

February 11 through February 17, 2021

FREE

# Whidbey Weekly

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*Share the*

*Love* →

eat, give, celebrate

LOCALLY!

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*Be Our Valentine!*

Love and Shop Local

OAK HARBOR MAIN STREET





Kindness is contagious p. 8

## “Share the Love” campaign supports Whidbey businesses

By **Kathy Reed** Whidbey Weekly

What better way to show Whidbey Island’s small businesses some love than shopping local for Valentine’s Day?

That’s the idea behind the “Share the Love” campaign being proffered by the Langley and Coupeville Chambers of Commerce. Get something special for your sweetie(s) and spread some love to small business owners who have been hit hard by COVID restrictions this past year. The way organizers see it, it’s a win-win.

“Overall, this is an extension of the “Shop Local” campaign, as spurring those that live on Whidbey Island to support their local businesses continues to be critically important to our small business’ survival,” said Inge Morascini, executive director of the Langley Chamber of Commerce. “There has been a further trend to shop online since COVID, but our local businesses are the backbone of our community and provide unique products and services, and the money spent stays in the community.”

“The Coupeville Chamber’s focus is advocating for our

businesses and shopping local is our priority,” said Executive Director Lynda Eccles. “It is so important to continue to support our restaurants and retail businesses right now. We want to encourage the community to come to Coupeville and browse our unique shops to find that one-of-a-kind Valentine’s Day gift or surprise your spouse or partner by ordering a delicious meal to take home.”

Many small businesses up and down Whidbey Island are offering Valentine’s Day specials. While some, particularly restaurants, have already stopped taking Valentine pre-orders, there are many others with plenty of seasonal items available. Whidbey residents are encouraged to check with their favorite dining establishments and retailers to see if there are still sweetheart deals to be had.

But Eccles noted shopping local shouldn’t just be reserved for special occasions, particularly during these difficult days.

“I am hoping this campaign will continue to encourage people to purchase a meal to pick up and enjoy from one of our local restaurants, not just for this campaign but throughout the coming months,” she said. “We have restaurants offering special Valentine’s Day themed meals, while others continue to offer tasty meals from their to go menus. Any meal you take home makes it special. Make it a picnic surprise, order sandwiches, coffee and pastries and take it to sit and enjoy the scenery or sit and watch the sunset.”

“Over the holiday season our local businesses saw a lot of support from the local community and it made the difference to some being able to stay in business,” Morascini said. “Our campaign serves as a reminder to people that the businesses in our community are our friends and neighbors, they employ local people, support local crafts people and the taxes they pay support the local community.”

Plus, Morascini said there are perks offered by Whidbey’s small businesses that are hard to find when shopping with large retailers or online.

“Many of our local businesses offer curbside delivery or even home delivery, in the case of Flying Bear Farm Florist,” she said. “They will even ‘bundle’ a flower purchase with gifts from other shops and deliver them to your doorstep. Foamy Wader Jewelry, in the Langley Village, offers QR code shopping from their windows, so you don’t even have to go inside to shop.”

In addition, small businesses have been carefully following safety protocols and continue to do so, making sure the health and safety of customers is the first priority.

“All of our shops are all following strict protocols, minimizing the number of people and sanitizing their environments,” noted Morascini.



Photo Courtesy of Langley Chamber of Commerce

*Small businesses on Whidbey Island have pulled out all the stops to make shopping locally safe and easy. For example, Foamy Wader Jewelry in Langley has given a whole new meaning to the term “window shopping,” by offering QR code shopping right from the sidewalk.*

“I am proud of our businesses and how they are following the guidelines outlined by the governor’s office,” agreed Eccles. “We all have to continue to follow the guidelines – that is the only way we are going to get through this. I believe people feel comfortable shopping locally because we do obey the rules.

“Another way to support local is to shop online at the chamber’s ShopCoupeville.com,” Eccles continued. “A number of our retailers have their businesses registered and you can sit in the comfort of your home and shop.”

The Langley Chamber offers a similar online marketplace for its small businesses, found at [altogetherlangley.com](http://altogetherlangley.com).

Still another promotion the Coupeville Chamber has going on is its “Shop Local, Share the Love Selfie Contest.”

“During February and March, snap a selfie showing your purchase, tag it with #shopcoupeville on Facebook or Instagram and be sure your posts are public,” Eccles explained. “We will hold a drawing at the end of each month for an opportunity to win a facial from Seaside Spa and Salon and gifts from The Crow’s Roost or bayleaf.”

But the bottom line, according to Morascini and Eccles, is that local small businesses need support from their local communities. It’s all connected.

“Our businesses offer unique products, much of it made or grown locally,” said Morascini. “Our businesses are our friends and neighbors. They are part of the fabric of our community, employing local people, and supporting the local economy. The dollars you spend locally, stay local.”

“The only way our communities are going to get through this is to support our local businesses; by doing that you are keeping people employed as well as keeping the doors open,” Eccles said. “Living here is a gift we are all lucky enough to share – let’s all get through this together. Shop local, eat local and buy local. When this is over, we can all say we played a part in helping our community get through this.”

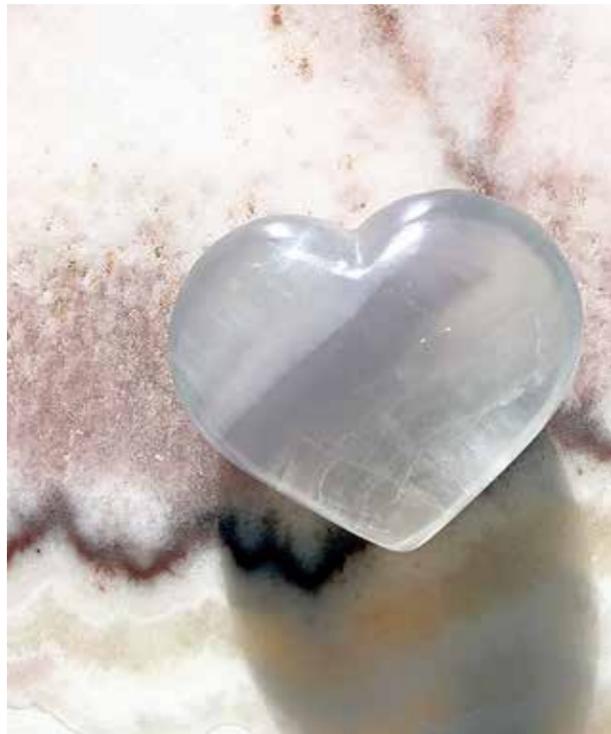


Photo Courtesy of Langley Chamber of Commerce

*Unique items abound at Whidbey Island’s small businesses, such as these gemstone hearts offered by Whidbey Island Gem Shop in Langley.*

Happy Valentine’s Day!

WE MISS YOU, VOLUNTEERS!  
OUR KICKOFF  
SPAGHETTI DINNER WILL BE EVEN  
SWEETER NEXT YEAR!  
STAY SAFE AND WELL.

South Whidbey Hearts & Hammers' Board



# ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



Thanks to *Whidbey Weekly* reader and friend Ellen A. for her recent call observing that I had "outdone myself" in last week's column. Curiosity drove me to check our web site archives to read what I had written.

Sure enough, last week I was somewhere between being "beside myself" and having "outdone myself."

Those two expressions have always confused me. If I have to get angry to be "beside myself" and out of my ordinary sorts to be outdoing myself, where was I when we started?

While the days of being beside myself appear to be over, I relish in the thought of continuing to try to outdo myself.

If the bowling alley ever opens again, I hope to outdo myself before having a cheeseburger. Doesn't food always taste better in a bowling alley?

### Lynn on

Grandpa Freeman used to tell us, and any other kids who would listen, there were three great life achievements: To know thyself, to control thyself, and to give thyself.

Hometown hero and icon Lynn Willeford, Whidbey Island's master of all three life achievements, said goodbye to this plane of achievement last month.

Lynn's resume could fill a TV mini-series with her delightful stories of community giving, community sharing, and community leadership. Lynn was our island's Thomas Edison. Her ideas were unparalleled, lighting the way for others to create, inspire, and demonstrate.

Lynn helped found and develop a bundle of nonprofit organizations, including but not limited to the South Whidbey Community Coop, the South Whidbey Free University, the Back to School Program, Hearts and Hammers, Friends of Friends, Whidbey Island Local Lending, Women of Whidbey, and South Whidbey at Home.

Apologies if I left out anything. Lynn never left out anybody.

Lynn and husband Blake own the Clyde Theater. In the late 90s, *Prefontaine*, including my two sentence, 11 word speaking part, was showing. What does Lynn do?

Showing her subtle wit once again, Lynn ran an ad promoting the film's viewing times and days.

In the ad she had the title of the movie followed by "Starring Jared Leto and Jim Freeman."

Twenty plus years later, I am still laughing and still thankful.

Bless you, Lynn, for everything. You taught us well. Your causes do and will live on.

### Shot one done

My Moderna experience last week was way better than my anxiety. Not only was my adventure slick and quick, my needle man concluded the injection with, "Good. No blood."

That kind of reassurance has kept me from a life of crime.

If you are anxious about the shot, don't be. It is not near as scary as jury duty.

### No drone zone

What is the greatest number of wash loads you have ever achieved in one day? At home or in a laundromat.

Last week, I achieved a new personal record of 18 wash loads. I was washing so many clothes I even washed the clothes I was giving to the Goodwill. The bag is only a year old. Thank goodness I did not give away the snug fitting coat. The snug is gone.

Washing clothes is therapeutic. The sound of the machines is soothing. The sound is rhythmic. The sound is merely white noise on quarters.

Fortunately, there were no other patrons in the laundromat when I was there. I got there real early since they open at five in the morning.

Remember, the early bird gets the soap and the quarters.

### Star Alert

Whidbey Island violin virtuoso Talia Toni Marcus will be featured at the Jack Benny Virtual Convention this weekend. Talia played with Jack on his TV show and on tour. She is among the many stars featured. The lineup is amazing. <http://jackbenny.org/wp/home/convention>.

### Social non-distancing

As you have noticed from week to week, our Island 9-1-1 entries, legitimized by the Island County Sheriff's Department and Oak Harbor police, often offer amazing insights into the behavior of our locals.

My fave entry occurred 30 years ago, Wednesday, May 9, 1990:

*At 4:09 pm., an Oak Harbor area resident said a man came to her open front door and said he was looking for someone. The woman invited the man in and he admitted he made up the excuse because he wanted to meet her. The woman said she made the comment she needed to lose weight and the man placed his hand on her buttock and said he didn't think so. The woman's phone rang and the man said "saved by the bell, catch you later" and left. The woman said she didn't feel threatened, but is reporting the incident because her husband insisted.*

### Color coded

After researching over 180,000 insurance claims, *The Old Farmer's Almanac* speculated what the color of one's car says about the personality of the owner.

The black car owners "denote an aggressive personality or someone who's an outsider or rebel." Are undercover cars black?

The silver car owners show a coolness and calmness. Thank you, James Bond.

Green car owners often have "hysterical tendencies." I doubt Flip Wilson had a green Rolls or a green Bentley with "Killer" on his license plate.

Yellow car owners "signify someone who is idealistic and novelty-loving." No wonder I avoid Hertz.

Blue car owners are thought to be "more introspective, reflective and cautious drivers." It must be the side mirrors.

Gray car owners "represent those who are calm, sober, and dedicated to their work." Do you know anyone with a gray car?

Red car owners are "full of zest, energy, and drive and who think, move, and talk quickly." Sounds like firetruck time to me.

Pink car owners are "gentle, loving and affectionate drivers." What, no pink police cars?

Cream-color folks are "self-contained and controlled drivers." Nothing like a self-contained driver to keep me from tailgating.

So, what color do you drive?

Does this make sense or is this just another gray groundhog without a shadow?

The farmers missed the color brown. Must be a UPS thing.

### Funny from a friend

While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch.

After finishing their meal, they left the restaurant, and resumed the trip. She left her glasses on the table, and she didn't miss them until they had been driving for about 40 minutes.

By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around, in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses.

All the way back, the elderly husband became the classic grumpy old man. He fussed and complained and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her, the more agitated he became. He just wouldn't let up for a single minute.

To her relief, they finally arrived at the restaurant. As the woman got out of the car, and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled out to her, "While you're in there, you might as well get my hat and the credit card."

To read past columns of *On Track* in the *Whidbey Weekly*, see our Digital Library at [www.whidbeyweekly.com](http://www.whidbeyweekly.com).

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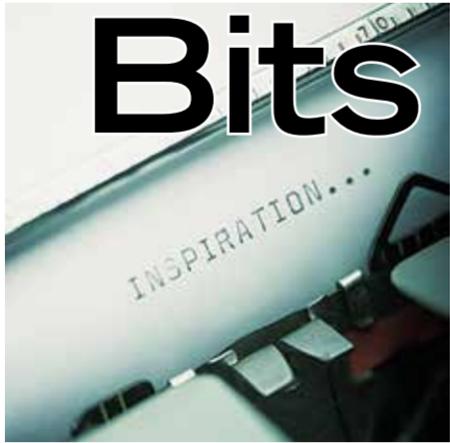
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Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.





# Bits & Pieces

**Editor,**

**Boycott the NFL!**

Here is what Hulu says at hulu.help.com: *The Super Bowl will not be available on-demand on Hulu, but Live TV subscribers can record the game to their Cloud DVR and rewatch the action after it airs.*

I predicted this could happen and it is true now. The NFL and CBS got together and thought, hmmm, not enough money for airing the Super Bowl this year since we will have a captive audience during this pandemic. So, guess what? They raised the cost of broadcasting the game and sold "viewing" rights to those who would pay and did this during the last week of the anticipation of the Super Bowl. Hulu caved-in and paid out additional money to air the game which was either to CBS or a special license to show the game to the NFL headquarters. It is interesting to remember when Whidbey Telecom was threatened by additional payment to air Internet content, they, at least, had the backbone to quit, for once you pay out a ransom to a blackmailer, there is no end.

Here is what Hulu did. Last week they erased all "Live" events on their channel and now make it a pay channel. In order to see the Super Bowl game, you either had to watch it on CBS, or go to a restaurant or bar where it is shown. Finding one of those in our area was not going to happen. YouTube should have the game taped the next day so watch it there.

This is just another indication of how the media and big corporations have taken a stranglehold on our fun and even our American pastime and turned it into a higher profit.

Don't be a sucker and pay in to this corrupt scheme. Ask yourself...Where does this money end up that I pay to Hulu for the pleasure of watching the game? Right in the fat pockets of the NFL heads, not on new equipment to make the game easier to view, and certainly not to the players who are playing the game.

Protest this corruption by not watching the Super Bowl. If this takes off around the country, the NFL will lose its stranglehold on how it licenses and profits from its fan base. Remember this: This happened one week before the game was scheduled to be played. Are you going to let them get away with this? Hell no! Boycott the NFL.

Jim Barden  
 Langley, Wash.

**Malheur—Where the Birds are Plentiful and the People Are Not**

The Whidbey Audubon Society's Feb. 11 program is a photographic journey through space and time in the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge by Dan Streiffert of the Rainier Audubon Society. Three migration routes converge in the Malheur area, making it one of the most important feeding and resting locations on the Pacific Flyway. Thousands

of Northern Pintails, Snow and Ross's Geese, American Wigeons, Green-winged Teal, Northern Shovelers and Canvasbacks rest and refuel here on their long migrations. Hundreds of Sandhill Cranes and Trumpeter Swans add to this spectacle, which is in full swing from mid-March to mid-April.

Because it is a basin lake, Malheur varies in size and depth each year depending on snow-pack and rainfall. In 2018, there was virtually no snow on Steens Mountain and as a result, Malheur Lake was barely visible, even from the visitor center. Many that visit in such a year are disappointed and leave early. Yet if one knows where to look, there are plenty of birds to see.

This free program is open to all and begins at 7:00PM with a brief meeting and the program begins at 7:30PM. Nonmembers must register on the website, www.whidbeyaudubonsociety.org. A Zoom link will be emailed the day of the event.

[Submitted by Susan Prescott, Whidbey Audubon Publicity Chair]

**Drive-Through Experience for Ash Wednesday**

A roadside, drive-through experience for Ash Wednesday is being offered at the Rotary Park gravel parking lot next to the pickle ball courts behind the Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce on Highway 20. The entrance is on NE Fourth Avenue, just north of the North Whidbey Middle School play fields.

This drive-through "Ashing station" is joyfully open to the entire public and is a non-sectarian, inter-denominational offering presented by Oak Harbor First United Methodist Church. COVID safety precautions will be in force, utilizing masks, face shields, gloves and long, large Q-tips for one-time use for ashing marks on people's foreheads or wrists. This approach is intended to convey to all participants both respect and safety.

The event is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 17, from 11:00AM to 1:00PM. During this time, persons who choose will drive through the lot, stop for a brief, window rolled down ashing and then be on their way. Courtesy, respect, dignity, hope, spiritual connection and sacred blessings will be offered.

The church will then offer a livestream Ash Wednesday service at 7:00PM that same evening for those who wish to share and celebrate more in the reflective messages of this day through song, scripture, meditation and prayer. The service can be found at www.oakharborfumc.org/live.

[Submitted by Pastor David Parker, Oak Harbor First United Methodist Church]

**Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Issues Federal Mask Mandate**

Island Transit, Island County's public transit agency, will continue its commitment to deliver safe transportation across Island County. Part

of this commitment is to ensure all passengers who utilize services will follow the federal mask mandate in response to the Executive Order signed Monday, Jan. 21 by President Joe Biden. Island Transit has already taken great steps to reduce the spread of COVID-19 by providing additional safety measures for passengers, operators, and staff.

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) now requires all passengers, operators, or visitors wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth while riding, getting on and off rides, and entering transportation facilities. This order extends to waiting areas such as bus shelters and bus stations. Concurrently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued its order requiring persons to wear masks on all public transportation. These orders make refusal to wear a mask a violation of federal law.

There are two notable exemptions from wearing a mask: children under two years of age and persons with a disability that makes wearing a mask dangerous to their health. Previously approved exemptions may no longer apply; all persons are recommended to review the CDC's guidelines to ensure appropriate measures are taken to comply with the current mandate.

CDC guidance for attributes of acceptable masks in context of the order can be found at www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html.

For additional information regarding this order please visit www.cdc.gov/quarantine/pdf/Mask-Order-CDC\_GMTF\_01-29-21-p.pdf.

Learn more about Island Transit's commitments to passenger health and safety during the pandemic at www.islandtransit.org/commitments.

Questions? Please call 360-678-7771.

[Submitted by Selene Muldowney-Stratton, Marketing & Communications Officer, Island Transit]

**Local Author Publishes Biography, "My Name is Anna"**

Anna E. Nail has been residing on Whidbey Island for the past two-plus years and in that time has found the "push" to finish her book, *My Name is Anna*. It is a moving life story about her struggles with childhood, early addictions to alcohol, drugs, cigarettes, and food to help fill a void in her life. The story ends like a fairy tale with overcoming these addictions 32 years ago and her journey to now live a victorious, purpose filled life.

Anna and her husband, Oli, are retired from their careers, but wanting to "give back," they serve their community through their local church and outreach programs like Mighty to Save Ministries.

At present, you can pick up this true-life story at His Place Christian Book Store in Oak Harbor or you can order it through Amazon and Amazon Kindle. Who knows, perhaps the words in this book may reflect what you need today to have a happier, more victorious life?

[Submitted by Anna E. Nail, Author]

## Letters to the Editor

**Editor,**

In response to Peggy Shekem's recent letter to *Whidbey Weekly*, I wish to direct my criticism towards her comments on the Black Lives Matter protests. I will include my assessment of her statements on the Capitol Insurrection.

She claims BLM protesters used George Floyd's death as an excuse. How insulting! Black people witnessed yet another black person being murdered at the hands of police officers. This time it lasted almost nine minutes while Floyd lay prone - no threat - pleading for life - as the officer, with his hands in his pockets, bore his knee into Floyd's neck. Anyone with blood instead of ice water flowing through their veins would have been horrified. The ensuing vandalism caused by protesters and outsiders drew most of the news coverage. Obviously, destruction of property can never be condoned. Yet, nearly 70 percent of the BLM protests were peaceful along with participants of every color and nationality. (The peaceful description wasn't newsworthy.)

Her flowery descriptions of the Capitol Hill Insurrection Jan. 6 don't come close to what I witnessed. She saw a "small number" of Trump supporters who "simply walked into the building" while others "entering doors came in legally and properly." Inside they "were respectful and courteous" and "stopped rioters from destroying public property." She also claims that the insurrection was "led by Antifa and Black Lives Matter." Both accusations were rightfully proven to be false.

Trump lost the election by seven million votes. There was no fraud. He lost over 60 lawsuits and numerous recounts while promoting his lie. Finally, he directed a mob to destroy Democracy while desecrating the U. S. Capitol in the process.

Trump's supporters still praise him in the name of "whiteness" and "white privilege." This charlatan, cult leader, rapist, perpetual liar and failed (twice impeached) president remains their "Great White Hope." And, the spineless Senate Republicans will never reject him for fear of alienating his base. It's solely Trump's party now and they are loath to do anything about it.

Valetta Faye  
 Oak Harbor, Wash.

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Answers on page 11



TUESDAY, JAN. 12

5:02 am, Bonito Way

Reporting party advising ex let reporting party borrow truck. States ex just showed up with a "mob" of people to take truck. Reporting party advising one of the subjects in the "mob" got maced.

7:01 am, Main St.

Someone sleeping outside near outdoor dining area. States he has a bong next to him. Just wants him to leave.

12:11 pm, NE Faris St.

Requesting call, calling on behalf of daughter who used to live at location. Advising daughter moved out, the landlord at location has "confiscated" her dog and will not return it. Also advising it is an emotional support dog.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13

4:34 am, Leahy Dr.

Reporting party advising neighbor behind reporting party has a generator that has flashing lights on it that flash right into reporting party's residence.

10:12 am, Sidney St.

Reporting party advising people are taking all reporting party's furniture. Advising doesn't know the people. Advising knows one person there.

5:47 pm, Cloud Way

Irrate male advising of address and demanded his power be turned on. States all of Oak Harbor was on but four houses on Cloud Way. When ICOM advised would transfer caller to PSE to make sure they were aware, caller hung up.

7:42 pm, Wahl Rd.

Reporting party advising 10 minutes ago someone cut the cord from the generator to the house; suspects it was neighbor at bottom of the hill.

7:54 pm, Ferry Ave.

Reporting party calling on behalf of mother; advising ongoing issue of someone walking up to mother's property and knocking on doors and windows at 3 am.

11:03 pm, NE Lauren St.

Caller wants to file complaint about neighbors at location using their generator, feels it is too loud. Caller is aware of county-wide power outage.

THURSDAY, JAN. 14

4:44 am, East Harbor Rd.

Requesting call; wants to know if there any gas stations are functional at this time during power outage.

7:28 am, Classic Rd.

Requesting call. Advising is having issues

with people coming to location and staying. Advising no one there now that reporting party knows. Requesting law enforcement walk to location to make sure no one is there.

11:18 am, East Harbor Rd.

Reporting party requesting to know if he can charge his CPAP machine at station; does not have power at home.

6:10 pm, Sunlight Beach Rd.

Reporting party advising vacant lot at location has a stack of firewood. States there's shadows moving around truck. States there is a cabin where people are acting weird. There are actors that place their heads on the stumps and make it look like they are alive.

6:12:pm Stellar Ln.

Reporting party advising male just came to location and was walking around RV. Male threatened reporting party with power tool.

FRIDAY, JAN. 15

2:36 am, Sage Ln.

States mother is in hospital and was brought there by somebody claiming to be reporting party's sister. Believes female stole mom's purse.

11:16 am, Crosby Rd.

Caller advising there is a large pile of rocks by a Christmas tree in parking lot of turnout and underneath it, a pair of panties and socks.

2:13 pm, Rebecca Dr.

Reporting party requesting call regarding embezzlement that occurred eight years ago.

3:31 pm, SR 20

Reporting party advising was driving and lost keys; advising car starts with a key fob and is unable to drive the vehicle. Was advised to fill out form online.

Report provided by OHPD & Island County Sheriff's Dept.

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Richie Steffen,

Executive Director of the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden in Seattle

+

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presented by Island County Master Gardener Foundation

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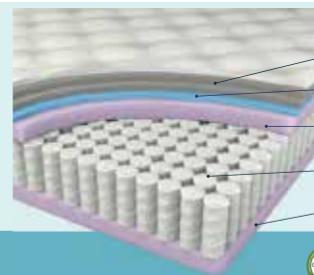
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Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.





Remember

# Your Valentine

February 14



## Be Our Valentine!



### February 12-14, 2021

With every purchase at a participating downtown business, enter to win one of four prizes ... each valued at \$250!

Prizes include gift certificates from a historic Coupeville restaurant or lodging at a local B&B, Inn or VRBO, wine, champagne, chocolate, flowers, and more!



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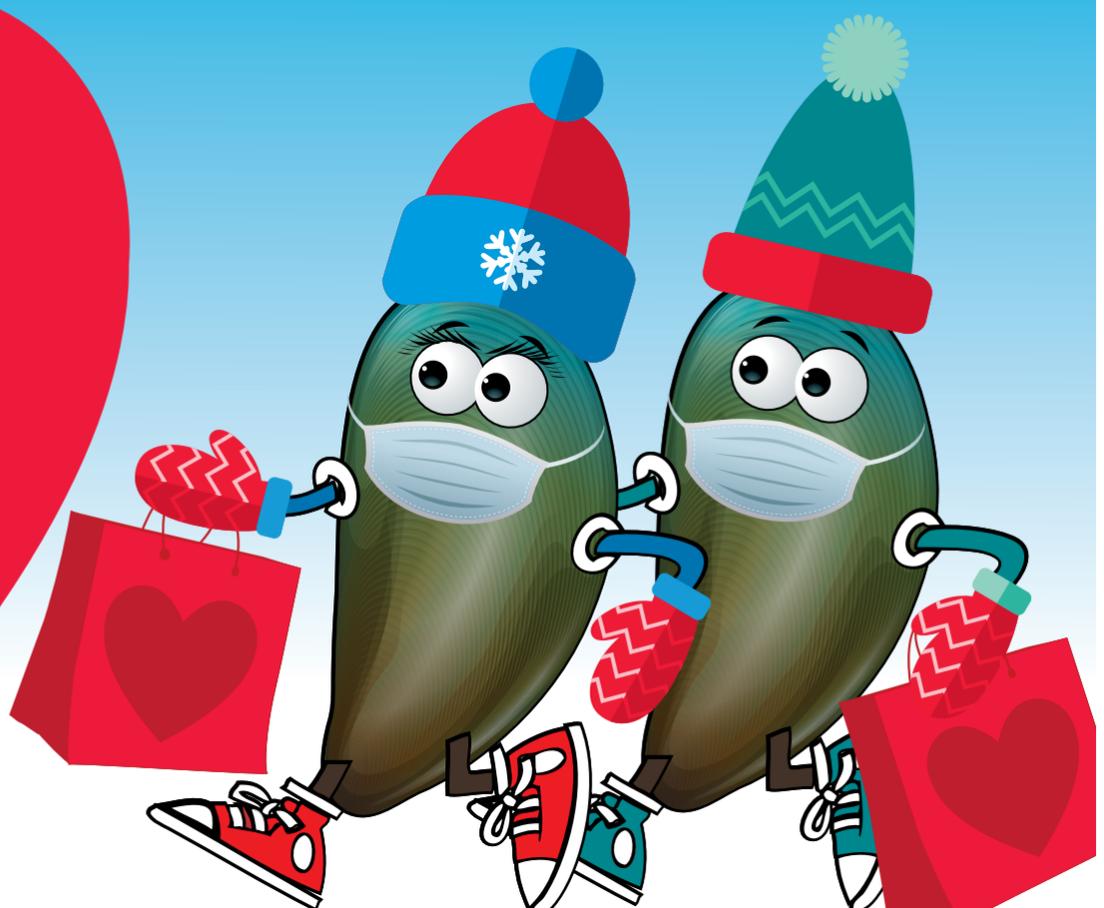
Facebook: CAM Ballroom Dance Studio



## Shop - Eat - Spend - Enjoy Local this Valentine's Day

Continue the Trend by Supporting our local businesses where you live, work and play.

### Happy Valentines Day From The Coupeville Chamber of Commerce



# HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



Come to Fidalgo Ave this Friday February 12 for the first FIDALGO FRIDAY! Participating businesses will feature some fun Fidalgo Friday Specials! Fidalgo Friday T-shirts will be available at PNW Vibes in The Loft & Fidalgo & Dock! We love our small businesses and look forward to seeing you downtown during Valentine's Day Weekend!



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All proceeds donated to community programs

360-675-1133

600 SE Barrington Drive • Oak Harbor

Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-5:30pm

Donation Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-4pm

## Valentine's Weekend At the Blue Fox

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12 THRU SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

VALENTINE'S DAY (PG-13)

CRAZY STUPID LOVE (PG-13)



### Valentine's Day

Package at The Blue Fox Drive-In  
February 12, 13 & 14

#### Package Includes:

- ~Admission for 2
- ~2 Movies
- ~Large 1-topping heart shaped pizza
- ~Tub of Popcorn
- ~2 large drinks

\$40



BOX OFFICE OPENS AT 4PM, FIRST MOVIE BEGINS AT 6:30PM  
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360-675-5667 • [www.bluefoxdrivein.com](http://www.bluefoxdrivein.com)

Share the

LOVE

eat, give, celebrate – locally!

Valentine's Day approaches! Show your love for that special someone and for your local business community as well. We've included a few ideas to get you started –

A box filled with chocolates is always well received, Mona, at **Sweet Mona's Chocolate Boutique** will fix you up. Lily at **Fair Trade Outfitters** has cashmere scarves to wrap up your loved one in, and even cozy fleece-lined puppy coats for your fur babies. Cynthia's exquisite taste is reflected in the wonderful clothing at the **In the Country Boutique** and she's a joy to talk to.

Melissa and Ben, of **Flying Bear Farm** will be happy to whip up a bouquet and deliver it...they'll even go the extra step of including items from other stores in Langley. You'll find their offerings at **FlyingBearFarm.com**.

Handmade jewelry by Alexa is just a scan away at **Foamy Wader's** windows or on their website, **FoamyWader.com**. And, if stones are to your liking, **Whidbey Island Gem Shop** has hearts made of quartz. Pair one with a handmade card from **Feather and Fox Co**, you'll be set.

Tamar stocks so many cool things at the **Star Store Mercantile** that it makes it hard to choose and Josh, from **Moonraker Books**, can turn you on to the latest reads and captivate you with stories too.

You can't go wrong with a good bottle of wine and Ric at **Village Wine Shop** will be happy to recommend one. Jenn at **Prima** and Lisa at the **Braeburn** are whipping up special "date night" meals for the occasion to enjoy at home...get your reservation in today and pick up on the day!



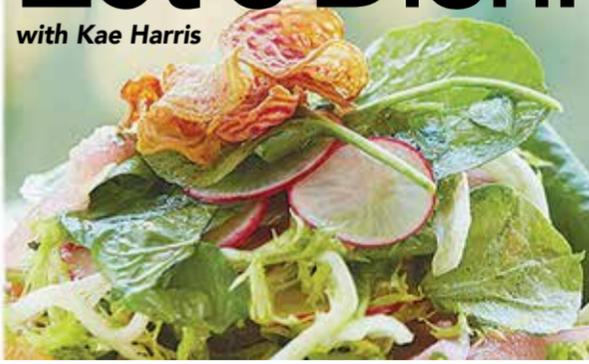
LANGLEY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

We've barely scratched the surface of what you'll find in Langley – if you'd like more suggestions, give us a ring at the **Langley Chamber of Commerce, 360-221-6765**.



# Let's Dish!

with Kae Harris



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## A VERY FOND-DO INDEED!

The social aspect of our world looks a little different right now. Okay, very different, and with traditionally social holidays and special events taking place this month, it's easy to feel as though we're missing out on the occasion entirely. We really aren't though, and yes, it might take a little re-imagining and a change in mindset, but when we look at these occasions through a different lens, it allows us to get creative. These special days don't lose their meaning, their importance; none of that changes. The only thing that changes is the way in which we celebrate them.

Take for example, Valentine's Day. Vigilance and exercising caution mean many activities synonymous with the day are scaled down. Restaurants might not be open at all or they may only be open for outdoor dining and with limited capacity. This doesn't mean Valentine's Day is canceled. Love isn't canceled, and while a romantic dinner out at a small local restaurant is wonderful, it might not be possible. Enter imagination.

Always dreamed of doing a Napa Valley wine tour complete with the tiny little glasses of wine at the end? You can still do that. Think of it as the opportunity to take travel to new and unconventional realms; a virtual tour on your computer or television, for example, of a vineyard anywhere in the world. Picture it now: Rows and rows of vines hanging heavily with juicy grapes as far as the eye can see. You could set up a romantic indoor picnic and pick a couple of different wines you or your partner have never tasted before and, like a proper wine tour, have those little cups filled halfway with these different wines. I'm not suggesting you drink entire bottles of wine in a

single session, by no means. After all, the premise of a wine tasting is you are offered a mouthful of the wine to tantalize your taste buds and then purchase a bottle of your favorite after the tour. The wine isn't just the vehicle for the flavor of fermented grapes to tickle your fancy, it's the vessel for the memory of a day spent in good company and likely, surrounded by gorgeous scenery.

It doesn't have to be a wine tour, though for some reason, the instant connection between wine, wine tours and romance is always made for Valentine's Day. You could do a virtual tour of any place in the world. Perhaps your partner and yourself – or heck, if you want to make it a family affair with the people in your house, then invite them too if you feel so inclined – can draw places out of a hat. Then spend the evening virtually exploring these areas of the world. If you do a little pre-planning you could get the ingredients beforehand and make a dish from any of the places drawn out of the hat.

I personally would pick somewhere in the mountains. The Swiss Alps, specifically, and then I'd write it on 15 different pieces of paper and have my partner write his choice down on one. Then, when we pick the Swiss Alps out of the hat, it will be a wonderful surprise, and on top of that, we get to make something like Swiss chocolate hot chocolate or a delicious fondue. And perhaps it's fitting to make fondue a Valentine's Day feature this year. The word "fondue" comes from the French word "fonder," which means "to melt." Its origin reaches back into 18th century Switzerland and was the result of farming families' need to stretch resources in limited supply. I think this resonates with the pandemic-era way of life. There

are many of us who stretch finite sources to make the most of them and fondue speaks directly to that. It's believed Alpine farming families only baked bread every now and then, so whatever bread was available was likely stale by the time it came to finishing it. This is where human ingenuity and resourcefulness borne of need became a novelty style of eating today. The stale bread was broken into pieces and the chunks dipped into a pot of melted cheese as a way to soften the long-since stale loaf.

The simple roots of Swiss fondue did not mean it was consigned to the average farming-class family. The upper crust in society at the time also thoroughly enjoyed a fondue at their gatherings. Its increasing popularity peaked in the 1930s thanks to the Schweizerische Kaseunion, or Swiss Cheese Union, making it part of its campaign. World War II however, and the rationing that was all part and parcel of the war, meant cheese was not available and so fondue took a backseat until the end of the war.

Now, fondue is typically made in an earthenware pot called a *caquelon*, which is wide and shallow. The reason for this is apparently because it retains heat for longer periods of time and people can slow down and enjoy their food. Interestingly, I was reading how the Swiss believe it to be bad form to lose one's bread in the pot and in joking fashion, assign a penalty to those who do. True or not? I'm not sure so it's best to find out from someone Swiss – sort of like the tale of the Christmas pickle having German roots (I have since found out most German people haven't heard of this tradition.) Another important thing to note when indulging in a traditional Swiss fondue, is the cheese isn't all mopped up in its entirety. Some is

reserved at the bottom of the caquelon and cooked until it forms a crust called the *religieuse*, which is subsequently chipped up from the bottom of the pan and eaten at the very end of the meal; a supposed delicacy.

A fondue sounds marvelous and in fact, adheres to proper socially distanced etiquette. No one is dipping bread into the cheese with their bare fingers, rather, they are using a skewer to do so. The only thing we'd need to watch for are the double dippers. Nevertheless, it's a perfect way to celebrate Valentine's Day. Why not look for virtual world tours and indulge in the food from the area of your choice? For Switzerland, I found a fantastic website at [www.switzerland-virtualtours.com](http://www.switzerland-virtualtours.com). It allows you to view the scenery from a panoramic perspective.

Dear Readers, Valentine's Day is still the same – filled with devotion, love and romance. It's just become something more now; the opportunity to explore your love language through other forms of communication and it allows our creative side a little peek outside the box. I'm including a recipe for a simple fondue and if you try it, let me know if you enjoyed it. Please feel free to send in all your comments, questions and suggestions because as always, I'd love to hear from you so, Let's Dish!

### Easy Cheese Fondue

- 1 ½ tablespoons butter
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper (optional)
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup mild cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 cup swiss cheese, shredded

Bread with a tight crumb that doesn't crumble easily.

Over low heat, melt the butter in a medium sauce pan and add the cornstarch. Stir until well combined. Add in the salt, pepper and the milk and stir continually over medium/low heat until it reaches a gentle boil. Continue to stir for one minute. Turn the heat down to low and add the cheese. Combine until just melted and serve in a fondue pot or another earthenware one that retains heat well. Make sure you have your accoutrements ready to skewer and dip and enjoy!

[www.alpenwild.com/staticpage/fondue-history-and-tradition](http://www.alpenwild.com/staticpage/fondue-history-and-tradition)

To read past columns of *Let's Dish* in the *Whidbey Weekly*, see our Digital Library at [www.whidbey-weekly.com](http://www.whidbey-weekly.com).

# SPiN Café hopes kindness is a sign of the times

By Melanie Hammons Whidbey Weekly

We hear the terms "contagion" and "contagious" and quite naturally, those words cause our hearts to skip a beat or two these days.

But "contagious" can hold positive connotations, too. That's precisely the driving force behind the "Kindness is Contagious" yard signs available now as an outreach for Oak Harbor's SPiN (Serving People in Need) Café, says SPiN board member Carol Wall.

"The idea for these signs originated with a man in California concerned about people lacking community," said Wall. "As he placed the signs throughout neighborhoods, he was struck by how positive a reception they generated. People began reaching out to one another more. The message resulted in more neighborliness, with individuals and families showing deeper interest in the well-being of those around them," she said.

Valentine's Day, of course, makes everyone think of, (what else?) love. So the kindness message is especially significant this time of year, but it's a timely reminder for the rest of the year, too. Wall sums up her ideas about the meaning of Valentine's Day, ideas that she and others working with SPiN share:

"Valentine's Day is a holiday when we think about reaching out and caring for others. So we thought this would be a good time to kick off this program to reach out to the entire community as a whole. It's also meant to stress the importance of taking the time to care about those less fortunate, including our guests at SPiN."

Wall says she became involved with SPiN about seven years ago.

"I really wanted to help meet the needs of hungry people around us: So before I knew it, my husband, Bob, and I volunteered to serve on the SPiN committee. I also assist with their Facebook page," she said.

The yard signs distributed thus far on Whidbey Island are already garnering praise, Wall said.

"Our experience so far is that people who see the signs we've handed out react with smiles of approval. One local business-



Photo Courtesy of Carol Wall  
SPiN Café in Oak Harbor is raising money by selling "Kindness is Contagious" signs, an effort spear-headed by board of director members Bob and Carol Wall.

woman I spoke with mentioned how tired and stressed she has felt for quite some time now, and that she believed we could all use a little more kindness in our lives. That's why we'd love to see our city here covered with signs," said Wall.

The signs are available upon request for a suggested donation of \$25. The donations will go towards funding programs offered by SPiN Café, which are geared toward individuals and families in need. Monday through Sunday, from 12:15 – 1:15 p.m., sack lunches are distributed to those in need at Hal Ramaley Memorial Park in Oak Harbor. The sack lunches also are available Monday through Friday at SPiN Café itself.

SPiN's efforts to assist others go beyond just the distribution of sack lunches, said Wall.

"We are happy to announce that, just this week, we've opened the SPiN Café Day Center at St. Stephen's [Episcopal] Church [in Oak Harbor]. It's a drop-in center open from 6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. SPiN Café staff will be there, and COVID-19 protocols will be in place. We offer amenities such as coffee, snacks and a warm place for people to escape the cold and rain during the day and a way for our guests to share community," Wall said.

Eventually, the day center operated by SPiN plans to add a computer and printer so guests can conduct housing and job searches. And when Phase 2 allows greater freedom to resume its other outreaches, such as its indoor meal program, more volunteers to assist and donations to fund those hot meals will be needed, said Wall.

"We invite people to take a look at our website for more information. They may also email us at [spincafeoh@gmail.com](mailto:spincafeoh@gmail.com). Executive Director Michele Chapman welcomes anyone who'd like to volunteer or ask about other ways they could help to give her a call at 360-929-0281."

The "Kindness is Contagious" yard signs may be picked up from the Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce, or by calling or dropping by SPiN Café, located at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, between 6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. weekdays. According to Wall, the signs will be available for two weeks, or until the supply runs out.

"Our hope is that if this proves to be as popular as we believe it can be, that it can continue even beyond Valentine's Day," she said.

Cold winter weather notwithstanding, people are out in the fresh air these days. They're also driving through local neighborhoods on their way to work or to pick up take-out orders from local restaurants, or for any number of other reasons. Seeing a visual reminder of the joy kindness brings to others, on Valentine's Day and beyond, just might bring a smile to their faces, too.

Learn more at [spincafeoh.org](http://spincafeoh.org). St. Stephen's Episcopal Church is located at 555 SE Regatta Drive, in Oak Harbor.



Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.





# CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

## ARIES (March 21-April 19)



Ever been in a chatroom with 50,000 other visitors? Every one of them putting in their two cents as the text lines fly by in a blur? Like shouting into a canyon, all hope of meaningful communication is lost, and even your echo drowns in the wind. While getting your message out is easy today, actually being heard might be harder. Maybe you're wise to save your breath for calmer times?

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



Some things are possible, but not probable. Your lottery ticket being the big winner, for example. And some things are probable, but not possible. E.g., your first AARP invitation. (Thought you'd be young forever, eh? What a shock.) In the casino of life, how do you know the possible from the probable? You don't. You take your best shot and hope for the best. Think you can beat the house? Highly improbable.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



Pretend that you're an aviator. Snoopy as the Red Baron will do. You're facing the most dread moment in aviation: You've lost POWER. Fresh out of elevation, airspeed and ideas, you cannot avoid what's next—a stupendous CRASH. Now, remove your scarf and goggles and resume being you. Your power in money and relationships is your POWER OF CHOICE. Use it wisely. It will keep you out of the doghouse.

## CANCER (June 22-July 22)



The largest house of cards on record saw more than 4,000 decks stacked in an area 34.4 feet by 9.8 feet. That's over 600 pounds of cardboard. What goes up must come down, and demolition by the wind of a powerful fan blew the whole structure apart in minutes. Were the structures on which your own life depends built to withstand ill winds? After the fall is no time to ask who built the card house of business and finance.

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



Lemon laws protect car buyers from product defects after purchase by requiring the car maker to remedy the defect. Great for car owners, but defects are not limited to cars. Lemons can assume many forms. Can you name something else under your control that is underperforming? Don't let it turn you bitter. Train it. Replace it. Vote for its opposing candidate. That's how life works.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)



An oft-quoted rule of life is that when it comes to love and war, there are no rules. All's fair, we're told. Told by whom? By "the end justifies the means" crowd? The highly-principled do not abandon their principles so lightly. When the game becomes "win at any cost," love is lost. All is war. And even war has a code of honor. And those who disagree? It's

never been easier to spot them. Are you watching?

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



What do you call creativity that lacks discipline? Graffiti? Doodles? Scribbling? And now the reverse. Creativity plus discipline is what? Art. No question about it. Art. Art is inspiration, forged in the fires of practice and preparation. By that definition, breathing is art. The dog-eared day planner, coffee-stained and check marked at day's end--that, too, is art. And you, the artist. Never thought of yourself as creative? Now you know.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



The best movies transport us through the full spectrum of human emotion. We laugh, we cry; we're outraged and angry in one scene, wistful and longing in the next. Long after the curtain closes, we are, in a real way, still in the movie, our thoughts and reactions subtly changed by it. One might say we become the movie. What movie are you? Are you happy in your role? And did you know, you're allowed to rewrite the script?

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



Sometimes, it's a case of hearing everything and comprehending nothing. That's the language barrier in a foreign land. It's the English Lit major stumbling painfully into calculus. It's the conversational rumble of hundreds chatting in a ballroom. Much noise, no meaningful impact. Having moments like that? You're not alone. Best suggestion? Watch faces. At least you'll know when to laugh.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



Are you a good jackstraw player? Can you spot the target straw, the one you can pick out of the jumbled straw pile without disturbing the rest? And having spotted the thing, deftly lift it free? To reach your goal today, you'll need the same qualities that make a good jackstraw player. A steady hand, a keen eye for detail, and the ability to imagine possible outcomes of your actions. Oh, and patience! Lots of patience. Your move.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



The hallmark of strength and good architecture is the keystone. It's the one stone at the apex of a freestanding arch that locks the other stones in place and makes the arch self-supporting. Although the most important stone, the keystone undergoes the least stress. How is this possible? Delegation. The keystone has the responsibility, the adjacent stones do the work. Can you see similar potentials in your own life?

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



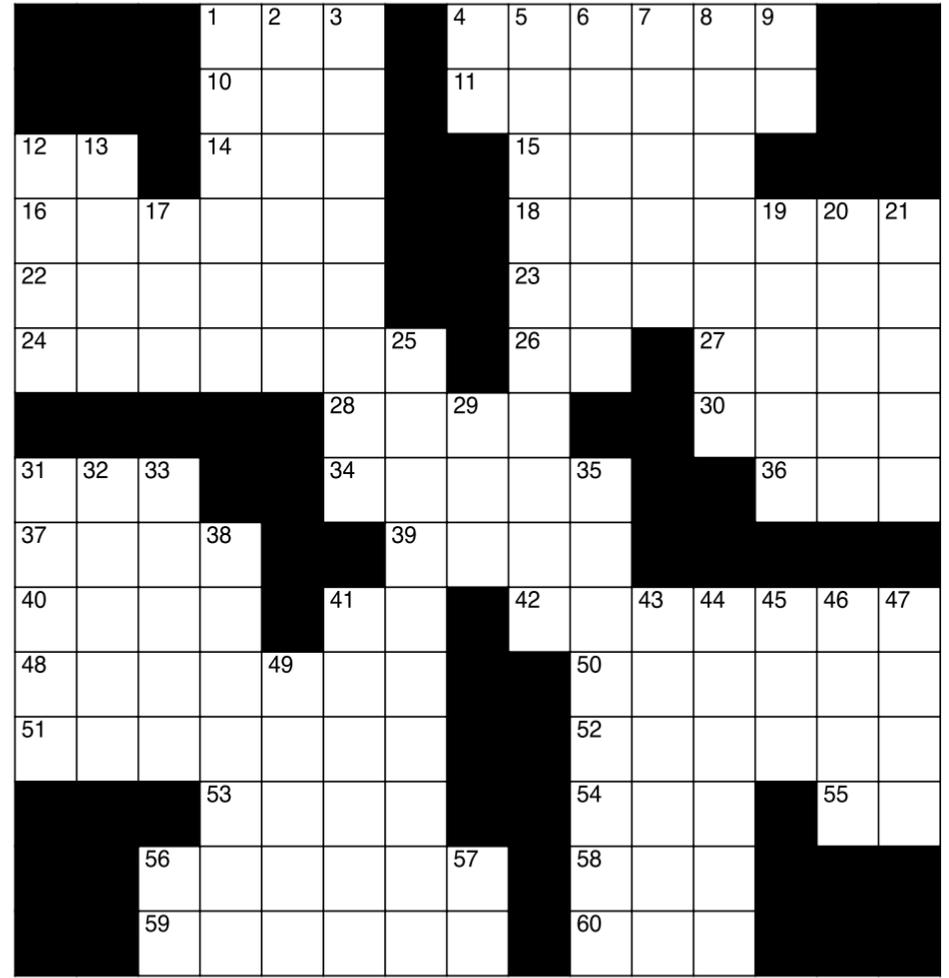
The climax of an oak tree's summer of work comes with the release of its acorns. Each falling acorn is a record of the season's winds and rains and growth. When the last acorn has fallen, the future forest is seeded, and only then is the weary oak free to rest. Do you see parallels in your own activities? Where are past labors coming to climax? Which of them shows readiness to fall away for good? It's your time of liberation.

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Chicken Little's knock on the head meant to him that the sky was falling, silly bird. His horoscope showed other possibilities. Don't wait for a knock on the head to ask what's up in your life. Wesley Hallock, as Whidbey Weekly's professional astrologer and horoscope writer, keeps one eye on the sky and alerts us to the prospects each week. To read past columns of Chicken Little and the Astrologer in the Whidbey Weekly, see our Digital Library at www.whidbeyweekly.com.

# Crossword Puzzle



## CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Big tech firm
- 4. Picked
- 10. Type of whale
- 11. A woman of refinement
- 12. New England state
- 14. Common gibbon
- 15. Tall coniferous tree
- 16. State capital
- 18. Making a liquid muddy
- 22. Vinegary
- 23. Peninsula
- 24. Thee
- 26. Atomic #55
- 27. Used in units of measurement
- 28. Welsh female name
- 30. Arab ruler title
- 31. One's mother
- 34. Trap
- 36. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 37. Assn. of oil-producing countries
- 39. Holy fire
- 40. Emit coherent radiation

- 41. Atomic #81
- 42. Orthodox Jewish college
- 48. Herbs
- 50. Ran after
- 51. Begin again
- 52. Named
- 53. Barbary sheep
- 54. Unwell
- 55. Postscript
- 56. Drivers
- 58. One point east (clockwise) of due north
- 59. Prim
- 60. A facility equipped for sports or physical training

- 9. Northeast
- 12. Chew the fat
- 13. Innovative industry
- 17. Land to put down to grass
- 19. Products
- 20. Nostril
- 21. Surprise Icelandic politician
- 25. Conclusive acts
- 29. Inform on
- 31. Grinding tooth
- 32. Keep up
- 33. Tablelands
- 35. Raising
- 38. Mythical creature
- 41. Hums

## CLUES DOWN

- 1. Small islands
- 2. Skullcap
- 3. Unexplained events
- 4. One hundredth of a meter
- 5. Beloved baseball announcer
- 6. Repulsive
- 7. Northern European languages
- 8. Match or surpass

- 43. Mountain in Antarctica
- 44. Neighborhood in Manhattan
- 45. Distinctive practice
- 46. Vice president
- 47. Contributes to
- 49. Small bones
- 56. Oil company
- 57. Empire State

Answers on page 11

## YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Feb. 11	Fri, Feb. 12	Sat, Feb. 13	Sun, Feb. 14	Mon, Feb. 15	Tues, Feb. 16	Wed, Feb. 17
North Isle H-40°/L-29° Mostly Cloudy and Cold	North Isle H-41°/L-30° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-43°/L-34° Chance of Rain	North Isle H-45°/L-33° Rain Possible	North Isle H-45°/L-37° Showers Possible	North Isle H-47°/L-40° Rain Possible	North Isle H-48°/L-39° Windy with Rain Possible
South Isle H-39°/L-29° Mostly Cloudy and Cold	South Isle H-43°/L-31° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-44°/L-34° Chance of Rain	South Isle H-46°/L-33° Rain	South Isle H-46°/L-37° Showers Possible	South Isle H-48°/L-39° Rain Possible	South Isle H-49°/L-40° Windy with Chance of Rain



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- ✓NEW Oil & Oil Filter
- ✓LUBE Chassis
- ✓INFLATE Tires
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Labor Includes

- Scope & Scan (Retrieving Codes, Reset Check Engine Light)
- Brake Inspection
- Tire Rotation
- Inspect Belts & Hoses
- Inspect Exhaust System
- Check Charging System
- Test Ignition Cables
- Tire Rotation & Balance
- Inspect Suspension
- Check all Fluids
- Test Anti-Freeze

**\$89<sup>95</sup>**

**Radiator Flush & Fill**

**\$85<sup>95</sup>**

starting at

Flushes Radiator, Engine Block, Heater Core & Hoses to -35° below

**Computerized TUNE-UP Special**

**\$79<sup>95</sup>\***

4 cyl

**\$89<sup>95</sup>\***

6 cyl

**\$99<sup>95</sup>\***

8 cyl

\*Plus Parts

- Check Compression
- Clean/Replace Spark Plugs & Air Cleaner
- Inspect/Replace Distributor Cap & Rotor
- Check Charging System
- Inspect Ignition Cables
- Scope & Scan
- Adjust Timing & Idle Speed
- Safety & Brake Inspection

**Brake Reline Special**

FREE Brake Inspections

2-Wheel Front Brake Reline or 2-Wheel Rear Brake Reline starting at **\$119<sup>95</sup>**

**DRUMS**

- H Raybestos Brake Shoes
- Machine Drums
- Rebuild Wheel Cylinders
- Adjust Parking Brake
- Bleed & Adjust System
- Road Test Vehicle
- 3 Year or 26,000 mile Warranty

**DISCS**

- Install Raybestos Disc Pads
- Machine Front Rotors
- Repack Wheel Bearings
- Clean-Lube Sleeve & Bushings
- New Seals
- Bleed & Adjust System
- Road Test Vehicle
- 3 Year or 26,000 mile Warranty

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# Community Bulletin Board

To place an ad, email [classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com](mailto:classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pregnant? Need baby clothes?** We have them and the price is right—FREE. Pregnancy Care Clinic, open Tuesday-Friday, 10am to 4pm and Saturday, 10am to 2 pm. Stop by at 670 SE Midway Blvd. in Oak Harbor. Be the difference in a child's life and become a foster parent today! Service Alternatives is looking for caring, loving, and supportive families to support foster children. 425-923-0451 or [mostermick@servalat-cfs.com](mailto:mostermick@servalat-cfs.com)

The Whidbey Island community is encouraged to try out the paddling sport of dragon boating with the Stayin' Alive team. Our team's mission is to promote the physical, social, and emotional benefits of dragon boating. It has been shown to be especially beneficial to cancer survivors. Practice with us for up to 3 times for free. Life-jackets and paddles provided. Saturdays at the Oak Harbor Marina, 8:45am. Contact [njlish@gmail.com](mailto:njlish@gmail.com). More info at our Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSound-DragonBoatClub?ref=hl](https://www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSound-DragonBoatClub?ref=hl)

If you or someone you know has been a victim of homicide, burglary, robbery, assault, identity theft, fraud, human trafficking, home invasion and other crimes not listed, Victim Support Services has advocates ready to help. Please call the 24-hr Crisis Line 888-388-9221. Free service. Visit our web site at <http://victimsupportservices.org>

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Island Shakespeare Festival is seeking new members to join our Board of Directors. We're looking for people who are passionate about high-quality live classical theater and can devote time and energy to support the work of Island Shakespeare Festival's important cultural, social, and fiscal position on Whidbey Island. Our current needs include individuals with backgrounds in the following areas: human resources, donor relations, finance, as well as other skills related to overseeing a performing arts organization. Board members are asked to provide input and feedback to the Board and staff of ISF, attend one full board meeting per month, serve actively on board committees, and attend activities and events sponsored by ISF. Women and persons of color strongly encouraged to apply. For more information, please contact [jeff.natter@islandshakespearefest.org](mailto:jeff.natter@islandshakespearefest.org).

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County (BBBSIC) is actively seeking new member(s) for its Board of Directors. Join the board's exciting array of professionals! BBBSIC is seeking individuals who are committed to defending the potential of youth in our community through their time, skill sets, and influence in the community. To complement the existing board, candidates with expertise in accounting, law, nonprofit management, networking, or fundraising are of particular interest. Committed to diversifying its board to better represent our community, BBBSIC encourages BIPOC and LGBTQIA community members to inquire. Please contact [admin@bbbsislandcounty.org](mailto:admin@bbbsislandcounty.org) for more information.

The Island County Medical Reserve Corps (ICMRC) is a local network of volunteers organized to improve the health and safety of communities on Whidbey and Camano Island. Volunteers include medical and public health professionals as well as other community members with no prior healthcare background. ICMRC utilizes volunteers to strengthen community health, enhance emergency response capabilities, and boost community resiliency. They prepare for and respond to natural and manmade disasters such

as winter storms, flooding, earthquakes, as well as public health emergencies such as disease outbreaks. If you are interested in volunteering please go to the Island County MRC website for more information or contact [s.ziemer@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:s.ziemer@islandcountywa.gov)

If you are looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity, look no further! When you volunteer at one of the Habitat for Humanity of Island County stores, you are helping local families attain decent, affordable housing. Income from the stores is vital to giving families a path to homeownership. We need people who can commit to help out in our Oak Harbor or Freeland store at least two-hours per week. Schedules are flexible. Our friendly volunteers provide customer service, help with receiving donated household items and furniture, and maintain the store. We also need drivers and driver helpers who will professionally represent Habitat as they pick up donated items using our trucks. Please call either store for more information. Oak Harbor: 360-675-8733, Freeland: 360-331-6272.

College student? Student of history? History buff? Opportunities are available to spend constructive volunteer hours at the Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum. Go to [www.pnwnam.org](http://www.pnwnam.org) and click

on "Volunteer" or just stop by and introduce yourself.

Imagine Oak Harbor's first Food Forest, Saturdays 11am-3pm, at 526 Bayshore Drive. Each week, we have volunteer opportunities available to help care for our community garden, share organic gardening tips, and learn Permaculture principles. All ages and skill levels welcome. Schedule can change due to adverse weather conditions. If you have any questions, please contact us at: [imaginepermacultureworld@gmail.com](mailto:imaginepermacultureworld@gmail.com)

Mother Mentors needs volunteers! Oak Harbor families with young children need your help! Volunteer just a couple of hours a week to make a difference in someone's life! To volunteer or get more info, email [wamothermentors@gmail.com](mailto:wamothermentors@gmail.com) or call 360-321-1484.

Looking for board members to join the dynamic board of Island Senior Resources and serve the needs of Island County Seniors. Of particular interest are representatives from North Whidbey. For more information please contact: [reception@islandseniorservices.org](mailto:reception@islandseniorservices.org)

## JOB MARKET

Island Transit is Hiring! If you are looking for a solid career with great pay and benefits including two retirement plans,

we are hiring. Visit [www.islandtransit.org/employment](http://www.islandtransit.org/employment) to apply. Island Transit is a drug and alcohol free workplace and an equal employment opportunity employer.

## HEALTH/FITNESS

Free inversion table by Body Vision, new still in box, \$40. Call Stone at 360-774-0168 (1)Musical Instruments

## ANIMALS/SUPPLIES

Excellent grass hay, no rain, good for horses, \$7 per bale. 20 bale minimum. Good quality round bales available also. 360-321-1624

If you or someone you know needs help in feeding pet(s), WAIF Pet Food Banks may be able to help. Pet Food Banks are located at WAIF thrift stores in Oak Harbor (465 NE Midway Blvd) and Freeland (1660 Roberta Ave) and are generously stocked by donations from the community. If you need assistance, please stop by.

## WANTED

**WANTED - We recycle cars, truck, motorhomes,**

## No Cheating!

			I	B	M		C	H	O	S	E	N		
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## CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

**US Postal Mail**

**Whidbey Weekly  
Classified Department  
PO Box 1098  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277**

**Email.....classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com  
Telephone.....(360)682-2341  
Fax .....(360)682-2344**

**PLEASE CALL WHEN YOUR ITEMS HAVE SOLD. Please try to limit your classified to 30 words or less, (amounts and phone numbers are counted as words) we will help edit if necessary. We charge \$10/week for Vehicles, Boats, Motorcycles, RVs, Real Estate Rental/Sales, Business Classifieds and any items selling \$1,000 and above. We do charge \$25 to include a photo. The FREE classified space is not for business use. No classified is accepted without phone number. We reserve the right to not publish classifieds that are in bad taste or of questionable content. All free classifieds will be published twice consecutively. If you would like your ad to be published more often, you must resubmit it. Deadline for all submissions is one week prior to issue date.**

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## How'd you do?

3	2	6	8	5	9	7	4	1
4	7	8	6	3	1	5	2	9
9	5	1	4	7	2	6	3	8
5	6	4	3	1	7	9	8	2
8	3	2	9	6	5	1	7	4
7	1	9	2	8	4	3	5	6
6	8	5	1	2	3	4	9	7
1	4	7	5	9	8	2	6	3
2	9	3	7	4	6	8	1	5

## Pam's Prayer Corner

*In honor of my late mother-in-law, Pamela Kaye Young, this column is a place where believers can share their prayer requests for others to help lift them up in faith. The prayers can be for you, a family member, or anything weighing on your soul. Email [info@whidbeyweekly.com](mailto:info@whidbeyweekly.com) or call 360-682-2341 to share your prayer requests.*

*"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." ~Oliver Wendell Holmes*

Merciful Father, sustain us all on our journey this day as we seek to make safe passage through this troubled world. In these restless and conflicted times, where COVID isolation wears upon us, partisan factions worry us, job loss frightens us, and racial tension grieves us, where can we turn? We look to you, O God, to be the strength and resolve we need to live well and travel in hope. The obstacles before us and behind us loom so large, and "...we were in our own sight as grasshoppers..." (Numbers 13:33).

Tiny, pathetic, puny and weak. Who are we? Remind us again, O Lord, that with You, all things are possible! Through Jesus, we "can do all things" (Philippians 4:13) and by Your Spirit we are made overcomers. Walk with us this day, through our many stormy and uncertain passages of life. Call to us, that we might hear Your voice, and follow in the obedience of faith.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, Amen!

Pastor David Parker  
First United Methodist Church

*"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."*

**Deuteronomy 31:6**



**Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.**

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## Happy Valentine's Day!

At Skyway Security Insurance, we love our fellow Whidbey Island workers and how we all strive to contribute to our communities.

Whidbey Island is a beautiful place and all the city, town and county workers do a fantastic job, as do the farmers, local merchants, grocery stores, fruit stands, art walks, Goosefoot, the Navy, Whidbey Island Center for the Arts and probably many others we have not yet met! We hold a special appreciation for the volunteer firefighters who keep us safe. And we thank *Whidbey Weekly*, too, for letting us know about the fun events on Whidbey Island for those of us who live here.

Two things everyone has in common are service and commitment to our community. Skyway Security Insurance continues to work every day, in many different ways to meet those standards. A family-owned company, Skyway Security Insurance has been offering quality service since 1949! We started on Mercer Island and are pleased to have had a satellite office on Whidbey for several years, with three agents working locally to offer their expertise in finding the correct insurance coverage to meet all your needs.

Skyway Security Insurance serves as an independent agent for Pemco, Safeco and Progressive Insurance, offering auto, home, boat, life and umbrella coverages, including renters' policies. Our staff works hard to get clients the best rates and to find the most suitable coverage, while providing prompt and courteous service.

Skyway believes it's your job to drive and it's our job to insure you and your family, so we offer a full range of coverage for all types of vehicles – motorcycles included. Skyway continues to represent top companies that work quickly to identify ways to help our customers. SAFECO, Pemco and Progressive offer different options to meet the needs of our clients and agents can compare quotes and find the best fit for each person and family.

Skyway Security Insurance can help you protect what's yours with homeowners and personal property insurance as well. If you need commercial insurance for your business, Skyway offers coverage for contractors, retailers, hairdressers and building owners, to name a few. We pride ourselves on prompt, efficient service to make a business owner's job easy.

For over 12 years, we have enjoyed every minute of living on Whidbey Island and we know everyone who lives here plays an important part in keeping Whidbey Island the best for island residents! We offer a heartfelt "Thank you" and hold deep gratitude for the effort everyone makes to keep the island beautiful.

Whidbey Island is a great fit for Skyway Security Insurance and we hope to continue working to provide for the community, the beautiful farms and the wonderful people who call Whidbey Island home.

For more details about how you can make sure you've got the right type of insurance coverage at the best possible price, please contact Skyway Security Insurance today at [skywaysecurityinsurance.com](http://skywaysecurityinsurance.com).

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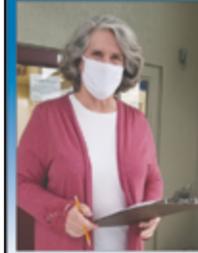
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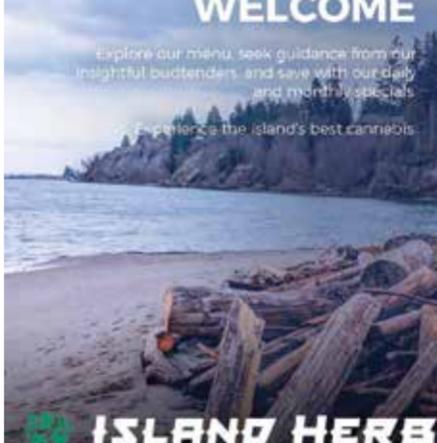
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