

January 19 through January 25, 2023

FREE

# Whidbey Weekly

Your Source For "What's Happening" On Whidbey Island

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## WHIDBEY GARDENING WORKSHOP



MARCH 3 - 4, 2023



Gardening  
with Purpose ...

BEAUTY • BOUNTY • BENEFIT

### GARDENING CLASSES

*In-person at Oak Harbor High School & Live-Streamed*

### PRACTICAL SESSIONS • MARKETPLACE

Early Bird Registration January 15 - 22

[WhidbeyGardening.org](http://WhidbeyGardening.org)

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Postal delays addressed p. 5



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Gardening Workshop  
Spring hasn't quite sprung, but the Whidbey Gardening Workshop March 3-4 can help gardeners of all skill levels get ready to make the most of their blooms and much more. Practical sessions are being offered Friday, March 3 while in-person and online classes will be offered Saturday, March 4.

## Learn to garden with a purpose at Whidbey Gardening Workshop

By **Kathy Reed** Whidbey Weekly

Whether one is an avid gardener with years of experience or someone who thinks gardening might be fun to try, the 34th annual Whidbey Gardening Workshop is a perfect way to learn and explore.

All are welcome to experience the beauty, bounty and benefits of gardening at the upcoming workshop, which will be held March 3-4 at Oak Harbor High School. The workshop will offer a selection of practical sessions Friday, March 3 on Whidbey and Camano Islands and a full slate of course offerings, keynote speaker and garden marketplace Saturday, March 4 at OHHS. Registration is currently open, with early bird registration available through Sunday. (whidbeygardening.org)

Sponsored by the Island County Master Gardener Foundation and put on by Master Gardener volunteers, the Whidbey Gardening Workshop offers a wealth of practical know-how and expertise to gardeners and plant enthusiasts of all skill levels.

"The two-day workshop provides a platform for learning about new developments as well as tried and true gardening techniques," said Cathy Lofton-Day, chair of this year's workshop. "Practical sessions at various locations will be held on Friday, March 3 and on Saturday, March 4, onsite classes at Oak Harbor High School with live-streaming options are complemented with other engaging activities like plant clinics, a Garden Marketplace and more."

The theme for this year's workshop is Gardening with Purpose: Beauty, Bounty and Benefit.

"Instructors and speakers will explore the importance of connections—the connections with the community around the love of gardening and the essential interrelationships of pollinators, fungi, soil and plants," shared Lofton-Day. "Instructors will also share how gardening lowers stress levels, boosts our health through the food we grow and can support our environmental sustainability."

The workshop offers a full day of in-person educational sessions and select classes will be live-streamed in real time for those who prefer

to attend virtually. Tickets can be purchased for in-person or online classes. Recordings of the live-streamed classes will also be available for viewing for three weeks following the workshop, as part of some ticket packages, according to Lofton-Day.

In addition, those registering will find themed sessions, which are aimed at providing an overview of a broad topic with three instructor perspectives. Focused classes allow those attending to learn about more specific topics.

"In-person attendees can choose from 28 focused classes on specific topics throughout the day," explained Lofton-Day. "Or they can attend one or two of the three themed sessions, each featuring three horticultural experts sharing their perspectives on a related topic, in addition to selecting some focused classes."

"Themed sessions allow the participant to gain broader knowledge on an area of interest and serve as an introduction to potentially new concepts," she continued. "Some of the themed session speakers will be conducting focused classes to expand on these concepts. Focused sessions allow the participant to understand a topic in much greater depth. Both focused classes and themed sessions offer opportunities for attendee participation."

Lofton-Day noted those who choose the online-only ticket option will have real time access to all themed sessions, six focused classes, and the keynote presentation. All live-streamed classes will be available as recordings for a limited time as part of this package.

Some unique sessions one might be interested in this year could include "More Peonies, Please!" in which Lore Sampson will share her expertise on propagating peonies, or a themed session entitled "A Purposeful Approach to a Pollinator Garden," in which three horticulture professionals examine what's needed to create and sustain a successful pollinator habitat and keep it flourishing. And Dr. Kathleen Wolf will share evidence of nature's benefit to human health and wellness in her session, "The Roots of Wellness."

Organizers say there is a well-balanced offering



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Gardening Workshop  
Donna Balzer will be the keynote speaker March 4 at the Whidbey Gardening Workshop. Her address is entitled "New Soil, New Climate, New Plants: How a professional gardener started again from scratch and learned from her failures."

of classes which promise to please everyone interested in attending.

"A number of classes are geared toward helping the beginning gardener get started," said Lofton-Day. "Classes on basic gardening practices such as composting, seed starting and tool maintenance along with basic pruning, forgiving trees and shrubs and more are offered. The workshop also features classes for more experienced gardeners that will increase their knowledge, expand their skills and provide inspiration to try something new, such as bee-keeping, cultivating mushrooms, orchid care and eco-gardening."

But don't forget the practical sessions offered on March 3.

"There are six practical sessions offered. Four will be held at locations on Whidbey Island and two on Camano Island," said Lofton-Day. "The practical sessions include farm tours, garden tours and hands-on demonstrations. Topics range from the trees of Meerkerk Gardens and hardwood grafting to habitat restoration."

Practical sessions are optional add-ons, said Lofton-Day, and can only be purchased with a workshop ticket during early bird registration

See GARDENING continued on page 6

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# Island 911

Seriously, we do not make this stuff up!

## THURSDAY, DEC. 22

### 4 am, Wilkinson Rd.

Reporting party advising someone just tried to break into one of their vehicles; now sitting in front of location in the road.

### 1:41 pm, Lagoon Point Rd.

At the entrance to Lagoon Point community, reporting party's car is stuck on the hill; reporting party is irritated, states someone needs to come help move her.

### 2:10 pm, East Harbor Rd.

Advising Tesla ran out of electricity in intersection; driver is with the vehicle; reporting party last saw about 10 minutes ago; Tesla is not getting a charge, will be blocking for a bit.

### 8:36 pm, Main St.

Caller advising found what appears to be drugs, either oxycodone or fentanyl; found at the self-checkout in a bag; bag is now located at the service center.

## FRIDAY, DEC. 23

### 7:29 am, Madrona Way

Advising of duck hunters in front of reporting party's house, saying they're going there deliberately to harass them; in the past they've cussed reporting party out when she's asked them to leave.

### 2:04 pm, Limestone Ln.

Reporting party calling to advise that deputy is supposed to fix her phone today so she can call for a ride into town; wondering when that will be done.

### 2:27 pm, Sunset Dr.

Advising overnight, a kid snuck under reporting party's house and was smoking a cigarette and it stopped reporting party from breathing; she also has some symptoms of pneumonia; declined aid.

## SATURDAY, DEC. 24

### 12:17 pm, Highland Dr.

Immediate hangup; nothing heard. On recall, advised caller shook the phone and did not know that would make it dial 9-1-1; caller does not have an emergency.

### 7:19 pm, Park Acres Dr.

Reporting party states across from house with lots of Christmas lights, male jumped in front of reporting party's vehicle demanding to know what he was doing; male swung at reporting party, hitting him; reporting party was in the area delivering food in a marked China City vehicle.

## MONDAY, DEC. 26

### 10:28 am, Heather Dr.

Requesting call referencing "vigilantes" parking in front of location and harassing him; requesting phone call only at this time to "keep the peace" with my roommate; reporting party was unsure of his phone number.

### 5:20 pm, Race Rd.

Reporting party lives at location, advising northwest from address across lagoon there is a flashing porch light going off for the past 10 minutes; advising there are lots of lights on at location, reporting party had just never seen this one flash.

### 8:49 pm, Haines Rd.

Reporting party advising neighbor is making so much noise it's vibrating his house.

## TUESDAY, DEC. 27

### 11:54 am, SR 525

Advising there is an order in place with neighbor; advising he is still opening the gate on reporting party's property; dispute over property line; and placed a white flag on reporting party's mailbox.

### 12 pm, Woodland Cir.

Older male ranting on phone about neighbor's wife telling reporting party he shouldn't buy a vehicle; "I don't like being told what to do."

### 3:11 pm, Crawford Rd.

Requesting call; advising mailbox was taken from location; it is a large lock box, and it is gone.

### 11:34 pm, Winns Hollow Ln.

Reporting party advising just got home and was sitting in vehicle; neighbor came up to reporting party's vehicle and hit vehicle with a broom; this was because of reporting party's music; are separated now.

## WEDNESDAY, DEC. 28

### 11:49 am, E German Rd.

Reporting party is out of town; he has people renovating at this address while he is gone; they're just supposed to be renovating in one area, but reporting party saw on camera they went in a bunch of other areas and went through his stuff; occurred about two hours ago, no longer on site. Requesting call.

### 1:09 pm, SR 20

Caller advising two minutes ago, walking northbound, saw male with dark hair and long beard carrying shotgun; did not appear to be hunting or have for a legitimate reason.

## THURSDAY, DEC. 29

### 7:44 am, Sunday Dr.

Occurred last night; teenager rang doorbell and asked for a lighter but reporting party thinks he may have also checked the handle of her car door.

## FRIDAY, DEC. 30

### 9:30 am, Bridle Trail Ln.

Caller advising an eagle is attacking a domestic goose; wants someone to come move the eagle.

### 7:37 pm, Holly Berry Rd.

Reporting party advising heard what sounded like an "artillery shot" outside of her house; saw a flash prior to the bang noise; reporting party is very distressed; advising she saw a piece of the component in her yard.

## SATURDAY, DEC. 31

### 1:45 pm, Quail Run Ln.

Reporting party states Facebook account for his business has been hacked again and turned into a website for porn.

### 3:10 pm, SR 20

Caller advising hearing gun shots from the north, heard for the last hour; when asked if hearing it now, caller replied, "No, they're reloading."

### 6:24 pm, Bayview Rd.

Reporting party states persons are bringing in rocks and dumping them on tide flats; re-building seawall; no permits showing; states they started after the sun went down.

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



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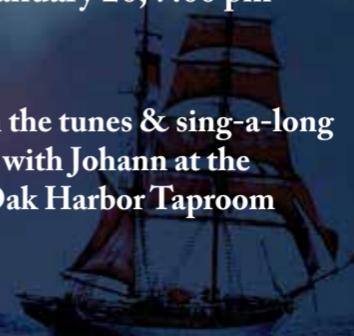
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— January 20, 7:00 pm —

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## Cascadia Eye Welcomes Roy Gordon, OD To Our Eye Care Team!



Dr. Gordon, previously at Whidbey Vision Care, starts to see patients at our Coupeville clinic starting February 7. He has been the winner of the Whidbey News-Times "Best of Whidbey - Eye Care Professional" award since 2019!

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# Bits & Pieces

## Letters to the Editor

### Editor,

Can trains save the Snake? No, not by themselves, but they can help replace the barges that depend on the river-killing reservoirs created by the four lower Snake River dams. Governor Inslee has said, "The state and federal governments should implement a plan to replace the benefits of the lower Snake River dams to enable breaching to move forward." We can help the Southern Resident Killer Whales, the salmon and other fish, commercial and recreational fishers and the tribes, i.e. "People of the Salmon," who all depend on a functioning Snake River, by contacting the governor and our state representatives and telling them you want Solutionary's Rail Mode Shift: Barge to Rail included in the 2023-2025 transportation budget. A task force convened by Governor Inslee and Senator Murray has concluded these dams must be breached to "Save the Snake," but before that can happen the services they supply must be replaced. One of those services is getting eastern Washington grain to market, which is currently accomplished via publicly subsidized barges requiring river-killing reservoirs created by the four lower Snake dams. There is an elegant solution - move the grain by rail. About 2.4 million tons of grain is moved by barges annually. A shift to rail would require five additional 110-car trains per week, which is completely doable. The infrastructure is there but it needs upgrades. Most of the track is owned by the state. American Rivers has declared the Snake to be the most endangered river in the U.S. Including the barge to rail proposal in the upcoming budget will be a key step in recovering a thriving Snake River ecosystem. This will contribute to a vibrant, resilient economy, honor the treaties, and avoid a legacy of extinction. Please contact Governor Inslee, Representatives Dave Paul and Clyde Shavers and Senator Ron Muzzall at 1 800-562-6000 or email them. This is urgent. Unless this gets in the 2023-2025 budget nothing will happen and species will go extinct... on our watch, a terrible legacy.

Gary Piazzon  
President, Whidbey Environmental Action Network

### Nothing Wry About Rye

Laura Valli of Washington State University's Breadlab program will discuss the qualities and characteristics of rye. Valli has put the small and often under-appreciated grain that is rye in the focus of her research. She is the guest speaker at South Whidbey Tilth's annual membership meeting Sunday. The public is welcome to this free program at 3:00PM in the Front Room, upstairs at the Bayview Cash Store, 5603 Bayview Road, Langley. Following the program is a business meeting to elect new council members and present brief committee reports. Only members in good standing may vote at the meeting. Afterward is a potluck and door prize drawings. Non-members are also welcome to stay for the meeting and participate in the potluck. There is no kitchen available, but there will be tables laid out for everyone's contribution. Attendees who would like to partake

need to bring their own plate and utensils. Coffee, tea and water will be provided. A coronavirus vaccination is not required, but if you have any symptoms of cold, flu or COVID, please join virtually. The link is on the website, southwhidbeytilth.org/events. For any questions, email membership@southwhidbeytilth.org or leave a message at 360-321-0757.

Laura Valli was brought up in Estonia on a diet heavy on rye bread. She comes to WSU Breadlab with a B.A. in Social Anthropology from the University of Cambridge and more than two years' experience of managing a small organic coffee roastery and porridge café in her hometown in Estonia. She is working towards her Ph.D. under the guidance of Dr. Stephen S. Jones.

[Submitted by Susan Prescott]

### Central Whidbey Hearts & Hammers 2023 Community Dinner

Finally, after a two-year pause, Central Whidbey Hearts & Hammers is delighted to host its annual Community Dinner, Friday, Jan. 27, from 5:30 to 7:30PM, at the Coupeville Rec Hall. Everyone in the community is invited - bring family and friends.

This dinner is an opportunity to meet your neighbors and share in Central Whidbey's community spirit. Everyone is welcome for a delicious meal with the cost of the dinner covered by donations.

Central Whidbey Hearts & Hammers is a nonprofit all-volunteer organization with a mission to keep homeowners safe in their homes, "neighbors helping neighbors." Volunteers help homeowners within the Coupeville School District who own their own home and are physically or financially challenged with maintenance or repair projects that affect their health or safety. Although the organization prioritizes resolving health and safety issues, it accepts many types of maintenance and repair projects. Please refer to the Homeowner page on the Central Whidbey Hearts & Hammers website (www.cwheartsandhammers.org) for more information and to make a request.

The annual workday this year, May 6, is a free, one-day work blitz tackling all kinds of projects. If you know someone who would like to be a new volunteer, please have them go to the Volunteer page of the website and sign up.

For more information, email cwheartsandhammers@gmail.com, visit www.cwheartsandhammers.org or call 360-720-2114.

[Submitted by Kathleen Jo Ryan]

### Whidbey Island Nordic Lodge 3rd Annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner

Whidbey Island Nordic Lodge will host its 3rd annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner Saturday, Jan. 28. The dinner will be held at the Nordic Hall located at 63 Jacobs Rd. in Coupeville. The meal will consist of lutefisk, potatoes, meatballs with gravy, a vegetable, coleslaw, pickled herring, lefse and a beverage. It will be followed by riskrem dessert. Dinners will be served at noon with additional seatings at 2:00 and 4:00PM. The public is invited and welcome to enjoy this longtime Scandinavian tradition.

Tickets are available online at whidbeyislandnordiclodge.com, tix.com, or by order form using cash or check. Order forms are available at whidbeyislandnordiclodge.com. Tickets are available through Jan. 20. There will be no ticket sales at the door.

This will be the third lutefisk meal served by members of the Whidbey Island Nordic Lodge. The first dinner was served in 2018 and again in 2019. Due to the pandemic there was not a dinner in 2020 or 2021. The

dinner is prepared and served by members of the Nordic Lodge and this year they will be aided by the members of the Ester Moe chapter of the Daughters of Norway.

In addition to the Lutefisk and Meatball dinner there will be a Scandinavian Bake Sale. This sale will feature many baked goods related to the five Scandinavian countries.

The Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner is very much anticipated and enjoyed at lodges and churches throughout the United States and Scandinavia. It is usually served and appreciated during the Christmas holiday season.

[Submitted by Brian Petersen]

### The City of Oak Harbor Closes on the Purchase of Two Parcels on SE Pioneer Way

The city completed the purchase of the two parcels at 1081 and 1091 SE Pioneer Way last week. Purchasing these properties provides an opportunity to further the city's plans to revitalize the downtown and clean up the properties from previous businesses operating on the sites.

The city negotiated a reduced rate for purchasing the properties because of the additional investment they will make by addressing environmental contamination. Currently, the city plans to leverage grant funds to pay for remediating the sites.

City of Oak Harbor's Economic Development Coordinator, Stephen McCaslin, will lead this project and provide updates to the city council and community as it becomes available.

[Submitted by Sabrina Combs]

### Opportunity to Apply - 2023 Island County Conservation Futures Funds

Island County is accepting applications for grants from the 2023 Conservation Futures Program. The Conservation Futures Program is funded by a local property tax. The Conservation Futures property tax is used for land protection and stewardship to preserve the irreplaceable character of unique, distinctive lands and to protect habitat.

The organizations eligible to receive Conservation Futures grants include Island County government, cities, towns, special purpose districts, nonprofit nature conservation organizations (as defined in RCW 84.34.250), and nonprofit historic preservation organizations (as defined in RCW 64.04.130).

Application and funding information is available on the Conservation Futures website: www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/DNR/Pages/cff.aspx.

Since 1992, Island County Conservation Futures funds have been used to help protect over 3,800 acres in the county through either purchasing the property or purchasing a conservation easement. These grants are often leveraged with state or federal funds to increase their impact locally. Recent projects the CFF has helped fund include:

- Lone Lake Shoreline and Farm Protection Project
- Protecting Kristoferson Farm and Forest on Camano Island through a conservation easement
- Increasing protected wetland area at the headwaters of Glendale Creek by acquiring adjacent property
- Expanding and improving the Barnum Point Park on Camano Island
- Creating the new Pearson Preserve on South Whidbey for public waterfront access
- Expanding the Strawberry Point Preserve and adding public parking and trail access

To be considered in the 2023 funding

## Worried about inflation? Consider these moves

As you know, inflation was big news throughout 2022. But will it continue in 2023? And looking even further ahead, how should you account for inflation in your long-term plans?

In regard to the first question, many experts predict that inflation will cool off this year, though there are no guarantees. The high inflation of last year is thought to have been caused by some unusual factors, such as a spike in the demand for consumer goods as the world came out of the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to supply chain issues. Also, the war in Ukraine drove up oil prices, increasing the cost of manufacturing and shipping and driving up the price of wheat and other commodities.

In any case, last year reminded us that inflation needs to be reckoned with as you work toward your financial goals. But how you respond to inflation will depend somewhat on your stage of life. So, here are some suggestions to consider:

### If you're still working ...

• Contribute more to your retirement plans. If you can afford to put more money away in your IRA and 401(k), you may want to do so. The more resources you'll eventually have available in retirement, the better protected you are against the rising cost of living.

• Adjust your portfolio objectives with your financial professional. Using tools such as "hypothetical" illustrations, a financial professional can show you some different paths you might take with your investments, given different rates of inflation. So, for example, if you feel that inflation may be higher for a longer period than you once thought, you could request a hypothetical showing how you might need to adjust your investment mix to achieve your long-term goals, given your risk tolerance and time horizon.

### If you're already retired ...

• Consider part-time work or consulting. Once you retire from your career, it doesn't mean you can never do any paid work again. If you've accumulated years of experience and expertise, you could use your skills as a consultant. Also, many part-time jobs are available for retirees. With the added income from employment, you may be able to delay taking withdrawals from your retirement accounts and other investments, possibly extending their longevity. (Once you turn 72, though, you will need to begin taking money from your 401(k) and traditional IRA.)

• Delay taking Social Security. You can begin taking Social Security when you're 62, but your monthly checks will be substantially bigger if you wait until your full retirement age, which will likely be between 66 and 67. (You could even wait until 70, at which point your monthly benefits will max out.) Of course, the ability to delay taking Social Security depends on whether you can afford it, but it may be possible if you work longer than you once planned or if you work part time in retirement. But even if you do need to take Social Security before your full retirement age, your payments will be adjusted annually for inflation - in fact, for 2023, benefit checks will rise 8.7% over 2022. We'll always have to deal with some level of inflation - so it's a good idea to be prepared.

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



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**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

cycle, completed applications for projects must be emailed to ConservationFutures@islandcountywa.gov by the end of day Tuesday, Feb. 28. For further information, please visit the website above or contact the program coordinator at 360-240-5510.

[Submitted by Teresa Till]

### 2022 Ferry Ridership Up From 2021

Washington State Ferries carried 17.4 million riders in 2022 – a total ridership increase of roughly 100,000 – or 0.5 percent – over 2021.

The rise in annual ridership was fueled by a strong increase in walk-on passengers as tourism and in-person work rebounded from the COVID-19 pandemic. Walk-on passengers increased by 500,000 – or 17.8 percent. Overall ridership growth was more modest as the number of vehicles carried dipped a bit, possibly because new travel patterns are emerging even as pandemic restrictions have lessened. Since late 2021, WSF has been working to restore service to pre-pandemic levels on a route-by-route basis.

“Following the successful restoration of our Anacortes/San Juan Islands, Seattle/Bainbridge and Mukilteo/Clinton routes in 2022, we kicked off the new year by moving our Edmonds/Kingston run to a trial of two-boat pre-pandemic service levels,” said Patty Rubstello, head of WSF. “We plan to restore our Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route early this year, but the timing of full restoration on our Seattle/Bremerton and Port Townsend/Coupeville runs remains dependent on the number of captains and mates who complete training in spring 2023.”

After two years of vehicles outnumbering passengers for the only time in its history, WSF returned to carrying more passengers (8.8 million) than vehicles (8.6 million) last year. Passengers are both walk-on riders as well as anyone in a vehicle besides the vehicle driver.

### Current ridership trends

In addition to the year-to-year increases, state ferry ridership in 2022 rose to roughly 73 percent of 2019 pre-COVID-19 numbers, with vehicles at 82 percent and walk-on customers up to 49 percent of pre-pandemic levels. While it is difficult to forecast trends in the still-evolving “new normal,” ridership is expected to steadily increase in the years ahead.

### 2022 route-by-route ridership highlights

The greatest year-to-year increase came on the Seattle/Bainbridge Island route, where total ridership – vehicles and passengers combined – was up 19 percent. The run was the system’s busiest in 2022 with 4.4 million riders, followed by Mukilteo/Clinton with 3.4 million and Edmonds/Kingston with 3.1 million. System highlights include:

Seattle/Bainbridge Island: System-high year-to-year jump in vehicles of 13 percent, walk-ons surged a system high of 31 percent.

Mukilteo/Clinton: Total riders down three percent; vehicles decreased four percent (remains busiest route for drivers), walk-ons grew 19 percent.

Edmonds/Kingston: Total riders dropped 12 percent; vehicles declined 16 percent, walk-ons climbed 11 percent.

Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth: Total riders down two percent from 2021; vehicles decreased three percent, walk-ons jumped 15 percent.

Anacortes/San Juan Islands: Total riders dropped two percent; vehicles declined one percent, walk-ons remained nearly flat.

Seattle/Bremerton: Total riders down seven percent; vehicles decreased 12 percent, walk-ons grew four percent.

Point Defiance/Tahlequah: Year-to-year total riders up three percent; vehicles increased three percent, walk-ons surged 16 percent.

Port Townsend/Coupeville: Total riders rose two percent; vehicles grew two per-

cent, walk-ons jumped seven percent.

Anacortes/Friday Harbor/Sidney, British Columbia: The international route did not resume service in 2022 due to continued crewing and vessel availability challenges.

WSF, a division of the Washington State Department of Transportation, is the largest ferry system in the U.S. and safely and efficiently carries tens of millions of people a year through some of the most majestic scenery in the world. For breaking news and the latest information, follow WSF on Twitter and Facebook.

[Submitted by Justin Fujioka, WSDOT]

### Larsen, DelBene Call for Answers Around Persistent Postal Delays

Representatives Rick Larsen (WA-02) and Suzan DelBene (WA-01) are calling for answers about persistent mail delays reported to both offices in Northwest Washington, including in Whatcom County during the December holiday period. In a letter to Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, Larsen and DelBene called for the United States Postal Service (USPS) to expeditiously address delays and mail failures. The lawmakers had previously written to DeJoy in July about widespread mail delays in the region.

“Following our July letter, we continued to receive regular reports of delayed mail across the region. Starting in mid-December, we increasingly heard a number of constituent complaints of significant daily mail delivery delays and complete lack of service in parts of Bellingham, Ferndale, Lynden and other areas of Whatcom County. While brief delays due to weather and the busy holiday period are understandable, many constituents reported no mail delivery for over a week,” said Larsen and DelBene.

Larsen and DelBene also emphasized their concerns about hiring challenges USPS is experiencing statewide.

“In our July letter, we requested updates

on USPS’s efforts to increase staffing amid severe workforce shortages. Though we appreciate the steps you outlined to us and subsequent actions USPS has taken to increase hiring in Northwest Washington, including local hiring days and a statewide hiring fair in December, these efforts are clearly insufficient as delays in mail delivery continue,” the lawmakers continued.

The lawmakers asked DeJoy to promptly address the following concerns:

Can you provide a detailed list of all steps USPS is taking to ensure timely mail delivery during periods of high mail volume, including the December holiday period? What is the specific USPS policy under which USPS employees are required to prioritize package delivery over letters, flats, and other classes of mail?

What steps is USPS taking to improve communication with constituents impacted by mail delivery delays?

What steps is USPS taking to address its workforce shortage, both in terms of hiring new employees and improving retention of current employees?

What training and resources are provided to new employees, and how are supervisors trained to help new employees?

How is USPS training supervisors to manage busy mail periods and support employees?

What additional resources can Congress provide to help USPS address these issues?

### Timeline

July 2022: Larsen and DelBene write to Postmaster DeJoy about widespread mail delays reported to both offices in Whatcom, Snohomish and Island Counties

August 2022: USPS responds to Larsen/DelBene letter

January 2023: Larsen and DelBene write to Postmaster DeJoy about persisting mail delays in Northwest Washington

[Submitted by Joseph Tutino, Rep. Rick Larsen’s Office]

## Habitat For Humanity of Island County Oak Harbor Location

**New Donation Hours: Monday - Saturday  
From 10:30am until 3:00pm (or until full)**

*\*We cannot guarantee acceptance of any items without seeing them in person.*

*\*We do not accept items that are damaged or in need of repair.*

*\*All donated items must be accepted by a Habitat for Humanity associate or volunteer.*

**No Dumping allowed on property**

**Thank you for your support.**

**For more information or to set up a pickup,  
please call 360-675-8733**



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OPEN: Mon - Sat 10am - 5pm  
[southstore@islandcountyhabitat.com](mailto:southstore@islandcountyhabitat.com)

# What's Going On

## Live Music: Sea Shanty Pub Songs with Johann

Friday, January 20, 7:00PM  
Penn Cove Taproom, Oak Harbor

Join us for Sea Shanty and Pub songs lead by Johann. Learn the tunes and belt away! No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit [www.penncovebrewing.com](http://www.penncovebrewing.com).

## Shop Out for Kids

Saturday, January 21, 11:00AM-5:00PM  
The Laughing Admiral, Coupeville

The Laughing Admiral will donate a portion of the day's sales to the Coupeville Schools Foundation which provides an extra measure of support to students through teacher grants, college scholarships and the Promise Fund. The store is located at 10 South Front St.

## TAKE3 in Concert

Friday, January 20, 7:30PM  
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

Known for their infectious and down to earth onstage personalities, this group leaves their indelible mark on captivated crowds around the country, performing their arrangements of top pop hits, Americana, oldies, and everything in between. For tickets or more information, contact the Box Office at 360-221-8268 or [wica@wicaonline.org](mailto:wica@wicaonline.org).

## Book Lovers Bus Tour

Friday, January 27  
Ride with a Guide on fare-free Island Transit to three libraries and three book-

stores in Langley, Freeland and Coupeville. Meet a local author on the way. Take home books, music and movies. Play Transit Trivia and win prizes on the way. To get details and reserve your seat call 360-678-9536 or email [Travel@IslandTransit.org](mailto:Travel@IslandTransit.org).

## Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below  
Cost: Free

## Not Your Mama's Pie Making

Thursday, January 19, 4:00PM  
Oak Harbor Library

Learn the history of Whidbey Pies and what it takes to produce over 2,000 pies each week. Owner Joe Gunn will share secrets for making a perfect pie!

## Images from Early 21st Century Life on Whidbey Island with David Welton

Wednesday, January 25, 1:30PM  
Coupeville Library

No registration needed.

## Unpack Library Resources for Your New Mobile Device

Wednesday, January 25, 4:00PM  
Oak Harbor Library

Enjoy fee-free eBooks, digital audiobooks, digital magazines, and stream movies on your device with your library account. Bring your laptop, tablet, or smartphone and library card for a hands-on demonstration. For adults.

## Religious Services

### Prayer Group

Every Tuesday, 3:00-4:00PM  
St. Hubert Catholic Church, Langley

Charismatic Prayer and Praise group. Everyone welcome. For more information, call Jean Beers at 360-969-6422.

### Healing Whidbey Healing Rooms

Every Thursday, 6:30-8:00PM  
5200 Honeymoon Bay Road, Freeland

The Healing Rooms are open to anyone desiring personal prayer for physical, emotional, or spiritual needs. There is a team of Christians from several local churches that are dedicated to praying for healing the sick in our community. All ministry is private, confidential, and free. No appointment necessary, first-come, first-serve basis. For more information, leave message for Ann at 425-263-2704 or email [info@healingwhidbey.com](mailto:info@healingwhidbey.com). You may also visit [healingwhidbey.com](http://healingwhidbey.com) or visit the International Association of Healing Rooms at [healingrooms.com](http://healingrooms.com).

### Unity of Whidbey

Sundays, 10:00AM  
5671 Crawford Road, Langley

If you're one of the "spiritual but not religious" people who question their childhood faith or are looking for something more, Unity of Whidbey may feel like a homecoming. [unityofwhidbey.org](http://unityofwhidbey.org) even offers a Zoom link for attending online.

## Meetings & Organizations

### Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum

Tuesday, January 24, 11:30AM  
Oak Harbor Elks Lodge, 155 NE Ernst St.  
Admission is Free  
Buffet Style Lunch is \$15

Dec. 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor wasn't the first American installation attacked by Japanese aircraft. It was actually NAS Kaneohe Bay, home of Patrol Wing One and 36 PBY-5 Catalinas. Come hear the story of the almost complete destruction of Patrol Wing One, and a fascinating new artifact connecting that morning and the PNW Naval Air Museum. For more information email, [info@pnwnam.org](mailto:info@pnwnam.org) or call 360-240-9500.



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Gardening Workshop

The Whidbey Gardening Workshop offers several different classes on a variety of topics for all those interested in learning more about how to make their gardens the best they can be.

## GARDENING continued from page 2

(through Sunday). Starting Monday, practical sessions can be purchased as a stand-alone item, but bear in mind, space is limited and they will likely fill up quickly.

The keynote speaker at this year's Whidbey Gardening Workshop will be Donna Balzer, who will share her address on "New Soil, New Climate, New Plants: How a professional gardener started again from scratch and learned from her failures."

"Donna Balzer is an experienced horticulturist and sought-after speaker widely known for her talent to make complex ideas relevant and simple, to engage others in gardening, or to improve their existing skills," Lofton-Day said. "A recent transplant to the Pacific Northwest from the Canadian prairies, Donna has a wealth of advice for all levels of gardeners. Her work in horticulture embodies the theme of this workshop — Gardening with Purpose: Beauty, Bounty, and Benefit. In the PNW, combining flowers and vegetables became essential for successful gardening, not just a pretty diversion. Learning to add nutrients to the soil or to leaves directly, supports healthier plants through torrential winter rains. And extending the growing season well past the typical summer period—growing plants indoors as well as outdoors, offered the best reward ever—continuous food and flavor all year-round."

Another popular offering at the Whidbey Gardening Workshop is the Garden Marketplace, which organizers hope will be better than ever.

"I want the marketplace to be as colorful and vibrant as possible," said Melissa Evans, the Garden Marketplace coordinator. "The marketplace is full of colorful garden flags and potting tables full of flowers. Patio tables with umbrellas are located throughout the marketplace for our participants who want to relax and enjoy the events."

The marketplace is open to all workshop attendees, but it is also open to the public after 10 a.m. the day of the workshop. Organizers do ask for a \$5 donation from those marketplace shoppers who are not registered for the workshop.

With more than 35 vendors this year, Evans said there will be all kinds of variety.

"The vendors range from metal artists and glass blowers to nursery flowers, plants and fun garden art and gifts," she said, adding that marketplace "mascots," Jacques and Jasmine Gardinair will be appearing, decked out in full garden regalia.

"The Garden Marketplace at the workshop is a delightful place to take a break from classes," agreed Lofton-Day. "Participants will find an inspiring collection of garden-related items, plants, and helpful information from local nonprofits. Exhibitors will be eager to show what is new for the season to inspire the spring gardening experience."

"A panel of experienced Island County Master Gardeners will be available at the workshop to address gardening questions from participants," she continued. "The plant clinic will be held in the Garden Marketplace from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m."

Evans is still accepting vendors for this year's Garden Marketplace. Anyone interested in participating can contact her via email at [window2mygarden@gmail.com](mailto>window2mygarden@gmail.com) or by phone at 425-320-6166.

Those interested in learning more about the Whidbey Gardening Workshop or in purchasing tickets can go to [whidbeygardening.org](http://whidbeygardening.org). More information about the Island County Master Gardener Foundation can be found online at [icmgf.org](http://icmgf.org).



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Gardening Workshop

Special guest "mascots" Jacques and Jasmine Gardinair, will be on hand at the Whidbey Gardening Workshop to lend a festive flair to the Garden Marketplace.



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Gardening Workshop

The Garden Marketplace is one popular portion of the Whidbey Gardening Workshop, to be held at Oak Harbor High School March 4. This year organizers will have more than 35 vendors featuring information, a plant clinic, and numerous plants, garden art, gifts and more.

**Add Color To Your New Year!**

**Primrose Sale \$1.59**  
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Sale through January 25



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Monday-Saturday 8am-7pm • Sunday 9am-6pm



# Your Island Transit

## CHARLES

Bus Driver

Charles has lived in dozens of countries in Europe, Asia, and the Pacific Islands during his 22-year career in the Navy. He grew up here on Whidbey Island, and after many years abroad, he returned with his family for his last six years in the service. When Charles retired from the Navy, he began to look for a civilian job. He had served as an administrative assistant for top ranking officers, so when he applied at Island Transit, he focused on an administrative position. Somehow, during the process, he was routed into training as a bus operator. "Why not?" He thought, "I like to drive." Now Charles has driven propane, hybrid, and diesel buses on all the routes on Whidbey Island. He says, "That's what you want, experience on every route, on every kind of bus." He knows his way around Whidbey. He's also gone door-to-door with the paratransit program. "It's nice to interact with the paratransit riders one-on-one. They'll tell you their whole life story. Sometimes they just need someone to listen. When a grumpy rider finally says, 'Thank you,' you know they've made your day." Charles greets all his riders warmly and if they don't respond, he sometimes answers himself, "Good morning, Charles."



## Did You Know...

Island Transit hires people in many positions – bus operators, administrators, internet technicians, accounting and payroll, mechanics, dispatch, and facilities maintenance. Check our website for the current openings.

FARE FREE | ISLANDTRANSIT.ORG | 360-678-7771

NEW ON DEMAND SERVICE  
ZONE 3 | 8AM- 6PM  
PREVIOUSLY ROUTE 3



Island Transit's on demand service is transportation when and where you need it. We provide riders with a flexible and convenient alternative to traditional transit. This new pilot program is currently only offered in Zone 3, previously known as Route 3. Additional on demand zones will be created as the year progresses. The service is intended to enhance fixed route services by providing more flexibility and frequency for riders in northwest Oak Harbor.

### PLANNING YOUR TRIP JUST GOT EASIER

Request a ride easily and we'll pick you up and drop you off at marked stop locations within the service area. The ride may also be shared with other passengers, including paratransit, who are traveling in the same direction. This is a same day service – riders must provide at least two hours notice for pick-up (last reservation is 4pm for same day). Riders may schedule up to two weeks in advance. **THIS IS A RESERVATION ONLY SERVICE.**

#### HOW TO: 3 easy options to schedule your ride

- Call dispatch at least 2 hours before requested pick up at 360-678-7771
- Click on the WEBLINK found on the website
- Download the APP

More details - click on QR Code



SCAN ME



Effective January 30, 2023

## WHIDBEY GARDENING WORKSHOP



MARCH 3-4, 2023



### GARDENING CLASSES

In-person at Oak Harbor High School & Live-Streamed

### PRACTICAL SESSIONS

### MARKETPLACE

Early Bird Registration  
January 15-22

WhidbeyGardening.org

Presented by the  
Island County Master Gardener Foundation  
in affiliation with  
WSU Extension Island County

Illustration by D. Montgomerie



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January 28 • 2-5PM

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Historic Downtown  
Oak Harbor



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**LOSS OF OUR WINTER BLACKMOUTH CHINOOK SEASON**

Winter Blackmouth fishing is/was always a hit or miss fishery, not because of the fish but because of the unruly winter weather. Winds were what kept me and most winter fishermen off the water. That being said, when the winds laid down and the sun did manage to peek through the clouds, hooking and landing a 10-pound chrome bright Chinook salmon on a cold crisp morning was what dreams are made of. First of the year the salmon derbies hosted by cities like Anacortes and Roach Harbor were a great way to start off the salmon season. Camaraderie, fish stories, shared tackle knowledge, local economic growth and a chance to win a little prize money were all made possible by the winter blackmouth.

Why do we call these local roaming, feeding salmon "Winter Blackmouth?" The term blackmouth refers to the jet-black gumline in their mouths. How did they come to be? To answer that we need to take a quick look back in history; here is what I found: In 1965, Washington's Department of Fisheries represented and supported the people who worked hard, paid taxes and loved to fish for salmon. It embraced a program that utilized some of the hatchery Chinook eggs that were collected in an effort to enhance the number Chinook salmon that would remain in the Puget Sound year round, providing a sustainable winter fishery for recreational fishermen along with some commercial opportunities. Frank Haw, a Puget Sound fisheries biologist and active fish management specialist, was tasked with making the blackmouth program a reality. His experience and testing proved that by releasing the fish from a hatchery facility one year after the normal time, (15 months of age), the majority of these fish lost their instinct to migrate great distances. Keeping the fish initially in the fresh water then transferring them to saltwater was one key to the fish being known as resident salmon.

The blackmouth program was fruitful through the late 1960s and early 1970s, Then in 1974, the "Judge Boldt decision" happened, cutting the salmon program by 50 percent. In an effort to boost and maintain the resident Chinook program in 1993, Senate bill 2055 was established. The bill allowed for increased salmon production, explained how to fund it, and established a citizen oversight committee. In 1993, Senators Bob Oke and Brad Owen teamed up and put a bill through the legislature establishing a \$10 Puget Sound Recreational Fishing Enhancement Program. In 1994, the program had a coordinated citizen committee composed of people representing Puget Sound fishing groups and the sportfishing industry. According to the 1997 Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) regulations, a program goal was to have yearling salmon production increased each year, steadily moving to the target release of three million yearlings in the year 2000. Unfortunately, in 1999 Puget Sound Chinook were added to the Endangered Species Act list (ESA), greatly restricting Chinook management and salmon enhancement. The ESA listing, together with the Boldt decision, have stalled production efforts. Here is a list of locations and numbers of juvenile Chinook that were to be reared and released from 1999 to 2001:

1. Orcas Island (Long Live the Kings) - 200,000
2. WDFW Samish Hatchery - 100,000
3. WDFW Skykomish / Wallace River Hatchery - 250,000
4. Suquamish Tribal Hatchery (Gorst Ponds) - 100,000

5. WDFW Green River Hatchery (Icy Creek) - 300,000
6. WDFW South Tacoma Hatchery (Chambers Creek) - 100,000
7. WDFW McAllister Creek Hatchery (Nisqually Trout Farm & Puyallup Hatchery) - 300,000
8. Lilliwap (LLK) - 50,000
9. WDFW Hoodspout Hatchery - 250,000
10. Rick Endicott Pond, (Skokomish) - 75,000
11. Lakewood - 200,000

I was unable to confirm whether any of these fish were actually reared or released into the wild.

I can tell you there has been a winter blackmouth season with some shifting of opener dates for many years until the total shutdown in 2021. Here is the hard truth why we can't fish: The North of Falcon agreements are ESA-driven and unrealistically restrictive, and the Stillaguamish tribe has been pointing the finger at blackmouth being the reason for low wild Chinook runs coming back to the Stillaguamish River. Here is some more hard truth; in May of 2018, the Stillaguamish tribe filed regulation 2018-PS-01, which "supersedes all previous fishing regulations of the Stillaguamish tribe" it states, in the Stillaguamish river, both set and drift gillnets, gaffs hooks, and hook and line can be used to fish for Chinook, Coho, Pink, and Chum salmon, White Sturgeon and Crayfish. The regulation covers commercial, subsistence, and ceremonial fishing. Could the three, five-inch minimum stretched mesh gillnets per licensed member possibly be the real reason for low returning numbers of salmon in the Stillaguamish River? I would think the Stillaguamish tribe would be supportive of the extra winter blackmouth. At minimum, the saltwater use of the hook and line fishing statement in its 2018 regulation change would provide greater opportunity to meet subsistence and ceremonial needs.

The Stillaguamish River has two watershed hatcheries at Harvey Creek and Brenner Creek. Here is an idea, don't clip the Chinook leaving the Stillaguamish river system. That would make all the returning fish "wild," and if sampling was needed or mandatory, examine the fish's otolith bone to verify origin. Could the hard truth not be about fish, but about politics and money? For me personally and other avid fishermen, it's just plain disappointing. I love to fish and catch-n-cook my own fish, totally avoiding fishing in the seafood case at Safeway. A fresh Marine Area 8-1 ceremonial blackmouth Super Bowl salmon on the BBQ for my family is forfeited for another year. The number of returning Chinooks last year was slightly higher and I saw more spawning kings in the rivers so maybe we will get a chance in 2024. I've heard of some rainbow trout being caught in our local lakes so opportunity knocks. Be safe, and good luck fishing!



These are typical winter blackmouth, beautiful and great tasting!



# Recipe of the Week

**SPAGHETTI IS A VERSATILE COMPONENT IN MANY MEALS**

Spaghetti has been enjoyed around the world for centuries. While spaghetti is most often associated with Italy, pasta has deep ties to other Mediterranean nations like Greece, and several territories of the Middle East and Arabian Peninsula. In fact, centuries ago dry durable pasta was one of the main sources of nutrition for Arab traders, including those who landed in Sicily.

The flavor profile of spaghetti can change significantly depending on which ingredients are added. Cooks needn't feel beholden to the standard "spaghetti and meatballs" recipe. "Spaghetti with Shrimp, Feta and Dill," for example, may take its inspiration from Greek cooking. Enjoy this recipe, courtesy of "Real Simple Dinner Tonight: Done!" (Time Home Entertainment) from the editors of Real Simple.

## SPAGHETTI WITH SHRIMP, FETA AND DILL (Serves 4)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 12 ounces spaghetti (3/4 box)            | 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest  |
| 1/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon olive oil      | 3 ounces feta, crumbled (3/4 cup)   |
| 1 pound peeled and deveined large shrimp | 2 tablespoons coarsely chopped fresh dill   |
| Kosher salt and black pepper             | Cook the pasta according to the package directions, drain and return it to the pot. |
| 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice          |   |

Meanwhile, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Season the shrimp with 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper and cook, tossing occasionally, until opaque throughout, 3 to 4 minutes. Stir in the lemon juice and zest.

Add the shrimp mixture to the pasta, along with the feta, dill, the remaining 1/4 cup of oil, and 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper. Toss to combine.



## OAK HARBOR CINEMAS

**MOVIE SHOWTIMES**  
1-20-2023 thru 1-24-2023

**AVATAR: THE WAY OF WATER (PG-13)**  
Friday - Tuesday: 2:45pm & 6:30pm

**A MAN CALLED OTTO (PG-13)**  
Friday - Tuesday: 3:15pm & 7:00pm

**M3GAN (PG-13)**  
Friday - Tuesday: 3:45pm & 7:30pm

**Closed Wednesday & Thursday!**

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

**Your Donations Are Always Needed and Appreciated!**

**NORTH WHIDBEY HELP HOUSE**

**Your Community Food Bank Since 1977**  
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**Now Showing!**  
Friday, Jan. 20 thru Sunday, Jan. 22

**PUSS IN BOOTS: THE LAST WISH (PG)**  
**M3GAN (PG-13)**

**Blue Fox DRIVE-IN THEATER**

Box office, Snackbar, Arcade & Tavern open at 4pm.  
First movie starts at 7pm.  
11 & OVER \$6.50\*; KIDS 5-10 \$1.00\*; 4 & UNDER FREE \*CASH PRICES  
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360-675-5667 • www.bluefoxdrivein.com

## WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

- ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20**  
You may be in a meditative mood this week, Aries. You may think about mundane things or even complex issues. It's an ideal time to stay indoors and relax with your thoughts.
- TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21**  
Obligations to friends or family could interfere with other things you had intended, such as spending time with your partner. As more people call upon you, step back and consider.
- GEMINI – May 22/June 21**  
You have a strong desire to clean and organize your home this week, Gemini. Spring cleaning certainly comes early. Conquer that clutter.
- CANCER – June 22/July 22**  
All of that extra work on the job will pay off in the days to come, Cancer. Expect an email or personal meeting from a supervisor to discuss.
- LEO – July 23/Aug 23**  
Practical matters, such as the household budget, may need your attention this week, Leo. A big purchase is on the horizon, so get your finances sorted out.
- VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Giving back to the community can boost your morale, Virgo. Think about offering to shop for an elderly neighbor or volunteer at a food pantry a few days a week.

- LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Careful penny pinching may now result in a nice nest egg you can use any way you desire, Libra. Enjoy the fruits of your labor when you can loosen the pursestrings.
- SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Scorpio, a sense of duty to loved ones may have you taking on tasks that you otherwise may never consider. Your willingness to pitch in won't go unnoticed.
- SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Don't be surprised if the people you help this week are willing to go to bat for you in the future. Consider any assistance you provide an investment in friendship.
- CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Some people know exactly which buttons to push to get a rise out of you, Capricorn. Try to be the bigger person and turn the other cheek.
- AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18**  
A momentary loss of confidence may catch you off-guard, Aquarius. Brush these feelings aside and take on any task or challenge that comes your way.
- PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Nostalgia could hit you hard this week Pisces. Enjoy an unexpected trip down Memory Lane. Contact others who might enjoy it as well.

**IT'S BASKETBALL SEASON!**

**Broadcasting Skagit Valley Cardinals and Oak Harbor Wildcat Hoops**

**SOUND SPORTS NET**  
YOU'RE IN THE GAME!

**Thursday, January 19**  
OHHS Boys' Basketball vs Lakewood - 7:15pm

**Saturday, January 21**  
SVC Women's Basketball vs Shoreline - 3pm

**Saturday, January 21**  
SVC Men's Basketball vs Shoreline - 5pm

**Tuesday, January 24**  
OHHS Girls' Basketball vs Squaticum - 7:15pm

**Wednesday, January 25**  
SVC Women's Basketball @ Bellevue - 5pm

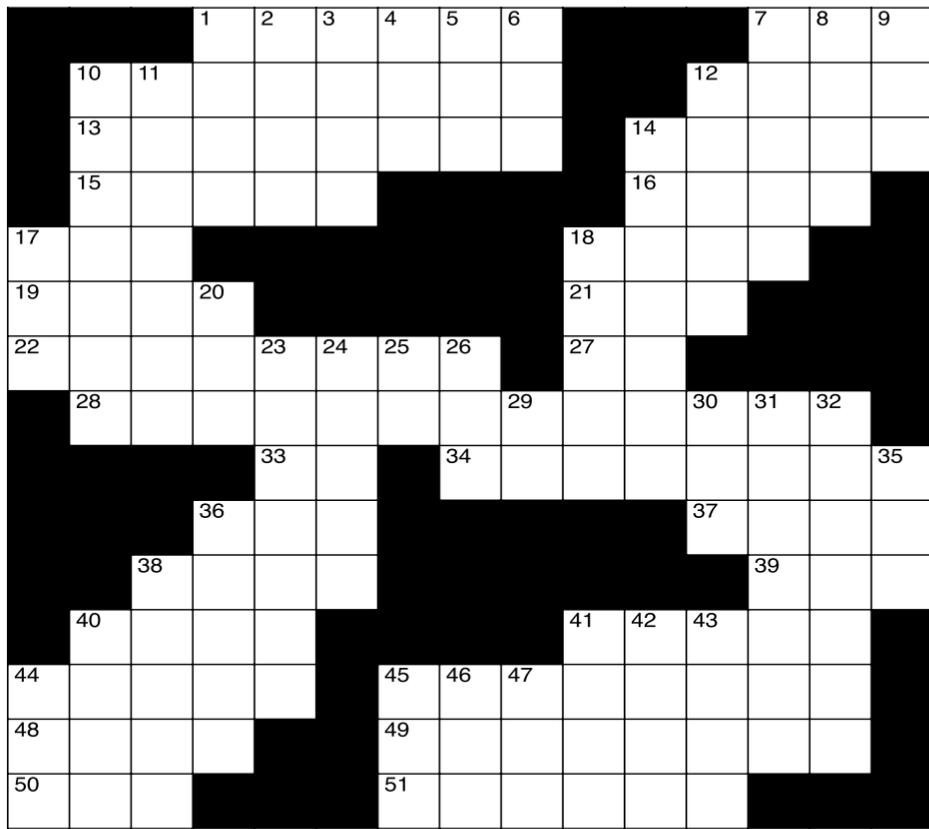
**Wednesday, January 25**  
SVC Men's Basketball @ Bellevue - 7pm

Stream opens 60 minutes prior to tip-off times.  
Pre-game is 15 minutes prior to tip-off for start of every cast.

**www.soundsportsnet.com**



# Crossword Puzzle



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Respiratory disorder
- 7. Bulgarian mountain peak
- 10. Group of important people
- 12. South American nation
- 13. Amazes
- 14. \_\_\_-Castell, makers of pens
- 15. Perlman and Seehorn are two
- 16. Early medieval alphabet
- 17. Legislator (slang)
- 18. Tasty crustacean
- 19. Course of action
- 21. Airborne (abbr.)
- 22. Permanent church appointment
- 27. Larry and Curly's pal
- 28. Famed American journalist
- 33. 12th letter of Greek alphabet
- 34. In a way, vanished
- 36. Afflict in mind or body
- 37. Egyptian Sun god
- 38. Source of the Blue Nile

### CLUES DOWN

- 39. Egyptian unit of weight
- 40. Be the source of pain
- 41. Esteemed award \_\_\_ d'Or
- 44. Partner to pains
- 45. Deep blue
- 48. No longer living
- 49. Country in the UK
- 50. Not even
- 51. Arizona city

- 17. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 18. "The Stranger" author
- 20. Not old
- 23. Periods of starvation
- 24. Language of tribe in India
- 25. Savings account
- 26. Pitching stat
- 29. Megabyte
- 30. Ribonucleic acid
- 31. A place to put your feet
- 32. The fun part of a week
- 35. We all have our own
- 36. Partner to "oohed"
- 38. African nation
- 40. Breezed through
- 41. Sets out
- 42. Other
- 43. Not fattening
- 44. "Much \_\_\_ about nothing"
- 45. Central Time
- 46. Former EU monetary unit
- 47. Charles S. Dutton sitcom

Answers on page 11

## CAN DO SUDOKU!

On a scale from 1 to 10...5.1

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

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

Answers on page 11



# OUR Community

## An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

What is the mission statement of the Oak Harbor Lions club?  
AND, as a volunteer member, what brings you joy?

### Mission statement of the Oak Harbor Lions Club:

We Serve. Where there's a need, there's a Lion.

Lions serve. It's that simple, and it has been since we first began in 1917. Our clubs are places where individuals join together to give their valuable time and effort to improving their communities, and the world. To empower Lions clubs, volunteers, and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian services and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding



Bobbi Lornson, Oak Harbor

I feel blessed when I am able to provide needed items to the community and individuals in the community. As a member of the Oak Harbor Lions Club, I am able to provide so much more than as an individual person. I volunteer a few hours a year with our fundraising projects and with the monies we collect (which all go back to the community) we provide items such as glasses, hearing aids, build wheelchair ramps, conduct vision screening for children, Memorial Day program for the community and so much more. I am so lucky to have found this group of giving, caring individuals who

always strive to improve our community.

### Jim Kane, Oak Harbor

Two things make me happy with what I do for the Lions. When I receive good medical equipment that we need and when I can provide the equipment and fill the need of those needing it.



Ginny Munn, Oak Harbor

What brings me the most joy? Being a Lion for 19+ years, being a zone secretary three times and cabinet secretary under district Governor Orson Christensen for 48 Lions Clubs in Canada and Washington. Just imagine all those special times to meet and greet Lions who all serve communities. Very special!

### Tom Bond, Oak Harbor

I get a great feeling of accomplishment when helping a person in need. Donations of monies does not always result in seeing someone helped. As a Lion, I feel not only a requirement to serve but the desire to help where there is a need.



If you would like to become part of the team of the Lions Club of Oak Harbor, please call Bobbi Lornson at 360-320-7066

### YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Jan. 19	Fri, Jan. 20	Sat, Jan. 21	Sun, Jan. 22	Mon, Jan. 23	Tues, Jan. 24	Wed, Jan. 25
North Isle H-45°/L-39° Cloudy AM Showers	North Isle H-47°/L-43° Cloudy	North Isle H-48°/L-42° Showers	North Isle H-45°/L-34° Clouds and Sun Mixed	North Isle H-42°/L-38° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-46°/L-39° Cloudy	North Isle H-43°/L-37° Plenty of Sunshine
South Isle H-44°/L-37° Cloudy AM Showers	South Isle H-44°/L-41° Cloudy	South Isle H-47°/L-39° Cloudy with Sunbreaks	South Isle H-43°/L-34° Clouds and Sun Mixed	South Isle H-41°/L-36° Mostly Sunny	South Isle H-45°/L-37° Cloudy	South Isle H-42°/L-34° Lots of Sunshine

# Community Bulletin Board

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

**Auto • Home  
Life • Business**  
Call: (360) 675-1598  
Se Habla Español



**Richard Voit**  
Richard Voit Agency  
390 NE Midway Blvd  
A102, Oak Harbor  
[rvoit@farmersagent.com](mailto:rvoit@farmersagent.com)



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Dakota Barnes**  
[www.citytreeservice.com](http://www.citytreeservice.com)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Lions clubs are volunteers serving our community through various projects. Come and visit us at one of our meetings – both meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. North Whidbey Lions meet at noon at the VFW Post, 3037 Goldie Rd. in Oak Harbor. Oak Harbor Lions meet at 7 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 155 NE Ernst St. in Oak Harbor. LIONS motto is "WE SERVE." This is an opportunity to help your neighbors and have fun doing it.

Think you may be pregnant? Stop by Whidbey Island Women's Clinic for free pregnancy testing. We are also here to support our community with diapers, formula, baby clothes, and more. All our services are free. Open Tue and Thu, 10am-4pm, and Wed, noon-7pm. Located at 670 SE Midway Blvd in Oak Harbor.

Be the difference in a child's life and become a foster parent today! Service Alternatives is looking for caring, loving, and supportive families to support foster children. 425-923-0451 or [mostermick@servalt-cfs.com](mailto:mostermick@servalt-cfs.com)

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

Medical Marijuana patients unite; If you need assistance, advice, etc. please contact at [420patientnetworking@gmail.com](mailto:420patientnetworking@gmail.com). Local Whidbey Island help.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of homicide, burglary, robbery,

assault, identity theft, fraud, human trafficking, home invasion and other crimes not listed, Victim Support Services has advocates ready to help. Please call the 24-hr Crisis Line 888-388-9221. Free service. Visit our web site at <http://victimsupport-services.org>

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

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

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County (BBBSIC) is actively seeking new member(s) for its board of directors. Join the board's exciting array of professionals! BBBSIC is seeking individuals who are committed to defending the potential of youth in our community through their time, skill sets, and influence in the community. To complement the existing board, candidates with expertise in accounting, law, nonprofit

management, networking, or fundraising are of particular interest. Committed to diversifying its board to better represent our community, BBBSIC encourages BIPOC and LGBTQIA community members to inquire. Please contact [admin@bbbsic-landcounty.org](mailto:admin@bbbsic-landcounty.org) for more information.

The Island County Medical Reserve Corps (ICMRC) is a local network of volunteers organized to improve the health and safety of communities on Whidbey and Camano Islands. Volunteers primarily include medical and public health professionals but other volunteers who have no healthcare backgrounds are also utilized. MRC responds to local emergencies such as natural disasters and public health emergencies. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us at Island County MRC website for application and information.

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

Oak Harbor: 360-675-8733, Freeland: 360-331-6272.

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

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

**JOB MARKET**

Island Transit is Hiring! If you are looking for a solid career with great pay and benefits including two retirement plans, we are hiring. Visit [www.islandtransit.org/employment](http://www.islandtransit.org/employment) to apply. Island Transit is a drug and alcohol free workplace and an equal employment opportunity employer.

**ANIMALS/SUPPLIES**

Good quality round bales for horses, \$80; also feeder quality bales, \$70. 360-321-16244  
If you or someone you know needs help in feeding pet(s), WAIF Pet Food Banks may be able to help. Pet Food Banks are located at WAIF thrift stores in Oak Harbor (465 NE Midway Blvd) and Freeland

**How'd you do?**

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

(1660 Roberta Ave) and are generously stocked by donations from the community. If you need assistance, please stop by.

**WANTED**

Looking for someone who would like to train together in Shotokan karate (JKA, ISKF, or SKIF). If interested please contact M. Johnson, 530-906-5299, or email at [gonosen33@yahoo.com](mailto:gonosen33@yahoo.com) (0)

**WANTED: We buy running or not! We recycle cars, trucks, motorhomes, travel trailers, motorcycles, boats, tractors, dump trucks and much more. Free estimates**

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**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.**

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

**No Cheating!**

	A	S	T	H	M	A			K	O	M						
P	A	N	T	H	E	O	N		P	E	R	U					
A	S	T	O	U	N	D	S		F	A	B	E	R				
R	H	E	A	S					O	G	A	M					
P	O	L							C	R	A	B					
P	L	A	N						A	B	N						
B	E	N	E	F	I	C	E		M	O							
E	D	W	A	R	D	R	M	U	R	R	O	W					
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O	D	D								T	U	C	S	O	N		

**CLASSIFIED INFORMATION**

**US Postal Mail** Whidbey Weekly  
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Oak Harbor, WA 98277

E-Mail ..... [classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com](mailto:classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com)  
Telephone..... 360-682-2341  
Fax ..... 360-682-2344

**PLEASE CALL WHEN YOUR ITEMS HAVE SOLD.**

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

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- ✓ FREE Battery Fluid & Fill

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  - Test Ignition Cables
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  - Inspect Suspension
  - Check all Fluids
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- Check Compression
- Clean/Replace Spark Plugs & Air Cleaner
- Inspect/Replace Distributor Cap & Rotor
- Check Charging System
- Inspect Ignition Cables
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