

SATURDAY MORNING LIVE FOR OCTOBER 21, 2017 ~  
"WE'RE LIVE – WE'RE ABOUT LIBERTY – WE'RE FOCUSED ON YOU!"

**Today's Show:**

Host Kris Halterman and Lorraine Newman will discuss recent events. The Whatcom County-wide forum and the #wakeupwhatcomcounty event held at Meridian HS with Tim Eyman, Glen Morgan, and Lars Larson. Their question for the listening audience, "What are your concerns, your vision, and your solutions for Whatcom County and our neighboring counties?"

**LIBERTY ALERTS:**

**Ballots are out and it is time to vote.**

**READ PUBLIC DISCLOSURES:**

Voter Registration deadline: Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> – 4:30 PM, at the Auditor's Office for first time and new residents to Washington State.

Voters cannot write-in a candidate for a District or Race "if they ran in the Primary Race for that position."

New "taxing" district that will never go away once it's created. **Lake Whatcom Water and Sewer District** will be discuss their proposal to create a **"new" Whatcom County Storm Water District.**

Agenda Item: 5 - A; Proposed Whatcom County Storm Water District

Meeting Date: Oct. 25th, 2017

Time: 8:00 AM

Place: 1229 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, WA 98229

[Whatcom County Consent Agenda Items: Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> meeting in the Council Chambers:](#)

Item 2. Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and RE Sources to implement a countywide waste reduction and recycling education program for youth at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, in the amount of \$50,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$170,000 (AB2017-306)  
Pages 133 – 138

Item 3. Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Cascadia Law Group PLLC to conduct the study and make recommendations required by Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan Policy 2CC-16, in the amount of \$25,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$65,000 (AB2017-301)  
Pages 139 - 144

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**COMMON CENTS:**

At last Thursday’s CTNW event I was honored to be their Master of Ceremony. At the close of the event I had a message for the audience, as I have a message for everyone listening this morning.

You know...The **first step to recovery** is to get informed... go to events that not only entertain you... they inform You.

The **second step to recovery** is to get motivated and involved ... *showing up* ... show you care ... getting motivated will make a difference.

When you care about your future to live – work – and play in Whatcom County, that starts with elected leadership that shares those values and concerns.

The **middle-class** ... Whatcom County ... ignored and wiped-out by the many things I mentioned at the start of tonight’s program ... we need ...

- The ability to access our plentiful **Water**
- The use of our **Land** ... *responsibly and productively* to benefit the owner and the community
- To Plan for and Fund for ... **Growth** ... ensures we can stay here
- To Approve for the use of our **Resources** ... to develop and build **Affordable Housing**
- To support our great **Schools** ... so the students that graduate here have the option to stay here ... because ... *opportunity and growth are here*
- To Promote an environment that *welcomes* **Business Opportunity**; ... that resists taxes and regulations
- To Support our **Industries at Cherry Point** and *encourages their growth*
- That Supports **our Farms and our Farmers**, ... uses their knowledge on how to *feed the community & the feed the world*
- Supports our **Ports** ... with the necessary tools to attract new business ... *stimulate growth* ... increase our **import goods** ... and **export of local products**

Whatcom County needs leadership that understands all of that.

We need every one of you to **vote** ... to **get-out-the-vote** ... call your friends ... family ... neighbors ... **remind them to vote**...

*‘Especially those who live-in newly created Whatcom County districts of 4 & 5.’*

As important as voting is...it is not enough...which is **why Common Threads NW has committed itself to bring local groups together on the issues that bind us together.** ... Please stay involved...stay informed...and **support groups like CTNW** so we can continue to sponsor events like this ‘and’ more. It is our goal to reach everyone in Whatcom ... Skagit ... and Island County .... To do that we need to stand together for the things that unite us.

This is such a great place ... we call it Home... We want to **Live – Work – and Play** ... in Whatcom County.

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COB recently approved to exempt the new management bidders (have they been approved?) from paying the City’s Living Wage requirements.

Was the previous managing company given this choice?

The City of Bellingham was asked to base the monthly rents and redistribute the responsibility for repairs and maintenance of the golf course; to my knowledge they didn’t ask to reduce the wages of the people working there. How does that square with each of you?

### **KEY ISSUES - WHAT HAS VISIBLY CHANGED IN THE COUNTY**

#### Good Things:

More public trails  
Bike lanes  
Pedestrian friendly  
Improved local waterways  
Cleanup of Georgia Pacific  
Finalizing Georgia Pacific development  
Development of Barkley Village  
Expansion of Costco in North Bellingham  
Farmers Market in Downtown Bellingham and South Bellingham  
Retention of Municipal Golf Course

#### Concerning Things:

Growth of homelessness  
Increased drug use and presence on the streets of Bellingham  
Lack of public feeling safe after hours in downtown area  
Slow and expensive permitting for development  
Working with County to expand water services in growth areas  
Reduction in urban growth areas  
Affordable Housing (not subsidized)  
Rental barriers; rental inspections reduced the amount of available rentals  
New programs not evaluated for effectiveness; cost benefit analysis

### **RECENT COUNCIL MEETING TOPICS**

#### **Fair housing?**

What is this all about and will it make the rental markets better or worse? Will more restriction increase the rental shortage and costs of rents?

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