

March 6, 2026 - March 12, 2026

FREE

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BITS & PIECES

City of Oak Harbor Launches Urban Forest Public Survey

The City of Oak Harbor is inviting community members to participate in a public survey as part of the development of the first Urban Forest Management Plan and Tree Inventory. This initiative is important to create a resilient, sustainable urban forest that supports the community's environmental, economic, and quality-of-life goals.

Oak Harbor's urban forest includes all trees, shrubs, and vegetation throughout the city; from parks and roadways to private yards and natural areas. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. The feedback will be used solely to inform the goals and objectives of the new Urban Forest Management Plan.

"This survey is the community's opportunity to help shape the future of our urban forest. Trees are a vital part of our parks, neighborhoods, and public spaces, and we want to understand what residents value most about them. Community input will directly inform the Urban Forestry Management Plan and guide how we care for and invest in our trees for years to come," said City of Oak Harbor's Parks Supervisor, Brandon Cable.

Residents who are new to urban forestry can access educational resources provided alongside the survey, including an overview of urban forestry concepts and information specific to trees in Oak Harbor at www.oakharbor.org.

The City encourages all residents, business owners, and community stakeholders to participate and help guide the future of Oak Harbor's urban forest.

The survey can be accessed at www.surveymonkey.com/r/OHPublicForestrySurvey

City Earns 2026 WellCity Distinction for 20 Years in a Row

The City is proud to announce it has once again been recognized as a 2026 WellCity by the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Employee Benefit Trust. This distinction honors Trust members that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to employee health and workplace wellness.

As a 2026 WellCity recipient, the City will receive a 2% premium discount on its 2027 AWC Employee Benefit Trust active medical premiums. Beyond the financial benefit, the designation reflects the City's ongoing investment in a workplace culture that supports employee well-being.

WellCities are great places to work, offering quality, sustainable benefits and an environment that prioritizes employee health. A healthy workplace culture leads to happy, healthy, and productive employees who are fully engaged in serving their community.

"With this recognition, we celebrate the dedication of our employees and the incredible work of our Wellness Committee," said Mayor Wright. "I want to personally thank the staff members from various departments who serve on the Wellness Committee."

The City is honored to be among the 127 Trust members earning the 2026 WellCity distinction and remains committed to promoting a healthy, supportive workplace for all employees.

For more information about the WellCity program and a full list of recipients, visit Wellness Program for Employees | Oak Harbor, WA.

Spring Seed and Plant Swap

Get ready for the growing season with a seed and plant swap on Sunday, March 15 at the Deer Lagoon Grange. There will be seeds and plants to share and a gardeners' rummage sale including gardening tools, books, etc. Enjoy coffee, tea and treats by donation. This event is hosted by the Washington State University (WSU) Extension Service of Island County Master Gardeners, Deer Lagoon Grange and South Whidbey Tilth. The event is at the Grange Hall from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 5142 Bayview Road in Langley. Bring your questions for Master Gardeners and other experts.

Donations of rummage sale items, gardening tools and books in good condition, may be dropped off at the Grange Hall between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on Saturdays, March 7 or 14, or make arrangements with Margaret King at margaretking@whidbey.com.

Please bring disease-free seeds and plants on Sunday, March 15.

Some guidelines for saved seeds are the following:

- Edible and ornamental seeds welcome.
- Bring open seed packets from the garden store.
- Bring seeds you have saved in a clearly labeled baggie or envelope (there will be envelopes and marking pens for participants)
- Do not bring seeds collected from hybrid plants, as they won't grow true to type.
- Bring seed that is viable — in other words, not too old! Most seeds will remain viable for 2 to 4 years if kept in a cool, dry place, out of the light. Some seeds (onions, leeks, parsnips, celery, spinach) are only good for a year unless stored especially well
- Make sure your donated seeds are clearly labeled with crop type, variety name and the date they were packaged/harvested.

For more information, contact info@southwhidbeytilth.org or leave a message at 360-321-0757.

Whidbey Island St. Patrick's Day Parade
March 17, 2026 • 4:30pm
 On Pioneer Way, in Historic Downtown Oak Harbor
Featuring Grand Marshals Jim & Sue Riney!
 Blessing & Kissing of the Blarney Stone will be prior to parade at 3pm
 Parade route will be on Pioneer Way from Ely Street to Midway Blvd
 Parade applications at: www.oakharbormainstreet.org/events

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Life Tributes

Thomas Benjamin Bell

December 17, 1951 – February 21, 2026

Tom Bell was a free spirit, an independent thinker, and the most genuine, likeable, and humble guy you could ever hope to meet. He was what got all those beat poets excited in the 1950s, personified. He was the real deal.

Born in Indiana, raised in Kansas City. He found his soul roving wild in forests of the Pacific Northwest, harnessed it at local bookstores and mom & pop cafes, and rode that baby up and down Mt. Rainier with nothing but an adventurer's spirit, a yearn for the outdoors, and good people to share it with.

Dad to Chris and Courtney; Grandpa Tom to Ethan, Tristan, Corrah, Eava and Marley, and those yet to be born; brother to Brad; Uncle Tom to so many nieces and nephews; Timmus to countless friends, neighbors, and acquaintances.

Whatever you called him, to know him was to love him.

Nothing can put into words how it was to be in this man's presence. The smell of his sweat from a hard day's work. The way he'd laugh his ass off at his own jokes. The offer of his hand as he drove with you in the passenger seat (which you'd take, gladly). The feeling that was dad.

The hugs, the giggles, the warmth, the togetherness. And the love, so much love. And the gratitude I have for every second of it.

Some spirits are too great for the bodies they inhabit.

Just between us, if you ever find pancreatic cancer down a dark alley somewhere along your journey, you beat the hell out of that bastard for me. Tell it ol' Tommy Bell sent you. You'll have my thanks.

And if anyone happens upon this article and never got the chance to meet the heart of gold that was my dad, let me leave you with this: I'm sorry for your loss.



Carol W. White

September 20, 1945 - February 10, 2026



Carol W. White was born in Chicago, Illinois to Richard and Millie Hubble, she was to be named Carl Hubble the baseball player, but to their surprise they had a baby girl and the name changed to Carol.

After graduation from High School, Carol worked for Bigalow. Carol has one child from a previous marriage, they moved to Havre, Montana for a big period of time and finally to Juneau, Alaska where she met her current husband, Gerald. Carol worked various jobs both in the private sector and for the State of Alaska, retiring from state government in 1991.

Gerald and Carol moved to Coupeville, Washington and built their forever home in 2000 in the Ledgewood Beach Community. Carol loved to travel in their tent traveler every spring and sometimes in the fall throughout the midwestern states. The southwest was her happy destination but also traveled to Florida on 3 separate occasions.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents and is survived by her husband, Gerald of 48 years of marriage, her son Jefferey Prevost, grandson Kevin Prevost, granddaughter Sydney Ashworth and great granddaughter Juniper Ashworth and other relatives.

Carol's wishes were to have a small family gathering to honor her in a private location. At the request of Carol's family, no flowers or donations are to be made, friends of Carols are encouraged to hold her memories close to their hearts.

DONATIONS NEEDED

We could use your help with these items:

- pasta
- mac & cheese
- canned vegetables (please no green beans)
- canned chili/stew/ravioli (any size can)



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What's Going On!

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S MURDER ON THE LINKS

Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, 565 Camano Ave., Langley
Now through March 7

Hercule Poirot takes the stage in this fast-paced comic mystery adapted by Steven Dietz from the Agatha Christie classic. When a murder is discovered on a seaside golf course, secrets unravel and suspects multiply as the famed Belgian detective races to solve the case. Directed by Lani Brockman and performed in Zech Hall's intimate black box setting. Evening and matinee performances available. Tickets \$32-\$47.

POETRY NIGHT

Friday, March 6, 5-7 p.m.
South Whidbey Commons Café, 124 Second Street

Writers, poets, singer-songwriters and spoken-word artists are invited to share their work during this open community gathering. All experience levels are welcome for an evening of creative expression, collaboration and connection in a relaxed café setting.

PENN COVE MUSSELFEST

Saturday-Sunday, March 7-8,
8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Downtown Coupeville,
1 Front Street Northwest

The annual Penn Cove Musselfest celebrates the locally grown mussels harvested from the clean, river-fed waters just offshore from Coupeville. The weekend features chowder competitions at area restaurants, mussel cooking demonstrations by local and regional chefs, beer gardens with live music, boat tours of the mussel beds, shopping throughout downtown, and crowd-favorite mussel-eating contests. Tasting tickets allow attendees to sample dishes and vote for the best chowder. More details and ticket information will be released closer to the event.

MUSSELFEST BOOK SALE

Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.;
Sunday, March 8, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Coupeville Library,
788 NW Alexander St.

Browse gently used books during Musselfest at the Friends of the Coupeville Library book sale. All proceeds benefit the Coupeville Library. Cash, check and Square accepted.

BIRD WALKS AT DECEPTION PASS

Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.-noon
Cornet Bay - Hoypus Point, Deception Pass State Park, 160 Cornet Bay Road

Join experienced birders from Whidbey Audubon Society to explore habitats around Cornet Bay and identify a variety of resident and migratory species. This guided walk is suitable for all skill levels. Bring binoculars if you have them; a limited number will be available. No registration required. Discover Pass or day-use permit required per vehicle.

LANGLEY FIRST SATURDAY ART WALK

Saturday, March 7, 5-7 p.m.
Downtown Langley

Stroll through Langley's galleries during this monthly evening art event. Meet local artists, explore new exhibits

and enjoy a relaxed, self-guided walk through participating locations including Artworks Gallery, Lasher Gallery at WICA, Museo Gallery, Rob Schouten Gallery and Whidbey Art Gallery.

STATE PARK FREE DAYS

March 9 — Billy Frank Jr.'s Birthday
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Enjoy free day-use entry and parking at Washington State Parks—no Discover Pass required—in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Whidbey and Camano Islands offer multiple options for hiking, beaches, and scenic views, including Deception Pass State Park.

WIAC SPRING GALA FUNDRAISING DINNER

Thursday, March 12,
seatings at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Osprey Fish Company,
103 NW Coveland St., Coupeville

Enjoy a five-course tasting menu with wine pairings prepared by Chef Ben in support of the Whidbey Island Arts Council. Tickets are \$210 per person and include dinner, wine, service, and a \$54 tax-deductible donation to WIAC. Proceeds benefit local arts programs and community cultural initiatives.

FRUIT TREE WORKSHOPS: BENCH GRAFTING

Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m.-noon
Pacific Rim Institute, 180 Parker Road,
Coupeville

Learn the fundamentals of grafting in this interactive workshop combining instruction with a hands-on bench grafting lab. Participants will graft an apple tree and take it home. Rootstock, scion wood, and tools are provided; bring a grafting knife if you have one. Class size is limited. Led by Dan Vorhis.

SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION AND DINNER

Saturday, March 14, 5:00 to 8:30 pm
Oak Harbor Elks Club

Coupeville Lions Club 20th Annual Scholarship Auction and Dinner, Oak Harbor Elks Lodge. Tickets are \$60 for a festive and fun evening and include appetizers, wine & beer, dinner, dessert auction and a live auction. All proceeds go toward scholarships for 2026 high school seniors living in the Coupeville School District. For tickets or donation to this wonderful cause: www.coupevillelions.com

YASEMIN SARI | TOGETHER: THE PROMISE OF DEMOCRACY

Saturday, March 14, 3-4:30 p.m.
Coupeville Library, 788 NW Alexander St., Coupeville

Join the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation and the Trudy Sundberg Lecture Series for a conversation with Seattle University philosophy professor Yasemin Sari about the role everyday community conversations play in sustaining democracy. Sari will discuss how dialogue in public spaces—from libraries to parks—can help bridge divides and strengthen civic participation. This program is presented in partnership with Humanities Washington.



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Coupeville Lions Club 20th Annual Scholarship Dinner and Auction

Saturday, March 14

5:00 to 8:30 pm
Oak Harbor Elks Lodge



Tickets \$60

Appetizers
Wine and Beer
Dinner
Dessert Auction
Live Auction



Tickets or
Donations at
coupevillelions.org



100% of proceeds for scholarships for seniors in Coupeville School District



WHIDBEY IN MIND | TURN ME INTO A SEEDLING POT





WIAC SPRING GALA FUNDRAISER DINNER

Thursday March 12
seatings at 4pm and 7pm

presented by
Oystercatcher
in Coupeville

Join us for a fabulous evening of
culinary delights created by
Oystercatcher in support of Whidbey
Island Arts Council.

Enjoy a thoughtfully curated five
course tasting menu from Chef Ben along with wine pairings for each course.

Tickets - \$210 per person
includes dinner, wine, service charge, and a \$54 tax-deductible donation to WIAC.

TICKETS - www.islandartscouncil.org

Thank you for supporting Whidbey Island Arts Council!
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All donations are tax deductible.



On Walking in Dark Fog

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

In 2017, after 17 years, I left the church. This life shift, not unlike a divorce, required courage and led me to briefly lose and reinvent my clothing, titles, income, ego, and career path. I went on a 24-month retreat on a New Mexico farm by the Rio Grande, spending that time soul-searching with my horse, Copper, and my lab, Kai, to think and heal.

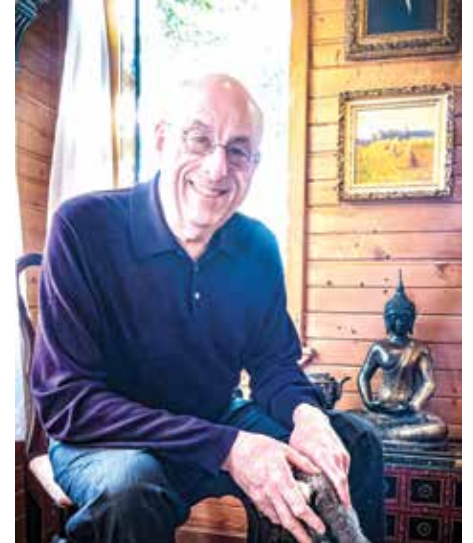
Then, one day in late 2019, Christina Baldwin (<https://christinabaldwin.com/>) called me from Whidbey Island and asked me to interview for a new job there. I had to look it up on a map, and she had to ask three times. The rest, as they say, is history, filled with the ups and downs that come with a move, year after year.

To the best of my ability, I have remained faithful to the calling I felt from the energy of the universe. I moved with only 2,500 pounds of my 15,000 pounds of possessions, assuming I would have less space on an expensive island. I put my head down and worked for Cheryn Weiser, who has been a faithful friend and mentor.

When I arrived, I established the first-ever development office for a nonprofit organization. With honesty and diligence—despite some failures along the way and a strong belief in our mission—I set a goal to increase the annual giving program from \$89,000 to \$1 million over 10 years, from 2020 to 2030. We achieved that goal in 2025, five years ahead of schedule.

Over the past three months, I have done some soul-searching, as many do at significant life milestones. I've mined my soul and drawn on my friends' wisdom to reflect on what I've learned in these seven years. Here are the insights that have helped my island fundraising (for more on fundraising in general, please refer to my books on the subject):

1. People give to people. They are motivated by individuals of integrity who resonate with a mission that aligns with their impact values, resulting in philanthropy, whether it's \$10 or \$1 million.
2. Life is short. We have only about 4,000 weeks in our lives, and given my genes, I expect to have roughly 520 weeks left, and perhaps even fewer in terms of health. Thus, the choices I make about where and how I spend my time are increasingly vital.
3. Mastery (10,000 hours or more) and passion are the two markers of success in fundraising for mission or agency leadership. Lacking either necessitates a change; otherwise, integrity will inevitably suffer. People are skilled at detecting falsehoods; it's a survival instinct developed over millennia.
4. Homemade food, personal connections, friendship, in-person listening, and handwritten blue-inked letters form the foundation of fundraising in a close-knit community like this island.



5. Writing, adjusting, and adhering to a carefully vetted annual strategy and a daily-weekly-monthly-quarterly tactical plan—while diligently protecting the process—is essential to achieving goals.

This list centers on relationships, planning, and discernment. I'll close with this story: Founded in 1397, New College, Oxford, featured a Dining Hall framed by massive oak beams. A century ago, after 500 years (35 generations), a report revealed that the beams were rotting. The College Dean asked his version of a Board of Directors for their opinion on how to replace the massive beams. Archivists found notes from the 1400s indicating that the Renaissance-era builders had anticipated this issue and had planted a grove of oaks on the school's land 500 years earlier, specifically for this purpose. (<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/oak-beams-new-college-oxford>)

Any donor and any agency is planting seeds of trees under which they, themselves, will never sit. So every agency planning for mission needs to ask itself if it is planting flowers or oaks.

To see more writing and films Charles LaFond go to:



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SOWING SEEDS

By Auston Reisman Parent, Farmer, Builder, Artist, Environmental Steward

As the weather warms and our inner vitality, nestled in through the winter, begins to sprout, one wants to gravitate to the garden. While the surrounding environment awakens in a similar way, I peel the cardboard blankets off my planting beds, my warm heart embracing this natural transition, nurturing and being nurtured. After uncovering a portion, I evaluate soil quality and test the temperature. The sun is shining, the moon is waxing, and it appears that everything is naturally aligned on this beautiful day, stirring an innate inclination to sow seeds.



According to ancient wisdom, there are mechanisms for successful planting. Over the years, I have adapted my growing rituals, gleaned bits and pieces from a wealth of resources. I tend to group principles or ideas in threes. This strategy works for me because it creates a balanced blend of a couple of ideas without being too overwhelming. In the garden, my trifecta is biodynamic, crop rotation, and permaculture.

Biodynamic gardening, in conjunction with the moon cycle, boosts plant growth by timing tasks to lunar phases. According to this practice, the most fertile time for planting is typically the few days before the full moon. By adapting this practice, we have cultivated a deeper awareness of the lunar cycle. This cycle impacts Earth primarily through gravity and light, driving ocean tides, regulating marine life's reproductive cycles, and influencing animal behaviors such as foraging and navigation. I have also noticed correlations between these cycles and my sleep behavior.

Crop rotation, as its name implies, means avoiding growing vegetables from the same botanical family repeatedly, in the same spot, for several years in a row. This prevents the build-up of pests and diseases and boosts soil fertility. Growing crops in rotation used to be an accepted part of gardening and farming, but unfortunately, it has lost significance as synthetic pesticides and fertilizers have become more widely used. With increased awareness of organic gardening and a

greater understanding of how soil works, I have witnessed a resurgence in this practice. We use a 3-year cycle alternating successively:

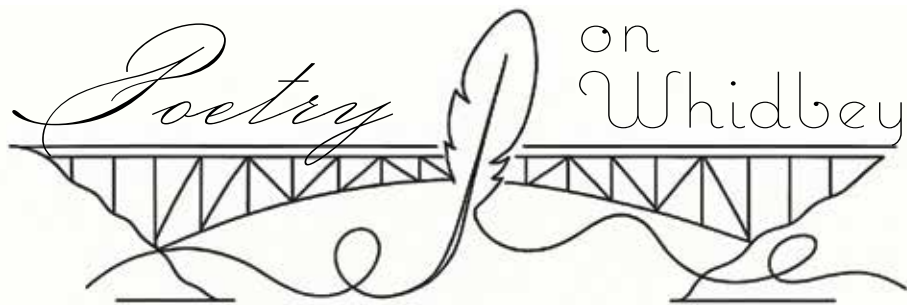
Year 1: Legumes (beans, peas) for nitrogen fixation

Year 2: Brassicas (broccoli, cabbage) or leafy greens for nutrient consumption

Year 3: Roots/Alliums (carrots, onions, potatoes) or fruits (tomatoes). By using this sequencing, plants and soil benefit in numerous ways from each other.

Permaculture gardening is a regenerative design system that mimics natural ecosystems to create productive, self-sustaining, and low-maintenance landscapes. It focuses on working with nature through principles like no-till, water harvesting, and biodiversity to build healthy soil, reduce waste, and grow food in harmony with the environment. By working in harmony with nature, you create a partnership that cares for the earth and helps all life systems continue to exist and multiply. Native habitats support beneficial insects such as ladybugs, lacewings, hoverflies, parasitic wasps, and pollinators (bees and butterflies), helping manage pests naturally, improve biodiversity, and reduce chemical dependence.

I can read lots of books on each of these subjects but then I lose perspective. The most important thing is to just get out there! Get your hands and knees dirty! Seeds and plants love and thrive in the joy of dirt-covered humans! And while you are at it, enjoy the singing birds, buzzing insects, sun on your back, gentle inner peace, and unadulterated happiness - all sure to meet you there, in the garden.



Penn Cove Mussels

(Sung to the tune of Cockles and Mussels)

There is a fair city
Where adults and kiddies
Can come and enjoy Penn Cove Mussels and faire.
The town is called Coupeville
And you can get your fill
Of garlicky mussels, Oh my, Oh my, Oh!

Chorus

Oh my, Oh my, Oh!
To Coupeville we go
Crying Penn Cove has mussels
Oh my, Oh my, Oh!

For growls in your belly
The Restaurants and Deli's
Will satisfy you with the freshest of food.
And enjoy the lattés
For both cold and hot days
As you wash down the mussels, Oh my, Oh my, Oh!

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WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

ARIES (Mar 21 – Apr 20)

Your energy rises steadily this week. A personal goal that felt delayed begins moving again. Stay focused and avoid distractions—quiet determination wins the race.

TAURUS (Apr 21 – May 21)

Reflection brings clarity. Take time to reassess priorities before committing to something new. By the weekend, a social connection lifts your spirits.

GEMINI (May 22 – Jun 21)

Collaboration proves valuable. Sharing ideas opens unexpected doors. Midweek conversations spark fresh momentum in both work and personal plans.

CANCER (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

Career matters take a positive turn. Your steady effort earns respect, even if recognition is subtle. Keep building—progress is real.

LEO (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

Optimism returns. A new plan or opportunity expands your thinking. Travel, learning, or creative pursuits bring inspiration.

VIRGO (Aug 24 – Sept 22)

Financial and emotional balance comes into focus. Address practical matters calmly and directly. Small adjustments now prevent larger stress later.

LIBRA (Sept 23 – Oct 23)

Partnerships strengthen through honest dialogue. Listening carefully builds trust. A supportive exchange reminds you you're not alone.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 – Nov 22)

Routines improve with better organization. Tackle small tasks first—momentum builds quickly. By week's end, you'll feel more in control.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 – Dec 21)

Creativity and joy brighten your week. Make space for hobbies or lighthearted plans. A spontaneous moment refreshes your outlook.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 – Jan 20)

Home life settles into a calmer rhythm. Practical decisions about family or property bring peace of mind. Stability supports your larger ambitions.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 – Feb 18)

Communication flows smoothly. Meetings, writing, or planning sessions move forward without friction. A new idea sparks future potential.

PISCES (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

Finances and priorities align. Trust your judgment when making practical decisions. Confidence grows as you recognize steady progress.

DEER LAGOON GRANGE, SOUTH WHIDBEY TILTH & WSU MASTER GARDENERS

SUNDAY MARCH 15TH **TIME 10AM-2PM**

Seed & Plant Swap

Bring Seeds & Plants to swap! Learn more about the Grange & Tilt. Ask a Master Gardener your questions.

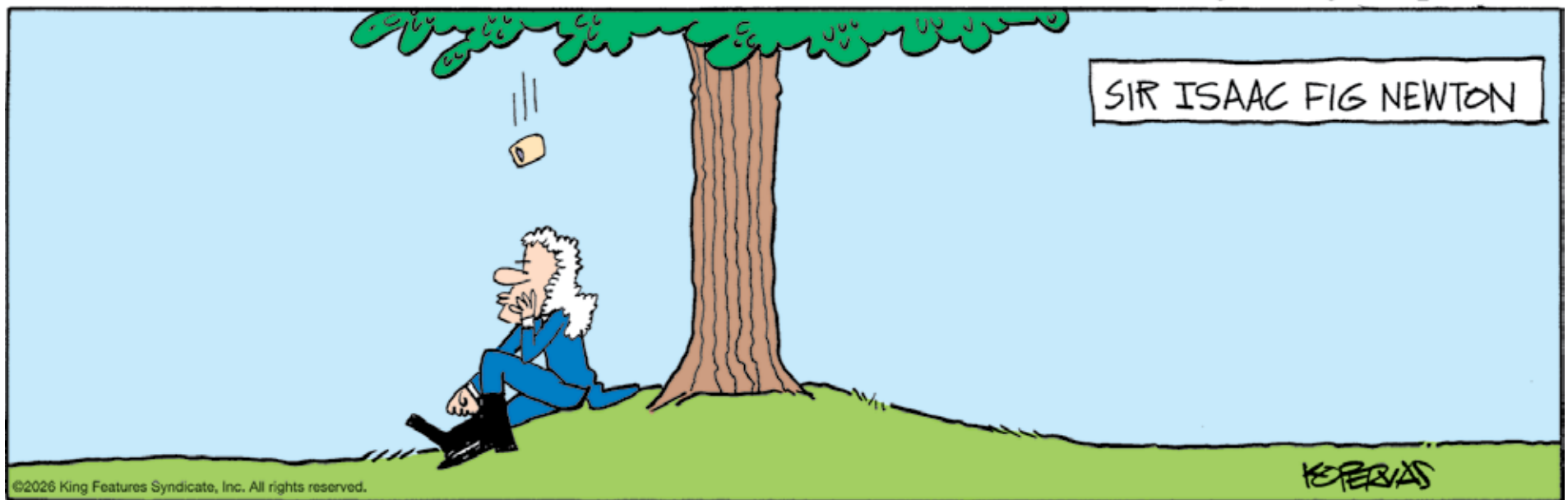
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Deer Lagoon Grange
5142 Bayview Rd, Langley



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



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Astrology for March 6-12 2026
Full Moon Lunar Eclipse in Virgo 12°

On **March 6**, Venus enters Aries until March 30. The planet of relationships, pleasure, beauty, and finances, steps into the sign of the warrior. Venus in this position goes after what she wants. We tend to value courage and bold action in love. We get decisive and are less interested in maybe. Venus in Aries does like a cat and mouse flirtation style, so dynamics that emulate 'the hunt' can surface during this time. Success in relationships and finance will require being direct about interests and desires. A word of caution with this signature: we may be starting things that we do not intend to finish. Take care to monitor impulsivity, especially in romance related endeavors. Remember to consider all parties involved, and not solely your own interests.

On **March 7**, Venus conjuncts Neptune in Aries at 1° and this is the stereotypical rose-colored glasses transit. It can be hard to see clearly, as this combination can make things seem better than they truly are. We may be invited to experience a dream scenario, a fantasy that appears to come true, or to indulge in a surreal high. Careful, because tomorrow's transit may be brutal in contrast. The thing to pay attention to: what do today's circumstances reveal about your own perception? Your own ideals? What you desire? What turns you on? Why? Is this escapism? Naivety? Or truly a higher love? This has spiritual and creative potential, but there is important information here to clock.

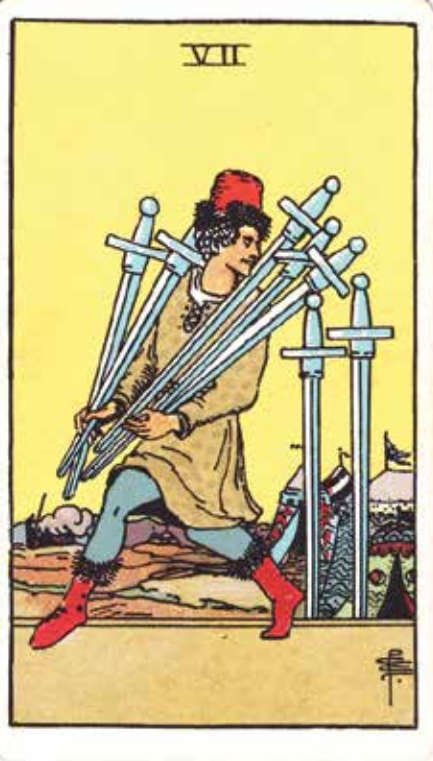
On **March 8**, Venus conjuncts Saturn in Aries at 2°. Yesterday's rose-colored glasses have fallen off and the reality is revealed. This is a hard checkpoint in relationships. In Aries, this combo is pointing to how we do or do not stand up for our own desires, needs, and wants in relationships. This can involve tough conversations and confrontations. This moment requires extreme maturity and self-responsibility. We are being asked to face the ways we have been out of integrity with our true sense of self, especially in our relating dynamics with others. What needs to be adjusted or confronted? There's no room for pretending here.

On **March 9**, Mercury retrograde in Pisces trines Jupiter retrograde in Cancer at 15°. This can play out in a number of ways. We can receive an important message from someone from the past, a vivid memory flashes through our mind, or we are informed via nostalgic feeling about something that still needs attention or deeper processing. Revisiting old topics of conversation is likely but, can flow with surprising ease. These planets are concerned with expansion, learning, and communicating depth of feeling. If something does surface from the past, be it a physical artifact or an energetic hit, look for the message within it. What is being suggested by it surfacing? In its highest expression, this can signal a 'look how far you've come' moment. Reflections lead to higher understanding and deeper questions. In safe exchanges, emotional bonds can deepen from these conversations. If past situations are no longer viable, this is a potent self-reflection point. Take advantage of it.

On **March 10**, Jupiter in Cancer stations direct at 15° and Venus in Aries sextiles Pluto in Aquarius at 4°. Jupiter is strong and boldly highlights the integration of lessons that have been ongoing since it stationed retrograde on November 11, 2025. Since that time, much of the learning and expansion we have been working with has been internal in nature and about the way we engage with our inner life. Themes involving patriotism, country, ancestry, emotional bonds, family dynamics, and a general sense of belonging have been churning and evolving both individually and collectively. Jupiter direct will bring these themes out in the open from now through June 30, when Jupiter leaves the sign of Cancer and enters Leo. To whom or what do you feel you belong to? Venus sextile Pluto will encourage further developments in this evolution of our story. It will be easier to recognize what we are drawn to, what we are truly passionate about. It's not all doom and gloom out there. What is pulling like a magnet? Where do you feel drawn by emotional optimism?

Enjoy the weeklies?

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**March 6th - March 12th :
The Seven of Swords**

Our minds and hearts are focused on far off conflict as our eyes are misdirected, craftily averted from sneakiness far closer to home, and resources swiped right from under our noses. Crucial details are deliberately hidden from view while valuables are shuffled and tucked away in unknowable places. It's so much bigger than we yet realize and not at all for the reasons we've been told. They play in our faces, misidentifying the culprits and driving hatred at undeserving targets for their own benefit. Their pattern is predetermined as they rush forward pinning ordered tasks as met before the designs are not only seen but believed. They bare their own beacons but so many have been taught not to trust our own eyes.

The overwhelm dulls and clouds the mind and it's difficult to shake free and achieve

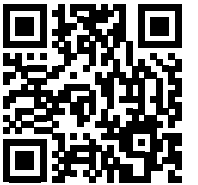
clarity, yet we shouldn't bide our time waiting for lucidity to return. The ongoing Mercury Retrograde in Pisces amplifies fogged confusion strongarming us to hone our instincts and observe the information delivered through our emotions and sensations. You have the capability of discerning truth from lie or even exaggeration, with a bit of attunement and practice. This invitation is glaringly resonant at a time we so often look to both absorb and validate externally, all data. Instead, quiet yourself, ask yourself, and listen internally. Start small with known truths and deliberate falsehoods, feel the difference. Practice and expand this skill, training it like any other muscle; develop this trust in yourself, needed now more than ever. When you don't know who or what to trust, trust yourself, but remember, fear is not truth, and neither is hate; you must listen under. When you address what is loud, it can quiet, allowing instinct to be heard. This is not achieved by ignoring the emotion, but making it feel heard so it relinquishes it's grip on the mic.

You wish to act but not without precision, hoping to avoid error. Fortune favors the bold, most especially at this time as the stars all but scream in demand of it. Act, do, especially if you feel inspired toward creation or pursuit of long held dreams. This is not immunity from consequences, but a reminder you can think yourself in circles and often right out of the doing. The hesitation is holding you back while you falsely assume logic and surety are the only accurate steps toward progress. This is why calculative mental gymnastics are temporarily elusive for you, so you remember the impulsivity of your heart and the movement of your feet. Are your dreams worth falling for?

~Xo, Tiffany

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

Your future divined in detail, here
[https://linktr.ee/tiffanyfitzpatrick:](https://linktr.ee/tiffanyfitzpatrick)



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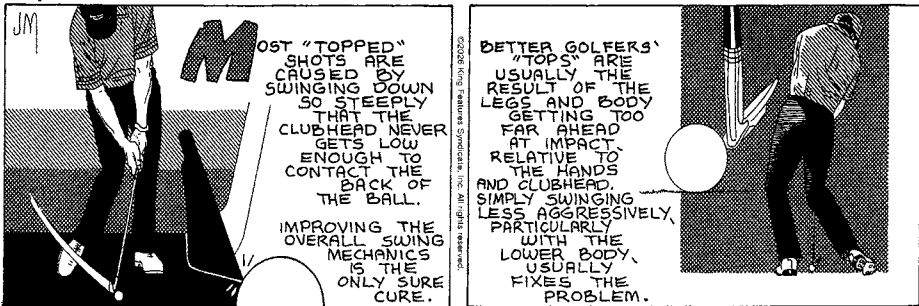
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- 21 Mellow yellows
- 24 Winter blanket
- 25 Mauna --
- 26 Fire sign?
- 28 Emulate Scott Hamilton
- 31 Grecian vessels
- 33 Evergreen tree
- 35 "Zounds!"
- 36 Army doc
- 38 Karaoke prop, for short
- 40 Assoc.
- 41 Friendly
- 43 Crude dwelling
- 45 Brit's word of surprise
- 47 Where Ger. is
- 48 Help
- 49 Timepiece attachment
- 54 Blasting stick
- 55 Follow
- 56 Luau dish
- 57 Sneaky chuckle
- 58 Reading lights
- 59 Bradley and Asner

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Apply cream
- 2 Listener
- 3 "-- goes there?"
- 4 Soft felt hat
- 5 Diplomat's post
- 6 Fed. health law
- 7 Camping shelters
- 8 Family cars
- 9 Something to jump on
- 10 Skunk's defense
- 11 Theater award
- 16 Jurist Fortas
- 20 Stirred
- 21 Grad
- 22 "Encore!"
- 23 Range of radio frequencies
- 27 Skirt edge
- 29 Like lemons
- 30 Jittery
- 32 Thailand, once
- 34 Gets smart
- 37 Embroidery yarn
- 39 Waterpark slides
- 42 Actress Loy
- 44 Wall St. whiz
- 45 Tub session
- 46 Queue
- 50 Doctrine
- 51 Mimic
- 52 Silent assent
- 53 Insult

Answer on page 11

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Fri, Mar 6	Sat, Mar 7	Sun, Mar 8	Mon, Mar 9	Tues, Mar 10	Wed, Mar 11	Thurs, Mar 12
North Isle H-47°/L-44°	North Isle H-50°/L-46°	North Isle H-49°/L-41°	North Isle H-43°/L-37°	North Isle H-42°/L-37°	North Isle H-44°/L-38°	North Isle H-43°/L-37°
South Isle H-49°/L-45°	South Isle H-52°/L-47°	South Isle H-50°/L-40°	South Isle H-42°/L-36°	South Isle H-53°/L-37°	South Isle H-44°/L-39°	South Isle H-43°/L-36°



OUR Community

An Upbeat Question of the week
By Helen Mosbrooker

What experience would you recommend to a first time visitor to Coupeville?



Shirley Bennett, Coupeville

When you come to Coupeville, plan to spend the day and, if you can, stay overnight.

Start by driving down Main Street all the way to Front Street. Cruise slowly as you look left and right at the charming shops, The Tavern, restaurants, craft shop, art gallery, and as you make the left turn, notice the walkway to the restored Wharf, then locate the Island County Historical Society, the Chamber of Commerce where you'll get guidance to find points of special interest to you. Continue up to the free parking area by our lovely Library. Proceed back to Front Street and browse the many delights in the second oldest town in Washington State! Take your time, enjoy a latte, mussels at Toby's, original art at the Gallery. Tour Haller House for a peek into the historic past. Coupeville will entice you to return many times!



Jason Magee, Coupeville

I am definitely biased, but I would recommend that a first-time visitor to Coupeville walk out to the Port of Coupeville wharf, the home of the second oldest port in the state of Washington. There, they can view the wonderful and informative exhibits in the building's lobby and browse the shops.

During the time from May through mid-October, visitors to the wharf can walk down to the dock where they will find a large sailing vessel named Suva. Suva is a one-hundred-year-old schooner that was designed and built for a Coupeville resident named Frank Pratt. Suva is now owned and operated by the Whidbey Island Maritime Heritage Foundation, and in December 2025, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Visitors can come aboard and see and hear what makes Suva so special. The more adventurous can reserve a seat for a two-hour sail!



Lynda Eccles, Coupeville

Executive Director Coupeville Chamber of Commerce

I was recently asked, "What experience would I recommend to a first-time visitor to Coupeville?" To me, the answer is easy: first, stop by the Visitor Information Center on NW Alexander, where you will learn a little about our history and what to see and do in and around Coupeville.

Next, a visit to Whidbey is an experience in itself, but in Coupeville you will find two State Parks, a number of hiking or walking trails through natural woodland, and a stroll along Ebey's Landing beach to look for unusual rocks or build a structure from the driftwood that has washed up along the coastline.

The Price Sculpture Forest on 9th, where you can wander through a beautiful old forest and find unique sculptures from across the county and, in some cases, the world, is a must see. Trails take you through wooded acres, and along the way enjoy interesting sculptures. No matter what time of year, it is always different: the sounds and sights of birds in the trees, the changing colors of the leaves, and the signs that spring is on the way all in a tranquil setting is well worth the visit.

For families, the young ones might find a dinosaur or a gorilla lurking in the bushes. A stroll around Coupeville itself offers unique shops, tasty restaurants, and coffee shops. Don't forget to stroll along our historic Coupeville Wharf, where you will find more shops and our Whale and Sea Lion exhibit. (Remember to look up when you enter.)

Joyful Saying of the Week "Many people lose the small joys in the hope for the big happiness." -Pearl S. Buck

Weekly SUDOKU

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Answer on page 11

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

To place an ad, email classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com

SERVICE DIRECTORY

FIREWOOD

Firewood
(360) 320-4316
Cut, Split, Delivered and Ready to Burn

Your ad here.
\$12
For any sales or business listings.

BOOK SALE

MUSSELFEST BOOK SALE
Friends Coupeville Library
Musselstest Book Sale
Sat March 7th 1000 to 5:00
Sun March 8th 1100 to 4:00
Coupeville Library
788 NW Alexander St.
Browse gently used books during Musselstest. All proceeds go to Coupeville Library.
Cash, Check, Square Reader.

CONCERT



Danish-American fiddle duo Kristian Bugge (Denmark) and Ruthie Dornfeld (Seattle) in concert at the Bayview Community Hall on Sunday March 8! Enjoy trad music from Denmark & other Scandinavian countries plus American old-time, Venezuelan, and more!
Concert starts 7:30 pm, doors open at 7. Suggested donation \$25 or what you can. All welcome!

EVENT

Join Whidbey real estate investors (both experienced and aspiring) for networking and insights with attorney Eric Acuario. Eric will explain how investors can mitigate risk through proper LLC structuring, navigate eviction laws, and plan for long-term asset protection. Free. Thursday March 12 6:00pm at Freeland Library community meeting room.



IN SEARCH OF

Art, Antiques & Collectibles.
Cash paid for quality items.
Call or text 360-661-7298
Was your Dad or Gramps in Japan or Germany? I collect old 35 mm cameras and lenses. Oak Harbor. Call 970-823-0002

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SOCIETY OF GK CHESTERTON
A lively and interesting topic, what did GK Chesterton think about JAZZ? What do you think of GK Chesterton? Consider the works and life of GK Chesterton with others as you enjoy a host provided warm or cool beverage and a sweet or a savory treat at an Oak Harbor seaside venue. Further details upon reply to GKChestertonWhidbey@gmail.com

NEED HELP?

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

How'd you do?

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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. readiness@learn.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.

VOLUNTEER

Become a Trained Volunteer with Sound Water Stewards



Looking to make a difference in your coastal community? Become a Steward with our 10-week program. Get immersed with your marine environment! Support critical research in partnership with university, government, and tribal scientists. Training begins March 19. Apply by March 1st. Apply here: <https://soundwaterstewards.org/get-involved/join-sws/>

No Cheating!

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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+

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

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 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

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E-Mail classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com
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Please try to limit your classified to 30 words or less, (amounts and phone numbers are counted as words) we will help edit if necessary. We charge \$12/week for Vehicles, Boats, Motorcycles, RVs, Real Estate Rental/Sales, Business Classifieds and any items selling \$1,000 and above. We do charge \$25 to include a photo. The FREE classified space is not for business use. No classified is accepted without phone number. We reserve the right to not publish classifieds that are in bad taste or of questionable content. All free classifieds will be published twice consecutively. If you would like your ad to be published more often, you must resubmit it. Deadline for all submissions is one week prior to issue date.





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ONLINE**



Summer May - August 2026 Activity Guide

The Summer Activity Guide publishes Friday, April 10th.
Advertising reservations close Friday, March 27th.

**Your advertising helps strengthen South Whidbey
and supports South Whidbey Parks & Recreation.**

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- Back Cover (8" x 10") \$1200
- Inside Cover (8" x 10") \$900
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Inside Pages

- Full Page (7" x 8.75") \$700
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