



50 Years Ago

DID YOU KNOW:

The Seattle Pop Festival was a music festival held in Woodinville Washington.

It occurred on July 25, 26 and 27th in 1969 at Gold Creek Park just weeks before the more

famous Woodstock Festival. It was Organized by Boyd Grafmyre.

A large sampling of the groups and individuals that played the Seattle Pop Festival are firmly planted as rock music icons.

Chuck Berry, The Byrds,

Chicago Transit Authority(soon to be just "Chicago"), Bo Diddley, the Doors, Guess Who, Led Zeppelin, Ten Years After, Ike & Tina Turner, Vanilla Fudge, Santana, Lee Michaels, Alice Cooper and the Youngbloods, also appearing: Black Snake, Tim Buckley, Albert Collins, Crome Syrcus, Floating Bridge, The Flock, The Flying Burrito Brothers, It's A Beautiful Day, Charles Loyd, Lonnie Mack, Rockin Fu, Murray Roman, Spirit,

Tickets for the event cost \$6 for a day or \$15 for all three of the days. It has been recorded that the total attendance over the three days exceeded 50,000 fans. Because attendance was larger than expected, extra food and water needed to be brought into the venue.

According to one source: "Sanitary facilities were inadequate, but every attempt was made to meet county requirements ... Nearby neighbors complained of traffic and the hippie atmosphere, but Chick Dawsey, owner of Gold Creek, noted that spectators were orderly with very few exceptions.

In an August 30, 1969 article in The Daily Chronicle (Centralia, WA), Dorian Smith writes:

The days were filled with contented euphoria. Airplanes flew over and dropped bundles of flowers or spelled out the words "LOVE" and "PEACE" in letters of smoke. Each night the black heavens were illuminated with a fireworks display, including Roman candles, sky rockets and bright red flares. The third day witnessed a giant balloon filled with hot air ascend approximately 50 feet. Guided by a ground crew which navigated the balloon with a rope, a lone aerialist in the balloon dropped roses one at a time on the cheering audience.

The Publisher of the Fourth Corner can attest to crowded conditions and lack of Sanitary facilities. We waited in long lines. A group of six of us had just graduated from Bellingham High School and attended the concert.

A bit of Northwest History remembered.

Publisher: Charlie Crabtree

No Stamp Required on Returned(Voted) Ballot



This Primary election will be the second election cycle where no postage will be required to return your ballot.

Not requiring postage started in the Primary of 2018 and continues based on a vote in the legislature that funds the no postage benefit

The auditor states that there is not enough data yet to see if this has increased turnout; but the Auditor's office has noticed is that Drop Box use has risen election week

especially the last two days because of post mark issues. In the 2018 General election (unofficially) 192 ballots were postmarked too late to be counted in Whatcom County.

Drop Box locations have also increased over the years and there are now 18 Drop Boxes listed below.

1. Acme Elementary • 5200 Turkington Rd.
2. Blaine Library • 610 3rd St.
3. Birch Bay (North Whatcom Fire & Rescue) • 4581 Birch Bay-Lynden Rd.
4. Custer Elementary • 7660 Custer School Rd.
5. Courthouse South Parking Lot • 201 Grand Ave.
6. Deming Library • 5044 Mt. Baker Hwy.
7. Everson WECU • 106 E Main St.
8. Ferndale City Hall • 2095 Main St.
9. Lummi Nation Admin Building • 2665 Kwina Rd.
10. Lynden Library • 216 4th St.
11. Meridian (Laurel Grange) • 6172 Guide Meridian
12. Kendall (North Fork Community Library) • 7506 Kendall Rd.
13. Point Roberts Marketplace (8am-10pm) • 480 Tye Dr.
14. Sehome Haggens • 210 36th St., Haggens Sehome Village, NE Corner of Parking Lot
15. Sudden Valley • Sudden Valley Security Turnaround, Gate One
16. Sumas • 534 Railroad Ave.
17. Whatcom Community College • 237 W Kellogg Rd.
18. WWU, on campus outside Wade King Student Recreation Center. 1880 Bill McDonald Pkwy.

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marks a ballot. In a panic, the No-On-Charter committee contacted the county auditor, seeking her assistance. She personally interceded and directed the elections department to include the statements.

After the election, one would think that the pro charter crowd, having just received a substantial defeat at the hands of the voters, would be reluctant to attempt another campaign any time soon.

However, that doesn't seem to be the case.

As of this writing, Home Rule Skagit has scheduled meetings to plot a path forward. Even though an overwhelming majority of Skagit voters obviously want to continue with a traditional county structure, the pro charter folks apparently intend to persist until they get what they want.

Important Whatcom County News Covered by Bellingham News Media

(None)

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