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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

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Visit The Voice Online

plvoice.org

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

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

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

Advertising Information: 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:

Photo by Kevin Hall.



Port Ludlow Voice

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News & Community

From the Editor's Desk

by Carol Riley, Editor

Have you seen *Wicked*? Then you will recognize this line, "Because I knew you, I have been changed for good."

That line speaks to what is going on at the *Port Ludlow Voice*. We are getting to know our new volunteers. You may have already noticed the changes. Volunteer roles are changing – not for what they do, but for who they are. We have a new photo editor, Kevin Hall. Kevin's photography skills earned him the chance to have a photograph of his grace the cover of the December *Voice* in 2025 and 2023. Grace comes easily to Kevin as he is also the Pastor of Port Ludlow Community Church. Kevin is stepping in to fill the position previously held by Steve Deligan. As Kevin learns the ropes, he will be ably assisted by a former photo editor, Jay Syverson.

There are also new hands doing layout. After 25 years as layout guru and editor-at-large, Mary Ronen has stepped down to enjoy some California sunshine and be closer to family. Twenty-five years! Awesome and awe inspiring – thank you, Mary. Our new Mary is Mary Pacher who has stepped in and is managing to wrangle more than 40 articles into their correct positions, as well as slot in the ads, all the while keeping an eye on the deadline for getting the magazine to the Printery.

Ann Bernard is focusing on obtaining more advertisers for the *Voice*, a very important role. The Copy Editor role is changing as Carol Riley steps away from that position. We are working together to look for alternate ways to ensure that proofing and editing continue to happen to insure a polished finished product.

Another long-term *Voice* stalwart, Mary Small, who served as final proofreader has also left us for California. What is it about California!! Moving into that position is one of our favorite writers, Milt Lum. A frequent contributor who writes about the history of Port Ludlow has taken on the position of Classified Ad Manager – thank you, Tim Rensema. To find out more about Tim, please read the Porch Talk article in the April *Voice*.

Our newly designed website is the work of Cody Maxwell who replaced Tom Sprandel. Tom left us for Chicago (at least it wasn't California!), and we miss him.

We also added to our fabulous group of proofreaders. Gary Hammond, Dave Cunningham, and Dana Steward have red pens in hand to make sure no errors slip by.

Curious as to how the *Voice* comes together each month? Then

please sign up to attend the May Dine and Discover on **Monday, May 4**, when members of the *Voice* staff will share our secrets.

What a relief and a comfort to know that not only is the print edition still a reality, it is changing for good.

LWVJC High School Student Essay Contest

The League of Women Voters of Jefferson County (LWVJC) is announcing its 4th annual High School Essay Contest.

Each year, the LWVJC invites students of high school age to submit an essay with an answer to a civics question, with the top three essays winning monetary prizes. The question is written by the high school teachers, in conjunction with our League's essay team. Each year we have awarded each submitter that doesn't win a top prize, a \$10 bill for their effort. Last year, the *Port Townsend Leader* printed the top three winners, plus a second round of essays, one from each school. This year, we are hoping for even more of the students' voices and essays to reach the public; they are truly amazing.

The background for this year's essay topic dates back to 1919 when an original founder of the League of Women Voters, Carrie Chapman Catt, identified three chief aims for the League. One of those aims was – **to make democracy so safe for the nation and so safe for the world that every citizen feels secure**. This year, the LWVJC invites Jefferson County high school students to answer the question, "How as voters can we ensure that democracy is safe and that citizens feel secure?"

Make an argument for actions that you believe will protect and strengthen our democracy. Essay contest guidelines can be found on the league website at lwvwa.org/Jefferson and strict adherence to the submission guidelines must be followed. Essays will be judged using a "blind" panel that ensures the judges do not know the name or affiliation of the student.

Judging criteria include:

- fully addressing the prompt
- adhering to published guidelines
- using proper grammar and punctuation
- citing sources and references correctly
- applying clear and concise language & writing style
- exercising creativity

Essays must be emailed to lwvjeffcowa@gmail.com between **Friday, May 1** and midnight on **Sunday, May 24**. Please visit the LWVJC website at lwvwa.org/Jefferson for additional information or send an email to lwvjeffcowa@gmail.com.

Long Term Care Through Your Estate Plan (Medicaid Planning)

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

Join us at the Bay Club, 120 Spinnaker Pl, Port Ludlow, on **Wednesday, May 13**, from 1 - 2 p.m. Walk-ins welcome but RSVP appreciated at (360)437-4172 or info@nwpepp.com.

Port Ludlow Photographers Field Trip



To afford our members a collective opportunity to capture wildlife and shoreline images that distinguish our spectacular surroundings, PL Photographers has arranged a field trip to Indian Island County Park on **Monday,**

May 25. We will gather there at 10 a.m., take photos and picnic as we please until noon. The park is situated at the north shore of Oak Bay above a lagoon at the southwest edge of Indian Island, with a view across Oak Bay toward Mats Mats.

To reach the park from Port Ludlow, drive north on Oak Bay Road until the Flagler Road turnoff (WA 116) to Marrowstone Island. After crossing the bridge, you will find the park entrance about a mile south on Flagler, to the right. Bring a lunch for a picnic.

Send images you want to share to aven1936@live.com to be reviewed at the **June 22** meeting at the usual Bay Club classroom 10 a.m. – noon.

Looking forward to a fun and interesting spring day!

Registration is Open for Port Ludlow Connects 2026

Port Ludlow Connects was formerly known as the PL Community Opportunity Fair. We're excited to bring this impactful event back to our community, where in 2024 the event drew 250+ attendees and delivered strong results for exhibitors, attracting new volunteers and members. Participants include local organizations, clubs, hobby and sports groups, and sponsors. This is a great opportunity to make your presence known and connect directly with community members interested in getting involved with your

project or initiative.

The event will be held at the Bay Club on **Friday, August 28**, between 4 - 6 p.m.

Registration is now available online by accessing the registration form at bit.ly/41QNacK. Space is limited; please register by **Friday, May 15**, to secure your area.

We look forward to your participation! Here are the details:

Thanks to our sponsors, booths are free. We'll supply table space, a table sign, event promotion, and parking coordination. Exhibitors should staff their booth and bring informational materials, sign-up sheets, and giveaways. In addition, to increase traffic to your table, is the "passport" card – participants collect "stamps" at each booth and enter a prize drawing when complete. Live music is planned as well.

We ask each exhibitor to provide one volunteer to assist with registration, setup, cleanup, parking, and more. *This is in addition to the person at the booth.* Training and role details will be provided in advance. We are also in need of the following items to help make the Fair a success. Please indicate on the registration form if you can help with the following:

- **Van and Driver:** We are looking for one more van and driver to transport attendees to and from the extended parking area at the Beach Club on the day of the event. Please let us know if your organization could help out with a van and driver instead of a volunteer joining our team. With two vans in 2024, attendees flowed very nicely between the Bay Club and extended parking.
- **Tables:** We also need about 15 each of 8'x30" lightweight folding tables that could be donated for the day of the event in lieu of a volunteer.
- **Water Bottles:** To add to attendees' bags and offer to exhibitors.

Have questions? Reach out to Candace Joy, the exhibitor contact, at cjoy4259@gmail.com or (425) 985-9990.

Thank you so much for your part in making our community such a fun, supportive and vibrant place to live!

Wind Phone in Port Ludlow

by Karen Griffith, Guest Writer

It's almost instinctive – when you lose a loved one – to pick up the phone to call them, to hear their voice, to tell them you love and miss them. This happened to Itaru Sasaki while grieving his cousin's death in 2010 in Japan. He purchased an old-fashioned phone booth and set it up in his garden. He installed a rotary

phone that was not connected to wires or any “earthly system.” Here, Itaru felt a continued connection to his cousin as he talked on the Wind Phone and found comfort and healing amid his grief. Itaru gave his phone booth a name, The Wind Phone.

The following year, in 2011, a devastating earthquake (9.1 magnitude) resulted in a tsunami with 30-foot waves that obliterated the coast of Japan, destroying entire towns and villages and taking thousands of lives. Many were swept out to sea, and their bodies were never recovered. As the tsunami’s catastrophic ocean waves destroyed the town, its people were devastated by a tsunami of grief. Itaru Sasaki salvaged his phone booth and relocated it on a windy hill overlooking the Pacific Ocean. He welcomed mourners to visit his phone booth to make calls to their friends and relatives lost in the great tsunami, hoping they, too, would find a connection to their loved ones and cope with their grief just as he had done after his cousin’s death.

The Wind Phone is a symbolic connection – it is an unconnected phone with no dial tone or actual services. It provides a space for people to speak their grief, thoughts, and memories aloud to someone who has died. Visitors are invited to pick up the receiver and share the things they wish they had the chance to tell that loved one before they died, or to speak to their loved one about what’s new in their life, or whatever else they need to share from this outlet.

While The Wind Phone originated in Japan, Wind Phones have been installed in various locations worldwide such as parks, libraries, and private gardens. There are over 500 in the United States alone. They offer a tangible and symbolic ritual for processing grief. Imagine being able to feel like you are connecting to a loved one who has died – imagine saying any of the number of things you wished you had said while that person was alive. Imagine giving your loved one an “update” on how the grandchildren are doing, how you are doing in light of the loss of the loved one? The act of speaking out loud, even to an empty phone, can bring unbelievable comfort and a sense of connection.

Where can I find one of these Wind Phones, you ask? Right here in Port Ludlow. Some interested Port Ludlow residents have worked to have a Wind Phone here in our community. So many of us have lost loved ones – spouses, partners, grown children, grandchildren. Our own Port Ludlow Wind Phone will be accessible to all who would like to make this special connection.

Graciously, Port Ludlow Associates are allowing a Wind Phone

to be erected on PLA property in the copse of trees at the intersection of Oak Bay Road and Paradise Bay Road, to the east of the market. Please feel free to sit down on the bench and dial your loved one.

Many people have worked to bring this into fruition. Firstly, Diana Smeland, manager of Port Ludlow Associates; Ed Galfre, who built the “booth;” Michael Lawrence, who made the plaque near the Wind Phone; End of Life Washington, and Judy McCay and Karen Griffith, local Volunteer Client Advisers with End of Life Washington who have been working with people at the end of life for over a decade.

The plaque reads: “This phone will never ring. It’s connected by love to nowhere and everywhere. It is for those who have an empty place in their heart left by a loved one. Say hello, say goodbye. Talk of the past, the present, and the future. The wind will carry your message.”

Come join us on **May 30**, at 1 p.m., for a dedication of our new Wind Phone. For more information, contact Karen Griffith at kgriffith45@gmail.com.

First Wednesday Luncheon

by Stephanie Buehler, Guest Writer

Olympic Area Agency on Aging will be discussing their Dementia Outreach Program at our **Wednesday, May 6**, luncheon held at the Beach Club, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. In recognition of Cinco de Mayo, a taco salad bar will be set up, and all tableware will be provided. Feel free to wear any Mexican-themed clothes you may have hanging in your closet. RSVP to firstwednesdayluncheon@gmail.com or sign up at either the Bay or Beach Club no later than **May 3**.

Did you know that dementia is the 4th leading cause of death in WA? It is expected that the number living with dementia in our state will double by 2040. You may be surprised and heartened to learn of all the support offered for both those suffering from the disease as well as their caregivers.

In June, for our final program of the season, and to kick off summer with some musical fun, we will be entertained by “*Ukuleles Unite of Port Townsend*,” a group of ukulele enthusiasts, founded in 2011 by Bruce Cowan, George Yount, and Germaine Arthur. The mission to spread “joie d’ukulele” in Jefferson County includes offering classes at all levels and opportunities to play in the community. They will perform, provide a little education about the ukulele, and lead a sing-along with many favorites. Lyrics will be provided. Come join in the fun!

June's luncheon will be BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch). Coffee, tea, water and cookies will be provided.

RSVP to the above email address no later than **June 1**.

We've been fortunate to have so many wonderful programs over the past few years.

However, our Program Chair is needing to step down at the end of this season (June). We are asking those of you who have some interesting ideas and who would like to help in our continuing effort to support the Food Bank monthly (October through June), please contact one of the following people to discuss what's involved: Stephanie Buehler @ 360-301-6824, Fran Bodman @ 360-437-5110, or Joan Astin @ 360-437-9307.

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

Meet Your Firefighters



Bob Wiechert

My name is Robert (Bob) Wiechert. I have been coming to Marrowstone Island since the age of six. My mother and grandparents moved out here 82 years ago. After 47 years in the maritime industry, with the majority of my time as Chief Officer and Captain, I retired. During my

career I trained in firefighting as a medical care provider and oversaw training and drills. After retiring, I looked for a way to contribute to the local community and thought becoming a volunteer with EJFR would be a good use of the skills I had acquired throughout my career. I'm looking forward to working with everyone at EJFR.

EJFR May Preparedness: Wildfires, Smoke and Heat

As the risk of wildfire increases here in Jefferson County, East Jefferson Fire Rescue (EJFR) is scheduled to provide wildfire prevention information for residents on **Thursday, May 21**, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Jefferson County Library, 620 Cedar Avenue in Port Hadlock.

Robert Wittenberg, Community Risk Manager for EJFR, together with Lara Gaasland-Tatro, Jefferson County Public Health Environmental Health Specialist, will talk about how

wildfires move and grow, ways you can protect your home and your health. Learn how to create defensible space around your home and protect your household from smoke and poor air quality. Register to save your spot at jclibrary.info

Home Wildfire Assessments are available from East Jefferson Fire Rescue. For more information and to sign up for an assessment, go to ejfr.org.

Martha's Book Group – Freeman

Leonard Pitts, Jr., a Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist turned historical-fiction author, portrays the chaotic state of the south in the aftermath of the Civil War in his 2012 novel, *Freeman*. His major protagonists: an escaped slave now a freeman searching for his wife, a northern abolitionist schoolteacher determined to bring education to the children of former slaves, and a slave owner doggedly refusing to free his slaves, are the eyes through whom we view this upheaval of society. There is a lot to unpack in this novel, so join us on **Tuesday, May 12**, 4 p.m., at the Bay Club to participate in the discussion.

Martha's Book Group meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at the Bay Club. All are welcome. Contact Sarah Schuch through email at bookclub@plvoice.org for further information. The book club selection for June is Timothy Egan's *Pilgrimage to Eternity: From Canterbury to Rome*.

2026 Statistics for East Jefferson Fire Rescue

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

March Alarms

Fires	9
Rescue/Emergency Medical	304
Non-Emergency	39
Hazardous Condition	13
Service Call	69
Other	0

Total Alarms 434

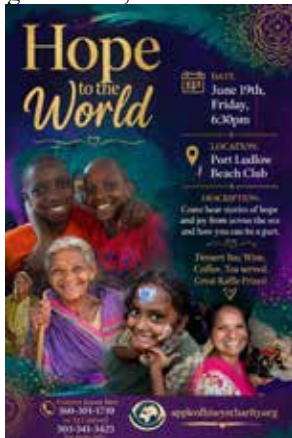
March Ambulance Transports

911 Transports	189
Hospital Requested transport	0
Non Transports	100

CARES Contacts 152

Hope for the World Fundraiser

A fundraiser in Port Ludlow, *Hope for the World*, is a project of Apple of His Eye, a charity based in Gresham, Oregon, whose founder, T.J. Saling Caldwell, now lives in Port Ludlow.



She was inspired to establish this 501(c)(3) non-profit charity after a missionary trip to India in 2006. Apple of His Eye currently has projects in Rwanda and India, where it has been working for almost 20 years. Primarily, the charity provides education and shelter for outcast children and orphans, vocational training for women who have been thrown into the streets or trafficked, shelter and food for elderly widows who have no other means of support, and more. It is a passion they feel the residents of Port Ludlow may love to be a part of!

The first local fund-raising event for the charity will be held on **Friday, June 19**, from 6:30 – 8 p.m. at the Beach Club. It will be a dessert bar with beverages, live music, and a short presentation with information on how people can get involved.

More about this charity can be found on this website: appleofhiseyecharity.org.

Blossom into May with the Jefferson County Library District

Find your latest adventure at the Jefferson County Library! We'll be closed on **May 25** for Memorial Day, but there's plenty of time to find a story to enjoy during the long weekend. Join us for a variety of fun programs this month, from a repair event to emergency preparedness. Visit our program calendar at jclibrary.info for more information.

The WSU Master Gardeners are back and ready to answer more questions in this ongoing class. On **Saturday, May 9**, from 1 – 3 p.m. in the Humphrey room, chat with friendly gardening pros who can diagnose plant problems, offer composting tips and help you pick the perfect plant for your space.

It's time for LEGO® at the Library! Get creative with LEGO®

bricks on **Thursday, May 14**, from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. and build whatever you can imagine! With fun challenges, this event will encourage you to practice teamwork and problem solving! This program is for ages 7–11, but everyone is welcome to join in the fun! We also have Storytime at the Library on **Mondays** from 10:30 – 11 a.m.

Join Grace Rosen, contributing author in the collaborative book *Expressive Arts: The Ultimate Creative Guide to Transforming Stress*, for a reading and reflection from Chapter 19: Transmute Repressed Rage into Creative Power. On **May 16** from 3 – 4:30 p.m., Grace will share how expressive arts helped her move through grief, anger and emotional pain toward healing, forgiveness and inner peace.

The flowers may be out, but on **Sunday, May 17**, from 2 – 4 p.m., so are the dragons! Our teen escape room is back, with four sessions available for sign up. You and your friends will race against the clock to search for hidden clues, crack puzzles and unlock secrets. In this quest, you'll work together to find treasure and make it out in time — just be careful not to wake up the dragon. See if you can beat the countdown!

Are you prepared for an emergency? On **Thursday, May 21**, from 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., get yourself and your loved ones ready with Jefferson County Fire Rescue. Learn about wildfires, how they move and how to better defend against them with Community Risk Manager Robert Wittenberg. Then learn about the dangers of extreme heat and wildfire smoke safety with environmental health specialist Lara Gaasland-Tatro.

On **Saturday, May 30**, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., we have the Jefferson County Repair Event. Come to this free community event where people with repair skills help fix things for their neighbors. Bring your toaster that doesn't toast, a sweater with a hole in the elbow, and a good attitude! You'll get your things repaired and learn how it's done – so maybe you can do it yourself next time.

Learn about *Women Who Step Up, not Aside* with Humanities Washington: Trillium-239! On **Saturday, May 30**, from 2 – 3:30 p.m., discover the stories of trail breaking women like Marie Curie, Harriet Tubman, Malala Yousafzai, Annie Oakley, and others! With their voices, hands, pens and guns, they persisted, and we'll examine the lives and motivations of these fascinating women and celebrate them in song.

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

A Plant Sale: Calling All Port Ludlow Gardeners!

Please join the Nordland Garden Club members for our plant sale on **Saturday, May 16**, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. We will have a wide assortment of perennials, annuals, bulbs, succulents, shrubs, specialty trees, herbs, veggie starts and houseplants, with many varieties and large sizes not often found in nurseries. In



addition, we will have a great assortment of garden art, unique containers, garden cloches, flower arranging items, and a raffle. Join us at our clubhouse on Marrowstone Island, 320 Garden Club Road. This fundraiser helps support our many community activities in East Jefferson County.

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Tri-Area Garden Club Plant Sale

Tri-Area Garden Club is once again holding their huge spring Plant Sale at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. This year it will be held a little later: Memorial Day weekend, **Saturday, May 23**. Besides the usual eclectic mixture of plants, there will be hanging baskets, some amazing sedum planters, “salad bowls,” and even creatively painted rocks! The plants available will range from mature species to vegetable and flower starts, large sword ferns to small trees, succulents and sedums to a variety of bulbs and corms (LOTS of dahlias), natives to exotics.



The sale will take place in the Horticulture building at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 4907 Landes St., Port Townsend, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Credit cards are happily accepted! (Cash and checks, too!) Proceeds from the sale fund grants for horticulturally themed projects in the community. Recent grant recipients include Food Bank Garden Growers, Dove House Herb and Vegetable Garden, Swan Farm Pea Patch Community Garden, plus several others.

Jefferson County Master Gardeners Plant Sale

The Jefferson County Master Gardeners are hard at work preparing for their **May 9** plant sale, the organization’s primary fundraiser of the year. The sale is cosponsored by Washington State University Extension of Jefferson County.

“This sale promises to be significant in both size and diversity,” says sale organizer Suzanne Eggleston. “Not only are we growing a wide variety of flowers, herbs and vegetables, we are offering some good-sized perennials and trees.”

The year’s sale will include some new features, including wire cloches for protecting plants and vines from deer and rabbits. The cloches, available in both medium and tall sizes, were made by Master Gardeners and friends, and are as whimsical as they are functional. In addition, shoppers will find handmade bags of various sizes, all made of nature-themed fabrics with care by Master Gardener Michele Koomen.

“We are also offering a variety of themed baskets,” says Eggleston. “Shoppers can take home baskets planted with lettuce, strawberries, herbs and flowers.”

Another bonus is the number of tomatoes that will be for sale – more than 800 different familiar *and* exotic varieties.

Also new this year is the location. The sale will be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds’ Horticulture Building at 4907 Landes Street in Port Townsend. “We like this location as it’s covered but not in a refined space,” says Harry Hayward, Master Gardener Foundation Chair. “If soil gets spilled, it won’t be a disaster.”

Community vendors will also be at the sale, including Cruising Climate native plant nursery, and Kul Kah Han Native Plant Garden.

The event will take place on **Saturday, May 9**, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will not be any online sales.

The Master Gardener Foundation is 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, registered in the state of Washington. This fundraiser supports Master Gardener programs.

Informational and Educational Programs for the Port Ludlow Community

The following programs are open to all Port Ludlow Community residents. Programs are at the Bay Club, 120 Spinnaker Place, and will begin at 1 p.m. Programs are free of charge.

Informational and educational presentations are intended to provide a forum for increasing knowledge for members of our community. Just as one needs on-going exercise to strengthen the body, these presentations are intended to help on-going strengthening of the mind. Topics and speakers from a multitude of backgrounds will be offered for our members.

Thursday, May 7 – Port Townsend’s past is full of fascinating stories – some true, some exaggerated, and some still mysterious. In this presentation from the Jefferson County Historical Society (JCHS), we will explore a few of the area’s most intriguing local legends and the historical evidence behind them. We will also share updates on the newly renovated JCHS Museum of Art + History and how it will help bring these stories and the county’s history to life.

Tuesday, May 19 – Join Jefferson Healthcare for an end-of-life planning seminar. Jill Newsome and Dr. Joseph Mattern will share practical guidance on advance directives, choosing a healthcare decision-maker, and understanding options for advanced disease and end-of-life care. Learn how to start meaningful conversations with loved ones and ensure your wishes are clearly documented and respected.

Thursday, May 21 – Mr. David Brownell continues his fascinating series about the First Nation People with his presentation entitled *Paleochannels of the Dungeness River*. We will learn about the shifting “paleochannels” of the Dungeness River and establish an environmental and anthropological framework to reach a better understanding of the history of the Dungeness River Valley since the end of the last ice age. We will look at archeological, geological, and other evidence to recreate the landscape of the North Olympic Peninsula as it adapted to changes in climate, biology and other factors.

Thursday, May 28 – Mr. Gary B. Keeley, a retired Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Staff Historian with broad experience across the U.S. Intelligence Community at the CIA, the National Security Agency (NSA), and the Departments of Defense and State, both in Washington, D.C. and overseas, returns for the second part of his series on U.S. Intelligence Agencies. In this session, we will look at the structure and missions of the CIA, briefly mention some of the other intelligence agencies, and

then address some myths and realities about the CIA and about intelligence in general: Do books, television shows and movies about intelligence agencies reflect reality? Does the CIA spy on Americans? Why did the CIA meddle in the affairs of foreign governments during the Cold War? Does the CIA assassinate enemies? Does the CIA spy on U.S. allies? What are the CIA’s ethics and why is so much kept secret?

We encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors to any or all of these presentations.

Accessibility Improved in Jefferson County Public Spaces

A Washington State committee is awarding funds totaling \$30,151.96 to five Jefferson County entities to support accessibility improvements to a variety of public resources. The funding was secured thanks, in large part, to the work of volunteers collaborating with Jefferson County Public Health.

The award recipients are the City of Port Townsend, Disabled Hikers, Jefferson County Historical Society, Peninsula Trails Coalition, and the Port Townsend School District.

The volunteer members of the Jefferson County Accessible Community Advisory Committee (ACAC) oversee the application process for the state funds. ACAC Chairperson Sarah Grossman, of Port Townsend, was pleasantly surprised to learn in March that all Jefferson County applicants were awarded funding.

“With state budget cuts, we weren’t sure if any of our applicants would be awarded funding this year,” Grossman said. “However, nearly a third of the total funds available are now going to flow into Jefferson County, thanks to everyone’s hard work and dedication to access.”

The ACAC is housed within Jefferson County Public Health. Public Health Director Appalachia Martine was grateful for the collaborative work of the ACAC, staff, applicants and local and state partners.

“Rural regions have higher densities of people experiencing disabilities than urban areas, nationwide,” Martine said. “I’m thankful to the many people who worked to secure these state funds so our schools, parks, trails, and cultural resources will be even more supportive to the overall health of county residents and visitors for years to come.”

Details of the work of the Advisory Committee and the State awards can be found at:

co.jefferson.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/24164/2026-Funded-Accessibility-Projects

Port Ludlow Tangle Club to Meet May 14

Meet, connect, and learn from each other!

The Port Ludlow Tangle Club will meet **Thursday, May 14**, at the Bay Club from 1 – 3 p.m. May’s meeting will focus on Zentangle headquarters’ tangle-of-the-year, Tripoli. This is a versatile, playful tangle – we’ll make a legend of some of its variations by making a mini accordion/infinity booklet! Monthly supply kits will be available for a nominal fee, and \$5 beginner kits will be available for first timers. To RSVP, contact certified Zentangle teacher Alice Clive at foureyes22@outlook.com.

And a heads up! Mark your calendars now for June’s “Chat and Tangle” meeting on the **June 11**. There will be no formal program, just an opportunity to tangle, socialize, and share ideas. Carve out some “me time” and join us!

Jefferson Healthcare Community Benefit Report

Jefferson Healthcare has released its 2026 Community Benefit Report, offering a transparent look at how the hospital district served East Jefferson County throughout 2025 and into early 2026. The report, available now on the Jefferson Healthcare website, details the measurable impact of the hospital’s work and the deep connection between the organization and the communities it serves.

By The Numbers: Community Impact

In 2025 alone, Jefferson Healthcare:

- Cared for 35,801 patients — an increase of over 1,000 from 2024.
- Provided over 67,000 primary care visits and more than 45,000 specialty clinic visits.
- Provided over 8,300 dermatology visits.
- Cared for over 1,100 patients each day.
- Provided care to over 30,000 emergency or express care patients.

“Our focus has been to understand what the healthcare needs of our community are – and then develop them in a high-quality, patient-centered way,” said Jefferson Healthcare CEO Mike Glenn. “It means fewer trips to Silverdale and Seattle for residents of Port Townsend and South County to seek specialty healthcare.”

A Year of Impact

Since the hospital’s last community benefit report, Jefferson Healthcare earned national recognition for obstetrics and outpatient experience and unveiled its new mobile clinic, which will primarily serve communities in South Jefferson County.

The hospital also welcomed its first patients to a new radiation oncology clinic and a state-of-the-art surgery facility.

Local Healthcare with Local Leadership

As a public hospital district, Jefferson Healthcare is governed by five elected commissioners. The report outlines how the hospital continues to expand access to high-quality care while upholding its mission to serve everyone in East Jefferson County.

“At Jefferson Healthcare, we never reach the finish line in our work to improve,” said Glenn. “Our work is to continue to improve the quality and safety of care for every service, every day. It is this relentless, ongoing pursuit to get even better.”

From Creek Beds to Coding: Where Deep Roots Meet Broad Horizons

When you visit Al Gonzalez’s sixth-grade classroom in Chimacum Elementary, you might find it empty. That’s because, for Mr. Gonzalez’s students, the most profound lessons don’t always happen inside. They also happen knee-deep in Chimacum Creek, sensors and nets in hand, studying the heartbeat of the Valley Near the Water. In Chimacum, a vibrant, hands-on environment where the world serves as the curriculum, Mr. G. has been a Jedi Master and educational leader beyond Chimacum.

Al Gonzalez has been teaching since 1991, but his teaching is not old-school. A 2022 recipient of the *Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators* and the 2021 Northwest Council for Computer Education (NCCE) *Outstanding Technology Educator of the Year*, Al blends environmental stewardship with technology literacy. His students aren’t just memorizing formulas and crunching worksheets; they are using water quality sensors to monitor part of our Salish Sea watershed, building and programming robots, and even competing in Esports to sharpen their digital citizenship.

What drives Al is the belief that every student deserves access to the kind of learning that feels relevant, meaningful, and alive. “I want kids to leave my class knowing they can figure things out and do anything they want,” he says. “That’s what prepares them for whatever comes next.” The student experience is centered on “figuring things out.” It’s messy but rewarding.

While investigating insects found in water samples from the Chimacum Creek, Frankie Davidson shares, “We are learning, but it’s not boring. It is better than textbooks. I have learned a lot about salmon.” Paycen Terada says, “It’s interesting to watch the behavior of the Caddisfly Larvae who fight with the

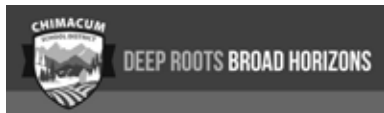
other insects under the microscope.”

This spring, 53 sixth graders will trade the keyboard for a walking stick at NatureBridge on Lake Crescent in Olympic National Park. This annual, multi-day immersion allows kids to put their classroom theories to the test in one of the most inspiring places in the Pacific Northwest. The annual outdoor education experience is planned and implemented by a team of staff, parents and volunteers at Chimacum Elementary School.

Whether they are hiking through old-growth forests or analyzing data in the lab, the goal is to bridge between abstract concepts and real-world application. “Math can be creative,” Al says. “I want students to use what they already know and reason their way to what they don’t know yet. That’s a life skill.” Whether it is through his work as an *Amplify Desmos Math Fellow* or training teachers statewide in AI, his mission remains the same: ensuring Chimacum students leave his class knowing they can tackle any challenge the future holds.

In Al’s classroom, students gain the best of both worlds: a connection to the deep roots of the Chimacum Valley and the broad horizons from

using world-class technology. It is here, between the creek and



Expanding Healthcare in Port Ludlow

Jefferson Healthcare has announced the planned expansion of the Port Ludlow Clinic. The new building will bring more specialty care and advanced diagnostic services to Port Ludlow and surrounding communities.



Jefferson Healthcare has always provided top-quality care close to home for East Jefferson County. In the early stages of expanding the Port Ludlow clinic, it takes an

important step toward delivering access to more healthcare in the southern part of Jefferson County.

The newly purchased building, formerly the Kitsap Bank location just across the street from Jefferson Healthcare’s existing clinic, will allow the organization to increase the number of services available in Port Ludlow and better meet the needs of the communities it serves.

What Services Will Be Offered?

Today, the Port Ludlow clinic and pharmacy provide primary

care and family medicine services, including blood draws for patients with an appointment and an order from a physician.

The new building is designed to bring more specialty care and advanced diagnostic services to Port Ludlow — care that often requires residents to travel outside the area today.

“The goal is to provide local access to specialty services, including Dermatology,” said Jefferson Healthcare Chief Operating Officer Jake Davidson. “We also plan to bring imaging services to the community, including MRI.”

While Dermatology and imaging services are confirmed, Jefferson Healthcare is still working with providers to determine which additional specialties will be offered. This careful planning helps ensure that new services are sustainable and aligned with the needs of local patients.

When Will the Building Open?

Planning for the new facility is underway, and Jefferson Healthcare is moving thoughtfully through the design, permitting, and construction process.

“We are still in the early planning stages, but we are hopeful that we will be able to open some — if not all — of the building in 2027,” Davidson said. “We’re aiming to complete design in the next few months and then determine when construction and permitting can begin.”

As plans progress, Jefferson Healthcare will continue to share updates with the Port Ludlow community.

A Long-Term Commitment to Local Care

The new Port Ludlow Imaging and Specialty Clinic represents more than a facility; it reflects a long-term investment in improving healthcare access for rural and underserved communities.

“Our commitment to the health of our community is at the heart of the new Port Ludlow Imaging and Specialty Clinic,” Davidson said. “By bringing these expanded services to Port Ludlow and surrounding communities, we are fulfilling our mission to eliminate barriers to care and provide our communities with the local, high-quality medical resources they deserve.”

Looking Ahead

Jefferson Healthcare already serves Port Ludlow through its clinic and pharmacy, and this expansion will allow even more care to happen close to home. As plans are finalized, community members can expect more details about services, timelines, and next steps.

Features & Stories

Porch Talk with Dean and Shirley Anderson

by Donna Geer, Staff Writer

I asked my gracious hosts what their secret sauce was. After all, it's not every day I get word there's a couple celebrating their 75th wedding anniversary. It's an extremely rare event, as only 0.0016% of married couples reach this diamond anniversary milestone. They looked at each other and shook their heads. They were just lucky, they both said, finishing each other's sentence like long-married couples do.

Dean and Shirley Anderson's story starts at Meridian High School (called Kent-Meridian HS now). They were high school sweethearts who went to a barn dance for their first date. Ball games and more dances followed, but Friday nights were spent roller skating. All the teens flocked to the Redondo Skating Arena on Redondo Beach back then. One of Shirley's neighbors picked the kids up at their front doors – even Shirley's house at the end of a really long driveway on Lake Meridian. That arena, boasting the largest Wurlitzer pipe organ of any roller rink in the world, burned down in 1951.

They were married on March 28, 1951, while Dean was home



Dean and Shirley Anderson on their wedding day

on a two-week leave from the Navy. Shirley said she only had him for two weeks before he shipped out to Korea on the *USS Boxer*, an aircraft carrier. She used to meet the *USS Boxer* in San Diego when it returned from deployments, and for a while, she worked for the Navy when the ship was being overhauled.

Dean was an aircraft mechanic working on the hangar deck for two separate tours in Korea. Back then, eight-man deck crews moved all the planes by hand – Corsair fighters and jets named after Panthers and Cougars. He told me about a Corsair exploding on the hangar deck in August 1952 when a gas tank ignited and set off a five-hundred-pound bomb. The whole hangar deck erupted in flames and destroyed maybe thirty planes, from what he remembers. Over sixty survivors were rescued from the sea. Nine men lost their lives that day.

Shirley heard about the explosion on the radio when she was on her way to work at Kenworth in Seattle. She was next to the teletype when a message finally came in. *We had a little fire, but I'm okay. From Dean*, they recited in unison. I was shocked at the lack of details, but back then, Shirley was just relieved to

hear he was alive. Dean was assigned to that ship for two years. During the Korean War, it was always getting replenished with munitions and aviation fuel every four or five days. He heard the *USS Boxer* went through more munitions during the Korean War than maybe all the munitions used in World War II by the Navy.

He spent a year on Adak Island, Alaska, servicing PBV Catalina seaplanes as a flight mechanic before being stationed in San Diego. Then he was in California for a month before shipping back out on the *USS Boxer*, this time for two months in Japan. When he was discharged, he returned to Kent. That's when he built their first home, and he and Shirley started their family.

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Shirley worked at Kenworth until she was five months pregnant. Back then, Kenworth wouldn't employ a woman after her second trimester. I thought it was shocking, but she just shrugged her shoulders and reminded me that's the way it was back then.

Dean remodeled Shirley's childhood home on Lake Meridian when it was still rural. That's where they raised their family of four boys. They even had a couple cows. Shirley remembers the Holstein calf they raised for meat. Dean remembers when Shirley chased their milk cow after it broke down the fence

because it was in heat. Shirley was six months pregnant with their third son at the time.

Dean worked for Strand Construction for 35 years, rising from the ranks of first-year apprentice carpenter until he retired as general superintendent and VP. His construction projects required travel, so the family joined him when they could. One summer, when they were a family of five, they lived at Moses Lake in a sixteen-foot trailer while Dean's company was building a grocery store. Three boys in that small, cramped space? Dean laughed and said two of the boys slept in a tent.

The family moved to Kauai, Hawaii, for two years when Dean was overseeing the build of a 75-unit condominium on the water. They loved Kauai, with its laid-back culture and the flowers, the water, the weather. It's where their sons learned to surf. After they came back to Washington, all the boys were promised tickets back to Hawaii for a whole month once they graduated from high school. Two sons eventually returned to live in Hawaii and raise their own families.

When Dean retired, they sold their house and for 25 years, they RV'ed across the country, spending winters in Arizona and El Centro, California, where the U.S. Navy Blue Angels practice their routines at the Naval Air Facility from January to March. They miss going south in the winter, watching the Blue Angels take off from the runway and fly their maneuvers. They've settled in a wonderful community in Chimacum now, close to two of their sons and their families.

Dean laughed and said they've been married a long time. He never thought he'd live this long. He's 94 now, and Shirley's 92. He marvels at the wonderful life they've had. Shirley's proud of their family, of the way they raised their boys. She says it's the most important thing she's ever done. They have wonderful daughters-in-law, seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren with an eighth one on the way. But with joy, there's always heartache too, the kind no parent wants to suffer. This past November, their third son passed away from lymphoma. And Shirley's been dealing with her own cancer, so Dean's picked up a few more chores around the house.

For their 25th wedding anniversary, they went back to Hawaii. Their friends surprised them with a fancy lobster dinner at Coco Palms in Kauai, the same place Elvis Presley filmed "Blue Hawaii." Dean said it was a real first-class place. This year, they're celebrating their 75th at home with their family. I heard Dean cooked a mean lobster for dinner. That sounds just about right.

Editor's Note: As we prepared to go to press, Shirley Anderson's family let us know that Shirley passed away. They agreed we should publish the article, such a nice tribute to a loving couple who got to celebrate the amazing milestone of 75 wonderful years together. Donna and all the Voice staff send their condolences to the family – thank you for bringing Dean and Shirley into our lives.

You can find these and other stories online at plvoice.org. As you already know, our little town is an eclectic mix of wonderful and interesting people. Some were born here and many more come from elsewhere, but all of us have chosen to make Port Ludlow our home. Every one of us has a great story, so let's sit on the porch and have a conversation. We can share a cup of coffee, or tea, if preferred. You can reach me at sports@plvoice.org. Looking forward to hearing from you!

The Price of War

by Milt Lum, Staff Writer

He awoke to a cloudless sky and sunshine bathing his front lawn with a golden glow. The smell of fresh mown grass wafted through the open window on a soft breeze. It was May 30, traditionally when the nearby lakes had thawed completely and the summer season began. Those halcyon days when he would get out his fishing gear and canoe and go looking for walleye and northerns were long gone. They disappeared fifteen years ago when a rocket-propelled grenade smashed through the windshield of the Humvee where he was riding shotgun, killing the driver.

He showered and went downstairs to the smell of fresh-brewed coffee and sizzling bacon and the welcoming patter of clawed feet on the wooden steps. Jojo, his service dog, greeted him with a nuzzle and brushed against his leg awaiting the familiar pat between the ears. His wife turned to him and gave him a peck on his cheek as he took his customary place at the table in the breakfast nook.

"Are you up for sunny side eggs with a couple strips of bacon?" she asked.

"Sounds good," he replied, aware of that wariness in her voice.

Memorial Day in their small hometown in the northern Midwest had become a somber affair since the young men returned home in caskets from the war in Afghanistan. He had survived that mission, but others, for whom he was responsible, did not. Efforts to resolve that guilt manifested itself in so many self-destructive behaviors that his wife dreaded this day.

They had met while stationed in Alaska. She was speeding back to her quarters on Eielson Air Force Base, and he gave her a ticket. They dated, served their tours, married and settled back in the small town in the upper Midwest where their families resided. Jobs were few, but both managed to find steady employment using their veteran benefits. He decided to supplement his meager retirement plan by becoming a weekend warrior in the state's National Guard. His weekend drill was just an hour away, and his two weeks of annual training was in state. He was six years from getting his twenty-year letter when they were activated and deployed. He was the senior enlisted member of his platoon. He had returned intact from their first deployment, relieved that their turn had come and gone. As the conflict droned on into its tenth year, he was one year short of twenty when they were activated once more. He was one week from the end of this tour when he was injured.

He sustained severe concussive injuries and numerous shrapnel wounds and was in a coma for three months. He was lucky to be alive when he was air-evacuated to Germany, and then to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. His wife was at his bedside when he awoke, but he was not the same man that left her. His face was scarred, his left eye blinded, and his

six-foot frame wavered like a twig in a breeze whenever he tried to stand. He had lost his hearing in both ears. Upon discharge from the hospital, he was assigned to the barracks on campus to rehabilitate. She went home.

He gradually regained his balance and strength in his legs, regained part of his hearing and learned to navigate with one eye. The severe headaches were difficult to control even as numerous MRIs showed no significant pathology. Opiates were successful in ameliorating pain but did little for his nightmares and sleepless nights. Sometimes the vertigo came without warning and resolved as quickly. Other times it persisted, leaving him incapacitated for minutes, or, at worst, for days. After two years he was discharged home with a 100% disability rating with follow-up care at the nearest veteran's hospital, a three-hour's drive from his home.

Being home for the first time since he left four years before was like being a toddler learning to navigate through a strange world. Though he had mastered the tasks of self-care, he no longer possessed the skills which made him employable. It took almost a year to adjust to being home. Throughout this period, he was emotionally labile, feeling useless and a burden to his family and friends. *(continued on page 32)*

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Arts & Entertainment

Port Ludlow Art League Artists of the Month

Featured Artist: Jackie VanNoy

Jackie is a painter and contemporary calligrapher residing in Port Ludlow. She began her study of art at the State University College at Buffalo, NY, and continues to expand her visual vocabulary in many creative forms including painting, calligraphy, collage, and drawing. Her artwork has been exhibited in many solo and group exhibitions, and has received national and regional awards.

Jackie's artwork has been featured in the Artist's Magazine, the Northwest Watercolor Society's 60th Anniversary Exhibit at the Frye Art Museum in Seattle, Prince Street Gallery in NYC, and Northwind Art Gallery in Port Townsend, WA. Jackie is represented by Women Painters of Washington Gallery in Seattle.

Jackie's *Calligraphic Musicals* exhibit represents a change in the direction of her artwork, shifting her attention from what can be seen to what is heard, specifically a musical voice. She had no clear idea what that would look like, but trusted her instincts that she needed to explore the idea.

Without relying on visual imagery, Jackie chose color, music, and gesture as the prompts for her artwork. Paper and brushes were still on her tables from years of representational work in watercolor, and she added some other mark-making tools from her calligraphy studies. Jackie states, "I was clear about the voice I wanted to portray. I envisioned a singing voice with a true and joyful sound."



New Song by Jackie VanNoy

This happily compelling series is an ongoing one, occasionally giving way to other abstract series along the way. She returns to the series whenever there is a rhythm, word, or tempo that awakens fresh inspiration to be explored and expressed. For

access to Jackie's portfolio, kindly visit jackievannoy.com. You can contact Jackie at jacquelinevannoy@gmail.com.

During May you can enjoy Jackie's artwork at Sound Community Bank and online at portludlowart.org,

Meet Jackie and enjoy refreshments on **Wednesday, May 13**, 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 bank is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon – 4 p.m. For more information, please email info@portludlowart.org or visit portludlowart.org.

Happenings at the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery

Spring is in the air, and the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery is humming with activity. During the month of May, jewelry artists will be on hand at the gallery to convert your favorite necklace or bracelet from a standard clasp to a magnetic closure. Enjoy the ease of putting on jewelry without three thumbs or a magnifying glass. While you wait, relax and browse the gallery full of original art, jewelry, ceramics, textiles, cards, and gifts.

Meet our artists of the month, Jackie VanNoy and Jackie Sathe, and enjoy refreshments on **Wednesday, May 13**, 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 bank is open Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The gallery is open Tuesday – Saturday, noon – 4 p.m. For more information, please email info@portludlowart.org or visit portludlowart.org.

Port Ludlow Art League Artists of the Month

Jeweler of the Month – Jackie Sathe

A Florida native and former middle and high school teacher, Jackie became interested in designing jewelry after being gifted a necklace and earring set created by one of her students. Her mother, who is an avid artist and quilter, nurtured that interest. Inspired by picturesque Port Ludlow and the local art community, Jackie's artistic interests have blossomed into a full-time passion.

Jackie's design style is eclectic employing a variety of materials

to create unique jewelry pieces. Her earrings, necklaces, and bracelets feature a variety of specialty beads made of glass, porcelain, clay, stone, and wood. Jackie assembles her pieces using an assortment of materials including sterling silver, copper, or stainless-steel wire, as well as natural and synthetic cords.



Jewelry by Jackie Sathe

During May, Jackie's jewelry will be on display at the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery, Sound Community Bank, and online at portludlowart.org.

Meet Jackie and enjoy refreshments on **Wednesday, May 13**, 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 bank is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, noon – 4 p.m. For more information, please email info@portludlowart.org or visit portludlowart.org.

First Open Studio Was a Resounding Success!

The first Open Studio at the Port Ludlow Inn was held on March 18, from 1 – 5 p.m. and was attended by about 30 artists and makers. Daniel Ratigan, the Inn's General Manager, made the spacious Sun Room available and provided cheerful waitstaff to take drink and food orders.

The positive energy was palpable! There were sketchers and knitters, painters and potters, collagists and quilters all sitting together, chatting, supporting, and encouraging each other. In collaboration with the Inn, the Port Ludlow Art League welcomed artists and makers of all skill levels to attend, including guests at the Inn.



Open Studio at Port Ludlow Inn

The Port Ludlow Art League would like to thank Daniel and his waitstaff for their support and for opening their facilities for the Open Studio.

The next Open Studio at the Port Ludlow Inn is on **Wednesday, May 20**, from 1 – 5 p.m. All artists and makers are invited to bring their current project and supplies for an afternoon of camaraderie. Open Studios will repeat on the third Wednesday of July, September, and November. For more information, please visit portludlowart.org. The Resort is located at One Heron Rd. in Port Ludlow.

Upcoming Art Classes in May

Watercolor Class – Friday, May 1, 10 a.m. – noon at the Bridge Deck.

Join us for a class with artist, Pamela Raine, to complete the *Guiding Light* watercolor painting. All supplies and instructions are provided for a fee. Space is limited. To register, please email info@portludlowart.org.



Guiding Light by Pamela Raine

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



Blue Morning by Shirley Bomgaars

Join us for a fun class with artist, Shirley Bomgaars, to complete the *Blue Morning* acrylic painting while enjoying brunchy sips and nibbles. All supplies and instructions are provided for \$50. Space is limited. To register, please email info@portludlowart.org.

The Bridge Deck is located adjacent to the Beach Club parking lot at 121 Marina View Drive, Port Ludlow.

Get Ready to Giggle! Michael Harrison Brings Ventriloquism Magic to the Bay Club

by Jason Wright, Guest Writer

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, May 3**, 2 p.m. at the Bay Club for an afternoon of laughter and lighthearted fun as the Port Ludlow Performing Arts welcomes the incredibly talented Michael Harrison for a special performance. His show is sure to tickle your funny bone and leave you smiling.



Michael Harrison

Michael Harrison is an award-winning comedian and puppeteer who breathes new life into this classic art form, turning it on its head with original puppets and side-splitting routines. For over 30 years, Michael has been amazing audiences of all ages with his unique brand of humor.

Imagine a modern twist on vaudeville, where witty banter meets masterful puppetry. Michael's show is described as hilarious and laugh-out-loud funny, promising an afternoon of pure entertainment. Whether you're a lifelong fan of ventriloquism or simply looking for a delightful way to spend a Sunday afternoon, this is one show you won't want to miss.

So gather your friends, neighbors, and family, and prepare to be amazed by Michael Harrison's ventriloquism wizardry. It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy some quality time together and share a few laughs.

This special event wouldn't be possible without the generous support of our underwriters. We extend our sincere gratitude to Terri Ross, in loving memory of Lanny, and to our anonymous donor for their commitment to bringing quality entertainment to Port Ludlow. Their contributions help make our community a vibrant and enjoyable place to live. This project is supported in part by Creative West that receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

To learn more about Michael's act and to see clips of his performances, please visit funnyguy.ca. To purchase tickets, please visit PortLudlowPerformingArts.com. The Bay Club is located at 120 Spinnaker Place in Port Ludlow.

We look forward to seeing you there for an afternoon of unforgettable fun with Michael Harrison.

Calling All Actors – Auditions for the Fall Production

by Kate Marshall, Artistic Director, Ludlow Village Players

With our spring show already on the books, we've started to plan our fall show. This year, we're performing *Almost, Maine* on October 9 - 18. *Almost, Maine* is a popular play by John Cariani. The play is a collection of nine short plays that explore love, loss, and connection in the mythical remote town of Almost, Maine that's so far north it's almost not in the United States.

Set on a single winter night under the Northern Lights, the interconnected stories feature magical realism as residents experience love in unexpected ways with bruised knees, broken hearts, and mended relationships. The play is known for its heartwarming and heartbreaking moments and has become a frequently produced play on the community theater circuit.

As a community theater, we want to have fun and showcase the talents of the residents in our community. Auditions are **Wednesday and Thursday, May 13 – 14**, 5 p.m. at the Bay Club located at 120 Spinnaker Lane, Port Ludlow. There are parts for nine males and nine females, ranging in age from mid-20s to mid-80s. Rehearsals for each short scene of the play will be coordinated to accommodate the actors' busy schedules.

Not interested in being on stage? Producing a play involves a lot more than just the actors. We welcome everyone to experience the magic of producing a show. If you like to paint, we always need set designers. If you like to sew, fashioning costumes is essential to the actor's portrayal of their character. Thrifters are great at finding those special props that are difficult to find. Folks that excel at organizing and coordinating make great stage and production managers.

For questions about auditions and opportunities, email Kate at director@ludlowvillageplayers.org.

Enriching Lives Through Performance: Discover Port Ludlow Performing Arts

For those of us who appreciate the transformative power of live performance, Port Ludlow Performing Arts offers a vibrant and enriching cultural experience right here in our community. Port Ludlow Performing Arts is dedicated to bringing high-quality music and a variety of art performances to the Olympic Peninsula, fostering a deeper appreciation for the arts among residents and visitors alike.

Each season is carefully curated to offer a diverse range of

performances. Whether your preference is classical music, jazz, or theatrical type productions, you're sure to find something to captivate your interest. To deliver an exceptional level of artistry, Port Ludlow Performing Arts selects renowned musicians and performers.

Beyond performances, Port Ludlow Performing Arts is committed to arts education and community engagement. They also support programs designed to inspire and educate individuals of all ages, fostering a lifelong love for the performing arts. These initiatives help to cultivate the next generation of artists and arts enthusiasts.

Attending a Port Ludlow Performing Arts event is more than just entertainment; it's an opportunity to connect with others, share in a collective experience, and support the arts in our community. To ensure that quality performances continue to enrich our lives for years to come, become a volunteer. For more information, contact Sharla Erich at 707-684-9701. For information on upcoming events, please visit PortLudlowPerformingArts.com.

Another Chaotic Performance!

by Nancy Petersen, Guest Writer

Need some spontaneity in your life? Come to Disorderly Conduct's improv show on **Friday, May 29**, 7 p.m. at the Beach Club. Everything is made up on the spot, based on suggestions from the audience. You can be part of the show without ever leaving your seat just by calling out a location, a relationship, or sometimes just a random word. Our cast will create stories and scenes for your entertainment.



Disorderly Conduct Cast: (l to r) Front row: Madelyn Curll, Keith Bowen, Mary Fortman; Back row: Pete Alexander, Nancy Peterson, David Johnson

Every show has a new improv game so no two shows are the same. Watch our special agents solve a tough problem in the *Mission Improbable* game using imaginary items suggested by the audience. Find out how modern items were really invented.

Join us at the Beach Club, 121 Marina View Drive in Port Ludlow. The doors open 30 minutes before the performance. Tickets at the door are \$10. And yes... there will be cookies. Always cookies!

Discover Local Art at the Port Ludlow Inn

Mark your calendars for a vibrant showcase of arts and crafts on **Saturday, May 23**, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the picturesque Port Ludlow Inn. Local artists and makers will be showcasing a wide variety of work, making it the perfect opportunity to find one-of-a-kind treasures, including jewelry, paintings, woodworking, ceramics, textiles, and cards. Weather permitting, the event will span both the cozy interior of the Inn and the beautiful outdoor grounds, offering the perfect backdrop for the festivities.



Art Fair at Port Ludlow Inn

Beyond the art, attendees can make a full afternoon of the event. The Inn's Fireside restaurant will be open for those looking to purchase a delicious meal or a quick bite. Additionally, the Inn's meeting rooms will be available for guests to sit back, relax, and soak in views of the marina and the Olympic mountains.

Admission is free, and it's a wonderful opportunity to support local artists and makers while enjoying one of the area's most beautiful venues. The Port Ludlow Inn is located at One Heron Road in Port Ludlow. For more information, please visit portludlowart.org.

Northwind Art's Exhibits and Classes

May brings a pair of color-drenched exhibits to Northwind Art's Jeanette Best Gallery. Seattle artists Ariana Heinzman and Sarah More transform flowers into exotic ceramic vessels and watercolor paintings in the *Florabundance* exhibit that runs **May 7 – June 22**. The *Showcase 2026: Round 2* exhibit runs **May 14 – September 7** and features ethereal oil paintings, local landscapes, silversmithing, and wildlife photography from an ensemble of 12 artists.

Northwind Art is located at 701 Water St., Port Townsend, and open **Thursdays** through **Mondays**, noon – 5 p.m., and noon – 8 p.m. during *Art Walk* between **May 2** and **June 6**.

The current exhibits: *New Work* exhibit by Randy Sturgis and Peter Koronakos and *Ars Poetica* continue to be on view through **May 4**. *Showcase 2026: Round 1* continues to be on view through **May 11**.

Northwind Art School at Fort Worden State Park offers 30 classes and workshops this month, including:

- Watercolor Painting Level 1, **Fridays, May 1 – June 5**
- Acrylic Painting: Mediterranean Light, **Mondays, May 4, 11, 18**
- Drawing Portraits: A Progressive Approach, **Mondays, May 4 – June 8**
- Drawing Animals, **Tuesday, May 5**
- Painting Pets & More, **Tuesday, May 5**
- Dive into Drawing, **Wednesdays, May 6 – June 10**
- Woodcut Printmaking and Print Exchange, **Saturday, May 9**
- Pacific Northwest Abstract, **Saturday, Sunday, May 9 – 10**
- Aging Creatively art workshops for people with memory loss and their care partners, **Tuesdays, May 12 and May 26**
- Watercolor: Lighthouses, **Thursday, May 14**
- Acrylic Painting 102, **Thursdays May 14 – June 4**
- Watercolor: Composition 101, **Tuesday, May 19**
- Watercolor: Complementary Colors, **Tuesday, May 19**
- Exploring Hand Lettering, **Wednesday, Thursday, May 20 – 21**
- Color Mixing and the Color Wheel, **Saturday, May 23**
- Weave a Cattail Bottle Cover, **Saturday, Sunday, May 23 – 24**
- Beginning Watercolor at the Bunkers, **Sunday, May 24**
- Guided Play in Pastel & Mixed Media, **Tuesday, May 26**
- Watercolor: Northwest Sky, **Thursday, May 28**
- Weave a Cattail Hat, **Saturday, Sunday, May 30 – 31**
- Travel and Urban Sketching in Ink & Watercolor, **Saturday, Sunday, May 30 – 31**



Cattail Hat



Ann Pfeiffer's Travel and Urban Sketching

For more information about Northwind Art School's classes, please visit NorthwindArt.org. Fort Worden State Park is located at 200 Battery Way in Port Townsend.

Bay Club Art Exhibit – Nature's Beauty

Nature has always been a great inspiration to artists. Whether the subject is a landscape, seascape, flora, or fauna, there is an endless variety of choices to capture. Nature-inspired art allows creators to connect deeply with their environment, offering viewers a visual and sensory experience.

Running from **Monday, May 4** through **Monday, July 6**, members of the Port Ludlow Art League will exhibit their artwork inspired by the theme *Nature's Beauty*. Be sure to stop by the Bay Club to vote for your favorite piece. You can also view a selection of the exhibit at portludlowart.org.



1 Fish, 2 Fish, 3 Fish
by Shirley Bomgaars

The Bay Club is located at 120 Spinnaker Lane in Port Ludlow. For more information on art exhibits at the Bay Club, please email Sheryl Goldsberry at info@portludlowart.org.

Village News

Bay Club / South Bay

South Bay Community Association Update

Welcome to May and warmer weather and more sunshine! It's such a welcome relief to wake up to brighter days and end with stunning sunsets.

The SBCA Board of Directors has been busy reviewing and updating policies as well as adopting a new policy this spring. We have updated and adopted our Collection and Enforcement Policies based on the updated Washington State law, RCW (Revised Code of Washington) 64.90. Both have been uploaded to our SBCA website under Governing Documents. After months of review and revision, the Board approved updates to our Bylaws which members will vote to approve and adopt at our July Annual Meeting. The Bylaws have been updated to meet the requirements of RCW 64.90. Along with these policies, the Board created a new policy and procedure for Donations, and that policy along with related Procedures and Donation forms, was approved and adopted by the Board at the April Board meeting. These documents have been uploaded to our SBCA website as well.

At their April 9th Board meeting, the Board of Directors approved of the Pro-forma budget for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year. Prior to the meeting, two committees, Facilities and Finance, provided support for the development and refinement of the budget. A copy of this pro forma budget can be found on our Bay Club website.

We have an incredible number of events planned for May and June. Please check out the SBCA Important Dates box to the right of this article. We have many presentations scheduled this month from Jefferson County Historical Museum to the CIA, Myth and Reality. All our presentations start at 1:00 p.m. and our usually held in the Auditorium. For food, we will have a catered Fiesta Mexicana on May 8th (catered by Molcajete restaurant) and a BBQ of dogs and burgers on June 12th with grill masters Ted, Gil and Geof operating the grills. More details can be found on our Bay Club website.

An event we want to especially point out is our Memorial Day Celebration on May 25th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. We will have guest speakers who will speak from their hearts and share their thoughts on what Memorial Day means to them. We will have a bagpiper playing Amazing Grace and two buglers playing Taps. Please join us for this solemn event as we commemorate

American military personnel who died in all wars, including World War II, The Vietnam War, The Korean War and the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Iran..

May and June SBCA Important Dates

Friday, May 1, 8:30 – 10 a.m. – Pancake Breakfast benefitting East Jefferson County Fire Rescue**

Thursday, May 7, 1 p.m. – Jefferson County Historical Society and Museum***

Friday, May 8, 5 – 7 p.m. – Fiesta Mexicana Members Social catered by Molcajete**

Thursday, May 14, 9:30 – 11 a.m. – Monthly Board meeting **

Tuesday, May 19, 1 p.m. – Jefferson Healthcare***

Thursday, May 21, 1 p.m. – First Nations presentation with David Brownell ***

Monday, May 25, 10 a.m. – noon – Memorial Day Celebration**

Thursday, May 28, 1 p.m. – CIA, Myth and Reality presentation with Gary B. Keeley***

Tuesday, June 2, 1 p.m. – Snails and Slugs with Ric Brewer***

Thursday, June 4, 1 p.m. – Earthquakes***

Friday, June 5, 8:30 – 10 a.m. – Pancake Breakfast benefitting North Olympic Salmon Coalition**

Thursday, June 11, 9:30 – 11 a.m. – Monthly Board meeting **

Thursday, June 11, 1 – 2 p.m. – North Olympic Salmon Coalition***

Friday, June 12, 5 – 7 p.m. – Burgers and Dogs BBQ; Members Social**

Tuesday, June 23, 1 – 2 p.m. – Jefferson Healthcare – Cooking Demonstration***

Thursday, June 25, 1 – 2 p.m. – Noxious Weeds***

All Thursdays 4 p.m. – Member's Lounge

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

** All SBCA members are welcome.

*** All Port Ludlow residents are welcome.

Beach Club / North Bay

Update from the Manager

by Mike Wilson, General Manager

I hope this note finds you well and enjoying spring in our beautiful corner of the Pacific Northwest.

On April 18, the Ludlow Maintenance Commission (LMC) held its 58th Annual Member Meeting. Thank you to everyone who participated. The results of this year's Annual Meeting voting have been posted on the LMC website for those who would like to review them.

I'd like to take a moment to recognize and thank Russ Sharp for his three years of dedicated service on the LMC Board of Trustees. During his time on the Board, Russ also served on both the Operations and Firewise Committees. His contributions at both the Board and committee levels have been greatly appreciated. Thank you, Russ, for your commitment to our community.

This year also marked the end of Board terms for Bob Shaw and Kathi Pugh, both of whom chose to run for reelection at the Annual Meeting. We appreciate their continued willingness to serve.

While I'm offering thanks, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to all our committee members and volunteers. So much important work happens behind the scenes, and it's because of your dedication that our little village in the woods continues to be such a special place to live.

Following the Annual Meeting, the Board met to elect officers for the coming year. The results of that election are posted in the Board of Trustees section of the LMC website.

I'm also happy to share some good seasonal news: the outdoor pool will open on **Friday, May 15**, and will remain open through **October 15**. We hope you enjoy another wonderful pool season.

As a reminder, the Ludlow Maintenance Commission represents 1,090 properties, including singlefamily homes, condominiums, and townhomes. Our North Bay community includes retirees,

empty nesters, and young families, creating a wonderfully diverse group with a wealth of experience and knowledge.

I encourage all LMC members to consider getting involved as volunteers. There are many opportunities to help – whether through serving on a Board or committee, or by lending a hand with one of our social events. Volunteer roles can be longterm or as simple as helping with a single event. If you're interested in contributing and making an impact in the community you call home, we would love to hear from you.

For more information about our committees and meeting times, please visit lmbeachclub.org or feel free to email me directly.

In addition, LMC is currently seeking someone to prepare the monthly Board of Trustees meeting minutes. This is a paid position requiring approximately five hours per month. If this sounds like something you might be interested in, please email me and I'd be happy to share more details.

As always, thank you for being part of our Ludlow community. I look forward to seeing you around the Beach Club and throughout North Bay. 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.



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LMC and the Beach Club

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by emailing the above address.

Visit LMCBeachClub.org for
more information about your North Bay HOA

Village Council

Port Ludlow Village Council Updates

by Geoff Lang, President

Your Village Council has been hard at work the past month! The Port Townsend Marine Science Center reached out looking for partners in their annual Earth Day Beach Clean-up on April 25, and we were happy to participate. Hopefully, you were there too!

We have partnered with PCs for People *pcsforpeople.org* to bring a drive-through electronic/tech waste recycling event to the Village on **Friday, May 15**, from 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Village Center parking lot, formerly known as the recycling center. Details on acceptable items can be found on our website and via email announcements leading up to the event. PCs for People handles most of this event, but if you want to volunteer to help, reach out! Volunteer at *PortLudlowVillageCouncil.org*. We are excited to bring you the 2nd Annual Community Yard Sale where you will find more than just your neighbors buying and selling household goods. We'll have local nonprofit groups, local food vendors, local music, and a homemade baked goods sale. Catch the 'local' theme? PLVC proudly supports our local vendors and organizations. We will, of course, have an informational table for PLVC and, as always, will be looking for people to join us!

Event Calendar: We continue to scour local publications, social media, and websites to populate the Community Event calendar so that you are always informed, but we need your help! Send us your event information, volunteer your time to help us find local events that may be of interest to our community, and encourage the coordinators of the classes you attend to reach out to us! We also want to provide you with event information via our bi-weekly email, to include local seminars, classes, restaurant offerings, and community news. But if we don't know about it, we can't share it! Sign up for our emails at *PortLudlowVillageCouncil.org*.

The future of Port Ludlow: Do you wonder what Port Ludlow will look like in the ten years? Do you have a vision? Do you want to provide input for the future of Port Ludlow? We do too! We would like to start a community working group or a committee to start forming a vision for the future of the Village. Finally, we are putting together roadside trash cleanup events for the primary roads in the Village. We'll start with Oak Bay Road, Paradise Bay Road, and Teal Lake Road but will expand our reach as our volunteer pool allows. More information to follow via our website and email once we have completed the

application process with the county.

Upcoming Events:

- Next PLVC Board Meeting: **May 7**, 3 p.m., at The Beach Club.
- Drive Through E-waste Recycling Event: **May 15**, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., at the Village Center 'Recycling' area
- 2nd Annual PLVC Community Yard Sale: **May 23**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Yacht Club Parking Lot
- Port Ludlow Connects! **August 28** at the Bay Club
- Roadside Cleanup Events: May dates TBD

PLVC 2nd Annual Community Yard Sale/Spring Fair

by Lois Grazioli, Community Events Chair

Something old, something new, something for you! Come one, come all to the 2nd Annual Outdoor Community Yard Sale and Spring Fair on **Saturday, May 23**, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Yacht Club parking lots. Support 'local first' vendors selling food, beverages, ice cream and homemade baked goods at the PLVC fundraising Bake Sale. Browse and shop for new and gently used items, stop by the non-profit organization booths, enjoy music from the Stringalongs, and purchase a delicious lunch provided by the Fireside Inn at the food court.

For those interested in purchasing a \$10 spot, registration continues until all spots are filled. Spots include two parking spaces, one for a vehicle and the other for selling items. Download the form or fill it out online at *portludlowvillagecouncil.org*. Hard copies are available at the Beach Club. Checks are payable to PLVC and should be mailed with completed forms (if not completed online) to **Port Ludlow Village Council Yard Sale, PO Box 65012, Port Ludlow, WA, 98365**. They may also be dropped off at the Beach Club reception area. Registration is only confirmed once payment is received. Once received, an email confirmation will be sent. Bring a printed copy of the email receipt to check-in the day of the event and have fun selling your treasures.

This is a rain or shine activity and open to the entire Peninsula community.

Celebrate with us this Memorial weekend and spread the word among family and friends. For questions or more information contact *lois.grazioli@portludlowvillagecouncil.org*. Hope to see all of you there at this exciting community event.

Port Ludlow Village Council Board of Directors Meeting Summary

The Port Ludlow Village Council (PLVC) Board of Directors meeting held on April 2, focused on public safety, infrastructure longevity, and community-wide service initiatives. Key updates from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office highlighted a strategy to address a county budget deficit by renting jail space to neighboring municipalities, alongside warnings regarding a surge in financial fraud. East Jefferson Fire Rescue reported reaching full staffing levels and highlighted a successful "training burn" that doubled as a tactical exercise.

Significant board business included the approval of the PLConnects contract for the upcoming August event and a financial report showing a stable ending balance of \$14,661.87. The Council is moving forward with several new environmental and utility initiatives, including a roadside cleanup crew, an e-waste recycling event, and a strategic plan for the Utilities Committee.

Public discussion centered on the recent closure of the local recycling center due to contamination and the transition to curbside services.

Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Freshman of the Week

by Nate Sagan, Assoc. Media Relations Director,
University of Alaska Anchorage

The Alaska Anchorage gymnastics team has produced its second Mountain Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF) Freshman of the Week this season as Tessa Richardson earned the honor for March 9–15.



Tessa Richardson, University of Alaska Anchorage
vault and uneven bars specialist

Photo by Stephanie Burgoon,
University of Alaska Anchorage Athletics

A vault and uneven bars specialist from Port Ludlow, WA, she tied atop the vault podium with a 9.75 and helped University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) to the seventh-best bars total (48.800) in program history with a 9.725. In the rematch, Richardson won outright on vault with a UAA season-high 9.8, aiding the 20th-best vault total (48.375) in program history. She also earned 9.65 on bars as the Seawolves posted a second straight season-high score at 192.675.

Port Ludlow Hiking Club

by John Fillers, Port Ludlow Hiking Club

Hikers gather at the Bridge Deck in Port Ludlow at 8:15 a.m. for directions and to arrange carpools, leaving by 8:30 a.m. To find the Bridge Deck location visit the club's website at portludlowhikingclub.com and click the "ABOUT" tab.

Individuals on the hiking email list receive notifications during the week of scheduled outings. If you wish to be added to the distribution list, please visit the club's website at portludlowhikingclub.com and use the "CONTACT" tab to submit your request. Participation in hikes is open to all; it is not necessary to be a member of the email list or the club.



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Recreation & Sports

Friday, May 8 – Ebey’s Landing

We will take the 9:30 a.m. Port Townsend ferry. Once on Whidbey Island, we will take a short drive to Ebey’s Landing State Park and then explore the National Historic Reserve. Expect an easy walk of approximately four to six miles. Ferry reservations required both ways. A Discover Pass is not required. Restrooms are available at the trailhead. Hike leader: Gary Hicks, 510-566-2401.

Friday, May 22 – Striped Peak

The hike is in the Salt Creek Recreation Area. It is operated by Clallam County Parks and there is no day-use fee. This is an out and back. We will hike up to the peak; approximate distance is 1.8 miles, and the elevation gain is 1,100 ft. We will have lunch at the panoramic summit and then hike back down to the Tidepools Spur Trail and walk out to the small but beautiful beach. The spur trail to the beach is 0.6 miles one-way and there are some steep stone steps leading down to the beach. Shoes or boots with good traction are advised. Depending on the timing, we may not reach the beach at low tide, but we will see a small, pretty waterfall and some excellent examples of pillow basalts on the beach. Grebes and harlequin ducks may be present. Total hiking distance is about 4.6 miles, and the hike is rated moderate. If so desired, we can stop in Port Angeles on the way back for a snack. There are no restrooms at the parking lot but there may be restrooms available at the campground nearby. Hike leader: Lauren Wagoner, 509-592-6452.

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

The Fairway Wood: Sweep, Don’t Scoop

by Jim Mancill, PGA Head Professional, Port Ludlow GC

This month we are going to look at one of the most intimidating clubs in the bag – the fairway wood. Whether you are trying to reach a long par 5 in two or just trying to find the short grass on a narrow par 4, the fairway wood is a powerful tool when used correctly. However, for many of us, it’s the club that leads to the most “topped” shots or frustrating “duffs.”

First things first, let’s look at the setup. A common mistake is playing the ball too far forward, like a driver. While we want it forward of center, placing it right under your lead shoulder or just a clubhead inside your lead heel is the “sweet spot.” Secondly, check your stance width. A slightly wider base helps maintain balance throughout the swing, especially since these clubs are longer than your irons. And lastly, remember, trust the loft! You don’t need to “help” the ball into the air; the club is designed to do that for you.

How to play the shot. The secret to a pure fairway wood is the “sweep.” Unlike an iron where we want a steep, downward strike, the fairway wood requires a shallower angle of attack. Think of it as “bruising” the grass or clipping the “top of a tee,” rather than digging a deep divot. In the follow-through, ensure your weight has fully transferred to your front foot. If you lean back or try to scoop the ball, you’ll likely top it or hit the ground way behind the ball.

To be successful, try this simple drill the next time you are at the range:

The Tee-Clipping Drill: Place a tee in the ground so it is barely peeking above the grass. Without a ball, try to “clip” the top of the tee with your 3-wood or 5-wood. Focus on a smooth, 80 percent tempo. Once you can consistently clip the tee without digging into the dirt, introduce a ball and try to recreate that same “sweeping” feel.

If you’re having a day where the 3-wood just isn’t behaving, don’t be afraid to pull the 5-wood or even a 7-wood. They have more loft and are much more forgiving off the turf. Golf is all about confidence and having fun, so keep that tempo smooth and I’ll see you on the trails!

Port Ludlow Community Church



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Port Ludlow Art League

ART & GIFTS Gallery

Artist Reception
May 13th
Featured Artist: 4-5:00
Gallery Artists: 4-6:00

Hours: Tues- Sat, Noon- 4:00

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Port Ludlow Women's Golf Association (Women's 18 Hole) League News

by Kathleen Traci, PLWGA Publicity Chairperson

The Port Ludlow Women's Golf Association's (PLWGA) 2026 Opening Day on April 7 was great fun. The 9 a.m. Continental Breakfast at J.R.'s Sand Trap was followed by a brief business meeting.

PLWGA Captain Linda Aho welcomed old and new members to the 2026 Season and introduced the new slate of officers: Co-Captains Beth Weaver and Diane Germain, Secretary Kathy Traci, and Treasurer Linda Haskin.

She also presented small gifts of appreciation to several members who have performed exemplary work during winter for many, many years. A big thanks to Diana Smeland for producing our handbook, to Linda Haskin for collecting the dues and putting the handbook together, and to Debi Bozanich for organizing the guidelines and instructions (Blue Notebooks) for our 28 functions.



(LtoR) Debi Bozanich and Linda Haskin receive flowers as a thank you for all their hard work

After the business meeting, members hit the course for nine holes of play. The group met up again at J.R.'s Sand Trap for lunch and the 2026 PLWGA Handbooks were distributed. The handbooks include the complete schedule of events for the season, a description of the PLWGA games, and other important information.

The next major event is the Spring Fling Tournament, happening **Monday and Tuesday, May 18 – 19**, and is being organized by Sue Fechner and Shana Worley. The Captain's Cup Tournament will be held **Monday, June 8; Wednesday, June 10; and Friday, June 12. Tuesday, June 16**, will be an alternate date in case of rain. The tournament will be team match play and is being organized by Sharon Russell, 2026 Tournament Chair, and her tournament committee.

The Ladies' Invitational takes place on **Tuesday, June 30**, and will be open to all Washington Women's League members. Bonnie Vahcic reminded the membership of the need to provide raffle items or raffle baskets for the Ladies' Invitational. The Club Championship is scheduled for **Monday, August 24; Wednesday, August 26; and Friday, August 28**. Lucinda Thompson and Kathi Williams are planning a "Gals' Getaway" for later this year. Elaine Girard will announce several "Play Away Days" via Golf Genius.

Members Bonnie Vahcic and Lucinda Thompson will be highlighting the coming 2026 Washington State Public Links Association (WSPLA) tournament season. PLWGA Members were reminded that they must qualify to play in the WSPLA Championship by playing in previous WSPLA events. Women's club golfers throughout Washington State will participate in this exciting championship event.

Members are reminded that they need to enter their scores hole-by-hole on the same day that play occurred. Members' scores will be sent out monthly via Golf Genius for peer review. Members can download the Golf Handicap Information Network (GHIN) app to their cell phones. On league play days, scores will be entered for participants by the Port Ludlow Pro Shop.

Captain Aho invites prospective league members to play 18 holes with the group on Tuesday mornings. To sign up to play or to join one of the golf leagues, please contact the Port Ludlow Pro Shop at 360-437-0272. Special note: Port Ludlow Golf Course membership is no longer a requirement to join the PLWGA.

Niners' News

by Kathleen Traci, Lady Niners' Publicity Chairperson

The Niners Cocktail Party on April 2 featured a taco bar at J.R.'s Sand Trap. Niners Captain, John Bockoven welcomed the group to the 2026 season and Port Ludlow Golf Course (PLGC) Pro Jim Mancill introduced new niners to the membership. Niners Handbooks, created by Elaine Girard, were distributed. Many interesting Thursday games are scheduled, and some games will be played from the new tees that are closer to the hole and allow members to practice their short game. The format of these games allows members to post their scores for their handicap, while still using the scores to determine Thursday play day winners.

The 2026 Niners' Officers are Captain John Bockoven, Co-Captain Linda Haskin, Treasurer Doug Fett, and Social Chairs Diane Germain and Barb Burke. Couples Chairpersons are Carole and Doug Fett. The first Couples Golf event was a "scramble" format held on April 30. The May Couples event will be a "best two balls of foursome" format and it is scheduled for **Thursday, May 28**. Membership in the Niners is required for participation in the monthly couples' events.

The Captain's Cup Tournament will be played over four days during the season. Scores will be totaled for three of the four dates to determine male and female winners. The first Captain's Cup date is **Thursday, May 14**. Members should continue to use Golf Genius to sign up for play on Thursday mornings. Scores for Thursday play will be entered into Golf Genius by the Port Ludlow Pro Shop.

Captain Bockoven invites prospective league members to play 9 holes with the group any Thursday morning. To sign up to play with the Niners, please contact the Port Ludlow Pro Shop at 360-437-0272. Special note: PLGC membership is no longer a requirement to join the Niners.

2026 Low Tide Beach Walk Schedule

by Gail Wellenstein, Kitsap Beach Naturalist

Bring your rubber boots and your curiosity to the beach this summer! Kitsap beach naturalists offer summer low tide explorations and two of our resident Port Ludlow naturalists will be leading beach walks at Shine Tidelands State Park and Saltair Beach Park this summer. Both beaches are home to a diverse group of kelp and animals. Experience an array of crab species, sea stars, and sea cucumbers. If we are lucky, we may even find the elusive and fascinating plainfin midshipman, the famous humming Casanova.

The beach at Shine Tidelands State Park is a favorite haunt of the amazing, carnivorous and very large moon snail, as well as the delicate sand dollar. The beach at Saltair Beach Park in Kingston is inhabited by the piddock clam, which entertains crowds with its siphon system and delights children who can actually witness a clam pooping.

Gather up your children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors; pack the sunscreen, hat, and windbreaker; and join us at the beach.

Shine Tidelands State Park – Termination Point Road. The schedule for this beach is:

- **Monday, May 18**, noon – 1:30 p.m.
- **Monday, June 15**, 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
- **Tuesday, July 14**, 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
- **Tuesday, August 11**, 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Saltair Beach Park – 25955 Washington Blvd NE (next to ferry waiting area).

The schedule for this beach is:

- **Tuesday, May 19**, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, June 16**, 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
- **Wednesday, July 15**, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. (Kingston Library will be there)
- **Wednesday, August 12**, 10:30 a.m. – noon

Trail Mix

by Larry Scott, Trails Chair

“Port Ludlow – A Destination Hiking Village”

In the April Trail Mix article, Trails postulated that submitting articles with a timely element to future efforts always runs the risk of being either out of date or flat out incorrect due to some outside timing circumstances. And, in fact, that proved correct.

What Trails offered as “COMING UP” was:

1. Build two short sections of corduroy trail on the Interpretive-Creek View Loop connector to correct for muddy seepage we have not been able to mitigate any other way.
2. Add additional steps to the same location rising from the bridge towards the muddy location.
3. Begin to build the last Oak Bay Trail (OBT) section approved from Walker Way.

It's good that two out of three isn't bad in some circles, because we didn't achieve three out of three. We overcame the extremely muddy section of the Interpretive-Creek View Loop connector in #1 (see this month's photo) and we began building the last OBT section from Walker Way to the northern Around the Bay Trail (ABT) crossing in #3, but we did not get to add the additional steps to the Interpretive-Creek View Loop connector in #2. That task will now be coming in the next weeks along with the major effort of completing the last OBT section during the spring/summer Fun Days.



Corduroy pathway built on Creek View Loop to relieve muddy section

Photo Credit: Larry Scott

To complete the last OBT section, we will have multiple Fun Day crews at a time, limited only by the number of tools available on any given day. Jerry Keck (Trails Maintenance) will head up finishing this trail, so watch for his planning email blasts and join in when your schedule matches the outing date/time.

Our annual Scotch Broom remediation effort will be held on **Monday, May 4**, and will be headed up by our Natural Resources/Vice Chair of Trails Tim Rensema. Here's his notice on the upcoming pull, which will now transition to include selective locations of English Ivy, partially due to our success over the Scotch Broom. Be sure to let him know if you can participate in this annual community event.

"We will be conducting the traditional Scotch Broom pull (now English Ivy and Scotch Broom) on May 4, 2026 (a Monday). We will meet at 9 A.M. in the Village Store parking lot. Anyone interested please contact Tim Rensema at aedomguru@aol.com so he can get a good number for the barbecue of hamburgers and sausage at the Beach Club after the Fun Day. We will meet for the barbecue at noon. We have not eradicated the Scotch Broom but are on our way to controlling it."

If you want to come out for a Fun Day of camaraderie while helping to improve our community, email me at mclgscott@cablespeed.com and let's keep improving our trails.

The Price of War *(continued from page 15)*

Fatigue and depression brought him to the brink of suicide. His wife, taught to recognize the signs, intervened in time. Their relationship hovered on the brink as she was exhausted and he was frustrated.

The VA suggested a therapy dog, and Jojo became part of the family. He and Jojo bonded well. He took walks with Jojo and regained control of his life. His wife no longer hovered and felt free to seek new employment opportunities. They went to counseling and renewed commitments to each other.

Memorial Days' tributes to the town's fallen sons were painful. He refused invitations to participate in the ceremonies. Instead, he chose to walk on the paved bike path that meandered through the woods near his home. With Jojo at his side, he felt safe. He sat on his favorite bench where he listened to the river that flowed alongside the path. There he meditated on the words related to him by his fellow vets: *'cause the river don't talk, the river don't care, where you've been, what you've done or why it is you're standin' there. It just rolls on by, whisperin' to your soul. It's gonna be alright, the river just knows.**

He knows he'll never be the same. He knows they will never fulfill the dreams they made. He knows he wants to live. He has learned to love again. He wants to forgive himself, and to forget, but he doesn't know if he can. This is the price of war.

**The River Just Knows, Song written by Sam Tate, Annie Tate, and Dave Berg; performed by Rodney Atkinson on his 2009 album: It's America.*

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photo of Richard by Sarah Wright Aubin

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