 12:07 p.m. July 19, 100 block Tyee Street.

•Female with difficulty breathing, 2:34 p.m. July 19, 500 block West Harbor Street.

•Male lift assist, 2:58 p.m. July 19, 100 block Tyee Street.

•Male with possible stroke, 10:04 a.m. July 20, 1100 block Northwest Warrenton Drive.

•Female with broken arm, 10:23 a.m. July 20, 2200 block Southeast Dolphin Avenue.

•Suicidal female, 11:31 a.m. July 20, Highway 101 at Turlay Lane.

•Male lift assist, 12:41 p.m. July 20, 1400 block Southeast 12th Place.



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