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FEBRUARY 13, 2026 - FEBRUARY 19, 2026

Transport Yourself to a World “Between the Lines”



Theater Review and Photography
by Jim Sovanski | Whidbey Weekly

Sometimes, things in life are a case of not if, but when. Oak Harbor High School's production of Between the Lines, a 2017 musical fantasy based on the young adult novel of the same name by Jodi Picoult, is one of those things. Producer/choreographer Micki Gibson explained it this way: "At the International Thespian Festival in Indiana a few years ago, I saw our students react so positively to a show, I knew it's one to consider for the future. I recall texting (Director) Darren McCoy during intermission, giving him a heads up that he would be hearing about this show from the students. Two years later, here we are, Between the Lines."

With a light touch, Between the Lines tells the story of Delilah, a high school junior negotiating her angst-filled life with her mom in a new town and new school after her parents' divorce. Along the way, she meets the usual assortment of high school characters ranging from the "It" girl to the class rebel. To cope, she buries herself in reading, and her chosen safe place is the school library, where she stumbles upon the lone copy of a fairy tale written by a mom for her grieving young son. Upon opening it, Prince Oliver, a character in the book, literally speaks to her. They bond, eventually meeting in his world, and from there she gains a new perspective on her life.

"Live the story you want, if it's not the story you are in," to quote the show, is the message Delilah eventually figures out. Her journey includes surviving the ups and downs of high school and a visit to a fairy-tale world where she glimpses what characters in a book do while they are not being read about. As shown with gentle insight and humor, she comes to understand she has the power to change her own story.

Director McCoy added, "I am stepping into the role of stage director for the first time. It's been an exciting ride, and I'm grateful to my students for being supportive throughout." He continues, "I'm deeply proud of them for taking risks and stepping into new experiences. Many of the cast members have never been in a show before, and it has been a joy to see the incredible speed with which they learn."

As a theater patron, it's an added bonus to watch a show where everyone in the production has a personal connection to the story. This company, just like the actors in the Whidbey Playhouse's current production of Rent, share a personal stake in this show — a reflection of their lives, trials and tribulations. This production taps into the zeitgeist and angst of being a modern American teenager in high school and sizzles with that intensity and fire.

This show is a combined production of the OHHS Drama Club, Choir Club and Band Club, with an assist from the Art Guild. This is the first show I've



reviewed at OHHS, and the production values are excellent, especially the wonderful sound provided by Alex Felger. The excellent acoustics of the theater enhance the effect of having the live orchestra onstage and help connect the performers to the music more than a prerecorded track ever could. Director McCoy commented, "It takes up a lot of space but provides kids with an experience like nothing else."

"This show is so amazing to me because of how well it captures the need to fit in and the tendency to seek connection from people and strug-



gle to find it," commented Elizabeth McDaniel, one of two actors who alternate dates playing Delilah. "I relate to Delilah so much, and when I watched this musical before auditions, I knew I had to play this character. I moved around a lot as a kid, and I was so obsessed with reading that I didn't really have any friends for a while — all I had was my books. So to see that embodied in a character felt so amazing for me."

Logan Hendricks, who alternates as Prince Oliver, added, "When I was first rehearsing for this role and running the very emotional parts of it, I had a friend who was moving away and was having a hard time, so I used that experience to identify with Oliver not being able to be with Delilah."

"When I first saw Between the Lines performed in 2024, I'd been drawn to the roles of Jules/Ondine," shared Piper Ehrhart. "I saw that the actors who played the mermaids and the actor who played Jules did amazing,

and gosh, it was just so freaking cool I COULDN'T NOT want to at least try to audition for these roles! And I am so happy I ended up getting them! I treasure them both so much!"

Brian Goodman is equally as passionate about his role as the dog Frump. "Honestly, I think the reason why I was so drawn to Frump at first was because I knew nobody else really wanted him. I mean, who wants to play the dog, right? But as I read the libretto, I realized he had the potential to be a really funny character. His interactions with all the other characters crack me up! I was really committed to making myself fully ready for whatever came my way, so I actually took tap-dancing classes in preparation for this role!"

Between the Lines at Oak Harbor High School opens Thursday, Feb. 12, and continues Friday and Saturday, Feb. 13 and 14, and again Thursday, Feb. 19, through Saturday, Feb. 21. All shows are at 7 p.m. Oak Harbor High School Theater is located at 1 Wildcat Way in Oak Harbor. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

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BITS & PIECES

What Makes Whidbey's Community Different

What gives Whidbey Island its distinctive character isn't found in statistics or growth charts. It's found in the habits, values, and daily interactions of the people who call it home.

Volunteerism runs deep here. Across the island, residents give their time to fire districts, food banks, schools, festivals, and environmental efforts. Community events are powered largely by neighbors stepping forward. Service is less about obligation and more about connection — a shared understanding that strong communities are built by participation.

Farmers markets serve as cultural anchors as much as commercial spaces. In towns up and down the island, they function as informal gathering places where conversations unfold between booths, musicians provide a familiar soundtrack, and generations mingle. They reflect Whidbey's agricultural roots while reinforcing its role as a place where people meet face to face.

The island's vibrant theater community adds another vital thread. Local stages bring together actors, directors, musicians, set builders, and volunteers of all ages. Productions often feature multi-generational casts and crews, blending seasoned performers with first-time participants. The result is more than entertainment; it is collaboration in action, with neighbors telling stories for neighbors and strengthening creative ties across the island.

Multi-generational families add continuity and depth to island life. It is common for grandparents, parents, and children to share connections to the same schools, beaches, and traditions. Stories and values pass down alongside local knowledge, reinforcing a sense of place that stretches beyond any single moment in time.

The island's identity is also shaped by the blend of military and civilian life. NAS Whidbey brings service members and families from across the country and around the world, adding new perspectives to established communities. Longtime residents and military families live and work alongside one another, contributing to a culture that balances rooted tradition with steady renewal.

An independent streak ties it all together. Islanders are known for self-reliance, creative problem-solving, and support for local enterprise. From small businesses and arts initiatives to backyard gardens and grassroots projects, participation tends to outweigh passivity.

Taken together, these qualities form a culture that is both resilient and welcoming — one grounded in shared effort, enduring relationships, creativity, and a strong connection to place.

Washington Celebrates Seahawks Championship as Economic and Community Impacts Reach Across the State

Following the Seattle Seahawks' Super Bowl championship victory, communities across Washington experienced a surge in civic enthusiasm along with increased consumer activity. Retailers reported strong sales of team merchandise, and restaurants and bars saw higher patronage as fans gathered to watch and celebrate. The postseason momentum created a short-term boost for small businesses throughout the Puget Sound region and beyond.

In areas such as Whidbey Island, where residents are closely connected to regional commerce, local hospitality and retail establishments participated in the statewide wave of enthusiasm and spending. Community watch parties and public celebrations further amplified foot traffic and local engagement. The championship also elevated Washington's national visibility, with extensive media coverage reinforcing the state's reputation as home to a passionate and competitive sports community.

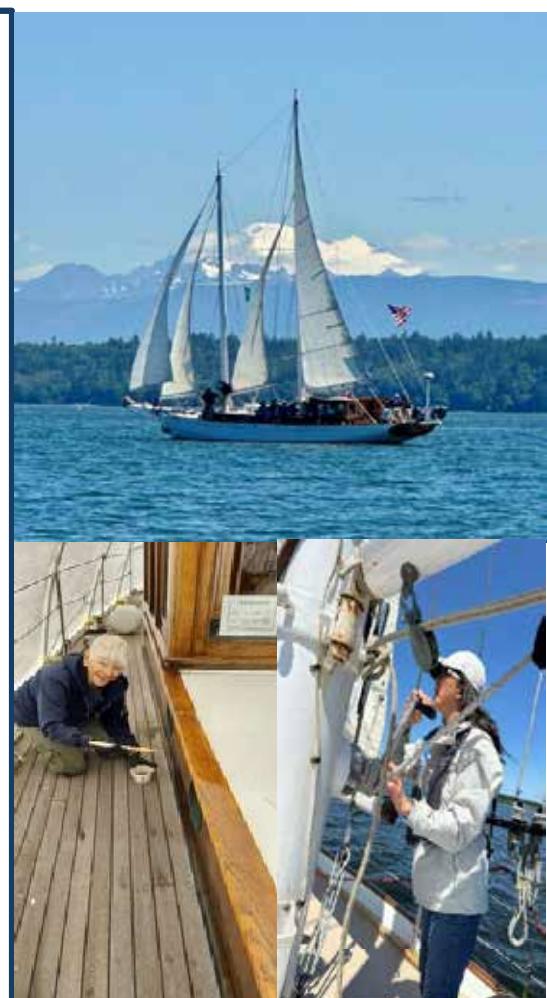
While players received Super Bowl bonuses under NFL agreements, they were also subject to income tax laws in the state where the game was played — renewing discussion around the "jock tax." Economists note that championship wins typically produce temporary economic gains, but the lasting impact is often cultural: strengthened morale, community unity, and shared statewide pride. For many residents, the victory served as a reminder of sport's unique ability to connect communities across geographic and economic lines.

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What's Going On!

BETWEEN THE LINES

Now – Saturday, Feb. 21, 7–8 p.m.
(opening night Thursday, Feb. 12)
Oak Harbor High School

Oak Harbor High School's Choir, Drama, Band and Art clubs join forces to present Between the Lines, a musical about writing your own story. Rated PG-13 for adult humor, the production features alternating student casts throughout its run. Performances include Charlie Montoya and Lizzy McDaniel on Feb. 12, 14 and 20, and Logan Hendricks and Edyn Marriott on Feb. 13, 19 and 21. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

RETRO GAMING AFTERNOON

Friday, Feb. 13, 3:30–5:30 p.m.
Oak Harbor Library,
1000 SE Regatta Drive, Oak Harbor

Step back into gaming history with an afternoon of retro fun. Play classic video games on Atari Playscape and Sega Genesis consoles, enjoy Wii games, and dive into a selection of board games. Snacks will be provided. All are welcome.

SWEETHEART OF GEMS SHOW (WHIDBEY ISLAND GEM CLUB)

Sat.–Sun., Feb. 14–15, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
The Center, 51 SE Jerome St.,
Oak Harbor

The Whidbey Island Gem Club celebrates its 60th annual show with a weekend of lapidary fun. Enjoy live demonstrations, educational displays, rock identification, handmade jewelry, door prizes, vendors, games, and—of course—lots and lots of rocks for sale. Free admission.

LOVE FROM THE DEEP: A SEAMONSTER ART OPENING

Saturday, Feb. 14, 1–6 p.m.
Thomas Berry Hall, Whidbey Institute,
6449 Old Pietila Road, Clinton

Cultural educator and Indigenous storyteller Pamela SeaMonster presents an afternoon of original artwork, storytelling, and community gathering. Enjoy light refreshments, enter a raffle for art and a signed Valentine, and support People of the Confluence, an Indigenous nonprofit. Free and open to all.

MOZART IN LOVE

Saturday, Feb. 14, 3–5 p.m.
St. Augustine's in the Woods Episcopal Church, 5217 S. Honeymoon Bay Road, Freeland

Celebrate Valentine's Day with an intimate afternoon of Mozart's sonatas and songs performed on fortepiano, violin and soprano. This live concert offers a warm, authentic listening experience and a reflective program centered on connection and the expressive beauty of Mozart's music.

WINTER WALKS AT MEERKERK GARDENS: LOVE NATURE WALK

Sunday, Feb. 15, 1–2:30 p.m.
Meerkerk Gardens, 3531 Meerkerk Lane, Greenbank

Enjoy a guided winter walk through Meerkerk Gardens during the Love Nature Walk, part of the seasonal Winter Walks series. Docents lead participants through curated gardens and legacy forest to spot evergreen foliage, berries, wildlife, and early signs of spring. The walk begins at the Wel-

come Center at the Gatehouse and lasts about 90 minutes. Dress for the weather; dogs on leash are welcome. Cost is \$15 per person; children under 13 are free.

MARDI GRAS PARTY

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 6–8:30 p.m.
Bayview Hall, 5642 Bayview Road, Langley

Celebrate Mardi Gras with live music from local favorite Ike & the Old Man, playing an eclectic mix of pop, rock, blues, country, and jazz. Dress in your best Mardi Gras finery for a costume contest with prizes for Best in Show, Most Comical, Best Child Costume, and Best Mask. Free beads available at the door. Beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages will be for sale. This free, family-friendly community party brings the spirit of Mardi Gras to Whidbey Island—laissez les bons temps rouler.

SEA STAR GAZING WITH PORT TOWNSEND MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

Wednesday, Feb. 18, 3–4 p.m.
Coupeville Library Meeting Room, 788 NW Alexander St., Coupeville

Kids ages 6–11 and their caregivers are invited to explore the fascinating world of sea stars. Learn about sea star anatomy, adaptations, and their role in the Salish Sea ecosystem through photos, diagrams, and specimens. The program also looks at recent challenges facing sea star populations and concludes with a creative activity where participants design their own sea star species.

HONORING OUR VIETNAM VETERANS: PORTRAITS & STORIES

Thursday, Feb. 19, 2–3:30 p.m.
Coupeville Library, 788 NW Alexander St., Coupeville

Photographer, author and Whidbey Island resident Michael Holtby discusses his portrait series honoring local veterans who served in the Vietnam War. On display throughout February, the exhibit pairs photographic portraits with first-person narratives reflecting on the lasting impact of the war. Holtby will speak about the project, the legacy of the Vietnam War on the 50th anniversary of the fall of Saigon, and share additional veterans' stories beyond those shown in the exhibit.

WHIDBEY WONDERS: EXPLORING THE FOUNDATIONS OF TEA

Thursday, Feb. 19, 4–5 p.m.
Oak Harbor Library, 1000 SE Regatta Drive, Oak Harbor

Explore the fundamentals of traditional loose-leaf tea with Joshua Brock, founder of The Empty Tea Cup. While sampling a variety of teas, Brock will discuss what defines true tea, the history and myths surrounding its origins, and how the *Camellia sinensis* plant became the second most consumed beverage in the world. Curiosity is encouraged. Most teas sampled will contain caffeine.



MURDER ON THE LINKS

Thursday, Feb. 19–Saturday, March 7, various times
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, 565 Camano Ave., Langley

A classic Agatha Christie mystery adapted for the stage, this fast-paced whodunit follows Hercule Poirot as he untangles a murder filled with secrets, suspects and twists. Rated PG. Approx. two hours including intermission. Show dates include Feb. 19–22, Feb. 26–28 and March 5–7.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE REBOOT WITH SHIBA

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2–4 p.m.
Coupeville Library,
788 NW Alexander St., Coupeville

Are you enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan or new to Medicare and unsure of your options? Certified volunteers from Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) will provide free, confidential, and unbiased information to help you better understand Medicare choices and benefits. SHIBA is a public service of the Washington Office of the Insurance Commissioner and Island Senior Resources. No sales, no commissions—just clear guidance and answers to your questions.

LANGLEY MYSTERY WEEKEND

Saturday–Sunday, Feb. 21–22,
9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Downtown Langley

Celebrate 41 years of whodunits in Langley with this annual, town-wide mystery event. Amateur sleuths are invited to explore the seaside village, question a cast of quirky characters, gather clues, and solve a fictional murder case unfolding over two days. Along the way, participants will enjoy dining, shopping,

and plenty of intrigue. Tickets include a program with cast photos, a clue map, a special Langley Gazette edition, and the full story synopsis. The mystery concludes with the Big Reveal on Sunday afternoon.

TRACING YOUR ROOTS: A GENEALOGY MEET-UP

Tuesday, Feb. 24, 4–5 p.m.
Coupeville Library, 788 NW Alexander St., Coupeville

Join Corey Smith of the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society for a friendly, informal meetup focused on family history research. Genealogists of all experience levels are welcome to share discoveries, discuss research techniques, ask questions, and trade stories. This gathering also aims to gauge interest in forming a regular, ongoing genealogy group in the Coupeville area.

GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION SERIES – TRUMP TARIFFS AND THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD ECONOMY

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 10 a.m.–noon
Freeland Library, 5495 Harbor Ave., Freeland

Part of Great Decisions, America's largest discussion program on world affairs, this facilitated conversation focuses on how tariffs under President Trump have shaped—and may continue to shape—the global economy. Participants are encouraged to read the Great Decisions Briefing Book and watch the accompanying videos in advance. The series is presented by the League of Women Voters of Whidbey Island. A reference copy of the Briefing Book will be available for in-library use.



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Whidbey Weekly

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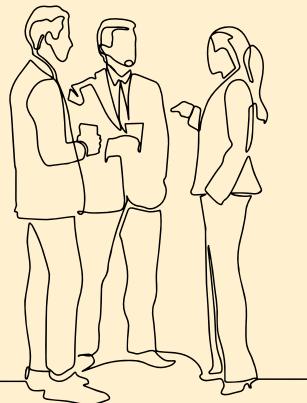
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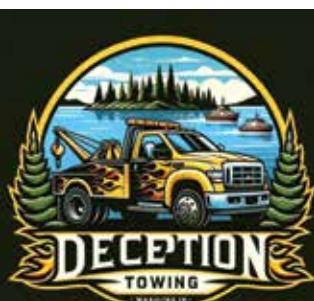


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THANK YOU FOR READING



By Tracy Loescher

"WALLEYE"

If you ask ten people what their favorite freshwater fish to eat is, nine of the ten would say walleye. Walleye are part of the perch family and are on the top shelf in most fishermen's opinion, walleye were once only found in the eastern parts of Canada and the east coast of the United States and down south through Alabama. After nationwide stocking programs were initiated, walleye are now found throughout North America and Canada due to their ability to thrive in many types of habitat.



Beer battered Walleye, yumm!

Originally there were two species of walleye, "yellow and blue" the blue walleye were primarily found in lakes Erie and Ontario, however due to pollution and commercial overfishing the last confirmed walleye catch was in the 1960's and the blue walleye was declared extinct in the 1980's by wildlife services. There are some walleye caught today that have a blue tint to them but they are still classified as yellow.



Not complete night vision but close

The world record walleye weighed 25 pounds and was caught in Old Hickory Lake in Tennessee on August 2 1960. The current Washington State record is a 20 pound bruiser caught in 2014 on the Columbia River. Most game fish have good vision for hunting but walleye have exceptionally good vision in low light conditions because of a reflective layer of pigment called the tapetum lucidum in their retina, this allows them to see in light conditions that their prey cannot, allowing them to stock and kill in early morning and evening light.

The reflective layer that helps in low light also has a negative side: they cannot take bright sunlight so the fish will retreat to deeper waters during the sunny bluebird days. Walleye are opportunistic feeders but yellow perch are their favorite prey, perch can't see in low light as well as walleye so walleye will prowl the shallows ambushing them in the low light. Walleye will eat snails. Frogs, mudpuppies, crawfish and even mice. There are times when walleye have been known to feed exclusively on insects and larvae during a "bug-hatch" such as the mayfly giving truth to the old statement "match the hatch" when fishing for them. Artificial lures like rubber jigs, (brown, blue, pumpkin green, motor-oil, and black) rabbit fur jigs and small crankbaits in a perch pattern also fish well if the bug-bite is not in full swing.

The "March Brown" fly hatch is in early spring (March-April) and is typically the biggest of all bug hatches, rivers see the first bug hatches followed by still-lakes and reservoirs. Other hatches can continue throughout the year and can make hooking fish tough during a bug bite if you are using traditional baits that would normally produce fish.



Bug-bite! (match the hatch)

In early spring when the days grow longer and water temperatures rise walleye will navigate to gravel, sand, and baseball sized rocky areas to deposit their eggs, walleye are scatter spawner, (they don't use a nest or redd) letting their eggs drop between rocks and large gravel to help protect them from crawfish and other predators. Spawning walleye depend on water movement to provide oxygen to their eggs until they hatch, in flowing rivers this is easy, in lakes and reservoirs the fish will spawn in shoals from one to six feet deep in areas exposed to wind and has a moderate current.

Eastern Washington typically offers more opportunities for walleye fishermen than the western side. Here are some proven walleye hotspots to plan a trip around:

- **Columbia River**, there are great walleye fishing spots throughout the Columbia River system. Think "POOLS" when searching for walleye, John Day pool, McNary Pool, then consider the area around Maryhill State Park, consistent numbers of walleye are taken here each year.
- **Banks Lake**, which is really a large reservoir offers good fishing in the spring, concentrate on Electric City and Steamboat Rock at first then expand as needed, (find the bait).
- **Lake Roosevelt**, is another reservoir that covers 150 miles that is filled with walleye, typically fished year around but is most productive in spring and summer.
- **Potholes Reservoir**, has many different species in it, trout, bass, perch, and of course walleye. Concentrate on Lind-Coulee arm, Crab creek, and the face of the sand dunes. This reservoir is open year round and is also known for good ice fishing opportunities.
- **Moses Lake**, is a lake where bank fishing is popular, "Alder Street" is a good shoreline place to explore if a boat is unavailable. I-90 Bridge and Blue Heron Park are also excellent spots to find fish.

Walleye are no different than any other fish, when they are there, it's our challenge to find them, local tackle shops and fishermen are generally reliable sources of information if you are fishing the areas for the first time. Remember yellow perch and crawfish are two of the most common prey in all of the areas I mentioned so fish with these two factors in mind. If natural baits and artificial baits in these colors are not getting the job done, switch to contrast patterns. Chartreuse and chrome, black and white, dark purple and pink might be what it takes to trigger a bite. Walleye are fantastic table fare so the time and effort will be well worth it.

Our current fishing licenses will expire at the end of March so think about beating the rush and get yours renewed when the 2026/2027 licenses are available. Washington is launching a digital effort to issue licenses and catch cards this year that will be kept on cell phones. I've been told that a person will be given a choice of a digital or paper license during this transition period with that choice being final for the season. I think it has the potential to be painful in the beginning, I believe the decision makers have not thought it through from both a law enforcement and fisherman's view. We shall see after the dust settles in a couple years.

THANK YOU FOR READING | USE ME AS FIRE STARTER

Life on “Geezer Island”

by Charles LaFond ISLAND FUNDRAISER, POTTER, AUTHOR, AND ESSAYIST

In 1935, Masako Wakamiya was born in Japan and worked for 40 years as a modest bank clerk. She knew she was smart but stayed in her lane, living a simple, modest life, obeying her superiors and quietly doing her job every day.

Masako Wakamiya retired at 60, then taught herself computer coding out of curiosity, wonder, and a need to do something different. At 81, she created iPhone apps for aging seniors. Unable to find suitable games for older users, she developed “Hinadan,” an app inspired by her beloved Hinamatsuri doll festival. She was recognized by Apple CEO Tim Cook as the world’s oldest app developer.

Many stifle a giggle, sheepishly, when I call this “Geezer Island.” It sounds derogatory, but it is in no way meant to be derogatory. I’m looking forward to, and may already be in my “geezer years.” Many dislike the idea of Geezer Island because they don’t want to be seen as aging. Men and women dye their hair, get facelifts, use anti-aging creams, get tummy-tucks, and shop for clothes in their 70’s that were designed for people in their 30’s as a way to say to the world, “I am young!”

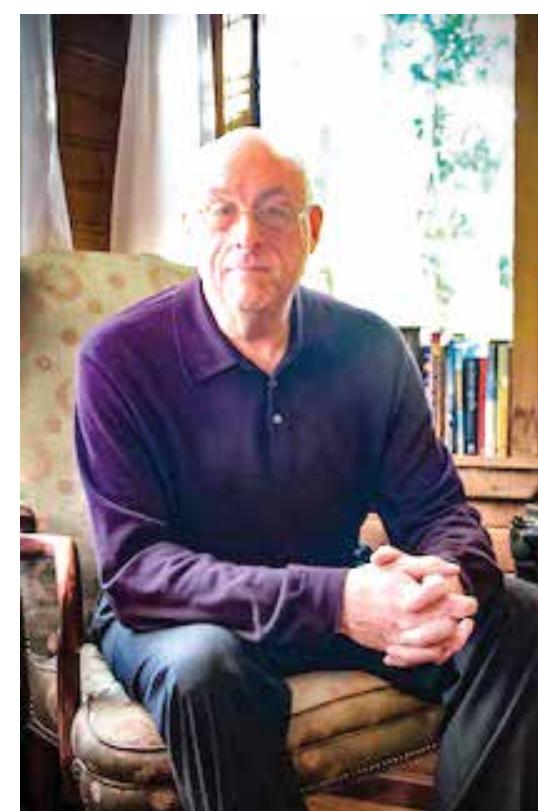
But when they laugh, one can always tell if their eyes laugh as well, or just their mouth and chest.

I love aging. Yes, it feels like time is speeding up and that my world is shrinking a bit. Yes, some parts of me ache when I get out of a chair. Yes, I forget things from time to time. And yes, I prefer lower light in the bathroom so that the image in my mirror is less, shall we say, “honest.” (This is why I hate hotel bathrooms!)

Aging on Geezer Island is about reinventing oneself. The world does not care about my age. The sun rises on change, but change requires effort and courage. Inspiration evaporates without both practice and courage.

We humans, are designed, over millions of years of evolution and development, to live in autopilot to save valuable calories. Our brain accounts for only about 2% of our body weight, yet it consumes 20% of our energy and fuel. To reinvent oneself, one must sabotage that natural efficiency and push oneself out of autopilot and into new neural pathways.

My body’s cells replace themselves every 7 years. So, I need to reinvent my life every seven years. The seven-year shift is reflected in our most ancient human religious texts, so humans have sensed it in their gut long before science and neuroscience confirmed it. So, what does one do to reinvent oneself?



Here are four ideas:

1. Push yourself out of your ruts. Your brain and body need new, strange materials, perspectives, and skills—or you are a zombie meandering in wheelchairs through old-age home hallways.
2. Change your sources of knowledge. Read about new things. Stop being curious and start finding wonder.
3. Choose an impossible project – then learn and practice. Face and blow past the friction to Mastery. (For more on Mastery see Robert Green’s book of that title ...or any of them really!!!)
4. After discovering and deciding on a new interest, we humans depend on motivation, but motivation wilts over time. To keep going, recruit coaches and adopt new behaviors, one step at a time.

It is not being a geezer that is the worry. The spaciousness and freedoms of retirement, the compounded interest on pensions, and new crystalline wisdom can make healthy aging wonderful, most days, if one works hard on health-span, not just life-span.

The worry is not aging. The worry – what kills a life too soon – is complacency.

WHIDBEY ISLAND CENTER for the ARTS PRESENTS

The Queen of Mystery

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MURDER ON THE LINKS

a HERCULE POIROT mystery

by STEPHEN DIETZ

directed by LANI BROCKMAN and DEANA DUNCAN

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WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

ARIES (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

Your energy is steady but strategic this week. Rather than rushing ahead, you’re thinking long-term. A midweek discussion helps refine your plans and strengthens your confidence.

TAURUS (Apr 21 – May 21)

Social connections bring encouragement. A friend or colleague may offer insight that shifts your perspective. Stay open to collaboration—shared ideas lead to progress.

GEMINI (May 22 – Jun 21)

Career and responsibilities take priority. Your adaptability helps you manage shifting expectations. By the weekend, you’ll see clear signs that your efforts are paying off.

CANCER (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

A fresh outlook renews your optimism. Learning something new or planning future travel lifts your spirits. Trust that growth often begins with curiosity.

LEO (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

Financial or emotional matters deepen. Addressing something honestly clears the air and restores balance. This is a week for meaningful conversations and steady rebuilding.

VIRGO (Aug 24 – Sept 22)

Partnerships move into focus. Cooperation works best when both sides feel heard. A calm, thoughtful approach strengthens both personal and professional ties.

LIBRA (Sept 23 – Oct 23)

Daily routines benefit from structure. Small changes improve efficiency and well-being. By week’s end, you’ll feel more organized and less pressured.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 – Nov 22)

Creativity and enjoyment return. Make time for something that inspires you—art, romance, or simple fun. A lighthearted moment helps restore emotional balance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 – Dec 21)

Home and family themes surface. Creating comfort in your space brings peace of mind. A supportive exchange reminds you how much stability matters.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 – Jan 20)

Communication flows more smoothly than expected. Meetings, writing, or important talks move forward with clarity. Stay direct but diplomatic.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 – Feb 18)

Finances and priorities align. Practical decisions now build long-term security. Trust your judgment—you’re thinking clearly and realistically.

PISCES (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

With your season approaching, confidence grows. Personal goals begin to take shape. Take small but meaningful steps toward what you truly want.

Now Showing!

Friday, Feb. 13 - Sunday, Feb. 15

The Goat (PG)
&
Anaconda (PG-13)

Valentine's Special Weekend:
Go-Karts & Arcade Open Special Hours
12-6 on Saturday, Sunday & Monday

Box office, Snackbar, Arcade & Tavern open at 4pm.
First movie starts at 7pm.

11 & OVER \$6.50*, KIDS 5-10 \$1.00*, 4 & UNDER FREE *CASH PRICES
GO KARTS CLOSED FOR THE SEASON
1403 N MONROE LANDING RD • OAK HARBOR
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Late Winter Harvest Dinner

A Seasonal Supper from the Food Hub

Grass-fed beef, winter crops, and island-made specialties — a seasonal meal for about \$70-\$80

Late winter on Whidbey brings storage crops, greenhouse greens, and thoughtfully crafted pantry foods that carry the harvest through colder months. This menu highlights grass-fed beef, winter squash, potatoes, microgreens, and locally made specialty items — all available through the Whidbey Island Grown Food Hub.

Cooking seasonally this time of year means embracing depth and comfort — slow-roasted meats, caramelized vegetables, and fresh greens that brighten the plate. It's a way to support local farms while enjoying a hearty meal gathered close to home.

Browse offerings and sign up at:

whidbeyislandgrown.com/food-hub

Starter

Microgreen Salad with Fava Bean Spread

Featuring Lesedi Farm LLC

Toss 2-3 cups microgreens with olive oil, vinegar, salt, and pepper. Serve with Lesedi Farm's Fava Bean Spread and sliced vegetables or bread.

Main Course

Garlic-Herb Eye of Round with Pepper Jelly

Featuring Windecker Cattle Company LLC & Islander Herbs

Rub a 3-4 lb beef eye of round with oil, garlic, herbs, salt, and pepper. Roast at 450°F for 15 minutes, then at 250°F until internal temperature reaches 120-125°F. Rest 20 minutes and slice thinly. Warm Islander Herbs Red Pepper Jelly with pan juices and serve alongside.

Sides

Maple & Pepper Jelly Roasted Winter Squash

Toss cubed winter squash with oil, maple syrup or honey, and salt. Roast at 400°F for 25-35 minutes. Brush lightly with warmed red pepper jelly before serving.

Green Herb Mashed Potatoes

Boil 2-3 lb potatoes until tender. Mash with butter and warm milk; stir in chopped herbs if desired. Season to taste.

Late Winter on the Island

This meal reflects what local farms offer now: hearty vegetables, greenhouse greens, grass-fed meats, and value-added foods made in the community — a full farm-to-table dinner at home for about the cost of one restaurant entrée per person.

-Whidbey Weekly

MARDI GRAS PARTY



www.goosefoot.org

February 17
6 - 8:30 pm
Bayview Hall
Langley

Live Music
Costume
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Free & Family
Friendly

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Readings

by Noa

Astrology for February 13-19 2026

New Moon Solar Eclipse in Aquarius 28°, Saturn Enters Aries Until 2028

This week and next are arguably the most pivotal change points of 2026. There is massive astrology afoot, aka big shifts incoming.

On **February 13**, Saturn enters Aries. (If you were born roughly between 1996-1999 you are entering your first Saturn return - a fated time period of important karmic challenges in the name of maturation - readingsbynoa.com to book a reading.) Saturn will be in the sign of Aries this time around until April 12, 2028. For reference, think back to May 24-September 1 of 2025, the themes that came up during that time may circle back - and with much more bravado. Saturn in Aries will bring tests and challenges about taking responsibility for your individuality, taking action on desires, tempering impulses, and mastering the self overall. Aries is the first sign of the zodiac, action-oriented cardinal fire. Saturn has left the illusion, escapism and dreams of Pisces behind. Its time to make moves, show up, be decisive, and embody that which we claim to be. Shortcuts will incur consequences. Steady commitment will garner rewards.

On **February 15-16**, the Sun in Aquarius squares Uranus in Taurus at 27° stimulating unpredictable challenges to the ego, style of self expression, or the ways we desire to invest energy and resources. This is a pivot point. This transit is meant to challenge our concepts of self, freedom and identity. It can apply pressure to both physical and monetary resources, calling us to analyze how we identify with them, how viable they are, or where we need to reorient. We can desire to go our own way and may do so out of the blue. A desire for a sense of independence is very strong now, especially just days after Saturn enters go-getter Aries.

On **February 16**, Mercury in Pisces trines Jupiter retrograde in Cancer at 15°. This energy pulls a lot of communication to the surface, and in water signs it may involve feelings that are finally ready to be released, discussed, and shared. This is a supportive aspect amongst a lot of volatility, encouraging us to include creativity and optimism. Do not completely forego ideals in trying to find a sense of balance or stability. There are deeper reasons for our yearnings. Not all critical information is logical or linear. Stay available to the expansion of the softer senses, the unseen realms, and the intuitive whispers - it is the day before a solar eclipse after-all. What wisdom becomes available to you in the quiet?

February 17 brings the new Moon solar eclipse in Aquarius at 28° in a square to its own ruler, Uranus in Taurus. Yesterday's rebellious and independent tone crescendos to a climax. Solar eclipses are essentially new Moons on steroids, and although they invite new beginnings, those new starts can arrive chaotically. Aquarius is a sign known for unpredictability and lightening fast developments that come out of nowhere, and Uranus is also known for its shock value. We can see new networks of people, new communities coming online or into our awareness. This eclipse will have us questioning the groups we belong to and how we affiliate with community entities. Stay available to new ideas, new inventions, new technology, and new ways to connect with other people and social causes. This lunation will challenge authenticity, and the truth around friendships or group affiliations. Who is REALLY your friend. Pay attention to who you can be your authentic self around, the way your nervous system responds in their presence. These themes will be very loud, but we do have some lovely cosmic support. On February 17, we also have Venus, the planet of relationships and connection, conjunct the North Node of fate in Pisces at 8°. Venus, strong, radiant, and exalted in the sign of Pisces, is ushering in a higher faith in value-driven alignment. If we are paying attention, what is truly meant for us will be revealed. Heart-centered clues and destined connections. Important new chapters are beginning now. Allow for the spirit of true innovation to touch whatever must be reformed. Let the lightning strike.

On **February 19**, the Moon in Aries triggers an unprecedented in recorded human history transit - yes, it is that huge. This transit isn't technically exact until February 20, but we will absolutely feel this energy today. Saturn will conjunct Neptune in Aries at 0°, the very beginning of the zodiac, amplifying the solar eclipse themes around independent new beginnings for humanity as a whole. Show up for yourself, for your authentic desires, for humanity. Courage (and adrenaline) is coursing through our systems - for better or worse. This is truly a spectacle of our lifetime. More on this transit in next week's horoscope.

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KEEP THIS NEWSPAPER GOING CONTRIBUTE TODAY!

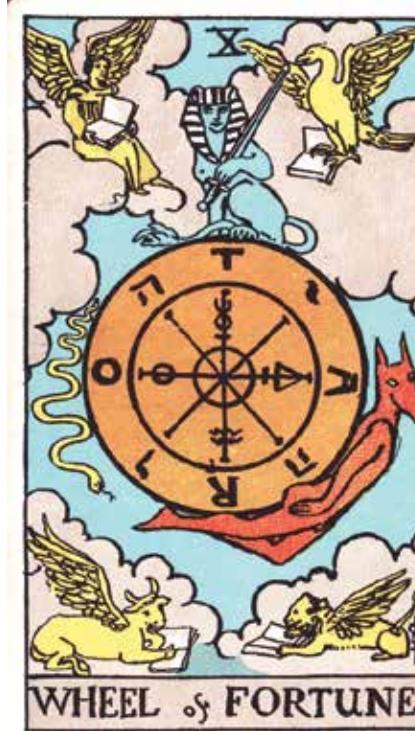
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February 13th - February 19th : the Wheel of Fortune

The wheel turns back in your favor, and more so, you can begin to feel the tangible change of your luck, so to speak, and are provided the capability of beginning to compile a-day-in-the-life evidence to support the promise of this week's card. The wood snake gives way to the fire horse for the first time in sixty years within days of a centuries-rare planetary conjunction at the initiating degree of the zodiac. Fate insists on urging the alignment of your dreams with the vision, structure, and action to build them into manifested reality, whether you're ready or not.

This is not shoes made overnight by elves while the cobbler sleeps energy. This is a "Field of Dreams" compulsion to "build it and they will come," while remembering "Rome wasn't built in a day." There is before this week, and there is after. The

final tumblers are clicking into place before the safe opens, revealing an obscene number of gold bricks, only to realize that while they're distractingly pretty, they're too heavy to move, let alone the logistics of useful exchange or the likely requirement of an effective team.

This is Abu, gem-struck by the Cave of Wonders, followed by Aladdin coming to terms with what is truly called for to step into the footsteps of ruling an empire, not just claiming the title of prince. This is paradigm-shifting, collectively and personally, and will continue to unfold the rest of our lives, with the compassionate reminder that construction—especially if deconstruction, demolition, and renovation are invoked—is challenging, as are group projects.

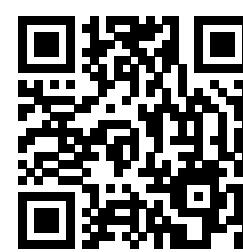
Rest assured, if you feel unprepared for this evolution, that eclipses have a way of guiding a ship with an unavoidable current. Lean into learning on the fly and embracing change, as it is inevitable. This is not a Tower card, and this week encourages you to just see the joy, potential, and enthusiasm of what is being inspired at this rare catalyst; mentally snapshot and hold tight to that ignited passion and the compulsory vision in preparation for when the project reaches pockets of difficulty that feel like Tower cards.

An adventure awaits; best to look upon the horizon, the sails at your back, with an explorer's whimsy and inquisitive eye.

~ Xo, Tiffany

Cards are drawn from the classic Rider Waite Smith tarot deck.

Personalized alchemy available at: <https://linktr.ee/tiffanyfitzpatrick>



PHONE: 360-682-8283

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Volume 18, Issue 07 | © MMXXVI Whidbey Weekly

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Need a Hand?
I'm Happy to Help.
Got a project you've been meaning to finish?
Cleaning out a room, organizing a space, or hauling a load to the dump? I offer friendly, reliable help with cleanouts, light cleaning and organizing, and junk removal.
Call or text Jacob: 360-499-9157

RESOURCES

Family Resource Center
723 Camano Ave, Langley. 360-221-6808 ext 4321

School supplies, coats, warm clothing, resource connections. Mon-Wed 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thurs 9 a.m. - 12 noon, or by appt. readinessstolearn.org

Mother Mentors
360-321-1484 · info@whidbeymothermentors.org Carregiving mentoring and play support, mothermentors.org

I Support the Girls
360-678-2090 · isupportthegirls.org/affiliates/whidbey-island Essential health and hygiene items for women and girls.

Island Senior Resources
360-321-1600
14594 SR 525, Langley
Multiple 50+ programs and services. Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. senior-resources.org

Pamoja Place pamojaplace.org
721 Camano Ave, Langley
Safe space for BIPOC people and allies to connect, collaborate, and celebrate.

Veterans Resource Center
360-331-2496
723 Camano Ave, Langley
Events, Support, and Benefits help
Monday 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Tues - Thurs 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday by Appointment. whibeyvrc.org

Veterans Services
360-632-2496
105 NW 1st, Coupeville
Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

RESOURCES

Basic Food Benefits Community Services Office: 275 Pioneer Way #201, Oak Harbor 877-501-2233

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:

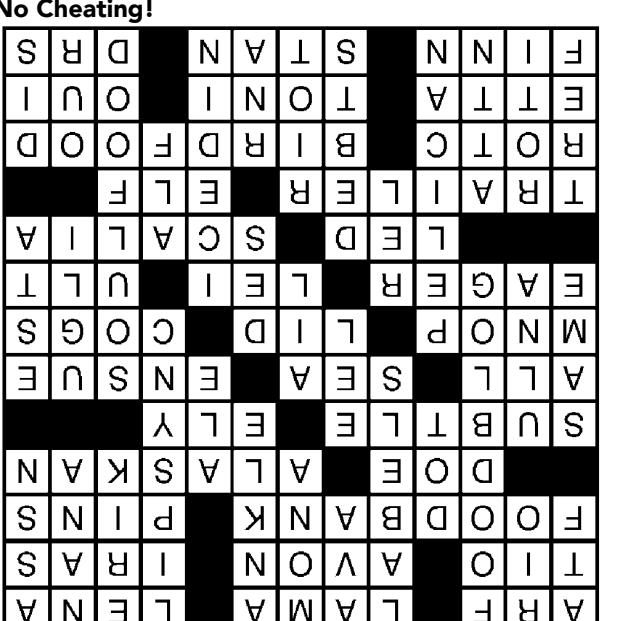
24/7 Northwest Washington Crisis Services

- 360-678-7880: Island County Behavioral Health

866-488-7386 Trevor Project

24/7 support for LGBTQIA2S+

No Cheating!



How'd you do?

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

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

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

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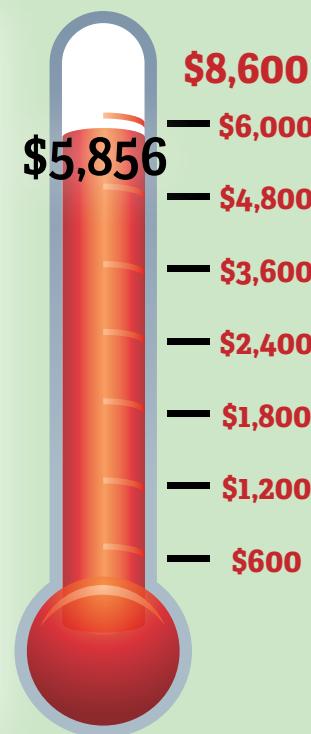
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FINAL STRETCH! KEEP IT UP FOR WHIDBEY!



At Whidbey Weekly, we believe in recycling — and that includes our delivery van. If the frame is sound, we believe a vehicle deserves to be reconditioned and kept on the road for as long as possible.

It's time for a new engine on our faithful 2003 Oldsmobile Silhouette. The cost of parts and labor is estimated at \$8,600 out the door.

This purchase is essential to keeping our local news in print across Whidbey. Thousands of readers pick up their free copies every week from locations across the island — and this van makes that possible.

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