Oysterville Community Club hosts spring Town Hall and Lecture Series on Thursdays

OYSTERVILLE, Wash. — Following the success of its spring and fall lecture series last year, the Oysterville Community Club will host another Town Hall and Lecture Series this spring. Each lecture in the series is free and open to the public; the sessions take place at 10 a.m. every other Thursday through May 7 in the historic Oysterville Schoolhouse, located at 3322 School Road.

"I had no idea that we would end up with both a spring and fall series last year and yet another spring series this year," marvels organizer Diane Buttrell. "My original idea was to provide opportunities for our peninsula community to meet and talk with some of their amazing neighbors. Most of us probably aren't aware of the broad range of experience and expertise we have in our very midst."

A year and over a score of talks later, Buttrell continues to express amazement at the depth and quality of the knowledge base in the local area. "Plus I'm astounded and gratified that so many people are willing to share their insights and expertise with the rest of us," she says.

A \$3 donation is suggested as a contribution toward the maintenance of the schoolhouse.

The purpose of the Town Hall and Lecture Series is to offer enrichment through education, entertainment and encouragement, to preserve the historic schoolhouse, and to serve and celebrate the diverse achievements of the Long Beach Peninsula community.

On Feb. 26, novelist and writing teacher Birdie Etchison will talk about "The How, Why and What of Writing," which will cover how she got started, why she continued and what one needs to do to begin writing.

"I'll also be talking about the benefit of writing workshops, and I'll bring some materials for a hands-on writing experience if anyone is interested," she says. Etchison has been writing for more than half a century and has 23 books in print. In addition, she has taught numerous writing workshops locally and in at least 10 other states.

On March 12, author and historian Sydney Stevens will talk about "Putting the Story Back in History." Stevens specializes in local history and says that the stories about people — how they lived, what was important to them, why they did what they did are the aspects of history that she finds most interesting.

"It's the stories that illuminate all those long laundry lists of dates and places and events that we had to memorize back in those dear old Golden Rule Days," she says. Stevens will also be en-



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couraging people to write down their own experiences, to keep journals and diaries and to write blogs and accounts of their day-to-day lives.

"Our stories will become our history and they will inform the historians of the future," she says.

On March 26, amateur astronomer and photographer Bob Duke will talk about the cutting-edge hobby of drone piloting. In his presentation "Drones Over the Peninsula: A Primer" he will discuss ethics, the law, uses and possibilities for amateurs interested in flying drones. Weather permitting, Duke will give a demonstration with his drone, Gadget.

On April 9, certified for-

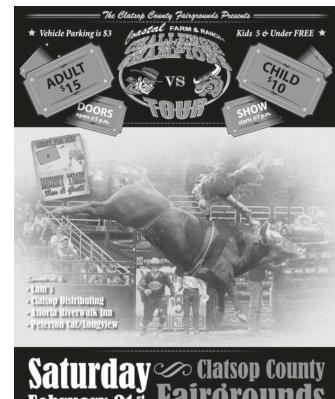


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ester Bill Lecture of Seaview will explore the history of forestry in southwest Washington as he discusses "The Peninsula Amid a Working Forest." He will also describe how forestry both affects and enhances the tourist and recreational values of the Long Beach Peninsula and will touch upon his role in the ongoing restoration of 4,500 acres of the Ellsworth Creek watershed south of Parpala Road in Naselle.

Poet Susan Holway's topic for the April 23 session, "Ovsterville, My Love," will be a look at the tiny hamlet where she was born and raised "through prose and poetry, past and present." For Holway, a graduate of the Oysterville School (which closed in 1957), giving a lecture in the historic old building is a bit like coming full circle.

At the final lecture in the series on May 7, author and editor Maggie Stuckey will discuss "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Book Publishing But Didn't Know Who to Ask." Based on her 30-plus years with major publishers, Stuckey will explain what agents do, what editors don't do, who really makes the decisions, what's expected of authors, and many other mysteries to do with the publishing world.