

June 1 through June 7, 2023

FREE

Whidbey Weekly

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WHIDBEY PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS

The Birds and the Bees



By Mark Crawford
Directed by Sarah Gallella

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with a huge, honeyed heart.

JUNE 2-18, 2023

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Laughs, love and life's complications on stage at the Playhouse

By **Kathy Reed** Whidbey Weekly

The Whidbey Playhouse is abuzz preparing for its newest production, "The Birds and the Bees," opening Friday and running through Sunday, June 18.

Written by Canadian playwright Mark Crawford, "The Birds and the Bees" is directed by Sarah Gallella and features a cast of four: Gaye Litka as Gail, Amy Malmkar as Sarah, Ben Honeycutt as Earl and Wesley Moran as Ben. The story focuses on Gail, a "60s-something" single woman who now keeps bees on her farm. She has a complex relationship with her adult daughter, Sarah, and a seeming love/hate relationship with farm tenant, Earl, whose wife left him for his best friend – Gail's husband – 20 years ago. And then there's Ben, a graduate student studying Gail's bees...and her daughter.

If it sounds a little complicated, it is. It is also very funny. But one mustn't leave out sweet, touching and thought-provoking, all of which blend together to make an unexpected, very appealing production. If the play's title, "The Birds and the Bees," stirs memories of "the talk" reserved for children of a certain age, it is for good reason. Sex, love, relationships – they all figure prominently into this story. Let's just say this is not a play for youngsters, so parents should exercise caution, as there are adult themes, language and a little bit of skin on display.

"The Birds and the Bees" is a relatively new play, having been written in 2016. It is something different for the Playhouse, which appealed to cast members, some of whom replied to questions from *Whidbey Weekly* via email.

"It was one of the newest shows the Playhouse has done in recent years," Honeycutt said of what interested him in this production. "There are challenges to doing newer shows, as there is less of a track record of how they've been interpreted by prior directors and performers. As an actor, it gives me room to play a little and discover new things in the story and the character."

"A couple of years ago, a friend of mine saw a play in Vancouver, British Columbia, and she thought it was one of the funniest she had ever seen," Litka described. "She told me she thought this play would be perfect for Whidbey Playhouse. I ordered the script and absolutely

adored it. I love plays about family relationships, especially if they are both funny and heart-warming."

Litka said she could hear her character's voice in her head when she read through the script.

"I haven't personally experienced Gail's situations, but I felt I knew this woman," she said. "I think she is someone many in the audience will recognize – maybe their own mother, sister or even a close friend.

"Gail is a woman over 60 whose heart was broken by her husband, who ran off with her best friend 20 years ago," Litka continued. "She has a complicated relationship with her grown daughter and has pretty much given up on life, which now mostly focuses on her honeybees and her farm. She has a lot of personal hangups which make for some hilarious situations, but also some emotional and hard-hitting ones."

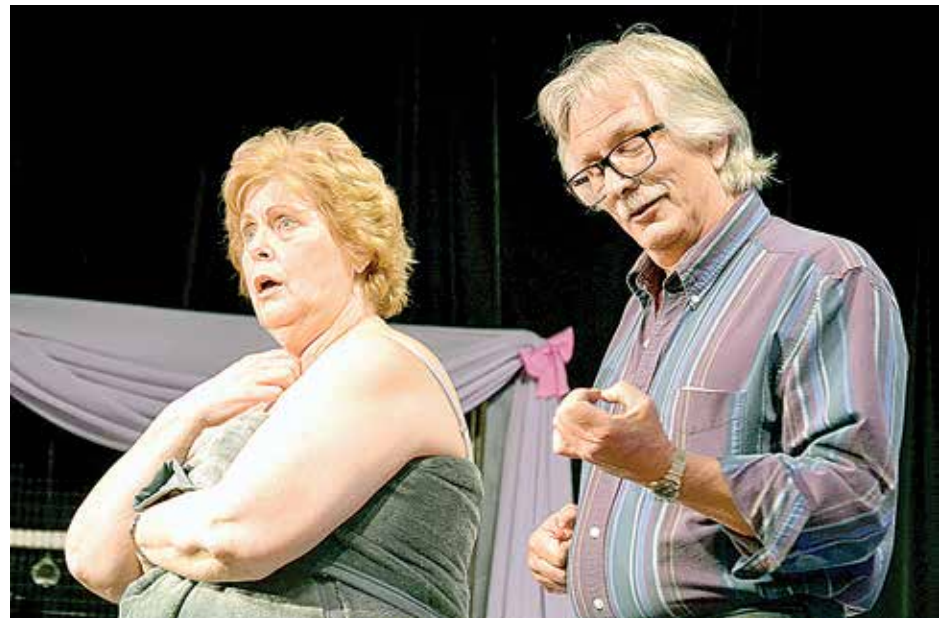
Honeycutt, who plays the role of Earl with gusto, said his character, while maybe a little rough around the edges, is always there when someone needs him.

"Earl is a straight shooter," he described. "He's one of those guys who is brutally honest and has no filter. He tends to be fairly single-minded and focused on the task or situation at hand. He's also emotionally damaged by his wife leaving him for his best friend, so this makes him appear to be a bit of a letch or hedonist, but in reality, he's carrying a lot of emotional scar tissue. And that is what drives a lot of his behavior."

With a cast of only four, all the actors have a fair amount of time on stage. And with the previously mentioned subject matter at the heart of the script, cast members found the experience to be both challenging and rewarding.

"All four of us in the cast have had to step out of our comfort zones in the characters we play to honor the playwright's storyline," said Litka. "That took some bravery on our part and caused lot of laughable moments during rehearsals, but we're all proud of our finished product."

"This may be the largest line count I've ever had," Honeycutt said. "Fortunately, the writer is also an actor, so he does make sure to give the actors time for breaks off stage, but yeah, this script load has been a beast for all of us. The



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly

Gaye Litka and Ben Honeycutt, walk an interesting line regarding their relationship in the Whidbey Playhouse production of "The Birds and the Bees," opening Friday in Oak Harbor.



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly

The character Gail (Gaye Litka) in "The Birds and the Bees" has plenty of laughable quirks and hangups, but proves age doesn't matter when it comes to enjoying life. The show opens Friday at the Whidbey Playhouse.

other trip hazard for me has been the ever-so-slight difference between the Canadian country boy lingo of Earl, which is just a hair different from the American southwest lingo of the guy playing him. It's the tiny subtle differences that can be the biggest challenge."

Performances of "The Birds and the Bees" begin Friday and run through Father's Day. Shows Friday and Saturday are at 7:30 p.m. and there are three Sunday matinee performances at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the box office or online at whidbeyplayhouse.com. The Whidbey Playhouse is located at 730 SE Midway Boulevard in Oak Harbor.

"This really is a cute romantic comedy," said Honeycutt. "It does have a few things to say about the state of the world and our society, if you pay attention. It's positive and funny, which is better than a lot of what you get from the screens we're all carrying around these days. So, turn the screen off and come have some fun."

"There's a lot of humor in this play—it's a little edgy, too—but I feel the play is very well written, and I think audiences will be thoroughly entertained," Litka said. "Love stories are not just for the young! People over 60 fall in love too, and maybe this story will encourage some to not give up!"



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly

Sarah (Amy Malmkar) and Ben (Wesley Moran) dance around desire in the Whidbey Playhouse production of "The Birds and the Bees," opening Friday.

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Island 911

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TUESDAY, MAY 23

10:50 am, SW Kittitas Ct.

Requesting call; would like to know if a warrant has been issued; advising it is a "warrant of debt;" subject owes reporting party money.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

9:40 am, SR 20

Requesting male be trespassed; walking towards Safeway gas station; placed soda in his pants.

1:13 pm, SW 6th Ave.

Reporting party in police lobby for contact referencing subject stealing picture off her

phone and using it online; states it is an inappropriate photo; caller upset she had to provide report information in lobby.

4:15 pm, SW Fleet St.

States they witnessed a person pull a table to location and table was left there after law enforcement contacted subject; table is still there; requesting a check and a call.

THURSDAY, MAY 25

5:39 am, SR 20

Caller advising of an otter in the parking lot; call-taker attempted to transfer to Wildcomm and caller hung up.

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

PHONE: 360-682-2341 FAX: 360-675-2162

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6/9 Danika Kloewer

6/16 Lauren Flynn

6/23 Erik Christensen Band

6/30 Selena Mac

JULY

7/7 Bruce Gallagher

7/14 Doug Roraback

7/21 Harbor Lights

7/28 Kevin Fristad

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8/4 Fiddle Chix

8/11 Walk the Line

8/18 The Singer Tina

8/25 David Madeiros

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Bits & Pieces

ers spending money they didn't have, on a purchase that may be illegal, and that they are completely unprepared to handle or manage.

Mike Diamanti
Coupeville, Wash.

Oak Harbor City Council Selects Christopher Wiegenstein as New City Councilmember



The Oak Harbor City Council has selected Christopher Wiegenstein to fill the vacant Position 4 seat vacated by Councilmember Dan Evans in April.

The City received applications from nine interested applicants by the May 8 deadline, one of which was withdrawn before consideration. During the May 16 regular city council meeting the council created a shortlist of applicants to interview.

At last week's city council workshop, they interviewed applicants. Council went into executive session to review the qualifications of the applicants and came out of executive session to select the specific individual to serve the short-term seat for Position 4 through certification of the general election Nov. 28.

Mayor Severns stated, "Congratulations to Councilmember Wiegenstein! I am looking forward to working with him and seeing him on the dais at the June 6 regular city council meeting."

For more information about the city council, visit oakharbor.gov/council.

[Submitted by Sabrina Combs, City of Oak Harbor]

Coupeville Farmers Market Opens 2023 Season with a Full Board and Increased Community Support

In 2022, the Coupeville and Oak Harbor Farmers Markets voted to merge their organizations under the name Whidbey Island Farmers Market in order to better serve vendors, customers and community members. Whidbey Island Farmers Market has rebranded and is now North Central Whidbey Farmers Markets or NCWFM for short.

The rebrand will allow for the continual growth of the Coupeville Farmers Market, and the eventual revitalization of the Oak Harbor Farmers Market. Alongside the hard-working market manager, Maureen Rice, the organization is now being supported by a full board of farmers, vendors and dedicated community members who are committed to facilitating vibrant and accessible farmers markets that foster mutual benefit between farmers, artisans and the community, while increasing all residents' access to nourishing, locally grown food on Whidbey Island.

The Coupeville Farmers Market 2023 season is in full bloom. Market hours are 10:00AM to 2:00PM every Saturday until Oct. 14, excluding the Coupeville Arts and Crafts Festival, held Aug. 12. The Coupeville Market is located on the Community Green behind the Coupeville Library.

Customers can look forward to a season filled with fresh produce and garden starts, cut flowers, meat and eggs, baked goods, soaps and lotions, hot food, and arti-

san vendors. Market staff members are excited to be incorporating live music and lawn games on most market days; families are encouraged to visit and partake in kids' activities. According to one NCWFM board member, "It is a market worth visiting, even on the rainiest of days."

[Submitted by Whidbey Island Farmers Market]

Celebrating Birds and Birders

The last general membership meeting of Whidbey Audubon Society's 2022-2023 season is June 8 and is a celebration of all who keep aloft its work. This is an in person meeting only and starts at 7:00PM at the Coupeville Recreation Hall, 901 NW Alexander Street in Coupeville. The evening includes congratulating new officers and thanking the outgoing ones. The President's Award will be presented to the most outstanding member of this past year. All are urged to share bird sightings, photos, anecdotes and games. The Bronze Owl Bank will be awarded to the Birdathon team who inspired the greatest monetary donations in May. This is an opportunity to socialize, share and learn about a new plan for growing volunteers, query some of Whidbey Audubon experts of various birding fields, talk about this past year, summer plans and what's up for next season.

Refreshments are provided. Bring your photos to share — printed or on a flash drive for screen sharing. A book exchange will be available. The new batch of Whidbey Audubon Society ball caps will be available for a \$30 donation.

The public is welcome. The next meeting of the 2023-2024 season will be Sept. 14.

[Submitted by Susan Prescott, Whidbey Audubon Society]

Orca Action Month Honors Southern Resident Orcas and the Endangered Species Act in "Lasting Legacies"

June is officially proclaimed Orca Action Month in the Pacific Northwest. This June marks the 17th annual celebration of Orca Action Month in Washington State and the eighth annual celebration in Oregon and British Columbia. Members of the Orca Salmon Alliance (OSA) are hosting events throughout the month to educate the public about the Southern Resident orca population and the challenges they face, including reduced Chinook salmon numbers, pollutants in the water, higher risk for oil spills, and noise and disturbance.

Orca Action Month's 2023 theme "Lasting Legacies" highlights the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act and honors some legendary Southern Resident orcas who leave behind "Lasting Legacies."

Through "Lasting Legacies" messaging, activities and events, organizers hope to celebrate this iconic, world-famous population and bring together tribal members, researchers, orca lovers and elected officials to inspire action and advocacy efforts to protect this highly endangered species. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to get involved and participate throughout this exciting month.

In person events to kick off Orca Action Month will be held June 4 in Seattle from 1:00 to 4:00PM, San Juan Island from 1:00 to 5:00PM, Whidbey Island from 3:00 to 5:00PM, and Sidney, British Columbia from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. A hybrid in person/virtual event will be held from 3:00 to 5:00PM, with keynote speakers Florian Graner of Sealife Productions joining from the Whidbey Island event and Jay Julius of Se'si'le and the Lummi Nation joining from the San Juan Island event.

Visit orcamonth.com to learn more and to find events to participate in.

[Submitted by Cindy Hansen, Orca Network]

Summer Rock Series Returns to Bailey's Corner

Seattle rock band Buried Blonde will host its second summer series at Bailey's corner, kicking things off June 10 with Atrocity Girl, Pent Up! and Tina. The series is produced by Buried Blonde lead singer and Whidbey resident, Lauren Flynn. The June show will also include a Year in Review photo retrospective, featuring Whidbey Island and visiting musicians, by local photographer Dennis Browne, a vintage dress shop curated by Lauren, and handmade jewelry and crafts by local vocalist Tina.

The series enjoyed success last year and combines Seattle hard rock bands with local Whidbey artists. Over the winter, artists were invited back to share their work in a more intimate setting, indoors and unplugged. "It was a gamble to ask hard rock bands if they would be open to play an unplugged show. Some were hesitant, but love coming to play on Whidbey so they committed. Every artist included was able to find something new in their work by stepping out of their comfort zones and the Whidbey community was introduced to a lot of new music. It was raw and cathartic for the artists and community alike." says organizer and promoter, Lauren.

The summer series will include Buried Blonde and guests at each show. There will be returning favorites like Atrocity Girl and AR Band as well as bands like Moopsie, who joined the Unplugged series but have yet to play an electric outdoor set. Solo openers will include local singer Tina and award-winning, LA based songwriter and composer Ricky Berger. Of course, there will be newcomers to the series as well, like Olympia-based pop punk band Emnity and Seattle's Pent Up!

"This series rounds out the Whidbey musical offerings. We are so lucky to have such a rich palette of live music here, ranging from chamber music to pop to folk to world to blues and hip-hop. We play around the region with some really talented rock bands that embody the spirit of PNW music and we are grateful to be able to showcase these artists at Bailey's Corner and share new music with the community as well as get the word out about the thriving music scene on the island. We've seen more and more people coming from off island to check out this little gas station in the woods!" says Flynn.

For more info visit BuriedBlonde.com.

[Submitted by Lauren Flynn]

Ferry Fare Changes Coming: Transportation Commission Seeks Public Input

The Washington State Transportation Commission has kicked off its ferry fare-setting process for 2023-2025, with an online survey and virtual community meetings for people to learn more and provide comments.

The ferry fare revenue requirement set by the legislature in the recently passed 2023-2025 transportation budget is \$418.6 million. The commission will determine how to meet that expectation in the coming months and wants to hear from the public along the way.

An online survey (<https://wstcfeedback.participate.online>) is open until 5:00PM Friday, June 9, and allows participants to share opinions on different fare adjustment options. Survey results will help inform how passenger, vehicle and peak season fares could be adjusted to meet the updated revenue requirements. The public can also provide input to the commission via email at transc@wstc.wa.gov.

Also, Washington State Ferries is hosting six virtual route-specific public meetings focused on service restoration as well as proposed fare changes. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions during the meeting and written public comment will also be accepted. The meetings began May 23 and run through June 7, and pre-registration is required (wa.gov/

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

The Port of Coupeville district taxpayers are watching a junior taxing district buckle under the weight of its frenzied ambition. Port Commissioners Mishasek and Day have been trying to buy the A. J. Eisenberg airport for almost two years. During an April 4 Oak Harbor City Council meeting, the port made a presentation trumpeting their airport purchase option, capped by a request for money. The Oak Harbor City Council obliged by pledging \$200,000, but only after the port actually closes on the airport. Island County Commissioners made verbal comments that suggested they might provide money to finance the purchase, but nothing in writing.

During the May 24 port meeting, Commissioner Day repeatedly stated he doesn't know where the money is coming from to run the airport, that the board is ready to sign a \$1.1 million bond to buy the airport, and that many regional airports not only operate at a loss, but they pull revenues from other port operations to pay their airport bills.

Didn't the Port of Coupeville recently create an Industrial Development District (IDD) in order to gather additional tax dollars, with the stated purpose to pay for the deferred maintenance on the wharf and Greenbank Farm? Property tax bills now show IDD monies collected this year at five to six times the amount paid compared with the regular Port of Coupeville tax levy.

Isn't there a pending lawsuit challenging the legality of the purchase agreement the port entered into? The person bringing the lawsuit, Robert DeLaurentis, spoke during the May 24 port meeting. He raised a lot of concerns about safety, damage, financing, due diligence, legality and the rushed nature of this endeavor. He's raised his concerns several times, starting at the April 4 Oak Harbor City Council meeting.

The port wants to embark on a project that could put the Port District on the hook for debt that would stretch out for decades. It would be a much larger drain than the debt the port entered into after the Greenbank Farm purchase in 1997. That debt took roughly \$100,000 per year of port income for 20 years before that one was retired. Through the new IDD levy, we are paying for the deferred maintenance resulting from that particular port misstep. Port district voters need to be able to vote on a purchase as large as an airport.

But here's the kicker – Mr. DeLaurentis has repeatedly made overtures to the port seeking discussions about eventually turning the airport over to the port, after he buys it and makes safety improvements. No Island County money would be lost, the City of Oak Harbor can keep their \$200,000, and collaboration with all the interested parties would make public ownership the outcome.

Our IDD tax money could go to restore the wharf and Greenbank Farm. The 8,000 voters in the Port of Coupeville district David Day is sweating over won't lose their minds as a result of the Commission-

travel/washington-state-ferries/about-us/
community-participation).

The commission will select a fare proposal at its Wednesday, June 21, meeting in Friday Harbor, and members of the public can attend the meeting in person or virtually to offer comment. Further opportunities for public comment will be offered on the fare proposal through Sunday, July 30, and an in person hearing to adopt fare changes will be held Thursday, Aug. 10, at 9:00AM at the Puget Sound Regional Council Board Room, 1011 Western Ave., Suite 500, Seattle. Virtual attendance will be available.

Visit the Washington State Transportation Commission's website (wa.gov/ferry-fares/2023-2025-ferry-fare-setting/) to learn more about the 2023-2025 ferry fare-setting process and to stay up to date on the latest developments.

[Submitted by Bryn Hunter, WSDOT]

Skagit Valley College to Launch New Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Degree This Fall

Skagit Valley College is preparing to launch the college's fourth bachelor's degree program this fall to help fill growing workforce gaps in the industry. The new Bachelor of Science in Computer Science is designed to address the expanding demand for people qualified for high earning careers in computer science and software development.

SVC received approval from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), the college's regional accrediting body, to offer a computer science baccalaureate program this fall. The NWCCU approval follows the 2022 approval received from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) to offer this degree.

Designed by a consortium of seven community and technical colleges, includ-

ing SVC, the 180-credit program is grounded in real world projects and application. Its degree requirements focus on the skill set most critical for career success in this field. As a result, the program removes barriers that have historically limited opportunities for study in this field.

"We are pleased to add the Computer Science degree to the bachelor's degree platform at Skagit Valley College," said SVC President Dr. Christopher Villa. "Our bachelor's degree programs are a strategic priority for the college, in line with our commitment to supporting regional and state economic growth strategies by preparing students for careers in high demand, high earning fields."

The new degree will be led by instructor Catherine Wyman, an expert in creating inclusive environments for computer science and software development education. She has dedicated her career to improving diversity in technology and the accessibility of technology careers.

Wyman's experience includes working on National Science Foundation funded projects to teaching community college teachers how to broaden participation in computer science and on Project Let's Talk Code, an initiative to expand computer science education on the Navajo reservation.

"The Bachelor of Science in Computer Science degree at SVC will open doors to the high earning computer science field for our students," said Wyman. "In addition to the academic curriculum, students will have the opportunity to work with industry partner mentors and will benefit from a robust support network, including tutoring and peer coaching."

To learn more about the new program, visit skagit.edu/bachelor-science-computer-science or contact outreach@skagit.edu.

[Submitted by Marisa Pierce, Skagit Valley College]



The Penn Cove Water Festival Association would like to express our deep gratitude to all who participated in and contributed to this year's post Covid event. We thank the sponsors, volunteers, leads, tribal nations, entertainers, merchants, vendors and our community supporters including: Town of Coupeville, Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association, Island County Tourism, North Whidbey Fire and Rescue, Port of Coupeville, Coupeville Lions Club, NAS Whidbey Island and Coupeville Scout Troop 4058 B&G for making this year's festival one to cherish and remember. With your continued support we'll be back next year. Please join us again next year on May 18th, 2024.

Sincerely,
Penn Cove Water Festival Association



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What's Going On

Live Music: The Whags

Friday, June 2, 7:00-9:00PM
Penn Cove Taproom, Coupeville

Since their start, The Whags have been a bastion for building community around music. Their open-ended approach to Americana, funk, and sunshine pop provides many musical tethers for their audience. No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit www.penncovebrewing.com.

Live Music: Those Guys

Saturday, June 3, 7:00-9:00PM
Penn Cove Taproom, Freeland

John Hribernick and Kristi Barnes have been performing together as Those Guys since 2011. They play an eclectic yet familiar mix of mostly pop covers as well as originals; their song list spans decades and genres, covering renowned artists from Adele to Zevon. No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit www.penncovebrewing.com.

Community Garage Sale

Saturday, June 3, 8:00AM-2:00PM
The Center, 51 SE Jerome St, Oak Harbor
The Center in Oak Harbor hosts its annual indoor sale, featuring a number of your neighbors, selling treasures for everyone. For more information, call 360-279-4580.

I Support the Girls Garage Sale

Saturday, June 3, 9:00AM to 3:00PM
1008 Diane Ave, Oak Harbor

No early birds please. Outdoor furniture, books, electronics, crafting supplies, jewelry, household, small appliances, tools, hidden treasures and much more. Some proceeds benefit I Support the Girls-Whidbey Island.

Live Music: Mike Gallion

Friday, June 9, 7:00-9:00PM
Penn Cove Taproom, Coupeville

Mike's music and unique 12 string electric guitar produces an uncommon sound. Mike likes to play songs people already know and enjoy, although he has been known to sneak in a song of his own every so often! No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit www.penncovebrewing.com.

Sports Physical Night

Wednesday, June 14, 5:00-7:00PM
Oak Harbor High School Field House

OH Wildcat Booster Club is holding it's annual Sports Physical Night. All proceeds benefit OHHS athletic programs. Local physical therapists, nurses and family

practitioners volunteer their time to work together to perform a comprehensive sport physical. The cost is \$40 each or \$80 per family, debit/credit accepted. Students must be accompanied by parent. Sports physicals are required for participation in school athletics for middle and high school.

Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below
Cost: Free

Sing Your Song with Harmonica Pocket

Thursday, June 8, 10:00-11:00AM
Coupeville Library

Sing silly, sweet songs about trees, bugs, counting, and being itchy. Songs accompanied by ukuleles, acoustic guitars, and harmonicas. Open up your mouth and sing! For children ages 18 months to 5 years old and their caregivers.

Fire and Ice with Mad Science

Wednesday, June 21, 2:00-3:00PM
Coupeville Rec Hall

This spectacular show surprises audiences with the impressive power of molecules. Starting with a simple piece of paper and escalating to monstrous clouds of water vapor, children are astonished when our gallant volunteer Eggbert gets trapped in a flask and escapes with the aid of frozen carbon dioxide gas. They gawk at a shivering coin and shriek with delight at our famous Mad Science burps! This show is so cool it's hot! For children ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

Classes, Seminars and Workshops

How To Be Friends and Disagree on Politics

Saturday, June 10, 6:00-8:00PM
Coupeville Recreation Hall, 901 NW Alexander Street

Civility First invites you to a thoughtful in-person conversation between our state's Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck (Democrat) and the 10th Legislative District State Senator Ron Muzzall (Republican). During a moderated discussion, the two will talk about navigating political waters and maintaining friendships. This free event is presented by Civility First. For more information, email Civility1st@gmail.com. The Coupeville Recreation Hall is located at 901 NW Alexander St.



How To Be Friends and Disagree on Politics

Really, it CAN be done!



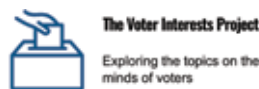
Civility First invites you to a thoughtful in-person conversation between our state's Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck (Democrat) and the 10th Legislative District State Senator Ron Muzzall (Republican). During a moderated discussion, the two will talk about navigating political waters and maintaining friendships.

Saturday, June 10, 2023, 6 – 8 p.m.
Coupeville Recreation Hall, 901 NW Alexander Street

You will want to attend this fascinating and free event.
Come and bring a friend, maybe one you disagree with!

For more information contact Civility First at Civility1st@gmail.com.

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Life Tributes

Debbie Jean Sherod



Debbie Jean Sherod was born in Seattle, Wash., April 26, 1954, to William "Bill" Sherod and Velma McGahen. Debbie grew up in Magnolia and graduated from Queen Anne High School in 1972. She attended beauty school, and received two associate degrees in horticulture from Edmonds Community College. For the rest of her life, Debbie pursued her dual passions of landscaping and hair-scaping. She worked for the Seattle Parks Department for several years as part of the maintenance crew at many of her favorite parks, including Green Lake, Volunteer Park, Carkeek Park, and others. She loved memorizing the Latin names of many local plants and would always recite the true name of any plant she saw.

Her favorite place to be was always in a garden.

In 1983, Debbie moved to Whidbey Island with her son, Shane, where she gave birth to her daughter, Sasha, with former husband Michael Clyburn. She never wanted to live anywhere else. After cutting hair at several salons, she eventually opened her own business, Hare Today. Additionally, Debbie found work in landscaping and gardening, while volunteering for many years as a Master Gardener at the Island County Fair and other events.

Deb's Hare Today was a fixture on South Whidbey for many years - both at its original location in Freeland and again in Clinton, until Deb retired at the end of 2019. The salon was known for her extensive collection of hare-themed collectibles and stuffed animals, and for Debbie's boundless energy and enthusiasm for her craft. Some of her clients stayed loyal to her for many years. A few even followed her home to the salon she built at the family farm in Greenbank.

The thing Debbie loved most about living on Whidbey was the music. If there was live music happening on the south end, you could bet on seeing Debbie Sherod there grooving on the dance floor. She was a devoted fan to many local musicians and prided herself on building friendships with many of them over the years.

Debbie passed away at home on the Wood Farm May 9, 2023, a few weeks after celebrat-

ing her "dirty" 69th birthday. She loved off-color humor and would definitely appreciate the joke. She's probably snickering right now. Debbie Jean Sherod is survived by her children, Shane and Sasha, her loving dog, Frieda, and cats Pumpkin Pie and Tux.

A memorial service celebrating Debbie's life will be held at Bayview Hall June 4 at 2 p.m. We hope you will join us. If anyone has pictures, videos, or stories of Deb you'd like to share, please send them to sherodland@gmail.com. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to her memorial fund to help pay for funeral costs after this unexpected tragedy, and to help her family build a memorial to her on the family farm in Greenbank, where we will spread her ashes. Donations can be made at: https://giveahand.com/_XADQ.

Peter Hinman Rood Jr.



Peter Hinman Rood Jr., 67, of Langley, Wash., left us peacefully April 20, 2023, from complications of heart surgery. He will be forever loved and forever remembered.

Peter was predeceased by his parents, Roberta Bayer, and Peter Rood Sr.; sister, Laura Crumlett; and beloved wife, Christen Herman. He is survived by his siblings Vincent Devlahovich, Valerie LaPoint, and Austin Rood; his children Dylan Rood, Julian Rood, and Hilary Watford; and grandchildren Milo, Avey, Juliana, Nash, and Olivier. Services were held at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Oak Harbor.

Sharron M. Stauber



Sharron M. Stauber passed away peacefully at her home at Regency on Whidbey Assisted Living Facility in Oak Harbor May 8, 2023, with her sons, Todd and Kurt, and brother, Craig Eaton, by her side. She suffered from a rare pulmonary condition, PAH, for many years before her death. Those that knew her will remember her for her caring soul and her quick-witted, sarcastic humor.

Born in Klamath Falls, Ore., December 9, 1941, she spent her early childhood in Eugene, Ore., before moving to Portland and eventually Spokane, Wash., where she graduated from West Valley High School in 1959. She went on to attend Eastern Washington State College (now Eastern Washington University), where she earned

a Bachelor of Arts in education with a major in English and minors in piano and home economics. After graduation, she ventured to Oak Harbor to start her teaching career, where she met the love of her life, Orv. After teaching for six years at Oak Harbor High School, she "retired" after the birth of her first son, Kurt.

After marrying Orv, the Navy became an important part of her life, and she cherished her days as a Navy wife. The Navy brought her many adventures, including trips to the Mediterranean, the Philippines, and Hong Kong, and moves to Bremerton, Wash., and Colorado, Calif. Eventually they would return to Oak Harbor, where Orv would retire from the military in 1974 and they would settle in to raise their family with the birth of their second son, Todd. Upon Orv's retirement from the military, he started Whid-Isle Nursery in 1974 and later Midway Florist in 1979, and Sharron became the rock behind his business ventures.

In 1987 when Orv suddenly and tragically passed away, Sharron carried on raising her two boys and running Midway Florist and continued to grow the business in Orv's honor. After sending both of her boys to college and running Midway Florist for many years, she sold the business and retired in 2011.

One of her true passions in life, aside from her family, was Priest Lake, Idaho. It was her "special place," one she was introduced to by her father, Lorin Eaton, as a child. She returned to work at Hills Resort during her first summer of college and fell in love forever. She ended up passing along that passion to Orv and her entire family, along with several other families in Oak Harbor.

Sharron is predeceased by her husband, Orv, and survived by her son, Kurt Stauber, his wife, Stacey, and their kids, Zxavian and Keála of Bellingham, Wash.; her son, Todd Stauber, of San Sebastian, Spain; her brother, Craig Eaton, and his wife, Janet, of Annapolis, Md.

Sharron will be missed by the many who crossed paths with her throughout the years and her family and friends, who loved her very much.

Thomas L. Sundown



Our father, Thomas L. Sundown, passed away suddenly Tuesday, May 16, 2023, from a heart attack. Tom was born June 30, 1946, in Buffalo, N.Y., to Ruth Sundown. After facing many adversities in his childhood, our dad joined the U.S. Navy to build a better life for himself and his future family. He loved the Navy, and he proudly served 25 years at bases across the country before retiring as a Command Master Chief. During his naval career, he earned a bachelor of science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and went on to work 20 years at Boeing in Everett before retiring again in 2007.

Throughout his life, our father dealt with the impact of racism. His Haudenosaunee heritage was central to his identity. He always wished and worked for peace for his people, the Cayuga Nation. He also sought opportunities to advocate for inclusion and equality in the workplace for all people.

Our father lived in Oak Harbor, Wash., for nearly 40 years. He loved living on Whidbey, but his favorite spot of all was the Gallery Golf Course. He enjoyed the friendships he made through golf, and he taught junior golf for many years to share the love of the sport with future generations.

Our father was married to our mother, Stella Margaret Szobonya Sundown, for 55 years. He is survived by our mother, four children, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, all of whom are grateful to have spent time on this earth with him and look forward to seeing him in the Sky World.

Our father's ashes will be interred at Tahoma National Cemetery June 13. We want to thank friends and family, for lifting up our family with prayers and well wishes.

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

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF Jim Freeman
June 25, 1947 – June 19, 2022

David Welton Photos

Saturday, June 17, 2 p.m.
South Whidbey Assembly of God
5373 Maxwellton Rd., Langley
Reception at the church following the service.
The public is invited.



Recipe of the Week

EXPAND YOUR
CAMPSITE CULINARY
REPERTOIRE

Hiking and camping opportunities heat up when the weather warms. Come summer, individuals feel compelled to load up their campers or pack their tents and enjoy some forested paradise.

Meals are a consideration when camping. Certainly frankfurters or sandwiches can get you by in a pinch, but for avid campers, it helps to have a more diverse array of recipes at the ready, which can really enhance the camping experience. Consider this recipe "Slow-Cooked Pulled Pork" courtesy of "The New Trailside Cookbook" (A Firefly Book) by Kevin Callan and Margaret Howard.

SLOW-COOKED PULLED PORK (Serves 8)

SAUCE

- 1 cup chili sauce
- 1/3 cup Dijon or grainy mustard
- 1/3 cup liquid honey
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tablespoon packed brown sugar

- 2 teaspoons paprika
 - 2 large cloves garlic, minced
- ### MEAT
- 2 cups sliced onions
 - 3 to 4 pounds frozen pork shoulder roast
 - 2 cups chopped apples
 - Large ciabatta rolls, onion or crusty buns, mashed potatoes, or rice

At home: Mix together the chili sauce, mustard, honey, chili powder, tomato paste, Worcestershire sauce, brown sugar, paprika, and garlic. Store in a tightly sealed container or freeze for longer storage.

At camp: Place onions in the bottom of a Dutch oven. Thaw pork, place over onions; top with apples. Pour sauce over meat and apples. Cover and cook on medium heat for 4 hours or until meat is tender and starts to fall apart. Remove meat from oven and place on a large plate. Using two forks, shred meat along its length. Stir meat back into sauce. Serve on rolls, or as desired.



WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, things may not progress the way you want them to unless you become a little more persistent. Figure out how to walk the line to achieve your goals.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, many things are going right with your life. But now it's time to get a handle on your love life. You may have to put in some extra effort, especially this week.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Gemini, keep things on the lighter side when conversing with coworkers this week. Now is not the time to delve into controversial discussions in the workplace.

CANCER – June 22/July 22

Cancer, as you try to become more organized, try not to get too overwhelmed by the scope of the task at hand. Tackle one thing at a time and keep making progress.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

Leo, situations may seem like they are a matter of life or death this week, but there's a good chance you're just being overly dramatic. Try to go with the flow.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Emotions are running wild and you're worried about what others think of you, Virgo. Embrace a point of view that relies more on the rational than the emotional.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, after a few stops and starts, you and your romantic partner are on quite a roll. Enjoy that you both are in tune and aspiring toward shared goals.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, it's possible you feel blocked on all sides regarding your employment. While you can't get ahead right now, there are some opportunities coming.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Be careful about speaking before thinking through your words, Sagittarius. Knee-jerk responses can have unexpected consequences. Take time to form your opinion.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

This week is bound to be pretty intense, Capricorn. But you'll find a way to skirt through it relatively unscathed. Rely on a few friends as sounding boards.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, try not to cut off channels of communication with loved ones as you deal with a few difficult issues. Others are willing to step up and help as needed.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, others will not always see the world the way you do. Interactions this week can be a little stilted or even frustrating.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| JUNE 4: Angelina Jolie, Actress (48) | JUNE 7: Emily Ratajkowski, Model (32) |
| JUNE 5: Mark Wahlberg, Actor (52) | JUNE 8: Griffin Dunne, Actor (68) |
| JUNE 6: Drew McIntyre, Wrestler (38) | JUNE 9: Michael J. Fox, Actor (62) |

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MOVIE SHOWTIMES 6/2 thru 6/6/23

SPIDER-MAN:

ACROSS THE SPIDER-VERSE (PG)
Friday – Tuesday: 1:45pm, 4:45pm & 7:45pm

THE LITTLE MERMAID (PG)
Friday – Tuesday: 2:00pm, 5:00pm & 8:00pm

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 3 (PG-13)
Friday – Tuesday: 1:30pm, 4:30pm & 7:30pm

CLOSED WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY!

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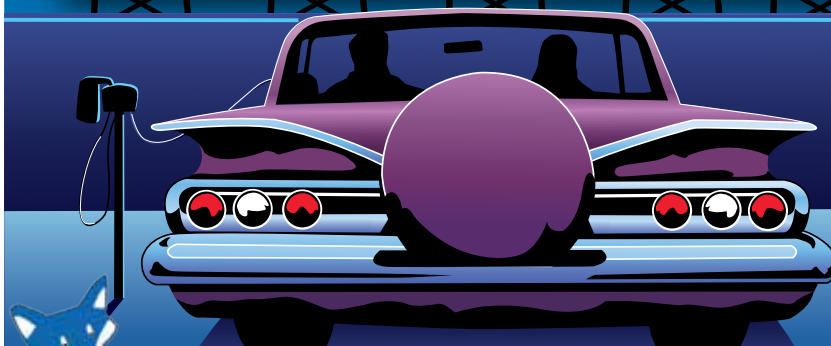
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THURSDAY, JUNE 1 THRU TUESDAY, JUNE 6

SPIDER-MAN: ACROSS THE
SPIDER-VERSE (PG)

THE LITTLE MERMAID (PG)

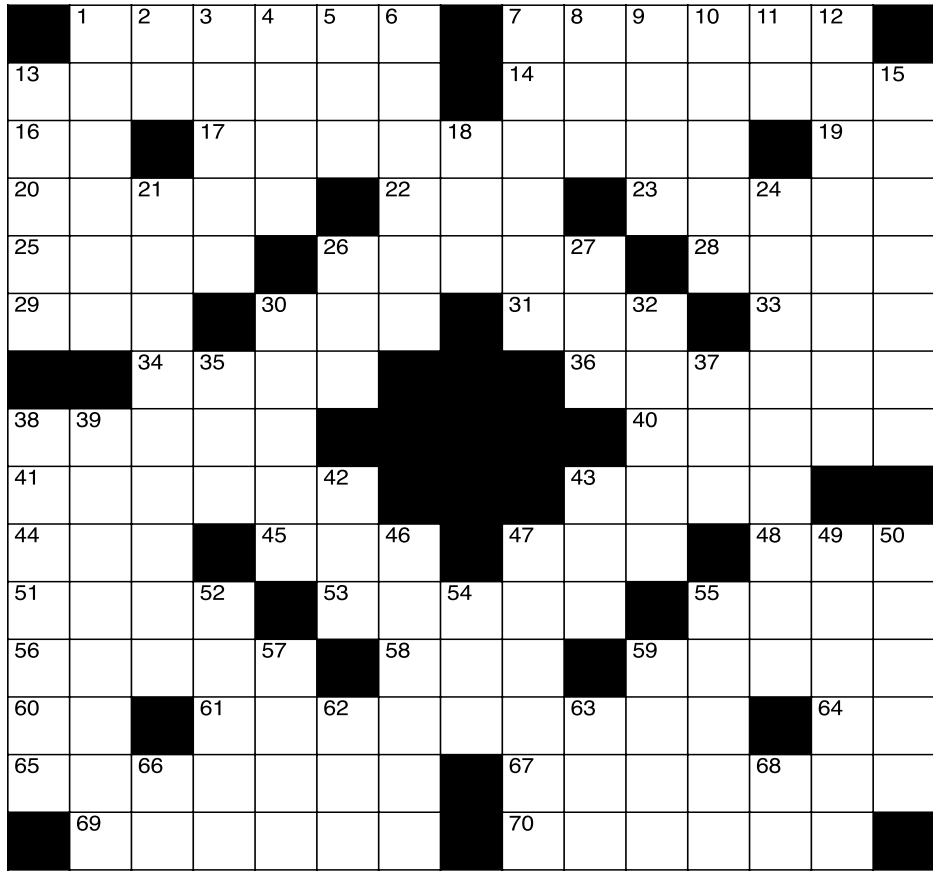
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Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Bonus materials
- 7. Formal names
- 13. Free from restraints
- 14. One who scrapes away
- 16. Type of device
- 17. Skin cancers
- 19. The Show Me State
- 20. Plate glasses
- 22. Red-brown sea bream
- 23. Small (Fr.)
- 25. Flightless Australian birds
- 26. High IQ group
- 28. Stiff structures
- 29. Revolutions per minute
- 30. Where a bachelor lives
- 31. Licensed for Wall Street
- 33. A place to park
- 34. Energy, style and enthusiasm
- 36. An important creed in Catholic Church
- 38. 18-year astronomical period
- 40. Furies
- 41. Removes from the record
- 43. Noted child psychiatrist
- 44. Feline
- 45. High schoolers' test
- 47. Not happy

48. They ___

- 51. On top
- 53. Precious stones unit of weight
- 55. Moved quickly
- 56. Seagulls
- 58. A seed with hooks or teeth
- 59. Partner to "oohed"
- 60. Exclamation of surprise
- 61. Most unpleasant
- 64. Organization help service members
- 65. Type of cockatoo
- 67. Humorous criticisms
- 69. Went through and organized
- 70. Wakes up

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Settle in tents
- 2. Big
- 3. Books
- 4. Masses of eggs in fish
- 5. Language
- 6. Not standing
- 7. Chinese philosophy
- 8. Computer giant
- 9. A device to catch
- 10. Emits coherent radiation
- 11. Actor O'Neill
- 12. Smallest interval in western music
- 13. Not lower
- 15. Revolves

- 18. Leavened bread
- 21. Number above the line in a fraction
- 24. Cable
- 26. Adult male
- 27. Airborne (abbr.)
- 30. Bullfighting maneuvers
- 32. Broadcast
- 35. ___ Angeles
- 37. Vehicle
- 38. Not religious
- 39. North American peoples
- 42. A baglike structure
- 43. Body art (slang)
- 46. Picked for a role
- 47. Actress Tomei
- 49. Former hoopster "Big Country"
- 50. Icelandic poems
- 52. More pleasant
- 54. It can add flavor to meat
- 55. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 57. Expression of annoyance
- 59. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 62. Consumed
- 63. Body part
- 66. Thus
- 68. In reply (abbr.)

Answers on page 11

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, June 1	Fri, June 2	Sat, June 3	Sun, June 4	Mon, June 5	Tues, June 6	Wed, June 7
North Isle H-61°/L-47° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-62°/L-48° Clouds with Sunbreaks	North Isle H-63°/L-50° Mostly Sunny Afternoon Breeze	North Isle H-61°/L-44° Mostly Sunny Afternoon Breeze	North Isle H-66°/L-48° Sunny	North Isle H-57°/L-64° Plenty of Sunshine	North Isle H-72°/L-56° Mostly Sunny
South Isle H-62°/L-47° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-64°/L-50° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-65°/L-50° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-63°/L-47° Mostly Sunny	South Isle H-71°/L-52° Sunny and Warm	South Isle H-65°/L-64° Sunny	South Isle H-75°/L-55° Mostly Sunny and Warm



OUR Community

An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

What are you excited about doing in 2023 that you have not done before ?



Steven Egbert, Oak Harbor

My family and I are new to the island and we are all really looking forward to exploring all of the state parks and beaches the island has to offer.



Emily Torrentze, Oak Harbor

I am most excited to learn to ski! I know how to snowboard but this year I am challenging myself to learn something new. We plan on taking our 5 and 3-year-olds with us and it will be their first time learning to ski also, so it will truly be a family affair. We have heard wonderful things about Whistler and Steven's Pass. We moved here this year and overall, I am eager to explore all the new areas and stunning beauty of the Pacific Northwest. I look forward to the adventures to come!



Terry and Michele West, Coupeville

My wife and I are going to take the train to Portland. I would enjoy being able to relax in the train without the burden of driving. This would be an experiment to see how much we like train travel. Portland has a workable public transit system and is very walkable. In addition, we want to support our passenger train system in the interest of reducing global warming. We are significantly behind Europe in developing a viable passenger train system. More trains, less planes.

Rose Woods, Langley

I'm looking forward to traveling to France for the script I am writing. I am also writing a book, but that is a different project.

As a writer, I was commissioned to write a play, which I'm doing. A musical. I write for a living. I can't really talk about the script yet.



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CAN DO SUDOKU!

On a scale from 1 to 10...5.8

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.

Answers below

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calling All Vendors! BISC "Price is Right" Annual Yard Sale: June 24, Baby Island Saratoga Club, 3616 Saratoga Rd., Langley. Vendors (non-members) \$30 for 10x15 booth with table. Reserve NOW! 360-914-1358 or babyislandsc@gmail.com

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

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. More info at our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSoundDragonBoatClub?ref=h

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

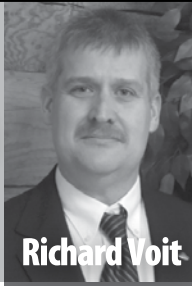
Volunteer for Island Shakespeare Festival! Many hands help keep the island's only outdoor classical summer theater going and growing! Can you help? There are many opportunities throughout the year to join the ISF family as a volunteer. These opportunities are a great way to get acquainted with the organization. •Distribute Ad Packets and Posters for our Summer Season • Production: Help set up Henry the Tent/Help with scenic painting, props, or costumes • Front of House: Usher, gate, greeter, sell snacks • House an Artist: Actors/Designers need free housing June-Sept./Or partial summer •

How'd you do?

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

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Loan a Vehicle: Actors are housed on various areas of the island and need loaner cars; can you help? • Work at the Bard's Boutique: This fun and easy volunteer job is at the Bayview Cash Store and requires only a few hours per week. • Become a Board Member: Development/Outreach/Special Skills. Please contact Angelica, angelica.metcalfe@islandshake-spearefest.org, if interested in volunteering.

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 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

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.

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