Look for Island Times the LAST Thursday of each month

FEB. 2019

MONTHLY NEWSPAPER OF ISLAND SENIOR RESOURCES AND OAK HARBOR SENIOR CENTER

Volume 2 • Issue 10

Trusting Yourself and Trusting Others "I get by...



By Christina BaldwinBoard Member, Island Senior Resources

While visiting an elder friend Doris, I watched her handle a phone call that made me nervous. I could overhear a voice through the receiver telling her this was the Social Security office and there was some question about her account. Could she verify her number and birthdate? I wanted to see what she'd do next and was poised to intervene.

She listened politely, then said, "I don't think this is a real call. I'm not giving you my information." The voice grew insistent and urgent, "I'm going to hang up now," she responded, and did.

She got us another cup of tea and we continued our visit. "Congratulations," I told her. "You made a good choice."

"I think so," she said, "but it gets harder and harder to know who to trust, or how to trust, in a world where I don't know the people who present themselves as trying to

and mail.

"I get by... with a little help from my friends."

~ The Beatles

The size of Whidbey, the number of older people who live here, and the number of people who have families far away, make our communities more susceptible to fraud. To address the concept of "asking for what you need and offering what you can" in our articles this year it's

help me, and I can't see people's faces."

what you can" in our articles this year, it's important to address the increased need for caution and discernment in the world beyond familiarity and relationship. Everyone is now vulnerable to attempts to trick us by phone, email, social media,

The further we are from familiar and trusted relationships, the more discerning and careful we need to be. Most fraud occurs in an environment set up to seem ordinary—but it isn't quite ordinary.

- The request is unusual: whatever organization the caller says they are representing does not usually contact you in this manner.
- The person does not offer their credentials in a realistic way—and you have the right to ask them, "May I have your full name, your return phone number, and an independent way of checking your credentials before sharing any of my information?" If you get any weird response,

TRUSTING continued on page 12



Finding Calm Among the Waves of Change

By Liz Lange

Administrator, City of Oak Harbor Senior Services

By the age of 60, the average person in the United States will have changed their socks over 21,000 times (if you are a daily wearer), changed toothbrushes HOPEFULLY at least 120 times, changed addresses 11 times, jobs about 7 times, and 30 percent will have changed spouses more than once. That is a lot of change.

While I still have some sock changing to catch up on, I am par for the course on other major life changes. Particularly, the past two years have brought a lot of change including moving from out of state, purchasing our home, starting as program coordinator and then transitioning to the administrator role here at the center, the loss of a loved one, and most recently the addition of our precious baby girl, Lona. That's a lot of change for a short amount of time, which is probably why this topic of coping with change has been forefront in my mind.

Change is not created equal either, as we move through life gaining experiences we see some change comes with little impact to us, as if our car just cruised over a twig in the road, while other times our circumstances are so disturbed it is as if we have arrived at a whole tree across the road and we come to a stand still while we try to understand and cope with our new reality.

Whether you find yourself cruising along the twigs or being brought face-to-face with

CHANGE continued on page 2

QUESTION OF THE MONTH: WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?

Angela Braidic, 68

Oak Harbor "Enjoying life!"

Kelly, 60

Greenbank "Stay alive and healthy."

Sue Boe, 79

Oak Harbor "Keep going!"

Kathy over 21 several times

Freeland "Retire!"

Annette, 72

Greenbank

"Get my garden revamped and under control. It has overgrown in many areas."

Vickie Olson, 66

Oak Harbor
"Learn to knit and watercolor paint."

Lisbeth, 75

Whidbey Island "Learn a new language."

Micheal Murcray, 58

Oak Harbor
"Participate in an exercise class."



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www.whidbeyweekly.com

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51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Front Desk: 360-279-4580

Normal Business Hours:

Mon-Fri, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Additional evening and weekend classes and events as scheduled

Yearly Membership Dues: \$40

Available for anyone 50+ years

Liz Lange · (360) 279-4581

Senior Services Administrator

Carly Waymire · (360) 279-4583

Program Coordinator

Send comments and suggestions to CWaymire@oakharbor.org

February: The Month of Love

By Carly Waymire

Program Coordinator, City of Oak Harbor Senior Services

February is widely known as the "month of love" and most people decorate in red, pink, and hearts! During this month, we recognize love, relationships, and romance. Anything people can think of that has to do with love is remembered during this month, even the heart! However, many of us forget to recognize grief during this month. Many times we forget love and grief come together because without love we wouldn't have a reason to grieve and by loving we are risking the unavoidable chance for grief. I feel that we emphasize the importance of a special relationship in our life right now but avoid and overlook past relationships. It appears there is almost a negative connotation with grief and the past, whereas a more positive emphasis on current relationships.

During this month, you will find many articles talking about romance and random acts of kindness are encouraged. In school, we wrote notes and passed out candies to show our friends we cared. However, this February I want



to take a different approach at viewing the "month of love" and view it not only as a time to note current relationships and share our love, but also remember and honor our past relationships and process the grief in our lives. At some point we have all lost someone dear to us and will go through grief in our lives. Instead of avoiding it this month, lets embrace it! Celebrate a past relationship and take a moment to grieve the loss of that loved one. Remember grief is a source of love so don't feel ashamed to experience heartache from a loss of a

loved one regardless if it was recent or in the past.

As we continue through the month, lets embrace our current relationships and recognize the special people in our life but also take the time to remember our past relationships and note the love we have for them. Additionally, continue to take the time to show love for each other throughout the rest of the year! Loving others is a precious gift we have, so don't forget to show your love and appreciation to others!

CHANGE continued from page 1

the downed trees across your path, here are some ways that have helped me become better at overcoming the stress which often accompanies change.

DON'T STRESS ABOUT STRESSING OUT

Change can be stressful. Did you know our body responds to not only physically terrifying situations with the "fight or flight" response, but is also how we respond to mentally stressful situations as well? It is a physiological reaction that is triggered by the release of hormones which prepare you to be able to stay and deal with the situation or to physically remove yourself from the situation. It is good and helpful for a short duration, however, when we allow ourselves to stay in this state for a prolonged amount of time, or frequently, it can be quite detrimental to our health. Chronic stress causes a continued release of a hormone called cortisol which overexposure can disrupt many of our natural processes and put us at risk for anxiety, depression, weight gain and more.

You can see how this can become a cycle. Change happens in our life, we feel stress, which can lead to more anxiety, which causes further stress, and so on. This is why we must not allow ourselfs to stress about being stressed out. Understand that stress is a natural response to change, allow your body to work through it, then find ways to mitigate the stress allowing your body to recover and remove itself from the fight or flight response. This might include getting outside for fresh air, calling a friend to chat about positive things, listen to calming music, or doing something else that brings you joy. Anything to break the stress cycle, relax for a bit, and get your stress produced hormone levels back to normal. Stress will happen. Its ok. Let your body do its thing, then let the stress go.

FIND THE HUMOR

Sometimes change just isn't a laughing matter, but most the time, in the daily changes we face there is always a little humor to be had. More than once during a hard or stressful situation I've heard someone comment "you know in five years we will look back at this and just laugh" and its often true. But why wait five years to see the humor in it? Look for the humor now and let yourself have a little laugh.

Remember that pesky cortisol hormone that comes from stress? Laughter is the anti-fight or flight response. Not only does it decrease stress hormones it also increases immune cells and infection-fighting antibod-

ies, helping your body resist dissease. It releases the feel good chemical, or endorphins, and can even temporarily relieve pain. There really is something to the saying "laughter is the best medicine".

PUT IT IN PERSPECTIVE

Anytime I experience change in life that may cause a stressful reaction I stop and do what I like to call the onion peel exercise. How many layers of my life does this really have an impact on? I can feel the impact now, will I tomorrow? In a week? A month? A year? It is impacting my social interactions, but does it impact my home relationships as well, or does it stop there?

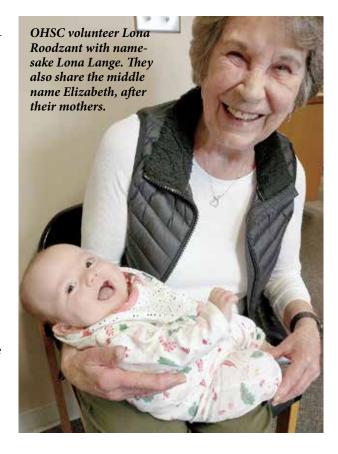
When I do this mindful exercise I can more clearly see that often times stress from change is short-term, contained to one area of my life, has minimal impact on my overall life, and in the long run it just wont matter as much as it feels like it does now. This helps me put it in perspective with the larger picture of life and I can more easily determine "not sweat the small stuff", because most of the time, in the scheme of life its all small stuff.

FOCUS ON YOUR VALUES INSTEAD OF YOUR FEARS

This coincides with putting things in perspective. Remind yourself of what is important, truly important in life. Family, friends, acheivements, learning, religious beliefs, whatever it is, thinking on these things can be healing. Take it one step further and don't just think about them, but make a list, a gratitude list. Or, pick one value and spend a few minutes writing about then that particular value has positively impacted you. When we do this mindful exercise we remove ourself from the present moment we are in which is toubling us and helps us see that our being as a whole is not defined my this one instance. We also see more clearly all the positive things still happening in our life which we can decide to not allow one change to overshadow.

Distinguish the true problem from the feelings

I was recently reading about how "talking it out" isn't as productive as we think when it comes to working through our problems. When we talk about our anger or frustration actively and repeatedly we are hindering our natural adaptation process. No, don't just ignore your troubles, but as soon as you find yourself feeling these emotions stop, look for practical solutions to the problem and focus on what you can do to better the situation instead of perpetuating your anger by dwelling on the situations that you cannot change.



ACCEPT THE PAST, BUT WORK FOR THE FUTURE

While we often cannot control what changes in our lifes, we can always chose how we are going to respond. Will we find inspiration in a troubling situation, will it make us stronger as we chose to adapt to the change, or will we let it offend or defeat us? That is up to each of us. No one else can chose that for you. When you chose to react positively and with patience to change you will see that change can be a wonderful tool in leading to self growth, understanding and learning. Without change we are stuck, never progressing.

Let us all press on looking for the positive and remembering that joy comes from the journey, not inspite of, but because of all the changes we experience.

Do you have an experience to share about how you have embranced changes in your life? I would love to hear them, and possibly share them, as we learn best from eachother and our shared experiances. Feel free to email me at llange@oakharbor.org, send good old fashioned snail mail to 51 SE Jerome St. Oak Harbor, WA 98277, or even better, drop them by the Center at the same address.

OHSC EVENTS

THE BIG GAME ON THE BIG SCREEN

Sunday, Feb. 3 • 3:30 p.m.

Come watch the Patriots take on the Rams Sunday, Feb. 3, 3:30 p.m. at the Oak Harbor Senior Center. We will be playing the game on the big screen and enjoying each other's company. You are welcome to bring a snack to share!

Saturday, Feb. 9 • 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 10 • 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Whidbey Island Gem Club's 54th Annual

Sweetheart of Gems Show is Saturday,

Feb. 9 and Sunday, Feb. 10 at the Oak

Harbor Senior Center. Bring your family

and see live demonstrations, educational

displays, rock identification, handmade

jewelry, door prizes/games, vendors and

1ST ANNUAL PIE CONTEST

The Oak Harbor Senior Center is having

its First Annual Pie Contest on National

Pie Day, March 14 to recognize the math-

ematical constant pi (3.14). We are look-

Thursday, March 14

Free Admission

SWEETHEART OF GEMS SHOW ELVIS

Saturday, Mar. 23 • 6 p.m. Cost: Members-\$25

contestant or a judge!

The King is back and performing at the Senior Center Saturday, March 23 at 6 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.). Join Elvis impersonator, Shane Cobane, for this unforgettable night! Tickets are \$25 and include dinner, entertain-

ing for bakers to enter their yummy pie

into our contest, entry is free, and the

winner will receive a prize! To register for the pie contest simply stop by the Center

and let us know or give us a call at 360-279-4580. Not a baker but love pie? For

only \$2, you can be a taste tester judge

and try all the pies! We are looking for-

ward to celebrating this fun national day

with you and would love to have you as

pre-purchase tickets, which you can do so by calling the center at 360-279-4580 or stopping by.



ment, and an opportunity to get your photo taken with the King! Limited seats are available so you must

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank DaVita Kidney Care for their generous donation of \$950 to the Oak Harbor Senior Center Foundation. We appreciate the continued support from the community.

Single Mingle

FOR ADULTS 50+

Meet a new friend or companion while you try to solve the mystery during this amusing dinner party.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14 5:30 PM | DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM TICKETS \$15 | INCLUDES DINNER **OHSC | 51 SE JEROME STREET**

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CLASSES at Oak Harbor Senior Center



CHALK ART MAKE & TAKE

Wednesday, Feb. 6 • 1 - 2 p.m. Cost: Members-\$25 • Non-Members-\$35

During this one hour class, you will receive a chalk board and all the tools and instructions you need to make it a unique piece that is yours to keep! Join us Feb. 6. Pre-registration is required.



BASKET WEAVING

Thursday, Feb. 21 • 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cost: Members-\$66 • Non-Members-\$75

Expert basket weaver, Jane Hyde will guide you through making your very own Iron Bread Basket in this one-day class. Join her for this beginner class Thursday, Feb. 21 from 9 AM - 2 PM. You will receive all the supplies, tools, and instructions to weave your own basket which is yours to keep at the end of the day! To sign up stop by the Center or call us at 360-279-4580. Class space is limited so sign up today!

TECHNOLOGY 101

Monday, Feb. 25 Monday, Mar. 18 2 - 4 p.m.

The Future Business Leaders of America club from Oak Harbor High School are returning to help you with your technology! Bring in your smart phone, tablet, laptop, or other device to get some general help and your questions answered. They will be at the Oak Harbor Senior Center from 2 - 4 PM Monday, Feb. 25 and Mar. 18.



BEGINNER PICKLEBALL CLASSES

Saturdays in March • Noon - 1 p.m. Cost: Members-\$20 • Non-Members-\$25

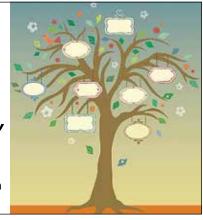
Every Saturday in March, our pickleball group leaders will be giving beginner lessons. They will teach you the rules, how to play the game, and give you some beginner techniques to get you started. Lessons are held at the Oak Harbor Christian School (675 E Whidbey Ave.) from noon - 1 PM every Saturday. Pre-registration is required and the cost for the month-long lessons is \$20 for OHSC Members and \$25 for Non-Members. Come join in the fun, learn a new sport, get some exercise, and meet some new friends! The Pickleball group plays every Wednesday at 4 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m.

W.I.G.S. (Whidbey Island **Genealogical Searchers**)

Tuesday, February 12, 1-3 p.m., 2720 Heller Road, Fire Station #25

Speaker: Jessica Aws from Sno-Isle Library in Oak Harbor.

All are welcome to attend. For more information go to www.whidbeygensearchers.org.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT OAK HARBOR SENIOR CENTER



Looking to get involved? The Oak Harbor Senior Center has many ways to get involved. Here are a few of the opportunities at the Center: Travel & Excursion Escort, Event Planning Committee, and Front Desk Receptionist. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more detailed duty descriptions, please contact Carly Waymire at 360.279.4583 or stop by to pick up an application. Volunteering is a good way to meet new people,

make connections, feel like you are a part of something, and give back!



OAK HARBOR SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES 360-279-4580

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY **SATURDAY** 9 Quilting 8:30 Yoga 9 Billiards 8:30 Yoga 9 Quilting Ping Pong 9 Billiards Billiards 9 Billiards 9 Lapidary 9 9 Billiards Billiards 9 Lapidary 9:30 Enhance Fitness 9:30 Enhance Fitness 9:30 Enhance Fitness 9 Tai Chi Pinochle 11 Mexican Train **Duplicate Bridge Duplicate Bridge** 10 Creative Writing 10 Walking Club 11:30 11:30 11:30 Chess 11:30 LUNCH 11:30 LUNCH LUNCH 11 Mahjong 11:30 10am-1pm: Pickleball 12 Line Dance Cribbage Pinochle 12 Bunco 12:30 Party Bridge 12:30 12:30 12-1pm: Beginner Pickleball 1 Knitting & Crochet 12:30 Ping Pong 1 Reiki Treatments 12:30 Line Dance 12:30 Ping Pong 1 MAC SIG (2nd. Tue.) Parkinson Support 1 Paper Crafts 1 Art with Ivy 1 History Class 2 Vision Impaired Group (2nd & 4th Group (1st Friday) **Parkinsonics Singing** 2 Caregiver Support (4th Tues) Wednesday) Group (1st & 3rd 6:30 Old Time Fiddlers (2nd Thursday) 2:30 S.A.I.L. Monday) 2 Caregiver Support (1st Friday) 2:30 S.A.I.L. 6 Pinochle (4th Wednesday) 7 Country Dance 3 Clogging 7 Wire Wrap 6 Lapidary (2nd Friday) 4 Pickle Ball 5 Tai Chi 6:30 Stamp Club

ISLAND SENIOR RESOURCES (BAYVIEW) ACTIVITIES 360-321-1600 or 360-678-3373 www.senior-resources.org

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY *SATURDAY* 9-4:30 SHIBA (Statewide 10 Time Together* 8:45 Advanced Tai Chi 9 Beginning 8:30 Men's Bridge 11 Israeli Circle Dance Foot Clinic – call (360) Line Dancing **Health Insurance** 11:45 Lunch Served 9 Senior Striders 341-3210 for appt Benefits Advisors) 10 Line Dancing 12:15 Reader's Theater 6 Twilight Bridge by appointment 10 Beginning Tai Chi Rehearsal 10 Quilters

1 Mahjong

Afternoon Tai Chi

February 11

8:30 Discovery Hike

(2nd & 4th Tuesdays) SHIBA — By appointment

10 Time Together*

10:30 Tune In, Tone Up

10:30 Ukulele with Talia

11:45 Lunch Served

12:30 Lunch & Learn

2:30 Parkinson's Singers*

February 5

10 Parkinson's S.G.**

February 11

10 Alzheimer's S.G.

February 19

10 MS Support Group

10 Time Together*

11:45 Lunch Served

6:30 Bingo

February 27

11:45 Birthday cake and Party (all are welcome) Starting Feb. 7 through April 11

1-6 AARP Tax-Aide Call 360-678-3000 for appt.

10 Time Together*

10:45 Fun Band Dancing

11:45 Lunch Served

TBD

Legal consults may be available two Fridays this month. Call to inquire.

Call Island Senior Resources for instructor contact numbers and information.

*Activities are held at St. Augustine's-in-the-Woods, Freeland | **Activities are held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Freeland

DATES AND TIMES OF ALL SCHEDULED EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. IT'S ALWAYS ADVISABLE TO CALL TO CONFIRM.



TRAVEL LOG

OAK HARBOR SENIOR CENTER

For more information, call the Travel Desk, 360-279-4587

MYSTERY LUNCHES

Thursday, February 7 Tuesday, March 5

Depart: 10:30 AM - Return: 2:30 PM Member: \$20 • Non-Member: \$30 Price includes transportation only

The mystery has been solved-these lunch trips are a ton of fun! Travel Escort, Lauraine, will be sure to take you on a delightful afternoon to an undisclosed restaurant where you will enjoy some delicious dining with the other passengers. Before returning home sometimes there is time for another surprise stop! This is a great way to discover new restaurants or enjoy a well-known favorite while meeting new friends and enjoying the good company.

FEBRUARY



FUTURE OF FLIGHT & FLYING HER-ITAGE MUSEUM

Friday, February 8

8 AM -5 PM Member: \$73 • Non-Member: \$88

On this trip our first stop will be at the Future of Flight where we will take a 1.5 hour walking tour of the Boeing factory. This is a one-of-a kind opportunity to view 747, 767, 777, and 787 Dreamliners on the assembly line before they take to the sky. After a no host lunch at the café, we will head a few miles down the street to Flying Heritage and Combat Armor Museum. This museum brings to life WWII era aircraft, tanks, combat armor and other technologies which have been restored to working condition.



THE GREAT JUNK HUNT

Saturday, February 16

8 AM - 6 PM Member: \$47 • Non-Member: \$57

Many vendors gather at the Evergreen State Fair Grounds in Monroe to sell their best junkin' goods. Come with us to see what kind of antique treasures we can find. There will be many different styles including vintage, farmhouse, re-purposed, handmade, and much more. With two large buildings full of vendors, you won't be disappointed!

A DAY IN LA CONNER

Wednesday, February 20

9 AM - 4 PM Member: \$15 • Non-Member: \$18

Take a short bus ride over to La Conner for a day of shopping, sightseeing, and multiple lunch options. La Conner has many unique shops and galleries to explore including; Razzle Dazzle Gifts, That's Knot All, The Wood Merchant, The Stall, Step Outside, Pioneer Market, Indigo Stitch-A Quilt Shop, Forum Arts, Cottons, Earthenworks Gallery, and so much more!



NORTHWEST FLOWER AND **GARDEN FESTIVAL** Friday, February 22

8 AM - 6 PM

Member: \$62 • Non-Member: \$75

We are heading back to the annual Northwest Flower and Garden Festival held at the Washington Convention Center in Seattle. There you will find over 300 exhibitors featuring unique flowers,

garden tools, hand-crafted wares, and specialty items. Just the beautiful scenery is worth going for as the top garden design professionals put together over 20 spectacular display gardens. Price includes admission into the festival.

QUIL CEDA CASINO

Wednesday, February 27

9 AM – 5 PM

Member: \$27 • Non-Member: \$37

Located in Tulalip, this casino offers a huge variety of slot machines, table games, a burger bar, and their own on site "Torch Grill."

MARCH



PACIFIC INSTITUTE OF CULINARY ARTS

Tuesday, March 19

9 AM - 6 PM Member: \$83 • Non-Member: \$100

Who is ready for a gourmet lunch? We are returning to the Pacific Institute of Culinary Arts in Vancouver B.C. where we will enjoy a 3-course meal prepared by the students. There will be delicious desserts and pastries available for purchase that you can enjoy after your meal or on the bus ride home! Also, we will have a brief time to shop the market at Granville Island before returning home. Price includes transportation and lunch. Please note a passport or enhanced license is required.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY BACKROADS

Wednesday, March 20

8 AM - 6 PM Member: \$47 • Non-Member: \$57

We are taking the back roads on this journey around North Snohomish County and South Skagit County including stops in Sedro Woolley, Rockport, Darrington, Granite Falls, and Arlington, Enjoy the views and maybe even discover some new places. We will stop for a no host lunch along the way.



SILVER REEF CASINO Monday, March 25

9 AM - 5 PM

Member: \$27 • Non-Member: \$37

We haven't been up north for a while so let's go try our luck! Silver Reef is always a friendly place to visit and we receive a discount on lunch.

BURLINGTON THRIFT STORE HOP Thursday, March 28

9 AM - 5 PM

Member: \$20 • Non-Member: \$30

It is time to look for treasures again! We will head over to Burlington and stop at 2-3 thrift shops and a restaurant for a no host lunch.

APRIL

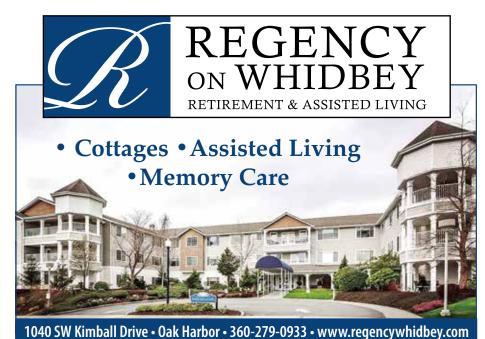


MAMA MIA! Sunday, April 7

10:30 AM - 5:30 PM Member: \$50 • Non-Member: \$60

This fantastic production of heartfelt, touching moments, hit songs, flashy costumes, and groovy moves make it one of the most successful shows. This year we will take a short ride to McIntyre Hall in Mount Vernon and enjoy the fun-filled, excellent production of Mama Mia! We will stop for a no host lunch prior to the





ALDERWOOD MALL & WORLD MARKET

Tuesday, April 9

8 AM – 5:30 PM Member: \$35 • Non-Member: \$45

Let's enjoy a spring shopping trip! There will be an optional trip to World Market, Storables, and Target after lunch, or you can continue to shop Alderwood Mall. There are many options for a no host lunch.

EXTENDED TRAVEL:



September 19 – 27, 2019

Double: \$3,349 • Single: \$3,649 Includes ground and air transportation, lodging, and 10 meals. Explore the beautiful land of Tuscany on this 9-day tour featuring Montecatini Terme, Florence, winery and cheese farm tours, and a cooking class!



ICELAND'S MAGICAL NORTHERN LIGHTS

November 1-7, 2019

Double: \$3,849 • Single: \$4,349 Includes ground and air transportation, lodging, and 10 meals.

Experience the energy at the geothermal fields of Geysir and Strokkur, learn about the volcanic nature of the island of Iceland, search for nature's dazzling display on a northern lights cruise, see Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon, and savor gourmet Icelandic cuisine!

ISLAND SENIOR RESOURCES

For more information, call 360-321-1600 or 360-678-3373

ISR provides transportation to/from Bayview Hall. Clinton ferry pricing does not include walk-on ferry ticket

CASINO TRIPS IN 2019

All casino trips depart/return from Bayview Community Hall Parking lot.

Depart 9 AM • Return 4:30 PM

Member: \$35 • Non-member: \$45

2019

ANGEL OF THE WINDS	February 12
SWINOMISH	March 12
TULALIP RESORT	April 9
SKAGIT VALLEY	
QUIL CEDA CREEK	
ANGEL OF THE WINDS	July 9
TULALIP RESORT	
SNOQUALMIE	~
SWINOMISH	
QUIL CEDA CREEK	
TULALIP RESORT	

Whidbey Island Support Groups

SOUTH END

Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers Support Group

2nd Tuesday of the Month, 10 a.m. – Noon Alder Room, Island Senior Resources, 14594 SR 525, Langley, WA Contact: Mel Watson, 360-321-1623

MS Support Group

3rd Tuesday of the month, 10 – 11:30 a.m. Alder Room Island Senior Resources 14594 SR 525, Langley Facilitator: Mel Watson, 360-321-1623

Parkinson's Support Group

1st Tuesday of the month, 10 – 11:30 a.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 18341 WA-525, Freeland Ave In the older building, in Grigware Hall Contact: Mel Watson, 360-321-1623

Aging in Grace Support Group

For anyone with concerns, stories, and wisdom about aging 2nd Monday of the month, 10 a.m. – Noon Freeland Library, 5495 S. Harbor Ave., Freeland Contact Nicole Donovan 360-321-1600

NORTH END

Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers Support Group

1st Thursday of the month, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Summer Hill Assisted Living, Oak Harbor Contact: Heidi Kuzina, 360-679-1400 or Karen Cowgill, 360-279-2555

Oak Harbor Caregiver Support Group 1

2nd Thursday of the month, 2 – 3:30 p.m. Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor Contact: Carolyn Hansen, 360-279-1785

Oak Harbor Caregiver Support Group 2

4th Wednesday of the month, 2 – 3:30 p.m. Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor Contact: Carolyn Hansen, 360-279-1785

Parkinson's Support Group

1st Friday of the month, 1 – 3 p.m. The Modular Building Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor Contact: Eula Palmer, 360-675-9894

Parkinsonics Singing Group

1st and 3rd Monday of the month, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. The Modular Building at Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor Facilitator: Mel Watson, 360-321-1623

Do you need a caregiver support group that is currently not available on Whidbey Island? Call Mel Watson, Director Adult Day Services, 360-321-1623.





1609 E. Main Street Freeland

360-331-6799

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

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*Age 65 and over, just show your driver's license at the cash register.
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Learn the Basics of Social Security

- · How and when to apply for benefits
- · Types of benefits you may qualify for
- · Your Social Security rights
- Benefits based on earnings, spousal earnings (current and former)
- Survivor benefits for widow(er)s

This Island Senior Resources workshop will be presented by Annette Barca who has been conducting pre-retirement seminars for 15 years. Free. No pre-registration required. For more information call 360-321-1600 ext 0.

Island Senior Resources (Bayview)

14595 SR 525, Langley, WA 98260

Thursday, February 14, 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, 10:30 a.m.

Want to learn 3 simple steps to quick and natural healing?

BACK PAIN & SCIATICA WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 16, 11AM

Rue & Primavera 785 Bayshore Drive, Ste 102 Oak Harbor

This is a FREE informational workshop Call 360-279-8323 to register



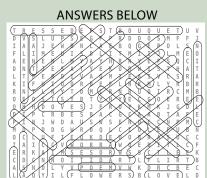
VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SEARCH

Α Ε U Ι D S L Т Α Ι 0 R Ε Н Κ Т C U Ν D R N R 0 Т C В 0 0 ٧ F 0 K D G Α 0 N W D S W Ε N М D D R D Q C U 0 G 0 L U F Q D Ι Ι C 0 R W Ε K 0 W S C C Ι D N N 0 D R Т L В S N D 0 М ٧ W K D C Ε

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

ANNIVERSARY	FLIRT		
ARROW	FLOWERS		
BOUQUET	GIFTS		
CANDY	HEARTS		
CARDS	HOLIDAY		
CELEBRATION	HUG		
CHOCOLATE	JEWELRY		
CUPCAKE	KISS		
CUPID	LACE		
DESSERT	LOVE		
DOVES	MARRIAGE		
EMBRACE	MEMORIES		
FEELINGS	MUSIC		

POEM	SERENADE
RELATIONSHIP	SWEET
ROMANCE	TRADITION
ROSES	VALENTINE
SAINT	WOO



Join us for LUNCH & LEARN

Presenters will offer information on key topics affecting the lives of seniors, their caregivers, families and friends.



ISLAND SENIOR RESOURCES (BAYVIEW) • TUESDAYS, 12:30 P.M.

Lunch (optional) will be served 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (suggested donation \$5) followed by a free presentation. See our menu section for what is being served for lunch. Come eat, socialize, and learn!

<u>Date</u> Topic and Presenter

Feb. 5 Internet for Dummies

How to 'search' online, email vs. messaging vs. texting, how to make your web-browsing safer, and virus/malware protection. There will be time for questions. Come learn and talk with Skye Dunn, Communications Manager, Island Senior Resources.

Feb. 12 LOVESCAPES: Mapping the Geography of Love

Love may be our most important emotion, one we both give and receive. Yet we are sometimes confused by what we mean by the word "love." Come learn about "lovescapes" and how to enrich your life with love. Duncan Ferguson has been a chaplain, professor, and senior administrator, is an author, and has been engaged in a variety of peace and justice activities around the world.

Feb. 19 WIN

Pam LeLoup, board chair Whidbey Island Nourishes, will talk about how WIN ensures no local child is hungry. She will share the history of WIN, how it has grown, some of the challenges, and the immense rewards for all of us when neighbors help neighbors. You might find you would like to join the WIN volunteers and make some sandwiches!

Feb. 26 Keeping Yourself Safe in Your Home

Sergeant Darren Crownover, Island County Sheriff's Office, will present information about keeping yourself safe in your home, on the roads and in public places. He'll also be able to answer questions about the Sheriff's Office or concerns you have about public safety in our community.

AT THE COUPEVILLE HUB • WEDNESDAYS, 12:30 P.M. — NEW START TIME

Events begin at 12:30 p.m. at the Coupeville United Methodist Church, 608 N. Main Street at 7th St. Lunch is served every Wednesday at noon (suggested donation \$5). Contact Carol Moliter: (360) 678-0636, bigrockdesigns@whidbey.net.

<u>Date</u> <u>Topic and Presenter</u>

Feb. 6 Bingo

Aging & Disability Resources will be available 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 13 Love Songs

Sing-a-long and original music with Heidi.

Feb. 20 A Pain in the What?

Dr. Jeremy Idjadi of WhidbeyHealth Orthopedic Care Is that pain from your shoulder, your neck, or elsewhere? The most common causes of shoulder pain, including the underlying anatomy, will be discussed along with operative and non-operative treatment options. There will be case presentations and time for questions.

Feb. 27 How to Read Digitally

Coupeville Library Associates, Debbie LaGasse and Gabriel Chrisman, will help you download a free library book on those reading-device holiday gifts waiting to be activated (Nook, Kindle, cell phone, tablets). Call 360-678-0636 for a list of passwords needed. Volunteer opportunities galore!

Disclaimer: Island Senior Resources (Bayview and the HUB) offers a variety of information, classes, and presentations, but does not endorse any speaker or vendor. Presentations are meant as an educational opportunity and no solicitation is allowed. We suggest attendees explore a variety of options before making any decisions regarding services. Island Senior Resources will not share your information with any vendor or speaker. If you choose to share your contact information, this is at your own discretion.

SUPPORT MEALS ON WHEELS

Donate \$5 at Island Senior Resources (Bayview) and receive an "I support Meals on Wheels" button.

Your \$5 will help pay for one meal for a senior.



Welcome to Medicare 2019

Will you be going on Medicare in the next six months and/or want to know more about Medicare? Attend a free seminar by SHIBA (Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors) volunteers; no pre-registration required. Counselors will answer brief questions following the seminars. Seminars run 2-2.5 hours. For information call: 360-321-1600 ext 0.

ISLAND SENIOR RESOURCES (BAYVIEW): 14594 SR 525, Langley, WA 98260

Wednesday, February 20 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 27 1 p.m.

COUPEVILLE LIBRARY: 788 NW Alexander St, Coupeville, WA 98239

Saturday, February 23 10 a.m.

OAK HARBOR SENIOR CENTER: 51 SE Jerome St, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Tuesday, February 19 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 5 11 a.m.

Information will be provided about:

- "Basic" Medicare benefits
- Options for additional insurance(s).
- Medicare parts A and B
- The differences between "Medigap" (supplemental) insurance and Advantage plans
- Benefits and rates
- Prescription drug plans. (If you want help with your drug plan, bring a detailed list of your drugs).

Note: Medicare Advantage plan enrollees who want to opt out of their plan can do so between January 1 and March 31. This will also be discussed.

The Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) offers unbiased, confidential advising for Medicare benefits and insurance options.

Individual Consultations:

For more in-depth information about Medicare options, advisors are available for one-to-one consultation at:

Oak Harbor Senior Center: Tuesdays • Call 360-279-4580 to schedule an appointment WhidbeyHealth Medical Center: Wednesdays • Call 360-678-5151 to schedule an appointment

Island Senior Resources (Bayview): Fridays • Call 360-321-1600, ext 0, to schedule an appointment

Note: SHIBA volunteers work under the guidance of the Insurance Commissioner's Office.

In observance of Presidents Day, Oak Harbor Senior Center and Island Senior Resources will be closed Monday, February 18, 2019

MEAL SITES & HOURS

ISLAND SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER (BAYVIEW)

14594 SR 525, Langley, WA 98260 • 360-321-1600 Meals served Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, 11:45 a.m.

OAK HARBOR SENIOR CENTER

51 SE Jerome Street, Oak Harbor, WA 98277 360-279-0367 (kitchen) or 360-279-4580 (Center) Meals served Mon, Wed, Fri, 11:30 a.m.

CAMANO CENTER

606 Arrowhead Road, Camano Island, WA 98282 • 360-387-0222 Meals served Mon, Wed, Fri, noon

CAMBEY APARTMENTS

50 North Main Street, Coupeville, WA 98239 360-678-4886 Ext 28 or 360-321-6661 ext 28 Meals served Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, 11:45 a.m.

BROOKHAVEN

150 4th Street, Langley, WA 98260 • 360-321-1600 Meals served Mon, Wed, Fri, noon; Thurs, 5 p.m.

COUPEVILLE METHODIST CHURCH, FIRST UNITED

608 N Main St, Coupeville, WA 98239 • 360-678-4256 Meals served Wed, noon

HILLSIDE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

874 Plantation Drive, Greenbank, WA 98253 • 360-222-3211 Meals served Wed, Fri, 11:30 a.m.

Community Meals offer older adults social opportunities while enjoying a delicious, nutritionally balanced meal.

Community Meals are provided for adults age 60+, their spouses, and caregivers. Donations are appreciated and help fund the program. We suggest a donation of \$5.00 or whatever is affordable. All eligible persons are invited to enjoy the meals regardless of their ability to donate.

MENU-FEBRUARY

\$5 Suggested donation for meals

WEEK '

WEEK 1				
Fri	1	Tuna Casserole Bake		
WEEK 2				
Mon	4	Pork Loin w/Chutney		
Tue	5	Supreme Pizza & Salad		
Wed	6	Chicken Alfredo		
Thur	7	Chef's Choice		
Fri	8	Hungarian Goulash w/Ground Beef		
WEEK 3				
Mon	11	Swedish Meatballs & Rice		
Tues	12	1/2 Chicken Sandwich & Chowder		
Wed	13	Baked Ziti & Salad		
Thur	14	Chef's Choice		
Fri	15	BBQ Chicken		
WEEK 4				
Mon	18	Holiday Meal Sites Closed		
Tues	19	BLT Wrap & Tomato Bisque Soup		
Wed	20	Chili Burgers and Fries		
Thurs	21	Chef's Choice		
Fri	22	Fish Sandwich & Chowder		
WEEK 5				
Mon	25	Chicken Fried Steak and Potatoes		
Tues	26	Half Reuben and Oven Fries		
Wed	27	Beef Satay w/Peanut Sauce		

Chef's Choice

Thank you for reading *Island Times*. Please support our advertisers. Please recycle this publication when you are finished reading it.

Thurs

Making Friends

By Cheryn Weiser, Executive Director, Island Senior Resources

An increasing number of Whidbey seniors are transplants from other parts of the region and beyond. Drawn by the incredible beauty, the reduction in the metropolitan pace and crush, we find a special place to be in our later years. And, we are poised to meet new people, make new friends, and find ways to become part of the fabric of the community we live in.

For some transplants, the 'making new friends' part of moving to Whidbey is easy but for others, finding new friends has been a bit tougher, making them feel more isolated than they thought would be the case.

I want to urge you to reach out in your neighborhood, in the town you are closest to or attracted to, or to a community of people that seem alive and welcoming. Immediate options come to mind: churches, senior centers, service organizations,

groups connected with the arts or recreation or the environment or education or political activism. Whether as a volunteer or a participant in an activity or group, what are your interests and what are the options for you to engage those interests?

Making friends happens over time and through shared experiences, learning about one another, laughing and crying together, swapping ideas or information, attending events together and developing a bond called "friendship."

Now, in the winter of a new year is a great time to survey the "territory" of your life to identify and seek out new friendships or deepen those you already have. Our lives are enriched by relationships, and it takes time, energy, and opportunity to build the relationships and sense of belonging in a community we need and want in our lives. Go forth and enrich your life with relationships in 2019!

Donate What You Don't Need

Clutter, clutter everywhere and not the space to think! Have you ever wondered how you accumulated so much stuff you don't use? Drawers, closets, even maybe the garage have become the "catch-all" for everything you don't use or don't know what to do with.

Just after the holidays I looked around my house and realized that if I cleared out what I don't use I'd gain something very valuable - more room to breathe, and more room to think. So, I am going at it closet by closet with zeal. "What do I need that for?" I ask. "Do I really use this or that anymore?" The old saying goes that if you haven't used it in a year give it away - OK, that's a good starting place. But, there's a fine line when it comes to deciding what I don't need and what I might need someday, after all, I don't want to have to buy something I just threw out when I find I need it.

Sure, I might need a ladder someday, but if I haven't climbed on one in three years, it's time to give it away. My inner voice said, "Sure you might need a ladder someday but by the time "someday" rolls around what you'll really need is someone to climb that ladder for you." Good point. What about that lawnmower sitting in the garage? I hire the neighbor's teenagers now to mow my lawn, and

they use their own mower...time to give mine away. I have a linen closet full of good wool blankets from when I had a household of children who are now all grown and living far away. Wouldn't someone else here on the island with a family use and appreciate them? I'll keep three for guests and give the rest away.

These long rainy days of winter are a great time to do this. I've started doing a room each week. Every week I load up my car and take it all to Senior Thrift. Everything I don't need will help someone else who needs it, and while I'm at the thrift store, I might find something I need that someone else donated. I support Senior Thrift because all the profits help local seniors like me. That feels good. You can do it too!

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HOW TO REACH ISLAND SENIOR RESOURCES

For all departments and all staff call 360-321-1600 or 360-678-3373

Nutrition/Meals on Wheels Aging & Disability Resources **Family Caregiver Support** Time Together Adult Day In Home Care Case Management Medical Transportation/ **Volunteer Services SHIBA**

Senior Thrift 360-331-5701

For more information, visit www.senior-resources.org

OUR LOCATIONS

Island Senior Resources (Bayview) 14594 SR 525 Langley, WA 98260

Oak Harbor Senior Center

(in collaboration with Oak Harbor Senior Center) 51 SE Jerome St Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Camano Center

(in collaboration with Camano Center) 606 Arrowhead Rd Camano Island, WA 98282

Senior Thrift

5518 Woodard Ave Freeland, WA 98249

For more information call: (360) 321-1600 or (360) 678-3373

ISLAND SENIOR RESOURCES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cynthia Trowbridge: President June Nailon: Vice President Treasurer (open) Jason Pryde: Secretary

> Christina Baldwin Kathryn Beaumont Julie Joselyn Marie McElligott Suzette Montano Chris Schacker **Bruce Spong**

Executive Director: Cheryn Weiser

Please contact Island Senior Resources (360) 321-1600 or (360) 678-33 if you are interested in applying to join the Board. Special interest in North-island applicants.

Island Senior Resources eNews!

Join our email list and receive our monthly eNews the last Friday of every month. It's full of updates for the month ahead: sales at Senior Thrift, special events, classes, menus, and links to great articles. Sign up online at www. senior-resources.org.



FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS at Island Senior Resources

FUN-draising

Saturday, Feb. 9

Not Your Grandma's Bingo will be back Saturday, Feb. 9 in Bayview Hall. These events sell out quickly. Go to www. senior-resources.org to purchase tickets. You don't want to miss this boisterous "fun-draising" event hosted by famous drag-queens Sylvia O'Stayformore and Bobbie Jo Blessings. It's BINGO like you've never seen it before. Age 21+ only. Come join us! You help our community when you help support Island Senior Resources.

AARP Tax-Aide Free Tax Return Preparation

Feb. 1 through April 12

AARP Tax-Aide is offering free tax return preparation for taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those ages 60 and over. AARP membership is not required.

There are appointments available Feb. 1 through April 12 at Oak Harbor Library, Coupeville Library, Island Senior Resources (Bayview) and Oak Harbor Senior Center. Appointments, although not required, are recommended and will receive preference over walk-ins. No walk-ins or appointments during the last hour of operation.

For appointments at Coupeville Library and Island Senior Resources (Bayview) call 360-678-3000, leave your name and telephone number, and your requested site and date. A volunteer will return your call to schedule an appointment. Appointments can also be made when Tax-Aide volunteers are on site.

For appointments at the Oak Harbor Senior Center, call 360-279-4580. Appointments for the Oak Harbor Library can be made in person at the library.

DRIVE SAFE DRIVE

Take the new AARP smart driver course

Saturday, Feb. 9 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Island Senior Resources (Bayview)

Refresh your driving skills; understand the new rules of the road. Learn driving strategies to help you stay safe behind the wheel.

This class may save you money on your car insurance. There are no tests to pass.

Lunch not included.

Cost: \$15 AARP members, \$20 for non-AARP members.

Registration required. Call 360-321-1600 or 360-678-3373.

Dementia Care Classes for Caregivers

Taught by Kathleen Landel

Feb. 19 - Let's Talk About the Brain: The Impact of Dementia

Understand how the brain changes with dementia and the reason behind challenging behaviors.

March 19 - The Caregiver Journey: The Stage of Dementia

Learn how dementia progresses and how you can anticipate and respond to the changes and support your own

1-3 p.m. at Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor

\$15 per class. Call 360-969-5471 to req-

Dementia Care Partner Support

Series Taught by Kathleen Landel

Tuesdays, Feb. 5, 19, March 5, 19

10 a.m.-Noon Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor

This series is progressive and will cover topics on Facing Dementia, Skills, and Coping, The Long Haul, Taking Stock - Taking Care of You, and Putting it all Together. You will connect with other caregivers and learn through videos, handouts, discussions and hands-on skill

\$15 per class. Call 360-969-5471 to reg-

End of Life Discussion Series

Held Tuesday afternoons, featuring the following topics hosted by Island Senior Resources and Hospice of the Northwest.

12:30-2:30 p.m. at Coupeville Library, 788 NW Alexander St. Class is FREE. For more information, contact Nicole Donovan 360-321-1600. No need to register.

Feb. 19: Introduction and Overview Aging in Place, Fall Risks (HNW)

Feb. 26: The Legal Paperwork

What documents are available and needed (HNW and Andy Schuh, Attorney-at-Law)

March 5: End of Life Options

Disease progression, in-home care options and hospice care (HNW and Whidbey Hospice)

March 12: After Death

A panel discussion with funeral home representatives (Jason Easton from Evans Funeral Chapel and On-site Crematory and Paul Kuzina from Whidbey Memorial)

March 19: Grief and Loss

How does change affect you? A discussion providing tools for change, grief, and loss (HNW)

Thank you Rotary Club Whidbey Westside!



Janice DeWolf ISR Food Service Manager, John Joynt Rotary Club Whidbey **Westside.** Photo by Mel Watson

Rotary Club Whidbey Westside donated \$1,000 for Meals on Wheels! We thank you for your generosity and for all the help you provide to our Pancake Breakfast fundraisers for Meals on Wheels. We appreciate your time, humor, and generous support for our nutrition program that serves seniors in need.

Chronic Pain Self-Management Workshop

Thursdays, Feb. 7 through March 21

1 - 3:30 p.m.

Oak Harbor Senior Center 51 SE Jerome St., Oak Harbor.

Learn to better manage medications, make decisions and communicate more effectively, eat well, add activity to your life and much more.

Registration Required. Class is FREE but space is limited. To register, contact Debbie Metz, 360-321-1621

Thank you!

All of us at Island Senior Resources would like to thank the many individuals, businesses, and organizations, who provided vital support to Island Senior Resources in 2018. From financial contributions, to volunteers, donations of services, space, items for our raffles, and so much more, we thank you all.

Many local and regional organizations and businesses sustained us in many different ways and we hope everyone in the community will make a special effort to join with us in thanking them for their support of all we do to serve seniors and adults living with disabilities in our community:

> Bank of America **Bayview Hall Building Source Cadee Distillery** Camano Community Center **Candlewood Suites** The Caregiver Coach Casey's Crafts Coastal Community Bank Color Box Salon Coupeville Methodist Church Eagles FOE AERIE #3418 El Cazador Freeland Ace Hardware **Gallery Golf Course Good Cheer** The Goose Goosefoot **Harvest Foundation** Heritage Bank Hillside Church Imagine Children's Museum

Isherwood Art Pottery Island Athletic Club Island Cafe **Island County Fairgrounds** Island County Housing Authority

Lundgren Crabbing Knights of Columbus-St. Hubert Catholic Church

Les Schwab Lind's Lithtex

The Lord's Garden **Lucky Seven Foundation** The Machine Shop Maple Ridge Mukilteo Coffee

Mutiny Bay Distillery Noe Jose Café Oak Harbor Bowling Oak Harbor Cinema

Oak Harbor Rotary Club Oak Harbor Senior Center Oak Harbor VFW Women's Group

Puget Sound Energy

Rain Shadow Nursery Raven Rocks Gallery

Rocket Taco Rotary Club Whidbey Westside

Sarah Schmidt Nature Guide Seattle Essential Baking Company

Seattle Foundation **Sno-Isle Libraries**

South Whidbey Assembly St. Augustine's in-the-Woods

St. Cecilia Church St. Hubert Catholic Church Women's Group Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians

Sweet Mona's Swinomish Tribe **Tulalip Tribes** Walmart Wells Fargo Westphal Improv Whidbey Children's Theater

Whidbey Donuts Whidbey Golf Club Whidbey Island Distillery Whidbey Weekly

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ALL FEBRUARY Red Tags, 25% off White Tags, 50% off

SATURDAY, FEB. 9 25% off Showcase jewelry • 50% off all other jewelry

SUNDAY, FEB. 17 Your choice of one (1) item, 25% off

one (1) item 25% off



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There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. For use only by adults twenty-one and older. Keep out of the reach of children.

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TRUSTING continued from page 1

hang up. And if you do collect this data, tell them, "Thank you, I'll call you back." Hang up and take your time to think things through, double check, ask a trusted family member, law enforcement, etc. "Do you think this is legitimate? How do you think I should respond?"

- 3. The call or email is coming from a source you don't usually use: i.e. Fed Ex, when you haven't shipped anything, or a bank where you don't have an account.
- 4. Do not engage the internet environment beyond your comfort level. When my mother-in-law asked if she should learn the computer we discouraged her because she had not trained herself with years of practice to maneuver this complex environment of unfiltered information. When my father asked if he should get on Facebook we discouraged him because it would expose him to advertising and fake relationships he'd never tried to handle before.

Where we can rest is back at the basics: being in relationships of acquaintance, friendship, and family we trust.

My friend who hung up the phone is 85. She comes from a time and place where she knew the milkman, the postman, the grocer, the bank teller, and other service providers. Exchanges of asking and offering were conducted in a field of familiarity and relationship. These types of face-to-face connections still flourish on Whidbey and are part of what we appreciate about island life: we're in this together. It's great to have the

check-out person wonder where we've been if we haven't gotten groceries in a couple of weeks. It's reassuring to have the bank clerk call and inquire if something doesn't look right in our checking account.

Because valuables, medicine, and vulnerable information rest on the surface, we need to trust anyone who walks through our homes: friends, family, neighbors, care-givers, cleaners, repair persons and others. Trust is built through relationship and by signaling each other our trustworthiness.

To develop trust, remember three things:

- Interact locally and face-to-face as much as possible.
- Choose a person to contact when you have concerns, and get to know each other.
- Talk about trust: what it means in different relationships and situations.

"Doris, did you mean to leave your rings by the sink?" I ask my friend when I come out of the guest bathroom.

"Why no, and I would have panicked when I realized I didn't have them on. Thank you."

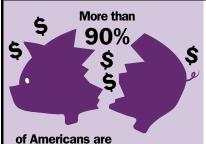
"We all do that," I reassured her. "Just call me, and I'll help you find whatever's gone missing."

"Do you know where your glasses are right now?" she asked me with a smile.

"No, I actually don't!" I felt anxiety rising. Doris retrieved them-off my head-where I'd pushed them back as a hairband.

We get by with a little help from our friends, and that's life on Whidbey.

You can help make history!



uninsured for long-term support

Long-term care insurance isn't affordable for most Washingtonians. When long-term care services are needed many families' savings are drained, and many family care-givers are put at risk, both physically and financially.

Washington Can Take the Lead Pass the Long-Term Care Trust Act!

The Long-Term Care Trust Act
(HB 1087 & SB 5331) would give families
the security of knowing that financial help is
available for the care they need when they need it.

Information will be presented on this ground-breaking legislation and what we can do to help make it the law of Washington. **WON'T YOU JOIN US?**

Tuesday, February 12 · 6:30pm-8:00pm Langley United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

301 Anthes Ave · Langley
Presenters will include: Robby Stern, President, PSARA Education Fund

Kippi Waters, Founding Director, Peninsula Homecare Cooperative Karen Richter, Membership Vice President, PSARA

Sponsored by Whidbey Island Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action (PSARA)

WEB LINKS TO INFORM & INSPIRE...

When you have a few quiet moments, visit **senior-resources.org/ weblinks**. There, you will find web links to resources that will provide information and shine a light of inspiration to help you navigate today and tomorrow. Each month we will add new resources, so keep checking back. You can also reach the links from our homepage **www.senior-resources.org** and click "Links" in the upper right corner.

- How Music Reaches Those with Memory Issues
- Keep Your Brain Young with Music
- 14 Ways to Spend Valentine's Day with Your Senior Loved One
- Where to Report Fraud or Financial Exploitation

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390 NE MIDWAY BLVD | PO BOX 1098 | OAK HARBOR, WASHINGTON 98277

Publisher & Editor Eric Marshall

Marketing Representatives Penny Hill, Roosevelt Rumble

Graphic Design Teresa Besaw

Production Manager TJ Pierzchala

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PHONE: (360)682-2341

FAX: (360)682-2344

ALERT!

Be aware that the IRS and Social Security will NEVER contact you by phone asking for payment of any kind. If you get that kind of call hang up immediately. Do not supply the caller with any information. All these calls are scams designed to steal your money or your identity. The IRS and Social Security will always send you any inquiry in writing or through regular mail (NOT by phone or email).

The same thing is true for your bank. If someone calls asking for your identity information and says they are your bank, ask what they need, ask what department they are in, then hang up, and call your bank directly. Do NOT use the callback/recently called feature on your phone. Make a new call to your bank's official customer service number. If the bank needs the information, you can supply it, but if they don't then the call was a scam and you can be relieved you didn't provide any information.

Be wise and be careful with your information.