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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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ON THE FRONT COVER:

3rd Beach on the Olympic Peninsula.

Photo by Steve Deligan



Port Ludlow Voice

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News & Community

From the Editor's Desk— The Art of Celebration

by Carol Riley, Staff Writer

A recent article in the *New York Times* talked about the way we celebrate. The gist of the article was that too often we celebrate only the big occasions—holidays, birthdays, milestone events, and miss out on the joy of celebrating small things. My neighborhood immediately came to mind. We celebrate everything we can think of—strawberry season, peach season, International Hot Dog Day, Oktoberfest, good weather, an excess of wine in our cabernets. We come together in our beautiful park area and eat, drink, converse, and enjoy the joy of being neighborly.

Another article in the *Washington Post* was very different. The gist of this article is that due to recent events concerning something “big and beautiful” people were experiencing a windfall of monies that they neither needed nor wanted. What a conundrum!

As the president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, East Jefferson County, and a board member of Bayside Housing & Services in Port Hadlock, I would like to suggest another way to celebrate. Can you imagine what would happen if that unwanted windfall found its way into the craters created by that “big beautiful” something? Millions of dollars flooding into food banks, rural hospitals and clinics, housing organizations—charities and nonprofits whose efforts have been severely cut or even eliminated.

Now that would truly be big and beautiful.

Free Life Care Planning— Zoom Seminars

Join Tony Hinson on **Tuesday, September 9**, at 11:30 a.m. as he explores estate and life-care planning solutions that preserve wealth, minimize taxes and ensure your legacy.

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

These will be offered once a month on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. The seminars will be held live on Zoom where you can ask questions. To register, visit compassandclock.com or call 206-627-0790.

First Wednesday Luncheon

by Stephanie Buehler, Guest Writer

After First Wednesday Luncheon's brief summer hiatus, we are starting our 2025-2026 season with a presentation by Jumping Mouse Children's Center. We hope you'll join us on **Wednesday, September 3**, at the Beach Club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to learn about this important program. Jumping Mouse Children's Center provides transformative mental health care to children ages 3 – 12 through evidence-based Child-Centered Play Therapy. Understanding that young children process their experiences through play rather than language, they offer developmentally appropriate support to help them express emotions, build resilience, and heal from trauma.

For those of you who are new to the First Wednesday Luncheon, this luncheon has supported the Jefferson County Food Bank Association for over 50 years, with donations made by each attendee every month. Through our monthly programs, we also strive to educate and entertain our community as well as provide a venue for neighbors to meet and get to know one another. Luncheons alternate each month between the Beach and Bay Clubs.

Coffee, tea and cookies will be provided. However, we ask that for September you BYOL (bring your own lunch) and utensils. Throughout the year, as in the past couple of years, we will have a few lunches provided by volunteers. Please RSVP to firstwednesdayluncheon@gmail.com, or sign up at either the Bay or Beach Club by **Monday, September 1**.

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

In addition, come prepared to participate in our monthly raffle to win some fun prizes. Raffle money also helps support the Food Bank.

Mark your calendar for October 1, when the First Wednesday Luncheon program will be a presentation by a representative of NAMI, National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Choral Belles Recruiting Singers

This year, the Choral Belles are celebrating 30 years of performances for residents of senior living facilities, local businesses, and charitable organizations throughout the Olympic Peninsula. Some of the most rewarding concerts are those at the senior living facilities. The joy and enthusiastic participation of the residents makes what we do so worthwhile. In addition, our December candlelight performance celebrates the cohesive communities of the Peninsula (especially Port Ludlow) coming together for the holiday season.

To continue this uplifting endeavor for our 2025-26 Concert Series, we are recruiting additional alto, second soprano, and soprano volunteer singers. Rehearsals begin on **Thursday, September 4**. Please join us in this effort and help us continue making joyful music in our community. For further information, please contact Judi Smith at 360-301-1162, judi_richard@msn.com or Tam Mc Dearnid at 925-323-3464, mctam90@gmail.com.

Dine and Discover Learns About Protected Ecosystems

by Allan and Nancy Kiesler, Guest Writers

The Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge on the island of Hawaii and the McNeil River State Wildlife Sanctuary in Alaska are two places where there is an ongoing effort to preserve ecosystems. Within these ecosystems, both plants and animals are protected from pressures that threaten to hasten their extinction. Join us on **Monday, October 6**, when our guest speaker, Milt Lum, will talk about these efforts. Milt and his wife Doris, 14-year residents of Port Ludlow, co-chaired Dine and Discover for many years.

Increasing costs combined with decreasing attendance are threatening the continuation of Dine and Discover so we are asking the regular attendees to spread the word and encourage or even invite friends to join you to hear Milt's educational presentation.

Now for the details. This event is open to North and South Bay members and their guests. Signup sheets will be available at the front desk at both the Beach Club and the Bay Club by September 8 and removed on October 3 or sooner if we reach our maximum.

Our venue for October is the Bay Club. Doors open at 5:30 but those bringing an appetizer should arrive 10 minutes early. Please bring a dish that will serve 8-10 people and put a note on your dish if it contains any of the following allergens: wheat, soy, eggs, milk, tree nuts, peanuts, fish,

or shellfish. You will also need to bring your place setting (plates, napkins, eating utensils, glasses) and a plastic bag to put your dirty dishes in to go home. We provide coffee/tea/water but if you would prefer something else, you're welcome to bring your beverage of choice. Admission is \$5 per person payable at the door. This covers the cost of the facility, coffee/tea, and the honorarium we provide the speaker. If you sign up but are unable to attend, please let us know as no-shows can significantly affect the food selection. For questions or suggestions, please call us at 360-437-8091. We hope to see you there!

Washington State Declares September "Eat Local Month"

Washington State governor Bob Ferguson has proclaimed September 2025 *Eat Local Month*. This declaration affirms and honors the diverse and vibrant community of farmers, fishermen, and food artisans who provide fresh, healthy, and sustainably produced food for us all to enjoy.

Eat Local Month celebrates the bounty of Washington's local food with events and experiences throughout the state, including farm tours, farm-to-table dinners, farm and fish markets, festivals, and more. *Eat Local Month* connects communities on the journey from farm to table and sea to plate. Participating in *Eat Local Month* is a meaningful choice to strengthen our food system, reduce our impact on the planet, and contribute to a future where our farmland and fishing waters thrive.

"So often the hard work of those who grow, raise, and harvest our food goes unseen and unrecognized," says Maressa Valliant, *Eat Local First* Director. "This proclamation celebrates what we all know to be true—that the labor of farmers, ranchers, and fishermen is the backbone of this state. It's so exciting to see these communities rightfully honored."

Eat Local Month events across Washington showcase the rich agricultural heritage of our state and create opportunities for engagement, education, and enjoyment of local food. Join *Eat Local First* Collaborative and the State of Washington in observing and celebrating *Eat Local Month* this September.

Learn more: eatlocalfirst.org/eat-local-month/

Read the official Proclamation here: eatlocalfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/WF-Attachment-4822356-Eat-Local-Month.pdf

For media requests or to inquire about participation in *Eat Local Month*, contact maressa@eatlocalfirst.org

Martha's Book Group - *Tom Lake*

Tom Lake is the site of a summer theater where relationships and romance bloomed and faded. Fast forward twenty years and the leading lady has left the stage to be a farmer's wife. She shares snippets of her past life with her adult daughters as they hustle to harvest cherries in the summer of Covid. Ann Patchett's ninth novel is another journey into the complexities of human relationships fraught with all its passion and pain.

Martha's Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, September 9**, at 4 p.m. at the Bay Club to discuss *Tom Lake*. All are welcome. We meet the second Tuesday of each month to discuss a book selected by its members. For additional information contact Sarah Schuch at bookclub@plvoice.org.

October's book for discussion will be *The Burgess Boys* by Elizabeth Strout.

Small but Mighty: Why Choose Chimacum



Chimacum School District has seen declining enrollment since 1998, serving about half the number of students as before. While birthrates have fallen across Jefferson County, many families have also chosen other schools citing concerns about issues such as academics, bullying, and leadership.

That story is changing.

Today's Chimacum is focused, energized, and we are on the rise. From preschool to graduation, we're seeing real results: improved academic achievement, reduced discipline issues, better attendance, and more student engagement. We've expanded preschool options, boosting kindergarten readiness from 13 percent to 77 percent in just one year.

At the secondary level, students can earn college credit or pursue hands-on training in Health Sciences, Culinary

Arts, and Construction Trades. Our Pi Program offers flexible, personalized learning for students who thrive with independence.

We've modernized facilities, leveraged partnerships, and invested in innovative programs like robotics, marching band, outdoor education, and farm-to-school meals. With strong support from our community, we're building a district where every student is known, supported, and inspired.

Chimacum is small—but we're mighty. We invite you to come see the difference.

Registration is open now at csd49.org. Choose Chimacum. We'd love to have you.

A Beginner's Guide to Growing Peonies

The Port Ludlow Garden Club is pleased to welcome Steve Smith, an influential leader in the peony community. He serves as President of the Pacific Northwest Peony Society and is a member of the Board of Directors for the American Peony Society.

Steve is a dedicated gardener with a lifelong passion for horticulture, which was sparked in his youth during summers spent with his grandparents. Both of his grandparents had remarkable gardens, and it was his grandmother's extensive collection of peonies – cultivated for over 50 years – that left a lasting impression. Before she left her property, Steve was fortunate to inherit a portion of her cherished peonies, which he continues to grow in his own garden today.

Steve's enthusiasm for peonies blossomed in 2016, when he discovered local peony growers and visited Adelman's Peony Gardens in Salem, Oregon, which he describes as "peony paradise." This experience deepened his love for the flower and expanded his knowledge of its varieties. Over the past five years, Steve has expanded his own collection to include more than 170 varieties of peonies – ranging from herbaceous and woody to intersectional species – along with hundreds of companion plants.

In addition to cultivating mature plants, Steve is actively engaged in growing peonies from seed with over 400 seedlings in various stages of development.

Join us to learn how to plant peonies, the best times for planting, and seasonal care tips for these beautiful flowers. Steve knows the Pacific Northwest and will recommend which cultivars are the best ones to grow in our own gardens.

Steve will give you an overview of the different types of peonies and color range that is now available – not just pink, white, and red anymore.

This event will be held at the Beach Club on **Wednesday, September 10**, at 11 a.m. Guests are welcome with a \$5 donation. Provided refreshments are complimentary.

The Port Ludlow Garden Club is open to all area residents. Because seating is limited, all members and guests must RSVP five days prior to the event. Those without an RSVP will be admitted after the event begins if space is available. Thank you for understanding the needs of the venue. RSVP to portludlowgardenclub@outlook.com.

Meet Your Firefighters

by Ron Dawson, EJFR Community Outreach Volunteer



One of the important tasks of the East Jefferson Fire Rescue organization is the extrication of occupants trapped in a vehicle that has been involved in an accident. State Route 104 is a corridor where auto accidents that trap occupants inside their car

require an EJFR response to free the victims. This is a heavily travelled corridor, where it is important that firefighters have the training and knowledge to be successful in their efforts. Under Captain Trevor Bergen, EJFR training officer, crews are given the training required to safely extricate victims quickly and safely.

EJFR has an arrangement with an automobile recycler to have access to old cars so that firefighters can practice the skills it takes and work with the rescue tools required. Hydraulic and non-hydraulic equipment and hand tools are at the ready when they get a call. Tools also includes struts, air chisels, and much more. These practices are done at Station 2, located in Port Townsend.

The training involves stabilizing the situation, lifting and extricating; techniques using modern rescue tools such as airbags, hydraulic spreaders and cutters, pneumatic equipment and cribs help stabilize a load during rescue efforts. Firefighters work through realistic simulations that demand critical thinking, teamwork, and decisive action. The training includes mitigating hazardous

conditions. All equipment used reflects current fire and rescue industry standards.

This is important work done by fire department personnel, and their efforts are appreciated.

Imagine: A Brighter Day



Imagine: A Brighter Day is the theme of the Bayside Housing & Services 2025 gala and auction to be held at The Old Alcohol Plant on **Saturday, September 27**, 4 – 8 p.m.

This annual fundraising event is an opportunity for the community to meet the people Bayside serves and the people who serve, learn about the current housing facilities, and the new housing to come.

Guests will enjoy signature cocktails, a four-course dinner, a live auction featuring social, sport and travel adventures, a silent auction of art and wine, a raffle for a 7-day Holland America cruise for two, and a paddle-raise for Bayside's programs and services.

Since 2016, Bayside has provided 150,000 nights of safety to 417 people experiencing homelessness—60% have exited into permanent housing of their own. A core component of their success is the case management they provide to every person toward the goal of permanent housing and the skills needed to remain housed. In addition to case management, the operation of the JC MASH free clinic in Port Hadlock offers much needed medical and mental health services to patients free of charge.

For more information contact Karen Clemens, Director of Development at karen@baysidehousing.org or 360-701-6130. To purchase tickets for the event or raffle, go to bit.ly/bayside2025gala

September Programs at the Jefferson County Library District

September is here, and the Library District has some exciting events lined up. Be sure to check out the program calendar at jclibrary.info so you won't miss out on any fun activities!

Join birder Steve Hampton at Oak Bay County Park to search for shorebirds. Meet in the parking lot on **Wednesday, September 3**, at 2:30 p.m. Look for the Library District sign. We'll take a short walk to find and count shorebirds, then your sightings will be added to the eBird app to share important data with scientists. Please dress for the day's weather, and come by 2 p.m. if you would like help using the eBird app. You do not need the app to join the program. It's going to be a great time!

Starting **Thursday, September 4**, the Library District will host a four-week class to teach Microsoft Excel. You will learn how to enter data, do simple calculations, and create spreadsheets that look great. By the end of the course, you will be able to make a spreadsheet from scratch and use key Excel tools and functions. The class will take place on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. – noon. Join us and learn the basics of Excel in a fun and easy way.

Our Emergency Preparedness classes are still going strong! In September, you can learn basic first-aid skills with retired nurse Dave Codier. He'll explain how to treat common injuries and help others during a disaster. This 90-minute program will take place on Thursday, September 18, at 3:30 p.m. It will repeat the same day at 5:30 p.m. Be sure to visit jclibrary.info to sign up for one of the classes.

Want to learn how to use a sewing machine? Join us on **Tuesday, September 23**, from 2 – 5 p.m. to make a pillowcase in our hands-on Sewing Machine Basics class. All supplies, including machines, will be provided. If you'd

like to bring your own sewing machine, let us know when you register. The class is led by Kathey Bates from Cabin Fever Quilters. Sign up at jclibrary.info.

Outdoor Storytime for Toddlers and Preschoolers will continue at HJ Carroll Park until the end of September. Then, starting on **Monday, October 6**, it will be back indoors at the library. Join Rosaletta on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. for stories, songs, and fun movements to spark your child's love of reading and learning.

Our popular *LEGO® at the Library* program will be back in September! Build with LEGO® bricks in an open, creative space on **Thursday, September 11**, from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. *LEGO® at the Library* takes place every 2nd Thursday of the month. This program is for kids ages 7–11, but children of all ages are welcome.

For complete program details and our calendar of events, go to jclibrary.info. Visit the Jefferson County Library District at 620 Cedar Avenue in Port Hadlock. For questions or assistance, call 360-385-6544 or email information@jclibrary.info.

Quilters by the Bay— Picking Up the Pieces Exhibit

The members of the Quilters by the Bay group have been picking up pieces of fabric this past year, re-arranging them and making masterpieces with imagination, color, and skill to exhibit in the Bay Club's Gallery during October. There will be decorative wall hangings, quilts for the bed, and snuggle up and take a nap-size quilts, all in a variety of colors—soft or bold. Each quilt is a testament to its quilter's vision.

Additionally, save **Wednesday, October 1**, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. for the Quilters by the Bay annual sale in the Bay Club's Craft room. Items for sale include useful and beautiful items such as placemats and table toppers, kitchen towels and hot pads, purses and totes, quilts for babies and lap-sized for wheelchairs, and decorative items for the holidays.

There will also be two raffle quilts with ticket sales to benefit a local charity. The raffle quilts will be on display in the Craft room during the month of September. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from any of the quilters that meet in the Craft room every Wednesday from 1 – 3 p.m. The drawing of the lucky winners will be held during the quilters' **October 8** meeting.

The Bay Club is located at 120 Spinnaker Place in Port Ludlow. For more information, contact Jan Knodle at 360-302-6136 or Judy Danberg at 360-473-7999.

Moving It On 2025

Hints for Repurposing and Recycling Household Items

Batteries

- Alkaline batteries CAN be put in the trash (cover terminals with tape), or better yet, bring to Staples in Silverdale.
- Lithium batteries are also accepted at Staples.
- Rechargeable batteries have been accepted at Home Depot, Staples, and Office Depot.
- **Always call ahead to be sure the service is still being offered.** As the market changes for products, a business may need to change its acceptance policy. All other household battery types are accepted at the Port Townsend Transfer Station, and Quilcene disposal site, or bring to the lobby of Public Works (in Port Townsend at the QFC lot). This will not, of course, keep items out of the waste stream.

Household Items / Clothing

Ready for repurposing.

Always call ahead for store hours and to confirm drop off instructions.

Located in Port Townsend:

Dove House, 1045 – 10th Street
Better Living Center, 1505 Franklin Street
Cherry Blossom, 2203 E Sims Way
Fancy Feathers, 910 Water Street
Goodwill, 602 Rainier Street, off Sims Way
Habitat for Humanity, 2001 W. Sims Way
Up Store, 1042 Lawrence Street |
Waste Not Want Not, 1532 W. Sims Way
freecycle.org, search for “Jefferson County WA.” Follow instructions to sign up. You can request items OR give items you no longer need/want.

FaceBook groups: *Buy Nothing Jefferson County* to give away serviceable items. *Marketplace* to buy, sell, or donate items

Download the complete *Moving It On 2025* guide and turn your trash into treasure for someone else or provide an environmentally friendly way to dispose of items once destined for the landfill. Remember that it costs US (residents of Jefferson County) over \$150,000 monthly to collect and truck our waste to its final resting place 300 miles to southeast Washington.

jeffersoncountysolidwaste.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Moving-It-On-Guide-2025.pdf

2025 Statistics for East Jefferson Fire Rescue

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

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

July Alarms

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Fires..... | 19 |
| Rescue/Emergency Medical | 366 |
| Good Intent | 36 |
| Hazardous Conditions | 8 |
| False Alarms | 32 |
| Service Call | 82 |
| Total Alarms | 543 |

Ambulance Transports

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 911 Transports..... | 240 |
| Hospital Requested Transport..... | 0 |
| Non Transports..... | 131 |
| CARES Contacts..... | 157 |

Fire Department’s Upcoming Events for September and October

This September, East Jefferson Fire Rescue (EJFR) will be holding a child car-seat installation clinic on **Saturday, September 27**, at Station 6, 193 Rhody Drive in Chimacum. This is an opportunity for parents and grandparents to ensure the proper and safe installation of child safety car seats. The clinic will take place in the morning and run until noon.

October will be a busy and informative month for EJFR, with Fire Prevention Week scheduled for **October 4 – 11**. This year, the focus will be on buying, charging, and recycling lithium-ion batteries and electronics safely.

The 4th Annual Fire Rescue Fest will be held at Station 1, 701 Harrison Street in Port Townsend on **Saturday, October 11**, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. This event celebrates the history of fire service in Jefferson County, with firefighter demos, skills competitions, fun, and interactive activities for kids and adults.

Additional information about these events can be found at EJFR.org.

Fiber Arts in Port Ludlow

by Caroline Miner, Guest Writer



I moved to Port Ludlow just over a year ago and have been inspired to learn a new local language. I share this language with my daughter-in-law Hannah and a small community of speakers in our area. It connects us to a grass-roots group of folks who are heavily vested in the land around us. They *skirt*, they

card. Some *spin in the grease*. They talk about *the rise*, *the crimp*, *roving*, and *bumps*. Some of them own *wethers* (neutered rams). In their own quiet way these people, who have both an artistic and academic bent, contribute immensely to the fiber arts community on the Olympic Peninsula. The connection to the land in our area is apparent in so many ways – with the farms, the land trust, and the agricultural classes offered here. In each situation, there is a link to the fiber arts, if you look for it.

Hannah visits our extended family frequently in Port Ludlow and each visit coincides with an activity that involves fiber arts. In our area we are blessed with farms, festivals and independently owned yarn stores that offer an interesting resource for fiber artists.

What started as a knitting hobby for Hannah, has grown into a complete lifestyle. She now starts right at the very beginning. Last year she adopted a local wether. She attended his shearing and after a group of us had skirted his fleece at the farm, she took it home to clean and process for spinning. Both her and her parents' homes have become storage sites for spinning wheels, fleeces, and roving. You will recognize her when you see her hiking in our neighborhoods, as she will be knitting or spinning as she walks, as if it's the most natural thing in the world.

The Port Ludlow area has been a gateway to meeting a whole community of sheep farmers, knitters, spinners and weavers. Getting to know this aspect of our community has been a great joy to me over the last year. As the mother-in-law of a prolific knitter, I am learning as she learns and have experienced immense pleasure interacting with this gentle part of our piece of the Olympic Peninsula.

Port Ludlow Tangle Club to Meet September 11



The Port Ludlow Tangle Club will meet **Thursday, September 11** at the Bay Club from 1 – 3 p.m. All are welcome and no prior experience with the Zentangle Method is necessary. With a focus on structured patterns called tangles, tangling is fun and easy to learn. In September, Certified Zentangle Teacher Alice Clive will familiarize attendees with Part I of an array of botanical tangles. Part II will be offered at the November meeting on **Thursday, November 13**. Slowly drawing patterns inspired by our outdoor environment can be meditative and calming and can prompt us to be even more attentive to the patterns in nature that surround us. September's supply kit will be available for \$3; RSVP to obtain a list of other supplies to bring. Beginner kits, for those who are new to the Method, will be available for \$5. To RSVP, contact Alice at foureyes22@outlook.com.

plvoice.org

Breaking News – Archive of Past Issues

Early Access to News Articles

Local Arts – Letters to the Editor

Features & Stories

Porch Talk with Ted and Barbara Wurtz

by Donna Geer, Staff Writer



Ted and Barbara Wurtz in their back yard.
Submitted photo

Ted Wurtz was all about the money when he got his first caddy job at Indian Canyon Golf Course in Spokane. Caddying was a lucrative job for a fourteen-year-old, but when he started hitting balls on the driving range, he got hooked on the game. He pursued this passion even when he enlisted

in the Air Force in 1955. He got a job in the supply field because those guys had the most time off. He just wanted to play golf, and he did that every chance he got, even playing competitively on military golf teams. He almost reenlisted in 1959, but says he changed his mind the night before. He had a dream of becoming a golf pro.

Ted's parents were from Russia, and they had dreams too, of having a farm and owning their land. So they immigrated to North Dakota and got 160 acres of free land under the Homestead Act. All they had to do was build a house, cultivate ten acres, and become a U.S. citizen. They later moved to Spokane in 1937, the same year Ted was born.

Barbara, Ted's wife, was brought up on a farm in North Dakota, the ninth of twelve children. By the time she was twelve years old, she was already driving tractors and trucks because that's what farm kids did back then. She had her license at thirteen. She said it was a lot of hard work and none of her siblings wanted to stay on the farm. So when she turned eighteen, her parents sold it and moved to Tacoma.

Ted was already a golf pro at the Yakima Country Club when he met Barbara at his roommate's wedding. He was the best man and Barbara was the bridesmaid. Barbara jokes that she still thinks Ted's the *best man*, which must

be true because they've been married since 1962.

Ted was the first golf pro at the Port Ludlow Golf Resort when it opened for business in 1975. He said it was the most beautiful golf course he'd ever seen. Barbara says she wasn't too excited about the move until she saw the tall trees on Paradise Bay and Highland Drive. The golf course was so pristine, it looked like they were driving to heaven. Back then, the marina had one dock, a gas station, and the Harbor Master Restaurant. The restaurant was in the building where the Yacht Club currently resides. There was no such thing as the Port Ludlow Inn. The golf course, a rolling vista of emerald green, didn't have a single home on its grounds.

Ted and Barbara were in their thirties with three children when they made Port Ludlow their home. Barbara says they were always driving the kids back and forth because all their friends lived in Chimacum or Port Hadlock. There were no other kids in North Bay back then. It was mostly a close-knit community of older retired people, with monthly potlucks and parties that folded up at 8 p.m. They live on the golf course now, in a home they built in 1993. There are a few more kids in the community now, but not that many. Port Ludlow's still a community of mostly older retired people who like to be home by dark.

Ted's played a lot of great golf in his life. He even qualified to play in the PGA Senior Tour at Seattle's Inglewood Country Club when he won one of the four open spots. He says all the regular senior tour members were there, but he got paired with Arnie on Sunday. He ended up beating him by one stroke!

When Ted retired in 2005 from Port Ludlow Golf Resort, he didn't quit golfing. He spent the next eight years as the teaching professional at La Quinta Country Club in La Quinta, CA. He'd spend six months in California and six months in Port Ludlow. The money was pretty darn good. He once made fifty dollars in just five minutes, helping a club member with his swing just so the guy could hit his ball further.

Barbara worked at the Port Ludlow Golf Shop and the snack bar for a total of ten years until she got a job at the Bon Marché in Silverdale when the mall opened in 1985. She was in sales for ten years until she retired. She even caddied for Ted for a lot, until the kids took over when they got older. She'd started a sewing business, making things like christening gowns, coats, all kinds of clothing. Most of

it was sold at local craft shows. She doesn't sew as much now, but there's always work to be done.

She stays busy, Ted says, and that inspires him. So he works a little in the yard instead of watching TV. They're always doing something. On Mondays, he plays bridge. Once or twice a week, they get together with friends and play other card games with names I've never heard of, like Three Thirteen, Hand and Foot, and Crazy Rummy, to name a few.

He sometimes wishes that he'd learned to ski, hunt, and fish, and maybe even played a better game of bridge, but the fact is, he's always loved the game of golf more. He told me he wouldn't want to do anything over, that he has a wonderful wife, and he's had a great life. When I asked Ted for words of wisdom, he said "Head still, left arm straight, shift your weight." I'm not a golfer, but I'm pretty sure he wasn't talking about cards.

Do you know someone who's got a great story? We can sit on the porch and have a conversation, and share a cup of coffee, or tea if they prefer. You can reach me at sports@plvoice.org to start the conversation. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Harbor Seal Reunites with Mom After Dramatic Dinghy Birth

by Rachel S. Imper, Guest Writer



Mother seal trying to reach baby.

Photo by Jeff Adams

Harbor seals usually give birth on shores, not on boats. So, imagine how shocked Jeff and Sue Adams were on July 28, when they found a newborn seal pup in the dinghy of their sailboat, *Zephyrus*. Anchored in Ludlow Bay, they had heard noises, probably the birth, at 5:15 a.m., but didn't

find the pup till 8:30 a.m. Apparently, a seal gave birth on the ledge of the

inflatable dinghy and fell off into the water, while the pup fell into the inflatable boat.

The Adamses did the right thing: they called for help, reaching Casey Mclean, executive director of SR3 (Sealife Response, Rehabilitation, and Research), a partner of the Marine Mammal Stranding Network. Thanks to McLean, the rescue got underway.

Mclean and Kelly Kingdon, of the Port Townsend Marine Center, who helps coordinate the Marine Mammal Stranding Network, called Deisy Bach, of the Friends of Fort Flagler, an experienced seal rescuer. She joined Kingdon in the rescue attempt. At the Port Ludlow Marina, Kori Ward, marina director, took the rescuers to the Adamses' sailboat in her boat. Sure enough, in the dinghy tied to *Zephyrus* was a tiny harbor seal, with the mom hovering nearby, calling out; seals recognize each other by unique vocalizations. The rescuers boarded the sailboat and entered the dinghy.

"As we approached," Deisy Bach recalled, "the mother lunged at us, trying to protect her pup. Kelly held up a board to shield us from the mother, while I attempted to carefully lift the pup with a towel—but she was a hefty, healthy little seal, and I couldn't do it. We switched roles, and Kelly was able to lift the pup. The baby's umbilical cord looked clean and dry—a good sign—so we gently placed her in the water."

The two rescuers climbed back onto *Zephyrus*, and they and the Adamses watched anxiously as the pup swam strong, steady circles around the boat. "The mother kept her distance, slapping her flippers on the water to try to scare us away," said Bach. "Eventually the pup rested on the back of the dinghy. Then, after what felt like forever, the mother cautiously approached. With one final dive, she swam to her baby. Moments later, we saw the pup clinging to her mother's back. They swam off together – the mom, glancing back over her shoulder to make sure we weren't following. We watched until they disappeared, all of us holding back tears."

Important Note: During pupping season (May to September), harbor seal pups are often left on shore while their mothers forage. Caring people sometimes think they're abandoned and try to rescue them, often with fatal results. So, for more happy endings like this one, if you see a seal pup on the shore (or in your dinghy!), keep your distance. Observe, take photos, and report as much information as you can to the Marine Mammal Stranding Network at 360-385-5582 or mmsn@ptmsc.org.

Big Red—Beneficent Giant of the PNW

by Milt Lum, Staff Writer

Since my arrival in Port Ludlow fourteen years ago, I have cohabitated with four large western red cedar trees which reside behind the back deck. Through the years I have observed western gray and Douglas squirrels scampering up and down their trunks and watched several species of woodpeckers making additions to their pockmarked trunks searching for insects. During the fall and winter, I trudge out to clear the detritus of dried needles and twigs that accumulated on the deck following wind and rains storms. In the summer I sit in their shade waiting for supper to finish cooking on the grill.

I am awed by their height and girth. Curious about the ages of these trees, I consulted Google and found a formula for estimating their age using the circumference of the trunk. The oldest turned out to be 67 years and the youngest 52 with the others in between at 65 and 62 years. Even if these measurements are only an approximation of their true ages, they indicate that these trees antedate the development of Inner Harbor Village. The first condominiums were built in 1990, thirty-two years after the first tree had established its roots.

Thuja plicata, the scientific name for the western red cedar, places it in the genus *Thuja* rather than *Cedrus*, the genus for cedar. It is native to the Pacific Northwest. Undisturbed it can survive thousands of years, with one extant tree dated at 1,460 years. They have a prodigious growth potential. Until it was destroyed by winter storms in 2016, the largest western red cedar was located along the shore of Lake Quinault with a trunk diameter of 19.5 feet and a height of 174 feet. The current champion with a trunk diameter of 19 feet is located in Pacific Rim National Park Reserve on Vancouver Island.

On a visit to the Makah Museum in Neah Bay this summer, I learned how much the ancestors of my trees impacted the lives of the earliest inhabitants of the Pacific Northwest. Archeological discoveries date the use of cedar by the different indigenous groups to 3000 years. In the artifacts recovered from the Ozette site during its eleven-year excavation, the oldest dated back 500 years. The museum which opened in 1979 is both a cultural display of the artifacts discovered as well as a repository of all of the artifacts recovered from that Ozette excavation. (See plvoice.org, archives February 2024, *Ozette - Pompeii of the North*).

Prominent among the displays are canoes carved out of the trunks of cedars. Using only hand tools and guided by traditional canoe builders, members of the tribe made these canoes employing the techniques passed on through

the generations. Four canoes of different sizes are on display each fulfilling a separate function from a one-person vessel for the individual hunter to the largest, an eight-person whaling canoe sturdy enough to hunt whales in ocean waters. There are no barriers to restrict one from a close examination of their handiwork, or from feeling the smooth surface of the vessels' sides. Cedar strip lashings fastened the narrow plank seats to the body of the canoe. The whaling canoe was impressive. Measuring 35 feet in length it accommodated a crew of eight men along with seal-bladder floats, harpoons, and cedar bark rope. The paddles are slender and pointed allowing them to be immersed for longer periods without creating resistance.

The replica of the longhouse built in the center of the museum showed the role cedar played in their daily lives. Built to resemble the dwellings uncovered at Ozette, one is able to walk into the dark interior onto an uneven surface simulating the rough terrain of earth and midden floors of the actual structures. Motion sensor lights illuminate the interior, displaying: work benches, cooking areas, sleeping platforms, and artwork all fashioned from cedar. The exterior wall is formed with overlying cedar planks fastened to poles of cedar-by-cedar with lashings. Above one can see the beams made of cedar poles resting on the notched ends of large cedar posts. Smaller rounded rafter poles are lashed to the beams to provide support for the overlying roof planks upon which are placed rocks to hold them in place.

The display cases provide an equally impressive use of the cedar tree's bark, withes, and roots to make baskets, boxes, totems, cordage, and clothing. The amazing array of items fashioned from tools made of shells, bone, stone and wood were a testament to the creativity and ingenuity of the coastal Salish peoples. A box used to boil water captured my attention. It was built from a cedar plank kerfed or notched at critical junctures. The wood softened by heat was folded into a seamless container. Water in the box was heated to boiling by placing hot rocks into it. Using the bark to make storage baskets and water-resistant clothing required: an intimate knowledge of when to strip the bark, how much to remove without killing the tree, how to achieve maximum pliability, and how to weave the fibers to prevent leaking. Cedar roots and withes were used as lashings to fasten planks to support beams to stabilize their homes. Roots and strips of bark were softened and braided into ropes strong enough to be used in whaling to secure lines for floats and harpoon, and in fishing to bring large halibut up from the ocean depths. All of these skills acquired empirically from centuries of practice and transferred through oral traditions was the lesson impressed upon me. They had learned to use the cedar to sustain their people for the millennia prior to the arrival of the

Europeans. Recognizing the value of the cedar in their lives, they called it the “Giver of life.”

As I gaze upon the furrowed trunks in my yard, I wonder if we of the 21st century will appreciate the gifts of these gentle giants. Will we rein in our consumptive desires and fight for the preservation of old growth forests in the interest of preserving our planet? I am pleased that these giants were retained by the developer. I hope they continue to age gracefully and become the living legacy we bequeath to future generations.

Punitive PR in PT?

by Evie Maxwell, Staff Writer

Here’s a sticky wicket that may resolve itself by the time this issue of the *Voice* lands in your mailbox – but we kind of doubt it. Given the Sturm und Drang, to say nothing of multiple unanswered calls and questions surrounding this issue, we suspect there’s an equal chance that the storm and stress (as per the old German saying) will only multiply.

We’re speaking of the great Port Townsend Plaza parking lot debacle. That lot, which serves such popular merchants as Quimper Mercantile, Don’s Pharmacy, Ground to Perfection Coffee, Burritos Y Tacos, and Whistle Shop Toys, has offered free parking for as long as most of us can remember. But that’s now past. As of this summer, the current owner of the Plaza installed a pay-for-parking system. That’s certainly their right. But, in the words of more people than we can count, this particular system has poor signage, access only by way of a smart phone for a QR code, and a fee of \$102 for anyone who runs afoul of the rules. Or, in some cases, does nothing whatsoever to offend.

This is not a joke. In fact, within the last few months, so many people have been hit with \$102 dunning notices that the Jefferson County town hall recently added an automated message to their phone system. Says the message: we don’t own the Port Townsend Plaza, we have no sway over its parking, so if you have a problem, here’s how to contact the people responsible.

Those responsible people are part of an entity called Shadelands Land Partners which, in turn, falls under the ownership of the Hall Equities Group, a large California-based real estate firm. Shadelands came into existence on August 8, 2022, exactly one month preceding the Hall Equities Group purchase of the Port Townsend Plaza.

Now, jump forward by three years. It’s mid-2025 and Hall’s Shadelands group decides to turn what was free parking at the Port Townsend Plaza into pay parking with a \$102 penalty.

Shadelands claims to have made this move because of a potential hotel that may possibly be built on the property across the street. The proposed hotel envisions 50 rooms, in an area providing only six to 10 (reports vary) parking spaces.

Admittedly that could be a big problem. In fact, according to reporting from the *Port Townsend Leader*, Hall Equities’ EVP Brandon Farrell names the room/parking disparity as a key reason for Shadelands’ move to pay parking. Notes he, the plaza already deals with “ongoing challenges” whereby the public treats “our private property as a public parking lot.” He goes on to remark that “Adding over 50 hotel rooms across the street without sufficient parking will only make this issue worse.”

Point taken. Except: At this moment, the hotel is only an idea. In fact, as of this writing, it has not even received final approval. When and if it does receive approval, Port Townsend citizens will have the right to appeal.

Thus, as far as the new hotel goes, all we have today is a notion atop a chimera. But the Shadelands/Hall group has its own agenda: They want to redevelop the entire Plaza. To that end, Shadelands has refused to renew the leases of any of the Plaza’s current tenants. As those leases run out, Farrell notes, Shadelands can replace the current facilities “with new construction – carefully designed to fit in and enhance the community in a way that represents a clear improvement over the existing building.”

Sounds like a corporate good. Except if existing tenants keep their current leases, that could take years. Which raises this question: By replacing free parking with a high penalty fee system of pay parking, will Shadelands’ vision for the area be closer or further away?

You don’t need Einstein to answer that one. In the meantime, it’s important to point out that the businesses now in the Plaza are going out of their way to help shoppers with the parking system, and that’s certainly been a help. In addition, the new parking system does offer free parking for 30 minutes which can be extended by 60 minutes if validated by any of the PT Plaza tenants. And the tenants will assist with that. In any case, merchants at the PT Plaza have long been good neighbors in East Jefferson County and we urge you to visit them often to help counteract the shade of a California company.

Reminder to Dog Owners

So we all can enjoy our walks,
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Arts & Entertainment

Port Ludlow Art League— Artist of the Month

Featured Artist – Karen Ni



Waiting for Work, by Karen Ni.

Submitted photo

Karen Ni works primarily in acrylics, drawing inspiration from nature, old-time photographs, still-life scenes, and whatever sparks visual intrigue. Karen's approach to painting is self-taught and intuitive, driven by a love of color, texture, and mood.

In addition to painting, Karen hand-builds and throws clay, gravitating toward organic forms and often finishes her pieces with underglazes and stains to achieve a more tactile, grounded feel.

Karen's art exhibit features a mix of paintings and sculptures, including vibrant depictions from the Great Depression era, delicate bees and blossoms, and whimsical clay sculptures. Together, they reflect her ongoing curiosity about visual storytelling and playfulness in art.

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

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

Port Ludlow Art League— Jeweler of the Month

Featured Jeweler – Mara Mauch

As a fused glass artist with over thirty years of experience, Mara has honed her craft to create vibrant, one-of-a-kind pieces that tell a story through color and light.

Fused glass jewelry, with its bright, vibrant colors, has the power to uplift and bring joy to the wearer. The translucent and iridescent qualities of fused glass allow the light to play off the surface, giving each piece a radiant, almost playful glow. Whether worn as a statement necklace or a delicate pair of earrings, the colors can instantly brighten up an outfit and the mood of the person wearing it. There's something uniquely happy about wearing jewelry that's infused with such a spectrum of lively and joyful colors, offering a sense of warmth and light.



Bracelet by Mara Mauch.
Submitted photo

As glass brings shimmer and shine, so does the brilliance of chainmaille jewelry, a recent addition to Mara's jewelry creations. Mara's love of experimentation and learning new techniques led to her immersion in this delicate, yet strong art form. Chainmaille originated thousands of years ago as flexible armor worn by Japanese, European, and Persian military prior to the invention of plate armor. Over the years, the precise method of connecting precious and base metal rings in intricate patterns led to beautiful jewelry and adornments.

During September, Mara's jewelry collection will be on display at the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery, Sound Community Bank, and online at portludlowart.org. The public is invited to attend a reception for Mara on **Wednesday, September 10**, from 4 – 5 p.m. in the lobby of the bank and 5 – 6 p.m. at the adjacent Port Ludlow Art League Gallery.

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Port Ludlow Art League— Upcoming Classes

Watercolor Class – Friday, September 5, 10 a.m. – noon



Join us for a class with Pamela Raine to complete the *Backyard Gazebo* watercolor painting. All supplies and instructions are provided for a fee. To register, please email info@portludlowart.org.

Acrylic Paint Class – Saturday, September 13, 9:30 a.m.



Join us for a fun class with artist Shirley Bomgaars to complete the *Falling Up* acrylic painting. This class will be held at the Bridge Deck, 121 Marina View Drive, Port Ludlow. Supplies, instructions, and breakfast-type sips and nibbles will be provided for \$50. To register, please email info@portludlowart.org.

The Port Ludlow Photographers September Exhibit at the Bay Club

The Port Ludlow Photographers will be displaying their photographs at the Bay Club during September. The exhibit features photographs taken with smartphones, digital single-lens reflex cameras, mirrorless cameras, and point-and-shoots. The photographs are printed on a wide variety of mediums, including paper, metal, acrylic, and fabric—and even on items such as coffee mugs. The exhibit also includes framed photographs and picture books.



The Port Ludlow Photographers meet at the Bay Club on the fourth Monday of each month from 10 a.m. – noon. The group is open to everyone. No photographic experience is required and there are no dues. At the meetings, members view and comment on photographs they have taken, discuss photography gear, learn about composition, lighting, printing, ways to display, photo editing to restore and improve images, and how to compose slide shows with accompanying music.

The Bay Club is located at 120 Spinnaker Place in Port Ludlow. For more information, please contact Aven Andersen at aven1936@live.com.



The Community Chorus of Port Townsend and RainShadow Chorale—50th Anniversary Concert

The Community Chorus of Port Townsend and East Jefferson County has big plans for its 50th anniversary this fall. On **November 22 – 23**, the Community Chorus of Port Townsend will collaborate with RainShadow Chorale to bring audiences the classic oratorio *Messiah* by George Frideric Handel.

A combined choir of 100 voices will join together with a select orchestra to present the beloved work and include rousing choral pieces, such as *For Unto Us a Child Is Born* and the famous *Hallelujah Chorus*, as well as solos and instrumental interludes. RainShadow Chorale's artistic director Laurie de Leonne will conduct the singers.

Weekly rehearsals for the anniversary *Messiah* concerts begin **Sunday, August 31**, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church, located at 1335 Blaine St., Port Townsend. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. on August 31. Registration fee is \$50. For singers who do not have their own scores (Watkins-Shaw edition), scores will be provided.

No auditions are required to join The Community Chorus. Men are particularly encouraged to participate. For 50 years, the organization has provided an outlet for people to return to singing. Many forms of assistance are offered, including bonus rehearsals, sectional rehearsals of individual voice parts, and sound files for individual practice.

For more information, please visit ptchorus.org, email nowak.lynn@gmail.com, call 360 643-3345, or find the group on Facebook.

Port Townsend Marine Science Center Features Nature Journals of Carolyn Woods

Now through October 12, the Port Townsend Marine Science Center will feature the nature journals of the center's Education Manager, Carolyn Woods. In addition to viewing Carolyn's intricate studies of landscapes and wildlife, visitors can also sketch from the center's own collection of seashells. Sketching materials will be provided or visitors can bring their own sketching supplies. The gallery is open Fridays through Sundays, noon to 3 p.m.

As the Education Manager, Carolyn Woods enjoys sharing her passion for conserving the Salish Sea with students through school programs and the center's summer camps. She enjoys connecting youth and adults with the wonders

of the natural world and uses art as a teaching tool whenever possible. Her favorite part of the job is being a witness to discoveries and connections made by students in the marine environment.

Carolyn states, "I've been drawing, painting, and scribbling my entire life, and I've always been drawn to subjects in nature—plants, animals, landscapes." It was an internship at a wildlife refuge in the San Francisco Bay and then working as an environmental educator that inspired me to take up nature journaling. I was in landscapes that were new to me and seeing animals and other living things in a new way as I was preparing to teach other people about them. I found myself wanting to explore them artistically to deepen my understanding of things, like identifying marks and features for shells, wing feather patterns, and kelp branching structures."

Carolyn Woods has worked at Port Townsend Marine Science Center in various roles since 2014, including serving as a Marine Mammal Stranding Network intern and a term as an AmeriCorps member. She holds a BS in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology from the University of Washington and has also served at the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge as a Visitor Services and Education intern. For more information about Carolyn Woods' exhibit, visit ptmsc.org/gallery or view Carolyn's artwork on [@seewoods99](https://www.instagram.com/seewoods99) on Instagram.

The Gallery is located in the Flagship Landing building, at 1001 Water St., in Port Townsend. For information about the Port Townsend Marine Science Center, visit ptmsc.org or [@PortTownsendMarineScienceCenter](https://www.facebook.com/PortTownsendMarineScienceCenter) on Facebook and [@ptmarinescictr](https://www.instagram.com/ptmarinescictr) on Instagram.

Peninsula Fiber Artists Exhibits

How textile artists soothed their souls and saved their sanity during Covid lockdowns is the theme of the new Peninsula Fiber Artists exhibit in the Fiber Habit window located at 675 Tyler St. in Port Townsend.

The Pandemic Projects exhibit, curated by Angela Dideum, displays twenty-two pieces during September. Participating artists include Irene Bloom, Leslie Dickinson, Caryl Fallert-Gentry, Sue Gale, Susan Sawatzky, Merrie Jo Schroeder, and Ellen Thomas. The exhibit features stitched, quilted, woven, and crocheted pieces that were started during the pandemic. "These works demonstrate the power of art to help us process trauma, understand a changed world, and discover new pathways toward healing and connection. This artwork shows the enduring spirit of human creativity and the ability to find beauty and meaning, even in the most difficult circumstances," Dideum said.

The Peninsula Fiber Artists group includes artists from Jefferson, Kitsap, and Clallam counties and has two additional exhibits:

- Opening **Monday, August 18**, the Fiber on the Strait exhibit at Field Arts and Event Hall Gallery, located at 219 N. Oak St., Port Angeles.
- During October, the Salish Seasons exhibit at Mead Werks at Wilderbee Farm, located at 223 Cook Ave. Ext., Port Townsend.

The Peninsula Fiber Artists group alternates its monthly meetings between the Gardiner Community Center and the Northwind Art space at Fort Worden. Meetings are open to all textile artists at no charge. For more information, see sda-np.com/current-exhibitions and sda-np.com/meetings1.

Ludlow Village Players Upcoming Performances and Auditions

We had a wonderful turnout at auditions for the *All the King's Women* performance and are thrilled to announce our cast of players: Nancy Bamberg, Dave Cunningham, Starley Flynn, James Gormly, Jackson, Christie Lang, Kate Marshall, Kelly McNees, Karen Ni, Vickie Norris, Carol Riley, and Cheryl Weinstein.

All the King's Women is the story of Elvis Presley told by the men and women (mostly women) who were a part of some of the most historical events of the 1940s – 1970s. From Tupelo, Mississippi, where 11-year-old Elvis wanted a BB gun instead of a guitar, to *The Steve Allen Show*, President Richard Nixon's office, Andy Warhol's studio, a Cadillac sales room, and finally, to Graceland. This bring-the-family comedy is sure to take you down memory lane. It plays **October 17 – 26** at the Bay Club, which is located at 120 Spinnaker Lane, Port Ludlow.

We're also gearing up for our annual scholarship fundraiser, *Holidays on the Bay*, opening **November 14 – 15**, at the Beach Club. We're looking for an enthusiastic group to play a dysfunctional family during the holidays in a reader's theater-style performance. There is no memorization required, as scripts will be used on stage. We're also seeking musicians interested in showcasing their talents with holiday-themed musical acts. Auditions will be held **September 5 – 6** at 6 p.m. at Coldwell Banker. For questions about auditions, please contact us at director@ludlowvillageplayers.org. The Beach Club is located at 121 Marina View Drive, Port Ludlow.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit LudlowVillagePlayers.org. We hope to see you there!

Northwind Art Serves 'Potluck Banquet'

Northwind Art has a new show up at its downtown Port Townsend gallery that's designed to nourish. "Potluck Banquet" is a 65-piece exhibition celebrating food and drink—in two- and three-dimensional art media. The juried show is on view through **October 13**, and visitors are encouraged to take part in the People's Choice Award voting. Northwind's Jeanette Best Gallery, 701 Water St., is open noon to 5 p.m. Thursdays through Mondays, while images of and more information about "Potluck Banquet" are found at NorthwindArt.org.

At Northwind Art School in Fort Worden State Park, 17 courses and workshops are offered in September and early October. People at all stages of the creative journey can browse the catalog at NorthwindArt.org via the "Take a Class" heading. Classes are also available for gifting to a loved one who would like to discover or develop an art form.

A cross-section of Northwind's offerings:

- **September 8:** Creative iPhone Photography with Lisa and John Merrill
- **September 9, 15 and 23:** Aging Creatively: an art class for people with memory loss along with their caregivers
- **September 9-10:** Cyanotype Cloth + Paper + Scissors = Collage! With Fruma Markowitz
- **September 20-21:** Steam-Sculpted Masks with Evette Allerdings
- **September 21:** Sift, Fire, Wear Your Jewelry with Aran Galligan
- **September 21:** Open Sew & Quilt with Barbara Ramsey
- **September 25-Oct. 23:** Crafting a Creative Business: From Passion to Practice with Aran Galligan
- **September 27:** Embracing the Muse: Transformative Processes for Enhancing a Creative Life with Sally Jean Fox.
- **September 27-28:** Tiled Threshold: Mosaic House Numbers and Plaques with Barbara Henderson.
- **October 2-30 (Thursdays):** Now We Create: Dementia, Art and Community Cohort with Jodi Ericksen, a five-week program for people living with memory loss, and their caregivers. All materials and guidance are provided in this class designed to foster community, self-expression, and shared experience.

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Ceremony time
11:00a.m.

Walk time
11:30 a.m.

Our team number: 959906
Our team name: Purple Rocks

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Village News

Bay Club / South Bay

SBCA Happenings

by Carolyn O’Keeffe, President, SBCA Board of Directors

Welcome to September with cooler evenings! We certainly welcomed the bit of rain we had in August.

As we move into the fall season, our landscaping work will begin in earnest. Once the leaves drop from the Katsura trees, we will begin limbing the trees. This is in preparation for the final cutting down of the trunks and removing the stumps and roots. The current soil will be removed, and fresh topsoil will be added. This will be a significant change to the front of the Bay Club! The Board will work with its Facilities Committee and a small team to determine new plants of appropriate size and mature growth for the area. Removing the trees and roots will need to occur prior to replacing the concrete curbing around the trees and front sidewalk leading up to the Bay Club entrance that has compromised the integrity of this concrete. The trees at the back of the Bay Club will be getting haircuts to reclaim the view of Ludlow Bay.

The Board has begun its work on long-range planning that will help us build a plan to ensure SBCA’s strong fiscal health and provide great experiences for our Bay Club members. We have begun discussing our goals and priorities for not only this year but for years to come. Once the Board determines its goals and priorities, we will reach out to SBCA members to join us on the Long-Range Planning Committee. All our work is done in Board workshops that are open to any SBCA member. The meeting dates are published on the Bay Club calendar. We invite you to come and listen to our thinking and conversations. No decisions are made at these workshops, but healthy discussions and ideas among Board members are shared and help us to form our goals and priorities.

I want to give a shout out to our Activities Committee that has been hard at work providing great experiences for our SBCA members. In August we had a highly successful and well attended Members’ Social BBQ. We had our most experienced and veteran members of over 35 years and brand-new members of less than six months attending. It was great fun. Please check our website sbca.club and calendar for upcoming events. There are a lot more events to come!

Enjoy September everyone! Let’s hope for continued sunshine and cooler nights this month with a few days of sprinkles and maybe a good dose of rain once or twice!

SBCA Important Dates

Friday, September 5, 8:30 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast, benefiting Chimacum Backpacks for Kids

Thursday, September 11, 9:30 a.m. Monthly Board Meeting **

Friday, September 12, 5 p.m. - Member Social, featuring the Still Got It Band 🎶🎶

Saturday, September 20, 7 p.m. - PLPA - Brothers 4 🎶🎶

Saturday, September 27, 7 p.m. - PLPA - Pipeline Vocal Project 🎶🎶

Friday, October 3, 8:30 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast, benefiting Dove House

Thursday, October 9, 9:30 a.m. Monthly Board Meeting **

Friday, October 10, 5 p.m. - Member Social - Octoberfest - beer and brats

Friday, October 17, 6:30 p.m. - LVP - “All the King’s Women”

Saturday, October 18, 2 p.m. - LVP - “All the King’s Women”

Sunday, October 19, 2 p.m. - LVP - “All the King’s Women”

Friday, October 24, 6:30 p.m. - LVP - “All the King’s Women”

Saturday, October 25, 2 p.m. - LVP - “All the King’s Women”

Sunday, October 26, 2 p.m. - LVP - “All the King’s Women”

All Wednesdays 4 p.m. - Member’s Lounge

** All SBCA members are welcome.

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

Committee meetings minutes are posted at sbca.club, then click on the Board Minutes page.

Beach Club / North Bay

Update from the Manager

by Brian Belmont, General Manager

As we approach the last days of summer, I have been reflecting on my last summer at the Beach Club. For those that may not be aware, I will be retiring at the end of 2025. Since the outdoor pool opened in May, I have been serenaded by kids playing “Marco Polo” in the pool more times than I want to remember. Seriously, I really enjoy the energy the kids have when they get to the pool. So much excitement and lots of smiles and laughs. Life seems so simple when you are young.

We have held three successful summer events this year. In June, we held our annual Ice Cream Social. In July we had the Sound Advice Band performing at our Music on the Lawn event and in August we held our North Bay barbecue. Putting these events on is a lot of work for our staff and volunteers, but I think I speak for everyone that helps, hearing thanks and appreciation from our guests and seeing all the smiling faces make it all worthwhile.

Speaking of the August 9 barbecue, we served 220 members during our two-hour event. I want to thank Port Ludlow’s own String Alongs which is the acoustic musical group that entertained us at the barbecue. I also want to thank everyone that helped put on the event. If I leave someone out, I apologize. Thank you Kim, Diane, Kathi, Karen, Susan, Paul, Becky, Allan, Nancy, Cheryl, Twyla, Sue, Teddy, Claudia, Joan, Dave, Mary, Katherine, and the LMC Maintenance staff. Your help made this an extremely successful event that everyone enjoyed.

The outdoor pool season has been great; our members can expect it to remain open through September 30.

I mentioned that I am retiring so in preparation for my departure, we have been actively searching for my replacement. The LMC Board established a General Manager Search Committee in January. This ad-hoc Committee has met nearly every week since January updating the job description, preparing classified ads, developing interview questions, assisting the LMC Board in the interview process and much more.

After receiving more than 20 resumes from our initial advertisements, we were still unable to find the “perfect” fit for the North Bay Community and our LMC organization. In July we contracted with a recruiting firm with the hope that they could provide us with another pool

LMC and the Beach Club

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of experienced community association managers for the Board to consider.

After completing another round of interviews, it appears that we definitely have strong candidates to consider. Stay tuned!

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

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Village Council

If Your Village Council Had a Totem Pole

by John Goldwood, President, Port Ludlow Village Council

As I compose this article, in a few days our village will be celebrating the recent restoration of the Port Ludlow Totem Pole at Burner Point. Our totem pole, originally carved by Tsimshian Master Carver David Boxley in 1995, celebrates and honors both the history of our unique Village of Port Ludlow, as well as the collaboration of multiple people and organizations that helped bring our village into existence. Hopefully many of our readers enjoyed the celebration and dinner celebrating the totem pole's restoration.

The symbolism of our totem is profound. The Eagle represents this area before human habitation; the Bear portrays the ancestors of the local S'Klallam tribe; Pope and Talbot are shown as founders of the initial timber industry here in our area; the Lumberman is the representative of the lumber mill and workers whose labor provided the mill's success from 1852 to 1935; and the Beaver celebrates the ongoing evolution of the home to our Village in the Woods by the Bay, with over 3000 residents, almost 1800 homes, and the many businesses that support us. The base of the totem pole provides the carved metaphor demonstrating the linkage of these entities as the foundational base for our village as it exists today.

As I studied the history of the Port Ludlow Totem, it sparked a reflection on what a Village Council Totem might be carved to represent if one were created today. From a historical perspective, our totem would begin in 1999, with the incorporation of the Village Council as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, created to 'protect, preserve, promote, and unify the community for the enjoyment and well-being of all its citizens.' Our first carving might be a representation of a paper document.

The next key element would be to honor those volunteers who, during the past twenty-five years, have devoted thousands of hours to serve on the Village Council. Due to many factors, the available pool of volunteers here in Port Ludlow continues to shrink, even as the need for volunteer support continues to grow, not only for the council, but for the many nonprofit organizations and clubs that contribute to the life of this community. Our second icon might be a circle of men and women with linked arms.

Our third element would be the residents of Port Ludlow. Those who live in this community are the reason for our existence. PLVC's mission to protect, preserve, promote, and unify is focused completely on the 'enjoyment and

Village Council Meetings

PLVC Board Meeting
Thursday, September 4
3 - 5 p.m., Beach Club

PLVC Workshop
Tuesday, September 16
3 - 5 p.m., Beach Club

plvc.org

well-being of its citizens.' That was true at inception and continues to be true today. That charter also suggests a mutuality; we do indeed support our residents, but we are also dependent upon them for volunteer and financial support. Perhaps that carving might show the Village Council logo combined with a group of men and women.

Our fourth element would be the business community that provides the underlying support for many of the things that make Port Ludlow a desirable and unique place to call home. We are not just another residential community constructed in a scenic area. The restaurants, medical facilities, and other retail and service businesses located in or near our Town Center bring convenience to our lives here. The golf course, marina, Bay Club and Beach Club, and of course our thirty miles of hiking trails supported and maintained by our Village Council Trails Committee are all factors that influence new residents arriving here. Perhaps a carving of a trail through a beautiful forest or the Marina with the Olympic Mountains might suffice.

Finally, it must be noted that the base of our PLVC totem pole is absolutely dependent upon the financial support of our community. Although we are very focused on keeping our expenses to a minimum, we nonetheless require a minimal investment of approximately \$15,000 annually to sustain our operations. Five dollars per year per resident, or less than ten dollars per year per property owner, guarantees our ability to maintain our PLVC Totem Pole as an asset of this community for many years to follow.

As we did last year, we will be launching our financial campaign shortly with a goal of obtaining financial support of around \$20,000 during the 4th quarter of 2025, the same amount contributed last year. We will provide more details regarding our campaign in the next issue of the *Voice*, as well as on our website at portludlowvillagecouncil.org.

Time to Vote for PLVC Directors

by Tam McDearmid, Elections Chair

Listed below are the Candidate Statements for those running for a Village Council Director position. We will again have online voting at our website *PortLudlowVillageCouncil.org*. If voting online is not possible, paper ballots will be available at either the Bay Club or the Beach Club in the brown PLVC ELECTION box in front of the building. You will be receiving a green postcard in early September, explaining how to vote online, an invitation to our Annual Meeting on **October 21**, and Major Accomplishments of the PLVC in 2024-2025.

Please watch for this postcard and remember to vote! We are YOUR Village Council, kindly support us with a donation as you vote. Thank you!

Tracy Geipel



Having jumped in with both feet by joining PLVC in 2024 as Secretary, I'm stating my candidacy to serve as a director for the next term. Born in St. Louis, I moved to Port Ludlow from Colorado in 2023 and love being a Pacific Northwesterner. During my life I've done many things, including earning my B.A. in Technical Theater from

Colorado State University in 1985 and working extensively in professional and community theater, being a travel agent, a long-term administrative assistant and accidental techie and webmistress for a non-profit in Denver, a production coordinator for a custom color photo lab, graphic designer, voice actor, and owned my own successful desktop publishing business. I love nature and the outdoors, music of many varieties, cryptozoology and searching for Bigfoot, reading, the pursuit of knowledge, and would like to get back to drawing if I can ever unpack my art supplies. PLVC 2.0 began as a shared vision to enhance the community and is a lot of hard but very worthwhile work, and I look forward to helping carry the momentum forward.

Gary Hammond



I would like to be a Port Ludlow Village Council Director, serving our community in all its needs. The Council is, in part, dedicated to ensuring that all Port Ludlow residents feel protected and have a feeling of belonging in their community. I would like to help promote that vision.

We moved to Port Ludlow in March 2025. After living on the west coast for over 30 years, my husband Gregg and I decided to look toward the future and imagine the next chapter and what that might look like. Like some who live in Port Ludlow, we sort of stumbled upon its existence and became quickly enamored. Mountains, water, forests, and community all made choosing our home in Port Ludlow a very easy choice.

Now retired, I have an extensive background in non-profit management, most of my career working with the CPA community. I worked in three states - TX, CA, and OR - to provide continuing education opportunities to CPAs throughout each state. I am an alumnus of both Franklin College and Indiana University. I have excellent interpersonal and organizational skill sets, and I am a trained group facilitator. I enjoy reading, gardening, cooking and walking the PL trails. We share our home with two dogs and a parrot.

I ask for your vote and hope you will share your community joys and concerns with me if I am elected. Thank you for your consideration.

Geoff Lang



I have lived in the Puget Sound region since the late 1960s, raised our family in Snohomish, and settled into Port Ludlow in early 2023. I received my B.S and M.S in Fisheries Biology from the University of Washington and recently retired after 39+ years of public service in Marine Science at NOAA.

My wife Christie and I chose the village in the woods by the bay as our retirement destination due to the strong sense of community. We enjoy the walking trails, wildlife, natural beauty, the marina, group activities and the opportunities to serve our community. We are active volunteers with the Ludlow Village Players and Bay Club committees and activities. We fill our free time with home renovation projects, entertaining family and friends, cycling and walking the local trails, boating, and pickleball.

I believe the Village Council's role in our community is vital for all of us as an organization that represents our community members. I believe that all community members have a valid perspective that deserves to be heard and considered. I look forward to hearing from our community if fortunate enough to gain your vote and be allowed a seat on the Village Council. Thank you for your consideration.

Christopher Wolle



Twenty years ago, we discovered the picturesque villages of Port Ludlow while cruising from our home in Gig Harbor to the San Juans. With kids gone, our empty home was too large and too demanding to maintain as age slowed us down. It was time to retire to the country!

We have been in Teal Lake Village for three years now. My wife is serving on the PLPA board, while I served as vice president and landscaping manager on the TLVA board where I retooled our landscape systems for enhanced performance and simultaneously reduced costs by 15%.

Relevant Facts: 2 Bachelor of Science degrees in Engineering, Oregon State University; PG Certificate in Construction Engineering Management, University of Washington; decade of experience working for a developer that did projects similar to Port Ludlow.

Colleen Coulter Jones



If elected, Colleen Coulter Jones looks forward to becoming a part of the PLVC. She has moved back to the community she was born and raised in because the area means new friendships and contentment in the latter part of her life.

Having been active in many of the local groups and clubs in the Village, Colleen would now like to assist on PLVC committees. She believes that her life experiences will bring benefit to her committee involvement.

Colleen's job as Program Administrator at the University of Alaska Fairbanks at the International Arctic Research Center was funded by the Japanese Government and the National Science Foundation. Colleen and her team worked to welcome 21 shifting international scientists and their families into the unique climate of Fairbanks, Alaska, and support the scientists going to remote locations for climate study as well as conferences around the world. Colleen has owned and managed various businesses and worked in a financial institution as full-charge bookkeeper for up to six clients concurrently.

Retired, Colleen finds enjoyment in her garden, in reading, and in watching the Seahawks with dear friends. Many of you have seen her face in the various clubs and activities she has become involved in. As a side note, you might recognize Colleen from the years when the Harbormaster was a restaurant: she was the busgirl, waiter, and host who married the chef.

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Recreation & Sports

Port Ludlow Women's Golf Association News

by Kathy Traci, PLWGA Publicity Chairperson



Winners of the Captain's Cup Team Match Play Tournament. (L to R) Debi Bozanich, Sue Fechner and PLWGA Tournament Chairperson Turney Oswald.

Photo by Kathy Traci

The mid-year Port Ludlow Women's Golf Association (PLWGA) luncheon was held on August 30 at the Bay Club. Chairpersons Cheri Wight and Gina Gutler served a scrumptious luncheon that was enjoyed by all. Captain Sharon Russell conducted the short member meeting prior to the luncheon. The Captain's Cup Tournament's new match play team format was reviewed by Tournament Chairperson Turney Oswald, and the informal consensus of the members was to continue the team format in future years. Debi Bozanich and Sue Fechner were announced as the Captain's Cup team winners, with the team of Linda Aho and Diane Kobz a close runner-up for the title.

The PLWGA Club Championship took place Monday, August 25; Wednesday, August 27; and Friday, August 29 and ended with a potluck that was enjoyed by all. The winners will be announced in the October *Voice*. The All-Star Cup Tournament will be played **Monday and Tuesday, September 8 and 9**. The All-Star Cup is a two-day, 27-hole play event. At the August PLWGA luncheon meeting, Tournament Chairpersons Debi Bozanich and Bonnie Vahcic divided all active eligible members into two teams, the Shooting Stars and the Northern Lights.

The upcoming Port Ludlow Ryder Cup format tournament will be played on **Monday, September 15; Wednesday, September 17; and Friday, September 19**. Details will be announced on Golf Genius.

Everyone had a good time at the two Women's Golf Association (WGA)/Men's Golf Association (MGA) exchanges—playing 18 holes and attending a luncheon at JR's Sandtrap. The Home and Home events in July and August with White Horse's Women's Golf League were also enjoyable, and hopefully these events will be repeated in future years.

PLWGA Captain Sharon Russell invites prospective PLWGA members to play with the league on Tuesdays. Please contact the Port Ludlow Golf Course Pro Shop at 360-437-0272 to sign up to play. Please note: Port Ludlow Golf Club (PLGC) membership is no longer a requirement for participation in the PLWGA league.

Port Ludlow Niners' News

by Kathleen Traci, Lady Niners' Publicity Chairperson

The Niners' Putt and Pour Putting Contest event was well attended by all league members. Port Ludlow Niners' Captain Barbara Burke and Port Ludlow Golf Course staff member Tristen Heath, set up the multi-hole putting course on the practice green. After playing the challenging putting course, members relaxed at tables surrounding the green and enjoyed drinks and snacks provided by Niners' Social Chairperson Diane Germain and the Burkes. The winners of the Women's Division of the Putting Contest were as follows: first place – Kathi Williams; second place – Sue Fechner; and a tie for third place – Lynn Buscher and Bonnie Vahcic. The winners of the Men's Division of the Putting Contest were as follows: Tie for first place: Greg Buscher and Mike Burke; third place, David Aho; and fourth place, Gary Bequette.

Regular games played in August included Mutt (par 3 holes) and Jeff (par 5 holes), and Even Holes. In September, the regular Thursday games will include Criers and Low Net. The August Niners' Couples' String Scramble (using lengths of red licorice) was a blast and the August 28 Couples' Four Clubs and a Putter Best Ball Scramble was equally challenging. The September Niners' Couples event will be a Tee to Green Scramble. (Putts will not be counted.)

The fourth Captain's Cup date will be on **September 18**. This is the final date that scores will be compiled to determine the male and female winners of the Captain's Cup. The winners will be announced at the end of the year Niners' Banquet. The Niners' End of the Year announcements will include the season's eclectic winners, and a most improved player award for both groups. Results of the PLGC 50th Anniversary Tournament will be announced in the next *Voice* issue. Niners' couples also participated in the August Dove House Tournament.

Niners' Captain Barbara Burke welcomes new prospective members to play with the Niners on Thursday mornings. To play as a guest on Thursday, players should contact the Pro Shop Desk at the Port Ludlow Golf Course (PLGC). PL Golf Course membership is no longer a requisite for league participation.

Port Ludlow Women's Golf Tournament—Local Results

by Kathy Traci, PLWGA Publicity Chairperson



Womens' Invitational Tournament Flight Winners. (L to R) Linda Aho, Golf Pro Jim Mancill, Diane Kobz.

Photo by Dave Aho

The June Port Ludlow Golf Course Women's Golf Tournament had many local winners.

In Flight 1, the team of Bonnie Vahcic and Lucinda Thompson won third place with a score of 70. In Flight 2, the team of Sue Fechner and Debi Bozanich won first place

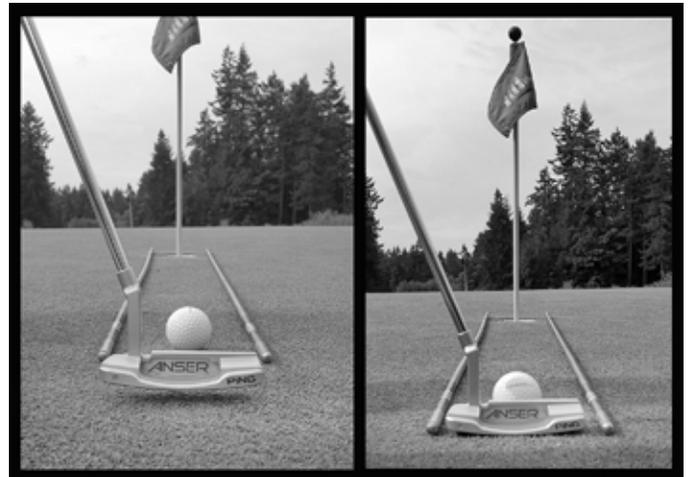
with a score of 67. The team of Linda Aho and Sharon Russell were the first-place winners of Flight 3 with a score of 69. The team of Diane Germaine and Shayna Worley were the third-place winners of Flight 3 with a score of 70.

Bonnie Vahcic won closest to the pin (CTP) on Hole #3 with a 3'9" from the pin. Sue Fechner won CTP on hole # 8 with 6'1" from the pin, and Teri Ganji-Helder won CTP on hole #17 with 11'8" from the pin.

All winners received cash awards for redemption in the Port Ludlow Pro Shop. As always, a good time was had by all tournament participants!

Putting Basics

by Jim Mancill, PGA Head Professional, Port Ludlow GC



Defining the putter path using alignment sticks.

Submitted photo

In keeping with our practice theme, let's move over to the putting green and have a little fun over there. For today's practice, we'll need our putter, a couple of golf balls, and our alignment sticks.

We have talked about all the factors that go into being successful on the greens and if you remember, we discussed which is more important, speed or aim. This drill is going to focus on aim and putter face alignment. Our goal is to be consistent with our aim using the alignment sticks to really focus on the path we want our putter to travel on.

In the attached photos, you can see how to set your sticks up to define the intended path of the putter resulting in a straight rolling golf ball. The area I have chosen creates a straight-in uphill 3½ foot putt. Once you have located an absolute straight putt that is uphill, set your sticks and get ready to have some fun. The reason for the uphill putt is so we are always accelerating the putter head with the goal to have the ball hit the flagstick, not just fall over the front lip.

A couple of ways to make this a game and be able to gauge progress are to assign points for each putt. Hitting 10 putts and scoring as below:

- For a putt that goes in clean and hits the flagstick – 3 points
- For a putt that goes in clean and just falls over the front lip – 2 points
- For a putt that goes in clean but hits an edge and curls in – 1 point
- For any putt that misses or hits either stick – minus 3
- For any putt left short – minus 5

Now make a game of it. Score it against yourself or a friend. You'll be surprised how much better you become very quickly, and if you're a good greens reader, how many more mid-range putts you start to make. As I have said before, golf is about having fun, so put some fun into your next practice session and get more out of it. See you on the tee!

Trail Mix

by Larry Scott, Trails Chair



Volunteers clearing blackberry brambles. Submitted photo

“A Village in The Woods by The Bay” and “Port Ludlow – The Destination Village for Hiking.”

Last month's Trail Mix updated you regular *Voice* readers that Trails was busy extending the Oak Bay Trail

(OBT) from Swansonville to Walker, and then onwards to connect to the Around the Bay Trail (ABT). That secondary segment will do a couple things. First, it will provide an access to the historic cemetery location that LMC is developing as part of expanding the consciousness of Port Ludlow's past. Secondly, it will provide a safer access to the Historical Cemetery by encouraging hikers to use the traditional ABT marked crosswalk to reach the OBT and thus the Cemetery while discouraging an unmarked crossing on a blind curve.

Jerry Keck has led multiple crews of all volunteers through the heaviest blackberry brambles we have faced. While we

were on the alert to not encounter Br'er Rabbit, Br'er Bear, or Br'er Fox, some other critters decided to answer Jerry's call for volunteers. Well, you take your volunteers as they come and if they want to help, you just say thank you.

If you want to volunteer too and come out for a Fun Day of camaraderie while helping to improve our community, send me an e-mail: mclgscott@cablespeed.com

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Sea Puppies and Other Pinnipeds

by Gail Wellenstein, Kitsap Beach Naturalist

Harbor seals float at the surface with only the upper part of their head visible. With big brown eyes and large whiskers, they look like puppies with their short, dog-like snouts. They are the most common marine mammal in the Salish Sea and usually live in one general area, travelling only when fishing or mating. Seals lack external ears, shed their fur (molt) in one short time period where they become beachbound, and move like a caterpillar on land because their pelvis is fused, and they can't rotate their hind flippers forward under their pelvis to walk.

Harbor seals weigh between 100 – 300 pounds and are between 4 – 6 feet in length. Their fur is either a light tan/silver/gray with dark spots, or a dark background with lighter rings. They are powerful swimmers, able to dive to 1500 feet, and can hold their breath for ten minutes. They come to land frequently, so you will find them near sandbars, beaches, or rocks close to shore, where they haul out at low tide to rest, give birth and nurse their pups, avoiding predators like orcas. Females are pregnant for about ten months and give birth to one 24-pound pup that's swimming within minutes and diving within two days. The pups nurse for four to six weeks on milk that is fifty percent fat.

We have three other species of pinnipeds, or fin-footed marine mammals, that spend part of the year in our waters.

The other true seal that's occasionally found on Protection, Smith, Whidbey, and Fidalgo Island beaches is the enormous Elephant Seal, named for the male's trunk-like snout and dark gray skin. Adults are as big as my Honda Fit, 13 feet in length and weighing up to 4,000 pounds. Unlike the harbor seal, they spend nine months of the year in the open sea, diving as deep as 2,500 feet for 20 – 30-minute periods, surfacing for a few minutes before they dive again. Molting for the elephant seal is termed "catastrophic" because they lose all their fur and the upper layer of skin in one short time period. They get quite grumpy during this time and are unable to enter the water to find food for the month-long process of regrowing all this skin and fur. They should be given wide berth if you see them.

California Sea Lions often lounge in large groups on docks and sandbars, loudly barking away. They have dark brown fur, grow up to seven feet in length, with males weighing as much as 800 pounds. Sea lions have external ear flaps, molt in patches so they can always stay in the water and use their more mobile hind flippers to walk on land. These sea lions breed in Southern California in summer and then move north for a seafood buffet. They are notorious for stationing themselves in choke points

for salmon runs, feasting on them before they arrive at spawning areas. In the late 1980s, Herschel the sea lion and his comrades stationed themselves at the Ballard locks, each one consuming up to thirteen fish an hour. At one point, several males were captured and trucked down to California, only to return within one month to their favorite seafood restaurant.

Last but not least on our list is the Steller's Sea Lion with their light to reddish blond fur, weighing up to one ton and 10 – 11 feet in length. These are the fellows hanging out on buoys and the occasional Navy submarine. They have the same food preferences as their California cousins and are just as irritating to fishermen.

Pups may be seen alone on beaches, but it's seldom cause for concern. If it is still nursing, mom may be out fishing while the pup is resting and warming up on shore. It is important to keep your distance as mom might not come back if there are people, dogs, or noise near the pup. If the pup is weaned, it's probably resting between fishing trips.

If you are concerned that the pup may be stranded or ill, Marine Mammal Stranding Network suggests calling NOAA's West Coast Stranding Network at 866-767-6114, or on the Quimper peninsula, calling 360-385-5582 x103. Give the animal plenty of space—100 yards is recommended. Do not feed, touch, or move the animal. Leash your dog, because wild animals can carry diseases harmful to pets and humans. Email staff at mmsn@ptmsc.org with a photo and your location. Inform those around you about the animal's location and the need to give it space.

Duplicate Bridge at the Bridge Deck

by Dan Darrow, Guest Writer

Interested in learning how to play duplicate bridge? Folks who have previous bridge playing experience are invited to join the weekly Port Ludlow Duplicate Bridge group. This is a sanctioned American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) game, but ACBL membership is not required. The only requirement is to bring a partner. In duplicate bridge, the cards are dealt once and placed in special boards. All boards are played in rotation, changing opponents every 3-5 boards, and then the results are compared. Thus, you don't need a "good" hand to do well. Often, the team that plays well on defense gets the top scores. If you are new to duplicate bridge, do not worry; the Port Ludlow group is friendly and happy to help newcomers.

We meet at the Bridge Deck (on Harbor Drive above the Beach Club) every Monday at 11:45 a.m. and play until approximately 4:30 p.m. For questions and more information, contact Dan Darrow at 360-437-9208.

Port Ludlow Hiking Club

by John Nuereberg, Port Ludlow Hiking Club

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

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

Friday, September 26 – Lower Gray Wolf Trail

We will be hiking the Gray Wolf Trail, which is 5.4 miles roundtrip, with 800 feet of elevation change. The turn-around point will be a bridge that was washed out several years ago. The hike to this point is some of the best river-side hiking in the Olympics. It is considered a moderate hike, rated M3. National Park Pass or another Interagency Pass is required. Questions, contact hike leader: Jack Riggen, 360-437-0370.

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.

Wanted: Scribe for Hiking Club

by John Nuereberg, Port Ludlow Hiking Club

Are you interested in a volunteer position with the Port Ludlow Hiking Club? Well, you've come to the right place, because we are searching for a scribe to manage the club's business. Since the club is not an organization with various officers and a treasury, this position serves as an 'unofficial officer' of the club.

The duties of the scribe include the following:

- Have a good working knowledge of Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Word
- Maintain the email roster in Yahoo Mail

- Organize bi-yearly hike leader meetings and create hike schedules for the next period of time
- Every other year, coordinate and participate in the semi-annual Opportunity Fair
- Keep hiking documents current
- Circulate hike leader gear and be sure all material is current and available
- Work with the web master to keep website current

If interested in assuming this position, please contact John Nuereberg at 623-229-4657 or plhikingclub@yahoo.com. We can't wait to talk with you!



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The *Port Ludlow Voice* is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its entire staff consists of unpaid volunteers. All writing and editing is done in the homes of staff members on their personal computers. The production editor formats each issue and provides an electronic copy to the printer. The *Voice* is delivered at no cost to readers on all U.S. Post Office carrier routes in the Master Planned Resort (MPR).

Financial support for publishing the *Voice* each month comes from advertising, subscriptions and contributions primarily from community organizations. Average monthly income is:

1. Ludlow Maintenance Commission (LMC).....\$300
2. South Bay Community Association (SBCA).....\$300
3. Port Ludlow Village Council (PLVC).....\$200
4. Display Advertising\$6,050
5. Classified Advertising\$1,287
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7. Web Advertising.....\$108

Subscriptions: Per year \$42; \$3.50 per month.
Gift issue, \$5

This issue proofread by: Carol Riley, Mary Small, Jim Gormly, Paula Berman and Dana Stewart.

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Paper Content: The *Voice* uses stock that is acid free and meets the sourcing requirements of the Sustainable Forest Initiative.

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