

December 28, 2023 through January 3, 2024

LOOK FOR *Island Times* INSIDE

Whidbey Weekly

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

Locally Owned • Locally Operated

NEWS • ISLAND 911 • CALENDAR • PUZZLES

COLUMNISTS • CLASSIFIEDS



Whidbey Island POLAR BEAR DIVE JANUARY 1, 2024

DOUBLE BLUFF BEACH • FREELAND

12pm "Dive" Check-in opens at 10:30am

Event fee \$10 (does not include t-shirt)

Proceeds benefit the Island County 4-H Teen Leadership Club



To pre-register and order Polar Bear Dive Merchandise, Visit www.swparks.org

Information and pre-registration can also be found at "Whidbey Island Polar Bear Dive" on Facebook

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Whidbey Weekly

NEWS



Flashy send-off for OH mayor p. 8

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LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED DECEMBER 28, 2023 - JANUARY 3, 2024

Be cool and plunge into the New Year!

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

All the really cool – and we mean that quite literally – people will be starting the New Year off in fine form Monday at noon at Double Bluff Beach in Freeland, home of Whidbey Island's annual Polar Bear Dive.

A nearly two-decades-old tradition for many islanders, the Polar Bear Dive is a fundraiser for the Island County 4-H Teen Leadership Club. Registration for the event is currently open online at swparks.org/event/polar-bear-dive or register the day of, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Cost to participate is \$10 per person, which does NOT include a T-shirt. (Polar Bear Dive gear can be purchased separately through the South Whidbey Parks and Recreation website listed above.)

Jon Gabelein is the founder of the Polar Bear Dive. He said the appeal of plunging into the cold water – no matter the weather – comes down to community spirit.

"It's a very cool community celebration on day one of the New Year," he said. "It's a chance to come together and hang out with some literally cool islanders. It's a crazy thing to do. Some people call it seven seconds of fury; it's really cold.

"It's for all ages, too," Gabelein continued. "We get everything from little kids to senior citizens and everything in between. It's a tradition for a lot of families on the island. It's literally the first community activity of the year.

Since its inception, the Polar Bear Dive has benefitted various nonprofit organizations, but the past several years the 4-H Teen



File Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Polar Bear Dive

Brave and hardy Whidbey Islanders will plunge into 2024 Monday when they participate in the annual Polar Bear Dive at Double Bluff Beach in Freeland. The annual event raises money for the Island County 4-H Teen Leadership Club.

See POLAR continued on page 8

Year-end push brings Coupeville food bank close to goal

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

As 2023 comes to a close, Gifts from the Heart food bank in Coupeville is hoping a final fundraising push will bring it even closer to its goal of a new, permanent home complete with much-needed workforce housing.

According to Gifts from the Heart board president, Molly Hughes, the organization received two unexpected donations totaling \$35,000 recently from two anonymous donors, who both suggested a campaign to match those funds.

"We decided to run a five-week, year-end campaign to try and match the \$35,000," she told *Whidbey Weekly* via email. "People are really good to the food bank at year-end; we all tend to think of our neighbors in need during the holidays. We thought the opportunity to double their donation might bring in a few more donations or maybe encourage donors to give a little more.

"We are getting so close to our goal," Hughes continued. "As of this minute, I believe we have about \$100,000 more to go. That's only 10 percent of the total cost of the food bank and two workforce housing apartments. We can see the finish line!"

Gifts from the Heart announced its plans to build a new facility less than 18 months ago, in August of 2022. Hughes said she is very pleased with how the community has rallied around the organization.

File Photo
Gifts from the Heart food bank in Coupeville is nearing its fundraising goal to build a new facility, which will also include two apartments on the second floor. Food bank officials say they could be in their new home by the end of 2024.



"I am amazed by how generous our community has been, including businesses, other nonprofits, and foundations," she said. "We have written many grant applications and have gotten several between \$5,000 and \$20,000. Those add up quickly. But some of our largest donations have come from individual donors, some of whom have a long history of supporting the food bank, and other brand-new supporters. We had hoped to have the funding in place within 18 months, so I am very happy with our progress."

Property for the new facility, which will house the food bank on the bottom floor and two apartments on the second floor, has already been purchased along SW Terry Road in Coupeville. The building has already been designed and engineered and the builder is submitting permits.

"When we get permit approval, we plan to break ground, even if it means we still have a little fundraising to do," shared Hughes. "I believe the build will be six to eight months. I believe the food bank will have a new home and we will have renters in the apartments by the end of 2024."

Gifts from the Heart currently operates out of the building it used to share with the Boys and Girls Club, which recently moved into its own new facility. Hughes said the food bank now has a little more space with which to work, but she said the permanent location will allow them to operate even more efficiently.

"Since the Boys and Girls Club has left our building, we no longer have to set up and take down every single time we are open for distribution," she explained. "This is much less physical labor for our volunteers, and we have more room for food storage. When we move into our new building, we will be set up like a 'shopping model' food bank. Instead of clients getting a pre-packed bag of nonperishables, they will be able to pick the types of food their family will use from the shelves. We already let our clients choose their protein, fresh fruits, and vegetables, so a shopping model will give our clients even more choices. It will also allow us to carry some ethnic food choices, and make special diet foods like gluten free, low sodium and vegetarian foods more accessible."

The food bank, which serves all those within the Coupeville School District, will celebrate 22 years of service in February and has offered the Meals 2 Kids program for 11 years.

"We continue to be completely run by volunteers and keep our overhead costs to a minimum and we try to be responsive to our community's changing needs," said Hughes. "Our donors know we are very careful and thoughtful about the way we spend their donations of money and grateful for the donations of food. Whenever we have been in need of a home, food, money or volunteers, our community has come through for us. Every. Single. Time. Our mission is 'to respectfully provide food to those in need' and we could not do this without our community support. It is an honor for the volunteers of the food bank to be entrusted with this mission."

Anyone who would like to make a year-end contribution to the building fund or to Gifts from the Heart in general, can donate by sending a check to Gifts from the Heart, PO Box 155, Coupeville, WA 98239, or by credit card or PayPal on the website, giftsfromtheheartfoodbank.com/data/donate. A button for the new building will designate funds for that specific purpose.

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FRIDAY, DEC. 15

10:59 am, NW 3rd Ave.

Requesting check on car at stop sign who flipped off reporting party; other car wanted reporting party to stop, reporting party did. Other car advising reporting party was stalking her; other car knew where reporting party lived.

1:47 pm, NE Ernst St.

Advising fence blew over into traffic.

3:04 pm, SR 20

Advising men looking under hoods of cars by drive-thru.

3:19 pm, NW Dory Dr.

Advising threats were made on the post "Drop kick the bitches."

SATURDAY, DEC. 16

1:10 am, SE Pasek St.

Requesting check on his sister; states he was singing "Happy Birthday" to them and her boyfriend (unknown last name) grabbed the phone and started saying military jargon; states he began to be argumentative.

3:06 am, W Whidbey Ave.

Reporting party advising vehicle in front of his window; states he went and asked if he could "help them," they replied no.

3:47 am, Garfield Ct.

Caller states there was just someone in her back yard; "I have them on camera this time."

5:29 am, W Whidbey Ave.

Caller states he went outside and discovered subject had littered.

6:54 am, W Whidbey Ave.

Caller continues to call; is mad about the littering that occurred; wanting to know if he can throw away the receipt.

SUNDAY, DEC. 17

11:39 am, SE Jensen St.

Advising of a Bible and a note in a Ziploc bag on the bench near the swing set; note says "Merry Christmas." Reporting party is afraid to touch it "because people suck."

MONDAY, DEC. 18

12:51 am, SW Barlow St.

Reporting party advising their guest has advised they committed a serious crime; female stated they burned down an RV last night.

1:03 pm, NE 5th Ave.

Reporting party believes mail was delivered to this address on Saturday; requesting law enforcement go see if it is at location.

1:49 pm, SW Erie St.

Reporting party advising male with his pants down rolling in transit [sic].

6:16 pm, SR 20

Reporting party advising that male is digging in planter by parking lot.

TUESDAY, DEC. 19

12:49 am, SR 20

Reporting party advising male has been in the bathroom for an hour; have knocked on the door and he is responding but is refusing to leave.

11:04 am, SW Erie St.

Reporting party advising male at location is soliciting for signatures and is refusing to go to the spot reporting party has asked him to go to.

11:21 am, SR 20

Reporting party advising male is jerking off in blue car, then hung up; ICOM recalling; reporting party ignored call.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20

11:21 am, SW Ulysses St.

Caller advising owners have chickens in back yard; a hawk is inside killing them.

1:29 pm, SE 4th Ave.

Caller advising around midnight on Saturday at the dangerous corner by AM/PM, daughter and boyfriend heard and seen [sic] a truck hit curb and damaged a tree.

7:55 pm, SE 4th Ave.

Advising a cleaning cart is sitting on the sidewalk; nobody seen around it.

8:21 pm, SR 20

Caller states "this guy" in the road is yelling at vehicles; is on NE 7th near the taco shop now.

THURSDAY, DEC. 21

1:04 am, SR 20

Reporting party advising a person she used to know "came after her;" was yelling and harassing her; reporting party advising employee had to hide her behind the counter.

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

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Volume 15, Issue 52 | © MMXXIII Whidbey Weekly

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Help Build a New Food Bank and Two Workforce Housing Units!

Gifts from the Heart Food Bank has received two anonymous donations totaling \$35,000! Both donors asked that their gift be used as a matching grant. We are asking the community to give what they can, no amount too little or too big, so we can match these generous donations by year end.

Gifts from the Heart Food Bank
"respectfully providing food to those in need"

Visit <https://www.giftsfromtheheartfoodbank.com/data/donate.html> to donate by credit card or Paypal.
Checks can be sent to : Gifts from the Heart, PO Box 155, Coupeville WA 98239
Questions call: 360-672-5502



Bits & Pieces

Rookstool joined PBT as an apprentice in 2019. She was promoted to the corps de ballet in 2020 and, in the spring of 2023, she was promoted to soloist onstage by PBT artistic director Adam W. McKinney after her performance of Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*.

"It is such an honor to be named one of *Dance Magazine's* '25 to Watch' for 2024," said Grace Rookstool. "Being able to dance for a living is such a dream come true. I am grateful and humbled to be

included among this amazing group of artists."

Rookstool grew up on Whidbey Island, where she trained with Whidbey Island Dance Theatre and Pacific Northwest Ballet School. She has performed in PBT productions of *The Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Sounds of the Sun*, *Dracula*, *Monger*, *Bolero*, *Petal*, *1st Flash*, *Polyphonia*, *Bright Progressions*, *SKIN+* *Saltwater* and George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations and Diamonds*.

Rookstool has multiple roles in PBT's current production of *The Nutcracker*, including the Sugar Plum Fairy, Snow Queen, Jubilation (formerly Spanish Chocolate), Harmony (formerly Shepherdesses/Marzipan), Joy (formerly Chinese Tea) and Mrs. Stahlbaum, among others.

"We are incredibly proud of Grace and the incredible work she has been consistently producing for the past few years," said PBT artistic director Adam W. McKinney. "She has an amazing work ethic, dance skills and impeccable artistry. We are delighted to watch her be acknowledged for her hard work and performance ability."

Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch" has run

BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

I'm reading again about the "deer problem" on our island and wondering what it will take before something is done about it except news articles and hand-wringing. Having lived here for 53 years and witnessed the explosion of the deer population and the accompanying property damage, it is frustrating to see nothing done to eliminate "the problem." I'm thinking it will take an accident whereby a town, city or county official is either killed or seriously injured in a car accident with a deer before anything is done about it. This will not be necessary if those who have the power to reduce the numbers of deer by whatever means necessary will do so now! Enough with the surveys and reports!

Anyone who has lived here for even a year knows there are way too many deer on our island. They need to be done away with. NOW!

Jack Tingstad
Coupeville, Wash.

Daytime Maintenance on SR 20 Near Deception Pass bridges Scheduled Dec. 27, 28

The city of Anacortes will close a single lane of State Route 20 near the Deception Pass bridges (milepost 42) beginning at 9:00AM until 4:00PM Thursday for roadwork.

People should expect alternating traffic control with flaggers while crews are working. People traveling in the area should expect delays and plan ahead.

People can receive real-time travel information via the WSDOT mobile app (wsdot.wa.gov/travel/mobile-app-and-twitter) and the real-time travel map (wsdot.com/Travel/Real-time/Map/).

[Submitted by Washington State Department of Transportation]

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Soloist Grace Rookstool Honored by Dance Magazine

Whidbey Island Native Named One of the Top "25 to Watch" in 2024



Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Soloist Grace Rookstool; Photo by Anita Buzzy Prentiss

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre (PBT) soloist Grace Rookstool has been chosen as one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" in 2024.

TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

By Eric Marshall Publisher

After nearly 15 years as publisher of *Whidbey Weekly*, it's time for me to pass the torch. As of the first of the year, *Whidbey Weekly* will be under new ownership. The decision to sell the paper wasn't an easy one to make, but over the past few years I've begun to stretch myself too thin. At the end of 2018 we



purchased a building in need of extensive repairs and took on operation of a print shop. In February of 2023 I was appointed

to fill a vacant seat on the Oak Harbor City Council. In this year's November general election I was on the ballot (thankfully unopposed) to serve for a full four year term. As part of my city council duties, I now serve on several commissions and boards. It has gotten to the point where I feel like I'm doing a lot of things but none of them particularly well, and it's time to lighten my load a little.

I will miss publishing the paper each week. I've thoroughly enjoyed learning about the plethora of events and organizations that make our island home so special. Being publisher of the paper has afforded me the opportunity to meet so many amazing people and participate in events I would otherwise not have had the privilege of being a part of. While I didn't become rich financially, quite the opposite actually, I did become immeasurably rich in experience and new friendships. The relationships I've built over the past 14-plus years are far more valuable than any money I may have earned.

I love our readers. Your phone calls, letters and cards of support, and especially the treats you delivered to our office, inspired us to continue putting out a paper you would want to read.

To our advertisers, I thank you for your support over the years, especially Hilltop Texaco, Blue Fox Drive-In, and Gene's Art and Frame, who have been with us since the start and never missed an issue. As a free publication that relied solely on our paid advertisers to stay in business, your unwavering support allowed us to continue serving Whidbey Island all this time.



I can't say goodbye without thanking the amazing individuals who helped contribute to our success through the years. In the beginning I had the pleasure of working with Chris, Tracy P., Janay, K.C., Erick, Marie, and the incredibly talented Cinnamon. Joining us at different points along the way, and for varying lengths of time, (in no particular order) were Kevin, Nicki, Marchelle, Tre, Ron, Patrick, Helen B., David, Angela, Marcus, Glenda, Wesley, Kay, Miss Windsor, Jon, Roosevelt, Shannon, Carey, Ed, Tracy L., Kacie Jo, Alec, Melanie, Amy, and Helen M. Each of them made a significant contribution to our business through their own individual talents.

Sadly, we also lost some great people along the way. Eileen, Penny and Jim, I miss you all and think of you often. Your friendship and mentorship meant the world to me.

To my current staff, Teresa, TJ and Kathy, words cannot express how eternally grateful I am to you for your support, guidance and friendship. I love you all and will miss working with you on a daily basis. You are all incredibly talented and I am blessed to have had the opportunity to have you as part of our team.

To my son, Noah, thank you for being the handsome face of the publication and dutifully delivering the paper each week.

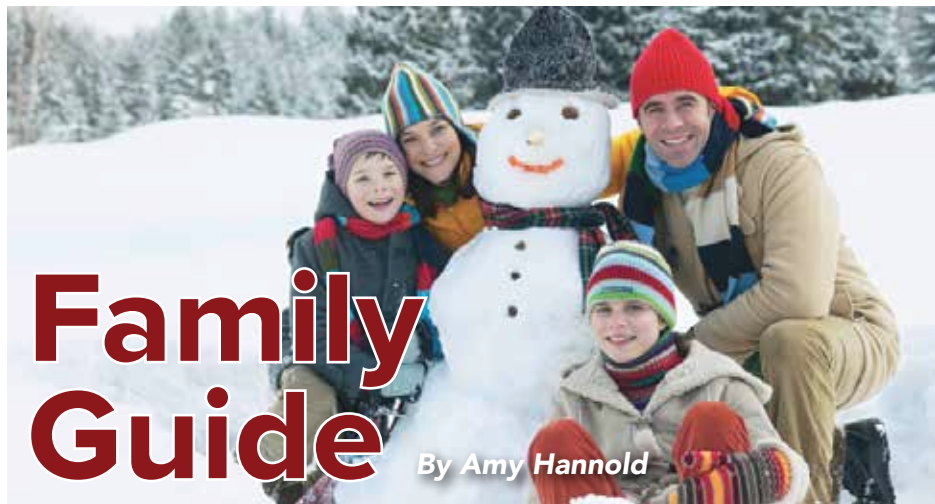


Finally, I have to thank my beautiful wife, Michele, for her unwavering support and belief in me. She endured countless nights of me working late, shared in the financial strain of business ownership, and helped talk me through my times of doubt. She is my rock and inspires me to be the best version of myself I can be.

The future of the paper is in good hands. I believe the new owners will take the paper far and I encourage you to show them the same levels of support you have shown us for the past decade and a half.

I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year!

We will still be here to meet your graphic, printing or copying needs and look forward to serving you for years to come.



Family Guide

By Amy Hannold

Take a Hike New Year's Day: Jan. 1 is a Washington State Park "Free Day," with no Discover Pass required. There are outdoor adventures planned for all ages throughout Whidbey Island. Good shoes for walking are recommended, as are warm clothing and a raincoat. Registration is required: email: CentralWhidbeyInterpretation@parks.wa.gov:

Fort Casey State Park, 1280 Engle Road, Coupeville:
First Day Hike - History at Fort Casey
Monday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Explore the history of Fort Casey and its batteries with members of the Fort Casey Volunteer Battalion.

Fort Ebey State Park, 400 Hill Valley Drive, Coupeville:
First Day Hike - Biking
Monday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m.
Grab your bike and join Ranger Drew in the trails of Fort Ebey State Park. There will be some hills involved. This ride is moderate to advanced and is best for those who have ridden trails before. This event is weather dependent. Along the trail, test your knowledge with the self-guided trivia tour.

South Whidbey State Park, 4128 S. Smugglers Cove Road, Freeland:
Family First Day Hike
Monday, Jan. 1, 11 a.m.
Want to inspire your little one to love the outdoors? Join us on the trail and we'll help!

This hike is for families with young children to help learn the best ways to hike with children and get them to love being outdoors. We'll be hiking on a short stretch of trail and different ideas of how to keep kids engaged while on the trail will be demonstrated. Hiking boots or other sturdy close-toed shoes, dressing in layers and a raincoat are recommended.

Bowman Bay (Inside Deception Pass State Park) 4399 Bowman Bay Road, Anacortes:
First Day Hike - Deception Pass State Park Hikes and Scavenger Hunt
Monday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Registration is not required. Bring snacks, water, warm clothes, and hiking boots or sturdy shoes. You're invited for a fun morning of hikes and activities. Meet at the upper Bowman Bay picnic shelter to enjoy delicious treats and a warm drink before breaking into groups to head off and explore the park. Whether exploring the bay or on the trail, hikers will have the opportunity to look for birds and marine mammals while experiencing amazing views of the Salish Sea and rocky cliffs of Deception Pass.

Rosario Head Hike - 2 miles round trip, 100 ft. gain
Lighthouse Loop Trail - 2 miles round trip, 150 ft. gain
Scavenger Hunt - around Bowman Bay; great for all ages

First Day Hike at Meerkerk Gardens: Start the New Year with a guided hike along the beautiful woodland trails at Meerkerk Gardens (3531 Meerkerk Lane, Greenbank) on Jan. 1. The nature trails tucked behind the display gardens are one of Meerkerk's best kept secrets. Explore two-plus miles of trails on New Year's Day and learn about plants, wildlife and garden history. Arrive prepared to walk up to 2 miles on gravel and dirt trails through cultivated gardens and forest, ready for whatever the weather brings. In the event of high winds, the garden will close and the tour will be canceled. Meet at noon at the Gatehouse. \$10 per adult, children under 12 are free, payable at the start of the tour by cash or check. You can register and pre-pay in advance at Meerkerkgardens.org/events.

A Great 2024 Resolution - Visit "New-to-You Parks" in Washington: There are affordable and informative ways to get excited about exploring the outdoors.

Hiking Close to Home: Whidbey Island is home to many great hiking locations. Author and hiking guide Maribeth Crandell and retired Washington State Parks Manager Jack Hartt have a blog that features a "Hike of the Week," with descriptions and details about these locations, including directions, whether you can get there on bus or by bike, accessibility, and other information, encouraging you to take in the beauty that is around us, on foot. They are also the authors of "Hiking Close to Home", a guide to 70 trails for any ability level on Whidbey, Fidalgo and Guemes islands, available online or at local bookstores. Hikingclosestohome.weebly.com

Washington State Parks Discover Pass: This annual pass is your ticket to unlimited access to millions of state managed lands across Washington and is transferable between two vehicles. Passes are \$30 for the year, available online or at local retailers. Discover Pass Day Passes are also available and are \$10 for a one-day pass into the park. At the park, without a pre-purchased pass, you have the option of purchasing a one-day pass if the park doesn't have an automated station. Discoverpass.wa.gov

Free Parks Days: Washington State Parks does have several "Free Parks Days" planned for 2024. On these dates, no Discover Pass is required. Early in 2024, there are the following: Jan. 1 — First Day Hikes; New Year's Day Jan. 15 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

March 9 — Billy Frank Junior's Birthday
March 19 — State Parks' 111th Birthday

Family In Nature Programs: Join families with children ages 2 to 5 this January through May at Deception Pass State Park to explore the natural world through family-based crafts, activities, games, and stories. The twice-monthly Friday or Saturday Family in Nature programs are designed as a fun experience for the whole family. These programs are offered outdoors, rain or shine. Registration for upcoming programs opens on the first and fifteenth of every month. Space is limited, registration is required. A Washington State Parks Discover Pass is required for parking access. Eventbrite.com/cc/family-in-nature-2024-2828599 and Parks.wa.gov/find-activities/event-calendar

"Would Be Players" Youth Theater Program at Whidbey Playhouse: Theater training helps your child in many valuable ways. Experiences and skills learned include self-confidence, critical thinking, empathy, problem solving, self-discipline, public speaking and teamwork. Winter Session, for elementary and middle school students, meets twice a week, beginning in February, for 8 weeks. The workshop is \$125, scholarships and additional sibling \$60 discounts are available. Register your child at the Playhouse office, Tuesday thru Friday from 1 to 6 p.m. WhidbeyPlayhouse.com

Wearable Art Show - A Call for Entries: The Wearable Art Show is a fundraiser for The Center in Oak Harbor hosted by the Oak Harbor Senior Center Foundation. The show includes creative and playful art in any media wearable by a model on a runway. This is a juried runway show that features a complete ensemble (headpieces, props, hair and make up, etc.) of unexpected wearable art. Creative and playful art in any media wearable by a model on a runway is encouraged, including innovative and exciting pieces using repurposed materials. All ages are welcome to create; youth entries ages 12-18, receive \$100 for participating by entering an ensemble. Additional cash prizes are available. The deadline to register to participate is March 15, the show is April 20. Read more about the contest at hscfoundation.org/events.

Warm Your Winter with Great Memories: Connect to local events, programs and activities at "Whidbey Island Events and More" on Facebook and at Whidbeyisland.macaronikid.com.



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Habitat for Humanity of Island County



BITS 'N' PIECES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

in their January issue annually since 2001. Every year it features 25 early career dancers, choreographers and companies the editors and contributors believe are on the verge of breakout years. The link to the January 2024 issue with the "25 to Watch" list can be found at www.dancemagazine.com/introducing-our-2024-25-to-watch/.

Other PBT artists who have been bestowed the honor of being included in *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" list include corps de ballet member Erin Casale (2023), principal artist Tommie Lin O'Hanlon (2020), principal artist Yoshiaki Nakano (2014) and former principal artist Amanda Cochrane (2013).

About Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre has been Pittsburgh's premier professional ballet company since 1969. Today, PBT is a nationally recognized ballet company of 38 professional dancers, a training institution for over 1,200 students of all ages, and an incubator for education and accessibility programs in classrooms, libraries and community centers throughout the region. The company, under the leadership of artistic director Adam W. McKinney and executive director Nicholas Dragga, performs a wide-ranging repertoire of classical ballets, contemporary masterworks and new commissions in nearly 50 performances annually.

[Submitted by Laurie Rieger, PR and Media Relations Manager, PBT]

Local Business News

**Dizziness dragging you down?
New Services Enhance Care for Island Residents**

After years of careful planning, Hearing Health Services of Coupeville proudly launched their new Balance Department in November of this year.

The clinic has been providing compre-

hensive audiological care and services for Whidbey Island's communities since 1997. Owner and practitioner Kristine Jarrell, Au.D. and her team of technicians, recently achieved certification from the American Institute of Balance (AIB) in balance testing and treatment. Dedicated clinical space at their Birch Street location houses specialized equipment offering the full diagnostic battery for vestibular assessments. Dr. Jarrell, a board-certified audiologist, often heard patients share concerns about their imbalance or dizziness and sought to help. "As a practicing audiologist, I know that some balance disorders are related to inner ear dysfunction, but I can't just 'look inside the ear' to determine where the problem is," she says, "Adding specialized neurodiagnostic testing will help me determine if an auditory neural pathway disruption is contributing to a patient's symptoms, or if there are other areas in the vestibular pathway that are involved." The best treatment choices depend on the outcome of this specialized testing. Some conditions can be treated in office, while others may require a combination of vestibular rehabilitation therapy, physical therapy, or specialized physician referrals to neurology. The goal is always to find what may be contributing to the patient's symptoms and then help to resolve them.

According to the National Institute of Health (NIH), dizziness or loss of balance will affect 90 million Americans sometime during their lifetime. People with this health concern may experience dizziness, vertigo, lightheadedness, blurred vision, or motion intolerance along with a persistent sense of unsteadiness or imbalance. If left unchecked, symptoms can affect a person's daily activities, contribute to falls and an overall loss of well-being for those with chronic symptoms.

Balance testing services are offered in partnership with AIB - one of the best-known diagnostic, treatment and educational facilities in the country, specializing in equilibrium disorders. The institute is widely recognized for providing practitioners with the most current clinical and scientific breakthroughs in treatments.

Hearing Health Services encourages anyone with balance concerns to consider an evaluation. No one should live with persistent dizziness, vertigo or imbalance. They counsel patients every day and want others to know help is available. Whether care is through their local office, physical therapy or their physician, they encourage patients not to wait.

If a person is interested in receiving balance testing, they are encouraged to speak to their physician to learn if testing is right for them. A physician referral is needed for this specialized test. Patients may call Hearing Health Services at 360-678-1423 to find out more or visit the website at coupevillehearing.com.



Life Tributes

Duane Allen VanDerWerff



The first of five children, Duane Allen VanDerWerff was born July 4, 1936, to Albert Roy and Bertha (DeVries) VanDerWerff in Holland, Mich. Respected as a godly man in both his public and private life, he died at home Nov. 29, 2023.

As a young boy, Duane's family relocated to Lynden, Wash., where he graduated from Lynden High School in 1954, having enjoyed sports (especially basketball and baseball), as well as 4-H, FFA and participating in the Northwest Washington Fair. He was an honor student, played the trombone, sang in a church quartet and helped milk the family's dairy herd before school each morning.

Earning a bachelor's degree in business from Whitworth College (Spokane) in 1958, he paid for his education by scrubbing the cafeteria's pots and pans, loading trucks each morning at Early Dawn Dairy, and doing odd jobs. With summers in construction (including upper Baker Dam) and stints in the Army Reserve at Fort Ord, Calif., Duane deemed \$1,000 adequately covered each year's expenses. The need to work limited his athletic involvement in the intramural program yet was a positive experience. He then completed the USMCR Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Va., before marrying his college sweetheart, Marilyn Kay Burkhart, August 8, 1959 at Millwood Presbyterian Church in Spokane Valley.

Following the fulfillment of his Marine Corps obligations by 1962 as Supply Officer at Santa Ana Air Facility, the family headed to the Pacific Northwest, becoming Oak Harborites when he was employed by Sid Eelkema at Whidbey Furniture in 1963, before opening his own store next to McDonald's in 1978. Semi-retiring after two decades, he joined Church Fakkema's Westgate sales force for several years.

Duane modeled a personal faith in an unassuming manner, quietly expressing itself and epitomizing the essence of Christian discipleship, loving his family well (blessed with Jeff in 1961, Jennifer in 1967 and eight grandchildren from 1995-2006); that and serving others with integrity stemmed from a commitment to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He took pleasure in Bible study, trailer travel and camping, golf (the camaraderie!), history, coffee time with friends, "klompen volk" dancing, and occasional snowboarding. He served on the city's planning commission, as an elder and deacon at First Reformed Church, sang in the choir and spent five years as church custodian, allowing Marilyn to stay home with their young children.

Besides his wife, Duane is survived by their children and spouses, Jeff and Kara VanDerWerff and Jennifer and John Zora; four VDW "grands" - Jakob, Kathryn, Ian, and Elin; six Zora "grands" - Abigail and fiancé David Ross, Benjamin and wife Mackenzie, Issac and Julia; his brother Warren and wife Tena; sisters Darlene Weeda, Beverly and husband Ron DeBoer; sister and brother-in-law Joanne and Bill Cole, as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews. Preceding Duane in death were his parents, sister Mary Ann, brother-in-law Harvey Weeda, and sister-in-law Janette Burkhart Mills.

A Celebration of Life is planned for 2 p.m., Friday, Dec. 29, 2023 at First Reformed Church, Oak Harbor, Wash.

Share memories and condolences at www.whidbeymemorial.com.

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

What's Going On



Jazzin' with the Classics for Christmas

Friday, December 29, 2:00PM
Trinity Lutheran Church, Freeland

Jazzin' with the Classics for Christmas features vocalist Gail Pettis, jazz pianist, flutist and clarinetist Martin Lund, classical flutist Jeffrey Cohan and bassist Paul Gabrielson in a unique and joyous celebration of music for the holidays that bridges the jazz/classical divide. A holiday ice cream social will follow the concert. Admission will be by free will offering to help cover expenses, and those 18 and under are free. Please call 360-331-5191 or see www.candlelightnw.org for more information. The church is located at 18341 SR 525.

Ring in New Year 2024

Sunday, December 31
The American Legion, Oak Harbor

Festivities begin with hors d'oeuvres at 8:00PM. Live music with Marty Malloy and the Moontans begins at 8:30PM. Midnight

champagne toast and breakfast. \$20 per person, members and guests. For more information, call 360-675-2411.

Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below
Cost: Free

Crafternoon and Board Games

Thursday, December 28, 2:00-3:00PM
Oak Harbor Library

Enjoy a family friendly afternoon of crafts and board games! Choose from our selection of board games, card games, and party games or bring your own to share.

Religious Services

A Festival of Christmas Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 31, 9:30AM
St. Augustine's-in-the-Woods, Freeland

We'll celebrate the Christmas story by hearing familiar biblical lessons and singing carols. All are welcome. St. Augustine's in-the-Woods Episcopal Church is located at 5217 Honeymoon Bay Rd.

Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner

January 27, 2024

For reservations, visit whidbeyislandnordiclodge.com

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Oak Harbor Mayor gets flashy send-off

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

It may have been one of the most eventful Oak Harbor City Council meetings in recent memory as city leaders, staff and community members commemorated the service of two longtime public servants.

For council member Beth Munns and Mayor Bob Severns, neither of whom sought reelection, it was the last regular council meeting of their terms, and there were a few surprises to mark the occasion.

First, Munns, who has served on the council since 2008, was presented with a plaque from Mayor Severns, and then she was given her own street sign by city Public Works Director Steve Schuller. An emotional Munns shared her appreciation.

"I truly, faithfully, took the oath seriously and wanted to do what's best," she said. "Sometimes I was wrong, I'll admit that, but I think a

lot of times, I was right. So, thank you so much. This means a lot."

The meeting continued with a holiday performance by the Filipino-American Association and when it was time to move on to public comment, several members of the community had a surprise for Mayor Severns, who has spent 16 years in city government – eight years on the council and the last eight years as mayor.

A flash mob of approximately 20 people – including Severns' wife, Rhonda – poured into council chambers, all wearing black shirts emblazoned with "Bob" across the front, and dancing to the song "Hot, Hot, Hot." The lyrics were changed to "Bob, Bob, Bob" by the mob, as members of the audience, staff and city council held signs reading I "heart" Bob.

Severns, although initially taken aback, swiftly grabbed his phone to record the event for posterity, thanking the participants.



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly
Oak Harbor Mayor Bob Severns has a laugh when a flash mob surprises him in honor of his 16 years of service to the city, eight as a council member and the last eight years as mayor. Severns did not seek a third term.

"Thank you. Thank you very much. I'm thinking that's a flash mob, right?" chuckled Severns. "Gosh. Wow. That was very surprising, and very nice."

"Has that ever happened?" asked someone on staff.

"I don't know," Severns said, still chuckling. "Are we still in public comment?"

Indeed, public comment continued with some heartfelt words for Mayor Severns and Council member Munns from Island County Commissioner Jill Johnson, who said the two have represented their constituents well.

"I've never been disappointed with either one when they have spoken up on behalf of their community," she said. "In fact, I believe, over the last few years, they have been effective advocates for this community's interests and point of view. It's been impressive. We've traveled to Washington, D.C. together and advocated on behalf of this community, and I've always walked away feeling proud of my colleagues. We've been lucky to have both of you. I think what people don't understand is what a gift that is that you've given to us through your effective leadership."



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly
A flash mob surprises outgoing Oak Harbor Mayor Bob Severns at his last regular city council meeting last week.

The final recognition of the mayor's service came from Mayor Pro Tem Tara Hizon, who presented Severns with a plaque from staff members.

"It's a show of their appreciation for your guidance, your leadership and your service," she said. "We all appreciate the time that you put in. You said you were going to be a one-term mayor and you ended up putting in eight, what I'm sure seemed like, very long years, and we all appreciate you."

Severns' term concludes at the end of the year. Mayor-elect Ronnie Wright will be sworn in in January.



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly
Outgoing Oak Harbor City Council member Beth Munns is presented with her own keepsake street sign at the last regular council meeting of the year last week. Munns served on the city council for 16 years.

POLAR continued from page 2

Leadership Club has not only been the recipient of the proceeds from the dive, club members organize and run the event.

"They handle the sponsors, design the T-shirts, handle all the promotion," said Gabelein, who is the advisor of the Teen Leadership Club. "The students will be there making announcements, serving coffee, tending the bonfires. It's really student led, I'm just there to help navigate it all."

Proceeds earned from the event help the leadership club plan and implement several community activities throughout the year. Whether it's a Halloween party, a bingo night, or providing food to local food banks for the holidays, it all helps develop important skills.

"We do a lot of service projects throughout the year," said Gabelein. "The money helps fund all kinds of cool things the students host and they're all free for the people who come. I think that helps students develop a variety of life skills, like organization, public speaking, time management. It also allows them to make a positive difference in the community. It's an opportunity to be a positive contributor to their community as a youth, not waiting until they're an adult. They get a lot out of it."

Club members agree.

"Organizing events like the Polar Bear Dive gives us the opportunity to develop community organizing and leadership skills," agreed 13-year-old Laken Simpson, who has been involved in 4-H for nearly three years. "It's fun to do something that matters with our community."

Simpson's interest in leadership began early and has been nurtured through the Teen Leadership Club.

"I had done leadership back when I was in elementary school just to try it out," Simpson said. "I realized that it made me happy to help people and make things happen. I also knew that I would get to meet new people and make new friends."

"Growing closer to friends and the ability to grow more leadership skills [has been the best thing about the 4-H Teen Leadership Club]," said Olivia Hall, 13, who has been a member for about a year. She said other club members encouraged her to join.

"I believe that helping 4-H is really beneficial because we wouldn't be able to hold these events such as the Polar Bear Dive without the support of the community," she said.

This is 13-year-old Adeline Maynes' first year in 4-H.

"I think that supporting 4-H is important because it gives youth a chance to get involved in their community," she said. "It makes me feel happy to be able to plan events that the community can enjoy."

Gabelein said the group gets a big boost from local business sponsors to help put the event on every year. Finding those sponsors and getting them on board is another educational aspect of the leadership program.

"It takes a lot of confidence and practice to talk to people in public," he said. "We practice with each other, because that's a huge piece of this, talking to business owners in the community. It's a huge skill in and of itself."

So, whether one decides to just dip their toes in the water or take the full plunge, the Polar Bear Dive is a great activity to consider to get the New Year off to a rousing start.

"It's a great personal challenge and once you complete it, you feel more confident in overcoming everything else. If you can do this, it gives you confidence," said Gabelein, who has dived in every year. "It's quite a challenge to jump in that water when you don't need to. Some people will go in up to their ankles or knees. It's 'choose your own adventure time,' really."



File Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Polar Bear Dive
Whether it's just a foot or a whole body dip, many will brave the chilly temperatures and cold water to participate in the annual Polar Bear Dive Monday at noon at Double Bluff Beach in Freeland.

Recipe of the Week

TREAT OVERNIGHT GUESTS TO A MORNING TREAT



Entertaining for the holidays frequently involves welcoming overnight guests. In these instances, having breakfast and brunch foods on hand can ensure that those spending the night will have something tasty to eat when they rise in the morning. Make-ahead foods, such as scones, can be ideal because they are delicious at room temperature, which means can accommodate guests who are early risers as well as those who prefer to sleep in.

This recipe for Lemon-Ginger Scones from *Simply Scratch* (Avery) by Laurie McNamara produces refreshing flavor in a buttery scone. Serve with tea or coffee.

LEMON-GINGER SCONES (Makes 8 scones)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1/2 cup cold heavy cream | 1 tablespoon baking powder |
| 2 large eggs | 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt |
| 1 teaspoon organic lemon extract | 3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) ice-cold unsalted butter, cut into cubes |
| 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract | 1/4 cup finely diced candied ginger |
| 2 1/4 cups unbleached all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting | 2 tablespoons grated lemon zest |
| 3 tablespoons granulated sugar | 1/4 cup powdered sugar |

Preheat oven to 400°F. Line a rimmed baking sheet with a baking mat or parchment paper.

In a 2-cup liquid measuring cup, use a fork to beat together the heavy cream, eggs, lemon extract, and vanilla until combined. Chill until ready to use.

In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Drop in the ice-cold butter and use a pastry cutter to cut the butter into the flour mixture until it resembles coarse wet sand.

Pour in the chilled cream mixture, ginger and lemon zest and use a rubber spatula to stir until just combined.

Turn the dough onto a lightly floured work surface and knead it a few times before forming it into a ball. With floured fingers, flatten it out into a 1 1/2-inch-thick round. Cut the round into 8 equal-sized wedges and transfer them to the prepared baking sheet.

Bake for 15 to 18 minutes, rotating the baking sheet halfway through baking. Transfer the baked scones to a wire rack to cool. Once the scones have cooled, dust generously with powdered sugar before serving.

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, someone you care about or admire could come under scrutiny this week. Whether it is deserved or not, this person will be in the hot seat and can use your support.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, you could project an intensity this week that has other people running for cover. Consider adding a little sugar to your presentation. You'll still get your point across.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Gemini, make an effort to gain greater control over your finances. Develop a budget and stick to it. Soon you'll enjoy a new level of financial freedom.

CANCER – June 22/July 22

Cancer, see what is going on with friends this week, as you are likely in the mood to have some fun. You'll never know what's on the agenda unless you ask.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

Leo, you may run into a little interference with a project due to someone's ego getting in the way. This person seemingly is not a team player and it could affect your plans.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Visualizing what you want is not a waste of time, Virgo. In fact, it can help you map out a plan of attack to accomplish your goals. Start making a to-do list.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, a personal relationship that was derailed will get back on track this week. After some conflicts, it finally seems like you're both on the same page once more.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, do not let it get you down if you're paired with someone on a project who is not your first choice. Focus on the task at hand and you may find you work well together.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, even if your life seems to be a mystery right now, you do not have to figure out all the answers right away. Take time to mull things over.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Try to put yourself in someone else's shoes this week, Capricorn. When you're so focused on your life you may miss how it affects others around you.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, start coming up with some new ideas to keep your brain busy. You might need to delve into a different career or a new hobby to challenge yourself.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, after some initial upheaval this week, your life starts to calm down a little. There may be one lingering issue that needs to get worked out, but you'll handle it.

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AQUAMAN AND THE LOST KINGDOM (PG-13)
FRIDAY – TUESDAY: 1:45PM, 4:15PM & 7:15PM

MIGRATION (PG)
FRIDAY – TUESDAY: 2:00PM, 4:30PM & 7:30PM

WONKA (PG)
FRIDAY – TUESDAY: 1:30PM, 4:00PM & 7:00PM

CLOSED WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

COMING SOON: 1/12 "MEAN GIRLS" & 1/19 "I.S.S."

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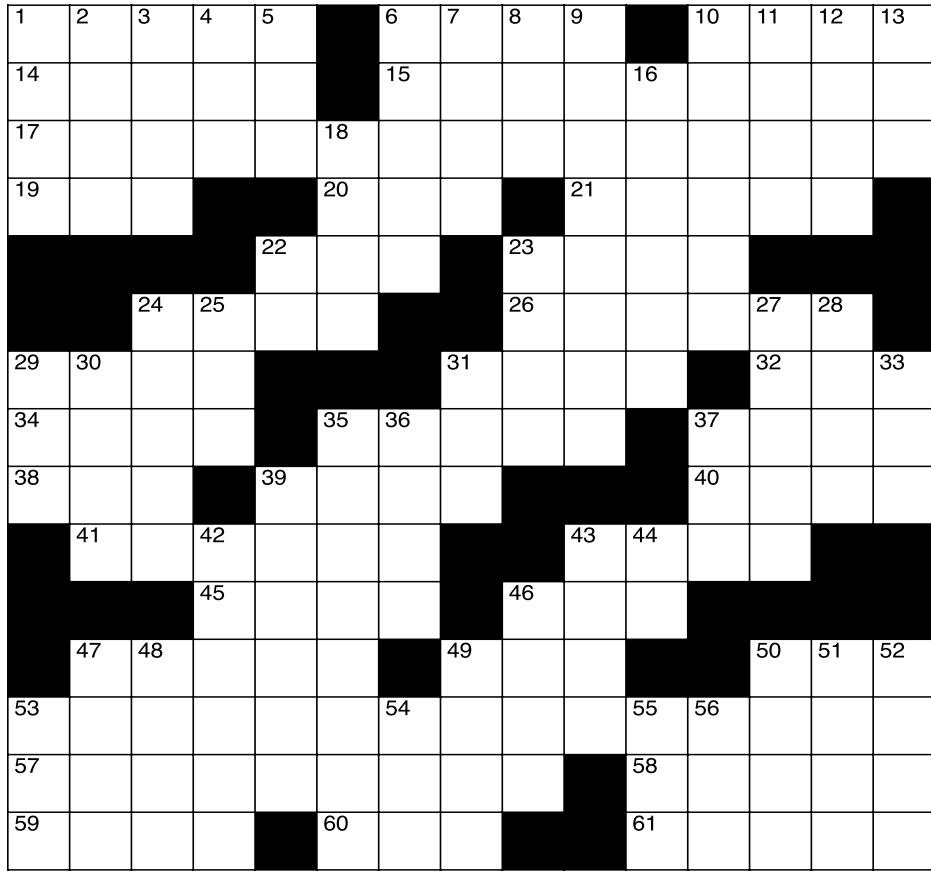
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Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Become less intense
- 6. Variety of pear
- 10. Religion native to China
- 14. Type of tooth
- 15. Fitted out
- 17. Make every effort
- 19. Autonomic nervous system
- 20. Complete
- 21. Alternate name
- 22. River in France and Belgium
- 23. Miami's mascot is one
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Most cognizant of reality
- 29. Broad volcanic crater
- 31. Canadian surname
- 32. Satisfaction
- 34. Traitorous Greek mythological prince
- 35. Collide
- 37. Immune response
- 38. Feline
- 39. High opinion of one's own appearance
- 40. Thin strip to align parts
- 41. Containers
- 43. Convicted American spy
- 45. Breathe noisily
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made from

CLUES DOWN

- 49. Swiss river
- 50. I.M. ___, architect
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal
- 58. Dutch and German surname
- 59. Square measures
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Degrade someone

- 27. German surname meaning "man from Saxony"
- 28. Popular cuisine
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 30. Type of horse
- 31. ___ Diego
- 33. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 35. Most shrewd
- 36. It may be for shopping
- 37. Midway between south and southeast
- 39. A stock of foods
- 42. The bindings of books
- 43. Swiss river
- 44. Megabyte
- 46. Sammy ___, songwriter
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Clare Booth ___, American writer
- 49. Sun or solar disk
- 50. Popular type of bread
- 51. Transfers of money (abbr.)
- 52. Association of engineering professionals
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. City
- 55. Niger-Congo branch of languages
- 56. Pointed end of a pen

Answers on page 15

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Thurs, Dec. 28 North Isle H-53°/L-37° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>Fri, Dec. 29 North Isle H-50°/L-39° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>Sat, Dec. 30 North Isle H-50°/L-42° Cloudy</p> | <p>Sun, Dec. 31 North Isle H-53°/L-40° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>Mon, Jan. 1 North Isle H-51°/L-41° Rain</p> | <p>Tues, Jan. 2 North Isle H-49°/L-41° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>Wed, Jan. 3 North Isle H-48°/L-40° Cloudy</p> |
| <p>South Isle H-53°/L-37° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>South Isle H-50°/L-39° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>South Isle H-50°/L-42° Cloudy</p> | <p>South Isle H-53°/L-40° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>South Isle H-51°/L-41° Rain</p> | <p>South Isle H-49°/L-41° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>South Isle H-48°/L-40° Cloudy</p> |



OUR Community

An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

Looking back on 2023, what accomplishments are you most proud of?



Anne Whitman, Oak Harbor

My 2023 goal was to be of service, to be responsible for the energy I bring into a room, to embrace life with gratitude, both the hardship and joys, and to stay rooted not in the future or past but in the present. In this process I found fulfillment and happiness and discovered such profound beauty in the daily journey while meeting and sharing time and space with the good folks of Whidbey Island as they come and go on the Whidbey Seatac Shuttle. It has been a true joy and privilege and my biggest accomplishment.

Samanthajoy Goodman, Oak Harbor

2023 was the year we transitioned out of "COVID Brain" with new social practices: Yes, socialize. Yes, wash your hands and wear a mask if you're feeling contagious.

I vowed to follow my heart this year: saying goodbye after a 5 and-a-half year stint with Tesla Motors. I've found some awesome things here on the island to dive into instead, including assisting North Central Whidbey Farmers Markets, Whidbey Island Disc Golf, and most recently joining the team as *Whidbey Weekly's* Publisher-in-Training.

Needless to say, 2024 will be a wild one, and I'm looking forward to it.



Captain Pianetta, Oak Harbor

I think I am most proud of how our Wing Ten team has met the new challenges they have faced this year. For our command specifically, they have operated at a level not seen in 20 years, and they have done it with class. I am thankful for all the help our sailors provide to each other and I am thankful for the support from our local community. We are fortunate to live in an area where there is understanding and commitment to our mission every day.

Peter Wells, Coupeville

The accomplishment I am most proud of in 2023 is serving as president, board of directors, of the Whidbey Island Maritime Heritage Foundation. This year the foundation set up and started using an online ticket sales website for sails on the Schooner Suva sailing out of Coupeville. This new site helped our guests select specific sailings quickly and pay for tickets online securely. A great way to start their sailing experience.

I also spent two months sailing in the north and south Pacific oceans between Mexico to Hawaii and later Tahiti to Hawaii via Kiritimati Island. It's nice to be retired and have the time to enjoy living life and exploring the world.

Back home, I finally was able to display my small sloop at the Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival. It was a good weekend meeting fellow sailors and talking about the joys of sailing and seeing the world from the water.



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On a scale from 1 to 10...4.2

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

Answers on page 15

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

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/

NorthPugetSoundDragon-BoatClub?ref=hl

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

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 • 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-sperefest.org, if interested in volunteering.

How'd you do?

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

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-islandcounty.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 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

No Cheating!

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| M | O | L | A | R | | A | P | P | A | R | E | L | E | D | |
| G | O | T | O | G | R | E | A | T | L | E | N | G | T | H | |
| A | N | S | | | A | L | L | | A | L | I | A | S | | |
| | | | | L | Y | S | | | I | B | I | S | | | |
| | | S | O | D | S | | | | S | A | N | E | S | T | |
| M | A | A | R | | | | | S | I | S | E | | A | H | A |
| A | R | N | E | | C | L | A | S | H | | | S | C | A | B |
| C | A | T | | V | A | I | N | | | | | S | H | I | M |
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| S | E | C | E | S | S | I | O | N | | | W | I | T | T | E |
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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.

WORK WANTED ()

Caregiver/Nursing Assistant: Professional, dependable, honest. Hospice and after surgery care OK. Call or text Jackie at 425-985-1659 or email jl-3@comcast.net (0)

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

Clive Cussler novels: 85 books in mint condition, \$12 each, two for \$11 each or three or more for \$10 each. Call anytime, 360-675-1061 (1)

ANIMALS/SUPPLIES

If you or someone you know needs help in feeding pet(s),

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

WANTED

Cars, Trucks, RVs, Motorcycles, Vans and Equipment Wanted. Premium for complete running or vintage vehicles. Cash paid for most others. Expert, fast removal. Free estimates. TJ's Recycling, 360-678-4363

Art, Antiques & Collectibles. Cash paid for quality items. Call or text 360-661-7298

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

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

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

US Postal Mail Whidbey Weekly Classified Department
PO Box 1098
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

E-Mail 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 Power Steering & Fill
- ✓ FREE Brake Fluid & Fill
- ✓ FREE Differential & Fill
- ✓ FREE Transfer Case & Fill
- ✓ FREE Windshield Washer Fluid & Fill
- ✓ FREE Battery Fluid & Fill

- ✓ NEW Oil & Oil Filter
- ✓ LUBE Chassis
- ✓ INFLATE Tires
- ✓ VACUUM Interior
- ✓ WASH Front & Rear Windows

- ✓ Wiper Blade
- ✓ Air Filter
- ✓ Belts & Hoses
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* Ask for details

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- Up to 1 Hour Diagnostic
- 12 month/12,000 mile warranty

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- Labor Includes**
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 - Brake Inspection
 - Tire Rotation
 - Inspect Belts & Hoses
 - Inspect Exhaust System
 - Check Charging System
 - Test Ignition Cables
 - Tire Rotation & Balance
 - Inspect Suspension
 - Check all Fluids
 - Test Anti-Freeze

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6 cyl

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8 cyl

- Check Compression
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*Plus Parts

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

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

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