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ON TRACK

With Jim Freeman



Looking out the window at the unmowed grass blowing in the wind, I feel smart. Then I feel not so smart. Why did I spend all that time to make the yard look nice? I was the only one here. Why

clean if no one is coming over to be politely judgmental?

Time to eat

Every day, usually at dinner, Mom's voice would ring through the house or outside in the yard.

"Time to eat."

All personal activity ceased in favor of food. Nor do I recall saying whether or not I was hungry when I got to the table. Not being hungry was an excuse for not wanting to be at the table. How can a teen sulk at the table while eating?

I have tried it. It ain't easy.

Today, teens eat what they want, when they want. Imagine having pizza and ice cream whenever you wanted. One may as well be on a cruise ship.

Reading and writing

Since it has been awhile since we shared reader mail, let's get to the three letters received this month.

Jim,

Are you ever at a loss for words?
Morton from Roseburg, Ore.

Morton,

Thanks for asking that question. I was just sitting here wondering if I had anything to say. The last time I was speechless, my mouth was duct taped.

Once in junior high I was sent to the principal's office for being speechless. I'll never forget Mr. Guesman's caveat, a word I only knew because Mom told me to take Latin. Mr. Guesman said, "Don't ever let this happen again."

What are you gonna do? I have been talking ever since.

Jim

When is the last time you were busy?
Mark, Conifer, Colorado.

Mark,

Most of my life, busyness has prevailed. Our parents seldom sat still. They were always doing. Do we learn by seeing? Yet, since March, 2020, the pandemic has made it seem I am living in a world of non-busyness. Business or busyness? An I or a Y?

Before I was too busy to think on these things.

Jim,

Do you believe any of the scuttlebutt circling the globe?
Corporal Chuck, USMC retired

Corporal,

I have it on good authority that most of what we hear or read is bogus. One need not have a security clearance to decipher. Recently at the post office I overheard two talking:

"Did you hear about the doctor on TV who started the virus scare? He doesn't even wear a mask when he sleeps."

"If you are talking about Dr. Phil, please don't tell me how it ends. I am Tivoing it this afternoon."

So, in answer to your question, Corporal, I shall believe no scuttlebutt before its time. Oorah.

Wally world

Today was a great day to go to Wal-Mart, so I did. Rather than buy a used thrift store blender, I decided to spring for a new one.

You never know what has been blended in those older ones.

After some searching, I located the section with blenders priced at and over 50 bucks. I never use all six to 10 speeds, so why get the nicest one? Will I ever puree?

Give me a one speed blender. On and off.

I spotted a \$15.97 blender but there was no box. So, I took the display. Who needs a box? Who needs directions? As the cowboys say, "This ain't my first blender."

The lady at the checkout nipped my box-less blender in the bud.

"I'll take care of that for you."

"Well, it was the only one. It is a long walk back there for the ten speed."

"That's okay. I'll take care of returning the display. People do it all the time."

I felt better already.

More of today

Today's mail, often like recess for adults, included an actual hand written letter from a person of authority. Given the sense of transparency felt by this Presbyterian-raised boy, I am writing today to the important person to get permission on the public revealing to the public.

I asked Mom once why we were Presbyterian and not southern Baptists. Dad was a P.K., or preacher's kid. Grandpa was an engineer for the Frisco railroad and a preacher.

"Naturally, because of your grandpa, your father wanted all you kids to be Baptist. I told him that was fine as long as he took you all to Sunday school. So, that is why you are Presbyterian."

Sports

Now that it is football season and baseball season, my fandom (fan dumb) is quite busy. There is no reason to give up on the Mariners just because such is the logical position.

With the Wilson-led Seahawks occupying our mindsets, there is plenty to think and talk about.

Enjoy both seasons.

No whining

After a lifetime of skill development, I am trying to cut down on my whining.

Whining was a trait I learned in the toy section. Why couldn't I have that overpriced Davy Crockett coonskin hat? Why couldn't I have the Jackie Robinson glove instead of the Al Kaline?

Lots of unanswered whys filled my cookie jar. No big deal. The Al Kaline mitt finally fits.

Agreement

A friend told me once being right all the time was a dead end. What does one learn?

My file on being wrong is the much thicker one. Unlike Tonto and the Lone Ranger who finish every episode with a happy ending, many of my episodes are not worth the rerun.

We live in a time of disgruntlement. I am tired of the disgruntled. I am tired of the grunted. So, onward and upward on acceptance instead of disgruntlement. I can sleep better.

Handle bars

After 35 years and some change, the door handle on the driver's side of my truck is falling off. I thought of getting in on the other side, but that is where the groceries go.

Imagine a guy my age getting new handles. Hope the kids don't notice. They may think I have money.

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Bits & Pieces

Closure Alert

Due to dangerous biotoxin levels, all recreational shellfish harvesting within Island County will be closed until further notice.

This includes all species of shellfish: clams, geoduck, scallops, mussels, oysters, snails and other invertebrates (not crab or shrimp - clean crab well and do not consume the guts/butter) Important!

Always check the Washington State Department of Health's Shellfish Safety Map immediately before and after you harvest shellfish. The information found there supersedes any information in this bulletin. For more information about recreational shellfish harvesting, including crabbing, please visit the recreational shellfish website www.fortress.wa.gov/doh/biotoxin/biotoxin.html.

[Submitted by Island County Environmental Health]

Harvest Festival Cancellation

The 2021 Whidbey Island Harvest Festival, scheduled for Oct. 2 and 3 is canceled. The Langley Chamber of Commerce regrets this is necessary, but the public's safety and health is its first concern. The rate of COVID cases on Whidbey Island is at a dangerous level, hospitals are filling up and the Island County and Washington State health officials have cautioned against large public gatherings. The Langley Chamber of Commerce looks forward to next year's event and hopes you will join this family friendly event.

[Submitted by Emily Switzer, Langley Chamber of Commerce]

Many Washington State Hospitals Are Over Capacity

Governor Jay Inslee announced at his press conference last week that starting this past Monday, face masks are required at large outdoor events with 500 or more attendees. He also discussed how most hospitals in our state are over capacity due to COVID-19 patients.

Island County has watched the number of COVID cases increase and it is affecting our healthcare system as well. Here is a statement from WhidbeyHealth:

"WhidbeyHealth fully supports the efforts and planning of our local and state health jurisdictions. We have seen increased volumes of patients experiencing acute upper respiratory illness symptoms at both our emergency department and at our walk-in clinics in Clinton and Oak Harbor. The Medical Center in Coupeville currently has nearly 20 percent of its inpatient beds occupied with COVID positive patients receiving care. While WhidbeyHealth has not been at capacity consistently, we are currently experiencing a higher-than-average patient capacity. In response, we are looking to convert an isolated portion of our post-anesthesia care area into a dedicated space to care for COVID positive patients. To ensure WhidbeyHealth is in the best position to continue caring for our community, close to home, we are making these kinds of preparations - aligned and scaled with the capacity and crisis standards of care plan being developed by the WA Department of Health.

"As a critical access hospital in a rural community, this challenge is frightening. Major health-care institutions all along the I-5 corridor have been near capacity or on divert (where they can no longer take additional patients) for much of the last three months.

"This is what everything means for our community: we have had multiple patients triaged through our Emergency Department in the past few months who remained in our ED for multiple days until an available bed could be found at another facility for advanced specialty care. If your loved one experienced a cardiac event and was stabilized by WhidbeyHealth, wouldn't you want them to receive the immediate specialized care they needed? If hospital capacity continues to be stressed and stretched, not everyone will be able to receive care when they need it the most.

"WhidbeyHealth would like to ask our community to do its part to ensure treatment and care remain available. Please continue to mask, socially distance, and practice good hygiene. If you have yet to be vaccinated and plan to, please do so. If you are not vaccinating, please consider it for the larger impact on our local and state healthcare."

If you need help finding a place to get your COVID-19 vaccine, the state's Vaccine Locator website is a great resource. Those who need further help can call the COVID-19 Information Hotline at 1-800-525-0127, then press #. Language assistance is available.

If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19 in Island County, start by visiting the Island County Public Health website or Facebook page. The Island County call center may be reached at 360-678-2301; Monday through Friday, 8:30AM to 4:30PM.

[Submitted by Island County Public Health]

Community Deal on Crabbing Gear - Saturday, September 18 Fundraising Will Benefit Local Boating Education Efforts

America's Boating Club of Deception Pass is offering crab pots with complete rigging at a fundraiser to be held Saturday from 2:00 to 3:00PM at the Oak Harbor Marina parking lot.

The crab gear is clean and inspected, and includes the pot, approximately 80 feet of leaded line, new rot cord, bait bags or boxes, and Washington State legal floats in the size and color required. The pots are priced starting at \$25, ranging up to \$50 for stainless steel pots. Approximately 40 pots are available. Cash or checks made out to DPSPS will be accepted, and no credit or debit card transactions are available. Masks and respectful social distancing are required. Due to popular demand, no early-bird shoppers will be admitted, and pots are limited to first-come, first-served.

According to the club's event organizer, Jerry Liggett, "The cost to buy the gear brand new could easily exceed one hundred dollars. Just add bait and you are crabbing!"

The fundraiser is to help support boating education in the Whidbey and Fidalgo islands. Contact jliggett4@hotmail.com for more information.

America's Boating Club of Deception Pass is a 44-year-old nonprofit organization with over 80 members from Whidbey and Fidalgo islands. It is part of the United States Power Squadrons, a nonprofit boating organization dedicated to education and training of safe boating activities.

[Submitted by Jennifer Geller, America's Boating Club of Deception Pass]

Hope is Here Where will You Be?

Isn't it true for all of us, hope has felt to be in rare supply sometimes these past few years. Maybe, hope can be born through coming together. In our nation, Sunday has been dubbed as the official "Back-to-church Sunday" for churches and congregants around the country. The people at "National Back-to-church Sunday" have a vision of connecting people to faith in Jesus Christ and to a vital local church family. Over 120 denominations, beginning in 2009, have shared in this annual

call to return and reengage in the life of corporate faith. Truly, at no time have we needed this call to reconnect and reengage like we do today. In fact, Ed Stetzer, executive director of Wheaton College, stated it so well:

"There has never been a more important year for a unified effort to invite people back to church. Most of us closed our doors last spring for the sake of our communities. Since then, church re-openings have been staggered and people unsure. In all the places we can, let's declare on Sept. 19 that our churches are ready to share good news with our world. This could be the most significant Back to Church Sunday ever."

At least one church in our community, Oak Harbor First United Methodist Church, will begin with a community outreach event at Windjammer Park Saturday from 11:00AM to 2:00PM. They hope you will stop by for free hot dogs, to meet new people, find out about leaning into hope as a way of living and sign a special poster of welcome to Afghani refugees coming into the greater Seattle area. This poster will hang in the lobby of "World Relief," headquartered in Kent, Wash.

Churches across the country will share in a special four-week journey with the theme "Hope Is Here" preaching series: Week 1 - Hope for the Weary; Week 2 - Hope for the Broken; Week 3 - Hope for the Underdog; Week 4 - Hope for the Doubter. Our Oak Harbor community and this world desperately need hope for a better tomorrow. Won't you join in gathering under the banner and belief of a better world through HOPE? For more information about this movement, and to explore the possibility of your church or faith community joining in this annual journey, visit www.backtochurch.com.

[Submitted by Pastor David Parker, Oak Harbor FUMC]

Skagit Valley College Announces a Second-Year Award of Pilot Scholarship Program to Help Running Start Students Pay for Books, Supplies, and Student Fees

Skagit Valley College (SVC) is pleased to announce the college has been awarded approximately \$52,000 for a pilot scholarship program designed to assist SVC's Running Start students by the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC).

The SVC Running Start Pilot Scholarship will support student success by covering the cost of books, course materials, and/or student fees for eligible students during the 2021-2022 academic year. If a student is enrolled in a workforce program, the scholarship can also cover the cost of tools, lab and course fees, and work clothes. The program is designed to help low-income families and improve access to Running Start. Students enrolled in eligible Running Start courses who qualify for free or reduced lunch, and who have a GPA of 2.0 or higher, are eligible for the scholarship.

SVC's award is part of a WSAC Dual Enrollment Scholarship (DES) pilot program that encourages students to enroll in post-secondary education and helps reduce the time and cost needed to complete their degree.

Running Start is a dual credit program that began in the early 1990s and provides the opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to earn college credit while they are in high school, with eligible tuition covered by state funding. It allows students to complete their high school diploma, earn an associate degree, or work toward both simultaneously, preparing them for employment or college transfer.

"Running Start provides high school students with an important pathway to a college education and family-wage jobs," said Washington State Representative Dave Paul, D-Oak Harbor, who is also Director of Community Relations at SVC. "I'm excited Skagit Valley College has

Plan ahead before joining the "Great Resignation"

It's been called the "Great Resignation" - the large number of Americans voluntarily leaving their jobs. If you plan to be part of it (ideally with another source of employment lined up), you'll need to make the financial moves necessary to keep making progress toward your long-term goals.

Here's some background: After a year in which the pandemic caused so many people to lose their jobs, the economy is opening back up, but the "quit rate" - the number of jobs people have voluntarily left - has been breaking records. Some economists say this high quit rate is because people are confident of getting better jobs, with higher pay and more flexibility to work at home, or because they are preparing to start their own business or join the gig economy.

If you're thinking of joining this temporary migration from the workforce, how can you help ensure that you'll be financially stable and can continue to make progress toward your long-term goals?

Your first move is to look clearly at your financial situation. As mentioned above, it's best to have new employment in hand before you quit your job. Alternatively, perhaps you have a spouse or life partner who earns enough to sustain the two of you, or you've built up an emergency fund that gives you a cushion.

However, if your short-term income is less than you previously earned or you need to go without a paycheck for a while, could you still pay your bills? If you are strapped for cash, you might be tempted to tap into your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. But this move will generally result in taxes and, if you are younger than 59 1/2, a 10 percent penalty as well. Because of this, and because your retirement accounts are designed to be a financial resource after you retire, think twice before dipping into these funds if you leave your current employer.

If your employer allows it, you can leave your money in the 401(k) so you'll still be accumulating resources for retirement. You also have the option to roll those funds into an individual retirement account (IRA) or a new employer's retirement plan.

And if you plan to work for yourself as a freelancer, consultant or business owner, you'll still want to save toward retirement. Possible retirement plans for the self-employed include an "owner-only" 401(k), a SEP-IRA or a SIMPLE IRA, all of which may be relatively easy to establish and offer tax benefits. A financial advisor can help you find a retirement plan that's appropriate for your needs.

Here's something else to keep in mind - an emergency fund. As mentioned above, if you already have one, you'll have some breathing room if you're thinking of leaving your job and might have a temporary gap in income. But as the name suggests, an emergency fund is there to help cover unexpected costs, such as a major home repair, without forcing you to take out a loan, or cash out part of your longer-term investments. So, if you are planning to tap your emergency fund, work to restock it as soon as possible.

If you're participating in the "Great Resignation," it means you're feeling positive about your future employment prospects, which is great. But you'll want to support that optimism with a strong financial foundation.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC.



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been awarded this grant to help students and their families in our community take advantage of this proven and cost-effective program."

The DES program began in 2019, with the passage of House Bill 1973 by the legislature. It started with the College in the High School component that was implemented at Clark College, Eastern Washington University, and Whatcom Community College. With the passage of Senate Bill 6374 in 2020, the Running Start pilot program expanded to include apprenticeship and professional/technical programs. With this expansion, Skagit Valley College, Everett Community College, Green River College, Highline College, and Community Colleges of Spokane were selected to participate.

It is not too late to enroll in Running Start for fall quarter at SVC. Classes begin Sept. 21 and many courses are available in an online format. Online learning technology support and resources are available to help students every step of the way.

For more information about Running Start or the pilot scholarship program, please visit skagit.edu/runningstart. For assistance getting started, please contact outreach@skagit.edu.

[Submitted by Marisa Pierce, Executive Director of Strategic Marketing and Communications, SVC]

Whidbey's Saratoga Orchestra Presents OF PARADISE AND LIGHT

Whidbey's Saratoga Orchestra presents OF PARADISE AND LIGHT, a set of programs, Oct. 2, 7:00PM at Island Church of Whidbey in Langley and Oct. 3, 3:00PM at First Reformed Church of Oak Harbor. Music Director, Anna Edwards will lead the musicians in a program of Italian Baroque masters and modern American composers in these inaugural concerts of Saratoga Orchestra's 2021-2022 season.

Returning in her role as guest artist for these concerts is Tekla Cunningham, baroque violinist and founder of the popular Whidbey Island Music Festival, now in its sixteenth season.

She is concertmaster and orchestra director of Pacific MusicWorks, and Artist-in-Residence at the University of Washington and plays regularly as concertmaster and principal player with the American Bach Soloists in California. These concerts mark Saratoga Orchestra's third collaboration with Cunningham.

As an added feature, a pre-concert chat 30 minutes before each performance hosted by Anna Edwards and Tekla Cunningham will give further insight into the compositions, composers and performers.

General admission concert tickets are \$25 for all seats and are available for purchase at the door. COVID-19 attendance policy requires all patrons, musicians and volunteers to provide proof of completed vaccination or recent negative COVID-19 test. Complete COVID-19 policy and program information available at www.sowhidbey.com or 360-929-3045.

[Submitted by Larry Heidel, Executive Director, Saratoga Orchestra of Whidbey Island]

Grants for Native Plants Available

Whidbey Audubon Society is currently soliciting grant applications from community groups and nonprofit organizations to enhance the ecological productivity of an area with native plants in order to provide food and shelter to insects, birds and other wildlife. Projects could add native plants around neighborhood water tanks, community centers, nursery schools, parking lots or pools. Sturdy native plants are ideal to replace less drought-tolerant species and can make a wet spot more attractive to birds. Establishing native plants means less mowing, more wildlife, year-round visual appeal and water savings. Applicants are encouraged to select native plants offered by the Whidbey Island Conservation District, which offers great value and ensures plants are appropriate for the site. The dollar amount requested shall not exceed \$200 for any one grant. The applications are due by Oct. 31. If you have questions or want to receive a

grant application, email: conservation@whidbeyaudubonsociety.org. Visit the Whidbey Audubon Society website for more information about how native plants build environmental health, www.whidbeyaudubonsociety.org/native-plants-for-birds.

[Submitted by Susan Prescott, Whidbey Audubon Publicity Chair]

Whidbey SAR Rescues Two Labor Day Weekend

A Search and Rescue (SAR) team from Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island rescued two people, one in the Olympic Mountains Sunday, and another from the Cascades on Labor Day. Sunday, the SAR crew launched at about 6:45PM to rescue a 37-year-old female with a broken leg on Mount Washington in the Olympic Mountain Range. The patient and ground rescue party with her were found immediately on the south side of the mountain. Two SAR crew members rappelled down to prep the patient and by about 7:50PM the patient was extracted by dual-man litter hoist. The SAR crew delivered the patient to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

Later that night, at about 11:25PM, the SAR crew was called to rescue a 36-year-old female with a punctured eye near Shovel Lake in the Cascade Mountain Range. The SAR crew launched at just after midnight Labor Day, but were unable to reach the patient's location because of heavy clouds and they had to return to base.

After taking the required crew rest, the SAR crew continued the mission in the afternoon of Labor Day. This time, at about 1:50PM, they were able to reach the patient on a rock crest above the forest near Shovel Lake. The SAR crew rappelled to the patient and they hoisted her aboard the helicopter by about 2:10PM. The patient was delivered to Harborview Medical Center.

Naval Air Station Whidbey Island SAR has conducted 38 missions this calendar year, which includes six MEDEVACs, 28 rescues, and four searches.

The Navy SAR unit operates three MH-60S helicopters from NAS Whidbey Island as search and rescue/medical evacuation (SAR/MEDEVAC) platforms for the EA-18G aircraft as well as other squadrons and personnel assigned to the installation. Pursuant to the National SAR Plan of the United States, the unit may also be used for civil SAR/MEDEVAC needs to the fullest extent practicable on a non-interference basis with primary military duties according to applicable national directives, plans, guidelines and agreements; specifically, the unit may launch in response to tasking by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (based on a Washington State Memorandum of Understanding) for inland missions, and/or tasking by the United States Coast Guard for all other aeronautical and maritime regions, when other assets are unavailable.

[Submitted by Thomas Mills, NAS Whidbey Island]

Whidbey Veterans Resource Center Receives Support from Local Businesses and Non-Profit Supporters

The Whidbey Veterans Resource Center (WVRC) received a number of charitable donations, grants, discounts, and materials from local businesses, nonprofit organizations, and pandemic relief assistance programs in support of the WVRC's mission to serve veterans and their families across Whidbey Island.

These include the Whidbey Community Foundation, Walmart, Goose Community Grocer, Freeland Ace Hardware, Sebo's Hardware, Freeland Country Store, Greenbank Concrete, and Hanson's Building Supply

The WVRC is located at the South Whidbey Community Center and provides free transportation to off-island VA clinics, local counseling and benefits assistance, and a safe place for veterans to get the help they need.

"Today, about 12,000 people on Whidbey Island are veterans—they are our neighbors,

BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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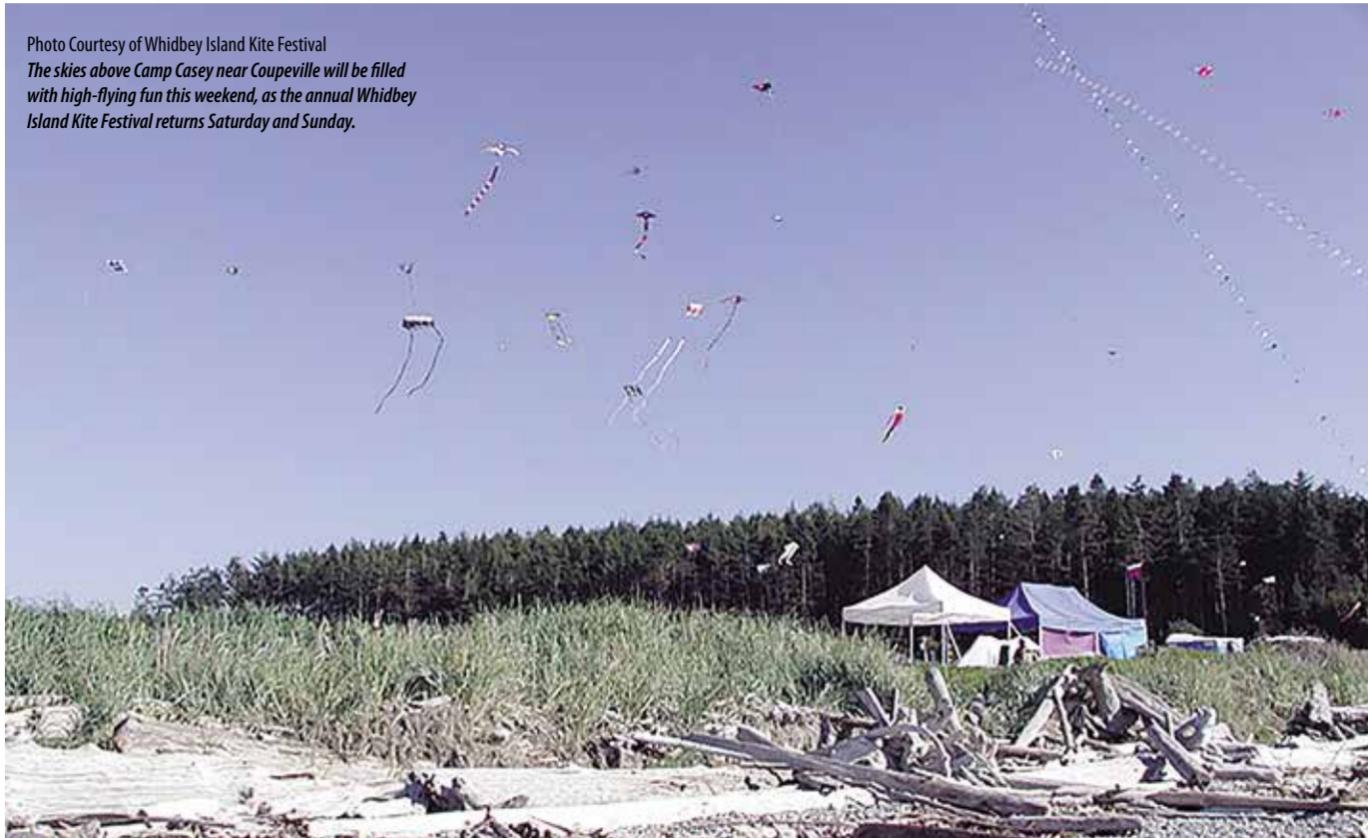
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“Tea for Three” opens Sept. 17 p. 10

Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Kite Festival
The skies above Camp Casey near Coupeville will be filled with high-flying fun this weekend, as the annual Whidbey Island Kite Festival returns Saturday and Sunday.



Kite festival lifts off this weekend

By Shannon Bly Whidbey Weekly

Whidbey Island Kite Festival returns to Camp Casey in Coupeville this Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Since 2000, kite flyers of all skill levels have gathered at Camp Casey to fly kites, take part in competitions, and enjoy the color and beauty of kites in the sky.

“To feel the wind, to control the kite, to do different maneuvers and tricks, to fly the kite in a routine to music...is relaxing and challenging!” said Lisa Root, one of the longtime organizers of the festival. “You really appreciate the outdoors and the weather.”

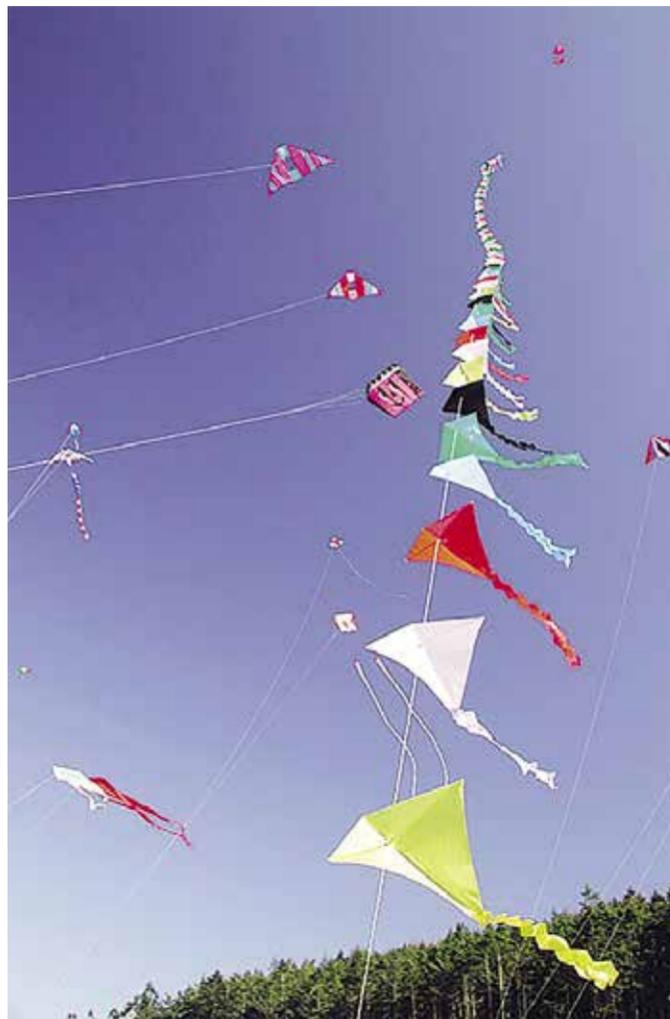
The Kite Festival features many fun events for families and fliers of all skill levels. There will be two mass ascensions each day, where kite makers all fly kites they’ve created around a theme.

“There are kite making events throughout the year where the fliers create new, colorful kites,” said Root. “The imagination that goes into making single line kites is amazing.”

Saturday’s mass ascension categories are “Logo Colors Kites,” in which participants must include at least four of the six colors from the festival’s logo in their kites, and “Birds,” which includes kites inspired by or featuring a bird shape. On Sunday, the mass ascensions will feature kites built in or for a workshop such as the Fort Worden Kitemakers Conference, and kites inspired by images of, or concepts about, water. Mass ascensions will take place each day at 12:30 p.m.

Families can participate in a number of kids’ activities, including making their own kite. Running of the Bols, which takes place at noon Saturday and Sunday, is a foot race where kids under age 16 attach a circular kite to their bodies and run into the wind, lifting the kites into the air as they run to the finish line. There will also be a teddy bear drop event each day at 1 p.m. for children under age 10. The drop consists of a bear with a parachute, which is attached to a “pilot kite” and flown up high into the air. At its peak, the bear drops with its parachute and kids have to run to catch it before it hits the ground.

Sport kite fliers will also be on hand for lessons to show participants the basics. Learn the mechanics of flying a single or dual line kite,



then join one of the challenge competitions taking place for fliers of all skill levels. Competition flying includes single and dual line kites in challenges such as “Showdown,” a trick move demonstration, and “Mystery Ballet,” where kites are flown in a routine set to music. An indoor kite flying demonstration will also take place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday evening at the Coupeville High School gym.

All kite flying activities are weather dependent. Festival organizers are asking the community to wear masks at the events and maintain social distancing. For those who work up an appetite, the Central Whidbey Lions Club will be on site selling hot dogs and soda.

“(Camp Casey) is great place to fly, with good wind and good fields” Root said.

More information and a schedule of events is available at www.whidbeykites.org.

“Angel of Creativity” finds a home in Oak Harbor

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

It has been a long road, but the “Angel de la Creatividad,” or “Angel of Creativity,” a sculpture by world renowned sculptor Sebastian, will be installed in Windjammer Park in Oak Harbor.

The Oak Harbor City Council, in a four-to-one vote last week, ended months of debate on whether to accept the sculpture as a gift from the estate of George Drake.

“I feel like I can breathe for the first time in eight months,” said Therese Kingsbury, president of Sculpture Northwest, a nonprofit organization which will act as the project manager for the sculpture’s installation. It was Kingsbury, along with fellow Sculpture Northwest board member, Richard Nash, who first brought the idea of acquiring the “Angel” to the city in 2019, then again in 2020.

“I’m proud. Proud to carry on George Drake’s vision for art in the Pacific Northwest and keep sculpture relevant to our communities, proud that we didn’t give up,” Kingsbury said. “This has been an awful battle just to get a yes. Council members were even getting frustrated. I think the people who voted for it and supported it can look back on this process and say, ‘We’re so glad she’s here.’ She’s going to be here. She’ll be here longer than we will. It’s exciting.”

“I’m very pleased,” Nash said. “Of course, there’s still a lot of work to do, but it’s looking very promising.”

Both Kingsbury and Nash said it has been difficult to overcome the misinformation circulating on social media about the sculpture, but when they were able to explain the process to people, folks were supportive.

“People thought that somehow it was replacing a windmill project,” Nash said. “In fact, Therese and I offered to help with a project like that in the future. It’s unfortunate that continues to be an issue. The other misconception is that it is somehow a religious icon. Very simply, the sculpture is meant to celebrate the creative process.”

Council member Tara Hizon addressed both of those issues in her comments at the city council meeting, saying she didn’t feel the sculpture was meant to be a religious symbol, but rather the representation of a spirit, or essence, of creativity. She also said people don’t seem to understand how the city can use the funds set aside for the arts.

“We have discussed this to death, and we’re still getting ‘fix a pothole instead of put up a sculpture’ or ‘we need a windmill instead of a sculpture’ and it’s not either/or,” Hizon said. “It’s not possible to use art funds to fix

See SCULPTURE continued on page 10



What's Going On

All entries are listed chronologically, unless there are multiple entries for the same venue or are connected to a specific organization (such as Sno-Isle Libraries) in which case all entries for that venue or organization are listed collectively in chronological order under one heading.

Walter Cronkite is Dead

Fridays, September 17, 24, 7:30PM
Saturdays, September 18, 25, 7:30PM
Sunday, September 19, 4:00PM
Thursday, September 23, 7:30PM
Black Box Theater, Langley

Yes, Walter Cronkite is dead, but his wisdom and compassion lives on in this insightful comedy about what might be possible if people from opposite sides of the political aisle would stop shouting and take even one night to listen.

Tickets for Outcast Productions are \$16 for students and seniors (62+), \$20 for adults, and are now available by emailing ocp@whidbey.com for a reservation and to pay at the door by cash or check. All tickets for the Thursday performance are \$14. OutCast is following strict COVID vaccination guidelines. For specific information, please go to the website at www.outcastproductions.net.

Sportsman's Show and Sale

Saturday, September 18, 9:00AM-3:00PM
Holmes Harbor Rod and Gun Club, Langley

The show features guns, ammo, reloading equipment and supplies, hunting and fishing gear of all types and a wide variety of other sporting equipment. Tables are available for rent, please call Michael at 360-221-7574. A federally licensed dealer (FFL) will be on site for firearm transfers. The show will take place

with tables inside and outside the Trap Shack. Masks will be required inside. Admission by donation. Holmes Harbor Rod and Gun Club is located at 3334 Brooks Hill Rd.

Meetings & Organizations

Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers (WIGS)

Tuesday, September 21, 1:00PM
Oak Harbor Lutheran Church

"Get Reacquainted." In-person meeting with sharing, food and fellowship. All are invited to join for a fun time. Masks are required. Questions: whidbeygensearchers@gmail.com. The church is located at 1253 NW 2nd Ave.

Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum Monthly Luncheon

Tuesday, September 28, 11:30AM
Oak Harbor Elks Lodge, 155 NE Ernst St

Air Force veteran and retired Boeing Customer Service manager, Steppe Williford, will be this month's speaker. An Oak Harbor resident since 2002, Steppe facilitated the donation of a piece of wing fabric from the downed PN9-1 aircraft that was acquired by his grandfather, Chief Quartermaster Mate Rude Jackson.

Program: U.S. Navy's trans-Pacific flight of 1925. This incredible tale of human adventure was the event of its day – five American pilots adrift at sea and forced to sail their downed aircraft to Hawaii – but little is known about the background of bitter political maneuvering and interservice rivalry against which the PN9-1 aircraft made her "successful failure". Admission is free, but a no host lunch will be offered for \$15.



Fall Sportsman Sale and Gun Show

Saturday, September 18
9am to 3pm

In the Main Clubhouse
Holmes Harbor Rod and Gun
Brooks Hill Road, Langley

Admission by donation
Members and non-members
all welcome

*guns • ammo • scopes • knives
hunting gear • fishing gear
tools • camping equipment
boating equipment
who knows what will show up
FFL on site for firearm transfers*

info / table reservations
Mike 360-221-7574
Tables: \$10 Member
\$15 Non-member

Mask required for indoor portion of the show

Perennials 20% OFF

Reg: \$2.99 – \$36.99



Sale Dates 09/15 – 09/21
(NOT VALID ON PRIOR SALES)

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acehardware.com
Monday-Saturday 8am-7pm • Sunday 9am-6pm

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Your Community Food Bank Since 1977
1091 SE Hathaway St • Oak Harbor

OAK HARBOR CINEMAS

YOUR LOCAL MOVIE THEATER

Movie Showtimes
Week 09/17/21 thru 09/21/21

SHANG-CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS (PG-13)
FRIDAY-TUESDAY: 3:45pm & 6:30pm

CRY MACHO (PG-13)
FRIDAY-TUESDAY: 4:15pm & 7:00pm

PAW PATROL (G)
FRIDAY-TUESDAY: 4:00pm

MALIGNANT (R)
FRIDAY-TUESDAY: 6:45pm

Wednesday & Thursday: CLOSED!

1321 SW Barlow St • Oak Harbor
Movie Hotline 360-279-2226
Book A Party or Special Showing 360-279-0526
www.oakharborcinemas.com

ACORN HUNT DOWNTOWN

Saturday, September 25 - Saturday, October 2

Find the hidden acorn stickers at businesses downtown!

Stop by the Pop Up Plaza at the corner of Dock St. and Pioneer Way for a stamp card from 11-3 on Saturday, September 25. Then visit the participating merchants to look for the hidden Acorns. When you have found 10 acorns and have received a stamp from the businesses, bring your stamp card to the Garry Oak Gallery by Saturday, October 2, to enter to win a \$100 Oak Harbor Main Street Gift Certificate!

BONUS CONTEST

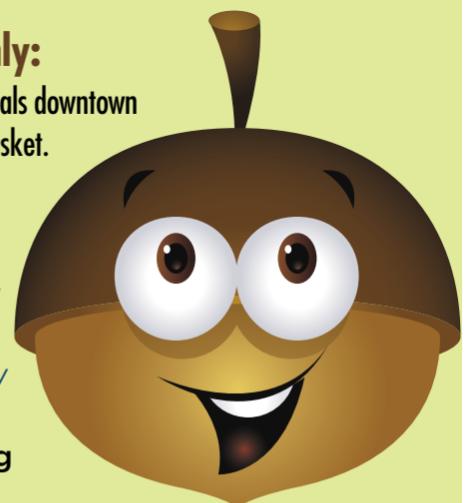
Saturday, September 25 only:

Find the 7 acorns that are painted in murals downtown and enter to win an Acorn themed gift basket.

Please wear masks and social distance.



www.oakharbormainstreet.org
830 SE Pioneer Way #103
360-279-8995



#ohacornhunt

This Weekend!
Friday, September 17 thru Sunday, September 19

SHANG-CHI AND THE LEGEND OF THE TEN RINGS (PG-13)
DON'T BREATHE 2 (R)

BLUE FOX DRIVE-IN THEATER

BOX OFFICE OPENS AT 4PM, FIRST MOVIE BEGINS AT DUSK (7:30ISH)
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GO KARTS OPEN AT 4PM FRIDAY, 12PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY
1403 N MONROE LANDING RD • OAK HARBOR
360-675-5667 • www.bluefoxdrivein.com





WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

12:43 am, Hill Valley Dr.

Reporting party advising male subject is walking around the camp area being very loud. States subject has been walking to different camp sites and screaming violent things to other campsites.

10:33 am, Classic Rd.

Caller states internet access cable computer network messing with his life. No contact info; no need for contact.

11:40 am, West Beach Rd.

Reporting party wanting to report sign neighbor has put up in yard and reporting party finds signs offensive; requesting a call.

12:09 pm, Race Rd.

Reporting party advising saw male looking incoherent talk to bus driver and when bus driver left, male walked over to a home down the street knocked on door and took out gas containers.

2:55 pm, Bonnie View Acres Rd.

States wife is wanting her brother who is from California to leave tonight and reporting party is giving him permission to be there. No active argument, reporting party not at home now.

4:35 pm, Maxwellton Rd.

Advising brother got bear spray in his eyes. Unknown how it happened.

7:21 pm, Ault Field Rd.

Reporting party advising there is a "bitch" pointing a laser at his head; advising his ears are screeching so loud he cannot hear; thinks female is hiding out in a nearby building.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

7:33 am, Honeymoon Bay Rd.

Advising horses loose in area of location toward Classic. One brown and one black and white spotted one. Ongoing issue. Are in and out of road. Currently in road.

10:40 am, SR 525

Caller states landlord has changed locks on business and told reporting party they were no longer renters.

2:50 pm, Goss Lake Rd.

Requesting contact regarding issues from April 2020; advising volunteer group from the jail is "driving her insane." Advising has no phone; will be headed back home from friend's house.

3:17 pm, Noble Pl.

Reporting party advising neighbor keeps turning on sprinklers and "drowning" reporting party's driveway when work company comes to reporting party's property.

6:31 pm, Harbor Sands Ln.

Reporting party now on SR 20 north-bound. States was at a residence/location earlier and someone came out of residence and hit reporting party's vehicle with a sledgehammer as well as his person. Reporting party states he may need medical care but denied aid.

9:44 pm, Myrtle Ave.

Reporting party advising people next door setting off "half a stick of dynamite;" advising subjects have been drinking. Reporting party advising last heard before the call; sounds like "illegal shit."

FRIDAY JULY 30

1:46 am, NE 3rd St.

Reporting party advising she is in someone else's house; doesn't know how she got there; reporting party advising thinks someone is in the room with her.

7:08 am, SR 20

Reporting party states at 6:55 am in the passing lanes there was a male laying on the side of the roadway where the passing lane begins. Dark gray faded hoodie and shorts.

11:52 am, Kimberly Way

Reporting party states package was mis-delivered to a neighbor and neighbor is refusing to give package to post office to have re-delivered.

2:47 pm, Crosswoods Cir.

Male subject drove slowly past reporting party's residence and took pictures of the residence. Reporting party tried to contact subject but male didn't want to make contact with reporting party and avoided eye contact.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

12:26 am, Mobius Loop

Reporting party advising "Stay out of Indian business white man;" "They're feral, crazy, here first, will be here tomorrow, and for 10,000 years more."

11:11 am, Newell Dr.

Loose cow walking in the street. Black and white; unknown who it belongs to.

1:24 pm, Cameron Rd.

Advising it appears boat was unloaded from trailer, but now trailer is completely submerged in water and water is about to breach the truck. Truck is maroon Ford F-150.

10:51 pm, Mobius Loop

Male on the line, advising he talked to his wife and thinks sanity is about to dawn on her; "You know what you need? Lake radio?" Now talking about listening to a scanner of a prowler breaking into a location and a mother shooting the prowler; the judge determined cause of death "hard of hearing;" "I have two guns."

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

12:0 6am, Keystone Ferry

Reporting party advising there are a bunch of people outside - men, women, and babies - they are surrounding reporting party's motorhome, refusing to let him out; men are armed with rifles. Reporting party advising there are two subjects inside with him.

7:39 pm, East Harbor Rd.

Requesting a call from a deputy wanting to know if deputies are all vaccinated. States comes to Clinton to take care of mother and wanting to make sure everyone is safe.

8:33 pm, Alto Ln.

Reporting party advising is wanting to avoid hostility with neighbor; reporting party states the neighbor just turned his sprinkler on reporting party's tenant and got the tenant wet and the tenant's vehicle wet. Words were exchanged.

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

BITS 'N' PIECES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

our friends, and family. Many of us interact and connect with veterans every day, and we just don't know or realize it," said Dana Sawyers, WVRC board member and Air Force veteran. "When you support the WVRC, you're helping us to reach and empower veterans in our communities."

So far this year, the WVRC has served over 200 veterans by hosting over 150 support groups and receiving nearly 400 visits at the Community Center. The WVRC's ride-link van program has also conducted several round trips to Seattle's VA clinics for veterans to access needed medical care.

"Sometimes veterans don't realize they qualify for VA benefits and struggle with seeking assistance later in life," said Maggie Johns, WVRC board member and Air Force veteran. "WVRC works to get them the benefits they deserve and offers assistance that improve their lives."

"Nearly three out of four Americans know little or nothing about the problems faced by our veterans," said Chris Hudec, WVRC board president and Air Force veteran. "With the generous donations from businesses and members within our local communities, we are able to better recognize and address the challenges facing our veterans and honor our heroes."

The Whidbey Community Foundation donated \$5,000 and Walmart donated \$500 to the WVRC. The WVRC also received financial assistance from Island County's COVID-19 relief fund and CARES grant, and Washington State's Community Recovery Grant. Local businesses donated and discounted needed materials to improve the facility with an entry ramp and an outdoor space.

The WVRC work is run by donations and volunteers. For information about how you can volunteer or donate, please visit www.WhidbeyVRC.org or email WhidbeyVRC@gmail.com.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call 360-331-8081. Our veterans are not alone—please reach out. The WVRC is located in the back of South Whidbey Community Center at 723 Camano Ave., Room 403. Support groups meet weekly, with COVID precautions. Benefit sessions are available by calling and appointment.

[Submitted by Clyde Shavers, Whidbey Veterans Resource Center]

Southern Resident Orcas Make Early Return to Puget Sound

After a long absence from the Salish Sea, some southern residents returned to forage on salmon near the San Juan Islands last week and surprised researchers Sept. 7 with an early visit to Puget Sound. Puget Sound orca lovers wait for fall months to catch a glimpse of the southern resident orcas, creating many opportunities for amazing shore-based encounters as they swim past our neighborhoods seeking salmon.

For decades J, K and L Pods have typically spent the summer months feeding on Fraser River Chinook in their core summer habitat around the San Juan and Canadian Gulf Islands, and feeding on Puget Sound salmon in fall and early winter months. But the last few years have been anything but typical. With Fraser River salmon stocks at record low numbers, the southern residents have had little food to bring or keep them inland during the summer and have been spending more time off the BC/WA coast. But they seem to still find salmon destined for Puget Sound rivers, and this habitat provides especially important foraging when salmon are in such decline in other regions the remainder of the year.

Southern resident orcas are normally expected to begin feeding in Puget Sound in early October, but after spending a few days near the Fraser River and around the San Juan Islands, J Pod entered Puget Sound Sept. 7. They passed especially close to Bush Point on Whidbey Island to the delight of several people watching on shore.

Ken Balcomb, founder/director of the Center for Whale Research, commented:

"J pod is now in the Salish Sea doing a little

bit of its historic pattern of checking out the Fraser River and Puget Sound rivers. It seems they represent the 'scouts' for the SRKW. K and L pods are coming in past Sooke as I write. They are coming here for the Chinook salmon that are returning to the Salish Sea ecosystem. Cherish their arrival as representing that there is some remaining health to these amazing waters."

The visit was short lived and the orcas returned to the San Juan Islands the following day, but it was a reminder this is an important time for recreational boaters in Puget Sound to anticipate and be aware of the presence of whales, and to give the southern resident orcas plenty of space, following www.BeWhaleWise.org regulations and guidelines when on the water in any kind of watercraft.

Given the few visits to inland waters during the summer, shore-based observations of southern resident orcas are especially important this fall as they return to forage in their fall/winter Puget Sound habitat. You can help the endangered southern resident orcas by being a community scientist, reporting sightings to 866-ORCANET, info@orcaneetwork.org, or to the Orca Network Facebook page www.facebook.com/pg/OrcaNetwork/posts. For over 20 years, Orca Network has collected whale sightings from the public and naturalists, sharing this valuable data with researchers and orca recovery managers, while educating the public and engaging them in taking action to help the whales.

Visit the Whale Sighting Viewpoints map to find the best spots to see whales from land-based viewpoints, with descriptions of over 100 public viewing locations and directions to help find them.

The map, which can be zoomed in to each location, is at: www.orcaneetwork.org/Viewpoints.html.

The Orca Network website sightings page also posts and maps whale sightings, with archives back to 2001 and a subscription link to a weekly Sighting Network Email Newsletter.

[Submitted by Cindy Hansen, Orca Network]

Local Business News

Oak Harbor Community Association Manager Earns International Certification

Heather Czapinski, association manager, Acorn Properties, Oak Harbor, has been named a Certified Manager of Community Associations (CMCA®) by the Community Association Managers International Certification Board (CAMICB). The board administers the CMCA examination, a rigorous test that measures knowledge of community management best practices. Czapinski joins more than 20,000 CMCA's worldwide who have demonstrated the skills essential for managing homeowner and condominium associations and housing cooperatives.

More than 70 million Americans live in an estimated 345,000 association-governed communities, and many of those communities entrust their management to CMCA's. These skilled professionals are trained in the evolving complexities of community association management. CMCA-certified managers have the expertise needed to safeguard the assets of community associations, protecting home values and providing homeowners with peace of mind.

The CMCA is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) in compliance with domestic standards for credentialing bodies and by the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) for meeting the stringent requirement of ISO/IEC 17024, the international standard for certification bodies.

CAMICB is an independent board that sets the standards for community association managers worldwide. It is the first and only organization created solely to certify community association managers and enhance the professional practice of community association management.

For more information, visit www.camicb.org



SKIMMING AND MURMURATION

Birds in flight capture my attention: eagles circling and soaring in a warm afternoon updraft, fall geese formed in V's drafting to conserve energy, osprey and terns divebombing fish to capture their meal, herons using their long wings arching nearly touching their wingtips to take full advantage of each stroke, or the lightning quick "here I am, now I'm not" flight of a hummingbird. There are two birds in flight that top my list: pelicans flying low, skimming over the water surface, and when shorebirds fly in unison, large groups darting and weaving. For years they've drawn my curiosity but only recently did I learn their purpose.

When birds fly low to the water, skimming permits the birds to take advantage of an aerodynamic phenomenon known as "ground effect." Basically, as the bird glides over the water, the air is "funneled" between the lower surfaces of the wings and the upper surface of the water. The air is thereby compressed and functions like a cushion of dense air that supports the bird aloft, in addition to the normal aerodynamic forces at work. As the bird nears the water surface, the ground effect becomes stronger. Thus, everything else being equal, it is more efficient to fly close to a surface than far from it. But things are rarely equal, which is why birds tend to take advantage of the ground effect when the "ground" is water. The ground effect only occurs when the flying object is much less than a wingspan from the surface – and at such an altitude over land a bird would be continually flying among obstacles, through grass, and so on. Only water is sufficiently uncluttered to permit such close safe passage. This aerodynamic phenomenon is very important to aerial wildlife, and it has been copied by humans. During World War II, long-range bombers often flew close to the water's surface to conserve fuel.

Several species take advantage of skimming: skimmers, petrels, albatrosses, shearwaters, cormorants, geese, and others. Brown pelicans with their seven-foot wingspan are a master of this technique, skimming along the shoreline following the crest and troughs of waves with ease, needing only intermittent flapping of their wings to maintain height. Brown pelicans visit the Washington coast seasonally, typically from April through November. Over the past decade, as many as 16,000 brown pelicans have been spotted during annual surveys in the Columbia River estuary and off the Washington coast.

Have you ever been awestruck watching flocks of starlings and shorebirds flying in a tightly packed mass, making astonishingly



sharp turns, darting and pulsing that appear to the unaided eye to be conducted entirely in unison? Their choreographed mayhem isn't happenstance, it's purposeful, and it even has a name, murmuration. Why do they do it? Murmuration often occurs when there is a predator nearby. These large, irregular shapes of flight are for their protection. It's when a predator lunges that being in a crowd really pays off. Numerous studies have shown individuals who travel in groups are more vulnerable when they stray off by themselves. This is due, in part, to the bewildering things an assemblage can do. By turning rapidly or simply tilting a bit on their axis, birds shift the appearance of their plumage from dark (their upperparts) to light (their underparts), creating a swift flashing effect that might startle or confuse predators. Studies have shown Merlin hunting shorebirds are most successful when they're pursuing individuals. Falcons do go after tightly packed crowds of dunlins and other shorebirds, but those hunts are most likely less successful than when they pursue a lone individual bird that has strayed from the flock.

There are numerous YouTube videos taken of birds in murmuration, this is one of my favorites: www.youtube.com/watch?v=_JWitLWXOAU.

"There is mounting evidence that the act of observing birds in nature is calming to our minds and bodies. In addition, birding is an excellent activity for the whole family," K. Zupich noted.

Island County has numerous locations to view birds. On Camano, visit English Boom, Utsalady Bay, and Barnum Point County Parks. On Whidbey, popular locations are Crockett Lake, Deer Lagoon, Dugualla Bay Preserve and beach. Whidbey Audubon Society is a great source for those who wish to learn more: www.whidbeyaudubonsociety.org.

Dave Davis, and his wife Barb Hardman, are members of the Sound Water Stewards Class of 2019, and participate in kelp bed temperature monitoring, invasive European green crab surveys, outdoor education and beach cleanups. They live on South Whidbey Island in the Sandy Hook community.



The City of Burlington Parks and Recreation Department and the Burlington Chamber of Commerce are pleased to present

September 20-25
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Scarecrow Stroll • Zucchini Races
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
Live Music from the Troy Fair Band 5-7pm
Fireworks Show with Western Display will start at 7:30pm
<https://www.facebook.com/visitburlingtonwa>
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SCAN FOR MORE DETAILS!

June Meehan
Accounting Specialist
(Accounting Services)

SOME HEROES ARE DEDICATED

"June is the person I go to when I have a question. She has so much knowledge and she is always willing to share it. June is one of the most dedicated individuals I've ever worked with – she is committed to efficiency and has impeccable integrity. She's also a very cheerful and positive person to interact with."

June Meehan is a **real healthcare hero.**

June is always up for the challenge and will do whatever it takes to get the job done. She is dependable, organized, efficient, and a wealth of information.

A **go-to** resources on all things accounting, [and beyond] her only motivation is to do what is best for WhidbeyHealth and our Community.

Thank you, June, for being part of our Team!

Ron Telles, CEO
WhidbeyHealth

Gratefully sponsored by Ron Telles.

Thank You, Gene's!

"When I purchased the painting on silk in an antique store over 35 years ago it had a plain, thin frame. Now, the frame and matting bring out the colors within and it's become a conversation piece. I've worked with numerous framers over the years and Gene's is by far the best."

Franji C.
Oak Harbor, WA

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LIVE THEATER IS BACK AT WHIDBEY PLAYHOUSE

“Tea for Three” opens Friday

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

The Whidbey Island community is invited to share an evening with three special ladies as Oak Harbor's Whidbey Playhouse welcomes Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon and Betty Ford to the stage in “Tea for Three, Lady Bird, Pat and Betty,” a play by Eric H. Weinberg and Elaine Bromka. The play opens Friday and will run through Oct. 3. Live performances are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Saturday's performance will also be live streamed, with on demand viewings available Oct. 1 and 2.

Director Eric George said “Tea for Three” is the perfect way to bring live theater back to Oak Harbor.

“When the [selection] committee met to discuss the season, we had to meet certain criteria,” he explained. “It couldn't be a show with more than five people, it couldn't be a musical, it had to be able to be performed with social distancing. Well, ‘Tea for Three’ was perfect, because it's essentially one woman on stage at a time. It got within the parameters we were given. Plus, the show was just so good.”

Erin Tombaugh, Jill Jackson and Sarah Gallella bring to the stage first ladies Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon and Betty Ford, respectively – sharing the same space on stage, although not at the same time, much as the three first ladies occupied the same space in the White House at different times during their husbands' presidencies.

With historically accurate backdrops featured on the screens behind them, each of the women reminisce about their time in the White House as they are preparing to meet their successor. And while these meetings took place in 1969, 1974 and 1977, the issues they discuss are surprisingly relevant all these decades later.

“This play is very relevant today,” George said. “During Lady Bird's and Pat's time as first lady, we were in the throes of Vietnam. In 2021, you have everything going on in Afghanistan. The first ladies were very vocal about women's rights across the board and in 2021, we are dealing with something very similar with women's rights being challenged.”

“One of the main [issues] for Betty Ford was the Equal Rights Amendment, and current times directly mirror that right now with what's going on in Texas,” said Gallella. “The same thing those states are going through are things we've already been through and I love her lines about it – but you'll have to wait for the show [to hear them]. This show in particular is a great way to open conversations with people.”

Learning about the women they portray has been an interesting process, according to the actors. Jackson, for example, said she read three or four books about Pat Nixon, looked through copious news articles and even contacted the Nixon Presidential Library as part of her research.

“One of my passions as a kid was first ladies,” she said. “Martha Washington was the one that sparked everything so I just kind of read through all the first ladies. Being Pat has been a really unique research experience.”

“They were all before my time,” said Tombaugh. “I was really only familiar with them by name. I'd heard tidbits maybe of their husbands, but as to the ladies, I was very unfamiliar. [It has been interesting] just kind of hearing about what it's like to be that behind-the-scenes and yet be such an important person and an important role for the country.”

“I also loved learning about ways she stepped in, like, she did a campaign tour in the south when they wouldn't let Lyndon Johnson go down there,” she continued. “So, the overlap of her role into the presidency has been really interesting for me to learn about.”

“I was familiar more with [Betty Ford's] later years, when she went into rehab and how that influenced her to start the Betty Ford Clinic, and being a breast cancer survivor and fighting for the ERA, so I was familiar that she did those things, but not the details of them,” said Gallella. “I learned we might have more in common than I thought, as far as being a mother and a wife and supporting a family.”

Because the play is performed as three separate monologues, essentially, there was a lot of memorizing to do. Plus, it's not easy to be alone on stage, according to George.



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly
Jill Jackson says reading several books and newspaper articles helped her hone her performance as former first lady Pat Nixon in “Tea for Three, Lady Bird, Pat and Betty,” a play opening Friday and running through Oct. 3 at the Whidbey Playhouse in Oak Harbor.



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly
Several issues are as relevant today as they were during the time Betty Ford was a first lady. Sarah Gallella portrays her in “Tea for Three, Lady Bird, Pat and Betty,” at the Whidbey Playhouse. Live performances open Friday.



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly
Erin Tombaugh plays first lady Lady Bird Johnson in “Tea for Three, Lady Bird, Pat and Betty,” starting Friday at the Whidbey Playhouse in Oak Harbor.

“It's very, very difficult, because you don't have anyone to play off of,” he explained. “It's just you on the stage with the audience and you have to keep that audience engaged. Plus, having to memorize a regular monologue is a challenge for most actors, but this show is a 12-page monologue and my actresses stepped up and they took on that challenge head on.”

“It has actually been really rewarding to be able to dive so fully into the character,” Tombaugh said. “Not that I long for this kind of role in the future, but there's something about being the only one on stage that you could set yourself up poorly, but you could also set yourself up really well to have your moment to really share who this person is who you're portraying.”

“As an actress, you think of your pre-show and production time frame and you have to divide your thoughts and energy into all of your different scenes per show,” Gallella said. “When you're doing something like this, you really get to focus and dial it down to staying on your part to be as solid as you can.”

“This was originally a one-woman show and to be able to break it out into three women and three distinct personalities and people I think is a challenge for all three of us,” said Jackson. “But also, what a gift to be able to give each woman that moment and that time that we've spent with her to portray her to the best of our ability.”

“It's been fascinating watching Erin, Jill, and Sarah slowly become these women,” said George. “I wanted from the beginning for these women to seem real and not caricatures. I encouraged the women to do their own research, watch interviews, learn what these first ladies were like and take that and make it their own. Each woman brought their own sense of who they felt each first lady was as a person and over time, it evolved into what you see on stage. We started out working on accents, then it was mannerisms, then wigs, and finally costumes. When all of them came out in full costume and started talking, I swear it was like I was watching Lady Bird, Pat, and Betty.”

Despite not sharing the stage except for the curtain call, there is a well-developed camaraderie among the “Tea for Three” cast, who said they are thrilled to be able to get back to doing live performances for the community and doing it safely. For the protection of the cast, crew and audience, the Playhouse has been diligent about health and safety in the time of COVID. Audience members will have to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test to be admitted to the building. Masks are required, there will be no concessions or intermission to discourage mingling and programs are digital, rather than printed.

But it's still live community theater, perhaps just a slightly stripped-down version.

“It's one lone actor on the stage sharing the story, putting their heart on the line – and their health, a little – to bring back theater,” said Jackson. “It's not just Broadway, it's everywhere. It's important that we bring back this part of the community, because our community suffers when we're not connected.”

To learn more or to purchase tickets online for live or streaming performances, visit whidbeyplayhouse.com. The Playhouse is located at 730 SE Midway Blvd. in Oak Harbor.

SCULPTURE continued from page 6

a pothole. It's not a ‘you can either have a windmill or a sculpture.’ That's just not how it works, at all.

“There's something else really bothering me, personally,” she continued. “When I see comments that it doesn't represent our community or fit in our community or belong in our community, usually those comments are in the same paragraph as ‘we need a windmill’ or ‘Dutch heritage.’ The very idea that Dutch heritage is the only thing worthy of representation in our community is really problematic, at best. That's not okay. While I do appreciate there is Dutch heritage, that's not the only thing that's going on. We have a very diverse community and I think that's one of the best things about it, honestly.”

The next step in the process is the Geotech work, according to Nash, which will determine what kind of soil is at the installation site and what kind of pin piles, or underground supports, will be needed. The sculpture stands about 37 feet tall, about the size of an average telephone pole. At its widest point, the sculpture is about 10 feet. The sculpture will be welded onto a six-foot square base and then secured to a concrete pad about 14 feet square. All costs for the installation, which Kingsbury estimates will run about \$200,000, are being covered by the Drake estate.

“We're looking at six to eight months,” Kingsbury said. “That's standing tall and bolted to her foundation. Because it's so big and it's a serious installation, there are a lot of components.”

When installation is complete, the city council will formally accept the statue as a gift, which has a current value of approximately \$500,000. At that time, the city will make a donation of \$35,000 from the creative arts fund to Sculpture Northwest, which will then transfer the money to the nonprofit Whatcom Community Fund, an organization Drake supported.

Kingsbury and Nash feel that is a small price to pay for a work of this magnitude.

“It's a strong piece,” Nash said. “Sebastian is world renowned, so that is significant. It will put Oak Harbor on the map. I'm hoping personally that people will be open minded about all of this and we really think overall it will be a positive contribution to the city.”

“This is something Seattle would be proud to have,” said Kingsbury. “She will be one of the reasons people stop here. With some of the cool things like the new pocket park at Dock and Pioneer, with the new mural there and other murals, I feel like this town has turned a corner in the last three years. It's just exciting and I'm really proud council members listened to people that want it and didn't just hear the angry mob chanting ‘windmill.’”



File photo
The Oak Harbor City Council has approved the installation of the sculpture “Angel de la Creatividad,” shown here in an artist's rendering, at Windjammer Park.





JIGS: A SALMON'S WORST NIGHTMARE

Rumor has it jigging for salmon originated in the rivers of Alaska. No matter where it started, jigging can be a deadly technique for catching all species of salmon. A lead-head jig is probably the most popular style of jig used today – it's simple, effective, and doesn't break the bank to own a dozen or so. Some of the earliest jigs were used in the saltwater for cod and other bottom dwellers. Some people may know the jig by another name, the "dart." To me, the dart stands on its own based on design and the jig part comes into play as the action used to get the dart to come alive by "jigging" the dart erratically up and down to get the fishes' attention.

The jig was found to be so effective on multiple species worldwide that the U.S. Air Force supplied jigs as part of the survival gear for airmen. As a naval aircrewman, I always carried a couple of jigs in my Navy SV-2 optional flight gear pocket. Our crew had countless hours above the water, which unfortunately, generally left no time to wet a jig. Like me, many of us Island Anglers' first experience with a jig may have been a Crappie jig as a young angler; it consisted of a quarter-ounce lead-head molded to a small sharp wire hook and the shank of this hook was carefully wrapped with a fuzzy fiber type of material, giving the jig a bug, or shrimp-like presentation. Some had feathers for a tail and others had a totally rubber body and tail.

Bass fishermen have been using medium size lead-head and rubber skirted jigs to help win bass tournaments for many years. They use the term "pitching jigs." They have mastered the art of putting a rubber skirted jig under docks or alongside sunken logs, and carefully teasing the jig through other underwater structures where the largemouth bass live. Bottom line jigs have been around for a long time and have proven their worth over and over again.

My son and an old fishing buddy and I started using lead-head fur and feather jigs in the local rivers about 12 years ago. The term we use is "twitching jigs." We bought the first jigs we used (3/8 and 1/2 ounce lead-heads) but eventually we gathered the necessary materials and equipment needed to make our own, because the log, limb, root-ball and rock monsters were devouring the \$3 jigs faster than we would have liked. Pink, purple, red, and black are my colors of choice for most rivers. A jig is very easy to fish, it casts well, it can be fished at any depth and its greatest trick is how closely it can mimic a shrimp or crawfish when twitched up and down near the bottom.

One year on the Skagit River during the fall coho run, I recall an area where we

were casting from the driftboat into some beautiful fishy water using spoons and spinners; the hole we were targeting had fast water combined with a defined seam that transitioned into slow moving deep water. We had even seen a couple of fish surface in the seam but for some reason, the fish were just not interested in the hardware we were tossing in front of them. We decided to give a jig a try. The first few casts, nothing. But after scan casting around a bit we got our first fish. The salmon were attacking the pink feather jigs on the fall; when we would lift the rod tip to add the twitching motion to the jig, to our surprise the fish already had the jig in their mouth! We hooked multiple fish out of that hole before moving downriver.

I firmly believe if you keep working a jig in a good area – a good area being slow moving water between six to 10 feet deep – the salmon holding in that water cannot resist a twitching jig in their face. Keep casting the jig back into the soft fishy water and give it time to drive the fish crazy. Trust me, if there are salmon holding in that spot, they will bite. I'm a big fan of smelly jelly-type scent on lures but I do not add scent to my jigs; the biggest reason is the oily substance sticks the fur or feather fibers together and changes the natural flowing fiber movements. If you want to add scent, dab a little on the lead-head or possibly use a small amount of water soluble scent on the body of the jig. I have added a small dice-sized piece of shrimp to the hook of the jig (tipping the jig) and it can make a difference on extremely finicky fish.

If you told me I could only bring one lure to fish any river, I would choose a 3/8 ounce black lead-head jig with a pink marabou feather body and a small amount of silver UV tinsel mixed in. It would be tied directly to my main-line – no swivel, no leader. If there are fish in the river, I would be bringing home dinner. If you are a hardware fisherman and haven't added jigs to your arsenal, take the time to get a few; these things can be deadly effective. You won't be disappointed.

The humpys (pinks) in the salt are starting to dwindle down in numbers but the numbers of bright coho being caught are on the rise. The pink color will still get the coho's attention, but consider pearl and blue or chrome as an alternative. Sharpen or replace your hooks every time out. The saltwater seasons are drawing to a close so be sure to check the regulations. Take the young anglers out as much as you can, GOOD LUCK and have fun!



jigs like these are almost irresistible to salmon.



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FRI OCT 1	CASCADE	5:00PM	AWAY	EVERETT
FRI OCT 8	FERNDAL	7:00PM	HOME	OHHS
FRI OCT 15	MOUNT VERNON	7:00PM	HOME	OHHS
FRI OCT 22	MARYSVILLE PILCHUCK	7:00PM	AWAY	QUILCEDA

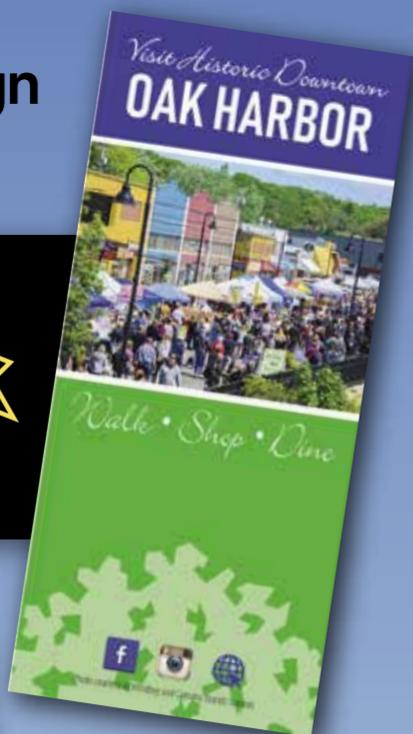
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GUEST COLUMN

By Dr. Victoria Panzer and Lori Clary

FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS: Falls CAN be prevented – Start a conversation, make a plan

Across Washington, Sept. 20 – 24, 2021 is Falls Prevention Awareness Week (FPAW). Many things have changed this year with the challenges of COVID-19, but one thing hasn't changed... Each year more than 25 percent of all older adults in Washington will fall. Some falls are minor, while others may result in serious injury, loss of independence and changes in mobility. But a fall can be a silent warning it's time to do something to prevent future falls.

Here's some things to think about:

- Have you fallen more than once in the last year?
- Have you been injured in a fall in the last year?
- Have you fallen in the past three months?
- Do you find that you sometimes lose your balance or nearly fall?

If you can answer Yes to any one of these questions, you're at increased risk of falls.

There are lots of things you can do to prevent falls, and here in Washington, we have a number of excellent programs and services to help you find the right answer for YOU.

Programs available include: A Matter of Balance, FallsTalk, Stay Active & Independent for Life (SAIL), Tai Chi/Moving for Better Balance. Now is the time to get started by understanding your risk of falling and finding a path forward that suits your personal needs and lifestyle. You can complete many of these programs remotely, and some only need a telephone to participate! Descriptions of these and other programs can be found on the National Council on Aging website: <http://www.ncoa.org/older-adults/article/evidence-based-falls-prevention-programs>

OTHER STEPS THAT YOU CAN TAKE TO PREVENT FALLS:

Talk to your doctor Even if you only notice an occasional loss of balance and don't think that falls are a serious problem, your doctor can address many concerns and help you to know what medical steps may be necessary to reduce your risk for falls.

Check your medications Ask your pharmacist if anything you are taking could increase your risk of falling

Exercise Think about starting or changing your exercise program to include balance as well as strength and flexibility elements.

Take a look around your home Are there places where you have overlooked a fall hazard?

Fall Risk Screening Sept. 21, 22 and 23, between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM, you can drop in to the Community Life Center at 19820 Scriber Lake Road, Lynnwood, for a free fall risk screening. A volunteer nurse will help you determine your risk of falling and discuss next steps. [I can organize someone to do in-person or telephone screening here on the island at some time during FPAW.]

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

Here's a link to the Department of Health (DOH) website where you'll find Washington resources: www.doh.wa.gov/findingourbalance

Click on the Falls Prevention Awareness Toolkit or email findingourbalance@doh.wa.gov and Lori Clary, older adult falls prevention specialist, will email the flyers to you.

MORE IDEAS AND RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND WITH THESE LINKS:

NCOA: www.ncoa.org/older-adults/health/prevention/falls-prevention
CDC: www.cdc.gov/falls/index.html

During this FPAW, find out more about falls prevention opportunities near you:

To find falls prevention resources in Island County, contact Homage by phone toll-free 800-422-2024 or by email: Info@FallScape.org.

Remember... Only you can prevent yourself from falling!





Life Tributes

Shirley Viall



Shirley Viall went home to the Lord Aug. 28, 2021. She was a resident of Washington state since 1960, and a resident of Coupeville, Wash., for 41 years, where she resided with her husband, Dallas.

She was born Shirley Elizabeth Felker in Detroit Lakes, Minn., Nov. 30, 1938 to Martin Felker and Opal Severson (née Goff).

She was a lifelong patron of the performing arts, involved in community theater groups, musical programs, the symphony and Community Concerts, a national organization whose mission was to bring the magic of live performance to local communities by bringing artists and audiences together.

audiences together.

Her decades-long career in emergency medical services planning began in the late 1960s, working with the Washington/Alaska Regional Medical Program, which included integrating EMS services throughout the state, and the advent of the Medic One system. She spearheaded the establishment of the Washington state civilian MAST (Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic) program, which integrated military helicopter ambulances and air crews into the civilian EMS grid. The MAST program saved thousands of lives throughout Washington, and in 1992, she and her colleagues on the civilian MAST committee received a public service award by then Gov. Booth Gardner.

Though her lifelong professional focus was on helping others, her lifelong passion was her devotion to the Lord, to her husband and to her family and friends.

A devout Christian, she still enjoyed attending service at many of the area churches regardless of their denomination and she truly believed in the expression of faith through the liturgy and through prayer. She attended and hosted weekly Bible studies and helped bring many people to the Lord, which was for her, the most important work she could do.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Martin Felker and Opal Severson (née Goff), and by her daughter, Anne Taylor Owens.

She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Dallas Viall, of Coupeville and their children; Bill Taylor (Meriflor), Geoffrey (Katherine), Thomas (Maya), Christopher (Oxana), Mary (Thomas); grandchildren Sarah (Austin), Jordan, Jake, Caleb, Luke, Evan, Christina (Tyler), Yanis (Vita), Yana; great-grandchildren Rhys and Eve; and her cousins Terry Felker of Va., Maxine Lydell of Nev., and many other cousins, friends and relatives.

She loved lighthouses and because of her walk with the Lord, was a living version to those of us who had the privilege of being a part of her life. She was loved by everyone who knew her and will be missed deeply, but we know that she has gone home, where "death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain," and where Jesus will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

A eucharist and memorial service will be held Saturday, Sept. 4, 2021, at 2 p.m. at Grace by the Sea Anglican Church located at 540 SE Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor, Wash.

Troy Douglas Hamming



Troy Douglas Hamming was called home, after an extended illness, to be with the Lord Aug. 30, 2021, at Virginia Mason Hospital, Seattle, Wash., at the age of 53. He was born Nov. 21, 1967, in Anacortes, Wash., to Gordon Hamming and Sue (Hall-Hamming) Mitchell. He attended Oak Harbor schools until his freshman year, when he moved to live with his mom in Montana and spent one year attending Hamilton High School. When he was a junior, he moved to Eugene, Ore., to live with his stepmom, Judy Nickholds, where he graduated from high school.

Troy lived in the Seattle area for several years before moving to Las Vegas, working in the hospitality industry. He enjoyed living near his mom, sister, Keva, and niece, McCall. For the past several years he has lived back in the Pacific Northwest working for AT&T.

Troy is survived by his father, Gordon Hamming; siblings Greg (Karen) Hamming, Mike Hamming, Keva (Ryan) Jordan; and numerous other family members, including nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, stepmom Judy Nickholds, and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Troy is preceded in death by his mother, Sue Mitchell, stepdad, Leo Mitchell, and both sets of grandparents.

A funeral service was held at Wallin-Stucky Funeral Home Sept. 9. There was a small coffee and cookies reception following the service then a graveside service at Fircrest Cemetery.

Arrangements were entrusted to Wallin-Stucky Funeral Home, Oak Harbor, Wash. Friends and family are invited to share condolences and memories at www.wallinfuneralhome.com.

Life Tributes can now be found online at www.whidbeyweekly.com

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 or call 360-682-2341 to share your prayer requests.

We have an Angel in Heaven and we call her mom and grandma.



Happy Birthday in Heaven. You are loved and missed every minute of every day.

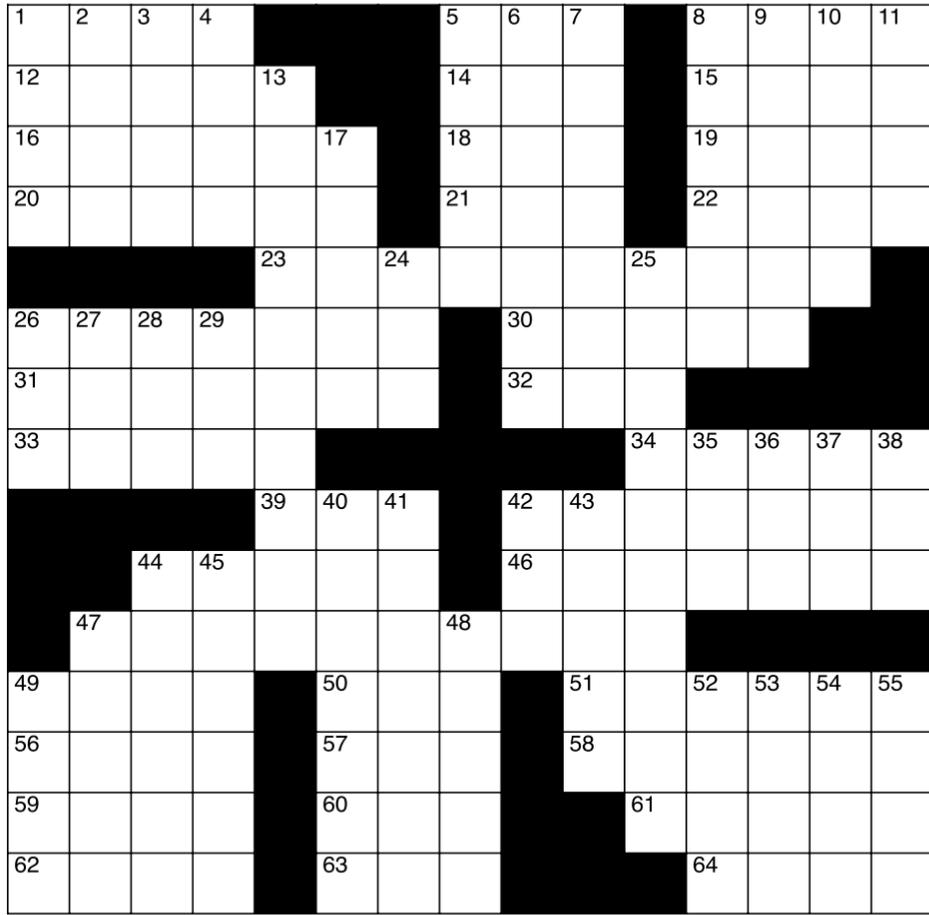
Michele, Lyla, Janay, Thomas, Noah, Gracie, Jayden and Jordyn

Her Journey's Just Begun

*Don't think of her as gone away -
Her journey has just begun
Life holds many facets
The Earth is only one
Just think of her as resting
From the sorrows and the tears
In a place of warmth and comfort
Where there are no days and years
Think how she must be wishing
That we could know today
How nothing but our sadness can really pass away
And think of her as living
In the hearts of those she touched
For nothing loved is ever lost -
And she was loved so much.*



Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. One of the four Vedas
- 5. Part of (abbr.)
- 8. At the peak
- 12. African antelope
- 14. Expression of satisfaction
- 15. Yankees' ace
- 16. Belittled
- 18. A baglike structure
- 19. Utah Jazz coach Snyder
- 20. Actress Tomei
- 21. Explosive
- 22. Formal for "on"
- 23. Cruelties
- 26. Country singer Brad
- 30. Make very happy
- 31. Binary compound of hydrogen with a metal
- 32. Albanian currency
- 33. Subatomic particle
- 34. Type of salt
- 39. 007's creator
- 42. Emerging
- 44. Railroad flare
- 46. Observed
- 47. Capable of reproduction
- 49. Indicates adjacent to

CLUES DOWN

- 13. Remove salt
- 17. Went out with
- 24. Type of bread
- 25. Popular Eagles song
- 26. Philosophy degree
- 27. Yes vote
- 28. Passports and licenses are two
- 29. No seats available
- 35. Pounds per square inch
- 36. A way to launch an attack on
- 37. The lowest cardinal number
- 38. Popular Miller beer
- 40. Pokes holes in
- 41. Closest to
- 42. Folk singer DiFranco
- 43. Rivne's former name
- 44. Flat ruler
- 45. Lacking the means to do something
- 47. Cockatoo
- 48. Dred Scott decision deliverer
- 49. Explosion exclamation
- 52. Canadian flyers
- 53. Houston university
- 54. At some prior time
- 55. Red, swollen mark

- 50. Legendary Notre Dame coach
- 51. Not wide
- 56. An embarrassing mistake
- 57. Pearl Jam's debut album
- 58. Denotes passerine birds
- 59. Stumble
- 60. Midway between east and southeast
- 61. W. Indian trees
- 62. You
- 63. Pigpen
- 64. Be aware of

Answers on page 15

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Sept. 16 North Isle H-64°/L-52° Mostly Sunny High Clouds	Fri, Sept. 17 North Isle H-61°/L-55° Rain	Sat, Sept. 18 North Isle H-66°/L-53° Chance of Rain	Sun, Sept. 19 North Isle H-63°/L-48° Chance of Rain	Mon, Sept. 20 North Isle H-62°/L-47° Partly Sunny	Tues, Sept. 21 North Isle H-65°/L-50° Partly Sunny	Wed, Sept. 22 North Isle H-63°/L-47° Partly Sunny
South Isle H-61°/L-50° Mostly Sunny	South Isle H-59°/L-54° Rain	South Isle H-64°/L-52° Chance of Rain	South Isle H-62°/L-51° Chance of Rain	South Isle H-62°/L-50° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-66°/L-50° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-65°/L-51° Partly Sunny



OUR Community

An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

What do you most want to do that you have not done yet?

Michele Tull, Oak Harbor



I want to go back to Germany and trace my Mom's family history, especially her Dad's side, as we don't know much about them.

The Kevin Lungren Family, Freeland



As a family, we like to take long walks and climb to the top of mountains. Two pre-COVID years ago, the five of us hiked Hadrian's Wall across England, east to west. Each morning a van picked up our luggage and whisked it to our next B&B. What an epiphany! My time as a human Winnebago are over. We now want to try hutting (walking from hut to hut with just day packs) and New Zealand, Scotland and Switzerland are on our short list. We'll do it just as soon as this global pandemic is done with us. In the meantime, please do your civic duty and help defend our beaches against the onslaught of pink salmon. They sure are tasty.

Scott Chaplin, Langley



There is something I have been wanting to do for quite some time. I want to read one of my all-time favorite books cover-to-cover in one day (Rachel Carson's bestselling book "The Sea Around Us" - available at Moonraker) while taking a day-trip on a hydrogen-fuel-cell or renewable-energy electrically powered catamaran, passenger-only ferry, built by the Nichols Brothers. The ideal day would be to go down to the Langley marina to disembark on RCF 1 (really cool ferry), hop off at the Clinton dock to grab a cup off coffee at the little red coffee hut; then take the RCF 1 down to Seattle and spend some time at Pikes Market; then get back on the same RCF route and go pick up some supplies in Everett; hop back on and get off at Camano Island State Park to fish for salmon and have a picnic with some friends, get back on, see a few whales close up, and head to a meeting in Coupeville. After the meeting take the 7 p.m. RCF 2 to Oak Harbor for a nice dinner with friends at China City, then take a free Island Transit hybrid-electric bus back to Langley and stop at the Bistro for some locally grown, organic hors d'oeuvres and a nightcap and then walk home. It might not happen this year, but maybe in 2022?

Justin Gordon, Oak Harbor



An epic trip traveling on the Trans-Siberian railway is at the top of my list. You can choose different travel arrangements, but mine would be the 19-day trip from Moscow

to Vladivostok, Russia, with a brief dip into Mongolia. The overall trip would cover over 5,000 miles! To me, it's a perfect mix of large cities, remote villages, and untouched wilderness. It's also very economical for such a first-class experience!

CAN DO SUDOKU!

On a scale from 1 to 10...5.2

Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
 Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
 Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9

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

Answers on page 15

Community Bulletin Board

To place an ad, email classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com

GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

Moving Sale! Saturday, Sept. 18 and Sunday, Sept. 19, 2530 Darst Rd., Coupeville (off West Beach Rd). Moving and massively downsizing, including extra items from other families. Items include furniture, tons of art & frames, household, gardening, and garage items, such as more than 30 pictures with frames, bookshelf/display unit 7'9" wide by 7'9" tall, mid-century modern set of 5 dining room chairs, coffee table with nesting end tables, grey couch, retail display units with baskets, old fashioned travel desk, queen-size futon/sofa, world's most comfortable matching recliner/rockers, fabrics for crafters, and so much more! Track developments on the FaceBook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1847848575375973>.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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 for more information.

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

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 or call 360-321-1484.

JOB MARKET

Now hiring all positions: days, nights, graveyard shifts, week days and weekends for drivers, dispatch and customer service. We are seeking individual(s) with the following traits:

Outgoing personality, Clean driving record, Excellent customer service skills (minimum of 3 years), Team player attitude. Base requirements include: +21 years of age (drivers), Current Washington state driver's license.(drivers), Pass pre-employment drug test and background check, Excellent verbal and written skills, Flexible to change, Excellent phone and in-person customer service skills, Experienced in Microsoft (Excel, Word, Outlook) programs. Compensation: Competitive wages, Vacation/sick accrual, Great work environment. TAXI APPLICANTS: Contact us at 360-914-3250 or email officemgr@therocktaxi.com for complete details. SHUTTLE APPLICANTS: Contact us at 360-679-4003 or email officemgr@seatacshuttle.com for complete details (3)

Natural Resource Educator: Whidbey Island Conservation District (WICD) is seeking an education professional who has a passion for and experience in inspiring land stewardship and natural resource conservation on private lands and with diverse audiences. This new position is a part-time (0.6 FTE; 24 hour/week) one-year grant-funded role through August 2022 with opportunities for position expansion with additional grant funding. The position is based at the WICD office in Coupeville, Whidbey Island, Washington. Position overview: The Natural Resource Educator is responsible for collaboratively engaging with staff, Board, partners, and clients on the development and delivery of a new approach to serving our agricultural audience on Whidbey Island through the new "Agland Stewardship Program" to assist Small, Beginning, and Historically Underserved Farmers and Rural Landowners on Whidbey Island in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. This multi-pronged program will involve coordination of seasonal FarmWalk events, videos, social media, and web content design and delivery, as well as cultivation of producer and partner relationships. The Natural Resource Educator reports directly to the District Manager. SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES: Provides conservation education to a broad range of audiences, including K-12 students and adults; Coordinates, facilitates and promotes agriculturally-focused farmer events; Develops and designs web and social media campaigns; Develops, shoots and edits educational,

engaging videos; Develops and maintains strong relationships with community partners and organizations to support outreach opportunities, ensure program relevance and forge new partnerships; Generates reports and social media content as requested; Assists staff with information requests as needed; Must be available to work occasional evenings and weekends; Performs other reasonable duties as assigned by District Manager. ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's degree in education and/or conservation-related sciences; Minimum of two years of informal or formal educator experience. Experience teaching science is preferred; Demonstrated understanding, experience or education in agriculture, natural resource science or environmental science; Professional knowledge of the principles and techniques used in educational programming and community outreach; Experience in shooting video footage and editing videos; Excellent public speaking and interpersonal skills with a demonstrated ability to interact and communicate with diverse individuals, co-workers, and groups; Superb written communication skills with attention to accuracy, detail, and succinctness – specifically with reports, social media, and email correspondence; Strong creative, organizational, and time-management skills; Proficiency in Microsoft Office suite of programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.). Working knowledge of Smartsheet is a plus; Working knowledge of website development and maintenance, and social media; Working knowledge of email marketing software such as Constant Contact; Basic understanding of Adobe suite of programs (Acrobat, InDesign, etc.); Possess a valid driver's license and a personal vehicle

available for work travel (with mileage reimbursement). DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS: Acquainted with Whidbey Island's natural resources and/or local agriculture; Working understanding of Whidbey Island natural resource issues and key stakeholders; Experience of working on farms similar to those on Whidbey Island; Knowledge of WA State Conservation Commission and USDA NRCS programs and conservation planning processes; Familiar with conservation-related best management practices; Fluency in Spanish a plus. WORK ENVIRONMENT: Standard office environment with occasional work off site and outdoors; Significant telephone and computer work (repetitive movement – typing); Frequent sitting, standing, walking on uneven ground, working outside in inclement weather, bending, and occasional lifting of moderate loads (up to 50 lbs). The incumbent must be able to perform each requirement of the position as outlined in the job description. Essential Qualifications are representative and are essential for satisfactory job performance. The Work Environment characteristics are representative of those that may be encountered while on the job. COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS: Range: \$22-\$25/hour. For this position, WICD provides prorated medical, dental, and vision insurance; a Simple Retirement plan (WICD is not part of the WA State Public Employees Retirement System – PERS); and 11 paid holidays per year. WORK SCHEDULE: 24 hours per week with occasional evening and/or weekend work. APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Please submit cover letter, fillable application (available at the WICD website www.whidbeycd.org), and resume to michelle@whidbeycd.org;

subject line: Natural Resource Educator. Three professional references will be required and contacted if applicant is selected for an interview. Application materials must be received on or before Tuesday, Sept. 21. Position will remain open until filled. ABOUT US: The Whidbey Island Conservation District (WICD) was established in 1967 to assist landowners on Whidbey Island with conservation of natural resources. The District is a legal subdivision of the Washington State government organized under "Conservation District Law," RCW Chapter 89.08. Conservation districts are nonregulatory, thus landowner engagement is voluntary and incentive-based. WICD employees are recognized for their ability to assist the Whidbey Island community with a high level of professionalism and expertise. WICD is an Equal Opportunity Employer (0) 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 to apply. Island Transit is a drug and alcohol free workplace and an equal employment opportunity employer.

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 buy running or not! We recycle cars, trucks, motorhomes, travel trailers, motorcycles, boats, tractors, dump trucks and much more. Free estimates on junk removal and junk vehicle removal. TJ's Recycling, 360-678-4363

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Was your Dad or Gramps in Japan or Germany? I collect old 35 mm cameras and lenses. Oak Harbor, call 970-823-0002

Always buying antiques, collectibles, sporting goods, tools, garden equipment, furniture, vehicles, tractors and boats. Cash paid at loading out. 45 years experience. 360-678-5888 or text 360-969-1948.

MISCELLANEOUS

Aluminum ladders, three sizes - \$5, \$10 and \$25 - or \$25 for all three. 360-914-4481 (0)

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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),

How'd you do?

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

No Cheating!

S	A	M	A			P	C	T		A	T	O	P		
E	L	A	N	D		A	H	A		C	O	L	E		
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T	H	E	E			S	T	Y			F	E	E	L	

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

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