The beaver dam has a history of breaches, most recently in 2021. Water from the 20-acre pond formed by the dam damaged dozens of homes and sent massive rocks and logs cascading downhill. When rains come in early fall, as they often do, Big Lake could be looking at another flood, the residents say.

Dudre Strooma, one of the soon-to-be Big Lake residents, said he won’t wait until they negotiate a fix. Dababiet said the floods damage West Big Lake Road, a county-owned road. Repairs are expensive, and come out of the county’s budget every time the road is covered in mud and debris.

“Does the county have a vested interest in keeping that from flooding their roads? Of course they do,” he said.

Dababiet said the county ought to have an interest in preserving the lives and property that are at risk with another significant flood.

For Putin, military, diplomatic pressures mount

BY JON GAMBRILL
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin mounted on the battlefield and in the halls of global power as Ukrainian troops pushed their counteroffensive Saturday to advance further into Ukraine’s partly recaptured northeast. Western officials and analysts said Russian forces were apparently setting up a new defensive line in Ukraine’s northeast after the counteroffensive punched through the previous one, allowing Kyiv’s soldiers to recapture large swathes of land in the northeastern Kharkiv region that borders Russia.

Putin, at a high-level summit in Uzbekistan this week, vowed to press his attack on Ukraine despite the recent military setbacks but also faced concerns by India and China over the drawn-out conflict.

“I know that today’s era is not of war,” Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the Russian leader in televised comments as they met Friday in Uzbekistan. “We discussed this with you on the phone several times, that democracy and dialogue should be in the entire world.”

At the same summit a day earlier, Putin acknowledged China’s unspecified “questions and concerns” about the war in Ukraine while thanking President Xi Jinping for Beijing’s “balanced position” on the conflict.

Mon UKRAINE | A7

Groundbreaking held for Mount Vernon Library Commons project

By JAKE GOM

MOUNT VERNON — A large crowd gathered with city and state officials on Saturday across the street from the Skagit County Courthouse for the groundbreaking event for the city’s Library Commons project.

Mayor Bill Barden said the Library Commons space will feature much more than a library. The building will also house a community center, commercial kitchen, a large solar array and three levels of structured parking.

The parking area will feature 270 vehicle spaces, 76 publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, eight motorcycle spaces and nine electric bike charging lockers. The project has $10.3 million in state and local funding.

City and state officials took part in the groundbreaking ceremony Saturday on the site for the Mount Vernon Library Commons project in Mount Vernon.

For Putin, military, diplomatic pressures mount

BY JON GAMBRILL
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin mounted on the battlefield and in the halls of global power as Ukrainian troops pushed their counteroffensive Saturday to advance further into Ukraine’s partly recaptured northeast. Western officials and analysts said Russian forces were apparently setting up a new defensive line in Ukraine’s northeast after the counteroffensive punched through the previous one, allowing Kyiv’s soldiers to recapture large swathes of land in the northeastern Kharkiv region that borders Russia.

Putin, at a high-level summit in Uzbekistan this week, vowed to press his attack on Ukraine despite the recent military setbacks but also faced concerns by India and China over the drawn-out conflict.

“I know that today’s era is not of war,” Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the Russian leader in televised comments as they met Friday in Uzbekistan. “We discussed this with you on the phone several times, that democracy and dialogue should be in the entire world.”

At the same summit a day earlier, Putin acknowledged China’s unspecified “questions and concerns” about the war in Ukraine while thanking President Xi Jinping for Beijing’s “balanced position” on the conflict.

Mon UKRAINE | A7

Groundbreaking held for Mount Vernon Library Commons project

By JAKE GOM

MOUNT VERNON — A large crowd gathered with city and state officials on Saturday across the street from the Skagit County Courthouse for the groundbreaking event for the city’s Library Commons project.

Mayor Bill Barden said the Library Commons space will feature much more than a library. The building will also house a community center, commercial kitchen, a large solar array and three levels of structured parking.

The parking area will feature 270 vehicle spaces, 76 publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, eight motorcycle spaces and nine electric bike charging lockers. The project has $10.3 million in state and local funding.

City and state officials took part in the groundbreaking ceremony Saturday on the site for the Mount Vernon Library Commons project in Mount Vernon.

For Putin, military, diplomatic pressures mount

BY JON GAMBRILL
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin mounted on the battlefield and in the halls of global power as Ukrainian troops pushed their counteroffensive Saturday to advance further into Ukraine’s partly recaptured northeast. Western officials and analysts said Russian forces were apparently setting up a new defensive line in Ukraine’s northeast after the counteroffensive punched through the previous one, allowing Kyiv’s soldiers to recapture large swathes of land in the northeastern Kharkiv region that borders Russia.

Putin, at a high-level summit in Uzbekistan this week, vowed to press his attack on Ukraine despite the recent military setbacks but also faced concerns by India and China over the drawn-out conflict.

“I know that today’s era is not of war,” Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the Russian leader in televised comments as they met Friday in Uzbekistan. “We discussed this with you on the phone several times, that democracy and dialogue should be in the entire world.”

At the same summit a day earlier, Putin acknowledged China’s unspecified “questions and concerns” about the war in Ukraine while thanking President Xi Jinping for Beijing’s “balanced position” on the conflict.

Mon UKRAINE | A7

Groundbreaking held for Mount Vernon Library Commons project

By JAKE GOM

MOUNT VERNON — A large crowd gathered with city and state officials on Saturday across the street from the Skagit County Courthouse for the groundbreaking event for the city’s Library Commons project.

Mayor Bill Barden said the Library Commons space will feature much more than a library. The building will also house a community center, commercial kitchen, a large solar array and three levels of structured parking.

The parking area will feature 270 vehicle spaces, 76 publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, eight motorcycle spaces and nine electric bike charging lockers. The project has $10.3 million in state and local funding.

City and state officials took part in the groundbreaking ceremony Saturday on the site for the Mount Vernon Library Commons project in Mount Vernon.

For Putin, military, diplomatic pressures mount

BY JON GAMBRILL
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin mounted on the battlefield and in the halls of global power as Ukrainian troops pushed their counteroffensive Saturday to advance further into Ukraine’s partly recaptured northeast. Western officials and analysts said Russian forces were apparently setting up a new defensive line in Ukraine’s northeast after the counteroffensive punched through the previous one, allowing Kyiv’s soldiers to recapture large swathes of land in the northeastern Kharkiv region that borders Russia.

Putin, at a high-level summit in Uzbekistan this week, vowed to press his attack on Ukraine despite the recent military setbacks but also faced concerns by India and China over the drawn-out conflict.

“I know that today’s era is not of war,” Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the Russian leader in televised comments as they met Friday in Uzbekistan. “We discussed this with you on the phone several times, that democracy and dialogue should be in the entire world.”

At the same summit a day earlier, Putin acknowledged China’s unspecified “questions and concerns” about the war in Ukraine while thanking President Xi Jinping for Beijing’s “balanced position” on the conflict.

Mon UKRAINE | A7

Groundbreaking held for Mount Vernon Library Commons project

By JAKE GOM

MOUNT VERNON — A large crowd gathered with city and state officials on Saturday across the street from the Skagit County Courthouse for the groundbreaking event for the city’s Library Commons project.

Mayor Bill Barden said the Library Commons space will feature much more than a library. The building will also house a community center, commercial kitchen, a large solar array and three levels of structured parking.

The parking area will feature 270 vehicle spaces, 76 publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, eight motorcycle spaces and nine electric bike charging lockers. The project has $10.3 million in state and local funding.

City and state officials took part in the groundbreaking ceremony Saturday on the site for the Mount Vernon Library Commons project in Mount Vernon.

For Putin, military, diplomatic pressures mount

BY JON GAMBRILL
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin mounted on the battlefield and in the halls of global power as Ukrainian troops pushed their counteroffensive Saturday to advance further into Ukraine’s partly recaptured northeast. Western officials and analysts said Russian forces were apparently setting up a new defensive line in Ukraine’s northeast after the counteroffensive punched through the previous one, allowing Kyiv’s soldiers to recapture large swathes of land in the northeastern Kharkiv region that borders Russia.

Putin, at a high-level summit in Uzbekistan this week, vowed to press his attack on Ukraine despite the recent military setbacks but also faced concerns by India and China over the drawn-out conflict.

“I know that today’s era is not of war,” Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi told the Russian leader in televised comments as they met Friday in Uzbekistan. “We discussed this with you on the phone several times, that democracy and dialogue should be in the entire world.”

At the same summit a day earlier, Putin acknowledged China’s unspecified “questions and concerns” about the war in Ukraine while thanking President Xi Jinping for Beijing’s “balanced position” on the conflict.

Mon UKRAINE | A7

Groundbreaking held for Mount Vernon Library Commons project

By JAKE GOM

MOUNT VERNON — A large crowd gathered with city and state officials on Saturday across the street from the Skagit County Courthouse for the groundbreaking event for the city’s Library Commons project.

Mayor Bill Barden said the Library Commons space will feature much more than a library. The building will also house a community center, commercial kitchen, a large solar array and three levels of structured parking.

The parking area will feature 270 vehicle spaces, 76 publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, eight motorcycle spaces and nine electric bike charging lockers. The project has $10.3 million in state and local funding.

City and state officials took part in the groundbreaking ceremony Saturday on the site for the Mount Vernon Library Commons project in Mount Vernon.