www.indianola.club

Indianola Breeze

October 2026

IBIC OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES 2025-2026

Officers: President Elisha Rain, Vice President Deb Simpson, Secretary Theresa Schmid, Treasurer Michael Buerger
Trustees: Ted Schmid, Sara Zalpis, Tonya Floria, Sabrina Buerger, Sydney Salazar, William Strauss, Miles Koivu

Golden Days and the Big Dark Ahead

September was good! We had a stretch of sunny days that felt like summer *almost* didn't want to leave, But now the light is shifting. Mornings are cooler, the sun sets a little earlier each night, and the school buses are back on their routes. If you've noticed the quieter beach on weekday afternoons. Already missing the squeals from the park.

October is one of my favorite months and witch season is upon us. The leaves start turning, the smell of woodsmoke is back, and everyone starts asking the big question. What are you going to be for Halloween? I'm still undecided, and I'd love to hear what everyone else is planning. If you need an excuse to commit to a costume, the adult Halloween dance at the Clubhouse on October 30th has a costume contest with prizes this year. I know this town loves a good competition.

Speaking of competition, I'm excited to share that this year we're welcoming the Big Dark with a community potluck on October 17. Some of you might remember that the soup contest was put on the shelf last winter, with a promise to bring back something new during the darker months. This is it. The potluck is a chance to share a favorite dish, catch up with neighbors and settle in together as the season turns. Bring something warm and bring your appetite.

One more thing I want to mention. The Indianola Store is such a big part of what makes this place feel like home, and I hope we all keep it in our routines this fall. It's perfect for those last minute groceries when you realize halfway through a recipe that you're missing something, and nothing beats grabbing a coffee before a morning walk out on the dock. Just a heads up that the store is now closed on Mondays, so plan your coffee runs accordingly.

As always, The Breeze is here because of all of you. Thank you to everyone who sent in stories, photos, and updates this month. Keep them coming

Enjoy the crisp air, the early evenings, and the first few cozy nights of the season. I'll see you at the potluck.

Deirdrie Helsing, editor

Thank you to all our new and renewing members over the last month! We are deeply grateful for your generosity and commitment to our vibrant and amazing town! As always, it's never too late to become a new member or renew your membership and it's super easy!

Membership team, Elisha and Sabrina

Individual
Geraldine Ferraro

Household
Rose Riedel & Bill Mullen

See last page of Breeze for information on how to join!

INDIANOLA CALENDAR

Clubhouse Activities

Library
Saturdays, 10 AM to noon
(unless reserved for an event).

Ola-Fit Group Fitness
Mon, Wed, & Fri., 9 to 10 AM
Bring hand weights, a mat, water, and a towel.
Questions, contact Susan Henry:
susanhenry@centurytel.net

Indianola Bridge Club
Tuesday, 10 AM to 2 PM
Duplicate Bridge ACBL-sanctioned
Email Rusty: w6oat@sbcglobal.net
or call Rusty, 650-207-4454

Garden Club
Third Wednesday of each month, 12:30 PM, unless otherwise noted in the Garden Club News column.

Yoga Group
Every Thursday, 9 AM to 10 AM

Wine & Widows
Recessed until October (Every 3rd Thursday, 5 PM)

Port of Indianola Meeting
Usually the 3rd Tuesday of each month,
7 PM in the clubhouse library.

IBIC Board Meeting
2nd Thursday of each month,
6 PM in the clubhouse library.

Community Events

Big Dark Potluck
October 17th, 6:00 PM
Indianola Clubhouse

Adult Halloween Party
October 30th, 8 PM
Indianola Clubhouse

Kids Halloween Party
October 31st, 4:30-6pm
Indianola Clubhouse

We're looking for volunteers to help set up and clean up for the kids' Halloween party, so parents can spend the evening trick or treating with their little ones. If you can lend a hand, please email Sara Zalpis at sarazalpis@gmail.com.

Calling All Artists: Share Your Story, Show Your Art

Indianola has always been full of creative people, and we'd love to see more of your work in the Breeze. Poems, short stories, long stories, memories, and especially Indianola legends. If you've heard a tale about the pier, the beach, or some long ago neighbor that gets retold every summer, we want to hear it. Carla, are you reading this? I'm thinking of you.

Visual artists, this includes you. Paintings, drawings, photography, pottery, quilts, or anything else you've made. Send us a photo of your piece and we'll showcase it. If you made it and you're proud of it, that's all we need!

Send your submissions to breeze@indianola.club. The deadline for each issue is the 20th of the preceding month. Please include your name and a line or two about the piece if you'd like.

We can't wait to see what you've been working on.

A message from the board

Greetings Neighbors! Fall is here, officially. We're still holding on to a few lingering days of warm summer weather, but the leaves are starting to fall, the temperatures are turning cooler, and the nights are coming sooner. This time of year always seems overfull and hectic as kids start back to school while we try to squeeze in those last weekend trips and we scramble to get all those house and yard projects done before the weather makes it too wet and muddy.

On the farms, summer crops are being put to bed and winter crops are snuggled in to keep them warm. We are also snuggling in as we break out our sweaters, rain boots, warm hats, board games, and favorite soup recipes. There really is nothing like a cozy Pacific Northwest Fall!

And, to honor this transition, please make sure to put October 17th at 6:00 PM on your calendar for the first annual "Indianola Big dark" potluck. It will be worth your effort to step away from your fireplaces and wood stoves and bring your favorite fall recipe to share with your neighbors. That's one of the things that makes this town so special - we gather, we celebrate, we connect. And, we have a ton of fun! So, let's have fun making leaf piles, baking pies, and taking long walks in the crisp fall days; make sure to wave to your neighbors while you're out!

Elisha Rain, trustee, board president

Indianola

Repair Cafe

Saturday, October 10th

11 am—3 pm

INDIANOLA CLUBHOUSE

- Sewing & Mending
- Bike Repair
- Knife &Tool Sharpening
- Furniture & Upholstery Repair
- Lamps & Small Appliances
- Computer/Cell Phone Troubleshooting
- Small Engine Repair

INFORMATION BOOTHS

- Indianola Garden Club
- Kitsap PUD
- Power Trip Solar
- Kitsap Conservation District
- How to read food labels
- West Sound Beekeepers Association

REMEMBERING WILLOW

Willow, a true Indianola dog, passed away this morning. Even with two cancers, most of her hearing and eyesight gone, and lumps all over her body, she still wagged her tail for her people and anyone offering an ear scratch or a treat.

Born here in Indianola, Willow was one of ten pups. Her sister Penny stayed close, living with Michele, Auggie, Skylar and John Kaster, and the two spent countless hours swimming, rolling on the lawn, playing tug of war, and staging mock attacks on the beach.

As a puppy, she preferred sleeping on a pile of shoes over her own bed. She loved camping trips around the Pacific Northwest until a sudden stop sent her tumbling off the back seat of the van, after which she was convinced the van was evil. On walks, she made a beeline for George and Jill's door, and Howie and Diane's, barking for treats. Even in old age, she made it down the steep steps to the beach to hunt for little fish in the shallows and finish with a running nose dive and a roll in the sand.

She spent her later years mostly in Edmonds with Pam Perry, with frequent visits back to the Indianola beach. Life was good. Like so many beloved Indianola dogs before her, Willow will be missed by many.

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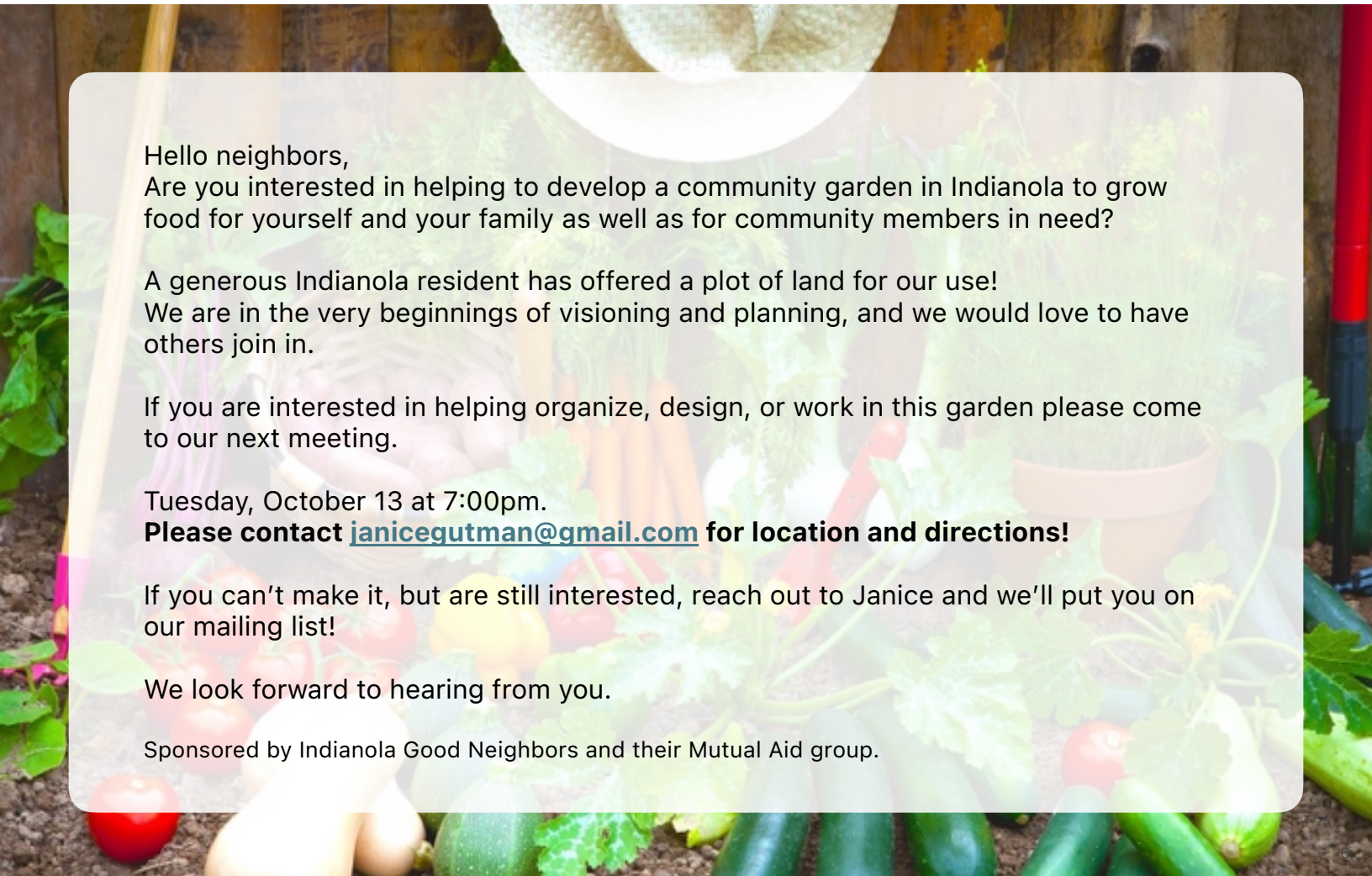
From the Garden Club

Happy Fall! As we wind down from the summer rush, there are a few things you can still plant this month. Now is a good time to plant perennials! Planting now allows for good root growth so your plants can get settled in and really thrive in the spring. Trees and shrubs can also be planted now so they can settle in through the winter months. It's also a good time to plant bulbs like tulips, daffodils, and muscari.

Maybe you are over it! If so, just a bit of tidying up and then, put that garden to bed. Nothing wrong with that! Now you can begin dreaming about next year's garden. To help you dream, the Garden Club has some great speakers coming up!

The October meeting will be held October 21st in the Indianola Clubhouse. We will begin at 12:30 pm. Our speaker this month is Darren Murphy from the Bainbridge Island Fruit Club. His topic is Growing Bountiful Berries! We would love for you to join us. Membership fee for the year is just $20! Hope to see you there!



Hello neighbors,
Are you interested in helping to develop a community garden in Indianola to grow food for yourself and your family as well as for community members in need?

A generous Indianola resident has offered a plot of land for our use!
We are in the very beginnings of visioning and planning, and we would love to have others join in.

If you are interested in helping organize, design, or work in this garden please come to our next meeting.

Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00pm.
Please contact janicegutman@gmail.com for location and directions!

If you can't make it, but are still interested, reach out to Janice and we'll put you on our mailing list!

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sponsored by Indianola Good Neighbors and their Mutual Aid group.

IBIC MERCH

STORE HOURS: SATURDAYS 9AM - 11:30AM
Gift cards available. Credit Cards Accepted

📣 **Calling All Indianola T-Shirts**

Help Us Stitch Together 100 Years of History!

As part of Indianola's 100th anniversary celebration, we're creating a community quilt made from vintage Indianola T-shirts — and we need your help! Do you have an old Indianola tee tucked away in a drawer or closet? Whether it's faded, worn, or just full of memories, we'd love to give it a second life as part of this one-of-a-kind keepsake.

Donate your vintage Indianola T-shirts by contacting:
Patti Merwick — 206-310-3182
Or drop off at the Merch Shop

Let's piece together a century of community spirit, one shirt at a time!

From Kate White,
NKF&R
News & Public Information

October is Fire Prevention Month
Fall is here, and with it comes Fire Prevention Month, a good time to think about keeping your home and family safe. A few simple habits and a little planning go a long way in fire safety. Here's what to focus on this month, plus some opportunities to visit with your firefighters.

Charge into fire safety
This year's Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 4-10, has the theme "Charge Into Fire Safety: Safe Charging Is a Superpower." It spotlights the lithium-ion batteries that power our phones, laptops, power tools, e-bikes and scooters and many other everyday items we rely on. They're convenient, but they can overheat, catch fire or even explode when they're damaged or charged improperly. Look for a safety-certification mark like UL, ETL or CSA. Charge with care, using only the cord and charger that came with your device or a manufacturer-approved replacement. Charge on a hard surface rather than a bed or couch where heat can build up. Unplug the device once it's fully charged. Stop using any battery that's damaged, swelling, leaking, unusually hot or giving off an odd smell. Never put lithium-ion batteries in the trash or curbside recycling, where they can spark a fire. Find a drop-off at call2recycle.org, and learn more at fpw.org.

Plan your escape
Working smoke alarms and a practiced escape plan can make all the difference during a fire. Working smoke alarms give an early warning, and a practiced plan gives everyone a way out. Test your smoke alarms monthly and make sure you have one in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home. Plan your escape by identifying at least two ways out of every room, choosing one meeting place outside and practicing your plan at least twice a year. This fall, our firefighters are visiting kindergarten and third-grade classrooms at Suquamish, Richard Gordon and David Wolfle elementary schools to teach these lifesaving habits. Watch for a home escape planning worksheet in your child's backpack or find a blank one for your family at nkfr.org/safety-tips. Need help installing smoke alarms? Call us and schedule a visit at (360) 297-3619.

Come visit with us
Stop by one of the NKF&R open houses to meet your firefighters, tour the apparatus, learn about hands-only CPR and pick up more fire prevention safety tips for the whole family:

- Wednesday, Oct. 7, 4-7 p.m. at the Suquamish station, 18533 Augusta Ave.
- Saturday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the headquarters station in Kingston, 26642 Miller Bay Road
- Wednesday, Oct. 14, 4-7 p.m. at the Hansville station, 4911 Twin Spits Road
- Saturday, Oct. 17, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the South Kingston station, 23260 South Kingston Road

And join us for dinner! NKF&R firefighters, volunteers, staff and commissioners are working with Kingston Cares to prepare the Kingston Cares Community Meal on Friday, Oct. 9, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Village Green Community Center. We hope to see you there.

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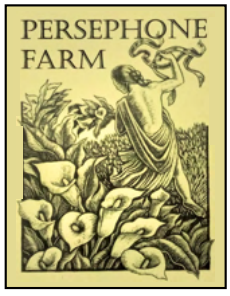

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21+ Halloween Dance
$10 at the door

- DJ Gary the Human is bringing the music.
- Costume Contest with Prizes! This year we're judging costumes, so go big, go creepy, or go weird.
- Pony keg donated by Hood Canal Brewery.

Friday, October 30
8 PM

Indianola Clubhouse

Dress up and dance until you're bone tired.

Welcome to Indianola Living Hope Church!

Corner of Division and Midway Streets

Family Worship 10:30 AM • A warm, caring, family fellowship!
Church office 360-297-2340 • Rick Ellis, Pastor

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CAREER SALES STATS

278 HOMES SOLD | IN MY CAREER

23 HOMES SOLD | IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

CHARTER

Indianola Steps It Up

If you noticed a few more neighbors than usual walking the roads lately, and maybe some faces you don't normally see out and about, there was a reason. **Deb Simpson** organized a two week step challenge, and fifteen people signed up to see how far they could go. With cash prizes on the line, the competition and the trash talking got serious fast.

Taking first place was **Bridget Young**, who logged an incredible **376.1k steps**, averaging 25.1k steps a day. Tony, get this woman a bike! All together, the group walked more than **3 million steps!**

Some participants got creative about finding their steps. One crew organized a walk from Indianola all the way to the Kingston Filling Station to catch the Seahawks game, which might be the most Indianola way to hit a daily goal.

Thank you to Deb for getting everyone moving, and congratulations to all fifteen walkers. We'll be looking for you on the roads.

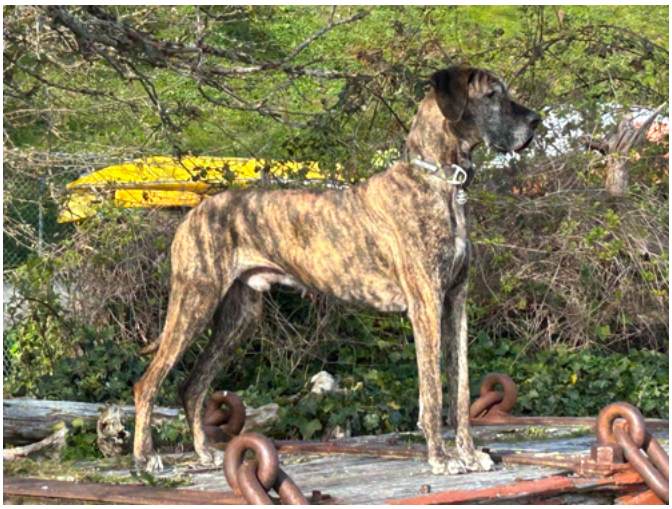
Pets of Indianola

Meet Otis aka Oti-woti

Breed: Great Dane
Age: 4
Occupation: Detective

Loves

Doing zoomies in the yard, playing with other dogs on the beach, climbing in the delivery drivers' trucks to get a treat, butter, and most of all he loves his kids!



Life Motto:

"Butter and bacon make the world worth living.

Fears

Loud booms and the leaf blower.

Quirks

Otis will smell your mouth for as long as you let him so he can see what you ate that day.

By Damon, Caitlyn, Finley, and Rylee

If you have a pet you'd like to see featured, please send your nomination to staff writer Kaylee Baker at Breeze@indianola.club.

Memberships

Apply and pay online at: https://indianola.club/purchase/membership/

Or use the QR code to the right from your mobile device

If the online system does not work for you, paper applications are available at the clubhouse, at the merchandise store when it is open, or you can print it out from our website link above.

THE *INDIANOLA BREEZE*

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Submission Guidelines upon request. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the preceding month.

E-mail: breeze@indianola.club
Editor: Call/Text Deirdrie Helsing 425-961-2368.
Information at https://indianola.club/the-breeze/

Clubhouse Rental Information

Location: 19876 NE Indianola Road

Email: ClubhouseRentals@indianola.club or IndianolaClubhouse@gmail.com

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Rental rates:
https://indianola.club/clubhouse-rental/

Events calendar:
https://indianola.club/calendar-events-listing/

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2027: Tonya Floria, Sydney Salazar, Karen Kinnaird*, Sara Zalpis*
2028: Sabrina Buerger, Elisha Rain, Deb Simpson, William Strauss
2029: Michael Buerger, Ted Schmid, Miles Koivu, Theresa Schmid
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(*one-year appointments)

Indianola Beach Improvement Club

www.indianola.club • PO Box 212 • Indianola, WA 98342 • See the Breeze and meeting minutes online

President: president@indianola.club
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