LISTEN IN: Music for the masses, P.08
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'19 SUMMER GUIDE

After-work activities + Top 5 things to do this summer + Ice Cream Fun
Pizza Camp + Geology word find + Outdoor cinemas + Grandparents University
Build a wind chime + More
We’ve learned a few things over the years, Cascadians. We know when it comes to your kiddos, you’re beyond passionate. We’re passionate about a number of things too, including keeping you informed about what’s happening, and having fun while we’re doing it.

Our second annual Kids Guide is full of great adventures for the entire summer, so keep it around as a reference guide, or pick up an extra copy for a friend. We’ve also included interactive sections where you and your progeny can create and play together. Keep an eye out for our advertisers and the great opportunities they offer, as well—supporting them supports our community.

Finally, we think the only adventures you need are here in our backyard. After all, we live in the best place in the world.

AFTER WORK FUN
FUN KID ACTIVITIES FOR WORKING PARENTS

You get home from work after a long day at work, and the kids are ready to play. Following are a few after-hours ideas to keep them—and you—entertained:

1. Picnic at the park. Pack up
   a quick dinner and head down
to the nearest park. Bonus: Bike
   there to expend a little more en-
   ergy (and save a parking spot).
2. Settle in at a beer garden.
   Many breweries are kid-friendly
   and offer play areas, live music,
   food and the chance to socialize
   with friends.
3. Get creative. Create and
   paint pottery, pictures and more
   at numerous locations in both
   Whatcom and Skagit counties.
4. Get dirty. Teaching kids how
   to grow their own fruit and veg-
   etables is a great way to spend
   quality time together and create
   a positive learning environment.
5. Work up a sweat. Involv-
   ing kiddos in your own workout
   routine is great for the whole
   family. Jumping jacks and jump
   ropes are a great place to start.
   Got a backyard? Create your own
   obstacle course!

BY THE NUMBERS

300
Estimated number of times a child laughs each day. By comparison, adults manage—at most—about 20 laughs per day.

13,000
Number of words in the vocabulary of an average child by age 6. An average adult has a vocabulary of about 60,000 words.

56.6
Millions of children enrolled in elementary and secondary schools nationally in 2018, including 50.7 million students in public schools and 5.9 million in private schools.

35.6 15.1
Number of children enrolled in kindergarten through grade 8 in 2018, in millions.
Number of students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 in 2018, in millions.

1,000,000
Approximate number of new neural connections that form every second in the first few years of a child’s life.

1,2
Percent of children under the age of 8 who owned or had access to smartphones or tablets in 2017. In 2011, fewer than 1 percent of children under the age of 8 had access to these devices.

42
Rank of restful sleep and active play as the strongest corollaries and indicators of a child’s overall sense of happiness.

Sources: University of Maryland Child Development Institute; U.S. Census Bureau; National Center for Education Statistics (NCES); United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
TOP 5 SUMMER IDEAS

1. Take them out to the movies—and by out, we mean watching films that aren’t screening at the multiplex. The Fairhaven Outdoor Cinema, Mount Vernon’s Starlight Cinema, and the Pickford Film Center’s Rooftop Cinema will all return this year, so grab some blankets and snacks and make movie night a family affair. (PG. 10)

2. Take them to a festival or five. Whether it’s the Subdued Stringband Jamboree, the Skagit Valley Highland Games, Loggerodeo, the first Youth Pride Festival, or Berry Dairy Days, there’s a lot to choose from. But only one—the annual Kids’ Fest put on by the City of Bellingham—is curated especially for the younger set. (PG. 12)

3. Let drama queens—and kings—act out at summer camps merging theater instruction and performance at the Mount Baker Theatre (Missoula Children’s Theatre), the Lincoln Theatre (META Performing Arts), Bellingham Arts Academy for Youth, the Upfront Theatre, the Sylvia Center, and beyond. (PG. 10)

4. Get them on the water. Whether joining Whatcom Museum’s History Sunset Cruises to find out more about Bellingham’s bayside activities both past and present, or signing up for one of the many youth-focused, on-the-water classes at the Community Boating Center, kids are bound to get educated—all while having fun, of course. (www.whatcommuseum.org)

5. Send them to college. Camps and classes on everything from science to filmmaking, art, sailing, photography, world events and more will take place at Western Washington University, Whatcom Community College, and other locales—proving you’re never too young to start undergrad work. (PG. 14)

Skagit Baseball Academy’s “Boys of Summer Camp” is designed to teach basic fundamentals as well as the advanced skills of baseball to various age levels. S.B.A. staff will help each participant better understand the game both mentally and physically. Joining the “Boys of Summer Camp” will allow campers to further develop their individual skills through instruction, individual and multi-player drills, game experience, and interaction with 6-12 year old players in a great camp setting.

PAYMENT UPON REGISTRATION IS ENCOURAGED

Visit skagitbaseballacademy.com to register

2019 “Boys of Summer Camp” Baseball Camp
JULY 22-24, 2019
9am-1pm

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I didn’t realize it at the time, but when my parents used to hound me to help out in our family’s backyard produce garden when I was still in elementary school, they were doing me a big favor.

I’d grumble under my breath about being assigned tasks such as weeding tomato and corn patches, planting new rows of lettuce, or harvesting apples for pies, but I was more than happy to enjoy the tasty fruits of our shared labor when dinnertime rolled around.

While I’m grateful I got an early education on what it takes to grow your own food, I wish when I younger I hadn’t complained so much about the work it took to do it. Maybe if my parents would’ve told me I could make a few bucks on the pathway to growing farm-fresh produce, I would’ve been less surly and much more eager to spend time getting my hands dirty.

Money may indeed be a motivator for the kids who sell their garden and creative goods at the Bellingham Farmers Market on Kids Vending Day—which falls on the last Saturday of every month from April to December—but my guess is the experience provides them with more than spending money. It also teaches them lessons about the financial rewards of hard work, organization and follow-through.

In past years, kids have sold everything from produce to flowers, jewelry, cards, paintings and more, with just a few caveats. They are only allowed to sell items they grow or make, they must bring everything they need to set up a booth (including tables and chairs), and are also responsible for setting up and cleaning their own booth space. They don’t need to register in advance, but should be fully prepared by 10am, when the market opens for the day, and stay until closing time. There’s a $5 charge to take part, but that shouldn’t cut into their net proceeds too much.

At both venues—and at other farmers markets throughout Whatcom and Skagit counties that allow kids to pad their pockets by selling their wares—children are expected to follow the same rules and guidelines as their adult counterparts. They must vend the entire day, be present at their booth, and acquire permits if they want to sell baked goods.

Kids obviously can’t drive themselves to market or plant a garden plot without a little help, but my guess is that most parents will be happy to share the legwork required to assist their offspring. After all, the lessons the kids will be learning may come in handy in the future, when they have to nag their own kids to help in the garden.

For more details about vending opportunities for kids, go to www.bellinghamfarmers.org or www.anacortesfarmersmarket.org
Kids! We want you to be as excited about saving the planet as we are at Ragfinery. Bellingham’s local nonprofit textile reuse center. We are inviting you to join us in imagining a future where textiles don’t end up in landfills! Each person in the U.S. generates an average of **82 pounds of textiles per year**. Of that 82 pounds, **85% goes to our landfills**.

With everyone in the U.S. that adds up to 25 billion pounds of textile waste per year, and this amount is growing!

*EPA 2009 Federal MSW waste study

This is where you come in. We want to see your creative drawing of an imaginary creature who will help stop clothing and other textiles from ending up in the garbage. What will it look like? Will it have big eyes for seeing clothing going into the trash? A big brain for dreaming up new ideas and solutions to the issue of textile waste? An inner sensor to detect where help is needed? Tiny feet to remind people to reduce their carbon footprint? You put it on paper, we’ll help bring it to life!

Want to enter?

All of the details for the contest and prizes are listed at [ragfinery.com](http://ragfinery.com) so head over there to find answers and download an entry form. One winning entry in each of the three age categories will receive a handmade plush version of their artwork, transformed from upcycled materials into a real life, locally handmade stuffie that you can hold and squeeze and love. You’ll also receive a $25 gift certificate to Ragfinery, valid towards Ragfinery merchandise (some restrictions apply) or workshops. This includes our full lineup of kids camps! Camps run all summer long from June 25th through August 16th. Choose from Wonder Wool, Five Days of Flags, Hogwarts Express, Upcycle Fashion Camp, or learn to make your very own stuffie in our Creature Feature camp! Details about all of our kids camps can be found on our website too.

RAGFINERY

* a project of ReUse Works

This ad was funded through a grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology.
Cascadia Kids

Geology Word Search

Volcano: A vent in Earth’s surface through which molten rock and gases escape.

Continent: Large landmasses of the Earth.

Subduction: An oceanic plate is pushed under another oceanic plate, or a continental plate.

Magma: A mixture of molten rock and other materials beneath the Earth’s surface.

Lava: Molten rock expelled by a volcano during an eruption.

Hotspot: Areas of the mantle that are unusually hot and cause volcanic activity on the Earth’s surface.

Weathering: The breaking down of rocks, soils, and minerals through direct contact with the Earth’s atmosphere.

Erosion: The process of the transport of solids from their natural source to a different location, usually through wind, water, and ice.

Igneous: One of the three types of rocks. Igneous rock is formed through the cooling and solidification of lava or magma.

Sedimentary: One of the three types of rocks. Sedimentary rocks are formed from the deposition of mineral or organic sediments.

Metamorphic: One of the three types of rock. Metamorphic rocks are created by the transformation of existing rock through heat and pressure.

Seamount: A mountain rising from the bottom of the ocean, but that does not reach above the surface of the water.

Mountain: A landform that stands higher than the surrounding land, and often has steeper sides than a hill. They are usually formed through volcanism, plate tectonics, or occasionally erosion.

Washington state trivia

1. What is Washington’s state bird? __________
2. What is Washington’s nickname? __________
3. Name the highest mountain in Washington. __________
Be the Hero of a Mythic Quest!
In Adventure Quest, students play as knights, wizards, healers, shapeshifters, or other adventurers, and band together in small teams to overcome dynamic challenges, decipher riddles and maps, negotiate peace treaties, and battle monsters with foam swords to save the kingdom!

Camps in Bellingham
June, July & August

Register Now at QuestNorthwest.com

$50 off your 1st week of camp

“...My son loves your camps!
I asked, “If you could go to all of the Disney parks or to Adventure Quest this summer, which would you choose?” He said, “Adventure Quest!”
— Mr. Alipour-fard, Parent

Contact
360-836-0386
QuestNorthwest.com
info@MajesticAdventures.net

2019
SUMMER READING

PICK UP A BINGO CARD AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY
JUNE 1 THROUGH AUGUST 31
I do not have children, nor do I wish to procreate, but it cannot be denied that I am childlike in many of my interests and pursuits. For instance, watching live music in dark bars will always be near and dear to me, but when the sun comes out and I am reminded that brighter days are ahead, I await the start of outdoor music season with the kind of anticipatory glee most often reserved for folks of a decidedly junior age range.

This is a music-loving region, and the parenting ethos with regard to raising kids to carry on that tradition means taking them to concerts early and often. That is never simpler than during the summer, thanks to the many free, family-friendly outdoor concert series that happen everywhere. Here’s a smattering of what the season has in store.

I am not certain a correlation exists between being a parent and the desire to drink, but I do know that many of my friends with kids love nothing more than a child- and dog-friendly brewery. And nothing says summer in Bellingham quite like the opening of Boundary Bay’s beer garden, which happens on Thurs., May 16 with the return of Robert Sarazin Blake’s weekly happy hour. From there, it’s a whole sunny season’s worth of fish fries, barbecues, concerts and more, all with live music, most of it free and family-friendly. Plus, beer. It’s no wonder the beer garden has been dubbed “Bellingham’s backyard.” Where: 1107 Railroad Ave. Info: www.bbaybrewery.com

Bellingham is a city that uses its parks, and for parents and kids alike, Elizabeth Park is at the top of the list of favorite spots to do a little healthy outdoor carousing. Never is that more true than during the 10 Thursdays of the Elizabeth Park Summer Concert Series. The 2019 run of shows kicks off in the idyllic Columbia neighborhood locale on June 20 with the jazz and swing of Ranger and the Re-Arrangers, before continuing June 27 with the Kaeli Earle Trio, Brian Butler and Bridge on July 4, and so on until Heroes wind things up Aug. 22. The concerts kick off at 6pm, giving parents time to get off work, gather up kids and their various accoutrements and head to the park. Don’t worry about feeding your offspring—the food trucks on hand will take care of that. And by the time you get them home, they’ll be danced out, tired, happy and ready for bed. Perfect. Where: 1000 Walnut St. Info: www.facebook.com/elizabethparksummerconcerts

For five Wednesdays in the heart of summer, no matter where you are in downtown Bellingham, you can watch families stream toward Bay and Prospect streets for the annual tradition known as Downtown Sounds. What started in an alley more than a decade ago has now taken over two full blocks of downtown Bellingham—and a giant portion of it has been devoted to a Family Alley for entertaining kids. While the lineup for the wildly popular weekly concert series was still under wraps at press time, we can say that it will kick off on July 10, and last year’s expanded children’s offerings will be back in full force—as will the beer garden. Fun for kids of all ages. Where: Bay and Prospect streets Info: www.downtownbellingham.com

Both Mount Vernon and Burlington will also take advantage of the finer days ahead to offer music series in their municipalities—and, as with their sister series in other cities, the concerts are free and families are encouraged to attend. Birds-eye Bluegrass will inaugurate this year’s Burlington Summer Nights on Fri., July 12 at the Burlington Visitor Center Amphitheater, which will be followed by File Gumbo (July 19), Stacy Jones Band (July 26), and so on through the Aug. 16 finale with Lazy Acres. Not so far away, Mount Vernon’s Riverwalk Plaza—essentially a giant dance floor—will be the site of the popular Riverwalk Summer Concert Series. Bring your precious progeny, your lawn chairs and your best dance moves to the plaza every Thursday beginning July 11 to hear the likes of Zydeco Explosion (July 11), Cascadia Groove (Aug. 8), Chris Eger Band (Aug. 29), and more. Info: www.burlingtonwa.gov and www.mountvernonchamber.com

Sedro-Woolley might be a small town, but it boasts a concert series as well—and it’s a particularly family-focused affair, with free face painting, Disney princesses, hula hoops and more (and a beer garden for the of-age folks) happening alongside Mama Dirty Skirt (July 21), Miller Campbell (July 28), Scratch Daddy (Aug. 4), and the Troy Fair Band (Aug. 11). It seems that everywhere you turn, the streets, parks and probably even the hills are alive with the sound of music. Where: Riverfront Park, Sedro-Woolley Info: www.facebook.com/SWSummerConcerts

Anacortes is always worth a visit, but it really shows off its sweet spots when the sun shines. Being a town with a rich musical history all its own, it comes as no surprise that its musical offerings are many and robust. It all begins June 1-2 at Cap Sante Marina for the Anacortes Waterfront Festival, which features a whole bunch of activities aimed squarely at kids, such as wooden boat building, giant slides and water balls, games and more. And, of course, live music from the likes of An-O-Chords A-Capella, Mama Dirty Skirt, and more on Saturday, and A-Town Big Band, Tighty Whities, and others on Sunday. Following that, the Port of Anacortes’ Summer Concert Series will fill Wednesday and Friday evenings with joyful noise beginning July 5 at Seafarers Memorial Park. Bring the kids, tuck them out, then tuck them in. Info: www.portofanacortes.com

WHERE THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT

BY CAREY ROSS

MUSIC DOWNTOWN AND ALL AROUND

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BY CAREY ROSS

CINEMA UNDER THE STARS

MOVIES, MOVIES EVERYWHERE

I’ve always been mystified as to why so many blockbuster movies are released during the summer. Sure, a lot of them are aimed at kids, and parents are always on the lookout for activities that will eat up the long months of summer vacation, and I suppose taking kids to movies meets at least part of that need. However, movie tickets are not cheap—even for children. But more to the point, why would anyone want to pay money to spend time indoors when summers in this area are so darn glorious?

Luckily, when the sun comes out, we somehow find a way to do just about everything outside. Not only do we dine al fresco, but we also see our live music that way, eschew the gym in favor of open-air workouts—we even go to the movies in the great outdoors.

As it turns out, outdoor movies are a great activity for folks of all ages. Where it can be difficult to calm kids down in a movie-theater setting, the later starting times and more lax atmosphere of our outdoor movie venues can make movie-going a more pleasurable experience for families.

For the past two decades, folks have been spending their Saturday nights during the summer at the Fairhaven Village Green, watching films carefully selected to entertain audiences of all age ranges and interests. The movies themselves begin shortly after dusk on the sidesy painted screen, but each showing comes complete with preshow entertainment. This year’s Fairhaven Outdoor Cinema kicks off on June 22 with Ferris Bueller’s Day Off, with Strangely and Bellow Wing opening for the eternally charming Matthew Broderick in his career-defining role. After that comes Spider-Man Into the Spider-Verse on June 29, with Wren and Della getting up to some circus antics before the opening credits roll. From there, it’ll be Top Gun with the Sweet Goodbyes (July 6), Bohemian Rhapsody with DJ Clint Westwood (July 13), Mary Poppins Returns with Talia Keys (July 20), 10 Things I Hate About You with Azara Tribal Bellydancer (July 27), Jurassic Park with Aaron J. Shay (Aug. 3), How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World with Havilah (Aug. 10), Grease with Brian Ernst (Aug. 17), before ending with the perennially popular finale film, The Princess Bride and the Psychedelic Cowboys (Aug. 24). Entry to the weekly cinematic soiree will only set you back $5 per person, and if you don’t want to sit directly on the lawn of the Fairhaven Village Green, you’ll want to bring a blanket, but lawn chairs are restricted to the very limited brick area surrounding the grass. Info: www.epiceap.com/fairhaven-outdoor-cinema

Meanwhile, the Pickford Film Center, the originators of outdoor movies in Bellingham, will spend three Fridays during the summer transforming the top floor of the Commercial Street Parking Garage (known to nearly all of us as the Parkade) into an al fresco movie theater with the best view in town. They provide a giant inflatable screen, state-of-the-art sound system and some limited seating (you’re encouraged to bring your own chairs and blankets as well), along with a beer and wine garden, preshow entertainment, photo opportunities and more—oh, and they’ll bring movies with them too. This year’s slate of films is geared more toward kids on the teenager end of the spectrum (as well as adults) rather than the little ones, but if they’ve never watched Selena (July 12) or Spike Lee’s Do the Right Thing (July 26) under the stars while they gaze out over the city, now’s their chance to do so. The final film (Aug. 9) of this year’s run of Rooftop Cinema movies was still being debated by the Pickford at press time, but we’ve pried loose some possibilities and at least two of the options include Keanu Reeves in some capacity. Best of all, the whole thing is free (donations will be accepted, of course)—a gift of love from the Pickford to the city that so loves it. Info: www.pickfordfilmcenter.org/event/rooftop-cinema-at-the-parkade

Mount Vernon has its own outdoor movie series, appropriately named the Starlight Cinema, and it is aimed squarely at the sweet spot of a younger crowd. These movies happen later in the summer, during the time when many activities have wound down and kids are bored, but before the rush to get ready for the school year begins. The two-film free series begins with Incredibles 2 on Fri., Aug. 9 and ends with Ralph Breaks the Internet on Sat., Aug. 23. The Starlight Cinema is a decidedly low-key affair; all you need to do is round up the offspring and whatever seating you require and make your way to Hillcrest Park at dusk. Stake a spot on the grass, lay back and wait for the movie to start. Entertaining your kids has never been easier. Info: (360) 336-6215
Full-service nanny agency specializing in temporary, on-call and permanent placement services. www.bellinghmannannyconnection.com

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Spaces fill - call the Club at (360) 733-5050 to reserve yours now!

Summer Tennis Camps

Four Day Junior's Tennis Camps!

Li'l Slammers (Ages 5-8)
10am-noon, $99
June 24-27 or Aug 5-8

Junior Slammers (Ages 8-12)
July 15-18, 9am-noon, $179

Grand Slammers (Middle School)
9am-noon, $179
July 22-25 or Aug. 12-15

High School Slammers (Novice)
July 29-Aug 1, 9 am - noon, $179

Competitive Juniors (MS & HS)
July 8-11, 9am-3pm, $359

JV & Varsity Boys Pre-Season
Aug 19-22, $179
JV: 8:30 - 11:30 am
Varsity: 12 - 3 pm

Summer Tennis Clinics

Nine-week Summer Session
June 24- Aug 22 (No clinics on 7/4)

Aces 1 (Ages 5-8 Red Ball) Mon or Wed
Aces 2 (Ages 8-11 Orange Ball) Mon or Wed
Aces 2 (Ages 8-11 Green Ball) Tue or Thur

Aces 3 (Middle Sch. - Beg) Mon or Wed
Aces 4 (Middle Sch. - Int) Tue or Thurs
Aces 5 (JV High Sch.) Mon or Wed
Aces 6 (Varsity High Sch.) Tue or Thurs

Adult 1 (Beginner) Mon or Wed
Adult 2 (Beg/Int) Mon or Wed
Adult 3 (Int/Adv) Tue or Thurs

Outdoor Adult Tennis Leagues

Open to all! $99 for 8 Weeks (Led by a Tennis Pro: price includes tennis balls!)
Intermediate (NTRP 3.0-3.5) Thursdays,
July 11 to August 29 6-8pm
Advanced (NTRP 4.0+) - Wednesdays,
July 10 to August 28 6-8pm

Fun, free, family-friendly events!

Nooksack River Walk at Horseshoe Bend Trailhead, HWY 542, Glacier, WA
3 pm - 4 pm every Saturday from June 22 - September 21
11 am - 12 pm on June 30, July 7, August 4, September 1
Join NSEA naturalists during a 60-minute guided trail walk along the Nooksack River to learn about local salmon species and their habitat!

Salmon Campfire Stories at Chair 9, HWY 542, Glacier, WA
6 pm - 8 pm on June 29 & August 10 (National S'mores Day!)
Join us for a night of salmon stories and s'mores around the campfire.

Nooksack History & S'more at Chair 9, HWY 542, Glacier, WA
7 pm - 8 pm on July 27
Learn the history of the Nooksack River while enjoying a s'more around the campfire.

Fishival at Nugents Corner, HWY 542, Deming, WA
10 am - 2 pm on August 24
Come celebrate the wonderful world of fish and Nooksack River recreation. Whether you're a seasoned water recreator, or just starting out, there is something for everyone! Cast a fly rod, learn about boating opportunities, tie a fly, or take a guided river walk.

Salmon Sighting at Thompson Creek Bridge, Glacier, WA
10 am - 12 pm on August 31 & September 7, 14 & 21
Celebrate the biennial return of Pacific pink salmon by joining NSEA naturalists along Thompson Creek. Light refreshments, activities and prizes provided. Please leave dogs at home.

Celebrating 13 years of serving Whatcom County! THANK YOU!

Have fun
Make memories
Learn tennis!

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association
2019 Community Events

For more information, visit the Nooksack River Stewards Information Booth every weekend July - September located at the Glacier Public Service Center in Glacier, WA, visit www.nssea.org, or call (360) 715-0283.

Program supported thanks to:

Fun, free, family-friendly events!

Nooksack River Stewards

THANK YOU!

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Program supported thanks to:
SUMMER OF FUN
TO FERNDALE AND BEYOND

By Carey Ross

By the time you read this, Ferndale’s Summer of Fun will be in full swing. The city’s Griffintown Park has been the site of a May 10 game of glow-in-the-dark croquet.

If you missed it, do not fret. The entire summer is chock-full of free activities geared toward getting families out of their houses and into the city’s various parks and public spaces. And while the whole schedule was planned and implemented by adults, judging by what’s in store, they are obviously very much in touch with their inner children.

And when organizers say they want people to visit all of Ferndale’s parks, they aren’t kidding. Vandyeryacht Park will be home to a Wee One Nature Hunt (June 1) and Field Games (July 13). Star Park will host Food Truck Fridays throughout the Summer of Fun, as well as a workshop where attendees can learn to tie-dye shirts (Aug. 10—BYOS: Bring Your Own Shirt) and Operation Splashmob, which is a giant water fight and water slide (Aug. 17—BYOT: Bring Your Own Towel). Given the importance of Pioneer Park to Ferndale’s history (and how cool it is), it’s the site of a fair number of Summer of Fun activities, including Music in the Park (June 15 and July 6), Morning Yoga (June 22), Science Adventure Day (June 29), and Flicks in the Park (July 12). Even the Centennial Riverwalk gets in on the action during Smoke on the Water (Aug. 3), a foodtruck barbecue competition for prizes up to and including bragging rights. The whole city gets in on the Summer of Fun action during the citywide scavenger hunt called the Great Ferndale Alien Abduction (July 1-23).

You need not be a Ferndalian to participate in any of the above activities. All of them are free, open to the public and you can participate as much as or as little as you’d like. But it stands to reason that the more you do, the more fun you’ll have. After all, those T-shirts aren’t going to tie-dye themselves and should extraterrestrial creatures be drawn to the Great Ferndale Alien Abduction, you’re not going to want to miss it.

BIRCH BAY KITE FESTIVAL: The annual Birch Bay Kite Festival takes place May 25-26 at Birch Bay Beach Park, 7930 Birch Bay Dr. Kids and adults can learn to make and fly a kite, take part in a kite contest and visit craft and food vendors. www.birchbaywa.org

SCOTTISH GATHERING: The Bellingham Scottish Gathering returns to Ferndale from 9am-7pm Sat., June 1 at Hovander Homestead Park, 5299 Nielsen Ave. Entry is $12-$15 (free for kids under 5). www.scottishdance.org

BLAST FROM THE PAST: Craft and food vendors, live music, a youth-focused color run, art shows, a children’s parade, a Saturday-night street dance and much more will be part of the annual “Blast From the Past” happening June 7-9 throughout Sedro-Woolley. Entry is free. www.sedro-woolley.com

YOUTH PRIDE: At 10:30am Sun., June 9, the inaugural Whatcom Youth Pride Parade begins at Bellingham High School, 2020 Cornwall Ave. From 11am-2pm, attend a Pride Festival at the Depot Market Square, 1000 Railroad Ave. www.whatcomyouthpride.com

BERRY DAIRY DAYS: Activities for kids, strawberry shortcake booths, salmon barbecue, live music, a fire-works show, an outdoor movie, a grand parade, a “Berry Cool” car show and more will be part of “Berry Dairy Days” June 14-16 in Burlington. www.berrydairydays.com

LOGGERODEO: A kiddie parade and all-ages carnival will be part of “Loggerode,” happening June 28 to July 4 throughout Sedro-Woolley. www.sedro-woolley.com

HAGGEN FAMILY FOURTH: The Haggen Family 4th of July Celebration takes place Thurs., July 4 at Zuanich Point Park, 2600 Harbor Loop. Before fireworks begin, enjoy a family-festival with parades, music, vendors and more. Entry is free. www.haggen.com

PAWS AND CLAWS: Games, demos, vendors, raffles and adoptable dogs and cats will be part of the Alternativ Humane Society’s “Paws and Claws” event from 10am-3pm Sun., July 28 at Squalicum Creek Park, 1001 Squalicum Way. www.alternativehumane-society.com

OLD SETTLERS PICNIC: The 123rd annual “Whatcom Old Settlers Picnic” takes place July 23-26 at Ferndale’s Pioneer Park. Happenings include parades, kid’s activities, live music, a barn dance, tours and more. Entry is free. www.whatcomoldsetlerssettlers.com

KIDS FEST: While their parental units check out services and opportunities for families during Bellingham Parks and Rec’s annual “Bellingham Kids Fest”—which happens from 11am-1pm Sat., Aug. 3 at Civic Stadium—kids can keep themselves occupied with wood turning, mini golf, obstacle and bike courses, bubble-blowing and more. Entry is free. www.cob.org/service

DRAYTON HARBOR DAYS: Kids’ games, a scavenger hunt, tall ship tours, a pancake breakfast, Pirate Daze, a pirate costume contest, Plover ferry rides and more will be part of the annual “Drayton Harbor Days” Aug. 3-4 at the Blaine Marina. www.blainechamber.com

STRINGBAND JAMBOREE: Activities for kids, family-friendly camping, and local and regional bands will be part of the Subdued Stringband Jamboree happening Aug. 8-10 at the Deming Log Show Grounds. Entry fees vary. www.stringbandjamboree.com

HUMANE SOCIETY: They do what they do. Thursday, Aug. 4 from 5-10pm at the Deming Log Show grounds. Entry is free. www.humane-society.com
City of Bellingham Public Works Department

**MEET-A-TRUCK**
Thursday, May 23 • 1 pm to 3 pm
210 Lottie St. in front of City Hall

Come check out the big trucks and equipment that keep your storm drains, sewer and water lines running smoothly!

Bring the kids for activities, crafts and a scavenger hunt

Event is free

No RSVP necessary, all are welcome.

Questions? Call (360)778-7900 or email AskPW.org

City of Bellingham Public Works Department

**Plant-A-Poppy**
Free Memorial Day Kids Event
Saturday, May 25 • 1–4pm
Plant and take home a 4” terracotta pot filled with poppy seeds!

Haggen Food & Pharmacy • See website for store hours • www.haggen.com
Barkley Village • Sehome Village • Meridian & Illinois • Fairhaven • Ferndale

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Once again, the Bellingham Public Library and Whatcom County Library System (WCLS) are partnering to bring you a summer full of good stories and good fun. Our 2019 Summer Reading Program, which runs from June 1 to August 31, celebrates the joys of reading for everyone in your family.

Our Summer Reading Program is designed to be both fun and easy, with three simple steps for young people of all ages to make reading a centerpiece of the summer months.

First, set a goal. We encourage young people to set their own goal for the summer. Everyone reads differently, and we want kids to know, from the very beginning, that their library use belongs to them. No arbitrary number of books or minutes to complete. Kids decide how much reading is the right amount of reading.

Second, read. We have bingo-style cards for preschool-aged children; kids in elementary school; and teens in middle, junior and senior high schools, with squares full of suggestions for things to read and things to do. But just like the goal, we hope people will use their cards in a way that best suits them. If you don’t like what’s in a particular square, cross it out and substitute your own idea. Complete three squares. Divide the squares in half and do 50. It’s all good.

Third, collect a book. The best reward for reading is more reading, and so the singular prize for your summer reading success is a book of your choice. Thanks to the Friends groups of the Bellingham and Whatcom County libraries, and the Whatcom County Library Foundation, we have an extraordinary selection of books for young people to choose and keep. Bring your bingo card to your local library and pick out your book.

Adults often ask what they can do to encourage the kids and teens in their lives to read during the summer. How do we compete with the ample sunshine and glorious out-of-doors? So we’ll offer you three steps of your own.

Read yourselves. Kids are smart and they’re paying attention. They value what you value and if you want them to see reading as a worthwhile endeavor, show them by taking some time to do it yourself. We have bingo cards for adults, too, to make it even easier to make summer reading a whole-family activity.

We also suggest you talk about what they’re reading. We have designed the program to be kid-driven and you can reinforce that in the way you talk to them about their experience. Ask them how they feel about the books they’re reading and validate their impressions. Give them permission to select books, reject books, abandon books, adore books. Make it theirs.

Finally, visit the library. We have special events happening across the county throughout the summer. Take advantage of those opportunities. Enjoy a program and when it’s done, peruse the shelves together, choose books together, and read together.

Of course we’re here to help with anything you need. All we want is to help you find the next book in your favorite series or the book you never knew you wanted. And we want you to share your favorites with us. We are your library, and we hope this summer is the best reading summer yet.

Thom Barthelmess is the Youth Services Manager at Whatcom County Library System. For more details about these programs, go to www.wcls.org or www.bellinghampubliclibrary.org
Cascadia Kids

15

**TEEN & YOUTH IMPROV CAMPS**

Monday - Friday | Noon - 3pm

Youth Camp: **July 8th - 12th** (ages 9 - 12)

Teen Camp: **July 22nd - 26th** (ages 13 - 17)

INFO + REGISTRATION: theupfront.com

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**Summer 2019**

**KIDS’ COLLEGE**

NOW OPEN!

whatcom.edu/kidscollege

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**Immerse Your Kids in Live Theatre Education!**

Choose from three, week-long camp options!

- **July 8 - 12**
- **July 22 - 26**
- **July 29 - Aug 2**

Enjoy world-class theater education on a world-class stage when Missoula Children’s Theatre brings their internationally known camps to Mount Baker Theatre this summer.

- From practice to performance in one week!
- Monday - Friday: 10:00am - 2:30pm
- Main Stage Performances Friday 3:00pm & 7:00pm
- T-shirt and pizza on performance day
- Additional games, workshops, and fun!

$190 per week-long camp. $175 if you choose multiple camps or enroll multiple campers (please call for discounts)

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

To apply for an MBT camp scholarship please contact Alyssa Dayley at Blue Skies for Children
alyssa@blueskiesforchildren.org

Mount Baker Theatre is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the performing arts.

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**PROMOTING TEAMWORK • FAIR PLAY • FITNESS • FUN**

**Be A Sport, Play Ultimate!**

Register for events at: 6crickets.com | Scholarships Available!

**Summer Camp**

**June 24-27**

Half day: 9am-noon or Full day: 9am-3pm

Questions?
info@bellinghamyouthultimate.org
Follow Us on Facebook!  Bellingham Youth Ultimate
BY TIM JOHNSON

FINDING SUPPORT

WHATCOM TAKING ACTION CONNECTS PARENTS TO SPECIAL NEEDS SERVICES

Learning your child has a special health care need or learning disability is not an easy thing for any parent to face. For many, the period immediately following this discovery is filled with uncertainty and doubt, even grief. You might also worry about how the condition will impact your child’s life and whether you’re equipped to handle all the additional responsibilities of raising a child with a disability.

Whatever you may be feeling is normal, but know that you are not alone. Many sources of support are available.

Whatcom Taking Action brings children with special health care needs and their families together with a community partnership of other parents, educators and health care providers. Together, the program builds an integrated system of care and support local families can access—easily and efficiently. The Arc of Whatcom County—the local chapter of the national advocates for the rights and full participation of all people with developmental disabilities—is the lead agency for Whatcom Taking Action for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs.

“It can be a very complex situation when you have a child with extra needs, trying to figure out where to go and how to access services for families so that they can get the right care at the right time,” explains Monica Burke, Ph.D., program director for the Parent Coalition and Taking Action, a community collaborative that engages many providers across multiple areas of organization and domains. “The goal of our program is to improve the system of services for children with special health care needs,” Burke says.

The core of this collaboration connects families with the services they need. The program is called SEAS, with the ambitious goal of Single Entry Access to Services.

“SEAS is a navigation system that creates one place to call—a place where families can call, or doctors can refer families for a variety of different services in the community,” Burke explains.

She estimates that about a third of the call load to SEAS are families initially seeking to be connected to services, but more frequently providers can refer those families to other service providers—doctors, child care providers, or other social services.

“If a child is in a doctor’s office and the mom has concerns about the child’s development, the office can send all that information to SEAS as a referral and SEAS will follow up with the family and help connect them to services,” Burke explains. “SEAS is also the entry point for early intervention services, so if a child is under the age of 3 and has some developmental delays, SEAS is the place to call.”

The program was developed with assistance from a second domain of activity, “what we call our Family Tools Team—a group of parents with special health care needs, and community providers that work together to develop helpful handouts for families, to walk them step-by-step through how to access various services in the community,” Burke explains.

A third domain of activity is called GIDES—the general interdisciplinary developmental evaluation system—and brings parents and professionals from health care, social service and education sectors to continuously improve this collaborative system to assist young children.

“One of the gaps we found as we developed SEAS and the Family Tools was a need for families to get their children over the age of three evaluated for their special needs,” Burke says. GIDES has provided opportunities for evaluations of learning difficulty not only in the local community, but also provides care coordination to more distant providers.

“A parent who can know what her child needs and be able to act on that can be a better advocate for her child, and perhaps even assist other parents in finding the support services they need,” Burke says.

Top 10 Tips for Parents of Special Needs Kids

1. Take one day at a time, and take that day positively. You don’t have control over the future, but you do have some control over today.
2. Never underestimate your child’s potential. Allow them, encourage them, expect them to develop to the best of their abilities.
3. Find and allow positive mentors: parents and professionals who can share with you their experience, advice and support.
4. Provide and be involved with the most appropriate educational and learning environments for your child from infancy on.
5. Keep in mind the feelings and needs of your spouse and your other children. Remind them that this child does not get more of your love just because they get more of your time.
6. Answer only to your conscience, then you’ll be able to answer to your child. You need not justify your actions to your friends or the public.
7. Be honest with your feelings. You can’t be a super-parent 24 hours a day. Allow yourself jealousy, anger, pity, frustration and depression in small amounts whenever necessary.
8. Be kind to yourself. Don’t focus continually on what needs to be done. Remember to look at what you have accomplished.
9. Stop and smell the roses. Take advantage of the fact that you have gained a special appreciation for the little miracles in life others take for granted.
10. Keep and use a sense of humor. Cracking up with laughter can keep you from cracking up from stress.

Excerpt from the February 2019 newsletter of the ARC of Whatcom County

Info: www.whatcomtakingaction.org
The Marine Life Center offers visitors a chance to see what lurks beneath the bay. The center showcases marine life and habitat in Bellingham Bay, Puget Sound and on the Washington Coast. A touch pool offers an up close and more personal experience, and a Giant Pacific octopus is often the star of the show.

1801 Roeder Ave
Suite 100
Bellingham, WA
(360) 671-2431
www.marinelifecenter.org

**Pre-registration is required for all classes and camps**

**See our website for more details on each event**

www.launchingsuccess.com
360-527-2641 • 133 Prince Ave, Bellingham

### Upcoming Summer Camps at Bellingham Arts Academy for Youth

**AGES**

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**Dinner Theatre: Pippin**

**Registration open now at**

[baay.org](http://baay.org)

### SUMMER CAMPS & CLASSES

**Camps!**
- Science Camp 8+ (July 9-11)
- Kindergarten Readiness (July 30, 31 & Aug 1)
  All Camps are from 1-3pm, $75 per child

**Classes!**
- Create Your Own Memory Stones (June 24-29)
- Shrinkable Creatures (July 9, 11)
- Tooling Around (July 16, 18)
- One Shape-Endless Building (July 23, 25)
- Thinking Putty Workshop (July 30, Aug 1)
- Micro-Mini Clay Sculptures (Aug 6, 8)
- Make Your Own Trading Cards (Aug 13, 15)
- Dig it Up Dinos (Aug 20, 22)
  All Classes are at 11am, $5 per child

**Summer Reading Program!**
Get a free book when finishing 12 books (June 1 - Aug 31) FREE!

### Adventure Day Camp

**Adventure Day Camp**

Summer camp with Bellingham Parks & Rec

- DIY Adventure: July 1-3 & 5
- Art Adventure: July 8-12

**Ages 8-13**

**Registration is open!**

[www.cob.org/ezreg](http://www.cob.org/ezreg)
360-778-7000

### Does your child or teen love art, nature, or history?

Sign them up for one of our summer camp sessions!

- July 8-12, STEAM Camp, Ages 4-6
- July 15-19, Exploring Local Cultural Sites, Ages 12-15
- July 22-26, Nature Art Camp, Ages 4-6
- July 29-Aug. 2, Nature Art Camp, Ages 7-12
- July 29-Aug. 2, Photography Camp, Ages 12-15
- Aug. 5-9, Reduce, Reuse, REcraft, Ages 4-6
- Aug. 12-16, The Amazing Art of Stories, Ages 7-12

For more info and to register visit:
[www.whatcommuseum.org/learn/camps](http://www.whatcommuseum.org/learn/camps)
With summer around the corner, it’s time for projects that keep the minds and hands of your kiddos busy. Bonus points if the projects keeps them outside! One of the best ways to keep little ones engaged this summer is with a hands-on DIY project. Building a wind chime is a fun way to pass the afternoon and will provide hours of soothing entertainment.

Set your children to scouring the basement, backyard and garage for this fun DIY project. Building a wind chime is a fun way to pass the afternoon and will provide hours of soothing entertainment.

**MATERIALS:**
- **Chimes:** Dried sticks, bits of hardwood scraps, old chair legs of railing balusters. The drier and more solid the better.
- **Sandpaper or sanding block**
- **String:** Acrylic, jute, or fishing line
- **Craft paint brush**
- **Different-colored paint:** old paint samples work great
- **Varnish**
- **Eye screws**

**STEPS:**
1. Go hunting for chimes. Different sizes and shapes work best. Dried pieces that are free from mold, rot or bug damage work best. To test your chimes, tap them together, whichever sticks make the most noise will work best. We used stair balusters as they are the perfect size and make great sounds.
2. Gather your materials and trim them to 8-10 inches.
3. Sand the chimes to prepare them for a fresh coat of paint. You’ll want to remove any dirt, bark or other debris in this process.
4. Give each stick 1-2 coats of paint. Then coat them with one coat of varnish to protect them against the weather.
5. When the chimes are dry, screw in the tiny screw eyes into one end. It helps if an adult starts the screw, and kids finish twisting it in. It might be necessary to drill a pilot hole to get the screw started.
6. Tie a length of string to each stick. Be sure to test the lengths of string to make sure the chimes will knock into each other.
7. Tie the chimes to a low-hanging branch in the yard, or attach to a base and hang near a window.
This summer’s Skagit Theatre Camp returns for a TWO WEEK PROGRAM and is a rare and fun opportunity to affirm your child’s imagination while also boosting their self-confidence and communication skills via theater arts. Through collaboration and performance, STC’s theater instructors will inspire students to discover their creative potential. This year’s production of School House Rock LIVE Jr features a 2 week long curriculum culminating in two performances live on stage at the Historic Lincoln Theatre.
Dream big. Plan ahead.

Washington College Savings Plans can help you start saving towards a brighter future.

Learn more at wastate529.wa.gov

GET and DreamAhead are qualified tuition programs sponsored and distributed by the State of Washington. The Committee on Advanced Tuition Payment and College Savings administers and the Washington Student Achievement Council supports the plans. DreamAhead investment returns are not guaranteed and you could lose money by investing in the plan. If in-state tuition decreases in the future, GET tuition units may lose value.