



Sound Neighbors NEWSLETTER

— South Bay / Johnson Point Edition

A Paper for the Community, by the Community

SAMPLE ISSUE · VOL. 1, NO. 0 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026 OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON PUBLISHED TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS

INSIDE: Burglary arrests near Johnson Point · Ballots are out, fire bond on ballot · Hudson Cove protected · Timberline sweeps rivalry week ·
New: arts & music calendar · I-5 night closures

★ TOP STORIES

What neighbors are talking about

Deputies recover about \$33K in stolen goods after Johnson Point burglaries

Home cameras helped crack the case; two men arrested



Stolen property recovered by deputies, including jewelry and designer bags.
Photo: Thurston County Sheriff Derek Sanders, via KOMO News

The Thurston County Sheriff's Office says two men were arrested after deputies investigated two burglaries at a residence near Johnson Point. Cash, jewelry and designer bags were taken in an Aug. 15 burglary.

The same victim reported a second burglary on Sept. 9, after installing cameras. The footage showed a black Mitsubishi, a gold Subaru and a suspect deputies identified through prior contacts. One man was arrested on suspicion of DUI, and deputies seized a firearm because he is a convicted felon. The second man was arrested on burglary, trafficking-stolen-property and narcotics allegations.

Warrants served on an Olympia residence the sheriff's office describes as a Department of Corrections group home, along with vehicles and a storage unit, led to the recovery of about \$33,000 in stolen property.

Source: KOMO News, Oct. 7

Ballots are out for the Nov. 3 election



A Thurston County ballot drop box at the Black Lake fire station.
Photo: Joe Mabel / Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0

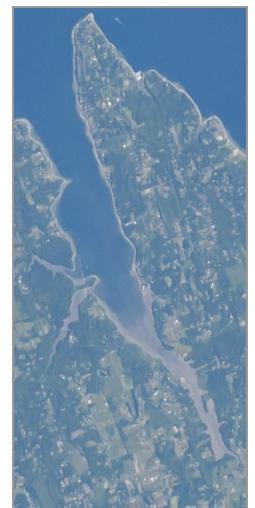
The County Auditor mailed more than 205,000 ballots, and 31 drop boxes are open. No ballot by **Thursday, Oct. 15?** Call Elections at 360-786-5408. Ballots must be postmarked by Nov. 3, and no stamp is needed. In the final two weeks, use a drop box instead of the mail. The Auditor's Voting Center (2915 29th Ave SW, Tumwater) opens Oct. 14. Drop boxes

close at 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Source: Thurston County, Oct. 8

Land trust that began on Johnson Point protects 218 acres at Hudson Cove

Capitol Land Trust announced a conservation easement over 218 mostly undeveloped acres, including the Hudson Cove pocket estuary, at the end of 69th Ave NW on Steamboat Peninsula. The land is owned by the Taylor family of Taylor Shellfish. Five grants totaling \$5 million paid for the easement. The land stays private and isn't open to the public.



Henderson Inlet, on Johnson Point's western shore, seen from the International Space Station, June 20, 2024.
Photo: NASA, ISS Expedition 71 (public domain)

The trust turns 40 next year. It started as a grassroots effort to save a parcel on Johnson Point that was being looked at for development.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

County · Lacey · Olympia · Port

Lacey Fire District 3's \$98.3M bond is on your ballot

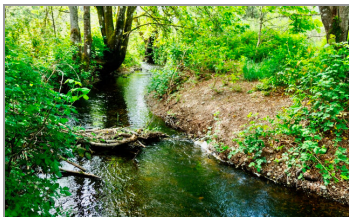
If voters approve Proposition 1, the district can issue up to \$98.3 million in general obligation bonds. The money would pay for a relocated Station 32, a new Station 36 in Hawks Prairie north of I-5, a regional live-fire training facility and a logistics warehouse. District materials estimate the cost at **22–25 cents per \$1,000** of assessed value, or about \$8–\$11 a month on a \$500,000 home. The Lacey City Council was scheduled to consider Resolution 1187 supporting the measure on Oct. 6.

Source: JOLT, Oct. 5 · JOLT, Aug. 5



Lacey Fire District 3 Headquarters Station 31, 1231 Franz St. SE, Lacey.
Photo: courtesy of Lacey Fire District 3, via JOLT

Lacey hires state crews to restore Woodland Creek



Woodland Creek at Woodland Creek Community Park, Lacey.
Photo: courtesy of City of Lacey, via JOLT

The council voted unanimously Oct. 6 to bring in Washington Conservation Corps crews to clear Himalayan blackberry, yellow flag iris and Scotch broom from Lacey's main salmon-bearing stream. The deal costs up to \$33,285 for 21 crew days. Work starts Nov. 9,

with native planting later in November.

Source: JOLT, Oct. 8

County warns of fake permit invoices

⚠ The county does **not** demand wire transfers for permits.

Scammers posing as a county director are emailing permit customers fake invoices. If someone calls asking for payment, hang up. Check any emailed invoice with the building and development permit office, and report suspicious contacts to the Sheriff's non-emergency line.

Source: Thurston County, Oct. 5

Olympia proposes 2027 utility rate hikes

Staff propose increases of 4.5% for water, 6.5% for waste, 8.7% for stormwater and 9.5% for wastewater. That adds about \$19.51 to the average bi-monthly bill. A public hearing is set for Oct. 27. This applies to City of Olympia utility customers only.

Utility	2024 Rate	2025 Rate	2026 Rate	2027 % Rate	2027 Rate
Water	\$58.18	\$62.60	\$65.10	6.5%	\$68.34
Wastewater	\$68.96	\$68.58	\$71.68	4.5%	\$74.90
Stormwater	\$53.82	\$58.46	\$58.16	9.5%	\$63.69
LOFT	\$92.28	\$95.54	\$97.90	3%	\$100.84
Storm & Surface Water	\$36.46	\$38.36	\$41.34	8.7%	\$44.82
TOTAL	\$307.50	\$322.06	\$334.08		\$353.59
Total % Increase	3.45%	4.73%	3.74%		5.52%
Total \$ Increase	\$10.22	\$14.54	\$12.04		\$19.51

The City of Olympia's 2027 utility rate proposal summary.

Image: courtesy of City of Olympia, via JOLT

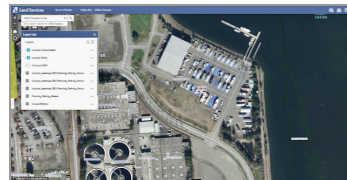
Source: JOLT, Oct. 7

Commissioners: hearings Oct. 20

On Oct. 6 the board heard comment on the 2027–2032 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. On **Oct. 20 at 3:30 p.m.** at the Atrium (3000 Pacific Ave SE), it takes comment on a proposed Thurston Conservation District rates and charges system for 2027–2036 and on transferring 1.6 miles of the Yelm-Rainier-Tenino Trail to Yelm.

Source: TIP notice · Conservation District notice

Port eyes Swantown Boatworks expansion



Site plan presented Sept. 30 for the proposed 32,500-sq-ft Swantown Boatworks yard expansion.

Image: courtesy of Port of Olympia, via JOLT

The Port wants to turn a grassy area south of the yard into vessel storage and staging space. The Port Commission meets next on Oct. 13 at 4 p.m.

Source: JOLT, Oct. 1



SPORTS

Thurston County first

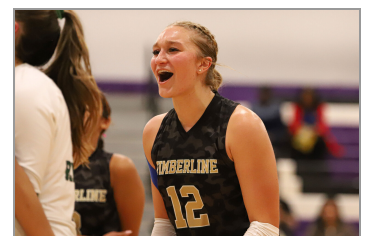
Timberline volleyball ends 16-match skid vs. North Thurston

Kinley Smith's 39 kills power the Blazers' first win over the Rams since 2017

Timberline won 3–1 (25–17, 19–25, 25–23, 25–18) at North Thurston on Tuesday. Smith, a Western Washington commit, had 39 kills and 16 digs, Leia Dela Cruz had 53 assists and libero Jovie Lind had 25 digs. Abby Losey led the Rams with 22

kills, and Kaelani Adams added 15. Timberline (9–0, 6–0 PSL) visits Peninsula on Oct. 13.

North Thurston bounced back Thursday by sweeping River Ridge 25–13, 25–9, 25–14 to reach 8–2. MaxPreps' automated recap says the



Timberline's Kinley Smith celebrates against North Thurston, Oct. 6.

Photo: Dylan Reubenking / Thurston Chronicle

Rams have won 36 of their last 39 matches.

Source: [Thurston Chronicle](#) · [MaxPreps](#)

PREP FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

Last week

Timberline 47, North Thurston 6	Oct. 2
Graham-Kapowsin 37, Olympia 19	Oct. 2
Peninsula 40, Capital 28	Oct. 2
Tumwater 55, Mark Morris 14	Oct. 2
Black Hills 39, Hockinson 23	Oct. 2
Olympia 59, Spanaway Lake 0	Thu.

Tonight, Fri. Oct. 9

River Ridge (0-5) vs. Timberline (4-1)	7:00
Lakes (4-1) at Capital (2-3)	Ingersoll
North Thurston (1-4) at Peninsula (3-2)	
Ridgefield at Tumwater (5-0)	7:30
Black Hills at Mark Morris	7:00

Records are as reported before kickoff. Tonight's scores weren't available at press time (10 a.m. Friday).

Football: Blazers roll past Rams, 47-6

Timberline broke the Oct. 2 rivalry game open with a 20-0 third quarter at South Sound Stadium. The Blazers rushed for 296 yards, and star back Cooper Jones scored in his second game back from injury. North Thurston's Mateo Henry opened the scoring with a 48-yard run. Timberline has won nine of the last 10 meetings.

Source: [Thurston Chronicle](#)

Athletes to watch



Olympia's Ibrahima Diallo (5) breaks away against Yelm, Sept. 26.

Photo: [John Holman Photography](#) / [Thurston Chronicle](#)

Ibrahima Diallo, Olympia:

The senior set Olympia's single-game rushing record on Sept. 26 with 355 yards and six TDs on just eight carries against Yelm. The Bears (5-1) are back on track after Thursday's 59-0 win.

Nolan Potts, Capital: The senior quarterback piled up 352 total yards and three TDs in a 40-28 loss at Peninsula.

Tumwater: Unbeaten and ranked No. 6 in the state by MaxPreps, the T-Birds have outscored opponents 253-43.

Saint Martin's (Lacey): Saints volleyball swept No. 25 Alaska Fairbanks 3-0 on Thursday, and the school reports Garten set the program's career points record. The Saints host Alaska Anchorage Saturday at 1 p.m.

Source: [Nisqually Valley News](#) · [MaxPreps](#) · [Thurston Chronicle](#) · [Capitol Record](#) · [Spot On Washington](#)



Capital QB Nolan Potts throws under pressure against River Ridge, Sept. 26. Photo: [Dylan Reubenking](#) / [Thurston Chronicle](#)

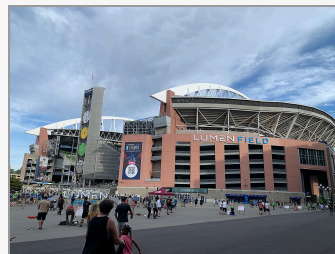
Boys tennis: River Ridge 3, North Thurston 2

The Hawks evened the season series Oct. 1. Nicholas Dumitrescu won at first singles, and both of River Ridge's top doubles teams won.

Source: [Thurston Chronicle](#)

Around Washington's pros

Seahawks (3-1) host the unbeaten 49ers Sunday at Lumen Field after a players-only meeting about penalties (14 for a franchise-record 150 yards vs. the Chargers). DT Leonard Williams (ankle) sat out Thursday's practice. **Kraken (2-2-0)** lost D Ryan Lindgren to IR for 4-6 weeks and play at Detroit Friday. **Sounders** are unbeaten in eight and visit New England Saturday. **Mariners:** The season ended Sept. 27, and Dan Wilson is out as manager. **Storm:** Coach Sonia Raman returns after an 8-36 season.



Lumen Field, home of the Seahawks and Sounders. Photo: [PCN02WPS](#) / [Wikimedia Commons](#), CC BY-SA 4.0

Source: [Seahawks.com](#) · [Seattle Sports \(Seahawks\)](#) · [Seattle Sports \(Kraken\)](#) · [Sounders FC](#) · [Seattle Times \(M's\)](#) · [Seattle Times \(Storm\)](#)

SCHOOLS

North Thurston Public Schools

Dates to know



North Thurston High School, Lacey. Photo: [Bahn_Mi](#) / [Wikimedia Commons](#), CC BY-SA 2.0

Source: [NTPS calendar](#) · [NTPS News](#)

Tue., Oct. 13, 6 p.m.: School Board meeting at Evergreen Forest Elementary, 3025 Marvin Rd SE. Public comment is open.

Tue., Oct. 20, 5:30 p.m.: Military Family Game Night & Crafts in the Timberline High School Commons.

Thu., Oct. 22, 7 p.m.: Chinook Middle School band fall concert.

Oct. 29-30: No school for conferences. Book your conference in Skyward.

Indigenous Peoples Day at Squaxin Park, Monday

The City of Olympia and the Squaxin Island Tribe host a free celebration **Oct. 12, 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.**, at Squaxin Park (2600 East Bay Dr NE). Parking is limited. A free shuttle runs every 30 minutes from 11 a.m. out of the Olympia Farmers Market lot.

Source: JOLT, Oct. 8



Olympia City Council members with representatives of the Indigenous community after the Oct. 12 proclamation. Photo: The JOLT Staff via Teams

Sketch the estuary at Nisqually Reach



The water and dock at Nisqually Reach Nature Center. Photo: Nisqually Reach Nature Center

The Illustrated Nature Journal Project meets **Sun., Oct. 25, 10 a.m.–noon**, at 4949 D'Milluhr Dr NE. The visitor center is open Sat–Sun, noon–4 p.m.

Also Oct. 16: the Puget Sound Estuarium's "Swim, Sip, Survive" salmon bar crawl (5:30 p.m.) and the Olympia History & Haunted Walking Tour (6 p.m.). See the calendar under Local Events.

Source: Eventbrite · JOLT calendar

LOCAL EVENTS: ARTS & MUSIC

Downtown Olympia · Oct. 9–19

A big week on downtown stages

Scottish rock, Gershwin, ABBA and a Disney benefit, all at the Washington Center

Skerryvore, three-time winners of Scotland's Live Act of the Year, plays the Main Stage **tonight, Fri., Oct. 9, at 8 p.m.** The eight-piece band mixes bagpipes, fiddle and accordion with rock guitar and drums. A 21+ "Drams & Reels" whisky tasting starts at 5:30 p.m. in the Black Box and requires a concert ticket.



The Washington Center for the Performing Arts, 512 Washington St SE. Photo: Joe Mabel / Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0

The **Olympia Symphony** opens its "Kaleidoscope" season with **LIFT, Sun., Oct. 11, at 3 p.m.** Pianist Calder Failla plays Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, and the program also includes Jessie Montgomery's *Banner* and excerpts from Wynton Marsalis's *Blues Symphony*. Tickets are \$18–\$72; student seats (18 and under) are \$10.



ABRA Cadabra performing its ABBA tribute. Photo: ABRA Cadabra / Moon Coin Productions, via Experience Olympia

The ABBA tribute **ABRA Cadabra** comes **Wed., Oct. 14, at 7 p.m.** (\$57–\$77). Then on **Sat., Oct. 17, 7–9 p.m.**, local dentists and the Jazz Senators perform "**The Happiest Concert on Earth! A Tribute to Disney!**" to benefit Olympia Union Gospel

Mission's no-fee dental clinic. Adult tickets are \$24–\$50 and youth (12 and under) \$19–\$48, fees included.

Source: Washington Center events · Olympia Symphony · Live Music Project · Experience Olympia (ABBA) · JOLT (Disney)

Harlequin: two plays in repertory at the State Theater

Martyna Majok's Pulitzer-winning *Sanctuary City* runs Oct. 9–25 (90 minutes, PG-13). In this window it plays Oct. 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 11 at 2 p.m., Oct. 14 and 17 at 2 p.m., and Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m. (captioned). Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* plays Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. (captioned), Oct. 15–17 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 18 at 2 p.m. Both are at 202 4th Ave E. Box office: (360) 786-0151.



A scene from Harlequin's *Sanctuary City*. Photo: Harlequin Productions

Source: Harlequin: *Sanctuary City* · Harlequin: *Our Town*

At the Capitol Theater

Comedian **Gary Gulman** brings his "Grandiloquent" tour **Fri., Oct. 16, at 8 p.m.** The Olympia Film Society is also screening a 4K restoration of the Japanese ghost-story classic *Kwaidan* on Oct. 9 and 11, and its **Kids Club** shows *Mary and the Witch's Flower* on Sundays, Oct. 11 and 18, at 1 p.m. Kids Club is free for kids 12 and under and \$13 for everyone else.



The Capitol Theater, 206 5th Ave SE. Photo: Joe Mabel / Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0

Source: UNATION (Gulman) · Orion's Map (Kwaidan) · ParentMap (Kids Club)

Club night: Fern Spores at The Crypt



Show poster for The Crypt.

Image: The Crypt Bar, via Experience Olympia

Source: [Experience Olympia](#)

Olympia's all-woman folk-rock band **Fern Spores** headlines with Seattle's OK Tiger and Portland's Fox & Bones **Sat., Oct. 17, 8–11 p.m.**, at The Crypt, 421 4th Ave E. Tickets are \$12.

Source: [Olympia Farmers Market · JOLT calendar](#)

ARTS & MUSIC CALENDAR

Fri 10/9 Skerryvore · Wash. Center	8:00
Fri 10/9 Sanctuary City opens · State Theater	7:30
Sun 10/11 Olympia Symphony: LIFT	3:00
Mon 10/12 Indigenous Peoples Day · Squaxin Park	11:30a
Wed 10/14 ABRA Cadabra (ABBA) · Wash. Center	7:00
Fri 10/16 Gary Gulman · Capitol Theater	8:00
Fri 10/16 Salmon bar crawl · 309 State Ave NE	5:30
Fri 10/16 Haunted walking tour · 320 4th Ave W	6:00
Sat 10/17 Disney tribute benefit · Wash. Center	7:00
Sat 10/17 Fern Spores · The Crypt	8:00
Thu–Sun Farmers Market music	11–2

Times are p.m. unless marked a. Confirm with the venue before you go.

Free and easy

Olympia Farmers Market (700 Capitol Way N) has live music **11 a.m.–2 p.m. every market day**, Thursday through Sunday. Performer names for October weren't posted. **"Nocturnal"**, new paintings by Liza Brenner and Jonathan Happ and mixed-media sculpture by Loralin Toney, is on view at Childhood's End Gallery, 222 4th Ave W.

TRAFFIC & SAFETY

Before you head out

I-5 Lacey–DuPont night closures through November



Project area on I-5 between Lacey and DuPont.
Map: WSDOT

WSDOT is replacing worn concrete panels. Expect nightly lane and ramp closures, with the speed limit cut to 45 mph in the work zone. Work moves to **southbound lanes as early as Mon., Oct. 12**. Ramps that may close at night include the Marvin Rd on-ramp to NB I-5, both Martin Way E exits, the Nisqually on-ramp to NB I-5, and the SB exit to Mounts Rd. Speed cameras may be active.

Source: [WSDOT project page](#)

Handcuffed suspect escapes patrol car near Black Lake

On Oct. 5 a domestic-violence suspect used his handcuffs to short out a disabled window switch and ran. He broke into a second home before K9 Mac found him under a porch. He was booked on escape, burglary and other charges.



Body camera footage of deputies and K9 Mac taking the suspect into custody, Oct. 5.

Image: Thurston County Sheriff's Office, via The Chronicle

Source: [The Chronicle](#), Oct. 7 · KIRO 7