
SEDRO-WOOLLEY
CityScene
SPRING 2022
Inside this issue
Go Outside!
Trek for Treasure, Blast, Loggerodeo & More
Chief Tucker to Retire

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What's Going On at City Hall?

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

- **City Hall bulletin board:** 325 Metcalf Street
- **City website:** *sedro-woolley.gov*
- All notices of public hearings and passed ordinances are posted in the ***Skagit Valley Herald.***

City Council agendas, meeting minutes, videos and audio 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.

CITY HALL MEETINGS

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

City Council regular meetings:
2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month 6:00pm

City Council study sessions:
1st Wednesday of each month 6:00pm

Planning Commission meetings:
3rd Tuesday of each month 6:30pm

City Council Study Sessions, City Council Meetings: Unless otherwise indicated, meetings will be held in "hybrid" mode. Citizen's may participate in-person at City Hall or virtually using Zoom. To join in a city web meeting, go to *sedro-woolley.gov/council* or *sedro-woolley.gov/pc* then click on City Council or Planning Commission Meetings schedule Select the desired meeting, click on "More…" and follow the instructions for joining.

All meetings are open to the public, including virtual meetings. Public comment may be given in person at the meeting, or in advance by email or postal mail and read into the record at the meeting.

Action may or may not be taken on any item at a regular meeting; action is limited to agenda items at a special meeting.

Please visit the city website for information on attending Council Committee meetings.

City Council and Planning Commission Meetings Schedule (subject to change; see City Calendar for updated meeting information)

Sedro-Woolley Housing Authority Board meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of even months except October at 10:45am, 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.

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SEDRO-WOOLLEY CITY SCENE MAGAZINE

This will be the last issue of Sedro-Woolley *City Scene* magazine, but don't despair! We will continue to offer the same wonderful stories and articles through the city's social media platforms. The articles and stories, as well as images, will be posted individually on the links below. Please follow us!

WEBSITE:
sedro-woolley.gov

FACEBOOK:
facebook.com/CityofSedroWoolley

INSTAGRAM:
instagram.com/cityofsedrowoolley or *@cityofsedrowoolley*

LINKEDIN:
linkedin.com/company/city-of-sedro-woolley

Thank you for the continued interest and support over the past six years!

Jana Hanson
EDITOR

What's Inside

SPRING 2022

2 City Hall
- City Directory
- Council Corner
- What's Going on at City Hall
- From the Mayor

6 City News
- Information Technology: The Glue That Keeps the City Running Safely & Efficiently
- Chief Lin Tucker: Good-bye & Thank You

8 Community
- United General District 304 - Shake Off Winter and Get Moving
- Swift Center: Planning and Reflecting
- SW Rodeo Queen 2022
- Skagit Forever—Sedro-Woolley Senior Center
- Walnut Tree Thrift Shop - Bargains and Treasures

13 History
- Imagine: A "Woolley" Town

15 Events
- Sedro-Woolley Museum
- Farmers Market
- Kids Annual Fishing Derby
- 2022 Memorial Day Ceremony
- Blast From the Past and More
- Loggerodeo
- Quilt Show Returns
- American Legion Breakfast
- High School Sporting Events

COVER PHOTOS:
Photo credit: Jennifer Ecker Photography



2022 Rodeo Queen Josie Weppler

2022 Fiscal Year Budget



BY MAYOR
JULIA JOHNSON

DEAR SEDRO-WOOLLEY RESIDENTS,

In 2020 the City Council adopted a biennial budget, which was implemented in 2021. We are currently in the second half of our first biennial budget and soon will have many discussions regarding the 2023-2024 biennial budget.

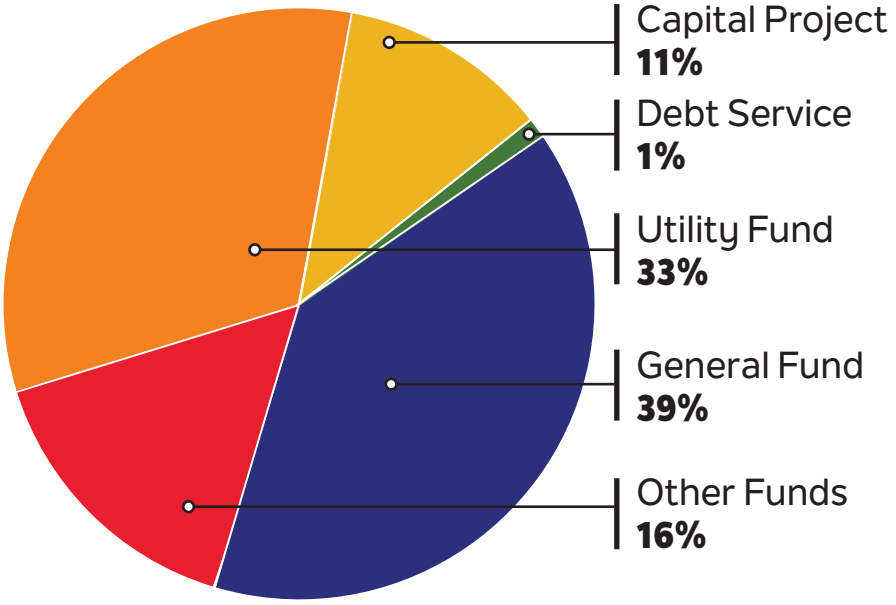
The approved 2022 Fiscal Year budget is **$36.5 million dollars**.

This budget includes overall cost increases in all areas including personnel costs, both employee salaries and fringe benefits (based upon collective bargaining agreement and cost of living adjustments) and increases in goods and services due to the impacts of the pandemic, inflation, and/or mandated expansion of government by state and federal lawmakers (i.e., stormwater utility maintenance and regulation).

- **Property Tax Rate** supports the General Fund. City Council approved a tax rate of **1.3797/1,000** assessed value for a TOTAL **3.4724/1,000** assessed property value. The grand total to be collected is **$2,977,848**.
- **General Fund Revenues**, the percentage that comes from the Property Tax = **20%,** Sales Tax= **16%**, and Other Revenues = **64%**.

Here are a few highlights of what we are anticipating will be brought to completion in 2022:

Our city projects continue to develop as construction continues at our **Wastewater Treatment Plant Office and Public Works Building**. We have completed phase 1 of **Olmsted Park** and we are waiting to move forward once funding is received from the RCO grant award and funds from the Appropriations Bill, which was submitted on our behalf by Representative Rick Larsen. We hope to open Olmsted Park summer of 2024 but remain mindful of the supply chain and difficulty in acquiring needed supplies and equipment. The final design plans are in place for the renovation of **Memorial Park**, using American Rescue Fund Allocation money. We will begin work this summer with expectation to see the completion in summer of 2024.



Asphalt overlays for 2022 will include Trail Road from SR20 to Cook Road, and Puget Street from SR20 to Northern Avenue. Chip Seals will occur on Reed Street from SR20 to State Street, Haines Street from Ferry to the end, north of Ferry Street, 11th street from State to Talcott Street, and Warner Street from 10th to 11th. We continue to move forward with the East Jones/John Liner Road Project. As part of the phasing within that project, we will be placing a stop light at the intersection of John Liner, McGarigle Road and Hwy 9, and hope to receive funding for the completion of the undercrossing at BNSF Trestle, which will join East Jones and John Liner.

Our City Council has seen changes, with Joe Burns coming on as Council representative for Ward 6, and Nick Lavacca as our Council Member At Large. They are among a diverse thinking council whose average age is much younger than previous City Councils. I extend my gratitude for their service and active engagement both on City Council and in the community. We are back to meeting in person and have also implemented a hybrid method so you may watch online, or join us in the Council Chambers at City Hall. We meet the first, second, and fourth Wednesday of each month, with a 6pm start time. If you would like to make an inquiry, please contact me or any of our departments with concerns or questions you may have.

I close with words from **Benjamin Franklin** once penned,

"Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, [innovation], achievement, and success have no meaning."

Mayor Julia Johnson

Council Corner



Joe Burns

WARD SIX COUNCILMEMBER

I'M CERTAIN MY WIFE NAOMI WOULD TELL YOU I AM INCAPABLE OF SITTING STILL. When I see something that needs to be done, I can't help myself, I have to take action. That's how I got myself into politics. It's my strong belief we can grow responsibly, bring businesses and industry back to our city, and still maintain our sense of community.

I've been in the automotive industry for over 18-years in various roles and currently work as the Automotive Shop Foreman for Rallye Auto Sales. My wife Naomi is a Certified Nursing Assistant, and our 15-month-old Eli is the joy of our lives, as well as utterly exhausting.

When it comes to hobbies, camping, fishing, hiking, and kayaking are some of my favorite outdoor activities. I have also logged in over 45-hours of flight time in a Cessna 172.

Although I have been fortunate enough to travel and live all over the United States, I cannot think of any place I would rather be than right here in Sedro-Woolley.



City launches Online Reservation System for Parks, Community Center and RV Park

The City is now accepting reservation requests online for athletic fields, park shelters, the Community Center and the Riverfront RV Park (open April-October). If you are interested in reserving one of these City amenities please visit *sedro-woolley.gov/Reservations*

There you will see a link to the type of facilities available for reservations. When you click on the link a list of those type of facilities will launch and after the bottom of the brief description you will select the BOOK button and fill out the information requested. Once the reservation request is submitted a city staff member will review the request and respond with the fees and requirements for your specific reservation request. Staff is always available to assist if you have any questions when completing the form, call City Hall at 360-855-1661.

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Glue That Keeps the City Running Safely & Efficiently

BY BILL CHAMBERS, IT DIRECTOR & WOODY TOVAR CANO, IT SPECIALIST

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) TOUCHES EVERY CORNER OF OUR CITY'S OPERATIONS, from security systems, file, and database servers to email systems, proprietary sewer treatment systems, financial software, public safety mobile data terminals, radios, mobile phones and tablets, and every network and firewall component that provides secure connectivity to those devices. Whether it's radio, cellular, WiFi, Ethernet or Gigabit fiber optics, our department of two full-time employees provides support for all of these, across all departments. We also manage the *city website*, *LinkedIn*, *Instagram*, and *Facebook* presence.



Bill Chambers, IT Director and Woody Tovar Cano, IT Specialist

In short, our department provides the technological "glue" that supports all information systems that the city uses to accomplish its goals and perform its mission.

One thing that the COVID pandemic has taught us is that alternate ways of getting the work done are essential. Our technology initiatives will continue to focus on availability, redundancy, and mobility, while maintaining security and compliance for critical and sensitive infrastructure. Here are some of the many projects that are completed or planned:

- **Gigabit Fiber Internet Service –** This will provide more bandwidth to improve performance of large file uploads, video streaming and secure remote access.
- **Transition to Microsoft 365 –** This transition is almost complete. It has added more collaborative Microsoft tools for enhancing teamwork.
- **Enhanced Endpoint Protection and Multifactor Authentication –** Now that so many employees are using mobile devices outside of our LAN, ensuring the highest possible standard for endpoint protection and authentication is vital.
- **Web-Based Services –** By implementing cloud-based systems we can provide many services to you from the convenience of your home computer, tablet, smartphone, or telephone. These include:
  - ***Xpress Bill Pay*** - Our online bill payment option saves you time and gives you more flexibility in how you pay your city utility bill or permit fees. If you have an internet connection and an e-mail address, you can pay your bill online.
  - ***Online Facilities Reservation System*** – Many of our athletic fields, park and other facilities are now reservable online.
  - ***E-Notifications*** – You can subscribe to many of the pages on our website to get updates via email or text message.
  - ***Zoom*** – An easy way for citizens to participate in public meetings with their internet browser or Zoom app. Most public meetings now have a Zoom option.

We also use many web-based solutions internally, including:

- ***GovQA*** – A system for managing public records requests.
- ***Smarsh*** – A system for archiving email, text messages, website, and social media content.
- ***Agendease*** – A system for creating and managing agendas, packets, and minutes for public meetings.
- ***iWorQ*** - Public works and building/planning solutions to streamline our services with web-based management that can be accessed from the office or in the field. Current applications are used for code enforcement, markings, pavement, permit management, sidewalks, signs, and general work management. A customer portal is planned for online permit application.
- ***DocuWare*** – An internal browser-based electronic document management system. This system helps the city to cut down on paper and to search for documents more easily.

It's not all mundane techno-tasks though. We also get to work on some fun projects like the *Skate Park and Clock Tower webcams* or get out into the field to take photos of our beautiful city for posting on social media. It's also exciting to plan for technology infrastructure in newly constructed facilities like the *Wastewater Treatment Plant Lab/Operations Building and the Public Works Fleet & Operations Facility*.

Because we support all departments, we have a unique opportunity to work with virtually all city staff. We are honored to be a part of this team that is dedicated to serving its citizens.

Goodbye & Thank You!

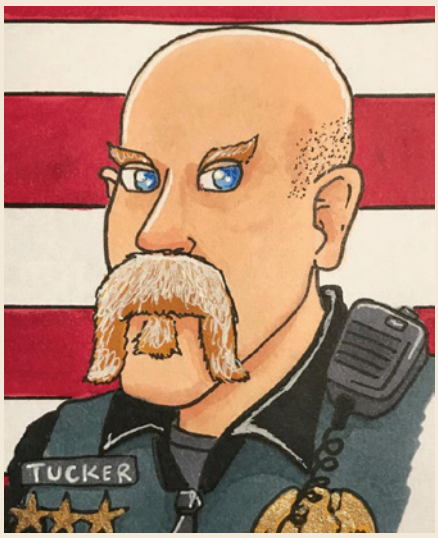
BY POLICE CHIEF LIN TUCKER

Way back in time, the late 1900's, a young man with a full head of hair and all sorts of ambition got word that Sedro-Woolley was hiring police officers. That young man had just spent about seven years in the Navy and was looking for a change, he also asked his wife if she wanted to stay in Washington or move back to Missouri and she said she'd rather stay!

There were a couple of hurdles to overcome; first, running the mile and a half, it had to be done in a certain amount of time and passing that with a whole second to spare was as good as needed! Second, getting out of the Navy, which frowns on you for leaving, so a request to leave early was made and granted. Desert Storm was winding down and Navy E-5's were a surplus, so I was given leave to take off and a couple of weeks later I was back in uniform at the Police Academy.

My early days in Law Enforcement were filled with excitement and weirdness. There were eight to ten drinking establishments in town, with fights and shenanigans galore. It was a bit like a wild frontier town and fortunately very few people really got hurt. Times changed and the wildness settled down.

I had the good fortune to perform virtually every job the Police Department had to offer. I got to work with and for some incredibly fine people, and even though I'm a transplant, the people of the city have always treated me as one of their own. I've been told that being in Law Enforcement is like having ringside seats at the greatest show on earth, and that is completely accurate! I've seen things that haunt me to this day, but more often than not I have been humbled by the good and decent everyday humans I've served for nearly thirty years.



As of August of 2022, I will have 30-years of service and I plan to retire and enjoy my family, which includes two small grandkids. I have a shop full of dusty tools that I never seem to get the time to use and miles of trails to explore. This somewhat older man with a lot less hair and a bushy gray mustache is looking forward to trying out retirement life. My wife has lots of plans for things to keep me occupied!

Thank you to the hyphenated city, for giving me a wonderful place to live, work, raise a family and now retire to. I wouldn't change a thing. It was an honor to be chosen to work here, it's been an honor to serve and I look forward to what the future has to offer.

Chief Lin Tucker







SHAKE OFF WINTER AND GET MOVING!

BY PAMELA JULL, UNITED GENERAL DISTRICT 304



HAS WINTER AND EARLY SPRING WEATHER LEFT YOU FEELING COOPED UP? Have you spent too much time on the couch? If you're looking for a fun way to be more active, United General District 304 has some great activities to help get everyone outside and moving.

NATURE WALKS FOR LITTLE ONES

District 304's new outdoor program for families with children five and under is free and comes with a lot of perks! Through a partnership with Hike It Baby, our Skagit Nature Rx program can provide equipment and clothing through its new lending library, as well as instruction and support for three types of walks:

- Wander Walks gives toddlers and their parents opportunities to explore outdoors with fun activities that encourage curiosity and discovery. These activities are accessible for people with physical challenges, and available in both Spanish and English.
- For children ages 2-5, longer walks focus on sensory experiences as well as activities like making nature bracelets, scavenger hunts, and more.
- Adult-paced walks of 1-2 miles are also offered through the Turning the Blues Green program. Designed to boost your mood as well as your physical wellbeing, this walk is ideal with little ones in a stroller or pack.

Information/registration - *unitedgeneral.org/nature-rx*
Facebook (private group) - *www.facebook.com/groups/hikeitbabywhatcomcounty*

EXPLORATION AND CONNECTION FOR SENIORS

For older adults (age 55+), Nature Rx hosts Senior Strides, a series of four guided hikes on Tuesdays or Thursdays each month. These easy to moderate walks begin with warm up exercises, range from 1-3 miles at a slow to moderate pace, and end with cool-down exercises. If you're ready to explore local parks and trails with other active adults from the area, sign up for next month's walks for just $25/person for a four-week series. **Information/registration**- *unitedgeneral.org/senior-strides*

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES FOR ALL AGES

Now in its 12th year, District 304's Trek for Treasure program has grown into one of the most popular activities in Skagit County. Over 12 weeks, Trek for Treasure releases a series of six hikes that engage and entertain with a story theme, clues, and prizes. Hidden at the end of each hike is a container with a code inside that unlocks a riddle. Participants need to snap a selfie and solve the riddle before the next hike is released. **Information/registration** - *trekfortreasure.org*

Program organizer Mark Pearson says it's the combination of fun, flexibility, and structure that makes the program work. "We have people who look forward to it every year," says Pearson. Trek for Treasure takes the guesswork out of going hiking by providing a destination as well as detailed maps and instructions for parking, trailheads, and the trail itself. Teams can go on the hike whenever they like in the two-week stretch between each new hike release. Pearson says that setting your own pace is another bonus of the program. "You can take as long as you want to do the hike. It's not a race."

Teams can choose from two levels of hikes that differ in length and elevation gain. Both levels start easier and progress to a little more challenging by the end. Take advantage of the early-bird pricing of $70 for a team of two plus $20 for additional team members. Early-bird registration ends May 20th.

SWIFT Center—Planning and Reflecting

BY LINDA TYLER, PORT OF SKAGIT

Visitors to the SWIFT Center may have noticed lots of activity over the past several months. The Port of Skagit, which took over local ownership of the property from the State of Washington in July 2018, has been hard at work implementing initiatives to help write the next chapter of this historic property, brimming with potential.

Environmental cleanup efforts continue on the historic property. The legacy contamination issues stem from operations of the self-contained mental hospital community, which first opened in 1912. The most recent cleanup efforts included the removal of soil in the footprint of a former ward building and near the athletic field, most likely contaminated from the past use of pesticides and lead based paint. A total of 1,200 cubic yards of contaminated soil were excavated from the two sites and hauled away for proper disposal. The areas were then winterized and will be seeded this spring. The Port is grateful for the partnership and grant funding from the State Dept. of Ecology and US Environmental Protection Agency for this particular project. The steadfast support from these agencies is key for the stewardship of this property and surrounding environment.

In January, Mahlon Hull joined the Port of Skagit Commission as District 3 Commissioner. Elected in November 2021, Commissioner Hull filled the seat of retiring Port Commissioner Bill Shuler. Commissioner Hull brings to the Port a strong career of military and community service, as well as a passion for creating economic opportunities for his constituents.



Above: A group of deer welcome visitors along the SWIFT Center's Historic Route

Below: Aerial view of environmental cleanup efforts in area along Hub Drive.

"The business opportunities and growth at the SWIFT Center is unique to Port of Skagit District 3. It brings the possibility of career wages and retirement level jobs to our doorstep ending the commute style hardship many have had here over the years," Commissioner Hull stated. "I commuted 56 miles, and sometimes 86 miles, one way over my 15-year Boeing career and with traffic that translated into 12+ hour days at work. The SWIFT Center is something I want us to focus on as a Port, to bring a solid future of good jobs for Skagit County."

Part of that work to bring business opportunities and growth to the SWIFT Center will be spurred by redevelopment of the campus with partners like Sedron Technologies and Northwest Innovation Resource Center (NWIRC). Currently, the Port of Skagit is pursuing grant funding from the US Economic Development Administration (EDA) to renovate the Coleman building, west of the main hospital building. This project will renovate the 17,000 square foot building to be home to NWIRC's Lab@SWIFT. The building will provide collaborative space for innovative companies and entrepreneurs focused on agriculture and clean technology, as well as data analytics training for businesses to improve their competitiveness and performance. The Port is also awaiting determination from the EDA on a separate grant application to support infrastructure in the southern influence area of the property. Lots of exciting work on the horizon, pending approval of funding to make it all happen.

As the Port looks to the future of the SWIFT Center and its next chapter, it's also a privilege to reflect on the rich history of the campus. The Skagit County Historical Museum and Sedro-Woolley Museum plan to host a Public History Event this summer on site at the SWIFT Center. This event will include interviews with the public to capture the history, stories and firsthand experiences from those with connections to the Northern State Hospital. Stay tuned for more details as the summer gets closer.

SEDRO-WOOLLEY
Rodeo Queen-2022

My name is Josie Weppler, and I am the current 2022 Sedro-Woolley Rodeo Queen. I was born and raised in Big Lake, Washington across the street from my grandparent's farm where my grandma bred and trained horses. I attribute my horsemanship skills to watching and learning from her all those years as I was growing up. I first saddled up at the ripe old age of two, riding in a buddy seat behind my mom on trail rides. I started riding solo when I was three years old and entered my first horse show at age four. From that point on my love for horses and the western way of life grew beyond measure. These passions evolved into being involved in Future Farmers of America (FFA) during my high school years, where I served as both secretary and vice president. After graduating in 2021 I decided to take a year off from school and run for Sedro-Woolley Rodeo Queen. Currently I am working at Mount Vernon Veterinary Hospital as a receptionist. I will be attending Walla Walla Community College in 2023 where I plan to pursue a degree in Animal Sciences with the goal of becoming a large animal vet technician.



Proud Coronation parents, James and Amy Weppler

When I was a little girl, it was a family tradition to get together for breakfast at Joy's Bakery on the 4th of July and watch the parade downtown. Year-after-year, I would stand alongside the street and admire the Sedro-Woolley Rodeo Queen as she rode by representing our small hometown with grace and poise.

I am honored to now do the same and hopefully inspire other little girls to follow this time-honored tradition.

Current and former Rodeo Queens - From left to right: Abigail Barr, Kindra Coggins, Allyson Knutzen, Donna Geerdes, Josie Weppler, Terri Stewart, Kaitlyn Dorsey, Drew Aldridge, and Maddy VanderKooy.



Skagit Forever

BY DANITA SMEAD AND ELLEN SCHWEIGERT

LIKE A PLAY, THIS MOSAIC PIECE CAME TOGETHER THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF MANY.

Ellen Schweigert, Sedro-Woolley Senior Center Coordinator, first envisioned a piece of art for the sake of art. So, she became art patron and producer of the work, providing most of the art materials and lots of encouragement.

Danita Smead, Volunteer and On-Call Center Coordinator Substitute, stepped in as the director of the mosaic, providing additional materials, labor, and artistic interpretation.

Keith Woods, center user, and patron stepped up to build the frame for the artwork. He could be referred to as the props coordinator.

E & E Lumber is cast as the corporate sponsor, donating lumber for the frame.

Originally conceived as a mere piece of art, the addition of a medallion for Skagit County literally cemented the underlying theme of endurance and beauty together. The medallion reflects the efforts of volunteers and professionals working to "Get Through This Together" during the Covid-19 pandemic throughout 2020 and 2021. During the pandemic, Senior Center volunteers continued to assist staff by getting meals out to Meals on Wheels clients for the 17- months that the center was closed. We are grateful and thankful for all their hours of help.

The **Skagit Forever** artwork is a tribute to the efforts of many during the pandemic. This beautiful and inspiring art piece can be seen at the front entrance of the Senior Center at 715 Pacific St. Come and visit us for lunch Monday through Friday from 12:00 noon until 1:00 pm. Ages 60 and older is a suggested $5.00 donation with others under 60 a $7.00 fee. Other activities and the center menu can be found at skagitcounty.net/seniors or you can contact the Senior Center directly by calling 360-855-1531. We are always looking for new volunteers to join our team!



Originally conceived as a mere piece of art, the addition of a medallion for Skagit County literally cemented the underlying theme of endurance and beauty together.







Walnut Tree Thrift Shop-Bargains and Treasures

BY JUDY JOHNSON

BARGAINS AND TREASURES ARE THE STOCK IN TRADE FOR THE WALNUT TREE THRIFT SHOP in Sedro-Woolley. Local donors find a place to donate items to benefit local causes. Shoppers enjoy searching out just the right item to complete their household or as a special gift. It's a favorite of regular customers and a delightful discovery for new visitors.

"We are privileged to serve this community," says Jessica Jasper, current shop manager. "Our customers are enthusiastic and loyal. We could not ask for better cooperation from the local folks."

The Walnut Tree opened October 30, 1975, and has been in continuous operation since. Among the first local projects supported by the shop's proceeds was the building of the Community Center in 1976, which is also still in operation. Currently, proceeds from the shop are distributed by Soroptimist International of Sedro-Woolley toward scholarships for local graduates, food distribution programs, and other projects that primarily support women and children.

"We look forward to every business day," emphasizes Jasper, "Our volunteers work hard to ensure that we offer a quality shopping experience."

WALNUT TREE THRIFT SHOP is located at 713 Puget Street in Sedro-Woolley and is open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m. Donations are accepted during operating hours. Please visit our Facebook page at *facebook.com/WalnutTreeThriftShop* for the most current information.

From left to right: Volunteer Wen Wagoner and Jessica Jasper Volunteer Shop Manager.



IMAGINE: A "WOOLLEY" TOWN

BY SHARON HOWE, RESEARCH LIBRARIAN - SEDRO-WOOLLEY MUSEUM

Imagine yourself back to 1890 making your way through a stand of timber to the current Eastern Avenue. You hear the sounds of hammering and banging before you reach a clearing where crews work full tilt on railroad grades, while others are busy building a sawmill. What you are seeing is the beginnings of the town of Woolley at what later became the site of Skagit Steel.

On the mill site, you may meet Philip A. Woolley, who, with his sons William and Phillip, is supervising mill construction and operations. Phillip makes his mark on the future town by taking an axe to the first tree cut on the town site. Woolley, age 58, is already a successful contractor building mills to cut ties and bridge timbers for railroads in the Midwest and South. With his sons, he has active operations in Georgia and South Carolina. In 1889, his friend and attorney, James Metcalfe, is appointed attorney general for Washington Territory as it transitions to statehood. With railroad promotion at fever pitch, Woolley asks his attorney to recommend a location where railroads are actually going to be built, as opposed to many "paper railroad" dreams and schemes. Metcalfe's investigations settle on what is now Sedro-Woolley, where three railroads are headed from north, south, and west. Woolley selects a triangular mill site where the Fairhaven & Southern, the Seattle & Northern, and the Seattle, Lake Shore, & Eastern tracks will converge. The F&S is the first to reach the site at Christmas time in 1889 (today's F&S Grade Road was part of that route). The Seattle and Northern arrives from Anacortes in April 1890, and the SLS&E arrives from the south in fall of that year.

Woolley, who is a native of New York, starts his railroad tie contracting career in Canada, but also opens a store near

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Catherine and Philip A. Woolley
CIRCA 1890



The Woolley Sawmill and Shingle Mill about 1891. The sawmill was built in 1890. With good railroad connections established to other parts of the country by 1891, the Woolleys added the shingle mill to the site that was located between the Fairhaven & Southern and the Seattle, Lakeshore & Eastern, seen in the foreground.

Right: The large home that Philip Woolley built for his family at the corner of Puget and Northern Avenue featured an expansive columned porch on which are pictured his wife Catherine (center), daughter Kate (right), and an unidentified woman (left) who may have been Catherine's mother visiting from Ottawa. The photo dates from circa 1895.



Below: Woolley was a rough frontier town with a scattering of businesses and houses along Northern Avenue when this photograph was taken about 1893. The Great Northern Depot is at left. Phillip Woolley built the Keystone Hotel seen at right.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Ottawa, Ontario, where he marries Catherine Loucks. They follow his career to Michigan and then to Elgin, Illinois, before building their own town in the northwest corner of Washington state. Catherine describes the trip from Illinois to Sedro in November 1889 diary entries, concluding with arrival at Mount Vernon Nov. 26 by steamer, then on Nov. 27, "my first ride on a stage in my life and I never could imagine such roads; arrived at Sedro at noon. Nov. 28, moving into boarding house, all confusion. Nov. 29, Mr. Woolley has gone to Mount Vernon to get the land for the mill." Woolley files the plat of his new town in June 1890.

Catherine remains a short time before returning to Illinois. In early 1890, you can see the family home being built for the arrival of Catherine and their daughter, Kate. The house faces Puget Street between Northern Avenue and Gibson Street. The Woolleys are staunch Presbyterians, but they open their spacious parlor for church gatherings of both Protestants and Catholics. Catherine soon after builds a small structure she calls the House of Hope as a center for charitable enterprises and community gatherings. She teaches the town's first session of school in the mill cookhouse in May 1890.

By 1891, the Fairhaven & Southern is a division of the Great Northern, and the SLS&E, which has laid tracks to the Canadian border, is part of the Northern Pacific. Woolley's business district grows quickly as fire and the Panic of 1893 sends businesses to the new town from the two Sedros, and the railroad hub brings many more. By the mid-1890s, the business district has filled Eastern and Northern avenues facing the railroads and has spread south down Metcalfe* to State Street. The scene is now set for a fight to unite Sedro and Woolley.

**Metcalfe was named for Woolley's attorney, but the final 'e' was later dropped.*

For a more detailed history of the founding and growth of the Town of Woolley, visit the Museum's Research Library. Among its collections are materials on the Woolley family and their role in developing the town.

Events

Sedro-Woolley MUSEUM



The **Sedro-Woolley Museum and Gift Shop** is now welcoming visitors Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from noon to 3:00 pm. Admission is by donation: suggested $3.00 adults; $2.50 children and seniors. We offer new and refurbished exhibits to enjoy and new merchandise and books in the Gift Shop.

Please stop by and see the collection of historic car racing photos at Skagit Speedway May 21 and 22. Look for us at Woodfest and Blast from the Past.

The Research Library is open by appointment. Mail and e-mail research requests will be answered. For appointments call the Museum or Sharon Howe at 360-854-9814.

The museum is looking for volunteers. If you would like to get involved in your community and have an interest in Sedro-Woolley's rich and colorful history, please contact the Museum at the number/email below. Not only is volunteering for the Museum worthwhile and satisfying, it is important to keeping the community's history alive.

THE SEDRO-WOOLLEY MUSEUM
725 Murdock Street • Phone: (360) 855-2390
e-mail: *swmuseum@comcast.net*
web: *sedro-woolleymuseum.com*
Facebook: *@WoolleyMuseum*
Instagram: *sedrowoolleymuseum*



Farmers Market

EVERY WEDNESDAY
MAY 18 THROUGH OCTOBER 12
3PM TO 7PM
HAMMER HERITAGE SQUARE



sedrowoolleyfarmersmarket.com



American Legion Post 43 of Sedro-Woolley Honor Guard present arms during the sounding of taps--- Senior Honor Guard Officer Ron Brown saluting---Riflemen Ray Brown--Ande Mitchelle--Steve Blasdell

2022 MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES

Union Cemetery Monday May 30
Starts at: 11:00AM

GUEST SPEAKER:
Sedro-Woolley Mayor, Julia Johnson

There will be a short program including Laying of the Wreaths along with a brief military history, followed by an Honor Guard rifle salute, the playing of Taps and benediction.



Kid's Annual Fishing Derby

Saturday, MAY 7th

Children 15 years and under
First Saturday in May
at Northern State Pond.

Gates open at 7:00am
Fishing starts at 8:00am.

Bring your own gear and bait
There will be prizes!

SPONSORED BY:
Wildcat Steelhead Club, Inc in cooperation with the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, and City of Sedro-Woolley. To sign up please visit *wildcatsteelheadclub.org* for release forms. Release forms will also be available the day of the derby.

CONTACT PERSON:
Bob Neilsen
bob.nielsen@hotmail.com
(360) 630-1621.

DIRECTIONS:
Hwy 20 East from Sedro-Woolley to Fruitdale Rd. Left on Fruitdale approximately one mile on right hand side, there will be signs on Fruitdale and at the gate leading into the pond.

BLAST FROM THE PAST ... AND MORE

What's going on in Sedro-Woolley this summer?

We have **Blast from The Past**, the Wednesday Sedro-Woolley Farmers Market at Hammer Heritage Square, the Weekly Eagle Haven Sunday Market every Sunday, and weekly movies outdoors at Abbot's Alley.

For more information on events please visit *sedro-woolley.com* or email director@sedro-woolley.com.

Blast from the Past is coming up fast! Blast is an annual event on June 3, 4, & 5 in downtown Sedro-Woolley. There will be music, a street fair, kids' games, costume contests for businesses, a scavenger hunt with the downtown businesses, art displays, and local food from our amazing restaurants, don't forget to visit the Sedro-Woolley Museum and check out the car showdown at the American Legion Post 43.



Loggerodeo



ANDY PORTER/ANDYPORTERIMAGES.COM

The last couple of years have been challenging ones to say the least, so all of us at Loggerodeo are excited to see things slowly getting back to normal. We are happy to say that we are having Loggerodeo this year and we hope to add a new event, a Barbeque Cook-Off if there are enough participants. The Sedro-Woolley Riding Club will be hosting the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) again this year. More information on this event and others will be on the website soon.

The board would like to thank all our sponsors who stepped up last year to help us. It was short notice, but we were able to accomplish a lot. We would especially like to give a big thank you to Pioneer Market for donating lunches for the carving event with only a couple of weeks to coordinate and having been short-staffed. Pioneer Market went above and beyond, thank you!

For more information on Loggerodeo events please visit *loggerodeo.org*. Visit the Riding Club website for all information regarding the rodeo *sedrowoolleyrodeo.com*

Dottie Chandler,
LOGGERODEO PRESIDENT



Formed in 2006, the **WES JONES BAND** has been keeping the Texas honky-tonk sound alive and kickin' in the PNW! Born and raised primarily in Snohomish County, Wes Jones has been playing and singing in the area since age 20. Over the years the Wes Jones Band has steadily become one of the more popular classic country dance bands with a great mix of two step, waltz and cowboy cha chas.

If you like the sound of a steel guitar mixed with great vocal harmonies with soul, you must see these guys perform!

LOGGERODEO EVENT CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JULY 1
Chainsaw carving, carnival, arts & crafts

SATURDAY, JULY 2
Chainsaw carving, carnival, arts & crafts, kiddies' parade and street dance

SUNDAY, JULY 3
Chainsaw carving, carnival, arts & crafts, beard contest (3 categories) and Barbeque Cook-off (Tentative)

MONDAY, JULY 4
Chainsaw carving, carnival, arts & crafts, grand parade and fireworks



Quilt Show Returns!

By Judy Johnson

Woolley Fiber Quilters are once again planning a quilt show for **JULY 15-16-17** at Cascade Middle School in Sedro-Woolley. Local quilters have been in a creative mode during the two pandemic years and are eager to share the results of their work during the hiatus.

"Quilters are never at a loss for something to do," said Judy Johnson, the show's publicity chairman. *"Sedro-Woolley is a quilting town, and we demonstrate that at every show. Our local quilters made over 11,000 cloth masks from high quality quilting cotton for the community during 2020. We met via Zoom, we shopped for fabric within COVID mitigation guidelines, and produced beautiful quilts. We would love to show them to you."*

This year's theme is "Under the Sea" and a highlight of the show will be works from Featured Artist Reynola Pakusich, a popular local quilt teacher. Once again, the group will offer a marketplace of quilt-related products as well as a members' boutique of gift-ready items.

Join us for a favorite summertime visual treat at the 2022 Woolley Fiber Quilters' quilt show.

Hours of the show will be 10 am to 5 pm on Friday and Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday. Admission is $5.00 and the group plans to comply with any government requirements for mask wearing or vaccine proof in place at that time.

American Legion Breakfast

American Legion Post #43
701 Murdock Street
Sedro-Woolley

8:00–11:00am

Open to the public
3rd Sunday of every month
$8 adults
$5 children 10 and under

Breakfast consists of:
Eggs to Order, Bacon, Sausage Links, Ham, Western ham and Cheese or Cheese Omelet, Hashbrowns, Biscuits and Gravy, Pancakes, French Toast



For high school sporting event schedules, please visit ***NWCAthletics.com***, the official website for Northwest Conference High School Athletic Programs.

Click on the Sedro-Woolley link for all sporting event schedules.

