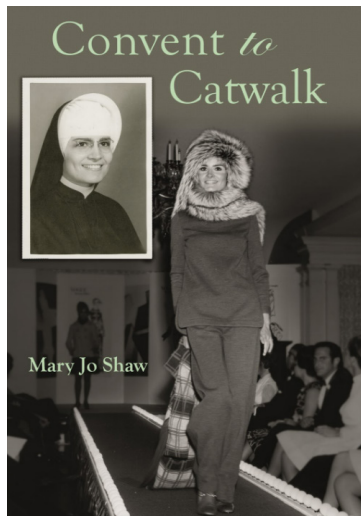


Masks are now optional. Visit our website at [southsoundseniors.org/covid](https://southsoundseniors.org/covid) for additional details on guidelines.



## **Mary Jo Shaw, Author Convent to Catwalk** Wednesday, Nov 9 @ 10:00 am • Olympia location

Why would Mary Jo Shaw enter a convent of religious nuns at 16, leave, and the very next day be trained to be a high fashion model for the greatest designers in the world? Come and find out why and how this woman's life transformed!!



## **Ken Balsley , Radio Personality and Historian** Wednesday, November 16 @ 10:00 am • Olympia location

Join us as Ken talks about the most significant events in the modern era of Thurston County history.

**Ken Balsley** is a local boy. He attended Tumwater Grade School, Olympia High School and The Evergreen State College. For the past 50 years he has been reporting on and writing about local politics and business. He was the founder and first president of the Lacey Historical Commission where he served for 13 years. He served 6 years on the Lacey Parks Board and is currently in his fifth year as a member of the Thurston County Historical Commission. He has been the editor of a newspaper; a radio broadcaster; a blogger; and currently hosts an interview program on KGY FM called, "Coffee With Ken". He is also a columnist for the Thurston-Mason County Senior News. Ken has been inducted into the Olympia High School Alumni Hall of Fame for his half-century of community involvement. His first book detailing his childhood in Tumwater has been sold out and his second book on the modern history of Lacey will be published before the end of this year.



## Daniel Smerken, Smerken Consulting-Eldercare Services

Wednesday, Nov 30 @ 10:00 am • Olympia location

Financial and Medical Decisions - Who Will Make Them For Me If I Cannot and How Do I Make Decisions for Someone Else When They Can't. (i.e. Advanced Directives, POLST Forms, and Durable Powers of Attorney).

This presentation is from a non-attorney professional fiduciary/Geriatric Care Manager who serves as agent in fact (AKA Power of Attorney) for multiple older adults, as a surrogate decision maker when the clients are unable to manage their own medical and financial needs.

The presentation will focus on what individuals can do now to:

- Take steps to document their medical and financial preferences in the event of temporary or permanent incapacity.
- Appoint a representative with authority to make medical and financial decisions on your behalf.
- The potential consequences of not taking these decision-making steps now while competent to do so.

**Dan Smerken** is a professional fiduciary and geriatric care manager based in Olympia, WA. Dan obtained a BA in Health and Human Services at The Evergreen State College and his Master's in Social Science with an emphasis in gerontology and family and organizational systems from Pacific Lutheran University. He also has a graduate certificate in geriatric care management from the University of Florida and certificates in guardianship, gerontology, geriatric mental health, mediation, and paralegal studies from the University of Washington and a certificate of nursing from the John A. Logan College. Dan is a Certified Professional Guardian and LPN in Washington State.

Dan currently serves as a volunteer on the Certified Professional Guardianship Board. He formerly served as an officer and board member for the Washington Association of Professional Guardians and the National Guardianship Association. He is past Board chair of the Better Business Bureau of Alaska, Oregon, and Washington.

Dan's past work experience includes nursing, case management, the development and management of federally funded housing for the elderly (Section 202), and management of community based long term care programs for older adults, such as the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) in Seattle.