

February 29 through March 6, 2024

LOOK FOR *Island Times* INSIDE

Whidbey Weekly

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

Locally Owned • Locally Operated

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COLUMNISTS • CLASSIFIEDS

PENN COVE MUSSELFEST

MARCH 2 & 3, 2024

Come Taste Our World Famous Mussels!

Bold, Briny & Blue

In Historic Coupeville, Washington

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- Chowder Tastings
- Boat Tours
- Live Music & Food
- Chef Demos
- Beer Gardens

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for the whole family!*



penncovemusselfest.com



Whidbey Weekly

PROUD MEMBER OF THE
COUPEVILLE WATERFRONT
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YOUR SOURCE FOR WHAT'S HAPPENING ON WHIDBEY ISLAND



Mussel mania comes to Coupeville



Photo Courtesy of Penn Cove MusselFest
The popular mussel eating contest will take place Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m. at Penn Cove MusselFest. Those interested in participating can sign up the day of the event at the Coupeville Rec Hall. Cost to chow down on these magnificent mollusks is \$10 per person, but space is limited.

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

It is a celebration like no other on Whidbey Island. Penn Cove MusselFest takes over the historic town Saturday and Sunday and, as it has been since 1986, the world-renowned mollusks will be the star of the show.

Chowder tasting tickets are no longer available, but never fear – there will be plenty of tasty mussels being served at local restaurants and food booths, along with local brews, cooking demonstrations, children's activities, live entertainment and more. (Find a complete lineup at PennCoveMusselFest.com.)

"MusselFest is a classic small-town festival where no matter which way you turn there is something to see, eat, do and enjoy,"

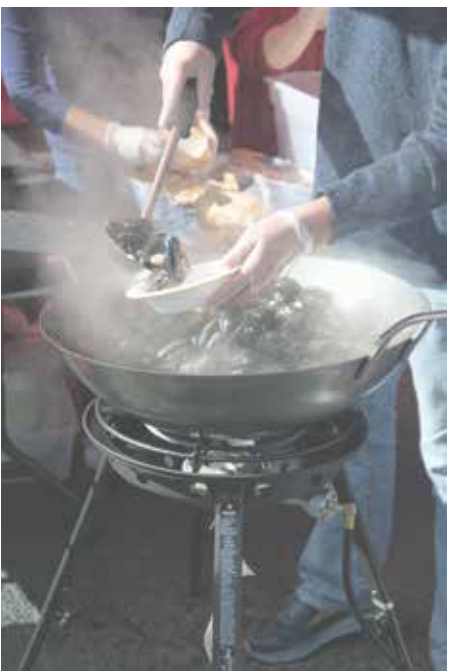


Photo Courtesy of Penn Cove MusselFest
Steamed, sauced, in chowder – Penn Cove MusselFest celebrates the bold, briny and blue served just about every way imaginable. The festival takes place Saturday and Sunday in Coupeville.

said Kellie Sites, MusselFest chair. "Coupeville has so many fun shops and when we add MusselFest to the fun, you can't help but enjoy yourself. There is a wide variety of live music all day Saturday and Sunday, including some live entertainment from the Island Shakespeare Festival and of course, the Shifty Sailors and Kick Brass on Front Street."

MusselFest is the signature event of the year for the Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association, which pulls the event together with help from its main sponsor, Penn Cove Shellfish, along with Island County and the town of Coupeville. It also comes at a perfect time of the year.

"It's a real clear sign everyone's coming out of hibernation from the winter," said Jesse Levesque, CHWFA executive director. "If you walk out in the street there are bands playing, there are people on bikes, boats taking people out on the water, there are vendors and people everywhere. It's an awesome sight after a cold, long, dark winter – both for people who live here and for people coming from elsewhere. It's awesome."

For longtime MusselFest attendees, one of the biggest changes this year was how fast tasting tickets and tickets to Friday night's Mussel Mingle sold out.

"We put out save the date cards in January, advertising that chowder tasting and Mussel Mingle tickets went on sale Feb. 2," Levesque said. "All of them sold out in a week. I think that makes history. But even if you didn't get a tasting ticket, come anyway. There's so much to do!"

"There's an all new treasure hunt," shared Sites, when talking about children's activities. "Collect the pieces of the mermaid puzzle and collect your treasure at the end. The cost is \$15 and you can find this in the

Rec Hall, located in the Blue Zone. Mermaids are also in the Blue Zone Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. They can't wait to see all the kiddos."

Sites said there will also be indoor craft activities for kids at the Masonic Lodge and coloring sheets of this year's MusselFest poster will be available at the Meet Market on Front Street. Kids ages 2-10 can grab a pole and fish off the pier (at Front Street Realty) to catch a treat from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

"If you're 21 and over, there are two beer gardens on Saturday with music and a variety of local beverages – beer from Flyer's and Anacortes Brewing, Greenbank Cider's hot spiced cider and top-of-the-line wine from Holmes Harbor Cellars out of Freeland," Sites said, noting there will be only one beer garden Sunday. "For foodies, there are free chef demos all day Saturday and Sunday starting at the top of each hour in the Rec Hall. These are renowned chefs from around the area, teaching how to cook with mussels. It's pretty special and there are limited samples at the end."

Another unique opportunity MusselFest offers is the chance to tour Penn Cove Shellfish's mussel farm. There are still tickets available and tours sail on the half hour from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday. These 45-minute tours provide an up close look at mussel farming and offer unforgettable views of Penn Cove. Cost of boat tours is \$20 for those 13 and older, \$10 for children ages 6-12 and free for kids to age 5. Tickets may be purchased in advance online at penncovemusselFest.com.

There is no shortage of live entertainment, either. Music and more goes from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at the Rec Hall parking lot, and the

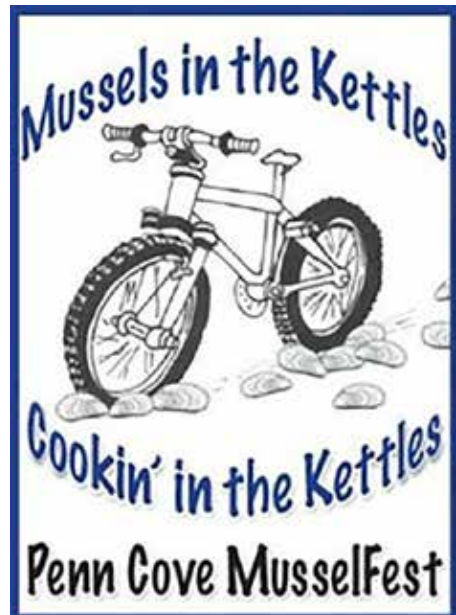
Penn Cove Shellfish tent will feature music all day Saturday as well. That tent (and beer garden) is located at Coveland and Main.

As noted, if you missed out on chowder tasting tickets or if you don't care for shellfish, there will be plenty of other food options available to enjoy.

"Many of our restaurants will be selling chowder, so you can get a taste that way," Sites said. "The Booster Club will be steaming up mussels all weekend, as well as the spicy variety at the Penn Cove Shellfish tent. If you're not a seafood fan, there are so many options – you can get a delicious hot dog, paella, pizza, or poutine and finish up with a Kona Ice treat and a piece of pie."

And there's one other option for hungry mussel lovers – the annual mussel-eating contest. The big event takes place at 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The cost to participate is \$10 per person and those interested can sign up at the Rec Hall on the day of for a chance to win a cape and a crown. Spots are limited, so organizers suggest people sign up as soon as they arrive at the festival.

See MUSSELFEST continued on page 7



MusselFest wouldn't be MusselFest without Cookin' in the Kettles.

Mussels in the Kettles takes place Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is a non-competitive bike ride for all types/levels of riders. The starting line is open from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Coupeville High School Gym, 501 S Main Street in Coupeville.

There are three routes to choose from, ranging from an easy 10-mile ride, a moderate 12-mile route and for expert riders, a 15-mile route through the Fort Ebey and Kettles trail system, which offers over 30 miles of single and double-track trails with terrain that goes from rolling to steep hills.

Mussels in the Kettles is a project of the Whidbey Island Bicycle Club and is the primary fundraiser to help with the cost of trail work conducted by the club. Cost to participate starts at \$35 per person. Check out routes and register online at active.com/coupeville-wa/cycling/mountain-biking-races/mussels-in-the-kettles-2024.



Island 911
Seriously, we do not make this stuff up!

Friday, Feb. 9
7:16 am, SW Mulberry Pl.
Reporting party advising a male is continually calling the reporting party; has asked him to stop and he continues to do it.

8:27 am, SR 20
Reporting party advising someone tried to steal soda and two other customers stopped them and got into an altercation.

11:54 am, SW Erie St.
Reporting party advising female is drinking in her running vehicle; possibly beer.

4:59 pm, E Whidbey Ave.
Reporting party advising female took reporting party's vehicle for an errand and has not returned it.

9:24 pm, SE Barrington Dr.
Advising that at small, four-door Volkswagen next to a Volvo SUV where the charging stations are, a subject appears to be "leaning into the vehicle."

Saturday, Feb. 10
12:26 am, SW Klickitat Ter.
Advising neighbor is doing something loud in his garage.

12:56 am, SR 20
Advising someone has broken into reporting party's home and is standing in front of reporting party's window; "I can see him on camera;" states he is in the living room.

11:44 am, SR 20
Caller reporting male walking around outside with his pants down.

12:09 pm, SW 17th Ave.
Reporting party states husband is in jail and she needs to have her truck towed, but she doesn't have the key.

4:21 pm, SE Cabot Dr.
Advising no one can catch the dog; white, fluffy dog wearing overalls running around in parking lot.

7:15 pm, NE Ernst St.
States "a couple of girls" are coming into reporting party's apartment at night; states they come in through reporting party's bedroom window.

11:33 pm, NE Kettle St.
Reporting party advising there is loud music and fun yelling coming from the area behind his and has been going on for a few years.

Monday, Feb. 12
8:07 am, SE Barrington Dr.
Reporting party is requesting a call in reference to friend getting into a car accident.

8:46 am, Mobius Loop
Reporting party is requesting a call in reference to a female claiming to be a medium knows where her uncle's body is.

11:13 am, NE 10th Ave.
Reporting party advising neighbor's dog killed reporting party's dogs on Friday.

Tuesday, Feb. 13
9:21 am, SR 20
Reporting party advising an aggressive dog was in the area yesterday.

3:37 pm, SR 20
Caller has questions for public defender, but wanted to ask law enforcement, since the public defender is unavailable.

4:51 pm, SW Fort Nugent Ave.
Caller wants to inform they will be hosting an astronomy event at the park.

5:30 pm, SE Barrington Dr.
Reporting party advising wants to discuss brother's arrest from last night.

Wednesday, Feb. 14
7:51 am, NE Izett St.
Advising two racoons are fighting at gym entrance; fight just broke up, now across the street on Izett.

11:38 am, NE Midway Blvd.
Reporting party advising there is a subject close to location, walking in and out of the road.

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

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FRIDAY 03/01/24 THRU TUESDAY 03/05/24:
ARGYLLE (PG-13):
1:15PM
DUNE: PART TWO (PG-13)
1:00PM, 4:05PM, 4:15PM, 7:20PM, 7:30PM
ORDINARY ANGELS (PG)
1:45PM, 4:40PM, 7:40PM
CLOSED WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
COMING SOON:
3/8: "BOB MARLEY: ONE LOVE"
3/8: "KUNG FU PANDA 4"
3/15: "ARTHUR THE KING"
3/22: "GHOSTBUSTERS: FROZEN EMPIRE"

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BITS & PIECES

Friends of Coupeville Library Kicks Off New Book Sale Season at Musselstest

The Friends of Coupeville Library (FOCL) will kick off its 2024 book sale season with its signature Musselstest book sale March 2 and 3.

The meeting room at the Coupeville Library at 788 NW Alexander St. will be filled with hundreds of gently loved hard and paperback books of every genre in both fiction and non-fiction for book lovers to browse and purchase by donation. A recent large donation has infused FOCL's collection with many full popular fiction series by Ludlam, Jance, Coulter, Grisham, Cussler and more.

The sale runs Saturday, March 2 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is ample free parking around the library. Children and young adults receive one free book. Donations are pay-what-you-will and FOCL accepts cash only.

This sale kicks off FOCL's summer book sale season, which starts in mid-April and runs on Saturdays through mid-October, concurrently with the Farmers Market on the Coupeville Green near the library.

All proceeds benefit the Coupeville Library and support a variety of children, teen, and adult programs, book discussion groups, equipment needs, the annual holiday Gingerbread House Challenge kits, and college scholarships for graduating seniors.

Anyone wishing to donate books may do so during regular hours at the Coupeville Library. FOCL accepts clean books in good condition and is especially interested in children's books. For more information, go to sno-isle.org/friends-of-the-library/.

New volunteer friends are always welcome. For more information, email friendsofthecoupevillelibrary@gmail.com.

[Submitted by Friends of the Coupeville Library]

Penn Cove Gallery Features Artist Carol Bauer

Carol Bauer of StillFire Pottery will be the featured artist in March at Penn Cove Gallery in Coupeville.

Water and nature themes have always been part of Bauer's work. Growing up by a wide winding river in the Midwest, studying art in the mountains of Kentucky, living in Chicago near Lake Michigan, in Seattle by Puget Sound, and now living on rural Whidbey Island, all have shaped what and how she sees. A beautiful line or form and fine detail have always caught her eye. Combining these elements harmoniously into a pot that is functional as well is very satisfying.

Through this work, Bauer connects with people in the simple activities of life - serving food, displaying flowers, creating a quietly beautiful focal point in a room, or taking a moment to reflect with a cup of coffee or tea.

StillFire Pottery's current line of pottery is distilled from a lifetime of working with porcelain clay, loving beautiful, classical form, and being inspired by the intricacies of her created high-fire glazes combinations.

Penn Cove Gallery, located at 9 Front Street in Coupeville, is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit penncovegallery.com for more information.

[Submitted by Penn Cove Gallery]

Skagit Valley College names new executive director of SVC Foundation

Skagit Valley College has named Kathleen Petrzelka as the executive director of SVC Foundation. She began her role on January 2.

"Kathleen brings a wealth of expertise and a deep understanding of the intricacies of philanthropy," said Anne Clark, vice president of college advancement. "Kathleen embodies the spirit and mission of Skagit Valley College, and we are honored to have her join us in this vital leadership role."

Before starting her current position, Petrzelka served as the director of philanthropy for the SVC Foundation. Prior to joining SVC in 2022, she held the role of marketing and outreach coordinator at the Mount Vernon Downtown Association.

Outside of work, Petrzelka actively participates in various community organizations, including the Hospice of the Northwest Foundation and the Conway Youth Soccer Association Boards.

"I am inspired by our donors and their philanthropic support for Skagit Valley College," said Petrzelka. "Our wonderful community helps create better outcomes and transform lives for SVC students and their families. I am committed to advancing the mission of the foundation to create greater opportunities for all."

Raised in Portland, Ore., Petrzelka's roots in the Northwest run deep. She earned her bachelor's degree in art history from Western Washington University in Bellingham. Since 2011, she has called the Skagit Valley home.

Beyond her professional endeavors, Petrzelka and her husband are proud parents to three boys who attend Mount Vernon High School and Conway School. In her free time, Kathleen



Photo Courtesy of Penn Cove Gallery
Water and nature influence the work of artist Carol Bauer, StillFire Pottery. Bauer is the featured artist for March at Penn Cove Gallery in Coupeville.



Kathleen Petrzelka

enjoys skiing, hiking, traveling, live music, and cherishing moments with her family and friends.

"I am honored to be able to serve my community and grateful to the many people that have made the SVC Foundation what it is today," said Petrzelka. "In 2026, Skagit Valley College celebrates its centennial; I am thrilled to be part of such a milestone and to support our students and college through scholarship, program, and equipment support for generations."

For more information, email Kathleen Petrzelka at kathleen.petrzelka@skagit.edu

[Submitted by Sofia Poulton, Communications and Social Media Manager]

Whidbey Community Foundation Provides Bridge Loan to South Whidbey Commons

South Whidbey Commons Cafe and Books (the Commons), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit located in downtown Langley, recently received a bridge loan from the Whidbey Community Foundation (WCF) as part of WCF's new impact investing initiative. With the bridge loan, the Commons is building a bold new vision for its café, gathering space(s), workforce development program, and the organization as a whole.

WCF's mission is to improve the quality of life on Whidbey Island by providing support for the nonprofit sector, assisting donors to build and preserve enduring assets for charitable purposes, and meeting community needs through financial support.

According to Steve Shapiro, treasurer of WCF, "This bridge loan to the Commons has the potential to result in significant positive impact for the local community. It provides the Commons with short-term capital to reinvent their business model in service to the community. When the loan is paid off, WCF can then redeploy the funds for future loans to other community projects."

Impact investing uses flexible investments, such as low- or no-interest loans to advance social and environmental solutions to systemic and emerging community needs, such as affordable housing, childcare, and climate change. Significant benefits include supporting sustainable community development and recycling philanthropic dollars back into the communities they come from.

In response to post-COVID financial challenges, WCF recently adopted an Impact Investment policy that provides for the use of tax-deductible donations to make loans to local businesses and organizations.

The mission of the Commons is to strengthen community by providing an intentional space for people of all ages and backgrounds to gather, learn and grow. The programs, premises, volunteers, and job-training opportunities are designed to empower community, build skills and competencies, and create connections. A place to meet friends, make new ones, and exchange ideas to build the future of our island community.

"Working with local community partners like Whidbey Community Foundation has been life sustaining for us—enabling us to both fulfill our social impact mission and financial goals," said the Commons Board President, Wendy Cordova.

In addition to partnering with WCF, the Commons has been working closely with local climate justice organizations Kicking Gas and rePurpose (both fiscally sponsored by regional nonprofit, For The People), to develop a sustainable, equitable business plan that becomes an even more dynamic asset to the South Whidbey community and its young people in the years to come, designed to implement updated clean energy, public health, and zero waste measures while upgrading and expanding its unique training program.

This new partnership has plans to announce an innovative capital campaign in the spring that will help pay back the WCF bridge loan and fund this new vision. The objective is to ensure not only that the Commons can continue as a favored, long-standing meeting place in the heart of Langley, but also further evolve its role in the development of South Whidbey's community, economy, and culture.

[Submitted by Whidbey Community Foundation]

Meerkerk Nursery Sale Coming Up

With spring planting season fast approaching, it's a perfect time to add beauty to your landscape. Meerkerk Gardens, in Greenbank, on scenic central Whidbey Island, has more than 1,200 rhododendrons and azaleas in stock and hundreds of varieties to choose from. Come see for yourself at Meerkerk's Spring Opening Nursery Sale March 16-17 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

This event marks the spring opening of Meerkerk's specialty nursery, which sells rhododendrons and azaleas in different sizes as well as a variety of trees and other woodland companion plants. It also will be a magical time to visit the Gardens. Spring bloom season at Meerkerk begins in March, builds through April and May and lasts into early June.

Friends of Meerkerk members get a sneak peek at nursery plants and first opportunity to buy them during Member Day March 15. Learn about the many benefits of Meerkerk membership by visiting www.meerkerkgardens.org/membership.

Meerkerk Gardens is located at 3531 Meerkerk Lane in Greenbank (take Resort Road off the highway). Admission to the Gardens is \$5 for adults. Children under 16 are free. Dogs on leash are welcome. Learn more at www.meerkerkgardens.org.

[Submitted by Meerkerk Gardens]



See BITS continued on page 6

What's Going On!

Jr. Ranger Explorers: Clear Blue Water
Thursday, Feb. 29, 4-5 p.m.
Coupeville Library, 788 NW Alexander St.

No one wants to drink dirty water. Explore ways water gets dirty and what we can do to help keep it clean. Join Ranger Jen and other Washington State Parks staff to explore the world around us. We'll be getting wet and wild to explore the world of water in this new series (January-May). For ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

Jayne Stone's Folklife
Thursday, Feb. 29, 7:30 p.m.
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, 565 Camano Ave., Langley

Jayne Stone's Folklife treats old field recordings not as time capsules, but as heirloom seeds passed down from a bygone generation. Planting these sturdy seeds in modern soil, this versatile gathering of musicians has cultivated vibrant Sea Island spirituals, Creole calypsos, and stomp-down Appalachian dance tunes for contemporary listeners. They also play entrancing indie-pop originals. Tickets are available at wicaonline.org.



Family in Nature: Marine Mammals
Friday, March 1, 9:30-11 a.m.
Saturday, March 2, 9:30-11 a.m.
Deception Pass State Park, 41229 SR 20, Oak Harbor

Learn about seals, whales and porpoises, oh my! Family in Nature is a free, 90-minute program for children ages 2-5 where families get to play games, do activities and learn about the natural world through the lens of the park. Register at eventbrite.com/cc/family-in-nature-2024-2828599.

Andre Feriante in Concert
Friday, March 1, 2-3 p.m.
Freeland Library, 5495 Harbor Ave.

Join us for a special concert featuring award-winning virtuoso guitarist Andre Feriante. His musical stylings can be heard on 43 of the instruments in his collection, some of which are the Spanish guitar, harp guitar, ukulele, charango, oud, ruan, and sitar.

Please reserve your seat online. The doors will open to reserve seat holders at 1:45, please arrive early for best seat selection. At 5 minutes to show time, all seats become general admission on a first come, first served basis. This concert is funded by the generous support of the Friends of the Freeland Library.

Ranger Hour: Bird Beak Bonanza
Friday, March 1, 4-5 p.m.
Oak Harbor Library, 1000 SE Regatta Dr.

What tools do you use to eat your supper? Birds use their beaks! Explore the many different beak adaptations that help birds get their food. Join staff from Deception Pass State Park to learn about parks, wildlife, native plants, and more! Play games, be creative, and discover the natural world in our own community. All ages welcome. Adult caretakers must be present for the duration of the entire program.

Community Dinner
Friday, March 1, 5:30 p.m.
The Center,
51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor
North Whidbey Hearts & Hammers will

hold a community dinner fundraiser, featuring an evening with friends and neighbors. Magical entertainment will be provided by JR Russell. Tickets are by donation and are available on EventBrite.com. Donations to attend will also be accepted at the door. Learn more at www.heartsandhammers.org, 360-499-2005.

Sourdough Bread Making Class
Friday, March 1, 6 p.m.
Deer Lagoon Grange, 5142 Bayview Rd., Langley

Back by popular demand, Deer Lagoon Grange is pleased to offer its Sourdough Bread Making class. This class will cover techniques and methods for beginners and experienced bakers to take their bread to the next level. Please bring a clean jar in which to take home some starter. No RSVP needed. This class is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.



Comedy Night
Friday, March 1, 7:30 p.m.
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, 565 Camano Ave., Langley

Originally from Seattle, comedians Bo Johnson and Andrew Sleighter (as seen on Conan, James Corden, Comedy Central) come to Whidbey Island for a hilarious night of stand-up comedy. Intro by our own Patrick Moote! Tickets: wicaonline.org



Whidbey Gardening Workshop: Back to Our Roots
Saturday, March 2, 7:45 a.m.-4 p.m.
Oak Harbor High School

The Whidbey Gardening Workshop attracts gardeners from all over the region looking for great advice on how to improve their gardens. From beginners to advanced, everyone will come away with new information, new ideas, and new enthusiasm. This workshop is produced and presented by the Island County Master Gardener Foundation in affiliation with the WSU Extension Service of Island County. www.whidbeygardening.org

Penn Cove Mussel Fest
Saturday, March 2, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sunday, March 3, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Downtown Coupeville

Penn Cove Mussel Fest is a culinary celebration of the mussels grown offshore from Coupeville. These tasty mollusks quickly grow in the clean river-fed waters of Penn Cove. See Cover story on page 2.



Mussel Fest Book Sale
Saturday, March 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, March 3, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Coupeville Library, 788 NW Alexander St.

Visit the Coupeville Library during Mussel Fest to shop the Friends of the Coupeville Library Mussel Fest Book Sale! Browse gently loved books for something new and interesting to take home. All proceeds benefit the Coupeville Library.

"The Laramie Project"
Saturday, March 2, 7 p.m.
*Adult-heavy content, language/parental discretion advised
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island, 20103 SR 525, Freeland

This special presentation of the Whidbey Playhouse production of "The Laramie Project" captures the emotional landscape of Laramie, Wyo., following the tragic 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man. The play navigates the diverse reactions of Laramie's residents as they grapple with the hate crime that shook their town. From anger to confusion and profound grief, the narrative delves into the profound and personal shockwaves caused by Matthew's death. It's a moving depiction of how a community is impacted by such an event, highlighting the resilience of the human spirit in the face of intolerance and violence. Tickets for this performance may be purchased at the door; suggested donation of \$25.



Pop Goes the Symphony
Saturday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, 565 Camano Ave., Langley

Trinity Lutheran Church, Freeland
Whidbey Island Orchestra performs for the love of music and the opportunity to spread joy. This "Pops" concert showcases the diverse, joyful music the orchestra is known for and celebrates the music we all love! Tickets for Saturday concert available at wicaonline.org. Sunday concert is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

STEAM Sunday: Chain Reactions
Sunday, March 3, 2-4 p.m.
Freeland Library, 5495 Harbor Ave.

Drop in on the first Sunday of each month for some hands-on STEAM fun! Explore arts and crafts, nature and animals, mini-maker projects, and more! Immerse yourself in a new theme each month, ignite your curiosity, and unleash the power of your imagination. This month we are exploring chain reactions. A chain reaction is a process where one thing leads to another. Join us as we create chain reactions with dominos, marbles, and more! For ages 5-13. Supported by the Friends of the Freeland Library.

Salish Sea Early Music Festival
Sunday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Freeland

The Salish Sea Early Music Festival continues with Telemann Paris Quartets, featuring David Greenberg on baroque violin, harpsichordist Elisabeth Wright, viola da gambist Susie Napper and baroque flutist Jeffrey Cohan. The festival offers an unusual and expansive journey through the music of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Suggested donation: \$20-\$30; those 18 and under are free. All are welcome, regardless of donation.



Whidbey Cruzers Car Club
Tuesday, March 5, 6 p.m.
The Mill Restaurant,
33505 SR 20, Oak Harbor
Whidbey Cruzers Car Club, organized

in 1997, meets the first Tuesday of each month. The club has over 120 members and is centered around all makes and models of classic and non-classic cars and trucks. Interested car enthusiasts are invited to attend a monthly dinner and general meeting. Meetings are casual and fun. Members share auto tech knowledge, announce auto-related items for sale/need/wanted, share interesting auto history and humor, and plan fun events and activities. Between general meetings members caravan to car shows, collections, sight-seeing, socials and other car-related events on and off Whidbey Island. They drive their collector cars to meetings in spring and summer and in inclement weather, daily drivers are welcome. www.whidbeycruzers.com or email whidbeycarclub@gmail.com.

Whidbey Repertory Festival
March 7 - 17, Times vary
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, 565 Camano Ave., Langley

The Whidbey Repertory Festival (WRF), a collaboration between Island Shakespeare Festival and Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, is about creating a space where our companies can delve deeper into what it means to be human from our own experiences and continue to figure out what it means to do theater right now. It is a space where we can come together as organizations and as a community to grow, learn, and inspire.

Opening night will be a special event featuring a conversation with WICA's and ISF's Executive Artistic Directors, Deana Duncan and Olena Hodges, a wonderful entryway to Whidbey Repertory Festival's first showing of "After the War, Comes the Dishes: by Jennifer Rawlings.

This Festival will occur over two weekends in March, from the 7th to the 17th, and will feature five theatre shows. Find more at wicaonline.org.

Pop-up Book Sale
Friday, March 8, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, March 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Oak Harbor Library, 1000 SE Regatta Dr.

Find your next read or that favorite CD from your youth at the Oak Harbor Friends of the Library Pop-Up Book Sale! Hundreds of gently used children's and adult books, CDs and DVDs are available at bargain prices. All proceeds benefit the Oak Harbor Library. The sale will be held in the Oak Harbor Library entrance lobby.



"The Laramie Project"
Friday, March 8 @ 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 9 @ 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 10 @ 7:30 p.m.
*Adult content and language/Parental discretion advised
Whidbey Playhouse, 730 SE Midway Blvd., Oak Harbor

"The Laramie Project" presents a deeply complex portrait of a community's response to the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man living in Laramie, Wyo. In a series of poignant reflections, the residents of Laramie react to the hate crime and surrounding media storm with anger, bewilderment and sorrow. The play portrays the seismic and deeply personal impact Matthew's death had on this small town while also demonstrating the power of the human spirit to triumph over bigotry and violence. Tickets are available online at whidbeyplayhouse.com.

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BITS continued from page 4

Myres Running for Island County Commissioner District 1

Steven Myres, long time resident of Whidbey Island, has announced his candidacy for the Island County Commissioner District 1 seat.

Myres offers 35 years of experience in management, budget processes, development, contract negotiations and construction. "I look forward to utilizing my extensive experience to ensure our community's numerous publicly funded projects are completed efficiently. I believe I am uniquely qualified to guide the expenditures of our limited public funds." said Meyres.



Myres' family settled on a farm near Lone Lake in 1959, raising Black Angus in addition to an assortment of animals. Their large garden provided most of the family food throughout the winters. Myres is a graduate of the South Whidbey Island school District. After graduation Myres began his career operating Sound Electric, which worked on a wide variety of Island County projects including Whidbey General Hospital, Island County School projects and the Island County Law and Justice addition. Meyers' company also worked on large projects in Western Washington and Alaska.

Both of Myres parents served in the Navy.

"My Navy family instilled in me a deep commitment to hard work, self-sufficiency, and a sense of community." said Myres.

Steven Myres is committed to providing:

Community Engagement: A strong economy with affordable homes.

Education Advocacy: Empowering our youth for success.

Infrastructure Maintenance: Ensuring our community's backbone remains strong.

Environmental Conservation: Championing sustainability and shoreline preservation.

Find more information about Steven Myres' campaign for Island County Commissioner District 1 at www.myresforcommissioner.com

Little Art makes a big impression in Freeland

The Freeland Sno-Isle Library is conducting an artistic experiment.

It will have an exhibit called Little Art on display through March. The exhibit features 100 pieces of four-inch-square original art in the main library. But the art is for more than looking at and admiring; it's meant to be taken home – an experiment about art being accessible and free.

Organizers say as people come to the library and view the collection of Little Art, they may select a single piece and take it home with them, for free. The idea is for these little pieces of art to be pinned to a bulletin board, stuck on a refrigerator, used as a bookmark or even framed. There's no voting and there's no waiting to take home a favorite work.

The 100 pieces of Little Art were created by local artists Cyndy Jensen, Karen Rothboeck and Linda Schrock. The work varies; it could be an ink print, collage or multimedia piece, but all are little pieces of original art. The display will run through the end of March.

The Freeland Sno-Isle Library is located at 5495 Harbor Avenue.

[Submitted by Freeland Sno-Isle Library]



Photo Courtesy of Freeland Sno-Isle Library
An exhibit of Little Art at the Freeland Library contains 100 pieces of original, four-by-four-inch art. Library patrons can not only enjoy looking at the art, they may choose one to take home with them.

Oak Harbor City Administrator fired

The City of Oak Harbor has invoked the termination clause in the city administrator's employment contract effective immediately, according to a press release issued Friday.

Former City Administrator Blaine Oborn worked for the City of Oak Harbor for more than five years and served as the City Administrator for former Mayor Robert Severns' second term and the beginning of Mayor Ronnie Wright's first term, which began in January.

In response to this staffing change, Mayor Wright stated, "I want to thank Blaine Oborn for his service to our city and wish him well in his future endeavors."

Mayor Wright is not recruiting a new city administrator.

In January, Wright fired Oak Harbor Fire Chief Ray Merrill.



Temporary Closures for Peregrine Nesting

The established climbing management areas identified below are closed to all public use from March 1 to July 15, 2024 to protect peregrine falcon nesting aeries.

- Newhalem Crag East
- Newhalem Crag West (Ryan's Wall)

Nest sites will be monitored to ensure reopening of these areas once the young falcons have fledged or if nesting did not occur on a specific wall during this period.

The peregrine falcon is a federally protected species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and is a special status species in North Cascades National Park Service Complex due to its sensitivity to disturbance during the nesting season.

Sport climbing outside the four established climbing areas (Diablo Crag, Newhalem East and West, and Town Crag) within North Cascades National Park Service Complex is prohibited.

As outlined in the Ross Lake National Recreation Area General Management Plan, sport climbing is only allowed in designated climbing management areas and park staff will review proposed new climbing management areas. Currently, NOCA staff are reviewing a proposal to include Space Wall, east of the town of Newhalem, Wash., as an established climbing management area

Life Tributes

Ronald L. Berry



Ronald L. Berry, born Sept. 20, 1956, in San Bernadino Calif., to Andy and Shirley Berry, passed away in his home Feb. 6, 2024.

He spent his childhood in California and later moved to Bend, Ore., where he graduated high school. He met and married Susan in Bend; together they had two children, Mollie, and Sam. He spent several years in Bend before moving to Milwaukie, Or., where he spent many years until finally landing in Oak Harbor. He enjoyed photography and spending time outside. He was an avid marathon runner. He loved biking, kayaking, and hiking.

He started out working at a moving company and finishing electrical in mobile homes. He then made the move to insurance after graduating from Trend Business College. He spent several years working for Aetna before landing at Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield, where he worked as a Group Specialist III until he passed.

He is preceded in death by his father, Andy, and brother, Scott. He is survived by his mother, Shirley; his sisters, Wanda, Debbie, and Connie; his brother, Jim; his former wife; his children Mollie and Sam; and two grandkids.

He was loved more than he knew and will be dearly missed by those who cherished him.

A service is to be held at Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Vancouver, Wash., Saturday March 23, at 1 p.m. All are welcome. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in his name to the American Heart Association.

Patricia Rae Encinas Williams



Patty Encinas Williams passed away on Feb. 17, 2024, following a long and courageous battle with cancer. In this cancer season she was continuously surrounded by those who loved her, and this love was present in every imaginable way.

Patty was preceded in death by her parents, John and Jane Peterson, and by her older sister, Lynn Phillips. She is survived by her sons, Johnny and David (Emily and granddaughter Stella Rae); by her husband, Dave Williams, and his two children, John and Lee; by her siblings, Peggy Hamernik (Ken), Jack Peterson (Teresa), Todd Peterson (Cora Ann) and Tim Peterson; and by numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at Oak Harbor's First United Methodist Church at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 23, with interment to follow at a later date. The service will also be live streamed via the church's web site, <https://oakharborfumc.org/live>. A full obituary is available on the Evans Funeral Chapel web site: www.evanschapel.com.

MUSSELFEST continued from page 2

Rain or shine, people should come for the sheer fun of it all, said organizers.

"I love just seeing everyone having such a great time," Sites said. "We're celebrating the finale of winter! And the setting of Musselfest makes it so unique. Penn Cove is a beautiful location and this festival has been going since 1986. Each year it's a little bit different. It has the feel of the sea. For locals, bring your friends and family. It's an event to be proud of. If you're coming from farther away, you'll find parking, free shuttles around town, and a small, walkable festival filled with upbeat activities that will remind you how fun life can be!"

"It is an experiential tourism event at its best," said Levesque. "I think people are gravitating more and more to experiences and less and less than simply consumption and travel. They want to have something to go to and experience. People are willing to travel to a destination to get to see behind the scenes of something like a mussel farm and then taste all these preparations by people who live and work here. It's a unique opportunity."

A full list of events and food can be found online at penncovemusselfest.com.



Photo Courtesy of Penn Cove Musselfest
Eleven local restaurants are participating in Penn Cove Musselfest's chowder tasting this year in hopes of winning the "Best Chowder" honors. Tasting tickets are sold out, but restaurants and food vendors will have plenty of mussel dishes available to purchase.

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Make a
Difference

By South Whidbey School District ALE Middle School Students

The next generation of Whidbey Island takes action

"I'm taking action because I care about what the future looks like for me and the people around me. I think that we need to put more work and effort into caring for the environment around us," states Lil Greenheron, 8th grade.

We are the South Whidbey ALE 6th-8th graders. Our program is an alternative learning experience that focuses on outdoor education and project-based learning. This program allows our class to build connections to our fellow Islanders and take action within our community. One of our projects is biomonitoring and researching our island and environment, so we can then take action against climate change for our future.

Our main focus has been biomonitoring using line transects and quadrats. We have been learning how to collect data accurately and use consistent methods. Each week we use a transect line to monitor our own field site at Double Bluff beach. We collect phenological data at our site, such as water temperature, air temperature and tides. Our site is interesting because it has both soft and hard shoreline armoring, so we can see the effects of sea level rise and what king tides are doing to our environment in different situations. At this time we have had to pause our monitoring due to the king tides and winter weather.

One impact of climate change is an increase in opportunities for invasive species. The main species we are monitoring at this time is the invasive Varnish clam. Once we can return to monitoring, we will be performing a quadrat survey at our field sites to find the average percentage of invasive compared to native bivalves. The reason Varnish clams are so invasive is because they can tolerate living in warmer climates and higher up on the beaches. Like other invasive species, they can evade their main predator, the Moon snail. Invasive species out compete our native species for resources such as food, water and space. This leads to an imbalance in the ecosystem and affects the biodiversity of our whole island.

We are also monitoring for European Green crab and invasive dune grasses. At this time, we have not found these on our site. These invasive species together can change our coastal landscapes and cause even more environmental problems.

We are learning about these things to take action. We want to share this knowledge so you can take action, too!

"One of the biggest things that could give you a new perspective is just learning about how all of these things impact our ecosystem and affect our planet as a whole," recommends Carmen Cerda, 8th grade.

You can make a difference by spending more time outside and observing things on our island, to change our planet for the better. "Report invasive species!" says 6th grader Selah Davenport. You can visit websites, such as the Island County Noxious Weed Control Board and Washington Invasive Species Council, to increase your awareness of the invasive species on our island. Early intervention is key, as soon as you notice something, report it.

"I think it's really important to address climate change now or we won't even have an island to live on. It will also be our fault if the animals don't have a place to live," shares Layla Ahktar, 6th grade.

A big thank you to our community partners! Check out their organizations to learn more about invasive species and monitoring here on Whidbey:

- Island County Noxious Weed Board
- Washington Invasive Species Council
- Island County Marine Resources Committee

IT'S TOURNAMENT SEASON!



BROADCASTING
SKAGIT VALLEY
CARDINALS



Stream opens 60 minutes before all sports

THE NWAC HOOPS TOURNAMENT
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH,
10 AM - SKAGIT VS TBD

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THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH at 12PM

WWW.SOUNDSPORTSNET.COM
"YOU'RE IN THE GAME!"



Students work with Island County MRC to collect forage fish data off a line transect. Photo by Amanda Pitts.



Students practice using a quadrat to collect data. Photo taken by Amanda Pitts.



Island Angler

By Tracy Loescher

THE LORE OF SPORTFISHING

SPRING KINGS (CHINOOK)

In today's society, anything that has the word fat or references the word fat must be bad, right? Wrong, beginning in March and continuing through July, fat, football-like adult king salmon will be returning to the Puget Sound and will slowly start making their way to the inland rivers.

Migrating chinook salmon return to their spawning grounds at different ages, usually from 3 to 5 years of age, with peak migration occurring around May. Spring kings or "springers" are here for the long haul to spawn. Spawning begins in August and can continue through early November; female kings need time in the freshwater to "ripen." The hundreds of compact eggs she is carrying within the soft protective skeins are fairly small when she first arrives but slowly over the months, the eggs grow and become loose within the skein before they are ready to be individually deposited into the dining room-table size, gravelly redd that she has prepared. All salmon are rich in oils, but springers are especially fat with natural oils which make them prized by both recreational and commercial salmon fishermen.

In 2021 recreational winter salmon season was restricted by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the tribal co-managers in Marine Areas 7, 8, and 9. Fishing for early spring kings in the saltwater was highly anticipated and celebrated with early, mild weather family salmon fishing trips, and local community salmon derbies. If you choose to travel west to Marine Areas closer to the Pacific Ocean where saltwater Springer fishing is still allowed, and you hook into a migrating spring king, you will know right from the get-go they are strong, aggressive and typically harder-fighting than their full time resident relatives. Springers are aggressive feeders, which makes for good fishing when you find the fish; chinook are opportunistic feeders and there are a number of baitfish that they are hunting.

Over the years after landing a keeper fish and examining the stomach contents, here is what you can expect to find: Herring, sand lance (needlefish), anchovies, small crustaceans (crab, shrimp), krill, and pogys (small silver dollar-size shiners). All of the different prey you observe in their stomachs gives us clues where to fish in the water column. Herring, anchovies, pogys, and krill are normally in the middle to upper water column; crab, shrimp, and sand lance are going to be on or near the bottom. Other helpful clues to take away and use from the catch is size of their meal, whether you are fishing cutplug herring or hardware like spoons, Hoochies, or large bucktail style flies, the old rule of thumb of "match the hatch" holds true. This feeding rule of thumb was recently reinforced by a fish hatchery specialist who showed me that even in the smolt stage of life, the salmon are looking for the right size feed. When the smolt are slow to react to feeding or appear to be picky, they actually are; when the feed is increased from 2.0mm to 2.5mm pellets, the feeding frenzy is back on. This small increase of .5mm made all the difference in the bite and strike attitude of the baby salmon.

Another great clue from stomach inspection is color. If you're lucky, the meal has not been in the stomach long enough to fully digest and can reinforce what color hardware to use. My son and I primarily troll hardware for salmon. If we are unfamiliar with the area we are fishing or haven't found any helpful information from other fishermen, we start with two different colors and sometimes two different size lures, and always two different depths. Typical productive depths for chinook is between 90 and 130 feet of water so we run one rig close to the bottom and the other at one-third the distance off the bottom, and let the fish and electronics fine-tune the fishy layer(s) from there. Springers are built like Brahma bulls - they are thick-bodied and have big shoulders. When they strike, the rod tip will bury down and most fish will head for the bottom. It will not matter one bit if the fish you hook is wild or hatchery; they are equal in strength and stamina. In most Marine Area fisheries, wild fish (unmarked/unclipped) can't be retained, so be gentle and release the fish in a timely manner. Springers are also a river fisherman's dream due to their high fat content and their body's ability to handle freshwater. They retain most of their saltwater body weight for a very long time and stay rich with flavor. They are not aggressive biters for food at this point, so all of the stomach lessons learned will no longer apply; they are done feeding, their aggression is now defensive. Our job is to put something in their faces that triggers a "chase it out of my space" reaction. If they are biting cured eggs (row) that are floating by, they bite because they are trying to destroy those eggs to help ensure the survival of their own.

Springers are a major cause of salmon fever among fishermen. Springers arriving can only mean one thing - summer is just around the corner, so prepare for chinook season now! Here are a couple of my go-to lures for springers in salt and freshwater:



These three colors in 3.5 inch size will put salmon in your cooler in the saltwater



Size-4 and 5 bluefox spinners are a great piece of hardware to catch river kings. Other colors work but blue has edged out total catch numbers for me

Recipe of the Week



From Chef in the Black Bandana

Chef Thomas Litrenta and Crystal Madrigal are the owners of Chef in the Black Bandana. Whidbey Island has been the Litrenta family home since 1975. Find more at chefintheblackbandana.com.

Emmers Spaghetti with Toasted Almonds and Lemon (Makes 4 servings)

- 16 oz. Bandana's Emmer Spaghetti
- 1 cup Arugula
- 2 lemons, zest and juice
- 1 cup grated Parmigiano Romano cheese
- 1 cup grated Pecorino cheese
- 1 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 cup toasted almonds

Instructions:

Bring a pot of salted water to a boil, then drop in the spaghetti.

While pasta cooks, combine arugula, lemon juice and zest, cheese and oil in a large bowl. Mix until combined. Cook spaghetti until al dente. Before draining pasta, reserve one cup of pasta water.

Drain the spaghetti and add to the mixing bowl. Toss together until all ingredients are incorporated. If mixture is dry, add more pasta water until you reach desired consistency.

Portion into serving bowls and sprinkle with toasted almonds.



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WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, think about collaborating on a fun project with someone close to you. Find out if anyone needs help on something they may be working on if you don't have a project in mind.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

An excitement concerning work goals or a business venture may compel you to take some action to get your ideas heard by higher-ups, Taurus. The audience will be receptive.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, trying to resolve issues in a relationship this week may leave you feeling unsettled. It might be that you are trying to avoid sensitive topics that you will have to address eventually.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, if you are feeling content with yourself and life in general lately, that is excellent. Embrace this positive state of mind and take the necessary steps to continue the good feelings.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, this week you may be feeling nostalgic or sentimental. Look over old photographs or watch family movies for a bit. If you want to take it further, reach out to childhood friends.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Find new activities that you can add to your daily routine, Virgo. This may be a sport, hobby or even a new club. Add a dose of creativity to each and every day for good effects.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Uncertainty regarding long-term plans may be driving emotions of shyness, Libra. If you are having trouble, plan excursions or events with friends you trust.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, encouragement comes from people you may not feel are on your team. Take all of the support you can get as you start plowing through some long-term goals.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

It's always the right time to tell others how much they mean to you, Sagittarius. It will not take grand gestures to do so, merely your loving words.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Your busy schedule this week has everything feeling more hectic even if it really isn't, Capricorn. Carve out some time to sit quietly or enjoy some alone time to refresh.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

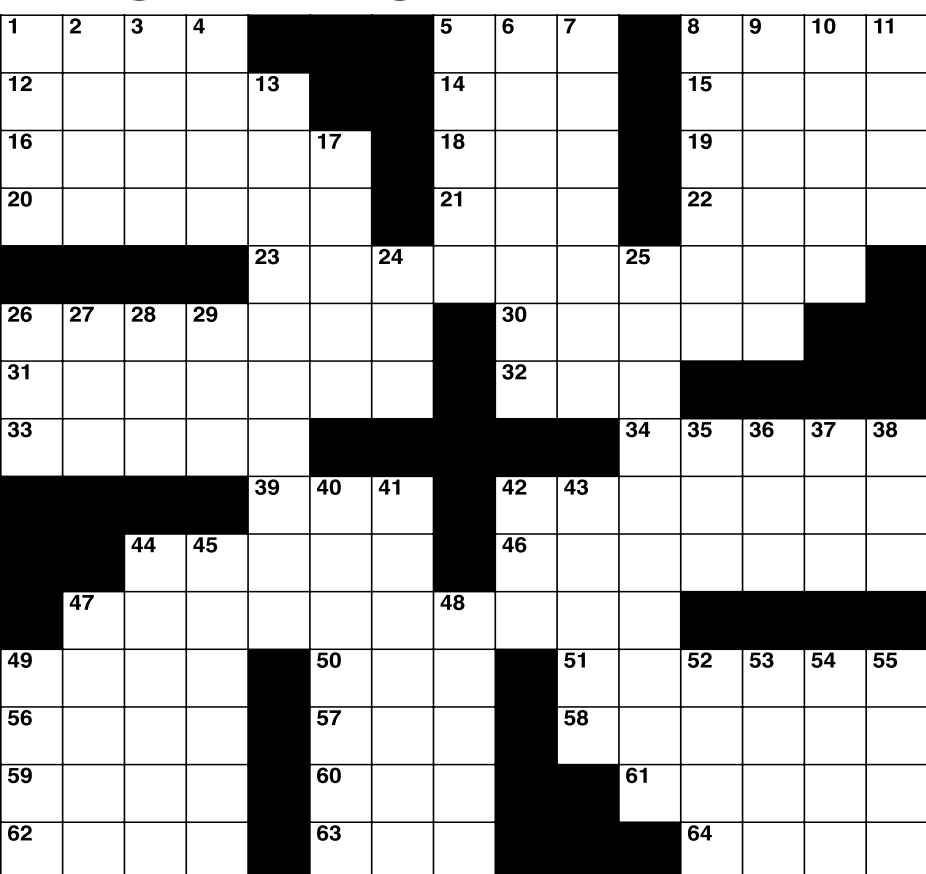
This week you may be feeling especially charitable, Aquarius. Open your heart up to others who may need some extra support. This may be a stranger or someone you know.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Some news from a family member may catch you off-guard, Pisces. You'll soon recover when you learn that it is extremely happy news. You may even get good news of your own.



Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Home of Iowa State University
- 5. ___-fi (slang)
- 8. Mottled green and yellow fruit
- 12. Capable of thinking and expressing oneself clearly
- 14. Sports broadcaster Eagle
- 15. Midday
- 16. Kinsmen
- 18. Cable network
- 19. Simpleton
- 20. Brunch beverage
- 21. Fed
- 22. European capital
- 23. Native inhabitants
- 26. Mechanical device
- 30. Rare geese native to Hawaii
- 31. Bedroom furnishing
- 32. The products of human creativity
- 33. Mass transit option
- 34. Made a mistake
- 39. Sacred sound symbol
- 42. Large N. American reindeer
- 44. Dull and flat
- 46. Partner to huffing
- 47. Written works
- 49. Monetary unit of

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One who graduated
- 2. An inspired holy person
- 3. Electronic counter-countermeasures
- 4. A place to store things
- 5. Indian instrument
- 6. Spanish saloon
- 7. Whole number
- 8. Not fastened
- 9. Gives a boost
- 10. Lounges about
- 11. Interested in
- 13. Remove salt
- 17. Type of sword
- 24. Naturally occurring solid material
- 25. Gets involved without being invited
- 26. Feline
- 27. Bobby __, NHL champ
- 28. "Kill Bill" actress Thurman
- 29. Hawaiian dish
- 35. Moroccan coastal region
- 36. Baseball statistic
- 37. Long period of time
- 38. Moved earth
- 40. Central Netherlands city
- 41. Take stock of
- 42. Central processing unit
- 43. Distinctive qualities one generates
- 44. Getting stuck
- 45. Loss of bodily movements
- 47. Veranda
- 48. Abrupt
- 49. What cats do
- 52. Expresses pleasure
- 53. Type of cheese
- 54. Professional STEM organization
- 55. Automatic data processing systems

Answers on page 11



OUR Community

An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

If I were to give you \$1 billion, what would you do with it?

Lily B., 5th grade

Oak Harbor



A billion dollars is a lot of money, even in theory. There are obviously many places to donate, but I think I would donate to help solve homelessness. Seeing people living on the side of the highway makes me want to cry. I would donate two-thirds of the money to homelessness. I would save the other one-third for myself. I am a 12-year-old girl and there are many things I'm going to want in the future. For example, I want a car, clothes, and a good college. I would also foster and adopt dogs because I love dogs. Everybody deserves a dog. They are the literal best creatures to walk the planet.

Declan S., 6th grade

Oak Harbor

I would give a million dollars to all of my family members. I'd invest at least a million in a tech company like Apple and put some in savings. I'd give some to charity, like something for pets and to the Children's Hospital. I'd donate a million to youth sports because it's important for kids to be able to do things they love even if they don't have money. I'd probably give a thousand dollars to my friends. I'd want to spend some visiting all of the places I've always wanted to see. Then I think it would be cool to go around to kids who are doing fundraisers and give them more money than they expect. Then I'd save the rest for college. I'd like to go to school to be an architect.



Luke S., 4th grade

Oak Harbor



Imagine you were a 10-year-old boy, and then one day someone asks you if you had \$1 billion, what would you do with it! Welcome to my life. Today you will hear what I, a 10-year-old boy, will respond to that question.

For the future: One thing I would definitely do is invest some money into my college fund. The college I would go to would be Stanford, mainly because that's the only one I know about. I would put \$100,000 into my college fund.

In conclusion: I would put most of my money into charities that would help animals and especially endangered animals.

Brooklyn E., 4th grade

Oak Harbor

This is what I would do with \$1 billion. The first thing I would do with my money would be to get a house for my family. Second, I would donate to schools. I would give them money for field trips, new playground equipment and supplies for teaching, like paper, pencils, erasers, garden supplies and more. The third thing I would do is to give less fortunate families money, clothing, shoes, pillows, blankets and groceries. I would also try to help them find a job and start providing groceries for their families. The next thing I would do with my money would be to do a food drive for the homeless. In conclusion, I would help other people less fortunate like the homeless. I would also donate to some to children's hospitals. Then give the rest to my Mom. This is what I would do with my \$1 billion.



YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Thurs, Feb. 29 North Isle H-48°/L-39° Rain | Fri, Mar. 1 North Isle H-46°/L-35° Rain | Sat, Mar. 2 North Isle H-46°/L-37° Rain | Sun, Mar. 3 North Isle H-49°/L-37° Rain | Mon, Mar. 4 North Isle H-48°/L-40° Rain | Tues, Mar. 5 North Isle H-50°/L-42° Clouds | Wed, Mar. 6 North Isle H-51°/L-40° Clouds |
| South Isle H-46°/L-38° Rain | South Isle H-45°/L-35° Rain | South Isle H-43°/L-35° Cloudy | South Isle H-44°/L-35° Rain | South Isle H-46°/L-37° Rain | South Isle H-49°/L-40° Clouds | South Isle H-50°/L-38° Clouds |

CAN DO SUDOKU!

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

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Answers on page 11

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

To place an ad, email classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com

IN SEARCH OF

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**

Maine Coon Cat Please call: 360-331-5284

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

HELP WANTED

SEEKING FULL- AND PART-TIME CAREGIVERS
Must be 18 years old with valid driver's license, clear driving record, auto insurance; CPR & First Aid certs; vaccinations; clean drug test; nurse delegation helpful
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
www.filipinohealthcareus.com
joyc@filipinohealthcareus.com

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.

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. Please contact Angelica, angelica.metcalfe@islandshakespearefest.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 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.

SHELTERS/HOUSING

CADA Emergency Shelter – Confidential crisis shelter for women and children fleeing domestic violence/sexual assault/stalking. This is NOT a homeless shelter. Office: 360-675-7057 Crisis Line: 360-675-2232 Toll Free: 800-215-5669

Island County Housing Support – 105 NW 1st St., Coupeville 360-678-8284

For homeless or at risk of losing housing. Mon-Thurs, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Ryan's House for Youth – 19777 SR 20, Coupeville 360-331-4575

For at-risk adults ages 18-24 Whidbey Homeless Coalition – Serving Island County 360-900-3077

-The Haven Overnight Shelter: Night-to-night shelter for up to 30 individuals. Must follow check-in rules and must register Mon-Fri between 4 and 4:30 p.m. at SPiN Café, 1241 SW Barlow St., Oak Harbor.
- House of Hope Emergency Housing, Langley 360-708-4533 Temporary shelter for families and adults at severe risk of homelessness; to apply, contact the Housing Support Center or call the number above.

Oxford Houses – Recovery housing oxfordhouse.org
-Men:360-246-4101
- Women & Children: 360-682-5773

RESOURCES

-North Whidbey Help House, 1091 SE Hathaway St. Oak Harbor 360-675-0681 Mon-Fri, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (5 p.m. on Tuesdays) Closed 12-1 p.m. for lunch

Island Church of Whidbey Soup Kitchen: 503 Cascade Ave., Langley 360-221-0969 Tues & Thurs 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
SPiN Café: 1241 SW Barlow St., Oak Harbor Daily, 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

St. Anthony's Soup Kitchen: 804 3rd St., Langley 360-221-5303/sthubert@whidbey.com Tuesday orders for home; Wednesday kitchen meals 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

HUB After School: 301 Anthes Ave., Langley 360-221-0969

Food and activities for middle and high school youth.

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday 2-6 p.m., Wed 1-6 p.m.

Ryans House for Youth: Food, fun, support -19777 SR 20, Coupeville 360-331-4575

Drop-in center for adults ages 18-24; Daily 6 a.m.- 8:30 p.m.

- 35 SE Ely St., Oak Harbor 360-682-5098

Drop-in center for youth ages 12-21; Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Whidbey Island Nourishes: Serving South Whidbey 360-221-7787 / winourishes@whidbey.com

- School Year Meal Program: For families with school-aged children to 18 within S Whidbey School District can choose weekend groceries or ready-to-eat sack lunches; Delivery on Thursday
- Self-serve Program: Youth and others in need can request a sack lunch from Good Cheer food bank, Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Women, Infants & Children (WIC):
-Oak Harbor/North Whidbey: 1791 NE 1st Ave. Mon-Thurs 360-240-5554 Text: 360-544-2239

-Langley/South Whidbey: 5475 Maxwellton Rd. Thurs Only 360-221-8880 Text: 360-544-2238

-Camano Island: 127 N East Camano Dr. Mon Only 360-544-2633

Island Senior Services: meals@senior-resources.org
- Meals on Wheels: Email or call 360-672-6416 for home-delivered meals by noon

-Frozen Take-Out Meals: Call 360-321-1600 Mon, Wed, Fri to arrange pickup

-Brookhaven Community Meals: 150 4th St, Langley Thurs, 5-5:45 p.m.

-Leo's Place Community Meals: 14594 SR 525, Bayview Hot lunches Mon, Wed, Fri 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Sack

Surprise A Loved One With An Ad With Us!
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Call 360-682-8283
to schedule your ad today!
Whidbey Weekly
P.O. box 1398 Oak Harbor

CRISIS LINES

2-1-1 or 877-211-9274: 24/7 confidential referral to crisis programs and services statewide; wa211.org

9-1-1: Call for threats to life, fire, accident or crime
-Non-emergency lines:

Oak Harbor Police Department-360-279-4600

-Island Communications Dispatch (ICOM) - 360-679-9567
-Langley Police Department – 360-321-4400
Island County Sheriff's Office – 360-678-4422

9-8-8: Suicide and crisis lifeline, free & confidential
- 741-741: 24/7 Crisis Text Line
-800-584-3578: 24/7 Northwest Washington Crisis Services

- 360-678-7880: Island County Behavioral Health

866-789-1511: Recovery help; warecoveryhelpline.org

800-215-5669: CADA 24/7 confidential domestic violence crisis support; 360-675-2232; text LOVEIS to 22522
866-488-7386 Trevor Project: 24/7 support for LGBTQIA2S+; text 678.678

WEEKLY MEETINGS

Have you ever been affected by someone else's drinking? Al-Anon may be for you. AL-ANON: Tuesdays at 5:30-6:30 Oak Harbor Lutheran Church Library 1253 NW 2nd Ave. There is help and hope: Contact for more info: Danielle 360-840-7181 or Randy 360-914-8084

MEMORY CAFÉ Every 1st and 3rd Tues of the Month 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church 1050 SE Ireland Street Oak Harbor, WA. Join our bi-monthly gathering for people with memory loss and their family to enjoy a time of fun, conversation, music and laughing (and snacks). This is a dementia friendly setting. For information: 360-720-4535

EVENTS

Flying Fingers Deaf and Hard of Hearing Social. Friday, March 1, 6-7 p.m. Fireside Room, Langley United Methodist Church, Third St and Anthes Ave. We will be teaching Easter sign language. We share food, enjoy learning from one another in a casual and easy-going atmosphere. For deaf and hearing impaired. Parking is across the street from back side of church. Follow posters at back section of church. Contact Susan for information at sisoleil973@yahoo.com.

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

US Postal Mail

Whidbey Weekly
Classified Department
PO Box 1398
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

E-Mail classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com
Telephone 360-682-8283

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 \$12/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.**

How'd you do?

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No Cheating!

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LINDS

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