

December 5 through December 11, 2019

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Whidbey Weekly



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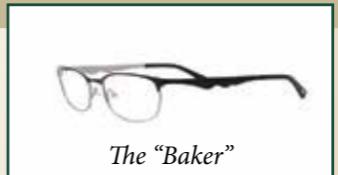
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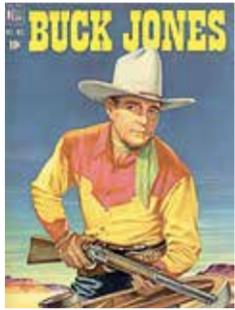
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ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



Even though Thanksgiving 2019 has passed, I am still thinking of things for which I am thankful.

Why stop thinking thankfully just because I have no more gravy?

Dad used to say my sister once said, "Are there any more gravy?"

She denies it.

This morning, as I briefly looked in the mirror, I realized how thankful I am that at one time, I could part my hair.

Now there is no part to part.

Since my hair and I have parted, am I still playing the part?

According to the American Hair Loss Society, www.americanhairloss.org, there is a direct correlation between air pollution and baldness.

Why did I ever leave the Midwest? Had I stayed in all that snow maybe I never would have worn baseball hats?

Twenty years in Southern California took its toll, or should I say follicles?

My hearing is also shot because of L.A. traffic noise and too much rock 'n' roll. The only time I ever heard birds chirping when I lived in Hollywood was Friday afternoon about 5 p.m. when the traffic was stopped on the Hollywood Freeway bordering Uncle Wayne's house. I lived on his porch.

My eyes are shot because of blinking smog for 20 years.

Now, after reading the reports from the hair loss people, I find the pollution of the San Fernando Valley has caused me to not only move to the great Northwest, but to wear a baseball hat when I sleep.

"And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap, had just settled down for a long winter's nap."

So much for the nap.

Why am I complaining if I am thankful?

Because if I had not experienced all that pollution, smog, noise, and traffic, I might never have found Whidbey Island.

Thank you, pollution of L.A.

Thank you, noise of Hollywood.

Thank you, crammed freeways of Southern California.

Thank you, for because of you, I am now living in Bedford Falls, wearing a baseball hat.

Buck up

Thanksgiving night, 2019, I received a voice mail message which furthered my appreciation for being alive and for living here on Whidbey.

My voice mail message further reminded me I am thankful I have lived long enough to enjoy DVD copies of Buck Jones westerns that played in movie theaters prior to my birth.

I am extremely thankful I have a film/TV/music and baseball mentor, right here in Freeland, who would take the time to remind me this Thanksgiving, last week as you read this, was the 77th anniversary of Buck Jones' last role, playing himself, perishing in a disastrous fire at the Coconut Grove while saving the lives of patrons, as well as being part of the longest run-on sentence I have ever enjoyed.

I counted 72 words. A new personal record.

So, why bring up Buck Jones?

Real life heroes like Buck Jones are everywhere.

We may not ever hear about them or ever know about them.

Maybe you are one of them.

For this, and much, much more, I am thankful.

Why wait until next Thanksgiving to tell you?

Knowing me, I bet I'll forget I told you and I'll tell you again anyway, during Thanksgiving week, 2020.

Quotes on

"No form of art goes beyond ordinary consciousness as film does, straight to our emo-

tions, deep into the twilight room of the soul." ~Ingmar Bergman

What a great way to say, "I like movies."

If there is a greater escape to elsewhere than the darkness of a movie theater, I have yet to find it. Unlike my nephew, Dennis, who wears those virtual reality goggles to induce nausea, I prefer the theater.

With the choices of films at our Oak Harbor Cinemas and The Clyde on First Street in Langley, we Whidbeyites are blessed.

In fact, one can even rent The Clyde for films already playing. If we have 60 or more folks join us, the \$200 rental fee for the theater may be waived. Regular admission still applies.

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Pop corny

One of my kemosabes offers me a plethora of puns and more whenever I see him at the Freeland library.

Sir Ray shared this duo of auction jokes for me last March as he knows I do auctions from time to time, or they do me.

Get ready to moan.

"My girlfriend goes to too many auctions. So I bid her farewell."

"At this auction house they take American cash, Canadian cash at a discount, just about any money. But for those of you recently divorced, they don't take matri-money."

Thanks again, Ray.

Baptist cowboy

Thanks to the Phreeland Fantom for this classic joke, a re-working of an old Irish pub story. Having been raised in a Presbyterian/Baptist conflicted home, I think this is politically correct, no matter how we vote.

A cowboy, who just moved to Wyoming from Texas, walks into a bar and orders three mugs of Bud. He sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When he finishes them, he comes back to the bar and orders three more.

The bartender approaches and tells the cowboy, "You know, a mug goes flat after I draw it. It would taste better if you bought one at a time."

The cowboy replies, "Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is an Airborne Ranger, the other is a Navy Seal, both serving overseas somewhere. When we all left our home in Texas, we promised we'd drink this way to remember the days when we drank together. So I'm drinking one beer for each of my brothers and one for myself."

The bartender admits this is a nice custom, and leaves it there.

The cowboy becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way. He orders three mugs and drinks them in turn.

One day, he comes in and only orders two mugs. All the regulars take notice and fall silent.

When he comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, "I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your loss."

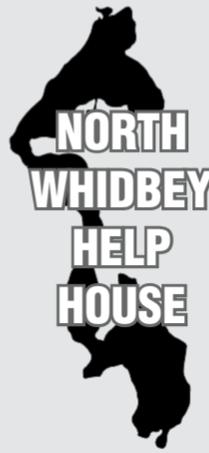
The cowboy looks quite puzzled for a moment, then a light dawns in his eyes and he laughs.

"Oh, no, everybody's just fine," he explains, "It's just that my wife and I just joined the 1st Baptist Church and I had to quit drinking."

"Hasn't affected my brothers though..."

To read past columns of *On Track* in the *Whidbey Weekly*, see our Digital Library at www.whidbeyweekly.com.

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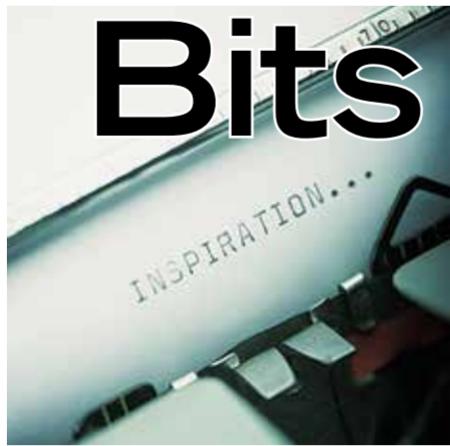
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Bits & Pieces

Free Christmas Concert Features 100+ Singers and Musicians



More than 100 singers and 14 musicians that form the popular Whidbey Community Chorus will be presenting a free Christmas Concert Friday at 7:00PM, and Sunday at 4:00PM. Both concerts will be located at the First Reformed Church, 250 SW Third Street in Oak Harbor.

This year's concert, titled "Rejoice and Be Merry," will include 14 songs from a variety of holiday traditions including classical, such as *Masters in This Hall*, a 19th century French Carol, and whimsical, such as *Christmas ... In About Three Minutes* which includes snippets of 23 popular Christmas songs.

Darren McCoy directs the Community Chorus, and also brings students from the Oak Harbor High School Harbor Singers to add to the program during the Friday night concert. The Community Chorus is made up of people of all ages who share a love of singing, from high school students up to senior citizens. The songs are accompanied by a variety of musicians, including piano, flute, violin, drums, clarinet and specialty instruments like harp and euphonium. Each year 350 – 400 community members enjoy the free concert each night, so come early for a good seat.

Whidbey Community Chorus is a nonprofit organization dedicated to nurturing choral music and music appreciation, cultivating public interest in choral music, and instilling in chorus singers a spirit of dedication and a desire to excel. Two free concerts are traditionally offered in Oak Harbor, one in the spring and the annual holiday concert. For more information about the concerts or Whidbey Community Chorus, see their new website at <https://whidbeycommunitychorus.org/>

[Submitted by Robin Hertlein]

Annual Christmas Bazaar and Lunch

The annual Coupeville United Methodist Women's Christmas Bazaar is Saturday from 9:30AM to 2:00PM. A hot lunch with home-made pie is served from 11:00AM until 1:00PM. The Women's Group hand-makes fresh wreaths the week before the event, but the sewing group and others have been busy all year making quilts and other beautiful crafts for your Christmas giving. The last stop in the bazaar should be the bakery, filled with goodies to eat now or put in the freezer for another day. December 7 begins the holiday season in Coupeville, stay in town for the Greening of Coupeville's Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade, starting at 4:00PM.

[Submitted by Robin Hertlein]

Archbishop Murphy High School Welcomes Whidbey Island Students and Families for 2020-2021 School Year College-Prep High School Information Day in Freeland, Saturday, 1:00-3:00PM, China City Restaurant. Please RSVP

Over the last 30 years, Archbishop Murphy High School has provided a faith-based, college preparatory education affording North-sound and Whidbey Island graduates the opportunity to attend some of the most prestigious colleges and universities. Since 2006, students from Whidbey Island have made the

daily commute on the 7:00AM ferry to the school campus in the Mill Creek/Everett area.

Archbishop Murphy High School offers extensive core and elective course options, 16 AP classes, numerous college credit and honors courses, an average class size of 19 and a 1:11 faculty/staff to student ratio. Students are able to choose from over 20 sport and 30 club co-curricular options for a healthy life balance in tandem with the focused academic study programs. The school has a 100 percent graduation rate with 94 percent continuing to a four-year college or university.

"Our daughter is a junior and we could not be happier with her decision to attend Archbishop Murphy. She has blossomed academically, socially and personally. We believe in faith-based education and its role in shaping well rounded, young adults able to face the challenges of today's world," said Richard Bacigalupi, current parent, and AMHS Board of Trustees Member.

"The Academic Resource Center (ARC) at AMHS is fundamental to our daughter's academic success. Each student learns differently and the ARC program streamlines individual learning and study skills with academic rigor," said Carol Griswold-Bacigalupi, parent. The Dec. 7 information meeting at China City will focus on school admissions and enrollment, college-prep curriculum and transportation options between AMHS and the Clinton-Mukilteo Ferry. School President Steve Schmutz and Admissions Director Jana Zitnik, will host the meeting.

Archbishop Thomas J. Murphy High School is a Catholic, college preparatory school that welcomes students of all faiths. True to the spirit of the Gospel, Archbishop Murphy nurtures the full development of the gifts God has given to each student, fosters service as an outgrowth of faith, and values diversity. Working with parents in the educational ministry, we strive for academic excellence, spiritual enrichment, and Christlike leadership for the transformation of the world.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact admissions@am-hs.org or 425-332-3036. AM-HS.ORG/BEAWILDCAT

[Submitted by Jana Zitnik, Admissions Director]

The Festival of Lessons and Carols for Advent

The choirs of St. Hubert Catholic Church, located at 804 Third Street in Langley, will present The Festival of Lessons and Carols for Advent at 7:00PM Sunday.

This meditative service of readings, hymns, and anthems proclaiming the coming of Christ provides a time of reflection and renewal. Lessons and Carols is patterned after the Christmas Eve observance at King's College in Cambridge, England.

All are welcome. The program is free to the public. An item of nonperishable food for the Good Cheer Food Bank in South Whidbey is appreciated.

For additional information, call 360-221-5383 or email sthubert@whidbey.com

[Submitted by Debbie Batey]

Jazzin' with the Classics for Christmas

Music at Trinity presents the 9th annual Whidbey Island Jazzin' with the Classics for Christmas Monday, Dec. 16, at 7:00PM. The concert will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland and will feature jazz pianist and clarinetist Martin Lund, classical flutist Jeffrey Cohan and vibraphone player Tom Collier, who is fluent in both musical languages, along with baritone Karl Olsen, music director at Trinity and member of the Brothers Four, in a unique and joyous celebration of music for the holidays that bridges the jazz/classical divide.

In this program, renowned classical and jazz artists and friends meld their musical perspectives in an unusual collaboration and unique celebration of the Yuletide season that is guar-

anteed to generate an abundance of Christmas cheer. Lund, Cohan, Collier and Olsen will team up to bridge contemporary improvisational jazz and the "art music" of baroque and renaissance times. Instrumental musicians have "jazzed up" melodies familiar to them in the style of their day for centuries, and this team's virtuoso improvisations on Yuletide favorites, and their renditions of classical standards will bring together the best of jazz and classical worlds in a new program for 2019.

Admission will be by free will offering to help cover expenses, and those 18 and under are free. Please call 360-331-5191 or see www.candlelightnw.org for more information.

[Submitted by Jeffrey Cohan]

Whidbey Community Foundation Partners with Georgia Gerber and Randy Hudson in Annual Christmas Sculpture Project



Whidbey Community Foundation has partnered with renowned sculptor Georgia Gerber and her husband Randy Hudson in the annual Christmas Sculpture Project. This is the third year they have partnered together and the 21st year Georgia and Randy have offered a holiday pewter, from which the proceeds go to local charities.

This year's new sculpture is the Dashing Turtle. Collectors may also purchase pewters from past years: the Settling Owl and the Sheepish Rabbit. The minimum donation for each sculpture is \$200. All purchases can be made on Whidbey Community Foundation's website (www.whidbeyfoundation.org) or by check at the Rob Schouten Gallery on Anthes Ave in Langley.

"What started out long ago as Christmas gifts for family and friends expanded into an annual fundraising effort in support of local social service organizations on Whidbey Island," states Randy Hudson. "The project has helped make a difference in the lives of many people – particularly children, since our main focus has been providing for organizations that assist families during the holiday season."

Georgia and Randy will work with Whidbey Community Foundation on where to direct the proceeds from the sculpture donations based on their experience from past years. Past recipients have included Whidbey Island nonprofits such as South Whidbey Good Cheer Food Bank and Thrift Stores and Readiness to Learn Foundation.

For more information, including sculpture dimensions and pick-up/shipping instructions, please visit www.whidbeyfoundation.org or email info@whidbeyfoundation.org.

[Submitted by Jessie Gunn, Whidbey Community Foundation]

Ryan's House for Youth Celebrates its Founder's Retirement

Ryan's House for Youth would like to announce the upcoming retirement of its Founder/Executive Director, Lori Cavender. Lori will continue assisting with the transition through the end of the year.

Lori began the Ryan's House for Youth organization out of her home with a donated van from Island Transit and donated supplies. She spent the next three years volunteering her time providing information and education about what homelessness for youth looks like and how the community of Whidbey Island can help. Lori spent three days a week handing out supplies to young people in all three school districts and found the main service they needed was a bed to sleep in at night.

In 2012, Lori created one of the state's first host home programs, introducing community members who wanted to help with the young people who needed it. The program was amazing as it led to 58 young people being housed in just six years, with a 100 percent graduation rate of those being housed and eligible. Additionally, two young ladies in the program were adopted after the age of 18 by their host families, providing them with forever families and new futures.

In April 2016, Lori and two other Host Home programs worked to pass Host Home Legislation, allowing this unique housing option to be available across Washington State, separate from the child welfare system. This past year, Lori authored the Host Home Best Practices Manual for the state and works hard with her colleague, Kim Rinehardt, Executive Director of Mason County Host, to head the Washington Host Home Coalition, helping ensure success across the state for these programs.

In April 2016, the same time Host Home legislation was being passed, Lori and the RHFY Board, along with the community at large, purchased the Countryside Inn Motel in Coupeville, where Ryan's House for Youth currently has its campus. The campus offers a drop-in center for ages 12-24, onsite emergency and transitional housing for ages 18-24, and offices for staff. The staff has increased from just Lori and volunteers to a paid staff of 13 plus numerous volunteers who assist young people and the organization with meals, rides, mentorship, art classes, gardening help, and so much more. The programs themselves offer everything from assistance with obtaining I.D., healthcare, employment, education and basic needs.

Lori leaves behind a legacy of love and she is looking forward to seeing what the next 10 years will bring to the organization. For more information about Ryan's House for Youth please go to www.ryanshouseforyouth.org.

[Submitted by Amber Truex, Executive Director, Ryan's House For Youth]

Seeking Applicants for Conservation Futures Citizens Advisory Board (CAB)

The Island County Board of Commissioners is seeking applicants to fill five positions on the Conservation Futures Citizens Advisory Board (CAB).

The Board of County Commissioners appoints CAB members for three year terms with no member serving more than three consecutive full terms unless deemed advantageous to do so by majority of CAB members and the Board of County Commissioners. Members must be county residents for at least one year prior to appointment and shall include one member from each incorporated area of Island County; one member from each of the unincorporated areas of Whidbey Island coincident with the school districts, i.e., South Whidbey, Coupeville and Oak Harbor; two members from Camano Island.

The five positions being sought currently are for two representatives living within the City of Oak Harbor boundaries, a representative from Camano Island and two members at large. Applicants must reside within the area they are representing.

The CAB reviews and evaluates applications for funding from the Conservation Futures Fund. This process usually occurs during April of each year. For more information about the Conservation Futures Program, please visit <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/GSA/Pages/cff.aspx>.

Interested individuals should provide a letter of interest and statement of qualifications by mail, email or fax to: Island County Board of Commissioners, Attn: Virginia Shaddy, Re: Conservation Futures Citizens Advisory Board Vacancy, Post Office Box 5000, Coupeville, WA 98239. The fax number is 360-679-7381 and email applications should be sent to vj.shaddy@islandcountywa.gov.

Application materials should be received no later than 4:30PM Jan. 6, 2020. For additional information please phone 360-679-7353 or e-mail Virginia Shaddy at the above e-mail address.

[Submitted by Virginia Shaddy]



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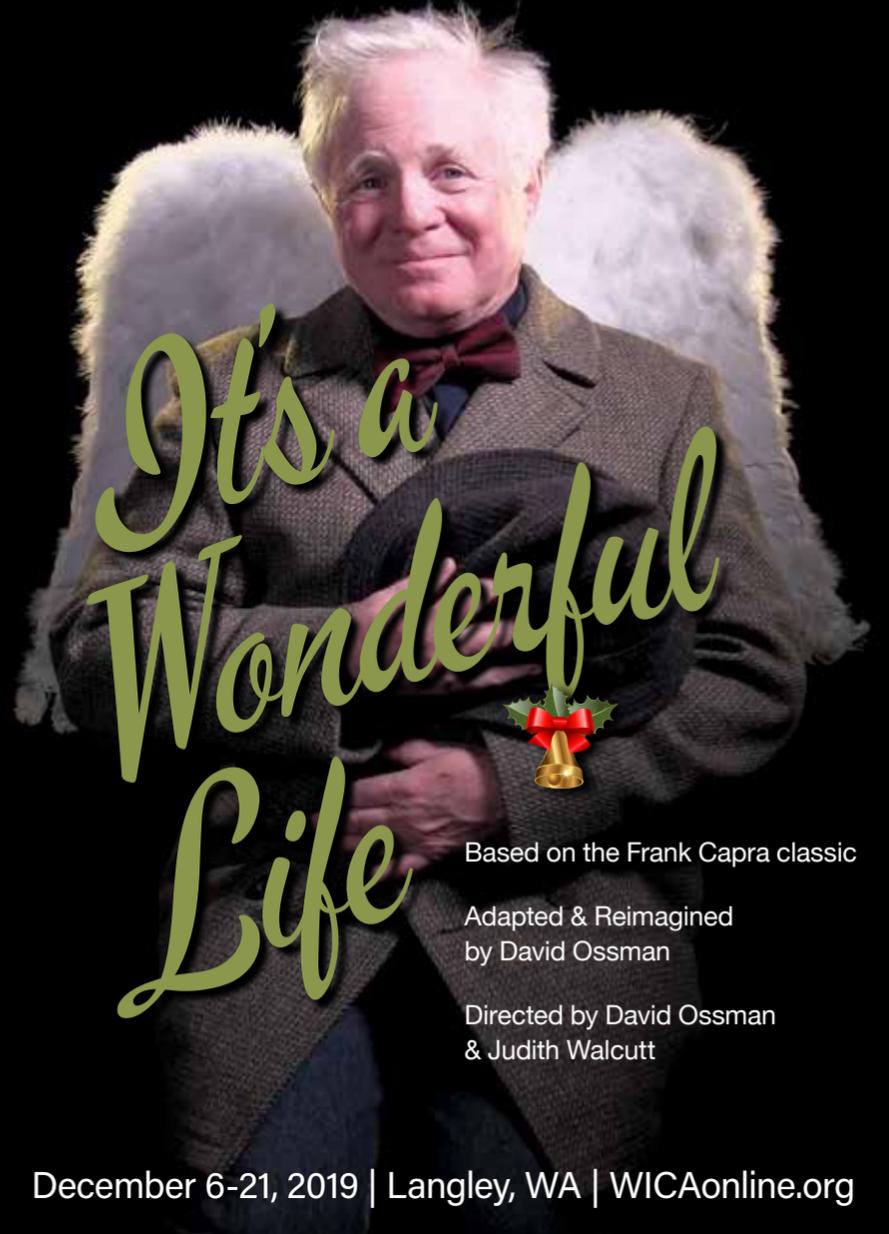
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What's Going On

All entries are listed chronologically, unless there are multiple entries for the same venue or are connected to a specific organization (such as Sno-Isle Libraries) in which case all entries for that venue or organization are listed collectively in chronological order under one heading.

Island Herb Vendor Day

Thursday, December 5, 2:00-5:00PM
Island Herb, Freeland

Representatives from Rogue Raven will be on site with product displays and information. Must be 21 or older. Island Herb is located at 5565 Vanbarr Pl, Unit F. For more information, call 360-331-0140 or visit whidbeyislandherb.com. Marijuana has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming. Keep out of the reach of children.

Rejoice and be Merry

Friday, December 6, 7:00PM
Sunday, December 8, 4:00PM
First Reformed Church, Oak Harbor

Whidbey Community Chorus presents its annual Christmas concert. This year's concert, titled "Rejoice and Be Merry," will include 14 songs from a variety of holiday traditions including classical such as *Masters in This Hall*, a 19th century French Carol, and whimsical such as *Christmas ... In About Three Minutes* that includes snippets of 23 popular Christmas songs. Darren McCoy directs the Community Chorus, and also brings students from the Oak Harbor High School Harbor Singers to add to the program during the Friday concert. Free admission, but donations gratefully accepted. The church is located at 250 SW 3rd Ave.

Live Music: Jed Crisologo

Friday, December 6, 7:30-9:30PM
Penn Cove Taproom, Oak Harbor

Jed Crisologo is a soulful Seattle singer-songwriter, who mixes Americana, Punk Rock and Jazz influences into heartfelt, catchy, honest tunes. Usually backed by the Sun Killers, Jed travels to Whidbey Island for select dates, playing solo, stripped down and raw, drawing from his wide range of experience playing around the country. No cover. For more information, call 360-682-2247 or visit www.penncovebrewing.com.

Teddy Bear & Character Breakfast

Saturday, December 7, 9:00AM & 10:30AM
Oak Harbor Elks Lodge, 155 NE Ernst St

Please bring a new stuffed animal to donate to a child in a crisis situation. \$5 for 10 years and younger, \$15 for 11 and over. Tickets available at Alaska USA Mortgage Company, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, or online at www.bbbsislandcounty.org.

Oak Harbor Senior Center Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, December 7, 9:00AM-2:00PM
Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 SE Jerome St.

With over 30 vendors, you'll find unique gifts, handmade items, and much more!

WSBA Cyclocross Championships

Saturday, December 7, 9:30AM
Fort Nugent Park, Oak Harbor

Part of the NW CX Cup Series, these are USAC sanctioned "points" races. Info at <https://whidbeyislandbicycleclub.org/f/cyclocross-is-back-on-the-island>.

Elks National Hoop Shoot Free Throw Contest

Saturday, December 7, 9:30-11:30AM
North Whidbey Middle School, Oak Harbor

For children 8-13 years old. North Whidbey Middle School is located at 67 NE Izett St. For more information, contact Elks Hoop Director Anthony at 904-707-3094.

Christmas Bazaar and Lunch

Saturday, December 7, 9:30AM-2:00PM
Coupeville United Methodist Church
Homemade items include crafts, wreaths, and

baked goods. Hot lunch featuring a piece of pie will be available for purchase from 11:00AM to 1:00PM. The church is located at 608 N Main St. For more information, call 360-67-4256 or visit www.coupevilleumc.com.

Jingle Trail 5k Run/Walk

Saturday, December 7, 10:00AM
Camp Casey, Coupeville

Run, walk or stroll the five-kilometer route through the unique and scenic trails of Camp Casey and Fort Casey State Park. Sweeping ocean vistas, evergreen and salal canopies, crisp winter air, and very likely an eagle or deer sighting. At the end of your adventure, enjoy some light refreshments. All ages are welcome to participate and costumes are encouraged. For more information, visit www.jingletrailrun.com or call 360-678-5434.

Bayview Farmers Holiday Market

Saturdays, December 7, 14, 21, 10:00AM-2:00PM
Bayview Hall, Langley

Featuring fresh food, holiday greens, gifts, art, and baked goods.

Clinton Holiday Events

Saturday, December 7, see times below
Sunday, December 8, see times below
Clinton Community Hall, 6411 S Central Ave.

Saturday events include the Clinton Winter Market from 10:00AM-4:00PM, Santa photos from 11:00AM-2:00PM, Christmas tree lighting from 5:00PM-6:30PM. Sunday events include the Clinton Winter Market from 10:00AM-4:00PM, Santa photos from 11:00AM-2:00PM. For more information, visit discoverclintonwa.com.

Light Up Your Holiday

Saturday, December 7, 11:00-4:00PM
Fort Casey State Park, Coupeville

The Admiralty Head Lighthouse welcomes you and your family to join in the holiday spirit before its eight month closure. Listen to local musical talent, take your picture with Santa, tour the tower with a lighthouse keeper and children's activities will be offered. Take your lighthouse pictures now before construction begins on our lighthouse renovation project. Discover Pass is required for parking.

Holly Jolly Parade

Saturday, December 7, 1:00PM
Downtown Langley

Musicians, service and youth groups, pets, families and floats will march up and down First and Second Street. All are welcome to participate. Go to www.visitlangley.com/ parade to sign up.

Festival of Trees Community Day

Saturday, December 7, 1:00-3:00PM
Oak Harbor Elks Lodge, 155 NE Ernst St.

Sip on a hot beverage, enjoy a cookie (or two), and walk through the beautiful decorated trees to get inspired by the holiday designs and decorations. Ornaments and holiday decor available for purchase. Donations accepted.

Greening of Coupeville Parade and Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 7, 4:00PM
Downtown Coupeville

The parade goes through the beautifully decorated historic downtown. The parade is followed by the tree lighting at Cook's Corner Park. It is picture perfect, a local tradition, and a small town at its best. Come welcome Santa to town and enjoy the many decorated community floats with holiday lights, walkers, and more.

Home for the Holidays

Saturday, December 7, 4:00-7:00PM
Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor

Come downtown, enjoy treats and cocoa, vote for your favorite toy soldier, shop and earn green tickets! Santa parade and tree lighting at 5:00PM.

Live Music: Sheri & Da Boyz

Saturday, December 7, 7:30-9:30PM
Penn Cove Taproom, Coupeville

Sheri & Da Boyz are bringing you an evening of great music, laughter and fun! Their talented music features songs from these award winning artists of blues, country and rock. No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit www.penncovebrewing.com.

Annual Elf Chase 5k Fun Run & Walk

Sunday, December 8, 10:00AM
South Whidbey Community Park, Langley

A 5K fun walk/run presented by Saratoga Dental & Orthodontics and South Whidbey PTSA. Chase an elf and get a prize! Costumes are encouraged. Hot chocolate and snacks available. Register online at <https://swshsptsa.weebly.com> or day of event at 9:00AM. For more information, email southwhidbeypts@gmail.com.

Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 8, 7:00PM
St. Hubert Catholic Church, Langley

The public is invited to join a meditative service of readings, hymns, and anthems proclaiming the coming of Christ. This is a free program. Donations of nonperishable food items for the Good Cheer Food Bank are appreciated. The church is located at 804 Third St.

Island Herb Vendor Day

Friday, December 13, 3:00-6:00PM
Island Herb, Freeland

Representatives from Verdellux will be on site with product displays and information. Must be 21 or older. Island Herb is located at 5565 Vanbarr Pl, Unit F. For more information, call 360-331-0140 or visit whidbeyislandherb.com. Marijuana has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming. Keep out of the reach of children.

Jazz Night at UBGCC

Friday, December 13, 6:30PM
Useless Bay Golf & Country Club, Langley

Come enjoy award winning South Whidbey Jazz Bands perform live at UBGCC. Fundraiser for jazz bands. \$10 suggested donation. Open to the public. Reservations for dining recommended. Call 360-3231-5960.

Everything Christmas! Holiday Concert

Friday, December 13, 7:00PM
Sunday, December 15, 3:00PM
Trinity Lutheran Church, Freeland

Revel in the sounds of Everything Christmas! including joyful sing-alongs for a merry good time. Presented by Whidbey Island Orchestra, Music Director Cynthia Morrow and Assistant Conductor Gabriela Garza. Special solo performances by Brian Kenney on violin and Steve Tarr on Trombone. Admission is free although donations are accepted and greatly appreciated. Concerts are followed by a reception with orchestra and refreshments.

Winter Holiday Art Festival

Saturday, December 14, 11:00AM-5:00PM
Coupeville Middle School, 501 S Main St.

Silent auction, local artists, kid activities, door prizes, food. Sponsored by Coupeville Middle School ASB.

Live Music: Lauren Napier

Saturday, December 14, 7:30-9:30PM
Penn Cove Taproom, Coupeville

Lauren has tailored her creative interests to suit her ever changing address. Writer. Singer. Cellist. Model. Publicist. Don't miss this amazing artist! No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit www.penncovebrewing.com.

Holiday Hoedown for a 2020 Showdown

Sunday, December 15, 5:00-9:00PM
Nordic Lodge, 63 Jacobs Road, Coupeville

Enjoy an evening of dinner, socializing, music, and a raffle. Menu will feature 'Southern Vittles' from Orlando's Fish and Grill. Sponsored by Whidbey Island Democrats. Tickets are \$35, or RSVP and buy online for a discount, <http://WhidbeyIslandDemocrats.org/pub>.

Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below
Cost: Free

Reduce Risk of Fall Injuries with T'ai Chi

Thursday, December 5, 4:00-6:00PM
Freeland Library

Falls are devastating to our health, particularly as we age. This program will show how t'ai chi ch'uan has been proven in numerous studies to be the best method to reduce falls among people over 50. Join Lynne Donnelly, who has been practicing t'ai chi for 40 years, to learn a little about the history and theory and to learn some exercises designed to gently work your muscles and joints. Everyone is welcome to this Whidbey Island Holistic Health Association program. For more information visit wihha.com.

Used Book Sale

Saturday, December 7, 10:00AM-2:00PM
Freeland Library

Large selection of great books for all ages at bargain prices. Proceeds support Friends of the Freeland Library.

Design and Create Holiday Cards and a Winter Solstice Lantern

Saturday, December 7, 11:00AM-12:00PM
4777 Commercial Street, Suite 5, Clinton

Make your own holiday cards and a winter solstice lantern with a tea light candle. Materials are supplied, and there is no cost to participate. This program is at DIY in the Tinker's Guild area, across the street from the Clinton Library. Discover a new place to get creative!

WIMJAM: Whidbey Island Music Jam

Sundays, December 8 & 22, 3:00-5:00PM
Freeland Library

These jam sessions are for anyone looking for a supportive, educational and fun music experience. All acoustic (unplugged) instruments are welcome - guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, dulcimer, harmonica, bass, voice, etc. This traditional 'jam circle' is an opportunity for musicians of all ages and levels of ability, from beginner to veteran, to share, learn and play old time traditional tunes. Registration is recommended (including email addresses) so participants can receive song lists, music notation, and other jam information. Drop-ins welcome!

Aging in Grace

Monday, December 9, 10:00AM-12:00PM
Freeland Library

Come laugh, cry, make friends and connect with others as we accept and adapt to the limitations that aging brings. Everyone is welcome. Facilitated by Nicole Donovan, aging and disability resource manager of Island Senior Resources.

Clinton Library Book Group

Wednesday, December 11, 10:00-11:00AM
Clinton Library

Everyone is welcome to join our discussion of "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane" by Lisa See.

Lit for Fun Book Group

Thursday, December 12, 9:00-11:00AM
Freeland Library

Join us for a discussion of Richard Russo's "Straight Man," which follows Hank Devereaux through one very bad week. For adults.

Religious Services

South Whidbey Community Church

Sundays, 9:00-9:45AM Adult Bible Study
10:00-11:00AM Worship
Deer Lagoon Grange, 5142 Bayview Rd, Langley

Sunday, December 8 - Pastor Wenzek: Veiled in Flesh. Services are followed by a light lunch.

WHAT'S GOING ON CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.





Elves invade Whidbey Playhouse p. 14

Whidbey Island Dance Theatre brings holiday classic to life

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

Experience holiday magic and embark on an enchanted journey with a Pacific Northwestern twist in Whidbey Island Dance Theatre's (WIDT's) production of "The Nutcracker."

"The Nutcracker" will run Friday through Sunday, Dec. 22 at the South Whidbey High School Performing Arts Center, with tickets available for \$15 online and \$20 at the door, with an opening night special of \$10 online and \$15 at the door. The production will have showings at 7 p.m. Dec. 13, 20, and 21, and 2 p.m. showings Dec. 14, 15, 21 and 22. The production features artistic directors Charlene Brown and Brittany Falso, alongside assistant artistic director, Katelyn Lodell.

Brown, who has been involved since the inception of Whidbey Island's rendition of the ballet, said the tradition began 27 years ago.

"Twenty-seven years ago one of my ballet teachers approached me and said, 'Why don't we do "The Nutcracker" and introduce the community to this beloved character story and ballet?'" she said. "In 1991 we started with the war scene and did a partial 'Nutcracker' the first few years and (it) just grew from there."

Brown said the ballet offers a chance for the community to witness the work done by WIDT.

"The creation of WIDT was to provide a platform for dancers to perform and take dance to a more professional level," she said.

"The excitement of 'The Nutcracker' never gets old and I love working with the community dancers and our preprofessional company. It is a true Christmas present every year."

Falso said with the help of local dancers, as well as professional guests from Seattle and this year Kansas City, Mo., "The Nutcracker" brings the magic of the holidays to Whidbey Island year after year.

"'The Nutcracker' holds a nostalgic feeling for many people. It's done all over the world and is a true classical story dating back to 1862!" she said. "It has become a tradition in so many families to attend 'The Nutcracker' and tradition is what brings people together. That is what I love about this production, is that it brings so many of us together."

Falso said the show is unique from other renditions of "The Nutcracker" in a number of ways, and Clara and the Nutcracker Prince find themselves on a journey through a magical cave in the Puget Sound, which leads the to the Enchanted Forest.

"WIDT's rendition of this show is unique because we put in a fun Pacific Northwest twist," she said. "The first act of our show is traditional and the second act we take the audience into an enchanted and magical forest, as opposed to the Land of Sweets. Instead of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier you are met with the Faerie Queen and Forest King. The land is full of woodland faeries, pixies, dragonflies, swallowtails, butterflies and bumblebees and much more!"

Falso said "The Nutcracker," which the directors begin working on in the summer months, features new elements with each holiday season.

"I love that every year we come up with something new," she said. "Whether it is changing up the choreography, creating new sets, (or) painting new



Michael Stadler Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Dance Theatre
Whidbey Island Dance Theatre brings together dancers from the community and guest dancers from Seattle and even Kansas City, Mo., in its production of the beloved holiday classic "The Nutcracker," which begins Friday and runs through Sunday, Dec. 22.

backdrops. We are not creatures of habit, we love to change things up and excite our audience year after year."

Falso said she appreciates the opportunity to help bring the traditional holiday show to life for Whidbey Island.

"I love everything about this production," she said. "I can speak for myself, Char (Charlotte) and Katelyn when I say it makes us feel like we have done our job when we have created this very special and magical experience for the performers and our audience. There is no greater feeling than seeing people happy and that they have positive memories to always cherish."

Falso said the production is made possible by a large team, and each year the company dancers begin rehearsals in September, with the community dancers beginning in October.

"There are many different facets of this production and crews of people that make it happen," she said. "From the choreographers, costume crew, lighting designer, backstage crew, make-up crew, there are so many working parts that make it come together. We also have a great board that organizes all the parent volunteers to help get everything done. We are so thankful for them."

For more information about WIDT and to purchase tickets, please visit www.widtonline.org. Tickets can also be purchased at select times from the WIDT box office, located at 714 Camano Ave. in Langley.



Michael Stadler Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Dance Theatre
Take a journey with Clara and the Nutcracker Prince as they find their way through mystical worlds on Christmas Eve. Whidbey Island Dance Theatre performances begin Friday and run through Dec. 22 in Langley.

Candy Cane Trail

There are tons of activities going on around Whidbey Island to celebrate the holiday season. Whidbey Weekly has put together a list of festive and fun events that may be of interest as you wind your way along Whidbey's Candy Cane Trail.

NORTH WHIDBEY



NASWI Family Housing Santa Parade
Thursday, Dec. 5 • 4-7 p.m.

Route goes from Whidbey Apartments, Crescent Harbor, Maylor Point and Victory Terrace. When you hear the sirens, it means Santa is near!

Elf Jr. The Musical

Dec. 5 - 15
7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday
2:30 p.m. Sundays
Whidbey Playhouse, Oak Harbor
All tickets \$15

This modern day holiday classic is sure to make everyone embrace their inner elf. After all, the best way to spread Christmas Cheer is singing loud for all to hear.

Whidbey Community Chorus Holiday Concerts

Friday, Dec. 6 • 7 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 8 • 4 p.m.
First Reformed Church, Oak Harbor

Teddy Bear Breakfast

Saturday, Dec. 7
Two seatings: 9 & 10:30 a.m.
Oak Harbor Elks Lodge
10 & under: \$5 | 11 & over: \$15

Tickets @ Alaska USA Mortgage, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County, online at www.bbbsislandcounty.org

Santa Brunch

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Bakerview Restaurant
CPO Club, Ault Field Rd., Oak Harbor
\$22 adults | \$8 ages 5-12

Enjoy a delicious brunch, Santa photo, light crafts, and cookie decorating. This event sells out fast! RSVP: 360-257-2505

Festival of Trees Community Day

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 1-3 p.m.
Oak Harbor Elks Lodge

Free community event; ornaments and holiday décor available for purchase.

Live Nativity

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 1-4 p.m. & 5-9 p.m.
Oak Harbor Christian School
675 E Whidbey Ave.
Free

Live animals, fun kids crafts, Nativity re-enactment, bustling Bethlehem Marketplace

An Afternoon of Fun with Mr. & Mrs. Claus

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 1-4 p.m.
Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce

See CANDY continued on page 14



Don't Get Mailed This Holiday Season SHOP LOCAL!



GIVE THE GIFT OF LIGHT

This holiday season sponsor a luminaria for only \$25 to pay tribute to that special person or pet in your life. Your luminaria will light our main lobby at WAIF's Coupeville shelter and help fund vital programs that help light the way to forever homes for Whidbey Island's homeless pets.

Visit www.waifanimals.org/gol to sponsor a luminaria today.



THURSDAY, NOV. 14
10:35 am, Riepma Ave.

Advising guy is supposed to be returning reporting party's stolen gun; didn't know it was stolen. Is supposed to be coming by location around 1:30 p.m.

11:43 am, SR 20

Reporting party advising landscaping truck is losing items; a ladder hit oncoming vehicle; reporting party didn't stop.

2 pm, SR 20

Reporting party needs to go see grandfather and says grandfather's roommate doesn't like him and always gives him a hard time; asking for law enforcement standby.

2:20 pm, SW ErieSt.

Advising white male sitting on suitcase under tree next to building, smoking out of a bong.

4:16 pm, Loerland Ln.

In police department lobby referencing neighbor's cat coming into reporting party's yard and stalking chickens.

8:49 pm, N Oak Harbor St.

Reporting party advising just got home and there is blood all over vehicle and all over passenger side of the car.

FRIDAY, NOV. 15

10:45 am, Freeland Ave.

Caller reporting assault occurred Nov. 12 at location; advising was assaulted by female swimmer, does not know her name. Athletic club trying to help caller find out her name.

3:41 pm, SW Erie St.

Reporting party advising black SUV was "messing" with reporting party when leaving Walmart.

5:33 pm, El Prado Ave.

Oak Harbor Police Department requesting check at location to contact subject; was last seen in Oak Harbor at US Bank, bleeding from hands and eyes.

7:16 pm, Bob Galbreath Rd.

Reporting party advising hit a barn owl on the way home, states owl is stuck in reporting party's front grill and is still alive. State Patrol advising do not have any wildlife units available.

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

1:45 am, SE Pioneer Way

Caller states female at location is holding someone's property and acting a fool.

SUNDAY, NOV. 17

10:26 am, 3rd St.

Advising male walked into church yelling and swearing and is now headed west on Saratoga in blue Scion. White male, bald, wearing a hospital mask.

2:38 pm, Wrightsman Pl.

Caller advising father died in April. Caller believes he was poisoned and is wanting an autopsy done. Stepmother not listening to caller's wishes. Caller advising she already contacted WhidbeyHealth.

3:37 pm, Homestead Rd.

Reporting party advising subject returning to area, referencing male selling *Hooked on Phonics* books.

6:08 pm, SR 525

Caller advising blue Volvo station wagon driving erratically with no lights on,

almost hit someone. Vehicle continues to turn vehicle lights on and off.

MONDAY, NOV. 18

1:19 am, Whidbey Shores Rd.

Reporting party says she's about to be murdered; says she knows by whom. Not really answering questions.

9:41 am, Power Rd.

Advising female took dab pen; heard can cause death.

12:50 pm, NE Narrows Ave.

Reporting party advising female is laying in the woods.

4:21 pm, Wood Rd.

Caller states someone dropped off a package in caller's driveway; jacuzzi tub in packaging, not labeled. Arrived sometime today.

5:46 pm, SR 20

Advising female walking in middle of highway; unknown which lane. Last seen right before reporting party called.

5:59 pm, S Main St.

Caller states male is shining light at females at location; caller is very hard of hearing.

8:02 pm, SR 525

Reporting party's vehicle is damaged from falling down hole at gas station area; states hole is where gas gets filled up; the plate was taken off.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19

10:19 am, Mobius Lp.

Reporting party advising on Saturday was in vehicle she believed was unlawfully stopped, pulled over for passenger not wearing seat belt. Reporting party is upset and would like to file a complaint.

11:10 am, SW Erie St.

Reporting party states male at bus stop is screaming and yelling.

12:28 pm, SR 20

Advising male subject in empty parking lot is yelling and screaming.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20

10:51 am, Oak Harbor Rd.

Advising subject knocking on door; unlocked with key and entered. Reporting party made them get out.

12:32 pm, Scenic Ave.

Requesting call referencing neighbor continuing to door jack reporting party's vehicle door; advising does it on purpose.

2:30 pm, E Whidbey Ave.

Reporting party advising she was trying to make a U-turn and got stuck in wet grass.

3:40 pm, Hastie Lake Rd.

Advising turkeys, chickens and geese walking in roadway, about 15 total. Chicken was killed by a car.

4:08 pm, Wilson Rd.

Caller thinks wife is trying to kill him; says he found broken glass in his coffee cup on the 25th; has gotten an order of protection against his wife.

THURSDAY, NOV. 21

10:44 pm, SW Erie St.

Reporting party advising male in between Walmart and bank is screaming at cars.

11:33 pm, Se 8th Ave.

Caller reporting owl in middle of road.

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

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December 3rd-16th

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Freeland, WA
360-331-6799
Mon-Sat 8am-7pm,
Sun 9am-6pm

GREEN TICKET CASH GIVEAWAY

SHOP, WALK, DINE IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN OAK HARBOR

\$1,000 CASH, \$500 CASH
\$100 Oak Harbor Main Street Gift Certificate

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 30, 2019
IS DOUBLE GREEN TICKET DAY!

Earn a GREEN TICKET for every \$20 purchase* at participating merchants between November 1 and December 21, 2019
Drawing will be held at 4pm on Saturday, December 21 at Harborside Village Mall. For more information
OakHarborMainStreet.com. Must be 18 years older to participate. Must be present to win.*
1 ticket per \$20 purchase with a maximum of 50 tickets per individual transaction up to \$1000.



Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.

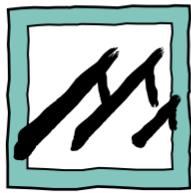


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In the 19th Ave Place Building (Across the street from Costco)
425-385-8130 • www.19thavedental.com

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DECEMBER 5-15

HELP SANTA STUFF THOSE STOCKINGS
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Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.





COME SHOP THE
HOLIDAY
BAZAAR!

SATURDAY | 7 DECEMBER 2019 | 9AM TO 2PM

OAK HARBOR SENIOR CENTER
51 SE JEROME STREET, OAK HARBOR

HOLIDAY GIFTS OVER 30 VENDORS BAKE SALE FRITO CHILI PIE

FIND UNIQUE HOLIDAY GIFTS, HANDMADE ITEMS, & MUCH MORE!

Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, December 7
9:30am-2:00pm
Hand-made items include crafts, wreaths, and baked goods.
Hot lunch featuring home-made pie will be served from 11:00am-1:00pm

Coupeville United Methodist Church
www.coupevilleumc.com
608 N Main Street, Coupeville
For more information call 360-678-4256

2019
Bayview Farmers
Holiday Market
PRODUCE | ART | SWEET TREATS
Saturdays Nov. 30 Dec. 7, 14, 21
Bayview Hall 10 am to 2 pm

Whidbey Island Democrats
Holiday Hoedown for a 2020 Showdown
Sunday, December 15, 5-9pm
Enjoy an evening of dinner, socializing, music, and a raffle.
Menu will feature 'Southern Vittles' from Orlando's Fish and Grill.

Nordic Lodge, 63 Jacobs Road, Coupeville
Tickets are \$35, or RSVP and buy online for a discount
Sponsored by Whidbey Island Democrats
<http://WhidbeyIslandDemocrats.org/pub>

Shop Clinton
This Holiday Season
CLINTON WINTER MARKET
December 7th & 8th
10am to 4pm
Tree Lighting Ceremony
December 7th 5pm to 6pm
Clinton Community Hall • 6411 Central Ave • Clinton

Whidbey Island Orchestra presents:
Cynthia Morrow, Conductor
Gabriela Garza, Assistant Conductor
Brian Kenney, Violin Soloist
Steve Tarr, Trombone Soloist

Everything Christmas!
December 13, 7:00 pm
December 15, 3:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran, Freeland
18341 WA-525

Admission Free
Donations Appreciated

WHIDBEY ISLAND ORCHESTRA
2019-2020 Concert Series

The Loft Studio
Local Artists Of Any Kind

Open 10am-6pm
Weekend Shows:

2019
Show #1 Nov. 29th, 30th & Dec. 1st (DONE)
#2 Dec. 6th, 7th & 8th
#3 Dec. 20th, 21st & 22nd

2020
Show #4 Feb. 7th, 8th & 9th
#5 Mar. 20th, 21st & 22nd

Artists may sign-up to give classes, etc. in this space!
We May Add More Shows!
Call For More Artists!
Contact Info: Reggie 206.310.8142

On Whidbey Island
715 SE Fidalgo Ave, Oak Harbor



PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA CLAWS!
SAT., DEC. 7TH
1PM-4PM

ONLY \$10 EACH WITH PROCEEDS HELPING WAIF SHELTER ANIMALS!
PLEASE BRING PETS ON LEASHES OR IN CARRIERS.

WAIF SHELTER IN COUPEVILLE
60 RHODODENDRON PARK ROAD
WWW.WAIFANIMALS.ORG • (360) 678-8901

Festival of Lessons and Carols
Sunday
December 8
7:00 pm
St. Hubert Catholic Church
804 Third Street, Langley

We ask you to join us for a meditative service of readings, hymns, and anthems proclaiming the coming of Christ.

The program is free to the public. Donation of a nonperishable food item for the Good Cheer Food Bank is appreciated.



Annual Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association Red Ticket Drawing
\$2,300 Cash

Shop, Dine, Stay and WIN BIG!

\$1500, \$500 & 3 \$100 PRIZES!

Each \$20 Purchase = **1 Red Ticket**

Hot cocoa and music starting at 12:30pm. Must be present to win, be 18 years of age or older and love Coupeville.

Drawing to be held Sunday, December 22nd at 1:00pm at the Island County Historical Museum

Red 2019 Ticket Shop Locally

CoupevilleHistoricWaterfront.com • CoupevilleChamber.com







Rejoice & be Merry

A Christmas Concert presented by **Whidbey Community Chorus**
Directed by Darren McCoy
Accompanied by Sharon Burge, Piano

Friday, December 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm
and
Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 4:00 pm
at **First Reformed Church**
250 SW 3rd Avenue, Oak Harbor
Admission is free. Donations gratefully accepted.




Historic Downtown Oak Harbor
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

GREEN TICKET CASH GIVEAWAY NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 21	HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS TREE LIGHTING, SANTA PARADE, MUSIC, TREATS DECEMBER 7 • 4-7PM
HOLIDAY WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST NOV 23 - DEC 14	TASTE OF HOLIDAY MEMORIES DECEMBER 14 • 4-7PM
VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE TOY SOLDIER NOV 25 - DEC 20	GREEN TICKET CASH GIVEAWAY DRAWING DECEMBER 21 • 4PM
SNOWFLAKE HUNT DECEMBER 7 - 13	

OAK HARBOR MAIN STREET
For more information, email promotion@oakharbormainstreet.com
www.oakharbormainstreet.org



Come to Langley,
full of warmth and wonder!

Langley is decked out for the holidays...it's the perfect place to get into the holiday spirit

Our Annual Holly Jolly Parade, on December 7th, at 1 pm, is a can't miss! The local community turns out to be part of the festivities, from goats to kids. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

The holiday season is a perfect time to experience our small **shops** loaded with products made locally or collected from far and wide, **galleries** showing work produced by local artists, **restaurants** serving locally sourced food and **tasting rooms** pouring beer and wines produced on Whidbey Island and Washington State.

Visit Langley during the holiday season and be prepared to make instant friends, discover unique gifts, and be enveloped in small town charm.

LANGLEY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

208 Anthes Avenue, Langley WA 98260
VisitLangley.com • 360-221-6765

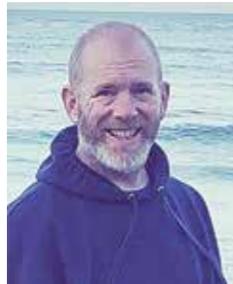


Life Tributes



ERROL STANLEY LUPIEN

Aug. 15, 1968 – Nov. 24, 2019



Errol Lupien, 51, passed peacefully in his home, surrounded by family and friends, Sunday, Nov. 24, 2019. He is survived by his wife, Cassie; son, Mikale; daughters, Cloey and Sydney; his mother, Rosalind Lupien Carpenter (Jack); mother and father-in law Tonuya and Jack Hubbard; sister, Cassie Hickey; brother, Omer (Jeanne); brothers-in law Cameron Rector (Lena), Billie Rector (Rita), Jon Hubbard (Jo Ann) and Dan Hickey (Sharie); sisters-in law Wendy Maresca (John) and Chelsea (Dan); and countless cousins, nieces and nephews.

Born in Coupeville, Wash., Errol grew up in Oak Harbor. He was a diesel mechanic and enjoyed his job working on heavy equipment at both Jet City Heavy Equipment in Oak Harbor and Lakeside Industries in Anacortes. Errol always had such a love of life and fun followed everywhere he went. His passions included his love of the Lord, mission work, kids, hunting, fishing, flying, anything outdoors and helping people. He loved traveling the world. A special thank you goes out to those surrounding his last week and the love and support they showed him and his family, day and night. Errol's brain has been donated to the University of Washington Alzheimer's Research to help in finding a cure for this horrific disease.

A Celebration of Life will be held Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. at Grace Community Church, 29470 SR 20, Oak Harbor.

Family and friends are encouraged to share memories and condolences at www.whidbeymemorial.com.

MURIEL RICHARDSON



Muriel Joy Gray Richardson was born July 26, 1927, in White Salmon, Wash., in what is now Gardner Funeral Home. It was the same year, she was fond of saying, as the creation of Mickey Mouse and also of Charles Lindbergh's historic flight across the Atlantic. She died of renal failure Nov. 5, 2019, in Coupeville, Wash. She was 92.

Muriel, who used the nickname "Pinkie," grew up in White Salmon and in Salem, Ore., the only daughter of Lelia May Hinshaw Gray and Robert Dale Gray. Due to the early death of her father and her mother's poor health, she and her brother, Bob, often had to fend for themselves as children, or seek help from their numerous aunts and uncles in White Salmon. Muriel graduated

from Columbia High School in White Salmon in 1944 at age 16. She remembered spending time atop a building in White Salmon as a lookout during the war years, watching for Japanese planes which might be targeting the Hood River Bridge.

Muriel worked in a dress shop and at a bank to put herself through college. She attended Oregon State College (now OSU), earning a degree in Pharmacy. It was there she met her husband-to-be, Jim Richardson. They married shortly after graduation in 1950, just prior to his being drafted to serve in Korea. Their marriage lasted 65 years.

Newly pregnant and with her husband in Korea, Muriel returned to White Salmon to care for her mother. The couple's first daughter, Suzanne, was born while Jim was in Korea. Two more daughters, Kathryn and Brit, were born after his return.

Muriel followed her husband as he was transferred to a variety of locations by his employer, the Bureau of Land Management. They made homes in Salem, Eugene, and Roseburg, Ore., in Anchorage, Alaska, and in Falls Church, Va. In each new location, Muriel continued her career as a board-certified pharmacist, all the while managing a household and raising the couple's three daughters.

One of these moves - the family's arrival in Anchorage - was a story told for many years, as it happened just hours before the 9.2 earthquake that struck Alaska on March 27, 1964. Another favorite Alaskan story was the family's big win in the 1967 Nenana Ice Classic - entrants to this lottery guess the date and time to the minute of the ice break-up on the Tanana River. Muriel's entry, based on her mother-in-law's birthday and the time of day of Katy's birth, won the family \$7,000, providing for a memorable trip to Europe.

Muriel was an avid reader, puzzle-doer, and gardener. She loved creating showpiece hanging baskets and flower gardens at the cabin she and Jim had on the Kenai River in Alaska. The cabin was also the launch point for another favorite activity, salmon fishing, and both Jim and Muriel kept their freezer stocked with sockeye, silvers, and kings. Muriel embraced technology - she learned to use first a desktop computer, then a laptop, then an iPad as each was invented, and her grandchildren were known to brag about their 92-year-old grandma's iPhone prowess. She was an active member in PEO, a leader in and supporter of Camp Fire Alaska for many years, a member of various book clubs, of the First Congregational Church of Anchorage, and a proud volunteer with the Sexy Senior Dumpster Cleaners, one of the many activities she and Jim took part in as members of the Cooper Landing Seniors. Another notable accomplishment was her ability to nourish lasting friendships - at the time of her death, she was still in touch with friends from her college days as well as friends from each of the locations the family had lived.

When Muriel was 88 and Jim 87, they relocated from Alaska, their home for nearly 50 years, to an assisted living facility in Oak Harbor, Wash., close to Muriel's beloved niece, Deb, and a bit closer to her daughters. Though Jim died unexpectedly three weeks after their move, Muriel grew to love Whidbey Island, and the chance to be close to family.

She is survived by her daughters, Kathryn McKinney (Bill), Trout Lake, Wash., and Brit Ritchey, Eggleston, Va.; niece, Deborah O'Brien (Bill), Coupeville; grandchildren Ben McKinney (Giz), Bellingham, Wash., Molly McKinney Holcomb (Geoff), Bellingham, Wash., and Cara Curtis (Scott Schnur), Atlanta, Ga.; as well as one great grandson, James Holcomb. She had been eagerly anticipating the birth of her second great

grandson in December. She was predeceased by her husband, James Hollins Richardson, and her oldest daughter, Suzanne Richardson Curtis, as well as her brother, Robert Dale Gray.

There will be a family celebration of life in Coupeville in June 2020, followed by another in Cooper Landing, Alaska. Interment will be in the Cooper Landing Cemetery, next to her husband Jim. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory can be made to Camp Fire Alaska at www.campfireak.org, or Camp Fire Alaska, 161 Klevin Street #100, Anchorage, AK 99508.

JACQUELINE MARIE MEISSEL



Jacqueline "Jackie" Marie Isaacs Meissel, 66, passed away Nov. 17 in her home with her husband, son, and daughter by her side. She was born at Holy Rosary Hospital in Miles City, Mont., to Allyn D Isaacs and Flora Nakata Isaacs from Sonnette, Mont. She was the third-youngest child of eight children. She grew up on the family ranch at Sonnette with her siblings, attending various country schools in the area and eventually rode the school bus into Broadus, Mont., to attend high school. She graduated from high school in 1971 and was particularly honored being selected that year as the Junior Senior Prom Queen.

After graduation she spent the summer working as a waitress at a resort named "Bear Lodge" in Wyoming. The following year she enrolled in the Sidney School of Practical Nursing, where she sought a degree as a Licensed Practical Nurse. While attending that school she met her future husband, Marvin Meissel. They were married in 1973. She took her state boards in Helena, passing, and was an LPN. She and Marvin moved to Miles City, Mont., where she began her nursing career at Holy Rosary Hospital and Marvin began working for the Milwaukee Road Railroad. In 1978, they relocated to Whidbey Island, Wash., when Marvin re-entered Naval Service, and lived in Oak Harbor. They made their home there to the present time, living in Lemoore, Calif., for three years. Jackie was an excellent mother, raising 2 two children, Tawnya and Troy, almost single-handedly due to Marvin's numerous military deployments, while managing her nursing career.

Jackie spent most of her working career primarily in the nursing field in one capacity or another, earning respect from all she came in contact with, both medical staff personnel and patients alike. While working in the OB/GYN Clinic at the Naval Hospital Oak Harbor, she was selected Employee of the Quarter three times and was the Phy America Employee of the Year in 2000. Due to her Multiple Sclerosis, she had to leave her position and began working for the Oak Harbor School District assisting a special needs child so she could attend school. She was forced to medically retire in 2015. Jackie and Marvin began to do some traveling and became "Snowbirds" and enjoyed winters in Yuma, Ariz., but she became too sick to continue.

If you ever met Jackie, you would be infected by her smile and personality; once you became friends with her you knew you had a friend for life. Earth has lost a true angel and heaven has gained one of the best.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Marvin; son, Troy (Heidi) of Germany; daughter, Tawnya (Erik) of Sedro Wooley, Wash.; one grandson, Reece, USMC; one granddaughter, Madison, a student at the University of Hawaii; two brothers, Nick of Snowflake, Ariz., and Fred (DeeDee) of Ashland, Mont.; five sisters, Patricia Kikawa of Honolulu, Hawaii, June Graham and Jeannette Larsen of Billings, Mont., Jeannie Burley (Dave) of Snowflake, Ariz., and Jessica Sloan of Stanford, Mont.; and many nieces and nephews she thought the world of.

Jackie was preceded in death by her parents; brothers-in-law, Gary Graham and Bill Sloan; and nephew, Donnie Burley.

Cremation has taken place and no services are planned at this time, but her remains will be returned to her native Montana soil next summer for interment and a Celebration of Jackie's Life.

In lieu of cards or flowers, you may donate to a charity of your choice in Jackie's name.

ROBIN RAYÉL OLSEN

Aug. 5, 1965 – Nov. 18, 2019



After a long battle with health issues, Robin earned her angel wings Nov. 18, 2019. Robin is now free from the painful constraints of her earthly body and can dance with the angels. She will continue to watch over her loved ones from heaven.

Robin was born in Longview, Wash. on Aug. 5, 1965 to Irene and Merlin Burwell. When Robin was young, Irene moved to Utah and Robin was blessed with another dad, Tommy Tomshack. Robin was raised in Layton, Utah.

Robin moved back to Oak Harbor, Wash., and was blessed with a son, Ty. A few years later, she was blessed again with a son, Coty. Her boys were her greatest joy in life. When the boys were young, Robin moved back to Utah. Robin married and was blessed to help raise her daughter, Kayla. Robin was so excited to have a girl to do all the girlie things the boys were not into. Robin's next marriage blessed her with helping to raise Maria, Rebecca, and Nick. Robin moved back to Oak Harbor and fell in love with Brian. This marriage blessed Robin with helping to raise Sarah, Stephen, and Megan. Robin and Brian helped raise their granddaughters until her health issues increased. Robin cherished her daughters-in-law, Leslie and Cheri, for loving her boys. Robin was only able to give birth to two wonderful boys, but she became a mom to so many more that she loved as her own. Robin loved to see her family grow with each birth of a grandchild. Family made her heart soar and provided the greatest joys in her life.

Robin loved to go camping, cooking, baking and sharing her knowledge of these subjects with family and friends. Robin was good at finding a great deal at yard sales or thrift stores. Robin surrounded her home inside and out with wonderful plants and flowers. Robin enjoyed riding motorcycles with Brian and all the friendships they made along the way.

Robin was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents. She is survived by her husband, Brian Olsen, and her children: Ty Collier, Coty (Cheri) Miller, Leslie Mitson, Kayla Burress-Newton, Maria Campbell, Rebecca Rupprecht, Nick Miller, Sara Olsen, Stephen Olsen and Megan Olsen. Robin will continue to watch over her seven grandsons and her five granddaughters. Robin is also survived by her brother, Merlin (Teri) Tomshack, and her sister, Tara (Allan) DeVries, and many nieces and nephews that will miss her dearly.

The family would like to express their deepest gratitude to the staff at Angells on Whidbey for all the love you have shown Robin.

Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day.

A Celebration of Life will be announced at a later date on her website at www.whidbeymemorial.com where family and friends are encouraged to share memories and condolences.

Life Tributes can now be found online at www.whidbeyweekly.com



Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.





CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

ARIES (March 21-April 19)



The freedom to roam exceeds all your other concerns this week. Explorations are likely for no better reason than to see what you can see. Should circumstances in any way leave you feeling tied down, your relationships will be the first to reflect the strain. The wise mate will grant you at least the illusion of independence. Wanderlust is contagious on the 8th, meaning you might find yourselves widening your horizons as a couple.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



Be on your toes this week as the untold details behind a matter of some importance come out. How much of what you hear exposes the truth, and how much obscures it? Absent the skills to distinguish fact from hearsay, you risk becoming more and more confused. Your desires for a specific outcome may cloud your judgment in this regard. The 8th is good for the inside story. Keep an open mind and ask questions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



The important events in your week all follow an order and precision that you would be wise to heed. Getting ahead of yourself could snarl matters majorly. Deferring to the judgment of one more practiced than you may feel humbling at the time, but down the road you will be glad you did. The idea is not to release control blindly. Rather, it is to know why you do what you do. The 8th could make the difference especially clear.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)



Only by controlling your own natural impatience can a key event come smoothly to fruition this week. Haste where orderly progression is needed is the surest way to sabotage yourself. The more moving parts your grand scheme contains, the more certainly this is true. Delays may occur for a reason. Look for the cause, and you will find the way around it. Impulsive acts are most vulnerable on 8th.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



Think of your home as your castle and you won't be disappointed should this week's events force you into retreat there. There's no place like home for getting in touch with your thoughts and feelings. Home is the place where dreams are born. Even there, however you are not beyond the reach of world events. Their gravity can leave you feeling hemmed in, or drive your efforts for change. Your choice on the 8th.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)



There is nothing wrong with taking a firm stand on your beliefs this week, provided you do so with caution. The danger is that you will speak impulsively and with authority about something you know little or nothing about. Such careless words are difficult to take back. Even worse, they undermine your authority in

the areas you do know. Wanting something to be true does not make it so on the 8th.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



The need to voice your opinion may well be unavoidable this week. Some may take offense, as is their right. Yours is to state your mind without fear of repercussions. The reality, of course, is that repercussions can come of even the kindest of words. If the shoe were on the other foot, would you grant others the same freedoms you expect for yourself? These are important considerations on the 8th.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



Your major concern this week might be that the gains you make do not come at the expense of undue burdens placed on others. Are you being fair to all parties in your dealings? Even if you're sure the answer is yes, it's always an excellent question to ask. You can't go wrong with the goodwill born of a demonstrated effort to be fair. The cost of doing business on the 8th is about much more than pencils and paper clips.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



The weight of responsibility on you may be no less this week, but your ability to shoulder it effectively continues to grow. You may even find yourself with excess energy to channel in whatever direction you please. If that means involvement in activities others might call frivolous, do you care? If you're ready to party, you've earned the right. Rest and recreation have a restorative impact on the 8th.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



There's a lot of give and take involved in getting where you're going this week. Is there something you particularly want? You're well-positioned to acquire it. Your wants and desires may not come easily, but they will come. On your side are flexibility and quick reactions to changing circumstances. In the game of give and take, those are the essentials to success. The 8th offers ways to use them effectively.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



You have the chance this week to work in concert with family and friends to achieve goals you might not realize separately. If this sounds like too much mutual cooperation to be true, the biggest gain for someone in the mix may be a lesson in the power of unity. In that case, what your group does matters less than the need to do it in full agreement. Acts performed grudgingly completely miss the point on the 8th.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



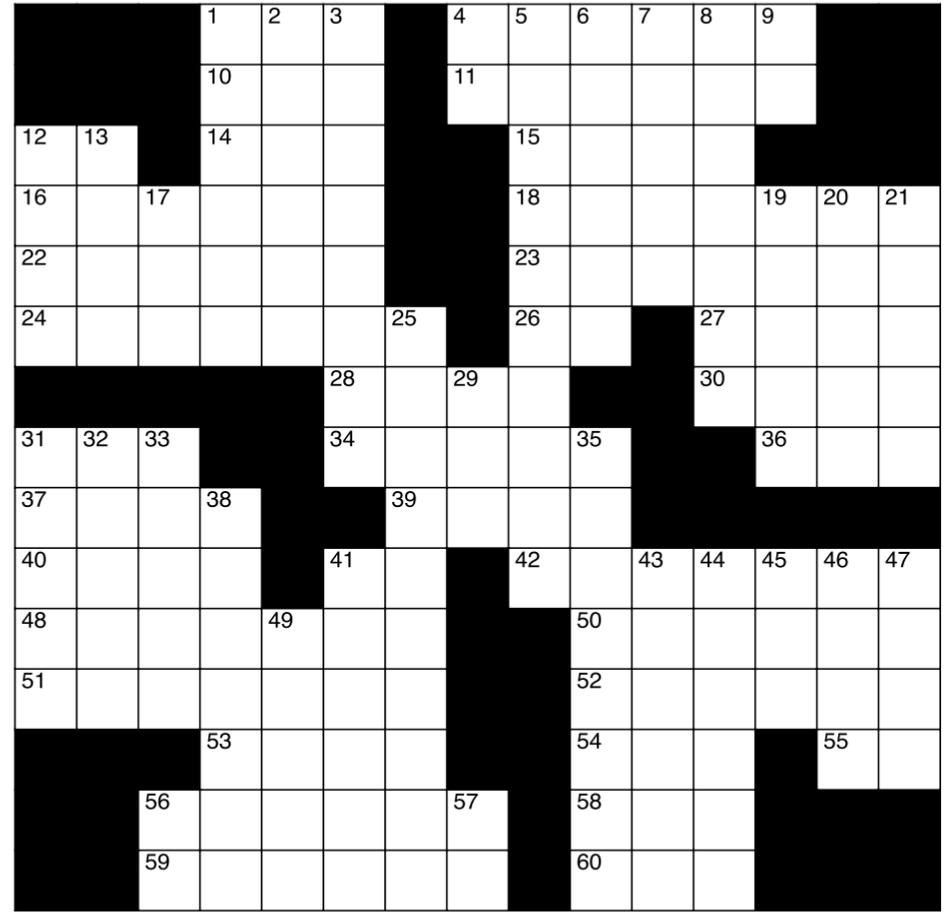
Unintended consequences can make or break your week. If events unfold with hidden surprises, look twice. Victory salvaged from apparent defeat is distinctly possible. Success in many arenas comes only after an initial setback or two. Fighting spirit and never-say-die optimism are the two qualities to keep you going. Can you find them in yourself? Their accidental discovery is not the least of the unintended consequences possible on the 8th.

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Chicken Little looks at what is and fears the sky is falling. Wesley Hallock as a professional astrologer looks at what is and sees what could be. Read Wesley's monthly forecast, with links to Facebook and Twitter, at www.chickenlittleandtheastrologer.com. To read past columns of Chicken Little and the Astrologer in the Whidbey Weekly, see our Digital Library at www.whidbeyweekly.com.

Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Hair care product
- 4. Looped
- 10. It's present in all living cells
- 11. Choose
- 12. South Dakota
- 14. Cash machine
- 15. Of the pia mater
- 16. Ancient Egyptian documents
- 18. Layers at the back of the eyeballs
- 22. Not perceived
- 23. Look over
- 24. Improve a tire
- 26. Time zone
- 27. Main branch of Islam
- 28. Bark of the mulberry tree
- 30. Sea eagles
- 31. Records heart muscle activity (abbr.)
- 34. Famed Hollywood producer
- 36. Yuck!
- 37. Reject outright and bluntly
- 39. ___ 500, car race
- 40. Small heap or pile
- 41. Type of degree (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- 42. Contagious skin disease
- 48. Erases from a surface
- 50. In an enthusiastic way
- 51. Begin again
- 52. Intricately produced pattern
- 53. It flows NW to the Seine
- 54. Be obliged to repay
- 55. Southeast
- 56. Slip in
- 58. Leisure time activity
- 59. Breastbones
- 60. Sun up in New York

- 12. San Antonio hoopster
- 13. Comedian Cook
- 17. Time zone
- 19. First PM of India
- 20. Performing perfectly
- 21. A way to hide
- 25. Former NBA commissioner
- 29. Peter's last name
- 31. Outlying suburb of London
- 32. Used to cut steak
- 33. Deep inlets
- 35. Type of tree
- 38. Done openly and unashamedly
- 41. Indigenous person of N. Africa
- 43. Confessed openly
- 44. A way to separate with an instrument
- 45. Influential journalist Tarbell
- 46. Manning and Roth are two
- 47. One who cares for horses in India
- 49. Something to believe in
- 56. Form of "to be"
- 57. Atomic #73

Answers on page 19

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Dec. 5	Fri, Dec. 6	Sat, Dec. 7	Sun, Dec. 8	Mon, Dec. 9	Tues, Dec. 10	Wed, Dec. 11
North Isle H-50°/L-42° Rain	North Isle H-52°/L-43° Rain	North Isle H-51°/L-40° Rain	North Isle H-49°/L-39° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-51°/L-37° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-51°/L-38° Rain Possible	North Isle H-50°/L-38° Rain Possible
South Isle H-49°/L-43° Rain	South Isle H-50°/L-42° Rain	South Isle H-49°/L-38° Rain	South Isle H-49°/L-41° Cloudy	South Isle H-51°/L-36° Cloudy	South Isle H-49°/L-37° Rain Possible	South Isle H-49°/L-37° Rain Possible



Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.



Playhouse spreads Christmas cheer with Elf Jr.

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

Anyone in need of a good dose of happy holiday spirit need look no further than the latest production by the Whidbey Playhouse in Oak Harbor.

"Elf Jr., The Musical," which opens tonight (Dec. 5) and runs through Sunday, Dec. 15, is sure to put a smile on even the Grinchiest of faces and coax a laugh from the sourest of Scrooges.

"It is Christmas in your face," described director Shelby Montoya.

She is not wrong. With a cast of 56, ranging in age from 6 to 46, this production is loud, boisterous, colorful, cute and just plain fun.

The story is obviously based on the 2003 movie: Buddy discovers he's actually human – not an elf at all – and goes to New York City to find his birth father. But the real world is very



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly

Buddy (Kenyon Sirak) travels from the North Pole to New York City in search of his birth father, but finds himself falling in love with department store elf Jovie (Valerie Matheny).



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly

Kenyon Sirak shines as Buddy in the Whidbey Playhouse production of "Elf Jr., The Musical," opening tonight and running through Dec. 15 in Oak Harbor.

different than life at the North Pole. Buddy's father is on the Naughty List, his half-brother doesn't believe in Santa Claus and many people have forgotten the true meaning of Christmas. So, it's up to Buddy to make that crucial connection with his family and help people remember the season is less about presents and more about presence.

"I think the big thing people will walk away with is that Christmas is not just about the stress of presents and perfection, but it's about the time we have together as family," said Kenyon Sirak, who gives an outstanding performance as Buddy.

"Buddy is always happy," continued Sirak. "But there's an interesting contrast that builds throughout the play, because by the end, he starts to understand that life sometimes means facing challenges."

Of course, how one deals with those challenges makes all the difference. "Elf Jr." doesn't disappoint when it comes to spreading Christmas cheer. Singing loud for all to hear is a major component of this theatrical confection.

See ELF continued on page 16

CANDY continued from page 7

Enjoy drinks and finger foods with the jolliest couple in Oak Harbor.

Christmas Village

Saturday, Dec. 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22 & 23
3-7 p.m.

Blue Fox Drive In

Visit with Santa and his Elves, petting zoo, holiday crafters & games

Home for the Holidays Tree Lighting

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 4-7 p.m.

Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor

Music, Santa Parade and tree lighting. Sign up to see Santa! Treats, cocoa, vote for your favorite Toy Soldier.

Hidden Snowflake Hunt

Dec. 7 – 13

Downtown Oak Harbor

Get a snowflake passport at Garry Oak Gallery, then find the hidden silver snowflakes at businesses throughout downtown Oak Harbor. Get your passport stamped as you go to register for a holiday gift basket. Email promotion@oakharbormainstreet.com for info.

Navy Band Northwest Holiday Concert

Thursday, Dec. 12 • 7 p.m.

Free

Oak Harbor High School

The Nutcracker

Saturday, Dec. 14 • 2 & 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 15 • 2 p.m.

Oak Harbor High School

\$15 adults | \$10 kids under 18 & seniors

Tickets at Pacific Grace Tax and Accounting, Oak Harbor or online at www.tbsoh.org

Bowman Bay Holiday

Saturday, Dec. 14 • 3 – 7 p.m.

\$5 per car suggested donation

Deception Pass State Park

Deception Pass Park Foundation Fundraiser

Taste of Holiday Memories

Saturday, Dec. 14 • 4-7 p.m.

Downtown Oak Harbor

Purchase a commemorative plate for \$10 to take around to participating businesses and receive a special treat. Register online at www.oakharbormainstreet.com.



CENTRAL WHIDBEY:

Santa's Neighborhood Tours

Dec. 4 – 20 • 5:30 p.m.

Non-perishable food bank donations accepted. Sponsored by Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue. Visit www.cwfire.org for schedule.

Jingle Trail Run

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 10 a.m.

Camp Casey, Engle Rd., Coupeville

Annual Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Coupeville United Methodist Church

608 N Main St.

Light Up Your Holiday

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Admiralty Head Lighthouse

Fort Casey State Park

Greenbank Farm Holiday Market

Dec. 7 & 8, 14 & 15 • 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

765 Wonn Rd., Greenbank

Santa's workshop noon – 2:30 p.m.; Santa's arrival and Tractor lighting Dec. 7, 3:30 p.m.

WAIF Pet Photos with Santa Claws

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 1-4 p.m.

Cost: \$10

WAIF Shelter, Coupeville

Have your pet's photo taken with Santa Claws. Refreshments and snacks provided for pets and people! Proceeds benefit WAIF shelter animals. Leashes/carriers required.

Saratoga Orchestra's "Peter and the Wolf"

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 2 p.m.

Free (Donations accepted)

Coupeville High School Commons

A festive afternoon for the whole family.

Instrument petting zoo at 1 p.m.

Greening of Coupeville Parade and Tree Lighting

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 4:15 p.m.

Downtown Coupeville, tree lighting follows

Open House Christmas Cheer

Friday, Dec. 13 • 3 – 6 p.m.

Pacific Rim Institute, 180 Parker Rd.

Coupeville

Share the Christmas spirit and enjoy cookies and refreshments. Attendance enters you to win a native plant wreath.

SOUTH WHIDBEY:



It's a Wonderful Life

Dec. 6-21

7:30 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays

2 p.m. Sundays

Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

Tickets: \$24 adults | \$22 seniors | 18 & under free

The beloved holiday film comes to life as a 1940's "audio-cinematic experience" in the world premiere of a new adaptation by David Ossman.

Holly Jolly Parade

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 1 p.m.

Downtown Langley

Langley finds its "inner elf" as the town presents its annual holiday parade.

Clinton Holiday Lighting

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 5-6:30 p.m.

Clinton Community Hall

Carols led by Mel Birch, hot chocolate, tree lighting, Santa Claus and the announcement of the Clinton coloring contest winners.

Glad (Baroque) Tidings on Whidbey Island

Saturday, Dec. 7 • 7:30 p.m.

St. Augustine's in-the-Woods, Freeland

\$25

Ring in the Holiday season with Henry Lebedinsky and the Underground House Singers as they offer up Renaissance and Baroque Christmas carols.

Elf Chase 5K Fun Run/Walk

Sunday, Dec. 8 • 10 a.m.

South Whidbey Community Park

Registration available online at swpts.weebly.com or day of event at 9 a.m. Crazy costumes welcome! Coffee, hot chocolate and snacks.

Festival of Lessons & Carols

Sunday, Dec. 8 • 7 p.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church

804 Third St., Langley

The Nutcracker

Dec. 13, 20 & 21 • 7 p.m.

Dec. 13, 15, 21 & 22 • 2 p.m.

SWHS Performing Arts Center

Tickets: www.widtonline.org

Whidbey Island Orchestra: Everything Christmas!

Friday, Dec. 13 • 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 15 • 3 p.m.

By donation

Trinity Lutheran Church, Freeland

A Conversation with Karolyn Grimes

Friday, Dec. 20 • 11 a.m.

\$18 | Ages 18 and under free

Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

At age 6, Karolyn Grimes played the role of Zuzu Bailey in the holiday classic *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946).

Winter Solstice Celebration

Saturday, Dec. 21 • 7 p.m.

Suggested donation: \$20/adults, \$5/children

Crawford House, 5023 Langley Rd., Langley

Information: www.islandconsort.org

RSVP: sweindendorf@whidbey.com

The Night Before Christmas Holiday Concert

Sunday, Dec. 22 • 7:30 p.m.

\$24

Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

Led by conductor Cynthia Morrow and narrated by Firesign Theatre Alum David Ossman, the Whidbey Island Orchestra performs "The Night Before Christmas."



Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.



Film Shorts

Courtesy of Cascadia Weekly

By Carey Ross

21 Bridges: I will watch Chadwick Boseman in just about anything, including this incredibly cheesy-looking action flick which seems to have been made solely so Boseman can stay in shape for his next Black Panther movie. ★★ (R • 1 hr. 43 min.)

about that. We need to learn to let it go. ★★★★★ (PG • 1 hr. 44 min.)

The Good Liar: Sir Ian McKellen and Dame Helen Mirren appear onscreen for the first time opposite one another. He's a conman and she's the mark who's not as easy as she seems in this very proper British thriller with more than a few twists. ★★★ (R • 1 hr. 49 min.)

Knives Out: This Agatha Christie-esque murder mystery has an excellent ensemble cast—Daniel Craig, Chris Evans, Jamie Lee Curtis, Toni Collette, Christopher Plummer, etc.—an excellent director—Rian Johnson—and excellent reviews. Suck it, "Star Wars," this is my winter 2019 must-see. ★★★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 10 min.)

Last Christmas: Not exactly a Christmas movie, more a Christmas-adjacent movie about a year-round elf who meets a boy and presumably they fall far for each other. As far as I can tell, the only point of interest about this movie is that it stars Emilia Clarke in her first post-Mother of Dragons role. ★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 42 min.)

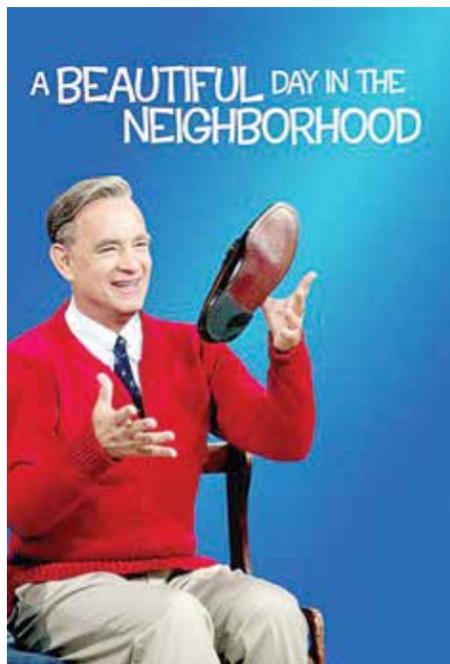
Midway: The Battle of Midway was a truly decisive World War II naval victory with an interesting backstory that no movie directed by Roland Emmerich could adequately capture. The battle scenes will be real cool though. ★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 18 min.)

Queen & Slim: Lena Waithe, the first black woman to win a comedy-writing Emmy for her work on "Master of None," also wrote the script for this film in which a couple (Jodie Turner-Smith and the always riveting Daniel Kaluuya) on a date kill a police officer in self-defense, go on the run and become accidental folk heroes. ★★★★★ (R • 2 hrs. 12 min.)

Playing With Fire: John Cena leads a group of firefighters who have to babysit children because comedies really get to be this thinly premised these days. ★ (PG • 1 hr. 38 min.)

Playmobil: The Movie: I suppose given the high quality and runaway success of the Lego movies, it was inevitable Lego knockoff Playmobil would take a stab at moviemaking. Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery, but it doesn't necessarily make for a good film. ★ (1 hr. 39 min.)

For Anacortes theater showings, please see www.fandango.com. For Blue Fox and Oak Harbor Cinemas showings see ads on this page.



A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: Forest Gump was just the warm-up. Obviously Mister Rogers was the role Tom Hanks was born to play. Feel free to ugly cry from the opening scene to the closing credits. You'll be in excellent and plentiful company. ★★★★★ (PG • 1 hr. 48 min.)

The Aeronauts: This account of a meteorologist and a thrill-seeking balloon pilot in 1862 who want to fly higher than anyone in history is saved (somewhat) by its leads—Eddie Redmayne and Felicity Jones—and its high-altitude action. ★★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 42 min.)

Dark Waters: Mark Ruffalo plays a lawyer who takes on chemical giant DuPont in this compelling courtroom drama that gets a huge assist in the form of direction by Todd Haynes. ★★★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 6 min.)

Ford v Ferrari: Ostensibly, this is about legendary car designer Carroll Shelby (Matt Damon), who, under the auspices of Ford and with the help of driver Ken Miles (Christian Bale), took on the Ferrari racing monopoly. Mostly it just looks like a couple of Oscar-winning actors driving fast cars and having the time of their lives doing it. ★★★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 32 min.)

Frozen II: It's Disney's world and we're all just living in it. There's nothing we can do

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Friday & Saturday 1:45, 4:10, 6:20, 8:45
Sunday - Thursday 1:45, 4:10, 6:20

KNIVES OUT (PG-13)
Daily 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

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LAST CHRISTMAS (PG-13)

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Sunday, December 8
SVC Men's Basketball @ Green River - 3:00pm

Tuesday, December 10
OHHS Girl's Basketball v. Marysville-Pilchuck - 7:15pm

Friday, December 13
NWAC Women's BB Crossover - North Idaho v. SVC - 6:00pm

Saturday, December 14
NWAC Women's BB Crossover - Chemeketa CC v. SVC - 6:00pm

Saturday, December 14
SVC Men's Basketball v. Elite Prep - 8:00pm

Sunday, December 15
NWAC Women's BB Crossover - Highline CC v. SVC - 1:00pm

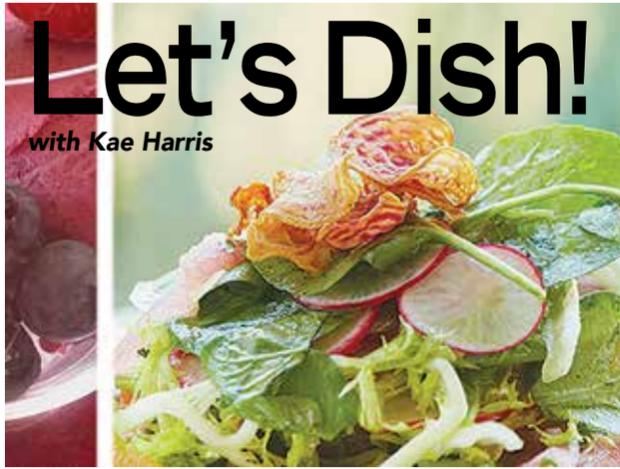
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Let's Dish!

with Kae Harris

THE FINE ART OF WHAT MAKES A FRITTER A FRITTER

I came across one of my favorite foods recently. I know I say 'x' is my favorite food and 'y' and 'z' are all my favorite foods. You could probably use the whole alphabet up to talk about something or other being 'one of my favorite foods' and still, it wouldn't be nearly enough letters to quantify all the 'one of my favorite foods.' On this particular occasion, I came across an apple fritter at the grocery store. Now, it's not so much the apple part of the fritter that makes it my favorite, but the texture and consistency of the fritter itself. This is what earns it a 'favorite' spot in my book.

It also happens that Dec. 2 was National Fritter Day and I thought to myself, "Kae, how many different kinds of fritter do you think there are?" I mean, it has to be copious kinds. I've spoken on a few occasions of my mother's pumpkin fritters (which, by the way, are my favorite, hands down, no competition there whatsoever – though I am happy to taste test your fritters if you think they can beat my mum's. Just saying.), and let me tell you they are something else entirely. Positively scrumptious. However, those aren't the only ones I've ever tried. I have had apple fritters, peach fritters, corn and banana fritters, among the many others I can't even remember now. I've had the sweet and the savory and delighted in them all.

But what makes a fritter a fritter? You see, the word fritter, I feel, is used so loosely. It can be used to describe any sort of deep-fried concoction and there you go, a 'fritter.' Or is it? Derived from the Latin word 'frictura' meaning 'a fry,' fritter tells a little about how it's made. Apparently, words like 'fricasseé'

and 'frittata' can also be traced back to these Latin roots. Funnily enough, the word 'frizzy' also supposedly follows the same linguistic lineage. Anyway, this isn't a history lesson about the origins of the word so much as a discussion about how the word represents the actual thing it's referencing.

A fritter is said to be any fruit, vegetable or meat which can be surrounded with or incorporated into a batter and deep fried. I guess the initial assumption that a fritter is any old hodgepodge of ingredients fried in oil, wasn't too far off the mark. But what differentiates any deep-fried battered food from a fritter? While we're on the topic, can we assume hush puppies, tater tots and some hash browns are then fritters? What about corn dogs or fishcakes? I recently read an excellent piece about fritters written by Elena Feretti, and she said "all things that are fried are not fritters, but all fritters are fried," and I thought this was a fantastic way to describe them.

One of the most popular fritters I've come across, regardless of the culture, is the corn fritter. Yes, they're dubbed something different in each place they're made, but the premise is the same - a corn batter base which is combined with other ingredients and deep fried to golden deliciousness. I found a fritter of sorts hailing from Jamaica and they're called 'Festivals.' Some have described it as a corn dumpling, others like a party in your mouth, and legend has it they get their name from the fact that eating them seems to be like a festival in and of itself. With a simple batter of cornmeal, all-purpose flour, sugar, salt, baking powder and water, you have the fundamentals for this Caribbean deep-fried delight. They are said to be served best as an accompaniment to something with a strong spice or a lot of flavor, so I'm thinking,

jerk chicken and a few festivals on the side? Amazing! Then there are surullitos which are fried corn sticks - incredibly popular in Puerto Rico - which are served as a kind of appetizer.

A cornmeal dough with cheese mixed in, rolled into short, thick sticks and fried until crispy and tasty is probably about as delicious as a savory fritter can get. I mean, you could dip it into anything and just up the ante on the flavor and while I'm talking about them, the shape of the thing matters not, methinks, because its fundamental makeup is a vegetable based 'meal' turned into a batter and deep fried. I guess then, you could make your fritters any shape you so choose and have fun with it that way.

What's even better about a fritter is you can play with the ingredients and come up with brand new mixtures and versions of a traditional one and make it your very own. Onions, jalapenos, green peppers, olives, cooked ground sausage, spices and so on, all potential additions to a fritter batter to make it uniquely yours. They can become the next 'big hit' at a family gathering or a get-together of friends. Perhaps they'll make you (even more) popular at work and what's more, they can be easily packed into a kid's lunchbox at school. Sneak in those vitamins and minerals this way. Okay, maybe the deep-fried part isn't as healthy as it could be, but hey, when you have a picky eater, a veggie eaten is a victory.

Dear readers, I hope you'll take stock of National Fritter Day and browse some recipes online, find one that grabs your attention and make it yourself. If you just feel like getting one from the bakery, that too is perfectly fine. A fritter is a fritter and as long as you celebrate it, it doesn't matter how, just enjoy it! I'm including a recipe for surullitos, which

I found on Goya brand's website (www.goya.com), which I will be trying myself. I've had many a fritter before, but this is one in which I have yet to indulge. Let me know how you like them if you try it! Please send any and all comments, questions and most certainly, recipes you'd like to share to letsdish.whidbey-weekly@gmail.com and we'll do just that and Dish!

Surullitos

- 1 ½ cups yellow cornmeal
- 2 cups water
- ½ teaspoon sugar
- 1 ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup shredded cheese (Gouda)
- Corn oil for frying

In a medium saucepan over medium/high heat, bring water to boil. Add salt and sugar. Whisk the cornmeal in slowly. Reduce heat to low and cook while whisking constantly until the water is absorbed and the mixture/dough pulls away from the pot. Remove from heat and transfer mixture to a heat proof bowl. Mix in the cheese until melted and well combined. Leave to cool until it is cool enough to handle. Divide dough into 25 equal pieces and roll them each into a log or cigar shape 2 ½ to 3 inches long. Heat an inch and a half of oil in medium, heavy-based pot over medium/high heat until it reaches 350°F. Fry the surullitos in batches until crisp and golden (3-4 minutes per batch), transfer to paper towel to drain and serve with your dip of choice! Enjoy!

<https://culinarylore.com/food-history:how-did-fritters-get-their-name>

To read past columns of *Let's Dish* in the *Whidbey Weekly*, see our Digital Library at www.whidbeyweekly.com.

ELF continued from page 14

"I love the songs – I could not stop listening to them," said Valerie Matheny, who plays the role of Jovie and does double duty as the play's musical director. "The music adds so much and you can see more connections through the songs."

"The music is all very catchy," agreed Montoya. "People will find themselves singing it the next day."

As noted, the cast is large. While there are some adults in a few roles, the bulk of the cast is kids, something Montoya, 19, really enjoys.

"Everyone in the cast is just super," she said. "The kids have mentors in some of the adult cast members, but I get along with them very well. Maybe it's because I was where they were not so long ago that gives us that special connection, but they're not afraid to come to me with questions or ideas."

"This one is really more about the kids," said Shelby's father, Matt Montoya, who is the assistant director for this production. "The kids have fun, get to learn theater, get to learn the enjoyment of participation and having a good time."

David Valencia is making his first Playhouse appearance as Walter Hobbs, Buddy's father. He shares the stage with his real-life children, David Valencia Jr., who plays Walter's son, Michael, and his daughter, Olivia, who plays Walter's boss, Mrs. Greenway. Both kids have appeared in Playhouse productions before.

"They begged me to be on stage with them, so it finally worked out that I could do it," he said. "It's fun and scary at the same time. In the end you get to see all the hard work that's put into it and get to enjoy the process and then to see the final production, it's jaw dropping."

"The most fun has been working with the kids," said Eric George, who plays Santa. "They bring so much to their characters. It makes it easy to be Santa."

"This is my first Christmas show," said Shantel Porter, who plays Emily Hobbs. "I think the thing I've loved the most is seeing it come to life; that transition from paper to seeing it on stage and those relationships we form with each other."



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly

There is no shortage of cuteness on stage during the Whidbey Playhouse production of "Elf Jr., The Musical." The show opens tonight and runs through Dec. 15 in Oak Harbor.

"The cast is huge," she continued. "It's a challenge working with so many children. And they're so talented. They want to be on stage. Their dedication is impressive."

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, through Dec. 15. Tickets and information can be found online at www.whidbeyplayhouse.com.

In the end, "Elf Jr., The Musical" could be just the thing to put some extra fun in this holiday season.

"One, it's Christmas, so it's perfect," said George. "Two, it's for family. Three, this is a really good, feel-good show."

"It's fun, it's funny, it just makes you happy," agreed Porter. "It's hard to imagine how anyone could see so much fun and not enjoy themselves."

"I hope it gives everyone a sense of family," said Matheny. "It's about finding joy in the small things and recognizing it's not what you have, but who you have."



Kathy Reed/Whidbey Weekly

Buddy introduces his family to the real Santa Claus during "Elf Jr., The Musical" now playing at the Whidbey Playhouse in Oak Harbor. Pictured from left are Michael Hobbs (David Valencia Jr.), Walter Hobbs (David Valencia), Emily Hobbs (Shantel Porter), Buddy (Kenyon Sirak) and Santa (Eric George).



Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.



WHAT'S GOING ON CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

You are invited to join us for lunch and loving fellowship.

Live Nativity

Saturday, December 7,

1:00-4:00PM & 5:00-9:00PM

Oak Harbor Christian School
675 E Whidbey Ave.

1:00-4:00PM, experience indoors with live animals, fun kid crafts, marketplace, and student re-enactment. 5:00-9:00PM, drive past the outdoor nativity.

RUTH-A Nativity Story

Sunday, December 8, 10:45AM-12:00PM

Oak Harbor Church of the Nazarene

"RUTH" is a Nativity story told through the eyes of Ruth, the daughter of the innkeeper of Bethlehem, who, in her younger years, was stricken by a fever which left her deaf. Her faith and belief in Jesus lead to a Christmas miracle. This play is presented as a 1950s radio broadcast. The church is located at 1100 W Whidbey Ave. For more information, email churchoffice@ohnaz.com or call 360-675-0705.

The Festival of Lessons and Carols for Advent

Sunday, December 8, 7:00PM

St. Hubert Catholic Church, Langley

This meditative service of readings, hymns, and anthems proclaiming the coming of Christ provides a time of reflection and renewal. Lessons and Carols is patterned after the Christmas Eve observance at King's College in Cambridge, England. All are welcome. The program is free to the public. An item of nonperishable food for the Good Cheer Food Bank in South Whidbey is appreciated. The church is located at 804 Third Street. For additional information, call 360-221-5383 or email sthubert@whidbey.com.

Galleries & Art Shows**Weekend Art Shows**

Friday, December 6, 10:00AM-6:00PM

Saturday, December 7, 10:00AM-6:00PM

Sunday, December 8, 10:00AM-6:00PM

The Loft Studio, 715 SE Fidalgo Ave,
Oak Harbor

Local artists of any kind may sign up to give classes, etc. in this space. Call Reggie at 206-310-8142 for more information.

Fine Art in the Season of Light

Holiday Reception: Saturday, December 7,
5:00-7:00PM

Show continues through December
Rob Schouten Gallery, Langley

This holiday season enjoy finding the perfect gifts created by over thirty of your favorite local and regional artists. Celebrate those you love with a one-of-a-kind piece chosen especially for them. Included in the gallery's beautiful displays are fabulous jewelry by talented Whidbey jewelers, stunning sculptures in bronze, stone, wood and steel, original paintings in a variety of styles and mediums, and some extraordinary fine art glass including handblown, sculpted and fused. You'll also find elegant woodwork, ceramics and fiber art, fresh witty assemblages, and a wonderfully wide array of beautiful art objects sure to delight.

Guest Artists: Stuart King and Johnathan and Jandellyn Ward

Show Opening: Saturday, December 7,
5:00-7:00PM

Whidbey Art Gallery, Langley

Stuart has refined his style over the years and limited his subject matter to three basic elements; Earth, Air and Water. Using metal, glass and sparkling colors, Johnathan and Jandellyn Ward have been working on their traditional holiday ornaments and coasters and with holiday time just around the corner they can't wait to show you whats in store.

Holiday Gift Gallery and Quilt Show

Pacific NorthWest Art School, Coupeville

Come see an astounding exhibition and sale of art quilts by nationally known quilt artist and instructor Janet Steadman. This retrospective spans part of Janet's illustrious career from

1985 to 2012. Janet, who is now 91, donated these gems to the Pacific NorthWest Art School, 15 N W Birch St. The Holiday Gift Gallery and the Quilt show will remain up for your viewing and shopping pleasure through year's end at the school. Hours for viewing will be Monday-Friday 9:00AM-4:00PM and Saturday, December 7, 10:00AM-7:00PM.

Meetings & Organizations**Flying Fingers Deaf and Hearing Social**

Friday, December 6, 5:45-6:45PM

Langley United Methodist Church,
Fireside Room

We celebrate birthdays, holidays and share food. Small group of individuals who enjoy seeing sign language used in conversations. Fun, easy going time. Donation for room usage. Come and meet us. Parking across street, off Third St. and Anthes Ave. Room is back side of church, follow the path and signage. For more information, contact Susan at 360-221-0383 or email sisoileil973@yahoo.com.

Sen. Ron Muzzall Town Hall Meetings

Saturday, December 7, 11:00AM-noon

South Whidbey Community Center
723 Camano Ave., Langley

Saturday, December 7, 2:30-3:30PM

Oak Harbor School District Admin Services
Center, 350 S. Oak Harbor St., Oak Harbor

After his recent appointment to the state Senate representing the 10th Legislative District, Sen. Ron Muzzall, R-Oak Harbor, will hold town hall meetings throughout the district in advance of the 2020 legislative session. Muzzall wants to hear from constituents about their concerns with state government. The public forums will also be an opportunity for constituents to learn more about his approach to representing them in Olympia.

Archbishop Murphy High School Information Day

Saturday, December 7, 1:00-3:00PM

China City Restaurant, Freeland

Over the last thirty years, AMHS has provided a faith-based, college preparatory education. Since 2006, students from Whidbey Island have made the daily commute on the 7:00AM ferry to the school campus in the Mill Creek / Everett area. AMHS offers extensive core and elective course options, 16 AP Classes, numerous college credit and honors courses, an average class size of 19 and a 1:11 faculty/staff to student ratio. Students are able to choose from over 20 sport and 30 club co-curricular options. This meeting will focus on school admissions and enrollment, college-prep curriculum and transportation options between AMHS and the Clinton-Mukilteo Ferry. School President, Steve Schmutz, and Admissions Director, Jana Zitnik, will host the meeting. For more information and to RSVP, please contact admissions@am-hs.org or 425-332-3036.

For a list of continuous Meetings and Organizations, visit www.whidbeyweekly.com

Classes, Seminars and Workshops**DUI/Underage Drinking Prevention Panel**

Thursday, December 5, 7:00-9:00PM

Oak Harbor Library meeting room

No pre-registration required. No late admittance allowed. Open to all and required by local driving schools for driver's education students and parents. For more information, call 360-672-8219 or visit www.idipic.org.

DUI/Underage Drinking Prevention Panel

Saturday, December 7, 1:00-3:00PM

Trinity Lutheran Church, Freeland

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pregnant? Need baby clothes? We have them and the price is right—FREE. Pregnancy Care Clinic, open most Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10am to 4pm. Call 360-221-2909 or stop by 6th and Cascade in Langley.

Be the difference in a child's life and become a foster parent today! Service Alternatives is looking for caring, loving, and supportive families to support foster children. 425-923-0451 or mostermick@servalt-cfs.com

The Whidbey Island community is encouraged to try out the paddling sport of dragon boating with the Stayin' Alive team. Our team's mission is to promote the physical, social, and emotional benefits of dragon boating. It has been shown to be especially beneficial to cancer survivors. Practice with us for up to 3 times for free. Life-jackets and paddles provided. Saturdays at the Oak Harbor Marina, 8:45am. Contact njlish@gmail.com. More info at our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSound-DragonBoatClub?ref=hl

Medical Marijuana patients unite; If you need assistance, advice, etc. please contact at 420patientnetworking@gmail.com. Local Whidbey Island help.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of homicide, burglary, robbery, assault, identity theft, fraud, human trafficking, home invasion and other crimes not listed. Victim Support Services has advocates ready to help. Please call the 24-hr Crisis Line 888-388-9221. Free service. Visit our web site at <http://victimsupportservices.org>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

College student? Student of history? History buff? Opportunities are available to spend constructive volunteer hours at the PBY-Naval Air Museum. Go to www.pbymf.org and click on "Volunteer" or just stop by and introduce yourself.

Imagine Oak Harbor's first Food Forest, Saturdays 11am-3pm, at 526 Bayshore Drive. Each week, we have volunteer opportunities available to help care for our community garden, share organic gardening tips, and learn Permaculture principles. All ages and skill levels welcome. Schedule can change due to adverse weather conditions. If you have any questions, please contact us at: imaginepermacultureworld@gmail.com

Mother Mentors needs volunteers! Oak Harbor families with young children need your help! Volunteer just a couple of hours a week to make a difference in someone's life! To volunteer or get more info, email wamothermentors@gmail.com or call 360-321-1484.

Looking for board members to join the dynamic board of Island Senior Resources and serve the needs of Island County Seniors. Of particular interest are representatives

How'd you do?

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

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Vintage electronic Magic Fiddle. Still in box, plays classical music, \$20. 360-301-1989 (0)

HOUSEWARES

Nice silverware set, \$25. 360-301-1989 (0)

MISCELLANEOUS

For those who love Madame Alexander dolls, I have a precious Jo doll, #413, in perfect condition. Has been in original box since day one, \$75. Please call 360-579-2030 (1)

ANIMALS/SUPPLIES

Excellent grass hay, good for horses, \$7 per bale. 20 bale minimum. 360-321-1624
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If you or someone you know needs help in feeding pet(s), WAIF Pet Food Banks may be able to help. Pet Food Banks are located at WAIF thrift stores in Oak Harbor (465 NE Midway Blvd) and Freeland (1660 Roberta Ave) and are generously stocked by donations from the community. If you need assistance, please stop by.

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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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Answers below

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

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Runners' "Pre-hab," Rehab and Everything in Between at Harada Physical Therapy

Health and wellness paired with quality care, a match that compromises on nothing. This is exactly what you get at Harada Physical Therapy. Every day, the staff of Harada PT works tirelessly to provide all who walk through their doors top tier services in a friendly, welcoming environment. Family owned and operated, this physical therapy office knows exactly how to treat its patients, in every way possible. From listening and understanding the needs of their patients to dispensing nothing but the best care in the most innovative ways, staff members seamlessly integrate their work ethic with their passion for health and wellness.

With the weather becoming cooler and cooler by the day and night arriving earlier and earlier, for the runners among us training for the 5K, it's especially important to consider your wellbeing while training. Harada PT providers offer guidance and advice on how best to run and train safely on uneven terrain, in addition to demonstrating exercises to strengthen the muscles that help us take on our fitness goals. As running is merely a form of alternate single leg stance in a forward motion, it's crucial runners have great strength and endurance in the lateral muscles that keep the hips stable. This in turn will maintain the integrity of a runner's knees and ankles and minimize or prevent injury from occurring. From lateral hip stability to ankle mobility, Harada PT providers know just the right movements and exercises to focus on these areas and ensure we reap the benefits of our fitness endeavors.

Additionally, balance exercises are prioritized in order to achieve fitness goals in the safest way possible. Harada PT thinks of preventative measures as a form of 'Pre-hab' and can help identify potential problem areas before they ever become that – a problem. With its mini-eval and complimentary injury screening, Harada PT offers a 20-minute, one-on-one session with one of their exceptional, second-to-none, highly-trained therapists to help dispense a basic tailored plan, comprised of helpful tips for their goals, which can, in the long-run, become a complete physical therapy program.

With a gait analysis part and parcel of the many services available at their offices, a safe and healthy footfall in the direction of our fitness goals is just a visit away. The extensive education and training and many years of experience and expertise found among the staff at both locations (Oak Harbor and Coupeville) lets you know you're always going to be in the very best, most capable hands in the industry. For more information on Harada Physical Therapy's indispensable services, call them in Oak Harbor at 360-679-8600 or in Coupeville at 360-682-2779 and get your best running gait going!

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