

October 24, 2025 - October 30, 2025

# Whidbey Weekly

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Get help with Medicare Open Enrollment!



Learn about 2026 Medicare plan choices for Whidbey Island!  
Call 360-321-1600 to reserve your spot at any of these presentations:

Date	Time	Location
Tues., Oct. 28	2 p.m.	Oak Harbor Library
Thurs., Oct 30	10:30 p.m.	St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Oak Harbor
Sat., Nov 1	10 a.m.	Freeland Library
Thurs., Nov 6	11 a.m.	The Center in Oak Harbor
Sat., Nov 8	10 a.m.	Coupeville Library

Medicare OEP  
Oct. 15 - Dec. 7

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Understanding Medicare in 2026: Why It Matters to Review Your Coverage

Why this matters: 2026 brings meaningful cost and plan changes that could raise your Medicare monthly bills or change your coverage. The Annual Open Enrollment Period runs now — don't assume your current plan will be best next year.

Each year between October 15 and December 7, individuals on Medicare have an opportunity to review and potentially change their coverage so it works better in the coming year. That makes 2026 a key year for many, because several significant changes are coming — and skipping that annual check could leave you with higher costs or smaller benefits than you expect.

What's changing for 2026

- The yearly out of pocket cap for prescription drugs under Part D is increasing to \$2,100.
- Some premium and deductible amounts are projected to go up.
- For those in Medicare Advantage (MA) plans, extra perks (such as gym memberships, over the counter items, transportation) may be scaled back.
- While "Original Medicare" (Parts A and B) generally allows you to see any doctor or hospital that accepts Medicare, MA plans typically require you to stay within a network.
- Because things change (drug lists, provider networks, benefits, cost sharing), what worked this year may not be best in 2026.

Why reviewing matters

Just because you were enrolled in a plan last year and were comfortable with it doesn't guarantee it's still a good fit. Your doctor could shift out of network, your drug coverage could change, or your plan's perks could shrink. By taking time now to compare plans, make sure your provider network remains acceptable, your medications are covered, and your overall cost aligns with your health needs, you reduce the risk of surprises.

Original Medicare vs. Medicare Advantage — a refresher

Original Medicare (Parts A & B): Offered by the federal government; you can go to any doctor nationwide who accepts Medicare. To get prescription coverage, you add a separate Part D drug plan — and many

people also buy a "Medigap" supplemental plan to cover what Medicare doesn't.

**Medicare Advantage (Part C):** A private insurer alternative. You join an MA plan instead of staying in Original. Medicare + Part D + Medigap. MA plans often bundle drug coverage and may add dental, vision, hearing, gym benefits, or transportation. But they typically restrict you to in network providers (except in emergencies) and you cannot use a Medigap plan alongside an MA plan.

If you value the freedom to see any provider, travel frequently, or anticipate needing specialist care, Original Medicare might fit you better. If you're comfortable with a network and want extra benefits and a fixed out of pocket cap, an MA plan might make sense.

For those who prefer the "traditional" route

If you like the simplicity of Original Medicare, avoid switching often, and want broad flexibility in provider choice:

- Review your Part D drug plan each year — drug lists change.
- If you travel or use out of area care, confirm your plan supports it.

- If you have high health care costs, consider a Medigap supplemental plan.
- Even if you don't change your plan, review your coverage each October and November.

What to do now

1. Read your Annual Notice of Change from your plan.
2. List your doctors, hospitals, and medications.
3. Use Medicare's Plan Finder or call SHIBA for free counseling.
4. If you're happy, stay put — but only after confirming no major changes.

Use the Open Enrollment window (Oct 15–Dec 7) to make adjustments.

Final take

Medicare isn't "set it and forget it." Even if you like your current plan and doctors, rules, networks, and drug coverage change every year. Take one afternoon this fall to review your plan, check your medications and costs, and ensure you're set up for the coverage that best fits your health needs in 2026.





# Life Tributes

**Judy B. Marti**  
**5/14/1940— 10/5/2025**  
It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of a legend, our loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Judith "Judy" Bernice Marti, who passed away peacefully in her home on October 5, 2025, at the age of 85.  
Born in 1940 in Seattle to the late Lester and Opal Roberts, Judy was a force of nature. A lively child who climbed trees and wore mismatched socks and didn't care what you thought about it. In 1960 she met the love of her life, Roy John Marti II, and they married the following year. Together they built a beautiful bustling family with ten children. After raising the first five in the city, they moved to the countryside to sow the land and grow the rest of their brood and have called Coupeville home for the last 50 years.  
Judy used life experiences to become one of the most valuable teachers' aids ever to grace the school district. Her ability to relate and connect impacted everyone she met, from the student struggling in math, to the stranger sitting next to her on the bus. She was spiritual and an avid reader, from mysteries to the Bible; her favorite picture was Jesus laughing, she herself enjoyed humor and was often described as the funniest person in the room. A talented wit who showed compassion for all. It's hard to measure the breadth of impact she had on us all, but it would look similar to the deepest view of the universe ever captured by the James Webb telescope.  
She is survived by her sister Mary, as well as her children Chris, Rick, Rose, Mike, Frank, Bill, Jim and Tony. She is proceeded in death by her husband Roy, their son Roy John III, and daughter Judith Catherine, as well as her siblings Bette, James, and Daniel. She leaves behind 15 adoring grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren, all of whom will carry on her legacy of love, strength, and humor.  
A memorial will be held at the Coupeville Recreation Hall on Saturday, Nov 1st at 3 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Parking is limited, overflow available behind the library.



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**GOOD FORTUNE (R):**  
2:00PM, 4:30PM & 7:30PM  
THURSDAY: 2:00PM & 4:30PM

**ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (R):**  
7:00PM

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11/7 "PREDATOR: BADLANDS"  
11/14 "THE RUNNING MAN"





### Holiday Turkey Reservations \$50 Deposit



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- After placing your deposit, you'll receive an email form to provide your preferred turkey details (weight, delivery, etc.).
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## BITS & PIECES

### Oak Harbor Schools Address Impact of Ongoing Federal Government Shutdown

OAK HARBOR — As the federal government shutdown reaches its 22nd day, Oak Harbor Public Schools is closely monitoring potential effects on district funding and operations.

During the shutdown, the U.S. Department of Education issued layoff notices to employees in several key offices, including the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE), which oversees the Federal Impact Aid program. This program provides critical funding to school districts that serve students from military families and other federal employers. The staff reductions may result in delays in processing and distributing funds nationwide.

Superintendent Dr. Michelle Kuss-Cybula noted that roughly nine percent of Oak Harbor Public Schools' budget comes from federal sources, including Impact Aid.

"We rely heavily on this funding to support teachers, staff, and student programs," said Kuss-Cybula. "It's more important than ever for families to complete their Impact Aid forms in ParentSquare to ensure we receive this vital support."

Despite current challenges, the district reports that two Department of Defense-funded school construction projects are continuing as planned. No federal payment suspensions or cancellations have been reported, though the district is preparing for possible delays in processing and oversight due to reduced federal staffing.

In partnership with the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), Oak Harbor Public Schools remains committed to maintaining strong civil rights and special education protections, regardless of federal disruptions.

"Our mission to inspire every student remains unchanged," said Kuss-Cybula. "We're reviewing our fiscal and operational plans to maintain stability and ensure resources continue flowing directly to classrooms."

The superintendent encourages the community to stay informed and advocate for education funding by contacting state and federal representatives.

"Thank you for your patience, support, and advocacy for our students and staff," Kuss-Cybula said. "Together, as #OneOakHarbor, we'll continue to ensure every student is valued, supported, and prepared to thrive."



*Vote*

# Sandi Peterson

for Oak Harbor City Council  
Position 6

★ Careful Listener ★  
★ Thoughtful Collaborator ★  
★ Solutions Driven ★

Learn more about Sandi at  
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RETURN YOUR BALLOT BY TUESDAY, NOV 4, 2025

Paid for by Friends of Sandi Peterson • 964 NW Longview Drive, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

### Letter to the Editor

It is reported that as many as 70% of Medicare enrollees fail to check their plan's cost and overpay for benefits and prescriptions. This is also true for veterans on Medicare who are not aware of "give back" programs that repay a portion of the Medicare Part B premium. Join SHIBA at the Oak Harbor Library, 1000 Regatta Dr., on Tuesday, Oct. 28th at 2 pm. SHIBA is a program of the State Office of the Insurance Commissioner. Need more information? Call Island Senior Resources at 360-321-1600

Jean Mathisen  
(206) 947-2094  
SHIBA

I will vote to elect Sandi Peterson to the Oak Harbor City Council, where she will be a welcome addition. She has a long history as a successful entrepreneur, business owner, and resident of Oak Harbor and is familiar with many issues the City currently faces. As a Councilmember, she will bring her intelligence, thoughtfulness, and tenacity to the table. In considering any proposed solutions to problems the City faces, the first questions she always asks is, 'Does this make sense for our City, is this the best use of our tax dollars, and will this actually solve the problem?' We need her proven ability to cut to the heart of matters and her clarity of thought on our City Council. I ask you to join with me in casting your vote for Sandi as she truly cares about our City and is eager to ably represent all the people who are so lucky to live here.

Ed Meyer  
Oak Harbor

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# What's Going On!

**FRIENDS OF THE OAK HARBOR LIBRARY  
POP-UP BOOK SALE**  
Friday–Saturday, Oct. 24–25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Oak Harbor Library, 1000 SE Regatta Dr., Oak Harbor

Browse hundreds of gently used books, CDs, and DVDs at bargain prices. All proceeds support library programs, services, and materials.

**WHIDBEY CHILDREN'S THEATRE:  
MONSTER MASH**  
Saturday, Oct. 25  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Clinton Community Hall, SR 525 and Humphrey Road, Clinton

Free  
A festive costume party and fundraiser filled with spooky fun for all ages hosted by Whidbey Children's Theatre. This all-day event invites families to celebrate Halloween with games, activities, and community support for the local theater.

**ARTS – CRAFTS – QUILTS – BAZAAR**  
Saturday, Oct. 25, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Women of St. Hubert Church, 804 Third St., Langlely

Join the Women of St. Hubert for their annual bazaar featuring handmade arts, crafts, gift treasures, baked goods, and a café. Quilts by Debbie Caffrey will be available through a silent auction, with winners announced at 2 p.m.

**TORCHLIGHT PARADE & STREET DANCE**  
Saturday, Oct. 25  
5:30 to 7 p.m.  
Downtown Coupeville, Front Street and area

Free  
Join the nostalgic Halloween celebration in Coupeville with a torchlight parade starting at Cook's Corner Park at 5 p.m., followed by a parade down historic Front Street with candy handed out by local businesses. The event concludes with a lively street dance featuring DJ Moose at the Coupeville Wharf. Come early to enjoy shopping and the Ales and Apothecary Brew Garden from 2 to 6 p.m.

**BLACK CAT BALL @ BAYVIEW HALL**  
Saturday, Oct. 25  
7 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.  
Bayview Hall, 5642 Bayview Road, Langlely

Free, donations appreciated  
Dress to impress for the legendary Black Cat Ball featuring local DJs and live music by the Mutiny Bay Brass Band. This all-ages event includes a 21+ bar and promises a festive Halloween night with dancing, music, and creative costumes. Those who come uncostumed may be playfully teased, so costumes are highly encouraged.

**JIGSAW PUZZLE EXCHANGE**  
Sunday, Oct. 26  
1 to 5 p.m.  
Freeland Library, 5495 Harbor Ave, Freeland

Free  
Puzzle enthusiasts can drop by anytime during open hours on the 4th Sunday from October through December to exchange puzzles. Bring puzzles in good condition with no missing pieces for a swap based on honor code. A communal puzzle will also be available to work on during the event. Puzzle donations in good shape accepted at the library during open hours in these months. Interpreters available on request. Upcoming dates include Nov. 23 and Dec. 28.

**THE GREAT COUPEVILLE PUMPKIN RACE**  
Sunday, Oct. 26  
2 to 3:30 p.m.  
NW Coveland Street by Town Park, Coupeville

Free  
The thrilling finale to Practically Magic invites all ages to race pumpkins down Coveland Street. Choose from the precision-focused Iron Gourd category or the wild and creative Pumpkin Pandemonium. This family-friendly event promises an afternoon of fun, competition, and Halloween magic in historic Coupeville.

**WHIDBEY ISLAND STRING TRIO @ WICA**  
Sunday, Oct. 26  
4 to 6 p.m.  
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, 565 Camano Avenue, Langlely

Tickets required, price varies  
Enjoy an afternoon of genre-bending strings with the Whidbey Island String Trio featuring Gloria Ferry-Brennan, Linda Vogt, and Gideon Freudmann. The trio performs a vibrant mix of waltzes, swing, blues, bossanova, Bach, and a surprise hoedown, promising artistry, joy, and a musical adventure on Whidbey Island.

**MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT: WHAT'S NEW FOR 2026?**  
Tuesday, Oct. 28  
2 to 3:30 p.m.  
Oak Harbor Library, 1000 SE Regatta Dr, Oak Harbor

Free  
Medicare Open Enrollment runs from October 15 to December 7, 2025, for coverage changes effective January 1, 2026. This seminar by a trained SHIBA volunteer covers updates to Original Medicare, Part D prescription plans, and Medicare Advantage benefits. Topics include eligibility, plan options, costs, and assistance for those with employer, VA, or TriCare coverage. Attendees can ask questions to find the best plan for their needs. Registration is recommended. SHIBA offers free, unbiased Medicare education and assistance.

**THE REPTILE LADY**  
Wednesday, Oct. 29  
10 to 11 a.m.  
Coupeville Rec Hall, 901 Alexander St, Coupeville

Free  
Meet April Jackson, the Reptile Lady, for an educational and fun event to interact with snakes, alligators, lizards, and reptiles from around the world. The program is suitable for kids of all ages and their caregivers. Seating and space may be limited. Interpreters available upon request.

**SPOOKTACULAR LANGLEY**  
Friday, Oct. 31  
2:30 to 5 p.m.  
Downtown Langlely

Families in costume are invited to trick-or-treat in the charming downtown core of Langlely. Merchants and townspeople dress up for the holiday, creating a festive and safe environment for children and parents to enjoy Halloween fun and candy downtown.

**NO TRICKS, SAFE TREATS**  
Friday, Oct. 31  
5 to 7 p.m.  
Historic Downtown Oak Harbor, Pioneer Way and Fidalgo

Free  
Families are invited to trick-or-treat in a safe, festive environment with over forty local businesses and civic groups participating. The event features candy giveaways along the streets of downtown Oak Harbor, creating a fun and welcoming Halloween experience for children and their families.

**DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE: HALLOWEEN NIGHT PARTY @ BAYVIEW HALL**  
Friday, Oct. 31  
8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.  
Bayview Hall, 5642 Bayview Road, Langlely

Free, donations appreciated  
Celebrate Halloween with music and dancing in this all-ages event featuring a 21+ bar. Part of a series of spooky autumn events at Bayview Hall, this party promises a magical night inspired by Alice in Wonderland themes and festive costumes.





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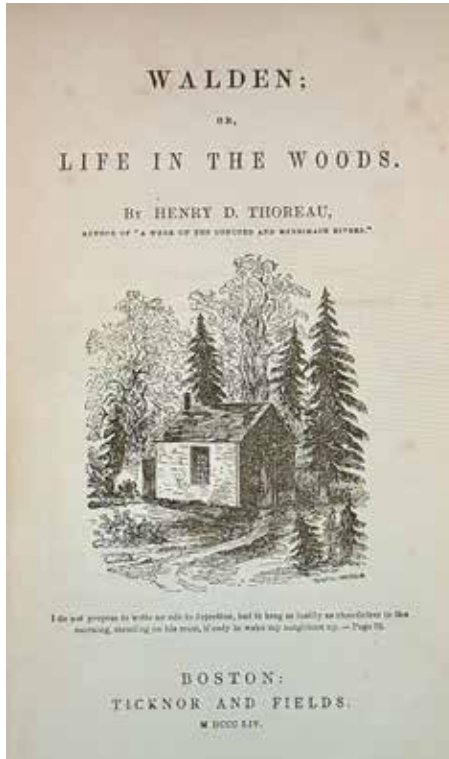
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## On Simplifying

BY CHARLES LAFOND  
ISLAND POTTER, AUTHOR, FUNDRAISER, AND WRITER

On about this day of this week, this month, a bit more than a century ago, a man from a distinguished family that produced pencils left his job, his family home, and his willingness to agree to specific laws and taxes that perpetuated slavery. They say that courage is just fear combined with grace.

This 20-year-old man built a cabin on a friend's land for \$28 in 1837, equivalent to about \$1,500 today. It was small, fitting just two chairs, a single bed, a desk, and a wood stove. He took two bowls and two forks with him, hoping that curious friends might visit, as he was a brief walk from the town center.

This man saw society changing fast. Banks were over-leveraged on debt. The US was fighting Mexico because the President was attempting to keep slavery as the norm. A new American materialism was the fuel to a depression that year (second only to "The Great Depression" a century later). He

felt that people he knew and even loved were living beyond their means— spending money on things rather than paying off debt, saving for retirement, emergencies, and philanthropy (helping neighbors), but mainly as a way to show off. He wanted a different kind of life – a mindful life.

It was late October. On this day of the week a century ago, this man went into the woods, where he ate plants he grew and fish he caught, drinking water from the deepest freshwater pond in Massachusetts—breaking ice to bathe and drink in winter. Like my own last book, his first was a disaster, selling so poorly that the publisher returned the inventory to him. But then he began writing a second book. He named it Walden.

He began "living so that others may simply live." We know this as a quote from Gandhi, but the idea originated with Henry David Thoreau's second book, which formed the basis of Gandhi's and Martin Luther King Jr.'s philosophy of non-violent activism.

Massive homes for one or two people, shopping for things and foods that go on shelves, then into closets, then into the backs of closets, then into garages and storage units, and finally, thrift stores, only to make room for more things – this way of life just did not make sense to Henry David Thoreau.

In 2024, the US storage industry generated \$44 billion in revenue because we can't seem to let go of old things, while spawning more than \$6.9 billion in new construction for more storage. And that does not count basements, attics, sheds, closets, and multiple homes full of stuff. And yet \$50 billion could feed 228 million people suffering from malnutrition in a year, of which 3 million will die a slow and painful death. That's 625,000 childhood deaths every day, or 26,000 every hour; or 2,166 childhood deaths while you read this essay.

I come from hundreds of years, 30 generations, of shoppers. And I know that I often shop when I feel beaten down by life. Suddenly owning something gives me a hit of pleasure and a momentary feeling of power, whether it is a spice I already have in the cupboard or a book I intend to read, but never will. Shoppers raised me, and so have I become one.

But I am trying to reform. I am surrounding myself with people guiding me into minimalism, if for no other reason than that I am aging and will need to downsize anyway. I no longer care if people are impressed with my home, my collections, my clothes, or my car.

My only strategy for aging is lowering my standards.

As Thoreau suggests, I am beginning to "march to a different drummer."

In his new, tiny cabin, Thoreau wrote these first words in his journal, looking out into the forest in which he lived for a time: "What are you doing now?"

This key question, every moment of our lives, is mindfulness. It's not Buddhist or in any way religious. It's human, on this spinning island planet, in a cosmos – this island we call home.

Next week, I begin making my Christmas presents for family and friends. This year it's spiced walnuts. All the money I save on shopping for things, wrapping and shipping them this December, will go to island charities to help my neighbors. No shopping. No wrapping. No ornaments. No feasts. No new gadgets. Just me and Sugar-the-dog, in a cabin, in a small forest, on two islands (Whidbey and Earth), trying to practice mindfulness, often failing. Sometimes succeeding, munching on Spiced Walnuts.

20th annual whidbey weavers guild fiber arts sale

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# October is my Favorite Color

by JoAnn Hellmann

That's what a sign in my office says. It seems to be a popular view as I see that rustic sentiment a lot these days now that summer, officially over, is in our collective rearview mirror.

Truly October is the quintessential autumn month, when Mother Nature showcases the peak of the season's sensory experiences. Leaves dramatically changing colors with a mixture of browns, yellows, reds, oranges in all different tones. What October lacks here in that department compared to East coast locales, our Evergreen State more than makes up for with apples, another fall delight. Did you know Washington State is responsible for producing over half of the country's domestically grown apples and a significant portion of the world's crop? The best time of the year for those cobbles, crisps and pies. And let's not forget candy and caramel apples!

Or pumpkins, ready for carving. Washington State is a leading pumpkin producer in the US, ranking 7th nationally, producing millions of pounds of the orange winter squash each year. We're fortunate to have several farms on Whidbey that offer pumpkins and fall fun activities.

As for weather, unlike September, which can still be warm, or November, which can turn unpleasantly cold, October often offers comfy "in-between" weather. That crisp air invigorates cool-weather enthusiasts like me. The sound of leaves crunching underfoot during an autumn walk and the wind rustling through bare tree branches creating a distinct, moody soundtrack. Often you'll hear the honking of geese flying in their "V" formation (scientists say for energy conservation and to keep track of everyone; the latter fighter pilots often use for the same reason.). The crackle of a warm fireplace or an outdoor campfire fills the cooler nights with a comforting sound. And the distinct, warm, and inviting smell of pumpkin spice is everywhere.

Look to the sky in October to be dazzled by the Orionids, the year's best meteor show, created by dust and debris left behind by Halley's Comet. As Earth passes through the comet's trail, particles burn up in the atmosphere, creating bright flashes that appear to radiate from the constellation Orion, yet seen across much of the sky.

It's easy to see why those of us who welcome the coming of the fall season and its associated feelings of comfort, change and harvest find October our favorite month. I have additional reasons: The Twilight Zone, my favorite TV series, debuted on the 2nd of that month sixty-six years ago. My parents were married on the 5th. I became engaged on the 20th and my birthday is on the 26th. Then there's Mischief Night, which was a fun night back in the day (or should I say night) in New Jersey on the 30th. We had harmless fun like soaping windows and draping toilet paper in trees. Oh the memories!

Halloween, still my favorite holiday, ends the month. My earliest memories are of going trick-or-treating at age four dressed as a gypsy. I liked the costume so much I used it the next two years until I outgrew it. Even decades later I had fun with decorating the house and myself, playing spooky music which the neighbor kids enjoyed. Even had them doing the Time Warp in our driveway. Spooky Night was also my favorite holiday because it was my cat Buddy's birthday; the only all-black one in the litter! Purrrrrfect!

Seems Halloween gets more popular each year. Perhaps because for many it's filled with traditions, creativity, and community spirit. Whether you're a fan of spooky thrills, fall aesthetics or simply enjoy eating fun-sized candy without judgment, there's a magic to October 31st that's hard to resist.

While every month has its own unique essence, October's vibe is truly one of a kind, with fall arriving in full force delighting all our senses. It's a time of change, transition, and harvest, and the end of the year's growth before winter. I find no other month quite as magical, comforting, and charming.



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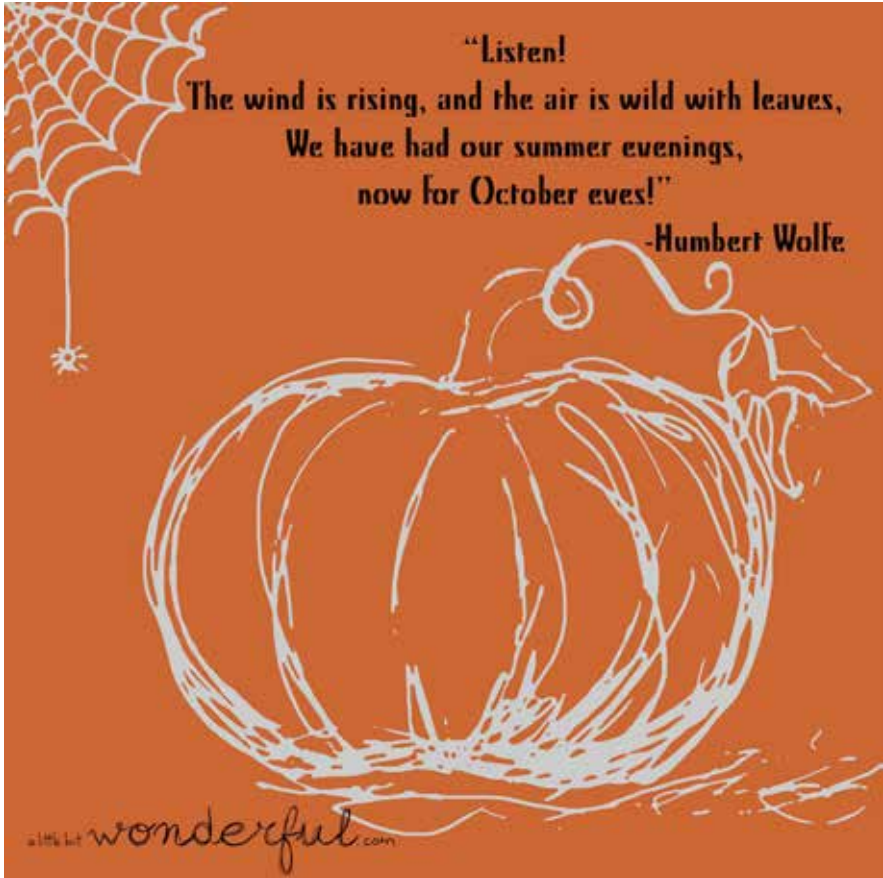
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## WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

### ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you may feel a surge of motivation to tie up loose ends. Finish what you've started and make room for something exciting on the horizon.

### TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, relationships take center stage. A heart-to-heart brings understanding and balance—don't be afraid to open up.

### GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, small shifts in your daily routine can bring big benefits. Focus on health, organization, and pacing yourself wisely.

### CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, joy and creativity return to your week. Take time for hobbies, family, or romance—you deserve the lighter energy.

### LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, home is your focus now. Rearranging, redecorating, or simply creating harmony in your space brings peace of mind.

### VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, clear communication paves the way for progress. If a misunderstanding lingers, now's the time to clear the air.

### LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, finances or values come to the forefront. Reflect on what truly matters—simplifying your priorities can bring relief.

### SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, your season begins, and you feel it deeply. Confidence and passion rise—channel this energy toward something transformative.

### SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, introspection pays off. Take a step back before leaping ahead—your next move will be stronger for it.

### CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, connections prove valuable this week. Networking, friendships, or teamwork open doors to future success.

### AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, career goals take priority. A burst of ambition helps you push through a challenge—stay persistent, success is close.

### PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, inspiration strikes from unexpected places. Whether through art, travel, or conversation, let curiosity lead the way.



### FISHING SOVEREIGN WATERS

To uphold the treaty agreements of 1855 and 1856 between the state of Washington and the Native American tribes, most of the tribal reservations or sovereign lands that were recognized at that time were and still are off limits to non-tribal fishing and hunting. Generations of Native Americans have been the stewards of their lands and its resources, no doubt they too have had their good, bad, and ugly, moments over the past 169 years.

I believe the tribal treaties have the potential to break free from today's Washington State political fishing (salmon) bureaucracy and if implemented properly the most realistic opportunity to end the Chinook (king) salmon being on the Endangered Species Act (ESA) list. Native Americans have a much greater chance to seriously increase fish numbers through hatcheries and other enhancement programs. Many of the bureaucratic road-blocks can be avoided by the tribes, the most exciting thing for me is the treaties were meant to maintain and sustain fishing opportunities not just for native americans but for all washington residents, and to keep the government from over regulating and keep restrictions in check. When the tribal and non-tribal fishermen develop joint enhancement plans and make good salmon recovery decisions, the political hurdles would be overcome.

A fishing buddy and I recently had the opportunity to fish the Quinault River, a sovereign waterway on the Olympic Peninsula, this was made possible through a native american fishing guide, the river was full of chinook and coho salmon. State catch limits and laws were still applicable to us as non-tribal members but the tribal guide made it possible to fish a river that we would not have normally been able to fish.

All of the tackle and techniques that we use on other rivers like the Skagit and the Nooksack worked just as well on the Quinault, natural and artificial baits both took hits and landed fish, spoons and spinners edged out the float-n-egg rig by two-to-one. The section of river (approximately 4 miles from the mouth) we fished was fairly shallow on-a-whole with a few deep water holding areas, coho were the most plentiful species in the river so it was spoons and spinners for me. Pink, purple, and black are my go-to colors in the Skagit, but this river was a little different, greens, blues, and orange were the hot colors.

What I found interesting were the amount of coho that were holding in fast water, we could see the fish jump and roll in the clear ripley water so we slowly approached the active fish and anchored the jetboat away from the sweet spots, this allowed us to cast hardware and drift eggs through the fishy areas. Most of the water was too fast for an egg drift, but orange and silver spinners and blue spoons sweeping through the current seams were getting hit. The coho were big and bright! They would jump and spin, sometimes throwing the hook in the process, it was a learning experience for me to hook coho in fast shallow water, generally this time of year medium speed pocket water using spoons and spinners is what I am used to.



< Productive colors of hardware for us during the trip. v



pull on the rod happened. Not all of the hits were immediately felt on the end of the rods but instead we would see the hi-vis line jet up river, quickly followed by the tug on the line, or the fish would leap out of the water! Landing these bigger fish in fast current while still on anchor was a little tricky but with some patience and coordination with the net-man we were successful.

The kings were holding in the deep slower water, this is where the float and eggs hit pay-dirt, the "bobber down" was not always sudden and obvious, some of the fish would mouth the eggs and let go, other times the big kings would pick up the eggs and slowly swim with them. It did not take long to figure out the bite, if the float made any movement other than the natural flowing movement of the current, set the hook! This was a wonderful fishing experience for us and one that we hope to have again in the future.

Our fishing guide was young and hard working, he knew the river waters well and was skilled with the jetboat, he was happy to have us fishing with him and was eager for us to fish again and share fishing stories. We encountered other jetboat and driftboat fishermen with native guides, we shared information and quick stories as they passed by. There are mixed feelings among fishermen when it comes to the tribes, I have experienced both good and bad encounters.

Some recognized tribes are ready to assist in any way they can to help the salmon resource, form increased hatchery efforts to self regulating river netting, however, in my opinion there are tribes that contribute to decisions that eliminate opportunities in non-sovereign waters, like winter blackmouth, this once fantastic fishery has been restricted for the fifth year in Marine Areas 8-1 and 8-2 in the Puget Sound in part by the misdirected efforts to increase chinook returns to the stillaguamish river.

There are blueprints on paper and leverage language that can be used to increase fishing opportunities for all avid anglers, we must remember to keep the salmon resource at full capacity from both the tribal and non-tribal side. Don't be fooled, There is money and man-power to make it happen for the many generations of young anglers to come as long as greed and selfishness are left out of the equation!



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Astrology for October 24-30 2025

Mercury Enters Sagittarius

On **October 24**, the Sun in Scorpio will square Pluto in Aquarius at 1°. On the same day, Mercury in Scorpio will trine Jupiter in Cancer at 24°. Ego battles and more power dynamic conflicts occur when the Sun squares Pluto, especially in fixed signs. Pluto is at the height of its power after just recently stationing direct back on October 13, and is likely to be the victor in any standoff. With Mercury, the planet of communication in a positive aspect with Jupiter, the planet of expansion, this is a day where a lot of information can become unearthed - for better or for worse. It can be difficult to hold back when it comes to words or leaking information, and once it is said or discovered, it cannot be taken back. Be VERY careful with words, information, and messages today.

On **October 25**, Mercury in Scorpio trines Saturn retrograde in Pisces at 26°. This may be the last solid "something you can count on" styled aspect Mercury will make before entering the sign of Sagittarius in a few days. When Mercury positively aspects Saturn, it is a great day for detailed and productive exchanges in the direction of our long term goals. In water signs, the presence of intuition guiding practical action is heightened and helpful. Handling business efficiently though matters of communication. Clarifying any recent misunderstandings so as to move forward efficiently.

On **October 27**, Mars in Scorpio trines Jupiter in Cancer at 24°. Productivity can continue should we choose to channel today's energy toward our higher goals and aims. Mars in Scorpio has incredible tenacity and perseverance for accomplishing tasks, and in a positive aspect with Jupiter, those powers are amplified ten-fold. Again, we have the signature of water signs pointing to the presence of aid from the unseen elements of reality, emotional field, intuition, and creative inspiration, etc. The thing to watch out for here is excess, or exerting oneself beyond appropriate physical or emotional limits. Are we more confident than we should be? Enthusiasm coupled with both emotional and physical energy is likely high today. Mars wants to feel autonomous, and Jupiter wants us to grow through joyful learning experiences. This energy can be extra! Channel it into something meaningful.

On **October 29**, Mercury in Scorpio trines Neptune retrograde in Pisces at 29° and then quickly moves into Sagittarius to oppose Uranus retrograde in Gemini at 0°. A heads up here, that Mercury will be going retrograde in this sign on November 9. Creative, intuitive, and emotionally focused projects, conversations, and inspirations are heightened. As Mercury enters Sagittarius, optimism rises, and our minds turn to big-picture thinking. Do not be fooled by grand gestures or ideals. What to watch out for here is overlooking details, or becoming imbalanced in optimism. With Uranus in the mix, unexpected occurrences are on the radar. Take care not to promise more than you can deliver. Don't forget to ask questions for clarity.

On **October 30**, Mercury in Sagittarius sextiles Pluto in Aquarius at 1°. This is another day of intense communication and information gathering, but leans positive. We are able to look at all that has transpired lately, all the dug up facts we discovered while Mercury was in Scorpio from October 6-29, and utilize it. We can dive into deeper subjects and engage more of the story with relative objectivity. What needs to be discussed? The signs of Sagittarius and Aquarius bring to mind ideas for the future. After much transformation, what new venture is actually on the table now?

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October 24th – October 30th : Ten of Swords.



This week may have you feeling temporarily justified in those intrusive 'stab first, think through the consequences of our actions never' thoughts. It's giving 'a toddler evening with no nap'. It's giving that rapid succession from the realization of hunger to hangry. The good news is, regardless of age, a snack and a nap will charm that inner boggart back into its brownie form, and have you reasoning more clearly.

Anger is a jacket emotion, and one that parallels Newton's third law of motion, in the sense that for every expression of anger directed outside ourselves, there is an equal and opposite expression of anger we're directing inward. This week's card asks much of us: When anger flares, take a deep breath, grab a snack, make a few extra minutes throughout your day for rest (brownie points for a solid nap), and hold awareness to ask "Why am I mad at myself?" Ask with curiosity, and set aside any predispositions of judgment, doubt, or shame, particularly those reserved for being our own worst critics.

This week asks for self-care, which can feel easier said than done, but beneath the anger you may notice sheer exhaustion. The battle has been long, but now it's time to tend to yourself and recharge. If putting your needs first feels difficult or unreasonable, then shift the perspective and love yourself as you would your favorite pet, as you would a five-year-old child, because that child is you.

The telegrams have been coming in short stops, but if you take a step back now, you have the lucidity to see more of the larger message. You can more accurately read between the lines at this time. And for every sword in your back, you've placed one there yourself. Reassess your priorities, reassess your allies, reassess your boundaries, and as you address your anger toward yourself, you take back your power previously robbed from you by your anger toward others. Through these efforts, you administer essential self-care, you strengthen your foundation and your self-reliance, and you come to see the world around you with more transparency and less manipulation.

Indulging the stabby thoughts is ill-advised, and will likely result in varied regrets, so remember snacks over stabs. This week may not go according to plan, but that does not mean that the pieces are not falling into place. And it's valuable to recognize that resting is not quitting, and mending is not weakness. Lean on these words to uplift others who may feel ready to give up; remind them they are not alone though each of us may feel isolated in our own minds this week. We are stronger together but we must also feel whole within ourselves, and that starts with listening to what's beneath the emotion.

Xo, Tiffany ~Xo, Tiffany  
This week's card comes from the classic Rider Waite Smith tarot deck.  
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Animation frame
- 4 Literary rep
- 7 Viewed
- 11 Daring Knievel
- 13 Singer Lipa
- 14 Noggin
- 15 Flintstones' pet
- 16 Doo follower
- 17 Gumbo veggie
- 18 Serengeti grazer
- 20 Coconut fiber
- 22 Leg, in slang
- 24 Tempt
- 28 Frosty, for one
- 32 -- Martin
- 33 Had on
- 34 Thumbs-up
- 36 Theater award
- 37 Rainbow-shaped
- 39 Country star Judd
- 41 Sealing ring
- 43 German article
- 44 Online auction site
- 46 River of Rome
- 50 Pottery oven
- 53 Ref
- 55 Gospel singer Franklin
- 56 On the rocks
- 57 Mac alternatives
- 58 Ninny
- 59 Little lice
- 60 Consume
- 61 Helium, for one

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Yield
- 2 Satan's forte
- 3 Sultry Horne
- 4 Annex
- 5 Avocado dip, for short
- 6 Sierra Nevada lake
- 7 Writings by Kate Chopin
- 8 Comics cry
- 9 Listening device
- 10 Secret-protecting doc.
- 12 Three- or four-day vacations
- 19 River blocker
- 21 -- pickle
- 23 Mother's Day month
- 25 Lay -- the line
- 26 Didi of "Grease"
- 27 New Age singer
- 28 Booty
- 29 Asta's caretaker
- 30 Tolkien villains
- 31 Up-to-date
- 35 Pink Floyd's Barrett
- 38 Society newbie
- 40 Court divider
- 42 Hosiery shade
- 45 Gym site, for short
- 47 Ship's jail
- 48 Austen novel
- 49 Knocks
- 50 Family
- 51 Here, in Dijon
- 52 Allow
- 54 Calif. clock setting

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YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST						
Fri, Oct 24	Sat, Oct 25	Sun, Oct 26	Mon, Oct 27	Tues, Oct 28	Wed, Oct 29	Thurs, Oct 30
North Isle H-55°/L-50°	North Isle H-52°/L-45°	North Isle H-48°/L-43°	North Isle H-50°/L-42°	North Isle H-52°/L-43°	North Isle H-50°/L-42°	North Isle H-49°/L-40°
South Isle H-57°/L-51°	South Isle H-52°/L-43°	South Isle H-50°/L-43°	South Isle H-52°/L-43°	South Isle H-54°/L-43°	South Isle H-52°/L-44°	South Isle H-51°/L-41°



OUR

Community

An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

As food bank managers what are you most grateful for, and what is your greatest need right now?



Molly Hughes, Coupeville

I am most grateful for our new food bank home this year. We have been distributing from there since May and our clients love the shopping model where they have more choices about the food they receive. And I'm always appreciative of our community who helped make this dream a reality!

Our greatest need right now is FOOD. Everything is more expensive to buy, for us and our donors. In a good year, donations are always down during the summer, so our shelves are a little empty. Healthy protein has always been hard to come by, more so now; poultry, beef, eggs, cheese, milk. We have gotten lots of pears, apples and plums from our backyard gardeners and that has helped. We need the basics: heavy soups, chili, pasta sauce, peanut butter, canned meat, healthy cold cereals, canned beans and tomatoes, boxed side dishes. We have four drop off boxes, conveniently located in town: Whidbey Island Bank, Prairie Center, the Post Office, and Coupeville United Methodist Church. Call if you have a perishable donation 360-672-5502. We appreciate our businesses, nonprofits, churches, schools and community members who have helped us "respectfully provide food to those in need" for 23 years.



Jean Wieman Help House, Oak Harbor

1. This year and every year I have been at Help House I continue to be in awe of the generosity and compassion of our community. That is what I am grateful for.
2. Our greatest need right now is food and monetary donations. With the increase in requests for food, we are trying to keep our warehouse stocked to keep up with demand.



Good Cheer Foodbank, Langlely

Our Food Bank Team shared that they're most thankful for all the wonderful local produce and seafood being donated to Good Cheer this season, for the amazing volunteers who make our work possible, and for the community members

sponsoring food drives on our behalf.

Right now, our greatest needs are foods for the upcoming holidays: especially canned cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin, boxed stuffing, gravy mix, and canned green beans.

Joyful Saying of the Week

We cannot cure the world of sorrows, But we can choose to live in joy.  
-Joseph Campbell

Weekly SUDOKU		2	6				7		
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Answer on page11

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How'd you do?

4	7	3	5	6	1	2	8	9	6
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Food Banks: -Gifts From the Heart 108 SW Terry Road Monetary donations, they should be sent to: PO Box 155, Coupeville 98239 Distribution on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2-5 p.m. -Good Cheer: 2812 Grimm Rd., Langley 360-221-4868 Mon-Fri, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. -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 Tues) 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. Hubert's Catholic Church Wednesday Soup Kitchen All are Welcome! 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 804 3rd St., Langley 360-221-5303 Ask about our Thursday Dinner -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. -Women, Infants & Children (WIC): -Oak Harbor/North Whidbey: 1791 NE 1st Ave. Mon-Thurs 360-240-5554 Text: 360-544-2239

CRISIS LINES

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 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 866-488-7386 Trevor Project: 24/7 support for LGBTQIA2S+

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 is a night-to-night shelter for up to 30 individuals. Must follow check in rules and must register daily between 4:00 and 4:30pm Mon. thru Fri. and 3:45 pm to 4:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays at the SPIN Café, 1241 SW Barlow St., Oak Harbor. -House of Hope Emergency Housing, Langley, 360-708-4533. Transitional housing 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

MONTHLY MEETING

Monthly Meeting for Mental Health Hosted by NAMI for All Adult Individuals who have a family or friend suffering from depression, anxiety, bi-polar disorder, or other mental health conditions. Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland, Lower Building Closest to the Highway 18341 WA-525, Freeland 3rd Wednesday of the Month 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Email for more Information: [karens@nami-sno-isle.org](mailto:karens@nami-sno-isle.org)

WEEKLY MEETINGS

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 -SOUTH WHIDBEY NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP meets every Wednesday at 6pm at the Langley Methodist Church, 301 Anthes in Langley. We meet in the Fireside Room, rear of church. Karol:360 914 7695. Have a problem with drinking? It doesn't cost anything to attend A.A. meetings. Local Meetings are in Coupeville, Freeland, Langley, Clinton, and Oak Harbor. There are no age or education requirements to participate. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about their drinking problem. A.A.'s primary purpose is to help alcoholics to achieve sobriety. We're here to help. For local meetings search [aa.org](http://aa.org) or call 888-360-1564 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: Rebecca 425-773-6937 Bothered by someone's drinking? AlAnon can help! Langley Family AlAnon Group, Wednesdays 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM, Langley Methodist Church, 301 Anthes Ave, Langley. Fireside room Information: (206) 898-2771. -Gamblers Anonymous Meeting. Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Senior Center. Mount Vernon Senior Center, 1401 Cleveland Ave, Mount Vernon Any questions, call Washington State Gamblers Anonymous hotline at 855-222-5542, or visit <https://gawashington.org/> -OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS Tuesdays 7 PM to 8 PM Langley United Methodist Church 301 Anthes Ave. Room 224 Langley, Washington 98260 For local meeting information and support call: Kevin 206-395-9622 Adult Children of Alcoholic and Dysfunctional Families meeting, Tuesdays 2-3 pm, Langley Methodist Church - 301 Anthes Ave, Langley - Fireside room. Contact: [acawhidbey@gmail.com](mailto:acawhidbey@gmail.com)

No Cheating!

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CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

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E-Mail ..... [classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com](mailto:classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com) Telephone ..... 360-682-8283

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