



## Board of County Commissioners

Lewis County Courthouse • 351 NW North Street • Chehalis, WA 98532-1900

○ 360.740.1120  
TDD 360.740.1480

[bocc@lewiscountywa.gov](mailto:bocc@lewiscountywa.gov)

### PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lewis County, Washington – May 13, 2025

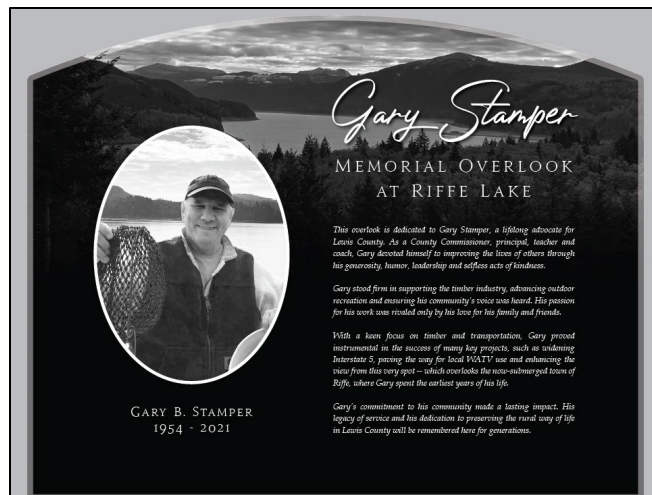
## County dedicating 'Gary Stamper Memorial Overlook' on June 4

CHEHALIS, Wash. – The Lewis County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is honored to announce the upcoming dedication of the “Gary Stamper Memorial Overlook,” located along U.S. Highway 12 just east of Mossyrock.

The dedication ceremony will take place at noon June 4.

Named in honor of the late Commissioner Gary Stamper, the scenic viewpoint offers travelers a panoramic view of Riffe Lake, the surrounding timbered hills and the Cascade mountain range – a vista that Commissioner Stamper himself helped make more accessible. During his time in office, Stamper worked closely with property owners to clear obstructive trees, opening the breathtaking view now enjoyed by thousands each year.

“Gary wasn’t just a commissioner – he was a friend, a leader and a passionate advocate for the people of Lewis County,” said Lewis County Commissioner Lindsey Pollock. “This overlook reflects the values he championed: access to the outdoors, appreciation for our rural beauty and service to community.”



*“This overlook is dedicated to Gary Stamper, a lifelong advocate for Lewis County. As a County Commissioner, principal, teacher and coach, Gary devoted himself to improving the lives of others through his generosity, humor, leadership and selfless acts of kindness.*

*“Gary stood firm in supporting the timber industry, advancing outdoor recreation and ensuring his community’s voice was heard. His passion for his work was rivaled only by his love for his family and friends.*

*“With a keen focus on timber and transportation, Gary proved instrumental in the success of many key projects, such as widening Interstate 5, paving the way for local WATV use and enhancing the view from this very spot -- which overlooks the now-submerged town of Riffe, where Gary spent the earliest years of his life.*

*“Gary’s commitment to his community made a lasting impact. His legacy of service and his dedication to preserving the rural way of life in Lewis County will be remembered here for generations.”*

**Ryan Barrett**  
County Manager

**Sean Swope**  
First District

**Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM**  
Second District

**Scott Brummer**  
Third District

**Rieva Lester**  
Clerk of the Board

Commissioner Stamper, who died Sept. 29, 2021, after a courageous battle with COVID-19, represented District 3 on the county's east end. A former teacher, principal and girls' basketball coach, Stamper brought the same dedication to his public service that he did to the classroom and gymnasium. He served on the BOCC from 2015 until his passing and was especially known for his work on timber, transportation, rural economic development and outdoor recreation initiatives.

The Washington State Transportation Commission approved the naming of the overlook in 2023 following a petition from the BOCC, county staff and others. County employees, elected officials and others raised the nearly \$3,000 to cover the cost of the 28-by-22-inch, graffiti-proof laminate panel, which is mounted to aluminum posts.

The community is invited to gather at the overlook for the official unveiling and dedication ceremony. Parking likely will be limited, so carpooling is encouraged.

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