

The Northern Light

Blaine and Birch Bay's Community Newspaper

Letters to The Editor: March 26-April 1, 2026

The Editor:

North Whatcom Fire and Rescue is at a breaking point and Birch Bay should be paying close attention.

Call volumes have surged; staffing is stretched thin, aging equipment is being pushed beyond its limits. Funding has not kept pace.

Due to state limits, the fire levy has effectively shrunk over time, leaving our growing community with fewer resources to respond when emergencies happen.

This isn't about "extra" services. It's about whether help arrives quickly when your family needs it most.

The fire chief has made the situation clear: Without additional funding, they may be forced to permanently close one of the three stations serving our area — or rotate closures between stations. NWFRS is going for a much needed levy lift this year. Without adequate funds there will be fewer crews and longer waits in an emergency.

Please take this levy seriously. For more information visit nwfrs.net.

Sharman Burnam

Birch Bay