

# Richmond Beach COMMUNITY NEWS

Four Time First Place Winner of Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) Neighborhood Newsletter Award

JUNE 2023

## Vandals ruin another orca



SOUND TRANSIT IN 2019  
- PHOTO BY WAYNE PRIDEMORE

By Tom Maillhot

Just a week after our beloved orcas were put up for the summer, vandals destroyed the orca displayed at Kayu Kayu Ac Park. The artwork, named “Sound Transit,” by local Seattle artist Geoff Sherwood could easily be recognized by the large octopus hitching a ride on the orca’s back.

The vandals took down the orca, tore the octopus from the back of the orca, took the octopus and left the injured orca behind.

When contacted, Sherwood said it was terrible news. He said the octopus alone was several months of work and definitely could not be replaced.

Please contact the RBCA at [president@richmondbeachwa.org](mailto:president@richmondbeachwa.org) if you have any information about this crime.



VANDALIZED ORCA  
- PHOTO BY BETTY NGAN

## 2023 Richmond Beach Garden Tour - June 3



BLUE IRIS  
-PHOTO BY KRIS FORDICE

By Kris Fordice

The Richmond Beach Garden Tour will take place **Saturday, June 3, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** There are nine amazing gardens this year in Richmond Beach and Innis Arden. The garden hosts are getting ready and are grateful the weather is finally getting warmer and sunny. They are looking forward to greeting you and sharing their special space. As always, the tour is free and a 100% volunteer effort.

See Garden Tour, page 4

## A Strawberry Festival Worth the Wait



- PHOTO BY BOB FORDICE

By Katie McNeil

The crowds were steady, the rain was absent and the shortcake was delicious. It’s been four years since we last gathered at our annual Strawberry Festival, and we can all agree—it was worth the wait.

The festival kicked off with a spirited parade led by the Shorewood High School drumline. Dressed in a rainbow of colors, neighborhood children and families marched the perimeter of the park, smiling and waving at attendees. (Many thanks to the high schoolers for letting the youngsters jam out on your drums after!)

While kids enjoyed bounce houses, carnival games and face painting, food trucks served lunch and bands served the tunes. And no matter your age, everyone enjoyed the Bubble Guy, a new addition to this year’s festival. Thanks, Pat McGinley with Bubbles of Joy!

We are also grateful to the Richmond Beach Library staff for providing a restroom and respite for our attendees during the five-hour event. Your staff’s help was critical to the success of the festival. Thank you also to the non-profit Friends of Richmond Beach Library who hosted a successful book sale for the community.

See Strawberry Festival, page 5

## 2023 community service awards honor great neighbors

By Tom Petersen

For 25 years, the Richmond Beach Community Association has honored the people, businesses and organizations that have exemplified the spirit of community building, social and economic betterment and neighborliness exemplified by the late Marge Unruh. Unruh created events, inspired activism and all but single-handedly ran the old Richmond Beach School gym as a community center for years. Since then, a succession of dedicated workers, visionaries, philanthropists, organizers and creators have added to Unruh’s legacy, brightening the neighborhood with artworks, bringing people out all year long to enjoy events and celebrations together and marshaling the activism that protects the community environment, vitality and well-being.

See Community Service, page 7

## Hooked on pétanque: Locals find social harmony with fun French game



JACK MCHENRY, A LONG TIME RICHMOND BEACH RESIDENT, IS PRESIDENT OF THE EDMONDS PETANQUE CLUB  
-PHOTO BY BILL CHRISTIANSON

By Bill Christianson

Pétanque’s charm hooked Jack McHenry a decade ago, and he has no plans to stop. The French-based sport of pétanque (pronounced *peh-tonk*) has satisfied his competitive spirit—but most importantly his need for active social connections.

“I have never met such a friendly group of people,” the longtime Richmond Beach resident and president of the Edmonds Pétanque Club (EPC) said. “It’s a

See Pétanque, page 6

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Save the date!



June 3 -  
Garden Tour 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

July 15 -

At Richmond Beach Community Park  
Community Meeting\* 4 p.m.  
Beach Blanket Bingo 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

\*Meet board members at this casual community meeting before bingo.  
Location: In the Library meeting room or outside, TBD.

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## Recognizing Richmond Beach Grads



By Sheri Ashleman

Below are brief announcements for graduating seniors in Richmond Beach. Please join us in congratulating these remarkable students and celebrating their impressive achievements.

And to our grads—As you sail away from the safe harbor of Richmond Beach, set a course for adventure as you explore, dream and discover!

**Logan Anderson** is graduating from Shorewood High School after attending Syre Elementary and Einstein Middle schools. Logan, who grew up in Richmond Beach, will be attending the University of Washington in the fall studying business and playing baseball as a pitcher for the Huskies. Logan was a member of the DECA team and participated in the fall competition. Logan played football, basketball and was a four-year letterman and a captain for the Shorewood baseball team his senior year.

**Cameron Bell** is graduating from Shorewood. He will be attending the University of Denver in the fall, studying public policy on the pre-law track. Cameron attended Syre and Einstein. He was involved in ASB, currently serving Shorewood as ASB President. He has also been active in SW Swimming and Water Polo and served as captain of both teams his senior year. Living in this community has prepared him well, and he is looking forward to new adventures!

**Sophia Calandrillo** will graduate from Shorewood High School in June. She served as co-captain of the SW Cross-Country Team, Co-President of the Interact Club and President of the SW Chapter of the National Honor Society. Sophia will be attending the University of California at Berkeley.

**Griffin Easthouse** will graduate with honors from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Geology. He recently completed a geologic study program in the Dolomites, Italy, and will continue working in field research before attending graduate school. Griffin was a 2019 graduate of Shorewood High School.

**Blake Gettmann** is graduating from Shorewood. Blake played varsity tennis and baseball throughout high school. Blake won district tennis doubles his junior and senior years. His tennis double team placed 8<sup>th</sup> in state in 2022. Blake is

a tennis coach at Klahaya Swim & Tennis Club and also a lifeguard at local pools. Blake will attend UW in the fall and is planning to major in accounting/business at the UW Foster School of Business.

**Evie Hoff** is graduating from Shorewood. Evie lettered for four years as a member of the Shorewood Girls' Swim and Dive Team, including serving as a Swim Captain in her senior year. Evie has also played in the Shorewood Marching Band and served as one of Shorewood's Drum Majors this year. In her free time, Evie can be found swimming, lifeguarding or coaching at a nearby pool. Evie will attend Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University with a major in Sports Business. Evie moved to Richmond Beach during fifth grade and has loved her years in this community.

**Ava Lamb**, lifelong resident of Richmond Beach, is graduating from Shorewood High School this June. She enjoyed playing tennis all four years at Shorewood. She is going to Western Washington University in the fall, planning to major in environmental science.

**Grace Lindberg** is graduating from Shorewood High School. Grace also attended Syre Elementary and Einstein Middle schools. She swam on the Shorewood Swim Team in her freshman and senior years. Grace has also been club swimming since she was seven. She will be attending Arizona State University at the Barrett Honors College. She will be majoring in kinesiology and swimming with the ASU team.

**Cole Malmos** graduates from Shorewood High School on June 18. When he wasn't focused on academics, Cole concentrated on volunteering for Shoreline Little League as an assistant coach. Cole will be moving on to further study media design.

**Emily McDowell**, Shorewood Class of 2019, graduated from Gonzaga University on May 14. She received a B.A. in Business Administration, with a concentration in marketing and a minor in digital marketing. Emily especially enjoyed her time at Gonzaga on the leadership team of Gonzaga Women in Business, as a campus tour guide and as a spirited Zag sports fan. Emily will be heading to work for Dick's Sporting Goods corporate office near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she completed an internship in marketing last summer.

**Sten Nyssen**, Shorewood class of 2019, will graduate in June from Western Washington University with a B.S. in Environmental Science, Freshwater and Terrestrial Ecology emphasis, minors in Anthropology and Honors Interdisciplinary Studies and a

Geographic Information Systems certificate. Sten studied abroad in Greece through the WWU Honors College and Chilean Patagonia through Wildlands Studies. He will begin an internship with the Bureau of Land Management in Idaho this summer.

**Izze Peijs** is on her way from one beach to another to achieve a major in business administration at San Diego State University. A big thank you to all her Syre, Einstein and Shorewood teachers who've supported her along the way. Izze lettered all four years in basketball (two years captain) and enjoyed being a cheerleader for three years at Shorewood. Her love of the ocean opened up the world of scuba here in the PNW, and she plans to continue diving in the warmer waters of California.

**Charlotte Philbrick** will be attending the University of Washington College of Engineering this fall. At Shorewood, Charlotte was a member of the jazz choir, cross-country, track and field and soccer teams. She held leadership positions in the Interact Club, SEATV, Science Club and Math Club. She served as a board member of the Friends of the Richmond Beach Library and as webmaster for the Richmond Beach Community Association.

**Samantha Schindler** is graduating from Shorewood High School where she has been a member of the cheer/spirit team. She has also been involved at St. Luke's Church and with their youth group. Samantha is attending Gonzaga and intends to major in education. She hopes to be an elementary school teacher/special education.

**Jack Taylor**, Shorewood Class of 2019, graduated with his Masters of Arts in Teaching from University of Portland this month as a participant in their 3+1 education program, earning his bachelors and masters degrees, as well as a teaching certificate, in a four-year program. After a year spent student teaching second grade, he is exploring kindergarten through third grade teaching opportunities in the Portland area, where he plans to reside next year.

**Finley Stroh is graduating from** Shorewood High School this June. See her info on page 7.

**Piper VonGuntten** will attend Arizona State University where she plans to study criminology and play club water polo. Piper played for the Shorewood Girls Varsity Water Polo team and Varsity Girls Swim Team. She was team captain for water polo her junior and senior years and was named MVP. She worked as a lifeguard and water polo coach throughout high school. Piper was editor in chief of the school yearbook.

## RICHMOND BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

[www.richmondbeachwa.org](http://www.richmondbeachwa.org)  
PO Box 60186, Shoreline, WA 98160-0186

The mission of the Richmond Beach Community Association Board is to promote the well-being of the Richmond Beach community.

### 2022-2023 BOARD

[board@richmondbeachwa.org](mailto:board@richmondbeachwa.org)

President: **Allison Taylor**  
[president@richmondbewachwa.org](mailto:president@richmondbewachwa.org)

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*Richmond Beach Community News* volunteer staff is listed in the newspaper masthead on the next page



RICHMOND BEACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### Become a RBCA Member

You can help build community together by joining the Richmond Beach Community Association today! Support community events, neighborhood enhancements, communication and fun!



# Richmond Beach COMMUNITY NEWS

The Richmond Beach Community Association publishes the *Richmond Beach Community News* monthly September through June. Printing and free mailing to all Richmond Beach residents is financed by advertising revenues and RBCA membership dues, and all work from advertising sales to editing and design to distribution is done by volunteers.

Opinions expressed in the Richmond Beach Community News do not reflect the views of the Richmond Beach Community Association or its board.

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## SUBMISSIONS

The RBCN welcomes submissions including articles, letters to the editor and kudos. Submissions must be relevant to our community, copyright-free and submitted by the 13th of the month prior to publication. Electronic submissions are preferred.

For verification purposes only, submissions must include name, address, email address and phone number. Submissions are subject to editing.

## Send submissions to:

editor@richmondbeachwa.org  
Richmond Beach Community News  
PO Box 60186  
Shoreline, WA 98160-0186

## July 15 - Richmond Beach Blanket Bingo and community meeting

By Brian Osborn

Our neighborhood's most accessible, fun, family friendly summer event—Richmond Beach Blanket Bingo, sponsored by Christie Quigley of Windermere Real Estate—returns **on July 15 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Richmond Beach Community Park.**

This year we're trying something new, too. We'll be holding our July community meeting beforehand from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.—hopefully inside the library, but still waiting to reserve a room. If not, we'll meet outside—come by to meet new board members and bring any questions or observations about life in Richmond Beach!

As consistent as the price of Costco hot dogs, \$1 still buys you 10 rounds of bingo, and blotters are \$2. We'll also have a local dessert food truck, music, Richmond Beach gear for sale and our signature giant three-person slingshot launching Beanie Babies to the kids in between games.

As we celebrate our third year of this event, we want to call out that the affordability and accessibility are very much intentional—the Richmond Beach Community Association exists to create as many ways as possible to engage and connect Richmond Beach residents. All proceeds from events like this and RBCA membership dues are reinvested in creating these opportunities. To become a RBCA paid member, simply go to [richmondbeachwa.org/membership](http://richmondbeachwa.org/membership).

Invite your friends and family, grab your picnic dinner gear and join us for another outstanding evening of prizes, music, desserts and FUN—we can't wait to see you there!

## RBCN ad manager wanted

By Allison Taylor

Richmond Beach Community News (RBCN) seeks a volunteer ad manager. Our current ad manager is leaving to give full attention to her duties as RBCA President in addition to working full time.

The ad manager plays an important role in the publication of the Richmond Beach Community News, which is entirely supported by ad sales. Knowledge of QuickBooks and Excel spreadsheets is desirable, plus a willingness to work on a team with the RBCN Production Manager and the graphic artist. Please contact [president@richmondbeachwa.org](mailto:president@richmondbeachwa.org) to apply.

See Ad manager, page 7

## Board Busy-ness

By Allison Taylor

Wow—what a month we have had! First and foremost, we, as a board, were able to bask in the stellar work that a merged team of seasoned, and new, volunteers did in mounting the Strawberry Festival—attendance and positive energy exceeded all expectations. Thanks to Bianca Williams and Sarah Hinnekamp for being willing to tackle this huge event as new coordinators, as well as Sheri Ashleman, Sherry Edwards and Tom Petersen for providing the historical knowledge (and filling event coordinator roles) to help guide the success of “StrawFest 2023”! What a huge undertaking—I think we can all agree that the unprecedented turnout was a great indicator of how much Richmond Beach (and greater Shoreline) values opportunities to come together.

Immediately following that amazing success was our community meeting recognizing volunteers and electing our new board just three days later. We had enough candidates to increase our board from seven to nine—we are now at full capacity! We welcome Chris Youngs, Doris McConnell, Steve Brown, Mitch Grafstein, and Zack Holliday to the board. Look for an article in the September paper with their bios and board positions.

Bittersweet in the election of the new board members was the farewell (kind of) to Alicia Schroder, Brian Osborn and Kathryn Mueller, all of whom supported RBCA as board members as we weathered the pandemic and who have committed to continued involvement in the community association.

In my time on the board this year, I have relied on Alicia to be my left brain and sounding board, handling so many of the tedious day-to-day tasks that take tons of time. That reliability, paired with her amazing management skills and big-picture mind, will be a big gap to fill.

Kathryn, as vice president, added such a positive energy to our board, drawing on her professional knowledge to help us with process improvement and maximizing efficiencies in all things communication! She's got a stellar eye for presentation, and our events have benefitted from her eye for style and detail. Her heart is big, and she loves our neighborhood.

Brian, as secretary, made life easy by being the best minutes writer ever—but he didn't just document, he made things happen! His exuberance for making the best of our lives in Richmond Beach was seen in his commitment to always helping the board focus on diversity and inclusion, driving many of

See Board Busy-ness, page 6

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Have you noticed? During the time of the Covid pandemic, life and time slowed down considerably. The isolation changed our lives dramatically; many spent more time at home instead of their workplace. Children were home schooled and needed to be supervised or occupied at home twenty-four seven. Now we're looking back on the challenge we faced and realize we made it through and strong enough to get back to “normalcy.” Instead of work, school, sports and church affiliations contributing to our social experience and, “to fill the void,” we became more family oriented.

During the last several months, I've experienced a “wake-up call.” Having been a recipient of the Richmond Beach Community News for a long time, I began to read it more closely and realized two of my neighbors are on the board and involved in volunteering and writing articles for the newsletter. How many churches, schools and sports organizations produce newsletters or information beyond just their own people?

Here in Richmond Beach, we are a community including all of those and beyond. The people that serve on the board and the planning, organizing activities and volunteering reside in Richmond Beach with home, family, children and grandchildren. Over the years, I've lived in several areas of Washington state, such as West Seattle, Auburn, Edmonds and Shoreline to name a few, and I have never experienced or felt a sense of community.

Backing up to my personal “wake-up call,” before I say “hello” and “good-bye,” I would like to say, more importantly, “thank you.” My neighbor, George Buswell, wrote the article on “Reflex Solaris” in the March newsletter. It was a very well-written and informative article. I should have made a phone call or written a note, but neglected to do that. On my way home from the grocery store recently, George was working in his front yard, so I stopped to say a “belated” thank you.

From that conversation came my call to Allison Taylor, President of the RBCA Board, to express to her my appreciation for the Richmond Beach Community News and all those volunteering to make special events and activities happen for adults, students, and children, individually and collectively as families.

Another neighbor, Patrick McNulty, organized a gathering for Thanksgiving with student volunteers helping, and then wrote an article about it for the newsletter.

See Letter to Editor, page 7



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**From Garden Tour, page 1**  
**The Engram Garden - 1574 NW 190th Street, Innis Arden**

This home is sited on a large and richly diverse property, which includes an open yard with a view of Puget Sound, a rockery and a wooded ravine. The owners' appreciation and love of the Japanese garden aesthetic and naturalistic Northwest garden design is evident. Japanese Garden Designer, Barb Engram, and Amely have worked together for the last 20 years to create this magical space and the planning continues. The Engram Garden shows Barb's dedication and indelible mark on the landscape.

**The Haugen Garden - 1751 NW 193rd, Richmond Beach**

This suburban farmer's oasis is tucked near the beach with a multifunctional design that is true farm-to-table living—open, spacious and organized with diverse long-term edible plantings, including fruit trees, vines and bushes. This outdoor living space includes five large raised beds, two small berry beds, multiple planting beds, a green house, lush lawn and seating areas. Don't miss the whimsical fairy stump. Home to the Shoreline Free Seed and Starts Pantry, it welcomes the community to grow their own food and flowers.

**The Combs Garden - 2120 NW 195th Street, Richmond Beach**

The Combs love their new garden and hope you will too. The previous owner planted and built a beautiful Zen garden. The new owners are settling into it and learning how to care for it. This garden balances hardscape materials like a beautiful Asian inspired

gate with a wide variety of plants, coniferous trees, Japanese maples and shrubs.

**The Heinemann & Phisuthikul Garden - 2618 NW 198th Street, Richmond Beach**

Marilyn Heinemann and Chakorn Phisuthikul have lived at this property since 1989. Their original inspiration was East meets West. The garden at the entry has Asian elements and the front garden is more western inspired. In 2021 and 2022, they undertook updates to each garden, refreshing the look. The entry garden was redesigned by Nakano Associates, a Seattle landscape architecture firm. This year plants in both gardens are continuing to settle in and grow into maturity.

**Gardens at the Historic Holloway House - 2531 NW 195th Place, Richmond Beach**

The gardens at the old Umbrite Drugs Store and Holloway Real Estate Building was converted to a residence in 1930 and purchased by the current owner in 2016. The gardens have been extensively renewed in the past seven years with terraces and all new plantings. **Note:** You can access the Williams garden, described below, through the back gate of the Holloway garden.

**The Williams Garden - 2526 NW 194th Place, Richmond Beach**


The Williams garden started with a vision for the future seven summers ago. Transformed from waist high grass, weeds and debris, the


See Garden Tour, page 8

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## Thank you Strawberry Festival Volunteers!

By Sarah Hinnenkamp

While we try to thank everyone who helped make Strawberry Festival a success, names may have been missed, but they are no less appreciated.


We greatly appreciate the support for this event from these helpful volunteers: Adam Star, Alicia Schroeder, Allison Taylor, Andrew Lohman, Andy Gill, Anna Bley, Becky Golden, Bob Fordice, Brittany Gallaher, Bruff LeVan, Cameron McNeil, Carol Frieberg, Carole France, Charlotte Philbrick, Chris Drake, Chris Young, Chrissy Gildow, Cindy Hensel, Cristi Benefield, Dave Baraka, Diana Gibbs, Doug Christie, Edie Loyer Nelson, Elisabeth Enge Nyssen, Emma Satenay, Fran Murray, George Buswell, Grace Shen, Greg Mckinlay, Heinz Streng, Jack Malek, Jamie Holter, Jan Baraka, Jan Manfredini, Jenny Lohman, Jessica Jain, Jessica Piha-Grafstein, Joy Pruitt, Kathryn Zufall, Katie Klein, Katie McNeil, Katy Browning, Keri Huse, Kristin Mattison, Leah Call, Leah Malmos, Lindsay Shelley, Lisa Surowiec, Lori Woodfield, Maren Bell, Margaret Ritter, Mary Reidy, Mary Jo Briggs, Melissa Hansen, Michelle Hillyer, Mico Procissi, Mihret Strawn, Mike

Allenbach, Nadia Lorenson, Over the Hill Walkers, Pat McGinley, Patricia Stewart, Patrick McNulty, Renee Benton, Renee Smith, Richard Hensel, Rick Ashleman, Robert Brouillard, Rosalynn Molden, Shelly Fowler, Sherri Ryan, Sherry Edwards, Sophia Calandrillo, Stevi Weir, Susan Chang, Susan Oliveto, Tasha Hulak, Teena Littetin, Tina Holdt, Tom Mailhot, Tom Petersen and finally thank you to the many volunteers from Shorewood High School that helped with the event and Children's area activities!

**Thank You to the following businesses and community groups:**

Beach House Greetings, City of Shoreline - Neighborhoods, City of Shoreline Parks & Recreation, First Lutheran of Richmond Beach, Richmond Beach Library, Richmond Beach Starbucks, Shoreline ACS, Shoreline Fire Department, Shoreline Police Department, Shorewood High School Cheer and Spirit, Shorewood High School Drumline, Syre Green Club, The Friends of the Richmond Beach Library, The Little Store, Trader Joe's, Tri Star Team 1 Re/Max NW and Virtue Cellars

**Finally, thank you to our sponsors on page 5**

  
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**From Strawberry Festival, page 1**

We heard from many of you (especially first-timers) that the Strawberry Festival was a great way to meet neighbors, have fun with their families and connect with local businesses. Nothing makes us happier.

After years apart, we are anxious to build community again. So whether you volunteered at a booth, bought a Richmond Beach baseball tee, drew on the chalk wall or introduced yourself to a neighbor, attending our marquee event shows your love of Richmond Beach and helps the RBCA offer more events throughout the year.

While everything ran as smoothly as possible, large events

always have hiccups. We've taken note for next year's festival that we underestimated the amount



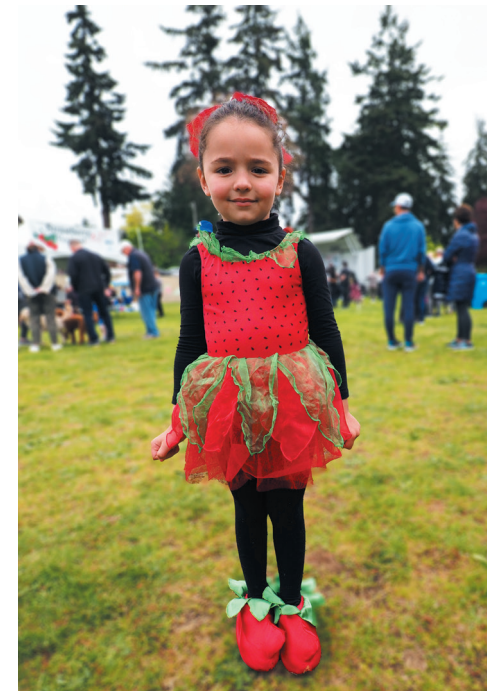
STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL CO-CHAIRS, SARAH HINNENKAMP (LEFT) AND BIANCA WILLIAMS (RIGHT),  
-PHOTO COURTESY SARAH HINNENKAMP

of shortcake needed to satisfy your cravings. Also of note, the Foody Moody Indian food truck, unfortunately, did not arrive due to engine trouble.

We cannot thank our volunteers, sponsors and City of Shoreline staff enough for their help and enthusiasm in making this event a reality. From set up to take down and everything in between, the event ran smoothly because of you! Bianca Williams and Sarah Hinnenkamp, our new Strawberry Festival co-chairs, did an incredible job at the helm to bring this beloved event back to life.

Stroll through the library park this week to glance at the beautiful chalk wall art. Even when the rain returns to wash it away, the good memories of the Strawberry Festival will still remain. We'll see you next year!

Comments on this year's festival? Email [strawberryfestival@richmondbeachwa.org](mailto:strawberryfestival@richmondbeachwa.org).



-PHOTO BY BOB FORDICE



THE BUBBLE GUY, PAT MCGINLEY, AND CROWD AT THE FESTIVAL  
-PHOTO COURTESY SARAH HINNENKAMP

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**From Board Busy-ness, page 3**

the changes important to being a welcoming community for all.

Our May community meeting took pause to thank a small group of volunteers who have committed to regular, ongoing service to RBCA. If you happen to run into them, please thank them for the work they do, non-stop, to make Richmond Beach a vibrant place to live. In no particular order, we have relied heavily this year on Tom Petersen, Tom Mailhot, Betty Ngan, George Buswell, Sherry Edwards, Sheri Ashlemen, Rick Ashleman, Bianca Williams, Sarah Hinnencamp, Kris Fordice, Elisabeth Enge Nyssen, Taska Hulak and Julie Vaughan.

We also say congratulations and goodbye to high school contributors Finley Stroh, regular newspaper contributor, and Charlotte Philbrick, our webmaster. We wish them the best as they head to college.

**From Pétanque, page 1**

RICHMOND BEACH RESIDENT AND EDMONDS PETANQUE CLUB TREASURER, RO VERDEJA, SHOWS HOW TO RELEASE THE BOULE



PLAYERS RECENTLY GATHERED AT THE INNIS ARDEN PETANQUE COURTS. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: CRIS DREHER, LEON LOUIS-JEUNE, JACK MCHENRY, MICHELLE MARTIN, LARRY THOMAS AND DOUG LOCKHART

gregarious group. Some of our best players are the oldest. It's a bunch of older people who are young at heart."

McHenry, a retired schoolteacher and administrator, began playing the popular French sport—similar to bocce ball where the goal is to get metal balls closest to a smaller target ball—in 2013 when he became a member of EPC. Now as club president, he is helping the sport grow in popularity in Shoreline and beyond.

McHenry is one of 86 members of the growing EPC, which was created in 2011. The club started with eight members, including the club's top promoter and founder French native, Michell Martin. "Every time I went to France, I played pétanque," said Martin, an Edmonds resident who was instrumental in convincing the City of Edmonds to provide pétanque courts at the old Edmonds Civic Park.

The club is a current stakeholder for the new Edmonds Civic Park, which is near completion and will feature six new pétanque courts. The old park had four pétanque courts. The grand opening for the new park is Friday, June 23.

McHenry and the EPC members are bubbling with excitement for the opening of the new Edmonds courts. For the last two years, McHenry, Martin and other club members have been playing at different area parks while the new Edmonds Civic Park is being built. McHenry said he is hoping the six new 15-foot by 50-foot courts will only add to the enthusiasm of the sport. With the opening of the new Edmonds courts, EPC can host regional and national pétanque tournaments, according to McHenry.

"The growth of the club is because of how much fun it is to play the game," said McHenry, a

self-proclaimed francophile. "It has really snowballed." Like McHenry, once many members started playing, they were hooked.

Pétanque is a low impact game that can provide fun and exercise for all ages, said EPC treasurer and Richmond Beach resident, Ro Verdeja. "That's the beauty," he said of pétanque, "everyone can play, and everyone can compete. There is no expiration date."

One of the guiding principles of EPC is to give back to the community and create a supportive atmosphere for all members, McHenry said. Every year, the club plays host to a tournament that raises money for the Edmonds Food Bank. Over the last 10 years, the club has contributed more than \$40,000, according to McHenry.

Tom Delaney, an Innis Arden, resident was looking for a retirement hobby about four years ago and first read about pétanque in a local newspaper. "I found it intriguing," Delaney said during a recent gathering of about 25 members at the Innis Arden pétanque courts. "It's a very social game and it's just a lot of fun. Some EPC members are even pushing for new courts in the Richmond Beach neighborhood. Verdeja would like to see two or three (courts)" at the Richmond Beach Community Park, which would bring more people to the park and provide more exposure for the fun French sport.



THESE STEEL BALLS (BOULES) ALL LANDED NEAR THE SMALL TARGET BALL (COCHONNET)

-ALL PHOTOS ON PAGE 6 BY BETTY NGAN

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## Kudos

By Allison Taylor

This month's kudos could fill the whole paper—maybe this spring weather has everyone inspired to spread happiness. Below is a tiny portion of all the people who deserve our thanks; please see the board busy-ness article for information on our May community meeting and some of the amazing volunteers we recognized and the names of the new board members who stepped up to make sure the Richmond Beach Community Association has the support we need to keep making the magic happen!

Kudos to **Jack Malek**, who is always ready to fill a need! He purchased three brand-new vinyl signs for the Strawberry Festival above and beyond his platinum sponsorship—and they weren't cheap! But he didn't just write a check—he picked them up from the printer and installed them, along with ALL the other street signs for the event. Thanks, Jack, for your long-term investment in our neighborhood.

Recognition is due to **Chrissy Gildow**, who, on her own volition, offered to collect names of potential volunteers while she was at the Strawberry Festival. Trust me, we'll be reaching out to all of those people in the next few weeks.

Thanks to the **Richmond Beach Congregational Church** for hosting our May meeting—and to **John Thielke** for being there early to set up and staying late to clean up. Extra thanks to the **RBCA members** who are current on their dues who showed up to vote—we had a quorum and were able to elect a full board!

Kudos to the **team who participated in the selection of the 2023 Marge Unruh Award winners**—it's a joy to see how many worthy recipients our community has.

A personal thanks to the **families of our board members and busy volunteers**—they have picked up the slack in so many ways, but rarely get recognized for the sacrifices of family time and assuming additional chores that often go hand-in-hand with sharing a home with a diehard volunteer. You are volunteers extraordinaire, by extension, and these accommodations do not go unnoticed.



### From Letter to Editor, page 3

Thank you, Patrick. I know how busy you are with your work, involvement with your children's school and sports activities and home and family. And you still make time for community!

**Helen Bergstrom  
Richmond Beach**

*Editor's Note: Helen Bergstrom has been a resident of Richmond Beach since 1968. Her family lives in Tacoma, Kent, Port Orchard, West Seattle, Monroe, Olympia, Louisiana and Utah. Her youngest "child" is 53, and her youngest great-grandchild is three months old. Helen looks forward to moving to Port Orchard and wanted to say "hello" and "good-bye" to the folks in Richmond Beach.*

*Her long handwritten submittal has been excerpted here.*

## Student life

A message to 2023 graduating seniors

By Finley Stroh

I heard that we get closer with those around us right before we are about to leave. We think about our elementary school and our influential teachers that shaped us. We think about how cool we thought we'd be once we got to high school—I hope we lived up to that! But most importantly, we think about who we want to be right by our side when we throw our caps up into the air—of course, our own high school musical moment.

So in our last moment sitting next to our classmates and in our last moment of togetherness, we think of empathy. On our last day walking in each other's shoes for the past 12 years, we get a turn to walk on our own, alone, and pave our own path, always remembering where we came from and who we once walked with. In honor of the many firsts we have accomplished, let's not see this one as a last, let's see this one as the start of something new. Congratulations Senior Class of 2023, we're onto the next chapter!

*Editor's Note: Finley Stroh is graduating from Shorewood High School this June and plans to study journalism this fall at the University of Nebraska, majoring in broadcast news and attending the Honors Program. This year Finley won two Honorable Mentions at the Washington State Journalism Conference for her work as online editor of The Tempest Shorewood website and for her entry in the News category. Finley has faithfully written this column since January 2022. Good luck Finley!*

### From Community Service, page 1

2023's honorees fit a theme: good neighbors. While each has either a job or a particular community-service niche in Richmond Beach worthy of recognition and our gratitude, they also stand out as exemplary people—always cheerful, always out and about. They are the people with the welcoming smile for everyone, the kind word, the wisdom to impart and the timely advice. They are always selfless, thinking of what they can do for others and for Richmond Beach.

**Carol Hall Zemanek:** When Carol retired from her 30+ years as a librarian at the Richmond Beach Library, she was honored and recognized for her deep commitment to the library's position as the hub of local activity. She knows everybody, their reading habits and their tastes. She looked after those who needed a helping hand, introduced people who ought to know each other and served as a liaison between library interests and activities and those of the community.

Carol is also a neighbor, living just a couple blocks from the library. She is the eyes and ears of Richmond Beach and perhaps its greatest preservationist and collector of artifacts. She has found and saved countless old photos and publications, tools, geegaws and doodads from Richmond Beach's bygone days. Some end up in the pages of this newspaper, most have been in displays at the library and many are donated to the Shoreline Historical Museum.

**Kris Fordice:** One of Richmond Beach's highlight events every year is the Garden Tour, which has been organized for several years now by Kris Fordice. Very much to her credit, she kept the tradition alive through the pandemic with the delightful "virtual tour," an online presentation of video, photographs and drone shots of the lovely yards of the neighborhood. Kris also organizes bike rodeos and collects donated bikes to be refurbished for the needy. She volunteers at several community events each year.

Kris is the good neighbor who maintains a zesty yard herself, but is more interested in yours. She's always happy to stop and chat, sharing her great sense of humor and her great sense, period. She is committed to social justice and volunteers at the Edmonds food bank. She has a sympathetic ear and is a font of good advice, quietly helping those in need.

**John & Karen Thielke:** All you need to know about these repeat honorees is that when told that the award presentation was going to be in the Lena Voreis room at the Richmond Beach Congregational Church, John showed up early to set up the chairs and then put them away at the end of the meeting! Both John and

Karen had already been community leaders and stalwart volunteers for decades when they were among the first community service award recipients 20 years ago. They helped run the art show, the book sale, the parade that was a precursor to the modern-day Strawberry Festival, spaghetti dinners and the RBCA monthly public meetings. They never stopped. Both John and Karen can be found volunteering at RBCA events and assisting the Friends of the Richmond Beach Library, where they have both been board members.

John and Karen are the "helping hands" of the neighborhood, ever sharing their skills, knowledge and roll-up-your-sleeves work ethic to make sure everything and everyone is successful. They care deeply about their neighbors and neighborhood and set the best example by living up to the inspirational words and bold stands found on the reader board at the congregational church, which they, naturally, help set up every few weeks.

### From Ad manager, page 3

The duties of the ad manager fluctuate during the year. The busiest part of the job happens in July and August when the ads are set up for the coming publication year. During the summer, the ad manager processes contracts for ad sales and renewals (15 hours spread out over July and August) and maintains an ad tracking spreadsheet (5 hours in summer).

The templates for these processes have been established, and the bulk of this job can be done as time permits, making it a great volunteer opportunity.

The ad manager also engages in ad sales in the summer and throughout the year (about 5 hours in July and August and as needed the rest of the year). The ad manager updates QuickBooks with ad costs prior to invoicing (about 3 hours in August).

During the months when the paper is published (September to June), the ad manager works with the RBCN production manager to check the ads in the paper to make sure all ads and any changes are included before final proofing (about 2 hours a month, at most).

The ad manager invoices the advertisers through QuickBooks, email or snail mail (outside of annual ad payment set up, minimal time is needed).

Additional duties include acting as go-between between advertisers who want the services of the graphic designer and working with the production manager to clarify ad size, color and formatting changes (less than 1 hour a month).

Training is available for this position.

**From Garden Tour page 6**

garden is now filled with perennials, roses, trees and a vegetable garden. When the skies are clear, the garden receives copious amounts of western light, perfect for sun loving plants and vegetables. **Note:** Access to the Williams garden will be through the alley only; the front yard is not on the tour. Parking on 194th street is not encouraged because of very tight parking for folks who live on the street. Suggested parking for access to the alley would be on Richmond Beach Drive, which runs north/south along the railroad tracks.

**The Rogers Garden - 2108 NW 204th Street, Richmond Beach**

This half-acre "legacy" garden has been owned by only two families in the last 100-plus years. Originally, the garden was owned by the Granlund family since around 1910 and then by the Rogers since 1987. Native rhododendrons, azaleas and fruit trees planted at least 60 years ago still thrive. The Rogers have planted over 75 trees, countless plants and refined the original landscape, adding a dining terrace, vegetable and herb gardens and several garden follies, including Bill the goat on the porch roof and

a 19th century church steeple. Also visit the traffic triangle in front of the house transformed by Julie into a wildflower garden.

**The Lindquist & Anunsen Garden - 2116 NW 204th Street, Richmond Beach**

This one-third acre property of Linda Lindquist and Pat Anunsen was originally part of the farm owned by the Granlunds and lies west of the Rogers' garden. Linda and Pat purchased the property in 1993. Most of the original plantings in the front are still there. In the back, some of the additions include more maples, raised planting beds for veggies and herbs, additional raspberries, thornless blackberries, a grape arbor and a hop bed, a recently installed blueberry bed, gravel and bark pathways and numerous raised beds (all built or replaced by Linda). Numerous ornamental plantings and structures have been added (and some removed) over the years.

**The Kruckeberg Botanic Garden - 20312 15th Avenue NW, Richmond Beach**

This is the hidden jewel of Richmond Beach. Once the home

of Dr. Art Kruckeberg, professor of botany at the University of Washington, and his wife, Mareen, the garden is now included in the City of Shoreline park system. The plant collection, educational programs and the MsK Rare and Native Plant Nursery are operated by the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation, where volunteers are welcome! From the nursery in the upper garden, follow paths through the Children's Discovery Garden to the Pacific Northwest Native Plant Demonstration Garden. Be sure to check out "Wood Wave," a four-ton sculpture by artist Bruce Johnson, made from a 1,000-year-old redwood tree. Climbing on the sculpture is encouraged!



GROUND IRIS

- PHOTO BY KRIS FORDICE

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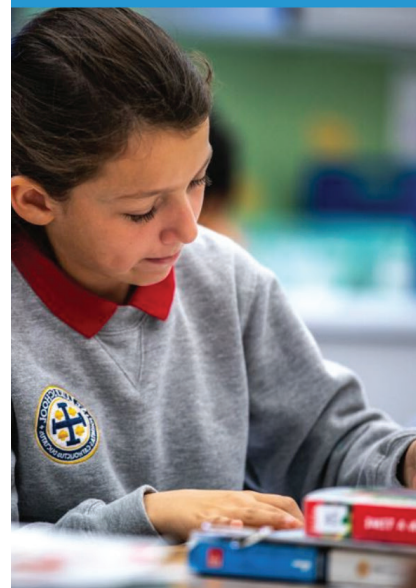


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