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# Kitsap Sun

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## Turning the page



Owners, left to right, Jaci Bryant and Carmen Garringer stand behind the bar of their newly opened bookstore Verse & Vine on July 6. The shop resides inside the Teien House, a century-old historic building in Poulsbo.

### Historic Poulsbo building evolves into a new concept for a readers hub

Neisha Gaskins Kitsap Sun | USA TODAY NETWORK

POULSBO -- When you enter the doors of Verse & Vine, you'll likely find Carmen Garringer behind the bar brewing tea, while she chats with visitors about their latest read. Her mother, Jaci Bryant, meanwhile, doesn't stay in one place, curating charcuterie boards or helping customers find their next novel. The two appear skilled at getting typically introverted readers talking.

The mother-daughter owned bookstore opened its doors on July 3 inside the cozy, historic Teien House at 19679 Front Street NE, just blocks north of downtown. Built in 1906, the home that has stood for more than a century near the shoreline has been reoccupied by novels, wine and mellow conversations between book-lovers alike.

#### Gratitude in the form of books

Verse & Vine began as a love letter to the local community that carried the mother-daughter duo through a difficult period of their lives, the duo said.

See VERSE & VINE, Page 2A



Verse & Vine co-owner Jaci Bryant pours a drink into a vintage goblet on July 6. The bar offers wine, rosé, beer, cider and on-tap flights along with specialty teas, charcuterie boards and cold sandwiches. PHOTOS BY NEISHA GASKINS/KITSAP SUN

## Myers tops interim sheriff list

Marissa Conter  
Kitsap Sun  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Kitsap County Democrats have designated Brandon Myers, one of the two candidates in the Kitsap County Sheriff election this fall, as the first choice among pool of nominees to be selected as interim sheriff.

Following Democrat John Gese's abrupt resignation as sheriff, announced in June, the local party organization was tasked by state law with nominating three applicants to be considered for interim sheriff. Kitsap Democrats Board President Tom Slyter said a total of three applicants applied, and precinct committee officers ranked the three and forwarded the list to the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners, which will select one candidate. Myers, Jeffrey Menge and Ken Dickinson, ranked by the PCOs in that order, will be considered for the assignment until the election in November.



Myers

See MYERS, Page 2A

## Platner exit leaves Dems in disarray

Maine Senate seat vital for congressional control

Phillip M. Bailey and Terry Collins  
USA TODAY

Democrats are racing for the reset button in the pivotal U.S. Senate battle in Maine after Graham Platner announced he will suspend his campaign, throwing the party into a frantic search for a replacement nominee to take on Republican incumbent Susan Collins this fall.

The decision comes after Platner faced a broad chorus of calls from fellow Democrats to exit the race following a new allegation that he sexually

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