



Gathering Points

(253) 756-0601

Pt. Defiance~Ruston

MARCH 2026

Operated by Franke Tobey Jones

CHINESE CLASS

Due to PLU's *Spring Break*, there will be *no Chinese class on March 25*.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

It's that time again when we lose an hour. **Spring Forward on March 8.**

SAVE THE DATES

^ PARTIES

- *^ May 8 - Tacos & Margaritas
- ^ June 25 - Independence Day
- *^ October 2 - Bratwurst & Beer
- ^ October 30 - Halloween Party
- *^ November 24 - Thanksgiving
- *^ December 22 - Holiday Party

CLOSURES

- May 25 - Memorial Day
- July 3 - Independence Day
- September 7 - Labor Day
- November 26 - Thanksgiving
- December 25, 2026 - Christmas

March:

A Spike of Green
Author Barbara Baker

*When I went out The sun
was hot It shone upon
My flower pot. And there
I saw A spike of green
That no one else Had
ever seen!*

*On other days
The things I see
Are mostly old
Except for me
But this green
spike So new
and Small
Had never Yet
Been seen at all!*



CONGRATULATIONS

In January, we gathered for our annual Volunteer Lunch to celebrate the incredible people who keep our Center running. We are thrilled to announce that **Ron Yaden** has been named the **2025 Volunteer of the Year!** Rounding out our top honors, **Chris Johns** took home 1st Runner-up, and **Marge Beardemphl** was named 2nd Runner-up. Our volunteers truly are the heartbeat of everything we do. Please join us in giving them a well-deserved pat on the back and a big "thank you" the next time you see them!

GET YOUR GREEN ON: A St. Patrick's Day Celebration!

You're invited to the party! Join us on **Tuesday, March 17 at 11:00 a.m.** for a morning full of luck and laughter.

We're thrilled to host **Maryanne Ellis**, who will be leading a line dancing session to get everyone moving! When you aren't on the dance floor, you can:

- Enjoy delicious festive snacks.
- Try your luck at our **Gift Basket Raffle**.
- Test your skills with our "Jelly Bean Count" contest.

Don't forget to wear your green!
We can't wait to see you there.

FAVOR REQUEST FOR THE TEAM!

The end-of-year reports for the County show that quite a few database sign-ins are missing. I know it's one more thing on your plate, but these records are essential for Kate and Shelley to secure the grants that keep us running.

Cont'd.

REQUEST FOR THE TEAM! CONT'D.

Could you please make sure to sign in for your upcoming classes? If you're in a rush, just let the front desk volunteer know—they'd be happy to sign you in manually!

^ THAILAND PRESENTATION

The Trip of a Lifetime: 16 Days in Thailand! Is Thailand on your bucket list? Now is the time to cross it off! Join us for an incredible journey departing **November 6, 2026**.

Cont'd on page four.

MORE BOOKS, LESS STRESS!

We want everyone to be able to join our Book Club discussions. From now on the library will now be providing our monthly reads!

Starting in March, you won't have to worry about ordering books online or searching bookstores. Just head to the **Office** after **March 2** to pick up your copy of our March selection.

Happy reading, and we'll see you at the next meeting!

RIDDLE CENTRAL

What can be seen in the middle of March and April that cannot be seen at the beginning or end of either month?



BOOK CLUB

The Senior Center Book Club meets the 3rd Thursday to discuss that month's book.

March - How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents

April - Starvation Heights



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>2 8:30 Hand & Foot Cards (D) 9:00 *^Δ Sr Footcare (C) 10:00 *Strength & Balance (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Chess (D) 1:30 Ping Pong (M) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p> 	<p>3 9:00 ^Δ Beg. Drawing (CX) 9:30 Pinochle (D) 9:45 Guitar Practice (M) 10:00 Drawing (CX) 11:00 *Beg Line Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Mahjong (C) 1:00 Sing-along (M) 3:15 Tap Dance 6:30 Martial Arts (M)</p>	<p>4 9:00 ^Δ <i>Valentine Hearts w/JJ (C)</i> 9:00 Crochet/Knitting Grp (D) 10:00 *Strength & Bal. (M) 11:00 Euchre (D) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Cribbage w/Norm (C) 12:30 *^Δ Acupuncture (M) 1:30 Ping Pong (M) 2:45 *Line Dancing (M)</p>	<p>5 ^Δ 9:00 <i>SHIBA (O)</i> 9:00 ^Δ Ukulele Class (M) 9:30 Pinochle (D) 10:00 Mexican Train (C) 10:15 ^Δ Beg. Piano (CX) 11:00 BP Cks (FD) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 1:00 SAIL Class (M) 1:00 Women's Group (C) 2:00 <i>Caregiver Res Grp (C)</i> 2:15 ^Δ Paint 'n Sip (M)</p>	<p>6 9:00 ^Δ <i>AARP Tax Prep. (D)</i> 9:30 Spades (C) 10:00 *Strength & Balance (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *^Δ FTJ Lunch (D) 12:00 ^Δ Bridge Class (C) 1:00 Spanish w/Carla (M) 2:00 Creative Writing (C) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p> <p>9:00 ^Δ AARP Tax Prep. (D)</p>
<p>9 8:30 Hand & Foot Cards (C) 10:00 *Strength & Balance (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Chess (D) 1:00 Movie: The Greatest Showman (C) 1:30 Ping Pong (M) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p>	<p>10 9:00 ^Δ Beginning Drawing (CX) 9:30 Pinochle (D) 10:00 ^Δ Thailand Pres. (M) 10:00 Drawing (CX) 11:00 *Beginning Line Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Mahjong (C) 3:15 Tap Dance (M) 6:30 Martial Arts (M)</p>	<p>11 9:00 Crochet/Knitting Grp (D) 10:00 ^Δ <i>Chinese Class (C)</i> 10:00 *Strength & Bal. (M) 11:00 Euchre (D) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Cribbage w/Norm (C) 1:30 Ping Pong (M) 2:45 *Line Dance (M)</p>	<p>12 9:00 ^Δ <i>Ukulele Class (M)</i> 9:30 Pinochle (D) 10:00 Mexican Train Dominoes (C) 10:15 ^Δ Beg. Piano (CX) 11:00 BP Checks (FD) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 1:00 Cozy Crafters (D) 1:00 Apple User's Grp (C) 1:00 SAIL Class (M) 1:00 Cozy Crafters (D) 6:30 Martial Arts (M)</p>	<p>13 9:00 ^Δ <i>AARP Tax Prep. (D)</i> 9:30 Spades (C) 10:00 *Strength & Balance (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *FTJ Lunch (D) 12:00 ^Δ Bridge Class (C) 1:00 Spanish w/Carla (M) 2:00 Creative Writing (C) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p> <p>Sat. - 10:00 Breakfast Club-iHop</p>
<p>16 8:30 Hand & Foot Cards 10:00 *Strength & Balance (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Chess (D) 1:30 Ping Pong (M) 2:00 ^Δ Writer's Forum (C) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p>	<p>17 9:00 ^Δ Beginning Drawing (CX) 9:30 Pinochle (D) 10:00 Drawing (CX) 9:45 Guitar Practice (M) 11:00 ^Δ St. Patrick's Party (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Mahjong (C) 1:00 Sing-along (M) 3:15 Tap Dance (M) 6:30 Martial Arts (M)</p> 	<p>18 9:00 Crochet/Knitting Grp (D) 10:00 *Strength & Bal. (M) 11:00 Euchre (D) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 Lunch 12:30 Cribbage w/Norm (C) 12:30 *Acupuncture (M) 1:30 Ping Pong 2:45 *Line Dancing</p>	<p>19 9:00 ^Δ <i>Ukulele Class (M)</i> 9:30 Pinochle (D) 10:00 Mexican Train (C) 10:15 ^Δ Beg. Piano (M) 11:00 BP Checks (FD) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 1:00 Book Club w/Chris (C) 1:00 SAIL Class (M) 6:30 Martial Arts (M)</p> <p>3:30 ^Δ Prime Time Hop</p>	<p>20 9:00 ^Δ <i>AARP Tax Prep. (D)</i> 9:30 Spades (C) 10:00 *Strength & Balance (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *FTJ Lunch (D) 12:00 ^Δ Bridge Class (C) 1:00 ^Δ Spanish w/Carla (M) 2:00 ^Δ Creative Writing (C) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p>

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>23</p> <p>8:30 Hand & Foot Cards 10:00 *Strength & Balance (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Chess (D) 1:00 Movie Club <i>The Prestige</i> (C) 1:30 Ping Pong (M) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 ^ΔBeg. Drawing (CX) 9:30 Pinochle (D) 9:45 Atty. Liz Johnson 10:00 Drawing w/John (CX) 11:00 *Line Dance (M) 12:00 Lunch (D) 12:30 Am/CHN Mahjong: (C) 3:15 Tap Dance (M) 6:30 Martial Arts (M)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 Crochet & Knitting Grp. (D) 10:00 *Strength & Bal (M) 10:00 NO Chinese (C) 11:00 Euche (D) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Cribbage w/Norm (C) 1:30 Ping Pong 3:30 *Line Dance (M)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 ^ΔUkulele Class (M) 9:30 Pinochle (D) 10:00 Mexican Train (C) 10:15 ^ΔBeg. Piano (CX) 11:00 BP Cks (FD) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 1:00 PC & Android Users Group (C) 1:00 Cozy Crafters (D) 1:00 SAIL Class (M) 6:30 Martial Arts (M) 4:00 ^ΔPrime Time Plates</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 ^Δ AARP Tax Prep. (D) 9:30 Spades (C) 10:00 *Strength & Bal. (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 ^ΔFTJ Lunch (D) 12:00 ^ΔBridge Class (C) 1:00 Spanish (M) 2:00 Creative Writing (C) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p>
<p>30</p> <p>8:30 Hand & Foot Cards 10:00 *Strength & Balance (M) 11:00 *Stretch & Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Chess (D) 1:00 Movie Discussion (C) 1:30 Ping Pong (M) 2:30 Tai Chi (M)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00 ^ΔBeg. Drawing (X) 9:30 Pinochle (D) 10:00 Drawing w/John (X) 9:45 Guitar Practice 11:00 Beginning Line (M) Dance (M) 12:00 *Lunch (D) 12:30 Am/CHN Mahjong (C) 1:00 Sing-along 3:15 Tap Dance (M)</p>	 <p>"So when I said 'hide the gold in an inconspicuous place', you put it under a frickin rainbow?"</p>	<p>Knock, knock! Who's there? Irish. Irish who? Irish you a very happy St. Patrick's Day!</p>	 <p>I try to keep busy all year. In the summer I make cookies, and in the fall and winter I make toys in Santa's workshop.</p>

LEGEND

- * Participation Fee
- ^Δ Registration Required
- (C) Classroom
- (FD) Front Desk
- (D) Dining Room
- (G) Garden
- (M) Main Room

COST

- Acupuncture**
- \$20 per treatment
- Paid to Acupuncturist

COST CONT'D

Italian

- \$10 mo., pay instructor

Line Dancing

- \$20 6-week Wed. series.
- Beg. Line Dance Tues. \$8 mo., or \$2 week Both class fees payable to instructor

Strength & Balance

- \$18 mo., Mon., Wed., & Fri., paid at front desk

Stretch & Dance

- \$18 mo. Mon., Wed., & Fri., paid at front desk.

MULTIPLE CLASSES

One person taking two classes receives a \$3.00 discount on the second class.

Should you take a third class, it will be at regular price and the fourth will be \$3.00 off.

This does not apply to classes paid directly to the instructor.

LUNCH

*Catholic Community Services provides lunch M-Th for a donation of \$3.50 if you are 60+. Under 60 is \$6.00.

FOOD RESCUE

While not listed, the food bank is open from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.



CALL AHEAD

Every effort is made to ensure programming is on time. Occasionally, an instructor may cancel a class. Please call ahead to ensure the class is still scheduled.



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Center Highlights

Operated by Franke Tobey Jones

MOVIES

A movie will be shown once a month on the Second Monday from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. The following movie is scheduled for March:



The Greatest Showman is on March 9, at 1:00 p.m. Stars Hugh Jackman and Zac Efron.

The story follows the visionary, P.T. Barnum, who rose from nothing to create a mesmerizing spectacle and the birth of show business.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Community Programs are in full swing!

Breakfast Club w/Kate Gray
2nd Saturday of the month.
Meet at the iHop on Mildred, 10:00a.m.

Prime Time Hop w/ Ron Yaden
3rd Thursday of the month. Meet at *North End on Pearl, 3:30 p.m.*

Prime Time Plates w/Chris Johns
4th Thursday of the month. Meet at *Coopers at 4:00 p.m.*

INCLUSIVITY

At Pt. Defiance~Ruston Senior Center, operated by Franke Tobey Jones, we strive to maintain an environment where all participants, family members, team members, and our partners, feel welcomed, valued and respected. We believe each person's unique contribution to our collective well-being and that through a blend of diverse ideas, background and experiences, we learn, grow and support one another.

BIG NEWS!

Saturday Mornings are Growing at the Center! Starting this May, we're switching things up to give you more of what you love.

- **The Breakfast Club** is moving to the **1st Saturday** of every month.
- **A BRAND NEW Breakfast (optional) & Game Day** is launching on the **2nd Saturday** of every month!

The Big Question: What should we play after breakfast? We're deciding between **Bunko** or an **Open Game Day**. Which would you show up for? Come tell us your thoughts!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Make a Difference at Our Front Desk! Looking for a rewarding way to give back? The Center is seeking friendly, dedicated volunteers to join our team. We currently have an opening for:

- **Wednesday afternoons**

Computer experience is necessary; however, no database experience is needed. We provide full training. Come work with an incredible team and support the community you love. **Your Center needs you!**

KEEP OUR CENTER CLEAN!

We love seeing you (and your pets!) at the Center. To keep our space comfortable for everyone, we have two quick favors to ask:

- **Paws & Puddles:** If your dog has a "mishap" on the floor, please be a responsible pet parent and tidy up after them.
- **Restroom Care:** Accidents happen! However, if things get a bit messy in the restroom, please don't leave it for the next person.

*^Δ UNCORK YOUR CREATIVITY!

Randi Voss is back at the Center for another fan-favorite **Paint 'n Sip** class!

Whether you're a seasoned artist or haven't picked up a brush since grade school, this class is for you.

- **Date & Time:** Thursday, March 5 at 2:15 p.m.
- **Cost:** Only \$5.00! (Includes all supplies)

We'll have the wine ready—all you need to bring is yourself. See you there!

^Δ THAILAND CONT'D.

Experience the best of Thailand, from the bustling energy of **Bangkok** to the serene beauty of **Phuket**. Highlights include:

- **Culture:** The Reclining Buddha, Emerald Buddha, and the Golden Triangle.
- **Adventure:** Tuk Tuk rides, Chiang Mai Street Food, and a unique **Elephant Experience**.
- **Connection:** A Lanna home visit and an authentic home-hosted meal.

Total Value: 24 meals are included in this all-encompassing tour!

Want to learn more? Join our travel presentation: **Tuesday, March 10 at 10:00 a.m.**

Please sign up; space is limited.

KEEP OUR CENTER CLEAN! CONT'D.

If you aren't able to clean it yourself, just **let a staff member know**—we are happy to help, no questions asked.

Let's work together to keep our Center a place to be proud of.

RIDDLE CENTRAL ANSWER
The letter "R"

