

LYNDEN

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Remember Lynden's annual picnic
at Henry Jansen's Whatcom County
farm starts at 11 a.m. with kids'
games Saturday, August 3.

Bethel hovercraft featured in exhibit

Visitors to the Smithsonian Institute's National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. are learning about Alaska Hovercraft's unique Alaska mail delivery in an exhibit titled simply, "Hovercraft."

Central to the exhibit is a three-foot scale model of the AP 1-88 hovercraft that delivers non-priority mail from Bethel for the U.S. Postal Service (USPS)

to eight landlocked villages in the Kuskokwim River region of Western Alaska. A video with introductory remarks by Alaska Senator Ted Stevens runs continuously. The video and a display of large photographs describe how the vessel operates despite difficult terrain and hostile weather to carry the mail year around.

The exhibit comes after more

than a year of work on the part of Dave Haugen, Alaska Hovercraft board chairman. "I thought the museum would be the perfect place to exhibit our mail-toting hovercraft," says Dave. "Glen Van Valin, our Bethel manager, gets much of the credit for making this exhibit happen. He arranged to get the model from the United Kingdom manufacturer and had it detailed as an exact

replica of the hovercraft operating in Bethel. He also located and supplied the museum with photos for the exhibit.

"I think our Bethel operation may be the longest running hovercraft mail service in the U.S.," Dave continues.

"Not only is it the longest running hovercraft mail service, it is currently the only hovercraft mail

Continued on page 2

Alaska West hauls missile defense loads



This large-diameter drill for the missile defense project in Fort Greely, Alaska traveled north from Tacoma on Alaska West's new six axle Aspen lowboy trailer in June. The trailer's 5-foot long deck extension offers the company greater flexibility for carrying oversize loads often required by oil field customers on Alaska's North Slope.

Alaska West Express in Tacoma, Washington started hauling heavy equipment to Fort Greely, Alaska in June for the national missile defense project.

The equipment comprises the drilling components built in

Italy and attached to a tracked Caterpillar chassis. The first drill weighs 125,000 pounds and is capable of excavating 14-foot diameter holes in the earth. Several additional trailer loads of parts and supplies also went north.

Alaska West carried the drills in three separate loads from Federal Way, Washington and San Leandro, California on a new six-axle Aspen lowboy trailer to Tacoma. Driver Phillip Jensen was at the wheel. TOTE cargo ships carried the trailer loads from Tacoma to Anchorage. Alaska West's Anchorage terminal handled the highway transport to Fort Greely.

Michele Skavlem, senior dispatcher in Tacoma, coordinated the moves and arranged for permitting. A "top priority" letter from the Department of Defense circumvented highway and ship-board restrictions.

"We're hoping this is the beginning of some steady activity for the missile defense project, and that the project will generate a lot of work for multiple Lynden companies," says terminal manager Jim Earl. ■

Bethel hovercraft *continued from page 1*

Smithsonian National Postal Museum, on loan from Hovercraft Limited through Alaska Hovercraft. Photo credit: Siobhan Creem



service anywhere in the U.S.," confirms Jim Nawrot, transportation specialist with the logistics department of USPS.

Senator Stevens attended the exhibit's opening celebration June 27. He lauded both operations—the U.S. Postal Service

and Lynden—for their innovative efforts to help Alaska become less dependent on air transportation.

Says Nawrot, "We're satisfied with the service." And, he remarks, Alaska Hovercraft and Lynden have been good about working out the kinks that go with any startup to provide a dependable service.

Alaska Hovercraft has worked with the U.S. Postal Service for more than five years to deliver non-priority mail to the villages surrounding Bethel. The 70-foot-long hovercraft carries up to 6 tons of freight and handles about 4,000,000

pounds of bypass mail per year.

The hovercraft also provides transportation for villagers and can carry as many as 24 passengers.

Lynden Air Freight's Alaska district manager, Jim Myren, took personal attention to new heights by arranging air transport of the model from Anchorage to D.C. prior to the exhibit.

"Hovercraft" runs June 14, 2002 – January 13, 2003 concurrent with "As Precious as Gold," an exhibit focused on communications and mail delivery to Alaska and the Yukon Territory during the Gold Rush. ■

No more alarm clock for this guy



Walt Tolle poses with a milk moustache for a Milky Way ad.

"It will be fun not to have to set an alarm clock—I can throw that thing out," says Walt Tolle, Milky Way driver supervisor in Lynden, Washington. Walt said farewell to co-workers and area farmers after 36 years with Milky Way during a retirement party June 28.

Reflecting, Walt says, "Drivers do PR work in a round about way because they visit with farmers so frequently." And, he knows it will be the farmers on his route, fellow drivers and the office staff that he will miss the most. Then,

he says optimistically, "I can still go have coffee to see people. It's not like I'm running off the cliff."

Walt and his wife, Jena, have three grown children and six grandchildren. The couple plans to continue doing what they enjoy: annual trips to Mexico and around the western states in the RV. And, Walt looks forward to more time for lake fishing and hunting for deer and elk in Eastern Washington, Idaho and Montana. ■

Alaska Marine Lines awarded

Juneau's Rotary presented Alaska Marine Lines with its vocational service business award June 11. Alaska Marine Lines vice president Don Reid and Kathleen Gamble with Lynden Inc. accepted the award.

"The award is a credit to our company. But, I think it is also a credit to our people, many of whom are totally dedicated to our community and contribute

much time and money to its programs and charities," says Don.

Key elements in selecting Alaska Marine Lines for the award include: employees' personal development; scholarships; job opportunities and internships for young people; encouraging employees to go beyond the expected; support of local youth programs and charitable organizations.

"Not only is Juneau dependent on AML, but we're privileged to have them as a community partner setting an example and building character among employees, associates and the community in general," praised Marsha Riley, vocational service chair, during the awards ceremony. ■

New accounts boost business

Lynden International Logistics Co. landed three new accounts to significantly increase business at its warehouse operation in Vaughan, Ontario, Canada.

The first customer, Sangstat Canada Ltd., is a pharmaceutical company specializing in the manufacture of anti-rejection drugs used for organ transplants. The products require refrigerated storage, and ice packs are used for shipping.

Two other customers open a

new niche market of tobacco products for the company. National Tobacco markets cigars and smokeless tobacco products in Canada. Lynden International Logistics Co. built a large temperature and humidity controlled humidor within the warehouse to protect and handle the product. Forklifts enter the humidor with loads of incoming cigars.

The company just obtained a bond to warehouse another specialty tobacco line for VanNelle.

VanNelle supplies pipe and cigarette tobaccos in Canada, and the company's products are often available in duty-free stores.

The new bounty comes after a six-month concerted effort to get new business since hiring business development manager Danny Sugimoto early this year.

"He has been out beating a lot of bushes and is generating significant interest for LILCO," says Mike Short, branch manager. ■

Barbeque celebrates safety month

Lynden Air Freight paid tribute to National Safety Month June 14 by hosting a "Safety Awareness" barbeque for employees in the parking lot of the Kilroy Center at SeaTac. American flags decorated the tables and employees wore red, white and blue outfits to also commemorate Flag Day.

Randy Jackson, vice president, donned a chef's hat and contributed his own "killer" barbeque sauce for the 95 burgers he grilled for the hungry lunchtime group. A completed safety questionnaire entitled each person to a burger and all

the trimmings accompanied by a salad potluck, ice cream and cookies.

Safety prizes went to winners of the safety quiz with Bob Gehrke getting a safety kit for first place; Robin Moser won the second place prize, a fire extinguisher. An American flag went to Donna Watson for the most patriotic outfit.

"The event went smashingly. Most everyone attended," says Dyan Vaught chairperson for Lynden Air Freight's safety committee. The safety and employee committees teamed up to organize the barbeque. ■



Near the grill, from left, Christine Ranes, Joanne Kelly, Dyan Vaught, Cecille St. Clair and Randy Jackson.

Lynden hits the streets for breast cancer



A Lynden group that participated in The Komen Race for the Cure® Sunday, June 2 raised more than \$4,500 to help wipe out breast cancer as a life-threatening disease. Participating in the Seattle event were employees from several Lynden companies. Walking from Lynden, Inc. were Bob Strong and his wife, Jan, Lan Pham, Laura Foster, Geralyn Reiser, Pam Lunder,

Elisabeth Wittenberg, Nancy Wittenberg, Gayle Adams, Debbie Montgomery and Kitty Samuel. Lynden Air Freight walkers included Pat Price, Joanne Kelly, Christine Ranes and Debbi Crain. Angela Kuzior and her husband, Matt, represented Alaska Marine Lines. Many other family members and friends also walked with the group. ■

Lynden golfers compete in Calgary



Lynden International Logistics, Calgary, held its annual golf tournament at McCall Lake Golf Course June 15. Forty golfers (employees, spouses, friends and suppliers) hit the greens that day. Prizes went to everyone, thanks to the generous support of suppliers. The winning team came in at five under par. Meet the team above, from left: **Steve Harder**, Lynden International Logistics Co. warehouse supervisor, and **Scott Daley, Trevor Beck** and **Barry MacDonald**, suppliers.

Ayten Bullock joined the benefits department of Lynden Inc. in Seattle, as senior benefits administrator May 20, 2002. Lynden Air Freight, Seattle, hired **Donna Watson** as domestic airlines payable specialist June 10.

Lynden families have four newborns to introduce. Lynden Air Freight's Los Angeles station reports that **Lucas Robert Verduzco** arrived earlier than expected, May 11. The baby

weighed 3 pounds, 2 ounces and is the son of proud parents **Tammi** and **Carlos Verduzco**. Tammi works in international exports. **Sammy** and **Maria Cervantes** welcomed their fourth child, a girl named **Marie Ann**, born June 8 weighing 7 pounds, 1 ounce. Sammy works in the LAX warehouse.

John and **Julie Ward**'s third child is a baby girl born May 7. **Kathrine Grace** weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces. Dad is operations manager. In Denver, Lynden Air Freight's Skytrack operations supervisor **Amber Schmitz** and **Kendal Garrison** welcomed a 7 pound, 3 ounce baby boy June 7. They named their son **Dade Thaniel**.

Wedding bells rang for **Jennifer Tawa** and **Michael Cerna** May 25. Jennifer is an administrative assistant for Lynden Air Freight, Los Angeles.

Lynden people bagged trash during the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport's spring "Airport Cleanup Day" May 10. "Lynden Air Cargo has made it an annual event by putting on a barbeque along with the work gloves," says **Judy McKenzie**, vice president, controller. Sales manager **Bob Barndt** (photo above right) manned the grill to feed hungry volunteers who picked up trash left behind



around Lynden's airport facility in spring by the snowmelt. **Jamie Bell** (photo above), Lynden Air Freight international agent, sets out to fill a huge plastic bag. Many other willing hands from Lynden company offices helped in the clean up. ■

NOTEWORTHY

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Driver succumbs to heart attack

A massive heart attack took the life of longtime Milky Way driver Vernon Lee Martinson June 16. He was 56. Vern started driving to Alaska for Lynden Transport in 1970 and later switched to farm pick up for Milky Way. Driver supervisor Walt Tolle

remembers Vern as an excellent employee who loved fishing, golfing, hot-rod cars and '60s music. His pride and joy—a '64 GTO show car.

Vern is survived by his mother and stepfather, Maxine and Brad Bishop; daughter, Jody Watkins; sons, Gary and Rod Soderquist;

and stepsons, Brian and Terry Carlson. He also leaves three sisters and two stepbrothers. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, Northwest Affiliate, 4414 Woodland Park Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98103. ■