

# SEQUIM GAZETTE



www.sequimgazette.com

Sequim's Hometown Newspaper

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Participants in the No King's 3 rally on Saturday numbered in the thousands and stretched from the River Road roundabout to the Ninth Avenue roundabout on both sides of West Washington Street. To view more photos from the event, visit sequimgazette.com.

## Jamestown seeks land transfer

Tribal chair says Randall to introduce bill for Dungeness Refuge, Protection Island

By MATTHEW NASH  
Sequim Gazette

Nearly two years after taking over management of the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge and Protection Island from U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe has asked politicians for legislation to transfer 900-plus total acres of federal properties including acreage by Sequim Bay to their ownership.

Tribal Chairman/CEO W. Ron Allen said in an interview he met with U.S. Representative Emily Randall (D, WA-06) last week to discuss The Jamestown S'Klallam Land Transfer Act of 2026.

He said it would be similar to land transfers pending for the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe (1,082 acres) and the Quinalt Indian Nation (72 acres).

Included in Jamestown's transfer would be 608 acres for the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge and Blyn parcels by Sequim Bay (approximately 144 acres), and 299.8 acres for Protection Island.

"By Jamestown taking it over, we'll only enhance accessibility, and capacity to educate the community and general community, including tourists," Allen said. "All upgrades would be maintained by us."

Allen said the three tribes are following approved legislation for the National Bison Restoration Act that transferred 18,000-plus acres to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) of the Flathead Reservation in Montana.

He said Randall plans to introduce Jamestown's act in the coming weeks and that Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) has voiced her support to consolidate all three transfers.

According to a fact sheet provided by Allen to Sequim Mayor Rachel Anderson via email, Jamestown's request would transfer "certain Federal lands from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to the Secretary of the Interior, to take such lands into trust for the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe."

Tribal officials write that legislation would "restore tribal stewardship over ancestral lands while expressly preserving conservation purposes, appropriate public access, and wildlife protections through a Tribal Management Plan."

Under the act, Jamestown must maintain

See **LAND**, Page A4

## Sequim's No King's rally sees about 4,300 participants

By MATTHEW NASH  
Sequim Gazette

As part of more than 3,300 "No Kings" rallies across the nation on Saturday, organizers with Indivisible Sequim estimate about 4,300 people lined both sides of West Washington Street from the River Road roundabout to the Ninth Avenue roundabout.

The number was about 1,000 more than the second No Kings Rally held on Oct. 18, organizers said.

For the peaceful protest, Sequim participants held signs opposing President Donald Trump and his administration's actions in Iran, immigration policies, and more.

Donna Karls, 89, attended

her first protest holding small American and U.S. Marine Corps flags. Her late husband Eric Miner was a Marine and helped locally with Toys for Tots, she said.

"I'm here because I think our country is in trouble," Karls said.

"I can look back at World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. We don't need any more wars. There has to be another way to settle things."

Ady Crosby of Sequim walked with her Bernese dog Bandon with signs encouraging people to be brave.

"(The rally is) about standing up for what's right," she said.

Crosby said she believes in practicing what she preaches

and giving people the benefit of doubt.

"It's about kindness and empathy," she said.

Bradi Jacobson of Agnew also walked along the rally saying she's attended Sequim's three No Kings rallies.

"(I) love being among like-minded people," she said. "It uplifts the spirit."

Event co-organizer PJ Harris of Sequim said rallies bring locals "the feeling of not being alone in their desire to stand up for democracy and against authoritarianism."

Some participants asked their full or last names not be used for photos and/or interviews.

Richard, a Sequim resident, dressed in a frog costume for fun to participate in his first

rally.

"Things are getting worse and it won't get better until we stand up and do something," he said.

Dudley, another Sequim resident, dressed in a paper maché costume caricature of the president and stood alongside a fellow protestor dressed in a costume of Kristi Noem, former secretary of Homeland Security. The costumes were made by an Indivisible Sequim Art group, and those wearing them posed for at least 100 photos during the rally, they said.

Harris said those wearing costumes were among organized groups that included a drum corp, supporters of

See **RALLY**, Page A5

### weather outlook:

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2**  
▲ 53 ▼ 40

**FRIDAY, APRIL 3**  
▲ 53 ▼ 40

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4**  
▲ 57 ▼ 42



## Measures secure statewide elections

Official: Databases, processes are safe in Washington state

By BRIAN MCLEAN  
Olympic Peninsula News Group

During his visit to the North Olympic Peninsula last week, Secretary of State Steve Hobbs discussed election security measures and ways federal legislation — or the U.S. Supreme Court — may impact voting in Washington state.

Hobbs, a former state senator who was elected to statewide office in 2021, oversees the elections process, state libraries and corporations and charities as well as the state archives.

He pointed to the state's 39 counties and the work local auditors' offices perform but also acknowledged misinformation campaigns that suggest elections are compromised by any number of factors, including cybersecurity, deceased voters or noncitizens casting ballots.

"We didn't tell our story about elections," he said during a visit on Tuesday, March 24 to Peninsula Daily News. "We need to talk more about that."

Hobbs said auditors offices check every signature against a database that's shared not just with the federal government but with other states, and they're constantly updating voter rolls with information ranging from when someone moves jurisdictions to when someone dies.

Actual incidents of ineligible voting are incredibly rare, according to a news release. There have been just 15 cases of noncitizen voting in the state of Washington — out of 1,620 nationally — between 1982 and 2025, the Secretary of State's office said.

In the 2024 statewide race for commissioner of public lands, Hobbs said 58 ballots were cast by people who filled out their ballot legally but later died.

In separate elections, he said audits have found when a person has tried to forge their partner's signature on a ballot, or when they have voted multiple times — even in two different states.

Hobbs cited one case of a person who voted in both Washington and Colorado elections. Upon investigation, he said the person was part of a voter registration effort in Colorado, and they claimed they only voted

See **ELECTION**, Page A4

## Tharinger reflects on service after announcing political retirement

Friends, colleagues share how he made a difference

By MATTHEW NASH  
Sequim Gazette

When the rest of the world feels chaotic, focus on what you can control locally.

That's the advice State Representative Steve Tharinger (D-Port Townsend) said he wanted to share with constituents in a recent phone interview.

"There's a lot you can do and a lot of security you can build around yourself locally," he said.

"It's a matter of people getting engaged, getting curious and engaging, and looking for solutions at a local level, so you can build roads, improve water systems, improve rivers."

"Work with local groups like the Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA that are helping kids. It's an old saw but think locally."

Tharinger announced on March 10 his plan not to run for reelection representing the 24th Legislative District of Clallam and Jefferson counties and a portion of Grays Harbor County. His term



PHOTO COURTESY WASHINGTON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

State Representative Steve Tharinger (D-Port Townsend) said he made the decision not to run again this year prior to a diagnosis of Squamous cell carcinoma on his tongue last fall. "It was time for someone else," he said. "Sixteen years is a good run."

will end at the end of December after 16 years in office.

He previously served as a Clallam County commissioner for three terms while living in Dungeness.

Tharinger, 76, said he made the

See **THARINGER**, Page A5

# City to replace 46 curb ramps through the summer

**SEQUIM GAZETTE STAFF**  
A months-long project to replace 46 curb ramps in the City of Sequim that started on March 30 will go into the summer, city staff report.  
It's the second year in a row the city has done improvements to numerous curb ramps to make them compliant with the Americans with Disabilities

Act (ADA).  
Last year, 61 ramps were replaced, and for eight to 12 weeks, 46 will be replaced this spring and summer.  
City staff report work will take place at North Fifth Avenue, along Garry Oak Drive at West Hendrickson Road, and at North Seventh Avenue at West Hendrickson Road, West Fir Street, and on West Alder Loop

Construction will generally take place from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday, staff report.  
City staff said residents can expect delays, localized closures, and detours during work hours with resident access provided. People are encouraged to heed flaggers, cones, and construction signage, and to be cognizant of large

construction equipment and trucks and their backup alarms.  
Nordland Construction NW Inc. was the lowest of three bidders.  
Sequim city councilors approved Nordland's contract on March 23 in their regular meeting's Consent Agenda.  
The construction contract is worth \$829,001 plus a

10% contingency of about \$82,900.  
Funding is mostly funded at 85% from a Transportation Improvement Board grant with the remainder covered by the city's Transportation Benefit District tax funds.  
Sequim's engineer estimated the project to cost about \$980,000, according to city documents.

Along with making ramps ADA-compliant, Nordland will stripe crosswalks, install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons at select intersections, and make stormwater improvements, and repair pavement.  
Staff report these curb ramps were identified in the city's 2023 ADA Transition Plan as non-complaint and in high traffic areas.  
For more information, contact the City of Sequim Public Works Department at (360) 683-5062.

# Third graders dig deep into forest on field trip

**By MATTHEW NASH**  
*Sequim Gazette*  
Third grade green thumbs traveled up Blue Mountain Road last week to plant trees as part of an ongoing

educational field trip.  
Bryan Huber, forest operations manager for Merrill & Ring, said this was the 42nd year of the event that brings North Olympic Peninsula students to state trust land to plant trees and learn about their local environment and economy. In recent years, it's continued on with Sequim School District third graders.  
Eight Helen Haller

Elementary classrooms participated in the event on March 25.  
"It means everything to me, sharing the benefits of working forests and renewable forest products with students as well as with parents and teachers," Huber said.  
The tradition started as a partnership between Merrill & Ring, a sustainable forest management company, and the Department of Natural Resources, he said.

Reed Wendel, chairman of the North Olympic Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, applied for and received a grant to pay for bussing to and from the property.  
Huber said several volunteers from the western Washington timber forestry industry participated in the field trip, such as staff with Merrill & Ring, Angeles Forestry, Campbell Global, and current and retired DNR staff.  
The land students visited is managed by the Department of Natural Resources,



SEQUIM GAZETTE PHOTOS BY MATTHEW NASH  
Cousins Hudson and Ellis Hueter partner to plant multiple trees as part of Helen Haller Elementary's field trip up Blue Mountain Road on March 25.

which donated trees and the use of shovels for the project. Timber revenues from the property are on school trust land and support school construction across Washington.  
State trust lands' timber revenues also support other projects, such as the Sequim Library's new building.  
Huber said 75 cents of each dollar goes to those institutions, while the other 25 cents supports DNR's management operations.  
He said hopefully students will come back over the years and see the trees that they planted.



Jazy Haabala and Ezekiel Hicks search for great spots to plant trees on March 25.

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**WEDNESDAY** 52° 37°  
Rain; breezy in the morning  
**THURSDAY** 53° 40°  
A morning shower; clouds and sun  
**FRIDAY** 53° 40°  
Intervals of clouds and sunshine  
**SATURDAY** 57° 42°  
Sunshine and a few clouds  
**SUNDAY** 56° 41°  
Clouds giving way to some sun  
**MONDAY** 54° 42°  
Partly sunny  
**TUESDAY** 54° 41°  
Increasing cloudiness

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**Around the State**

City	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Bellingham	49/38/r	52/42/pc	53/36/pc	57/41/s	59/44/c
Colville	48/38/sh	53/31/c	61/32/s	65/36/s	67/39/pc
Ellensburg	48/32/r	51/40/pc	59/36/s	64/36/s	67/42/pc
Everett	50/39/r	51/40/c	56/41/pc	60/43/s	62/45/c
Friday Harbor	51/40/r	54/41/pc	56/42/pc	59/43/pc	60/44/pc
Moses Lake	50/35/r	58/35/pc	61/33/s	68/37/s	71/41/pc
Port Angeles	52/36/r	53/39/pc	54/40/pc	57/42/s	56/41/pc
Pullman	51/32/r	48/31/sh	51/34/pc	58/37/s	64/40/c
Spokane	49/36/r	50/33/c	54/35/pc	58/38/s	64/42/pc
Seattle	49/40/r	52/42/c	56/40/pc	62/43/s	61/45/pc
Tacoma	49/36/r	54/38/sh	58/35/pc	62/37/s	63/40/pc
Walla Walla	52/38/r	52/37/sh	59/40/pc	63/42/s	70/48/pc
Wenatchee	43/35/r	55/34/c	59/38/s	63/41/s	65/44/pc
Yakima	51/32/c	58/30/pc	60/32/s	65/35/s	69/39/pc

**Sun and Moon**

	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Wednesday	6:51 a.m.	7:42 p.m.	7:48 p.m.	6:30 a.m.
Thursday	6:49 a.m.	7:44 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	6:45 a.m.
Friday	6:47 a.m.	7:45 p.m.	10:11 p.m.	7:01 a.m.
Saturday	6:45 a.m.	7:47 p.m.	11:22 p.m.	7:21 a.m.
Sunday	6:43 a.m.	7:48 p.m.	none	7:45 a.m.
Monday	6:41 a.m.	7:50 p.m.	12:31 a.m.	8:17 a.m.
Tuesday	6:39 a.m.	7:51 p.m.	1:34 a.m.	8:57 a.m.

**Tides**

Sequim Bay Entrance	High	Low	High	Low
Wednesday	4:09 a.m. (7.9 ft.)	10:33 a.m. (1.7 ft.)	4:47 p.m. (6.8 ft.)	10:26 p.m. (2.8 ft.)
Thursday	4:25 a.m. (7.8 ft.)	11:04 a.m. (0.9 ft.)	5:40 p.m. (7.1 ft.)	11:06 p.m. (3.6 ft.)
Friday	4:42 a.m. (7.7 ft.)	11:35 a.m. (0.2 ft.)	6:32 p.m. (7.2 ft.)	11:47 p.m. (4.4 ft.)
Saturday	5:01 a.m. (7.5 ft.)	12:09 p.m. (-0.2 ft.)	7:23 p.m. (7.3 ft.)	---
Sunday	5:23 a.m. (7.3 ft.)	12:33 a.m. (5.2 ft.)	8:19 p.m. (7.3 ft.)	12:45 p.m. (-0.4 ft.)
Monday	5:48 a.m. (7.1 ft.)	1:24 a.m. (5.7 ft.)	9:22 p.m. (7.3 ft.)	1:24 p.m. (-0.3 ft.)
Tuesday	6:14 a.m. (6.8 ft.)	2:26 a.m. (6.1 ft.)	10:38 p.m. (7.3 ft.)	2:07 p.m. (-0.1 ft.)

**Almanac**  
Sequim for the week ending March 28  
Temperatures  
High/low for the week 61/30  
Normal high/low 53/36  
Average temperature 43.6  
Normal average temperature 44.0  
Temperature departure -0.4  
Precipitation  
Total for the week 0.21"  
Total for the month 1.67"  
Total for the year 4.02"  
Normal for the month 1.35"  
Normal for the year 4.92"  
\*Normal refers to the average temperature or precipitation over a standard 30-year period.  
Precipitation is a cumulation of rain, melted snow and ice.  
**Air Quality**  
Wednesday Good  
Thursday Good  
Friday Good  
Saturday Good  
Sunday Good  
Good: 0-50; Moderate: 51-100; Unhealthy (for sensitive groups): 101-150; Unhealthy: 151-200; Very unhealthy: 201-300; Hazardous: 301-500  
**More Information**  
Road Reports: www.wsdot.wa.gov  
Avalanche Reports: nvac.us/avalanche-forecast/#/all  
Burn Ban Information: 1-800-595-4341  
Puget Sound: www.pugetcleanair.org  
Website: www.pugetcleanair.org  
Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2026

## RESPONDER BLOTTER

- The weekly blotter includes calls in the City of Sequim and in unincorporated Clallam County in the Sequim-Dungeness Valley area.*
- March 22**  
9:50 a.m. — Smoke investigation, 1600 block of South Third Ave.  
4:27 p.m. — Weapons discharge, 400 block of Autumn Road  
4:35 p.m. — Fraud, 500 block of North Seventh Ave.  
9:12 p.m. — Animal abuse, 600 block of North Sequim Ave.
- March 23**  
9:10 a.m. — Trespassing, 100 block of Savannah Lane  
10:40 a.m. — Fraud, 100 block of Elk Pass Road  
12:28 p.m. — Trespassing, 1200 block of West Washington St.  
1:08 p.m. — Assault, 2100 block of West Hendrickson Road  
2:33 p.m. — Burglary, 100 block of North Brown Road  
3:42 p.m. — Trespassing, 1200 block of West Washington St.
- March 24**  
6:48 p.m. — Malicious mischief, 100 block of Canyon Estates Drive  
**March 24**  
2:26 p.m. — Burn complaint, 3500 block of Lost Mountain Road  
2:38 p.m. — Fraud, 1600 block of Carlsborg Road  
10:50 p.m. — Trespassing, 1200 block of West Washington St.  
11:02 p.m. — Theft, 600 block of West Washington St.
- March 25**  
10:32 a.m. — Fraud, 600 block of West Summer Breeze Lane  
12:22 p.m. — Animal abuse, 260000 block of U.S. Highway 101  
2:12 p.m. — Animal abuse, 100 block of Bell Creek Lane  
8:38 p.m. — Burglary, 1800 block of West Hendrickson Road  
9:38 p.m. — Theft, 1200 block of West Washington St.
- March 26**  
9:55 a.m. — Burglary, 100 block of Aldrich Lane  
12:28 p.m. — Theft, 600 block of North Sequim Ave.  
1:03 p.m. — Fraud, 100 block of Mockingbird Lane  
1:34 p.m. — Animal abuse, 1300 block of West Sequim Bay Road  
4:43 p.m. — DUI arrest, 100 block of Viking Way  
6:08 p.m. — Burn complaint, 100 block of Frost Road
- March 27**  
9:50 a.m. — Automobile theft, 700 block of Washington Harbor Road  
1:07 p.m. — Trespassing, 200 block of South Center Park Way  
1:24 p.m. — Trespassing, 100 block of Sea Lawn Drive  
4:16 p.m. — Brush fire, 600 block of North Oak Wood Drive  
6:09 p.m. — 400 block of West Silberhorn Road
- March 28**  
4:12 p.m. — Drug violation, 270000 block of U.S. Highway 101  
7:36 p.m. — Assault, 400 block of West Washington St.  
11:09 p.m. — Trespassing, 1200 block of West Washington St.

**WOW! Working on Wellness® presents**  
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April 8th, 2026  
2:00-3:00pm  
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Great Decisions group to meet

April's Great Decisions group will meet at 10 a.m. Friday, April 3 in the Adult Learning Center at Sequim Community Church, 950 N. Fifth Ave. John Dwyer will lead a discussion on Ukraine and European security. New people are always welcome.

Great Decisions is an international affairs discussion program sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association. For more information, visit [fpa.org/great\\_decisions](http://fpa.org/great_decisions).

Processing grief through art

Volunteer Hospice of Clallam County is offering a six-week workshop titled "Healing Grief with Images, Words, and Sound," from 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays from April 8 through May 13 at a location in Sequim to be given at the time of registration.

Participants will use a variety of art mediums, writing prompts, and sound (music, nature sounds and singing bowls) to help process grief. Supplies will be provided.

The workshop is free, but registration is required. Participants may come to one session, or all of them.

To register or for more information, call 360-452-1511 or email

[office@vhocc.org](mailto:office@vhocc.org).

Applicants sought for arts commission

The City of Sequim is seeking applicants to fill three vacant posts on the Sequim Arts Commission. One appointment is to fill a vacancy for a resident who lives within the Sequim City limits. This appointment will expire on Dec. 31, 2028. Two vacancies are for residents who live within the Sequim School District boundaries. These positions will expire on Dec. 31, 2029. The positions are eligible for reappointment when the terms expire.

The Commission meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 3 p.m. in the Sequim Civic Center.

The positions will remain open until filled. To apply, go to [sequimwa.gov/214/Boards-Commissions-Committees](http://sequimwa.gov/214/Boards-Commissions-Committees), download and complete the Application for Appointment, and send it along with your letter of intent and resume to City Clerk Heather Robley at [hrobley@sequimwa.gov](mailto:hrobley@sequimwa.gov), or by mail to City Clerk, 152 West Cedar St., Sequim, WA, 98382.

Meet OMC's midwives

Olympic Memorial

Hospital, 939 Caroline St., will host "Meet Our Midwives" from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7 in the hospital's Sunroom, providing an opportunity learn about birthing options at Olympic Medical Center.

According to OMC, midwifery care doesn't mean fewer options; it means more time, more conversation and more personalized attention. Attendees at "Meet Our Midwives" will:

- Meet OMC's certified nurse midwives
- Learn the benefits of midwifery care in a hospital setting
- Be able to ask about planning their own personalized birth experience
- Tour the birth center

This open house will be held monthly on the first Tuesday of each month.

Be prepared for emergency care

Olympic Medical Center will present "How to be prepared for emergency care" as part of its Health Matters series at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 16 in Linkletter Hall at Olympic Memorial Hospital, 939 Caroline St.

The presenter will be Dr. Evan Small, emergency services medical director.

Man sentenced to 10 years for sex assault of teens

SEQUIM GAZETTE STAFF

A 26-year-old Port Angeles man was sentenced to 10 years in prison on Thursday for sexually assaulting two girls in Dungeness River Railroad Bridge Park in June 2024.

Judge Elizabeth Stanley agreed in Clallam County Superior Court on March 26 with the state's recommendation that Daniel Sigmon serve 120 months in prison to two counts of rape of a child in the second degree.

Sigmon changed his plea to guilty on Feb. 19, taking an Alford plea not admitting wrongdoing but that the prosecution would likely present a case that would find him guilty of assaulting the 13-year-old girls.

Stanley agreed to the plea deal that dropped four other charges, including two more counts of rape of a child in the second degree, and a charge for child molestation in the second degree, and charge for assault in the second degree, strangulation.

Sigmon had no previous criminal offenses and faced a range of 102-136 months in prison.

After serving his time in prison, Sigmon's release will be subject to the Indeterminate Sentencing Review Board, which will determine if he can be released. The board could decide to incarcerate him for life.

Stanley signed a no contact order with the teens that will remain in place for the rest of his life. He must register as a sex offender, successfully

complete sex offender treatment and substance use disorder treatment, never own a firearm, and comply with conditions within prison.

If released, he would be subject to a lifetime of community custody.

Stanley ruled Sigmon is indigent and waived his legal financial obligations.

Sigmon was arrested on Sept. 9, 2025 after law enforcement searched for him for months.

A few days prior to his arrest, DNA results obtained from Sigmon in July 2025 and processed by the Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory stated that Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and strangulation exams showed there was "very strong support" that he was the male contributor to the DNA found in the samples.

Initially, law enforcement responded at 10:47 p.m. on June 19, 2024 to Railroad Bridge Park for a reported missing 13-year-old girl. She and her friend, also 13, were eventually found at 12:24 a.m. the next morning in the park with Sigmon. He was allowed to leave as no allegations were made at the scene, court documents state.

One of the teens' siblings contacted law enforcement about an hour later to share that their sister was sexually assaulted and that both girls were inappropriately touched. The next day, one girl was given a SANE exam, and the other a strangulation exam. They also participated

in separate child forensic interviews on June 25 and 26 with Healthy Families of Clallam County.

Court documents state Sigmon, whom they did not know, approached the teens while they were swimming and offered to make a fire. He later took one girl away to sexually assault her, and she feared being killed and felt paralyzed, she told an interviewer. The second girl shared similar fears.

The girls and Sigmon continued to hide after seeing law enforcement and then a bear, and Sigmon molested both girls and grabbed the second teen making her throat hurt to breathe and talk, law enforcement report.

Using search warrants, Clallam County Sheriff's Office detectives also matched Sigmon via his personal social media with a Sequim police officer's body cam footage from June 20, 2024, and tracked his location in the park via GPS location services at the time of the incidents.

Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Michele Devlin said on March 26 in court that Sigmon took advantage of the two children and took their innocence and forever changed their lives.

She credited the courage and strength of the two girls coming forward to report Sigmon. Devlin also credited the investigation to the Sheriff's Office's Criminal Investigation Bureau for its diligence and efforts.

FAITH NEWS

"Arise, it's Easter — Let's Wake Up and Bloom!" will be the topic of Rev. Julia McKenna Blessing-Nuffer's sermon when she speaks at Olympic Unitarian Universalist

Fellowship, 1033 N. Barr Road, at 11 a.m. Sunday, April 5.

"Rev. Julia" will remind listeners of the myriad abilities and talents that everyone

possesses, enabling them to be both blessed and a blessing. One can attend the service either in person or via Zoom. For more information, visit [olympicuuf.com](http://olympicuuf.com)



SEQUIM GAZETTE PHOTO BY MONICA BERKSETH

COMMUNITY DONOR RAMPONI TURNS 90

Sequim philanthropist Marylaura Ramponi, center front, celebrated her 90th birthday Saturday at the Sequim Masonic Lodge with friends and family members, some of whom had traveled from California and Nevada for the occasion. Nine candles on her birthday cake represented each decade of her life. Ramponi donated \$1 million to the Sequim School District to fund The Ramponi Center for Technical Excellence, the district's Career and Technical Education building, in honor of her late husband Louie, a TV salesman and real estate investor.

CARL PIT BULL TERRIER

Born Nov. 2025, Carl and his littermates came to WAG at only a few days old when their mother required surgery after giving birth. Pit bulls are known for their loyalty, intelligence, whole-hearted approach to life and make excellent companions. We believe Carl will be a wonderful addition to many types of families.



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# Land

From Page A1

a publicly available management plan, continue to allow appropriate public access and educational opportunities, and prohibit any gaming on the transferred lands and commercial development.

Jamestown officials write there would be no loss of local property tax revenue and the federal budget for the properties would be neutral.

Allen called it a win for the federal government because the refuges can stay in their intended purposes and be put in better states than before.

"The tribe is willing to make the commitment to carry it out and manage it," Allen said.

"Fish and wildlife has always had trouble with their budget and this puts the refuges in a much better position to maintain its mission."

On Aug. 16, 2024, Jamestown and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agreed to a co-stewardship agreement for the Dungeness and Protection Island National Wildlife Refuges with the Tribe taking over the day-to-day management of the refuges.

Allen said under tribal ownership, they could partner with Clallam County to relocate roadways away from the deteriorating bluff in the Dungeness Recreation Area alongside the Dungeness



SEQUIM GAZETTE FILE PHOTO BY MATTHEW NASH

**Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe seeks legislative support to transfer about 900 acres of land, including the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge with the Dungeness Spit, pictured, Protection Island, and land in Blyn by Sequim Bay to its ownership. Tribal Chairman/CEO W. Ron Allen said if transferred, they'd "only enhance accessibility, and capacity to educate the community and general community, including tourists."**

refuge.

He said they've upgraded signage in the refuge and on a road on Protection Island, along with advancing efforts to eliminate invasive species, including European green crab.

## City discussion

Sequim city councilors voted 6-0 with councilor Kelly Burger excused at their March 23 meeting to delay sending a letter of support for Jamestown's land transfer until they received more information.

The letter was put on the meeting's consent agenda at Anderson's request following

an email request from Allen, but fellow councilors asked to make it a regular agenda item to discuss it.

Anderson said she received several emails of concern about the letter and that anyone can ask the council for a letter of support. They are typically organizations going to Olympia asking for funding, she said, and council members have the right to request to pull and discuss consent agenda items.

Anderson said the letter of support "is what it is. Not the city gifting land to anybody. It's not our land to give. It's not our jurisdiction quite frankly."

"I did approve it to be on

the consent agenda, and in my experience (Jamestown) have been excellent partners and stewards of things I've seen them do," she said. "That's really my reasoning on that one."

Fellow councilors did not speak against the letter of support, and asked for more information on the tribe's proposal so they can share it with the public.

In another email to Anderson, Allen offered to host a presentation to the city council.

During public comment, a handful of community members expressed their opposition to the council's letter of support and Jamestown's land acquisition.

Some said they were surprised there was no prior deliberation and that it went on the consent agenda.

Ron Richards, a Clallam County Charter Review Commission member, said there's no point for the land transfer because Jamestown citizens already have the same access as before.

"The tribe already has over 2,000 acres. How much more land do they need?" he asked.

Rose Marschall, a former organizer of Save Our Sequim, a group opposed to the tribe's medication-assisted treatment facility (Jamestown Healing Clinic), said she's organized a petition against the land transfer on change.org. As of press deadline, it has 800

signatures, according to the website.

"This is our land. They don't need it," she told city councilors.

Steve Gish of Sequim said if the land is transferred to the tribe, it "essentially becomes another country" and that locals have no privilege or say over its operations.

Darlene Schanfeld of Sequim said that the land belongs to the animals and that they have less places to go.

"That land is for them," she said. "It's a pristine area and it needs to stay that way. It should not be private land. The public has paid for its upkeep for 100 years."

## History, future

Allen said the tribe is trying to stay transparent by going to the city and Clallam County commissioners for letters of support, but he expected some resistance.

"Some folks just don't like Jamestown even after all the things we've done," he said.

"People just don't understand why the properties are important to us. It's part of our history."

The approximate 900 acres hold historical importance to Jamestown citizens, Allen said, such as Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's original village being just inside the Dungeness Spit.

"Regardless of all of the positive things we've done,

that's the nature of the general public," he said. "You can't make everyone happy ... (but) we do have many people who do like what we're doing, and we're counting on them."

A lawsuit remains pending between Protect the Peninsula's Future, a local environmental group, and the Department of Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife over allowing a shellfish farm by the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge.

Representatives from the group and Fish and Wildlife could not be reached by press time.

Allen said environmental advocates want a compatibility study done for their Jamestown Oyster Farm, but tribal officials have argued they've been done.

He said if the land transfer were to occur, the lawsuit wouldn't go away though, and that there are no such current operations on the Dungeness Spit. However, if allowed, they'd likely bring an oyster farm there, he said.

"There's no conflict," Allen said. "We've already done the homework that's been there for 60 years."

Allen said any danger to native species is erroneous.

As for management of the properties, Allen said if the land is transferred, they might add employees and coordinate more between the refuges and the Dungeness River Nature Center.

# Election

From Page A1

in the local election there and the federal election in Washington.

That's still against the law, Hobbs said.

In another case from Lewis County, a man voted in November 2022 in elections in both Washington and Oregon, claiming he could because they were separate elections. A state appeals court overturned the man's

felony conviction in January, concluding that because candidates and measures were different on the two ballots that a person could interpret them as different elections under state law.

The state Legislature closed that loophole this session, clarifying the definition of an "election" and that voters could only vote once.

"The point is, these things are caught," Hobbs said.

During his time in office, cybersecurity has become an emerging issue. In one case, he said cyberactors

attacked a Clark County database, although it was quickly discovered and the voter database was intentionally disconnected for about 100 hours.

The cybersecurity protection system, known as an Albert sensor, has detected IP addresses from foreign countries — Hobbs specifically named Russia — with attempts to access or influence local elections.

"The threat is real," he said.

One county conducted an election to remove its Albert sensor, and voters approved it, Hobbs said. Following an

open house in that county that included information from Homeland Security, the FBI and the Air National Guard, the Legislature eventually passed a law that said local elections offices must have the security measure in place.

Nationally, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments last week for a case in Mississippi that involves mail-in ballots and their postmark.

The question to be resolved is whether ballots that arrive after election day but have a postmark stamped on that

day can still be counted in the election.

Hobbs said nearly half of Washington's mail-in ballots come in after election day, but they are counted because of the valid postmark.

If the Supreme Court determines the ballots can't be counted after election day, it would hurt military members and anyone who casts a ballot overseas, Hobbs said.

Last year, the U.S. Postal Service changed its rules on postmarking, moving it to when the piece of mail is automated for processing rather

than when it's collected. That could lead to 24- to 48-hour postmark delays, Hobbs said.

"It definitely caused a spike in rejected ballots," he said. "It's discouraging."

Hobbs also pushed back on pending federal legislation known as the SAVE America Act, which the U.S. House passed last month. The act requires voters to provide proof of citizenship and a photo ID at the time of voting.

"It would really make it hard for states like ours to do mail-in voting," he said.



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# Tharinger

From Page A1

decision not to run again prior to his diagnosis of Squamous cell carcinoma on his tongue last fall.

"It was time for someone else," he said. "Sixteen years is a good run."

Tharinger, who chairs the Capital Budget Committee, did not attend this year's legislative session in person due to receiving medical care, but he did work and vote some remotely.

His "prognosis is pretty good, but treatment is pretty painful," he said.

Since he began treatment, Tharinger said he's received a lot of support from residents across the North Olympic Peninsula, and in Grays Harbor and Olympia.

"Hopefully, I'll be through this in a few months," he said.

In October 2004, Tharinger started treatment for non-Hodgkins lymphoma and announced in November 2005 it was in remission after multiple treatments.

Senator Mike Chapman, who served alongside Tharinger while both were county commissioners and state reps, said in an interview they've worked nonstop together for 26 years.

"He's one of the finest public servants I've had the opportunity to know," Chapman said.

"He's of the highest integrity and work ethic ... he's always one to roll up his sleeves, find a solution and listen to all sides."

Chapman said he loves Tharinger like a brother and that despite seeing him battle health issues before, Tharinger never complains.

Sue Ellen Riesau, former publisher of the Sequim Gazette, worked on Tharinger's county commissioner campaign that he won in 1999 after losing his first attempt in 1995. She took a leave of absence as the newspaper's then-general manager to help him run.

"The thing I admired most about him and still do is that he still believes in what he says and what he does," Riesau said.

"Steve has a really strong sense of himself and a strong sense of what he believes."

Russ Mellon of Sequim has known Tharinger since 1980 through sports, business and volunteering. Mellon was a Sequim Sunrise Rotary charter member in 1986, and Tharinger has been a longtime member too.

Mellon said they sometimes disagreed on issues, but Tharinger's strength was being a good

listener and representing both sides of the political aisle.

"He had a balanced perspective on issues and takes a position in the best interest of all the citizens he's representing, and I really appreciate that," Mellon said.

Tharinger was elected to the state legislature in 2010, and said he's particularly proud of increasing healthcare access and infrastructure to the district. He served on the Health Care and Wellness and Appropriations committees, and for his role as chair of the House Capital Budget Committee, he helped write Washington's capital investment budget that helps build schools, colleges, parks and other state facilities, while also making investments in natural resources.

Pat McCauley, a friend of Tharinger's for 30-plus years in Sequim and through the Sequim Sunrise Rotary Club, said in his chairman role he's helped the peninsula countless times with funding, and he also helped secure a grant for the Joe Rantz Rotary Youth House project to help homeless teens in Sequim.

"He was always a good volunteer and that to me makes a world of difference," McCauley said.

She said Tharinger has the "right heart for it."

"That's important to me to have

someone who represents you and has the same philosophy of taking care of people," McCauley said.

Prior to his time in politics and Sequim, Tharinger earned a political science degree from Colorado College in 1971. He traveled some before moving to Seattle in 1976 to build homes, and Sequim two years later. He started Dungeness Woodworks with his then-wife Yvonne.

Tharinger said his journey into politics progressed naturally starting in the early 1990s with land and agricultural committees before joining Clallam County's Planning Commission.

Looking back at his time as a county commissioner, Tharinger joked he's too old to remember.

But he listed the development of the Elwha Bridge and expanding the Olympic Discovery Trail as some of the biggest accomplishments during his tenure, as well as maintaining the county's budget with Chapman, and former commissioner Mike Doherty.

Chapman said the county was going through tough times when they were first elected, but they and staff brought it into a good standing before they moved on.

Over Tharinger's time at the state level, Chapman said helping to secure funds for Field Arts & Events Hall, Shore Aquatic Center,

various medical clinics, and the Sequim Library were some of his biggest contributions.

As of press deadline, three candidates — Aiden Hamilton of Port Angeles, Kaylee Kuehn of Sequim, and Patrick DePoe of Neah Bay — have shared their intent to run for Tharinger's seat.

Tharinger's advice to his successor? Be accessible and listen.

# Rally

From Page A1

immigrant rights, the LGBTQ community, and others.

"The idea is not only protesting, but celebrating art and creativity because it's one of the most powerful forms of activism," Harris said.

The group Peninsula Handmaids, women dressed as characters from "The Handmaid's Tale" series, and "Signs of Fascism," a group that holds signs defining fascism, also participated in the moving rally.

Indivisible Sequim organizers said they continue to host peaceful rallies at 3 p.m. Fridays at the intersection of Washington Street and Sequim Avenue.



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SEQUIM GAZETTE

## Greetings from Greta Goose

SEQUIM GAZETTE PHOTO BY LARA STANTON

Meet Greta Goose, the Sequim Gazette's new mascot. You may occasionally see Greta out and about during special events in Sequim. Feel free to stop and say hello! Greta and the staff at the Sequim Gazette wish everyone a happy and meaningful Easter weekend.



## Hopping mad about gas prices...



## Coming to grips with grief

This month, I've decided to discuss a topic that's deeply personal and often painful: grief. I know that discussing our own vulnerabilities can be difficult, and I hope that sharing my experience resonates with others navigating similar feelings. It is the grief we experience caring for a loved one with dementia.

Grief is something we often associate with losing a loved one, a friend, or a colleague. The journey of coping with such a loss can be incredibly challenging, and it's important to acknowledge that everyone experiences grief in their own way. While it can be hard to process, we often strive to find meaning and make sense of the emotions that accompany it. However, providing care for a loved one with dementia opens grief on a daily basis. The grief associated

with dementia caregiving is often referred to as the long goodbye.

At the beginning, as we recognize changes in our loved ones, we question, confront, and constantly seek answers. Why did they forget to pay a bill? They didn't attend the appointment. They forgot their way home. All, and more symptoms like the foregoing, direct us to get our loved one diagnosed. As the disease advances, we see more and more of our loved ones disappearing, and slowly, grief creeps into our days of caregiving.

Many people, including me, often shy away from facing their emotions. We push our emotions to the back of our minds and



**DEMENTIA CAREGIVING**  
**101**  
**LINDA KLINEFELTER**

paint over them to make them seem more tolerable. However, as days turn into years and we witness the gradual losses experienced by our loved ones, we cannot escape what we truly feel. They are slowly departing from us, bit by bit, memory by memory, and

we sense that loss deeply within ourselves.

Is grief avoidable? Absolutely not! It is present in our lives every single day. However, I can assure you that there are ways to make it a little more manageable.

I have written in previous columns about the use of therapy and its importance. I had a little forewarning as to what my life might include because I had provided respite for my brother, whose

wife was diagnosed with Early-Onset Alzheimer's, and both my parents experienced Vascular Dementia. So, upon my husband's diagnosis, I sought a therapist. Does my therapist fix everything? Absolutely not! My therapist does give me tools to make grief more tolerable.

One valuable tool my therapist has given me is the ability to recognize and acknowledge my grief. I'm deeply feeling the loss not only of what is leaving, but also of what my loved one is experiencing. It's a profound sorrow that is hard to navigate, and I'm learning to honor those feelings.

I not only lean on my therapist, but I also consider the presence of a few good friends to be a true gift. I'm fortunate to have two remarkable friends who help me traverse the challenging landscape of grief. They encourage me to

acknowledge and are always there with a handkerchief when the tears begin to flow. Their support is a comforting balm, turning my sorrow into shared understanding.

While many of you reading this column may say, "I can handle this" or "I don't need support," I can say with great emphasis you are not acknowledging your feelings. So, here are some suggestions for support:

- If you are on Medicare, request a referral for therapy services from your physician. After paying the Medicare Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the cost for therapy services. You pay less or nothing at all if you have a supplemental plan for your Medicare.

- If you are covered by a private insurance carrier, check your policy for referral requirements.

- Olympic Area Agency on Aging may have some

counseling services available for caregivers.

Locally, there are a number of therapists who will take Medicare and/or private insurance, but you also have the option of doing online therapy. Online can be done by your cell phone or on your computer.

The grief associated with dementia is complex. It is an emotional journey that begins early in the caregiving process. The feelings can include anger, frustration, guilt, and the constant nagging of what is leaving. To ignore what you feel, or to attempt to bury it, only does you and your loved one a disservice. Everything you feel is a natural response, but letting it run its course without support does not serve you as a caregiver.

"We cannot change the outcome, but we can affect the journey." – Ann Richardson

## Talking and not being heard

My prediction is readers will have differing expectations of this column based on the headline. Will Bertha go again into political deafness or to difficulties in couples' communication or even speaking without a microphone?

Good guesses all but not where I am going. I am exploring one of the consequences of living alone.

I am experiencing living alone, something I never sought. Although as I have written before, I expected I would have some time living alone late in life since my husband Paul was years older than I.

Well into the time following his death and the reality of life without him set in, I realized living alone for any length of time was a new experience for me.

Before I go further I must for the sake of my relationship with Jolie, aka Crabby Cat, mention that I share the home with her and at least 10 of her stuffed toys left on the floor

wherever and whenever she tires of them.

Besides Jolie and a brief time in college when I did not have a roommate, I have always lived with someone.

Of course, I lived with my parents and brother through college and with spouses (I married twice) with a brief episode of living on my own in an apartment.

That fact jars me in an unexpected way. I do not miss having someone with me. Of course, I miss Paul and wish he was here with me every day whether in another room doing his work or next to me while we eat dinner.

Now I am comforted by his spirit that I carry with me after 54 years of marriage. I am still alone.

### Remembering

How much and how do we widows and widowers think we will be impacted by the loss of a longtime partner that results in our living alone? We expect grief,

longing and loneliness.

Do we expect forgetfulness?

I did not.

I remember my dad saying after my mom died how much he missed her memory for everything, especially dates for outings.

Of course, that meant he did not have to remember because she would remind him.

That is until the day she got tired of her role as date and time monitor. He caught on amazingly quickly given how long he had depended on her reminders. Still, they talked. They lived a few more years, always talking about their activities and plans with each other.

Keeping each other informed was an important function for another reason: they were helping each other remember.

The point of an article I



**THINK ABOUT IT ...**  
**BERTHA COOPER**

read long ago to provide a citation stuck with me. The author wrote how talking with another person about the time and place of future appointments was a factor in remembering the appointment without

having to look it up. I know that nowadays without my partner, I go to my calendar much more to confirm appointments than I ever did when Paul was alive. I learned early on when I forgot an appointment for a massage that I needed a new way to cue my memory of time commitments.

Ever since, I have included checking and double checking my calendar each morning. Of course, that system depends on keeping my calendar up to date and me remembering to check. So, I also put a note of some future commitments on the

refrigerator.

Writing this column is a tool for helping me remember but also a gift in the journey of making friends with my aging self. Allowing myself to age helps me pay attention to the right things — family, friends, cats, home and of course writing.

Instead of trying to be young or what I think is young, I try to graciously accept the changes. Sometimes that even works.

However, acceptance does not mean complacency any more than stiff joints means stop moving. We must use and flex memory just as we move and flex joints to keep aging joints limber.

Acceptance does not make me like the changing dynamic of my memory. Something about a decline in memory threatens my very survival even though I know changes occur naturally with aging.

I know we aging folk need to allow our brains more time to process information. Information may take longer

to process and regurgitate when needed but we do it.

Talking about it with your partner helps you retain the information.

It is a favor we do with and for each other.

Those end-of-day conversations help us both unload the struggles and successes of the day and retain the information that will help us tomorrow.

We need those people who are either very interested in what we have to say or are great at pretending to listen and, yes, comment and support.

We need to be those people for another or others. They are to be cherished. We miss them when they are gone.

Remembering is important and more complicated for me without my favorite partner in life.

The sadness of it all is I no longer have Paul, the partner who helped me remember and so much more — the partner I will never forget.

## What does 'ready for kindergarten' really mean?

Every year, more than 70,000 children in Washington take a big step: starting kindergarten. For many families, it's a milestone filled with excitement and questions, one of the most important being: Is my child ready?

Being ready for school isn't just about knowing letters or counting to 10. Kindergarten readiness is a blend of emotional, social, physical, and cognitive skills. Here are a few key things that help a child start strong:

Are they excited about learning?

Can they play and work cooperatively with others?

Do they manage emotions and behavior in a group setting?

Are they familiar with books, letters, sounds, shapes, and numbers?

Can they handle basic self-care like using the bathroom or putting on a coat?

Can they focus on a task for at least 15 minutes or



**PARENTING IN FOCUS**  
**CYNTHIA MARTIN**

more?

Do they have the motor skills to hold scissors or ride a tricycle? In short, it's about the whole child — not just academic checklists.

From birth to age 5, a child has about 2,000 days to get ready

for school. Yet a survey of kindergarten teachers found that only 44% of kids arrive with the skills they need to thrive. And the reality is

sobering: children who start behind often stay behind. Studies show that if a child isn't reading at grade level by third grade, they're significantly less likely to graduate from high school.

That's why the early years matter so much. Research tells us that 85% of brain development happens before a child turns 3. Yet only 5% of public investment in children happens during this critical time.

Parents play a key role in preparing their children for school. But parenting — especially in today's world

— isn't easy. Many families are juggling jobs, caregiving, financial stress, or parenting alone. The weight of daily life can make it hard to also be a child's first teacher.

That's where we all come in.

Kindergarten readiness isn't just a family issue — it's a community responsibility. Here's how we can all help:

Volunteer to read with preschoolers or join programs designed for young children.

Talk with children. Kids who hear more words grow stronger language and

thinking skills.

Support early childhood education. Well-trained preschool teachers spark a love for learning.

Encourage parents. Remind them that what they do matters — and offer support, not judgment.

Children who succeed in school grow into adults who contribute to our communities, lead our businesses, and shape our future. Helping every child get a strong start isn't just the right thing to do — it's one of the smartest investments we can make.

# COMMUNITY VOICES

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SEQUIM GAZETTE

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Resist the urge to buy rabbits

With spring and Easter almost here, I would like to remind people not to buy baby rabbits that are sometimes sold this time of year. Here are some of the reasons:

Sometimes rabbits are impulsively bought because they are cute and tiny and are unfortunately a symbol of Easter. When they become adults and/or people grow tired of caring for them, they are often released into the wild. Domestic rabbits are not meant to live in the wild because they do not have the same natural survival instincts as wild or native rabbits. They often have a difficult life in the wild and are often killed by coyotes and other predators.

If they do survive in the wild,

they can breed with other domestic rabbits that have been abandoned, increasing the population.

If rabbits are kept, they are often housed in small cages with inappropriate food and water.

Some rabbits are released into the wild because animal shelters are frequently at capacity and have many that are already up for adoption. Rabbits can make wonderful pets if they are cared for properly. They are sensitive, intelligent, playful and can be affectionate.

If you or someone you know is thinking about getting a rabbit, please go to your library or online and research their care. You can also visit your local animal shelter that cares for rabbits to get more information before adoption.

Anita Shearer  
 Sequim



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## LETTERS POLICY

Your opinions on issues of community interest and your reaction to stories and editorials contained in your Sequim Gazette are important to us and to your fellow readers. Thus our rules relating to letters submitted for publication are relatively simple.

- Letters are welcome. Letters exceeding 250 words may be shortened. We strive to publish all letters.

- Letters are subject to editing for spelling and grammar; we contact the writer when substantial changes are required, sending the letter back to the writer for revisions. Personal attacks and unsubstantiated allegations are not printed.

- Deadline for letters to appear in the next publication is noon Wednesday. Because of the volume of letters, not all letters are published the week they are submitted. Time-sensitive letters have a priority.

- Letters are published subject to legal limitations relating to defamation and factual representation.

- To submit letters, deliver or mail to: 175 W. Washington St., Sequim, WA 98382, or email to: editor@sequimgazette.com.

# Jump into spring — and into better health

When was the last time you jumped on purpose? Jump training, or plyometrics, helps you maintain one of the strongest predictors of longevity: power. Power is what lets you climb stairs, catch yourself from a stumble, and move with agility and speed. And unlike strength, which declines gradually, power drops sharply if you don't train it.

When most people think of a jump rope, they picture their childhood rather than a high-performance fitness tool. However, this simple piece of equipment is one of the most efficient ways to transform your health. Whether you are looking to burn calories in a fraction of the time it takes to run or want a low-cost, portable workout that fits into a busy schedule or while traveling, jumping rope works the total body, targeting the heart, lungs, and every major muscle group.

Scientific research indicates that just 10 minutes of jumping rope can provide the same cardiovascular benefits as 30 minutes of jogging, making it a powerful tool for heart health and endurance. Beyond its metabolic impact, the rhythmic motion of "skipping" serves as a form of moving meditation, sharpening mind-body coordination and even strengthening bone density to protect against aging. The benefits of the childhood pastime range from boosting agility to easing anxiety.

### Health benefits of jumping

- More efficient calorie burn and use of time:

Jumping rope can burn up to 1,300 calories per hour, outperforming walking, swimming, and even running in time efficiency.

- Cardiovascular power: Regular practice lowers resting heart rate and blood pressure, significantly reducing the risk of heart disease.

- Full-body strengthening: It simultaneously engages the calves, quads, hamstrings, glutes, core, shoulders, and forearms.

- Builds power: Power is the ability to create force quickly. Power helps you get up from a chair or walk up a set of stairs. It is also necessary for staying upright when you lose your balance hiking a trail, running after a grandchild, or stepping off a curb. Power declines more quickly than strength as we age. After age 40, power declines faster than strength, with significant reductions by age 70. Loss of power is more closely linked to frailty and mortality than strength alone. Researchers are distinguishing this rapid power loss as "powerpenia" to differentiate it from sarcopenia (muscle mass loss) and dynapenia (strength loss).

- Bone health: The controlled, repetitive impact stimulates bone mineral density, which is crucial for preventing osteoporosis. Research shows that just 10 to 20 jumps two times a day can increase bone density in the hips and spine.

- Mental clarity: The



### FIT TIPS

PAULINE GERACI

focus required for rhythmic jumping triggers the release of serotonin and endorphins, helping to reduce stress and anxiety.

Jump training helps you train fast-twitch muscles that

generate high amounts of power and maintain function.

Unfortunately, power declines more quickly than strength as we age. And, as it turns out, power is highly important in maintaining function. In a 2020 study published by PLOS ONE: "Reduced lower-limb power and slowing of force production have been proposed as important predictors of age-related deterioration in functional performance and should be targeted in exercise programs for older adults."

With all of these proven benefits, it seems like everyone should add jump training to their regimen, but there are a few things to know first. Women at higher risk of accelerated bone loss should talk to their doctors before including high-impact training in their regular exercise routines. Those at higher risk include women who experience early menopause (before age 45), have a family history of osteoporosis, have a low body weight or BMI, have a history of smoking or excessive alcohol use, lead a sedentary lifestyle, or have a history of dieting or insufficient nutrition (especially

calcium and vitamin D).

These women — and anyone else who's concerned about their bone health — should speak with their doctors before starting jump training.

### How to add jumps to your routine

So — you're ready to start jumping. Do you need a jump rope? No, a rope is not necessary. Some exercises involve jumping that don't use a rope, or you can mimic jump roping by using your arms in a rhythmic motion.

You can choose a rope or buy a weighted cordless jump rope. If you do choose to use a rope, research first, since there are many different jump ropes on the market. To choose the right jump rope length, step on the center of the cable with one foot and pull the handles up; they should reach your armpits or upper chest for beginners. A general rule is to add 3 feet to your height or choose a 9-foot rope if you are 5'4" to 5'11".

What kind of exercises should you be focusing on to get the most benefit? Keep it simple. Start with hopping in place or jumping jacks. Here are a few additional suggestions:

- Plyo hops (small hops up and down, side to side, or forward and back)

- Skip jumps (hops on one foot while raising the opposite knee)

- Jump squats (adding a jump between full-depth squats and immediately squatting again upon landing)

- Broad jumps (jumping forward)

Skater jumps (jumping from side to side, taking off on one leg and landing on the other)

Dumbbell jump squats (squat jumps while holding weights in each hand)

First, start by choosing an exercise, then aim for around 20 jumps three times per week. When you start to feel stronger after a couple of weeks, increase the number of jumps, the frequency of your workouts, or the difficulty of the exercise. Remember to start small with just two minutes of jumping a day. Also, safety first. When jumping, land on the balls of your feet and wear supportive shoes.

From strengthening your bones to protecting your heart, the benefits of jumping rope or jump-based exercise are backed by science and proven by time. A few minutes a day is all it takes to make a lifelong impact. Remember that aging well is about more than optimizing your workout: it's about building longevity-promoting habits, from nutrition to stress management to your outlook on life.

*The information provided in this article is for educational and informational purposes only and is not intended for health, medical, or financial advice. Do not use this information to diagnose or treat any health condition. Always consult a qualified healthcare provider regarding any questions you may have about medical conditions or health objectives.*

## Speaking Up

## How significantly have recent fuel spikes affected you?

Participate in the Sequim Gazette's weekly poll question at sequimgazette.com.

Here is how readers had responded to this question online as of press time.

So far I've been fine: 2 votes

I'm feeling it, but it has been manageable: 4 votes

My budget is strained because of it: 6 votes



Ben Wildman,  
 Sequim

"It's definitely made me more cautious. Gas has gone up about 80 cents a gallon, and just heading to town now costs me around \$12."



Ezekiel Richards,  
 Sequim

"A lot — it's affected the mobility of my entire family."



Rhiannon  
 Williamson,  
 Port Angeles

"They've affected me so much that I actually drive nine minutes out of town just to save 60 cents at Joyce General."



Katie Kindle,  
 Tacoma

"Not too much yet — but they're shocking. I come up here from Tacoma for work and get paid 60 cents per mile, so it'll probably mean more money coming out of my pocket."



Hayden Williams,  
 Sequim

"Quite a bit — it's limited my ability to be involved in the communities I want to be part of."



Jason Minnoch,  
 Port Angeles

"It's affected me enough that I may need to add a surcharge for jobs outside Port Angeles and start charging for quotes that were once free."

INTERVIEWS BY MONICA BERKSETH



April 2026

# SEQUIM NEWS

## The City of Sequim Comprehensive Plan Progresses



The Planning Commission and the City of Sequim, with input from the community, have been working hard on the Comprehensive Plan that sets the roadmap for the City vision and planning for the next 20 years.

Look for Comprehensive Plan documents to be released throughout April and May.

View our video at [youtu.be/472XC-Yr6lw](https://youtu.be/472XC-Yr6lw) to learn more about the plan development process and the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), who is leading this initiative.

### In the Gallery...

**“7th Annual High Schools of the Olympic Peninsula”**  
**On display through April 9**  
**Karen Kuznek-Reese Gallery at the Sequim Civic Center**  
**Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

### National Prescription Drug Take Back

Bring your expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs and vaping pens without internal batteries to the Sequim Civic Center, located at 152 West Cedar Street, on Saturday, April 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Syringes and medical waste will not be accepted.

Drugs can also be dropped off anytime during regular office hours Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Community Open Music Jam April 17



Join the Sequim Arts Commission for the Open Music Jam on Friday, April 17-6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Swisher Rehearsal Hall at the James Center for the Performing Arts, 506 N. Blake Avenue. Bring your acoustic instrument, percussion, or voice. The music and lyrics will be provided. All ages and experience levels are welcome.

## City Staff Graduate from the ERWOW Water & Wastewater Apprenticeship Program!



Congratulations to Moses McDonald, Michael Madison, and Josh Rees, the City of Sequim’s first graduates of the Evergreen Rural Water of Washington (ERWOW) Water & Wastewater Apprenticeship program! This two-year program includes 4,000 hours of on-the-job training, 288 hours of related instruction, worksite checks, monthly performance evaluations, and mentoring by senior employees.

Long hours of virtual and classroom training, work sessions, facility tours, and conferences meant time away from their families, while these dedicated employees also performed their full-time jobs.

The apprenticeship earned them each state-level certifications in their respective fields, the ability to build relationships and network within their industries, and increased knowledge of current technologies and methods that will benefit the City’s infrastructure.

## City of Sequim Budget Earns International Award

The City of Sequim 2026 Budget has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

In order to receive the budget award, the City had to satisfy internationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. Guidelines are designed to assess how well the City budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communication device.



The budget document was required to be rated proficient in all four categories, and in fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories to receive the award.

Congratulations to the City Finance Team who are responsible for the budget document! Read the City budget at [sequimwa.gov/1327/2026-Adopted-Budget](https://sequimwa.gov/1327/2026-Adopted-Budget).

## Celebrate Arbor Day With Us!

Please join the City of Sequim as we celebrate Arbor Day on Friday, April 24, at 12:00 noon by planting trees near the retention pond at the Water Reuse Site at Carrie Blake Park.

The celebration recognizes Sequim’s designation as a “Tree City USA” by the Arbor Day Foundation.

Please contact the City of Sequim Public Works Department at (360) 683-5062 for more information.



## Sustainability Tip Celebrating Earth Day!

Earth Day was first held on April 22, 1970, to demonstrate support for environmental protection. Sequim and our surrounding areas are rich with opportunities to appreciate, learn about, and take action for the environment we love and depend on. Check out the Strait Ecosystem Recovery Network’s events calendar to find fun and rewarding events and volunteer opportunities from organizations across the Olympic Peninsula to celebrate every day as Earth Day! [straitern.org/calendar](https://straitern.org/calendar).



## Public Meetings

The City of Sequim holds regular meetings for the City Council and other boards, commissions, and committees. Please visit the City website calendar at [sequimwa.gov](https://sequimwa.gov) for the schedule. Click on the Agendas and Minutes tab for the agendas.

## Rally in the Alley

**Saturday, April 25, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**  
**(or until dumpsters are full)**  
**- No Early Birds Please**

The City of Sequim, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Clallam County and Olympic Disposal, will hold the next Rally in the Alley on Saturday, April 25 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. or until dumpsters are full. Dumpsters will be located at:

- Carrie Blake Park near the Pickleball Courts
- City Public Works Shop at 3rd and Hemlock

Volunteers will be onsite to assist City residents with discarding unwanted items at no cost to the residents. **No tires, appliances, liquid paint, gas, fuel, or oil will be accepted.**

Volunteers, please meet at the Carrie Blake Park location at 9:00 a.m. for assignments. Please contact Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Colleen Robinson at (360) 775-3742 or [info@habitatclallam.org](mailto:info@habitatclallam.org) for more information.

## Welcome New Employees!

- **Jubal Harpster** - GIS/Business Analytics Administrator—3/16
- **Juan Davila**—IT Intern—3/16
- **Joseph Camerson**—IT Intern—3/16

**Become a Member of the City Team!**  
 Check out our job openings and apply now at [governmentjobs.com/careers/sequimwa](https://governmentjobs.com/careers/sequimwa).

## The Growing Season is Upon Us Once Again...



This is a FRIENDLY REMINDER requesting your voluntary cooperation in maintaining and mowing your property throughout the growing season based on the requirements in the Sequim Municipal Code (SMC) 8.04.040(A).

The code stipulates that the following can be considered a public nuisance:

Growing on purpose or through neglect, any vegetation that:

1. Overhangs, encroaches upon, obstructs, or in any manner interferes with the full and free use by the public of any street, sidewalk, or sight vision at a corner; or
2. Constitutes a detriment to the public health, safety, or welfare, by creating a fire hazard or a breeding place or habitation for insects or rodents; or
3. Is so overgrown that it degrades the neighborhood’s character and is an average length of 12 inches or more.

Thank you for your involvement in providing an attractive, safe environment to live and work in. With the cooperation of everyone, we can maintain the visual aesthetics and welcoming nature of Sequim.

# Community

www.sequimgazette.com

## Open house highlights Sequim, Shiso City connection

Friendship Garden hosts kite making, paper crafts, virtual tours, photography, more

By MATTHEW NASH  
Sequim Gazette

Simultaneously highlighting the beauty of the Friendship Garden and a recently rebooted Japanese-American exchange program, the Sequim-Shiso Sister City Association hosts a family-friendly open house event in Carrie Blake Community Park on Saturday.

The free event goes from noon-3 p.m. April 4 at 202 N. Blake Ave. in Sequim, with tours, a kite-building workshop, paper crafts, free portraits in the garden, and more.

A ribbon cutting with the Sequim-Dungeness Valley Chamber of Commerce will be held at 11:45 a.m.

Volunteers at the Friendship Garden said it's possibly the first event of its kind for the garden since its formation 30-plus years ago.

"It'll be nice to have something fun that people can have to focus on happy times," said Jennie Petit, a volunteer and translator for the Sister City Association.

One of the event's highlights includes a storytelling mobile application by Sequim artist Janine Miller where visitors can scan QR



Volunteers Jennie Petit and Angie Terry clean up different areas of the Friendship Garden within Carrie Blake Community Park. They host an open house from noon-3 p.m. Saturday, April 4 with various art activities, tours, and more.

codes with their phones to see animated myth-based stories at eight locations around the garden, including bridges, the zen garden, and across from the lantern.

"Each story corresponds to specific features of the garden, encouraging visitors to engage with both the landscape and the cultural narratives tied to Sequim's sister-city relationship with Shiso, Japan," organizers said.

QR code signs will only be up on Saturday, Petit said, but they're looking into more permanent options.

Sequim photographer Tom Bouchard will also offer limited amounts of portraits for free through his Cedar & Shore Studio on a first-come, first-served basis. Visitors can sign up in person from noon-2 p.m.

with slots available from 2-3 p.m. Photos will be made available online afterward.

From noon-1 p.m. children's kites will be available to color and fly, and from 1-1:30 p.m. and 2-2:30 p.m. docents will lead guided tours.

From 1-2 p.m. Miller will offer demonstrations of the cell phone application, and paper crafts will be available throughout the event. Local photographers, artists and floral designers will be on site throughout the event, including fine art photographer Marina Shipova.

Petit said 120 paper lanterns made by Sequim School District students will be on display in the garden, too.

The Sequim-Shiso Sister City Association will be available in the garden's



Shoko Suskind, a volunteer for the Sequim-Shiso City Friendship Garden, stands in the water pulling weeds from the shoreline. She is one of 10 volunteers who work from 9 a.m.-noon each Tuesday from late March to October to provide upkeep of the garden. More volunteers are welcome.

pavilion with information about the garden and its exchange program.

### Partnership, exchange

Along with offering fun opportunities, Petit said organizers hope to highlight the Friendship Garden's connection to Japan.

Sequim signed on for a Sister City agreement on June 5, 1993 with the City of Yamasaki, Japan, and on April 1, 2005, they reaffirmed the partnership after Yamasaki merged with three other towns to become Shiso City.

Then-mayor of Yamasaki Junzo Yasui offered to establish a Sequim garden in November 1994, and to help fund it for 10 years. It became the Sequim-Shiso

Friendship Garden in Carrie Blake Community Park and features a stone lantern that was delivered from Japan in October 1997.

Sequim sent 120-plus students from 1994-2019 to Japan through the Sequim-Shiso Sister City Association to represent Sequim while learning about Japan's culture, education, family life, and more. It went on hold in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Last October Sequim and Shiso City agreed to a new exchange schedule first with an online exchange on Jan. 24 in Sequim and Jan. 25 in Shiso City.

Representatives sent sweets and games to each other and spoke via a video conference call. Sequim students and chaperones

will tentatively visit Shiso City in 2027, and Shiso City students and representatives will visit late summer 2028.

Details are still being worked out, organizers said.

### More about the garden

The Friendship Garden is upkept by 10 volunteers who work weekly from 9 a.m.-noon Tuesdays through October. City of Sequim parks staff provide ongoing maintenance. Volunteers first met on Tuesday, March 24 to begin spring cleanup.

Of the volunteers, George Kennedy started in 2003, volunteer coordinator Jan Danford in 2013, and many others in more recent years.

Angie Terry said she's volunteered for five years and that being there is like meditation. Fellow volunteers agreed saying it's their therapy.

Organizers said the Friendship Garden is not specifically Japanese, but many of its plants and arrangements have been based on a Japanese garden. Large rocks are common in these gardens and known to symbolize permanence, stability and resilience, they said.

For more information about the Sequim program and volunteering, call Jim Stoffer at 360-775-9356, or email to sequimsistercityassn@gmail.com.

## Unsung Hero: Michelle Rhodes

Irrigation Festival director was named 2025 Best Volunteer in reader poll

By KATHY CRUZ  
Sequim Gazette

The fact that Michelle Rhodes is the emergency contact for about 20 kids within the Sequim School District ("I'm going to need a mini bus in case there's ever an emergency to pick them all up") could be considered insight into her character and the reason locals voted her Best Volunteer last year in Sound Publishing's annual "Best of the Olympic Peninsula" readers' poll.

She puts the well being of others above her own, and if she says she'll do something, you can bet she will follow through.

That kind of dependability is important in a city like Sequim, home of the Irrigation Festival, Washington's longest-running continuing festival. Rhodes, who served as a member of its board for

eight years, is now in her second year as the festival's director.

"I started by taking meeting minutes," she said. "That's how a lot of this work begins — you just say yes to something small, and then you find yourself more and more invested."

Over time, that investment grew. Rhodes took on roles coordinating events, managing marketing, and helping guide the festival through one of its most challenging chapters: the COVID-19 pandemic. When the traditional format wasn't possible, she and her fellow volunteers pivoted — creating virtual parades, take-home activity kits for children, and video programming to keep the spirit of the festival alive and to make sure the legacy endured.

"It taught us how to adapt," she said of that challenging time. "And it reminded us how important these traditions are to people."

That sense of importance is something Rhodes

returns to often when talking about the reward, challenges — and importance — of volunteerism.

"Volunteering matters because it's how communities function," she said. "If we want our kids to have sports, events, festivals — any of the things that make a place feel like home — someone has to step up and make that happen."

But too often, she noted, that responsibility falls on the same shoulders.

"It's the same group of people, over and over again, doing the bulk of the work," Rhodes said. "And while those people are incredibly dedicated, it's not sustainable long-term."

She believes one of the biggest misconceptions is that volunteering requires a major commitment or leadership role.

"It doesn't have to be overwhelming," she said. "You don't have to run an event or join a board. You can help set up tables, greet people, park cars — every little bit makes a difference."



Michelle Rhodes, who is in her second year as director of the Sequim Irrigation Festival, was voted Best Volunteer in last year's "Best of the Peninsula" contest sponsored by Sound Publishing Inc., owner of the Sequim Gazette, Peninsula Daily News, and Forks Forum.

Rhodes herself is no stranger to juggling responsibilities. In addition to directing the Irrigation Festival, she serves on

multiple boards, including her children's school organizations and the United Way's Community Impact committee. At home, she

and her husband, Jason, are raising two children, Emma and Greyson — both

See RHODES, Page B3

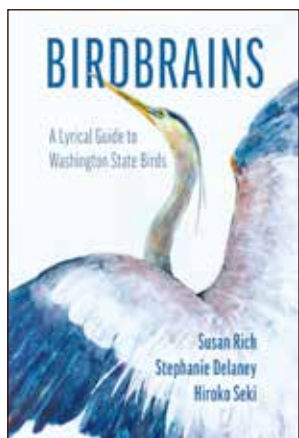
## New books from the bird realm



OFF THE SHELF  
By EMILY SLY  
Sequim Library branch manager

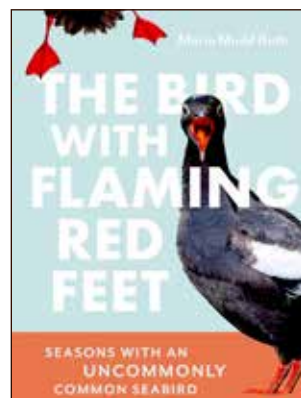


The new Sequim Library opened in March and features beautiful mountain views from the site where the library has been located since the early 1980s. The redesigned space has large south-facing



windows, outdoor seating and a stage that provide open vistas. Native plants including serviceberry and camas attract birds, and visitors may hear birdsong, see overhead flights or spot hummingbirds among the flowering bushes.

For serious birders and



casual bird fans, the library offers field guides, a NOLS Gear birding kit and bird call recordings. Beyond identification tools, the collection has many books that explore birds through storytelling. Here are some recent publications featuring drama, mayhem and love in the bird realm.

(Summaries are adapted from the publishers.)

**Birdbrains: A Lyrical Guide to Washington State Birds** edited by Susan Rich: Part guide, part literary celebration, this illustrated anthology focuses on 107 Washington birds with poetry, prose and memoir contributed by a wide range of writers. Art by Hiroko Seki appears alongside bird notes and fun facts by Stephanie Delaney, who describes calls, mating rituals, habitat, migration and more.

**The Bird with Flaming Red Feet: Seasons with an Uncommonly Common Seabird** by Maria Mudd Ruth: This book is a lively and heartfelt natural history of the Pigeon Guillemot, a charismatic seabird with

See BOOKS, Page B2

## Backyard Birding series returns Saturday, April 4

SEQUIM GAZETTE STAFF

"Sounds of Spring" will be the topic of the next installment of the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society's Backyard Birding series. Presenters will be Dow Lambert and Ken Wiersema.

The presentation will take place from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 4 at the Dungeness River Nature Center, 1943 W. Hendrickson Road in Sequim. There is a suggested donation of \$5.

"Sounds of Spring" features a new array of audio and video recordings prepared by veteran birder and photographer Lambert, with the assistance of Wiersema. The



PHOTO BY DOW LAMBERT  
A yellow warbler sings while perched on a branch.

two will also review bird identification techniques using the free Merlin Sound ID cellphone app from the Cornell Ornithology Lab.

# Wildflower Walk series returns to Dungeness River Nature Center

**SEQUIM GAZETTE STAFF**

The Dungeness River Nature Center invites nature lovers and plant enthusiasts to take part in its Wildflower Walk Series, offering immersive guided hikes through the changing floral landscapes of the Dungeness Watershed.

On April 22-24 there will be three opportunities to witness spring in bloom, with sessions led by local wildflower expert John Bridge and the River Center's education manager, Montana Napier.

On Wednesday, April 22, and Thursday, April 23,

participants will explore the Lower Dungeness and Gray Wolf confluence area on a moderately challenging full-day hike from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each day covers about two miles of trail with frequent stops to observe and identify early bloomers and emerging plant life in this diverse river corridor.

The cost is \$30 for DRNC members and \$40 for non-members. These hikes involve narrow trails, uneven terrain, and occasional obstacles, so sturdy footwear and good mobility are recommended.

On Friday, April 24, an easier walk option will be

available along the Dungeness River Trails in Sequim from 1-3 p.m. This shorter and more accessible outing is designed for those who prefer a slower pace and flatter ground while still enjoying the beauty of native plants.

The cost is \$10 for DRNC members and \$15 for non-members.

Participants in all sessions will learn how to identify native species and observe seasonal changes in plant communities, from first blooms to seed setting, while enjoying the sights and sounds of the forest. Walks begin at the Dungeness

River Nature Center, and additional instructions will be provided upon arrival. Advanced registration is required.

The Wildflower Walk Series continues throughout the season, with the next set of walks beginning May 13 and additional outings planned through the summer.

More information and registration can be found at [dungenessrivercenter.org/programs/category/wildflower-walks/](http://dungenessrivercenter.org/programs/category/wildflower-walks/).

The Dungeness River Nature Center is located at 1943 W. Hendrickson Road in Sequim.



PHOTO COURTESY DUNGENESS RIVER NATURE CENTER

Local wildflower expert John Bridge, with help from Dungeness River Nature Center Education Manager Montana Napier, will lead the next installment of the Wildflower Walk Series April 22-24.

## Facts about fruit trees and pollination

### GET IT GROWING: ASK A MASTER GARDENER

By JEANETTE STEHR-GREEN  
for the Sequim Gazette

**Q:** We want to grow apples and sweet cherries. The helper at the nursery said we needed to get two of each type of tree. I don't think our family can eat that much fruit. Are they just trying to make a buck?

**A:** Sounds like the nursery people know what they are talking about!

Almost all fruit trees require pollination to set fruit. Pollination occurs when pollen is transferred from the tree's flower to the stigma (female part of the flower).

Once on the stigma, the pollen (which contains sperm) produces a pollen tube. Sperm travel down the



pollen tube to the ovary of the flower and fertilize its eggs, producing seeds.

The seeds then produce hormones that cause the fruit's flesh to grow, attracting animals that eat the tree's fruit and disperse the tree's seeds, continuing the plant's lineage.

So why do you need more than one tree, if the tree's flowers have both male and female parts?

Some fruit trees can pollinate themselves, meaning pollen from their own flowers (or from other trees of the same variety) can fertilize their own eggs and produce fruit. These fruit trees are called self-fertile or

self-fruitful.

Some fruit trees, however, require cross-pollination (pollination by a different variety of the same fruit tree type) to successfully produce fruit. Their own pollen cannot fertilize their own eggs. These trees are called self-unfruitful.

Cross-pollination usually requires a pollinator such as an insect, most commonly a bee, or other small creature to move between flowers on different trees. The pollinators are primarily collecting nectar but are also unknowingly transferring pollen from one flower to another.

Plants attract pollinators by producing showy flowers, tasty nectar, or an attractive scent, all of which use the plant's energy. So, what's in it for the plant?

Cross-pollination results in increased genetic diversity of the plant's offspring.

Increased genetic diversity increases offspring adaptability to changing environmental conditions, pathogens, and other stressors. Cross-pollination also prevents the accumulation of harmful mutations that are associated with inbreeding. Both end results improve the survival of that plant's lineage — the reason why plants produce fruit in the first place.

Not all varieties of the same type of fruit can cross-pollinate each other. The varieties must bloom at the same time and be genetically compatible. Varieties that are too closely related are often unable to cross-pollinate each other.

Furthermore, a few varieties of fruit trees don't produce any viable pollen; the plants cannot pollinate themselves nor any other trees. Examples include Gravenstein, Jonagold, and Winesap apples. If you plant one of these fruit tree varieties, a third variety is

needed to ensure that there is fertile pollen available for all three trees.

Even with the presence of a compatible cross-pollinating tree, fruit tree pollination is not always assured.

Cross-pollinating trees need to be in close proximity — no more than 100 feet apart — to ensure that insects and other pollinating creatures move between them.

Cool temperatures and wind during bloom can reduce bee activity and the resulting cross-pollination.

The presence of flowers that are more attractive to the pollinators (e.g., those that produce more nectar) can decrease pollinator visits to fruit trees.

The use of insecticides can hurt pollinating insects and reduce their ability to act as pollinators.

Bottom line: For both apple and sweet cherry trees you will need at least two varieties of each.

Do your homework.

Determine which varieties are compatible. Plant and care for the trees to facilitate cross-pollination and avoid the use of insecticides to protect the pollinators in your garden.

### Have gardening questions?

Clallam County Master Gardeners will hold Garden Clinics from 10-11:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of every month through September at the Fifth Street Community Garden at 328 E. Fifth St. in Port Angeles. Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions, give vegetable gardening advice, and show visitors around the garden. Stop by on April 11 and see what should be happening in Clallam County vegetable gardens at this time of year.

*Jeanette Stehr-Green is a WSU-certified Clallam County Master Gardener.*

## Books

From Page B1

a story to tell. The often-overlooked bird plays an outsized role in marine ecosystem health, earning its status as an "indicator

species," especially for Washington's Puget Sound.

The author is the keynote speaker at this year's Olympic Birdfest at the Dungeness River Nature Center. Learn more at [olympicbirdfest.org](http://olympicbirdfest.org).

We Should All Be Birds by Brian Buckbee with Carol Ann Fitzgerald: Heartbroken after the loss of the

love of his life and increasingly isolated by a mysterious illness, Brian Buckbee is unaware that an injured baby pigeon, who he names Two-Step, will change his life. He takes in more injured birds, turning his home into a madcap rescue center. As Two-Step heals and nears release, Brian's condition worsens, forcing him to

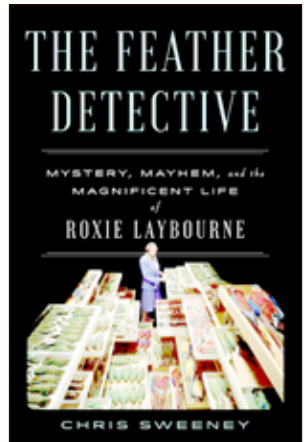
confront what comes next.

The Impossible Thing by Belinda Bauer: A tale of obsession, greed, ambition and a crime that remained unsolved for a hundred years. In 1926 Yorkshire, men are lowered down cliffs to steal seabird eggs. The most beautiful are sold for large sums. A small girl, penniless and neglected, retrieves one such treasure that will alter the course of her life. A century later, a robbery exposes the world of egg trafficking and a long-lost collection.

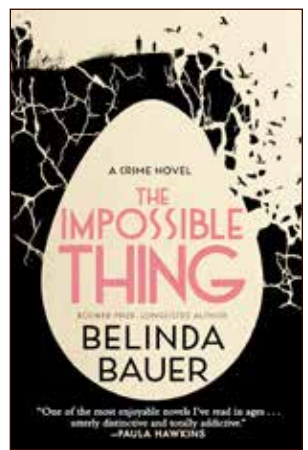
The Feather Detective: Mystery, Mayhem, and the Magnificent Life of Roxie Laybourne by Chris Sweeney: The fascinating and remarkable true story of the world's first forensic ornithologist, Roxie Laybourne, who broke down barriers for women, solved murders and investigated deadly airplane crashes with nothing more than a microscope and a few fragments of feathers.

### More Information

Visit the Sequim Library at 630 N. Sequim Ave., open Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-6



GRAPHICS COURTESY NOLS



p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Browse the catalog at [NOLS.org](http://NOLS.org).

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# NOLS hosting programs for Poetry Month



PHOTO COURTESY NOLS  
Nellie Bridge

**SEQUIM GAZETTE STAFF**  
The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) is bringing poetry programs to Clallam County during Poetry Month this April in partnership with area organizations that include Olympic National Park, North Olympic Land Trust and the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge.

will be placed in inspiring locations along six trails for Poetry Walks, a self-guided experience that invites participants to explore and contemplate the poems at their own pace while connecting with natural surroundings. More information can be found at NOLS.org/poetry.

(five, seven, and five syllables long) must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday, April 24. Each library branch will select one grand prize winner to receive a \$25 gift card to a local business, and two runners-up who will receive a notebook and pen. One submission per teen will be accepted at any NOLS branch, the Bookmobile, or by online form. For more information, visit NOLS.org/contest or stop by your library. Email youth@NOLS.org with any questions.

## Poetry Fest, Readings and Workshops

A free Poetry Fest will be held on Friday, April 3, at 6:30 p.m. at the Port Angeles Main Library, 2210 S. Peabody St. Clallam County Poet Laureate Nellie Bridge will read her work alongside guest poet Rodrigo Rojas. Attendees can explore beginner-friendly poetry activities and browse a variety of poetry books. Celebrate Poem in Your Pocket Day on Friday, April 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pine

and Eight, 511 W. Eighth St., Port Angeles. Bridge will host Seattle-based poet J. Baugher for a reading. Attendees are encouraged to bring a favorite poem to share with others. Browse treats for sale and meet other poetry-lovers at this unstructured time to mingle, converse and share. On Monday, April 13 adults and teens are invited to a "Where I'm From" Poetry Workshop with Bridge at 5:30 p.m. in her classroom at Five Acre School, 515 Lotzgesell Road in Sequim. This event

is open to the public and attendees can write or revise poems for possible inclusion in an upcoming anthology. Attendance is not required to submit poems, which will be accepted through April 30. Learn more at NOLS.org/MyPoem.

## Poetry Walks

Throughout April and May, nature-themed poems

## Haiku Contest

NOLS is hosting a Haiku Contest for Clallam County students in grades 7-12. Original three-line poems

# Be a Hero

## Ongoing volunteer opportunities

Below is a list of organizations that provide services to the Sequim community and would welcome volunteers:

American Red Cross | Amanda Hakin at amanda.hakin@redcross.org, 360-227-9554

Alzheimer's Association | Maddy Carr, mjccarr@alz.org, 425-230-4668

Boys & Girls Club of the Olympic Peninsula | Unit Director in Sequim 360-683-8095 or Unit Director in Port Angeles 360-417-2831

Captain Joseph House Foundation | Betsy Schultz at CPTJosephHouse@cjh.org, 360-460-7848

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) | Cindy Zechenelly, 360-504-2531

Clallam Mosaic | Lara Radke at info@clallammosaic.org, 360-797-3602

Dream Catcher Balloons | Captain Crystal at dreamer@nwplace.com, 360-601-2433

Dungeness Courte Memory Care | Sarah Sheets at sarahs@dungenesscourte.com, 360-582-9309

Dungeness River Nature Center | Leshell Michaluk-Bergan at leshell@dungenessrivercenter.org,

360-681-5638

Feiro Marine Life Center | Tamara Galvan at tamara@feiomarinelifecenter.org, 360-417-6254

First Step Family Support Center | info@firststepfamiliesupport.org, 360-457-8355

Friday School Food Bank Project | Jennifer Sperline 360-565-3703

Habitat for Humanity | info@habitatclallam.org

Integrative Periodontology and Implant Center | Sofia D. Petrov at drpetrov@gmail.com, 435-218-3388

Kiwanis Kids Fest | 360-452-5437

KSQM Radio 91.4FM | Tama Bankston at office@KSQMF.com, 360-681-0000

KONP Home Show | Kevin Murphy at kmurphy@radio-pacific.com, 360-457-1450

North Olympic Library System | volunteer@nols.org, 360-417-8500, Ext. 710

North Olympic Discovery Marathon | Victoria Jones at victoria@nodm.com, 585-451-0014

Olympic Medical Center Foundation | Bruce Skinner at bruce@omhf.org, 360-417-7144

Olympic Peninsula Humane Society | volunteer-coordinator@OP-HS.org,

360-457-8206

Olympic Peninsula Sequim YMCA | Joey Belanger at joey@olympicpeninsulaymca.org, 360-477-4381 x360

Peninsula Trails Coalition | Sara Tetreault, relationship manager, sara@olympicdiscoverytrail.org, 360-797-5376 (currently seeking volunteers for 2026 Tour de Lavender)

Port Angeles Food Bank | Robin Trent, 360-452-8568

Port Angeles Regional Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Information Center | Laken Folsom operations@portangeles.org, 360-452-2364

Port Angeles Senior Center | Carmen Geyer at cgeyer@cityofpa.us, 360-457-7004 x4554

Project Homeless Connect | Cora Krueger, 360-452-9011

Sequim-Dungeness Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Information Center | Kendall Melton at membership@sequimchamber.com, 360-683-6197

Sequim Food Bank | info@sequimfoodbank.org, 360-683-1205

Sequim Guild for Seattle Children's Hospital | Lydia Stanhope at stanhope@retired@msn.com, 360-477-6494

Sequim Irrigation Festival | info@irrigationfestival.com

Sequim Lavender Festival

| Kelly Iriye at directorlavenderfestival@gmail.com Sequim Museum & Arts | Angel at sequimmuseum@olympen.com, 360-681-2257

Sequim Wheelers | visit sequimwheelers.com and click on "Volunteer Now"

Serenity House Family Services | 360-452-7224 x1

Shipley Center (Sequim Senior Center) | Theresa Fox, 360-683-6806

Special Olympics Washington | Alex Rider at arider@sowa.org, 425-281-1769

Tour de Lavender | Sara Tetreault at volunteercoordinator@olympicdiscoverytrail.org

Volunteer Services | Cari Breese at 253-502-2766 or Intake Scheduling at 844-851-9380

Volunteer Hospice of Clallam County | 360-452-1511 x4

Clallam County Fair | parks@clallamcountywa.gov, 360-417-2291

United Way of Clallam County | info@unitedway-clallam.org, 360-457-3011

*This list was compiled by the Sequim-Dungeness Valley Chamber of Commerce, with some organizations added by the Sequim Gazette. Don't see your organization listed? Email editor@sequimgazette.com with the subject line: Volunteer opportunities*

# Rhodes

From Page B1

of whom have grown up participating in Irrigation Festival activities. This year, Emma, 16, is a festival princess. In 2023, when he was a third-grader at Greywolf Elementary, Greyson was a Junior Royal prince. "They've been part of the festival since they were toddlers," Rhodes said of her children. "It's just part of who we are as a family."

That family support, she adds, is essential.

"I couldn't do any of this without my husband," Rhodes said. "From January through May, especially, he really takes on a lot so I can focus on the festival."

Both raised in Port Angeles, the couple met at Peninsula College. They moved to Sequim in March 2008. Michelle works for Newrez, a mortgage company, and Jason is a nurse.

Despite the demands on her time and energy, Rhodes said there are benefits to volunteerism.

"Some of the closest friendships I've ever formed have come from this work," she said. "These aren't just people I see at meetings - they're people I could call in an emergency. That kind of connection is rare, and it's

incredibly meaningful." It's also part of what keeps her motivated, but she noted the need for new volunteers to step up.

"We need more people to get involved," Rhodes said. "Not just for the sake of the organizations, but for the community as a whole. These groups bring people together. They create a sense of belonging."

Rhodes feels there are others more deserving of the Best Volunteer title.

"There are so many people who have been doing this work for decades," she said. "I'm honored, but I don't think I'm unique. I think I'm just one of many."

Still, others know she has made an impact and has stood out because of it. In a time when many communities struggle to sustain civic engagement, Rhodes offers this advice:

"If you care about where you live, find a way to give back. It doesn't have to be big. It just has to be something."

For more information about the Sequim Irrigation Festival, visit irrigationfestival.com.

Interested in volunteering? Email info@irrigationfestival.com and include your contact information, what type of volunteering you are interested in, and any limits on your time or physical abilities.

# Church Directory

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For local Devotions call **562-652-8349** [www.bahai.us](http://www.bahai.us)

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Contemporary 11 am  
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Also available online at **DCChurch.org**  
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382 W. Cedar 360-683-4803  
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Maundy Thurs. & Good Friday Worship Services at 7 pm  
Easter Sunday Services 8:30 & 11 am  
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Desi Larson, Pastor 360-683-5367 [church@sequitumc.org](mailto:church@sequitumc.org)  
Trinity United Methodist Church welcomes all in Love, as we grow in Christian faith, and empower all to serve.  
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-- Micah 6:8

Call 360-683-3311 to place an ad in the Church Directory or email [linda.clenard@sequimgazette.com](mailto:linda.clenard@sequimgazette.com)



# Sports roundup: Wolves come up winners before spring break

## SEQUIM GAZETTE STAFF

Sequim's spring sports are now in spring break with a large slate of games and matches ahead.

### Tennis takes two from Olympic

For its second match-up of the season, girls varsity tennis players won two of seven matches against Olympic on March 26 at home.

Sequim's No. 2 and 3 singles players Calleigh Thompson and Sydney Thomas-Harris both won their matches 6-0 in two sets.

After spring break, the Wolves will travel to Port Angeles on April 7, and host North Mason on April 8.

The team has 31 girls playing this season.



PHOTO BY EMILY MATHIESSEN  
Sequim outfielder Seren McClurken makes a catch during a game against Bremerton on March 27.



SEQUIM GAZETTE PHOTO BY MATTHEW NASH  
Lily Sparks returns a hit with teammate Abby Brown behind her during a match on March 26.

### Fastpitch beats Bremerton

Following a 9-1 away loss to North Kitsap on March 25 in Poulsbo, the Wolves softball team got a big game from Mattie Messenger and solid pitching from Rilynn Whitehead and Naveah Owens to come from behind to beat Bremerton 7-5.

The Knights got up 3-0 early, but a two-run single by Messenger in the third inning gave Sequim the lead at 4-3. Bremerton came back to tie, but the Wolves kept playing add-on with two more runs in the fourth and another in the fifth.

Whitehead pitched four innings, allowing just one hit and one earned run. She struck out three. Owens went three innings, allowing three hits and an earned run. She struck out four.

Messenger finished 2-for-3 with a double, three RBIs, a run scored and two stolen bases. Kiley Winter was 2-for-4 with a run scored, an RBI and two stolen bases. Alexia Fuller had a hit and two runs scored.

They're set to play Lakewood and Fife on April 4, and travel to

Port Angeles on April 7, and host the Roughriders on April 10.

### Baseball goes 2-1

Logan Doyle bashed a two-out, two-run double to center field to put Sequim up 8-0 after four innings — and the Wolves needed all of those runs to hold off North Mason's late-innings charge in an 8-7 home win on March 24.

Sequim plated a pair of runs in each of the first four innings to take the big lead.

Devin Dearing singled home Hunter Tennell and Doyle drove in Connor Oase in the bottom of the first for a 2-0 lead.

Starting pitcher Zeke Schmadeke's single led to a North Mason error and a Van Johnson run.

Tennell added an RBI single for a 4-0 lead after two innings. Sequim used small ball to score two more in the third, taking advantage when Oase was hit by a pitch, Doyle walked and Oase stole third base and came home via an error by the catcher. Johnson added an RBI single.

Schmadeke shook off hitting the game's first batter to roll through the first five innings, but walked the leadoff batter to open the sixth and found some trouble. He allowed an RBI triple and another run came on an error by Sequim catcher Lincoln Bear.

The Bulldogs mounted a comeback but the Wolves held on for the win. Schmadeke recorded 10 strikeouts in the game and Dearing two in relief.

On March 26, Schmadeke's two-run double with two outs in the top of the sixth broke a 4-4 tie and Bear pitching in relief shut down North Mason the rest of the way as the Wolves triumphed 6-4 to earn a two-game sweep of the Bulldogs. Bear was nearly perfect in 2 2/3 innings on the hill, yielding just a hit batter while racking up four strikeouts. Oase had an RBI single, and Dearing added an RBI on a fielder's choice for Sequim.

To end the week, the Wolves lost for the first time this season on March 27 with a 10-0 loss in Kingston. The Buccaneer's Vaka Tameilau had a two-hit shutout with 10 strikeouts. Bear and William Kuperus each had Sequim's hits. The Wolves next host River Ridge

on Friday.

### Randall holds best 800 time in state so far

Sequim's Reid Randall won the 800-meter run with a personal-best time of 1 minute, 56.64 seconds at the Issaquah Icebreaker on March 28.

That is the No. 1 800 time posted at the 2A level so far this spring in the entire state. Randall also helped the Sequim 4x400 team come in third with a time of 3:32.27. His teammates included Westley French, Gavin Tupper and Adrian Osborne.

Silas Hagar also finished fifth in the 100-meter to set a personal-best time of 12:20.

Sequim hosts its first track meet of the season on April 15.

### Soccer takes down Trojans

The Sequim boys soccer squad got an important boost with a 3-1 league win over Olympic going into spring break on March 27.

The Wolves got goals from seniors Nico Musso and Finn Braaten and freshman Finn

Curran.

"Bjorn Henrickson was [also] outstanding, but collectively, we played really well and used the majority of players with good game time," said Sequim coach Ian McCallum.

"We were a little more direct in our play and the coaching staff did a good job working the bench. The guys off the bench performed well and brought a lot of energy into the game."

Sequim (2-3, 2-3) next travels to play rival Port Angeles on April 7.

"I think we're all wishing we could continue to play this week. We're in a good place," McCallum said.

On March 24, the Wolves lost 5-1 to Bainbridge at home.

McCallum said he felt they acquitted themselves well, despite missing several players, including key senior leaders, to injury and illness. The Wolves got their goal from Colten Anderson.

### Wolves earn top scores in Bremerton

Raimey Brewer earned match medalist honors after shooting a nine-hole round of 45 to pace the Wolves girls golfers to a 203-220 win at Gold Mountain Golf Course on March 26 in Bremerton.

Kendra Dodson was second for Sequim, two shots back of Brewer with a 47.

Gabriella Hood added a 50 for the Wolves, and teammates Rachel McDougall and Brooke Piersoll tied with rounds of 61.

For the boys, Adrian Aragon led all golfers with a low round of 5-over-par 41 to earn match medalist honors for the Wolves.

Trent Allen was two strokes behind Aragon with a 43, while Talon Stover posted a round of 47 and Collin Sanders added a 49 to round out Sequim's scores.

Sequim is set to host Lakewood on April 4, and Port Angeles on April 9 at The Cedars at Dungeness.

## A&E BRIEFS

### Blue Whole Gallery hosts Writers Read

Blue Whole Gallery, 129 W. Washington St. in Sequim, will host another Writers Read event

featuring members of Olympic Peninsula Authors from 2-3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8. The popular series brings local writers and readers together in the gallery for an hour of storytelling, reflection, and conversation. Admission is free.

The theme for April

is "Your Life Story in 5 Minutes." Writers will take on the challenge of capturing a lifetime in just a few moments. Some may present a literal timeline or map of their past, while others may share a reflection on the experiences that have shaped who they are today. Attendees can expect a wide range of voices and perspectives as each author offers a unique snapshot of a life lived.

The gallery's hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Saturday, and Sundays from

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit [bluewhollegallery.com](http://bluewhollegallery.com).

### Community dance

Dance to lively music at the Black Diamond Community Hall, 1942 Black Diamond Road in Port Angeles, from 7-10:15 p.m. on Saturday evening, April 4.

Local musicians Andrew and Heather Norcross with Joe Fulton will provide live music. The caller, Laura Me Smith, explains the dance moves before and during each dance. No partner necessary. No experience required. Contradances are easy to pick up with a free lesson before the dance.

Admission is \$20 on a sliding scale.

### City seeks 'Stories in Art'

The Sequim Arts

Commission seeks entries for "Narratives: Stories in Art," an exhibition exploring the power of storytelling through visual expression.

"Narratives: Stories in Art" celebrates the many ways stories live within art, whether personal or political, imagined or remembered, intimate or universal. The Commission seeks works that embody narrative in all its forms:

- Personal histories and memoirs
- Cultural identity and heritage
- Myth, folklore, and reimagined legends
- Social commentary and collective memory
- Fictional worlds and speculative futures
- Abstract works that imply a story through form, gesture, or symbolism

The exhibition will be displayed in the Karen Kuznek-Reese Gallery at the Sequim Civic Center, 152

West Cedar St., from June 5 through August 20. The deadline to submit artwork is 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 15. Artwork will be juried by the Sequim Arts Commission on Monday, April 27, and notifications will go out to artists in early May.

To submit artwork, go to <https://portal.laserefiche.com/r7962/forms/survey/UEAMI>.

For inquiries, contact Arts Coordinator Sarah Hurt at [shurt@sequimwa.gov](mailto:shurt@sequimwa.gov) or 360-582-2477.

### Dance at Sequim Elks

On Sunday, April 12, from 6-8:30 p.m., Sound Advice will play Motown, classic soul and hits from the 1960s and '70s for couples and freestyle dancing at Sequim Elks Lodge, 143 Port Williams Road in Sequim. Cost is \$12 for guests, \$10 for members.

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# Step into spring with Sequim's First Friday Art Walk

Pink is the theme color for April's event supporting local artists

By RENNE EMIKO BROCK for the Sequim Gazette

The theme color for Sequim's April 3 First Friday Art Walk is pink. Participants are invited to get in the spirit of spring by wearing pink, burgundy or soft blush for an evening on the town.

First Friday Art Walk, a free, self-guided tour, takes place from 5-8 p.m. at various locations around Sequim. Visit SequimArtWalk.com to download and print your own map, find out what special events are happening, and access links.

Here are some of the special events planned for April 3:

Beginning April 1, visit local merchants and destinations to find and match the student-crafted bird sculptures for this year's BirdFest/BirdQuest. Game cards are available at all participating locations, including the Sequim Visitor Information Center. Match a minimum of 15 sculptures with their locations on the game card, then enter to win the Grand Prize Basket, which includes treats for bird watchers, Sequim swag, and a one-year membership to the Audubon Society. You also get to vote on your favorite bird. The top three vote-getters receive a cash prize.

The game ends at noon on April 30. All game cards must be turned in to any participating locations by then.

BirdFest-BirdQuest is a fun free game sponsored by the Sequim-Dungeness Valley Chamber of Commerce that brings together high school students, merchants and the community to support the Olympic Bird Festival and shopping local.

Rumor has it a special guest will be hopping by to pass out treats and invitations to the Sequim Shiso Sister City Association's open house happening on Saturday, April 4 at the Friendship Garden at Carrie



PHOTO COURTESY RENNE EMIKO BROCK  
Lyn Conlan's "Fishing the Elwha" is on display in The A. Milligan Art Studio, 520 N. Sequim Ave.

Blake Community Park. There will be photo ops, garden tours, and crafts.

The A. Milligan Art Studio & Gallery at 520 N. Sequim Ave. will offer refreshments as they open for the season with a new exhibit called "The Pacific Northwest Impressions," featuring the watercolors of Lyn Conlan and the energetic oils of Anne Pfeiffer.

The Sequim Museum & Arts at 544 N. Sequim Ave. features the Peninsula Fiber Artists in the Judith McInnes Tozzer Art Gallery. Forty-three art quilts, fabric collages, silk paintings, sculptures and 3-D pieces go on exhibit there on April 1, created by Sequim, Port Angeles, Port Hadlock, Port Townsend and Bainbridge Island members of Peninsula Fiber Artists.

Blue Whole Gallery at 129 W. Washington St. features painter Jean Glaser and ceramicist Mike Middlestead with the exhibition "April Showers Bring May Flowers."

At Spoonbar Sweets, 171 W. Washington St., artist Kristine Henshaw will be doing quick portrait sketches for those who make a donation of any size to the Olympic Peninsula

Art Association (OPAA) scholarship fund. A scholarship is awarded each year to at least one graduating senior.

From 6-8 p.m., Rainshadow Café at 157 West Cedar St. has live music with Dawn & Steve. Dancing is encouraged.

La Petite Maison Blanche at 213 E. Washington St. features artwork, uniquely curated gifts and more.

Alder Wood Bistro, 139 W. Alder St., has artisan wood-fired local, seasonal, organic food in the heart of Sequim. While you dine, check out their walls filled with unique art by local artists.

Over the Fence at 118 E. Washington St. hosts local artists in their shop and offers pop-up art making.

Sequim Spice and Tea at 139 W. Washington St. has unique items made by local artists that include glass, pottery, illustration, and photography.

Pacific Mist Books at 122 W. Washington St. shares the love of reading and offers an eclectic mix of new and vintage books, cards, and gifts including local authors and artists.

Pacific Pantry, 229 S. Sequim Ave., is open until 7



PHOTO COURTESY RENNE EMIKO BROCK  
"Upper Dungeness in dappled light" by Anne Pfeiffer is on display at The A. Milligan Art Studio Gallery at 520 N. Sequim Ave.

p.m. and hosts a rotation of local artists.

Three Little Birds Studio d'Arte and Western Wanderer

at 112 W. Washington St. host live music, storytelling apparel, handcrafted artisan goods, and more.

Sofie's Flowers at 127 W. Washington St. is full of creations from local artists and decorative pieces reflecting the season.

Forage Gifts & Northwest Treasures at 121 W. Washington St. supports local artists, creators, and makers of items that reflect the Pacific Northwest and the Olympic Peninsula.

Soup in the Alley, 138 W. Washington St., has live music from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Wind Rose Cellars at 143 W. Washington St. has live music from 6-8 p.m. with award-winning artfully crafted wines.

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Artist of the Month:  
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Show on display throughout April

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In Loving Memory Of

## David L. Spencer

February 7, 1935 - March 14, 2026

David L. Spencer went to be with the Lord on March 14, 2026. Born in Wenatchee in 1935 and raised in Trafton, David graduated from Arlington High School in 1953. Joining the Army that year, he completed a 4-year tour as an Infantryman and met his future bride of 65 years, Lauqueta, while stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia. David returned to his beloved Washington State with his new bride in 1958. David worked numerous jobs in an effort to get established before landing a job in the banking industry at Evergreen State Bank. David loved the Washington outdoors, frequently getting home from work on a Friday to pack the family up in the car to go tent, then tent trailer, travel trailer, and finally motorhome camping while fishing, hunting, and rockhounding around Western Washington. He and his two oldest boys would often grab their backpacks and fishing poles to head out for a weekend of creek fishing while sleeping under a tarp to "stay dry". This love of the Washington outdoors brought the family to the Peninsula on numerous weekends for years before David and Lauqueta finally moved the family to Sequim in 1975. David did stints with Sunnyside Enterprises and the Clallam Co-op before returning to finance and the job he would eventually retire from at First Federal Savings and Loan in Sequim. During this Sequim time, the couple raised their youngest son, were involved with Sequim Bible Church, and Sequim Bible Church Christian School. David particularly enjoyed his time coaching the "Sequim Gym Rats" youth basketball team. David and Lauqueta would spend their "retirement years" developing Spencer Farm Place, doing some traveling including a missions trip to Romania, improving, and flipping an occasional Sequim home, then settling for better than 20 years on Washington Harbor Road. David was preceded in death by his wife and his four siblings. He is survived by the couple's three sons: David (Tracy), Richard (Teresa), and Kenneth (Shawnee), five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews who were all loved. A graveside memorial will be held at Sequim View Cemetery on June 9th at 11 o'clock.

In lieu of flowers please make a contribution to:  
River of Life/International Messengers, Doug and Roberta Moore, Romania  
[internationalmessengers.org](http://internationalmessengers.org)

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**Legal Notices - General**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLALLAM**  
In re the Estate of: DANNY STEVEN KENDRICK, Deceased. **Case No. 26-4-0011905 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030**  
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original claim with the Court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty (30) days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) Four (4) months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against decedent's probate and non-probate assets. **DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:** March 25, 2026 **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Joshua Robert Kendrick **ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** W. Jeff Davis, WSBA #12246 of BELL & DAVIS PLLC **ADDRESS FOR MAILING OR SERVICE:** PO Box 510, Sequim, WA 98382 **SG.:** March 25 and April 1, 8, 2026 **Legal No. 1028060**

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR CLALLAM COUNTY**  
Estate of Norman W. Vorhies, Deceased No. 26-4-00134-05 **PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
The personal representative named below has been appointed and has qualified as personal representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the personal representative or the personal representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) Thirty days after the personal representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. **DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:** April 1, 2026 **Personal Representative:** Gerald R. Hansen **Attorneys for Personal Representative:** Sequim Law PLLC Alan E. Millet, WSBA #11706 Monica Pelletieri, WSBA#63824. **Address for Mailing or Service:** 109-B E. Bell St. P.O. Box 1029, Sequim, Washington 98382 **SG.:** April 1, 8, 15, 2026 **Legal no. 1028568**

**Legal Notices - General**

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY**  
In the Matter of the Estate of DENNIS LEE WILSON, Deceased. No. 26-4-02309-1 SEA **PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS RCW 11.40.030**  
The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in RCW 11.40.070 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. The claim must be presented within the later of: (1) thirty days after the Personal Representative served or mailed the notice to the creditor as provided under RCW 11.40.020(1)(c); or (2) four months after the date of first publication of the notice. If the claim is not presented within this time frame, the claim is forever barred, except as otherwise provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective as to claims against both the decedent's probate and nonprobate assets. **Personal Representative:** Marc Dylan Wilson **Attorney for Estate:** Thomas D. Lofton **Oseran Hahn P.S.** 11225 SE 6th Street, Suite 100, Bellevue, WA 98004 **Telephone:** 425-455-3900 **FAX:** 425-455-9201 **DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION:** April 1, 2026 **COURT OF PROBATE PROCEEDINGS:** King County Superior Court **CAUSE NUMBER:** 26-4-02309-1 SEA **SG.:** April 1, 8, 15, 2026 **Legal No. 1028567**

In the Superior Court of the State of Washington for the County of CLALLAM **IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HERBERT F. TYSON, Deceased.** No. 17-4-00202-0 **NOTICE OF HEARING FINAL REPORT AND PETITION FOR DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION**  
Notice is hereby given that the Final Report and Petition for Decree of Distribution has been filed with the clerk of the above court and the Personal Representative seeks approval of the final report, distribution of the estate and discharge, which matters have been set for hearing on the 24th day of April, 2026, at 1:30 P.M., in the courtroom of Judge Simon Barnhart (Courtroom 1) of the Clallam County Superior Court, 223 East 4th Street, Port Angeles, Washington. **/s/ Carrie Eastman** Carrie Eastman, Personal Representative Sanchez, Mitchell, Eastman, Cure & Wichert, P.S. Attorneys for Personal Representative 4110 Kitsap Way, Suite 200 County of Kitsap, Washington, 98312 **SG.:** April 1, 2026 **Legal No. 1028413**

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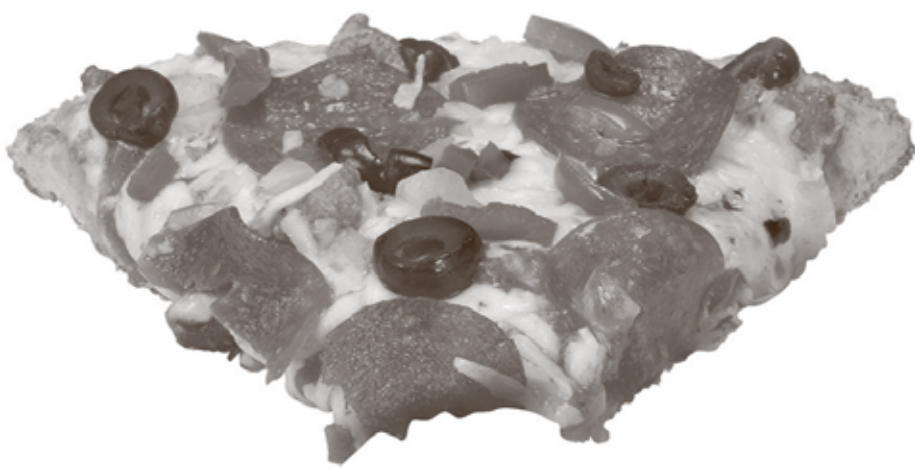
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**last week's crossword answers**

SW	AB	PATS	ADS
TACO	ACRE	DUO	
AGED	LOIN	ODD	
YESES	ROTOR		
	OWN	RAFT	
GYM	MAST	ABLE	
RUINED	HOLLER		
ALSO	SCAN	YAM	
BETS	AWE		
	RYANS	SHRED	
SUE	COIN	EAVE	
ERA	STONE	FREE	
ANT	SNOW	TEND	

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12				13					14				
15				16					17				
18				19		20			21				
				22	23			24	25				
26	27	28						29			30	31	32
33									34				
35					36			37					
				38				39					
40	41	42			43	44			45	46	47	48	
49					50				51		52		
53					54						55		
56					57						58		

**Puzzle answers in next week's issue.**

- ACROSS**
- Pork product
  - Up to the task
  - Night light
  - Put to good \_\_\_\_\_
  - Harbor sight
  - Salad fish
  - Slippery fish
  - Alternative word
  - Heed
  - Information
  - Beautician's aid
  - Crows' cries
  - Female deer
  - Printer's fluid
  - Related again
  - Railroad stations
  - Commendation
  - Movie rental
  - Ashe's game
  - Joined, in metal
  - Came across
  - Exist
  - At no cost
  - \_\_\_\_\_ and running
  - Doggone it!
  - Rest against
  - Husband's partner
  - Winning serve
  - \_\_\_\_\_ India Company
  - Building wings
  - That woman
  - Orangutans
  - Low grades
  - Egg producer
- DOWN**
- Colored
  - On the water
  - Liquefy
  - Lincoln, to friends
  - Stuck out
  - Meet defeat
  - Facial feature
  - Built up in reserve
  - Large brass horn
  - Again
  - Shafts of light
  - Embellishments
  - Dated ditty
  - "\_\_\_\_\_ Say Die"
  - Colored
  - Formerly
  - Woofly mom
  - Skin color
  - \_\_\_\_\_ man out
  - Ball holder
  - Put in a lawn
  - Packed away
  - Batter cake
  - Dog's bone
  - Gather a crop
  - Lighten
  - \_\_\_\_\_ cabinet
  - Foolhardy
  - Throb
  - Adolescent
  - Road bend

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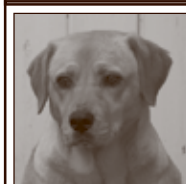


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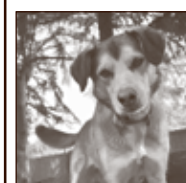
**(360) 460-6258**  
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**Meet Skippy!** He arrived at WAG after being left in a crate outside our gate. After being given time to adjust, he is able to show us his true personality. Skippy is a husky/boxer mix and was born in December 2021. He has done well with some similarly sized dogs at WAG after proper introductions, but would not do well in a home with cats (due to a husky's high prey drive), or small children (due to his large size and enthusiastic playing style). He has previously lived with children, so may be okay with older kids in the home.



**Meet Pula!** Pula sadly spent much of her young life without much human interaction. While she is still a little shy at first, she warms up quickly and loves her humans. Pula would love to find a quiet home with a large, securely fenced yard and humans who are home most of the time. She might do well with a mellow companion dog. Children make her very nervous, and we would be concerned about small dogs and cats with this girl. Once you build a bond with this lovely dog, she will be your faithful companion.



**Meet Tikka!** Born March 2023, we think she is a shepherd/husky mix. We know she is lively, funny, sweet, and playful. She has beautiful markings! Tikka is a sweet pup- and has a feisty side! She is really aware of her surroundings and sounds off if anything looks suspicious. Tikka takes a little time to warm up to new people, but once she does, she is a loyal companion. She is still young, and would thrive with continued positive reinforcement training.



**Meet Sally!** She is one of four puppies that came to WAG in 2023 from a hoarding situation. She is shy initially, but very sweet and loyal once she has grown to trust you.

Sally is a smart girl that would love to continue her training with you. She has been working on basic commands as well as a few additional tricks. She would do well in a home with children over the age of 5, time to spend with her, and perhaps another dog that could act as a good role model.

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