



SUDDEN VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
SUDDEN VALLEY VIEWS

January 2023

WWW.SUDDENVALLEY.COM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sudden Valley announces 2023 meeting schedule

The year's 24 meetings include annual general meeting, organizational meeting

SUDDEN VALLEY — The next meeting of the Sudden Valley Board of Directors is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12 in the dance barn, 8 Barn View Circle.

The Jan. 12 session will be the first of the board's 24 scheduled meetings for 2023.

Not counting special meetings, the Sudden Valley Board of

Directors normally meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. Meetings regularly begin at 7 p.m.

However it is best to check the agenda to confirm times

Because the governor ended the State of Emergency on Oct. 31, meetings will be conducted in-person.

The board will hold its AGM (annual general meeting) at 1 p.m. Nov. 4. Following the AGM, the board will hold its organizational meeting.

Check suddenvalley.com/calendar for up-to-date location information and for special meetings as scheduled.

You can watch live sessions

or recordings of board meetings at the Sudden Valley YouTube Channel, youtube.com/channel/UCsXVIymWuw6-Y_ZDk38Dacw to watch previously recorded meetings.

Sudden Valley also posts its meeting agendas and minutes at suddenvalley.com, not just for the current year but also as far

back as 2011 at the board's media archive, at suddenvalley.com.

To contact the entire board of directors, email BOD@suddenvalley.com.

To contact specific directors, email "BOD[Last Name]@suddenvalley.com."

-- Bill Helm

Sudden Valley to celebrate 50th anniversary of incorporation

Commemorative logo unveiled

On Aug. 2, 1973, Sudden Valley was incorporated. To celebrate the community's 50th anniversary, the Association is organizing events and activities throughout 2023, as well as a series of monthly articles in the Views that will provide a glimpse into key events in Sudden Valley's history.

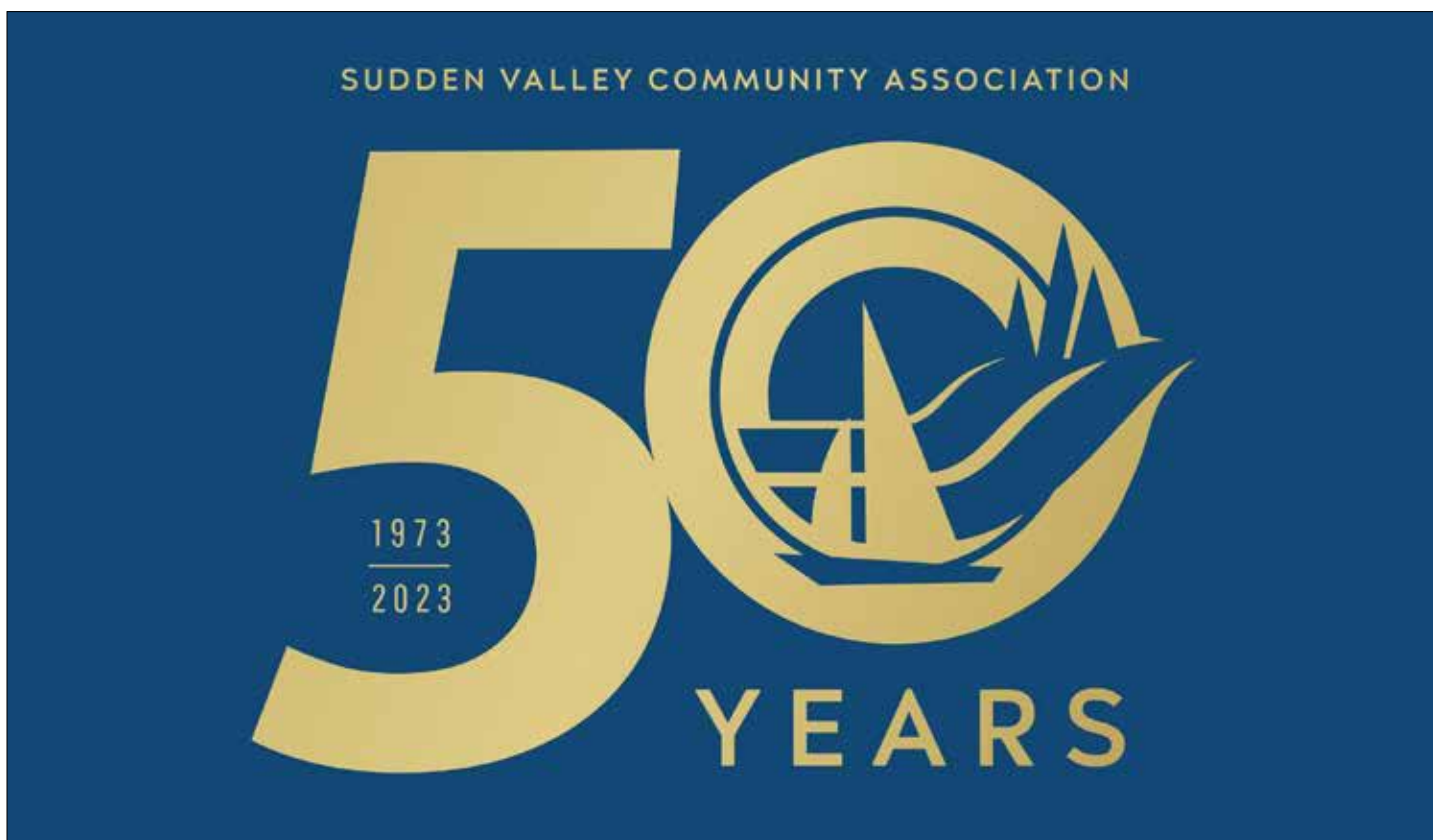
A 50th anniversary logo has also been created.

Even as SVCA honors and commemorates its first 50 years, we're looking to the future and its next half-century of service.

The Association will continue its work to become a more sustainable community, as we manage our human, natural, and financial capital to meet current needs while also ensuring that adequate resources are available for future generations.

Please check www.SuddenValley.com periodically for information on upcoming 50th anniversary activities and opportunities to volunteer and participate in the celebrations.

Looking back at 1973



The year 1973 was not only a unique and pivotal year for Sudden Valley, but it marked a period of significant change with technological innovation, unique styles and fashion, trend setting media, and popular music that reflected the shifting times.

Events: The Vietnam War ends, Watergate, the 1973-74 stock market crash, and the Oil Crisis. Supreme Court decision on Roe v. Wade. Secretariat wins the Triple Crown, the Miami Dolphins become the first NFL team to complete a perfect season.

Music: Supergroups Led Zeppelin, Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, and The Who

were making headlines with releases and major tours.

Elvis Presley Aloha from Hawaii is a worldwide live television event, except in the US where it is taped and played on a later date.

Movies: The Exorcist, American Graffiti, The Sting, Enter the Dragon, and Godzilla vs. Megalon are released. Marlon Brando refuses the Oscar for his performance in the Godfather.

Fashion: The year's fashion was influenced by the hippie look with big hair and non-traditional clothing with colorful patterns.

Bell Bottom pants, hip huggers, earth shoes, clogs, tie dye t-shirts and gypsy dresses were popular. Denim, knits were primary fabrics and crochet was present. Long hair, big hair, afros were in style.

Cars: Muscle cars were popular in the early 1970s:

- Plymouth Road Runner
- Chevrolet Camaro
- Ford Mustang
- Chevy Chevelle
- Dodge Challenger
- Dodge Charger
- Mercury Cougar
- Gran Torino

- Oldsmobile 442
- Plymouth Barracuda
- Pontiac Firebird Trans-AM
- Pontiac GTO

Some milestones that occurred in 1973:

- Special Education is passed by Congress.
- The Endangered Species Act is signed into law.
- Screening of airline passengers begins in response to the spate of hijackings.
- Skylab, the first US space station, is launched in 1973. The Apollo program was subsequently canceled.
- The first huge Super Bowl ad was aired advertising Noxzema shaving cream featuring Joe Namath and Farrah Fawcett.
- The first safe plastic soda bottle was patented. Previously, plastic bottles could not contain carbonated beverages.
- The first light beer, Miller Lite, was introduced.
- The Jet Ski, the Cuisinart and the Bic lighter were all introduced.
- Pirates of the Caribbean ride opens at Disneyland. (Dec. 15)
- Sales of Vodka beat out whiskey sales in the U.S. for the first time.

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GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Major events, transfer fee refund program, closing out 2022

By Jo Anne Jensen
Sudden Valley GM



Jo Anne Jensen

The past few weeks have been very busy for the Association. Our days have been filled with planning and holding two major events (the Holiday Craft Fair and Breakfast with Santa), monitoring the weather, de-icing and plowing, cleaning up after several windstorms, managing the Transfer Fee Refund program, and getting ready for the close of the year.

Successful Events

The Holiday Craft Fair was attended by 46 vendors and more than 400 visitors. Parking was a bit of an issue, but extra security was on hand to direct people to alternate lots and keep the traffic flowing.

We noted that connecting to the internet was challenging for vendors who needed to process transactions and are taking steps to evaluate and upgrade our in-

ternet connectivity overall in the Community Center.

Breakfast with Santa was also well-attended.

It was very rewarding for staff to welcome more than 70 children, along with their parents and pets, to the event and to serve breakfast in a heated tent outside the Welcome Center.

Zig Zag & Ragz, a Sudden Valley-based business, sent Santa and Mrs. Claus to our event, and a professional photographer was

on hand to take pictures.

Snow plowing at condominiums

The community may be aware that SVCA has notified the condo associations that, as of Jan. 1, we will no longer be plowing on condo property.

The reason for the change is that SVCA does not have the right to perform work on property that is not owned by the Association and our insurance will not cover us if we choose to do so.

Similarly, the insurance of the third-party contractor who provided this service will not cover him unless he has a signed contract with the owner of the property where the work is being performed.

SVCA has extended our contract with Baby Plow to continue his work clearing the roads designated as UTV routes through the end of this snow season.

Also, as is required for all contracts with outside vendors, the

Association will re-evaluate and put this contract out for bid next year.

This was a discussion with Elite Landscaping, Baby Plow's owner, last winter.

His contact information has been provided to the condo associations and he is ready to contract with them for snow removal if they choose to do that.

The condo associations' property management companies were given notice of this change earlier in the year.

Equipment accident

An accident occurred on Dec. 2 that severely damaged an important piece of equipment used by our Maintenance and Turf-care departments.

Specifically, while being repaired, the cab of our large excavator caught fire.

Although staff were able to put out the fire quickly, significant damage was caused.

An estimate for repair has

been obtained and a claim is being submitted to our insurance company.

A small implement, a boom crane, has been purchased which will help to tide us over until the excavator is repaired and back in service.

I will share further updates with the Board as they become available.

Capital projects update

All of the 2022 projects have completed, either at or under budget. This is a very positive and highly unusual outcome.

Many thanks to Tyler Andrews and our project management team at PNW.

There are three current projects, all of which are in the design and permitting phase: re-siding the community center (Barn 8); renovating the maintenance building; and installing the boat launch dock.

Work is moving forward on all three projects.

Sudden Valley man arrested, charged with child rape, molestation

SUDDEN VALLEY — Whatcom County Sheriff's Office reported Wednesday, Dec. 14

that they have arrested a 61-year old Sudden Valley man and charged him with multiple

counts of rape of child (second) and multiple counts of child molestation (second).

After a long, extensive investigation by WCSO Detectives involving the sexual assault of a child, probable cause was established to arrest Richard Bartholomew, WCSO stated in a Dec. 14 press release.

"The victim reported that Bartholomew had befriended her at church when she was 12 years old and repeatedly raped her from 2007-2010," WCSO stated.

"On Tuesday, Dec. 13, Bartholomew was arrested at his home in Sudden Valley and booked into Whatcom County

Jail," WCSO stated.

WCSO stated that this remains an active investigation.

If you have additional information regarding this case, please call WCSO's tip line at 360-778-6663.

-- Whatcom County Sheriff's Office

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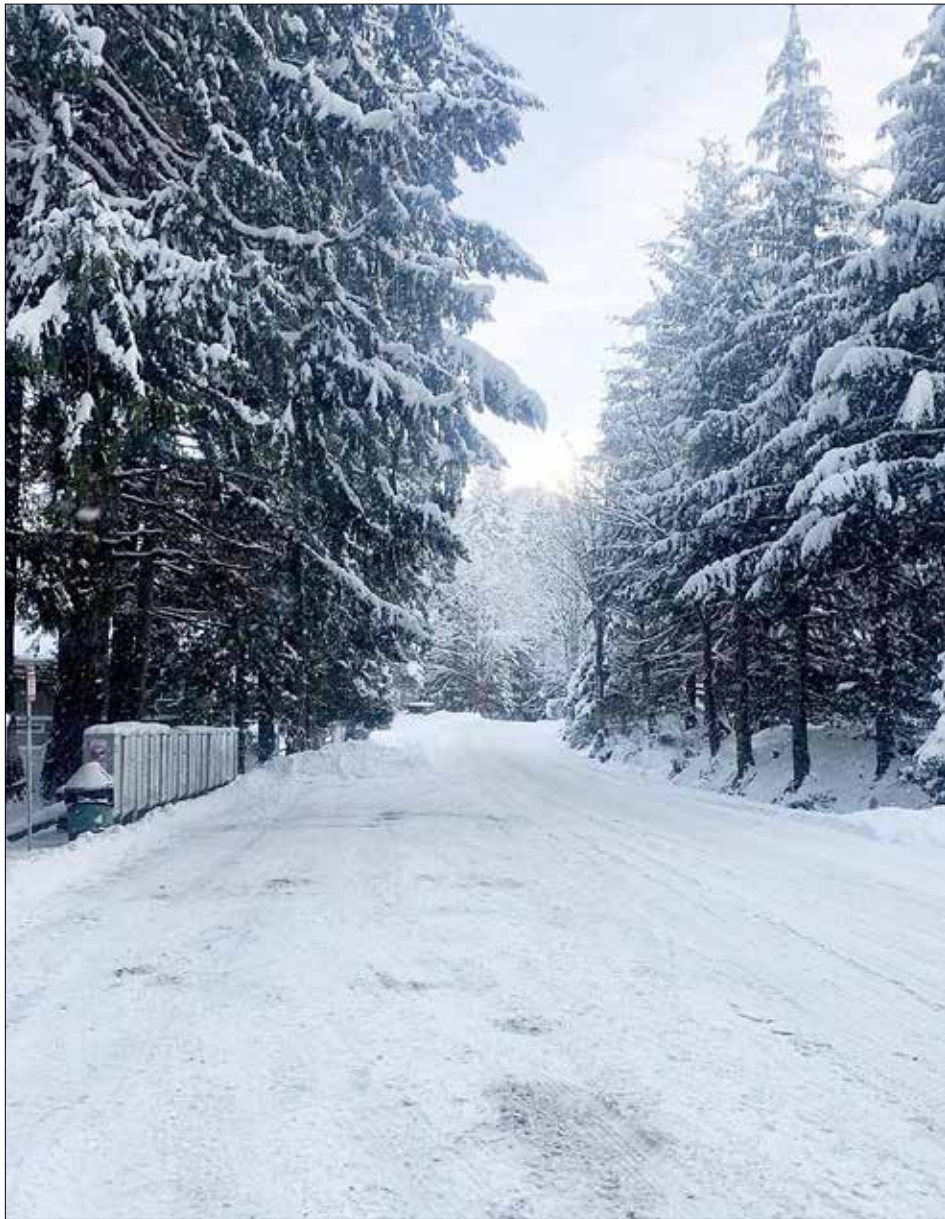
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Around the Valley



Maintenance and Turf Care

The focus for the Maintenance and Turf Care departments has been on snow removal.

While plowing and sanding are the most visible activities completed during a snow event, preparing materials/equipment and monitoring the weather are equally important.

SVCA uses several different weather forecasting resources to make decisions about when to apply salt brine to the roadways and when to schedule on-call staff.

These decisions make a big difference to how effective plowing is and also how quickly roads can be returned to normal.

The snow that fell in the week before the Christmas holiday was part of an extended weather event that included sub-freezing temperatures, snow accumulation, heavy rains, and sustained strong winds. Quite a weather smorgasbord.

Snow removal crews used brine to de-ice roads, then plowed, plowed again, and finally switched gears to keeping the culverts, ditches, and roadways clear of debris.

While all residents were inconvenienced by the prolonged bad weather, Maintenance was able to keep the roadways passable during the storm and restored them to safe condition in record time. This required staff to work many long days and be flexible about late night and early morning shifts.

While the rest of us were sheltering inside, maintenance was outside plowing.

Our thanks and appreciation go out to the entire snow removal crew and to Baby Plow also.

Golf

Golf Director Brian Kruhlak is busy planning the 2023 golf season with the help of Head Pro Kevin LeDuc while managing the ongoing Winter Tournament events.

Unexpectedly good weather throughout the fall allowed many golfers to extend their play beyond the usual season, which contributed to strong revenues for the year.

The course came through the recent snow event with no notable damage, although it was quite an effort to remove more than 10 inches of snow from the roofs of all 50 golf carts.

Parks and Recreation

In addition to their daily responsibilities at the Community Center, Rec staff were kept busy in December with clean-up from the successful Holiday Craft Fair, support of the Toys for Tots annual toy drive, and staffing the Breakfast with Santa event.

Focus is now shifting to planning for the swim and boating season. Renewal notices will be sent out to Marina tenants later this month.

If you are not a current Marina tenant and you are interested in renting a dry slip, a wet slip, or a place on a kayak/canoe rack, please call 360-734-6430 or email Office@SuddenValley.com.

The snow that fell in the week before the Christmas holiday was part of an extended weather event that included sub-freezing temperatures, snow accumulation, heavy rains, and sustained strong winds. Quite a weather smorgasbord. (Sudden Valley photo)

Feb. 3: Allied Arts annual membership showcase
Allied Arts of Whatcom County, 1418 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham, will host its next members show in February. Participation is open to all current Allied Arts Members at any level of membership. Visit allied-arts.org for more information about how to submit your work for this show. The Member's Show will feature work from nearly 100 Allied Arts members, including professional artists, students, and new or emerging artists. Works presented will range from traditional paintings to photography, contemporary sculptures and everything in between. Allied Arts is a non-profit gallery, all proceeds from sales go towards supporting the arts in our community. Email kelly@allied-arts.org for more information.

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VIEWS

SUBMISSIONS

SV Views
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Lynden, WA 98264
Fax to: (360) 354-4445
Email: bill@lyndentribune.com

POLICY

- The Sudden Valley Views welcomes letters to the editor on topics of current news interest up to six times per calendar year
- Letters of up to 550 words are allowed.
- The editor will edit for style and libel.

DEADLINES

The deadline for editorial submissions (including letters to the editor) for the upcoming issue is the 23rd of each month. Editorial items may be submitted to: bill@lyndentribune.com. For advertising information and deadlines, please contact Mitze Kester at mitze@lyndentribune.com or call 360.354.4444.



LETTERS

Regarding a safety committee

Editor,

Dec. 13, 2022, address to the Sudden Valley Board of Directors regarding a safety committee:

I thank the Sudden Valley president and board for listening to this presentation, which is to urge you to support the re-establishment of the Emergency Preparedness Committee (AKA Safety Committee), which ceased to exist a couple of years ago.

Given the realities of Sudden Valley, which include:

1. An environment with the characteristics of the urban/forest interface combined with surrounding forests, where wild land fire is a significant risk.
2. Existing in an area where earthquakes are highly probable and may be of such magnitude to be considered catastrophic.
3. Significant distance from city sized resources, such as hospitals, law enforcement presence, multiple fire departments, etc.; to the point where we have been advised we may be on our own for several days following a major event.
4. Extremely limited routes of evacuation (2) or access for emergency equipment and personnel by road.
5. And the current safety plan is

more than 10 years old and needs review and updating.

I have to ask the board and the membership, who all have a stake in community safety, how comfortable you are with not having a Committee to assess safety concerns and make recommendations to mitigate loss of life and property in the event of an emergency?

There already is a group of Sudden Valley members who are willing to serve on a safety committee.

They are willing to undertake review of the relevant documents, continue assessing the risks our community faces, enhance and build bridges to other agencies for resources for our knowledge and benefit, and to be an advisor to the Board.

We have seen a previous charter for an emergency preparedness committee and wish to have input before said charter is voted upon.

Just to start, I should point out that the requirement of having two members of the board, one of which designated as the chair, is unacceptable. The reason being that this gives the appearance that the board wishes to control the committee, rather than allowing it to freely explore options and make recommendations.

Advisory committees do best when given independence to do their tasks. My own experience with advisory boards is that a single mem-

ber of the board, to provide context to and from the board, is important and commonplace. But that more than that is counterproductive.

Ted Wang
Sudden Valley

Submitting letters to the editor

The *Sudden Valley Views* encourages letters to the editor.

However, submissions must refrain from attacking individuals without providing supporting documentation or a rational and legally defensible justification.

Letters should be emailed to bill@lyndentribune.com and should not exceed 550 words.

Your letter must include your full name, complete address and telephone number.

Your address and telephone number will not be printed in the newspaper, but will be used for verification by newspaper staff.

Neither unsigned letters nor letters containing personal attacks of a libelous nature will be published.

The *Sudden Valley Views* reserves the right to edit or refuse any letter. All columns and letters on the opinion page are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Sudden Valley Views* newspaper.

Mailbox maintenance

Understanding the shared responsibilities of the mailbox clusters in Sudden Valley is often confusing for residents both old and new.

There are three different responsible parties: the Sudden Valley Community Association (SVCA) owns and maintains the structure that houses the individual boxes; USPS is responsible for assigning the boxes to a particular residence address and for maintaining the carrier-access locks; homeowners are responsible for maintaining their personal access, controlled by the lock in the front of the box.

SVCA does not have the authority to assign, maintain, repair a broken lock or issue additional or replacement keys for mailboxes.

These activities are coordinated by the homeowner through the USPS. The local branch serving Sudden Valley is the Mount Baker facility located at 3150 Orleans St., Bellingham. Call 360-752-9825 for more information.

Your mailbox will require routine maintenance using a spray lubricant such as Corrosion X (available at Hardware Sales) twice a year, to keep it working properly.

The best times for this are October and April. Corrosion X is preferred over lubricants like WD40 and 10-in-1 oil because it does not collect dust and gum that can clog a lock mechanism over time.

The recommended process for maintenance is:

- Insert the mailbox key halfway into the lock.
- With one hand place the rag under the key.
- With the other hand point the spray can at the point where the key enters the lock.
- Squirt two quick shots of lubricant on the key and lock.
- Using the rag to keep the dripping lubricant from getting on your fingers, gently inset the key all the way into the lock and turn the key back and forth six times (or more) to work the lubricant into the lock mechanism.
- Remove the key and wipe it with the rag to remove excess lubricant.
- With rag held at the bottom of the door hinge, squirt one shot of lubricant at the top of the door hinge.
- Wait about a minute so that the lubricant can work its way down the hinge and then gently move the door back and forth to help work the lubricant into the hinge.
- Using the rag, wipe off excess lubricant from the front of the mailbox, hinge, and lock.
- Check the inside of the mailbox for excess lubricant. Wipe off any lubricant to prevent staining any contents.
- Place the soiled rag in a plastic bag to prevent staining other items.

During freezing weather sometimes locks will collect rainwater or melting snow which prevents the key from being inserted or turned in the lock.

If this should happen use canned windshield deicer spray to melt the frozen moisture and unlock the mailbox.

It may take few tries, but with a little patience and persistence the lock should turn.

After unfreezing a lock, it is a good idea to re-lubricate the lock with Corrosive X to prevent re-freezing.



SUDDEN VALLEY VIEWS
Sudden Valley Community Association
4 Clubhouse Circle, Bellingham, WA 98229
www.suddenvalley.com

Administration Offices / Member Services are located in the Welcome Center, just inside the Gate 2 entrance

Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. for remote assistance (phone or email)
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. for in-person assistance, Monday through Friday

Administration Offices/ Member Services: 360-734-6430

Hours: 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. for remote assistance (phone or email), 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. for in-person assistance at the admin office window, Monday through Friday

General Manager: JoAnne Jensen, jjensen@suddenvalley.com

Accounting Manager: Joel Heverling, CPA, acctmgr@suddenvalley.com, Ext. 212

Accounts Receivable: Gil Martinez, ar@suddenvalley.com, Ext. 214

Accounts Payable: Davey Higashi, ap@suddenvalley.com, Ext. 215

Collections Specialist: Angie Huggins, acctclerk@suddenvalley.com, Ext. 243

Recreation Center Front Desk: (360) 366-8450

Director of Golf: Brian Kruhlak, bkruhlak@suddenvalley.com, Ext. 332

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SUDDEN VALLEY VIEWS is the official publication of the Sudden Valley Community Association. Published monthly, it has a circulation of 4,074.

Publisher: Sudden Valley Community Association

Executive Editor: Lynden Tribune and Print Company

Layout and design: Bill Helm, 360-354-4444, bill@lyndentribune.com

Reporter: open, 360-354-4444, open

Advertising Manager: Mitze Kester 360-354-4444, mitze@lyndentribune.com

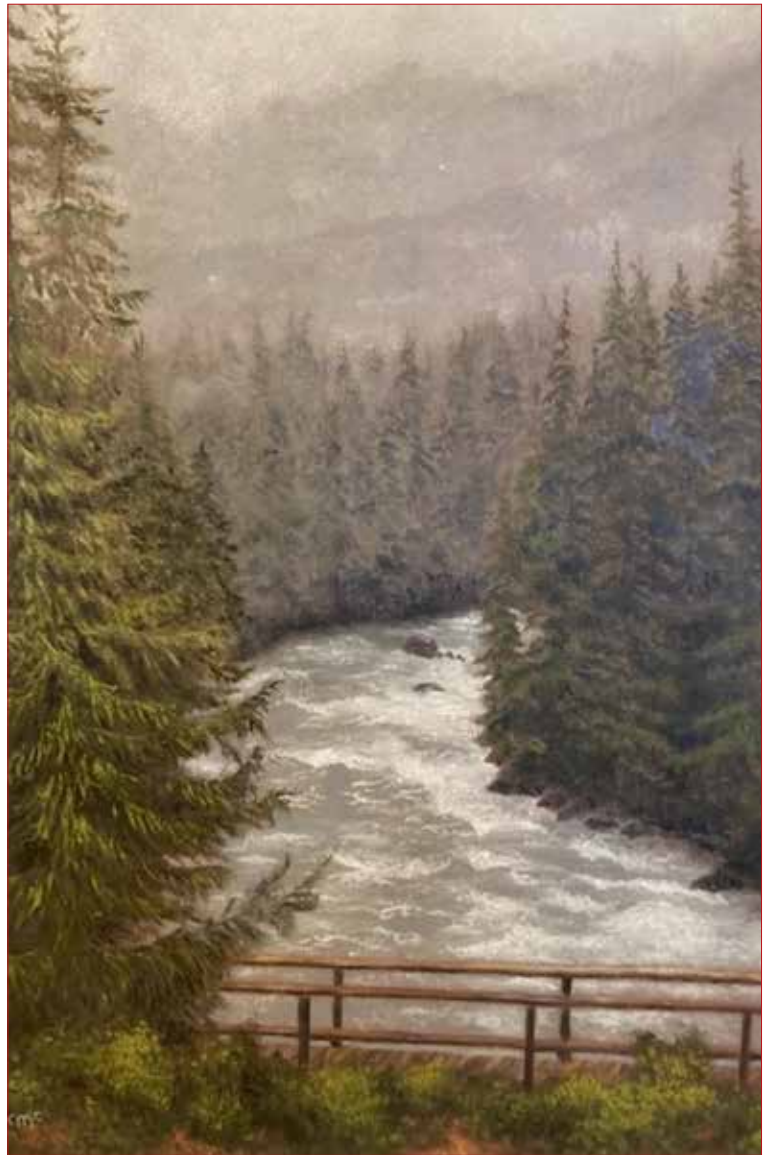
The Views is published monthly for a subscription price of \$24 per year by the Sudden Valley Community Association.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes (Form No. 3579) to Sudden Valley Community Association, 4 Clubhouse Circle, Bellingham, WA 98229.

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VALLEY ARTS GROUP

You are invited to winter featured artists' reception



This oil painting, above, is by Karen McCormick, one of two featured artists in the artist's reception Jan 14 from 2-4 p.m. at Sudden Valley's barn/community center. At right, watercolor paintings by Alice Healy. Healy is also a featured artist in the January artists' reception.

By Lee Langdon
Valley Arts Group

When a friend visited recently, I took her to the barn/community center. She exclaimed, "Wow, you have an art gallery right in your neighborhood. How lucky you are."

Yes, we have an art gallery right here in Sudden Valley, because the Valley Arts Group coordinates a show and reception every quarter.

The winter featured artists' reception will be held in the barn/community center on Jan. 14 from 2-4 p.m. Join us there.

Alice Healy, watercolorist, and Karen McCormick, oil painter, will both be there for your questions and comments.

The Valley Arts Group invites

you — artist or admirer — to attend.

Is the Valley Arts Group intimidating and hard to join? Not at all. All artists, new, wishful, and veteran, in any media that can hang on the wall, are invited to join.

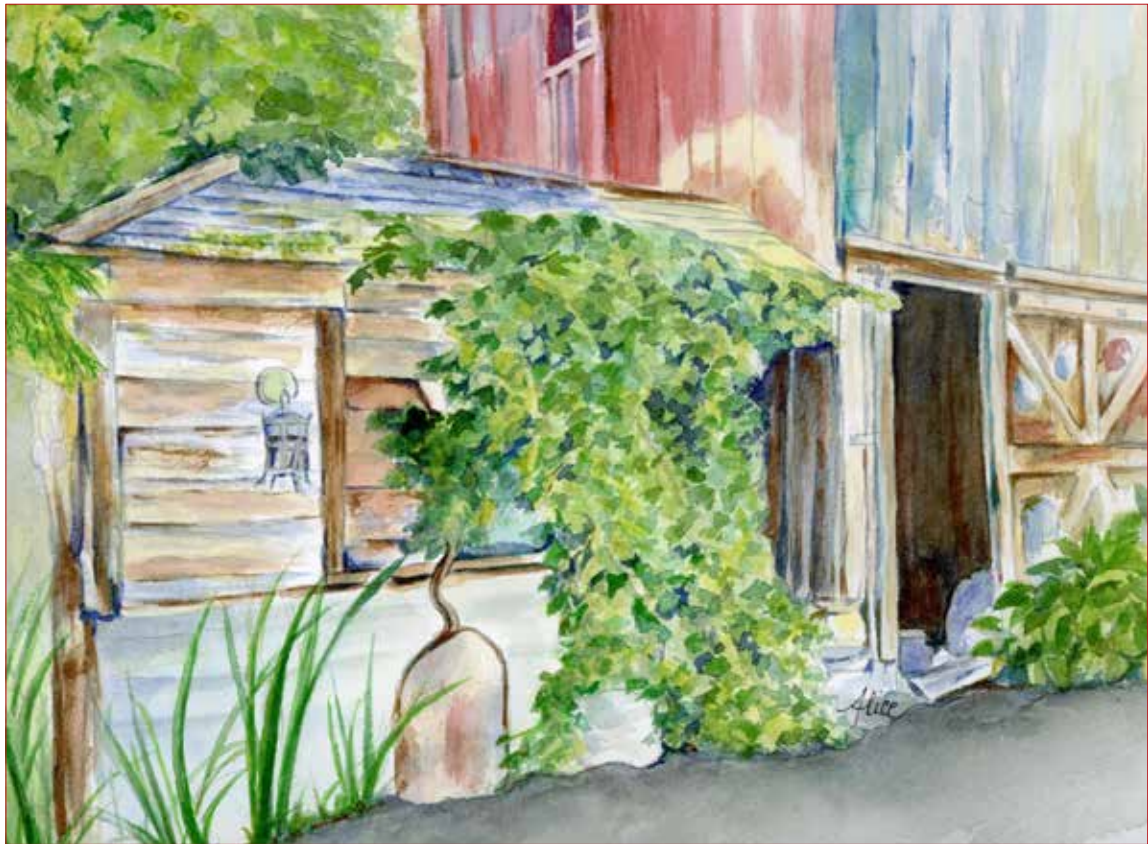
It is a great way to meet new people, share your artistic journey, and make new friends.

When it is safe health-wise, we will have classes and field trips again.

Please come to the reception. It would be an honor to meet you there.

There is a fuller description of the featured artists and their work in last month's issue.

For more info, visit facebook.com/ValleyArtsGroup or our website valleyartsgroup.org.





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SUDDEN VALLEY NEWS

Gate 9 mailboxes damaged



The Gate 9 mailboxes near Huckleberry Park were damaged on Wednesday, Dec. 21 by a car sliding into them. Replacement parts have been ordered so that a permanent fix can be implemented as soon as possible. If your mailbox can't be accessed by the carrier or if it isn't secure, USPS will not deliver your mail. Impacted homeowners' mail will be held for pick-up at the Mount Baker Post Office located at 3150 Orleans St. (the intersection of Sunset and Orleans). The Mount Baker Post Office is open 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday.



**RECORDED INFO ON SUDDEN VALLEY
weather events . road conditions .
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www.SuddenValley.com



Dues coupon book

The first 2023 dues coupons should be in members' mailboxes now. This year is unique, as the special assessment ends in May and monthly dues will decrease beginning in June.

A second coupon book will be sent out in May to reflect the lowered dues payment.

Through May 2023, the total

monthly dues for a developed lot (rec special assessment, operations and capital dues) will be \$144.31.

June-December 2023, the total monthly dues for a developed lot (operations and capital dues) will then decrease to \$141.81 to comply with the 2019 SGM Dues Limitation Bylaw.

SVCA implements hotline

SVCA has implemented a hotline for communicating weather alerts, information about road conditions, office closures, and other timely announcements.

Recorded messages can be ac-

cessed by calling 360-746-7010. If you have additional questions or concerns, please call administration at 360-734-6430 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Transfer fee refund program update

In the first round of the transfer fee refund program, 1,231 applications were received, representing 70% of the total number of property transactions that were eligible for the refund.

Not all the applications included the required information,

however, so there are still residents who have not received a refund.

If you applied for but have not yet received a refund, please contact the SVCA accounting department at 360-746-8435 x243, or email acctclerk@suddenvalley.com.

Whatcom READS Art Challenge

Allied Arts of Whatcom County,

1418 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham, will host the annual Whatcom READS Art Challenge from March 3-April 1.

The challenge is a partnership with the Bellingham and Whatcom libraries' Whatcom READS program. Local artists were tasked with reading this year's chosen book, *The Cold Millions* by Jess Walter.

Artists are then invited to create works inspired by their reading of the book. Also featured in the gallery are works by Kiki Cardarelli, Harmony Devauney, Lyz Stamen, Jessica Silver, and Rupert Ayton. Allied Arts is a non-profit gallery. Proceeds from all sales go toward supporting the arts in the community. Email kelly@alliedarts.org for more information.

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Holiday coloring contest winners

It was great fun to see the Holiday Coloring Contest submissions. We had a large group of drawings to choose from and staff had a difficult time picking winners. After two rounds of judging, winners were chosen for each category. The winner for the age 6-under was Claire Stark. The winner for 7-older was Tenzin Mitchell-Allen. Each winner was awarded an Amazon gift card that will be mailed to them. Thank you to all who participated.



How you can become an in-home caregiver

By Mariah Davis
Outreach Specialist at NWRC (Northwest Regional Council)

In 2020, there were about 2.3 million home health and personal care aide jobs in the U.S. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that the country will add an additional 1.1 million home health and personal care jobs by 2030.

The population of people over the age of 65 will more than double between 2015 and 2050. From 47.8 million to 88 million over the age of 65. Fifty-two percent of this population requires some form of long-term care, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics, US Dept of Labor.

There was a significant caregiver workforce shortage prior to the pandemic and the issue is now at the crisis level for clients who could be waiting two to four months for a caregiver.

This issue can cause people to stay in hospitals or nursing facilities for longer periods of time because they are unable to get

the care they need to return home (Caregiver Shortage in Washington Exacerbated by Pandemic, Sebastian Rubino).

As an outreach specialist with Northwest Regional Council, my job entails providing support and information to people that may be interested in becoming in-home caregivers.

I can support people through the hiring process with the state, Consumer Direct WA, or provide a referral to a Medicaid-contracted agency. This service is at no cost to you.

I am available to provide information about caregiving, what tasks may be included, and provide education on the differences between working with a caregiving agency or for Consumer Direct WA.

If you would like more information or assistance, you can call or text me at 360-483-9408. I will be at the South Whatcom Library on Jan. 31 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. if you would like to meet with me in person.



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Breakfast with Santa

Sudden Valley held its annual Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 11 at the welcome center. These photographs are from that event. (Sudden Valley photos)



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Family of 3+	\$3,360	\$280	Family of 3+	\$3,700	\$310
Young Family (children 15 or younger)			Young Family (children 15 or younger)		
After Noon Play	\$1,470	\$125	After Noon Play	\$1,625	\$140
Senior Limited (62 & up, M-F)	\$1,525	\$130	Senior Limited (62 & up, M-F)	\$1,675	\$145
Intermediate (Ages 18 - 28)	\$1,050	\$90	Intermediate (Ages 18 - 28)	\$1,150	\$100
Junior (17 and Younger)	\$300	\$30	Junior (17 and Younger)	\$350	\$35

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Social Membership: Social members receive two complimentary rounds of golf, 25% off all green fees, a locker, preferred tee times and may play in all Golf Club tournaments and participate in all social events. **Cost: \$135 / year (\$145 / year with GHIN Handicap Service)**



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Habitat for Humanity help Hernandez family with home



A warm welcome to the Hernandez family. A new Habitat for Humanity home was completed on Stable Lane. Habitat staff had this to say about building in Sudden Valley:

“Here at Habitat, we are excited at the completion of the Stable Lane home and look forward to the Hernandez family’s highly anticipated move-in. Thank you to all of our sponsors, donors, and volunteers for helping make this build happen, and thank you to the Hernandez’ future neighbors for allowing us to use part of their yard to store construction materials the last few years. Thank you Sudden Valley for being such a wonderful host and allowing us to build for your new neighbors.”

The build has been under construction for about a year and a half. This home is similar in design to one built on Bramble Way.

This three-bedroom, single family unit is incredibly energy efficient and other than the foundation, was completely built by volunteers.

The Hernandez family is excited to occupy their new home. Habitat for Humanity has been building homes and finding solutions across the housing spectrum and providing a pathway from homelessness to home ownership.

There will be a home dedication and blessing for this build sometime in January. In the meantime, you can support Habitat for Humanity by donating, shopping or volunteering at their store, at 1825 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham. Or visit www.hfhwatcom.org.

Sometime in January, Habitat for Humanity will hold a home dedication for the Hernandez family’s new home. Habitat for Humanity has been building homes and finding solutions across the housing spectrum and providing a pathway from homelessness to home ownership. (Photos courtesy Habitat for Humanity)

Tips on how to stay safe during winter storms

In the past few weeks, Sudden Valley has experienced extreme cold, a significant snowstorm, an ice storm, heavy rains, high winds and threats of flooding.

Although winter only officially began on Dec. 21, it feels like we’ve experienced the full range of weather possibilities. Since winter won’t officially end until March 20, it is a good idea to get prepared for the challenging weather events ahead.

The following tips were adapted from EverydayHealth.com. More details can be found at everydayhealth.com/healthy-living/ways-to-stay-safe-in-a-blizzard-4437.aspx.

Here are eight ways to stay safe, warm, and dry during winter snowstorms and blizzards:

1. Prepare an emergency medicine bag

Think of the family members in your household and which medications they need to make sure you have them stocked and on hand in case of an emergency. Include drugs to treat chronic conditions, such as asthma, high blood pressure or diabetes

Make sure your first-aid kit is fully stocked with Band-Aids, a flashlight, ibuprofen, acetaminophen. Anti-

biotic ointments for cuts and wounds, a survival knife, matches, candles, extra cash, chargers, high-calorie snacks, and blankets, too, are also useful.

2. Stock up on food, water

Go to the grocery store the day before an anticipated storm to pick up bottled water, nonperishable items, and pantry staples like bread, crackers, peanut butter, trail mix and cereals.

Consider items that don’t require heat to prepare, such as canned beans, tuna, and canned vegetables. Try to have enough food and bottled water to last for at least four days, accounting for each family member in your home, and don’t forget pet food, too.

3. Stay up to date on winter storm warnings

Stay tuned to your local news updates so you’re aware of winter storm or blizzard warnings, which will alert your community at least 24 hours ahead.

Remain flexible while deciding whether it’s safe to travel. While you may have an easy time getting to work, the commute back may be difficult as weather conditions worsen.

You can sign up for What-

com County emergency alerts at public.alertsense.com/SignUp/?regionid=1189.

4. Watch for potential signs of frostbite

If you have to go out during extreme cold, bundle up with a hat, a scarf, gloves, and thick socks and boots to protect your ears, nose, fingers, and toes — it’s these parts of the body that are most vulnerable to frostbite, because they’re furthest from your central core and at the edges of blood circulation.

Signs of frostbite include: extremities turn pale, pain, numbness, or a tingling in your hands and fingers, skin that looks hard or waxy, or clumsiness due to joint and muscle stiffness.

If these symptoms start, get inside immediately or seek medical emergency medical attention. You can also try to warm the affected areas with lukewarm (not hot) water.

5. Look out for symptoms of hypothermia

If the body’s core temperature drops to below 95 degrees F, hypothermia could set in. When your body temperature drops, your heart, nervous system, and other organs

can’t work properly.

The condition is marked by symptoms like shivering, slurred speech, slow, shallow breathing, a weak pulse, and drowsiness, confusion, or memory loss. Children and the elderly are most susceptible to hypothermia.

If symptoms appear, seek medical attention. Move the person out of the cold, remove wet clothing, and keep them warm and insulated while monitoring their breathing.

6. Get your car ready for winter weather emergencies

Each year, get your car ready for the season with the appropriate winter tires, and make sure a mechanic checks out your battery, ignition system, flashing hazard lights, windshield wipers, heater, and brakes.

Keep extra sweaters, a warm jacket, a hat, gloves and a blanket in your trunk in case you’re stranded waiting for emergency roadside assistance.

Keep sand or kitty litter in the car also. You can use it to generate traction under the wheels or to make walkways or steps less slippery.

7. Prepare for a power outage

Storms often cause power outages in Sudden Valley because of the large

number of trees.

Make sure you have flashlights, batteries, candles, a portable phone charger, and plenty of blankets and warm clothes on hand.

If you’re using a generator, make sure it’s outside of the home.

8. Clear snow carefully

Once the storm is over, dress warmly before you start shoveling or blowing snow. If you’re shoveling, remember it’s a strenuous and potentially hazardous activity, and take care of your back.

Avoid shoveling if it causes back pain, chest pain, or shortness of breath. If you are using a snow blower, make sure to power it up only outdoors, wear hearing protection, and keep kids and loose clothing out of range.

You should also stay hydrated, take frequent breaks, and bend at the knees if you’re doing heavy lifting.

Learn more about winter weather preparedness at the following links:

- ready.gov/winter-weather
- weather.gov/safety/winter-during
- redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/winter-storm.html

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SUDDEN VALLEY HAPPENINGS

Meeting times, dates and locations are subject to change and can vary from meeting to meeting. Please check the “Committees” page at www.SuddenValley.com to confirm.

SVCA Committees Board of Directors

The Board meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in the Dance Barn, located at 8 Barn View Court.

Architectural Control Committee

The ACC is responsible for reviewing requests to make exterior modifications to your property. These can include general landscaping, fence requests, building an addition, tree limbing, and removal considerations. The ACC normally has meetings the first and third Thursdays of every month. One is generally scheduled as an AM (9 a.m.) meeting and one a PM (6 p.m.) meeting. These meetings currently take place via Zoom.

Communications Committee Meeting times, dates and locations

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Communications Committee

TBD

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee typically meets the third Wednesday of the month, but may change that schedule and may have additional meetings.

Nominations and Elections Committee

The Nominations and Elections (N&E) Committee typically meets the fourth Monday of the month.

Document Review Committee

The DRC currently does not have a regular schedule. Check the calendar page at SuddenValley.com for more information.

Long-Range Planning Committee

The LRPC normally meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.

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Meets quarterly from 10 a.m. to noon at the Dance Barn café on the second Saturday of January, April, July and October. For more information visit valleyartsgroup.org.

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Sudden Valley AA

Two in person meetings per week; Saturday 9-10 a.m., Tuesday 6-7 p.m.

See **Happenings** on 12



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BRIEFLY

Celebrating birds

Just because we celebrate birds and their numerous species on National Bird Day, held each year on Jan. 5 doesn't mean you cannot appreciate birds every day.

History of National Bird Day

Whether they're your backyard's star cardinal or the common pigeons that flock to and fro in the park, birds have always held a spot of fascination, love and adoration in our hearts.

There's a certain awe that can only be tapped into when watching an eagle soar.

Unfortunately, most birds are either endangered or protected, this is mostly due to habitat loss or illegal pet trade.

That's why the Avian Welfare Coalition created National Bird Day: to raise awareness of the hardships and plights of these important animals and how we can initiate the change needed to create a healthier, more sustainable relationship with them.

Birds are often considered living links to the past, being the closest-related animals to the evolution of dinosaurs.

They're often keystone species in the ecosystems, signifiers of its health and vitality.

For example, the holes left behind by woodpeckers are often used as homes for a large variety of other animals.

That means if woodpeckers were to run out of a food source - or out of the right kinds of trees - so, too, would all the animals dependent on their pecking skills.

National Bird Day activities

- Study some birds

Whether you pick up a birding book like the Sibley Guide to Birds, read a memoir like "H is for Hawk," or even a novel with birds in the title like Maya Angelou's "I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings," this is the time to brush up on your bird knowledge and reflect on the role of birds in our lives.

- Watch some birds

According to the U.S. census, more Americans watch birds than play baseball and American football combined.

By joining the quiet ranks of the country's birdwatchers, you'll discover a vast new hobby and a huge number of quietly contented people who can give you new insight into your place in this fragile world.

Talk about a reason to try a new hobby.

- Adopt a bird

Rather than buying a bird from a breeder, why not adopt a rescued bird and help ease the problems facing birds across the United States.

National Bird Day is an opportunity for us all to get educated on the needs of captive birds - from

See **Birds** on 11



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Birds: Briefly

Continued from 10

regular water and light to an absence of air pollution — and to consider how we are helping or hindering birds' chances in our wider world.

More on National Bird Day at nationaltoday.com/national-bird-day.

County emergency management urges residents to report weather damages

WHATCOM — Whatcom County Sheriff's Office's Division of Emergency Management (DEM) asks all Whatcom County residents, regardless of where they live, to report any damages

incurred since Tuesday, Dec. 13 from extreme winter weather.

The online forms are available in both English and Spanish at whatcomcounty.us/reportdamage.

Submitting this information helps support Whatcom County's request for aid from Washington State and the federal government. The damage assessment forms are the first step in the process of requesting and hopefully receiving federal and state aid.

There is no guarantee Whatcom County will receive any federal or state aid.

All households that sustained damage should complete the appropriate form regardless of whether they rent or own their home, what city they live in, or whether or not they live in an unincorporated area.

The only requirement is that the damage occurred in What-

See **Weather** on 12

SVCA acronyms

ACC - Architectural Control Committee
AGM - Annual General Meeting
BOD - Board of Directors
BMP - Best Management Practices
CC&Rs - Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions
CIP - Capital Improvement Plan
CRRRF - Capital Repair and Replacement Reserve Fund
CTK - Christ the King Church
DNR - Washington State Department of Natural Resources
DOE - Washington State Department of Ecology
DRC - Document Review Committee
EIS - Emergency Information System
FTE - Full Time Employees
GIS - Geographic Information System
GM - Sudden Valley's General Manager
GMA - Growth Management Act
HOA - Homeowner's Association
LAMIRD - Limited Areas of More Intensive Rural Development
LRPC - Long Range Planning Committee
LWPG - Lake Whatcom Policy Group
LWWS - Lake Whatcom Water & Sewer

District
MOU - Memorandum of Understanding
MPR - Multi-Purpose Room
N&E - Nominations and Elections
NPDES - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
OPS - Operations
PSE - Puget Sound Energy
PUD - Planned Unit Development
RCW - Revised Code of Washington
REC - Parks & Recreation Department
RFP - Request for Proposals
RFQ - Request for Qualifications
ROW - Right-of-Way
SGM - Special General Meeting
SOP - Standard Operating Procedure
SVCA - Sudden Valley Community Association
UDR - Undesignated Reserves
WCLS - Whatcom County Library System
WCOG - Whatcom Council of Governments
WCSO - Whatcom County Sheriff's Office
WDFW - Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
WTA - Whatcom Transportation Authority
WUCIOA - RCW 64.90 - The WA Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act

Committee Members Needed

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Document Review

Long Range Planning

Finance

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Dr. Chaddock is a western Washington native. He attended WWU and is a 2003 doctoral Graduate of the University of Washington School of Dentistry.



Weather: County emergency management urges residents to report damages

Continued from 11

com County as a result of the extreme winter weather, starting on Dec. 13.

Anyone who needs help with submitting their damage assessment form should call DEM at 360-676-6681. Phones are staffed during normal business hours. DEM staff will return messages.

Whatcom County sheriff's deputies shot in February to return to active duty

WHATCOM — On Feb. 10, Whatcom County Sheriff's

Deputies Jay Thompson and Ryan Rathbun responded to a neighborhood dispute in the Kendall area.

While investigating the dispute, both deputies were shot in the head by an armed suspect.

Since then, Dep. Rathbun and Thompson have each undergone numerous medical procedures and treatments and have recently been evaluated and cleared to return to full active duty as Whatcom County Sheriff deputies.

Dep. Thompson has served with WCSO since December 2008. In addition to his duties as patrol deputy serving the Foothills area, he is on the Crisis Negotiation Team.

Dep. Rathbun started his career at WCSO as a corrections deputy in 2006 and moved to patrol deputy in July 2008. He is a member of SWAT and also a defensive tactics instructor.

"Both of us are proud and happy to be able to recover

and come back to serve Whatcom County," Dep. Thompson said in a Dec. 22 WCSO press release.

Sheriff Bill Elfo said in the press release that deputies Rathbun and Thompson "not only fought to survive the deadly attack that was launched against them last February, they courageously battled to recover from their wounds and return to fulfill their passion for serving and protecting the community."

"We at the Sheriff's Office are eternally grateful to all who made their survival and recovery possible," said Sheriff Bill Elfo.

"From the armed citizens who helped protect them on the day of the attack, to the fire service and health care professionals who rendered treatment, to the good people of our community who offered prayers, well-wishes, and overwhelming support for our deputies, we can never thank you enough."

Happenings: Sudden Valley

Continued from 10

South Whatcom County Library Meeting Room.

Zoom meetings on Thursdays.

Email suddenvalleyaa@gmail.com for details.

TBD

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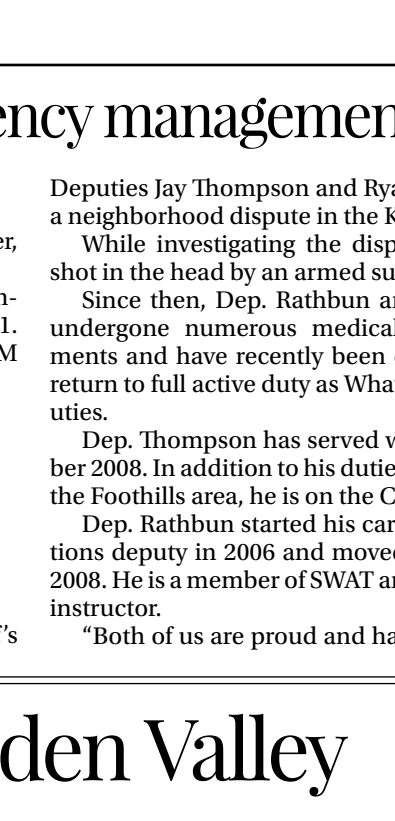
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Sudden Valley AA

Two in person meetings per week; Saturday 9-10 a.m., Tuesday 6-7 p.m. South Whatcom County Library Meeting Room. Zoom meetings on Thursdays. Email suddenvalleyaa@gmail.com for details.



SUDDEN VALLEY
Pet of the
MONTH

This month's pet of the month is Boomer, submitted by Linda Marquardt.

It's me, Boomer! I was adopted last year and have made this neighborhood my happy place. My mom and I walk all over every day so I can hopefully say "woof" to all my many puppy and people pals, and meet as many new ones as possible. People driving by often stop and say "hi Boomer" and I love that. I am a 4 year old American Akita and - all modesty aside - have the sweetest personality (I have a long list of references). If you ever see me out and about, it will make my day to have you stop and cuddle.

Boomer

Do you have a pet of the month? If you think that your pet is ready for prime time, please send a high resolution photo with your pet's name, your name, and a brief description to communications@suddenvalley.com

THE SUDDEN VALLEY *Pet of the MONTH* IS SPONSORED BY:



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Grand View Lane 4 bedroom, 3 baths, available Jan. 1st, 2023. Rent \$2800
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3 bedroom 2.5 bath Puget area Bellingham, available Feb. 1st, 2023. Rent \$3200

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Waterfront commercial/residential 3.5 acres (1 acre commercial, 2.5 acres residential). Situated on Lake Louise at Gate 2. Building has housed a real estate office for 50+ years; 8 offices, reception area, LR w/fireplace, 3 bathrooms & large conference room w/deck on 2nd floor overlooking the lake. View of Lake Louise from every office. Lots of parking & room for expansion. **\$1,527,750**

SOLD



Golf course views from this 4 bdrm, 3.5 ba home. Vaulted ceilings, eat-in kitchen plus formal dining room, wood burning fireplace. Spacious master suite with his & hers walk-in closets and huge walk-in shower. Trex decking and oversized 2-car garage. Central vacuum and new exterior paint. All appliances included. Prime location within short walking distance to Sudden Valley amenities. **\$739,000**

SOLD



Panoramic View of Lake Whatcom with assigned boat slip great vacation home or permit resident. 2 bedrooms with carport and storage. Fully fenced yard. Don't miss this great chance to check this out. **\$358,000**

SOLD



Private Setting. Open floor plan w/vaulted ceiling. 3 bdrm, 2.5 ba home backed to unbuildable wildlife. Hardwood floors & deck off dining area overlooking nature preserve. Large family room in lower floor w/full bath. 2-car garage. Enjoy Sudden Valley amenities, golf course, trails, spa, fitness center, parks, marina, beaches, tennis and 24/7 Security. **\$530,000**

SOLD



Enjoy a great view of the Cascades from this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with privacy on both levels and located on a quiet cul-de-sac. This home has an open floor plan with vaulted ceiling. Master on the main floor with a large family room on the lower level. Fenced backyard and large 2-car garage. **\$739,000**

SOLD



Private setting. Beautifully maintained 3 bdrm 2.5 ba. Living room and dining room with 2-bdrm upper floor with 1.5 ba, master bdrm and office/4th bedroom plus family room lower floor. New roof, new Trex decking. New windows, new laminate floors. One car garage with additional workspace. **\$449,000**

Are you looking for Property Management?
Please call us at 360-733-3700