



The Tome of Lummi Island

2026 - Volume 61 No. 2



Calendar of Events

February Events

Feb 3 & 17th, Tue	Improv, The Gathering Place, See Pg. 6	6:00 pm
Feb 5, Thu	Kids Make Valentines, Island Library, See Pg. 9	3:00 - 4:00 pm
Feb 6 & 20th, Fri	Kid's Dance, Congregational Church - Social Hall, See Pg. 6	6:00 pm
Feb 8, Sun	Yoga Nidra, See Pg. 6	4:00 pm
Feb 10, Tue	Parish Dinner, The Gathering Place, See Pg. 4	5:30 pm
Feb 11, Wed	Planned Service Outage for Ferry for Inspection and Maintenance	10:10 am - 3:00 pm
Feb 12 & 19, Thu	Kids Dog Day Afternoon, Island Library, See Pg. 9	3:00 - 5:00 pm
Feb 14, Sat	Dance for Life, The Gathering Place, See Pg. 6	1:00 pm
Feb 15, Sun	Meditative Sound Bath, See Pg. 6	4:00 pm
Feb 21, Sat	A Dream Walk Through WCLS, Grange Hall, See Pg. 9	2:00 - 4:00 pm
	Talent Show, Beach School	2:00 pm
Feb 22, Sun	Community Discussion on Water Resilience, The Gathering Place, See Pg. 7	2:30 pm
Feb 28, Sat	Rails, Trails and Ramen Tales, Island Library, See Pg. 3	6:00 pm

Weekly

Recycling: Mondays February 2, 16

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
	Wellness Yoga, The Gathering Place	9:00 am
Tuesday	Island Chapel Ladies' Bible Study – 1759 Joans Ln / Zoom	7:00 pm
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	Coffee Shop and Games – The Gathering Place	10:00 - 11:30 am
	Qigong, Grange Hall	9:00 - 10:00 am
Saturday	Preschool Story Time at the Library Beginning January 24th	10:30 - 11:00 am
	Hatha Yoga, The Gathering Place	10:00 am

Ferry Refueling: February 5, 19 - 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
3rd Tue.	Resilient Lummi - Library, Hanson Meeting Room	6:30–7:45 pm
4th Tue.	Cemetery Commission Meeting - Grange Hall	4:00 - 5:00 pm
1st Wed.	Grange Meeting - Grange Hall	6:30 pm
4th Wed.	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
4th Fri	Historical Society, Island Library	4:00 - 5:30 pm

Upcoming Events

March 3, Tue	Blood Drive, Grange Hall, See Pg. 5	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
	Secrets of Dying Well, Island Library, See Pg. 9	2:00 - 3:30 pm
March 6, Fri	LIHT Annual Meeting, Grange Hall, See Pg. 10	7:00 pm
	Wanna Be a Dungeon Master? Island Library, See Pg. 9	12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Mar 14, Sat	Fundraiser Concert, Island Library, See Pg. 9	6:30 – 8:30 pm

Check the Online Community Calendar for the most up to date information at OurLummiIsland.org

Many thanks to all of you who were able to join us at the Annual Meeting. The Island organizations presented excellent reports on who they are and what they do for all of us. We need all of you to be involved to keep LICA moving ahead in 2026.

With Spring approaching, please keep Saturday April 11 open for the island road cleanup. More information to follow.

LICA is planning an update to the Island phone book in 2026 and the board needs your help to make this happen. Please contact us if you have an interest in being involved. All skill levels are in demand.

Your LICA Board meets the first Tuesday of the month 7PM at the library. Please join us there or leave comments/questions in the LICA drop box next to the Grange puzzle exchange.

Heritage Home Care

Caregiving Services



Sarah Powell
360-224-8549

ISLAND EXCAVATION
EST. 2005

Excavation, Utilities, Land Clearing, & Septic Installation

For information, email us at islandexcavation05@gmail.com

For more info about us, visit www.islandexcavationinc.com

Past Rainfall Totals		2024				
Location	July	August	September	October	November	December
Westshore - Hutton/Byers	0.75	3.30	2.18	6.60	5.67	5.50
North Tuttle Lane - Nancy Simmerman	0.83	3.26	2.14	5.96	5.21	5.21
South Nugent - Jerry Brown	0.94	3.56	1.82	7.81	5.65	5.65
Scenic Estates - Leslie Dempsey	0.95	3.46	2.00	8.28	5.28	5.28
Granger Way - Scott Josiah	0.84	3.09	1.89	5.96	4.90	5.06
Scenic Estates - Crawford	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Current Rainfall Totals		2025				
Location	July	August	September	October	November	December
Westshore - Hutton/Byers	0.16	1.27	1.00	5.95	6.30	10.09
North Tuttle Lane - Nancy Simmerman	0.17	1.17	1.03	3.97	6.10	7.77
South Nugent - Jerry Brown	0.10	1.26	1.08	6.44	5.04	8.20
Scenic Estates - Leslie Dempsey	0.12	1.72	1.43	4.52	6.52	8.96
Granger Way - Scott Josiah	0.13	1.02	1.02	4.41	5.42	7.78
Scenic Estates - Crawford	0.15	1.59	1.15	4.29	6.14	8.23

Mary Sews Many Designs

Mary Barstow
360-758-2021 h.
360-927-3651 c.
Lummi Island, WA

Quilting, Home Decor and Embroidery

SERENDIPITY DESIGN
creative interiors • events • floral design

Susie Wirth 206.940.3023 susiewirthdesign@gmail.com

Lots will be happening for our Ferry System in 2026. Some changes will likely occur due to projected County budget shortfalls. Ferry System Manager- Laura Frolich will update us at the 1/28 meeting and we will report next month. Two new Islanders were appointed by the County Council to fill open positions. Terry Diffley and Steve Thomas will join Rhayma Blake, Tom Philpot and Tess Winds-Johnson as the 5 island representatives. Jan Catrell and Markis Stidham are the members from incorporated Whatcom County (Bellingham, Ferndale, Lynden etc.) 2 open seats remain vacant for unincorporated Whatcom County. If you know anyone who lives in an unincorporated area encourage them to apply. We need those 2 members.

We will be forming the Service Alternatives-planning work group at our 1/28/26 meeting. After, we will reach out to island groups to choose and send a representative to these workgroup meeting. We will attempt to for see as many issues as possible and plan for solutions to provide services to our island during the up to 3 mo. passenger service only event while final Dock Modifications are made for our new ferry. This event is planned for August, September & October 2028. Preliminary work will occur in those months during 2027! Next Year!!, with only short outages. The permanent passenger float and gangway will be constructed during that time as well as additional dock work. The passenger float dock will be able to be raised and lowered for easy deployment when needed.

To provide a stable funding source for the County's 45% of Ferry System Operations and Maintenance, planning is underway for a Countywide Ferry Taxing district. Our Senator Sharon Shewmake Co-sponsored Senate bill SB 5839 and so far, it has had one public hearing in Senate Transportation Committee. Kaylee Galloway-County Council chair and Elizabeth Kosa-Director of Public Works and Sharon all made good speeches in support of the Bill. This change will benefit the entire county by freeing up money from the Road Fund , that is now spent on the Ferry Operations and Maintenance, to be used on All county roads.

More in next month's Tome on plans for 2026!



Ken Swanson, Island Resident Realtor[®], Broker

Helping neighbors find homes in Whatcom County for over 19 years.



www.KenSwansonHomes.com
Cell/Text: 360-961-6066
Email: KenSwanson@Windermere.com



Windermere Real Estate/Whatcom, Inc.

CLEANING WITH CARE

Licensed, Bonded & Insured

- ✓ Move out Cleaning
- ✓ Residential Cleaning
- ✓ Commercial Cleaning
- ✓ Air BNB Turn Overs

CALL OR EMAIL TO BOOK NOW



360-306-7078
1415 Undine St, Bellingham Wa
Cleaningwithcarebymichele@gmail.com



PEGGY HASSAN



HAIRCUTTING • HIGHLIGHTING
COLOR & PERM SERVICES AT YOUR HOME
971.322.4479 • Portlandcitygirl@yahoo.com



HENRY WALTERS ARCHITECT
(206) 769-2665
henry@henrywaltersarchitect.com

Friends of Island Library (FOIL)

By Barbara King



Rails, Trails and Ramen Tales - Learn about Japan and some Lummi-esque art islands as seen through the eyes of Nate, Reena and Tenzo on their family trip. Island Library, February 28 at 6 pm



Your modern, accessible, community venue for island events, meetings, fundraisers, receptions, retreats. Main hall, outdoor patio, commercial kitchen.

3913 Legoe Bay Rd.
P.O.Box 6
Lummi Island, WA 98262



www.ligatheringplace.com
360-758-2060
info@ligatheringplace.com



Western Solar

Residential Solar • Energy Storage • Commercial Solar

"We had a great experience with the Western Solar team. I recommend them without reservation!" David B., Lummi Island

360-746-0859 • westernsolarinc.com

Lummi Island Congregational Church - Happenings at the Church! *By Rhayma Blake*

Here it comes...one of our favorite Parish Dinners of the year! Tuesday, February 10th from 5:00-6:30pm we will be dishing up Beef Stew (Beef Bourguignon style or a vegetarian option), with fresh-made mashed potatoes, green salad and Jane's over the top Carrot Cake. Suggested donation is just \$15. Carry out...or enjoy visiting with neighbors and tapping your foot to some tunes by "Jimmy the Lock" with us in The Gathering Place.

Elderberries continues on Wednesdays from 11am-2pm. Most days this season, the fireplace will be going. Our volunteer cooks continue to rock serving up that hot lunch at Noon. Thank you!

It's also a great time of year to gather for Coffee with friends on Fridays, 10 am - 11:30 am. Meet a new neighbor or just catch up with an old friend. Many thanks to those who bring treats to share.

Sunday worship at 10:30am in the church sanctuary continues to get our week off to a great start and is followed by coffee and refreshments.

And it's official: the **All-Island Rummage Sale** rope drop is 4 pm, July 3rd. There are so many activities in the meantime. Meditation, Wellness Yoga, Island Improv, Tai Chi, Chair Yoga, Kid's Dance, and Hatha Yoga. Find details at www.lummichurch.org, www.ligatheringplace.com, and www.lummihw.org. 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.

LANGABEER & TRAXLER, P.S.

DANNON C. TRAXLER
ATTORNEY AT LAW

2701 MERIDIAN STREET
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON 98225

(360) 671-6460
FAX (360) 647-7871
dtraxler@langabeertraxler.com



ISLAND VETERINARY SERVICE
WILLIAM T. BAZLEN, D.V.M.

Lummi Island, WA 98262
(360) 758-4008 (360) 746-1126

Available By Appointment
House Calls

Ferry Currents - Tips from your Crew

By Michele Morrissey

Let's talk about a few winter-specific challenges. Visibility can be tough this time of year — for drivers and for the crew.

- When you're waiting on the dock to load, please turn off your headlights and wait until the gate is raised to start your vehicle. Headlights on the dock can make it difficult for the Captain to see while docking, and lights from cars pulling onto the ferry can be blinding to the deckhand guiding you into place. The docks and ferry decks are already well lit, so there's no need for headlights while loading. If you have a newer vehicle that won't fully turn them off, please use the lowest setting you can.
- Even though it's been a mild winter so far, freezing temperatures can still cause issues. Using an all-season windshield washer fluid helps if the spray freezes on your windows during a rough crossing. During heavy snow, please clear your vehicle of snow before boarding. Snow that falls onto the deck means extra shoveling and more work for the crew to keep things safe. If the ramp is icy, take it slow. Cold weather can also affect car batteries. If you've had to jump-start your vehicle, let the crew know and ask if it's okay to leave it running while you're on board.
- The Whatcom Chief is a sturdy, stable vessel, and weather delays are rare. But a mix of high winds and an ebbing tide can sometimes make docking unsafe, which may mean a short pause in service. Safety is always our top priority.
- And one more reminder we'll keep repeating: please set your parking brake. Even in Park, vehicles can roll forward or backward a few inches. That movement can put the crew and other vehicles at risk. Setting the Parking Brake makes a big difference.

Thanks for reading and for helping us help you. We're all on this boat together.

Lummi Island Blood Drive - Tuesday March 3, 2026 or Tuesday, May 5, 2025

This month I write about how giving blood has affected my family personally in 2026. On the evening of January 6th in Southern California, my niece was driving home from work and was hit head on by another car. She drives canyon roads from Lancaster back to Santa Clarita regularly as it is the most efficient drive and most beautiful after rains have occurred. That day, she came up around a curve and was hit head on by an erratic driver that was not driving safely and was passing cars at 70 mph on this two lane, double solid yellow line road. Her car was hit head on and tragically, the man that hit her paid the ultimate price for his carelessness. My niece was still fully conscious during this ordeal, had to be cut out of her car, and was airlifted to the local hospital in Valencia. While in the hospital, she was given several pints of blood to help her maintain her strength as she dealt with the pain of her many broken bones and injuries. Without donations like yours, she may not have made through her 3 surgeries. She is still in hospital and will next be moved to a rehab facility. Please send your good thoughts and energy to my niece Kristen as she fights to be able to walk and function fully again. And more importantly, please come give blood on Tuesday March 3rd and again on May 5th. Your donations will not directly help her, but it will in turn help people here in your own local communities to survive.

The March 3rd 2026 Blood Drive will be at the Lummi Island Grange from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm with the last appointment at 3:35 pm. Register at https://donate.bloodworksnw.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/97349 As of this writing, 15 people are signed up and we have capacity for 26 more for the March drive!

The May 5th Blood Drive will also be at the Lummi Island Grange from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm with the last appointment at 3:35 p.m. Register at https://donate.bloodworksnw.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/97347 As of this writing, this drive is wide open for the whole day! But registrations will fill up as many generous and wonderful people sign up for it during the March 3rd drive. To register, you may always contact me! I would be happy to help you secure an appointment. Call me at: 206-310-4809. Or email: mlforman@comcast.net.

Thank you for your eyes on this article and thank you for considering donation. If you have never donated before, we would be happy to help you through the process too!



*Designer ♦ Craftsman
of Fine Furniture*

Designing and building
fine furniture &
wood work since 1972.

(360) 758-7452

www.alanrosenfurniture.com



L.I.D.

LUMMI ISLAND DIVERS

Inspections, repairs, video, moorings, charters


360-296-4963



JENNIFER JANELLE

Holistic, Compassionate Care
Grief | Death | Emotional Healing

www.JenniferJanelle.com
support@jenniferjanelle.com



Baker Mt. Ranch, Inc.
founded in 1938

Charles Baker
bonded contractor
WA State Lic #BAKERMR023DD

Charles 360-961-3014
Tom Kennedy 360-758-2285

road building • land/lot clearing + development
tree work • stumping + grading



Island Healing Arts
Michele Morrissey, LMT

Massage for:
Relaxation
Wellness
Injuries

Deep Tissue
Lomi Lomi
Hot Stones
Medical Massage

(360) 201-4765
www.lummiislandmassage.com



Winter Is Better Together – Lummi Island Health & Wellness

Winter on Lummi Island has a way of gently inviting us inward. The days are shorter, the weather nudges us toward slower mornings and earlier evenings, and many of us find ourselves spending more time at home, wrapped in sweaters, watching the light change through the windows, and the wildlife that frequents our yards. There is deep wisdom in this seasonal rhythm. Rest is necessary. Quiet is restorative.

And yet, winter can also feel really long! As the weeks stretch on, even the most contented homebodies can begin to feel a subtle ache for connection, for movement, laughter, and shared experiences that remind us we're not meant to do life entirely alone. This is where the island community offers its own kind of warmth: recognizing familiar faces, moving your body alongside others, laughing at yourself, or discovering something new together. It's the glow that lingers after spending time with people who make you feel a little more alive than you did when you walked in.

These shared experiences matter more than we sometimes realize. Research consistently shows that our physical and emotional health are deeply connected to our sense of belonging. When we move together, we're not just strengthening muscles or improving balance, we're reinforcing connection. When we gather regularly, we create meaningful touch points that brighten our weeks and remind us that we are part of something larger than ourselves.

Winter is not a season to rush through. It's a season to be held—by routine, by care, and by community.

Lummi Island Health & Wellness' weekly classes and monthly events are designed to be just that: warm gathering points during the darkest months of the year. They offer gentle accountability ("I'll go because others will miss me if I don't"), low-pressure participation ("I can show up just as I am"), and the simple joy of shared presence. Whether you come for movement, conversation, or curiosity, you'll find a space where wellness is not about perfection, but about



LIH&W itself is guided by a dedicated Board of community members and staff who care deeply about accessible health and wellness on Lummi Island. Their vision and stewardship help ensure that these programs remain grounded in our island values, offering connection, care, and mutual support to all. We are grateful for each one of these people who bring vision, professional expertise and a love for islanders: Pictured left to right: Bob Anderson, Kellie Shepherd Moeller, Lisa Wochos, Jennifer Martin, Jan Jones, Shristi Reddy, Alison de La Bruere, Jane Phillips, Tom O'Brien, Julie Bredy. Not pictured: Robin Richardson and Pam Gould.

As winter continues, we invite you to explore what's happening at Lummi Island Health & Wellness. Come as you are. Bring a friend, or meet a new one. Let warmth be something you feel not just in your hands, but in your heart.

To learn more about weekly classes, monthly events, and the people behind LIH&W, visit www.lummihw.org. Winter is better together—and there's a place for you here.

February Calendar of Classes and Events:

- Mondays:** Meditation 9 am in the church Social Hall
- Tuesdays:** Wellness Yoga 9 am at The Gathering Place
Improv February 3rd and 17th 6pm at The Gathering Place
- Wednesdays:** Tai Chi 9 am at The Gathering Place
- Thursdays:** Chair Yoga 10 am at The Gathering Place
- Fridays:** February 6th and 20th Kid's Dance in the church Social Hall
- Saturdays:** Hatha Yoga 10 am at The Gathering Place
Dance for Life Starts February 14th 1 pm at The Gathering Place
- Sunday February 8th:** Yoga Nidra 4:00 pm
- Sunday February 15th:** Meditative Sound Bath 4:00 pm



**THOMAS LUTZ
FURNITURE**
DISTINCTIVE WOODWORK SINCE 1994



www.thomaslutzfurniture.com
tom@heartwoodjoinery.com
360.220.5324



**LUMMI
ISLAND
REALTY LLC**

- * A **team** of resident real estate specialists serving all Lummi Island buyers and sellers
- * Exceptional internet presence, accessibility and success
- * Visit our website: www.lummiislandrealty.com
- * Call **360-758-2094** for property information, or a Free Market Analysis

Angie Dixon, Serena Dabney
Colleen McCrory

Innovative Local Water Solutions. Resilient Lummi presents another inspirational movie night on Sunday, Feb 22, 2026, at 4:30 pm at the Lummi Island Library. We will be screening video clips about community projects to build water resilience and then discussing their application on our beloved Rock.

From floods to droughts to a bitter winter storm in Texas, our world has been changing. Rather than adapting to these more extreme weather patterns, what if we could participate in nature's restoration? Turns out we can.

When water is foundational in our land use planning, locally and regionally, great things can be accomplished. Join us for an informed discussion of local potential. Bring your observations and questions. Let's be part of the solution for this beautiful place we call home.

Lummi Island Civic Club

By Molly Forman



The Civic Club, founded in 1918, is an island women's organization dedicated to volunteerism and fund raising. Our efforts are maximally focused on the charitable, educational and cultural services on our island. We meet at the Lummi Island Grange most months to socialize and more importantly, focus on our three key aims: Charity, Education and support of Cultural Services on Lummi Island. Our year has just started and we are jazzed about all we can do this 2026!

On January 8th, our first meeting of the year, was led by our Vice President Becky Crawford, and was sponsored by our January hostesses Debbi Barnes-Josiah, Becky Crawford and Sandra Clavero. Each month different members from the club volunteer to hostess and coordinate the meeting set up, theme decorations, provide light refreshments and a raffle prize! It's always fun to see what our ladies have in store to feed our minds and stomachs! We are grateful to each and everyone who sponsors a meeting.

Each meeting offers an education program or presentation and last month's was really great. We want to thank both Kelsey McLane and Michele Morrissey who gave us a taste of what it is like to work on the Whatcom Chief ferry, especially from a women's perspective. They shared their experiences on what it is like to be accepted and to work on the ferry. Their presentation was engaging as they shared many interesting facts and stories and at the end they were bombarded with questions which could have lasted much longer than our time allowed. Perhaps a follow up session may have to happen!

Our club is looking to ensure we are doing the best for our island on many levels. In my end-of-2025 Tome article, you would have read about the many financial Grants we provided last year as well as the many events where we all volunteer our time and energies. I bet you will find at least one Civic Club member participating at almost any event you attend on our island. If you don't it's probably because we didn't know about it!

Our first of 2 big event we hold in 2026 will be coming up soon!! This Spring we will hold our annual Civic Club Plant Expo. The date will be announced soon as all the details are getting finalized. We can only hope that it isn't during Dry Dock, but our sale has been successful when that happens too! If you have skills as a project manager you are dyeing to display - we are looking for our new Plant Sale organizer! There will be lots of support, but we may just need a bit of nudging, coordinating and scheduling.

The Civic Club meets September through June on the 2nd Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at the Lummi Island Grange. In fact, our next meeting is on Thursday, February 12th! If you are an island women who wants to meet other island women this is your group! We always welcome new faces and were so please to have two at our January meeting. Our hostesses will be Erin Deinzer, Carolyn Jewell-Jenkins and Linda Smith.



FULL BLOOM FARM

The Farm Stand
re-opens April, 2026

Join our Spring Flower Club
to receive a beautiful
weekly bouquet of
farm fresh flowers!

fullbloomfarm.com/flowerclub



SEXTON CONSTRUCTION

New construction, remodels & repairs

Mark Sexton
General Contractor

1253 Jamison Street
Lummi Island, WA 98262
(360) 305-9390

Licensed - Bonded - Insured
Lic. #SEXTOC*965M8



LIHS News – Have you checked out our new website at LIHS.us ? The Reflections section has small history stories and information related to the Island. Paul Davis’s Digital Archive is there and articles are being added as we can.

About the Historical Society, our 501(c)(3) status and eventually more details as we grow the organization to serve the our important mission: To connect and enrich the community to the past by collecting,

preserving, and sharing Lummi Island artifacts and stories in order to educate the public and heighten understanding and appreciation of the past.

The Historical Society meets the fourth Friday of the month at the Island Library, 4:00 – 5:30 pm. Next meeting: Feb. 26th

We are currently looking for a treasurer. 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

The Lummi Island Story by Frank M. Taft continued

“A BARE-FACED ADVENTURE”

The Granger boys alone one summer day, the rest of the family had gone away, when out of the woods, a bear they espied, coming right for them with mouth open wide. With no time to run, too scared to fly, this is the story (now they wouldn’t lie): One of the boys, big and stout, down the bear’s throat ran his arm, turned him wrong side out. Saved by a hair, on this memorial day, for the bear was now headed the opposite way. And tickled by his fur, now on the ,inside, he laughed himself sick, and lay down and died. There were other tales I’ve heard them repeat —of seal who brought salmon for them to eat, and of clam guns so long that they could reach and club the poor bivalves that came up on the beach. Happenings like these that to us amaze, were common to them in those hectic days.

Coming next month: INDUSTRIES

Community Bulletin Board

By Jane Phillips

The new Community Bulletin Board outside at the Library entrance is ready. This is your opportunity to tell Islanders about your skills so you can be hired to do what you do best. There are 3X5 cards at the Library desk. Simply supply your name, skill set (carpentry, landscaping, caregiving, pet/house sitting, etc) and contact info and any other important data and leave the card at the Library Desk and Erin will post it.



The U.S. Postal Service celebrates the Lunar New Year with the release of the Year of the Horse stamp. The Year of the Horse begins February 17, 2026, and ends February 5, 2027. For more information or to pre-order Year of the Horse stamps go to <https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2026/0114ma-usps-announces-ceremony-for-lunar-new-year-stamp.htm> they will be shipped on Feb. 3, 2026. Or check with our local Lummi Island Post Office.

Hours: Tuesday: 1:00 - 7:00 pm; Thursday & Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Island Storytime - For ages 2-6, 30 minutes. The winter/spring Storytime series has begun! It's an open program that includes stories, rhymes, and songs with opportunities for movement and interactive participation. Meets every Saturday at 10:30 am from January 24th – May 16th, Island Library

Island Library Book Club - Everyone's welcome to Island Library's book club, which meets at 11:00 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Hanson Room. We read a mix of fiction and nonfiction with an emphasis on well-developed characters, rich settings, and relevant themes. Copies of the titles in multiple formats are provided by the library. Library manager, Erin Suda, facilitates. Upcoming:

- **February 26th** ~ *Solito* by Javier Zamora (2026 Whatcom Reads! book)
- **March 26th** ~ *James* by Percival Everett (2025 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)

Island Teen Corps - We need teens with community spirit to help out with our winter and spring programs. You'll support library staff with all the making and doing while hanging out with friends. Teens in grades 6-12 can register at the library.

Kids' Let's Make Valentines - Come to the library to make Valentine's cards for all the loved ones in your life. We'll have all the supplies you need; you bring your creative spirit and open heart! For elementary-aged children. Drop in on Thursday, February 5th from 3 - 4 pm, Island Library

Kids' Dog Day Afternoons - Cuddle up with a good book and read to a canine friend and volunteer from the Whatcom Humane Society. All dogs have completed basic obedience and/or participated in WHS education programs. Reserve your half-hour spot between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. Participants should be able to read with minimal help. Space is limited; registration is required. Register online or call Island Library at 360-758-7145. Thursdays, February 12th and 19th from 3 – 5 pm, Island Library

A Dream Walk Through WCLS with Angela and Tammy - Nooksack Tribe members Tammy Cooper-Woodrich and Angela Letoi are bringing their Dreamcatcher workshop to WCLS branches across the county. Join us at the Lummi Island Grange Hall for this fun and meaningful program.

Native Americans of the Great Plains believe in the Dreamcatcher Legend, that the air is filled with both good and bad dreams. Good dreams pass through the center hole to the sleeping person. Bad dreams are trapped in the web where they perish in the light of dawn. Participants will create a dreamcatcher to take home. Provided in partnership with the Nooksack Tribe. Space is limited; registration is required. Location: Lummi Island Grange Hall, 2215 North Nugent Road, Lummi Island. Saturday, February 21st, 2 – 4 pm

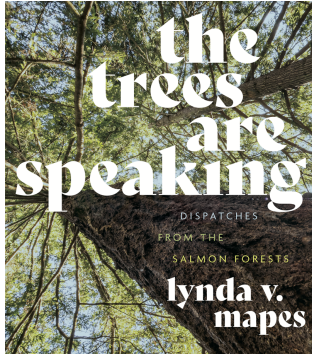
Secrets of Dying Well - The secrets to dying well lie in understanding your choices, having your wishes known, tapping into local resources, and making sure those wishes are documented and accessible when it matters most. Join local end-of-life planning consultants for an open, honest conversation about what it means to die well—and live with intention. You will be guided through the tools, decisions, and discussions that help ensure your values are honored, your affairs are in order, and your loved ones are supported. Whether you're planning ahead or supporting someone else, this session offers practical insight and emotional clarity for one of life's most important transitions. Presenters: Hilary Walker is a licensed Occupational Therapist with more than 25 years of experience helping people maintain quality of life at every stage. She has worked in home health, acute care, and as the lead of PeaceHealth's Advance Care Planning program. She is now working as a consultant with Known Wishes and is the co-founder of Stay Home Improvements. Hilary Walker will be joined by Jennifer Carlson, Hospice RN and ACP facilitator, and Brian Flowers, funeral director and owner of Wildflower Funeral Concepts. Tuesday, March 3rd, 2 – 3:30 pm, Island Library

Senior Services at the Health & Wellness Center - Sign up for a one-on-one meeting with Stacy Malone Miller or one of her associates from Northwest Regional Council to discuss your eligibility for in-home care, caregiver support, non-emergency health care transportation, and other senior services. Meetings will be held in the Health & Wellness Center on the east side of The Gathering Place on the first Thursday of March, April & May between 2:00 and 4:00 pm. Register at wcls.org or at the library for a half-hour appointment. Drop-ins will be accommodated if space is available. This event is co-sponsored by Island Library and the Lummi Island Health and Wellness Committee. First session: Thursday, March 5th, 2 – 4 pm

Wanna Be a Dungeon Master? - Are you ready to launch your own tabletop role-playing adventure? Join us for a free four-hour workshop with an experienced dungeon master to learn the basics of running your own game with your friends. Space is limited; registration is required. Refreshments will be provided. Sat, March 7th, 12 – 4 pm They will cover the following concepts and give you a chance to practice being a Dungeon Master for the first time:

- Session 0
- Different types of games
- Creating characters
- Safety tools
- Rules
- Prep

SAVE THE DATE: Island Library Fundraiser Concert - Join us for the Second Annual Lummi Island Library Fundraiser Concert where an eclectic gathering of island musicians will share their gifts of music. All musician's tips and refreshment donations go to FOIL to support the library! Don't miss out on this family-friendly, amazing evening of local talent and delicious desserts. Saturday, March 14th, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Island Library.



The LIHT Annual Meeting at a NEW DATE AND TIME: Friday March 6th, 7 pm at The Grange Hall

Please join us at our annual meeting for a recap of 2025, followed by a keynote presentation from **Lynda V. Mapes**, author of the highly acclaimed *The Trees are Speaking: Dispatches from the Salmon Forests*. Mapes will share insights into the vital link between old-growth forests and our local ecosystems. Lynda is an award-winning reporter specializing in coverage of the environment and Indigenous cultures. This meeting will also be available via webinar. Details can be found at liht.org/events.

The Curry Preserve Pollinator Garden is officially in the ground! Last month, a team of dedicated volunteers planted a diverse mix of native species. This garden will evolve into a vital habitat for local insects, supporting the island's biodiversity for years to come. Stop by the Curry Garden to monitor the progress of this new pollinator paradise and admire the work of this amazing group!

Coming Soon: Forest Walk. Each season, LIHT welcomes Lummi Island Health and Wellness to the Otto Preserve to host a Meditative Forest Walk, an immersive experience that blends Forest Bathing (Shinrin-Yoku), Mindful Walking, and intentional connection with nature. Look for details soon on LIHT and LIHW websites and social media channels for our next mindful forest journey.

Nature Notes: The Osoberry. (*Oemleria cerasiformis*) As winter winds down, keep an eye out for the Osoberry. It is often the very first native shrub to bloom in our region, sometimes as early as late January. Its delicate, drooping white flowers are a critical early-season food source for hummingbirds and the first emerging bumble bees, acting as an early harbinger of spring. For Coast Salish peoples, this plant has been a multi-faceted gift for generations. The Lummi and other Coast Salish groups historically enjoyed the berries fresh or dried (in tall cedar boxes) for winter use, often celebrating them at annual feasts. The bark was brewed into a medicinal tea for various ailments, while the twigs were chewed to create a mild anesthetic for external sores. The plant's strong, fine-grained wood provided the material for straight arrow shafts and small wooden tools, while its outer bark was used to bind harpoon tips. Today, the Osoberry remains a workhorse for local habitat restoration, its fibrous roots helping to mitigate soil erosion while its flowers — blooming long before the other plants — tell us that spring is coming!

Lummi Island Congregational Church
est. 1905

~ No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here ~

Sunday Service 10:30 am



P.O. Box 6
3913 Legoe Bay Rd.
Lummi Island, WA 98262
360-758-2060
office@lumnichurch.com
www.lumnichurch.org



**Law Office of
Karl E. Malling, PS**



Representing those seriously injured by:

- car accidents
- medical negligence
- slip & falls and trip & falls
- nursing home negligence
- product liability
- construction site injuries
- other injury accidents

Estate planning including:

- trusts and wills
- directives to physicians (living will)
- powers of attorney

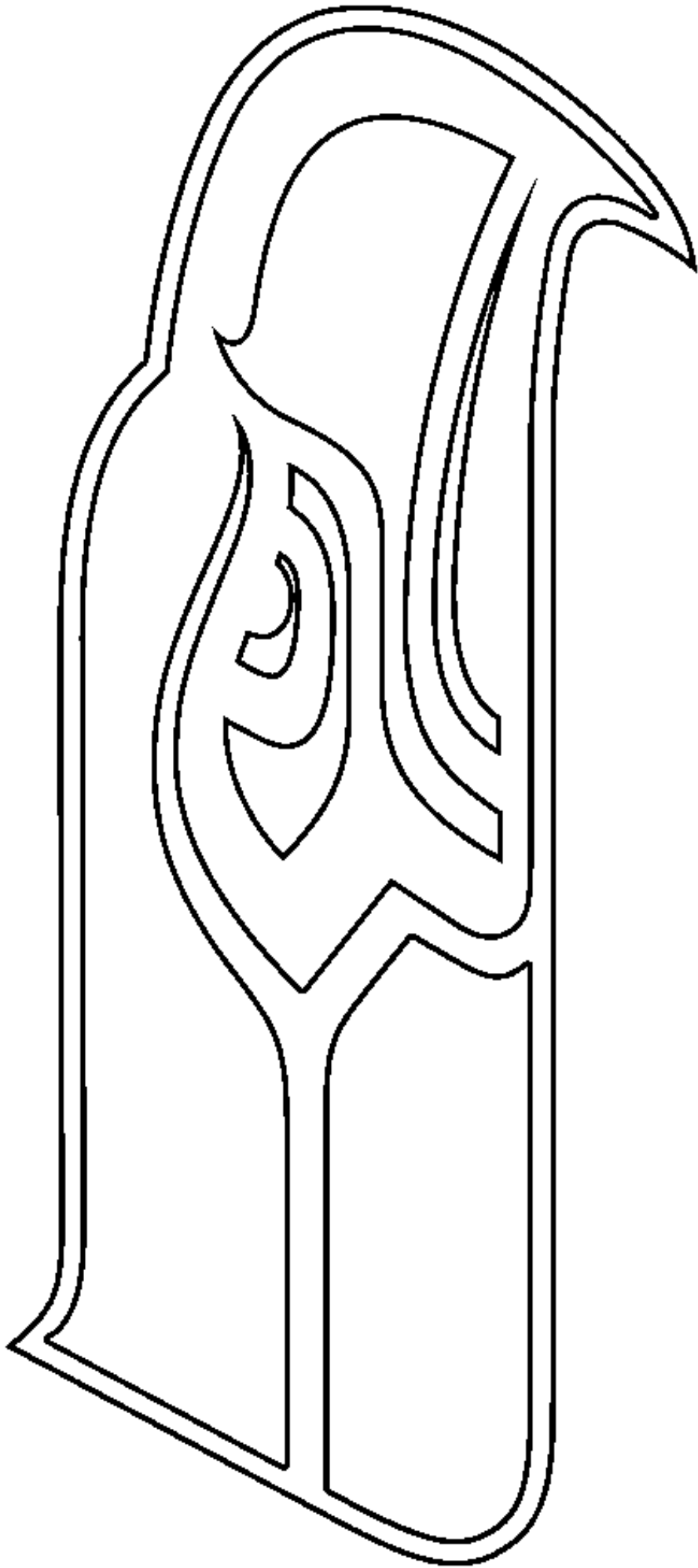
phone: 206-214-6815 **email: karl@mallinglaw.com**

Helpful Numbers

Aluminum Cans	360-223-6225 Contact Leslie Dempsey. <i>Recycle Bins Located in Grange Parking Lot</i>
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	360-223-6225 Leslie Dempsey
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 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

Go Seahawks!!

Color the Seahawks banner and drop off at The Galley to show your support for the Seahawks in the Super Bowl.



The Tome

***** ECWSS**R-014
POSTAL CUSTOMER
LUMMI ISLAND, WA 98262



The Tome of Lummi Island

Lummi Island Community Association
LICA, P.O. Box 163, Lummi Island WA 98262

LICA does not endorse advertisements that appear in any of our publications. Opinions of contributors to **The Tome/eTome** or other LICA publications do not necessarily reflect those of the Officers, Directors, Editors or Volunteers of the Lummi Island Community Association. LICA reserves the right to edit admissions and to publish as space allows.

President: David Thorn Vice President: Sandi Fukumoto
Secretary: Treasurer: Jonathan Atwood
Members at Large:
Jon Berry, Danit Fried, Jim McCaughan, Joan Moye

Provided by & Copyright © 1966 - 2026 Lummi Island Community Association (LICA), All Rights Reserved. Est. Circulation: 1,050

Lummi Island Community Association (LICA) is a non-profit community service.



We rely on generous donations from islanders to help cover our operating costs and community grants. To Donate, go to [Donate.LICA.us](https://www.donate.lica.us) or printed forms are available at the Island Library.

The Tome, The eTome and Brown Betty

The Tome is mailed via a USPS Bulk Mail list (any address and PO Box on the Island). You may request one sent to your off-island address as well via the Donation form.

Request the eTome and/or Brown Betty, or Publications Updates (Deadlines & Instructions on submitting to us) at [MC.LICA.us](https://www.mc.lica.us)

For information, advertising, comments & suggestions and submission of articles to the Tome/eTome, contact:
Publisher@LICA.us