

# *the Word on the Street*

Langley Main Street Association Newsletter



*Things are looking  
Spooktacular in  
Langley!*

## *Boo to you!*

The stage is set for another monstrously fun Halloween on Thursday October 31st in Langley! Trick-or-treating in the downtown business area happens between 2:30 and 5:00 pm, which means a fantastic parade of cute, clever, ghoulish, or creepy costumes. And that's just the parents. Wait till you see the kids!

For up-to-date information on Spooktacular Langley or any of our other events, be sure to visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LangleyMainStreet> or on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/langleymainstreet/>.



# Design Committee Updates

## Tuesday Morning Gardening Gang On Hiatus

Our "Tuesday Morning Garden Gang" is at rest until next year. We usually run our gatherings each Tuesday morning, weather permitting, from March through October. We'll be back in business next spring, continuing our efforts to make our gardens and parks look beautiful. We're also hoping to add a few more members to our team of 13 energetic volunteers, some of whom have been active in this effort since 2014!



## More Accolades for Our Standout Volunteer – Bernita Sanstad

At the recent Washington Main Street Program's "Excellence on Main" event, Bernita Sanstad was recognized as a Standout Volunteer in 2024. This is an acknowledgment of how an exceptional volunteer has the power to inspire and drive change. Bernita encourages volunteerism by example. As an ambassador for Langley Main Street Association, she is highly visible (sometimes behind a flower or shrub) maintaining the beautifully landscaped areas in our business district. Please join us in applauding and thanking Bernita for her consistent dedication, heart of service, love of community and choosing to volunteer many, many hours of her time to keep Langley remarkable for all of us.



## Promo News



## Another Successful Soup Box Derby in the Books!

In case you missed it, September 15th was Derby Day in Langley, as the Soup Box Derby returned once again to First Street Hill. Hundreds of spectators lined the Zippy Raceway to watch 13 brave racers steer their hand-made gravity-powered vehicles to the bottom of the hill. The competitive heats were exciting, and the Honk band added to the fun between races.

This year's entries included two bananas, one lawnmower, several flashy go-carts, an outhouse, rival Viking and pirate ships, and the SS Minnow with crew. The Peter Lawlor "Helmet of Distinction" prize went to Mike Clyburn, who drove the Rad Red Racer lawnmower. Gary Piper, one of the original 1972 racers, was given the Soup Box Derby Legend award. Huge thanks to our sponsors, racers, fans, and volunteers, and especially to the Langley Community Club crew for running a safe and successful race. See you at the Derby next September!



## Deck the Doors 2024 Coming Soon!

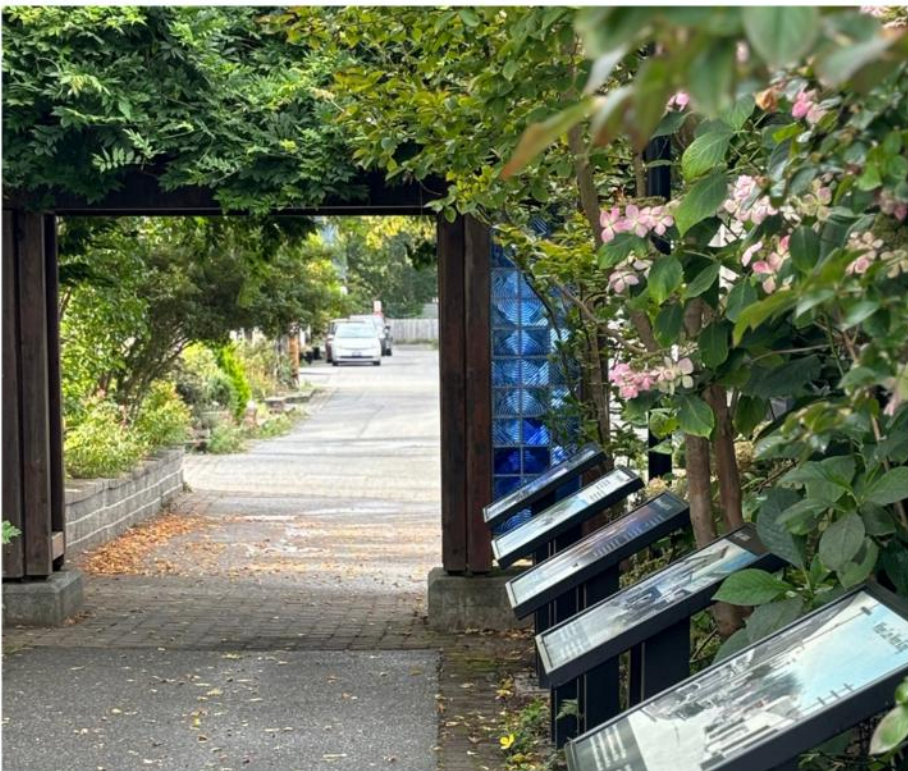
LMSA's Deck the Doors event kicks off on Nov. 28th, as Langley business owners pull out all the stops to create an enchanting outdoor art gallery. Secret judges will select six winners, and prizes will be delivered by the LMSA elves on December 14th (and posted on social media). Be sure to visit Langley in December to enjoy a sparkly stroll around town and wonderful holiday shopping and dining. Shop Local!

# Economic Vitality Committee Updates

The economic vitality committee (ECON) has been very busy this past quarter! We've been working closely with Flatrock Productions on developing ideas for the extension of Frick Lane to create a more welcoming visitor experience. If you have visited Frick Lane in Langley, you know it is a wonderful leafy respite between First Street and McLeod Alley. The rehab of this walkway was one of LMSA's first "revitalization" projects. Our hope is to create a similar, enhanced experience in the remaining portion of Frick Lane from McLeod Alley to Second Street.

ECON has applied for two grants to date, our most recent application was to T-Mobile for the Hometown Grant. We should hear back in November, and are hopeful that Frick Lane will be chosen. In our application, we emphasized the importance of placemaking; providing an equitable and welcoming space for all who live in, and visit Langley, and providing another opportunity through the use of additional historic panels to expand our knowledge and appreciation for those who have built the Langley area into what we experience today.

Other activities on our radar currently include strategizing on a community and business outreach plan for gathering input on what Langley area businesses and residents feel would be most beneficial for us to help build for them over the next five years. We are also seeking a volunteer to help support the gathering of basic information that is a requirement for our organization, from local businesses. If you are looking for an opportunity to get to know the landscape of downtown Langley better, this could be a great, easy way to volunteer. Please reach out to Allison Gubata for more information if you would like to get involved.



## New LMSA Board Member

Please welcome our newly appointed LMSA Board member Lisa Morgenroth. Lisa has been volunteering with LMSA as our Economic Vitality (ECON) Committee Chair since 2022, and we are thrilled to have her step into a Director role with our Board. She is excited to hear from the businesses about how Langley Main Street can support the downtown district.



Lisa started her involvement with LMSA out of a desire to support our local businesses as they focus on their growth and pursue their passions. She has worked in the commercial design and construction industry for many years and felt it would be equally fun and rewarding to leverage that expertise in her own community. Lisa is an asset to our organization and to Langley; we are thrilled she is collaborating with us!

# Thank You to Our B&O Donors!

We had a record number of businesses take advantage of the Washington Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Program this year by pledging their business or utility taxes to Langley Main Street Association. This unique program offered by the Washington State Department of Revenue puts funding directly back into our community.

THANK YOU to the following businesses and organizations for your support in 2024:

American Alarm Systems; Animal Hospital by the Sea; Artisan-Crafted Home; Bayview Garden; China City; City of Langley; CK & Associates; Double Bluff Brewing; Flying Bear Farm & Design; Foamy Wader; Good Cheer; Heritage Bank; Inn At Langley; Island Athletic Club; Lone Lake Physical Therapy; Museo Gallery; Music For The Eyes; Prima Bistro; Puget Sound Energy; Quicksilver Aerospace Consulting; Rob Schouten Gallery; Saltwater Fish House; Shks Architects; Star Store; Sweet Mona's; Trefethen & Co.; Whidbey Telecom; Whidbey Island Kayak

The Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Program provides a Business & Occupation Tax (B&O) or Public Utility Tax (PUT) credit to any WA entity. Once your pledge donation to LMSA is approved by the Department of Revenue, you are eligible for a tax credit worth 75% of your contribution in the following year. By taking part in this one-of-a-kind program, your B&O tax dollars are being directed back into your community in LMSA projects, such as landscaping, historical preservation, beautification and community projects.

Thank you again to this year's participants. You help make Langley Remarkable!

For more information go to <https://preservewa.org/taxcredit/> or email LMSA's Executive Director at [mainstreet@whidbey.org](mailto:mainstreet@whidbey.org).



## Did you know?

### LMSA Volunteers Rock!

In July, August and September alone, LMSA volunteers contributed more than 530 hours of their time. Amazing and priceless! Their work included maintaining our beautiful gardens, engaging in the community, supporting the Soup Box Derby, behind-the-scenes grant writing, and collaborating with our partners.



Langley Main Street Association relies on the generosity, expertise, and passion that our volunteers contribute all year round, and the common thread of appreciating and enjoying this island is what unifies us. This place inspires me, I hope the same is true for you!



If you'd like to find your volunteer groove with Langley Main Street Association, contact us at [mainstreet@whidbey.com](mailto:mainstreet@whidbey.com).

# Final Thoughts



I don't know about you, but the transition into Fall this year seems especially stunning here in Langley. The light goes golden, the pace is a wee bit slower (at least during the weekdays) and a hint of chilliness notifies us that there is a seasonal shift occurring. This is the time of year we start to (hopefully) slow down a bit and take in our charming community by the sea.

You may be following us on social media, and we hope that you find our posts fun, light-spirited...even inspirational. These posts are a shared effort by our wonderful volunteers and me. When we are not promoting an event, or other fun, newsy posts, you may see us in downtown Langley looking for photo opportunities. It's great to walk through town, peeking in storefront windows and doors and enjoying the creative efforts of our local businesses.



Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. I hope you find it informative!

See you around town!

*Allison Gubata*

Executive Director  
Langley Main Street Association  
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## Did you know?

As a Main Street America Affiliate™, we are part of a national network of more than 1,200 neighborhoods and communities who share a commitment to creating high-quality places and to building stronger communities through preservation-based economic development.



Affiliate Community



Member of Washington Main Street Program



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