

## Lopez Housing Options (LOHO)

# *The Hamlet*

### COMMUNITY IN THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE

In 2018, we celebrated a decade of Hamlet living, acknowledging and appreciating the fortitude, forethought and dedication of the individuals and community that created The Hamlet. As we move into our second decade, we prepare for our future; not just maintaining the buildings and grounds but preparing for the changes that will inevitably occur in our own small community as residents age in place. Supportive friendships, social connections and security are the fabric of this residential 'family'. Together, we step into the next decade with courage, acceptance and grace.



## 2018 Annual Report

**Hamlet House**  
273 Village Road  
POB 172

Lopez Island, WA 98261  
360-468-3800

**The Hamlet Cottages**  
229 Village Road  
POB 785

Lopez Island, WA 98261  
360-468-2620

## Heather Harrison, New Executive Director of The Hamlet Cottages



Since The Hamlet opened its doors in 2008, Lopez Island has been strengthened by the presence of this dynamic residential community. Continuing that tradition of excellence, the Board of Directors is pleased to announce Heather Harrison as the new Executive Director for the Hamlet Cottages, beginning September 1, 2019.

"We all wish Liz Malinoff a good retirement. She's been a great part of the Hamlet team for eight years," says board president Jim Orcutt. "At the same time, we are extremely fortunate to welcome Heather as our new Executive Director. Heather's deep connections to the Lopez community, five years of service to people of all ages at the Family Resource Center and outstanding personal and professional skills made her the ideal choice for us."

Heather came to Lopez in 2013, after receiving her BA in psychology from Bard College and her Masters of Social Work from Smith College. "The Hamlet holds an integral role in our community," she said. "I am very excited to work directly for this fabulous group of seniors, to be part of the team that will lead The Hamlet forward."

# HAMLET HOUSE

## HAMLET HOUSE – A CARING COMMUNITY

Becky Smith, Hamlet House Manager

We have enjoyed a good year at Hamlet House. Our occupancy has been full and stable - it is rare for a month to go by that I don't have inquiries about open rooms. I have a wonderful caring staff that has remained stable as well. We all enjoy the family environment at Hamlet House and strive to celebrate the moments whether it's birthdays or holidays. It is a privilege to share these final years with our residents - they each hold a special place in our hearts.



Howard celebrates his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday with Hamlet House staff and friends.



Getting into the holiday cheer at Hamlet House!



## KATHALEEN LARSEN, 12/30/23-7/19/19

Kathaleen Larsen moved from her long-time Lopez home into the Cottages when they first opened in 2008. When independent living became challenging for her, she moved to Hamlet House, which was her home until this past summer.

In her early years at Hamlet House, Kathaleen tended the planter boxes, went to Creaky Yoga and enjoyed visits with her family.

Kathaleen passed away peacefully this summer. As her need for care increased, the staff at Hamlet House worked hard to meet those needs. Having this safe, supportive housing at a time in her life when she needed it allowed for Kathaleen to maintain a connection with family and friends through the end of her life.



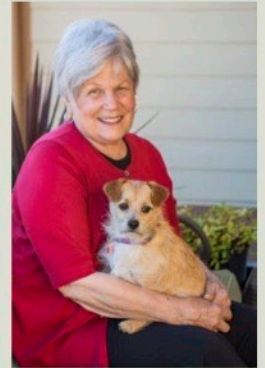
Kathaleen out for a walk with Honey and Elsie.



## MILLIE'S STORY OF THE HAMLET COTTAGES

I arrived to The Hamlet in the loving arms of Barbara in 2012. We were already friends with many of the residents and everyone was so glad to have us nearby. Our cottage was the perfect place for both of us.

To be truthful, I am a chow hound. Visiting the neighbors was pretty important to us and I often was welcomed with a biscuit, or bone or some tasty goodie. And we did a lot of visiting. So, life was good, as they say.



Barbara and Millie

But then something changed and Barbara was not able to take care of me anymore because she had to be taken care of. She went to the Hamlet House and then she transitioned to a peaceful place where I could not follow. I understood that someone would need to care for me now that Barbara was gone. Lucky for me, an earth angel named Marlene became my new family. It was perfect because she was one of the friendly neighbors we would visit and she *always* had a biscuit for me.

Now Marlene and I are always together. She takes me down to the Gathering Place when Linda comes to tidy up. Linda is a good friend and always has a snuggle for me. Marlene and I walk the paths around the greens and through the village several times a day. As the resident representative to the board, Marlene has important meetings to attend once a month. Sadly, she leaves me at home then. But, when she is with her mentee, I sometimes get to join in the fun. I like kids. Kids like me.



Sleepover with Auntie Gale

We also visit the neighbors, a lot! Some of the neighbors take me for walks if Marlene is gone for the day or if she has a cold. I've even had sleepovers at friends' cottages when Marlene is on a trip. It's different but it's ok.

Oh, and I am not the only 4-legged creature here! There are other doggies and they are very nice. We're all fairly mature and don't frolic with each other but we're pals. I often run into Zoe, Bella and Roxy on the walking paths. Our people chat

while we sniff around. There are no cats here but plenty of bunnies so we're not missing out on much. Every once in a while, Marlene and I stop by to see Liz in the office. Sometimes they talk a long time about things like policies, lighting, parking, mostly boring stuff but I don't mind. I don't get cookies from Liz, but I know she likes me a lot and that feels good.



Marlene and Millie

Marlene always tells me that we are going to live at The Hamlet and get old together-forever. I think that's called 'aging in place' and this is a great place to do that. Especially if you like biscuits!



The Cottage Residents and their four-legged friends



Roxy

# 2018/2019 LOHO BOARD

Jim Orcutt, Chair  
 Bill White, Secretary  
 Cathy Doherty  
 Ruth Fothergill  
 Marlene Giedd-Clark  
 Levanne Hendrix  
 Robin VanHyning  
 Bill McGown  
 Ed Sheridan  
 Nancy Wynen

## MESSAGE FROM JIM ORCUTT, CHAIR, LOHO BOARD

What an amazing year for the Hamlet! The Board was successful in retiring our remaining community startup loan, thereby putting the Hamlet in a stronger financial position. In addition, we celebrated the first decade of the Hamlet opening, increased the long-term maintenance fund substantially and, though small, started an endowment fund. The Board wants to thank everyone who has donated to the Hamlet, allowing us to sustain our mission of providing safe and convenient senior housing for Lopezians and their families.



## THE GATHERING PLACE

Many thanks to the community members and organizations that entertained, educated, enriched and inspired us all. Here's a list of some of the events we hosted in The Gathering Place:

### Lectures

KWIAHT, Hummel Lake Habitat  
 Ian Lange, Ice Age Mammals  
 Mary Reese, Lopez Legacy  
 Master Gardeners, Happy Hour  
 KWIAHT, San Juan Island's Bats

### Music

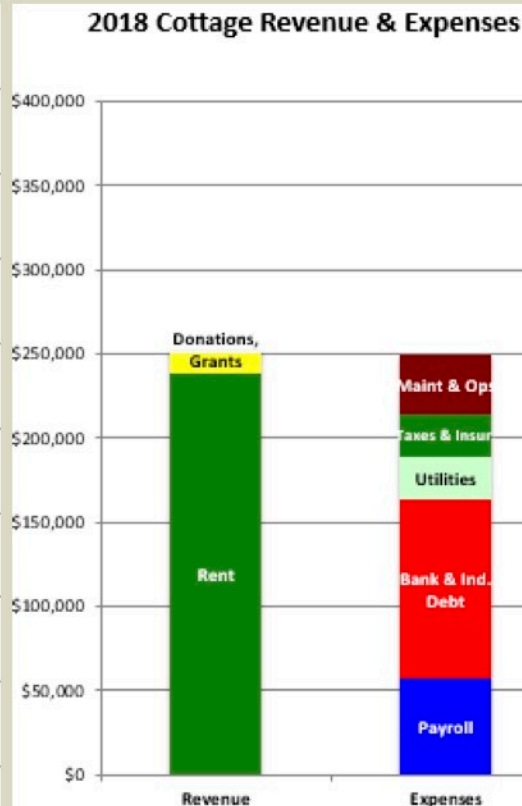
Gretchen Wing, sing-alongs  
 Celia Rosenberger, three concerts  
 Bill Johnson & Friends, concert

### Fireside Chats

Marlene Giedd-Clark, Ted Phillips, Alaska  
 Cathy Doherty, Africa  
 Nancy McCoy, Lopez history

### Art Exhibits

Ginny Neese: Pastels  
 L.I.P.S.: Photography  
 Don & Mary Christensen: Watercolor  
 Robert & Heather Harrison: Photography



While both LOHO programs have separate budgets, moving towards financial stability is our common goal. Full occupancy in both the Cottages and Hamlet House provides stable revenue but this income does not fully cover expenses. We continue to rely on generous donations to cover budget shortfalls.

Building up the Long-Term Maintenance (LTM) fund is a high priority for us as our infrastructure ages. The cottage account transferred \$10,000 to LTM this year.

Thanks to a generous donor and the hard work of the Board, the remaining cottage debt owed was settled in 2018.

