

Utsalady Ladies Aid MAY 2026 Newsletter



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Smokey Bear on Camano Island



The fire danger sign along 532 was stolen in 2019, and a replacement was donated—but it was very faded. Thanks to a Port Susan Middle School student and her little brother, Smokey Bear got a fresh coat of paint. After priming, outlining and selecting the right colors, it took them over 2 months to complete the project. After a coat of protective sealant, Camano Island Fire & Rescue reinstalled the fire preventing sentinel at his traditional post.

Happy Birthday!



- Cindy Lou Aillaud
- Colleen Anderson
- Louise Donaldson
- Kathleen Duclos
- Janet Flores
- Robin Hanks
- Wanda Hill
- Hazel Damon
- Emily Mickelson
- Dolores Soldate
- Shari Spakoff

Upcoming Meetings

Our next **Membership meeting** will be **Wednesday, May 13th**, at 11:30am for socializing and business meeting at 1:00pm. Remember to bring your own lunch. The **Board meeting** will be on **Monday, May 11th**, from 11:00am to 1:00pm.

ULA Fun Day will be on **Wednesday, May 27th**. Doors open at 10:00am. Come and join your friends.

Art Tour

The Ladies Aid membership is busy getting ready for our big fundraiser event. **Thursday, May 7th** is the setup day. **May 8th & 9th** we are serving the best turkey sandwich ever! Garden Raffle basket still needs items.



Happy Mother's Day!

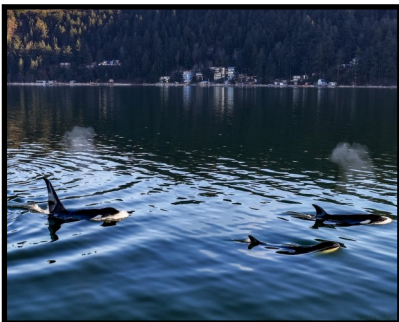
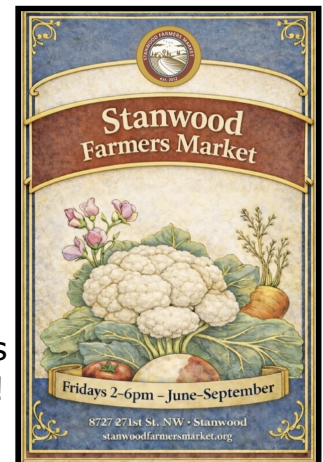
FROM THE BOARD



Patricia (Murtaugh) Bronson - I was born and educated in Elmira, New York, except for a few years during WW2 when the family was at Fort Lewis, WA where my Dad was stationed. After becoming an RN I joined the Navy and my first duty station was Navy Hospital, Long Island, NY. Loved the city but not far from home. Next duty station was Key West, Florida - from the largest hospital to the smallest. This was during the Cuban Crisis so sometimes people landed on the hospital grounds in small boats. Met and married Hiram, a Navy Helicopter Pilot. He received orders to be an Exchange pilot with the Australian Navy and I became a military spouse. We both loved the country and the people. We lived in Nowra, New South Wales, 3 hours south of Sydney for 2 years. During holidays we traveled as far south as Tasmania and north to Queensland. Next duty station for 2 years was San Diego, CA, the Vietnam War, and Hiram was gone on aircraft carriers. Matthew and Karen were born during these first years and orders took us to the east coast ending in the Pentagon and the DC area. Our last tour was Naples, Italy. The kids were like sponges and took in everything - food, customs, and language.. He retired and we moved to Bellingham, WA where he trained for another job and the kids finished school. Hiram worked in Yakima and then Snohomish County and in 1988 we moved to Stanwood and then Camano Island. We have been involved in Beach Watchers, the Historical Society and Utsalady Ladies Aid loving the History and beauty of this area.

Farmers Market

The farmers market is a vibrant community space where local farmers, growers, and artisans come together to showcase and sell their fresh produce, handmade goods, and unique products. The Stanwood Farmers Market offers a direct connection between producers and consumers, fostering a sense of community and supporting our local economy. The first Market day is **June 5th** from 2pm to 6pm. Of course we always have Island Harvest Farm on Arrowhead Road open every day!



Whales

Port Susan, located between Camano Island and Snohomish County, is a frequent feeding ground for gray whales, orcas, and humpback whales, particularly in early spring. Recent reports from early 2026 show gray whales near Kayak Point and Warm Beach, and transient orcas (T99s) and humpbacks hunting in the bay.