

# Lynden Tribune—News Briefs

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## Brewery adding solar panels

DEMING — The North Fork Brewery and Beer Shrine, 6186 Mt. Baker Highway, hopes to be nearly off-grid for electrical power next year. The dining spot is preparing to install over eight kilowatts of solar panels, enough to provide most of its electricity consumption year-round.

The North Fork is taking advantage of the Community Energy Challenge, put on by local nonprofits the Opportunity Council and Sustainable Connections, as well as federal and state incentives. Significant reductions of electricity and propane expenses have already been achieved.

“Participating in the Community Energy Challenge and going through the energy assessment was a great way to continue saving energy in my business,” said Vicki Savage, North Fork owner. “It helped us recognize more aspects of efficiency that we could improve upon, from a handful of low-cost changes all the way to this solar project. We’re going for it!”

Sustainable Connections will host a Solar Power Happy Hour on Nov. 17 for businesses interested in learning more about installing solar. It will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at 1701 Ellis St., Suite 221, in Bellingham.

For more information, visit [www.sconnect.org/events](http://www.sconnect.org/events). RSVP for the Nov. 17 event to [erin@sconnect.org](mailto:erin@sconnect.org).