Brrr-aving the cold

Starting the New Year with a chilly dip becomes a family tradition

Tana Mattson leads the sprint out of the frigid waters of Utsalady Bay on north Camano Island during the ninth annual Polar Plunge on New Year’s Day 2019.

Staff Reporter

By PEGGY WENDEL

Tana Mattson took a chilly dip on Jan. 1 in Utsalady Bay off Camano Island. She joined about 35 people who rose to the chilly challenge this year. “It’s tradition,” said Tana Mattson. “It’s a great way to start the New Year. The only way. It gives you a sense of accomplishment.” She took the Polar Plunge with her father, Robert Quam.

“It’s stinging cold,” he said. “It’s much cheaper.” compared to scuba diving. It’s much cheaper. There’s not much equipment required compared to scuba diving. It’s much cheaper.

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“There are some people and more will be back next year for the 10th annual plunge.”

Photo courtesy of Jeff Laplanthe

People passed each other on the beach as they hopped in and out of the Puget Sound off Camano Island.

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See more photos from the dip at SCnews.com