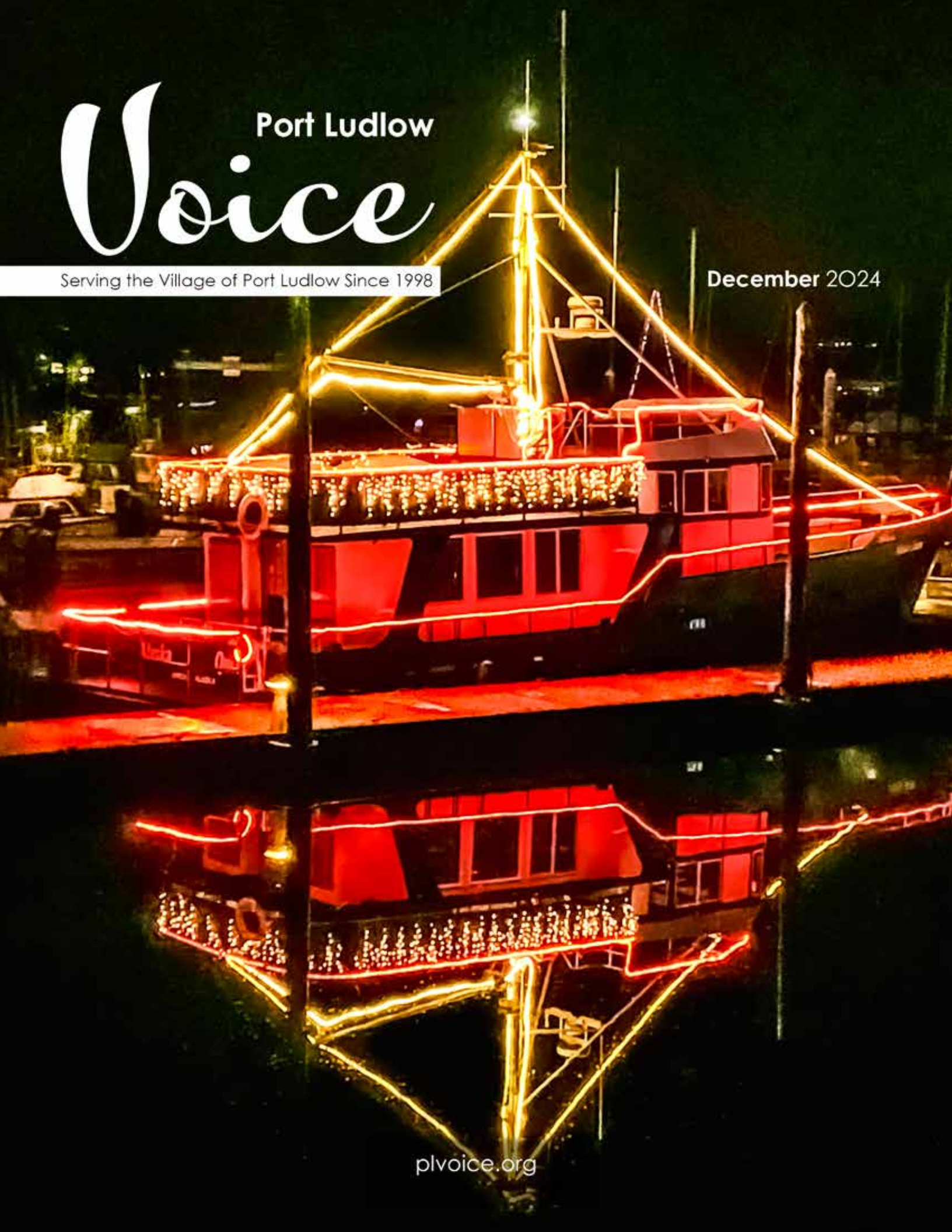


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Mission Statement: The mission of the *Port Ludlow Voice* is to inform its readers of events and activities within the Village and in close proximity to the Village. We will print news articles that directly affect our local residents.

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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:
Photo by Edward Hartman



Port Ludlow Voice

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News & Community

From the Editor's Desk

by Carol Riley, Copy Editor

Our stunning cover photo this month was taken by the winner of our 2nd Annual *Voice* Cover Photo Contest. Edward Hartman, a Port Ludlow resident, took this picture of the *Alaska Quest* in December 2023 while he, his daughter, and granddaughter strolled along the marina after dinner admiring the Christmas decorations. The photo of the beautifully decorated boat reflected in the still water is a winner.

Ed is no stranger to photography. He is a member of the Port Ludlow Photographers Camera Club and also participates with Olympic Peak Camera Club/Olympic Photo Club. Since the 1970s, he has been interested in nature photography as well as minimalistic black and white images, has had photos published in a book, and is currently working on photography documenting the Beach Club accessibility remodel project for use in a brochure.

The photo contest received 12 submissions, and it was a difficult task to pick a winner; but guided by our very own photo editor Steve Deligan the staff voted for their favorite, and the picture of the *Alaska Quest* was declared this year's winner.

The winning photo is special for another reason. The owners of the *Alaska Quest*, Tish and Tom Satre, also Port Ludlow residents, have just retired from the charter business. For the past 15 years, Captain Tom and Admiral Tish have ushered lucky guests through the beauty and wonder of Southeast Alaska, guided them into peaceful nighttime moorings, helped them pull their traps brimming with crab and shrimp aboard, shown them the perfect bear-viewing spots, and fed them until they burst (almost). We are happy to have them back in Port Ludlow.

Kudos to our runners-up: Janel Wait, Aven Anderson, and Leesa Monroe. If you would like to see their wonderful photos, please go to our website pvoice.org.

The December issue has all the usual suspects you love to read and many ideas for the holiday. You are invited to shop, carol, listen, reminisce, ponder, give, heal, develop a plan for healthy living, and more.

The many volunteer elves that bring the December issue of the *Voice* into your hands send warm wishes to you and yours for peace and joy this holiday season and a Happy New Year.

First Wednesday Luncheon

by Stephanie Buehler, Guest Writer

As December is the month of many holiday celebrations, let First Wednesday Luncheon be your first. We will be celebrating this month with generous donations to the Jefferson County Food

Bank Association (JCFBA) as we enjoy our annual holiday luncheon, prepared and served by a group of volunteers who work hard to make this a very special occasion.

Please join us on **Wednesday, December 4**, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bay Club. The Port Ludlow Singers, directed by Cheryl Wheeler, will entertain us with many traditional holiday favorites and some with a fun, festive flair.

In what's become our holiday tradition, we will be providing a nice holiday lunch and all table service so please RSVP to firstwednesdayluncheon@gmail.com or sign up at either the Bay or Beach Club by **December 1**. This is not only a courtesy to the club, but it ensures we'll have ample food for all our guests.

In addition to our usual monthly raffle, in December we will be raffling off each table centerpiece as well. Remember that proceeds from our raffles are used to help support the Food Bank during July and August, when we are on hiatus.

There is no charge to attend 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 nonperishable food such as condiments, coffee, peanut butter, jelly, etc.

An Important Note: Because the first Wednesday of January falls on New Year's Day next month when the clubs will be closed, we will **NOT** be having a luncheon again until February. We wish you all a very happy holiday season and thank you for supporting the JCFBA.

Winter Safety Tips from East Jefferson Fire Rescue

As we head into the winter months and the cold weather those months bring, this is a good time to consider these safety guidelines from your fire department.

If it has been some time since you used your fireplace:

- Get your chimney flue cleaned by a qualified chimney sweep
- Keep hearths clear of combustible items
- Keep spark screens in place
- Never leave fireplace fires unattended
- Place cool ashes in a metal container when cleaning fireboxes

Plan ahead for windstorms and possible power outages at home:

- Use flashlights, not candles, for alternative lighting.
- Have foods on hand that you can cook on an outside BBQ or a camp stove placed outside, not indoors.
- If you have a generator, have a supply of extra fuel and don't run a generator inside your garage. Put your generator either in your driveway or on an outside deck.

Now is a good time to gather supplies in case the predicted La Niña forecast brings us snow and possibly several days without power:

- Get some easy-to-fix food items such as soup or foods that can be prepared on a camp stove outside
- Create an emergency-supply kit for your car. Include jumper cables, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water, and non-perishable snacks. Keep the gas tank full
- Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights.
- Check on neighbors. Older adults and young children are more at risk in extreme cold
- And don't forget your pets!

If you have any questions about the services East Jefferson Fire Rescue provides, please call 360-385-2626 or visit our website ejfr.org.

Rethink

Reduce

Beginning with the **January 2025** issue, the *VOICE* will publish a short article monthly on what's happening locally with recycling and disposal of household trash. What to recycle and what to dispose of in Jefferson County will be addressed. Ideas for repurposing items destined for the landfill will be shared, and questions from the community welcomed. Currently Port Ludlow has a rather dismal record of contaminating the community recycling bins; with effort and a more informed public, this record can be improved. Your input, questions, and suggestions regarding the five tenets (rethink, reduce, reuse, repurpose, recycle) of keeping items out of our landfill are encouraged at recycleportludlow@gmail.com.

Update from the Public Works Director:
The public should plan to dispose of glass in their household trash after **December 1st**. The largest regional buyer of recycled glass stopped accepting material mid-September due to a slump in market demand and competition with cheaper imports. The transfer station reached holding capacity by October 1st and has been shipping the collected glass to the landfill since then at a loss of approximately \$10,000 a month. There is no new market for glass anywhere in western Washington on the horizon. Jefferson County will follow what many other Puget Sound counties have already done and will stop collecting glass as part of our recycling program. If the situation changes, we will begin glass collection again.

Repurpose

Port Ludlow Garden Club Yuletide Tea Celebration

Bid season's greetings to all members of the PLGC by attending the members-only Yuletide Tea on **Wednesday, December 11**, 11 a.m. at the Bay Club. Let this special time of year, with beautiful table settings from traditional to whimsical, provide an unforgettable tea during this happy season. Visit with your garden club friends and enjoy a glass of champagne or apple cider during the social hour.

A committee of judges will choose one of the beautiful centerpieces designed by the hostesses of each table and that winning hostess will be presented with a special prize. A Yuletide Tea will follow the social hour with a selection of tea sandwiches, scones, cookies, and savories prepared by the Garden Club Members.

Come dressed in your finest and showcase all the regalia of the Christmas season – wear yuletide hats, fascinators, Christmas sweaters, and fancy dresses to embellish the holidays. It is a wonderful time to enjoy the Christmas season.

Please make your reservation via an email RSVP to Michelle Pelkey at portludlowgardenclub@outlook.com by **Friday, December 6**. Seating is limited.

December Brings “Community” to the Jefferson County Library District

December at your library is a cozy retreat from the cold. Patrons explore holiday books, browse seasonal movies, and delight in festive crafts and events. Spending time at the library fosters a sense of community in a warm, inviting haven for all. We welcome you to bring family and friends visiting from out-of-town to enjoy everything we have to offer! Please visit our website at jclibrary.info for our complete list of programs.

Make an impact on your community with a year-end gift to Jefferson County Library District's Annual Winter Giving Campaign. The campaign runs now through **Tuesday, December 31**, and your contributions ensure that our library's resources and programs continue to flourish. Visit jclibrary.info to donate. Our success is only possible through the generosity of people like you!

Kids and Teens ages 6 – 18 are invited to participate in an exciting winter reading adventure! Librarians across the state have handpicked a wonderful selection of books just for you, and now it's your turn to decide which one tops the list. Sign up and track your progress at cleoreads.beanstack.com, or grab a paper tracker from the library or Bookmobile to track your progress manually. Read selected titles, then vote for your favorite to earn a colorful and cozy blanket. The Kids & Teens Winter Read runs from **Monday, December 2**, through **Friday, February 28, 2025**.

Explore the scandals, mysteries, and human stories behind the world's greatest gems! Don't miss our dazzling presentation of *The Smithsonian National Gem Collection Unearthed: Surprising Stories Behind the Jewels* brought to life by Dr. Jeffrey E. Post, curator of the Smithsonian's National Gem Collection for over 30 years. This live online event will occur on **Wednesday, December 4**, from 11 a.m. – 12 noon. Registration is required (it's free!). Visit the events calendar at jclibrary.info to sign up.

The District's Annual Gingerbread House-Making Contest is in full swing! Bakers and crafters have picked up their supplies and are working diligently on their edible creations. You still have time to participate – visit jclibrary.info by 5 p.m. on **Tuesday, December 10**, to enter the contest. Vote for your favorites beginning **December 12!** The winners will be announced online on **Monday, December 23.**

Chat live online with renowned author Laura Dave on **Wednesday, December 11**, from 11 a.m. – 12 noon. Laura is the author of several bestselling novels, including *The Last Thing He Told Me*, *Eight Hundred Grapes*, and her newest book, *The Night We Lost Him*. Free registration is required. Visit the events calendar at jclibrary.info to sign up.

Celebrate the season and the Library District's 45th Anniversary at our Annual Holiday Open House on **Thursday, December 12**, from 3 – 6 p.m. Enjoy live music and light refreshments in the main library, then join us in the Humphrey Room, where all ages can create a variety of festive, seasonal crafts.

Holiday Hours: The Library District will be closing at 2 p.m. on **Tuesday, December 24**, and will be closed on **Wednesday, December 25**. We will also close at 2 p.m. on **Tuesday, December 31**, and we will be closed on **Wednesday, January 1, 2025**. Early Learning programs will take a winter break the week of **December 23 – 27** but will return to their regular schedule beginning **December 30**.

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.

Free Life Care Planning Zoom Seminars

Join Tony Hinson on **Tuesday, December 3**, at 11:30 a.m. as he explores estate and life-care planning solutions that preserve wealth, minimize taxes and ensure your legacy.

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

These seminars will be held once a month on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. If you cannot make the December date, look for our upcoming dates in 2025. These seminars will be held live on Zoom. To register, visit compassandclock.com, or call 360-779-5551.

Meet Your Firefighters

by Ron Dawson, EJFR Community Outreach Volunteer

Have you ever wondered about the fire station on Oak Bay Road – what's inside and for what purpose? It is hard to get a lingering view of it as you drive by. Evidently, this is the facility the firefighters use when they are on their shift. Here are some details:

As you enter the station through the front door you will find, in her office to the right, Tanya Cray, District Secretary. Behind her office is a space for holding private meetings, or for visiting fire personnel to gather. At the back of the wing on the front side of the building is the office of Fire Chief Bret Black. Across from his office is a larger room, where a kitchen and dining area open up to space for firefighters in downtime to watch television. As you leave this room, you access the sleeping area comprised of four small sleeping spaces used during two-day shifts by firefighters on assignment. Bathrooms and showers are adjacent to this area, as is a workout area to help keep the crews in shape.

Across the hall from Tanya's office is a larger room that is set up for conducting frequent training on skills development for the crews. Trainers use the audio-visual equipment and white boards that line the walls. The mannequins lying about are used in EMT training.

A back door to this room, requiring an access code to open, takes you into the garage where there is space for an engine, a water tender, a medic unit, and a special rescue pickup truck. Firefighters' turn-out gear hangs from the wall. A catwalk above takes you to a radio room and to spaces for equipment, departmental clothing, and additional storage. Adjacent is a tool room where equipment can be repaired, chainsaws sharpened, and vehicles diagnosed. Also on the ground floor is an area used by firefighters to remove contaminants they may have been exposed to when they are out on a call. Safety for the firefighters is a high priority.

The fire station on Oak Bay Road is completely outfitted to serve our community.

Master Gardener Lecture Series - Six Saturday Mornings

Tickets are now on sale for the **2025** Jefferson County Master Gardener Foundation's Yard & Garden Lecture Series. The lectures will be offered in person at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds and will run on six Saturday mornings: **January 11, 18, and 25, and February 1, 8, and 15.**

"We're excited to offer the lecture series in person this year," said Harry Hayward, Jefferson County Master Gardener Foundation Co-Chairman. "We have a great lineup of speakers who'll offer ideas on how to adapt our gardens – and gardeners – to our changing climate." The series, which supports the Master Gardener Foundation's educational and charitable activities, will feature six notable Pacific Northwest horticultural experts, including Richie Steffen, executive director of the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden; Mark Turner, plant photographer and

author; Sue Goetz, garden designer and author; and Clay Antieau, horticulturist, botanist, and environmental scientist. Topics range from native plants and pollinators, to edible landscape design and the importance of being evergreen in the Pacific Northwest.

Master Gardener plant clinicians will also be on hand to answer gardening questions. Hayward adds, “The Yard & Garden Lecture Series is a great opportunity to spend some winter mornings in the company of other plant people, learn, and be inspired.”

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit jcmgf.org/yard-and-garden-series.

Each lecture will run from 10 a.m. – noon. Lectures will last about 90 minutes, many times with a 15-minute break at the half. Each event will be followed by audience Q&A. The price for the entire six-lecture series is \$75; single-event tickets are available for \$15.

Ticket sales help support Jefferson County Master Gardener programs. For more information, visit jcmgf.org. The event is co-sponsored by Washington State University’s Jefferson County Extension Service.

Restoration Nears Completion



The historic Swansonville church is getting a new life as a future museum and neighborhood center. The 120-year-old building was re-roofed last summer. And now, work is almost finished rebuilding the steeple. It had been sagging dramatically and near collapse.

Drive by and take a look! The church sits at the top of Swansonville Hill, on the Swansonville Hill Road.

All restoration work was done by local contractors and craftsmen. Volunteer carpenters and preservationists contributed hundreds of hours of skilled labor.

The project was assisted with a matching grant from the National Park Service, managed by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation. The Swansonville church is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, which qualifies it for an historic preservation grant.

This old building has a story to tell.

If you are interested in the history of Port Ludlow, the immigrant community that started Swansonville, or the old Swansonville church, go to the project website at: friendsofswansonville.org.

Volunteers and donations are needed!

The Friends of Swansonville (FOS), which owns the little church, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, full of enthusiasm but out of money. All work so far has been paid for with small gifts of cash and loans from FOS membership to cover construction costs and match the federal grant. FOS welcomes new members and volunteers. More work is necessary.

What is next?

Terra Frank, FOS president, tells the *Voice*, “Right now we need to focus on fundraising so we can get back to work on the foundation, electrical wiring, and interior restoration. Several larger items still need to be purchased to finish restoration of the steeple. We need to buy and install new double entrance doors, the two swinging doors into the sanctuary, lighting fixtures, Douglas fir window and door trim, etc. Right now, any donation is appreciated. It is tax deductible. But it would be really neat if interested Port Ludlow people ‘bought’ some of these larger things we need by donating the cost or a part of it.”

Jake Thomas, FOS Vice President, reports, “My wife Connie and I gave the two replacement windows now on the steeple. They are exact reproductions of the original. Every time I drive by, I get a kick out of knowing that we helped restore those beautiful windows.”

Everyone is welcome at the old Swansonville church.

The FOS board members are Port Ludlow neighbors Terra Frank, Jake Thomas, John Malczyk, Earl Henrikson, Paul Hinton, Alexander Liberato, and Kendra Hermanson.

Martha’s Book Group - *True North* for the Holidays

Andrew Graff’s second novel *True North* is Martha’s Book Group selection for December. Sam Brecht, husband and father of three, heads to northern Wisconsin with dreams of establishing a successful white-water rafting business. Swami, his long-suffering wife, still reeling in the wake of his prior failed entrepreneurial endeavors, is not as convinced. A story of grace and hope amidst adversities is what Graff’s novel brings to the holiday season.

Though not on *The New York Times*’s bestseller list, it has garnered the attention of Ron Charles, editor of *The Washington Post*’s Book World, who finds that it is “structured as a masculine romance” and “muscle with rushing water.”

Copies of this book are available at both the Jefferson County Library and Kitsap Regional Library. Join our discussion of this entertaining novel on **Tuesday, December 10**, at 3:30 p.m. at the Bay Club. All are welcome.

For further information about Martha’s Book Group and future book club selections contact Sarah Schuch at bookclub@plvoice.org. January’s book for discussion will be *Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid.

Port Ludlow Tangle Club Completes Its First Year



In January 2024, the Port Ludlow Tangle Club held its first meeting. Since then, the Club has grown from a handful of participants to about twenty-strong, meeting at the Bay Club every other month, on the second Thursday, from 1 – 3 p.m. The Club is led by Certified Zentangle Teacher (CZT) Alice Clive, who has been tangling since 2011.

The 20th anniversary year of the Zentangle Method, founded by Massachusetts-based Maria Thomas and Rick Roberts, was also marked in 2024. The Zentangle Method is officially defined as an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to draw beautiful images using structured patterns called tangles. Since its humble beginnings, this mindful art form has spread worldwide, introducing thousands to a creative outlet that is not only accessible to all, but connects those who practice the Method with other tangles in a congenial Zentangle community.

The next meeting of the Tangle Club will be **Thursday, January 9**, at 1 p.m., so mark your calendars now and stay tuned for more information in the January *Voice*. All are welcome, no experience is necessary. To find out more, contact Alice Clive at foureyes22@outlook.com.

Holiday Community Caroling

Peace Lutheran Fellowship is pleased to be sponsoring its 2nd Community Caroling event at 3 p.m. on **Friday, December 20**, at the Village Square behind El Molcajete restaurant. Friends and neighbors are invited to gather in front of our church office near the Christmas tree. Join us in song and then stay to enjoy doughnuts and hot spiced cider. Dress warmly (maybe bring an umbrella) and be prepared for some holiday fun. All are welcome.

Chimacum Arts & Crafts Fair



Mark your calendar for the Chimacum Arts & Crafts Fair, **Saturday, December 14**, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and **Sunday, December 15**, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., at Chimacum High School. This beloved local tradition is in its 37th year and will be featuring over 100 talented artisans from near and far.

Bring your friends and family and join the community for a festive day of shopping and creativity. The fair prom-

ises a vibrant array of handmade goods, including one-of-a-kind jewelry, handcrafted home decor, holiday swag, cozy textiles, wreaths, pottery, woodwork, original art, and so much more. In addition to local artisans, youth and community groups will be raising funds for their programs, including 4H clubs, The Gathering Place, and the Rotary's annual pictures with Santa. Children will also enjoy a Kids' Christmas Shop, where kids can shop independently of their grownups in a supported environment. Chimacum High School's Culinary Arts class will be serving hot soup and grilled sandwiches out of their FEED Truck, the state's first student-run food truck enterprise – which made its debut at last year's Fair! With something for everyone, it's the perfect opportunity to find unique gifts while supporting local craftspeople.

Beyond just holiday shopping, the fair serves as a crucial fundraiser for Chimacum Schools. All proceeds from the event will go to support unfunded programs within the community, ensuring that students have access to enriching educational experiences. Over the past 37 years, hundreds of thousands of dollars raised at the Chimacum Arts & Crafts Fair have been invested in sports uniforms, art supplies, field trips, library collections, weight room equipment, teen center programs, school gardens, and more. By attending, you'll not only be bringing home beautiful, high-quality items to enjoy or gift, but you'll also be contributing to the learning and success of local youth.

This year's Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair is sure to be a celebration of both artistry and community spirit, making it a must-visit event this season. Learn more at chimacumarts.com.

Free Estate Planning Seminar

Wills and Trusts: What is Right for You and Your Family?

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

The seminar will be held at the Bay Club, 120 Spinnaker Pl, in Port Ludlow, on **Wednesday, December 11**, from noon – 1 p.m.

RSVP appreciated at (360)437-4172 or info@nwpepp.com

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UNITED GOOD NEIGHBORS

Village News

Bay Club / South Bay

South Bay Community Association Update

by Bob Gilbert, President, SBCA Board of Directors

Honoring Tradition and Extending It to All

As the holiday season approaches, I find myself reflecting not only on the traditions that bind us but also on those neighbors who may be without such gatherings or close family ties. This time of year has always brought us together in familiar ways – people traveling both long distances and short to gather around a table sharing stories and remembering. These customs remind us that we are part of something larger, a family that stretches across generations and holds its own history. In this season, I am reminded that there are many around us who may not have a place to go or people to gather with.

Our traditions have always been a way to connect with each other and to share a sense of warmth and continuity. Physicists say the arrow of time only travels forward. I believe, when we gather, we experience arrows of time in three planes of existence – past, present, and looking to the future. This reminds us that we are part of a shared story, one that is never forgotten so long as the stories are shared from one generation to the next. Each meal prepared, each story repeated, and each laugh shared, is a small act of togetherness that makes us all feel less alone. I think that perhaps, this season, we can do even more with that spirit of connection by extending ourselves to others who may need it.

Not everyone has a family nearby, and some may have lost loved ones. It haunts me that there are people in our community that we take for granted who spend this season in solitude, feeling the absence of familiar faces and any sense of belonging. If there ever was a tradition worthy of honoring, my wish is that we extend ourselves to those who may feel left out of the warmth of the season.

Reach out to your neighbors, invite someone to join you for a meal, volunteer to help others who might be alone. Send a message of warmth and thoughtfulness, make that phone call, and share in a moment of kindness. These tender mercies, however small, mean a great deal to someone who will welcome your gesture of care and contact.

For our children, and their children, my hope is that these traditions become a source of comfort and a reminder of the importance of opening our circle to others. By sharing the spirit of the season with those beyond our own family, we are demonstrating that our strength comes not only from holding each other close but also from reaching out, expanding the circle to include those who may need a place to belong.

SBCA Important Dates

Thursday, December 12, 9:30 a.m., Monthly Board Meeting**

Friday, December 13, 5 p.m., Bay Club Holiday Gala

Sunday, December 15, 2 p.m., PLPA Concert

Friday, January 3, 8:30 a.m., Pancake Breakfast benefiting PSO/Bluebills

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

Friday, January 10, 5 p.m., Member Social

Monday, January 13, 1 p.m., Jefferson Healthcare Presentation

Thursday, January 16, 5:30 p.m., Chimacum School District Presentation

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

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

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

So, as we gather this season, let us remember to carry our warmth beyond the walls of our homes. Let us share what we have, in whatever way we can, with those who may not have family nearby or who might be missing the people they love most. These small acts of kindness do more than brighten someone else's day – they pay us dividends that are truly beyond measure, they enrich our own lives, brighten the lives of others, and deepen the meaning of our traditions.

In this way, we honor not only our family and its traditions but our broader human family as well, bringing comfort and warmth to all we welcome. It is almost 2025, let's celebrate by giving the gift of connection to family, yes; but also to those who may need it most.

With love, and in the spirit of openness to all!

Make a Deposit

by Randy Edwards, SBCA Health and Fitness Committee

Virgil said, *the greatest wealth is health*. This quote has had a resurgence in recent times. Health has always been an important part of my life, but as I age, this phrase brings new meaning. We typically refer to wealth in terms of money or possessions; but it doesn't matter how much you accumulate or save unless you also have made regular deposits in your health bank. The best way to do that is up to interpretation. We are lucky to live in a beautiful area with lots of outdoor activity options like hiking, paddleboarding, pickle ball, and kayaking. But as the weather turns, options are limited... Or are they? The Bay Club has ways to keep you active and help you reach your health goals in South Bay.

I have talked to many people who already have a workout regimen, and I have talked to others who say, 'what works best,' or more often 'I have no idea what I'm doing.' My advice is not to have a rigid plan or unattainable expectations. Finding what works often takes trial and error, so play with different things to land on what is right for you.

Deposit #1 could be as simple as reading the Communiqué – a monthly publication focused on health-related subjects and article links that the SBCA Health and Fitness committee shares to provide relevant fitness information.

My belief is that exercise can maximize your health and has many physical and mental benefits. Research suggests that it's essential to get a variety of exercises that include endurance, strength, balance, and flexibility. The variety can help reduce the risk of injury and boredom. Regular activity can reduce your risk of heart disease by up to 35% and can help improve your heart's health by making it stronger. Exercise can also help improve bone density and reduce the risk of fractures. As for mental health, exercise is known to reduce stress and enhance sleep quality.

Deposit #2 is to learn what the Bay Club has to offer to enhance your health. Our cardio room has a variety of commercial machines: three treadmills, two ellipticals, a recumbent bike, an upright bike, a recumbent cross-trainer, and a rowing machine. These machines can assist with aerobic exercise, increase the oxygen supply to your whole body, allow the muscles to work harder and more efficiently, lower blood pressure, and contribute to weight loss. In our weight room, you can use resistance training to strengthen your muscles, protect bones and joints, and reduce the risk of heart disease and diabetes. You can choose from the functional trainer or universal gym, where you can exercise your legs, back, chest, and arms. The abductor and adductor machine helps strengthen the stabilizing muscles in your lower body, which is needed for balance. The new plate-load chest press allows for independent movement to improve your pushing ability, and dumbbells to work on all body parts. In our stretching area, you can help your muscles stay strong and flexible with several sizes of balance balls, stretching bands, balance bars, and mats. The Bay Club also has a swimming

pool that offers lap swim, walk exercises, live and even virtual aquarobics. If those don't interest you, how about group classes like Zumba, yoga, tube training, dance, tap, tai chi or classes offered monthly on various health and fitness topics? A full schedule can be found on the Bay Club website sbca.club.

All these Bay Club offerings are available because they were developed by people who believe in investing in their health and providing options for others to reach their health goals. This group is the Health and Fitness committee, whose purpose is to promote physical and cognitive health through fitness in a safe, well-equipped fitness center for all ages, abilities, and states of health and fitness, and serve in an advisory capacity to the SBCA Board of Directors on matters relating to health and fitness.

The Health and Fitness committee advocates for fiscally responsible ways our community can invest in their wellness and make those health deposits. Programs like the virtual aquarobics took thought as there was a need for additional classes but costs needed to be evaluated. The same careful thought went into equipment upgrades where the need and longevity were considered. The Health and Fitness committee meets on the first Thursday of the month and SBCA members are welcome to attend. The committee works to support the Board, and I hope this gives you a glimpse into what we do and why we are passionate about improving the health of our community. With that kind of support, what will you do to start or continue making regular deposits into your health bank?

2024 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.

October Alarms

Fires.....	5
Overpressure Rupture, Exposure, Overheat	1
Rescue/Emergency Medical	357
Good Intent	31
Hazardous Conditions	10
False Alarms	24
Service Call	89
Special Incident.....	1
Total Alarms	518

Ambulance Transports

911 Transports.....	231
Hospital Requested Transport.....	0
Non Transports.....	135
Total Transports	366

CARES Contacts..... 159

Beach Club / North Bay

Update from the Manager

by Brian Belmont, General Manager

Breakfast with Santa is back at the Beach Club!

On **Saturday, December 14**, Santa's elves will serve breakfast at 9 a.m. at the Beach Club. Then around 9:30, kids will have an opportunity to do some arts and crafts, and then at 10:30, Santa arrives to hand out gifts.

We are suggesting that LMC parents and grandparents drop off a small, wrapped gift with the child's name on it at the Beach Club between **December 9 – 13**. If you have questions about this event, please send me an email or call the Beach Club.

LMC will host our annual "Polar Plunge" event on **Saturday, December 28**. This year, not only are our LMC members and their guests invited, but *we are also inviting our South Bay neighbors to join us*. While not quite the frigid temperatures that many Polar Plunges boast, our pool will be in the 40s, which should still be cold enough to get your attention.

The brave souls willing to take the plunge in the unheated outdoor pool will be rewarded with hot coffee, hot cider, and hot chocolate, as well as a few sweets. The event will take place at 11 a.m. I encourage plungers to come at least 15 minutes early so that everyone has time to sign a liability waiver.

Bring your swimsuits, fluffy towels, and a warm change of clothes, to the Beach Club. Don't forget your cameras, too, since there should be plenty of memorable moments.

As a reminder, the Beach Club will close at 1 p.m. on **December 24** and will be closed on **December 25** and **January 1**.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season!

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

plvoice.org

Breaking News – Archive of Past Issues
Early Access to News Articles
Local Arts – Letters to the Editor



LMC and the Beach Club

Phone: 360-437-9201

Email: GM@LMCBeachClub.Org

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

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



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Village Council

PLVC Board Meeting Summary

by Tracy Geipel, PLVC Secretary

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Tam McDermid at 3 p.m., and meeting was conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order for Small Boards. Board Members present: John Goldwood (represented by proxy by Tam McDermid), Tam McDermid, Tracy Geipel, Bob Gilbert (representing SBCA), Joan Johnston (representing LMC). Board Members absent: Paul Hinton. A quorum was declared, and the meeting was recorded.

Changes to Agenda

Tam McDermid requested approval to add agenda item to Board business. Motion to approve was seconded and passed unanimously.

Stakeholder Updates

Greg Brotherton, Jefferson County Board of Commissioners, District 3

Greg Brotherton announced that Heather Dudley-Nollette was elected for the District I Board of Commissioners seat. He provided an informative update regarding conversation he had with John Goldwood about negotiations between the County and PLA concerning the MPR timber harvesting agreement due to sunset on May 5, 2025. Although cognizant of importance to the community, the County intends to let it end. Greg will invite staff to discuss the decisions with the community. Election results on the national level will likely impact funding, but County won't know more about this until possibly January. Construction of the roundabout at Paradise Bay Road and Highway 104 is going well. PUD and DCD will install conduit attached to a pole for lighting on a sign and a "Welcome to the Peninsula" arch. County is working hard on fleet electrification. They've received a grant to install forty Level 2 chargers for county fleet use and will outsource installation to EVCS. Videos of County Commissioners meetings are available on the website. A speed study will be underway at Thorndyke Road to look at mitigations. A County workgroup is looking at developing policies, procedures, and human opt-outs for AI (Artificial Intelligence) deployment. AI has been described as "Coach, Clerk, and Colleague" and will help meet staffing shortages regarding defense attorney indigent caseloads. The state pays the county \$35,000, but these cases cost the county around \$1 million per year. The state Attorney General's office is requiring smaller caseloads for defense attorneys, but there are not enough defense attorneys in the area to cover all the cases. The county has multiple grants to install more high-speed EV chargers throughout the county for public use. A discussion ensued surrounding the timber harvest agreement, and the best way for the concerns of the community to be heard is by submitting a report to the commissioners as well as through PLVC meetings.

Village Council Meetings

PLVC Board Meeting

Thursday, December 5

3 - 5 p.m., Beach Club Bayview Room

PLVC Workshop

Tuesday, December 17

3 - 5 p.m., Beach Club Gallery Room

plvc.org

Jefferson County PUD – Jameson Hawn

Jameson Hawn reported that at the height of last Monday's windstorm there was a peak of 1,600 total customer power outages. Outages over the recent two windstorms were kept to a minimum due to ongoing mitigation work including tree trimming. Big project funding workload changes are coming to PUD. The expansion of the Breaker Lane substation is in permitting limbo. A \$5 million loan financing program for residential energy efficiency improvements is coming soon, which will save PUD a lot on purchase power. A United Good Neighbors in-house grant program totaling \$10,000 for income-qualified residents facing shut-off notices is coming soon for up to \$500 per resident. Jameson will be hosting roving forums for the public in different Jefferson County communities regarding PUD four- and ten-year work plans. These will be listening sessions and Q&As about any PUD issues. A rate study is underway, with announcements online and in the newsletter. PUD is hiring. They are growing very quickly and are looking to fill all position levels including Line Crew Superintendent as Josh is moving to Mason County. PUD is down to installing the remaining 1,100 new meters out of the 21,300 total in the county. There was a discussion about extended benefits/rebates to upgrade appliances. The current program is only for about \$50, but they'll soon launch a HEAR program on **January 1** that provides \$468,000 total for rebates and must be spent by **June 30, 2025**. This will cover panel upgrades as well as appliance upgrades by using a PUD-approved installer. Another program provides rebates for exchanging a wood stove for a heat pump. Savings are visible in the big picture overall because all these completed upgrades result in energy efficiency which in turn allows monetary savings by PUD in Tier I purchase power. Lack of efficiency causes PUD to have to buy more expensive Tier II energy from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). This savings is passed on to customers via smaller or infrequent rate increases.

Port Ludlow Associates – Diana Smeland

The OWSI Town Hall on October 31 was well attended and went an hour over meeting time. They discussed the surcharge, rate increase, and showed an ice pigging video (all available on their website at portludlowresort.com). OT II Plat is finalized.

PLA is asking Jefferson County Commissioners to extend the timber and development agreements. The EV charger grant went through; two fast chargers and one Level 2 charger will be installed in the Village Center. Tesla paid for twelve chargers to be installed already in the community (six at SBCA and six at the golf course). Carlos hopes to have the new hamburger restaurant open in time for the tree lighting ceremony at 4 p.m. on **December 7**. Diana provided an update on various activities and promotions happening at JR's Sandtrap and at the Inn. The lighted boats will be at the marina and there likely will be the short boat parade **December 20**. They plan to have a Christmas tree on Burner Point. Please shop local to help local businesses survive the winter season. Primary income for local businesses comes in between July and September. A discussion regarding the timber and development agreements and how they affect the community was held, specifically regarding property values in South Bay. PLA's status and practices as a very small business was explained, including the necessity for profit margins. It is PLA's choice whether or not to develop more than the current 37 lots available in South Bay, and they probably won't be part of SBCA houses because of a recent "incident." PLA has received approval on a \$2.3 Million loan as well as approval and the permit from the Corps of Engineers to replace dock C at the marina (with other dock replacements hopefully to come). Capacity will remain at 300 slips.

Citizen Comments – There were no citizen comments at this time. There will be no committee reports at today's meeting as it is the month before the PLVC Annual Meeting, when full committee yearly reports will be given.

Board Business

Approval of October 3, 2024, Minutes. Motion to approve, seconded, passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer's Report was given by Tam McDearmid for Treasurer Paul Hinton, which she read at the meeting. Paul is out of town. Motion to approve, seconded, passed unanimously.

Vote on Bylaw change to increase Board Membership – Desire is to have as many members as there are volunteers who wish to join, and we have heard there may be floor nominations at the December meeting. In the Bylaws, Article III, Section 1 increases board membership from nine to fifteen members, with thirteen of these elected and two representing the HOAs. Changes in the Bylaws, Article III, Section 2 would increase the number of candidates during even years from four to seven, and increase the number of candidates during odd years from three to six (see attached handout). Motion to approve, seconded, passed unanimously.

Action for Consent without a Meeting – Discussion during the October Village Council workshop about hiring a third-party election service to handle the December election process. This involves some expenditure. Motion was approved, seconded, passed unanimously. Paperwork to be signed by members was not available and will be included with the Minutes at the next meeting.

Board Activities – November and December are very busy, and everyone is working hard to prepare for the events. There are two upcoming Town Hall Meetings:

Monday, November 11, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Beach Club Bay View Room
Tuesday, November 12, 3 – 4:30 p.m., Bay Club Auditorium

The two meetings are being held at different times of the day to accommodate people who cannot attend a daytime meeting. All are welcome to attend either meeting at either location. Posters announcing the Town Halls are up around the community.

Additional Agenda Item – Approval of John Goldwood's PLVC article for the December issue of the *Voice*, which will be submitted tomorrow. Motion to approve was seconded and approved unanimously.

Citizen Comment – Soozie Darrow missed the opportunity to comment earlier in the meeting. She was unhappy she and her husband didn't receive a prompt written acknowledgment and thank you for the donation they mailed to PLVC. A discussion ensued regarding standard PLVC practice of sending electronic mail merge acknowledgments for all donations received by the end of December. People who donate by check rather than electronically feel they shouldn't have to wait as donations are made throughout the year. Online donations automatically receive an immediate receipt from Square. Most PLVC members and prospective members agreed that receipts and thank you notes should be mailed out throughout the year to donors who choose to donate by check. Tam McDearmid thanked Soozie and said PLVC will take this suggestion under advisement.

Adjournment at 4:19 p.m. Moved, seconded, approved unanimously.

Annual Members Meeting: Thursday, December 5, Bay Club Classroom

Next Workshop: Tuesday, December 17, Bay Club Conference Room

Your Port Ludlow Village Council: Reasons for Optimism

by John Goldwood, President, Port Ludlow Village Council

As this article is being written in early November, there are still many unknowns for your Port Ludlow Village Council. How many residents will attend our Town Hall presentations and discussions on November 11 and 12? How will the community respond to our request for financial support? The final answers to those questions will not be known for another few months. We will post progress reports on our *plvc.org* website in the coming weeks and will share the final results in the *Voice* in the February issue.

Despite those unknowns, I am increasingly optimistic regarding the future of PLVC. That optimism stems from several factors. The first is that we have recently received enthusiastic and

energetic interest from our community in terms of new volunteers to serve on our Board of Directors. When I first assumed my role as Interim President, it had been several years since we had filled all available positions on our nine-member board. We have recently received more interest from volunteers willing to commit time and energy to your PLVC board than we technically had the room to accommodate. Our bylaws permit the expansion of the number of board members by a simple majority vote of existing board members, and at our board meeting on November 7 we will expand the official size of the board. That decision will not only permit us to accept all current candidates and volunteers who wish to serve without excluding anyone but will also allow for additional volunteers that are likely to be interested in joining us in the future. The real benefit for your PLVC board and our community is that the work that needs to be done can now be shared by more volunteers, lessening the workload for any one individual serving the board.

Another reason for optimism is that I see a rekindling of interest and support in your PLVC from the community at large. Articles of support from SBCA and LMC leadership; growing awareness from the community groups we serve that the PLVC matters to THEIR continued existence; increasing feedback and questions (both positive and negative) from individual residents with whom I have had the opportunity to engage, all point to an understanding that your PLVC matters to the life of our village.

As I have worked to determine how we arrived at our current challenges it is clear to me that the issues that brought your PLVC to this point – many of them self-inflicted – are easily remedied. For some period of time, but certainly far beyond just the past twelve months, your PLVC board has failed to effectively communicate exactly who we are, what value we provide, and how we fit into the overall governance fabric of our village. We have also failed to address head-on the issue of financial requirements that are critical not only to meeting the most minimal needs of the organization but, more importantly, positioning us to bring even more of an ability to meet our charter to Preserve, Protect, Promote and Unify our Village in the Woods by the Bay in the years ahead.

My final reason for optimism is that I believe most readers who invest the time to understand who we are and what we contribute to the communal life of our village will respond with the necessary financial support. Your donation of ANY amount between now and **December 31** will hopefully provide your 2025 PLVC Board of Directors with a sufficient financial base to work diligently to communicate much more effectively, to work creatively on pending projects that will positively impact ALL of our community and eliminate the potential to ever again arrive at the challenges we have encountered most recently. If you have not already done so, please consider offering your financial support today to help us meet those objectives in 2025! Donations can be made online at plvc.org or by mail to PLVC, PO Box 65012, Port Ludlow, WA 98365. As always, thank you for your support!



Port Ludlow Village Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 7
from 4-6 p.m.

Come one, come all to the Annual Holiday Tree Lighting celebration in the Village courtyard (behind El Molcajete). The Port Ludlow Singers will perform holiday songs, the tree will be lit, Santa will arrive, and the singers will lead us in some holiday carols. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided. Wear your warmest coat, hat, and gloves. Ugly Christmas sweaters are encouraged! Bring the kids, the cousins, the family dog.

The event is hosted by Port Ludlow Village Council and Port Ludlow Associates.



Arts & Entertainment

Port Ludlow Performing Arts Presents The Alias Brass Company

by Dave Cunningham, Staff Writer



Submitted photo

On **Sunday, December 15**, at 2 p.m., Port Ludlow Performing Arts presents a versatile, innovative quintet, The Alias Brass Company. The concert is at the Bay Club at 120 Spinnaker Place in Port Ludlow.

Founded in 2013, The Alias Brass Company is a collaboration of five uniquely talented artists and educators that demonstrate their artistic range with an array of music that takes audiences on an emotional journey. The quintet combines diverse elements of classical music, modern pop-culture, and all things in between to create an experience that is both engaging and exciting.

The group's performances consist of standards and original compositions, along with concepts that blend virtuosic musicianship with a high level of entertainment. From Baroque and Classical to Jazz and Pop, The Alias Brass Company could be described as chamber music of the future with something for everyone.

Committed to promoting an image of music that is inclusive, The Alias Brass Company strives to fulfill their mission of ensuring that music remains sustainable and thriving in today's society by presenting works that represent a variety of global styles and cultures. Through setting an example that powerful music can be created by and for anyone, the quintet creates a gateway into classical music for future musicians and music lovers.

Musicians John Bahatia on trumpet, Tim Dueppen on trombone, Natalie Higgins on horn, Clay Maddox on tuba, and T.J. Tesh on trumpet are true champions of music education, dedicated to inspiring the next generation through wide-reaching and relevant workshops for young audiences. The Alias Brass Company is active throughout the school year, providing clinics, master classes, and demonstrations to young musicians and non-musicians alike, focusing on innovation, creativity, technique, and expression through music.

The quintet has performed throughout the United States and Canada, touring extensively in the Pacific Northwest, Midwest, Texas, Georgia, California, and Missouri, and worldwide at the Banff Centre for the Arts Summer Music Concert Series, the International Horn Symposium in Natal, Brazil, and the International Trumpet Guild Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The quintet has been awarded professional residencies at the Rafael Mendez Brass Institute in Denver and the Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta, Canada, as well as given masterclasses across the United States, and as performers on the Allied Concert Services roster, Singletary Center, and the Trinity Concert Series,

For more information and tickets, visit portludlowperformingarts.com.

Carla Stehr Fiber Art Exhibit, Port Townsend Marine Science Center's Gallery

Now through **February 2**, visitors to the Port Townsend Marine Science Center's Gallery at Flagship Landing can view the dynamic fiber art of Carla Stehr.

Carla Stehr grew up in Olympia, exploring Puget Sound beaches and looking for cool things like shells with delicate patterns. Her obsession with intertidal life motivated her to become a marine biologist, and her scientific work included studying fish and plankton with a scanning electron microscope. The remarkable microscopic patterns she saw inspired her to explore art.

While making a traditional quilt, the process led Carla to discover that fabric could be assembled in wondrous ways and a sewing machine could be used to draw. Stitch, fabric, dye, and paint became her favorite art materials that she enhances with stitching and surface design techniques to create fiber art based on amazing and tiny patterns in nature. Her fiber art reminds us to look for and savor Salish Sea details.

Carla's fiber art has been juried into several national and international exhibits throughout her career. Most recently, her fiber art has been in exhibits at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma, the Sequim Museum & Arts, and in Uncommon Threads, a 6-women group show at Lynnwood Event Center

earlier this year. In 2025, Carla's fiber art will be featured at the Pacific Northwest Quilt and Fiber Museum in LaConner.

Port Townsend Marine Science Center's Gallery at the downtown Flagship Landing location is open to the public on Fridays through Sundays, from 12 – 3 p.m. Gallery admission is free. Donations are welcomed and appreciated. For more information about the Port Townsend Marine Science Center, please visit ptmsc.org.

Port Ludlow Art League's Artist of the Month - Julie Paton



Marsh Wrens by Julie Paton

Submitted photo

Julie began her career as an illustrator at Hallmark Cards, Inc. While working in the greeting card design department, she gained experience designing a variety of paper products. Having access to an in-house art supply library meant she could select any medium, brush, paper or board surface for her work. In the artists' workshop at Hallmark, she developed new techniques and processes for greeting card product lines. It was an invaluable experience and provided an excellent start to her 10-year professional art career.

Although Julie continued to design greeting cards, she decided to pursue a career as a freelance artist and expanded her work into the home decor market. After signing with an agent, Julie licensed her artwork for dinnerware, glass savers, trivets,

coasters, scarves, greeting cards, and paper party sets. For this market, Julie paints watercolors on paper or illustration board, scans the images, and uses Photoshop to format templates for specific products. After licensing her designs, Julie submits them to manufacturers.

After a long career in the commercial market, Julie is looking forward to the challenge of painting for the Fine Art market. For more information about Julie's artwork, please visit art.com and search for Julie Paton.

During December, you can view Julie's artwork at Sound Community Bank and online at portludlowart.org. A reception for Julie is set for 4 – 5 p.m., **Wednesday, December 11**, 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 will also host a special Holiday Open House from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. on **December 11**, with seasonal refreshments for shoppers and a chance to win a \$200 Port Ludlow Art League Gallery gift certificate.

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

Bay Club Art Exhibit - Landscapes Real or Imagined

During November and December, the theme for the Port Ludlow Bay Club's art exhibit is Landscapes Real or Imagined. Perhaps this theme transports viewers to a tropical beach, a fairy glen, or faraway lands. The art exhibit is sponsored by the Port Ludlow Art League and features paintings by Alan Ahtow, Laura Axiotis, Ann Bernard, Ann Arscott, Fran Bodman, Larry Davidson, Sheryl Goldsberry, Barbara Rose Grondal, Jeanne Joseph, Carol Nielson, Melinie Perry, Pamela Raine, Denise Craig Tweedy, and Jackie Van Noy. Be sure to stop by the Bay Club and vote for your favorite artwork.

As an added bonus, Ann Arscott's colorful artwork will be on display in the Bay Club's lobby through January.

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



Monument Valley
Homage,
by Denise Craig

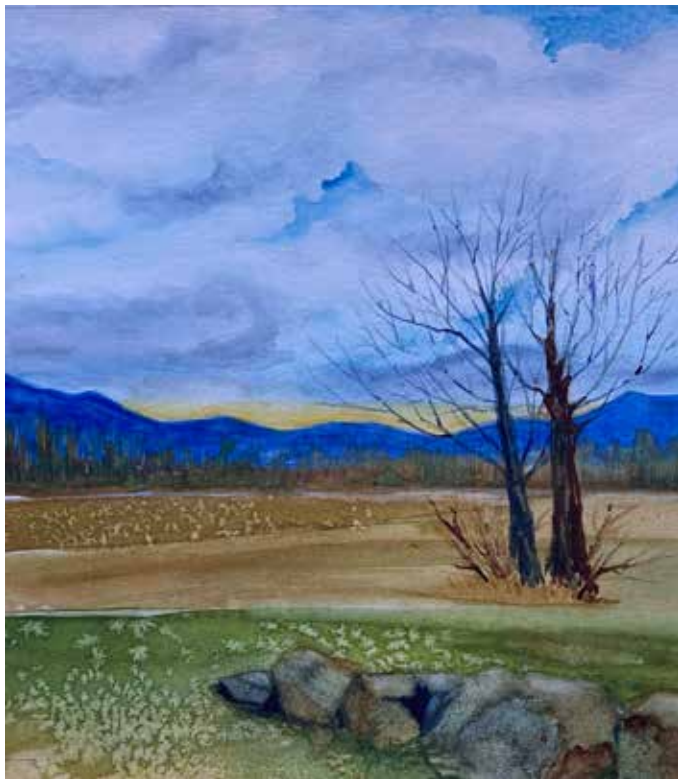
Port Ludlow Art League - Art Around Town

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

- Active Life Physical Therapy – Diane Walker: Abstract Acrylic paintings
- Coldwell Banker Best Realty – Pamela Raine: Mixed Media paintings
- John L. Scott Real Estate – Carol Nielsen: Collage paintings
- The Bay Club Lobby – Ann Arscott: Acrylic paintings
- The Beach Club – Barbara Grondal: Acrylic paintings

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

Port Ludlow Art League - Upcoming Watercolor Class



Along the Kancamagus by Pamela Raine

Submitted photo

Watercolor Paint Class – Friday, December 6, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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

Port Ludlow Art League's Jeweler of the Month - Port Ludlow Art League Jewelers

During December, the jewelry artists in the Port Ludlow Art League will display their jewelry designs at Sound Community Bank, the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery, and online at portludlowart.org. With the holidays fast approaching, if you see jewelry you'd like to purchase, either at the bank or online, simply make an appointment with the artist to either meet you at the bank or at the adjacent Port Ludlow Art Gallery. Participating artists this year include Nancy Aikman, Sheryl Goldsberry, Janice Gruber, Jolie Maki, Mara Mauch, Maria McGrane, Georganne Muse, and Pamela Raine.

A reception for the Port Ludlow Art League's jewelers is set for 4 – 5 p.m., **Wednesday, December 11**, 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.

On **December 11**, the gallery will also host a special Holiday Open House from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. with seasonal refreshments for shoppers and a chance to win a \$200 gift certificate to be used at the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery.

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

Holiday Shopping in Port Ludlow

Annual Holiday Art Fair

The Port Ludlow Beach Club will host the annual Holiday Art Fair sponsored by the Port Ludlow Art League on **Saturday, December 7**, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Enhance your holiday gift shopping this season by selecting unique artwork created by over 20 local artists. You'll also have the opportunity to help raise funds for the Port Ludlow Art League Scholarship Fund that benefits Jefferson County students and residents.

The Beach Club is located at 121 Marina View Drive in Port Ludlow. For more information, please visit portludlowart.org.

Holiday Open House at the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery

On **Wednesday, December 11**, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., the Port Ludlow Art League Gallery will delight shoppers with seasonal refreshments and the chance to win a \$200 gift certificate. The gallery is an artists' cooperative that offers original artwork, jewelry, ceramics, woodwork, textiles, glassware, and cards.

The gallery is located at the corner of Oak Bay Road and Osprey Ridge Drive in Port Ludlow. For more information, please visit portludlowart.org.

Arts & Entertainment continued on page 30



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Features & Stories

Planting Hope: Healing Garden Blossoms into Community Legacy



The Chimacum school community gathered on October 24 to celebrate the dedication of the Healing Garden at Chimacum Elementary School. The project, which began as an ambitious idea by last year's fourth graders, has blossomed into a vibrant and educational space, embodying the spirit of healing and growth for students, families, and visitors alike.

The event opened with the sweet sounds of "A Beautiful Day," sung by Maverick Forsberg, setting an uplifting tone. Chimacum School District Garden Educator Valerie Randall expressed gratitude to the many hands that brought this project to life, including students, teachers, and community members.

Gifts were presented to honored guests, including donors and volunteers. A special moment of acknowledgment was given about the story of the Chemakum Tribe by Superintendent Dr. Scott Mauk.

Support from local organizations such as the Rotary of East Jefferson County, the Port Townsend Food Co-op, the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation's Ocean Guardians, Community Wellness Project, and NOSC has been vital to the garden's success. Rosalee Walz, Chair of the Chemakum Tribal Council, graciously assisted with the project's visioning and Chemakum language. Teacher and biologist Kit Pennell, master herbalists Shatoiua DeLaTour and Nicole Larson, and landscape design coach Candice Cosler, each contributed to this rich educational project. The dedication also highlighted the leadership and coordination of the district's staff and parents like Tony Dumford and Sam Davidson, who helped shape the physical space.

As the ceremony concluded, the ribbon was cut by proud students, signaling the official opening of the Healing Garden. Attendees were invited to explore the garden's paths, admire the native plants, and enjoy refreshments from the school's garden – a fitting tribute to a project rooted in community and sustainability – in "the valley near the water."

Deep Roots Broad Horizons – The Healing Garden will serve as a legacy for future generations, a living testament to the power of collaboration and care in our thriving Chimacum community.

Leave Your Leaves for The Mourning Cloak

by Carolyn Ann Smith, WSU Jefferson County Extension Master Gardener Intern



Photo by Julie Michaelson

As the winter season fast approaches, modification of our lifestyle strategies during these months may be more than just attempts at staying warm. The winter months may offer us humans time and opportunity to patiently decompress in our frosty environs and enjoy some solitude to ponder, dream, and survey the year's ventures.

This same rejuvenating reclusiveness is utilized by our animal partners during *hibernation* (overwintering). We may be most familiar with the hibernating bear, but the list of overwintering animals includes rodents, bats, birds, snakes, and even bumblebees. But what of another key pollinator in the garden – the butterfly? Do butterflies hibernate or do they all migrate with their monarch brethren to thrive in more temperate climes?

Consider the mourning cloak butterfly (*Nymphalis antiopa*).

The mourning cloak is so called because of its unique resemblance to the cloak traditionally worn by those in mourning at the death of a loved one in cultures such as Britain and Germany. The wings are dark brown/maroon with beige colored edges dotted with iridescent blue spots. The underside of the wings is dark brown, also allowing the butterfly to camouflage its presence by closing its wings and perching among leaves, plants, and trees of similar color. This butterfly is relatively large with a wing span of 6-10 cm (about 2.5 to 4 inches), is a formidable flyer, and has a longer lifespan than most other butterflies. It is widely distributed in North America and Europe and has been named a common visitor in the Puget Sound area by the Washington Butterfly Association.

The mourning cloak hibernates as an adult whereas other species hibernate as caterpillars. It can survive through the winter by the

use of “antifreeze” chemicals called glycols. Normal cells are filled with water which expands by nine percent when frozen causing the cell membrane to break. This butterfly synthesizes glycols within its cells allowing it to cool its body to below zero temperatures without freezing. On warmer winter days some adults may emerge even through a layer of snow to feed. It uses isometric shivering to raise its body temperature to values higher than the ambient temperature.

The *Nymphalis antiopa* will most likely be the earliest emerging butterfly in the spring. One may witness the butterfly basking in the sun by opening its wings and angling towards the sun to increase its body temperature. In general, butterflies need a body temperature close to ours for proper flight. With the end of hibernation, male and female mourning cloaks may be seen in sunny meadows waiting to begin the mating endeavor.

The mourning cloak feeds especially on trees and shrubs and can also serve as a pollinator of nectar flowers. Native willow trees and poplars are attractive to the butterfly. Red-flowering currant and asters, not to mention rotting fruit, also lure this enchanting butterfly to your garden.

As the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation would instruct us:

“Leave the leaves!” It is important for us to provide winter shelter to support our pollinators and other invertebrates to help them survive the winter. Leaves, fallen logs, stems, pieces of wood, or brush piles may serve as home to the overwintering butterfly which will most certainly provide you with immeasurable pleasure as it graciously flutters past and bids welcome to springtime.

What’s Up, Neighbor?

by Donna Geer, Staff Writer

My great-grandma’s old wooden rocker had two speeds. When she was knitting a scarf or crocheting a blanket with leftover yarn, the chair’s curved rockers would roll up and down on the large, braided rug, squeaking like a furious mouse. When she was telling tales from her youth, the rocker would slowly roll backward and forward alongside horse thieves and deputies picking their way over treacherous mountain roads, or wagons loaded with barrels of water pulled from the river when the creek dried up.

The logs in the wood-burning stove would crackle, and her rocker would pause for just a moment, suspended in that space where time stops and the past floods in. She’d put her needles down and smooth the unfinished blanket or scarf across her lap. Gnarled fingers would wrap around the arms of the chair, her eyes closing as she softly exhaled. We’d hold our breath waiting, and then the rocker would gently glide backward. “When I was a girl...”

This is why I love stories and why I think you do, too. Our personal histories shape who we become and what we do. Our stories tell us how and why. Some of the most fascinating things I’ve learned about people in our little town are through these conversations. It’s a lot like sitting on a porch in a wooden rocker.

That’s why the name of this column is changing to *Porch Talk* next month. It’s a name Milt Lum came up with, and it’s reflective of this community and the stories we share. We don’t do interviews – we have conversations; we tell stories. We celebrate our differences. We find things we have in common.

December is a wonderful time to remind everyone of why the people of Port Ludlow are the bedrock of our community. I continue to be inspired by our histories, so I hope you’ll find inspiration, too, by revisiting the fascinating stories shared from 2024.

February 2024 – Lori Longo, who lived with her husband, Fred Dahlem, on their sailboat for five months (including December!) while their house was being built. Every Christmas, the kids share stories about stunts they did five years ago, and the adults aren’t allowed to get mad. Volunteering for causes connected to her community makes Lori happy.



March 2024 – Carol Riley, who moved from California with her husband Jim and, after retiring, scored a voice-over gig. Carol is the copy editor for the *Port Ludlow Voice* and volunteers with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. She stays focused “on the good stuff” because every day has something positive, whatever’s happening elsewhere in the world.



April 2024 – Ted Ross, a former Navy diver who got bested by an eight-armed cephalopod who grabbed his flashlight during a salvage dive. Ted volunteers with the U.S. Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, referring to it as a *collecting place* where people come together. Ted and his wife Connie met as leaders in the same Boy Scout troop.



May 2024 – Mary Ronen, who moved from California with her husband Ken after they visited Seattle on a business trip in 1969. She’s been volunteering for the *Port Ludlow Voice* from its inception in 2002 and has been the production manager for 22 years. Mary learned how to crochet scarves and small blankets from YouTube.



June 2024 – Bev Rothenborg, who moved to Hawaii with her husband Mason and their small children for an adventure, eventually staying 25 years. She wears plumeria flowers, which grow wild in Hawaii, behind her ear. Bev is a founding member of the Port Ludlow Arts Council and was the Arts and Entertainment editor for the *Port Ludlow Voice*.



July 2024 – Alyce Hansen, who turned 100 years old in May, still knits 100 hats every year for Project Linus in Sequim. In 2018, she bowled in her 52nd U.S. Bowling Congress Women’s Championship tournament at the age of 94. Alyce used to volunteer with the Port Ludlow Fire Department when her husband Gene was the Fire Chief.



August 2024 – Mark and Andrea Cattabriga, who moved from New Hampshire, traveling in a van with a menagerie of four cats and one golden retriever. They think they first met as kids when visiting their grandparents, who lived next door to each other. Mark and Andrea have volunteered for various causes, most recently Read to Rover, with their dog, Sophie.



September 2024 – Larry Scott, who since 2006 has led the effort to build and maintain more than 30 miles of Port Ludlow trails. Larry likes the sense of camaraderie he gets with the trails volunteers, much like what he experienced with the Navy Seabees. When he’s not busy working for a car auction company, Larry rehabs his wife Judi’s yard art.



October 2024 – Tam McDearmid, who moved here with her husband Dave in 2011, could spell at the age of two and skipped two grades before starting high school. Tam has had over 40 eye surgeries, seven of them corneal transplants. She’s the VP of the Port Ludlow Village Council, and she leads the tree lighting group every December.



November 2024 – Rob Rigoni and Cynthia Shaffer, who first met each other at the Tempest Lounge in Tacoma, moved here a year ago. They are members of Budapest West, a four-member world progressive rock band that Rob started in 1999. They sing and play numerous instruments, including old-world instruments like the tenortrope and hurdy-gurdy.



You can find the complete stories online at plvoice.org. As you already know, our little town is an eclectic mix of wonderful and interesting people. Some were born here and many more come from elsewhere. All of us have chosen to make Port Ludlow our home. Each of us has a story, so think about sharing yours. If you’re ready for a conversation, or you know someone who might be, reach out to me at sports@plvoice.org. I’d love to hear from you!

Remember to look for us next time under the *Porch Talk* title.

Nudity and Other Holiday Memories

by Carol Riley, Staff Writer

Recently a group of my women friends and I were having a conversation. It always starts out with books we’ve read, places we have visited, recipes we have tried, and then veers to the most interesting topics. Topics like, ‘how was nudity viewed in your house when you were growing up?’ Oh, my. Everything from ‘nudity was no big deal in our house’ to ‘if you came to the dinner table with even the top button on your shirt unbuttoned, you were reprimanded.’

Honestly, I don’t recall a formal nudity policy in my house growing up. I don’t think it was ever discussed, and my poor dad had five daughters, so he certainly never broached the subject.

But our discussion did bring to mind a fun holiday memory – yes, about nudity. My mother, widowed, would come to spend the holidays with my little family. She would always stay a week or two at Christmas and my children loved having her there. They would listen to her stories about Christmas when she was a child, help her with baking holiday treats, and spend hours having her read to them. Having raised five daughters, my mother loved being grandmother to my son. And my son loved my mother, but at just over two years old, with a twinkle in his eye and boundless energy, he also loved to drive her crazy. His favorite trick was to disappear into his room, take off all his clothes, and then streak around the house like a wild thing. My mother would scream, shriek, plead and chase him all over until the two of them would collapse, laughing hysterically, thoroughly exhausted, onto the couch. Nap time, for both of them, always came early after these episodes.

My mother passed away several years ago at 96, but somehow that memory usually finds its way into holiday conversation, and my son still gets embarrassed.

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The Cyclist

by Milt Lum, Staff Writer

Ellis See was one of those financial managers who had the uncanny ability to sense when to buy and when to sell in the bull and bear markets. He managed the accounts of a select group of wealthy investors who found him trustworthy and were willing to pay more than customary fees for his services. Ellis, on the other hand, was penurious with his own finances. He was one of those trust fund collegians whose pathway to success was paved by his family's fortune. He never wanted for anything and was conditioned to work competitively for his success. Respectful and courteous, he projected the ideal masculine image for the 21st century: physically fit, smart, and financially secure.

Ellis' quiet demeanor belied his fiercely competitive and uncompromising spirit. In business, that meant an aggressive, but reasoned, approach to investments. Not one to be easily duped, he recognized poor start-up plans and scams when approached and dismissed them with a blistering rebuke. He reported major scams to the Securities and Exchange Commission. This moral high ground earned him praise from his peers and insulated him from any criticism for his lack of contributions to philanthropic causes. His intimate knowledge of the changing tax codes allowed him to take his fair share of exemptions, and he paid what he legally owed. His obligation to the arts, environment, and the destitute, was fulfilled every April 15.

He was single and lived modestly in a two-bedroom condominium. He was happy being alone, having had some unpleasant experiences which led him to believe that there were few people of either gender that met his expectations. Being an only child raised by emotionally distant parents, Ellis learned to sublimate his emotions by taking long rides in the countryside on his bicycle. Thus, he located his residence and business office in a suburban community of mega mansions within commuting distance of a major metropolitan area. His residence abutted a bike path that afforded him access to the surrounding foothills and woods.

Ellis devoted all his weekends to long distance rides into the country. Short of a flood or a blizzard, rain and wind did not deter him from embarking on his forays into the mountains. Thus, it was on a December weekend before Christmas that Ellis was cruising along on an isolated logging road when a 10-point buck bounded onto the road in front of him. Its left hoof clipped the handlebar of Ellis' bike as he braked to avoid a head-on collision. His gloved hands reflexively shot out in front of him to keep his face from being planted. The impact tore through the thin calfskin riding gloves and his palms burned when flesh met gravel as he skidded forward. He heard his helmet crack, and he passed out.

His guardian angel must have been hovering above when two rambunctious teens, speeding along on their ATVs, found him sprawled spread-eagle on the road. They notified the local EMS who recognized that he had a serious closed head trauma and had him airlifted to the local trauma center where a neurosurgeon

was available to decompress his subdural bleed. Such was the explanation proffered by both the neurosurgeon and intensive care nurse when Ellis awoke from anesthesia. He accepted their answer but was skeptical as to the existence of a guardian angel. He was just happy to be alive.

Ellis laid awake trying to piece together what had happened. He remembered some of the events prior to being thrown off his bike. The accident report included with his medical history showed his mangled bike, his cracked bicycle helmet, and cloven hoof tracks at the scene. His abraded palms dressed with soft gauze confirmed his last memory of what had transpired.

After his vitals were taken by the night nurse, Ellis was dozing off when he was visited by his grandmother's ghost. She sat at the foot of his bed and smiled at him. He rubbed his eyes and pinched himself. He was awake and knew he was in the hospital, but there was no mistaking his grandmother Carol with her warm smile. Her presence resurrected memories of the pleasant holiday gatherings at her home. When she died it seemed like Christmas died with her.

Having been visited by his grandmother's ghost, Ellis decided he was a character in a cosmic play fashioned after a Dickens novel. Thus, he was not surprised to see his father's apparition sitting on the chair at his bedside later that night. His visage was locked in the scowl which his father displayed at Ellis' undergraduate graduation from Columbia. He said, "What the hell are you going to do with that degree in literature?" He threatened to not fund any graduate degree except an MBA. Ellis acquiesced to his father's wishes and was seduced by mammon.

Ellis awoke the following morning wondering if the aftereffects of the anesthesia or his pain medications had been responsible for what he experienced. However he tried to discount it, his nocturnal visitors made him reflect on the choices he had made.

Ellis was reminded of his solitary existence when the hospital clerk asked who should be listed as his next of kin. Having no known relatives or close friends, he indicated his personal assistant at the office, with whom he maintained a cordial business relationship. He had never given much thought to his mortality.

As the day progressed, Ellis was aware that he was the only one without visitors. He was accustomed to having his personal electronic media for company, but his phone had been destroyed in the accident, and his laptop was at home. He put on the TV in his room as a distraction. He rarely watched anything on the tube except the business channel. Channel surfing to find something interesting, he realized how much of his personal wealth was owed to the commercialization of Christmas. In a moment of ironic clarity, it dawned on him that he would have been the third apparition. Ellis had been afforded the gift of a second chance. What would he do with it?

Recreation & Sports

Care of the Golf Course...Doing Your Part

by Jim Mancill, PGA Head Professional, Port Ludlow GC

It's getting to that time of the year where the turf on our golf courses begins to soften as temperatures start to dip and we receive more precipitation. Sharing in the care of the golf course and being aware of how to help are important responsibilities of all golfers.

Three areas that are helpful, easy, and carry the most impact: fixing your divots, repairing your ball marks and, when necessary, staying off the golf course during frost delays.

For riders, your cart may have sand bottles attached, so please use them when the need arises. Walkers are always encouraged to gather and replace your divots and tamp them down to even out the surface. Nothing benefits us all more than taking the time to fix your ball mark. With softer greens, there are bound to be more marks made, so go ahead and take the time to fix your ball mark and one other on each green. A little help goes a long, long way!

And finally, with temperatures that continue to drop, morning frost delays at the golf course are always a possibility. The following article that recently appeared on the official website of the USGA is a great read on the subject. Hope you enjoy.

Frost Delays - What Every Golfer Should Know

How often your morning is affected by frost delays depends not just on the weather, but a variety of factors. Here's what every golfer should know about frost:

Crunchy grass is vulnerable to damage

Golf course turf is normally resilient to traffic, but when ice crystals form inside the plants, they become brittle. Walking or driving over frost-covered grass can rupture plant cells, leading to dead turf, or the plants may be weakened without immediately showing the effects. It can take grass more than a month to recover from this damage.

Location is everything

You look out the kitchen window and see no signs of frost, only to find a frost delay when you get to the course. Know that frost can linger in colder microclimates long after other areas have thawed. North-facing slopes, low-lying areas, and areas sheltered from the wind are especially likely to remain covered with frost. When in doubt, call the golf shop to check on course conditions before leaving home.

Closely mown turf is at high risk

Frost damage can occur throughout the course, but it poses the greatest risk to closely mown turf. Putting greens are particularly

vulnerable because they experience the most concentrated traffic. A foursome typically takes 300 steps or more per green; with frost present, each step could cause serious damage.

Looks can be deceiving

No signs of frost on the first tee doesn't mean an immediate "all clear" sign. If frost remains in unavoidable areas early in the round, the course must remain closed. Also remember that once the frost is totally clear, the maintenance staff will still need time to catch up on course preparation before play can begin.

This content was first published in Golf Journal, a quarterly print and monthly digital publication, exclusively for USGA Members.

See you on the trails!

Port Ludlow Hiking Club

by John Nuernberg, 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, December 6 – Maple Valley Steam Donkey Loop Hike E2

This is a heavily-hiked and well-maintained trail in the Dosewallips State Park. It is an easy trail of 3.5 miles, with an elevation gain of 400 feet. The trail is a nice hike in typical Northwest woods, but also follows along the Dosewallips River for some great views. If the timing is right, we may see salmon running the river. A Washington State Discover Pass is required. Restrooms are available at the trailhead. Hike leader: John Fillers, 360-215-4049

Friday, December 20 – To Be Determined

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.

Change of Watch

by Greg Buscher, Port Ludlow Yacht Club Communication Manager

The members of Port Ludlow Yacht Club (PLYC) have elected their Bridge for 2025! In yacht clubs, the term Bridge Officers (or Flag Officers) traditionally refers to the Commodore, Vice Commodore and Rear Commodore. These officers oversee the yacht club's three main activities: cruising, education and community outreach, and social events. In a change from tradition, members voted overwhelmingly this year to enable non-boat-owning members to hold the position of Rear Commodore, which is responsible for our clubhouse (a.k.a. the Wreck Room) and for working with the Activities Committee to line up a year-long calendar of great meals and events.

PLYC will welcome incoming Commodore Dale Blackburn, Vice Commodore Cathy Anderson, and Rear Commodore Corey Wilkerson at the annual Change of Watch Ball on **Thursday, December 5**, at the Bay Club. PLYC is an all-volunteer club and the jobs these generous people have accepted aren't small, but they are fun. Congratulations to this energetic and talented Bridge! The ball will be the semi-formal event of the season, organized by "Commadorable" Cathleen Blackburn and her team. Wonderful food, great entertainment and dancing, and a beautiful room. A big thank you goes out to them as well.

If you think yacht clubs are just for boaters, think again. Nearly half of all PLYC members don't own a boat, or ever intend to. They might not go on boat cruises, but by car or RV instead; and landside operations at the Wreck Room form the nexus of a very "happening" social scene, open for fun twice a week. If you are interested in joining us, we'd love to invite you to an event as our guest. Just complete the inquiry form on our website at plyc.us/visit and we'll be in touch. Hope to see you soon!

Happy Holidays and Smooth Sailing in the New Year!



Trail Mix

by Larry Scott, Trails Chair

Okay, Trail Mix followers, here it is – the bridge pic as promised. Yes, it was a long time coming. So long, in fact, that we were starting to wonder if we were going to be able to pull it off at all. But with perseverance and determination by Jerry Keck dealing with the various agencies, we finally got clearance to build it within an approved time frame determined by the spawning season. According to anecdotal feedback, it has already gained approval and become popular with many of our local hikers. Following a short uphill climb on the far side, a connector trail (where there will be future benches at the waterfall overlook) intersects with the McCormick trails. A left turn will lead hikers through the McCormick Loop, whereas a right will have you travel down the flatter McCormick Rail Trail along Ludlow Creek. At the end of the Rail route, it connects again with the Loop route near the picnic table overlook. The Rail Trail also includes a few benches at strategic spots so you can sit and view/listen to the Creek with its multiple low sounding ripples. Underway at this writing is another trail destined to connect to the McCormick Rail Trail. This one we are calling Phillips Loop, as it will utilize an old creek crossing near the intersection of Phillips Road and Oak Bay Road. The result, when completed, will offer hikers the opportunity to begin a hike from the Interpretive Loop trail and complete a figure 8 on each side of Ludlow Creek with many benches and "Sit & Listen" overlook locations. More on this as we progress with our plans.

What else have we been up to? Remember the big winds of late October/early November? Trails does. Multiple downed trees were cleared from the following trails: Golf 9 Loop, Old Cart Path Loop, Olympic Terrace Loop, and Springboard Trail, thanks to our ever-vigilant trail stewards' timely reporting.

As usual, we also continue to have Fun Days for a couple hours at a time, improving our trails like our motto says. If you would like to help, send me an email at mclgscott@cablespeed.com. "Let's Keep Improving our Trails."



Bridge connecting Interpretive Trail to McCormick Trails

Photo by Larry Scott

Tides and Time

by Gail Wellenstein, Kitsap Beach Naturalist

Hood Canal is a barrier in a temporal sense as well as a geographic sense. Crossing that bridge from East to West is a signal that I am coming home, putting my hectic working life behind me, and entering a time of my life where I am fully engaged with the world, not retired from it. Beach walks are now a constant revelation because I have the time to actually look at the beach, notice the intertidal life that I have been writing about, appreciate the interactions of life and environment that lead to these beautiful communities, and understand how fragile they are. I see so much more now when I walk, and I marvel at the complexities because I have the time to wonder, and to watch the tides.

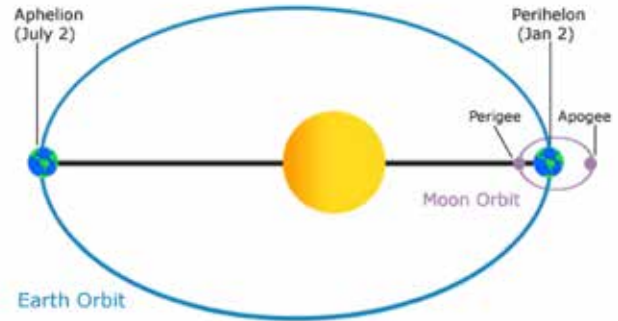
Tides are caused by the gravitational effects of the moon and the sun on Earth. Simply put, a tide is a long wave that moves around the planet as the oceans are “pulled” by the moon and the sun. High tides occur as that wave approaches the shore, and low tides happen when it moves away. During full and new moons, the earth, moon and sun are in near alignment, the effects of gravity are working together, and tides tend to be higher, or springing forth. Spring tides occur twice in the lunar month of 29 days. When the moon continues its rotation toward a right angle to the earth and sun, the tide variations are lower, a neap tide.

To complicate matters, the moon follows an elliptical path around the earth, and the earth follows an elliptical path around the sun. There are times when either, or both, are closer to the earth and then we experience higher tide variations. Once every 28 days, the moon reaches its closest position relative to the earth, its perigee, and we have a higher tide. When this coincides with a full or new moon, the tidal range becomes even larger and about six times a year we experience a perigean spring tide. Whip that phrase out at your next cocktail party!

The earth is at its closest point to the sun in January, so winter is the time of the King Tides, generally the highest high tides of the year. This is frequently coupled with the storm season, and the low-pressure systems and wind can augment the effects of an already high tide. In December of 2022 a storm system added over two feet to an already predicted King Tide in Port Townsend, leading to flooding at Boat Haven. Port Ludlow high tides over eleven feet will occur the week before Christmas, a few days into the New Year, and the very beginning of February.

Most locations have two high and two low tides roughly every twenty-four hours and fifty minutes. If the high tide this afternoon is at 2:34 p.m., tomorrow it will be around 3:24 p.m. The West Coast of the US has two high tides and two low tides that have differing heights, so one high tide might be at five feet while the later one measures eight feet. East Coast residents are used to two high and two low tides that are the same height, while people living on the Gulf of Mexico only experience one high and one low tide a day. These variations are due to the shape of the ocean basins and the fact that continents block the free flow of water.

You can look at or post photos of the King Tide in your area to mycoast.org/wa. The Washington DNR, UW Sea Grant, US Geological Survey, and other organizations use these photos to assess the effects of the King Tides as well as project the impact of future rise in our sea levels. Per the website: “It is helpful to take pictures where the impact of the tide can be gauged against familiar landmarks that do not move with the tides like buildings, roads, sea walls, and beach infrastructure such as boat ramps, piers and pilings.”



The elliptical orbits of the moon around the Earth and the Earth around the sun have a substantial effect on the Earth's tides. Once a month, at perigee, when the moon is closest to the Earth, tide-generating forces are higher than usual, producing above average ranges in the tides. About two weeks later, at apogee, when the moon is farthest from the Earth, the lunar tide-raising force is smaller, and the tidal ranges are less than average. When the Earth is closest to the sun (perihelion), around January 2 of the calendar year, tidal ranges are enhanced. At aphelion, when the Earth is furthest from the sun, around July 2, tidal ranges are reduced (Sumich, J.L., 1996; Thurman, H.V., 1994).

Photo Oceanservice.noaa.gov

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Key City Public Theatre Presents Allen Fitzpatrick in a One-Man Performance of *A Christmas Carol*

Key City Public Theatre presents a one-man performance of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* by the critically-acclaimed actor Allen Fitzpatrick. Join us on **December 24** at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at Key City Playhouse, 419 Washington St., Port Townsend. Fitzpatrick's performance of *A Christmas Carol* offers a rare opportunity to experience a holiday tradition brought to life by a master of the stage. Perfect for audiences of all ages, this performance is sure to be a highlight of the season.

As you settle in with a warm mug of cider or hot buttered rum, Fitzpatrick brings every character of this classic ghost story to life. With a career spanning over 45 years on Broadway, Fitzpatrick embodies Scrooge, Tiny Tim, the Ghosts, and all the iconic characters with remarkable depth and versatility for an unforgettable evening of storytelling.

In a distinguished Broadway career, Fitzpatrick has performed in *Les Misérables*, *Driving Miss Daisy* with James Earl Jones, *Damn Yankees* with Jerry Lewis, and *Sweet Smell of Success* with John Lithgow. His accolades include an Emmy Award for his work in *Passion: Live From Lincoln Center*, opposite stars like Patti Lupone and Audra McDonald. His Seattle stage credits include notable roles at the 5th Avenue Theatre, ACT Theatre, and Seattle Rep, where he is known for his portrayals in *Sweeney Todd* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.

Allen Fitzpatrick has an extensive history with Key City Public Theatre, both as an actor and director of acclaimed productions such as *Annapurna* and *Sea Marks*. This adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* showcases Fitzpatrick's first playwriting endeavor, inspired by Patrick Stewart's award-winning solo adaptation, which set the stage for actors to explore the depths of Dickens' world alone.

For tickets, visit keycitypublictheatre.org.

Northwind Art's 2024 Small Expressions Exhibit

The current 2024 Small Expressions exhibit got its name from the size of each piece that measure no more than 16 inches in any direction. This year's show includes more than 200 works from 38 artists across the region. Northwind spokesperson Diane Urbani states, "This exhibition brings together paintings, printmaking, jewelry, papier maché masks, pinhole photographs, colored porcelain, and assemblage."

Unlike other exhibits, buyers will be able to bring home their purchases right away or have them shipped to the gift recipient. Sold work will be replaced with new work to keep the show well stocked.

The 2024 Small Expressions exhibit runs through **January 6**. The Jeanette Best Gallery is located at 701 Water Street, Port

Townsend, and is open Thursdays through Mondays from noon to 5 p.m. For more information about Northwind Art exhibits visit NorthwindArt.org.

Northwind Art School's Upcoming Classes

Northwind Art School at Fort Worden State Park offers a variety of classes for beginner through advanced artists. December and early January classes include:

- Collage Holiday Cards with Anne Schneider and Carol Nielsen, **Tuesday, December 3**, 1 – 4 p.m.
- "A Promise of Light: A Small Book-Making Workshop for Anticipating the New Year" with Shannon Kidd, **Tuesday, December 10**, 3 – 6 p.m.
- Transparency Stars with Meg Kaczyk, **Thursday, December 12**, 1 – 4 p.m.
- Date Night with a Buddy or Sweet-Art with Kate Lovejoy and Dana Sullivan, **Thursday, December 12**, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
- Leather Working for Beginners: A Holiday Wallet Workshop with Maya Vega Garcia, **Saturday, December 14**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Your Illustrated Life: Art Journaling through Change with Meg Kaczyk, **Sunday, January 5**, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Introduction to Zentangle Art with Jane Ludwig, **Monday, January 6**, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

For information about class dates, times, teachers, and curriculum, visit northwindart.org and select Take a Class.



Meg Kaczyk and Leslie Roubal

Submitted photo

Port Townsend Symphony Orchestra December Concert



Emmelyne Ulmer

Submitted photo

Under the direction of Maestro Tigran Arakelyan, the Port Townsend Symphony Orchestra will present its December concert on **Sunday** afternoon, **December 8**, at 2 p.m., at Chimacum High School Auditorium. In addition to the concert, there will be an open dress rehearsal **Friday** evening, **December 6**, at 7 p.m., at Chimacum High School Auditorium. This is a free concert, but donations are welcome.

This concert features the two *L'Arlésienne Suites* by Bizet and a timpani concerto by Werner Thärichen. Our soloist is Seattle-based Emmelyne Ulmer, who has played with the Seattle Philharmonic and the Orchester der Technischen Universität Wien in Vienna. Emmelyne's ties to Port Townsend began when she participated in the Marrowstone Music Festival at Fort Warden and continued as a leader of the Marrowstone Music Festival and coach of young participants. Currently, Emmelyne is a coach with the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra and teaches timpani and percussion.

The concerto was written by Werner Thärichen who was the timpanist for the Berlin Philharmonic for nearly four decades. He was also a known composer and conductor in the mid-20th century. The three-movement piece showcases the timpani with emphasis on the use of many different types of mallets.

The *L'Arlésienne Suites* began life in 1872 as incidental music for a drama, *The Girl from Arles*, by Alphonse Daudet. The 27 different pieces were both background music and *entr'actes* performed by a small theater ensemble and singers. While the play was unsuccessful, the music quickly became popular. Bizet then arranged the music into two suites arranged for a full symphony. The popularity of the music led to a revival performance of the drama, which has been successful for Bizet's music. The final movement of *Suite No. 2* is a farandole based on a 13th century Christmas carol "The March of the Kings" and is popular during the holiday season.

For more information, visit ptsymphony.org.

World Premiere of *Bake to Alaska* Brings Family Fun to the Holiday Season

This December, join us for the world premiere of *Bake to Alaska* at Key City Public Theatre, a new comedy by David A. Natale, running **December 5 – 29**. This simmering adventure story explores themes of family, devotion, and loyalty set against a backdrop of hilariously high-stakes baking. In a farcical pressure cooker for our times, quirky contestants with hidden identities and concealed crimes, navigate a whirlpool of batter, nuts, and mysteries just waiting to bubble over. A dash of pageantry, puppetry, and even paddle-boards stir this unique production into a holiday treat unlike any other.

Perfect for all ages, *Bake to Alaska* is a must-see event, capturing the imaginations of bakers, boaters, and holiday revelers alike. The play combines enchanting elements of magical realism and laugh-out-loud comedy, offering something for everyone. Expect a truly immersive experience, as the show uses live puppetry and pantomime to create a spectacular visual feast.

Don't miss an unforgettable night of laughs, thrills, and holiday cheer. *Bake to Alaska* promises to be a delightful escape for families and theater lovers this December.

The Key City Public Theatre is located at 419 Washington Street in Port Townsend. For tickets and calendar of events, please visit keycitypublictheatre.org.

Choral Belles Holiday Concert in Support of LMC Accessibility Project

The Choral Belles, under the direction of Sheila Harwood and accompanied by pianist Sung Ling Hsu, are pleased to announce an exceptional holiday performance on **Sunday, December 8**, at 2 p.m. at the Beach Club, located at 121 Marina View Drive. This festive program will feature a mix of beloved Christmas classics as well as an audience sing-along to kick off the holiday season.

This year's concert marks a milestone for The Choral Belles, as they recently celebrated their 28th anniversary. Founded by Port Ludlow residents Annette Koch, Bonnie Van Allsberg, and Lee Barnes, The Choral Belles were created to give female singers an opportunity to experience the joy of singing and the satisfaction of performing for an audience. Over the years, they have become a cornerstone of the local music scene, performing at numerous special events, and sharing their music at retirement homes, assisted living and nursing facilities. Their mission is to promote community service through music.

Although the concert is free, a suggested donation of \$15 will benefit the LMC Accessibility Project. This initiative aims to enhance accessibility at the Beach Club, ensuring inclusivity for all community members. Come enjoy the warmth and spirit of the season while supporting a worthy cause.

For information about joining The Choral Belles, contact Judi Smith at (360) 437-7660.

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