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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.

Send your articles and comments to  
[editor@plvoice.org](mailto:editor@plvoice.org)

### In This Issue

News & Community .....	4
Features & Stories.....	9
Arts & Entertainment .....	16
Village News	
Bay Club/South Bay .....	24
Beach Club/North Bay.....	25
Village Council .....	26
Recreation & Sports.....	27
Classifieds.....	33

### Visit The Voice Online [plvoice.org](http://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.

**Letters to the Editor:** Read comments, criticisms, and suggestions from other readers online.

**Advertising Information:** Find out how to place classified and display ads, in the magazine. Also find out how to place ads on the web version of the *Voice*.

**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:

Schooner *Adventuress* anchored in Port Ludlow  
Photo by Steve Deligan.



## Port Ludlow Voice

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# News & Community

## From the Editor's Desk

by Carol Riley, Copy Editor

One of the joys of producing the *Voice* magazine each month is working with our photo editor Steve Deligan, and with the rest of our all-volunteer staff to choose a cover photo. This month was no exception. Steve presented us with a few choices and the winner, which graces our cover, is an aerial view of the beautiful *Adventuress* in Ludlow Bay.

Another joy each month is seeing all the articles that come in for publication. Many are repeats, thankfully, letting readers know of the many upcoming events such as Dine and Discover, First Wednesday Luncheon, Martha's Book Group, JeffCo Library events, the garden club meeting, art classes, plays and performances, the hiking club adventures, and updates on happenings in Trail Mix and Porch Talk, just to name a few. And, of course, the updates from PLVC and community clubs. I never cease to be amazed at the energy and talent in our active community.

If you visit our website, [pvoice.org](http://pvoice.org), you are probably familiar with what we have called Breaking News. The name of this web section is changing to Community Updates as Breaking News in a monthly publication doesn't really ring true. There you will find items of interest that didn't make the deadline for the print version. Right now, you will see a notice for Let's Play Bingo, a fun event scheduled for **March 2**. Over 30 people attended the first Let's Play Bingo on February 2 and from all accounts a good time was had by all.

I hope you enjoy the March *Voice* with its 40 articles meant to inform, educate, entertain and help you keep your fingers on the pulse of Port Ludlow and our neighboring communities. Enjoy also the many advertisements from the wonderful businesses that support us. It's always OK to let us know you appreciate us and them!

Michael Haberpointner, PT, DPT  
Timothy Mansour, PT, DPT  
Faye King, PT, DPT  
Bailey O'Hotto, DPT

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## First Wednesday Luncheon

by Stephanie Buehler, Guest Writer

Crime Prevention will be our topic, and Acting Sheriff Andy Pernsteiner will talk to us about what we can do to protect ourselves. How safe is your home? Your car? Crime doesn't just happen in Seattle. *If you see something, say something* is a good reminder mantra for all of us. Come and learn how to make our community a safer place for everyone.

The luncheon will be held at the Beach Club on **Wednesday, March 5**, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. An array of homemade soups will be provided as well as cookies, coffee, tea, plates, soup bowls and spoons. From experience I know these soups are excellent. You won't want to miss this lunch and program.

While we always ask for you to RSVP, it's especially important when we serve lunch so we know how much food to prepare. Please RSVP to [firstwednesdayluncheon@gmail.com](mailto:firstwednesdayluncheon@gmail.com) or sign up at either the Bay or Beach Club by **Sunday, March 2**.

There is no charge to attend the First Wednesday Luncheon; however, we do ask attendees to bring donations in the form of cash, checks made payable to the JCFBA, hygiene products or non-perishable food such as condiments, coffee, peanut butter, jelly, etc. There is currently a special need for toddler diapers.

Be sure to mark your calendar for **Wednesday, April 2**, when we will have a presentation by Bayside Housing regarding the ongoing need for affordable housing and some of their projects designed to help address this situation.

## Free Life Care Planning Zoom Seminars

Join Tony Hinson on **Tuesday, March 11**, at 11:30 a.m. as he explores estate and life-care planning solutions that preserve wealth, minimize taxes, and ensure your legacy.

Topics will include estate tax issues and retirement accounts; healthcare, Medicare and Medicaid; long-term care insurance; maintaining quality of life; aging in place; preserving wealth; estate plans, supplemental needs trusts, and more.

These seminars will be held once a month on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m., live on Zoom so you can ask questions. To register, visit [compassandclock.com](http://compassandclock.com), or call 206-627-0790.

## Unlock the Mysteries of Protection Island at April's Dine and Discover

by Allan and Nancy Kiesler, Guest Writers

Have you heard of Protection Island which is located just north of Discovery Bay and has a land area of 379 acres? During WWII it was used for artillery target practice and is now a federally protected National Wildlife Refuge that is managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service. It is closed to visitors to protect the fragile habitat. Do we have you intrigued? Would you like to learn more? We hope so! We also hope that you will join us on **Monday, April 7**, at the Beach Club when Lorenz Sollmann, a Project Leader at the Washington Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Complex, will share his vast knowledge of Protection Island and answer your questions.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the front desk at both the Beach Club and the Bay Club by **March 7**, and removed on **April 4** or sooner if we reach our maximum.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., but those bringing an appetizer should arrive 10 minutes early. Please bring a dish that will serve 8-10 people and 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) and a plastic bag to put your dirty dishes in to take home. We provide coffee/tea/water but if you would prefer something else, you're welcome to bring your beverage of choice. Since both clubs are now charging us for the use of their facility, admission is \$5 per person payable at the door. This covers the cost of the facility, coffee/tea and the honorarium we provide to the speaker. If you sign up but are unable to attend, please let us know. Questions or suggestions—call us at 360-437-8091. We hope to see you there.

## PLGC Presents The Do's and Don'ts of Container Gardening

Many gardeners love container plantings for the wonderful flexibility they provide. Without much effort one can make a stylish statement in most any setting: a sunny deck, shady backyard, or a welcoming front porch. Almost all plants grow well in pots, and pots can be moved easily to another location if so desired. Since spring is coming soon, this is a good time to get some new ideas to start planning your container plantings for the season.

We are excited to have Jose Borrayo join us for a container gardening demonstration. Many of you probably know Jose from the Port Townsend Garden Center which he

has owned for several years. Jose's love of gardening is contagious and he affirms that he loves gardening more than anything.

In addition to learning some tips for successful container gardening, we will be raffling off his creations at the end of the meeting. We hope you will join us for this lively and informative presentation.

Hosted by the Port Ludlow Garden Club (PLGC), the presentation is on **Wednesday, March 12**, 11 a.m., at the Port Ludlow Beach Club.

Because seating is limited, all PLGC members and guests must RSVP no less than 5 days prior to the event. Call Michelle Pelky at 360-710-3547 or email [portludlowgardenclub@outlook.com](mailto:portludlowgardenclub@outlook.com). Non-members are welcome for a \$5 donation.

## JC MASH Free Clinic

Bayside Housing & Services opened the Port Hadlock location of the JC MASH free clinic in November 2024. The clinic provides basic care with both walk-in and scheduled appointments available.

The clinic is breaking barriers by offering free mental health initiatives and support in Jefferson County. Mental health issues are rampant, but access to care remains limited or inaccessible. The Free Clinic is committed to bridging that gap by offering free confidential mental health services at two convenient locations in Port Hadlock in addition to the location at the Jefferson County Emergency Shelter in Port Townsend.

The clinic team consists of a psychiatrist, a behavioral health therapist, mental health professionals, and a substance abuse counselor as well as medical and paramedic staff.

Hours of operation for the JC MASH clinic are:

- Mental Health – First Tuesday of every month and the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Medical physicians will be available on Mondays and Tuesdays of every week from 3 – 5 p.m.
- Clinic phone number: 360-385-4268

Your help is needed to sustain and expand this vital mission. Volunteers are needed in outreach and support services. If you able to volunteer or donate to this ongoing effort, please contact Clinical Director, Ajay Mohan, at [amohan@baysidehousing.org](mailto:amohan@baysidehousing.org) or call 360-745-8279.

## High School Student Essay Competition



The LWV-Jeff Co invites Jefferson County high school students to answer this question: *Why is the outcome of the November 2024 election important?* Make an argument for how the results of that election are affecting your daily life and give specific examples.

This essay asks its writers to ponder the role of voters in a democracy and what effects elections have for individuals. Essay Contest Criteria can be found on the league website [lwvwa.org/Jefferson](http://lwvwa.org/Jefferson) and must be followed.

Essay criteria include:

1. Essays must be the original unpublished work of one student. No AI.
2. Essays must be a maximum of 500 words.
3. Essays must be typed in 12-point font, double-spaced with 1" margins.
4. All essays must have a title.
5. All sources must be cited.
6. A cover page must be included with the following information: title of essay, student name, student age, student or parent email address and/or best phone number, along with the student's school, if they attend one of the local high schools.

Essays will be judged using a 'blind panel method' that ensures the judges do not know the name or affiliation of the student. Judges will use an educator-approved rubric.

Essays must be emailed to [lwvjefcowa@gmail.com](mailto:lwvjefcowa@gmail.com) by midnight, **March 31**. Persons submitting via shared Google docs must give [lwvjefcowa@gmail.com](mailto:lwvjefcowa@gmail.com) permission to view the document. Submitting an essay gives the LWV-Jeff Co permission to publish the essay.

For more information, contact Jackie ([aase@olyphen.com](mailto:aase@olyphen.com)) or Gwen ([gwendemombynes@gmail.com](mailto:gwendemombynes@gmail.com)), or the League of Women Voters-Jefferson County website [lwvwa.org/Jefferson](http://lwvwa.org/Jefferson).

### Be Safe While Walking

Walk facing oncoming traffic. Wear light-colored or reflective clothing so that you can be seen easily in the dark.

## Jefferson County Library District Marches into Spring!

Spring is peeking around the corner and as flowers bloom and temperatures begin to rise, be sure to grab a good book to enjoy outside in the fresh air! Your Library District has a diverse selection of programs to explore in March, so visit the calendar at [jclibrary.info](http://jclibrary.info) to see our schedule.

Spring is also the start of the gardening season. The WSU Master Gardeners will return to the Library in March with their popular monthly gardening programs. They'll kick things off on **Saturday, March 8**, from 12 – 1 p.m., with Garden Know-How, an informative talk about growing potatoes. Immediately following is the WSU Plant Clinic from 1 – 3 p.m. where you can ask any questions and discuss all gardening-related topics. Find the WSU Master Gardeners at the Library on the second Saturday of each month from now through October.

Great Decisions, America's largest foreign affairs discussion program, is returning in March with a new four-part workshop. Each week the group will focus on a global topic that is significant for Americans, and participants will also have the opportunity to share their opinions through an online survey. This is your chance to have your voice heard. No registration is needed; and the discussions will be held on Mondays from 2 – 3:30 p.m., starting **March 3**.

Our popular Live Online Author Talks series continues with another round of captivating speakers. Bestselling author Dan Heath joins us online on **Wednesday, March 12** from 11 a.m. – 12 noon, to talk about his newest book, *Reset: How to Change What's Not Working*. Award-winning journalist and author Clara Bingham visits on **Thursday, March 20**, from 11 a.m. – 12 noon with her new book, *The Movement: How Women's Liberation Transformed America, 1963–1973*. And finally, on **Wednesday, March 26**, from 4 – 5 p.m., beloved novelist Jennifer Weiner will share a sneak preview of her forthcoming novel *The Griffin Sister's Greatest Hits*, due to be released on **April 8**.

March programs for children include our monthly LEGO® at the Library program on **Thursday, March 13**, from 3:45 – 4:45 p.m. Build your Lego creations in an open, imaginative space. Storytime for Toddlers and Preschoolers is held on Mondays at 10:30 a.m., and Babytime takes place each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Siblings and families are welcome to attend all Storytimes and Babytimes.

Mark your calendars. **Tuesday, April 1**, is Library Giving Day, a one-day online fundraising event encouraging patrons and library lovers to make a gift to their local library. The need for library services is more important than ever, and every dollar you contribute plays a crucial

role in enriching our community. Watch our social media and get ready to show your love for the Jefferson County Library District this Library Giving Day. Your support means everything to us, and with your help, we can continue our mission of feeding minds and fueling dreams!

The Jefferson County Library District is at 620 Cedar Avenue in Port Hadlock. For questions or assistance, call 360-385-6544 or email [information@jclibrary.info](mailto:information@jclibrary.info).

## First Annual Chimacum School District Read-a-Thon

by Joanna Scheibl, Chimacum Community PTA Treasurer

Do you recall the first book you simply couldn't put down? The first series you binged until you read every single one? And then you read them all over again. Reading is not only a necessary skill, but it is a gift of opportunity to expand one's life to its unlimited potential. Through books we can learn new skills, travel the world, and experience the past, all while imagining the possibilities of the future. Stories can teach children the importance of patience and empathy, how to cope with life's difficulties, and how to reach for the stars. What better way to fund exciting educational opportunities for our students than by encouraging them to read and rewarding them for it?

The Chimacum Community PTA is excited to announce the first annual Read-a-Thon fundraiser for Chimacum grades K-6, running **March 17 – March 30**. Students will be seeking sponsors as they log the number of minutes read, challenging themselves to meet daily personal and classroom goals. Anyone from anywhere can sponsor a student by making a flat donation to their dashboard or directly to the PTA. This is a wonderful opportunity for our community to unite in support and encouragement of our young people. All proceeds will go to our exciting outdoor education programs, field trip opportunities, and special school events.



If you have friends or relatives with students, reach out and ask for the link to their dashboard where you can donate and leave words of encouragement. If you would like to provide general support for the Read-a-Thon, scan the QR code and donate today directly to the PTA for this event. If you prefer cash or check, drop off or mail to Chimacum Elementary School, c/o Chimacum Community PTA, 91 W. Valley Rd., Chimacum, WA 98325. Be sure to write "Read-a-Thon" on the memo line. You can also find us on Facebook and share our Read-a-Thon fundraiser page with those in your social network who share a love of books and commitment to kids. Thank you for your support!

## Martha's Book Group - *The Women*

A year on The New York Times Best Sellers list for a hardback novel is an enviable position for anyone. Washington author, Kristin Hannah, is no stranger to being there. With 25 novels on her resume, including several that have been optioned for films, her current best seller, *The Women*, is Martha's Book Group selection for March.

Hannah's novel is her tribute to the 11,500 women who served in the Vietnam War as nurses or in other non-combat roles. Her vivid descriptions of the effects of war on the soldiers and the women who care for them enable the reader to understand the intense emotional toll that it takes on them even as they leave the battlefield behind.

Join Martha's Book Group at the Bay Club for a spirited discussion of this book on **Tuesday, March 11**, at 4 p.m. All are welcome. Contact Sarah Schuch at [bookclub@plvoice.org](mailto:bookclub@plvoice.org) for instructions on how to obtain a copy of this book from the book club kit or additional information on future book selections for 2025. The book club's April selection is *The Big Burn* by Timothy Egan.

## Preparedness Presentations Scheduled for County Residents

The Jefferson County Department of Emergency Management and associated volunteer groups have scheduled monthly presentations for residents to learn the best ways to prepare for unexpected events that could affect the county.

The subject for the March presentation is Neighborhood Preparedness. Attendees will learn how to organize their neighbors to help one another especially post-disaster. This presentation will be **Thursday, March 20**, 10:30 a.m., at the Jefferson County Library in Port Hadlock.

East Jefferson Fire Rescue Community Risk Manager Robert Wittenberg will be the speaker for the April

presentation, Wildfire Preparedness. This presentation will be held at 3:30 p.m. and again at 5:30 p.m. on **Thursday, April 17**, at the Jefferson County Library.

“As the risk of wildfire increases here in Jefferson County, EJFR has expanded its campaign to provide wildfire prevention information to residents. Through an understanding of how wildfires move and grow, and how building zones of defensible space around your home can mitigate the impact of wildfire on your property, attendees will be better armed with information and resources to better protect their properties and neighborhoods,” Wittenberg said.

If you have any questions about the services East Jefferson Fire Rescue provides, contact us at 360-385-2626.

## Meet Your Firefighters

by Ron Dawson, EJFR Volunteer, Community Outreach



Meet Roy Lirio, Finance Director for East Jefferson Fire Rescue. Roy joined the Department in July 2024. He has worked for over 30 years in various accounting and finance positions in private companies and public entities.

Originally from the Philippines, he came to the United States and has lived in Houston, Philadelphia, and Seattle. His family moved around, which allowed Roy to experience various areas of the United States. After Seattle, Roy and his family decided to move to Port Townsend in 2021.

As one of six children, all of whom finished college, his family is a success story after coming to the United States. Roy is married to his wife Shannon; their daughter Natalie, aged twelve, lives with them, while his three older children, Gabrielle, Nicolas, and Nathanael, live out of state with their families.

Away from work, Roy enjoys spending time with and communicating with family, camping, traveling, and playing his violin.

The thing he likes best about his job is the opportunity to continually learn. He likes the fact that the department is mission driven, with a paramilitary structure, and with exceptional people highly committed to public service. He is working to simplify his financial world, and find ways to effectively communicate to stakeholders. The fire district is growing with new residents and developments, so financial processes are being tackled to help EJFR handle this growth.

Roy is a very personable gentleman with excellent experience who is a capable asset to the department.

### 2025 Statistics for East Jefferson Fire Rescue

Effective 01/01/2023 Port Ludlow Fire & Rescue merged with East Jefferson Fire Rescue. Our monthly statistics will now include information for the entire Fire District.

**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.

#### January Alarms

Fires.....	9
Rescue/Emergency Medical .....	329
Good Intent .....	24
Hazardous Conditions .....	3
False Alarms .....	19
Service Call .....	68
<b>Total Alarms</b>	<b>452</b>

#### Ambulance Transports

911 Transports.....	216
Hospital Requested Transport .....	1
Non Transports.....	119
<b>Total Transports</b>	<b>217</b>

**CARES Contacts..... 124**

## Girl Scouts Get-together

It’s a tea party! If you were a former member of the Girl Scouts, there’s a lovely group of women getting together to talk about their experiences with the Girl Scouts. Roz Greene and Barbara Burke, who still have a passion for Girl Scouting, are hosting a tea. It’s on **Wednesday, March 26** at 1:30 p.m. Please contact Roz at [rpgreene@aol.com](mailto:rpgreene@aol.com) for additional details.

# Features & Stories

## Just Up the Road!

by Eric Holdren and Zaheeda Edwards



Cathy Vance.

Hello, neighbors! We are Eric and Zee. We enjoy exploring the area with our friends and want to share one of our happier finds. If you haven't discovered it yourself, it's called The Keg and I, a cozy taproom just up the road in Chimacum. It seems easy to miss, and we can't remember how we stumbled upon it but are sure glad we did.

It's a casual place with colorful chalkboards that describe the wide selection of beverages on tap. Eric enjoys an IPA, while Zee likes cider. Zee's husband is happy they have wine available too. Both the cozy front porch (beautiful sunsets) and spacious back deck are pet friendly (for Eric's cat "Jack" – probably not). We really enjoy the friendly vibe and have made new friends from Port Ludlow and beyond while at Tuesday cribbage and Wednesday trivia. Other options include live music and open-mic events.

Win or lose, our trivia group credits our enjoyment to manager Cathy Vance, the intrepid lady we think of as the local who became the firecracker lassoer of The Keg and I, kind of by default.

We wanted to learn more about Cathy so we interviewed her for the *Voice*.

**E/Z: What led you to this community and The Keg and I?**

C: Loved the area. My grandparents lived in Sequim and as an Air Force brat, we visited in the summertime. We also lived in Sequim for three months, between dad's duty stations, before moving to the Netherlands.

**E/Z: How did you end up managing the pub?**

C: We (Cathy and husband John) found property here for retirement and spent years splitting time between Austin and Chimacum. In 2021, we moved here full-time. John and I love music and community. We saw a flyer advertising a brass band at The Keg and I. We'd never been in, and were pleasantly surprised to learn the taproom was owned by our neighbor. We loved it and never imagined the path it would lead to. In late 2021, the owner had plans for sailing the Pacific and mentioned he would likely close the bar. I said, "No! We need this community establishment!" So, I offered to manage the bar while he was gone.

**E/Z: Brave of her, as her professional life had been as a Dell Computer System administrator.**

**E/Z: The answers to several questions revealed an obvious theme. Best part of your day? Most proud of? Like most about your job?**

C: The people! I get to hang out with customers. I enjoy talking to people, greeting them and telling them what we have coming up. I look forward to Fridays because I don't work that day, so I get to hang out and visit. I'm proud to be building an establishment where community can gather.

**E/Z: What's the one thing about you few people know?**

C: I used to be a forensic analyst for the Travis County District Attorney.

**E/Z: If you could serve three people (famous or not) who would they be?**

C: 1. Mick Jagger – I love the Stones! 2. My nephew. 3. My customers (I know that's cheating).

**E/Z: What one word describes you?**

C: Outgoing.

**E/Z: We couldn't agree more.**

We hope you enjoyed hearing about one of our favorite places and the person who makes it special for us. See you there!

# OWSI Report—Fourth Quarter 2024

by Jason White, OWSI Team

As we enter 2025, it's the perfect time to reflect on the accomplishments and progress we achieved during the final quarter of 2024. Olympic Water and Sewer, Inc. (OWSI) is excited to share updates on our operational highlights, infrastructure improvements, and our ongoing commitment to collaboration with the community and the Port Ludlow Village Council. A standout event was our Annual Townhall, which fostered meaningful dialogue and addressed key community concerns. Below is a recap of important initiatives and developments from the past quarter.

## Water Treatment and Distribution Updates

**Water System Plan Update:** We are pleased to share that all items on the punch list for our Water System Plan Update have been addressed, and the second filing is ready for submission. Fingers crossed for approval from the Department of Health! Additionally, many residents living near our drinking water wells will soon receive wellhead protection letters. Your efforts to help safeguard our water supplies are greatly appreciated.

**Flushing Campaign:** The biannual flushing of the Northern area of Port Ludlow was successfully completed in the fourth quarter of 2024. The annual flushing of the Southern area is scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2025. For the most up-to-date information on flushing schedules and updates, we highly encourage you to sign up for notifications through Alert Media.

**Ice Pigging:** Colored water complaints were a prominent topic at the Annual Townhall. To address this issue and expedite the removal of historic deposits in our distribution system, OWSI is pursuing a contract with American Pipeline Solutions for ice pigging services. We've also filed a case with the UTC requesting approval for a surcharge to fund this process. An open forum for public comment is scheduled for February 13. Keep an eye on your mailbox for a letter with additional details.

**Leak Repair:** Two major leaks were repaired at Goliah Lane and Wheeler Lane in Q4. The Wheeler Lane repair required a roadway cut, with coordination underway for final roadway repairs with Shold Excavating and Jefferson County Public Works.

## Sanitary Sewer System Developments

**Lift Stations:** The final quarter of 2024 marked the successful completion of Lift Station #11 in OT2 Phase 2, following a final inspection by Labor & Industries. We are pleased to announce that this lift station will be equipped with a new telemetry system, integrating it

with the existing SCADA system for enhanced off-site monitoring capabilities.

Additionally, work began on the overhaul of Lift Station #8 toward the end of 2024. Upgrades include the installation of two new rail systems and a brand-new pump. The OWSI operations team will collaborate with Angeles Electric to complete the overhaul with necessary wiring upgrades.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects (WWTP):** Several significant projects at our wastewater treatment plant were successfully completed by the end of 2024. Clarifier #2 underwent a comprehensive rehabilitation, including updates to its electrical components, bearings, and drive wheels. Additionally, the area known as the "Headworks" was evaluated for necessary updates to extend its useful life, and OWSI is collaborating with MiMotion to develop a detailed repair proposal.

We're also excited to announce that the first capital purchase of 2025 will be a new analytical balance for the WWTP lab, replacing the reliable unit that has served us for an impressive 40 years!

**Collection System Cleaning:** Our annual collection system cleaning was a success and highlighted a few areas requiring repairs. Notably, we discovered a significant root intrusion and identified four manholes in need of attention. Repairs will be carried out as soon as weather permits, with OWSI contracting Shold Excavating to complete the necessary work.

**Biosolids Land Application:** OWSI has signed its annual contract amendment with Rayonier to continue the land application of WWTP biosolids in 2025. In 2024, OWSI applied approximately 35 dry tons of biosolids to about 18.5 acres, marking another successful year in its partnership with the forestry program.

## Looking Ahead

As we step into 2025, OWSI is energized by the opportunities that lie ahead for continued growth and enhancement of our services. Our team remains committed to minimizing disruptions while advancing our infrastructure and systems to better serve the community. We look forward to fostering stronger connections with residents through our upcoming public forums and ongoing dialogue with the Port Ludlow Village Council. Working together with local agencies, contractors, and the community, we will address key challenges while striving for excellence in every aspect of our operations.

Here's to a successful and prosperous 2025 as we continue to build on the achievements of 2024!

## OWL360—Advocacy for Young Adults

by Milt Lum, Staff Writer

A 2024 report by Measure of America, a non-profit organization which analyzes the demographic information obtained through census data, revealed that 25.1% of Jefferson County's young people between the ages of sixteen and twenty-four are officially 'disconnected' as compared to 10% in Kitsap County and 14.9% in Clallam County. Disconnected youth are more likely to live outside their home, not attend school nor be employed. Disconnected females are four times as likely to become single parents compared to their peers. Schools, social services, and law enforcement are the major agents who interface with disconnected youth, but all are limited in their ability to provide the holistic services required to support and guide them to become self-sustaining responsible young adults. OWL360, a local non-profit funded by donations and grants, fills the gaps with programs unavailable through the usual channels.

Without support systems or proper guidance, disconnected young adults are thrust into the adult world destined for failure and frustration. Often these young people fly under the radar unless their behavior becomes disruptive. As young adults they attempt emancipation before they're ready and become vulnerable prey to drugs or adults seeking to exploit them. OWL360 offers them a safe environment to pursue educational programs which allow them to pursue careers affording them a living wage.

The Pfeiffer House, an apartment building with six one bedroom apartemnts was leased to the organization in 2021. This building initiated the program's venture into providing safe and stable housing for disconnected youth. Opened in July 2021 to house emancipated Jefferson County young adults in danger of becoming homeless or fleeing unsafe living conditions, the House offers residents instructions in basic life skills, conflict resolution, budgeting, and personal responsibilities while also helping them pursue educational or technical skills leading to living wage employment. An in-house peer-aged counselor monitors and guides their progress.

A second OWL360 residence, the Parliament House, opened in November 2023 offering a six-room building with space for 12 residents. By mid 2024, both residences had logged 2130 bed nights and had a 91% success rate in transitioning their residents into stable employment and independent living. During this time there were no formal evictions due to behavioral issues or failure to follow the basic tenets of the program. Kelli Parcher, Program Director of OWL360, credits the affordable leases

provided by the owners of those buildings for contributing to the success of this part of their mission.

Two additional residences located in south Jefferson County became available in 2025. Currently there are 23 young people and/or their children residing in these residences, and seven more are on the waiting list. While awaiting housing, OWL360 provides disconnected youth access to the organization's educational and counseling services to assist their clients in their journey toward independence.

Another service for young adults is The Nest, a coffee shop and gathering place that opened in January 2023 in uptown Port Townsend at 1119 Lawrence Street. A grant of \$20,000 from the Rotary Club of Port Townsend, donations from local businesses, and four hundred volunteer hours, transformed the former dental office into a haven where young people could gather. It also provides a place for the enhancement programs, Workforce Development and the Clemente Course.

In addition, The Clemente Course in Humanities, a nationwide program established in 1996, offers people encumbered by economic hardship or adverse life situations a college-level study program in the humanities. The requirements for enrollment are that applicants are 17 years of age, have the ability to read a newspaper, and plan to attend the year-long course. Fees, books, childcare, and transportation are provided to all students who attend the classes. Successful completion of the course at the collegiate level provides the equivalence of 6 credits with affiliated colleges. Port Townsend is one of thirty locations in the U.S. and the only one in Washington State offering this program. Paula H, a Port Townsend resident who completed the program in 2007, said, "What we learn from Clemente is that we have something to give our communities, and we want to do that. It's pretty empowering, and it changes how we see ourselves."

Another available service is the Workforce Development Program which provides opportunities for people ages 17-24 to develop work skills. Earn to Learn is a 45-hour program requiring weekly attendance and completion of independent course work. Course work completion earns the student a \$500 stipend and access to Level Up. Level Up is directed toward achieving skills which will allow a career pathway, the ability to earn a living wage, and steady employment or entry into a vocational training program. This program is 90 hours and course completion earns the youth a \$1000 stipend.

A third program in conjunction with the Port Townsend School District gives people ages 17-24 who have not completed high school an opportunity to obtain a diploma or pursue pathways to learning new skills.

Adolescence is a trying period of transition in the best of circumstances. Those burdened with difficulties beyond their control face further obstacles to a successful transition to independent adulthood. OWL360 is there to help those in need find a way through those hard times. Their successes result in young people who reside and work as productive informed citizens in Jefferson County. On your next visit to Port Townsend, take a trip uptown and visit The Nest. Peruse the community bulletin board and see what the young people of Jefferson County are up to. You may find yourself pleasantly astonished. For further information about the organization consult their website at [OWL360.org](http://OWL360.org).

## Glass Recycling—Jefferson County Solid Waste Recycling FAQ's

by Ellen Betit, Staff Writer, in collaboration with Laura Tucker, [ltucker@co.jefferson.wa.us](mailto:ltucker@co.jefferson.wa.us), Jefferson County Public Works Education and Outreach.

### **Q: Why does Jefferson County no longer accept glass for recycling?**

A: Like all the materials accepted as part of the County's recycling program, there must be a steady demand for the material. The regional market for glass closed with less than a month's notice, and this left Puget Sound counties without an outlet.

### **Q: Why did the market close?**

A: For several reasons, including international trade agreements that left domestic manufacturers at a disadvantage. A recent US International Trade Commission ruling that did not favor the domestic bottle manufacturers who had filed a complaint, and a slump in demand for the bottles produced by the Seattle manufacturer, all contributed to the closure of the major Seattle bottle plant.

### **Q: Why does Sequim still recycle glass?**

A: The City of Sequim has had a long-standing contract with a cement recycler in Tumwater, and they pay this company to accept their glass. This company accepted Jefferson County's inventory of glass for a few weeks after the Seattle market closed and then shut their doors to non-contracted counties and cities.

### **Q: Why isn't Jefferson County treating this like a crisis?**

A: Glass makes up about 1% of the total solid waste stream in Jefferson County. While it is far from ideal that glass go to the landfill, it is inert and non-toxic and poses no risk to the environment. In an effort to keep the fee for garbage disposal as low as possible, staffing of the Solid Waste Division is kept lean, and all wear multiple hats.

With such limited staffing, the focus must be on making urgently needed capital repairs to the transfer station and continuing the planning effort underway to replace the rapidly aging and inefficient transfer station, thereby managing the other 99% of the waste stream.

### **Q: I have heard there is local interest in starting a glass recycling facility. Is the County helping in those efforts?**

A: Public Works is not in the business of market development, and it is a goal of the County's Solid Waste Management Plan to "promote the use of private industry to carry out the components of the solid waste system." Consistent with this goal, Public Works contracts for recycling services with Skookum Contract Services, and it is the contractor's responsibility to identify commodity buyers and deliver materials to them. EDC Team Jefferson is working with several potential glass recycling startups, and Public Works will provide them with information about this 1% of the waste stream on request.

### **Q: What's the fix?**

A: A bottle bill, like California, Oregon and British Columbia have. These programs charge a small per bottle deposit fee, and this encourages much higher rates of recycling, creates jobs, and keeps bottles out of roadside ditches. Last year's bottle bill did not make it through the legislative process. Senate Bill 5502 this year addresses the need to improve recycling efforts in Washington. Message your legislators to make your opinion known.

### **JEFFCO Repair event**

Jefferson County will hold its next JeffCo Repair event in Brinnon on **Saturday, March 22**. Detailed information is available at [ptmsc.org/event/brinnon-repair-event-march-2025](http://ptmsc.org/event/brinnon-repair-event-march-2025). This website has a list of repair events for **April, May, and June** as well.

Household items needing a little extra TLC, electronics, bicycles, and clothing items are among the many belongings that just might be repairable and kept out of the landfill. Even if YOU no longer need the item, perhaps it can be donated to a nonprofit for donation or resale to a delighted new owner.

JeffCo Repair is a grant-funded project sponsored by the Port Townsend Marine Science Center, with the support of Local 2020's Beyond Waste Action Group. Grant funding for the project is provided by Department of Ecology Public Participation Grants. Jeffco Repair and its dedicated crew of volunteers have accomplished the following:

- Diverted 2,017.6 pounds of belongings from the waste stream

- Repaired 372 belongings for those living throughout Jefferson County
- Has an overall 80.5% success rate repairing belongings brought to events

Additional volunteers will make it possible to hold more frequent events and to assist greater numbers of Jefferson County residents. Contact Mandi at [mjohnson@ptmsc.org](mailto:mjohnson@ptmsc.org) for more information.

## Poison Oak: Friend and Foe

by Carolyn Ann Smith, Washington State University Extension, Master Gardener Program Intern, Jefferson County



*Pacific poison oak.*

Photo courtesy of Charles E. Jones / CalPhotos

Kintsugi is the ancient Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with lacquer mixed with powdered gold or silver. There is no attempt to hide the damage and the resulting “repaired” pottery becomes a cherished work of art. The breaks are adorned and embellished as if to declare that the pottery is not broken but rather without fault in its newfound embodiment. Some art historians propose that the illuminated repair is a physical expression of the spirit of the Japanese *mushin* which connotes “living in the moment” and acknowledging the inconstancy of the human condition. Buddhists in Japan likewise embrace the concept of *wabi-sabi* in kintsugi, which centers on the acceptance of the ephemerality and mutability of life.

The kintsugi lacquer, *Toxicodendron vernicifluum*, is tapped from the Japanese poison oak tree. The lacquer is rich in the chemical urushiol (*you-roo-she-ol*). Urushiol is a toxic phenol also found in the Pacific poison oak plant and shrub, poison ivy, poison sumac, the fruit of the cashew nut tree, and parts of the mango tree.

The Pacific or western poison oak, *Toxicodendron diversilobum*, is a perennial deciduous shrub or vine that leafs in February and March. It grows quickly in the next few months as a shrub up to five to six feet high, or as a vine up to 45 feet long. It is found from Vancouver Island, British Columbia, to Baja, California. In Washington state, it is most common on the Puget Sound shorelines and along the Columbia River. Leaflets are irregularly lobed or scalloped similar to the oak leaf. There may be 3-9 leaflets that grow alternately on the stem. Small greenish-ivory flowers are in clusters with male and female flowers on different plants. Its foliage in the fall is attractive and has a pinkish hue. Urushiol is present in all parts of the plant (roots, stems, leaves, flowers) and even remains toxic in the stems and roots when the plant is dormant during winter.

Poison oak also plays an important role in the ecology of an area. Birds such as the American robin feed on its berries and spread seeds through its droppings. The urushiol oil does not affect wildlife as it does humans, so deer and livestock, for example, can eat its nutritious leaves. Poison oak is part of a specialized group of plants known as nitrogen fixers. These plants can convert atmospheric nitrogen into a usable form for other organisms to create a stable and fertile ecosystem.

Despite urushiol’s remarkable ability to bestow new life to a broken bowl, it is toxic to the sensitive human being. An estimated 50 million cases of the poison oak and poison ivy allergic rash occur every year in the United States. The rash starts as an itchy redness at the contact site but can spread and progress to blisters over the ensuing weeks. Since urushiol is oily, it sticks to skin and clothing and is hard to clean off. The rash cannot spread from person-to-person by touching the blisters, but the oil remaining on clothing can spread to another person on contact with the clothing. Repeat encounters with urushiol can make rashes worse with subsequent exposures.

Notwithstanding the disagreeable, nasty rash endured by the sensitive human beings who encounter the urushiol of the Pacific poison oak, we perhaps might try to recall urushiol’s kintsugi gift to us—knowing with tranquility that existence is transitory yet sublime — replete with all its imperfections.

[plvoice.org](http://plvoice.org)  
Community Updates— Archive of Past Issues  
Early Access to News Articles  
Local Arts – Letters to the Editor

## Tangle Club Meets March 13

The Port Ludlow Tangle Club will meet at the Bay Club on **Thursday, March 13**, from 1 – 3 p.m. All are welcome and no prior experience with the Zentangle Method is necessary. With a focus on structured patterns called tangles, tangling is easy to learn. This month, Certified Zentangle Teacher (CZT) Alice Clive will familiarize attendees with a technique for “embedding” letters, words, and phrases. Come learn how—it’s so simple and lots of fun!



Beginner kits, which include the micron pens and blending tools you will need, are \$5, March’s supply kits are \$1.50, and once-a-year dues are \$5 per person.

Contact Alice Clive at [foureyes22@outlook.com](mailto:foureyes22@outlook.com) to RSVP and receive additional information about what to bring.

## A Message from the Poop Fairie

by Michael Stuber, Guest Writer

Dearest Gentle Readers:

Although I have long enjoyed my assigned task of collecting the “product” of our beloved canine companions, it has come to my attention that the current salary on offer (checks notes) of \$0 per hour is not quite adequate to allow for my continued services in keeping the Bounty of Mother Nature up to required specifications.

As you know, we Fairies do not really have use for coinage and prefer the enthusiastic demonstration of kind regards and unstinting belief. You may recall that this is the sustaining force for Tinkerbell of Never Never Land.

I’m sure I don’t have to remind you that your previous homeowners association presidents enthusiastically agreed that each of you was to stand on the front stoop of your lovely abodes shortly after sunset each evening and proclaim, “I love you Poop Fairie!” followed by ten seconds of enthusiastic applause. However, I must confess that lately such accolades have been far and few between.

Since your regard has not come often enough, I do need to withdraw my offer of services.

I’m sure you will be able to come to a beneficent agreement among yourselves as to who will be taking over my duties.

In closing, I offer my kindest regards.

Poop Fairie,  
First Order

## Porch Talk with Tom and Tish Satre

by Donna Geer, Staff Writer

You get used to smaller spaces after living six months of the year on a 66-foot charter vessel. Tom and Tish Satre bought the trawler they called *Alaska Quest* in 2009. For the next 15 years, the couple owned and operated Alaska Quest Charters in Southeast Alaska. For a week at a time, they took small groups to their favorite secluded coves. Tom taught people how to shrimp and crab. Tish knew where to find the humpback whales in the cold and salty brine. They saw black bears and grizzlies, Steller sea lions and seals, plus eagles catching their prey. Imagine all that wildlife, those early sunrises, dark starry nights, and orange and pink sunsets. Tish took almost 50,000 photos documenting everything they saw.

Tom was a divorced father of five grown children and the manager of Northland Services, a stevedoring company that loaded barges onto large cargo ships, when he first met Tish. She jokes that she fell for his previous boat, *Conquest II*, before she ever met the captain, but don’t believe it. They first met on a blind date on September 11, 2001, and she says the gravity of the terrorist attacks made their conversation more intimate. They focused on important things like family rather than just idle chatter.

Tish, who was a single parent with a young daughter when she met Tom, was the director of Student Activities and Auxiliary Services at the University of Alaska Southeast. She worked with Mitt Romney when the Olympic torch relay, which came through Alaska for the very first time, was on its way to the 2002 Winter Olympics in Utah. Tish was the event coordinator and received a torch for her role. It still hangs on the wall in their entryway, linking the past and the present, still lighting the way forward.

Since 1997, Tish has had four primary types of cancer with 26 reoccurrences. She says she’s never experienced pain from the disease; it was the recoveries from surgery and chemotherapy that required pain management. When Tom asked her to marry him, she thought she might be a burden because of the cancer, that no one would want to take that

on. But that's not what Tom thought. He didn't care how much time together they might have – he'd take what he could get. They married in 2002, and then five years later, Tom got kidney cancer, one of the same cancers Tish had. She's very pragmatic about it. She says that cancer shows you what's most important and highlights what's not, so now they live every day with intention.



Tom and Tish Satre in Saltery Bay near Tenakee Springs, Alaska.

Photo by Tricia Satre, daughter of Tom and Tish Satre

Since 2011, they have helped sponsor an apartment for patients from Alaska who need cancer care that's not available in southeast Alaska. The apartment is available for patients and their families when they need help with temporary housing to stay near Seattle's Virginia Mason and

Swedish Medical Centers. Tish books the patients' stays and manages the Seattle apartment through Cancer Connection, a nonprofit organization based in Juneau. She's been on the nonprofit's board in various capacities since 1997, and she says the apartment is booked through most of the year. It keeps her connected to Alaskans.

In 2014, Tom had his own scare with mortality when he was on a deer hunting trip. He almost lost his life one evening when he was checking crab traps for dinner. The small skiff jumped when he pushed the tiller handle, and the boat ran in circles at 15 miles per hour, knocking him into the water. The skeg cut across his chest when the boat ran over him, and the motor almost took his arm completely off. He remembers everything – the cold darkness of the water, rising to the surface, all the blood. His injuries were so severe, it took three people twenty minutes to pull him out of the water. They didn't get back to Juneau until 6:30 the next morning. He shares his story when he teaches boat safety at local yacht clubs. He says he could have stopped the motor with the 'kill switch' if only he

had his life jacket on. He says that every day he wakes up is a blessing.

Tom's not the only one who's been saved on the water. In 2011, Tom and an entourage of his daughter, brother, sister, and her friend, rescued four Sitka black-tailed deer that were two miles from shore. It's not unusual for deer to cross between the islands in Stephens Passage just south of Juneau, but on that particular day, the water was rough, and the deer were exhausted trying to reach a shore they couldn't see over the waves. But they saw the boat and when they got close, Tom lassoed them aboard with a boat line. His story went viral when the horse rescue site *Second Chance Ranch* published it, and it got 8.5 million hits. Then *The National Enquirer* picked it up. There is a picture of the deer circling the boat in the water and another of them collapsed on the boat deck.

It's hard to let go of a lifetime of being on the water. Tish talks about planting a garden, something she couldn't do because they were always gone in the summer. They have plans to visit Norway and Sweden, where Tom's family came from. They're excited about all the new 'first moments' they'll experience. Sometimes though, you just can't quite let go of those first loves, so they bought another boat in December, right after the *Alaska Quest* was featured on the cover of the December 2024 publication of the *Port Ludlow Voice*. This boat's half the size of their old one, and it's made of fiberglass instead of steel. Tom calls it a 'project boat' because it needs cosmetic work, but he says it's got good bones, and they've already been on the water. Now they can find new fishing spots in the Puget Sound and Salish Sea. What's the name of this boat? They're calling her *Full Circle*.

Got a story you want to share? Let's sit on the porch and share a cup of tea, coffee if you prefer. You can reach me at [sports@plvoice.org](mailto:sports@plvoice.org) to start the conversation. Looking forward to hearing from you!

## Cribbage, Anyone?

Are you interested in playing a few games of cribbage with good friends? If you are, join us on the first and third Fridays of every month from 2 – 4:30 p.m. at the Beach Club's Bridge Deck. Bring your cribbage board if you have one, cards too, but no worries if you don't. We play for bragging rights and good conversations, so all skill levels are welcome. If you are interested in joining this fun group, call or text Katherine Johnson at 860-306-9893 for more information.

*Features & Stories* continued on page 30

# Arts & Entertainment

## Port Ludlow Art League— Upcoming Classes

**Acrylic Paint Class –  
Saturday, March 1, 9:30 a.m.  
– noon** at the Bridge Deck.

Join us for a fun class with Shirley Bomgaars to complete the *Umbrella Boat* acrylic painting. All supplies and instructions are provided for a fee. To register, please email [info@portludlowart.org](mailto:info@portludlowart.org).



*Umbrella Boat, by Shirley Bomgaars.*



*Birch Grove, by Pamela Raine.*

**Watercolor Paint Class –  
Friday, March 7, 10 a.m.  
– noon**

Join us for a fun class with Pamela Raine to complete the *Birch Grove* watercolor painting. All supplies and instructions are provided for a fee. To register, please email [info@portludlowart.org](mailto:info@portludlowart.org).

## Port Ludlow Art League

### Jeweler of the Month – Janice Gruber

Better known for her fabulous oil paintings, Janice also creates jewelry. Her latest jewelry collection features a dazzling array of hand-blown glass beads, pendants, and precious stones including Variscite, Pendritic Opal, Brecciated Mookaite, and Black Obsidian crystals.

During March, Janice's jewelry will be on display at the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery, Sound Community Bank, and online at [portludlowart.org](http://portludlowart.org).



The public is invited to attend a reception for Janice **Wednesday, March 12**, from 4 – 5 p.m. in the lobby of the bank and 5 – 6 p.m. at the adjacent 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 gallery is now open Tuesday through Saturday from 12 – 4 p.m. For more information, please email [info@portludlowart.org](mailto:info@portludlowart.org) or visit [portludlowart.org](http://portludlowart.org).

## Port Ludlow Art League

### Artist of the Month – Mary Rodgers



*Cut Flowers, by Mary Rodgers.*

Mary spent much of her life wishing she was artistic. Mary always believed you either have it or you don't. Fortunately, Mary's desire to be artistic outweighed her doubts. She decided to try watercolors, taking online tutorials. Fast forward several years and Mary now understands it's all about learning technique, and anyone can learn to create art at any age.

Mary has expanded her repertoire to include acrylics and enjoys experimenting with color, technique, and subject. In March, Mary's Funky Flora and Fauna art exhibit features playful colors and textures in an abstract style.

During March, you can enjoy Mary's artwork at Sound Community Bank and online at [portludlowart.org](http://portludlowart.org).

The public is invited to attend a reception for Mary on **Wednesday, March 12**, from 4 – 5 p.m. in the lobby of the bank and 5 – 6 p.m. at the adjacent 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 gallery is now open Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. For more information, please email [info@portludlowart.org](mailto:info@portludlowart.org) or visit [portludlowart.org](http://portludlowart.org).

## PLAL—Art Around Town

The Port Ludlow Art League partners with local businesses that graciously offer locations for artists to exhibit and sell their artwork. Through April, you can enjoy original art by local artists at the following locations:

Active Life Physical Therapy – Sheryl Goldsberry: Acrylic and Watercolor paintings

Coldwell Banker Best Realty – Shelley Brown: Acrylic and Watercolor paintings

The Beach Club – Denice Craig Tweedy: Watercolor and Batik paintings

The Bay Club Lobby – Jackie VanNoy: Impressionistic Acrylic paintings

John L. Scott Real Estate – Larry Davidson: Photo Compilation Digital paintings

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



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## Bay Club Art Exhibit—Drip, Dribble, and Splash

During March and April, the Port Ludlow Bay Club's art exhibit features artwork that uses drip, dribble, and splash techniques made famous by Jackson Pollock. Although this type of painting might strike viewers as childlike, the actual process involves the building up of layers and textures to create depth and interest.



*Just Passing By, by Ann Bernard.*

Artists make each stroke with intention to create a feel and tone that reflects the artist's thoughts, emotion, and mood. It's up to the viewer to interpret what they see.

The art exhibit is sponsored by the Port Ludlow Art League. Be sure to stop by the Bay Club to vote for your favorite piece.

The Bay Club is located at 120 Spinnaker Lane in Port Ludlow. For more information on art exhibits at the Bay Club, please email Alan Ahtow at [info@portludlowart.org](mailto:info@portludlowart.org).

## Choral Belles Seeking Director

The Choral Belles have established a nearly 30-year treasured tradition of performing for residents of senior living facilities, local businesses, and charitable organizations throughout the Olympic Peninsula. Our recent December performance at the Beach Club was a benefit for the LMC Beach Club Accessibility Project. Thank you for your show of appreciation and generous financial support.

To continue these worthwhile endeavors for our 2025 Spring Concert Series, we need a Choral Director. This position is paid with a modest stipend and requires musical knowledge but not necessarily direct conducting experience. We also need additional volunteer singers, especially sopranos, to replace our 2024 members who reluctantly retired from their enthusiastic volunteer commitment. Please join us in our recruitment needs and help us continue making joyful noise throughout our community. For further information, please contact Judi Smith at [judi\\_richard@msn.com](mailto:judi_richard@msn.com) or call 360-301-1162.

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**Winemaker Dinner**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 20TH • 6PM-9PM**

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## Northwind Art Exhibits, Art Talk, and Classes



*A vessel created by Rick Stafford.*

The Showcase space at Northwind Art's Jeanette Best Gallery now features new artwork from 15 artists including Port Ludlow's ceramicist Rick Stafford and collage artist Carol Nielsen. Rick's vases and vessels are unusual and intricate and Carol's mixed-media pieces delight

the senses with color and texture. The public is invited to hear Rick talk about his creative process and the inspirations for his artwork on **Sunday, March 9**, 3 p.m., in the Jeanette Best Gallery.

Northwind Art's Jeanette Best Gallery continues to exhibit Shawna Marie Franklin's *The Being with Kelp* artwork that features large-format paintings, monotypes, and collagraphy.

Diane Urbani, spokesperson for Northwind Art states, "Both shows have proven to be very popular with their vivid colors and variety of mediums."

Northwind Art's Jeanette Best Gallery is located at 701 Water Street in Port Townsend and is open Thursdays – Mondays from noon – 5 p.m. For more information about exhibits, visit [northwindart.org](http://northwindart.org).

### Upcoming Classes

Northwind Art School at Fort Worden State Park offers a variety of courses and workshops for beginner through advanced artists. Upcoming classes include:

- Drawing Portraits: A Progressive Process with Anne Pfeiffer, six Mondays, **March 3 – April 7**
- Glass Mosaic Medley: Garden and Glam with Barbara Henderson, four Thursdays, **March 6 – March 27**
- Foundations of Drawing: Level 1 with Nonie Gaines, **March 22 – 23**
- Open Sew & Quilt with Barbara Ramsey, **March 23**
- Collage a Series of Abstract Art Pieces with Anne Schneider, **March 25**
- The Magic of Mokuhanga Japanese Woodblock with Charles Spitzack, **March 29 – 30**

For information about class dates, times, teachers, and curriculum, visit [northwindart.org](http://northwindart.org) and select Take a Class.

## Ludlow's Very Own Theater Group

*by Kate Marshall, Artistic Director, LVP*

Ludlow Village Players has been dazzling audiences with live theater since 2007. This past year brought about a lot of change with the retirements of two instrumental team members: Randy Powell, Artistic Director for the last five years; and Val Durling, the matriarch of LVP. While we'll miss their leadership, contributions, and dedication, we know they'll be in the audience, supporting our ongoing efforts to bring quality theater to Port Ludlow. With the passing of the torch comes new ideas and opportunities.

### Visit Our New Website

We recently revamped our website. Please visit [LudlowVillagePlayers.org](http://LudlowVillagePlayers.org) to purchase tickets for our upcoming 2025 season and find information on our 501(c)(3) organization, how you can get involved, and our scholarship program.

### New Performance Readers Theater Offering

We are introducing a new type of live theater this year. Performance Readers Theater (PRT), directed by Stephen Browning, is a great way for people to get a taste of theater without memorizing lines or devoting a substantial amount of time rehearsing. Our first PRT performance is *Ripcord*, on **Friday and Saturday, March 7 and 8**, 6:30 p.m., at the Beach Club. The Beach Club is located at 121 Marina View Drive in Port Ludlow. For more information, please contact [Director@LudlowVillagePlayers.org](mailto:Director@LudlowVillagePlayers.org).

### Improv Group Continues to Make 'Em Laugh

Disorderly Conduct continues to entertain without a script or a clue, that is, until an audience member gives them one. This improv group provides plenty of laughs and performs at various times of the year at the Beach Club. Please visit [LudlowVillagePlayers.org](http://LudlowVillagePlayers.org) for more information on dates and times of their upcoming shows.

### How You Can Get Involved

As a community theater, we are always looking for new talent and volunteers to help on or off the stage. You can get involved in any number of ways by acting, directing, singing, running the box office, or helping with publicity, costumes, props, and set building. Every task is vital to putting on a great show, but we can't do it without wonderful people like you! If you'd like to volunteer, please email [volunteer@ludlowvillageplayers.org](mailto:volunteer@ludlowvillageplayers.org).



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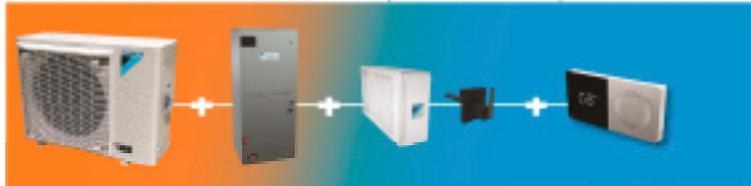
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**May 17**

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**September 6**

Chimacum High School  
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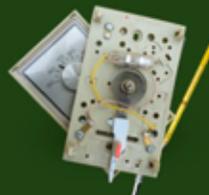
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## PLPA Brings Back One of its Most Popular Bands, The Paperboys

by Dave Cunningham, Staff Writer



Although Port Ludlow Performing Arts has brought entertainers from all over the country to the Bay Club stage, they especially enjoy presenting talent from our own neck of the woods – and The Paperboys are practically next-door neighbors, as they hail from Canada.

When you think of Canadian music, which type of contemporary artists come to mind? A globe-touring sextet that in a single set can be counted on to stomp through Celtic reels, traditional Mexican folk, fiddle tunes, New Orleans brass band music, classic pop songcraft, bluegrass, and even a philosophical waltz or two, before bringing it all home with a Latino/West African singalong?

No, of course not! That doesn't sound Canadian.

Is it a fearless, freewheeling band sometimes referred to as the “Los Lobos of Canada,” veterans of an estimated 4,300 shows since the band's 1992 formation? Does such a band even exist?

Not only does it exist, but it flourishes, and it has been converting full concert halls of indifferent strangers into devoted fans for the last 30 years.

The Paperboys – who are making a return performance to Port Ludlow – are a Canadian treasure. The heart of the band is a trio of gifted songwriters and musicians: Founder Tom Landa, a fedora-hatted vocalist/guitarist/bandleader who immigrated from Mexico to Canada in his teens; Kalissa Landa, a lifelong fiddler/vocalist with a preternatural command of melody; and Spirit of the West's flautist/

guitarist/vocalist Geoffrey Kelly, already a Canadian musical icon when he hopped on the Paperboys bus in 1997.

The Paperboys reinvent their show every time they step onstage. Once the band agrees on the opening song, there is no set list. The song finishes, the crowd reacts, Landa reads the room, and the journey begins. Every night.

This unusual kind of fluidity in music is rare, and it's one reason The Paperboys are so popular, especially in Port Ludlow. Their last show sold out quickly, and this one should as well, so get your tickets early (see the last sentence of this article).

They will be performing on **Saturday, March 29**, at 7 p.m. on the Bay Club stage.

Though best known for their live show, The Paperboys also have another ace up their sleeve: A deep and impressive discography. The band has released 10 recordings – including the Juno Award-winning *Molinos* – receiving accolades from MOJO Magazine and Roots Magazine along the way. They've been two-time recipients of the West Coast Music Award, composed scores for two films, and were nominated for a Leo Award for best original song in the Hong Kong/Canada film release, *Lunch With Charles*.

Although perennially adored and praised by alternative media and national radio networks NPR and CBC, huge commercial success has eluded the band. Undaunted, The Paperboys have kept in perpetual motion, building a cult following through the impact of its incendiary live show and proud DIY spirit.

“There are many ways to define success,” Landa says. “I get to make music with people I love, tour and see the world, and connect with people through song. I can hang my hat on that.”

When asked how he would describe the kind of music The Paperboys play, Landa could hardly stop talking. He said:

“Mexican Son Jarocho mixed in with Irish Jigs and Reels and a good dose of Country and Bluegrass. It has healthy servings of Ska, Soca and African Highlife, and we've been known to throw in a little White Boy Reggae. Of course, it also has strains of Soul, Pop and Funk although we are by no means a funk band.

It is World Roots Music. It's POP music. It is GOOD music.”

Tickets are still available online at [portludlowperformingarts.com](http://portludlowperformingarts.com) for \$38 each.

# Village News

## Bay Club / South Bay

The SBCA was not able to contribute their news this month.

### SBCA Important March Dates

**Friday, March 7**, 8:30 am. - Pancake Breakfast, benefiting PLVC Trails

**Thursday, March 13**, 9:30 a.m. - Monthly Board Meeting \*\*

**Friday, March 14**, 5 p.m. - Member Social (Theme: St. Patrick's Day)

**Saturday, March 29**, 7 p.m. - PLPA Concert (The Paperboys)

All Wednesdays 4 p.m., Member's Lounge

All SBCA members are welcome.

To keep informed of meeting dates and times, please visit [sbca.club](http://sbca.club)

Committee meeting minutes are posted at [sbca.club](http://sbca.club), then click on the Board Minutes page.

\*\* Unless there are changes to county requirements, meetings are in-person.

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

# Beach Club / North Bay

## Update from the Manager

by Brian Belmont, General Manager

Now that spring has sprung, it is time to start thinking about Ludlow Maintenance Commission's (LMC) Annual Member meeting which will be held on **Saturday, April 19**. Our members will be receiving their Annual Meeting packets in early April. As mentioned in previous articles, now is the time to come forward if there are LMC members interested in serving on the LMC Board of Trustees.

In the weeks following the Annual Meeting, LMC Committee chairs and members will be approved by the Trustees. If there are LMC members that have an interest in serving on our Committees, I would encourage them to attend at least one Committee meeting to see if the work that they do interests them before deciding to serve. For more information about our committees and when they meet, visit our website at [lmcbeachclub.org](http://lmcbeachclub.org) or send me an email, and I will provide more information.

This month I want to recognize and thank a very special person, one I have a tremendous amount of respect for. Fourteen years ago, Sue Milner agreed to chair the LMC Communications Committee. At the time, Sue and her husband Jim lived in North Bay. In 2014 they sold their Pioneer Drive home and moved to Edgewood Village in South Bay. For the past eleven years Sue has continued to serve as chair of what is now called the Communications and Member Enrichment Committee even though she was no longer an LMC member.

Sue has been instrumental in putting together a cohesive group of volunteers and staff that is responsible for communicating North Bay news and organizing social events for our members.

Throughout the years, Sue has attended nearly every Board workshop and Board meeting as well as the numerous events that LMC has sponsored for our members. Sue's enthusiasm and energy is contagious. Sue has proven herself a valuable resource to the Board of Trustees in communication matters. Now after fourteen years of service to our community, Sue has decided to step down from the Committee. On behalf of the North Bay Community, thank you Sue for all you have done for so many years – you will be missed but not forgotten!

As always, if you have questions or comments about this article or the on-going work at the Beach Club, I can be reached at 360-437-9201 or by email at [GM@LMCBeachClub.org](mailto:GM@LMCBeachClub.org).

## LMC and the Beach Club

Phone: 360-437-9201

Email: [GM@LMCBeachClub.Org](mailto:GM@LMCBeachClub.Org)

Sign up for our monthly e-*Navigator* by emailing the above address.

Visit [LMCBeachClub.org](http://LMCBeachClub.org) for more information about your North Bay HOA

## North Bay St. Patrick's Day Potluck Dinner

Mark your calendars and get ready to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in style at the North Bay Potluck "Wearing O' The Green" event! This festive gathering will take place on **Saturday, March 15**, at 5:30 p.m. at the Beach Club. Not only will there be a delightful potluck dinner featuring delicious corned beef, but there will also be a variety of traditional sides, appetizers, and desserts contributed by you and your neighbors.

Sign up at the Beach Club and let us know what you're contributing to the culinary lineup. Bring your own tableware and BYOB, ensuring a personal touch to your dining experience.

If you want to lend a hand, reach out to Fran Bodman at 360-437-5110 at [franbodman11@gmail.com](mailto:franbodman11@gmail.com). This is a fantastic opportunity to come together as a community, share great food, and revel in the spirit of the Irish. Don't miss out on this joyous celebration – Erin go bragh!



# Village Council

## Port Ludlow Village Council: Launched and Moving Ahead

by John Goldwood, President, Port Ludlow Village Council

January 2025 was a productive month for your Port Ludlow Village Council. Our first all-day retreat produced substantive outcomes. Here are the highlights of our strategic planning session.

**Goals and Objectives:** Our Board of Directors agreed to focus on achieving the following Goals and Objectives for 2025. Our discussion explored the concept of SMART goals: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time Bound. In that context, here are some initial Village Council goals identified for 2025.

**Village Council 2.0:** The Village Council has operated for many years with minimal changes to its structure. To achieve greater relevance and impact to our community, we agreed to review our overall organizational structure – i.e., HOW we will work on behalf of the community, as well as developing improved communications to help our community know WHAT we are doing, and WHEN we hope to achieve desired outcomes. Reorganizing the Village Council will require a thorough review of all legal documents that guide our activities, including our Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures. We agreed to have a draft ready for review by **Thursday, March 6**, with a finalized document ready to be approved by the Board on **Thursday, April 3**.

- **Village Council Committees:** We agreed to the formation or continuance of the following Village Council committees and work groups:
- **Administration**, chaired by Tam McDermid.
- **Government/Business Relations**, chaired by Howard Weiner. (Formerly Community Development Committee).
- **Finance and Fundraising**, chaired by John Cacho; with Lois Grazioli and Carol Prismon-Reed board members.
- **Communications**, co-chaired by Geoff Lang and Tracy Geipel with Lois Grazioli, Tam McDermid board members. Kay Mol will head up the Social Wellness subcommittee.
- **Utilities**, chaired by John Cacho; with Carol Prismon-Reed board member.
- **Land Use**, chaired by Bob Gilbert, with Joan Johnston and Carol Prismon-Reed board members.

### Village Council Meetings

**PLVC Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 6**  
3 - 5 p.m., Beach Club

**PLVC Workshop**  
**Tuesday, March 18**  
3 - 5 p.m., Beach Club

[plvc.org](http://plvc.org)

- **Emergency Preparation**, to include potential Wildfire Preparation and Mitigation effort, chaired by Jason Wright, Bob Gilbert and Tracy Geipel board members.

John Goldwood, as current PLVC President, is an *ex officio* member of each committee. Additional committee members will be recruited from the Port Ludlow community as appropriate.

**Town Hall Meetings:** By May 1, we plan to coordinate/host two Town Hall Meetings: one focused on Land Use, including the potential ending or renewal of the Development Agreement between Jefferson County and Port Ludlow Associates and related timber harvest issues, and another on understanding the current state of our water and sewer infrastructure and opportunities to address resident concerns. A third Town Hall, focused on Emergency Preparedness, will be conducted by the end of the third calendar quarter. To help prepare for the Town Hall meetings, we agreed to publish three Position Papers addressing each of the Town Hall subjects by April 1.

**Financial Stability:** Recognizing the inherent difficulty in working as a ‘Village Council’ (in the community’s perception) while being organized as a community-focused nonprofit with no authority to govern, we also agreed that financial issues have impacted the Village Council since inception twenty-five years ago. Finding a solution to provide financial stability is critical to our ongoing success. We receive no tax revenues or assessments from our residents. Asking the Ludlow Maintenance Commission and South Bay Community Association to be pass-through organizations for contributions from their members, even for a small amount, is not practical at this time. The Fundraising Committee will continue to explore more options. In the meanwhile, donations can be made at any time through our website.

*PLVC continued on page 29*

# Recreation & Sports

## Port Ludlow Hiking Club

by John Nuereberg, Port Ludlow Hiking Club

Hikers meet at the Bridge Deck in Port Ludlow on the day of the hike at 8:15 a.m. to get directions to the trailheads, arrange carpools, and depart at 8:30 a.m.

Those on the hiking email roster receive an update the week of a scheduled outing. If you would like to be added to the email roster, send a note to [plhikingclub@yahoo.com](mailto:plhikingclub@yahoo.com), or go to the club's website at [portludlow-hikingclub.com](http://portludlow-hikingclub.com) and click "Contact" to send a message. Anyone may join in the hikes; you don't have to be a member of the email roster or club.

### Friday, March 28 – Gold Creek/Green Mountain

The Gold Creek/Green Mountain is in Kitsap County. The planned hike is "The High Road" to the top of Green Mountain. If the weather is good, then you will have great views of the Olympics and Hood Canal on one side and all the way to Seattle on the other side. It is about 1000-foot elevation gain and 5.2 miles round trip for a moderate hike rated M3.

It is about a 50-minute drive (address: 1400 Gold Creek Rd W, Bremerton, WA 98312). A Discovery Pass is required. Dress appropriately for the forecasted weather. Bring your walking sticks. The trail is dog friendly. Hiking time 2.5 – 3 hours. Privy restrooms are available at the trailhead and near the summit. Hike Leader: Gary Hicks, 510-566-2401. Gold Creek Trail Map: [dnr.wa.gov/publications/eng\\_rms\\_green\\_08\\_full.pdf](http://dnr.wa.gov/publications/eng_rms_green_08_full.pdf)

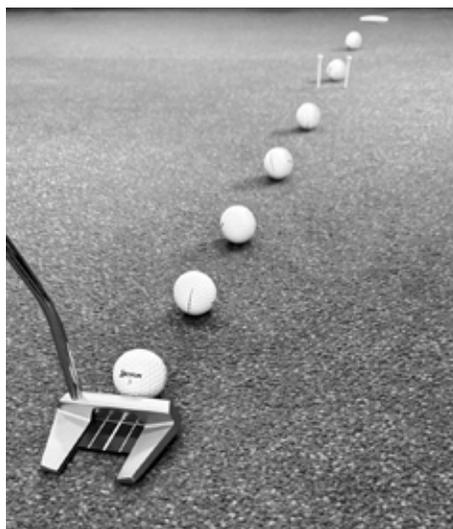
**Wednesdays: Timberton Loop.** Walk the 4.2-mile Timberton Loop. Enjoy views of the Olympic Mountains. This is a no-leader hike. Meet other walkers at the parking lot trailhead on Timberton Drive at 9 a.m.

**Monday/Wednesday/Friday - 8 a.m.** Join the "Trail Club Group" that meets at the golf club parking lot for a self-led walk on the abandoned golf cart path trail or other alternative route.

For more hiking information, map of the Port Ludlow Trails, and descriptions and pictures of previous hikes and other destinations, go to [portludlowhikingclub.com](http://portludlowhikingclub.com).

## Become a Better Putter

by Jim Mancill, PGA Head Professional, Port Ludlow GC



Jim Mancill, PGA Head Professional, demonstrating a putt.

To follow up on last month's discussion on your putter and some of the dynamics that will influence the golf ball, let's move to the next level and talk about how you can become a better putter with the right practice and be more effective on the greens.

The argument about what is more important in putting will always be—is it the right line or the right speed that matters most? Well, they both go hand-in-hand and to be a good putter, you must be able to read the green and be able to judge the speed needed to match that line. Just remember, commit to what you see because there are only two outcomes for each putt. You'll either make it, or miss it, so let's get over the fear of failure and work on what we can control.

Let's put it to practice. Assuming that your putting stroke is repeatable, we are going to concentrate on aiming and seeing the ball roll to a target.

- **Green Reading:** Remember that the ball will always tend to move toward the lowest spot on the green. That is how the break is affected...uphill, downhill and/or sidehill.
- **Aim:** The attached picture is an example of the following. Pick an 8-footer with little to no break and use two tees to set up "a gate" at four feet that is on your intended line. The goal is to roll the ball through the gate and make the putt. Adjust the tees as needed to put the gate on the actual line. As you get better, pick a breaking putt and see how focusing on the gate improves your aim.

- Distance: Grab four golf balls and head to the putting green. We are going to use the “ladder drill” to work on our speed. Pick a spot over ten feet but shorter than 20 feet and putt your first ball to that spot. Watch it roll out and then try to putt the next ball three feet further. Then ball three another three feet, and lastly, ball four another three feet further. Go back and forth, uphill and downhill, and see if you can get a new “feel” for your stroke that matches up with the correct speed.

My best advice on green reading is to add a little more break than you first see and let the ball drift to the hole, not dart in front of it, and keep breaking away from it! Have fun and enjoy the journey!

## Trail Mix

by Larry Scott, Trails Chair



January 20<sup>th</sup> Trails Fun Day Crew, (L to R) Jeff Sarantopulos, Chris Vogt, Tim Rensema, Peter Porter, Gerry Allen, Deb (DJ) Bingler, and Ray Finch.

Photo by Jerry Keck

When, oh when, is this long-talked-about Creek View Loop Trail going to open? Is it really just a myth or is it actually going to be a trail? Welllllll, it really is going to be a trail, and along with the two McCormick trails, Rail Trail and Loop, it promises to be another premier hiking trail in our community. Consequently, Trails is very apprehensive about this latest and greatest addition being opened too soon and unfinished. Based on Trails’ vision for this loop, as unfinished as it is, according to some sneaky hikers who have located the uncleared future entrance, it is receiving positive comments already. Ok, so what’s left to do and why isn’t it ready to open? Patience, patience, please. This route will have a number of unique points of interest such as an “Old Flume” site, an “Old Man/Old Growth” tree, and a “Legacy Grove” of unharvested trees, each with its

own interpretive sign. It will also have multiple locations with Overlook Seating Benches to watch Ludlow Creek as it bends and flows to the bay. All this before connecting to the Rail Trail, where hikers can progress toward the long picnic bench at the junction of the Rail Trail with the Loop Trail for more quiet seating.

So again, patience, patience please. That’s not to say we are not progressing. While the Trails Chair was unavailable for about a month due to work, Tim Rensema and Jerry Keck led our Fun Day efforts towards completion. There were multiple Fun Day events that continued to clear brush, level/smooth the trail, and prepare the seating/bench locations. The photo is just one of many different Fun Day groups that went out in this current cold spell for the outdoor enjoyment and camaraderie of working together for community improvement. Many thanks go out to all who enjoy making and improving our 30+ miles of trails in our “Village in the Woods by the Bay.”

If you would like to help, send me an email at [mclgscott@cablespeed.com](mailto:mclgscott@cablespeed.com). “Let’s Keep Improving our Trails”

## Port Ludlow Yacht Club

by Cathy Anderson, PLYC Vice Commodore



The Port Ludlow Yacht Club is hosting its annual Training Day on **Saturday, March 29**. The event is open to all members and non-member boating and safety enthusiasts. The program, which runs from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

at the PLYC marina site, features a variety of presentations, including:

Keynote speaker, Jeanne Goussev, two-time Race to Alaska (R2AK) winner, on preparing for the WA360 and winning challenging sailing races

- New regulations for boaters and conservation efforts by the WA State Department of Fish & Wildlife
- State Owned Aquatic Land management and new anchorage rules by the Department of Natural Resources
- How to Charter a Yacht & Prepare to Cruise by Anacortes Yacht Charters
- Damage Control by the Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Corrosion Prevention & Treatment by Kevin Ritz from the NW School of Wooden Boat Building

"Let our advertisers know you saw them in *The Voice!*"

- Fire Extinguisher Training by the Jefferson County Fire Department
- Checklist & Preparing for Long Cruises by Past Commodore Bryan Gilbreath

And there's more. Registration is \$10 and includes a soup lunch at the club. PLYC members can register on the club website. Non-members can register with Vice Commodore, Cathy Anderson, at [Vicecom1@plyc.us](mailto:Vicecom1@plyc.us). For questions or more information including the complete Training Day program and presentation times, please reach out to the Vice Commodore.

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*PLVC continued from page 26*

Our discussion included acknowledgement of a perception from the community that the Village Council must ‘prove itself’ to gain consistent financial support. Our understanding of what proof is required is currently not well-defined. We also noted that if we are unable to achieve stable funding by June of 2025, we will need to devote time and effort to our 2026 fund drive starting in the summer of 2025.

**Communications:** We invested considerable time in evaluating opportunities to improve how we communicate with our residents. Monthly informative articles published in the *Voice*, a new Village Council website, and re-creation and regular use of a Village Council ‘brand identity’ will be part of that process, along with leveraging our community-focused organizations such as Trails, Community Opportunity Fair, etc. We plan to create and conduct two community-wide ‘Fun Events’ by the end of September 2025 and expect to have our new Village Council website online by March 31.

We will continue to keep you informed of our progress throughout the months ahead and appreciate your continued support!

## March, In Like a Lion?

by Carol Riley, Staff Writer

If March comes in like a lion, says the saying, it goes out like a lamb. A little research shows that the saying is mostly based on folklore and hope. There is no meteorological evidence to support it. There are, however, lots of fun, interesting, and thought-provoking days to observe in March regardless of the weather.

**March 3** is World Hearing Day. The World Health Organization's theme for 2025 is "Changing mindsets: empower yourself to make ear and hearing care a reality for all!"

The goal is to encourage individuals to recognize the importance of hearing health, change behaviors to protect yourself from loud sounds, get regular checkups, use hearing devices if necessary, and support those who suffer from hearing loss. One main goal for 2025 is education – providing standards for safe listening levels in video games and adding a module to school curriculums to educate youth about smart listening. If you wear an Apple watch or similar device, you have probably been warned when sounds around you are at a dangerous decibel level, a great way to educate yourself on staying in safe surroundings.

**March 18** is Global Recycling Day. Created in 2018, the purpose of the day is to help people recognize and celebrate the part recycling plays in preserving resources and securing the future of the planet – a day for the world to come together and put the planet first. Recycling has been called the Seventh Resource supplying 40% of the world's raw material needs. We cannot overestimate its importance since, according to *globalrecyclingday.com*, "humans have consumed more resources in the last 50 years than in all previous history."

We are fortunate to have a recycling champion in Port Ludlow. I'm sure you have been following the articles in the *Voice* by Ellen Betit and her resources at Jeff Co Public Works. This month's article focuses on the changes to glass recycling, of interest to us all.

As we progress through the month, we have two days that I think support each other. **March 20** is the International Day of Happiness and **March 21** is the International Day of Forests. I would humbly suggest that you visit one of our beautiful forests and find happiness.

Lastly, on **March 31**, we observe International Transgender Day of Visibility. This day, begun in Michigan in 2009 by Rachel Crandall-Crocker, a transgender activist and psychotherapist, is dedicated to raising awareness of the discrimination faced by transgender people worldwide.

President Joe Biden issued a presidential proclamation in March of 2021 recognizing Transgender Day of Visibility. In his proclamation, Biden said the day recognizes the generations of activism, "Their trailblazing work has given countless transgender individuals the bravery to live openly and authentically." We are fortunate to have a local support group in our community, Port Ludlow Pride. You can find more information about them on their website [portludlowpride.com](http://portludlowpride.com).

## Kindergarten Confidence Soars at Chimacum Creek Primary



Chimacum Creek Primary (CCP) School is thrilled to celebrate an incredible leap in kindergarten readiness. Recent results from the Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) Kindergarten Readiness Assessment show 76.9 percent of kindergarten students are meeting or exceeding expectations – a remarkable rise from just 17 percent last year.

Principal Sarah Walker attributes the success to a dynamic partnership between teachers, parents, and the wider community. "Our preschool-aged students are thriving thanks to hands-on, play-based learning and a nurturing environment that sparks curiosity and builds essential skills," she shared.

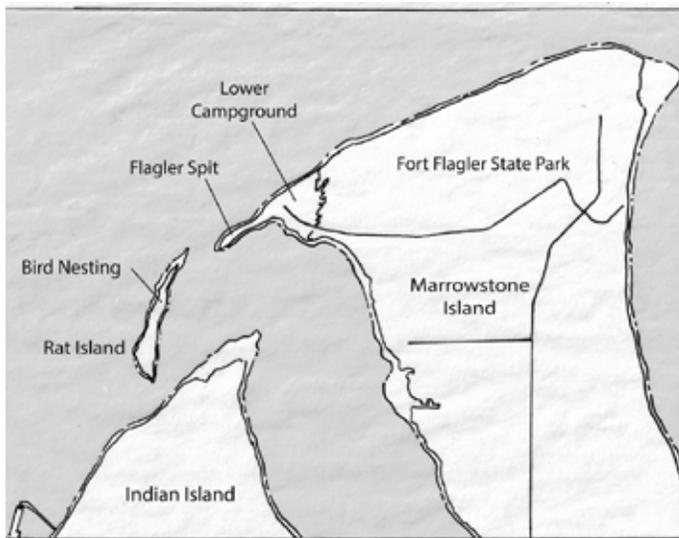
The preschool programs that prepare little people for kindergarten at CCP go beyond academics. With a focus on social-emotional development, physical growth, and cognitive milestones, every child is encouraged to develop a love for learning and a confident approach to challenges through play.

Family engagement also plays a key role in this success. Parents are embraced as partners in their child's learning journey, and CCP's caring staff ensures meaningful connections between home and school.

With such inspiring growth, CCP is excited to continue creating a joyful, enriching experience for every young learner. Registration for preschool, transition kindergarten and kindergarten is now open. To find out more about the school's early learning opportunities, visit their website at [ccp.csd49.org](http://ccp.csd49.org).

## Help Protect a Place for Wildlife

by Rachel S. Imper, Guest Writer



Map drawn by Kevin Imper.

Many people know about Protection Island, the National Wildlife Refuge offshore from Sequim. But did you know we have a refuge closer to Port Ludlow? Rat Island, just off the sand spit at the lower campground at Fort Flagler State Park, is a special place for wildlife – and you can help protect it.

### Avian flu had a devastating effect

Only accessible by foot during very low tides, Rat Island is a nesting spot in late spring and summer for thousands of seabirds, including some threatened species. It is also

a pupping area for harbor seals. Sadly, in 2023, avian flu killed more than 60 percent of the Caspian terns nesting there – at that time the largest nesting spot for the terns in Puget Sound. Several harbor seals died too. No avian flu was detected in 2024. While the terns did not return the following year, there is still hope they may come back. Heerman's gulls, another threatened species, also raise young on the island.

### Humans and dogs present another threat

Aside from avian flu, the presence of humans and dogs are the biggest danger to the island's wildlife. No matter how gentle a dog is, seals and birds see them as predators. When disturbed, the birds fly up into the air – and that's when the eagles descend to snatch the eggs and chicks.

Seal mothers and pups identify each other by unique vocalizations. When mother seals get alarmed, they flee into the water, and if they get separated and can no longer hear their baby's cry, they may never find each other again. A mother seal will not return as long as humans are nearby.

Surprisingly, the island's animals and birds find people in kayaks more frightening than those in motorboats. But if either boats or kayaks stop on Rat Island, people disturb the wildlife and once again the young seals and birds are left vulnerable.

### What you can do

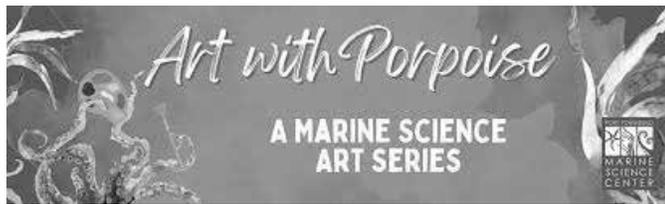
Rat Island is temporarily closed to the public from April 15 to August 31. The Friends of Fort Flagler have petitioned the Washington State Department of Fish and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to make the prohibition permanent and close it from May 1 to September 30 each year during the nesting and pupping period. But regardless of current status, the best way to help is to stay away.

### Join the Friends of Fort Flagler Docent Program

You can also join the Friends of Fort Flagler Docent Program, where you'll learn about protecting wildlife. Later, you can share that information with park visitors and offer them a chance to view the island through spotting scopes. What is your greatest reward? It may be knowing that you're helping to preserve this special place. Or perhaps it's seeing children's faces light up when they spot an unfamiliar bird, or a seal, for the first time.

To learn more about the docent program, contact Deisy Bach at [fortflaglerfriends@gmail.com](mailto:fortflaglerfriends@gmail.com). Also see the Friends of Fort Flagler website at [friendsoffortflagler.org](http://friendsoffortflagler.org). Donations are welcome.

## PT Marine Science Center— Art with A Porpoise



Join the Port Townsend Marine Science Center for a series of marine science art workshops that focus on the unique ecology of the Salish Sea. Participants will explore a variety of different art mediums while learning about whales, invertebrates, and kelp, as well as ongoing conservation projects that you can support.

- Felting the Intertidal, **Sunday, March 2**, 1 – 2:30 p.m.—Participants will discover the complexities of the intertidal zone and meet some of the animals that live life on the edge. We'll also talk about ongoing threats such as Sea Star Wasting Syndrome. Next, participants will learn the basics of felting and different types of needles and techniques so they can shape their very own sea creatures.
- Watercolor a Kelp Forest, **Sunday, March 23**, 1 – 2:30 p.m.—Participants will learn about the common types of marine algae and their vital role in the Salish Sea ecosystem and climate resilience. Attendees will be immersed in a kelp forest with a video from local diver and marine biologist Florian Graner. Next, participants will learn the basics of watercolor painting and practice painting different kinds of seaweed. At the end of the workshop, the painters can contribute to a collective painting of a kelp forest.
- Block Printing Whales of the Salish Sea, **Sunday, April 6**, 1 – 2:30 p.m.—Participants in this workshop will explore the diverse cetaceans of the Salish Sea, their conservation status, and the legacy of Hope, the Orca. We'll also talk about the different ways we can work together to help whales, including through the Marine Mammal Stranding Network. Following this discussion, participants will learn different techniques in block printing and try their hand at making their very own prints

Classes are appropriate for ages 13 and over, but all ages are welcome to attend. For attendees younger than 13, workshops are free of charge and other art activities will be available. To attend a workshop, register at [form.jotform.com/250207108812144](http://form.jotform.com/250207108812144). All tools and materials will be provided. Donations of \$20 per person

will cover the cost of materials and staff; however, no one will be turned away for lack of funds so pay what you can. All workshops will take place at Zee Tai Collective at 918 Water St. in Port Townsend. For questions, please email Hillary at [hsanders@ptmsc.org](mailto:hsanders@ptmsc.org). For the latest information about the Port Townsend Marine Science Center, please visit [ptmsc.org](http://ptmsc.org), at [PortTownsendMarineScienceCenter](https://www.facebook.com/PortTownsendMarineScienceCenter) on Facebook, and at [ptmarinescictr](https://www.instagram.com/ptmarinescictr) on Instagram.

## Wintertime Dreaming

by Kim Kolpin, Guest Writer

*“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.”* Audrey Hepburn

In the winter months, when the landscape looks a bit bleak, roots of spring bulbs are growing, stretching down into the earth to anchor them for the burst of life and blossom which come as winter wanes and spring dawns.

Daffodil and tulip, hyacinth and crocus, all are nestled into the cold soil waiting for nature's signal to sprout. Gardeners look to the winter months as time to dream and plan, as seed catalogs brighten up the cold metal of the mailbox. Adrift with a warm cup of tea, we blissfully imagine the beauty and bounty possible – dreams come in small packets of seeds. Last year's gardening challenges faded from memory, the carnage from the summer slugs forgotten, perhaps even forgiven.

I have gardened my entire life and come from a long line of gardeners; yet, as a new resident of the PNW last year, I made so many gardening mistakes in what is a new climate for me. The slugs and earwigs were positively giddy at my inadequacies, as they happily feasted on almost every tender leaf and bloom. Humbling, for certain, yet also a gift. It put in sharper focus for me that a gardener truly has a relationship with the garden, and like all relationships, there are good times and bad; they take effort, thoughtfulness, planning, and love, the results of which may not be immediately seen. This winter I am not only dreaming, but reflecting, so that when spring arrives, I have recalibrated the way I will continue to create my relationship with my garden. I will be more attentive, slower, more nurturing, for we do not grow a garden, but grow with a garden.

What is your relationship with your garden? What do you dream it could be? As the world at large contorts with the times, a garden can be so much more than just that patch of grass, it can be solace and sanctuary, nourishing and beautiful. It can be a belief in a peaceful tomorrow, a dream on a cold winter's day.

# Classifieds

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- 3. Port Ludlow Village Council (PLVC).....\$200
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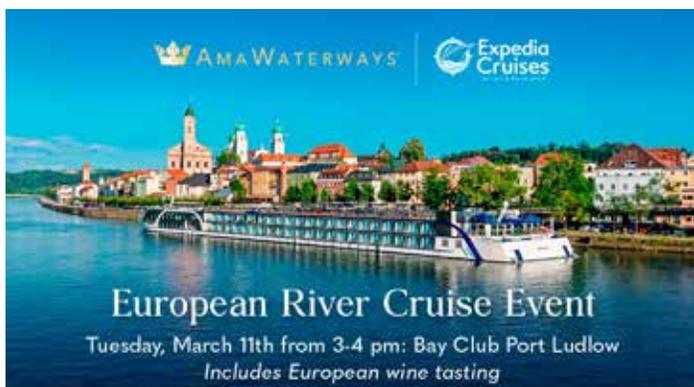
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Jefferson  
Healthcare

[jeffersonhealthcare.org](http://jeffersonhealthcare.org)

Jefferson Healthcare's current strategic plan concludes at the end of 2025. Community input will help us understand the region's health needs and develop our next strategic plan. Join us at a listening session to help us create a healthier Jefferson County.

***Join us!***



March 10, 5:00 pm



Library, Port Hadlock



March 25, 5:00 pm



Bay Club, Port Ludlow



Register and find all dates for in-person sessions at [jeffersonhealthcare.org](http://jeffersonhealthcare.org)