

August 2016

# CityScene

## SEDRO-WOOLLEY



## Success through PARTNERSHIPS *The Sedro-Woolley Way*

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Left to right:  
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Sedro-Woolley Mayor Keith Wagoner;  
Port of Skagit Commissioner William Shuler;  
Skagit County Commissioner Ken Dahlstedt; and  
Washington State Department of Enterprise Services Director Chris Liu

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Mayor  
Keith Wagoner

### I WAS THRILLED WITH THE POSITIVE RESPONSES

the City received over the first edition of City Scene; it is our intention to make each issue better than the last. To that end we rely upon your feedback. Please feel free to send your ideas or perhaps submit an article for consideration. It is your City

and it is your City Scene.

In my last column I laid out City priorities, accomplishments, and some of our near-term future projects. In this issue, I want to address “how” we get things done in Sedro-Woolley. The astute reader should notice an obvious but important theme throughout this issue; cooperation, collaboration, and partnerships. It’s nothing new; it’s part of Sedro-Woolley’s DNA and getting things done the “Sedro-Woolley Way”. It is the reason we are Sedro-Woolley and not Sedro and Woolley. This isn’t just fine sounding rhetoric; it is the only practical way for our City to move ahead without over-burdening the tax paying citizens. As you read through the summer edition, look for the theme. It’s true, “together we can do more.” And, this is the crux of my proposed partnership with the Central Skagit District Library.

The District Library was formed by a vote of non-city, Sedro-Woolley School District residents in 2013. It was the intent of the proponents at that time to shortly thereafter join with Sedro-Woolley’s City Library. Somehow that got sideways over the past three years. Our libraries were on divergent paths with the very real (and counterintuitive) possibility of two completely separate libraries within our City limits; each serving different and exclusive patrons. Can you imagine? Well in fact that is the case today. The District Library which takes in over \$1 million a year occupies a small, inadequate, temporary home within our City limits. It only serves S-W School District patrons who live outside the City limits. Our much loved City Library, also

in need of more space and upgrades, serves only patrons living inside City limits. I think the illogic of the current scenario is obvious.

At the beginning of the year I approached the District Library Board of Trustees with a proposal to join the City in a twenty-year contract. That contract would pool our financial resources to build and operate a new, bigger, better library in or near the historic downtown area of Sedro-Woolley. By leveraging our collective strengths and WITHOUT increasing taxes we can build a superior facility that will provide equal service to every citizen within our school district boundaries and help revitalize our downtown. Everyone pays their part and everyone pays the same. By cooperating with the District Library, we all win. It is that simple. The library, the books, the employees aren’t leaving Sedro-Woolley; no one’s pay or benefits will be affected. You will not need to buy a library card. If you hear otherwise, it is simply untrue. Neither City Council nor I would agree with anything different or less.

Both the District and the City have agreed that this is a goal worth working toward. To that end, we have formed negotiating teams to hammer out the details and reach a mutually beneficial agreement. We are at the beginning of that process with much work ahead. In the following months, there will be many opportunities for public participation. The first such forum was July 25th at City hall. If you did not attend, there will be other meetings and in the meantime ask questions, make suggestions, and help us reimagine the future of our collective new library by emailing me at kwagoner@ci.Sedro-woolley.wa.us. Tell us what is important to you in a new library.

In 1898 our City founders formed Sedro-Woolley from two competing towns. They understood that “together they could do better”; it isn’t an original thought, it’s what works. Have a great and safe summer.

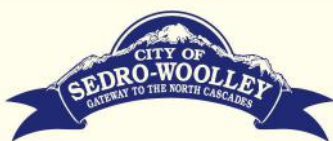
– Keith Wagoner, Mayor

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**Publisher: Peter Philips**  
peter@philippublishing.com • 206-284-8285

**Advertising Sales: Julie Applegate**  
julie@philippublishing.com • 206-753-7250

**Editor: Jana Hanson**  
jhanson@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

**Design & Production: Marilyn Esguerra**  
marilyn@philippublishing.com

# Great things happen when we work together



ERON BERG  
City Supervisor/  
Attorney

## THIS MONTH MARKS MY 10

### YEAR ANNIVERSARY with

the City of Sedro-Woolley. At that time, the city was working to achieve Mayor Dillon's dream of a new city hall. Today, the community is discussing Mayor Wagoner's efforts to achieve the dream of a new library. In between, Mayor

Anderson led the city through many big projects both in our city and in the region. Some highlights from the past decade include:

- City Hall, completed March of 2008 at a cost of \$3.5M. This project would not have happened without Mayor Dillon's relentless effort and the assistance of USDA Rural Development Services.
- SR 20 corridor/city arterial projects, completed 2008-2016 at a total cost of \$25M (\$2.1M in city funds). These projects have many partners and none of them would have been built without the State Transportation Improvement Board's steadfast support and Mark Freiburger's vision and dedication to improved mobility and safety in and around Sedro-Woolley.
- Firefighting equipment, including a new engine and ladder truck in 2010 at a cost of \$1.2M. This project was also made possible by USDA-RD and allowed the city to increase building heights to accommodate five story structures and more safely serve large buildings such as the existing schools.
- Skagit County Transfer Station completed

summer of 2012 at a cost of \$9.3M. This is a 20 year partnership project between Skagit County and the cities and towns.

- Skagit County Jail, under construction and scheduled for completion Spring of 2017 at a cost of \$61M. This is a 30 year partnership of Skagit County, Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley to build and fund the operations of a new, modern jail for the benefit of all of Skagit County.

Today, the city is partnering with the Sedro-Woolley School District, businesses and other entities to form and expand the Sedro-Woolley STEM network and at the same time is partnered with the Port of Skagit, Skagit County and the State on the redevelopment of the Northern State campus into the Port owned and managed SWIFT (Sedro-Woolley Innovation for Tomorrow) Center. The city is also talking to the Central Skagit Rural Partial County Library District about a possible partnership to build a new, bigger, better library to serve the region.

Sedro-Woolley is a true community in the old fashioned sense. It is a mix of all people who are drawn together in a common place where they come together to make great things happen. Touring the city's parks and public spaces is proof enough. If you haven't visited in a while, take a look at the new Tesarik Field, Skate Park, amphitheater, playground and zip line at Riverfront, walking trails and paths and the new Bingham Park. None of these projects would have happened without the community, especially the Sedro-Woolley Rotary. My lesson from the last decade: great things happen when we work together.

## JUST THE FACTS

### City Sidewalks and Rights of Way

by Joseph Dokes III\*

IMMIGRATING TO THE UNITED STATES AS AN ADULT, I've found that there are some things about small town America that are unfamiliar, so I do my best to go out and get the facts. I've learned to my surprise that many who have lived their entire lives here have the same questions: who is responsible for the sidewalks; can I park my car on the right-of-way; and who owns the street trees? Hopefully my neighbors will find this information both interesting and useful.

Did you know that it is the property owner who is responsible for maintaining the sidewalks in front of their home or business? Seems odd, but that is in fact the case both here and throughout the state of Washington. While the sidewalks may have been built either by or for the city, it is up to each of us to maintain that portion that is directly adjacent to our property. We do not own the sidewalks; they are public, but we may be liable in the case of an accident due to poor maintenance. The city will assist property owners by coordinating the removal of broken and uneven concrete with the understanding that the property owner is responsible for replacing the sidewalk to city standards within a timely manner. Sidewalks are for the use of everyone. Parking on or across a sidewalk is a violation of city ordinance, and common courtesy, as is blocking sidewalks in any other way including wayward plants or hedges. By each of us keeping our section of sidewalk clear and free of hazards we make the entire city a better place.

The property owner is also responsible for mowing and maintaining any trees or plantings within the adjacent right-of way. Can you park there? It depends, for example, parking on the grass right-of-way behind a curb is not allowed. The right-of-way is not to be construed as a personal storage area for unattached trailers, defunct vehicles or vehicles with expired tabs, storage containers, motorhomes\* or trailers (\*some special rules apply). Common courtesy applies. If you wouldn't want your neighbor to do it, maybe you shouldn't do it either. We have the right and responsibility to maintain street trees adjacent to our property; however it is advisable to contact appropriate utility companies if they are near wires and using an experienced, bonded arborist is always a good choice.

This is Joe Dokes, signing off until next time and reminding you to help keep our city orderly and when in doubt, go out and get the facts!

\*Joseph Dokes III is the pen name of a Sedro-Woolley resident and world traveler.



The City of Sedro-Woolley prides itself on providing excellent customer service which includes reaching out to our residents and businesses with current information on projects and newsworthy events within the City. That's why the mayor and city council have decided to embark on a city magazine that will communicate in a format that we hope our readers find interesting and beneficial. In order to be successful we'd like to hear your comments regarding style, content and information covered in the Sedro-Woolley City Scene. **Please forward your comments to Eron Berg, City Supervisor [eberg@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us](mailto:eberg@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us) or at (360) 855-1661.**

Thank you for helping make the Sedro-Woolley City Scene an effective way for the city and its partners to communicate with you!



## CITY DIRECTORY

### CITY HALL

325 Metcalf Street  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
Phone: (360) 855-1661

#### Mayor

Keith Wagoner  
325 Metcalf Street  
Phone: (360) 855-9922  
swmayor@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

#### City Administration

City Supervisor/City Attorney  
Eron Berg  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-9921  
eberg@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

#### Finance

Patsy Nelson, CPA, Director  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-1661  
pnelson@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

Serena Mynatt, Utility Billing Clerk  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-0929

### FIRE

Dean Klinger, Fire Chief  
325 Metcalf Street  
**Emergency: 911**  
(360) 855-2252

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Bill Chambers, Director  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-9924  
it.director@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

### LIBRARY

Debra Peterson, Librarian  
802 Ball Street  
(360) 855-1166

### MUNICIPAL COURT

Brock Stiles, Judge  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-0366  
SedroWolleyMuni@mail.courts.wa.gov

### DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

John Coleman, AICP, Planning Director/  
Building Official  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-0771  
jcoleman@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

### POLICE

Lin Tucker, Police Chief  
325 Metcalf Street  
**For any emergency or officer  
dispatch please call: 911**  
Non Emergency - Office number is:  
(360) 855-0111

### PUBLIC WORKS

**Public Works Director**  
Mark Freiburger, P.E.  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-0771  
mfreiburger@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

#### Public Works Assistant

Julie Rosario,  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-0771

#### Engineering/City Engineer

David Lee, P.E.  
325 Metcalf Street  
(360) 855-0771  
dlee@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us

#### Public Works Operations: Parks, Facilities, Streets, Stormwater & Cemetery

Nathan Salseina, Division Supervisor  
409 Alexander Street  
(360) 856-5167  
Park Department Business Office and  
Reservations: 325 Metcalf St.  
(360) 855-1661

#### Wastewater Division

Debbie Allen, Wastewater Division  
Supervisor  
401 Alexander  
(360) 856-1100

#### Solid Waste

Leo Jacobs, Solid Waste & Fleet  
Division Supervisor  
315 Sterling  
(360) 855-1884

### SEDRO-WOOLLEY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Hillsview  
830 Township Street  
(360) 855-0404

# What's Going On At City Hall?

Listed below are locations of posted meetings, and notices of public hearings, and passed ordinances.

- **City Hall** bulletin board  
325 Metcalf Street
- **Sedro-Woolley Public Library**  
802 Ball Street
- **City website:**  
[www.ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us](http://www.ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us)
- All notices of public hearings and passed ordinances are posted in the *Skagit Valley Herald* and the *Courier Times*

City Council agendas, meeting minutes and videos of regularly scheduled meetings are posted on the City Website

Planning Commission agendas and meeting minutes are posted on the City Website

If you have any questions regarding meeting times, places, agendas or ADA access, please call City Hall at (360) 855-1661 for assistance.

## MEETINGS

City Council, Planning Commission, Library Board and Housing Authority Board meetings are generally held at the times and days noted below:

- **City Council regular meetings:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 PM, City Council Chambers  
325 Metcalf Street
- **City Council study sessions:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 PM, Public Safety Training Room  
220 Munro Street
- **Planning Commission meetings:**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month  
6:30 PM, City Council Chambers  
325 Metcalf Street
- **Library Board meetings:**  
Last Wednesday of each month  
5:00 PM, City Council Chambers  
325 Metcalf Street
- **Sedro-Woolley Housing Authority Board meetings** are generally held on the third Thursday of even months except October at 10:45 AM, Hillsview 830 Township Street

Meeting times and places occasionally change, so it is advisable to contact City Hall 24 hours prior to a scheduled meeting to confirm the location, date and time.

# LEADERSHIP SKAGIT – Making a Difference!



GERMAINE KORNEGAY  
Ward Two Councilwoman

**IN MID-JUNE I GRADUATED FROM LEADERSHIP SKAGIT (GREATEST CLASS EVER)! Some great community projects come out of this organization to benefit local non-profits**

every year. Our very own Don Wick played a large role in starting this program from EDASC several years ago.

Within the class are subgroups of Teams. The team that is chosen for you can be rewarding as well as challenging. You will learn a number of important life skills such as patience, how to work with a variety of personalities, teamwork and how to stay on task in order to achieve a successful outcome for the greater good. Overall, I know that Skagit County is a better place because of Leadership Skagit.

My team (Blue Diamonds) decided on a project for Growing Veterans. We built a beautiful ADA accessible, 21x30' greenhouse to grow veggie starts for Veteran Community Outreach. Much of this was accomplished through significant monetary and in-kind donations.

Growing Veterans' Farm is a great local resource for veterans who are looking for a supportive environment with fellow veterans (located off the Starbird Road exit in Mount Vernon). In Sedro-Woolley we are in the midst of building a Skagit County veterans' park. I invite veterans to use these resources and help spread the word!

Years ago during my internship at WWU, I met the executive director for Growing Veterans Chris Brown and he told me then about his dream to develop farms for veterans. There are now three veterans' farms in Washington (Lynden, Mount Vernon and Auburn). What a great organization with a wonderful purpose! Check them out at [www.growingveterans.org](http://www.growingveterans.org).

Leadership Skagit helped make connections with Growing Veterans possible and gave *me* the opportunity to help *them* make a positive difference for our vets. While it may not be for everyone, there's no denying the positive impact that Leadership Skagit has had on our county through effective and successful partnerships and teamwork.

## Keeping our Neighborhoods Safe



CHUCK OWEN  
Ward Five  
Councilman

The Sedro-Woolley Crime Watch team is a group of dedicated volunteers who give their time to help the police department keep an eye on the streets of Sedro-Woolley. Fourteen dedicated individuals perform vacation checks on local homes for vacationing residents, help with the parades by standing watch at intersections, and patrol the streets in the crime watch car to be a visible presence and crime deterrent in our neighborhoods.

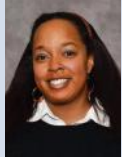
Crime watchers usually donate two hours a week and work with a partner. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact Tamara at the Sedro-Woolley Police Department and she will explain the process and provide you with an application to fill out. After a background check, you will have a short interview with the Police Chief or the Administrative Sergeant. Depending on your availability and the available crime watch slots, you will be trained with our Crime Watch Commander Betty Sebers and then assigned a partner. We look forward to adding you to the crime watch team!

## CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL MEMBER



### WARD ONE

Judith Dunn Lee  
829 Cook Rd  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
360-856-9996 (day)  
360-853-2053 (eve)  
ward1@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us



### WARD TWO

Germaine J. Kornegay  
123 N Central Ave  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
Phone: 360-755-2108  
ward2@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us



### WARD THREE

Brenda Kinzer  
100 Nelson St  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
Phone: 360-421-4541  
ward3@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us



### WARD FOUR

Julia Johnson  
516 Talcott St  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
Phone: 360-855-1070  
ward4@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us



### WARD FIVE

Chuck Owen  
833 Waldron St  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
360-855-0978  
ward5@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us



### WARD SIX

Rick Lemley  
1208 Talcott St  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
Business Phone: 360-855-1288  
Home Phone: 360-856-1224  
ward6@ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us



### AT-LARGE

Brett Sandström  
432 Talcott St  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
360-610-7670  
councilatlarge@  
ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us




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SWCS

# FINANCE DEPT



Finance Dept Staff: (left to right) Cheryl Brue, Teresa Nesheim, Serena Mynatt, Christine Salseina



## Online Utility Bill Pay is here!



PATSY NELSON  
Finance Director

AS A WAY TO OFFER MORE CHOICES AND EVEN BETTER customer service, the city has partnered with Xpress Bill Pay which now allows our utility customers to pay bills online. All you need is an internet connection and an email address to set up your Xpress Bill Pay account.

It's simple to use! Every month you will receive an email reminding you that your bill is ready to review online. To view your bill simply log in to your account at [XpressBillPay.com](http://XpressBillPay.com). The online bill is formatted like a paper statement so it will look familiar. Paperless billing also allows you to view city inserts and bill messages as well as your monthly bill.

Xpress Bill Pay will offer payment options including credit card, debit card or electronic funds transfer. It's easy, and only takes a few minutes each month. Select a payment type, enter your information and it's done! Automatic monthly payments are another option if you wish. A confirmation email will be sent after your payment is processed each month.

Xpress Bill Pay is Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standard compliant, meeting quarterly security tests. Additional security and PCI compliance information is available at their website, [www.XpressBillPay.com](http://www.XpressBillPay.com).

We are offering this service at the request of our customers. Not only do customers have greater flexibility in paying their utility bills but it also helps the city reduce administrative costs.




Sign up for online payment at  
[www.XpressBillPay.com](http://www.XpressBillPay.com)  
or click on the link on the City website.




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## A SAFE PLACE FOR INTERNET TRANSACTIONS

# Internet Purchase-Exchange Location



BY, DETECTIVE PAUL EATON

**IN AUGUST 2015, THE SEDRO-WOOLLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT** started a Facebook page. Since its launch, the department has posted pictures of recovered dogs; information on ongoing Police Investigations; crime prevention information;

and community projects that the SWPD is engaged in. This past April the department received a request on the SWPD Facebook page from a citizen, asking that we create an "Internet Purchase- Exchange Location." The department immediately embraced the idea as a great way to provide additional protection to our citizens.

The city worked with a local sign shop to design and manufacture signs for the Internet purchase and exchange activities which have been posted above two parking stalls located on the south side of City

Hall, directly next to the Police Department entrance, a location which is also covered by 24/7 surveillance.

Since posting the signs and advertising the Internet Purchase-Exchange Location on Facebook, the department has been overwhelmed with community interest and support. Since the advancements in technology and social media, websites such as Offerup and Craigslist have exploded in popularity, changing the way people traditionally buy and sell items. The Internet Purchase-Exchange Location provides a safe place for the public to conduct transactions, and the location is under surveillance for both the buyer's and the seller's protection and peace of mind. City parking is free and there is no need to call ahead.

SWPD is continuously looking at ways to improve our service and meet the needs of our community. We greatly appreciate involved citizens, especially when they have great ideas like this one!



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# BEAT THE HEAT Summer Safety Tips

Sedro-Woolley Fire Department stresses the importance of taking safety measures when outdoors to avoid heat-related medical emergencies.

- Before conducting outdoors activities and feeling thirsty, **drink plenty of water and electrolyte-replacement beverages.** Avoid beverages or food sources with caffeine, alcohol or large amounts of sugar because these can actually result in the loss of body fluid.
- **Conduct outdoor work or exercise in the early morning or evening when it is cooler.** Individuals unaccustomed to working or exercising in a hot environment need to start slowly and gradually increase heat exposure over several weeks. Take frequent breaks in the shade or in an air-conditioned facility.
- **A wide-brimmed, loose-fitting hat** that allows ventilation helps prevent sunburn and heat-related emergencies. A tight-fitting baseball cap is not the best choice when conducting strenuous outdoors activities. Sunscreen also helps protect injury from the sun's rays and reduces the risk of sunburn.
- **Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing** that permits the evaporation of perspiration. Do not leave children, senior citizens or pets unattended in a vehicle. Heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke are the most common types of heat related emergencies.



## Heat Related Illnesses

**HEAT CRAMPS** are muscle pains or spasms that typically occur in the abdomen, arm, and legs in association with strenuous activity. If you have heart problems or are on a low sodium diet, get medical attention for heat cramps.

- If medical attention is not necessary, take these steps:
- Stop all activity, and sit quietly in a cool place
- Drink clear juice or a sport drink
- Do not return to strenuous activity for a few hours until after the cramps subside because further exertion may lead to heat exhaustion or stroke.
- Seek medical attention for heat cramps if they do not subside in one hour.

**HEAT EXHAUSTION** is the body's response to an excessive loss of water and salt contained in sweat. Signs include profuse sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea or vomiting, a weak-but-rapid pulse and fainting. The skin may be cool and moist. If heat exhaustion is untreated, it may progress to heat stroke.

**HEAT STROKE** occurs when the body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating system fails, and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106°F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given. Heat stroke symptoms include an extremely high body temperature (above 103°F, orally), red, hot and dry skin (no sweating), rapid and strong pulse, throbbing headache, dizziness, nausea, confusion and unconsciousness.

**If you're not sure about your condition just call 911**

# Sedro-Woolley's Newest Engine Takes Shape

On July 1st the City took delivery of its newest engine. The engine was built by Rosenbauer America® which is located in Lyons, South Dakota.

The engine will be added to the fleet as soon as all testing, training and inspections have been completed. The new engine will be designated E-5511, it is a 1000 gallon, 1500 GPM Type 1 engine. The engine will be used for structural firefighting, rescue and medical type calls.

The engine was ordered in March of 2015 and will be replacing the oldest in the fleet which will assist us in keeping our I.S.O. rating of a class 5. The I.S.O. is what determines you fire insurance rates.



Andy Hunter



Jeri Kaufman



Gary Kent



Chuck Ruhl



Robert Stanley



Ted Brockmann  
Superintendent

Board of Commissioners

**United General District 304 works together with PeaceHealth, program staff, volunteers and countless other organizations to improve the quality of life in our community. Our services include:**

**Community Health Outreach Programs**, focusing on access to health care and healthy food; prevention of chronic disease, promoting positive parenting; prevention of substance abuse and fostering youth leadership.

**United Fitness Center**, a unique exercise facility where adults of all abilities can get healthy and fit in a friendly environment. We also sponsor the one-of-a-kind hiking adventure, Trek for Treasure.

**The Landing**, a children's bereavement program that provides support for kids and teens who are grieving the loss of a loved one. We serve families in Skagit, Island, Whatcom and Snohomish Counties.

**Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Clinics**, located in Concrete, Sedro-Woolley and Stanwood, provide nutrition education, vouchers for healthy food, health screenings and referrals, and breastfeeding support.



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## VOLUNTEERS HELP LOCAL CLUB BRING PROJECTS TO LIFE

# New Tesarik Field most recent project

SUBMITTED BY SEDRO-WOOLLEY ROTARY CLUB



**AS THE "BEST ROTARY CLUB IN THE UNIVERSE,"** Sedro-Woolley Rotarians have a lot to live up to.

The local club, chartered in 1922, is made up of current and retired business owners, managers and community leaders. It is one of the largest clubs in the 5050 Rotary District.

With 92 members, the expertise available for local projects is never-ending. Architects, engineers, surveyors, construction managers, concrete production specialists, and many other vocations have donated their time and energy over the years to create some of Sedro-Woolley's most popular outdoor spaces.

Community members can enjoy concerts and picnics at Riverfront Park, skate at the Sedro-Woolley Skate Park, and enjoy time at the farmers market at Hammer Heritage Square using facilities constructed by Sedro-Woolley Rotary Club volunteers.

The most recent undertaking of the club was the new and improved Erik K. Tesarik Memorial Field near City Hall at 225 Metcalf Street.



## Port of Skagit

*Good Jobs for Our Community*



Dr. Kevin E. Ware District 1, Steven Omdal District 2, Bill Shuler District 3



Guided by the mission ***Good Jobs for Our Community***, the Port of Skagit owns and operates three key facilities:

**Skagit Regional Airport, Bayview Business Park and the La Conner Marina.**

Combined, these three facilities are home to more than 82 businesses that employ nearly 1,263 people.

*Inspiring Success, Delivering Excellence*

Local architect and Rotarian Mark Christ drew up the plans.

The field is named for Rick Tesarik's son Erik, who passed away from cancer at age 15 in 1991. Rick Tesarik has been in the Rotary Club since 1984. He was at almost every work party to help rebuild a park with his son's name on it.

The baseball field cost the club about \$140,000 to build, but 2016–2017 Club President David Bricka said that it would have probably cost closer to \$500,000 to \$750,000 for the city to build it.

"The club was able to do it for \$140,000 because of members' work, in-kind donations and money from the Rotary Foundation," Bricka said. "It will be used for generations to come,

which is really cool."

The Tesarik Field recently won the Rotary District 5050 McLean Community Project Award, which was presented to the club at the district conference.

Bricka said so many volunteers helped with the project in and out of Rotary that it would be nearly impossible to name them all. Little League volunteers pitched in labor and expertise along with city workers and a bevy of others who wanted to see the field come to life.

The Sedro-Woolley FFA landscaped the area that boasts two dugouts and a press box along with bleachers for families to watch the Little League action.

Minors (ages 7–8) and majors (ages 8–12) will use the field.



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## HELPING HANDS FOOD BANK

### Nourishing Our Community with Respect, Kindness and Food



PAULA HANER  
Volunteer Mobile  
Food Coordinator

IT BEGAN WITH A PHONE CALL, as our stories often do. John reached out to me after an accident in February left him paralyzed at the age of 47. With no one there to help him heal, without health insurance to cover expensive medical bills, and without income from his prior job, he found himself in a hopeless situation. When

he first called, all I knew was that he was looking to meet his most basic need, finding food.

My first delivery revealed a grimmer reality. I carried a box of food to a shipping container located on the property of a 90-year-old neighbor. Stepping in, I was confronted by an empty interior, with no electricity or running water. A hospital bed where John lay was the only piece of furniture.

This was John's life after the accident. No future, no hope, no dignity.

I could not leave without doing something. I began making phone calls—enrolling John to receive food stamps so that his neighbor could

go shopping on his behalf, registered him to receive proper healthcare, and worked with Community Action to qualify him for Social Security.

By March, John moved into an assisted living facility where he now receives physical therapy every day. He is on the path to getting better and returning to the life he knew before his accident.

A few weeks ago, he called me to give me an update.

Please know that your support made John's story possible. Because of you, he is healing, he has reclaimed his sense of dignity—he has hope for a long and beautiful life ahead.

*Together, we nourish our community with respect, kindness and food, without judgement.*

To help continue to change lives like John's, donate to our Mobile Food Program by sending cash or check to Helping Hands Food Bank at P.O. Box 632, Sedro-Woolley WA 98284. Your monthly donation of \$12.50 can feed one person for an entire year. With the help of people in our community, there is no good reason for even one person in Skagit County to go hungry.



Helping Hands Volunteers

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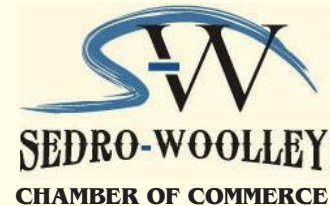
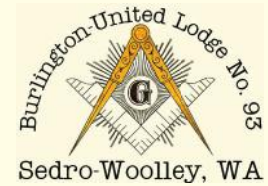
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## THE SEDRO-WOOLLEY INNOVATION FOR TOMORROW CENTER

# The Future of Northern State

BY ANDREW ENTRIKIN, PORT OF SKAGIT  
COMMUNITY OUTREACH ADMINISTRATOR

### History of the site

The Sedro-Woolley Innovation For Tomorrow (SWIFT) Center, formerly the Northern State Hospital campus, is a state-owned property located in the City of Sedro-Woolley.

Northern State Hospital opened in 1909 to provide high-quality patient care for the mentally ill. Since the hospital closed in 1973, the State of Washington and the local community have explored opportunities for adaptive re-use of this 225-acre property. The hospital was developed based on a master plan by the Olmsted Brothers that remains largely intact and has been deemed significant enough to be included on the National Register of Historic Places. The facility was reopened on a small scale in 1978 as a Multi-Service Center for the U.S. Forest Service and state Department of Social and Health Services.

Approximately 40 percent of the existing buildings are unoccupied. Many historical buildings have been demolished over time, and newer buildings that are not compatible with the original master plan have been constructed.

The property has been owned by the State of Washington since the hospital was constructed in 1912 and is managed by the Department of Enterprise Services, which leases buildings and grounds to organizations located in Washington. In 2010, the State of Washington expressed a desire to surplus the property and looked for a local champion to acquire and redevelop the site for a greater community purpose.

The Port of Skagit, City of Sedro-Woolley, and Skagit County have been working collaboratively since early 2014 with a shared goal of redeveloping the campus into a local economic driver.

Efforts to support this shared goal are well underway. The scope of work for the Northern State Adaptive Re-Use Study, completed in Spring 2015, included five major tasks including Existing Conditions Analysis, Redevelopment Assessment, Public Participation, Environmental Assessment, and Implementation Strategy. Since then, the Port has completed a planned action environmental review, prepared a subarea plan based on public input, and annexed the property into the City of Sedro-Woolley.



Photos by Steve Berentson

“This effort is proving to be a great example of what can be accomplished when government entities work together,” said Port of Skagit Commissioner Bill Shuler. “I have never seen such collaborative partnerships between state and local agencies and I am very optimistic about where we have been and where this project will go in the future.”

### Transition from state to local control

In January 2016, the state entered into an initial 60-year lease with the Port of Skagit for a portion of the property. The 2015 Washington Legislature granted Enter-

*Continued on page 18*

# Looking to the future of behavioral health in our north sound communities

By Rebecca Clark, Skagit County Human Services Manager  
and Joe Valentine, North Sound Behavioral Health Organization Executive Director

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IS AN INCREDIBLY COMPLEX ISSUE – and in our North Sound region, the system currently in place to treat behavioral health issues has room for improvement.

Rather than institutionalizing people in large facilities away from their local support network, we need to create a community-oriented, evidence-based system that will effectively, efficiently help people with mental illness and substance-use disorders recover. Not just manage, but truly recover.

We can't create this kind of system in a vacuum. With support from our regional partners, local stakeholders and other experts, our goal is to rethink the process of treating behavioral health and affect lasting change for both individuals living with behavioral health disorders and our community.

## Where do we start with behavioral health?

Behavioral health is a broad term that refers to the whole range of mental and emotional wellbeing, from daily struggles to mental illness, substance-use disorders or addictive behaviors. In our five-county North Sound region – Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan, Island and Snohomish counties – services for behavioral health address such issues as prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery support services.

As we look to a new way to manage the behavioral health system, we're committed to ensuring that we fully recognize and respond to the needs of those in or seeking recovery. For those with mental illness or substance-use disorders, those needs go beyond incarceration, or simple treatment and abstinence. We should approach treatment with a focus on lifelong health, wellness and quality-of-life, and a successful reintegration with family and community.

## What are the current challenges in our behavioral health system?

For many years, two institutionalized behavioral health treatment facilities have been located at the North Cascades Gateway Center campus in Sedro-Woolley: Pioneer Center North and North Sound Evaluation and Treatment Center serve people from around Washington state.

Pioneer Center North (PCN) is a 141-bed facility that provides involuntary, long-term residential treatment for people who battle chronic substance use disorders. In 2015, PCN served 850 individuals, roughly one-third of whom are from our North Sound region.

The North Sound Evaluation and Treatment Center (E&T), is a 16-bed facility that provides up to 14 days of evaluation and treatment for individuals with mental illness who have been detained under the state's involuntary treatment law. Since September 2015, E&T has served 292 individuals.

Within the next 10 years, these two facilities will have to find new locations as the North Cascades Gateway Center transitions into a



From left, Skagit County Commissioner Ken Dahlstedt, Sedro-Woolley Mayor Keith Waggoner, Port of Skagit County Commissioner Bill Shuler, State Sen. Kirk Pearson, Washington State Department of Enterprise Services Director Chris Liu. Photo by Steve Berentson

regional economic center now known as the SWIFT Center.

Since November 2013, the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services, the City of Sedro-Woolley, Port of Skagit, Skagit County and other community representatives have met to consider ways to enhance the economic redevelopment potential for the area. Janicki Bioenergy recently subleased the property for research, development and production.

Additionally, many people struggling with mental illness or substance-use disorders are incarcerated in local jails – which provide neither the supportive environment nor treatment options to help them achieve full recovery. Providing community-based treatment options for those with chronic behavioral health issues can reduce recidivism in our jails and provide meaningful ways for them to make a positive transition back into their communities.

As our local providers are forced to physically transition away from a large, institutionalized system, it's also appropriate to affect a philosophical transition as well.

## What we have accomplished

Engaging regional partners and local stakeholders to identify solutions is the first step toward changing our behavioral health system. Since June of 2015, Skagit County and North Sound Behavioral Health Organization (North Sound), the five-county entity that

administers funding for behavioral health services, have led a community effort to engage regional stakeholders, identify solutions and create a coordinated regional plan for future of behavioral health services.

The group worked with Vandersloot Consulting to identify regional issues and concerns likely to come up when services transition from the North Cascades Gateway Center to a community-based model. Key findings included the following:

- Need for more short-term residential treatment options in the region
- Additional detox facilities in Skagit and Whatcom counties
- Develop more residential treatment facilities
- Develop or partner with other regions for adolescent treatment

## What is yet to come?

We have the opportunity to meet behavioral health services needs through evidence-based, recovery-oriented models that offer a full spectrum of care for those in the system. This will help mitigate the number of people ending up in jail or traditional hospital care for behavioral health issues.

Called a Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC), this treatment model looks at recovery as a journey, which often requires long-term support and services. Based in or near a patient's existing community, ROSC is focused on helping patients transition back into the community. Benefits to this model include the ability of family and friends to participate in the treatment process, the ability of patients to develop strong relationships within the recovery community, and the ability for patients to secure housing and a job so they can fully reintegrate.

Developing smaller, individually focused treatment centers rather than large institutions not only meets new Medicaid financing guidelines that limit reimbursement funds being used for patients at larger facilities, it better aligns with the recommended ROSC.

Moving forward with the vision of developing smaller, community-oriented treatment facilities will involve continued partnership between Skagit County, North Sound and local stakeholders to prioritize efforts and set specific expectations.

There are no simple answers or a magic formula for providing the highest quality of care and services possible for individuals with severe, chronic substance-use disorders. Improving treatment outcomes for people with behavioral health issues is a complex process, one that can't be successful without the understanding and engagement of our local communities.



**We encourage you to learn more about the work we've done and provide feedback on our proposed plans by reading our full behavioral health report available online at [www.skagitcounty.net](http://www.skagitcounty.net)**  
**SEARCH: Summary Report Transitioning Behavioral Health Services.pdf**



Photo by Steve Berentson

## FUTURE OF NORTHERN STATE *Continued from page 16*

prise Services authority to pursue leases for the property for up to 60 years. Under the lease, the Port has begun leasing the campus property from the state in planned phases to ensure a smooth transition over time. The initial lease agreement between the Port and Enterprise Services for 131.5 acres makes up more than 50 percent of the 225-acre property.

State Sen. Kirk Pearson, whose 39th district includes most of Skagit and Snohomish as well as the northeast corner of King county, was instrumental in passing the measure allowing the long-term lease for the property.

In signing the state capital budget into law in April 2016, Gov. Jay Inslee authorized the transfer of the Northern State Hospital property to the Port of Skagit, the result of a collaborative public-private effort to preserve the

historic property, increase access to open space, and provide more sustainable community wage jobs.

Before the property can be transferred, the Washington Department of Enterprise Services, which manages the site, still needs to consult with the state Office of Financial Management to determine whether transferring the property from the state to the Port of Skagit is in furtherance of the interests of the people of Washington.

### Shared vision designed to boost local, regional economy

The Port of Skagit and Janicki Bioenergy continue to make significant progress in the shared vision to develop a technology campus on the Northern State property. The two parties have been discussing ways a public-private

partnership will bring living wage jobs and substantial economic growth to the State of Washington.

The Port of Skagit Commissioners approved a lease with Janicki Bioenergy during a regular meeting of the Port commission on Tuesday, May 16. Execution of the lease begins a process to determine whether the two parties can accomplish a shared goal for the redevelopment of the property. The cost to rehabilitate the structures on the campus is far too great for any one entity. Thus, redevelopment of the site is dependent on the willingness of a public-private partnership.

Janicki Bioenergy and the Port are planning a redevelopment project on about 37 acres in the southern area of the campus. The remaining 94.5 acres encompasses peripheral open space areas for activities such as parking and staging construction equipment as well as wetlands, trails and other areas that are protected from development.

When the hospital was in operation, the site was open to the public and fully integrated into the economy and the social fabric of greater Sedro-Woolley. The Port recognizes the local community's vision for increased public access to the property. The partners will develop a plan to re-open the campus to allow public access to some as yet unspecified areas of the property while honoring existing leases.

The Port of Skagit would like to thank our partners and the Sedro-Woolley community for their ongoing support and dedication to this project.



## "NORTHERN STATE HOSPITAL: DIGNITY AND TRAGEDY"

A featured exhibit running July 1-September 30, 2016. — Sedro-Woolley Museum

From its inception in 1909 as a farm extension of Western State Hospital to its tragic closing in 1973, Northern State Hospital provided vital services to thousands of individuals struggling with mental illness, and served as a major employer in our region.

The exhibit brings together artifacts from Northern State, a historical timeline, newspaper clippings, memories from the community, and historic photographs. An open house for the exhibit will be hosted at the museum on Saturday, July 16, 2016 from 1:00-3:30, with a program at 2:00 featuring a slide show prepared by Mary McGoffin, author of the book "Under the Red Roof," and a presentation by Barbara Ward Thompson, longtime Sedro-Woolley resident who began working at NSH in 1941. There will also be time for guests to share their memories.

The Sedro-Woolley Museum regrets to announce that the St. James Episcopal Church exhibit scheduled to open in October will be postponed until next year.

# Job Corps launches ready-to-work pilot program

*Contract awarded to test innovative education and training models*

WASHINGTON –

A pilot program developed by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) on how best to provide integrated academic and technical training to economically disadvantaged youth through the Job Corps program will begin operations this fall.

The program's launch at the Cascades Job Corps College and Career Academy, in Sedro-Woolley, Washington, follows Vice President Biden's call for ETA to test educational models for disconnected youth, with a focus on combining blended academic and occupational training and work experience in high-demand fields through the Job Corps program. The vice president outlined his goals in the report, "Ready to Work: Job-Driven Training and American Opportunity" in 2014.

Researchers have found that while Job Corps increases education levels and earnings of program participants, it has been most beneficial to youth older than 20. The pilot will include an evaluation that will inform how Job Corps can strengthen and improve services to disconnected youth, including teen-agers.

"Job Corps represents the core American value that no matter who you are or where you come from, you should have the opportunity to succeed," Lenita Jacobs-Simmons, the national director of Job Corps, said. "Vice President Biden has provided us with great support for this initiative. Job Corps has improved the lives of millions of young people over the last half-century, and the launch of this pilot will allow us to take a giant step forward in expanding opportunity for many more young people in the future."



ETA awarded a contract for operations, outreach and enrollment services at the Cascades center on June 6, 2016, with the contract scheduled to start today. The start-up center will offer career and technical education in two career pathways – health care and information technology – with a focus on preparation for college enrollment. The pilot also seeks to ensure economic self-sufficiency, and students will be trained in health care and IT occupations that provide a "living wage," as defined by state or geographic placements. The pathway training seeks to help participants earn employer-recognized industry credentials. Industry internships will also be a part of the learning experience.

The academic program will be free to economically eligible youth ages 16 to 21. Students can stay at the center for up to three years, a year longer than at regular Job Corps centers.

Students from Washington State, Oregon and Idaho will begin to arrive at the center in fall 2016. The pilot will begin with training for about 300 students; if the pilot meets certain benchmarks and its design shows promise, Cascades may accept applicants nationwide.

ETA awarded the contract for the pilot program to Adams & Associates, Inc., based in Reno, Nevada, with corporate sites in Worcester, Massachusetts, and Columbia, Maryland. The company is a prime operator at 17 Job Corps centers in 19 locations around the country. The contractor will operate the training program along with a residential community living program for all enrolled students.

A contract to evaluate the pilot program has been awarded to ABT Associates Inc., a global research company, and MDRC, a nonprofit organization with extensive experience in the evaluation of projects and programs.

Across the nation, Job Corps enrolls approximately 50,000 low-income youth, ages 16 to 24, each year. More than 80 percent of its graduates go on to join the workforce, enlist in the military or enroll in higher education. While in Job Corps, students earn a high school diploma or equivalent and receive training in one of more than 100 career-training areas. Since its founding in 1964, about 2.7 million young Americans have participated in the program. Today, there are 126 Job Corps centers in 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

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# Working in Partnership for our Community's Health

BY BEVERLY MAYHEW  
PeaceHealth Director of Marketing & Communications

IN 2009, FACED WITH A RAPIDLY CHANGING HEALTH CARE environment including lower patient volumes, federal health care reform, state legislative changes, and decreased reimbursement, United General Hospital District 304 sought to affiliate with a health care partner that could provide expanded specialty and essential health care services to the greater Sedro-Woolley and Burlington communities.

After careful review and input from a number of sources, including members of the public, the district commissioners chose PeaceHealth to carry forward its mission. "The hospital district and PeaceHealth share a common vision and place high value on trust, respect and compassion," said Ted Brockmann, United General Hospital District 304 superintendent and CFO. "Right from the start of our relationship, PeaceHealth has been dedicated to helping United General remain viable by providing services locally, while also providing critical linkage to higher level care at PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center in Bellingham," continued Brockmann. "At this point, more than two years in, we couldn't be more pleased with PeaceHealth's commitment to meeting the health care needs of district residents."

The details of the relationship between PeaceHealth and the hospital district are simple: A 30-year operating agreement for the management of the district's clinical services went into effect on April 1, 2014. The agreement includes two, 10-year options for renewal, for a total of 50 years. The district maintains ownership of the facilities and property; PeaceHealth leases the facilities and equipment and has control of hospital operations.



The district pays PeaceHealth an annual subsidy, funded by taxpayers, that helps to ensure an adequate service level. Residents of the district are levied \$.17 per \$1,000 of property valuation, one of the lowest levy rates in Skagit County. "The subsidy makes it possible for PeaceHealth to successfully meet the health care needs of the community," says Chris Johnston, PharmD, a 20-year employee at United General and now Interim Chief Administrative Officer for PeaceHealth United General. Johnston noted that if the medical center operates in the black on an annual basis; that is, if its revenue from operations exceeds expenses, PeaceHealth returns a portion of the subsidy to the district. In fact, after just two years, PeaceHealth United General is showing positive margins.

The district also uses tax revenue to help fund important Community Outreach Health Programs (CHOP) such as disease prevention, parenting programs, professional development, youth leadership, alcohol, tobacco and marijuana prevention programs and farm-to-school program. In addition, the district provides fitness programs, a children's bereavement program and the administration of the Women, Infants and Children program (WIC).

"It's a symbiotic relationship," says Johnston. "The medical center focuses on what it does best—inpatient and outpatient surgery, cardiology, diagnostic imaging, cancer care, and bone and joint care, to name a few services—and the hospital district can focus on wellness and other community health services that it does best."

Under PeaceHealth's operating management,

the medical center has expanded access to general surgery; orthopedic surgery—a new orthopedic surgeon will start in September, doubling the capacity to serve patients in need of bone and joint repair; enhanced cancer care services, increased availability of the latest diagnostic technology such as MRI, CT scan, and mammography; local access to urology services; and outpatient infusion therapies. Obstetric services are planned for fall 2016.

Johnston also elaborated on the district's recent collaboration with PeaceHealth United General on a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), a federal requirement of not-for-profit hospitals that must be completed every three years. A group of community stakeholders recently met to identify health care needs and issues facing the community, and will gather again to determine the best way(s) to address those needs. Johnston praised Brockmann for the districts' active participation in the process, as well as the participation of multiple community partners including the Burlington Health Community Coalition, Skagit County Public Health and Community Services, North Cascade Health Council, East County Advisory Committee, Concrete Resource Coalition, SeaMar, Upper Skagit Tribe, and the local school districts. "Collaboration is the 'name of the game' in health care," says Johnston. "PeaceHealth simply would not be successful if it weren't for all of us working together to grow a healthier community."

Helping to ensure that the health of our community is the best it can be has been the vision of the hospital district since it was incorporated more than 50 years ago. Now, as a result of the relationship with PeaceHealth, and with the help of other community partners, the residents of United General Hospital District 304 can be confident that their access to high quality, compassionate health care will continue well into the future.

# SEDRO-WOOLLEY CHAMBER

## Where Business and Community Thrive



BY POLA KELLEY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**WHEN AN ENTREPRENEUR MAKES A DECISION** to open a new business one of the first things they will do is find ways to market their new enterprise. The chamber offers many ways for businesses to enhance their brand recognition by helping businesses to connect with others, both customers and other business owners who can offer expert advice. The community benefits when businesses are growing, more sales equal more jobs, and more revenue for civic projects. When local businesses participate in the

Chamber, the community thrives from a strong business environment.

Chamber Events focus on improving business and community life in Sedro-Woolley by promoting tourism to the area and by producing quality community gatherings. Every year in April the Sedro-Woolley Chamber sponsors *Woodfest* in conjunction with the Sedro-Woolley High School; *Blast from the Past* in June gives us a look back 50 years ago and it's a fun kick off to summer; and finally the *Sedro-Whoolleyville Magic of Christmas* reminds us all how family oriented community events can bring a sparkle to the people in our community. Each of these events offers opportunities for businesses to advertise and get involved as community volunteers.

You can connect your business to a great event or chamber publication thereby promoting both your business and community through direct networking.

Your local chamber also offers services to the public at large, including notary services, vehicle and vessel licensing and registration, and will soon be offering Fish and Wildlife Services including hunting and fishing licenses and onsite sales of Discovery Passes.

This year we have partnered with Plumeria Breezes Travel to offer two group trips at substantial discounts off individual bookings. Our first offering is a Caribbean Cruise in November and in May 2017, a guided tour of Italy by our very own Italian Assunta Napoleone. For more information please contact the Sedro-Woolley Chamber at [www.sedro-woolley.com](http://www.sedro-woolley.com) or (360) 855-1841.



Pictured are Jaimie Findley, Alyssa Anderson, and Paula Johnsen



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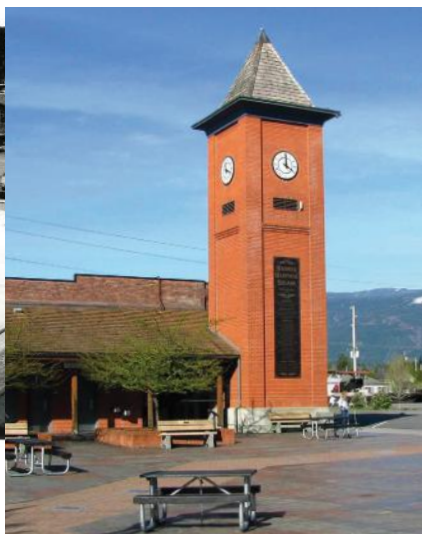
# Let's Play Outside!

## An Overview of Sedro-Woolley City Parks

By Nathan Salseina, Public Works Operation Division Manager

The Sedro-Woolley parks system is a source of pride and enjoyment! we can truly be proud of and enjoy! Each and every one of our public parks represents a strong history of community service and volunteerism. The parks that we have today are largely the product of many years of hard work by local service clubs and volunteers. Public parks and open spaces are a very important part of our public infrastructure, and are vital to the quality of life in Sedro-Woolley.





The City of Sedro-Woolley parks system includes nine city parks with a host of amenities such as picnic areas, BBQ facilities, playgrounds, access to the Skagit River, a boat launch, outdoor concert amphitheater, an off-leash dog park, community center, athletic fields, basketball courts, R.V. parks, open space areas, and the region's premier skateboard park. The Sedro-Woolley parks are a favorite venue for community events throughout the year. Riverfront Park located along the banks of the Skagit River consists of nearly 60 acres of developed and undeveloped park space. It hosts the annual Loggerodeo carnival and fireworks show over the 4th of July holiday. Historic downtown features Hammer Heritage Square on Metcalf Street, a welcoming place to sit and enjoy the waterfall, gazebo and iconic clock tower.

Whether you're looking to rent a facility for a family event, enjoy a concert in the park, watch a little league baseball game, practice your skills at our skateboard park, or let your dog run at our off leash facility, you can find it all in Sedro-Woolley, the best place to live, work and PLAY!

## THE SEDRO-WOOLLEY MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP



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*Thursday*  
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*Saturday*  
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## Parks & Amenities

### **RIVERFRONT PARK**

**1001 River Rd**  
Rental facilities  
R.V. Park  
Picnic areas  
Open Space  
Restrooms  
Amphitheater  
Boat Launch  
River Access  
Basketball Court  
Baseball fields  
Playgrounds  
Water

### **BINGHAM PARK**

**340 Bingham Park Lp**  
Rental Picnic Facility  
R.V. Park  
Restrooms  
Water  
Picnic Tables  
BBQ Areas  
Open Space

### **METCALF PARK**

**240 Metcalf St**  
Tesarik Ballpark  
Skateboard Park  
Water  
Restrooms  
Basketball Courts  
Open Space

### **HARRY OSBORNE PARK**

**AND CABOOSE**  
**W. Ferry St,**  
**SR20 Intersection**  
Historical Displays  
Open Space

### **LIONS PARK, SR 20**

Picnic Tables

### **MEMORIAL PARK**

**703 Pacific Street**  
Picnic Tables  
Restrooms  
Community Center  
City Library  
Playground  
Open Space

### **HAMMER HERITAGE SQUARE**

**640 Metcalf Street**  
Picnic Tables  
Restrooms  
Waterfall  
Artwork



### **WINNIE HOUSER PARK AND PLAYFIELD**

1400 Rhodes Rd  
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**DENNY ENGBERG  
MEMORIAL PLAYFIELD,**  
**1555 Fruitdale Rd**  
Athletic Field



For more information please visit  
[www.ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us/parks](http://www.ci.sedro-woolley.wa.us/parks)



## Meet Your Public Works Operations Division Staff

NATHAN SALSEINA, OPERATIONS DIVISION MANAGER

Do you ever wonder who mows all of our city parks, sweeps our streets, and cleans and maintains all of our city buildings? Who plows the snow, fixes street signs and makes sure all of our playgrounds are safe and clean?

The city Public Works Operations Division staff are proud to answer this call to service. Public Works Operations maintains 105 acres of city parks and open space, two R.V. parks and Union Cemetery. We clean and maintain 63,597 square feet of public buildings, including City Hall, Library, Senior Center, Community Center, Police Evidence Facility and Fire Station 2, and a portion of the museum. We maintain 60 miles of city streets and 246,460 linear feet of drainage pipes and ditches, and the flower baskets that adorn downtown in the spring and summer months. Operations staff also assist with coordination and traffic control for many of our community events such as Blast from the Past, Loggerodeo, Founders Day and our Christmas tree lighting and parade.

The Operations Division is made up of 9 full time employees, 3 part time employees and 6 seasonal employees with a combined 145 years of service to the citizens of Sedro-Woolley.

Nathan Salseina, Operations Supervisor	15 Years of Service
David Davidson, Street Crew Lead	29 Years of Service
Jeff Moody, Cemetery Lead	28 Years of Service
John Worline, Street Crew Worker	26 Years of Service
Kevin Kesti, Parks/Facilities Crew Worker	16 Years of Service
Jim Gutierrez, Street Crew Worker	12 Years of Service
Ray Fox, Custodial/Maintenance Worker	11 Years of Service
Travis Wood, Street Crew Worker	3 Years of Service
Ken Clark, Riverfront Park Caretaker	3 Years of Service
Phil Thompson, Bingham Park Caretaker	2 Years of Service
Ron Mager, Memorial Park Caretaker	1 Month of Service
Melissa Dougher, Offender Work Program Supervisor	1 Month of Service

We are proud of our work and look forward to continued service to Sedro-Woolley citizens, businesses and guests. If you have any questions about the operations division, please feel free to contact the department at 360-855-0771.

## BY THE NUMBERS

2015 OPERATIONS DIVISION  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1.5 lane miles

Streets miles resurfaced

40 tons

Asphalt used to patch pot holes

903 hours

Spent street-sweeping

3,650 linear feet

Drainage ditches mowed

2,065 linear feet

Drainage pipes cleaned

116 street signs

Street signs replaced

555 gallons

Traffic paint applied to city streets

2,516 nights

R. V. Camping nights provided

69 burials

and internements completed at the cemetery

1 playground

Constructed at Riverfront Park

1 baseball field

Constructed at Janicki Field  
(Babe Ruth Baseball field)

396 events hosted

9 parks maintained

...all while performing  
routine parks and  
facilities maintenance.

## A LETTER FROM JEANNE MCLENNAN, Loggerodeo President 2006-2016

IT'S ANOTHER GREAT YEAR FOR LOGGERODEO™.....It's almost the Fourth of July and 2016 is half over. It's been a very eventful year: we have a new mayor, our beautiful city has undergone some upgraded construction and the new Erik Tesarik Memorial Play Field is absolutely beautiful. I was driving around town the other day and noticing how much things have changed in the past 10 years, not to mention all the new people to our community. Do they wonder about the history of Sedro-Woolley? If you were a stranger, what would you see when you first ventured into town? My eye catches Hammer Heritage Square; the mural is so stunning it almost glows. Then venturing down Main Street; you see a variety of businesses, whether you are just browsing or have a purpose.

I have lived in this community all of my 53 years (yes I actually told you) and I have seen lots of changes but one of the things that is a constant? Sedro-Woolley Loggerodeo™. The faces and locations might occasionally change but you can always count on how much fun it will be. The family gatherings, the good weather, the parades, the smell of sawdust from the carvers, getting splashed at the Logging Exhibition, and of course the food and happy squeals from the kids at the Carnival. Loggerodeo™ has always been fun and sun-filled. We have all worked hard to bring you another year of events the whole family can enjoy.

Whatever it is you like to do, I think we have it covered; please come out and enjoy the festivities. Check in at the Chainsaw Carving Championship; maybe even win a bid and take one home! Come see all the kiddies in the Kiddie Parade; it's definitely entertaining and will put a smile on anyone's face. Don't forget the Grand Parade on the Fourth then there are lots of choices to get some grub: the Eagles Parking lot, at the Carnival or while you're watching the Rodeo. If its entertainment you want, come do some foot stomping at the Street Dance!

So on that note...I will bid you all farewell. I am stepping down August 1. I have been your esteemed president for 10 years? I cannot even remember how long. It is time to pass the torch. Thank you all, board and community members, for all the great memories. I thank my family for many years of tireless support, help and understanding: my husband Dan for always being there to listen and drive me through the parade; my daughter Rindala for being my sidekick and support when I needed to hand off the phone; and my parents, Frank & Bev Martin, for a lifetime of living Loggerodeo™. My Mom has been gone for almost a year now and I still ask for her help when things get tough.

Please come and say "hi" when you see me at one of the events; I very much enjoy visiting with you. I appreciate all the kind words. Until we meet again...



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# A Tale of Two Libraries



BY, SARA HELMS

*Sara Helms has lived in Sedro-Woolley for over 20 years. She is a student at Western Washington University majoring in communication*

*studies with a minor in journalism. This article was written as a part of her news reporting class winter quarter of 2016.*

**MAYOR KEITH WAGONER SAID HIS PROPOSED 20,000 SQUARE FOOT LIBRARY,** located in the heart of Sedro-Woolley's downtown area, would encourage the city's revitalization efforts.

Wagoner released his "Library Partnership Concept," dated Jan. 21, calling for a relocation and merger of the two libraries located within Sedro-Woolley.

In November of 2012, voters approved an initiative to create a Rural Partial-County Library District that would serve residents living in the unincorporated areas of Sedro-Woolley.

Wagoner explained that members of the city library were very active in getting this initiative on the ballot. It was a common assumption that the passage of the initiative would lead to an expansion of the city library.

Now, more than three years later, Sedro-Woolley is home to two libraries, the city's long running public library and the district's more modest Central Skagit Library.

The city library, at 802 Ball St., and the district library, at 100 W. State St., are less than a mile apart, about a 15 minute walk from one another.

At city council and library board meetings, both libraries have been described as inadequate by public leaders, library staff and Sedro-Woolley's residents. Perhaps what has most people in town frustrated is the fact that the libraries are segregated depending on if one lives inside or



*Sedro-Woolley's "lost" Carnegie Library, circa 1916. Courtesy of the Sedro-Woolley Museum.*

outside of city limits, meaning students within the school district have different levels of access to technology and resources.

According to the 2014 Washington Public Library Statistical Report, Sedro-Woolley's city library has revenue of \$318,933 a year while serving a population of 10,610. The district library, which serves 15,351 people, has revenue of nearly \$1 million a year.

To put those figures into perspective, the Burlington Public Library in the neighboring town has annual revenue of \$720,208 and runs 21,000 square foot facility which was built in 2007.

Sedro-Woolley, inside and outside of city limits, has a population three times the size of Burlington, and yet together, the two libraries located in town amount to less than 9,000 square feet.

Wagoner thinks his proposal will not only address these issues, but will also address residents' other concerns about the growing vacancy and deterioration in the downtown area.

One such vacancy is the old Marketplace Grocery store located at 100 State St., a 19,000 square foot building that's been empty for years.

Although potential locations for the proposed library are privileged



*Memorial Park, located outside of the Sedro-Woolley Public Library.*

information, Wagoner said there are several possibilities available to the city of Sedro-Woolley. The district library, on the other hand, has limited jurisdiction when it comes to purchasing a property in town.

Jeanne Williams, director of the Central Skagit Library District, explained that the city has the purchasing power that the district needs.

"The city has more capacity to build than we do. Our bond capacity as a special purpose district is only about \$1.6 million and that would have to be paid off in six years, whereas the city can bond a lot more for a longer time," Williams said. "We have the operational funds to run a library. The city has that



The old Marketplace Grocery store, located across the street from the Central Skagit Library, vacant for years.

Wagoner's library vision includes a building reminiscent of Sedro-Woolley's old Carnegie Library, which operated from 1915 to 1962. The Sedro-Woolley Public Library website describes it as having been a "handsome" building located where the current high school gym resides.

bond capacity but they've struggled to provide the operational cost. Those two needs totally fit."

Wagoner's library vision includes a building reminiscent of Sedro-Woolley's old Carnegie Library, which operated from 1915 to 1962. The Sedro-Woolley Public Library website describes it as having been a "handsome" building located where the current high school gym resides.

Although he imagines an exterior stylistic of the early 1900's, he wants a high-tech, modern interior. He said, wherever the new location may be, there could be a playground for children

incorporated into the design.

Council Member Brenda Kinzer of Ward 3, which covers the downtown area, said one of the most important things for her constituents is to maintain a historical feel in town. She said as Sedro-Woolley's logging roots are slipping away, it is important to keep its history alive and vibrant while embracing a new identity.

Kinzer also said there is a need to attract more businesses in town and to bring people into the city.

"It is hard to see bare, empty storefronts," Kinzer said.

Although the proposed library would be the fourth for Sedro-Woolley in the past 100 years, some city residents are still fighting the change, stating a fondness for the city library which they have come to know and love.

If the city chooses not to move forward with the mayor's concept, the district will inevitably gather its funds and take action elsewhere. Williams discussed the possibility of opening a self-service library similar to the Yacolt Library Express or multiple, smaller branches located toward the Big Lake and Samish neighborhoods.

The Sedro-Woolley City Library Director Debra Peterson declined to comment on the mayor's proposal.



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# Events



## 4TH ANNUAL SEDRO-WOOLLEY SKATE COMPETITION

Saturday Sept 10

Sign up 10am

Sedro-Woolley Skatepark

Sponsored by Hidden Wave, Lib Technologies, Skagit Speedway, and the City of Sedro-Woolley. The event has become a summer favorite among local and out of town skateboarders. This event was originally put together by Kevin Loy former Sedro-Woolley councilmember, Adam McCoy the original owner of Hidden Wave Boardshop, and Ryan Davis local snowboard legend and representative of Lib Technologies, a Washington Based snowboard and skateboard manufacturer. The event continues this year in the same fashion with 3 categories of rider classes; Advanced, Intermediate, and Beginner. All ages are welcome. The format is a one minute run around the park where the competitor attempts to land tricks on different features throughout the park. The riders are scored based on: difficulty of tricks landed, usage of features around the park, speed, amplitude, and style. In addition to the contest, there will be a team demo by Lib Technologies' Riders, live deejay audio by Analog Tech Sound, and a Free Hot Dog BBQ for spectators and competitors.

## RIVERFRONT PARK SEDRO-WOOLLEY, WASHINGTON

HONKY-TONK-FOLK-ROCK	BLUES ROCK	CLASSIC ROCK	COUNTRY
<b>JULY 17</b> 6:00-8:00PM Gertrude's Hearse (gertrudeshearse.com)	<b>JULY 24</b> 6:00-8:00PM The Michelle Taylor Band (themichelletaylorband.com)	<b>AUG 7</b> 6:00-8:00PM BandZandt (bandzandt.blogspot.com)	<b>AUG 14</b> 6:00-8:00PM Martin James Band (the-martin-james-band.bandvibe.com)

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Metcalf and Ferry Street

Farmer's  
Market

> Ongoing  
Sedro-Woolley  
Farmer's Market  
May 18th through Oct 12, 2016  
Hammer Heritage Square  
Every Wednesday from 3 pm to 7 pm

> August

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK**

Riverfront Park | 6-8 pm

Aug 7 - BandZandt

Aug 14 - Marlin James Band

**TOYS FOR TOTS | Aug 27, 5pm**

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> September

**SKATE PARK COMPETITION | Sept 10**

Sedro-Woolley Skate Park

**FOUNDER'S DAY | Sept 10-11**

Sedro-Woolley Museum

**JJ'S CRUISERS & SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
MUSEUM'S CLASSIC CAR SHOW**  
Riverfront Park | Sept 11

> October



Halloween  
parade and  
downtown trick-  
or-treating!

**Monday, Oct 31**

Line up begins near the Municipal  
Parking lot behind Wells Fargo  
Bank on Metcalf Street with the  
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# Founders' Day

BY THE SEDRO-WOOLLEY MUSEUM



CAROLYN FREEMAN  
Sedro-Woolley Museum Director

THE VERY FIRST FOUNDERS' DAY WAS HELD OVER THE JULY 4TH, 1994 celebration, when we honored decedents of Mortimer Cook (founder of Sedro). There were about 18 Cook family members who attended from all over the United States. Sea Fair's King Rex the 44th came up to Knight Mayor Bill Stendal and make a lady of Paula Cook Budlong Cronin (Mortimer Cook's granddaughter); Job Corp students provided a luncheon at the Community Center; Dale Robertson arranged for Pac Car to provide a new bright red Kenworth Truck that all the members of the Cook family rode on in the 4 parade.

When everything was over Rustan Robertson, Kerry and Carolyn Freeman met and decided Founders' Day was a great idea to promote the museum, but doing it over the 4th of July was way too busy a time to hold this event. It was decided it should be a community and family event and September would be a good time because of the good weather, school is back in session and most families were back from vacation.

So in 1995 we held Founders' Day in September honoring a family at the museum on Saturday and a picnic at Riverfront Park on Sunday. The Ana-Cords (a barbershop quartet) provided the entertainment.

It was in 1997 that Kerry Freeman contacted members of JJ's Cruisers to partner with the museum to hold a Founders' Day community picnic with an open car show on Sunday. Each year the car show has grown, there have been as many as 350 cars. The great Sedro-Woolley Bank Robbery reenactment was introduced on Saturday.

Over the next few year we have tried many different things on Saturday like: bed races, critter parade for kids, formal dance with silent and live auctions, but do to a lack of volunteers these events were dropped. The Great Bank Robbery reenactment, however, gained in popularity and the script was improved, sets were added as were new players.

The last reenactment was held in 2014, 100 years after the original robbery, which coincided with our new book "The Wages of Sin", authored by Rustan Robertson with pictures of the original bank robbery provided by the museum.

This year's open house on Saturday Sept 10th will include a presentation by the Magic Lantern Society. They will show how glass lantern slides were used in theatres, churches, fraternal lodges, schools and at home. Part of their presentation will include the museum's glass slides of the 1914 bank robber. Children will also have an opportunity to create and color their own slide.

Sunday Sept 11th will be the picnic at Riverfront Park with the museum providing the BBQ; Hot Dogs, chips, cookie and pop or water for \$3.00 from 10:30am to 2pm. JJ's Cruisers & Modified Lifestyles car clubs will be hosting car show which runs from 9am to 4pm. They will be acknowledging the 15th anniversary of the Twin Tower bombing in 2001 along with first responders and military.



## FOUNDER'S DAY

**SATURDAY, SEPT 10**

Open House at the Sedro-Woolley Museum

**SUNDAY, SEPT 11**

Riverfront Park

Picnic - 10:30am-2pm

Car Show - 9am-4pm

More details on our Facebook page or our new web-site:

[www.sedro-woolleymuseum.com](http://www.sedro-woolleymuseum.com).

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