

# City of Sumas Newsletter



Here's what's happening in Sumas over the next couple of months.

## DOG LICENSES

It's a new year, and time to license your dog for the first time, or renew an expired license for 2025!

Stop by City Hall any time to license your dog for the year. There is a short form to be filled out, and pricing is based on whether your dog is spayed/neutered or not. It's \$15 per dog if they are spayed/neutered or \$25 per dog if they are not spayed/neutered.

Licensing can help reunite found dogs with their owners!

## FREEZING TEMPERATURES

It's that time of year when the temperatures may dip below freezing. Freezing temperatures can mean frozen pipes. It's a good idea to have an emergency water shut off at your home so that you can turn your own water off in case of emergency. If you don't already have one, consider installing one.

Sewer rates are calculated based on actual water usage. Keep an eye on your monthly water usage. If it spikes up, it could mean a water leak. Please call City Hall if you have any questions.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

January 13th @ 7pm  
January 27th @ 7pm  
February 10th @ 7pm  
February 24th @ 7pm  
March 10th @ 7pm

### CITY HALL CLOSURES

MLK Day: January 20, 2025  
Presidents Day:  
February 17, 2024

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Chispita de Sabor  
Grand Opening  
January 25th; 12pm-3pm

Friends of the  
Sumas Library  
Present Adult Social  
Valentine & Wine  
February 15th; 6pm-9pm

SUMAS CITY HALL  
433 Cherry St.  
P.O. Box 9  
Sumas, WA 98295  
360.988.5711



SUMAS COMMUNITY  
CALENDARS  
(Birthday Calendars)

The 2025 Community Calendars have arrived and are available for purchase at City Hall! Stop by and pick yours up for \$5 each.



SUMAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
AND MUSEUM

The Sumas Historical Society and Museum would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year! Follow them on Facebook and stop by for a visit on Wednesdays 10am-2pm, or by appointment! They welcome new friends!

Questions? Call or text 360-319-4283

Adult Social Valentine & Wine

February 15, 2025

Friends of the Sumas Library  
PRESENT

Adult Social  
Valentine & Wine

SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 15, 2025  
6PM-9PM

Sumas Community Center  
461 Second Street

\$20 per person

21+ only, ID required to enter event

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT  
inspired by  
THE  
NEWLY WED GAME

Charcuterie Table  
Adult Beverages  
Silent Auction

MORE EVENT DETAILS AND  
OFF-SITE CHILDCARE INFORMATION AT  
FRIENDSOFTHESUMASLIBRARY.ORG

Scan QR code for 2025 Valentine & Wine tickets →



- Upgrade to Energy Saving Appliances! Upgrading to energy efficient appliance models will save water & save you money. Whatcom Water Alliance is offering up to \$100 in rebates for upgrading your washing machine or toilet. [www.whatcomwateralliance.org/rebates](http://www.whatcomwateralliance.org/rebates)
- By Turning off the sink while brushing your teeth. You could save up to 4 gallons of water per minute!
- Find & Fix Your Faucet Leaks. One drip every second adds up to five gallons of wasted water per day!



**Sumas Library**  
 461 2<sup>nd</sup> Street / 360-988-2501  
 wcls.org  
Branch Hours

Monday 10 A.M – 6 P.M.  
 Wednesday 10 A.M – 6 P.M.  
 Saturday 10 A.M – 5 P.M.

Library Express Hours  
 Daily 6 A.M – 11 P.M

**Do you know...** you can access the lobby of the Library building from 6 A.M. – 11 P.M. daily with your free library card? This provides an opportunity for community members to pick up any requested items on days when staff are not in the branch. In addition, a selection of items are also available to peruse and checkout.

**UPCOMING SUMAS LIBRARY CLOSURES:** Monday, January 20 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day); Monday, February 17 (President’s Day)

Got some **New Year’s resolutions** you need help with? Stop by the library to find out how we can help! Whether it be learning or a new skill, increasing your knowledge, meeting new people or something more, **we can help you** find just what you’re looking for - books, DVDs, online services, coloring books, board games and much more.

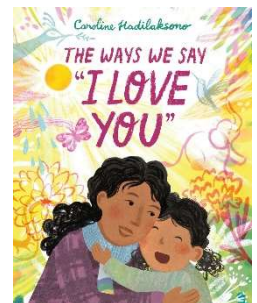
Our **guide to events and programs at our branches** is now available. Whatcom residents received a copy of Explorations in the mail, but if you haven’t received yours or misplaced yours, you can also [find it online](#) or pick up a copy at the library.



## Upcoming Programs at Sumas Library

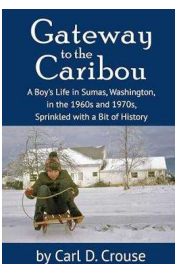
Programs listed in chronological order. For a complete listing of events at all branches visit [wcls.org/events](http://wcls.org/events)

**LET’S MAKE VALENTINES** Come to the library to make valentine cards for all the loved ones in your life. We'll have all the supplies you need, you bring your creative spirit and open heart! For grade K-5. Saturday, February 1, 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.



**SUMAS TEEN CORP** We need teens with a community spirit to help out with our programs for kids. You'll help pass out supplies and assist kids in all the making and the doing. Teens in grades 6-12 can register online or talk to a Sumas Library staff person.

**LIBRARY BUDGET LISTENING SESSION** WCLS administrators will review the library system's budget forecast and ask community members for their input about the library services that matter most to them and their families and their suggestions about how to move towards fiscal sustainability. Each session will include a brief presentation followed by a Q&A and hands-on interaction and discussion. Saturday, February 8, 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.



**"GATEWAY TO THE CARIBOU: A BOY'S LIFE IN SUMAS" WITH AUTHOR CARL CROUSE** Carl Crouse, retired pastor, long-time Sumas resident, and author of "[The Waters are Rising](#)" and "[The Heavenly](#)



[Mountain](#)," will share stories and anecdotes from his new book, "[Gateway to the Caribou: A Boy's Life in Sumas, Washington, in the 1960s and 1970s, Sprinkled with a Bit of History](#)." Copies of the book will be available for sale and signing at the event. Saturday, February 8, 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

**DSHS MOBILE OFFICE AT THE LIBRARY** Each DSHS Mobile Office is staffed by specialists who can determine people's eligibility for state and federal medical, cash and food assistance programs. The team processes new applications, case reviews, changes, EBT card requests and required documents. They also take applications for the Child Care Subsidy Program and forward them to the Department of Children, Youth and Families for processing. The DSHS Mobile Offices do not provide onsite social service intakes and assessments, Workfirst vouchers and child care subsidy determinations. Wednesday, February 12, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.



**FRIENDS OF THE SUMAS LIBRARY (FOSL) PRESENT: VALENTINE AND WINE** Join us for an evening of fun and laughter at the Friends of the Sumas Library adult social! On Saturday, February 15th, enjoy a night out at the Sumas Community Center (461 2nd Street, Sumas) with delicious charcuterie, a selection of alcoholic beverages, and an exciting silent auction featuring fabulous items up for grabs. Don't miss the special entertainment inspired by *The Newlywed Game*. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [the FOSL event page](#). Saturday, February 15, 6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

**MAKE A MEANDER BOOK WORKSHOP BOOK** Artist Fran McReynolds will guide you in learning the skills to make a book that is created with just one sheet of paper. All levels of experience are welcome in this beginner course. Supplies are included. Space is limited; registration is required. For ages 15+. Wednesday, February 19, 12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

**LOL 101 – JOKES FOR KIDS** Why don't eggs tell jokes? They'd crack each other up! Come out to the library to learn about how to write hilarious jokes, and how to tell them with side-splitting style. We'll dig into the elements of what makes a good joke, figure out how to milk them for big laughs and finish with a comedy club open mic. Come to practice or just guffaw. Saturday, March 1, 10:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.



**KOKEDAMA PLANT WORKSHOP** Explore the unconventional free form growing practice of kokedama! Participants will create their own kokedama using epiphytic plants, discuss which plants are best suited for growing without a pot, and chat about caring for and maintaining kokedama. All materials provided. Note: This technique can be challenging and the use of fine motor skills is helpful. If you would like more information about this, please contact [claire.mcelroy@wcls.org](mailto:claire.mcelroy@wcls.org). Spaces are limited and registration is required. Wednesday, March 5, 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

**FRIENDS OF THE SUMAS LIBRARY (FOSL) MEETING** Want to help support the library beyond checking items and attending events? Join the Friends of the Sumas Library, a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to supporting the Sumas Library. Teen volunteers encouraged to attend! When we work together, we can do great things for our community. Attend a meeting or talk to staff to sign-up for the monthly emails. Meets monthly on 1st Monday, September – May. 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

**SUMAS STORYTIME** For ages 2-6. An open program that includes stories, rhymes, and songs with opportunities for movement and interactive participation. Mondays, January 27 – May 12. 10:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

**LUNCH BREAK BOOK CLUB** Take a break in your day and join us for our weekly, low-commitment, theme-based book club. Each month, we provide a prompt (like "growing old"), then you choose something that relates. Text or audio, genre (mystery, sci-fi/fantasy, literary fiction, biography, non-fiction, etc.) or style of book (novel, poetry, graphic novel,

novella, etc.) can be whatever you like. You can read something different each week or the same book for the whole month – or mix it up. As long as your item has something to do with the theme as you understand it, you're good! Bring a sack lunch if you'd like. Coffee and tea provided. Themes are January: Main Street, USA. February: books to read over and over. March: whodunit. Meets weekly on two different days – themes will be the same for both days, so choose whichever day fits your schedule best. Mondays. 1 P.M. – 1:30 P.M. or Wednesdays. 1 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.



**CRAFTING COMMUNITY** Drop in with your favorite arts and crafts projects and spend some time creating alongside other crafters. Stitch, hook, paint, draw – get those projects you've been putting off finished! Share your skills or learn new ones - all while connecting with other adults. Some knitting and paper craft supplies available. Coffee and tea provided. Mondays, 2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

**CHESS AND CHECKERS!** An open program for chess players of all abilities to play one another! Snacks provided. Wednesdays, 3:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

**FREE MATH TUTORING** One-on-one and small group math help by appointment. The focus is on middle school and high school math, but the tutor is able to help all ages from elementary (math basics) to adults (financial literacy). Bring your own curriculum or homework or just play some math games. Free tutoring in the library is provided by Brett Egbert from Good Egg Math. Contact the Sumas Library to make an appointment. Mondays or Wednesdays, 3:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

**SUMAS BOOK GROUP** A discussion of a diverse series of fiction and non-fiction books to broaden your reading horizons. Meet friends new and old as we connect through the shared love of books and reading. Call or stop by the Sumas Library to find out what book the group is reading this month. Monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. 10 A.M. – 11 A.M.