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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1st

Aids for Daily Living at SJI Library

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The community can borrow assistive devices through the San Juan Island Library. The recently renamed **Aids for Daily Living Collection** from the Washington Assistive Technology Act Program (WATAP) is a collection of assistive devices to provide patrons the opportunity to try out a device they may be considering for themselves or another in their home. The goal is to encourage thinking about how assistive devices may promote greater independence.

Assistive Technology includes any device that is used to maintain or improve the functional abilities of an individual with a disability. A device can be high or low tech, off the shelf or specially designed. Some of the items included in the collection:

- Dressing kits, including sock aids and dressing sticks that decrease the need for bending
- Household items, such as telephone amplification and reachers and lifting tools
- Reading aids, such as book stands and magnifiers
- Kitchen items, including a jug/kettle tipper and gripper openers
- Technology aids, such as specialized keyboards and mice

To find these items, patrons can search the library catalog under “Aids for Daily Living” to see the assistive tools available for checkout. More information is available at: www.sjlib.org/watap/ Patrons can also ask at the information desk to see a printed catalog of available items.

The Aids for Daily Living Collection adds to the wide range of resources and programs the Library has for seniors in the community. Large print books, books and media available on phones and other devices, public access computers & WiFi, Tech Cafe technology assistance, programs tailored for our senior community and more are available at the Library.

Library cards are free of charge to San Juan Island residents. Patrons of Orcas Island Public Library and Lopez Island Library may receive a reciprocal borrowing card for free. Library hours are Monday through Friday from 10 am-6 pm, and Saturday from 10 am-3 pm.

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