



OCTOBER 2026 | VOL. 25

Sky Valley Profile

Willis Hill



"If it wasn't for bonehead English and general math, I wouldn't have graduated high school!"

Willis was born in Seattle in 1942 and grew up in Sultan, living a pretty sheltered life. As a kid, he played sports and spent a lot of time fishing and hunting.

He attended the Sultan School District from kindergarten through 12th grade and graduated in 1961. Sports took up a big part of his life. He played football, basketball, baseball, and ran track. He lettered in every sport he played, and in 1961, his team won every football game that season.

After graduation, he followed in his father's footsteps and joined the Army. He served for three years as an auto mechanic, stationed in Texas and at Fort Lewis.

After he returned home, he married Elizabeth. They spent 32 years together, raising their three children and taking care of horses and cows, before ultimately deciding to go their separate ways. Over the years, he worked in a variety of jobs and served his community in many ways. He worked as a utility worker for the Town of Sultan for five years, served as Fire Chief for District 26 in Gold Bar for two years, and spent 25 years as a volunteer firefighter in Sultan and Poulsbo. He eventually settled in Poulsbo, where he married his second wife, Mary. They were married for 27 years and enjoyed the outdoors, especially camping.

He became Superintendent of Public Works for the City of Poulsbo and later worked for Water District 82 in Issaquah. *"I have always enjoyed figuring out how things work and finding practical solutions to problems."* That ingenuity eventually earned him some national recognition. The American Water Works Association held an annual Gimmicks & Gadgets Contest to celebrate creative and innovative solutions to challenges in the water industry. He won the contest three years in a row and went on to take first place in the national competition with his invention of an expandable valve key. These days, Willis can be found cheering on the Seahawks, visiting the casino, taking road trips, or volunteering at the Sportsman's Club property near Addy.

"I enjoy coming to the Center because it's a good place to make friends and have a nice lunch. There are a lot of good folks here; it is a special place."



A “**You’re invited!**” email from a friend is a nice surprise but it may be a fake party invite dressed up as Evite or Paperless Post. If you’re asked for your email password or phone number to see the details or to enter a code to RSVP, don’t do it. If you do, the crook will use your inbox to send the same invite to others. Real invites never ask for a password.

If your phone starts ringing when you can’t answer, don’t decline the call unless you want the caller to know. On iPhone, press the side button once. On Android, press volume down. Your phone goes silent. The caller still hears normal ringing and will go to voicemail if they don’t hang up.

Your phone can contact emergency services quickly. On iPhone, go to Settings > Emergency SOS > Call with 5 Button Presses. On Android, try Settings > Safety and emergency > Emergency SOS. Once it’s set up, rapidly pressing the side or power button five times makes the call.

One-on-one help with your smart phone, laptop or tablet is offered on October 8. To make an appointment stop by the front desk or call 425-521-9644.

Speaker SERIES

GUEST HIGHLIGHT



Free & open to the community!

Brittany Reichenbach

Life Insurance Field Underwriter

Join us for an engaging and accessible discussion on how life insurance can protect your family and grow with you through every stage of life.

What We Will Cover:

- The fundamentals changing priorities
- Wealth building
- Retirement planning
- Final expense coverage

WEDNESDAY,
October 14

Speakers will be from 12:15-12:45pm,
with the last 10 minutes for Q&A.

FEATURED



SKY VALLEY CENTER

Do you like to crochet or want to learn?

JOIN THE SKY VALLEY

KNOT HEADS

EVERY WEDNESDAY
10:30am - 11:30am

Located at the Sky Valley Center A-Frame | 617 1st Street, Sultan

Learn how to crochet and make a difference in our community while having fun and making new friends. Knitters are welcome too!

We have the hooks and yarn, all we need is you!

Free class with the materials provided!

Resources, Support & Community All in One Place!

VOA SKY VALLEY CAMPUS

 Community Resource Center & Substance Use Prevention M-Th 9am-4pm 360-793-2400 701 1st St, Sultan	 Sultan Food Bank M 5pm-7pm • F 9:30am-12pm 425-309-5782 617 1st St, Sultan
 ECEAP & Affordable Childcare 425-212-2941 • Enrollment is open! ECEAP (701 1st St, Sultan) Childcare (605C 1st St, Sultan)	 Sky Valley Center M-Th 9am-2pm • Lunch 11:30am-1pm 360-395-2133 617 1st St, Sultan

To learn more about each of these programs and the services available, visit voawww.org/skyvalley

Volunteers of America
WESTERN WASHINGTON



SKY VALLEY CENTER

BINGO

— EVERY —
1ST & 3RD TUESDAY
12:30PM-2:30PM

Fun for everyone!

- New Games
- New Prize Tiers
- New Winning Games Patterns
- Free Prizes

Join us at the Sky Valley Center
617 1st St, Sultan, WA 98294

Call 360-395-2133 for more details



JOIN US FOR A

Day Trip to SNOQUALMIE CASINO

COST \$12



★ Try your luck and enjoy a fun day out! ★

 SKY VALLEY CENTER SULTAN BUS DEPARTS 8:30 AM RETURNS 3:00 PM	 MONROE SENIOR CENTER BUS DEPARTS 9:00 AM RETURNS 2:30 PM
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

≡ Sit back, relax, and let us do the driving! ≡

SIGN UP TODAY AT THE FRONT DESK | SPACE IS LIMITED!

Sky Valley Center

October Volunteer of the Month



Jerry "Bear" DeHart is our Volunteer of the Month! After 15 years of caring for a dear friend, Bear was searching for his next meaningful project. He found it in July when he stepped up to help in the Food Bank Garden, which he has since transformed into a vibrant, welcoming space. Bear shares, *"I enjoy taking things and making them pretty and helping others."* Thank you, Bear, for putting your passion into action and caring for our community!

JERRY "BEAR" DEHART



SKY VALLEY
CENTER

The Sky Valley Center is sustained through funding from foundations, corporations and individual donors.

