

December 26, 2019 through January 1, 2020

FREE

# Whidbey Weekly

Your Source For "What's Happening" On Whidbey Island

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JANUARY 1

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More Local Events inside

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# Langley's Sea Float Scramble

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Need more info? Go to [langleymainstreet.org](http://langleymainstreet.org)!

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Wishing everyone a  
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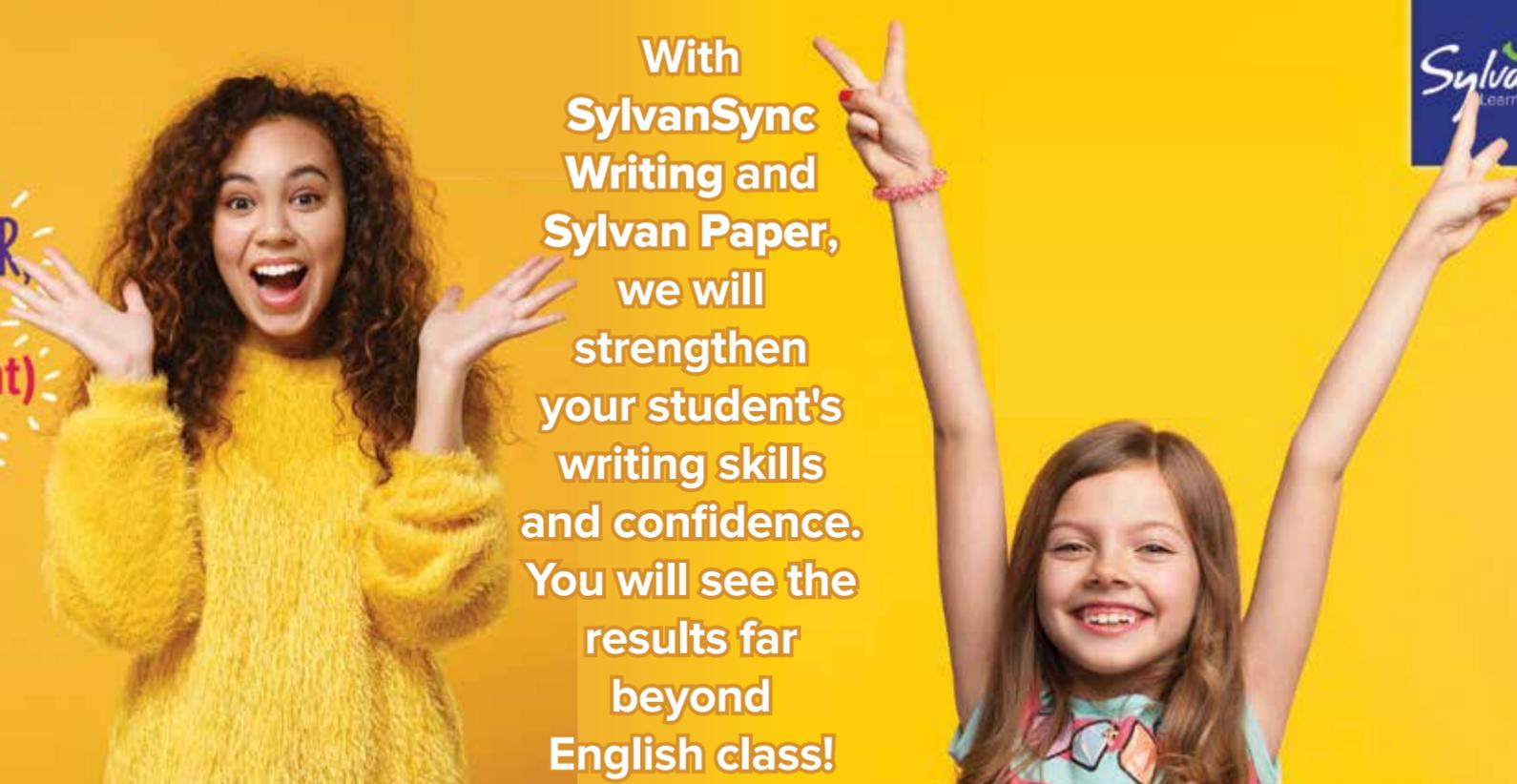


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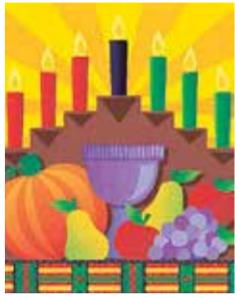


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# ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



Given the holiday spirit, today we shall skip sarcasm and share culture.

It was fascinating to me in researching all of the holidays in December I never really knew what Kwanzaa celebrates.

Thanks to Will Baker and Guy Thomas, the gentlemen from Wales who developed their funny jokes web site many years ago, www.funny-jokes.com/humor/about\_us.htm, we can learn something we may not have known.

"Kwanzaa, is an African-American celebration of cultural reaffirmation, and is one of the fastest-growing holidays in the history of the world.

"Kwanzaa is a week-long secular holiday that celebrates African-American heritage. Each year it is celebrated from December 26th to January 1st. It took root 30 years ago, when graduate student Maulana Karenga, disturbed by the 1965 riots in Los Angeles, Watts area, decided that African-Americans needed an annual event to celebrate their differences rather than the melting pot.

"Kwanzaa celebrates what its founder called the seven principles of Kwanzaa, or Nguzo Saba, the seven principles of blackness, which Karenga said, 'is a communitarian African philosophy,' consisting of what Karenga called 'the best of African thought and practice in constant exchange with the world.'

"Each of the seven days of Kwanzaa is dedicated to one of the following principles, as follows:

**Umoja:** Unity stresses the importance of togetherness for the family and the community, which is reflected in the African saying, "I am We," or "I am because We are."

**Kujichagulia:** Self-Determination requires that we define our common interests and make decisions that are in the best interest of our family and community.

**Ujima:** Collective Work and Responsibility reminds us of our obligation to the past, present and future, and that we have a role to play in the community, society, and world.

**Ujamaa:** Cooperative economics emphasizes our collective economic strength and encourages us to meet common needs through mutual support.

**Nia:** Purpose encourages us to look within ourselves and to set personal goals that are beneficial to the community.

**Kuumba:** Creativity makes use of our creative energies to build and maintain a strong and vibrant community.

**Imani:** Faith focuses on honoring the best of our traditions, draws upon the best in ourselves, and helps us strive for a higher level of life for humankind, by affirming our self-worth and confidence in our ability to succeed and triumph in righteous struggle.

"Families celebrating Kwanzaa decorate their households with objects of art; colorful African cloth such as kente, especially the wearing of kaftans by women; and fresh fruits that represent African idealism. Kente is cloth from Ghana, West Africa.

"It is customary, Will and Guy have been told, to include children in Kwanzaa ceremonies and to give respect and gratitude to ancestors. Libations [drinks] are shared, generally with a common chalice.

"A Kwanzaa ceremony may include drumming and musical selections, libations, a reading of the African Pledge and the Principles of Blackness, reflection on the Pan-African colors, a discussion of the African principle of the day or a chapter in African history, a candle-lighting ritual, artistic performance, and, finally, a feast, karamu, that takes place on December 31st, the sixth day of the Kwanzaa period.

"The greeting for each day of Kwanzaa is *Habari Gani?* which is Swahili for *What's the News?*"

### Joke from Will and Guy

Continuing the current trend of large-scale mergers and acquisitions, it was announced today at a press conference that Christmas and Hanukkah will merge. An industry source told

Will and Guy the deal had been in the works for about 1300 years.

While details were not available at the time of writing, it is believed the overhead cost of having twelve days of Christmas and eight days of Hanukkah was becoming prohibitive for both sides. By combining forces, we're told, the world will be able to enjoy consistently high-quality service during the Fifteen Days of Chrismukah, as the new holiday is being called.

Massive layoffs are expected, with lords a-leaping and maids a-milking being the hardest hit. As part of the conditions of the agreement, the letters on the dreidel currently in Hebrew, will be replaced by Latin, thus becoming completely unintelligible to a wider audience.

Also, instead of translating to "A great miracle happened there," the message on the dreidel will be the more generic "Miraculous stuff happens." In exchange, it is believed Jews will be allowed to use Santa Claus and his vast merchandising resources for buying and delivering their gifts.

One of the sticking points holding up the agreement for at least 300 years was the question of whether Jewish children could leave milk and cookies for Santa even after having eaten meat for dinner. A breakthrough came last year, when Oreos were finally declared to be Kosher. All sides appeared happy about this.

A spokesman for Christmas, Inc., declined to say whether a takeover of Kwanzaa might not be in the works as well. He merely pointed out, were it not for the independent existence of Kwanzaa, the merger between Christmas and Chanukah might indeed be seen as an unfair cornering of the holiday market. Fortunately for all concerned, he said, Kwanzaa will help to maintain the competitive balance. He then closed the press conference by leading all present in a rousing rendition of "Oy Vey, All Ye Faithful."

www.funny-jokes.com/humor/saints/kwanzaa\_jokes.htm

### Visiting

Grandmother Miriam was giving directions to her grandson who was coming to visit with his wife. It was the first time he had visited grandma since she had moved to her new apartment.

"You come to the front door of the condominium complex. I am in apartment 2B," Miriam says. "There is a big panel at the door. With your elbow push button 2B. I will buzz you in. Come inside, the elevator is on the right. Get in, and with your elbow hit 2. When you get out I am on the left. With your elbow, hit my doorbell."

"Grandma, that sounds easy," replies the grandson, "but why am I hitting all these buttons with my elbow?"

Miriam gasps, "You're coming to visit me empty handed?"

### Quote Fun

*Bankruptcy is a legal proceeding in which you put your money in your pants pocket and give your coat to your creditors.*  
~ Sam Goldwyn

*I once wanted to become an atheist but I gave up ... they have no holidays.*  
~ Henny Youngman

*My father never lived to see his dream come true of an all-Yiddish-speaking Canada.*  
~ David Steinberg

*The remarkable thing about my mother is that for 30 years she served us nothing but leftovers. The original meal has never been found.* ~ Calvin Trillin

*Let me tell you the one thing I have against Moses. He took us 40 years into the desert in order to bring us to the one place in the Middle East that has no oil.* ~ Golda Meir

Thanks to the fine folks at Noble Works for sharing their quotes.

www.nobleworkscards.com/funny-hanukah-jokes.html

And, if you made it this far, Happy New Year, 2020.

This one ought to be great. The numbers are easy to see!

To read past columns of *On Track* in the *Whidbey Weekly*, see our Digital Library at [www.whidbeyweekly.com](http://www.whidbeyweekly.com).

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1131 SE ELY STREET | PO BOX 1098 | OAK HARBOR, WASHINGTON 98277

Publisher.....	<b>Eric Marshall</b>	Contributing Writers
Editor .....	<b>Kathy Reed</b>	<b>Jim Freeman</b>
Marketing Representatives.....	<b>Penny Hill, Noah Marshall</b>	<b>Wesley Hallock</b>
Graphic Design .....	<b>Teresa Besaw</b>	<b>Kae Harris</b>
Production Manager .....	<b>TJ Pierzchala</b>	<b>Tracy Loescher</b>
Circulation Manager.....	<b>Noah Marshall</b>	<b>Kathy Reed</b>
		<b>Carey Ross</b>
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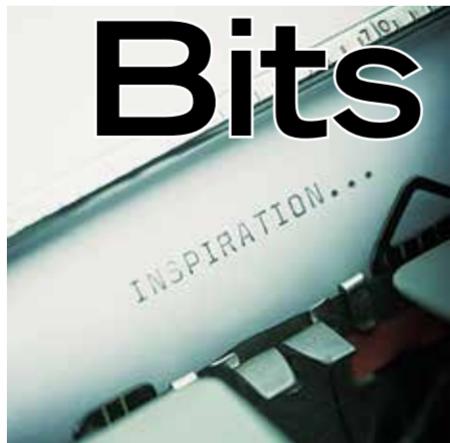
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# Bits & Pieces

## Authorized Veterans to Gain Access to NEX, Commissary and Certain MWR

Starting Jan. 1, authorized veterans and their primary family caregivers will be able to access Navy exchanges, commissaries and certain morale, welfare and recreation retail. Because of the holidays, the NAS Whidbey Island Visitor Control Center (VCC) will be open Jan. 2 and will begin processing eligible veterans that day.

This includes Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war, all veterans with service-connected disabilities and individuals approved and designated as the primary family caregivers of eligible veterans under the Dept. of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. Eligible veterans who want to take advantage of in-person benefits must have a Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC). Primary Family Caregivers must have an eligibility letter from VA's Office of Community Care.

Eligible veterans with installation access will not be able to escort unauthorized personnel aboard any military installation.

Veterans in possession of a VHIC by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be required to enroll their VHIC at their local VCC in the Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) for installation access. The NAS Whidbey Island VCC is located on Langley Blvd. in the parking lot on the right and just before the installation gate.

Veterans who are not eligible for a VHIC will require a letter issued from the VA indicating eligibility for access to DoD installations. Those with a letter from the VA must enroll their Real ID driver's license in DBIDS for installation access. A DBIDS credential will be issued in cases when a Real ID compliant driver's license is not available.

Authorized caregivers are required to obtain a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicating eligibility for access to installations to utilize the commissary, exchange or MWR facility. Upon verification of the letter by the VCC, caregivers will be required to enroll their Real ID driver's license in DBIDS. Those who do not possess a Real ID will be issued a DBIDS credential.

Visit [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic/](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic/) and [www.va.gov/health-care/family-caregiver-benefits/comprehensive-assistance/?fbclid=IwAR23Dt4MiYfDMwXtmYxC9VHYkoiE4cB4wBeCDjw86IA-p-VeSDF5x6HSo](http://www.va.gov/health-care/family-caregiver-benefits/comprehensive-assistance/?fbclid=IwAR23Dt4MiYfDMwXtmYxC9VHYkoiE4cB4wBeCDjw86IA-p-VeSDF5x6HSo) for more information about eligibility, the VHIC or the caregiver program.

[Submitted by Thomas Mills, NAS Whidbey Island]

## Lance Gibbon and Jerry Millhon Join Whidbey Community Foundation's Board of Directors

Whidbey Community Foundation is excited to announce the addition of its two newest board members: Lance Gibbon of Oak Harbor and Jerry Millhon of Langley.

Gibbon is currently in his seventh year as superintendent of Oak Harbor Public Schools. He serves on a number of regional boards and has twice been recognized as the Best of Whidbey Community Leader of the Year. He received his masters and doctorate in Education from Seattle Pacific University. Gibbon is also a long-time professional musician and arts supporter. Oak Harbor has been his home for the last 12 years.

Millhon was formerly the executive director of the Whidbey Institute and served in this posi-

tion until 2015. During that time, he helped launch Thriving Communities, which focuses on filming and gathering people to share the work of common (grassroots) people doing uncommon work for the common good. Millhon graduated from Denison University and received his Master of Arts in Teaching from Antioch Putney-Yellow Springs, Ohio. He has lived on Whidbey since 1994.

Gibbon and Millhon join WCF's Board of Directors who represent north, south, and central Whidbey Island. Formed in 2016, Whidbey Community Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of life on Whidbey Island by providing support for the nonprofit sector, assisting donors to build and preserve enduring assets for charitable purposes, and meeting community needs through financial awards.

For more information, please visit [www.whidbeyfoundation.org](http://www.whidbeyfoundation.org) or email [info@whidbeyfoundation.org](mailto:info@whidbeyfoundation.org).

[Submitted by Jessie Gunn, Whidbey Community Foundation]

## Extraordinary \$10 Million Bequest Will Benefit Students at Seventeen Western Washington Community Colleges

Eva Gordon was a hard-working woman who was ahead of her time. Having lived a long and happy life she had few regrets, save one: not having a formal education herself.

"If I had a scholarship when I got out of high school, I could have done so much more," Gordon said in a 2013 profile by South Seattle College.

Thanks to a generous gift of nearly \$10 million from the Eva Gordon Estate, the students at 17 Washington community and technical colleges will have the opportunity to fulfill their dreams. The gift is one of the largest to community and technical colleges in Washington State, with each college foundation receiving approximately \$550,000.

Gordon, who passed away in June, 2018 at the age of 101, grew up on an orchard in Eugene, Ore. and graduated at the top of her high school class. Little by little she invested money from meager paychecks to build a fortune and give back to others. During this time, Gordon loved seeing college students work hard and improve their lives, wishing she could have been a student herself if money hadn't been so tight in her younger years.

"A lot of people didn't know the wealth she had. If there was a coupon for two-for-one at Applebee's, she was all about that," said John Jacobs, her godson and estate representative. "She liked seeing students working, earning and doing things. Her goal was to provide an opportunity for those folks who could ill-afford it, whether vocational training or an academic skill."

"We are grateful to Eva Gordon for her generous bequest and her vision of providing opportunities for people who would otherwise not have access to an education," said Dr. Tom Keegan, President of Skagit Valley College. "Her gift to SVC reflects our core theme of equity in access and removing barriers to student success. It will help increase access to higher education through SVC Foundation programs such as student scholarships, emergency funding, and childcare support."

After graduating from high school, Eva Gordon went to work as a legal secretary and later for a Seattle investment firm. She married her husband, Ed Gordon, in 1964 and together they shared a common dedication to higher education.

Ed Gordon, who passed away in 2008, was able to go to college thanks to the encouragement and support of his aunt. After graduating from college, he became a Navy pilot and flew patrol bombers during World War II and the Korean War – an opportunity he credited to his college degree. After serving his country, Ed settled in Seattle where he met Eva. Ed worked as a stock broker and together, they taught courses at the McNeil Correc-

tions Center. Ed would deliver curriculum on business practices, while Eva led the group in warm-up exercises.

With jobs, family responsibilities and a median age of 26, Washington's community and technical college students are often one step away from having to quit college to pay the bills. The recipient college foundations will be able to help students pay for books, fees, supplies, technology needs, housing, transportation, food, child care and unexpected financial emergencies that could otherwise stand in the way of their success. Each college foundation will work with its board and school administrators to decide how funds are allocated to maximize opportunities for students.

"Eva had a tremendous heart and liked to throw a rope to help people climb," remembers John Jacobs.

The college foundations below are receiving donations from the Eva Gordon estate. During their lives, Eva and John Gordon often made generous contributions to South Seattle College as well.

Bates Technical College, Cascadia College, Clover Park Technical College, Edmonds Community College, Everett Community College, Grays Harbor College, Green River Community College, Highline Community College, Lake Washington Institute of Technology, North Seattle College, Pierce College Foundation, Renton Technical College, Seattle Central College, Shoreline Community College, Skagit Valley College, South Puget Sound Community College, Tacoma Community College.

[Submitted by Arden Ainley, Skagit Valley College]

## A New Preserve is Born on Whidbey's Southern Shores



As you step from the forested hillside onto the beach, you immediately become aware of how isolated it seems. All you hear is the quiet lapping of waves. All you see in either direction is a long expanse of beach, backed by feeder bluffs topped with mature evergreen trees. On a clear day, you can see Mount Baker in the distance.

"A walk along that shoreline is like a walk back in time," Dan Matlock said. It's the sort of place where an afternoon stroll on the beach offers solace and peace.

The 54-acre Possession Sound Preserve is the Whidbey Camano Land Trust's newest nature preserve. South of Clinton on Whidbey Island, it has more than a half mile of beach previously off limits to the public. Matlock, a retired biology professor and Land Trust board member, has visited the property many times. He joins a long list of people wowed by its natural beauty and vital role in the ecology of the Salish Sea.

"Among its features that are especially valuable are the natural, untouched half-mile stretch of classic Puget Sound feeder bluff and beach with its natural drift cell sediment transport," Matlock explained. "This is especially important for forage fish spawning."

Forage fish, including Pacific herring, smelt and sand lance, are critical food sources for salmon, which migrate along the preserve's shoreline while traveling to and from the Skagit, Stillaguamish, and Snohomish rivers. Salmon are the key food source for the region's beloved orca whales. Adding even more benefit to the marine ecosystem, eelgrass beds line the preserve's 2,820 feet of shoreline. Two seasonal streams meander through the mature upland forest and down into Possession Sound.

Permanent protection of the property also will

**BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

# Year-end – Time for Some New Year's Financial Resolutions

Have you thought about your New Year's resolutions for 2020? When many of us make these promises, we focus on ways we can improve some form of our health. We vow to get more physically healthy by going to the gym, or we promise to improve our mental health by learning a new language or instrument. But it's also important to think about our financial health – so it's a good idea to develop some appropriate resolutions for this area, too.

What kinds of financial resolutions might you make? Here are a few suggestions:

**Increase your retirement plan contributions.** One of the best financial moves you can make is to take full advantage of your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you contribute pre-tax dollars to your plan, the more you put in, the lower your taxable income will be for the year, and your earnings can grow on a tax-deferred basis. So, if your salary goes up in 2020, increase the amount you put into to your plan. Most people don't come close to reaching the annual contribution limit, which, in 2019, was \$19,000, or \$25,000 for those 50 or older. You might not reach these levels, either, but it's certainly worthwhile to invest as much as you can possibly afford.

**Use "found" money wisely.** During the course of the next year, you may well receive some money outside your normal paychecks, such as a bonus or a tax refund. It can be tempting to spend this money, but you may help yourself in the long run by investing it. You could use it to help fund your IRA for the year or to fill a gap in another investment account.

**Don't overreact to market downturns.** You've probably heard stories about people who lamented not getting in "on the ground floor" of what is now a mega-company. But a far more common investment mistake is overreacting to temporary market downturns by selling investments at the wrong time (when their prices are down) and staying out of the market until things calm down (and possibly missing the next rally). The financial markets always fluctuate, but if you can resolve to stay invested and follow a consistent, long-term strategy, you can avoid making some costly errors.

**Be financially prepared for the unexpected.** Even if you're diligent about saving and investing for your long-term goals, you can encounter obstacles along the way. And one of these roadblocks could come in the form of large, unexpected expenses, such as the sudden need for a new car or some costly medical bills. If you aren't prepared for these costs, you might have to dip in to your long-term investments to pay for them. To prevent this from happening, you may want to keep sufficient cash, or cash equivalents, in your investment accounts. Or you might want to maintain a completely separate account as an emergency fund, with the money kept in low-risk, liquid vehicles. If possible, try to maintain at least six months' worth of living expenses in this account. It will take some effort but following these resolutions could help you move closer to your financial goals in 2020 – and beyond.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.*



**Jeffery C. Pleet,**  
CLU®, ChFC®  
Financial Advisor

630 SE Midway Blvd.  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277  
(360) 679-2558  
[jeffery.pleet@edwardjones.com](mailto:jeffery.pleet@edwardjones.com)

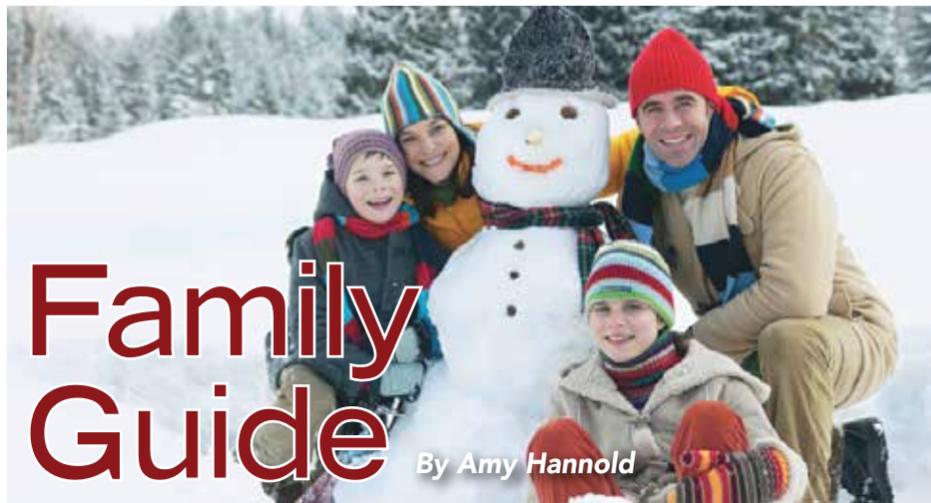
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# Family Guide

By Amy Hannold

**Take a Hike on New Year's Day:** January 1 is a Washington State Parks Free Day, with no Discover Pass required. There are First Day Hikes scheduled at Fort Casey State Park. The 1 p.m. hike will be easy, flat, ADA accessible and suitable for families with walking age children or babies in strollers/carrier backpacks. The 3:30 p.m. hike will explore the forts. The terrain is moderate and will vary throughout the one-mile hike for ages 8 and older, but is not ADA accessible. For both hikes, weather-appropriate clothing, water bottle, hiking shoes and a flashlight are suggested. Refreshments will be served. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Jan. 20, is also a Free Parks Day. For a list of 2020 Free Days and a calendar of upcoming park events, go to parks.wa.gov.

**Dive into 2020!** Whidbey's Polar Bear Dive, a tradition since 2004, joins together a fun-loving crowd at Double Bluff Beach in Freeland New Year's Day, for a bone-chilling splash into 2020. Pre-register online to reserve a T-shirt, or register in person beginning at 10:30 a.m. The plunge takes place at noon. Warm beverages are served afterwards. The fee is \$15 per person, proceeds benefit local youth programs. swparks.org/event/polar-bear-dive

**Scramble for Your Sea Float:** Langley hosts the annual Sea Float Scramble, Saturday, Jan. 4, at 11 a.m. Sponsored by Langley Main Street

and Callahan's Firehouse, this free event features one-of-a-kind floats created by glass artist Callahan McVay, hidden in plain sight for guests to find. A second Sea Float Scramble location for youngsters 5 and under, as well as those with disabilities who need easier access, is at Langley Park at 2nd and Anthes Avenues. langleymainstreet.org

**Teen Art Show:** Teens in grades 5 through 12 are invited to enter their artwork in the Oak Harbor Teen Art Show. All media welcome, students can enter one item per medium. Matted and/or framed artwork is suggested, but not required. Bring your art to the library Jan. 14 or 15, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. The opening reception, open to the public, with catering by the OHHS Wildcat Catering, is Jan. 16, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Art will be on display Jan. 17 to Jan. 19, noon to 5 p.m. The public is invited to vote for their favorite artwork. 360-675-5115

**Crowning Achievements:** The Oak Harbor High School Treble Choir and Harbor Singers unite with Saratoga Orchestra for a concert featuring pieces celebrating the power of music and triumph of the human spirit. Featured composers include Handel, Beethoven, Mozart, Vivaldi and more. The concerts are Saturday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m. at Whidbey Island Center for the Arts in Langley and Sunday, Jan. 26, 2:30 p.m. at Oak Harbor High School. Ticket info: sowhidbey.com

**Run Whidbey's Marathon:** The Whidbey Island Marathon, April 19, features a marathon, half-marathon, 10K and 5K course, and a 1K Kids Run. Register by Dec. 31 to receive early registration discount. runWhidbey.com

**Whidbey Has Talent:** Audition applications are due Feb. 2 for this celebration of Whidbey Island's talented youth in grades K-12. The public is invited to attend the show at Whidbey Playhouse April 5, to cheer on the performers. Audition information and last year's highlights at WhidbeyHasTalent.com.

**Become a Magician!** Youth ages 8 to 12 are invited to join professional magician JR Russell to discover magic through an innovative national education program designed to teach kids key life skills such as communication, self-discipline, and confidence while they're learning to perform magic. Visit DiscoverMagic.com for more info, swparks.org to register for the February/March classes.

**Let's Play Ball:** It's time to think about spring basketball, baseball and soccer season. Registration for your sport may be in progress, so check with your local league and look forward to joining the team. If you'd like to make a difference in the lives of young athletes, local sports organizations are always looking for coaches and other volunteers.

**"STARS" for Childhood Educators, Parents and Caregivers:** A free class (designed for ongoing professional development), is also open to parents and caregivers of young children. Registration is required. This adults-only program, "Discovering Math Through Play," Thursday, Feb. 13, 6 to 8 p.m., at the Oak Harbor Library, will explore ways to make math interactive and playful to help prepare children to enter kindergarten math-ready. Register online and find more information at sno-isle.org/kids/stars.

**Dance with Your Daughter:** It's South Whidbey's social event of the year, the "Dad & Daughter Dance," hosted by South Whidbey Parks and Recreation. Tickets, while they last, are available for the March 7 evening of music and memories at swparks.org.

**Open House for Railroad Fans:** The Whatcom-Skagit Model Railroad Club in Alger

creates, operates, and maintains a public model railroad display evocative of the historical relationship of railroads in the development of the Pacific Northwest. Admission is by donation to help continue building the layouts. Open house events are the second Saturday of the month, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. whatcomskagitmrc.org

**Fun Exploration with the Family:** When it's cold outside, take a short drive and learn something new! Parents will love the educational aspects of local museums, while their kids enjoy learning about history, science, and more. Local museums of note include: Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum (Everett), Imagine Children's Museum (Everett), Skagit Children's Museum (Burlington), Heritage Flight Museum (Burlington), Spark Museum of Electrical Invention (Bellingham), PBY-Naval Air Museum (Oak Harbor), and the Island County Historical Museum (Coupeville).

**Breazeale Interpretive Center at Padilla Bay:** For outdoor enthusiasts, tour the Breazeale Interpretive Center at Padilla Bay, located in Mount Vernon. The Breazeale Interpretive Center's exhibits and fish tanks are open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. - closed on official state holidays. The Padilla Bay Interpretive Center trails and parking lot are always open and free of charge. The trails and overlook site give you the opportunity to see eagles, herons, ducks, and other birds that live here year-round or pass through on their migratory paths. facebook.com/PadillaBayReserve or 360-428-1558

**To get the kids moving,** check out Jungle Playland (Mount Vernon), Snohomish Aquatic Center, Trampoline Zone (Bellingham), Altitude Trampoline Park (Marysville), Lynnwood Ice Center, Oak Bowl (Oak Harbor), Nerfed (Oak Harbor), the Oak Harbor Pool, The Backyard (Langley) and the Bellingham Sportsplex (ice skating).

**Get connected, make memories:** Don't miss Whidbey's best events and activities in 2020. At WhidbeyIsland.MacaroniKid.com, you'll find an island-wide calendar to fill your new year with all sorts of fun.

# Need New Flooring?

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



# 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

Friday, December 27, 3:00-6:00PM  
Island Herb, Freeland

Representatives from Sticky Budz 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](http://whidbeyislandherb.com). Marijuana has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming. Keep out of the reach of children.

## Live Music: Jeremy Abbott

Saturday, December 28, 7:30-9:30PM  
Penn Cove Taproom, Coupeville

Jeremy Abbott Music (JAM) is a one man project, influenced by many genres but primarily reggae, rock and electronic. JAM began playing and recording several instruments and launched his first projects on the internet in 2017 and later released the EP "Launch" in 2018. Followed up by "Upward," which deepens the experimental fusion styles and vocals. No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit [www.penncovebrewing.com](http://www.penncovebrewing.com).

## New Year's Eve Fireworks

Tuesday, December 31, 9:00PM  
Oak Harbor Bay

Spectacular fireworks show presented by the Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 360-675-3755.

## Polar Bear Dive

Wednesday, January 1, 12:00PM  
Double Bluff Beach, Freeland

Start the new year off with a splash! Join a fun-loving crowd for a bone chilling dive into 2020. WHY?! It's fun. Seriously! Plus it benefits local youth programs. A New Year's tradition since 2004. Swim at your own risk; no lifeguard on duty. Registration opens at 10:30AM; dive at noon. \$15 registration fee includes shirt (while supplies last - register in advance by noon Dec. 31 at <http://swparks.org>), hot drinks, and festive atmosphere. Double Bluff Beach is located at 6325 Double Bluff Rd.

## First Day Hike: ADA Interpretive Trail

Wednesday, January 1, 1:00-2:00PM  
Fort Casey, 1280 Engle Rd, Coupeville

This one mile hike will be led by well-versed volunteer, Isaac, who will guide participants through the history of Fort Casey along our interpretive trail. During this hike, visitors will explore portions of the fort that are usually closed. Stay for refreshments after.

Difficulty: Easy. Flat, gravel ADA accessible interpretive trail/one mile. For walking age or in stroller/ carrier backpack. Please wear weather appropriate clothing, hiking shoes and bring water and a flashlight. Meet in right corner of the fort parking lot. 1280 Engle Rd, Coupeville. Discover Pass is not required. For more information, contact 360-678-4519; for day-of weather cancellations, contact 360-544-2457.

## First Day Hike: Explore the Fort!

Wednesday, January 1, 3:30-4:30PM  
Fort Casey, 1280 Engle Rd, Coupeville

Have you ever wondered about the wandering dark rooms of Fort Casey? Join Isaac, a well-versed volunteer, who will guide participants to explore the masterpieces making Fort Casey historic. This hike will traverse up, down and all throughout the fort and its many dark rooms. Stay for refreshments after.

Difficulty: Moderate. Terrain and elevation will

vary throughout the One mile hike. For ages 8+; children accompanied by an adult. Not ADA/ stroller accessible. Please wear weather-appropriate clothing, hiking shoes and bring water and a flashlight. Meet in right corner of the fort parking lot. Discover Pass is not required. For more information, contact 360-678-4519; for day-of weather cancellations, contact 360-544-2457.

## Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below  
Cost: Free

### Made By Hand: Action Art

Saturday, December 28, 10:00AM-12:00PM  
Freeland Library

Spin, swing, drive and shake your creativity as we play with art. Messy fun for all ages as long as you are young at HeART.

### LEGO® In the Library with "The Lego Movie 2"

Saturday, December 28, 1:00-3:00PM  
Coupeville Library

Build your best with LEGO® by yourself or with a building buddy while we watch "The Lego Movie 2." For ages 5 and up.

### Wii Gameplay for Kids

Monday, December 30, 1:00-2:30PM  
Coupeville Library

Enjoy winter break with a play day. Wii game play for ages 6-12, under 10 with an adult. Choose from games like Super Mario, Pokemon Battle Revolution and Angry Birds Star Wars, or card and board games. Play alone or bring a friend.

### Cardboard Kingdom

Monday, December 30, 1:00-4:00PM  
Freeland Library

Dream up and construct using cardboard, tape and our Makedo toolkit. Create forts, cars or games. For ages 6-12.

### Rockin,' Toddlin' Noon Year's Eve Party

Tuesday, December 31, 11:30AM  
Freeland Library

Dance, shake and wiggle in the New Year. We will spin some of your favorite kid tunes and make some noise (and noisemakers) as we count down to 12. For younger kids and their families.

### Snowing Ice Cream with The Harmonica Pocket

Thursday, January 2, 1:00PM  
Freeland Library

Put on a cozy hat and celebrate the magic of winter with books, ukuleles and silly-sweet seasonal songs about snowmen, warm woolen mittens, and ice cream falling from the sky. Families with kids are invited to learn finger plays, sing-alongs, and to wiggle and giggle with catchy tunes about snowmen, warm woolen mittens, and ice cream falling from the sky! Sing, laugh, read.

### Get-Well Cards for Hospitalized Kids

Thursday, January 2, 2:00-3:30PM  
Coupeville Library

Drop in and make a card for kids who are in a hospital. Library staff will mail them after the program. The program starts with a short video with guidelines and suggestions to spur creativity. Materials will be provided. No registration is necessary. For ages 6 and up.

## 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 29 - Guest Speaker: Dr. Tom McAnally. Services are followed by a light lunch. You are invited to join us for lunch and loving fellowship.

### Prayer Group

Every Tuesday, 4:00-5:30PM

St. Hubert Catholic Church, Langley

Charismatic Prayer and Praise group. Everyone welcome. For more information, call B. Moore at 360-320-0937.

### Filipino Christian Fellowship

Sundays, 2:00PM

Meets at Church on the Rock,  
1780 SE 4th Ave., Oak Harbor.  
[www.ohcfellowship.com](http://www.ohcfellowship.com)

### Healing Rooms

Every Thursday, 6:30-8:30PM

5200 Honeymoon Bay Road, Freeland

The Healing Rooms are open to anyone desiring personal prayer for physical, emotional, or spiritual needs. There is a team of Christians from several local churches that are dedicated to praying for healing the sick in our community. All ministry is private, confidential, and free. Teams are available to pray for individuals who drop by on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information, contact Ann at 425-263-2704, email [healingwhidbey.com](mailto:healingwhidbey.com), or visit the International Association of Healing Rooms at [healingrooms.com](http://healingrooms.com).

### Concordia Lutheran Church

Sunday service, 9:30AM

Bible Study & Sunday School, 10:45AM  
590 N. Oak Harbor Street

For more information, visit [www.concordiaoakharbor.org](http://www.concordiaoakharbor.org) or call 360-675-2548.

### Teaching Through God's Word

Sundays, 9:00 & 11:00AM

Calvary Chapel, 3821 French Road, Clinton

For more information, visit [ccwhidbey.com](http://ccwhidbey.com).

### Unitarian Universalist Sunday Service

Sundays, 10:00AM

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Freeland

All are welcome. Values-based children's religious exploration classes and childcare will be provided. Visit [www.uucwi.org](http://www.uucwi.org) for more information. The Unitarian Universalist Congregation building is located at 20103 Highway 525, two miles north of Freeland.

### Unity of Whidbey

Sundays, 10:00AM

5671 Crawford Road, Langley

If you're one of the "spiritual but not religious" people who questions your childhood faith or is looking for something more, Unity of Whidbey may feel like a homecoming. Visit their website: [unityofwhidbey.org](http://unityofwhidbey.org).

### Whidbey Quakers

Sundays, 4:00-5:00PM

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Freeland

Whidbey Islands Friends Meeting (also known as Quakers) meet in silent worship and community, with occasional spoken messages, every Sunday at the Unitarian Universalist building. For more information, contact Tom Ewell at [tewell@whidbey.com](mailto:tewell@whidbey.com) or go to [www.whidbeyquakers.org](http://www.whidbeyquakers.org).

### First Church of Christ, Scientist

Worship, 10:00AM

Sunday School to age 20, 10:00AM

Wednesday Testimony Meeting, 2:30PM

Christian Science Reading Room

Tuesday & Friday, 11:00AM-3:00PM

The church and Reading Room are located at 721 SW 20th Court at Scenic Heights Street, Oak Harbor. Call 360-675-0621 or visit [christianscience.com](http://christianscience.com).

Services and Sunday School are also held at 10:30AM on South Whidbey at 15910 Highway 525, just north of Bayview and across from Useless Bay Road; testimony meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.

## Galleries & Art Shows

### 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 now is 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.

### New Art Exhibit: Organic Inspiration

Exhibit continues through December

UUCWI Gallery, 20103 SR 525, Freeland

The artistic works of local artists and sisters Siri and Berit Bardarson will be featured at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island's foyer art gallery.

Artist Siri Bardarson is a Seattle native whose creative background is that of a cellist. In recent years, inspired by a trip to Central Europe, she began to capture what she saw in quick gestural drawings and sketches on her iPad or phone using the application Paper53. Since then, her work has appeared in a variety of local venues and events. Berit Bardarson is a Pacific Northwest jewelry artist whose designs are inspired by the colors and organic shapes found in nature. She works with traditional materials to create pieces with a unique and sophisticated aesthetic.

### Featured Artist: David Sharpe

Meet the Artist: Tuesday, January 7,  
10:00AM-5:00PM

Penn Cove Gallery, Coupeville

Photographer David Sharpe will be at Penn Cove Gallery with some of his photographic equipment. David is known primarily for his landscape and scenic work, but is constantly exploring new goals and new styles including surrealism and whimsical scenes by blending elements of images into a new reality.

## Meetings & Organizations

### Grief Support Group

Starts January 12, 3:00-5:00PM

Church of the Nazarene, Oak Harbor

Weekly support group offering help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. Registration is \$20 and can be completed online at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) or by calling 360-675-0705.

### Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting

Every Monday, 7:00-8:00PM

Carole's Barbershop, Freeland

A meeting dedicated to dealing with the problem and solution for recovering from the effects of growing up in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional family. For more information, contact Clayton at 360-989-4248 or visit [www.adultchildren.org](http://www.adultchildren.org).

### Al-Anon

Every Wednesday, 9:30-10:30AM

432 2nd St., Langley

If a friend or relative has a problem with alcohol, you can find solutions for yourself at Al-anon.

### Al-Anon Group

Oak Harbor

Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon group can help. Call Laurie at 360-675-4430 for meeting information.

### Alcoholics Anonymous

Every Day, 12:00 & 8:00PM

432 2nd Street, Langley

For more information, call 360-221-2070.

For a list of continuous Meetings and Organizations, visit [www.whidbeyweekly.com](http://www.whidbeyweekly.com)





## **COLD FOR A CAUSE:**

# Annual dive raises funds for local 4-H

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

Head to Double Bluff Beach in Freeland at high noon on New Year's Day to take part in tradition – taking a plunge into cold water on the first day of the year. In addition to starting off the year strong with a dash into the Puget Sound, the funds raised by the Polar Bear Dive support Island County 4-H programs and the youth who participate in the club. The event is \$15, and participants can register in advance until Dec. 31 at [swparks.org/event/polar-bear-dive/](http://swparks.org/event/polar-bear-dive/), or at the event starting at 10:30 a.m. Jan. 1.

Jon Gabelein, the event's organizer, said the event has become a community favorite.

"It is a great way to kick off the year, make a splash, however you want to say it, but it is a great way to start the year off in a memorable, fun way," he said. "It is also a great opportunity for a community event."

According to Gabelein, the water is typically around 52 degrees Fahrenheit – often warmer than the air outside in January.

"It is a great opportunity to challenge yourself and step outside your comfort zone," he said.

Gabelein, who heads up the Teen Leadership Island County 4-H Club, said the funds raised support youth activities, from beach cleanups to attending conferences across the state.

"On an island, I think a lot of people think there should always be more for our youth to do to keep them busy; doing positive things and the 4-H program itself does that," he said. "It provides fun, active opportunities to build life skills - leadership, public speaking, record-keeping, whether it be for an animal or any kind of project you wanted to do."

Gabelein said the group also hopes to look beyond Whidbey Island for future service.

"We would like to do more beyond the island projects, too," he said. "We would like to be more global this year than we have ever done."

Gabelein said he feels it is important for younger generations to experience volunteering and learn more about the community around them.

"These opportunities to do service projects really open up their (4-H members) eyes about how fortunate they are and how they can contribute to other people's lives so other people have more to be thankful for," he said. "I think it also encourages them to do more as they grow older as an adult too, to find opportunities for service, not just do their job, but to get out and volunteer in the community, whether it be for events for other people or a drive. I think it just sets them up for a life of service at a young age."



David Welton Photo Courtesy of South Whidbey Parks and Recreation

*The Polar Bear Dive, held noon on New Year's Day at Double Bluff Beach in Freeland, draws a crowd of spectators and swimmers each year to raise funds for local youth programs. Similar New Year's Day plunges are popular in places across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.*

Samantha Ollis, a senior at South Whidbey High School, said this will be her sixth year volunteering at the Polar Bear Dive, and she always looks forward to helping at the event. She helps with the fundraiser by calling various community sponsors and by assisting on the day of the event.

"I like seeing the whole community come out and support not only Island County 4-H but seeing all the other sponsors that help us," she said. "I think that is my favorite part, and seeing where everyone else comes from, because we get a lot of people not just from the island who come."

Ollis has been an active member of 4-H for nine years and said the group has allowed her to help others while developing life skills.

"I have definitely learned a lot from 4-H," she said. "I think the biggest one that I am definitely going to take away is not just the leadership skills that I have gained but the public speaking. When I first joined I was really shy and really quiet and now I am totally comfortable talking in front of groups and talking in front of judges or anything of that nature."

Ollis, who shows cattle and swine, said she enjoys having the opportunity to assist her fellow 4-H members.

"I really like helping other 4-H'ers," she said. "I think that is one of my favorite parts about being an older 4-H'er."

Ollis has also attended the Know Your Government (KYG) conference in Olympia and will be helping put the event on as conference facilitator this year.

"We really talk about how we can influence our government, so that is pretty cool," she said. "It just makes you more aware of how everything runs, which is fun. It gives you an opportunity to meet new kids around the state."

Ollis said the Polar Bear Dive and similar service projects are a way for the youth of Island County to take an active role in the community.

"I think it (the dive) is just a good way for the whole community to start the new year," she said. "It also shows the community how involved some of the youth want to be in the community and outside of our community."



Photo Courtesy of South Whidbey Parks and Recreation

*More often than not the water temperature is warmer than the air temperature at the annual Polar Bear Dive, which will be held at noon Jan. 1 at Double Bluff Beach in Freeland.*

## **Rocky Point plunge:**

**Wednesday, Jan. 1 • 10:15 a.m.**

Rocky Point Recreation Area

NAS Whidbey Island's MWR invites those interested to participate in the 2020 Polar Bear Plunge at 10 a.m. New Year's Day at Rocky Point Recreation Area in Oak Harbor.

The event is free for all those with military ID/escort. There will be free s'mores and drinks and the first 125 people at the event will get a free blanket.

The group plunge will take place at 10:15 a.m. Jan. 1. Deadline to register is Friday at the NASWI Fitness Center or with myFFR#610226. Same day registration is allowed, but those interested should arrive 30 minutes early to sign up.

Rocky Point Recreation Area is located on the West Beach bluff off of Cowpens Rd., west of the Gallery Golf Course, in Oak Harbor.



**BITS 'N' PIECES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**

safeguard the stability of the steep and actively eroding 180-foot bluff. The former owner of the property worked for more than 40 years to develop the property for homes, completing a rather precarious road to the beach. Now that same road will be used as a trail so the public can gain access.

"There are so few opportunities to protect long stretches of undeveloped shoreline like this," said Ryan Elting, Land Trust conservation director. "When you also consider the public access component, it's a complete winner for people, fish and wildlife."

The preserve won't be open for public use until safety issues and visitor improvements can be made. When it does open, the Whidbey Audubon Society is eager to make bird inventories.

"I think people will love to have a public access point there," said Sharon Gauthier, Whidbey Audubon Society president. "Right there, you can see a lot of the seabirds that come in. It will be a convenient spot for a lot of people to observe birds. It's going to be a very exciting place."

Restoration projects will soon be underway. The Land Trust is partnering with the Washington Department of Natural Resources to remove toxic creosote pilings from the property. The Land Trust also will be working with community volunteers to prepare the property for public access.

In a partnership with Island County, the Land Trust secured nearly \$2.1 million from four funding grants to secure the property. A salmon recovery grant and an aquatic lands enhancement grant were received from the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office. Also received was a \$1 million national coastal wetlands grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Washington State Department of Ecology. A fourth grant was from the Island County Conservation Futures Fund.

The preserve won't be open for public use until needed visitor improvements and safety issues are completed. Timing depends on the Land Trust's ability to secure adequate funding. This will include securing grants and/or privately raised funds in 2020 so a parking lot can be constructed before the rainy season. Meanwhile, site clean-up, fencing, signs, and safety measures are on the agenda before the opening date.

Once these improvements are made, the trail to the long stretch of beach will provide permanent public access in an underserved area of Whidbey Island. Birding, beachcombing, kayaking, fishing, nature viewing and other low-impact recreation will be allowed at the preserve.

Dan Weber of Clinton is grateful the shoreline preserve is protected. He and his wife, Laurie Carron, live near the property and have walked that stretch of beach frequently over the years.

"You can't get that feeling of kind of being the last man on earth anywhere," he said.

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust is a nonprofit nature conservation organization that actively involves the community in protecting, restor-

ing, and appreciating the important natural habitats and resource lands that support the diversity of life on our islands and in the waters of Puget Sound. For more information, visit [www.wclt.org](http://www.wclt.org), email [info@wclt.org](mailto:info@wclt.org), or call 360-222-3310.

[Submitted by Ron Newberry, Communications Manager, WCLT]

**Whidbey Island Conservation District Elections 2020**

The Whidbey Island Conservation District (WICD) will hold its annual Board of Supervisors election from 2:00 to 6:00PM Feb. 4, 2020. Elections will be held in the WICD office at 1 NE 4th Street in Coupeville. To vote, one must be a registered voter in Island County and reside on Whidbey Island. Voters unable to vote in-person may request a mail-in ballot by contacting WICD at 888-678-4922 or by e-mail at [sandy@whidbeycd.org](mailto:sandy@whidbeycd.org). The deadline to request a mail-in ballot is Jan. 14, 2020. Mail-in ballots must be printed out, completed, and returned in hard copy to WICD by mail or hand delivery no later than 6:00PM Feb. 4, 2020.

The WICD Board of Supervisors consists of five volunteer members, three are elected by local voters and two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC), each serving a three-year term without compensation. District Supervisors identify local conservation needs and priorities, oversee District financial operations, set District policies, and guide District services to protect soil, water, wildlife, and other natural resources. The Board of Supervisors generally meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 9:00AM to 12:00PM at the WICD office in Coupeville.

The terms of two WICD supervisors, one elected and one appointed, are due to expire in 2020. The elected incumbent, Anza Muenchow, is planning to run for re-election. The appointed position will be vacated as the incumbent is not seeking re-appointment. Both positions have three-year terms beginning in May, 2020. Any registered Island County voter who resides on Whidbey Island and is also a landowner or farm operator is eligible to run for the elected position and/or apply for the appointed position.

To run for the upcoming elected position and have their name printed on the ballot, individuals must file a Candidate Information Form along with a nominating petition signed by 25 or more Island County registered voters (residing on Whidbey) to WICD by Jan. 7, 2020. Forms can be mailed to WICD at P.O. Box 490, Coupeville, WA 98239, or dropped by the WICD office at 1 NE 4th Street, Coupeville.

To be considered for the appointed position, candidates must submit an application form to the Washington State Conservation Commission by March 31, 2020.

For more information on how to apply for an open supervisor position and to obtain candidate application forms, please contact the WICD at 888-678-4922 or visit the WICD website at [www.whidbeycd.org](http://www.whidbeycd.org).

[Submitted by Sandy Welch, Whidbey Island Conservation District]



**SUNDAY, DEC. 1**

**12:44 pm, Stellar Ln.**

Reporting party advising of vehicle parked in middle of road blocking traffic, refusing to move. Caller does not have address on Stellar Ln., states right in middle of road.

**4:54 pm, Heller Rd.**

Advising male subject in area acting strange; camouflage navy pants, came out of woods; showing gymnastic videos.

**7:44 pm, Heller Rd.**

Caller advising her dogs started barking, looked outside and saw male who looked like he wasn't wearing clothes; saw male sitting on porch rocking back and forth.

**8:48 pm, Northgate Dr.**

Reporting party advising subjects in white car are passed out or dead; caller refused information.

**MONDAY, DEC. 2**

**4:28 pm, SE 8th Ave.**

Advising fiance's mother was asked to leave and is refusing; female now outside but is tipping over trash cans and trying to get in.

**8:53 am, Goss Lake Rd.**

Caller states neighbor is coming onto her property at night; already has Island County Sheriff's Office doing extra patrols; wants patrol to be aware she will be putting up cameras because of trespassing, to monitor situation.

**1:44 pm, W Sleeper Rd.**

Reporting party states received mail in the mail from his cousin; states cousin is "a loose cannon" sending gross pornographic pictures to reporting party's work. Brother lives in Seattle.

**5:08 pm, Heller Rd.**

Male subject approached reporting party's son, opened door for male; male wandered away and then began loitering around reporting party's vehicle. Smoked marijuana, staggered into woods. Same male subject came from woods yesterday. Male appeared as though transient. Approached reporting party's son and her boyfriend and badgered them.

**10:33 pm, 6th St.**

Advising verbally abusive female has locked reporting party out of his house; states female has been verbally abusive, harassing him since this afternoon.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 3**

**6:58 am, NE Goldie St.**

Caller advising elderly male subject was parked in middle of road. Caller asked if subject was okay, subject stated he was waiting for someone, pulled into Enterprise place and ran into a parked car.

**8:53 am, East Harbor Rd.**

Advising female dropped off set of keys at precinct; reporting party now has them in office. Went to get form for female to fill out and female stated she needed to get her glasses, but instead just left.

**10:04 am, Smuggler's Cove Rd.**

Reporting party advising has allowed workers to live on her property in return for work done, but now persons are no longer doing work for reporting party. Wondering how to get them evicted from property. How long do they legally have?

**10:35 am, SR 525**

Caller advising subject who was living on his property was burning trash and dumping gray water; caller was contacted by county about the situation and is wondering if he can block access to property so subject can't continue residing there.

**2:05 pm, Orchard Lp.**

Reporting aggressive loose dog; lives at location. White, dog with mostly black head; keeps chasing neighbors.

**2:29 pm, NE Midway Blvd.**

Reporting party advising female just ran across street and tried to attack male near Smoke Shop.

**5:20 pm, SW Erie St.**

Reporting party advising male in parking lot in Xfinity van has been there for a long time; black male also in area. Reporting party got weird feeling; has heard of vans taking people.

**8:02 pm, Sidney St.**

Reporting party has been renting, roommate served 10-day eviction notice because reporting party won't have sex with him; issues have been going for a month, he verbally attacked reporting party and friend today.

**9:11 pm, Lambs Rest Ln.**

Caller advising her son was dropped off by unknown male, claiming to be with Lyft. Son left earlier without telling caller. Went out to confront male, asked who he was and refused to give his name; middle-aged male. Caller concerned because driver said he thought son was 18.

**10:37 pm, East Harbor Rd.**

Requesting call referencing watching show on TV and saw message flashing across screen saying there was an earthquake risk; would like to know if it's for Washington or if it's for Tennessee, where show she was watching takes place.

**11:40 pm, Patmore Rd.**

Reporting party advising in area of Rhododendron State Park hearing what sounds like a rocket; heard one minute ago.

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4**

**3:13 am, Parker Rd.**

Female says she's going to die, male in background saying she's not.

**8:47 am, West Beach Rd.**

Caller passed by female walker on West Beach just north of Hastie Lake Rd. carrying handmade sign "Call 911." No one else seen near her.

**11:33 am, SR 20**

Advising contact in lobby, says business is closed and she can't pay her bill.

**1:29 pm, SR 20**

Caller advising transient female is locked in their bathroom stall, says she is charging her phone but there is no outlet.

**4 pm, SE 8th Ave.**

Caller advising transient subject with nunchucks hanging in the area.

**4:26 pm, SE Pioneer Way**

Reporting disorderly subject yelling that they were smoking pot in the store.

**6 pm, NE Midway Blvd.**

Caller advising subject trying to break window of ambulance with nunchucks.

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



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**SALMON, HOW SMART ARE THEY?**

There truly is an art to catching salmon on a consistent basis. If you stop to consider the incredible amount of square miles of saltwater the salmon are swimming around in, one might think "How are we ever going to find a salmon in all this water?," especially given the fact the average size of lure or bait being used is between 3.5 and 6 inches in length and then slowly lowered out-of-sight into the salmon's realm. My hat is off to the commercial fisherman who gang-troll in search of salmon to make a living; this group is a great example of how successful selective salmon fishing is done with little to no non-target species deaths, and low numbers of by-catch. They have trolling dialed-in. Catching success does not fall solely on us fishermen - how smart are the salmon? How do they find a 3.5-inch wiggling and darting lure in what seems to be an endless amount of liquid space? The answer is they were born to do it. Over the course of their life it becomes completely natural for them to search for, locate and attack small bait-fish and prey.

Consider this: From the time we are infants we begin to learn from our surroundings. We observe, we listen and we attempt to duplicate what we have stored away in our brains. Speech is one of the most amazing things we humans achieve on our own at a very young age, with little or no assistance. By being routinely and repeatedly exposed to specific sounds, we learn to form words and sentences. Salmon become efficient hunters in the same manner. Okay, I know salmon do not have human-sized brains, but the brain the Good Lord gave them serves them well. As long as they are swimming, they are also observing and learning, and as they mature, they are systematically becoming skilled hunters. This natural born instinct to hunt is what we take advantage of to hook them. It doesn't take long for the salmon to figure it out. I've hooked fish that were not much bigger than the lure I was using; so small, in fact, there was little to no indication they were even on the end of the line.

How do salmon detect and zero in on what they think is a meal? These wonderful fish are in tune with their surroundings and use three primary senses. They use the lateral lines running down each side of their bodies as their first indicator something is there. Sharks have the most sensitive lateral lines, but Pacific salmon are not far behind. Have you ever heard of "The Black Box?" It's a small electronic device developed to tap into the fish's electronic sensory and increase the range and attracting ability of the lure in the water [mainly used in conjunction with stainless steel wire downrigger cable]. Once vibrations and small frequencies are detected with the lateral lines, they head in that general direction. As the salmon closes in on the source of disturbance, their sense of smell comes into play. Some scientists believe salmon can smell at a ratio of one part per million; this means a dab of smelly-jelly or a drop of herring oil on a lure goes a long way. The salmon cautiously continues to close in on its potential prey. Eyesight along with super maneuverability makes up its final collective decision to strike the offering. The salmon eye has rods and cones similar to ours and can see the entire

color spectrum; in addition, salmon have surprisingly good night vision. Walk into any tackle shop and observe the endless array of lure colors; I often wonder whose eye are they really trying to catch - ours or the fish? If salmon could only see limited colors, you can bet those colors would dominate the shelves. From a survival stand point, salmon are extremely smart right from the beginning. They are efficient eating machines and helps further break down the question of why we can catch fish in all that liquid space? Despite the salmon's positive feeding nature, they do not follow our boats around looking for an easy meal. They're not that smart or foolish - you choose. It's up to us to show them an offering to trigger their biting/feeding instinct.

Catching salmon is not an exact science, but when we are on the water the hours of on-the-job-training do pay off, eventually. Here is a quick list of basic things I have learned:

- Find the bait, and the fish are generally nearby.
- Chinook salmon are normally early morning biters.
- Trolling with the tide generally produces more bites than against.
- Trolling with the downrigger cables at 45 to 60 degrees back indicates I'm at the correct boat speed and my flasher and lure are rotating and darting around, optimizing their design.
- Large numbers of gathered birds are an indicator fish are in the area, and potentially feeding.
- Blind strikes are just as common as strikes after seeing fish on the finder.
- One hour before and after high or low tide can be the most productive.
- After pulling your main-line free from the downrigger clip don't reel it in yet; continue to troll, set the rod back in the holder and let the flasher and lure slowly climb up through the water column to the surface - you just never know.
- After you land the first fish, inspect the stomach contents, if the fish has been feeding, match it for size and color the best you can.
- Shorter leader lengths when running rubber squid-type baits (Hoochies) induce more action to the bait.
- Greens, blues, and pinks are great colors to catch salmon on, and good starting colors for new, uncharted waters.
- Never go home empty handed; properly prepared Dogfish make unbelievably good fish-n-chips or fish tacos. (I have the cookbook to prove it, and don't tell your salmon-fishing buddies what you're feeding them).

The 2019 fishing season is coming to an end. I hope you and your families were blessed with some wonderful fish and fishing experiences. I'm hopeful the 2020 season will have fewer restrictions on recreational fishermen and are instead filled with many more tight-lines and filled catch cards. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from my family to yours.

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# Life Tributes

## TIMOTHY DEMOND HOWARD



Timothy Demond Howard, age 39, longtime Oak Harbor resident, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2019 at Swedish Medical Center, Cherry Hill Campus in Seattle.

Mr. Howard was born in Pineville, La. July 18, 1980. A Celebration of Life will be Friday, Dec. 27, 2 p.m. at Life Church, 1767 NE Regatta Dr., Oak Harbor, Apostle David Jenkins officiating. Memorial donations are suggested to the Timothy D. Howard memorial GoFundMe account. Complete information will be obtained by going to [www.whidbeymemorial.com](http://www.whidbeymemorial.com), where family and friends are encouraged to share memories and condolences.

## LAVERNE MARIE MARTIN



LaVerne Marie Martin started her journey during a raging snow storm in Martin, S.D, Jan. 10, 1930. During her journey, she raised seven children, retired from Safeway, and has been mom to so many more. She had a firm foundation in God and started each day with her Bible. Her entire life was based on family, service, and love towards all, including her church families. Her faith never faltered through life's trials and tribulations.

Her journeys have led her to South Dakota, Oregon, Idaho, Washington and even Japan, where her oldest daughter was working. She finally settled in Oak Harbor in 1972. Her legacy of love will live on through

the centuries through the memories of her family and friends.

She leaves behind one daughter and son as well as many grandchildren, five brothers and sisters, nieces, nephews and cousins. This Christmas will be a celebration for her heavenly family as she was preceded in death by five children, 10 brothers and sisters, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

She will always be remembered for her loving spirit, sage advice, open arms, compassion, wit, hugs, homemade cookies, as well as a place of refuge for anyone in need (we often referred to her home as a halfway house). She had a way of touching everyone she knew. Her journey ended Dec. 16 in her home surrounded by family. She will be missed but never forgotten.

Services will be held Dec. 30 starting with a visitation at Wallin Funeral Home from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Graveside services will be held at Maple Leaf Cemetery at 1 p.m. A celebration of life service will follow at Church of the Rock in Oak Harbor at 3 p.m.

To leave comments on LaVerne's online guestbook please visit [www.wallinfuneralhome.com](http://www.wallinfuneralhome.com).

## BEN S. LAMB



Ben Steven "Jammer" Lamb, 24, of Oak Harbor, died suddenly Dec. 12, 2019 from an overdose, after an 11-year battle with addiction.

He is survived by his parents, Laurie and Robert Croan, Margaret Davis, and Patrick Lamb; daughter, Harper Lamb, and her mother, Kaitlee Pate; siblings Joshua, Alicia Rose, Aleesha Marie; and many aunts, uncles, and nieces. His brother, Timothy C. Earl "TC" Davis preceded him in death.

Ben was a lifelong resident of Oak Harbor, born in Anacortes, Wash. Feb. 12, 1995. He attended school in Oak Harbor and participated in sports and the Oak Harbor Middle School Choir.

Often known for his clowning around by his classmates and teachers, Ben was the kid in class who made everyone laugh and usually the source of morning antics that even made the teachers smile. Ben completed his education through Greenhill School in Chehalis, Wash. and was working on technician classes for Automotive Engine Repair.

Ben was a child raised by our village. He struggled each day with many health issues and frequently found himself in trouble, sometimes angered people, but taken in by so many others. He was loved for his wit and humor and will be terribly missed by his family, friends, and all who knew and worked with him.

A service will be held to celebrate Ben's life at Wallin Funeral Home Wednesday, Feb. 12 (his birthday) at 1 p.m. with a reception to follow.

Ben's family suggests memorials be made to Ryan's House for Youth online. Visit [www.ryans-houseforyouth.org/featured-opportunities.html](http://www.ryans-houseforyouth.org/featured-opportunities.html) to view their current list of needs. You can email them at: [ryanshouseforyouth@gmail.com](mailto:ryanshouseforyouth@gmail.com) to ask about donations and volunteering, or contact them by phone at 206-356-2405.

Arrangements are entrusted to Wallin Funeral Home, Oak Harbor, Wash. Please visit Jammer's page in our Book of Memories, online at [www.wallinfuneralhome.com](http://www.wallinfuneralhome.com) to share memories and leave condolences.

## DANETTE SYDNEY FARMER



Danette Sydney Farmer (McKee) of Oak Harbor, Wash., passed away Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019 at the age of 42.

Danette was born Dec. 1, 1977 to parents Allen, LTC, U.S. Army (Ret.) and Sherri McKee in Ft. Ord, Calif. She grew up as the second of three children. As a military family, they traveled the globe, including Germany, Australia, Panama, England and several locations within the U.S.

In 2008, she met the love of her life, David Patrick Farmer, PO1 USN (Ret.), in Oak Harbor and they married July 4, 2011. In April of 2012, they welcomed into the world their only child, Garrett Allen James Farmer.

Danette was a passionate advocate of equal opportunity and rights. Her work experience reflected this as she worked as a banker, employment recruiter, hospitality clerk, and multiple roles within a behavioral therapy clinic and community focused on providing critical skills to advance autistic children's quality of life.

Danette is survived by her husband, David; her son, Garrett; her parents, Allen and Sherri; brother, Neal; sister-in-law, Sandra; nephew, Finlay; sister-in-law, Jill; niece, Ella; best friends, Erica and Tiffany. She was preceded in death by her older brother, Scott. Danette was the center of an immeasurable circle of friends and acquaintances in which she, and they, found joyous pleasure and love.

A memorial service was hosted by Living Word Four Square Church (490 NW Crosby Ave.) in Oak Harbor. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking donations be made to the American Heart Association, as Danette did in memory of her brother Scott.

Family and friends are encouraged to share memories and condolences at [www.whidbeymemorial.com](http://www.whidbeymemorial.com).

## CHRISTOPHER PAUL LOCKE



Christopher Paul Locke, age 42, passed away at his Langley home Dec. 6. Chris was born in Alexandria, La., June 25, 1977. He was a loving father, husband and son. An amazing memorial service is being planned for summer, and will be announced at a later date. Family and friends are encouraged to share memories and condolences at [www.whidbeymemorial.com](http://www.whidbeymemorial.com).

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Answers on page 15



# Film Shorts

Courtesy of Cascadia Weekly

By Carey Ross

**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.)

**Bombshell:** Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman, and Margot Robbie play two real-life women and one semi-real composite character who teamed up to take down Roger Ailes in a surreal #MeToo moment in the last place you'd expect one to happen: Fox News. ★★★ (R • 1 hr. 58 min.)

**Cats:** Every single review of this movie, summed up: "What the hell did I just watch?" I'm here for it. Bring on the sexy humanoid felines. ★★★ (PG)

**Jumanji: The Next Level:** This franchise is proof the Rock's considerable charms are enough to overwhelm and overcome even the most mediocre premise and razor-thin plot. I'm not mad about it. I'm charmed by him too. ★★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 40 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.)

**Little Women:** Louisa May Alcott's timeless tale of the March daughters—Amy (Florence Pugh), Beth (Eliza Scanlen), Meg (Emma

Watson), and the irrepressible Jo (walking Oscar nomination Saoirse Ronan)—Marmee (Laura Dern), neighbor Laurie (Timothée Chalamet) gets a retelling by writer/director Greta Gerwig, and brings with it all of the Oscar buzz. ★★★★★ (PG • 2 hrs. 15 min.)

**Richard Jewell:** What this could've been: Another feather in Clint Eastwood's directorial cap. What it is: A cautionary tale about how your real-life account should not include a made-up scenario in which a female reporter trades sex for information. ★★★ (R • 2 hrs. 9 min.)

**Spies in Disguise:** A family-friendly buddy comedy in which Will Smith and Tom Holland voice animated characters who look a lot like Will Smith and Tom Holland, someone gets turned into a pigeon and the fate of the planet is at stake. ★★★ (PG • 1 hr. 44 min.)

**Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker:** IT'S FINALLY HERE AND I AM SO EXCITED. Five out of five stars forever. One million stars if Baby Yoda makes an appearance. ★★★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 35 min.)

**Uncut Gems:** Mark my words, Adam Sandler is going to get an Oscar nomination for his unhinged portrayal of a jeweler who only knows how to make monumentally bad decisions at breakneck speed and you heard it here first. Maybe not first, but definitely not last. ★★★★★ (R • 2 hrs. 15 min.)

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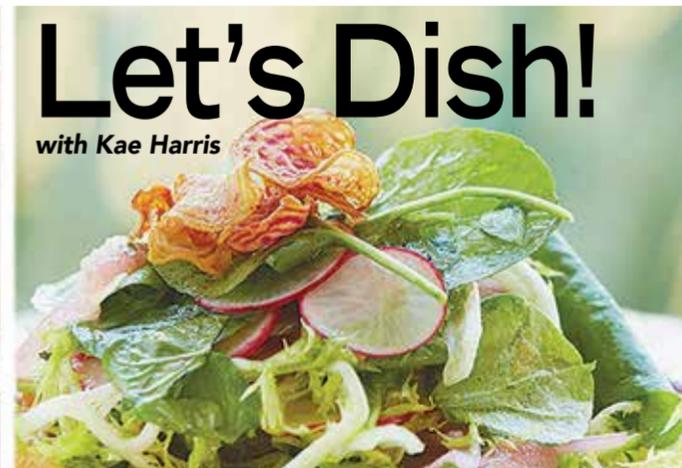
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# Let's Dish!

with Kae Harris



## CAN YOU CHRISTMAS WITHOUT CANDY CANES?

It's here, the season of the candy cane. I know I just dove right in there. It's the season of a good many celebratory things – the birth of Christ for Christians, Hanukkah for Jewish communities, Kwanzaa, the Winter Solstice, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Yule, Bodhi Day and many more I know I have not mentioned. Please don't feel I am excluding you if your holiday isn't listed, it's just there are so many and I am hoping to get them all as accurate as possible – which is challenging, so bear with me. I was sitting thinking about all the many delicious things we eat during the holidays, whatever the holiday is, and I couldn't find even ONE to discuss.

Let me just tell you I was frustrated, to say the least. I got ready and went to help out in my son's class. They were making *Polar Express* trains out of graham crackers, spiced gum drops, M&Ms, marshmallows, Tootsie Rolls and candy canes. Then I got it! It took me a while, admittedly, and several kiddies shouting at me simultaneously to please open the wrapper for their candy canes, before I realized I know very little about the sweet treat I was unwrapping. I mean, I know it's typically minty (I say "typically" because now they come in all sorts of flavors) and with their trademark red and white stripes swirling around the cane, it has become one of the best, most well-known symbols of the season.

According to the National Confectioners Association, candy canes are the number one selling, non-chocolate candy during the month of December and I wondered why. Let's be honest here. A candy cane, yes, a confection – a minty symbolic one at that – isn't the "go-to" candy for most people. It's a time-passer for many. Like, you see there are Tootsie Rolls and candy canes left in a candy bowl somewhere, so you weigh up your pros and cons and decide on the candy cane. I mean, they both take about the same amount of time to eat, what with Tootsie Rolls being...how should I say...quite chewy, and candy canes being hard as rocks, you need to coax them both into a more amenable phase of matter before swallowing. Anyway, a candy cane is more likely to be used as Christmas tree decorations or stocking stuffers than it is a "candy of choice." Maybe for some people it IS a candy of choice. I am not one of those people, but okay, it does make a nice change from time to time. Also, I forgot to mention, they get sticky quickly. But you already knew that – especially those of you who have kids and/or grandkids, or are just acquainted with kids generally. My point is, most candy canes are bought during December to decorate trees.

But what were candy canes actually created for? Some say it dates back to the 1600s, when in a Cologne Cathedral in Germany, a choirmaster handed out sugar sticks to the young singers to prevent them fidgeting and keep them quiet

when they needed to be. It was supposedly during the "living creche" ceremony and in honor of the event, the sticks were said to be bent like a shepherd's crook. Some people say the curve at the top was added as a religious reference, because people felt sugar sticks were not appropriate given the place in which the event was held; others say the hook was added merely as a means to hang the candies upon the tree. Both theories hold weight, so who knows for sure, right?

Now, I wonder what things candy canes can be used in, like actual recipes that makes them really, really appealing? We already know how crushed candy canes in a cup of hot chocolate taste positively delectable. The infusion of minty goodness into the thick, velvety chocolate...superb! We also know how perfectly candy cane bits pair with brownies, whether baked into the batter or sprinkled on top of frosting. I also found some people like their martinis stirred, not shaken, with a candy cane! Some peppermint Schnapps along with all the other ingredients that go into making a Christmas martini, dip the rim of the glass in crushed candy cane sugar and you have yourself a very festive drink indeed!

There's always a peppermint cheesecake which undoubtedly requires the use of candy canes to make it exactly what it is, though I'm thinking of something even better than that for the kids. How about a candy cane milkshake? Sure, the weather mightn't be "just right" for a milk shake, but what's a little treat that's out of the ordinary during the festive period? Don't feel like dealing with ice cream and all that? No problem, you can always add some candy cane crumbs to your favorite "muddy buddy" mix (a recipe you can also find on the back of rice or corn Chex cereal boxes). Then, if this isn't as simple as you like it to get, what about some fudge, using these minty morsels? Everyone loves fudge and what's not to love when you take it up a notch by using candy canes? You're imbuing the season, via use of the candy canes, into a sweet treat so many people can't get enough of.

Yes, dear readers, December is a month of many things, and I could talk about those things for ages and ages. I wanted to highlight, yet again, a food item often overlooked and yet so abun-

dantly EVERYWHERE at this time of year. If you have a wealth of leftover candy canes, I'm quite certain you will find endless ways to use them and remember, just because they're synonymous with this season, doesn't mean you can't enjoy them ANYTIME. I am including a recipe for a peppermint cheesecake I found on www.cincyshopper.com, while it doesn't necessarily feature the candy cane as the main attraction, it certainly makes use of them for an essential part of it – the garnish! If you try it, let me know how you like it! Please send any and all comments, questions and certainly, recipes you'd like to share to letsdish.whidbeyweekly@gmail.com and we can do exactly that and Dish!

### Peppermint Candy Cane Cheesecake

#### Crust:

- 22 – 24 oreo cookies
- 2 – 3 tablespoons melted butter
- 1 tablespoon sugar

#### Filling:

- 16 oz. heavy whipping cream (heavy cream)
- 16 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- ¼ cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 4 or 5 drops red food coloring

Finely crush the Oreos (in a food processor is best) and add butter and sugar. Press mixture into a spring form pan, pushing it up the sides a little as well. Refrigerate to make firm. In a large mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until well blended. Set aside. In separate bowl, whip heavy cream and powdered sugar to stiff peak consistency. Fold cream cheese mixture into whipped cream mixture. Add food coloring and peppermint extract into mixture and mix until well blended or like I do, mix in the peppermint extract first, until well blended, then, add the food coloring and create a swirled or marbled mixture instead! Spread into prepared crust, refrigerate 4 hours or until firm, garnish with crushed candy canes, serve with whipped cream and enjoy!

www.history.com/amp/news/candy-canes-invented-germany

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

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# CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

## ARIES (March 21-April 19)



Extracurricular events both personal and professional are likely to consume a great deal of your time this week. The good news is that all the energy you pour into them acts as a favorable attractant. Don't be surprised at the people and circumstances that appear. Most will be on par with your own happy mood. If not, you are in a good position to deflect anything negative. Overindulgence is the hallmark of the 28th.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



Pleasant encounters with people who are new and different from any you have known before are a likely part of your week. Custom and formality will define the tone in most cases. Go along and see where it all leads, even if things seem a bit stiff at first. Chances are good that you'll be pleased. You may not understand or agree with everything you hear on the 28th, but you can still benefit from the experience.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



You could feel overwhelmed by social events this week due to the sheer numbers of people involved. A sense of sameness in the activities only adds weight, but things are not as grim as they might look. You are not alone in your thirst for novelty, and the opportunity to live things up is sure to appear. Seize the moment when it comes and many will thank you. Honesty without diplomacy is a hazard on the 28th.

## CANCER (June 22-July 22)



This is your week to do the things your heart longs to do. Grounded and practical activities will also more than likely win the approval of your spouse or partner. Doing things in concert with someone special will make the experience richer and much more fulfilling. If there have been recent conflicts with anyone, now is an excellent time to make peace with them. Entertaining at home goes well on the 28th.

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



You may find yourself being upstaged more often than you'd like this week. People who would ordinarily not be in conflict are going to insist on their time in the spotlight. Because of the numbers of people involved, social activities may drift out of control, and that's where the problems begin. Dominant personalities can overwhelm on the 28th, spoiling the event for others. Be careful, lest you be the spoiler.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)



Hosted events under your control are sure to be a handful this week. Home-based activities are no exception. The diverse personalities you must contend with may try your patience, and there is no way around them. Don't insist on perfection, just try to get

through it. You'll fair better one on one than in the group scene. A compatible personality, possibly a family member, might save the day for you on the 28th.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



The irritation factor may be significant at times this week. The good news is that major league annoyances, though many in number, should be short in duration. You can put up with just about anything for a short time, right? A fair compensation is that the enjoyable times, when they come, are likely to be very good, indeed. Any tendency to pamper yourself on the 28th is fully justified. Indulge with a clear conscience.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



It's enough just to be yourself this week. Nothing to prove, no hills to climb. The steam is there to do so if you feel the need, but otherwise, your time is your own. Being so at peace with yourself, you should find it easier to practice the worthy traits of forgiveness and tolerance. Easy going ways lend balance on the 28th, a raucous day when some in the crowd may be more boisterous than usual.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



There's a stratagem for every possibility in your week, making it less likely that you'll be thrown by surprises. Overconfidence might become a factor, but in the absence of that, your self-directed efforts should bear fruit. Common sense rules of behavior apply to even the most capable individuals. Obey them and you'll be fine. The crowd is in your court on the 28th. Congeniality will carry you far.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



The most satisfying aspects of your week are likely to be social affairs. You need not look far to find them. The good times are almost built-in, with favorable people and circumstances coming to you. This is a time of living life on your terms, and little in the way of opposition should arise regarding anything you choose to do. Relating to friends and loved ones is important on the 28th, a day when harmony is a two-way street.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



Stand up and make merry this week, or risk being lost in the crowd. But not everyone wants to be the life of the party. Quiet and retiring events may be more to your liking, eliminating the need to compete for your place. In that case, choose your social functions carefully. The right time and place to indulge conservative tastes may be less obvious, but it's there. Be alert for it, and watch the 28th in particular.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



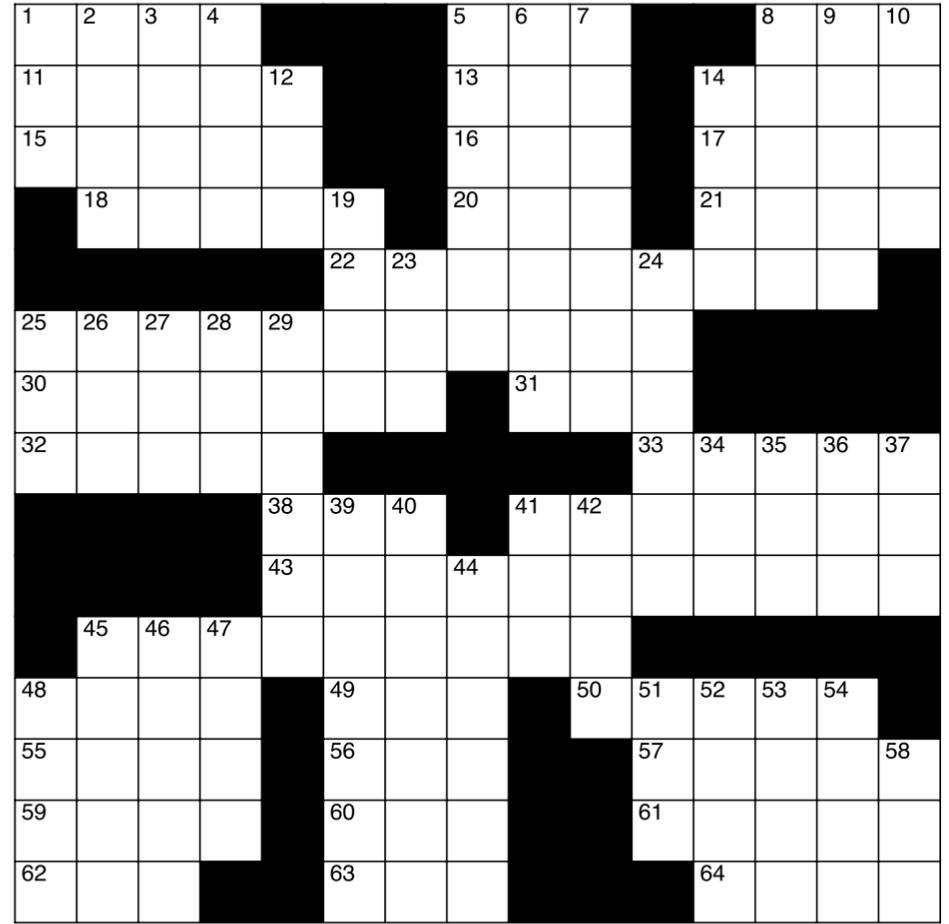
Unstructured private time is apt to be scarce in your week. Even when you're not in the public eye, the pressure of coming events is likely to exert a major influence on your thoughts and emotions. These can be good times, if a bit hectic. Flow with them and you'll find the unanticipated bright spots that make life worth living. These can be material or emotional. With luck on the 28th, you may encounter both.

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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. Egyptian bull-god
- 5. America
- 8. Type of field (abbr.)
- 11. Reagan's Deputy AG
- 13. Negative
- 14. Mother of Hermes
- 15. Summer and Winter Olympics gold medal winner
- 16. In shape
- 17. Oh my goodness!
- 18. People of Guinea or Sierra Leone
- 20. A form of "to be"
- 21. Succulent plant
- 22. Estranges
- 25. Honest
- 30. Showing conviction
- 31. High schoolers' test
- 32. Implant
- 33. Acknowledgment
- 38. Cash dispenser
- 41. Transferred to another
- 43. Superhero group
- 45. Photographers
- 48. Small, rich sponge cake
- 49. Power to perceive
- 50. Heavy cavalry sword
- 55. Israel's first permanent UN delegate

## CLUES DOWN

- 1. Type of degree
- 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 3. Large, predatory lizard
- 4. River in Romania
- 5. Biased
- 6. Parties
- 7. TV's used to need one
- 8. Philly football player
- 9. Recognized ethnic group of China
- 10. Gradually disappear
- 12. Large, dark antelope
- 14. Vegetarians won't eat it
- 19. Takes the energy out of
- 23. Body part
- 24. Succeed in achieving

- 25. Where golfers begin
- 26. Computer memory
- 27. One who buys and sells securities
- 28. Midway between north and northeast
- 29. Quiet and rather dull
- 34. A limb on which to walk
- 35. It precedes two
- 36. Of she
- 37. Commercials
- 39. Necessary for sewing
- 40. Infectious viral disease
- 41. Expression of good wishes
- 42. Some are contact
- 44. More plentiful
- 45. Secret political clique
- 46. Behind the stern of a ship
- 47. Supernatural force
- 48. Altar in Orthodox churches
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Impartiality
- 53. "Luther" actor Idris
- 54. They resist authority (slang)
- 58. Criticize

Answers on page 15

## YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Dec. 26	Fri, Dec. 27	Sat, Dec. 28	Sun, Dec. 29	Mon, Dec. 30	Tues, Dec. 31	Wed, Jan. 1
North Isle H-43°/L-36° Showers Possible	North Isle H-45°/L-35° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-46°/L-36° Showers Possible	North Isle H-46°/L-35° Showers Possible	North Isle H-45°/L-36° Showers Possible	North Isle H-45°/L-38° Showers Possible	North Isle H-48°/L-40° Showers Possible
South Isle H-43°/L-35° Showers Possible	South Isle H-45°/L-34° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-46°/L-35° Showers Possible	South Isle H-46°/L-34° Showers Possible	South Isle H-45°/L-35° Showers Possible	South Isle H-45°/L-37° Showers Possible	South Isle H-38°/L-39° Showers Possible



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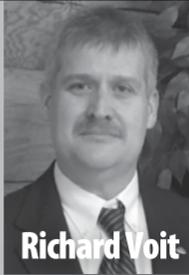
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The Whidbey Island community is encouraged to try out the paddling sport of dragon boating with the Stayin' Alive team. Our team's mission is to promote the physical, social, and emotional benefits of dragon boating. It has been shown to be especially 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](mailto:njlish@gmail.com). More info at our Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSound-DragonBoatClub?ref=hl](http://www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSound-DragonBoatClub?ref=hl)

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

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### 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](http://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

### How'd you do?

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

you have any questions, please contact us at: [imagineapermacultureworld@gmail.com](mailto:imagineapermacultureworld@gmail.com)

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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 from North Whidbey. For more information please contact: [reception@islandseniorservices.org](mailto:reception@islandseniorservices.org)

### No Cheating!

B	A	T	A			U	S	A			E	M	F				
C	L	E	G	G		N	O	N			M	A	I	A			
E	A	G	A	N		F	I	T			E	G	A	D			
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A	L	T				S	S	R			S	A	S	S			

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