



The Tome of Lummi Island

May 2026 - Volume 61 No. 5



Calendar of Events

May Events - Up to date information at OurLummiIsland.org

| | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|
| May - Sept. | Art Exhibition, Gratitude Mon-Thurs, LIH&W Resource Center | 9:00 - 12:00 am |
| May 3, Sun | The Zimbabwe Story: The Art of Global Friendship, Island Library, See Pg. 4 | 4:00 pm |
| | Spaghetti Dinner, Grange Hall, See Pg. 3 | 5:00 - 7:00 pm |
| May 5, Tue | Improv, The Gathering Place | 6:00 pm |
| May 7, Thur | Senior Services Informational Event, LIH&W Resource Center | 2:00 - 4:00 pm |
| May 14, Thur | Island Flow Yoga, The Gathering Place | 6:30 pm |
| May 17, Sun | Yin Restorative Yoga, The Gathering Place | 4:00 pm |
| May 19, Tue. | Foot Care, LIH&W Resource Center | By Appt. |
| | Improv, The Gathering Place | 6:00 pm |
| May 22, Fri | Beach School JOGATHON & BBQ, See Pg. 10 | 9:45 am |
| May 23-24 Sat/Sun | Saturday Market Opens, Islander Field, See Pg. 4 | 10:00 - 2:00 pm |
| | Memorial Day Weekend Artists Tour. Various Locations, See Pg. 3 | 11:00 am - 5:00 pm |
| May 25, Mon | Memorial Day Service & Brunch, Island Cemetery, See Pg. 9 | 11:00 am |
| May 30, Sat | Honky Tonk Dance, Grange Hall, See Pg. 3 | 6:00 - 9:00 pm |

Weekly

| Recycling: Mondays May 11 & 25 | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Sunday | Island Chapel – Grange Main Building | 9:30 - 10:30 am |
| | Worship Service – Congregational Church Sanctuary | 10:30 - 11:30 am |
| Monday | Meditation, Congregational Church, Social Hall | 9:00 am |
| Tuesday | Island Chapel Ladies' Bible Study – 1759 Joans Ln / Zoom | 7:00 pm |
| | Wellness Yoga, The Gathering Place | 9:00 am |
| Wednesday | Tai Chi, The Gathering Place | 9:00 am |
| | Elderberries Lunch (12pm), Games, and Coffee – The Gathering Place | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm |
| | Island Chapel Family Bible Study – 1759 Joans Ln / Zoom | 6:00 - 7:00 pm |
| Thursday | Chair Yoga, The Gathering Place, | 10:00 am |
| | LIFD Volunteer Firefighting Training (except holidays) | 6:30 - 9:00 pm |
| Friday | Kids Dance, LICC Social Hall | 10:00 am |
| | Coffee Shop and Games – The Gathering Place | 10:00 - 11:30 am |
| | Qigong, Grange Hall | 9:00 - 10:00 am |
| Saturday | Hatha Yoga, The Gathering Place | 10:00 am |
| | Preschool Story Time at the Library Until May 16th | 10:30 - 11:00 am |
| | Dance For Life, The Gathering Place | 1:00 pm |

Ferry Refueling: May 14 & 28 - 12:10 pm Gooseberry & 1:00 pm Lummi Island Runs Delayed

Monthly

| | | |
|-----------|---|---------------------|
| 1st Mon. | Emergency Siren Test - <i>Do not call 911</i> | 12:00 pm |
| 3rd Mon. | FOIL Board Meeting – Library, Hanson Meeting Room | 6:00 pm |
| 1st Tue | LICA Board Meeting - Library, Hanson Meeting Room | 7:00 pm |
| 2nd Tue. | WCFD 11 Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting - Fire Hall | 7:00 pm |
| 4th Tue. | Cemetery Commission Meeting - Grange Hall | 4:00 - 5:00 pm |
| 1st Wed. | Grange Meeting - Grange Hall | 6:30 pm |
| 4th Wed. | Historical Society, Island Library | 6:00 - 7:30 pm |
| | WCFAC Meeting, The Gathering Place | 6:00 pm |
| 2nd Thur. | Civic Club - Grange Hall | 10:00 am |
| 4th Thur | Library Book Club - Library, Hanson Room | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm |

LICA Presidents Corner

By David Thorn

With summer almost here, LICA will be at the Farmer's Market. Please take a few minutes to stop by the LICA table and meet some board members and provide us with comments and island concerns. You can always send us written questions and concerns through our drop box across from the post office. We welcome and thank our two new board members, Paul Millage and Sarah Powell.

The island road cleanup is set for 9 am June 13th at the Grange. Join us for this fun island event. Come at 9 and enjoy fresh baked pastries and coffee or tea to get you ready to hit the road to clean-up the island. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and get to know the island. For those new to the event there will be reflective vests to wear and a pickup truck assigned to each group to carry any heavy bags or items picked up. You never know what you might find along the road!

The LICA board meets the first Tuesday of the month 7 pm at the library. All are welcome to join us.

Possible County Closure of Parking at Paul Davis Park There is a rumor that the County is considering closing off much of the parking at Paul Davis Park (Ferry Overflow Parking). This is in response to abandoned junk cars and boats in the parking area. Please help save our parking lot and remove the boats and cars presently there.

David

| Past Rainfall Totals | | 2025 | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Location | January | February | March | April | May | June |
| Westshore - Hutton/Byers | 2.93 | 2.62 | 4.31 | 1.72 | 1.14 | 1.22 |
| North Tuttle Lane - Nancy Simmerman | 2.78 | 3.32 | 3.70 | 1.75 | 1.66 | 0.92 |
| South Nugent - Jerry Brown | 2.82 | 3.34 | 4.47 | 1.73 | 1.45 | 0.80 |
| Scenic Estates - Leslie Dempsey | 2.45 | 3.37 | 5.04 | 1.72 | 1.69 | 1.16 |
| Granger Way - Scott Josiah | 2.65 | 3.27 | 4.17 | 1.75 | 1.46 | 0.80 |
| Scenic Estates - Crawford | 1.94 | 3.09 | 4.82 | 1.76 | 1.28 | 1.10 |

| Current Rainfall Totals | | 2026 | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|
| Location | January | February | March | April | May | June |
| Westshore - Hutton/Byers | 3.32 | 1.95 | 5.31 | 💧 | 💧 | 💧 |
| North Tuttle Lane - Nancy Simmerman | 4.10 | 1.90 | 4.97 | 💧 | 💧 | 💧 |
| South Nugent - Jerry Brown | 4.90 | 2.51 | 5.53 | 💧 | 💧 | 💧 |
| Scenic Estates - Leslie Dempsey | 5.21 | 3.02 | 6.71 | 💧 | 💧 | 💧 |
| Granger Way - Scott Josiah | 3.82 | 2.34 | 4.72 | 💧 | 💧 | 💧 |
| Scenic Estates - Crawford | 4.50 | 2.78 | 5.58 | 💧 | 💧 | 💧 |

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Are you ready to have **FUN?!?!?** Your Lummi Island Grange has **THREE** awesome events in May for your enjoyment.



THE SPAGHETTI TOGETHER



Episode 1: The Kids Host SPAGHETTI DINNER
 AT THE LUMMI ISLAND GRANGE
 MAY 3 FROM 5 TO 7PM
 SUGGESTED DONATION \$15



May 2, the Lummi Island Civic Club will hold the annual Plant Expo, Gift Shop and Bakery. Join Island friends and neighbors at the Grange, from 11am to 2pm. This year the Raffle proceeds will go to Island Health Ministry (formally Parish Nurses), an organization that benefits all of us on Lummi Island. Tickets can be purchased at the Islander until May 1 or at the Plant Expo.

May 3, Spaghetti! 5 - 7 pm

May 30th 6 to 9 pm the FUN continues with the annual Boot Stomping... Yee Hawing... **HONKY TONK DANCE.**

This is a family friendly event, so come and dance, or tap your toes to the tunes from the live band. Weather permitting, you can enjoy the fire pits in Alf's Place and chat with friends old and new.

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Lummi Island Artists' Studio Tour Memorial Day Weekend By Gayle Mitterer

Multiple Lummi Island artists and crafters will be offering their works at the first Studio Tour of the year, Saturday and Sunday, May 23 and 24, 11 am - 5 pm. This is a great opportunity to get to know some talented neighbors and support your local artists' community. Free tour maps are available at The Islander store or on Facebook at Lummi Island Studio Tour. Put this on your calendar! Questions? Gayle Mitterer 214-354-4460 or Barbara Boulanger 530-680-5402.

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Many more people in Bellingham and Fairhaven knew Walter than knew his name. He was the man seen running through town 5-6 days a week on his 12 mile route. It was with awe and respect that we marked his tenacity and life force as we drove and he ran on foot. Sometimes he could be seen running the extra miles to Fairhaven especially if he wanted to check out new shoes at Runner's World.

A kind and very generous soul, he knitted his workouts into community by stopping by certain shops to say "Hi" and offer to help with errands or to share some of his beautiful books found in the library "for free" pile. Mostly he shared his joy in seeing them with a smile and kind eyes.

Super smart, his interests were eclectic and always surprising... from space to Hollywood costumes. Sojourns clothing was a favorite stop and Sweet Arts, Freddie's for a lunch of fresh kale, the Bagelry and various banks where he would drop off deposits for the shopkeepers. He watched the store at Sojourns once while the cashier ran after a shoplifter.

His sister Lisa said, "Community was very important to Walter and he would engage people any place and time. He was impressively well read and would enter into lively conversations if inspired. He encountered so many people, each with their own experiences and impressions of him."

Lummi Island was his community too. His brother Peter said, "Walter shared his gregarious spirit with all who met him." He lived here over 40 years and like the rest of us Islanders, loved to be in the "know".

Walter was born on August 1, 1949 to Mary Emma and Walt Eriksen. He was the oldest of five children and tragically lost his father and baby sister in a terrible car accident. Walter struggled with mental health challenges for years thereafter. Running was part of his therapy as was his rigid diet. He says he had a miracle several years later that healed him.

Those of us who were blessed to know him well knew that he was a minimalist and an effusive, wordy memorial just wouldn't do. Lisa spoke the truth when she said, "He is forever loved by his family and friends still struggling with his passing." Walter once wrote to his brother-in-law Lee calling him a "diamond bright gentleman and a noble savage" That is you Walter! "A diamond bright gentleman and a noble savage"

Thank you Walter for sharing your light with us.



Friends of Island Library (FOIL)

By Barbara King

The Zimbabwe Story: The Art of Global Friendship On Sunday, May 3 at 4 pm, the Friends of Lummi Island Library will present the first public release of "The Zimbabwe Story: The Art of Global Friendship" a film documenting the ongoing relationship of islander Dan Dittrich with Zimbabwean Wilson Mhasho. Since 1997, Dan and Wilson and their wives Heidi and Josephine and her daughter Tafadzwa have developed insight and understanding of each other's vastly different cultures. This film is one outcome of this friendship. Another is a project to import and sell stone sculptures made in Zimbabwe.

Following the film will be a Q&A with Dan, Heidi and filmmaker Katie Ann Lange plus Plick's Flicks Executive Producer Jade.

Saturday Market

By Lynn Dee

Coming Soon! Our first Day of the 2026 Saturday Market will be on Memorial Day Weekend, May 23.

This is the same first day as the Lummi Island Art Tour. We're excited to be trying out a set up slightly to the north of where we usually set up. There will still be room for everyone, including new Lummi Island vendors, while leaving room for the Reefnetter and Bock's Box.

Mary Barstow will be holding a meeting for vendors, on May 9th, two weeks before our first open day, at 1:00 pm at the market field. We continue to encourage youthful vendors, so we have set aside an area specifically for them. Carolyn Jewell Jenkins will be overseeing this area most Saturdays.

The Islander field will be an exciting place to be as it continues to evolve. Come by to say Hi! and check out the produce and new goods. Our hours are 10 am to 2 pm every Saturday.



Gratitude: Fuel for Good Health and Wellbeing After a year of offering programs and experiencing the island community's warm and generous response, one word best captures what we feel at Lummi Island Health & Wellness: Gratitude

Gratitude is more than a simple "thank you." It is a shared sense of appreciation for benefits received and experiences lived together. It is a positive emotional state—and even a way of being—that recognizes the goodness in life and acknowledges its sources in one another.

This past year has been exhilarating for our small nonprofit, whose mission is to help islanders age in place with greater ease, safety, and connection. Together, we have built something meaningful. We formed a 10-member board, secured over \$100,000 in funding from a variety of sources, and launched a wide range of wellness classes and community events. We trained residents in home safety, introduced tele-health services to better connect people with providers, and partnered with outstanding island organizations, including the Fire Department, Heritage Trust, LICA, Civic Club, and Library. Most importantly, all of this grew from a remarkable wave of volunteerism and community support.

It has been a deeply satisfying year—more than words can fully express. As David Brooks writes, "Gratitude is a sort of laughter of the heart that comes about after some surprising kindness." While many of us feel gratitude occasionally, some people seem to live it daily. They take nothing for granted. They find joy in simple moments—a kind word, another's success, or even a sunny day.

We see this spirit right here on Lummi Island. One of our yoga instructors, Jennifer Martin, begins each class by inviting participants to share a "glimmer", a small moment of positivity worth noticing. This simple practice helps cultivate presence and appreciation. At Lummi Island Health & Wellness, we believe gratitude is also a kind of social glue. It reminds us that community is not merely transactional, but relational—built on care, generosity, and shared purpose. These connections are strengthened not by self-interest, but by service and mutual support.

According to author Arthur Brooks, gratitude is not just a fleeting feeling, it is a skill we can practice. By intentionally cultivating gratitude, we can counter negativity, deepen relationships, and improve overall well-being. He outlines five practical steps:

1. Notice the good things, even the small ones.
2. Express gratitude openly when you receive help or witness something meaningful.
3. Reflect regularly on what you are thankful for.
4. Be authentic; practice genuine gratitude, not just routine politeness.
5. Build habits of gratitude, especially upon waking and before sleep.

In the months ahead, LIH&W will launch a community art display centered on the theme of gratitude. We invite island artists to contribute works that express what gratitude means to them. Watch for more details from Kellie Shepherd Moeller, our Director of Communications. This initiative will extend our shared exploration of how gratitude can fuel health and well-being—together, in small but powerful ways.

As Charles Dickens wrote, "Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things." And in the words of Willie Nelson, "When I started counting my blessings, my whole world turned around."

Gratitude changes how we see—and how we live. In these ways it Fuels our Good Health and Well-being!



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10th Annual Reefnet Festival

By Festival Committee



Save the date! Aug. 15th for the 10th annual Reefnet Festival 11-8 Music by the Atlantic's, Food, Boat rides and more!

Here Comes the Sun! Summer Break Please note! Resilient Lummi will be on summer break from May through August. The summer will see many of us working our gardens, supporting recycling at Lummi Island events, counting bees, planting native plants, enjoying this beautiful world, and solar charging ourselves. There will be no scheduled meetings or events during Summer Break. Our next meeting is on the calendar for Thursday, September 10, 2026. We will keep you posted about happenings on the Island.

The Island Seed Library Spring has sprung, the sun is warming the earth, and the Island Seed Library is flourishing! This year the Seed Library will offer packages of seeds at the annual Plant Sale being held on Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 11:00 AM – 1:00 pm at the Grange. We have a delightful variety of flowers and vegetables and the seeds are free. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers to grow specific vegetable crops for seed. Please consider donating seeds from your own garden. You can also grow plants this season for next year's seed crop. You can find "How-To" resources at SeedLibraryNetwork.org and Salish Seed Guild at SalishSeed.org. Island Library also has a book about seed collection and of course our librarians can help you locate other resources.

Recycling Support for Island Events Recycling is available for island events through the Food Plus Recycling program of our Sanitary Service Company, SSC of Bellingham. Call Marty at SSC 360-527-9785. Marty can help you arrange for delivery and return of the large Food Plus totes. Let's keep our food, paper, and compostable products out of the landfill!

Here Comes the Sun! The Puget Sound Energy presentation by Juan Farias Torres was appreciated by all. As Juan made recommendations and answered questions, we realized that more information about financial assistance would be helpful. Hence, Juan plans to return with the Opportunity Council at a future time. It's also worth noting that printed literature about PSE financial Assistance is available at the Island Library.

The Plastic Detox FYI. There is a new documentary on Netflix about microplastics and the stories of people who are finding ways to improve their health by reducing their exposure. Highly watchable.



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Ferry Currents - Tips from your Crew

By Michele Morrissey

As we move into the busiest months of the year, we want to thank you for your courtesy and patience — both with us and with other drivers. We all ride the ferry too, and we understand the frustration that can come with a long wait. While you're in line, please keep an eye on where the ferry is and return to your car in time to help keep things moving.

Many factors affect our ability to stay on schedule, including traffic volume, vehicle types that may require ramp adjustments, tides and currents, other boat traffic, and drivers who may be unfamiliar with the Whatcom Chief and take a little extra time. If you are planning to walk onto the ferry, please arrive early enough to walk on before the vehicles load. Safety is always our top priority, followed by efficiency and courtesy.



Some ferry riders and crew members also look forward to this time of year for another reason — the return of the Purple Martins. Purple Martins are the largest swallow in North America and migrate between North and South America each year. We're fortunate to have a flock that nests here at the Lummi Island docks, using the wingwalls and dolphins as their breeding ground. They're a welcome sight, with their graceful flight, cheerful songs, and shiny purple feathers



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Angie Dixon, Serena Dabney
Colleen McCrory

You might have noticed that there have been several Audio/Visual improvements in the Island Library and the Grange.

We are working with LICA, the Library, FOIL, the Historical Society, and the Grange to build up a Team of people on the Island that have an Audio/Visual background, understand how to run Zoom, Audio / Podcast mixers, Cameras, Video Streaming (YouTube for example), OBS (Open Broadcaster Software), and PowerPoint. We are mostly using Windows computers, but some basic understanding of Apple OS is also good. The Team will provide services for All of the organizations and meeting facilities on the Island, if possible and as requested.

If you have this kind of experience (or at least some), and are available for evening and occasional during the day events, and would like to know more about the Team, what we do, or have a technical mindset and want to learn more, contact us at Info@LICA.us letting us know your, interests, skills, and include your phone number. Please be 18 or older and have your own transportation to the training meetings & events.



Lummi Island Civic Club

By Molly Forman



Civic Club News. We at the Civic Club celebrated our 110th birthday at our March meeting. In April the Ferndale Heritage Society gave us an overview of their activities including Pioneer Days, Old Fashioned Christmas (33 years running), the lighted Christmas stroll and how they are responsible for over 4 acres of history. Their focus is always on education, especially to schools and the public. Our next meeting is on Thursday May 14th, 10:00 a.m. at the Lummi Island Grange. Come and learn about the island when we do our Jan Granger Island Scavenger Hunt! This is a fun way to know the island better and our fellow members!!

Annual Lummi Island Civic Club Plant Expo - Saturday May 2nd

Start your starts, save your thinnings and bring them to the Grange to donate to the annual Civic Club Plant Expo. Drop off of items can commence on Friday May 1st starting at 10:00 am to 1:00 pm during our set up time. No invasive species please; beautiful planter and pots are welcome as well as gardening tools and supplies. Please label the plants with sticks or masking tape. Debbi Barnes-Josiah is our plants department coordinator. Last minute donations can be taken on Saturday up until 10:00 am. Then, the rope drops at 11:00 a.m. for the mad dash into our sale on Saturday May 2nd!

There are so many reasons to come down to to the sale! We will have various plant-like opportunities to satisfy your "gardener within" including:

- Plants, plants and more plants!
- Indoor, outdoor, starts, seeds, gardening equipment
- Gift Shoppe. Many new and very lightly used gift and tools. Gifts, collectibles, garden furniture, trinkets are all needed to stock the store; it's especially nice if it has a garden, plant, or horticultural theme; smaller gardening tools too that are new or really nice condition. Erin Deinzer is our Gift Shoppe Coordinator
- Raffle! So many prizes this year - it's unbelievable! 14 different raffle item packages and a new way to win the one you want! Raffle jars are at the Islander now so go down and buy your tickets and put them in the prizes you want to win! All in one, or spread them around. Each ticket / opportunity to win is \$1.00. Put your name and phone number on the back and put it in your preferred prize jar. Thank you to our donors and sponsor. Raffle monies earnings will be Granted to the Lummi Island Parish Nurses. Carol McKinney & Sandra Clavero are our Raffle Coordinators.



- Flower Café. Pie and coffee for \$5.00 to eat on site with neighbors and new friends. A bake sale too! We are accepting donations for that as well! Bring them Friday or Saturday too! Becky Crawford is the Café Manager.
- Knowledge base. We will have a Master Gardener on site for questions. Resilient Lummi and their programs. LIHT / Personal Preserve. Rodger Kessler showing his beautiful Bonsais
- ROOT BEER FLOATS!! Did I mention those are free??? Diet and regular Root Beer available The fabulous Jerry Crawford will be scooping them up! (Psst - be sure to compliment him on his new hat!)

NOTE: The sale will be open 1 extra hour this year. So come early or late, but NOT after 2:00 p.m. for all these gifts...



Check out our website LIHS.us. The Reflections section has small history stories and information related to the Island. If you have a Lummi Island story you would like to share, please send it to us at info@LIHS.us

Interested in “what happened when on Lummi Island”? The LIHS Archives contain letters, newspaper clippings, previous TOMES, photographs, audio recordings, and digital records. Contact our Archivist Jackie Marshall (1-603-801-8062) to set up a time.

The Historical Society meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Island Library, 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Next meeting: May 27th. We welcome curious people.

If you have skills or experience you'd like to share or would like to be part of establishing a museum on the Island, please contact: Joan Keiper- 360 739-0146 or Joan@Keiper.us or Jane Phillips at 360 389 6697 or thorndale2phillips@gmail.com

OUR FIRST PIONEERS The Lummi Island Story by Frank M. Taft *continued*

I'll like to write in a more serious vein of our first white settlers, "Tuttle and Lane. Tuttle was born in a Michigan town near the Michigan lake, where its breakers would pound, perhaps that was the reason fate, a desire cast, that to sea he must go, before the mast. From his home he ran, one summer morn, shipped on a whaler for around the Horn. Voyages he made, seven or more, but one day was wrecked on Alaska shore. In 1870 or around that date, he reached land, only one of eight. With the Eskimoes a year, then started south, along the shore reached, the Nooksack mouth. A beautiful island he espied, decided that here he would abide. Here the first white man, up to that date, made a home on the “Pearl of Rosario Strait.” So at that date, eighteen seventy-one, Lummi’s homesteading had already begun. Later he sailed toward the Golden Gate and brought back his bride in eighty-eight. Seven children were born to this pioneer and those who are left are still living here. Sons Christian and Hi, live down Seaview way, Mose and his family at Legoe Bay. Next one to come and the island gain, was a Boston man, named Fred F. Lane. It was in 1880 when he first lit, he built his home on the now-called “Lane’s Spit.” Both he and Tuttle wore the prospector’s sign, had mined in the rush of forty-nine. It was in eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, when first he reached the Evergreen State, had headed for Canada, but got only half way, and stopped at Whatcom on Bellingham Bay. In Whatcom made sheriff of that early band—and enforced the law with an iron hand. And from Whatcom to Lummi, he’d carry the mail, in a small sail boat through many a gale. But the mail had to go the office to reach. The postoffice and postmaster were both named Beach. M r. Lane then decided, to take a mate. So he left for Canada in 68, married Princess Nellie, of the Matsqui clans, 12 children were born the results of those banns. Long after that, around 81 the influx of settlers to the island begun. In nineteen o nine, Mr. Lane passed away—Nellie lived on for many a day, and for twenty years, after, she had done her bit, in tending the light on sandy Lane Spit.

When Frank Wright bought Carlisle, he was known far and wide, made a great deal of money. He had farms beside. He had a hobby and rode it for fair, how much money lie lost, he didn't care. He brought every acre of land he could get, Lummi Mountain also he thought a good bet. On the farm, one year he had cows. Next year, sheep —then hogs and steers, and goats he'd keep—any profit at all, it sure would be rare --he'd have lots of fun, what the heck did he care. In the cannery were hundreds of Chinks and Japs—Tomtan and Hawkinson looked after the traps. Pete Andrea from a brewery, also was here, Whatcom dairy it's now, then they made beer. And I've heard it said, but I don't know or care, there was more beer over here, than was brewed over there. This was when canning industry did hum. The Lummi Indians to the island would come, in canoes and boats of every kind. Kids, chickens, and dogs they left none behind, In the cannery they worked almost every day and sometimes the men would take their pay, and in a circle with a fire bright, they'd sit there and gamble sometimes all night. Some would beat drums and sing. To confuse their opponents, and luck themselves bring. With a small bone they'd manipulate just because, t'was a wise guy indeed, could tell where it was. Other tribes would come and if they took a chance, they would probably go home without any pants,

Next month - RECREATION

THE FARM STAND
AT FULL BLOOM FARM

Fresh, local & organic produce, flowers, & eggs, plus specialty goods & gifts.

Open 24/7 at the corner of Tuttle Ln. & Centerview Rd.

You are welcome here.

Lummi Island Congregational Church

Sunday Service 10:30 am

3913 Legoe Bay Road
office@lummichurch.com
(360)-758-2060

lummichurch.org



Laurel Osnes Rye entered the fullness of God's eternal care on March 28th, 2026, in Phoenix, after a sudden brain aneurysm at her home in Yuma, AZ. Her passing came after twelve difficult days. Days filled with love, prayer, and devotion of those who held vigil by her side.

Laurie is one of the most selfless, compassionate, and generous people God ever placed among us. She is a beloved wife, Bestemor, sister, bonus mom, aunt, daughter, and cherished child of God. Wherever Laurie went, she carried warmth. She lit up every room with her presence, simply by being who she was.

Laurie, a caregiver to caregivers, dedicated her life to serving people, often quietly, always faithfully. She lived her faith not as a concept but as a daily rhythm, giving in large and small ways, offering kindness without hesitation, and serving God in all she did. Her laughter, the sparkle in her eyes, and her encouraging words will continue to echo in the lives she touched.

Laurie, a humanitarian and a defender of justice, spoke for those without a voice. She stood with those who were overlooked. She made everyone feel important, welcomed, and part of her family. Her love was not selective, it was expansive, generous, and deeply rooted in Christ's love for the world.

Laurie joined the Lummi Island community with her husband Kjell beginning in 2012 when both were teachers so had summers, breaks and weekends on the island. In 2018 they both retired and moved to Lummi Island full time. She felt completely at home on the island and loved the people and the nature.

Laurie radiated warmth and sunshine. We will carry her laughter in our memories, her gentleness in our hearts, and her joy in every special moment still to come. Laurie taught us how to love. She taught us how to serve. She taught us how to let the light of Christ shine through us. Thanks be to God for Laurie's life, her love, and the legacy she leaves in all of us.

A Celebration of Life for Laurie will be held on June 20th at 11:00 am at Lummi Island Congregational Church and online <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87002824875> with a reception to follow at The Gathering Place.



Lummi Island Congregational Church

By Rhayma Blake

Let's Remember - In 1895 William Legoe deeded one acre of land on Lummi Island to Melzar Granger and Frederick Lane for a church and cemetery. It is fitting that we continue to honor the service and generosity of past and present generations at 11AM, Monday, May 25th with a brief Memorial Day service and walk through the graveyard, followed by an "SOS" brunch in The Gathering Place. All are welcome to join us for this moment of remembrance.

No Parish Dinner in May, but Coffee continues every Friday at 10 am at The Gathering Place.

And Elderberries meets every Wednesday with hot lunch at Noon and three different game tables and coffee from 11-2 pm. Join us!

What's ahead? The All-Island Rummage Sale rope drop at 4pm, July 3rd. Meditation, Wellness Yoga, Island Improv, Tai Chi, Chair Yoga, Hatha Yoga, Kids Dance and Adult Dance all continue. Find more details at www.lummichurch.org, www.ligatheringplace.com, and www.lummihw.org. You can always email us at office@lummichurch.com or call (360) 758-2060 with questions.

And remember, no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

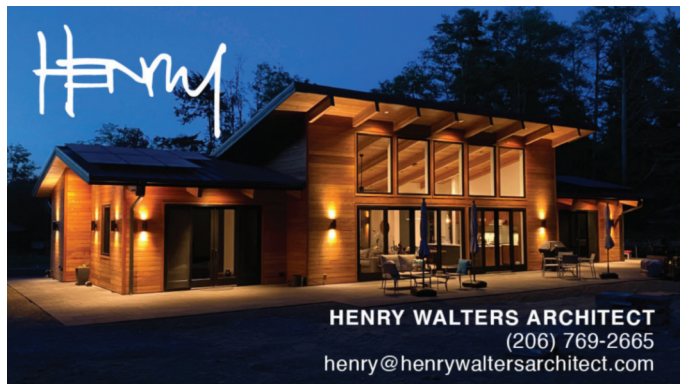


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Earth Day was celebrated with painting, poster making, and planting flowers. Our 5th-grade students were excited to present their Exhibition PowerPoints to their parents and extended family. The Exhibition is important for engaging students in a long-term inquiry project that connects them in identifying, investigating, and offering solutions to real-life issues related to climate change.

Beach Elementary Parent-Teacher Organization is organizing a **JOGATHON**, and we need your help to reach our goal of raising \$4,000. This year's "Galaxy Gallop" JOGATHON will take place on Friday, May 22nd, and donations can be made online using the QR code; dropped off at the school; or at https://beachelementarypto.betterworld.org/campaigns/2026-annual-beach-school-jog-a-t?utm_source=qr&utm_medium=print We accept pledges through the end of May. Come join the fun at 9:45 but RSVP if you are staying for the BBQ. BEPTO makes enrichments, programs, special events and staffing support possible.



A big thank you goes to Joanie Roteman and her crew who are finishing up pottery lessons for the upper grades. We are also hoping to put together a musical event to wrap up our music program in June - Stay tuned.

We are in need of students so if you know anyone who would like to send their child to Beach Elementary, you can tell them to register online at ferndalesd.org. We do not know what next year will look like yet but will let you know when we know. We are thankful for all you do!

The Gathering Place

By TGP Board



Memorial Day Service Monday, May 25th all are invited to attend a Memorial Day service at the Lummi Island Cemetery to honor veterans who gave their lives in the line of duty and for all that have served in our Armed Forces. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. and will be followed by brunch at The Gathering Place at 12:00 noon. Our Beach School students, with the help of Cisco Gowens, will put out flags on all veteran's graves. There will be time after the service to walk in the cemetery to see the flags and graves of our island veterans. Brunch will be a traditional military meal of Chipped Beef on Toast, beverage included. In the event of rain, the service will be held indoors at TGP.

Island-wide Memorial Day Artist's Tour The island-wide Memorial Day Artist's Tour is Saturday and Sunday, May 23rd and 24th, 11:00 - 5:00. Several artists will be showing at The Gathering Place, and we will have box lunches and baked goods for sale each day of the tour.

The Gathering Place is now booking weddings for 2026 & 2027! Did you know that you can book both the Lummi Island Congregational Church and The Gathering Place for your wedding? Everything you need for your special day in one location! Visit our website at <http://ligatheringplace.com> or contact info@ligatheringplace.com for more information.

For those planning other private events, The Gathering Place offers competitive pricing for meetings, retreats and fundraisers, baby showers, birthday parties, family reunions, memorials and other celebrations. With its large main hall, state-of-the-art kitchen, restrooms, ample parking, and beautiful outdoor patio and access to the beach, we've got you covered!!

We would also like to promote a "Lummi Island Preferred Vendor List" for those who offer on-island event services. For example: event planning, catering and other food services, photography, accommodations, flower arrangements, personal beauty care, transportation coordination, childcare, dressmaking/alterations, etc. If you offer any of these – or if you think your service is a fit for this list – contact us at info@ligatheringplace.com – and we'll contact you about being added to the list. For information or questions, ask one of our friendly board members (Barbara Boulanger, Julie Bredy, Sahara Burson, Robert Keller, Judy Olsen, Tom Philpot, Rebecca Rettmer, Kjell Rye, Hans Trieselmann) or visit our website at <http://ligatheringplace.com> and/or email info@ligatheringplace.com for answers to your questions.

TGP Events - Save the Date

- **Memorial Day Artist's Tour:** May 23rd and 24th (Sat/Sun) 11 - 5; Box lunch and baked goods, too!
- **Memorial Day Service and Brunch:** May 25th (Mon) at the Lummi Island Cemetery, brunch after at TGP Service: 11:00 a.m. (if raining, service will be indoors at TGP); Brunch: 12:00 noon
- **FIFA World Cup Final Watch Party:** July 19th, (Sun) Doors open at 11:00, kickoff is at noon (more info coming soon!)
- **Labor Day Artist's Tour:** September 5th and 6th (Sat/Sun) 11 - 5
- **Oktoberfest:** October 3rd (Sat) 5 - 8
- **November Artist's Tour:** November 14th and 15th (Sat/Sun) 11 - 5


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3rd Annual Field Day

By Leslie Dempsey



Come One, Come All - Come Join the Fun, You'll Have a Ball! For Adults at the Carriage House Gardens

Inviting those 21-and-over to join us for the 3rd Annual Spring Fundraiser, on Sunday July 12th, from 1-4 pm, at The Carriage House Gardens, 2272 N. Nugent Rd. This year's event proceeds will support the Grange's purchase of four new BBQs for the Alfs Place outdoor event space.

There'll be lawn games galore (think bocce ball, corn hole, horseshoes, and more), and medals to win! This is an incredibly fun adults-only afternoon. Entry Fee is \$50 which includes all games, an awards ceremony, a boxed lunch, and two drink vouchers (additional drinks will be available by donation).

Tickets will be on sale at Bock's Box Coffee and the Saturday Market. To purchase tickets during the week, contact Jesse Powell (564-203-8156) or Leslie Dempsey (360-223-6225). Use the QR code anytime for tickets, or go to <https://square.link/u/4xFTCnie?src=webqr>



Event Capacity 100, don't miss out - buy your ticket now!

In the event of rain or inclement weather, we'll move indoors for board games instead. We hope you can make it to this spirited event, which helps support our island community.

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Production is underway, with a projected release date in the 3rd Quarter of 2026.



We need a color photo or art for the cover. In past years we have had many great contributions from Islanders showing a core part of island life or an interesting subject. The last two were of the Fire Department and the Ferry – so for this edition we need something else on the cover.

Get your creative juice's flowing and send an original, not cropped, high-resolution (3-8k pixels tall minimum), full color, portrait orientation, clear bright .PNG image to publisher@LICA.us as your suggested contribution. It must be of general interest to the Community at large, have full approval of any people in it, and no copyright issues. The one selected will be on the cover with a credit describing the image and who provided it.

Go to MC.LICA.us in your browser to sign up for the **eTome**, **Brown Betty**, and our monthly **Publications Update** email (for folks who submit articles & events).



Ramblings on the Rock



Artisan Wine Gallery 2072 Granger Way. Tastings Friday 4-6 and Saturdays 2-6, or most anytime of a wine emergency. Check out their website <https://artisanwineclub.com/>

Beginnings Looking for the best \$7 wine for dinner **Rich:** Our interest in wine began around 2003 with a budding curiosity about wine coupled with a numbing sense of hopeless ignorance when confronted with entire aisles of wines in every supermarket and having no clue whatsoever about the simple task of picking an appropriate (and cheap!) wine for dinner. **Pat's two cents**— My goal all along was to experience many wines to find out what my individual taste in wine was... to demystify the wine world for myself and to have confidence in my own preferences. And in order to facilitate this quest, we immersed ourselves in wine—marinated?—and wanted to share our discovery process—Hence the Artisan

Wine Gallery. “Artisan” because we wanted to support small wineries with artistically committed wine makers. “Gallery” because we wanted a pleasing environment to showcase island artists.

Culinary Institute of America (the “other” CIA) Around 2003 Pat's son Don, who had been living in Japan for several years, was taking some cooking and wine classes at CIA in St. Helena. We drove our old Eurovan camper down for a week or so and took an all-day wine tasting tour through a half-dozen well-known wineries, often with the winemaker pouring in the barrel room. The Big Takeaways were that Wine was a Big World and that mass-produced wines from giant corporate wineries were a very different animal from family-owned craft wineries where histories of place, varietal, family experience, and cultural history protect and preserve an world of “artisan wines.”

Wine-lightenment: We had dinner with a number of the CIA students at a well-known local restaurant rumored to carry and serve the Most Iconic of California wines, “Screaming Eagle.” During dinner we all chipped in for the \$300 price tag for a bottle for the table. Pat got the first sip, and we all hunched over in breathless silence while she sniffed and took a thoughtful sip. It was extraordinary! Driving home, with numerous cases of wine in the old Eurovan, the idea was born for some sort of wine tasting setup in the unfinished upstairs of the garage/studio.

Our Wine Community The glue that has held this little business together all these years is the community that has formed around it, making it a place for meeting new friends, conversation, sharing, laughter, and yes, upon occasion even laying the foundation for community action! Artisan Wine Gallery has become a gathering place for Islanders, their guests, and visitors. We have come to know many people who recently moved to the island and take pride in providing a place where newbies could become part of the community.

It has been a good run—hard to believe it has been a going concern for over 20 years!

I want you, the Lummi Island public, to know what your generosity has provided here at Beach School. This year, because you funded a second teacher, we have taught 29 students, 13 from the mainland and 16 from Lummi Island. They come from diverse backgrounds. They ask questions and learn together. They share knowledge they have learned from their families and their elders. For example, as we have learned about salmon, we don't just learn the life cycle of an anadromous fish the way I did in fourth grade. We learn the cultural value of salmon. We learn about how salmon are a part of not only the ocean ecosystem, but the riparian ecosystem within a forest. We learn the historical value of salmon to the Lummi and Nooksack tribes, of which eight of our class are members. We learn about the importance of gratitude for the fish we eat and our responsibility to be good stewards of the land and ocean to preserve the salmon runs that the Lummi Nation has relied upon since time immemorial. We raise salmon and release them in a stream running through traditional lands of the Lummi, Nooksack and Semiahmoo Tribes.

Suffice it to say that part of the teaching at Beach School is integrating local Native history and knowledge. It is an honor that there are Lummi Tribal families that trust us with their children each day. They make a special effort to get their children to school, (they are not provided a bus to Beach School the way they are provided a bus to Eagleridge because Beach school is not technically their "community school").

As we face the same budget shortfall again next year, and enrollment at Beach School continues to fall for primarily economic reasons, I just want to be sure the island public realizes the treasure in our midst that they have supported for years. This has been a unique opportunity for the children of these two communities. Though they are separated by water, tradition and culture, they have been learning and sharing together for the last 24 years.

The Ferndale School District has not yet stated that reducing Beach to one teacher will necessitate the end of this option for mainland families to transfer to Beach school. But if one teacher is having to plan and teach 6 grades including Kindergarten, our school may not be as appealing. Of all the losses to our community that the reduction in staff may bring, I worry about this one most. There is a trust that is organically being woven between the children of our two communities. This can only help to forge a better understanding and a stronger connection in the future. There is no price we can affix to it, but its loss would be tremendous.

Thank you for supporting Beach School and the second teacher position this year. I hope we can find a way to continue our two-teacher, two-community model in the future.

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| Church Rental | 360-758-2060 Church office@LummiChurch.com |
| Free Notary Service | 360-758-2559 Call David Thorn |
| Gathering Place | 360-758-2060 info@ligatheringplace.com |
| Grange Rental | 360-483-3951 |
| Hazardous Waste | 360-380-4640 For Info & Questions. Open 9am-4pm Mon-Fri & 1st Sat of the month |
| Library | 360-758-7145 Tuesday 1:00-7:00pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10:00am-5:00pm |
| Parish Health Ministry | Ingrid: 360 220-5860; Joan: 360 739-0228; Lisa: 360 201-0830 and Jane: 360 389-6697 Durable medical equipment to borrow; food vouchers to the Islander for food emergencies; blood pressure checks upon request; rides to your doctor appointment if you need it (Please give a a week's notice if you can). Call our team for help. |
| Post Office | 360-298-7584 Mon. - Fri.: 10:45am - 2:45pm, Sat.: 10:30am - 12:30pm, Lobby 24 Hours |

The Tome

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