

The background of the entire cover is a close-up photograph of various autumn leaves floating in dark water. The leaves display a range of colors including bright yellow, vibrant orange, deep red, and some with white variegation. The water's surface is dark and reflects the colors of the leaves, creating a rich, textured appearance.

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October 2026

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Mission Statement: The mission of the *Port Ludlow Voice* is to inform its readers of events and activities within the Village and in close proximity to the Village. We will print news articles that directly affect our local residents.

Published monthly by an all-volunteer staff.

Submission Information:

Article and ad submissions for both the online and printed magazine are due on the 5th of the preceding month. Late arrivals accepted at the discretion of the section editors or ad managers if space is available.

Send your articles and comments to

editor@plvoice.org

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Visit The *Voice* Online

plvoice.org

Community Updates: Find information on the website before the printed magazine is available. See breaking news on the Home Page and the Community News section for information on North Bay, South Bay, and PLVC for early news for the Port Ludlow Community. All links contained in the articles are live.

Expanded Articles: Read complete versions of articles and media appearing online only.

Full Content on the Website: All the content from the magazine is now posted online.

Advertising Information: Click on the monthly cover image to see the full magazine including classified and display ads.

Archived Voice Issues Online: Copies of every issue of the *Voice* beginning in August 1998 and continuing to the present are available on the website at Archive of Issues.

ON THE FRONT COVER:

Photo by Kevin Hall., Autumn Leaves near the Sound



Port Ludlow Voice

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News & Community

How Port Ludlow Communities Help Feed Local Children

Every Thursday during the school year, dedicated volunteers gather with a simple, but important, mission: making sure local children have enough food to eat over the weekend.

Through Chimacum Backpacks for Kids, an average of 144 food bags are packed each week for students at Chimacum Primary, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. At approximately \$13.75 per bag, that's nearly \$2,000 worth of food provided to local children each week.

On Fridays, the bags are discreetly distributed through the schools for students to take home. For some children, that backpack means knowing they will have something to eat when school cafeterias are closed and the weekend begins.

It Takes a Community...

Volunteers are essential to the program, but it takes an entire community to keep those backpacks filled.

Two Port Ludlow neighborhoods—Ludlow Cove Cottages and Montgomery Lane Neighbors—have embraced Backpacks for Kids by turning neighborhood gatherings into opportunities to give back.

The Cove hosts an annual Oktoberfest, where neighbors enjoy a German potluck and raffle while raising money for the program. Montgomery Lane residents also raise funds through gatherings such as their Fourth of July celebration and wine tastings at Marrowstone Vineyards.

The Bay Club contributes through its annual pancake breakfast in September, bringing neighbors together while supporting local students.

These events remind us that fundraising doesn't always feel like fundraising. Sometimes it's sharing a meal, celebrating a holiday, raising a glass with friends, or simply gathering with neighbors—all while helping a local child.

At the end of the school year, remaining funds provide scholarships for Chimacum High School seniors.

Chimacum Backpacks for Kids, the Chimacum School District, volunteers, donors, and local neighborhoods have created a network of support built around one simple belief:

No child should have to worry about going hungry over the weekend

It can begin with an Oktoberfest, a Fourth of July gathering, a wine tasting, or a pancake breakfast. It can be a Thursday morning spent packing bags or a neighbor providing a donation.

Together, our community is doing more than filling backpacks. We are filling a need, supporting local families, and showing children, our future leaders, what it means to care for one another.

To learn more, to donate, or to find out how your neighborhood can host an event, visit chimacumbackpacksforkids.com.

Quilcene Bay and Dabob Bay Shellfish Opening

Recent shellfish samples taken from Quilcene Bay and Dabob Bay indicate that the level of biotoxins has dropped below the closure limit for some shellfish species such as littleneck clams, manila clams, mussels, and oysters. However, butter and varnish clams remain closed by the Washington Department of Health to recreational shellfish harvesting in both bays, since they retain toxins for a longer period of time. In addition, a Vibrio Warning is still in effect to cook all shellfish. Jefferson County Public Health has posted signs at public access points indicating this change.

To find out which areas are safe to harvest shellfish in Washington, and for a link to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) harvesting seasons and rules, please check the map at doh.wa.gov/shellfishsafety.htm or call the Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632. For the latest information on regulations and seasons, visit wdfw.wa.gov/places-to-go/shellfish-beaches, or call WDFW Fish Program customer service at 360-902-2700

Voice Cover Photo Contest

How would you like one of your photographs as the cover of the *Voice* magazine for the December issue? Think winter or holiday-themed photographs, such as a snow-covered boat, icicles, holiday lights, kids and pets playing in the snow, or a moody shot of winter wildlife. We're open to everything and anything, although we prefer outdoor

and/or landscape-type images. However, if you've got an indoor shot that can't be beat, send it along. Just use your imagination and your photography skills and give us something to celebrate the natural beauty of this place we call home. We look forward to seeing your best work.

Image Format

- You may submit up to three images as attachments in a single email to *photoeditor@plvoice.org*. Do not email images through a link, downloaded from the cloud, or any other method except as an email attachment.
- Your email with images must be emailed to *photoeditor@plvoice.org* by midnight on **Sunday, November 1**.
- Use your name as the filename for the image, for example, Joe_Smith_1, Joe.Smith_2, or JoeSmith3.
- Images must be in JPEG (jpg), PNG, TIFF, or PSD formats. Most smartphones save photos as a JPEG file.
- Use a vertical (portrait) orientation instead of horizontal (landscape) orientation. Vertical orientation is similar to a magazine cover format that is 8 inches x 10 inches.
- Send the highest resolution image you have, such as one megabyte, but larger is better.

Eligibility

- You must live in the greater Port Ludlow area to enter, but the image need not be taken locally, although local photos are preferred.
- If your household receives the *Voice* magazine, then you are eligible to enter the contest.
- All ages are eligible, but if you're under 18, you will need parental permission for your name and photo to be used.
- Your name will be listed as the photographer. Any submitted images must be yours, taken by you, and you must have full copyright of that image. You will retain the copyright to your image, but by entering the contest, you automatically grant permission to the *Voice* to print your image on the cover of the December issue and in any future articles about previous winners.
- The *Voice* reserves the right to reasonably modify or adjust your image to fit the magazine cover and to print well, including adjusting colors, cropping, adjusting exposures, enhancing, masking, etc.
- Any persons who are recognizable in the image must give their express written permission to appear on the

cover.

- Any recognizable property must have permission from the property owner to appear on the cover. For example, if your image has the local coffee company in the background, then the coffee company owner must give permission for your image to be used.

Selection

The *Voice* staff will select their favorite image for the December issue of the *Voice*.

Checklist

- Is your image in focus, clear enough to print well, not too muddy, or has enough contrast?
- Is your image in vertical or portrait format?
- Is your image file in a high enough resolution (one megabyte or larger)?
- Have you named your image file(s) with your name (for example, Joe_Smith_1, Joe.Smith_2, or JoeSmith3)?
- Did you add your images (up to three) as attachments in a single email?
- Is your email address correct (*photoeditor@plvoice.org*) and is it going to be received by midnight, **Sunday, November 1**?

If you can answer yes to all these questions, you're ready to send your email with attached images to the *Voice* magazine cover contest. Good Luck! For more information, email *photoeditor@plvoice.org*.

First Wednesday Luncheon

by Stephanie Buehler, Guest Writer

On **Wednesday, November 4**, 11 a.m – 1 p.m., at the Beach Club, Jeff Swanson and Jake Davidson from the Jefferson Healthcare Foundation will be our presenters.

Jeff is the Director of the Jefferson Healthcare Foundation. He formerly served as the Chief Philanthropy Officer at Chinese Hospital in San Francisco, and as the President of the Rideout Health Foundation.

Jake is the Chief Operating Officer at Jefferson Healthcare. He formerly served as the Clinic Administrator at Providence Swedish and as the Director of Clinical Operations at Skagit Regional Health.

Their presentation topics will include:

Jefferson Healthcare Foundation:

- **Our Mission:** Hold philanthropy in trust and invest in the health of our community
- **Strategic Goals:** Strengthening healthcare close to home today; ensuring access to care tomorrow
- **Impact:** \$4.5 million invested to date

Jefferson Healthcare:

- **Expanding Access:** Outpatient services update
- **Looking Ahead:** Imagine the possibilities
- **Diagnostic Imaging:** Bringing advanced imaging technology closer to home
- **Port Ludlow:** Specialty services

There will be time allotted for Q&A as well.

This will be a BYOL (lunch). Cookies, coffee, tea, and water will be provided.

Please RSVP to firstwednesdayluncheon@gmail.com or sign up at either the Bay or Beach Club no later than **November 2** so we can have the appropriate seating available.

There is no charge to attend our luncheons. Instead, we ask that you bring a donation in the form of cash, check made payable to the Jefferson County Food Bank Association (JCFBA), and/or non-perishable food such as condiments, coffee, peanut butter, jelly, canned meat, boxed pasta, and hygiene products.

Food donations must be unopened, undamaged, and unexpired.

Mark your calendar for our holiday program on **Wednesday, December 2**, with a favorite group of fellas who sing a cappella, four-part harmony, and barbershop style: West Sound Chorus from Kitsap County. A lovely seasonal luncheon will accompany a special holiday raffle. Don't miss all the fun.

Taking Care of Our Schools, Investing in Our Kids

If you drove up Rhody Drive past our schools this summer, you may have noticed quite a bit of work happening. Contractors and Chimacum staff have been busy with roofing, painting, improvements to the weight room, grounds work, sidewalk and site improvements, and a few other repairs and upgrades that help keep our campuses in good shape and ready for students. We are looking sharp for the start of school!

This work is not flashy, but it matters. A sound roof, good insulation and windows, well-maintained buildings, safe walkways, dependable systems, and welcoming learning spaces all contribute to a school environment where students and staff can focus on what matters most: learning, growing, and building community.

Facilities work is about good stewardship: taking care of what we have, fixing things before small problems become expensive ones, and making thoughtful investments that extend the life of our schools and protect resources for students. These allow us to take care of our buildings, equipment, and other infrastructure with capital dollars rather than leaning on the general fund—those resources that support teachers, staff, classrooms, and student programs.

We continue to be grateful to our community for supporting Chimacum's capital levy. Your support helps us keep our kids safe, warm, dry, and learning in spaces that feel cared for and ready for them.

Let the school year begin!

Our *Champions for Chimacum* school tours are a great way to visit classrooms, meet staff, students, and get a firsthand look at opportunities happening across our district. And have lunch with us!

- **September 16**, 11a.m.- noon, Chimacum Creek Primary School
- **October 21**, 11a.m.- noon, Chimacum Elementary School
- **November 18**, 11a.m.- noon, Chimacum Junior Senior High School
- **January 20**, 11a.m.- noon, Chimacum Creek Primary School
- **February 17**, 11a.m.- noon, Chimacum Elementary School
- **April 14**, 11a.m.- noon, Chimacum Junior Senior High School

Join the WAVE Food Drive

Every day many of our neighbors in Jefferson County go hungry. Food insecurity is not just a missed meal, an empty stomach, or an individual experience. It is a community-wide symptom of exclusion, of not having enough – not enough nutritional food, income, or a represented voice. Hunger is a symptom of barriers to employment, education, housing, and healthcare.

Jefferson County Food Bank Association provides food resources to help our neighbors in need, serving nearly 2,700 households, comprising 6,000 people per month! The Food Bank leverages generous monetary donations to make purchases from wholesalers who offer deep discounts to food banks. The Food Bank works with network partners like Food Lifeline and NW Harvest who help facilitate food donations from large retailers, and through commodity purchases made at the State and Federal levels. It also relies on local retailers and food service businesses to donate food.

WAVE (What A Valuable Experience), an informal alliance of homeowners' associations and faith communities, partners with the Jefferson County Food Bank Association to raise awareness of food insecurity and encourage community support throughout October. For 40 years, the WAVE Food Drive has collected tens of thousands of dollars and substantial food donations for the Food Bank.

While donations can be made at any time, the WAVE Food Drive culminates on the last day of the month. Suggested food donations are protein items such as canned meat, peanut butter, and beans. Food items and monetary donations can be dropped off **Saturday, October 31, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**, at the Beach Club at 121 Marina View Drive.

Monetary donations may also be made on the Jefferson County Foodbank Association website, jcfba.org/wave2026.

Winter Garden Birds in Port Ludlow: The Topic at Dine and Discover

by Allan and Nancy Kiesler

Year-round, we watch birds of all types enjoying our backyard bird feeders, but the winter birds interest us the most. Who are they and how do they manage during the cold



and wet or snowy winter months? Why don't they head to warmer climates as many humans do? These and many other questions will be answered at November's Dine and Discover when Bob Boekelheide from the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society presents Winter Garden Birds of the North Olympic Peninsula.

North and South Bay members and their guests are invited to attend this presentation, which will be held at the Bay Club on **Monday, November 2**, at 6 p.m. Sign-up sheets will be available at the front desk at both the Beach and the Bay Club by **Friday, October 9**.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Whatever dish you sign up to bring, please make it large enough to serve 8-10 people. If you bring an appetizer, please bring one that can be easily served by our volunteers. Dips do not work well. Some folks have dietary issues, so please put a note on your dish if it contains any of the following allergens: wheat, soy, eggs, milk, tree nuts, peanuts, fish, or shellfish. You will also need to bring your place setting (plates, napkins, eating utensils, glasses), placemats if desired, and a plastic bag to put your dirty dishes in to go home. We provide coffee/tea/water, but if you would prefer something else to drink, you're welcome to bring your beverage of choice.

Admission is \$5.00 per person, payable at the door. This covers the cost of the facility, coffee/tea, banquet permit, and the honorarium we provide to the speaker. If you sign up but are unable to attend, please let us know, as no-shows can significantly affect the food selection. Questions or suggestions – call us at 360-437-8091. We look forward to seeing you there.

Port Ludlow Trunk & Treat 2026

Come to Trunk & Treat and join in the Halloween fun! Let's make it something special for all the kiddos! If you have not participated in the past, dress up in your favorite Halloween costume, bring treats and your car with its trunk decorated. Kiddos pick up their treats from there (or from a small table you might want to bring), and they, along with their parents, enjoy the creativity of your decorations while receiving treats and tons of enthusiasm over their own costumes.



The event is held in the Village Way parking lot adjacent to El Molcajete Mexican Grill on **Saturday, October 31**, 4 – 6 p.m., as we have in the past. If you're participating with your car, come early to get set up by 4:00. Those of us who have participated for the past several years agree that we have as much fun, if not more, than the kids! Come join us and get the word out to all your friends and neighbors with kids. We'd love to see them. Happy Halloween! For questions, call Michelle Pelkey at 360-710-3547.

Martha's Book Group – *The Night Watchman*

Louise Erdrich's 2020 novel, *The Night Watchman*, will be discussed on **Tuesday, October 13**, at the Martha's Book Group (MBG) meeting at the Bay Club at 4 p.m. Erdrich's sixth novel was awarded the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. Her novel was inspired by letters written by her grandfather in opposition to the "termination bill," passed in 1953, which ended the federal responsibility to certain tribes. The bill forced the indigenous nations to renounce their culture, absolved the federal government from their responsibilities as defined by the treaties, and relinquished their rights to their reservation lands. Join us as we view this assault on native rights from the perspective of the North Dakota Turtle Mountain Reservation members.

MBG meetings are held monthly on the second Tuesday at 4 p.m. at the Bay Club. All are welcome to attend. For further information on books to be discussed in the future, contact Sarah Schuch at bookgroup@plvoice.org. November's book for discussion will be *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans.

Fort Flagler October Event

Underwater photography reveals a fascinating part of our world. Register now and you can see an intriguing presentation of "Critters of the Salish Sea: Underwater Photography," at Fort Flagler on **Saturday, October 17**.

Hosted by the Friends of Fort Flagler, the presenter, Larry McGaughey, is a retired environmental engineer. He also served as a volunteer at the Seattle Aquarium for nine years, and for two years at the Port Townsend Maritime Center. His diving and underwater photography have extended to multiple places around the globe.

Details:

Saturday, October 17, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Fort Flagler State Park WWII Theater

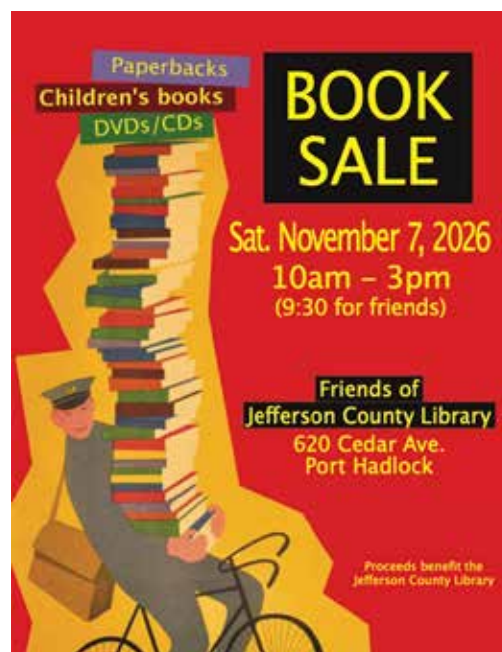
Tickets: Free for members; \$5 each for the general public

Learn more at friendsoffortflagler.org. Click on "Resources" to find 2026 Events, and sign-up. Check back often, because new events are often added, some of which are free. (Be sure to sign up, even for free events.) Membership is \$20 per year for one person or for an entire family.

What To Do When a Loved One Dies

Amanda Wilson, locally based Estate Planning Attorney with Northwest Estate Planning & Probate P.S., will present this free seminar and answer questions as time will allow.

Join us at the Beach Club, 121 Marina View Dr, Port Ludlow, on **Wednesday, October 14**, 1 – 2 p.m. Walk-ins welcome but RSVP appreciated at (360)437-4172 or info@nwpepp.com.



Fall into October with the Jefferson County Library District

It's spooky season at the Jefferson County Library! We are closed on the **Monday, October 12**, in celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Day, and again on **Wednesday, October 21**, for Staff Education Day. Visit our program calendar at jclibrary.info for more information.

On **Thursday, October 15**, 5 – 6 p.m., join us for an Author Talk with Lisa Coutu. We'll be discussing her new book, *Communicating Cancer: Strategies for You, Family and Friends*. This book is a guide for anyone who struggles with difficult conversations around their diagnosis.

Looking to add a fun fall flair to your home? We're creating succulent covered pumpkins! Join us for the *Fall Succulent Pumpkin* workshop led by Vicki Miller on **Monday, October 19**, 2 – 4 p.m.

Let's get grounded in our local flora with Native Plant Workshop: "Trees, Please!" **Thursday, October 22**, 4 – 6 p.m. Led by the Jefferson County Conservation District and Mason Conservation District's Stewardship Foresters, Brigitta Mathews and Margaret Kreder. We'll learn how planting native trees and shrubs can benefit the environment and ecosystem.

Join us for Genealogy Basics on **Saturday, October 31**, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. This beginner class will show you the basic steps, like keeping records organized and reading certificates. Are you a more advanced researcher? Register to meet with a genealogist for help with your family tree from 12:15 – 1:15 p.m., or 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Bring your family history questions and laptop or smart device to show the work you have already done. Please register for only one session, and please wear your Halloween costumes!

Find complete details for these programs and more on the calendar of events at jclibrary.info. Visit the Jefferson County Library at 620 Cedar Avenue in Port Hadlock. For questions or assistance, call 360-385-6544 or email information@jclibrary.info.

Port Ludlow Garden Club Presents: A Flower Arranging Tutorial

Autumn is here and we are fortunate that we still have plenty of flowers in our area! Join us on **Monday, October 14**, 11 a.m., at the Bay Club for a hands-on, inspiring tutorial using flowers from your garden! Amanda DeCastro and Alysha Evans are local women who created A&A Honey Bee Floral from a passion for flowers, creativity, and community. With over 20 years of artistic creation and experience, they create unique designs with a personal touch. They love their work and it shows. So, pick your flowers and join us for this fun and informative tutorial. We ask that participants bring some extra flowers to share,

and a 12" vase with a neck of at least 5". Let's get together and create!

Garden Club presentations are open to all local residents. Members and guests must RSVP five days prior to the event. Refreshments are complimentary. Non-members are welcome to attend for a \$5 donation. All must please RSVP to Phyllis Lovendahl at 503 833-2631 or portludlowgardenclub@outlook.com.

Port Ludlow Tangle Club to Meet October 8

Meet, connect, and learn from each other!

The Port Ludlow Tangle Club will meet at the Bay Club on **Thursday, October 8**, 1 – 3 p.m. October's meeting will be a "Chat and Tangle" meeting; come with your own supplies, tangle whatever you want, and get inspired by what others do!

Anyone can tangle. Repeated, focused strokes of your pen, used in structured patterns called tangles, make the Zentangle Method easy to learn as well as relaxing. The fun comes in adding your own touch, altering the tangle patterns or combining them to create your own original art! A quick 15-minute lesson on a tangle pattern will get the creativity started. Beginner kits will be available for first timers for a nominal fee. To RSVP, please contact Certified Zentangle Teacher Alice Clive at: foureyes22@outlook.com.



Head's Up: Next month's meeting will be held at the Bay Club on **Thursday, November 12**, 1 – 3 p.m. We'll take a whirl at tangling on store-bought greeting cards and putting our own special touch on them – to make them truly unique!

EJFR Upcoming Events for October 2026

October will be a busy and informative month for East Jefferson Fire Rescue (EJFR), beginning with Fire Prevention Week, which is scheduled for **October 4 – 10**.

This year's theme is "Charge into Fire Safety: Safe Charging is a Superpower," and focuses on everyday charging habits that can help reduce the risk of lithium-ion battery fires and keep homes and communities safer.

The 5th Annual Fire Rescue Fest will be held at Station 1, 701 Harrison Street in Port Townsend on **Saturday, October 10**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. This event celebrates the history of fire service in Jefferson County, with firefighter demos, skills competitions, and fun and interactive activities for kids and adults. Additional information about these events can be found at ejfr.org.

This year's National ShakeOut drill will take place on **Thursday, October 15**, at 10:16 a.m. The Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management strongly encourages area residents to participate in the Drop, Cover and Hold exercise. For more information and to register your neighborhood or group, go to shakeout.org/washington. More information can also be found at mil.wa.gov/earthquake.

If you have questions about the services EJFR provides, log into ejfr.org or call 360-385-2626. More information about the Department of Emergency Management can be found at bit.ly/jeffcoeoc.

Meet Your Firefighters

by Ron Dawson, EJFR Community Outreach Volunteer

Meet Jesse Cordova, a firefighter/paramedic in the East Jefferson Fire Rescue service. Jesse recently completed his paramedic training after spending six years as a firefighter/ EMT. When asked why he wanted to take the next step in developing his skills in emergency medical response, he said, "My paramedic coworkers inspired me. I admire what they know and what they can do, and I want to push myself to do more and be pushed outside of my comfort zone."

He completed the Medic One Paramedic Training given at Harborview in Seattle. The training lasted over a year; he was working with doctors from Harborview and medics from four fire departments. He had an intense year of long hours, drills and calls. He is now able to provide advanced care for cardiac arrests, strokes and traumatic emergencies. This level of readiness doesn't happen by chance. It comes from hundreds of hours of hands-on training in realistic, high-pressure environments. He is now back on shift with

East Jefferson Fire Rescue.

Jesse is originally from north Seattle and has lived in Edmonds and Ballard. He moved to Port Ludlow in 2019 and joined his mother, Mandy Whipple, who relocated to Port Ludlow in 2007. He started volunteering with EJFR as a resident firefighter and was hired in 2021.

Jesse decided to be a firefighter because he thought it would be a great career in public service. The thing he likes best about his job is getting to work with those people who live in the community. The hardest part of the job is facing the unknowns. He says the paramedic training was a grind, but it allowed him some important personal growth.

When asked about anything that people don't know about you, he replied that he has a minor in fine art and got into oil painting in college. He enjoys gardening, walking the trails and horror movies.



Jesse Cordova

2026 Statistics for East Jefferson Fire Rescue

Communities served include: Port Townsend, Cape George, Kala Point, Marrowstone Is., Port Hadlock, Chimacum, Irondale, Port Ludlow MPR (North and South Bay), Paradise Bay, Beaver Valley, Bridgehaven, Mats Mats, Shine, South Point and other areas located within our boundaries.

August Alarms

Fires	13
Rescue/Emergency Medical	398
Non-Emergency	34
Hazardous Condition	24
Service Call	62
Other	4
Total Alarms	535

August Ambulance Transports

911 Transports	253
Non Transports	122

Features & Stories

The Future of Ludlow Falls

by Evie Maxwell

This article examines the future of Port Ludlow's waterfalls, creek, and trails and how a proposed 53-lot subdivision could affect all that, plus the community itself.



As those who have visited the waterfalls will tell you, this is a spot of incredible natural beauty. Surrounded by volunteer-built trails, including an interpretive loop, the Falls cascade more than 30 feet over glacial boulders amid absorbent forest soils, towering trees, and remnants of old growth. Though logged from the late 1800s into the 1930s, the nearly century-old secondary forest is developing into a complex habitat for native plants and wildlife.

Port Ludlow Associates (PLA), which owns the land around the Falls, proposes the Falls Terrace Long Subdivision: 53 single-family lots on a 35-plus-acre site which currently includes PLA's headquarters, the Falls area, and RV park. About half the land would be developed; the rest would remain open space or support access, utilities, and landscape buffers. Olympic Water and Sewer would serve the project.

As required by law, the PLA has filed a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist with Jefferson County, answering a range of questions on the impact of the project. However, as the community has become more aware of the proposal, numerous objections have been submitted in response to the PLA's filing.

The deadline for posting written responses has passed, but comments will still be accepted. Jefferson County project manager Mo-Chi Lindblad says, "We will continue to accept comments until the issue goes to the Hearing Examiner." Instructions and a link to posted responses are available in this magazine's online edition or on the Jefferson County website.

PLA must respond to SEPA comments by **December 2**. Officials will then review the comments and schedule a hearing to decide the project's fate. The project must also meet Jefferson County's stricter, revised environmental rules using professional support.

The end decision will likely be contentious. Residents cite threats to wildlife, water and sewage problems, plus more noise and traffic. They also warn that runoff from future development could pollute downstream salmon habitat restored by the community and S'Klallam tribes in the early 2000s.

Many question whether SEPA is sufficient and call for a full Environmental Impact Statement. Since PLA's Port Ludlow Master Community Plan expired in May 2025, the project must meet current state and county rules, potentially requiring a full EIS and Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas compliance.

A typical comment says Washington's "no net loss" policy requires proposals to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to wetlands, fish, and wildlife through environmental analysis. And, one observer notes, "You can't cut that many trees and lay that much cement without radically impacting everything" around it.

Other objections cite water and sewage problems, a limited need for new housing given available Olympic Terrace properties, and potential displacement of permanent RV park residents, which include local workers.

Diana Smeland, president of the PLA, notes that the project plans for a 300-foot setback from the first stream before Ludlow Falls, and the group is developing about 16 acres out of the total 35 acres. She adds that "the density makes sense for walkability to the center" and says that "there is enough water to support the 53 lots."

Although most concerns mention wildlife, the environment, housing, and water, in the end, traffic may overshadow them all. The site is bordered by Oak Bay Road to the north and Paradise Bay Road to the southeast. Adding 53 homes would increase traffic leading to a need for road improvements or new roads, costs that would fall onto already budget-strained Jefferson County.

Finally, some hope an investor will buy and preserve the area through a conservation easement, benefiting all in perpetuity.

Porch Talk

by Donna Geer, Staff Writer

Change is in the air. Can't you feel it? Fall's just around the corner, and while I'm sad to see the summer fade away, there's excitement, too, of what the new season might bring. With every colorful leaf fluttering gently to the ground, another one drifts behind it, and another one after that. In fact, the trails around our neighborhoods are carpeted with those fragile leaves.

Just like the seasons change, so does my time writing the *Porch Talk* series. For 3.5 years, I've had the pleasure of writing stories about people in our community. Some of them I already knew. Still, I was amazed at the new things I learned, and I found myself wondering why I didn't already know that. Maybe I'd never asked the right questions.

Most of my interviews were with people I hadn't known at all, but after our conversations, I felt like I could've lived next door to many of them. Maybe that's because I asked a lot more questions. I don't really know.

Thank you for all the recommendations from readers on whom to interview. Without those little nudges, I may never have written some of those stories. Mostly, thank you to everyone who let me poke and prod with all my crazy questions. That was a very brave thing to do.

With that, *Porch Talk* and I bid you adieu.

Our Community Theater in Transition

by Kate Marshall, Artistic Director, Ludlow Village Players

For 20 years, Ludlow Village Players, our local community theater, has been a welcoming environment where shy kids found their voices, neighbors became cast-mates, and strangers became family under the glare of stage lights. Now, as we approach our 20th season, we find ourselves in a moment of transition, uncertain but full of possibility.

When our theater first opened its doors, it was more dream than certainty. We had a strong leader in Val Durling. She knew everyone and could pull a show together with a handful of volunteers, a small budget, and a big belief that the arts could bring our community together in a way nothing else could. People didn't just come to watch theater, they came to see their neighbors, friends, and family

tell stories that entertained.

After 20 years, we have reached a turning point. Some of our founding leaders are stepping back. Audiences have changed, as have people's schedules, interests, and expectations. New technologies, new entertainment options, and more have reshaped how people spend their time and money.

We're also facing practical challenges: rising costs, changing requirements, and a need for new volunteers and committee members. The theater built on passion and perseverance now needs more structure, more planning, and more hands to carry it into the future.

This transition has felt uncomfortable. We are saying goodbye to treasured routines and welcoming voices that see things differently. That can be hard for all of us.

As we navigate this change, one thing is clear: we don't want to lose what has made Ludlow Village Players special. We want to honor:

- The volunteers who have created an ambiance for the theater.
- The directors who coaxed performances out of first-time actors.
- The patrons who bought tickets year after year.

At the same time, we know that surviving another 20 years will require renewal. That means:

- New leadership inviting fresh voices in while still listening to those who came before.
- New ideas, including different kinds of shows, schedules, and outreach
- New relationships to include schools, local businesses, and organizations that share our belief in the power of the arts.
- New coordination to bring in anyone who wants to be part of our theater.

In many ways, this transition is a test. Are we truly a community theater?

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Arts & Entertainment

Port Ludlow Art League – Jeweler of the Month

Featured Artist – Lora De La Portilla

Lora, of Loralily Jewelry, offers a line of expertly made-by-hand earrings, necklaces, and bracelets in sterling silver and 14k gold fill. These timeless pieces are designed to highlight the inherent beauty of genuine gemstones, pearls, and fine crystals. Lora's jewelry collection tends toward minimalist, focusing on timeless, versatile designs.

With over 25 years of experience, Lora guarantees quality workmanship and welcomes custom orders. Lora believes that every woman deserves a piece of beautiful jewelry in her wardrobe. She hopes that women feel as unique and beautiful as the piece of Loralily Jewelry that she's wearing.



*Necklace by Lora De La
Portilla*

During October, Lora's jewelry will be on display at the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery, Sound Community Bank, and online at portludlowart.org. For Lora's event schedule and information about finding her jewelry at store locations, visit Loralily Jewelry Facebook page. To contact Lora, email loralilyjewelry@gmail.com.

The public is invited to attend a reception for Lora on **Wednesday, October 14**, 4 – 5 p.m. in the lobby of the bank and 5 – 6 p.m. at the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery. The bank and gallery are located at the corner of Oak Bay Road and Osprey Ridge Drive in Port Ludlow. The bank is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. For more information, email info@portludlowart.org or visit portludlowart.org.

Port Ludlow Art League Program Speaker

The Port Ludlow Art League welcomes artist, Joanmarie Eggert, as the speaker for their October program meeting.

A geologist by education and an artist by experience, Joanmarie is inspired by the natural world. Joanmarie states, "I strive to share the essence of a beautiful place, moment, or time." She enjoys exploring the interplay between the physicality of materials and the serendipity of how they interact with each other. This approach enables her to use creative play as the start of her art works. For more information about Joanmarie's art, visit portludlowart.org/joanmarie-eggert-online-show.



At the October program meeting, Joanmarie will lead a hands-on workshop to explore and share ideas to spark creativity. Some of the exercises may be new or a reminder of ones forgotten. This workshop is perfect for anyone:

- Looking for creative strategies and techniques
- Needing a method to overcome the fear of the blank page
- Dealing with the "ugly teenager" stage of a painting
- Willing to share their own creative suggestions

All materials will be provided. Attendees are encouraged to bring one non-precious object for a community still-life, such as car keys, a rock, or even a jar of pickles. However, all you really need to bring is an open mind and willingness to try something new.

The program meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 21**, 1 – 3 p.m. at the Port Ludlow Beach Club. The Beach Club is located at 121 Marina View Drive in Port Ludlow. Guests are welcome to attend for a \$5 fee. For more information, visit portludlowart.org.

Port Ludlow Art League – What's Happening

Group Art Exhibit at Sound Community Bank

Don't miss the *Masquerade* art exhibit at Sound Community Bank. Members of the Port Ludlow Art League have created a delightful menagerie of masks in a variety of mediums to entertain viewers.



Midnight Metamorphosis
by Cynthia LeRouge

Mark your calendar to attend the Artists Reception, **Wednesday, October 14**, 4 – 5 p.m. at Sound Community Bank's lobby and 5 – 6 p.m. at the gallery next door. Artists and all fun-loving residents are invited to come to the reception in costume, mask, or as is to meet the artists, view gallery art, and enjoy refreshments. The bank and gallery are located in the business center at the corner of Osprey Ridge Drive and Oak Bay Road.

Gallery

The Port Ludlow Art League Gallery continues its makeover with a new, brighter aesthetic. Look for the new front window display featuring special events and new artists.

For more information, email info@portludlowart.org or visit portludlowart.org.

Port Angeles Field Arts & Events Hall – October Calendar of Events

- **Saturday, Oct. 3**, 7:30 p.m. | Niladri Kumaar, *The Space Between the Notes*
- **Sunday, Oct. 4**, 12 p.m. | Free Jazz Sunday in the Sunset Lounge with Jesse Ahman
- **Sunday, Oct. 4**, 7 p.m. | Jake Shimabukuro, hailed as the Jimi Hendrix of the ukulele
- **Monday, Oct. 5**, 6 p.m. | Open Mic Monday Hosted by Clallam Mosaic
- **Friday, Oct. 9**, 7 p.m. | Charlie Albright. Internationally award-winning pianist, composer, and improviser
- **Friday, Oct. 16**, 8 p.m., **Saturday, October 17**, 7:30 p.m., **Sunday, October 18**, 2 p.m. | Afro-Cuban All Stars
- **Saturday, Oct. 24**, 1 – 4 p.m. | Port Angeles Book Fest
- **Wednesday, Oct. 28**, 6:30 p.m. | Films @ Field Hall: *Little Shop of Horrors*
Thursday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m. | Nat Geo Live: *Battling Bloodsuckers* with Ryan Carney

- **Friday, Oct. 30**, 7:30 p.m. | Spain Flamenco Arts presents Marta Gálvez with the show *La Velada*
- **Saturday, Oct. 31**, 5 – 6:30 p.m. | Monster Mash: Family Halloween Party
- **Saturday, Oct. 31**, 8 p.m. | Hot Damn Scandal - Heebie and the Jeebies Halloween Party

For more information and to buy tickets, visit fieldhallevnts.org. Field Arts & Events Hall is located at 201 W. Front Street in Port Angeles, WA.

Port Ludlow Art League – Art Around Town

The Port Ludlow Art League partners with local businesses that graciously offer locations for artists to exhibit and sell their artwork.

From September through October, you can enjoy original art by local artists at the following locations:

Active Life Physical Therapy – Melody Todham: Acrylic paintings

Coldwell Banker Best Realty – Amy O'Donnell: Acrylic paintings

The Bay Club Lobby – Joanmarie Eggert: Watercolor paintings

Port Ludlow Brokers – Ann Benard: Acrylic paintings

If you'd like to purchase any of the artwork, please use the label information to contact the artist.

Almost, Maine Comes to Port Ludlow

by Kate Marshall, Artistic Director,
Ludlow Village Players

Love, laughter, and a little bit of magic are coming to the stage this fall as Ludlow Village Players presents *Almost, Maine*, the charming and quirky romantic comedy by John Cariani.

Set in the fictional town of Almost, Maine, the play unfolds over one magical winter night when the northern lights appear and the town's residents discover that love can be found, lost, transformed, and sometimes even returned. Through a series of interconnected stories, audiences meet an unforgettable collection of characters navigating first dates, unexpected breakups, old flames, new beginnings, and the wonderfully unpredictable ways that love can change our lives.

With its blend of heartfelt moments, playful humor, and

offbeat surprises, *Almost, Maine* offers something for everyone. Whether you're a hopeless romantic, a fan of great comedy, or simply looking for a fun night at the theater, this delightful production is sure to warm your heart and leave you smiling.

Come out and support your local community theater while enjoying an evening of entertainment close to home. Gather your friends, bring a date, or make it a family night, and discover why *Almost, Maine*, is a place where anything can happen.

Performances are at the Bay Club on **Friday, October 9**, and **16**, 6:30 p.m., on **Saturday, October 10**, and **17**, 2 p.m., and on **Sunday, October 11**, and **18**, 2 p.m. The Bay Club is located at 120 Spinnaker Lane, Port Ludlow. To purchase tickets, visit ludlowvillageplayers.org.

October Art Classes

Watercolor Class - Friday, October 2, 10 a.m. - noon, Bridge Deck, Port Ludlow

Join us for a class with artist Pamela Raine to complete the *Along the Lane* watercolor painting. All supplies and instructions are provided for a fee. Space is limited. To register, email youcreateart@outlook.com.



Acrylic Paint Class – Saturday, October 17, 9:30 a.m. – noon, Bridge Deck

Join us for a fun class with artist Shirley Bomgaars to complete the *Harvest Moon* acrylic painting. Enjoy breakfast sips & nibbles. All supplies and instructions are provided for a fee. Space is limited. To register, email shirleybomgaars@gmail.com.



Share & Explore: Alcohol Inks – Friday, October 16, 10 am - noon, Port Ludlow Brokers, 40 Teal Lake Road, Port Ludlow

Join artist Pamela Raine to try a new art technique or medium before you buy the supplies. Each two-hour session features a demo and a hands-on session. Instruction and all supplies are provided for a fee. In October, we'll

explore how to use alcohol inks and what you can do with them. To register for a session, email youcreateart@outlook.com.

Look forward to trying these upcoming techniques:

- Watercolors
- Colored Pencils
- Gouache
- Alcohol Inks
- Sumi-e
- Pastels
- Acrylic Inks
- Gelli Printing
- Cyanotypes
- Lino Printing
- Jewelry
- Fabric Dyeing
- Repousse
- Encaustics
- Air Dry Clay
- Assemblage
- Book Binding
- Asemic Writing
- Fabric Bowls
- Paper Mache Bowls
- Weaving Wall Hangings
- Drawing
- Wrapped Rocks
- Quilling



For more information, email youcreateart@outlook.com.

Port Townsend Symphony Orchestra – Free Concert

The Port Townsend Symphony Orchestra launches their season with a free concert on **Sunday, October 25**, at 2 p.m., in the Chimacum High School Auditorium. Music Director candidate Matthew Salvaggio will conduct the performance.

This season four finalists are competing for the position of Music Director by leading a concert.

Each finalist collaborates in shaping the concert program, offering audiences insight into their artistic vision.

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PTSO Free Concert (continued)

For this concert, Matthew Salvaggio pairs the Mendelssohn concerto with Jandali's *Phoenix in Exile*, and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*. Salvaggio is founder and conductor of the Cleveland Repertory Orchestra and Music Director of the Bellevue Youth Symphony, overseeing 11 ensembles. He has also conducted the Lake Washington and Euclid Symphony Orchestras, and taught conducting at Mercyhurst University, Hiram College and Lake, and Community College.

Featured soloist Pamela Liu will perform Mendelssohn's beloved *Violin Concerto in E Minor*. Pamela Liu has performed with the Evergreen Symphony in Taipei, Taiwan, and currently serves as Concertmaster of the Cascade Symphony. She is also a coach with the Bellevue Youth Orchestra, Seattle Youth Symphony, and Music Northwest.

Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto redefined the concerto form, opening with the solo violin and connecting its three movements without pause. Jandali's *Phoenix in Exile* is a lyrical tone poem that follows the mythical phoenix on a journey from exile and longing for renewal and hope. Jandali's music has been commissioned by organizations including the Royal Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, and Baltimore Symphony.

An open dress rehearsal will be held **Friday, October 23**, at 7 p.m., in the Chimacum Auditorium located at 91 W. Valley Rd, Chimacum, WA. For more information, visit ptsymphony.org.

Tap Into Soul with Solomon Jaye

by Jason Wright

Were you at the free concert in August? The Barn Cats played, the dancing shoes came out, and an afternoon of neighbors, lawn chairs, and art and crafts turned into one of the most enjoyable afternoons in Port Ludlow. Special thanks to the band, Port Ludlow Art League, Jefferson Healthcare, and to everyone who rocked out with us until the very end.

As the weather changes, the Port Ludlow Performing Arts moves indoors for the start of their concert season with *Tap Into Soul*.

Solomon Jaye is billed as America's premier tap-dancing soul singer, which reads like a stretch until you watch

him do both at once. A Houston native, he studied voice and musical theatre at Oklahoma City University and trained as a hoofer under Heather Cornell and Robert L. Reed. He has since shared credits with Pentatonix, Jessie J, Robin Thicke, and Shoshana Bean.



Tap Into Soul puts that training to feature a setlist drawn from Stevie Wonder, James Brown, Earth, Wind & Fire, and Jaye's own songs woven through. His performance uses multi-octave vocals, a guitar, and tap laid down like a second rhythm section. Critical reviews compare Jaye to Marvin Gaye on the vocals and Sammy Davis Jr. on the feet. For more information about Jaye, visit solomonjaye.com

Join us **Saturday, November 14**, 7 p.m., at the Bay Club. To purchase tickets, visit portludlowperformingarts.com. The Bay Club is located at 120 Spinnaker Place, Port Ludlow.

Our thanks to underwriters Debra Richtmeyer and Steve Rummel in memory of Gary, Terri Ross in memory of Lanny, Jason and Cheryl Wright, and to our Corporate Season Sponsor, Jefferson Healthcare Foundation. This project is supported in part by Creative West that receives support in part from the National Endowment for the Arts.

North Olympic Artists' Cooperative Gallery-9

Featured Artists

For **October**, featured artists at Gallery-9 are Jinx Bryant and Sarah Fitch. Jinx Bryant grew up in a family of potters, painters, and musicians. She worked in clay for many years then moved into painting first with watercolors, second with pastels, and currently with oils. In her work, Jinx aims to carry the viewer beyond first impressions with a subtlety discovered in the details. Jinx states, "I love the initial excitement, when light describes an object, a scene, and a sound. I think of nothing else until I sketch the concept and start the painting. My color palette and textural choices illuminate my personal perspective on the world."



Explosion of Sunflowers by Jinx Bryant

Sarah Fitch, a self-taught artist, creates stoneware animals and birds with an earthy, whimsical, and spiritual feel. Her goal is to create a sense of liveliness, character, and expression. Her studio, built by her two sons, is in the woods where nature's wildness still exists. Sarah also keeps horses. Sarah states, "Enchantment with ravens is why I named my workspace the *Rolling Raven Studio*. Art is a meditative practice that helps me to clear mental clutter and maintain a precarious hold on sanity in this capricious world."



*Fire Horse
by Sarah Fitch*

Gallery-9 at 1012 Water Street in Port Townsend, is a cooperative of local artists open every day, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and until 8 p.m. during Port Townsend's monthly first Saturday Art Walk. For more information, visit gallery-9.com.

Northwind Art — Exhibits, Classes, and Call for Artists

Jeanette Best Gallery features a specially curated *Conservation Conversations* exhibit on display **October 1 – November 16**. The exhibit features the gouache paintings of Northwest artists Michael Brophy and Karen Hackenberg. Known for curating the Paul Allen art collection, the Seattle Art Fair, and the new Assembly Art Fair, Greg Bell has paired these artists for an exhibit that explores the relationship between humans and the environment.



*Driftwood
by Karen Hackenberg*

Also at Jeanette Best Gallery, a new ensemble of artists has filled the *Showcase 2026* space with their creations on display **October – January 4**. Fabric maché maker Kate Dwyer, painters Sandra Offutt and Fred Videon, printmaker Me'l Christensen, and photographer Myron Gauger are among the exhibiting artists.

Jeanette Best Gallery at 701 Water Street, Port Townsend, is open Thursdays – Monday, noon – 5 p.m. and until 8 p.m. during Port Townsend's monthly first Saturday Art Walk. For information about exhibits, events, and artists, visit northwindart.org

Call for Artists

Artists interested in participating in *Showcase 2027* may apply no later than **Thursday, November 12**. Submissions are juried by Northwind Art's exhibits team, including Executive Director Martha Worthley and Exhibits Designer Suzanne Lamon. To apply, visit northwindart.org.

Northwind Art School

The following art and craft courses and workshops are offered:

- Mokuhanga and Washi: A Working Relationship printmaking workshop, **Saturday and Sunday, October 10 and 11**
- Aging Creatively, an art class for folks with memory loss and their caregivers, **Tuesday, Herrild's Acrylic Boot Camp October 13**
- Paint from Poems, **Saturday, October 17**
- Acrylic Painting Boot Camp, **Saturday, October 24**
- Intro to Silversmithing: Making a Simple Ring, **Sunday, October 25**
- Aging Creatively, an art class for folks with memory loss and their caregivers, **Tuesday, October 27**
- The Essentials of Oil Painting, **six Tuesdays, November 3 – December 8**



For more information, visit northwindart.org.

Northwind Art School is held at the Fort Worden campus in Buildings 306, 308, and 324 at 200 Battery Way, Port Townsend.

Quilters by the Bay Exhibit and Annual Sale

Leaves are turning, days are getting shorter, it's colder, and holidays are coming. It's time to wrap up in a cozy quilt with a good book, set the table with fresh placemats and start writing your gift list.

Exhibit

Quilters by the Bay have been busy this year creating a collection of beautiful new quilts. Their quilts will be exhibited at the Bay Club Gallery during October. Featured quilts will include small quilts for grandbabies, wrap-up quilts that are perfect for reading and studying, gorgeous quilts for the bed, and art quilts using colors from wild and crazy to subdued and restful. This exhibit will be a feast for the eyes.



Quilters by the Bay Exhibit

Annual Sale and Silent Auction

Some quilts on display, along with table toppers, wall hangings, placemats, kitchen towels, hot pads, and a myriad of other items will be available for purchase at the Quilters by the Bay annual sale on **Wednesday, October 14**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the Craft room at the Bay Club.

There will also be a silent auction at the annual sale. For 30 years, Quilters by the Bay has donated a quilt for a silent auction with proceeds going to a local charity. Dove House, Habitat for Humanity, various armed service organizations, and our county's food banks have been recipients of the proceeds raised by the quilters and patrons of our silent auction. Be sure to bid on this quilt for charity during the annual sale. This year's recipient of the donation will be announced at the end of the annual sale.

The Bay Club is located at 120 Spinnaker Place in Port Ludlow. For more information about Quilters by the Bay, call Judy Danberg at 360-473-7999.

Port Townsend Symphony Orchestra Announces Director Finalists

The Port Townsend Symphony Orchestra is entering an exciting and pivotal season as it launches the final phase of its search for a new conductor and artistic director. This year's search drew 30 highly qualified applicants from across the Puget Sound region and beyond. After months of review and interviews, the search committee selected four finalists.

During the 2026–2027 concert season, each finalist will rehearse with the orchestra and conduct one full concert, giving musicians and audiences the opportunity to experience each candidate's artistic vision. Each conductor collaborated with the orchestra to select the repertoire for their audition. The finalists and their concerts are scheduled for the following dates:

Matthew Salvaggio's concert on **Sunday, October 25**, 2 p.m.

- HsingHui Hsu's concert on **Sunday, December 6**, 2 p.m.
- Faith Foster's concert on **Sunday, February 28, 2027**, 2 p.m.
- Thomas Blomster's concert on **Sunday, April 25, 2027**, 2 p.m.

This season of concerts will be an eclectic and engaging experience, providing a true indication of each candidate's unique qualities.

Concerts are held at Chimacum School Auditorium located at 91 W. Valley Road, Chimacum. For more information about the finalists and their concert programs, visit ptsymphony.org.

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above a gas station next to recycling
in a village in the woods by the bay*

Village News

Bay Club / South Bay

SBCA Happenings

by Carolyn O'Keeffe, President; SBCA Board of Directors

Here we are in October! I love the sunny days followed by cool evenings. I am looking forward to some rainy days, too!

At the Bay Club, we've had great events for our members. At our Members Food and Beverage event on September 18, we hosted the band, Budapest West, where we enjoyed rock, blues, and funk music, as well as wonderful food from Mo-Chilli BBQ. Our September Pancake Breakfast was a huge success and benefited Chimacum's Backpacks for Kids. Thor Hansen's presentation was highly regarded and very well attended!

Our October is filled with lots of activities, too. Our **Friday, October 2**, Pancake Breakfast will benefit ECCHO in Port Townsend. Their mission is "to provide free durable medical equipment and transportation to medical appointments and other essential services for those 60 years of age and older, or those who cannot get themselves to appointments due to disability."

Be sure to check out *SBCA Important Dates* in the *Voice* or go online to the SBCA website to see more events coming to our Bay Club.

Our Reserve Projects are being scheduled and completed as the fiscal year moves forward. Another project we are working on is the pool drainage system around the perimeter of our pool. These need to be cleaned and updated to current requirements.

Our Health/Fitness Committee continues to provide resources for our members for the new cardio and weights equipment. Its monthly newsletter contains great links and information. Be sure to read the latest one!

Our Finance Committee has kept its focus on ensuring our Reserve Funds and Rainy-Day Fund are growing as planned. We are on track with adding revenue to both funds. On the legal front, we are beginning our work with our attorney to update our Master Declaration by **January 1, 2028**, to comply with the Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (WUCIOA), based on changes in the law (5129 S.SL) and RCW 64.90. Building our Reserves and Rainy-Day Funds and updating our Master

Declaration to comply with new legal requirements are essential to ensuring our Master HOA is fiscally and legally healthy and prepared for the present and future.

Your Board of Directors is committed to being good stewards and supporting our SBCA members. Our committees are filled with dedicated volunteers who give their time and energy to their work. As always, volunteers are welcome to join us in our committee work.

October and Early November SBCA Important Dates

Friday, October 2, 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m., Pancake Breakfast benefitting ECCHO**

Thursday, October 8, 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m., SBCA Board Monthly Meeting **

Thursday, October 8, 1– 2 p.m., Award-winning mystery series, the *Timber Creek K-9* series, by local writer Margaret Mizushima***

Tuesday, October 13, 1 – 2 p.m., Fraud Prevention, with Tyrone Beatty, First Security Bank***

Tuesday, October 20, 1 – 2 p.m., New Urology Doctors at Jefferson Health Care, by Tina Hershelman ***

Thursday, October 22, 1 – 2 p.m., Southern Resident Killer Whales, by local writer, Rachel Clark***

Wednesday, October 28, 1 – 2 p.m., Port Angeles and the Pacific Fleet, with local historian, David Brownell***

Thursday, October 29. *Communicating Cancer: Strategies for You, Family, and Friends* with author, Lisa Coutu***

Friday, November 6, 8:30 – 10 a.m., Pancake Breakfast, benefitting Tri Area Food Bank**

Tuesday November 10, Topic TBD; Tina Hershelman, Jefferson HC***

All **Thursdays** 4:00 p.m. – Member's Lounge**

To keep informed of all dates and times, please visit sbca.club.

** All SBCA members and their guests are welcome.

*** All Port Ludlow residents are welcome.

Village Council

Canines, Costumes, Corvids, and Candidates!

by Port Ludlow Village Council Board of Directors

With the first of the fall weather passing through we turn our thoughts to Autumn Festivities. As I type this, the Apple Cup kick off is a couple of hours away. While not our first event of October, our 2nd Annual Canine Costume Parade is days away on **Saturday, October 3**. Last year we saw almost 50 dogs and nearly as many owners parading along the waterfront in their favorite Halloween costume. This year we have added two new components — a pet food drive to support the food pantry programs, local shelters, and a scarecrow building competition. Whether coming as a parade observer or participant, please bring an unopened, shelf stable pet food donation. See our website for all the details; it is not too late to participate.

Our first event of the month will be our Annual Meeting on **Thursday, October 1**, 3 p.m. at the Bay Club. We will review our accomplishments from the past year, introduce our newest board members, talk a bit about the coming year, celebrate our volunteers, and wrap it up with a hosted reception. We hope to see you there and that you will take a moment to chat with one or more of our team to share your thoughts. We have one board member who has decided not to return, two returning board members, and six new candidates this year. We will hit the ground running in October with 14 members. Howard Weiner and Lois Grazioli are continuing the work and have stepped up for another 2-year term. Joining us for the first time will be Nancy Bamberg-Jones, Karen Brattain, Michael Gubala, Christie Lang, Dan Martin, and Caroline Miner. We look forward to working with them and are excited by the energy they bring to our community. If you see them around the village, in a class or at an event, let them know what is on your mind and express your appreciation for their willingness to help out. It truly does take a village to keep a village vibrant and engaged, especially one that is run entirely on volunteer energy.

We set out this year to find ways to connect with our neighbors, not just as your Council members but as your neighbors. When we connect, we create a more vibrant, engaged and compassionate community; one where we share ideas and stories with each other more freely. Nowhere was this more evident than at the Friday Markets.

Each week a dozen or more of our neighbors stopped by to chat, tell a story, ask for help or share a compliment. We set out with the hope of selling a few raffle tickets to help pay the bills but quickly realized our presence was more than that. The people we met, the ideas we shared, the connections we formed are the absolute foundation of our organization. We appreciate your participation. We are also 100% reliant on donations to support our mission. I have been asked several times recently to explain why we need financial support and where does that money go as we are, after all, an all-volunteer organization. Our costs can largely follow our committee structure. Liability insurance for both our Board and Trail building/maintenance (with really cool but powerful tools), communications (web, eblast, printed materials, elections, room rental fees, Voice support), and emergency (radios, safety gear) are the bulk of our expenses throughout the year. It is this time of year where we ask that you consider a donation to our general fund so we can keep the lights on and keep doing what we keep hearing that you all appreciate. We do allow committee or project specific donations, but have historically allowed those funds to bypass our general operating budget in their entirety leaving our operating budget underfunded. We're also looking at other financial models to help make our annual budget more robust.

Port Ludlow Connects: A Resounding Success!

The Port Ludlow Connects Community Opportunity Fair, a committee of the Port Ludlow Village Council, held Friday, August 28, at the Bay Club, was a tremendous success. The event welcomed 294 attendees, surpassing the 258 who attended in 2024.

With 63 exhibitors filling indoor and outdoor spaces, guests connected with local clubs, nonprofits, service organizations, and community groups. Attendees were encouraged to collect exhibitor initials on a "passport" card for a chance to win raffle prizes, though the lively spirit of the event made connecting easy for everyone!

Guests also enjoyed a musical performance by *The String Alongs* and refreshments. The weather cooperated throughout, keeping outdoor exhibitors and attendees comfortable all afternoon.

Survey results spoke for themselves: 92% of respondents

rated the event as “Excellent.” Attendees praised the variety of exhibitors, the welcoming atmosphere, and the wonderful sense of community spirit.

A heartfelt thank you to our planning committee: Tam McDermid, Colleen Jones, Candace Joy, Carole Fett, Jim Miner, Mary Beth Butkovic, and Kindra Moug.

Port Ludlow Connects once again brought residents together, strengthening community bonds and showcasing the many organizations that make Port Ludlow such a vibrant and welcoming place to live.



Let's Get Ready

by Jay Bakst,

Port Ludlow Great Washington Shakeout Coordinator

Are you prepared? While we live in an area subject to earthquakes, the past couple of years have shown us that other disasters can strike at any time. We in Port Ludlow can be subject to a major fire, flood or cut off from the outside world. To be prepared, the Port Ludlow Village Council, PLEC (Port Ludlow Emergency Committee), our Communications Center Radio Operators and your Block Captains, along with the Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management, will be participating in the Great Washington Shakeout on **Thursday, October 15**. Are you willing to join us? We could use your help.

How can you participate? The PLEC will be testing communication with the coordinating emergency agencies. The first step is hearing from you, the members of the Port Ludlow community. Your Block Captains may be getting in touch with you to ask if you would take part in the exercise and give you an OK/TEST sign. Please say yes. On the day of the Shakeout, at 10:15 a.m., after you “Drop, Cover, and Hold On,” put the sign out somewhere visible from the street. Your Block Captain can explain what else you could do. Don’t know who your Block Captain is? Check it out at portludlowvillagecouncil.org/committees/emergency/find-my-block-captain

All of us can use this event to check on some basic

emergency preparation. Know where to turn off the propane, water and power to your house; check that you have sufficient water (one gallon per day per person) to last 30 days, food and emergency supplies; review where your family and neighborhood meeting places are; and be sure that your Go Bag is stocked and readily available to leave in a moment’s notice.

PLEC is in need of more help! We have a limited number of Radio Operators, and there are over 20 neighborhoods in the village that do not have adequate Block Captain coverage. Volunteer! Contact us for details: portludlowvillagecouncil.org/committees/emergency



Informational and Educational Programs for the Port Ludlow Community

by Gil Skinner, SBCA

The following programs are **open to all Port Ludlow Community residents**. Programs are at the Bay Club, 120 Spinnaker Place, and begin at 1 p.m.. Programs are **free of charge**. Topics and speakers from a multitude of backgrounds are offered for our residents. As important as it is to continue to strengthen the body, it is just as important to continue to strengthen the mind.

This is our busiest month yet! We are offering six different presentations starting with a mystery writer, and ending with another local author discussing how to have those difficult conversations that come with a cancer diagnosis. In between is a presentation on avoiding becoming a financial fraud victim, another on our resident Southern killer whales, exciting information about our new Port Ludlow Health Clinic, and, always a favorite, David Brownell continuing to open our eyes to the history of the Olympic Peninsula. What a month! Come join us and keep that brain working.

Thursday, October 8: Margaret Mizushima will discuss how her life experience turned into fiction writing, her publishing journey, and her award winning series, the Timber Creek K-9 Mysteries. She is happy to answer

audience questions regarding writing, crafting mysteries, and her perspective on the publishing industry. Margaret recently won the gold at the 38th annual Independent Book Publishers Association Awards.

Tuesday, October 13: Representatives from 1st Security Bank will make a presentation on financial fraud and cybercrime covering today's most common and emerging fraud schemes, including phone scams, text and email phishing, wire fraud, identity theft, account takeovers, computer and mobile device hacking, and other criminal tactics. You will leave with the knowledge, awareness, and practical strategies needed to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your hard-earned assets.

Thursday, October 22: Rachel Clark, a science and nature writer, will make a presentation about our beloved Southern Resident Killer Whales and how they're entwined with the challenges we face in today's world. Her talk includes a short reading from her book, *The Blackfish Prophecy*, endorsed by Jane Goodall.

Tuesday, October 27: COO Jake Davidson of Jefferson Healthcare will discuss the new clinic in Port Ludlow: what will be offered and when it will open.

Wednesday, October 28: David Brownell will make a presentation on "Port Angeles and the Pacific Fleet" including Admiral Beardslee and the U.S. Navy presence on the North Olympic Peninsula.

Thursday, October 29: Lisa Coutu will be discussing her book, *Communicating Cancer: Strategies for You, Family, and Friends*. The intent is to help people with cancer navigate the complex communication contexts that come with diagnosis and treatment, while also helping people who love someone with cancer understand better how to support their loved one.

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Recreation & Sports

Port Ludlow Niners' News

by Kathleen Traci, Niners' Publicity Chairperson

Niners' games in September included Criers, Mutt and Jeff, and Blind Draw (Mixed Partners). The Couples' Shamble event was well attended. Throughout the season, JR's Sandtrap Café provided excellent post-game luncheons for all who stayed after the play. On **Thursday, October 15**, the last Niners' Couples Scramble event will precede the End of the Season Niners' Banquet at the Bay Club.

Niner members are looking forward to the Niners' Banquet on **Friday, October 16**. At the Banquet, Niners' captain, John Bockoven, will announce the winners of the Captain's Cups for men and women – the three-day tournament that took place during the season. The 2026 Eclectic Awards will be presented to the man and woman who lowered their scores the most on individual holes during the season. Also feted will be the Niners' who shot at least one birdie during the 2026 season. John will also announce the names of the most improved male and female league members. The Port Ludlow Golf Course's software program, Golf Genius, tracks statistics for these awards.

Bockoven will be presented with a gift from the members as a thank you for his excellent leadership in 2026. The Niners' slate of officers for 2027 will be announced.

The new Niners' Captain will announce the many events planned for the 2027 Niners' season, including a repeat of the highly successful Putt and Pour event. The annual Lady Niners' afternoon social will take place in February, and the 2027 Niners' season will lead off with a cocktail party at the end of March 2027.

Off-season Casual Play opportunities will be emailed to interested league members via Golf Genius. If members wish to receive these golf invitations, they need to contact Linda Haskin. Non-members who wish to play with the PL Women in the off-season, need to contact the PLGC pro-shop. PL Golf Course membership is no longer required for membership in the Niners' League.

Mastering the Art of a Straight Lead Arm

by Jim Mancill, PGA Head Professional,
Port Ludlow GC

This month, we are going to look at attempting to conquer one of the biggest power-sappers in the game — the collapsing lead arm. By shifting your focus from locking your lead elbow to engaging your chest and trail arm, you can effortlessly unlock a wide, consistent arch that can bring back the power to your ball-striking.

Bending the left arm in the golf backswing can be caused by both poor form (*technical flaws*) and a lack of flexibility (*physical limitations*). However, in the vast majority of amateur golfers, it is a result of poor form — specifically trying to force a long backswing without rotating the body correctly.

Understanding the direct difference between the two helps identify the true root cause:

When it is Poor Form (Technique)

If you are physically capable of holding your arm straight out in front of you, but it collapses during your golf swing, your issue is technical. The most common form errors include:

- **The “Fake” Backswing:** Many golfers think a bigger backswing equals more power. When you stop turning shoulders, then keep pulling the club back by lifting the club and folding your left arm.
- **Collapsing the Trail Arm:** Your lead arm is a reflection of your trail arm. By pulling the club back and up, your right elbow folds past 90 degrees or “flies” outwards, it physically drags your left arm toward your body, causing it to bend.
- **Lifting Instead of Rotating:** Picking the club straight up with your hands and arms rather than using your chest to turn causes the swing arc to collapse instantly



(L to R) Bent left elbow;
good extension

	Poor Form (Technique)	Lack of Flexibility (Physical)
The Quick Test	Stand straight, hold your arm out, and turn your chest. If it stays straight, your issue is technique.	If you try to bring your arm across your chest and feel a sharp stretch/restriction in your back, it is physical.
The Fix	Shorten your swing to match your chest turn and push your trail hand away.	Prioritize a full body turn over a straight arm; accept a slight, functional bend.

When it is a Lack of Flexibility (*Physical*)

If your body physically blocks you from reaching the top of the swing, your left arm will bend as a natural escape valve. This is usually due to:

- **Tight Shoulder Muscles:** Tightness in the rear shoulder prevents your lead arm across your chest from maintaining proper extension.
- **Spine Rigidity:** If your upper back cannot rotate, you cannot get the club behind you. Your elbow bends to compensate for the frozen spine.

Don't overthink the obvious (*a straight left arm*), focus on a good turn and don't just LIFT the club to the top. Be positive, have fun and we'll see you on the green!

PLWGA News

by Kathleen Traci, PLWGA Publicity Chairperson

The PLWGA 2026 Club Champion is Lucinda Thompson, again! She had a three-day low gross score of 264. The tournament's Overall Low Net Winner was Linda Aho. She played three solid rounds to win the overall Low Net award with a score of 210.

The Flight winners were decided by their two best of three scores. The Club Championship's Flight 1's Low Gross winner was Mandy Whipple with a score of 176, and Bonnie Vahcic was Flight 1's low net winner with a score of 150. Shayna Worley was Flight 2's Low Gross winner (199), and Sharon Russell was the low net winner (135). Low Gross winner of Flight 3 was Beth Weaver (229), and the low net winner was Linda DeForest (153). Everyone enjoyed the Post Tournament Barbeque hosted by Mandy Whipple at her beach front home. Peggy Selby and her assistant Meryl Friedman were awesome BBQ chefs.

The All-Star Cup Tournament was held on September 8 and 9. This tournament is meant to imitate the LPGA's Solheim Cup with three sets of 9-hole team match play competition. A fun "Pairings Party" was held the week prior to the All-Star Tournament on the golf course café's patio. Captains designed pairings strategically to win the most matches for their team. For this tournament, the membership was divided into two teams, the Northern Lights and the Shooting Stars. Following the tournament's Nine-Hole individual match play, a luncheon party was held at Lucinda Thompson's lovely home.

The Ryder Cup took place on September 14, 16, and 18. This was a team competition made up of mixed teams from both the men's and women's leagues. Play was based on the real Ryder Cup's format.

The Battle of Port Ludlow will take place on **Tuesday and Wednesday, October 6 and 7**. This tournament pits the women of the PLWGA against the men of the WGA for lowest net scores.

Play Day Away Chairperson, Elaine Girard, has planned many excellent excursions to area courses. The last Play Day Away is scheduled for **Monday, October 12**. The PLWGA Awards Banquet is set for **Thursday, October 22**, at the Beach Club. Captain Linda Aho will extend appreciation to fellow officers and event chairpersons for their hard work. Banquet Chairs Karen Herlihy and Cherie Wight are planning a specially themed luncheon prior to the award presentations. Award Chairperson, Linda DeForest, will present the season's awards and prizes in the following categories: Birdies, Breaking 100/90/80, Eclectic (Summer and Spring), Most Improved, and Tournament Winners. A captain's gift will be presented to Captain Linda Aho for her excellent leadership. The PLWGA nominating committee will announce the new



*(L to R) PLWGA Club Championship winners
Lucinda Thompson,
Club Champion;
Linda Aho,
low net of the field*

slate of officers for 2027.

Off-season Casual Play opportunities will be emailed to interested league members via Golf Genius. If members wish to receive these golf invitations, they need to contact member Linda Haskin. Non-members who wish to play with the Port Ludlow Women Leagues in the off-season need to contact the PLGC pro-shop. PL Golf Course membership is not a requirement for membership in the PLWGA.

Port Ludlow Yacht Club

by Liz Healy, Interim Communications Officer

In the club's last *Voice* article, I talked about the club's Women's Group and its activities. We've visited Wilderbee Farms & Meadery in Port Townsend for a terrific, educational, and tasty afternoon. If you haven't been there, put it on your "absolutely must do" list! The group then spent a wonderful day with Puget Sound Express whale watching with a stop in Friday Harbor for lunch.

The group's activities are often open to others as was the whale watching excursion. We saw puffins, orcas, a humpback, Steller sea lions, California sea lions, and our gang of local harbor seals all vying for space on the rocks. We highly recommend this day tour to see our natural environment, and the wildlife with whom we share it.

PLYC is a very active club hosting twice-weekly evenings with appetizers, potlucks, catered dinners, member-chef evenings, and more. Our boaters will be heading to the South Sound, cruising for ten days after their rendezvous in Poulsbo. Land cruisers are always invited to join cruises when possible.

Our upcoming events at the club: Seahawks Kickoff Party, Tiki Night, Wiffle Ball & BBQ with the Port Townsend YC, Sizzle & Sliced Steak Night, Burgers and Dogs, and a special paella feast prepared by members.

When the weather's fine, we enjoy these events on the club's deck overlooking the marina, inn, and Olympics. We're a fun group who loves welcoming new members, boaters or not. For more information, visit plyc.us.

Port Ludlow Hiking Club

by John Fillers, Port Ludlow Hiking Club

The Port Ludlow Hiking Club offers a leader-led hike every other even-numbered month, such as February,

April, and June.

Details for each upcoming hike appear in the *Voice* and on the club website, portludlowhikingclub.com. Each announcement includes the date and time, meeting place, trail location, hike description, what to bring, and other important details, along with the RSVP email address, portludlowhikingclub@gmail.com. Please RSVP so the hike organizer knows how many participants to expect and can plan accordingly.

In addition to the club's leader-led hikes every other month, Port Ludlow offers many local hiking options, with more than 30 miles of nearby trails. Join the Timberton Loop or Old Cart Path Loop groups or explore the trails on your own.

The Next Hike:

Thursday, October 15 – Lower Big Quilcene River

The Lower Big Quilcene River Trail covers 10.2 miles round trip and gains 800 feet in elevation. For a shorter route, hikers can turn back at Bark Shanty Camp, a scenic riverside stop about 2.7 miles from the trailhead. That option reduces the hike to 5.4 miles round trip with less than 600 feet of elevation gain. The trail is well maintained easy to follow, and offers frequent views of the river.

Meet at the Bridge Deck in Port Ludlow at 8:15 a.m. The hike organizer will share directions to the trailhead and assist with carpools. To find the Bridge Deck location, visit portludlowhikingclub.com and select the "ABOUT" tab. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy by the river. Vault toilets are available at the trailhead, dogs are allowed on the trail, and a Northwest Forest Pass or Interagency Pass (America the Beautiful/National Parks Pass) is required.

Please RSVP at portludlowhikingclub@gmail.com if you plan to hike, so the organizer can anticipate the group size and adjust plans as needed.

Local Hikes

Timberton Loop: Walk the 4.2-mile Timberton Loop Trail and enjoy views of the forest and the Olympic Mountains. This no-leader hike meets every Wednesday at 9 a.m. at the Timberton trailhead parking lot on Timberton Drive.

Old Cart Path Loop: Walk the 2.8-mile Old Cart Path Loop and enjoy views of the forest and abandoned fairways. This no-leader hike meets every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 a.m. at the golf club parking lot.

continued on page 30

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Port Ludlow Hiking Club *(continued)*

For more hiking information go to portludlowhikingclub.com.

The website offers descriptions and pictures of previous hikes, a trail map of all the Port Ludlow Trails, a description of the next scheduled hike and a contact page so you can get additional information.

Egg Mops

by Gail Wellenstein, Kitsap Beach Naturalist

Saltair Beach in Kingston is a different world at extreme low tides. Large rocks, covered in barnacles, appear and reward the curious with views of sea stars in their natural habitat. Sand lances hide out in the eelgrass, while moon jellyfish can be found among the sea lettuce stranded on the shore. The observant beach walker is rewarded with evidence of life in deeper waters by the presence of eggs from species that come to the shallows to spawn. The “egg mop” of the opalescent inshore squid, aka California market squid, is one of the most recognizable of the egg clusters.

The market squid is named for its high commercial food and bait value. Restaurants call it calamari, a more appealing name to the majority of diners. Like their other common name implies, they inhabit a narrow band of 200 miles along the eastern Pacific from Baja to Alaska. These squid make a daily vertical migration, hiding in depths more than 600 feet during the day to avoid predators such as salmon, orcas, and seals, and rising to the surface at night to feed on small fish, squid (yes, they are cannibals), and crustaceans.

A mature adult, a mere eight months old, is eight inches in length, including tentacles, and is a translucent white with a faint bluish tinge and opalescent patches. Like the octopus, they can change colors to match their surroundings or their mood, ranging from red to gold. They also have large eyes and eight arms but differ in having two triangular fins and two feeding tentacles.



Opalescent squid egg mop

These squid are mass spawners, with thousands to millions of them moving simultaneously to shallow sandy waters to lay their eggs in clusters of capsules. Each capsule is made of layers of a gelatinous protein coated with bacteria to fend off fungi and contains around 200 eggs. It is anchored to 12-20 other capsules and to the bottom by a sticky substance. The capsules in the cluster can wave around in the current, supplying the eggs with fresh oxygen and looking rather like a string mop being sloshed around in the wash bucket. In three to five weeks, the one-inch-long larvae hatch and immediately swim and feed on plankton. At two months they are six inches long, and they begin to form groups of 10 or more and hunt for larger prey, such as small fish. They reach sexual maturity at eight months and die after spawning.

There was a remarkable absence of these squid in the Salish Sea between 2001 and 2015. Because of their short lifespan their population is very sensitive to changes in the environment. During this time period, there were multiple La Nina events, with colder water, pushing the population to the warmer waters of southern California. The bottoming out of the population occurred between 2013 and 2015 when “The Blob” formed in the North Pacific. This was an historical marine heat wave that caused a crash in zooplankton and other food sources and forced any surviving schools to migrate away or die off completely. This population crash affected their main predators as well. Salmon, diving birds like rhinoceros auklets, porpoises and seals all had to search for alternative food sources, with varying degrees of success. The population began to rebound in 2016 providing improved food sources for their top predators, but also putting more pressure on their prey, such as forage fish, an important food source for salmon. Time will tell how this boom in population will play out, and whether the anticipated super El Nino will cause another bust.

Trail Mix

by Tim Rensema, Natural Resources, Trails Committee

The Trails committee is transitioning to maintenance mode. This means clearing brush, removing dead trees overhanging our trails, and occasionally replacing steps. We’ll continue to report on important maintenance projects, such as widening the Cart Path, Golf Nine, and Creek View trails. We’ll also include segments honoring

our Stewards of the Trail, including points of interest.

The Larry G. Scott Memorial Trail is 1.5 miles and is maintained by Jerry Keck (Chair of Trails; north), Dan Claeys (central), and Jack Riggen (south). It was a long time coming. Larry Scott started the permission process over eight years ago, finally getting approval from Ludlow Maintenance Commission (LMC) in 2024. He then roughed out the route through blackberry bushes and woods. Jerry Keck, our trail surveyor, ensured that the trail remained on LMC land (difficult at times with a narrow, 20-foot-wide right-of-way). In some cases, limbs of trees had to be cut to allow passage. Because the hillside's so steep around the Pioneer community, there is tremendous seepage throughout the year, so four-inch culverts were installed, and a four-foot bridge was constructed over the flowage behind the fire station to assist with the drainage.

From the northern entrance off of Pioneer, it's downhill through wooded areas to the fire station. There's one bench located in a grove of big leaf maples so quiet and peaceful, that only bird calls interrupt your thoughts. The new bridge is at the base of that hill. The next three-quarters of a mile parallels Oak Bay Road, alternating between tree overstory to open glades of blackberry, salmonberry, and elderberry. Now's the perfect time to walk this part of the trail as the blackberries are ripe. This is probably the most level part of the walk. If you want to hike a different route, take the lower Rainier connection at the road junction of Swansonville and Oak Bay. Otherwise, cross Swansonville and walk to the woodline close to Oak Bay, where you'll see the entrance. On this part of the trail (completed in 2024), be careful of the wet spots during spring. Follow the trail to Walker Lane.

Now you're coming up on the most recently constructed (2026) part of the Larry G. Scott Memorial Trail. Check Oak Bay and Walker before you cross the road to enter the trail. You'll see two steps into the forest. The narrow trail immediately travels uphill to avoid private property. At the top of the hill, you'll see the foundation of the pump house and the concrete anchors for the old water tank. The anchors and foundation are on private land, so please stay on the trail. An interpretive sign is there to provide you with additional information. You'll then proceed down some steep stairs. Please use the bannister as it's easy to lose your footing. At the base of the stairs immediately to your right, is the outline of the old water reservoir

(underneath all of the English Ivy). This reservoir was filled with water from Ludlow Creek that was transported by a flume. Later, it was connected to the water tower. Just beyond the reservoir, is a piece of the four-inch diameter water pipe used to transport the water to the mill's steam-operated power house. Next, you will come to an apple tree (this area used to be an orchard, and then climb a slight hill.

Be prepared for some of the best Ludlow Bay views from any of our trails. Three benches are installed at the best viewing locations. Then you'll enter the woodline again. To your left is the Port Ludlow Cemetery. Feel free to enter the cemetery and read the interpretive signs. At this point, you can go down the hill to Oak Bay Road or continue on the trail to the southern starting point at the intersection of the ABT and Drew Connector. This portion of the trail follows along the old Oak Bay Road trace. When we cut the trail, we found old whiskey bottles and electrical insulators, which would have been used in the 1960s when Oak Bay Road was re-routed. You have now completed the Larry G. Scott Memorial Trail. We hope you enjoy it as much as we did in building it. If you have questions or comments, please direct them to Jerry Keck at gnkeck@gmail.com.

When the Laws of Economics Apply Pressure, Yacht Clubs Push Back

by Greg Buscher, Port Ludlow Yacht Club Member

About six months ago, I wrote about the unkind realities faced by yachting and social clubs all over the country, with Puget Sound and the Olympic Peninsula no exceptions.

For local yacht clubs in particular, the challenges are especially steep. Higher living and fuel costs and a dearth of boat slips have an adverse impact on boat ownership resulting in a smaller (and shrinking) pool of prospective new members. Meanwhile, current boat owners tend to be older, often retirees, somewhere along in the inexorable process of aging out of boating and eventually out of club membership altogether. Moreover, there are relatively few young families in our area, and post-Boomers aren't the "joiners" their grandparents were. Demand for yacht club membership could be compared to a bucket with a hole in it; water is trickling out the bottom with little coming in to refill it. In economic terms, traditional yacht clubs would be called "legacy enterprises" – there was a need for what

they sold, which continues on a reduced scale, but here on the peninsula there is no large, untapped boating audience that can be reached to enable yacht club growth and long-term success. Another economics-inspired description of the situation is to say the yacht club “industry” is ripe for consolidation. Maybe it is.

When yacht club growth stalls because new boat-owning members are scarce, two other avenues remain available: consolidation (which may take a number of collaborative forms), and adaptation.

Consolidation is simply two or more existing clubs collaborating to overcome the hurdles they face. By joining forces, they gain strength in numbers, healthier finances, and more active boating and social calendars. And importantly, collaboration among clubs can result in more efficient use of clubhouse facilities.

Adaptation is recognizing that the market has moved and understanding the need to move with it. For example, a yachting *and* social club with a strong boating agenda, and an attractive and well managed social setting and programs, can tap into a broader pool of potential new members including non-boaters. It is certainly less subject to the vagaries of the boat and moorage markets, and less apt to see members aging out.

Then there is doing both. Let’s face it, opportunities for broad social interaction in an attractive and comfortable fixed base hub, a place “where everybody knows your name,” are limited around here. Wouldn’t it be nice to have a vibrant, growing, and financially healthy yacht *and* social club that draws in members from a larger slice of the peninsula population? Clubs currently tied to a single bay simply lack the mass and money to stave off the forces of member attrition, adverse consumer economics, and voracious landlords.

But we can take those forces out of play by collaborating and adapting. That is what Port Ludlow and Port Townsend Yacht Clubs are tentatively exploring, starting with a whiffleball picnic and mixer in late September. We’re starting with a “coffee date” to give our members a chance to interact in a fun setting. We’ll have to decide together where it goes from there, but we’re not ready to let the sun go down on our clubhouse(s).

Both PTYC and PLYC (and perhaps another sailing organization) need a new clubhouse, and if created

collaboratively, such a clubhouse would not only serve current members; it could become a social magnet and landmark for the whole community. My personal hope continues to be that when the right clubhouse or building site is found, club members and others in the community will come together with the resources and vision to make it happen for everyone’s benefit. It can’t happen soon enough.

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Our Community Theater in Transition

(continued from page 12)

Being a community theater means we are shaped by the people who walk through our doors. It means we reflect our community’s diversity, struggles, joys, and dreams. If our theater is going to thrive, it will be because many different people choose to claim it as their own. So, consider this your invitation:

- If you’ve never auditioned but always wondered what it would be like to act, we need your courage.
- If you have skills in marketing, carpentry, design, fund-raising, teaching, or organizing, we need your talent.
- If you love the thrill of a darkened theater just before the curtain rises, we need your presence.

After 20 years, our theater is stepping into a new act. The script isn’t finished. The casting isn’t complete. The set is still being built, and there is a role here for you. Want to help shape the future? Reach out to Kate Marshall at kmarshall45@hotmail.com.

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The monthly cost of classified ads is \$17 for less than 25 words and 60 cents per word thereafter. There is a prepayment discount, 10% for 6 months or more. We accept "personal" ads such as public "thank you" ads. We do not accept ads of a political nature. The deadline for new ads, changes, and cancellations is the 8th of the preceding month. We send out invoices on the 1st of the month. We normally send emailed invoices but will mail them if you request. Ads will run until canceled. Cancel ads by sending email to classified@plvoice.org. You may pay by check, money order, credit card or bank transfer. Email your ad and contact information (name, billing address, phone numbers, and email address) to classified@plvoice.org.

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3. Port Ludlow Village Council (PLVC)	\$200
4. Display Advertising	\$7,150
5. Classified Advertising	\$670
6. Subscriptions	\$32
7. Web Advertising	\$160

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