Dr. Taranath: Tangled: Why Your Hair Matters to Society  
Wednesday, March 4 @ 10:15 am • Olympia Senior Center

Hair is simply a collection of protein filaments that sprout from our scalp, yet it carries great meaning for us and our society. From twists and tapers to braids and buns, what's on top of our head and how it is received by others often reflects society's standards of beauty desirability. Using song, video, poetry, and imagery, this interactive presentation encourages us to examine our cultural conceptions of gender, class, and race. Why, for example, is one kind of hair or hair style understood as “better” than another? Who says so? What are the consequences of sporting an unruly doo, and how has that changed over the years? Join University of Washington professor Anu Taranath to untangle the meaning of hair, and better understand the stories we tell about beauty, bias, and belonging.

Julia Harrison: Sticky Subject: the History and Culture of Sugar  
Wednesday, March 11 @ 10:15 am • Olympia Senior Center

Once a rare, exotic ingredient, sugar has become a dietary staple, leaving its sticky fingerprints all over the globe. Anthropologist and sweets expert Julia Harrison takes participants on a journey from ancient sugar cane plantations to modern candy factories, uncovering sugar’s economic and social significance. From slavery and mass migration to environmental changes and nutrition, the consequences of sugar's rise are global - and not always sweet. Julia Harrison is an anthropologist and avid traveler for whom all roads lead to sweets. Her projects include a multimedia online map of bakeries, desserts, and candy-makers around Puget Sound.

Travelogue: Jim Eychaner's Adventure in New Zealand  
Wednesday, March 18 @ 10:15 am • Olympia Senior Center

When Jim's wife, Mo retired, he gifted her an around-the-world trip, culminating with a whole month in New Zealand. Come see the trip they took together in 2016, as a celebration of a completion of her career and their love that they share together. See images of beautiful landscapes, learn about Maori culture, and hear some travel tips for visiting New Zealand. In addition, Jim has travel and packing tips that can prepare you for your next adventure.

Art Dolan, Sons of the American Revolution- Espionage: the Second Oldest Profession, 1775-1783  
Wednesday, March 25 @ 10:15 am • Olympia Senior Center

“George Washington didn't really outfight us, he simply out-suited us", said Major George Beckwith, a British Intelligence Officer in 1783. Come and discover the rudiments of spy craft during the American Revolution. Spies' tactics, and their role in winning our independence, and the establishment of a new nation will be unwrapped like a secret gift! Who was spy 711 or agent 355? One we know and one we don't. Hear the fascinating story of spying and its craft was plied during the American Revolution. How could one of Washington's spics remain a mystery for over 125 years and one never discovered? Set your calendar and bring a friend for this fascinating journey during the American Revolution.

Contact us to learn more about the Speaker Series or other events!  
Olympia Senior Center • 222 Columbia St NW • 360.586.6181  
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www.SouthSoundSeniors.org