

# CITY OF *Snohomish*

QUARTERLY

WINTER 2019

**Bring Your Own Bag**

Page 5

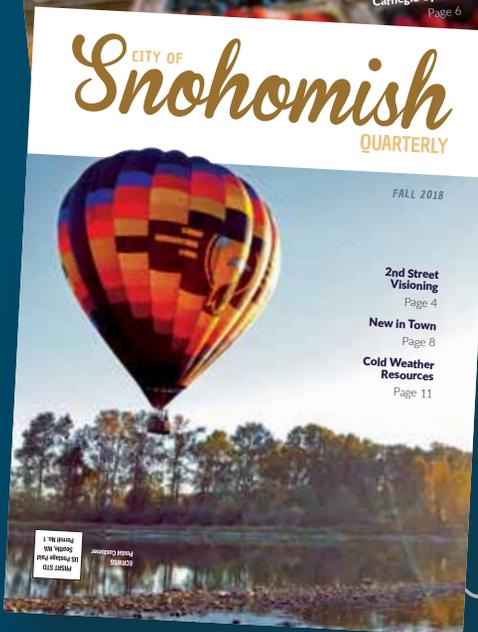
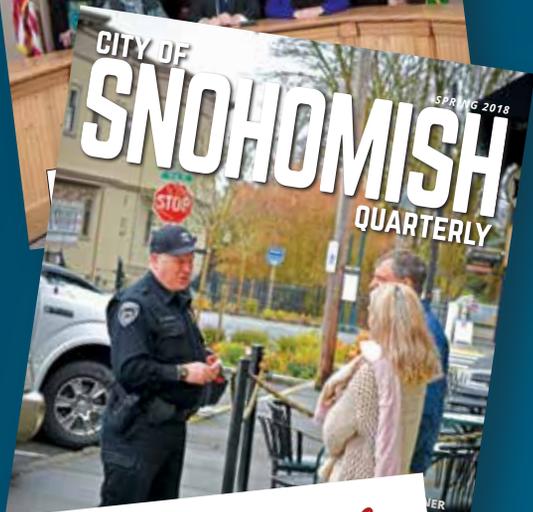
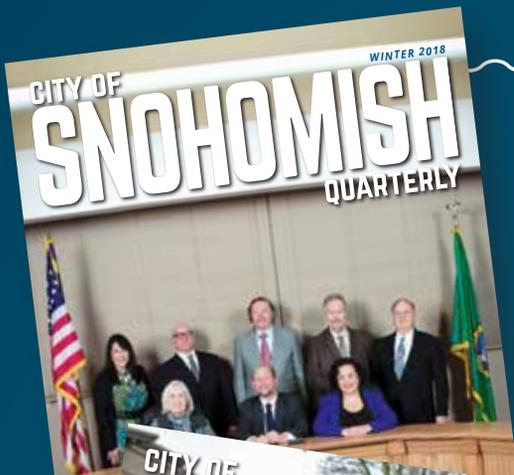
**Where is My  
Property Line?**

Page 6

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Please see the City’s website to report a concern or for additional information at [www.snohomishwa.gov](http://www.snohomishwa.gov).

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Patrol deputies are on duty 24 hours a day and can be reached by calling 911.

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**D**id you make a New Year’s resolution for 2019? A goal to improve your health and wellness, or be more active in the community? Did you resolve to work harder or be more present? We’re about a month in—how are you fairing?

With a new year brings renewed incentives to set goals and make improvements in our home life and work. If starting or expanding a business is part of your New Year’s goals, then be sure to check out the new meet-ups developed specifically for entrepreneurs. The next meet-up is February 21 and is intended specifically for SOLOpreneurs dealing with the barriers of working independently. In March, be sure to check out PODcasting 101, where you can meet seasoned professionals who have found their niche and established an engaged following. You can learn more about the Snohomish Business Network on the city’s website at [www.snohomishwa.gov](http://www.snohomishwa.gov).

–Wendy

**CITY OF Snohomish**  
QUARTERLY

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**On the Cover:** Winter birds at Stocker Fields by Andy Papadatos

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# State of the City

BY JOHN T. KARTAK, MAYOR

With over one year now into our new “Strong Mayor” form of government, I reflect positively on the prior debate as to whether or not such a change would be beneficial for our small city. Some predicted greater management costs, less professionalism and increased political division. Under our old “Strong Council” system, a professional executive (City Manager) was hired and directed by City Council to manage our municipal operations. With this new system, a local resident is elected by the voters for a four-year term to represent the community while serving in such executive capacity.

Having soundly heard those legitimate past concerns, I find it important to report regularly on how things are going. They are going remarkably well. My new management framework at City Hall saves taxpayers well over \$50,000 per year in salary costs and includes Steve Schuller, who I believe to be the most qualified City Administrator in the region. Steve serves us in three ways: as the Mayor’s professional advisor, as “Second in Charge” among staff and as our Utilities General Manager.

It has been such a pleasure to work with Steve and all our other talented staff, Snohomish City Council, our volunteer boards and commissions and the best community I have ever known. *Together*, we have accomplished many things.

Having already described some of the following achievements in my Summer 2018 message, I am repeating them here along with the most recent highlights now that more than a full year of this new governance is behind us:

- Lowered our wastewater utility rates (twice!)
- Hired a new Community Outreach Police Officer
- Removed the dilapidated Hal Moe Pool building.
- Modified the Pilchuck District Regulations
- Established the Snohomish Youth Council
- Prohibited Supervised Drug Injection Sites
- Multiple sidewalk repairs and replacements
- Improved Fourth Street with sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and pavement
- Improved Avenue A with realignment, new utilities, and pavement
- Implemented a new ordinance to address loading dock noise



- Drafted a resolution against bullying, hatred and intolerance
- Passed our first ever biannual budget (for 2019/2020)
- Offered more town halls and outreach efforts than ever before

Lastly, I wish to point out that there is sometimes disagreement among your elected representatives (myself included), and not all of our accomplishments necessarily happen by unanimous consent. This is a good thing. It shows *representation* of the differing perspectives that are sure to be found within our diverse community. What an honor and privilege it has been to work with your Snohomish City Council, as together, we make it our first priority to serve you.

You have a voice in this town!

*-John*

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# Single Use Plastic Bags and the Impact to our Environment

BY LYNN SCHILATY, COUNCILMEMBER POSITION 1



and medical sharps. When introduced to the recycling stream, plastic bags tangle in sorting equipment and result in facility stoppages and pose worker safety issues, as they need to be cut out of the equipment daily.

In response to customer feedback and acknowledgment of environmental impacts, at least one large grocery chain committed to transitioning away from plastic bags. In August, Kroger Co. announced it was eliminating the single use carryout bags from all its locations by 2025, including Fred Meyer and QFC stores. QFC began phasing plastic bags from its Bellevue, Wash. location in October 2018. The grocery store plans to roll out the program to other stores early next year.

Twenty-three Pacific Northwest communities have implemented ordinances to reduce their use, by banning most single-use plastic bag distribution and requiring retailers to charge consumers for paper bags at the point of sale. Many of these policies have been in place for several years, and have proven to be successful in reducing plastic bag consumption and promoting more sustainable options. Should Snohomish join these jurisdictions?

The Snohomish Council recently listened to a presentation by Heather Trim from Zero Waste Washington. She explained the process of implementing an ordinance to ban single use plastic bags in Snohomish. After her presentation, the council voted unanimously to direct staff to bring back a draft ordinance. If you would like to be a part of the discussion, please follow the council agendas and/or contact a council member. Let us know what you think.

*-Lynn*

**T**rash is part of life. No matter where we are, we're bound to find it. But not all trash is the same. Some biodegrades will be around for hundreds of years getting into our waterways, wildlife and the food chain. So, as an elected official, I have to ask myself; what can I do? Should I care about this? How do you feel about it?

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Americans consume approximately 380 billion plastic bags and wraps per year, requiring 12 million barrels of oil in production. Using conservative estimates of per-capita consumption, Snohomish residents consume approximately 5.3 million single-use plastic shopping bags per year. Many sources state that the average usage time for these bags is about 12 minutes, and only about 0.5% of plastic bags are recycled.

The Department of Ecology's litter survey found that plastic bags are among the 10 most littered items, by weight. This is especially astonishing, given the lightweight nature of the material. Additionally, plastic bags are one of the three most problematic materials at recycling facilities, along with lithium batteries

*Snohomish Wine Festival*

Saturday, March 2, 2019

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- VIP Packages
- 2 Tasting Sessions
- Tickets & Information @SnohomishChamber.org

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# Whose Property is It? BY GLEN PICKUS, PLANNING DIRECTOR

“Where is my property line?” is one of the most frequently asked questions posed to Planning & Development Services (PDS) staff.

Sometimes the question is asked because the property owner needs to draw a site plan to submit with a permit application. It is also a common question by homeowners wanting to build a fence.

Unfortunately, all too frequently staff is also asked this question because of a dispute between neighbors when one believes the other has encroached onto their property.

While PDS staff will try to help answer the question, they never offer a definitive answer because only professional surveyors licensed in the State of Washington can do that.

Staff is careful to not get involved in disputes over property lines because ultimately that is a private property issue and not about city regulations. In those cases, staff’s best advice is for the neighbors to hire a surveyor to determine where their property line is. If the neighbors are unable to work together to determine the location of their shared property line, the issue can end up in court to be resolved.

While staff won’t say precisely where a property line is located, they are able to pass along helpful hints and rules of thumb that at least narrow down where a property line is likely to be located.

Those helpful hints and rules of thumb include:

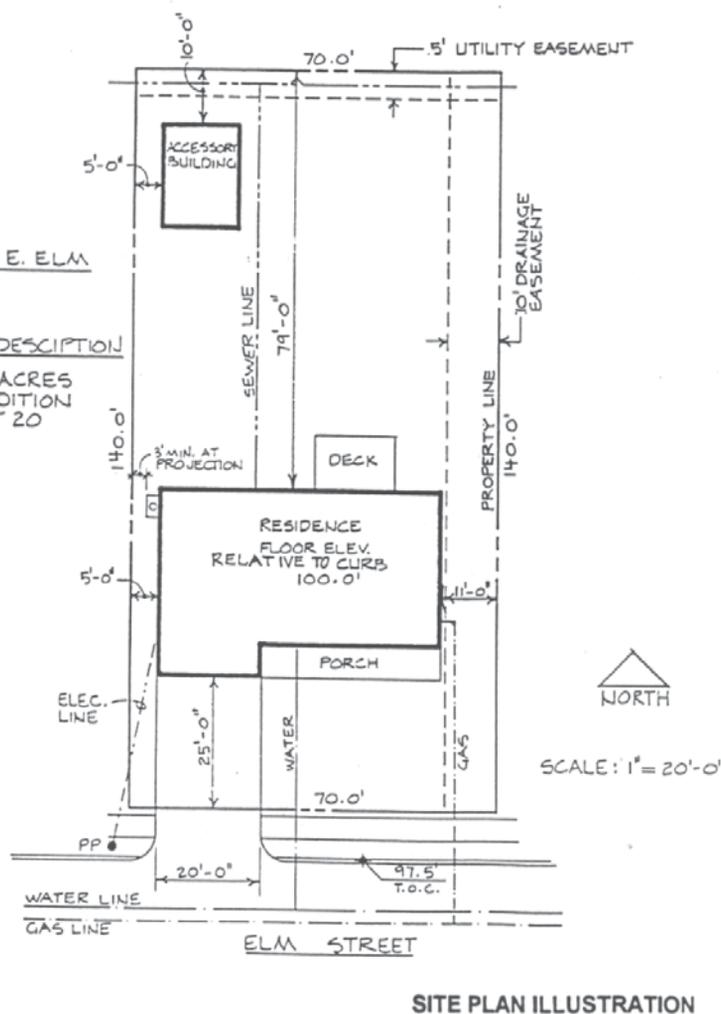
- Property lines are frequently located at or very near the back edge of a public sidewalk.
- Utility poles are typically located on or very close to a property line.
- The City may have a site plan on file for the property that was submitted with a permit application. That site plan can provide an idea of where a property

line is located in relation to buildings and other structures, including fences, on the site.

- Legal descriptions of property sometimes include dimensions of property lines. If the lot was created as part of a plat, the subdivision map will include the dimensions and bearings of all lot lines.
- An online search of surveys, plats, and other documents recorded with the Snohomish County Auditor’s Office (<http://www.snoco.org/RecordedDocuments>) can provide useful information.
- Surveyor markers showing the lot corners may still be in place. Surveyors use steel rods or rebar (about ½ inch in diameter) or wooden stakes to locate property corners. When the corners are in the front of a parcel, the markers can be nails or pins embedded in the concrete curb, gutter, or sidewalk. If you have sharp eyes and a general idea of where the front corner is, you might be able to find the pins on your own.

If you are planning on applying for a building permit for an addition or new construction, you are going to have to know where your property lines are because you have to include a site plan with your permit application. Staff needs this information in order to ensure all setback requirements will be met.

PDS staff has prepared a brochure for those who want to draw their own site plans. Stop by City Hall to pick up a copy free of charge. Properly drawn site plans are drawn to scale, show dimensions, have a north arrow, and show the location of all building footprints, utility lines and critical areas (e.g. wetlands, streams).



# Protecting Archaeologic and Cultural Resources

BY BROOKE EIDEM,  
ASSOCIATE PLANNER

“Archaeological sites are nonrenewable resources that contribute to our sense of history and place and define our collective shared heritage. The wise stewardship of these sites is our collective responsibility.”

These words are on the State of Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation’s (DAHP) web page. DAHP advocates for the preservation of Washington’s irreplaceable historic and cultural resources.

State regulations make it illegal to knowingly dig into any historic or prehistoric archaeological site or to remove any archaeological object from such sites. Those regulations name DAHP as the appropriate agency to ensure the rules aren’t broken and to conserve, preserve, and protect the state’s archaeological resources. DAHP also has the responsibility to facilitate the scientific study of these resources.

To assist DAHP with its mission and to provide some local control over how archaeological sites are protected in the city, an ordinance is under consideration that would adopt city regulations designed to ensure that sites where historic and cultural artifacts can be found are not disturbed. The Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled to hold a public hearing on March 6, 2019, to consider the ordinance and to make a recommendation to the City Council.

All archaeological sites, whether previously recorded or still unrecognized, would be covered by the new regulations. The sites will include, but not be limited to, those pertaining to prehistoric and historic American Indian activities. Their artifacts, such as projectile points, arrowheads, skeletal remains, basketry, grinding stones, knives, or other tools, and rock carvings and paintings, are considered to be archaeological resources.

The proposed regulations will apply to all sites with a known or suspected presence of archaeological or cultural resources.

The draft regulations include provisions requiring:

- An archaeology survey report for any development application or site



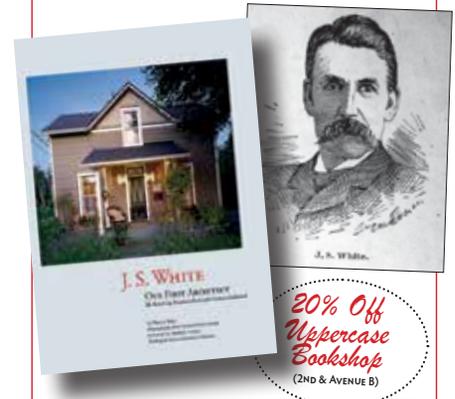
disturbance of a known or suspected archaeological site before any construction begins; and

- Immediate cessation of work on projects if during the course of construction, which includes grading, archaeological resources are found.

The goal of the new regulations is to proactively prevent archaeological sites from being unexpectedly disturbed. If sites are disturbed, the new code will prescribe steps to preserve the archaeological resources discovered.

For more information about the proposed ordinance, contact Associate Planner Brooke Eidem at [eidem@snohomishwa.gov](mailto:eidem@snohomishwa.gov).

“Thus it is quite unusual that we have a new book that documents and illustrates the work of pioneer Snohomish architect and builder John S. White.” UW Prof Jeffery Ochsner



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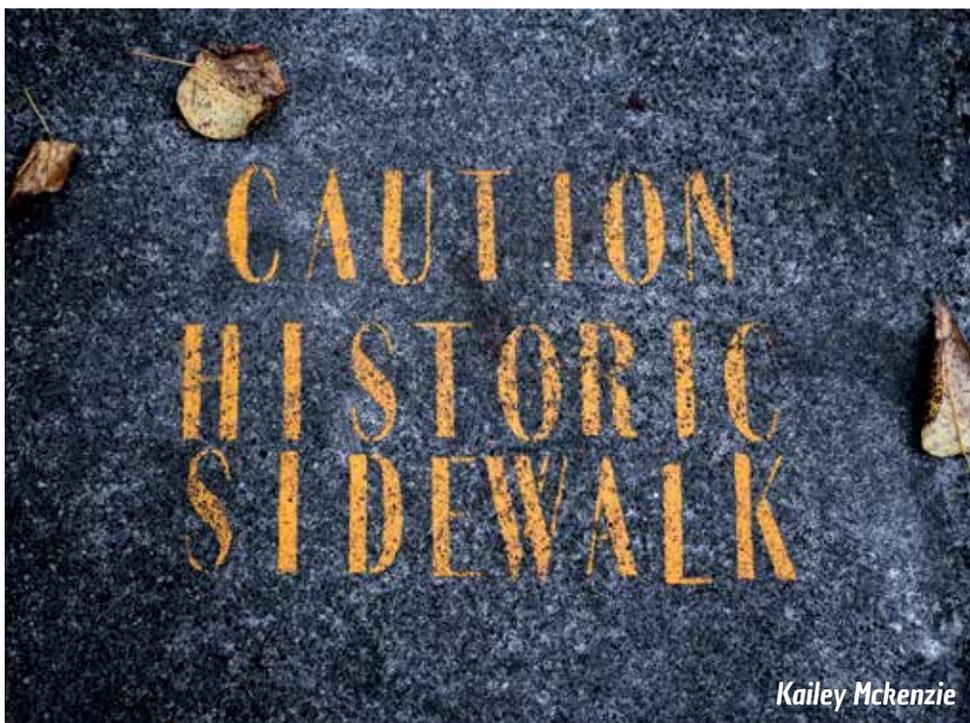
# LIFE IN *Snohomish*



*Eli Esterly*



*Lauren Riske*



*Kailey Mckenzie*



*Kenzie Green*



*Blake Pesznecker*



*Charlies Lucas*



*Yulisa Flores Espinoza*



*Jane LeWarne*

**A**n afternoon walk through Lord's Hill Park, a day spent at the pumpkin patch, an aerial flight over the Snohomish River Valley, everyday experiences that epitomizes what it's like to live here in Snohomish. Snohomish High School Photography Instructor, Jay Adams challenged his students to find something new in familiar surroundings. Here are just a few of the submissions for their assignment: Life in Snohomish.



*Bella Nuttall*

## Dog Walker Watch

**A**s anyone who lives in Snohomish knows, we have an active and vibrant downtown, as well as distinct, walkable neighborhoods. Snohomish's personality is also linked to the helpful, welcoming attitude of our residents and the city's safe reputation. One big reason, the dog-friendly nature of our city.

Dog walkers are an ideal resource to help keep Snohomish safe, and are well positioned to notice changes in our neighborhoods like pedestrian hazards, lifted or broken pavement, the occasional vandalism, and dumped debris. While exploring Snohomish, if you notice a safety issue, please report it.

If you witness an emergency, report it immediately to 911. This includes accidents, medical emergencies, or fires. For any situation where a response is critical and an individual's life or safety may be at immediate risk, call 911.

If you see a situation that may be a non-emergent safety risk, please report it to Snohomish County's non-urgent issue reporting telephone number 425-407-3999. Examples may include a fire hazard, a broken water pipe, or the smell of natural gas. In addition, Snohomish has a heightened focus on opioid abuse. If you see signs of drug use, including discarded paraphernalia, don't try to clean it up yourself. Please report your finding to the non-urgent report telephone number.

The City of Snohomish also wants to know of road, sidewalk, and pathway safety issues you may encounter. These are not emer-



*Ursula Gallagher*



gencies, but do represent a risk to safety. For example, if you find a lifted section of pavement, a pothole, a dangerous unmarked ridge or road edge, rail, path erosion or debris, such as downed branches or loose gravel on a paved surface, even graffiti, please report your findings to the City Engineer at 360-282-3161.

For any report, be ready with the following information:

- The time you noticed
- The specific location
- A description of what you saw or found

Be willing to give your name, address, and contact information, and if you were able to take a picture, provide that as well.

The Public Safety Commission has worked to produce new resources, while highlighting existing programs on the City of Snohomish's website, like dog-friendly trails, dog waste stations and dog-friendly fountains. And be sure to pick up a neighborhood walking map at City Hall or the Snohomish Library so you can discover new places to roam with your canine. We hope you and your dog love exploring Snohomish. We are lucky to have you!



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Deputy George Perillo (left) with Mayor Kartak and Chief Keith Rogers



Sergeant Nathan Alanis

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After 25 years of dedicated service, Deputy George Perillo will be leaving the City of Snohomish for a new assignment. Deputy Perillo is the last remaining Snohomish Police Officer that served prior to and during the policing contract with Snohomish County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Perillo's new assignment will have him providing police services at Paine Field Airport.

Officer Perillo was recognized at a City Council meeting in January where Mayor Kartak presented him with a proclamation expressing the City's sincere appreciation for his resolute dedication, and extended gratitude to George for his many years of exemplary service to our City and to our law enforcement team.

We also welcome Sergeant Nathan Alanis to the Snohomish Police Department.

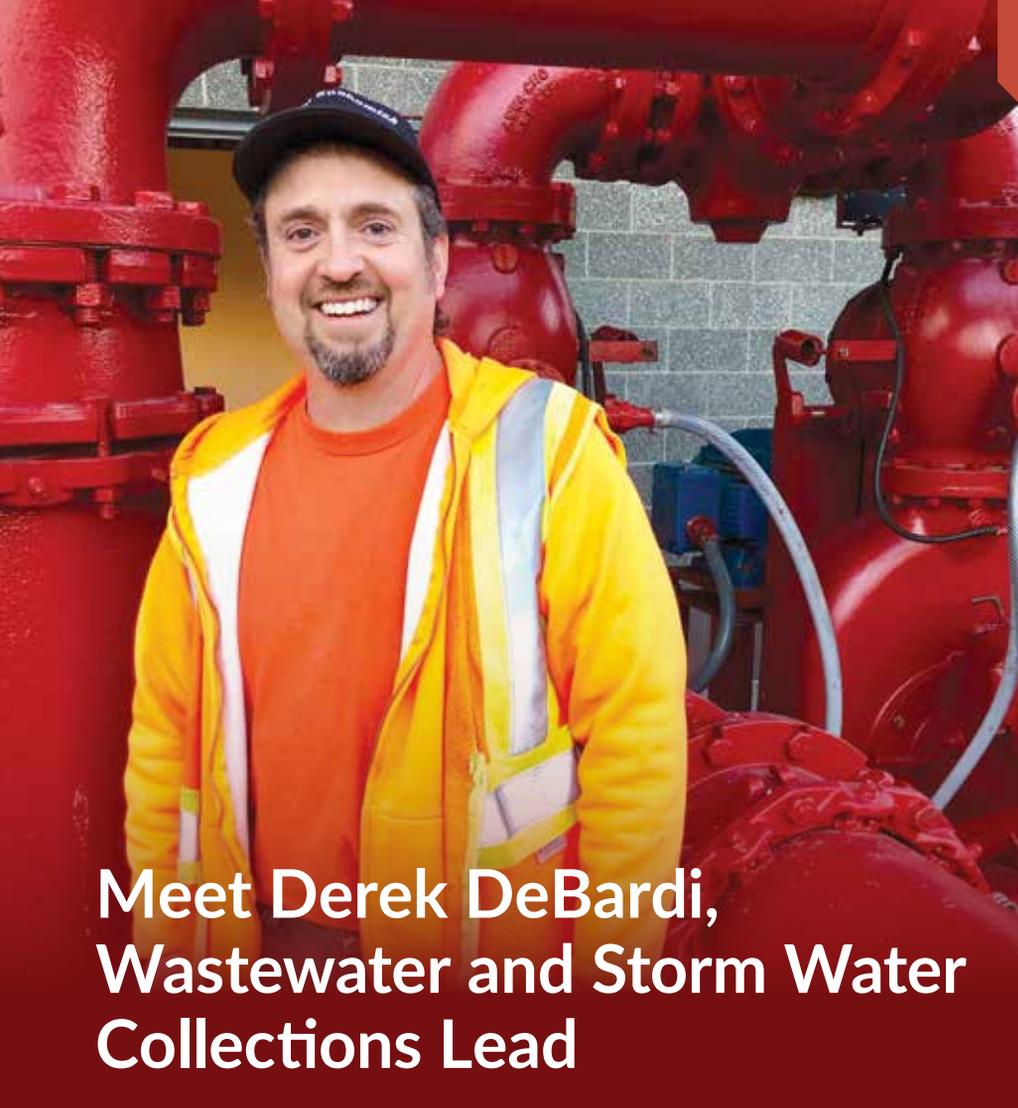
Sergeant Alanis has been with the Sheriff's Office since March of 2007, graduating from the Basic Law Enforcement Academy in October of 2007. He worked for

five years as a Patrol Deputy out of the Sheriff's office south precinct, and as the School Resource Officer at Lynnwood High School from 2013–2015. He even taught the Law and Justice class and coached boys' and girls' soccer while he was there.

In 2016, he became a Detective in the Special Investigations Unit until being promoted to Sergeant in the spring of 2017. Sergeant Alanis worked in the Office of Neighborhoods where he was in charge of arranging block watch meetings throughout the county, as well as participating in speaking engagements with schools and community groups. Sergeant Alanis joined the Snohomish Police Department in July of 2018.

Sergeant Alanis grew up in Duvall, Wash. and has a degree from Washington State University. He lives just outside of Snohomish and enjoys spending time with his wife Angela, their seven-year-old son and four-year-old daughter.

Welcome aboard!



## Meet Derek DeBardi, Wastewater and Storm Water Collections Lead

### Tell us about yourself.

I've been with the City of Snohomish for 11 years after working over a decade as an aviation mechanic for Goodrich Aerospace. As the Wastewater and Storm water Collections Lead, I work with a team that maintains both the sewer and surface water systems keeping the sewer pipes, storm drains, manholes and lift stations clean and operational. Every week, three times a week, inspection and light maintenance is performed. We investigate pump conditions and run times to identify any abnormalities that could indicate a problem with pump conditions. We also inspect the facility, and the electrical motor controls to ensure that there are no faults, alarms or errors. We utilize remote telemetry on the off hours to ensure that problems don't arise.

### What do you enjoy about your job?

I like troubleshooting the electromechanical systems at the sewer lift stations. I have a mechanical aptitude, so the problem

solving aspect appeals to me. I also like being responsible for maintaining the conveyance systems, including the underground pipes, and roadside ditches.

### What is the biggest challenge working in the wastewater collections?

The biggest challenge is dealing with the fats, oils and grease that gets flushed in the toilet or poured down the kitchen sink.



Any foreign object or debris, even dental floss or “flushable” wipes can cause the pumps to shut down. Over the holiday, a hand towel came through the system, bound the impeller and completely blocked the pump. It can take from a half hour to two hours to remove once we figure out the obstacle causing the stoppage.

### How do you like to enjoy your off time?

I'm an avid juggler. I began juggling when I was 12 years old after I received juggling clubs for Christmas. I juggle because I like to challenge myself and it commands all of my attention to focus and limit distractions. I just got a set of flaming juggling torches for Christmas this year. Believe it or not, it's very difficult to juggle flaming clubs in the dark—but it looks cool.



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# There's a Mystery at the Snohomish Library

JUDE ANDERSON,  
MANAGING LIBRARIAN

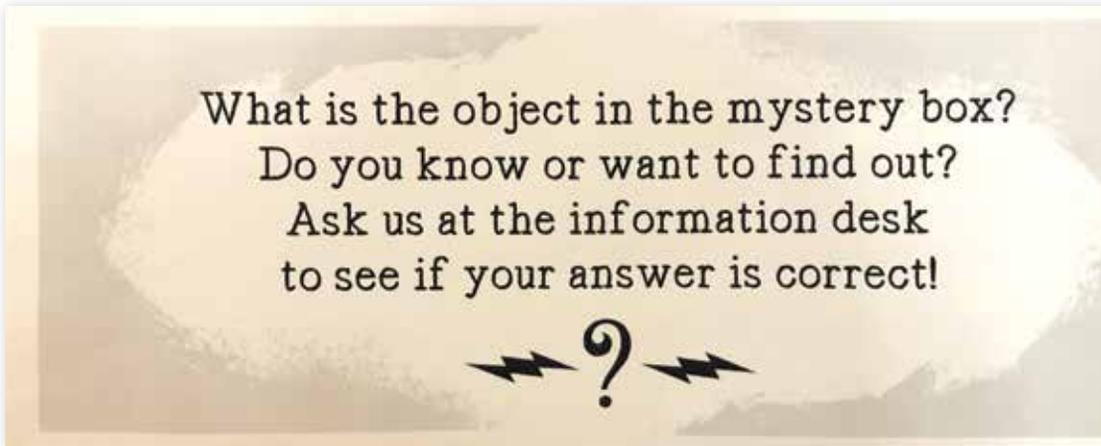
A few days ago, I noticed a child tug his mother's arm as he headed to see what was in the library's mystery box. He was proud to go to the information desk and declare that he recognized the sifter and the cherry pitter.

For the past several months, the Snohomish Library's customers have enjoyed guessing what we had on display in the mystery box. One month, we had a set of mokugyo, wooden fish drums used by Buddhist monks. Another month, we displayed an Edison cylinder and a piano roll. In December, we stumped a lot of customers with items soldiers used during WWI.

We created the mystery box to encourage young customers to talk to staff at the information desk. If they can identify the items, they get a prize. While people talk to us, we can share some of the background information about the items. Often the conversation leads to other questions and interests for our customers.

Here at the library, we look for ways to support literacy and an informed community. The mystery box is an example of how we foster curiosity and a love of learning. In addition to the books on our shelves, we have online research tools, library sponsored events, and a variety of displays that change throughout the year.

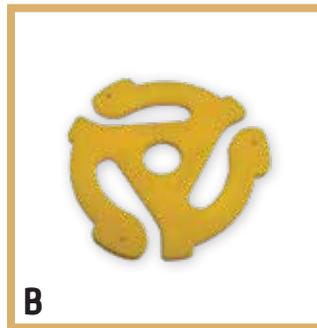
The library is a curiosity-friendly place. We maintain a collection of books about virtually every topic. Our online resources amount to a vast collection of still more information. The library's staff enjoys the opportunity to help customers find answers to questions. We are at your service to help you satisfy your curiosity and maybe find some new things to explore and enjoy.



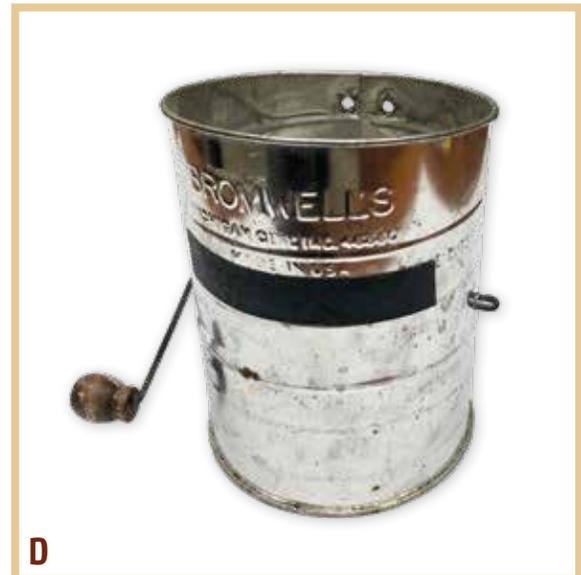
A



C



B



D

- A) US WWI M-1917 Trench Mirror
- B) Spider
- C) Steamer
- D) Flour sifter
- E) Mokugyo dolls
- F) Piano roll
- G) Cherry pitter
- H) Guitar capo

## Winter 2019 Calendar of Events

February 2

**Groundfrog Day**  
snohomishchamber.org

February 8-10

**Citywide Antique Sale**  
historicdowntownsnomish.org

February 21

**Snohomish Business Network:  
SOLOpreneurs**  
snohomishWA.gov

March 2

**Snohomish Wine Festival**  
snohomishchamber.org

March 9

**Snohomish Chocolate Walk**  
historicdowntownsnomish.org

March 28

**Snohomish Business Network:  
PODcasting 101**  
snohomishWA.gov

April 13

**Resident Household Cleanup**  
snohomishWA.gov

April 20

**Snohomish Easter Parade  
and Bonnet Contest**  
snohomishchamber.org

April 27

**Snohomish on the Rocks**  
snohomishontherocks.com

April 27

**Snohomish Garden Club Plant Sale**  
snohomishgardenclub.com

May 4

**Citywide Parks Spring Cleanup**  
snohomishWA.gov

May 5

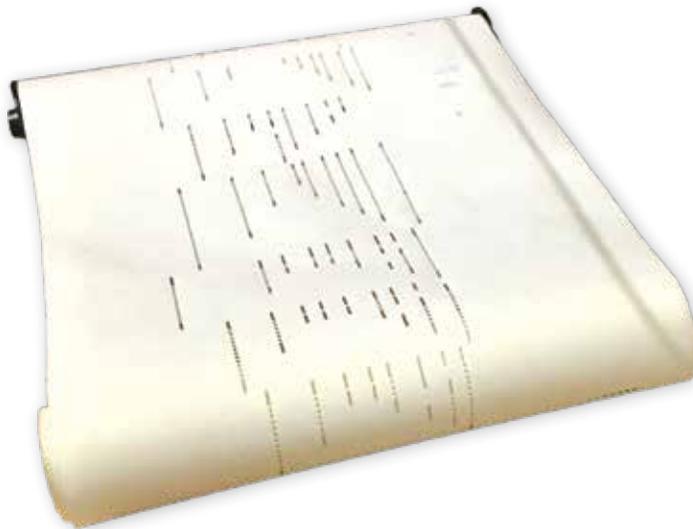
**Snohomish Women's Run**  
snohomishwomensrun.com

May 19

**Sky Valley Motorcycle Show**  
skyvalleyabate.com



E



F



G



H

above & beyond



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*be kind*  
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