

January 2 through January 8, 2020

Whidbey Weekly

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

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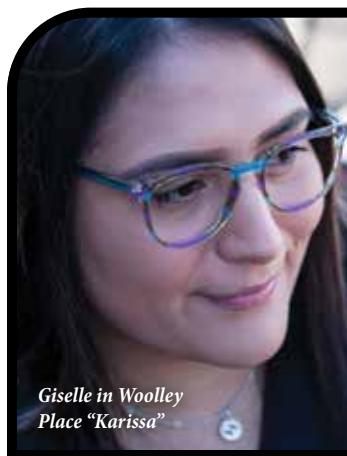
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ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



Happy New Year.
2020 sure looks
good so far.
Sounds good, too.
In fact, in all my
years of saying
years, I think 2020
or Twenty Twenty
is most pleasing, to
me and my tinnitus
infested audio enhancers.

2020 reminds me of Hoppy's Bar 20 and
Death Valley Days, with 20 Mule Team
Borax.

Don't brush your teeth with that stuff.

In high school track, I ran the 440 which
when run five times is 2220, a distant cousin
of 2020.

The fact we are starting a new decade is not
that significant to me.

I was there for the celebrations surrounding
1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, and
2010.

Say all those years out loud.

Which one is your fave?

I'll guess 2010, because saying "twenty" is
way easier than saying nineteen.

Being nineteen wasn't much fun either.
19-my last year as a teenager and I still
hadn't French kissed.

Mom told me to take Latin.

Are you a resolution maker?

Resolutions are to me like bucket lists.

What is the point?

You are in charge of your life. You can do
what you want when you want, but you
have to want.

Ever look up the word *want*?

Me neither.

Shall we?

This is beginning to sound like Mr. Rogers,
but while wearing two jackets. Too cold for
a sweater.

According to Wikipedia, "The idea of want
can be examined from many perspectives. In
secular societies, want might be considered
similar to the emotion desire, which can be
studied scientifically through the disciplines
of psychology or sociology. Want might also
be examined in economics as a necessary
ingredient in sustaining and perpetuating
capitalist societies that are organized around
principles like consumerism. Alternatively
want can be studied in a non-secular, spiritual,
moralistic or religious way, particularly
by Buddhism but also Christianity, Islam and
Judaism."

Early on, as children running amok and amiss
in a department store, we learned our wanting
was not something always granted.

I loved it when Perry Como sang *Wanted*,
even though the lyrics for me at age seven
were not as needy.

*She was last seen, Hiding out in someone's
arms, He knew nothing, Of the danger in
her charms*

Speaking of resolutions, if I had a bucket list,
I might start with a Perry Como binge. Listen
to all his vinyl, all his CDs, watch all the VHS
tapes and DVDs of his TV shows and not-so-
good films, and then get my haircut.

So, now that we know what *want* means,
how about *resolution*?

Don't we all want resolution?

At least until next week.

Resolution is defined as "a firm decision to
do or not to do something." Prince Hamlet
needs help.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote, "Once
you make a decision, the universe conspires
to make it happen."

I love conspiracies. In fact, I'm still investigating
the Trilateral Commission. Me thinks it
really is just an NFL investigatory agency that

has been trying to curtail the use of excessive
lateralizing in the closing seconds of a game.

So, if Emerson is correct, making a resolution
is a decision. The more resolutions, the more
the Universe conspires with us to help us
reach our destination.

One August, in 1988, my sister was visiting
from Georgia. Her birthday was approaching.
Being sans cashola, I told her, "Well, I
think this year I will give you a different kind
of gift. I'll quit smoking."

Without hesitation, she quipped, "How does
that help me?"

"I'll live longer."

"Like I said, how does that help me?"

"Okay, I'll give you a thousand bucks if I ever
have another cigarette."

Before the discussion was over, I had four
other side bets of a grand a piece.

Need motivation for the resolution of quitting
smoking?

Add a cash reward.

This was over three decades ago when I
passed through the doorway of sarcasm to
one of a smoke free caboose.

Well, not counting the wood stove.

Yes, resolutions work if we let them.

Maintaining anything that is not yet a habit
can be a challenge.

Once I resolved to learn fly fishing.

Once I resolved to never again eat at a Carl's
 Jr.

Once I resolved to jump off an 80 foot cliff
the day before my wedding.

Two out of three ain't bad.

So, we here at Whidbey Weekly support
your want to resolve.

The duration is yours.

When ready, durate away.

Until then, I am off to find us a story to get
out of this paragraph.

Lassie come home

In her most excellent compilation of John
Wayne quotes and anecdotes, *The Quotable
John Wayne*, Carol Lea Mueller shares a
story from Wayne's wife, Pilar.

"Pilar Wayne tells of the time when the
Duke once played an all-night poker game
with the handler who owned the first Lassie
and several others—Wayne won all the Lassies.
The next morning, seeing the devastated
man who had lost his livelihood, Wayne gave
them all back after a good laugh."

Best holiday letter

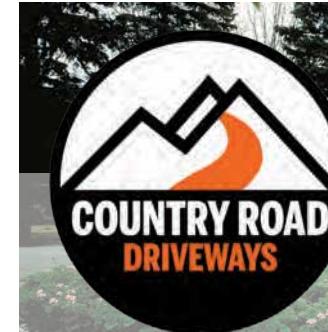
The daughter of one of my dearest and
oldest pals gained entrance into the family's
annual holiday letter.

The following is shared without her knowl-
edge or Dad's permission. It's just too cool
to bother asking permission. What if they
say 'no'?

"Being asked to contribute to Dad's Holiday
letter is a hint in the shift in dynamics. More
vividly was during our two weeks together
in Philadelphia and DC. Seemingly overnight
I was responsible for all the answers. 'Will it
be cold in the museum? Do I need a jacket?
Is it going to rain today? Are we walking?
How far is it? Are my brown shoes comfortable
enough for the walk? Will there be a
chance to eat? If so, just snacks or real food?
Should we bring peanuts just in case? Will
the museum allow food in? Will we be back
in time for a nap?' And that was before we
got out the door. Every. Single. Morning.
I have only two questions: who has been
answering these questions for the past 44
years, and when are they coming back? I'm
not yet carrying bags of Goldfish, mostly
because Dad considers it food only if it has
protein; and Mom would just as soon wait til
Happy Hour."

Thanks to Dad and Daughter for this violation
of your privacy. At least I did not use
your stage names, Ed and Taylor.

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Whidbey Weekly, see our Digital Library at
www.whidbeyweekly.com.



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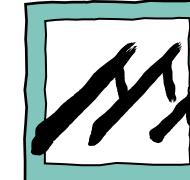
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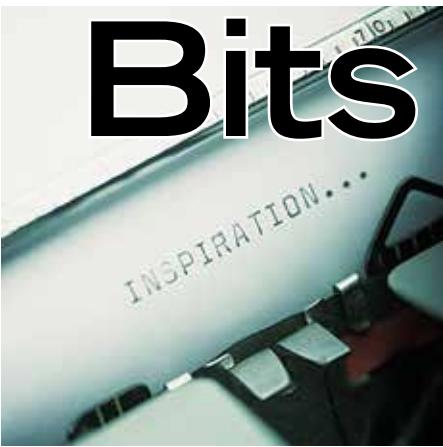
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Bits & Pieces

Sound Waters University Returns to South Whidbey High School

Feb. 1



Photo Credit Jill Hein

Brought to you by Sound Water Stewards of Island County, Sound Waters University 2020 is a "One Day University For All – On All Things Puget Sound." Held since the early 1990s the first Saturday in February on Whidbey Island, Sound Waters University attracts over 650 people yearly who want to learn more about the amazing place Washington residents call home.

Attendees can choose from over 60 fun and informative classes and presentations about the natural world and the fragile environment of the Salish Sea. Over 60 percent of the classes are new this year and include fascinating explorations and presentations on such subjects as whales, habitat restoration, birds, coastal geology, earthquakes, landscapes and gardens, citizen science, climate change, photography, and so much more!

Sound Waters University 2020 Keynote Speaker is John Calambokidis, a Senior Research Biologist and one of the founders of Cascadia Research Collective. John has studied blue, humpback and gray whales for more than 30 years and has authored more than 140 scientific publications and two books on marine mammals. His work has also been featured on National Geographic Channel, BBC, and Animal Planet. His speech entitled "Whales of the Salish Sea – A Sea of Change" will present some of the new findings on large whales in the Salish Sea including the return of humpback whales to this area and some of the new threats these whales and grey whales face.

His presentation will also include video from the tag deployments that provide a unique perspective about underwater behavior, feeding, and social interactions of these inhabitants of the Salish Sea.

The overall schedule for Sound Waters University starts with the keynote speaker at 9:00AM, followed by three sessions of classes with breaks and lunch - concluding at 4:30PM. Doors to South Whidbey High School open at 8:00AM to allow attendees to pick-up their registration packets and enjoy a hot beverage prior to the keynote presentation. Sound Waters University also welcomes about 60 interesting exhibitors who are involved in environmental issues. These exhibits open at 8:30AM and can be explored throughout the day.

Registration for Sound Waters University is now open and closes Jan. 20. Based on the popularity of this event, no tickets will be sold at the door and all attendees must register in advance online. Attendees are urged to register early as the most popular classes fill quickly and in 2019, tickets to SWU sold out early. Registration costs \$60 per person. Students, current teachers, and AmeriCorps volunteers can receive a discount on registration fees. A pre-ordered catered lunch costs an additional \$15 or you may bring your own lunch if desired. For more information, visit <http://soundwaterstewards.org/sw/>

[Submitted by Anne Cushing Post]

Third Grade Reading Challenge Helps Kids Embrace Literacy, Teamwork

If you intend to read the next sentence aloud, take a deep breath.

The Sno-Isle Libraries Mega-Fun, Biblio-Trivia, Rockem-Sockem, Third Grade Reading Challenge is underway for 2020.

The annual Third Grade Reading Challenge encourages students to have fun and enjoy reading while building literacy and teamwork skills, said event organizer Joy Feldman, Lead Librarian for Early Literacy at Sno-Isle Libraries. Team members read six books chosen by Sno-Isle Libraries staff members, then test their knowledge of each book in a series of in-school quiz bowls that run through February, with semi-final and final rounds in March.

Library staff always tries to include one or two books by local authors each year. This year's books are "Here's Hank: Bookmarks Are People Too!" by Henry Winkler (yes, that Henry Winkler), "Juana & Lucas" by Juana Medina, "Key Hunters: The Mysterious Moonstone" by Eric Luper, "Life According to Og the Frog" by Betty Birney, "Zoey and Sassafras: Dragons and Marshmallows" by Asia Citro of Seattle, and "Wedgie & Gizmo" by Suzanne Selfors of Bainbridge Island.

Selfors will visit nine of the competing schools in January to talk to students and coaches about her book.

For five years, the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation has supported the Third Grade Reading Challenge by providing books, prizes and T-shirts to participants.

"The Third Grade Reading Challenge is near and dear to the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation," said Foundation Executive Director Paul Pitkin. "Few programs exemplify our commitment to lifelong learning like the Reading Challenge, and seeing the children work together while becoming passionate about reading is truly inspiring."

New this year, Sno-Isle Libraries is providing unlimited simultaneous access in January and February to eBook copies of "Zoey and Sassafras: Dragons and Marshmallows" and eBook and audiobook copies of "Wedgie & Gizmo," said Mike Hawkins, Electronic Resources Librarian with Sno-Isle Libraries. Any competitor who wants to read either of those titles won't have to wait to access them.

The 2019 Reading Challenge had 193 teams from 51 schools. This year, 226 teams from 60 elementary schools in the Arlington, Coupeville, Darrington, Edmonds, Everett, Granite Falls, Lake Stevens, Marysville, Monroe, Mukilteo, Oak Harbor, Snohomish, South Whidbey and Stanwood-Camano school districts are competing.

Sno-Isle Libraries staff work with each school to coordinate Reading Challenge activities and competitions. In October, schools recruit students to form teams. Each school can have up to five teams, and each team must have no more than eight members. Each team has its own coach.

In November, local Sno-Isle Libraries community staff delivered books to schools. Now the teams are reading, practicing and building teamwork, Feldman said.

The quiz competition has three rounds of eight questions each. A Sno-Isle Libraries staff presenter reads each question twice, then teams have 30 seconds to discuss their answer and deliver it to the presenter. Each correct answer is worth five points. Teams that finish in a tie enter a sudden-death overtime that ends when one team answers incorrectly.

Each school's top-scoring team advances to one of eight regional semi-final quizzes scheduled for March 3-16. The eight top-scoring teams from the semi-finals will face off at the final quiz, set for 6:30PM Monday, March 23, at the Edmonds Center for the Arts. "Zoey and Sassafras" series author Asia Citro will be special guest.

Feldman points to research that shows reading ability in third grade can be a tipping point for later academic and life success. Students who don't read at grade level are less likely to

finish high school, so the Third Grade Reading Challenge emphasizes reading quality over quantity.

"We say, 'You only need to read one book,'" Feldman said. "It may be a big accomplishment for a struggling reader to read just one book. I can relate to that as someone who was a struggling reader."

Reading Challenge coaching and teamwork can help those struggling students become more proficient and enjoy reading, she said. Competitors learn to become well-rounded readers since they won't know what questions they'll face about each book during the knowledge quizzes. Some team members will focus on only one or two books and become "experts" on those titles.

Students, teachers and parents see the many benefits from the Reading Challenge.

"I had some students join this that I knew would, and some that surprised me," one teacher said. "I loved watching them be excited about feeling special and a part of something. They bonded a lot throughout this process. It also made reading a really positive experience."

Sno-Isle Libraries surveys participants each year. As a result of the Third-Grade Reading Challenge:

92 percent of participating students said they have more confidence in their reading ability
93 percent of students said they felt more part of a team

93 percent of parents said their student enjoyed reading more

"I started a huge book and it was easy," one student competitor said.

"We as a family read more due to this challenge," one parent said.

"I really love the Reading Challenge and I hope it goes on for generations," one past participant said.

[Submitted by Kurt Batdorf, Sno-Isle Libraries]

Seeking Applicants for Island County Planning Commission

The Island County Board of Commissioners is seeking applicants from Commissioner District 3 (North Whidbey/Camano Island) to serve on the Island County Planning Commission. Members must reside in the district appointed to represent.

The Board of County Commissioners appoints Planning Commission members for four-year terms, which may be renewed by mutual agreement. The Planning Commission consists of nine members, three from each County Commissioner District, to assure county-wide representation. The Board of County Commissioners seeks to ensure the Planning Commission is a balanced committee representing many different viewpoints with regard to land use. The Planning Commission makes recommendations to the Board in matters concerning growth and development as authorized in the Planning Enabling Act (RCW 36.70).

The Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Monday of each month in the Island County Commissioners Hearing Room in Coupeville at 2:00PM in the Courthouse Annex Hearing Room, Coupeville. Depending on the agenda, some meetings are held in the evenings and/or on Camano. Meetings run two to six hours or more depending on the complexity of the agenda. Preparation and research is necessary. Service on the Planning Commission is unpaid; however, members may obtain reimbursement for travel expenses to and from meetings.

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest including a statement of qualifications and a resume to: Island County Board of Commissioners, Attn: Virginia Shaddy, Re: Planning Commission Vacancies, Post Office Box 5000, Coupeville, WA 98239 or via e-mail vj.shaddy@islandcountywa.gov, no later than 4:30PM Jan. 17. For additional information, please phone 360-679-7353 or e-mail vj.shaddy@islandcountywa.gov.

[Submitted by Virginia Shaddy]



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Seeking Applicant for Marine Resources Committee (MRC)

One seat on the Island County Marine Resources Committee will be open for a new appointment effective Jan. 1. The Board of Island County Commissioners invites applicants from Whidbey and Camano Islands to express interest and request appointment.

The goal of the MRC is to protect and restore marine life, habitat, and water quality along Island County's shoreline through research, restoration, and education. Members of this voluntary, advisory committee serve a three-year term. The 16-member committee meets the first Tuesday of each month from 3:00 to 5:00PM. Meetings are held in Coupeville (eight meetings/year) or on Camano (four meetings/year). More information about the MRC can be obtained on their website at www.islandcountymrc.org.

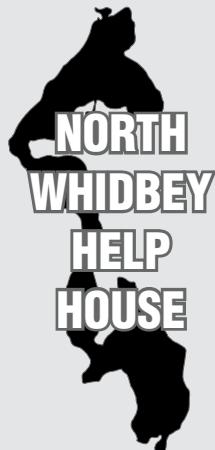
The Board of Island County Commissioners seeks members representing a diverse array of stakeholders, including tribes, science, military, commercial and recreational marine users, ports, planners, engineers, agriculture, conservation groups, NGOs, education, and economic interests. Applicants should have interest and/or experience in marine resource issues.

Applicants should submit a completed application by mail or email to: Anna Toledo, MRC Coordinator, P.O. Box 5000, Coupeville, WA 98239 or a.toledo@islandcountywa.gov. Application forms can be found at www.islandcountymrc.org/About-Us.aspx

Applications will be accepted through 4:30PM Monday, Jan. 20 or until the seat is filled. For additional information, please contact Anna Toledo at a.toledo@islandcountywa.gov or 360-678-2349.

[Submitted by Virginia Shaddy]

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What's Going On

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

Island Herb Vendor Day

Friday, January 3, 2:00-6:00PM

Island Herb, Freeland

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

Sea Float Scramble

Saturday, January 4, 11:00AM

Seawall Park, Langley

Don't miss this annual tradition. Free fun for the whole family. Over 1,000 sea float treasures are hidden in plain sight. A second hunt location for children under 5 years old, disabled, and the elderly will be held at Langley Park on 2nd and Anthes. For more information, visit langleymainstreet.org.

Live Music: Jed Crisologo

Saturday, January 4, 7:30-9:30PM

Penn Cove Taproom, Coupeville

Jed Crisologo is a soulful Seattle singer-songwriter, who mixes Americana, Punk Rock and Jazz influences into heartfelt, catchy, honest tunes. Usually backed by the Sun Killers, Jed travels to Whidbey Island for select dates, playing solo, stripped down and raw, drawing from his wide range of experience playing around the country. No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit www.penncovetaproom.com.

Tingstad and Rumbel - Twelfth Night Concert

Saturday, January 4, 7:30PM

Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

For the past 30+ years, Grammy Award-winning artists Eric Tingstad and Nancy Rumbel have been home for the holidays, creating a long-standing tradition with Northwest families and illuminating the enduring spirit of the season with the gift of music. All seats are \$25, ages 18 and under are free. For tickets, call 360-221-8262 or visit www.wicaonline.org.

Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below

Cost: Free

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.

Used Book Sale

Saturday, January 4, 10:00AM-2:00PM

Freeland Library

Shop locally at the Friends of the Freeland Library book sale. Large selection of great

books for all ages at bargain prices. Proceeds benefit the Freeland Library.

Design + Create: Snowflakes and Snow Globes

Saturday, January 4, 11:00AM-12:00PM

Second Hand Booty, Tinkerer's Guild

Design paper snowflakes and create a snow globe. Materials are supplied. There is no cost to participate. For ages 8 and older, including adults. Space is limited. Registration is encouraged.

Eat Clean, Live Green, Train Positive: Make the Most of Your Year

Tuesday, January 7, 2:00-3:15PM

Freeland Library

Fitness expert P.J. Beaven shows you how to create a fitness plan that both works for you and has a positive impact on the planet. Everyone is welcome. Check out PJ's new book, "The ZooFit Safari, a Five-Week Jump Start to Your Journey in Fitness, Health, and Saving the World."

Clinton Library Book Group

Wednesday, January 8, 10:00-11:00AM

Clinton Library

Everyone is welcome to join our discussion of "Half Broke Horses: A True Life Novel" by Jeannette Walls.

Lit For Fun Book Group

Thursday, January 9, 9:00-11:00AM

Freeland Library

Join us for a discussion of Jane Mayer's "Dark Money," which uncovers the agenda of the immensely wealthy right-wing ideologues shaping the fate of America today. For adults.

WIHHA Presents: Our Ancestors, Ourselves

Thursday, January 9, 4:00-6:00PM

Freeland Library

What happened in the lives of our forebears, and how does it affect us and our descendants today? Lenore Norrgard, a certified shamanic counselor, will discuss how bringing spiritual healing to our ancestors can bring healing to ourselves and our times. Our ancestors live on in our physical, emotional and spiritual bodies, their joys and sorrows resonating through our lives. For more information visit wiwhha.com.

Vision Collage for 2020

Saturday, January 11, 11:00AM-12:30PM

Second Hand Booty, Clinton

Join us for this creative yet meditative adventure into the art of collage—specifically focused on seeding the hopes and dreams you want to manifest in 2020. All materials provided or bring your own. Create your own cards that serve as visual representations of the themes you wish to bring into the New Year.

WIMJAM: Whidbey Island Music Jam

Sundays, January 12 & 26, 3:00-5:00PM

Freeland Library

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

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, January 5 - Communion - Pastor Wenzek: Avoiding Judgment in Communion.

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

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, or visit the International Association of Healing Rooms at 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 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.

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 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.

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 or go to 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.

Services and Sunday School are also held at 10:30AM on South Whidbey at 15910 Highway 525, just north of Bayview and across from

www.whidbeyweekly.com

LOCALLY OPERATED

Useless Bay Road; testimony meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.

Galleries & Art Shows

An Artistic Life

Opening Reception: Sunday, January 5, 11:00 am-12:00PM

Show continues through February UUCWI, 20103 SR 525, Freeland

A celebration of the art and artistic influence of long-time local hero and teacher Leonard Good is on display for the months of January and February. In partnership, local photographer David Welton shares a collection of images inspired by Leonard's creative processes or capturing Leonard in action.

Leonard Good is well-known in the local community as a teacher and inventor, but he's also a life-long photographer. Leonard has taught science in several local private and alternative and public schools, and is currently enjoying a grant to teach 5th grade science at South Whidbey Elementary School. He also taught photography for 9 years at Skagit Valley College. Besides his photography, this exhibit features other magical facets of Leonard's impressive creativity, including cast lead objects, carved wooden model airplanes, and a ship-in-a-bottle! Meet Leonard and David at the opening reception.

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 or by calling 360-675-0705.

Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting

Every Monday, 7:00-8:00PM

Carole's Barbershop, Freeland

Whidbey Weekly NEWS



Events and Activities in 2020 p. 10

www.whidbeyweekly.com

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

JANUARY 2 - JANUARY 8, 2020

Start 2020 with Langley's Sea Float Scramble

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

Start the new decade by supporting the town of Langley at its annual Sea Float Scramble. The scramble, with a name inspired by barnyard scrambles of county fairs past, has participants racing to find one of the 1,000-plus sea floats hidden in plain sight throughout Seawall Park in Langley.

The Sea Float Scramble will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, but event organizers advise participants arrive early for the best chance of taking home a sea float. In addition to the Seawall Park location, a more accessible second hunt will be held at Langley Park for children under 5 and those with disabilities or limited mobility. The event is sponsored by Callahan's Firehouse and the Langley Main Street Association (LMSA).

Callahan McVay, who owns Callahan's Firehouse, said the event began as a promotional tool for a gallery opening, and grew from there. McVay said he used one of his childhood experiences to help name the event.

"It is named the scramble, back to its origins, because we used to have a barnyard scramble at the county fair that I participated in when I was a little kid," he said. "It was basically you run out into an arena and grab a farm animal like a chicken or a duck or a goose and that was called the scramble. They would drop the rope and everybody ran into the arena and grabbed one as fast as they could."

McVay, a local glass artist who creates the one-of-a-kind sea floats for the event, said the unique event draws a crowd each year.

"It gets people excited about collecting art," he said. "We have got these younger kids who now have that piece of glass artwork and it gives them that appreciation. They know where it came from, it was produced right here in town. It is fairly hyper-local - it is like farm to table but it is furnace to pedestal."

In addition to inspiring an interest in the arts, McVay said the scramble helps keep the momentum from the holidays going in Langley, and the scramble draws many patrons to local businesses.

"Now we are into the first weekend of January, which is typically when everything slows way down," he said. "And the local restaurants, especially the breakfast restaurants like the Useless Bay Coffee are pretty darn full of people."

Donna Christensen, chair of the promotional committee for LMSA, said the event draws attention to the community of Langley.

"It attracts people from off island but it also attracts people from all over the island," she said. "It is just exposure and visibility for the community in a different way than say, shopping or dining. It supports those things, but I think it also just provides visibility for Langley."

Christensen said the event started out as an idea that has grown to be a popular annual tradition.

"With Callahan's initiative, it has turned into something that is remarkable that people come from all over to participate in," she said. "We have had more than a thousand people the last couple of years."

Christensen said LMSA aims to bolster projects and events like the Sea Float Scramble in an effort to support the vibrancy of Langley's community.

"Our role is really to support the initiatives that promote our communities regarding historic preservation/aesthetic, preserving small town quality and making towns unique and distinctive, versus everything being homogenized," she said.

LMSA aims to bring more visibility to Langley in the coming year, Christensen shared.

"Our mission is straightforward: to cultivate the vitality of



Photo Courtesy of Michaleen McGarry

Over 1,000 sea floats in a myriad of colors and designs will dot the landscape of Seawall Park Saturday for Langley's annual Sea Float Scramble. The floats are made by hand at Langley's local glass-blowing studio, Callahan's Firehouse.

Langley's downtown district through the promotion of community, culture, history and commerce," she said. "That's the Langley Main Street mission for 2020."

Christensen said the Sea Float Scramble allows lucky participants to take an island-made work of art home with them and encourages people to come year after year.

"They (the floats) are one of a kind, so every one is different and when Callahan makes them, he puts a stamp on the bottom that is his signature – it is a shell that is on every sea float," she said. "I know there are people that have come every year and they might have a different float from each year."

One of the goals of the Sea Float Scramble is to foster a positive community atmosphere, Christensen said.

"We really encourage people to come," she said. "We really encourage people to be considerate and have fun and take one float per person and consider that the spirit of the event is to just come away with a really happy feeling about Langley and also hopefully find a sea float."

For more information about the Sea Float Scramble, please visit langleymainstreet.org. Information on Callahan's Firehouse can be found at callahansfirehouse.com.



Photo Courtesy of Michaleen McGarry

Crowds will be lined up, waiting for the tape to drop at 11 a.m. Saturday for Langley's Sea Float Scramble. Each year, more than 1,000 participants from the island and beyond come to try their luck at finding a float.

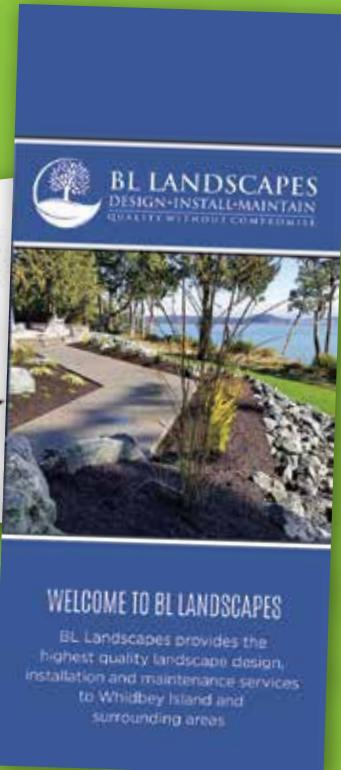
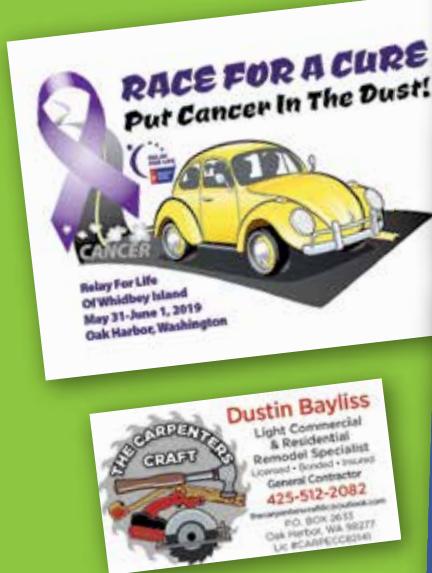


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Life Tributes

RICHARD 'MIKE' MICHAEL MCGRUDER,



Richard 'Mike' Michael McGruder, of Oak Harbor, born Jan. 20, 1949, in Denver, Colo., passed away Dec. 18, 2019, in Everett, Wash. Mike is survived by his loving wife, Dolores; their daughter, Melinda; and grand-daughters, Breanna and Randi (Michael). Per his request, no services are scheduled. Please leave messages of condolence for the family on Mike's Memory Wall at www.wallinfuneralhome.com, and make donations in Mike's name to WAIF in lieu of flowers.

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

WHAT'S GOING ON CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Conversations of War and Return

First & Third Fridays, 7:00-8:30PM
Trinity Lutheran Church, Old Building, Freeland
Veterans Steve Durbin and Chuck McIntyre host a room of conversations for veterans, family members and caregivers. They need to hear your stories. Contact Chuck at 360-579-1059 or Steve at 360-678-2928.

Coupeville Chess Club

Second and Fourth Fridays, 6:45-9:00PM
Coupeville Library
All skill levels welcomed. Please bring a board if possible. Spread the word and come down for some leisurely play. For information, call 631-357-1941.

Debtors Anonymous

Every Sunday, 6:00PM
WGH Board Room, Coupeville
If you are having problems with money and debt and think that you may be a compulsive debtor, the program of Debtors Anonymous can help you. No situation is hopeless. Find the solution that leads to solvency and serenity. Debtors Anonymous is a 12-step program based upon the 12-steps first developed and used by Alcoholics Anonymous. Call 515-451-3749 for directions to location or for more information.

Divorce Care and DC4kids

Every Sunday, 5:00PM
Living Word Church, Oak Harbor
A support group for people dealing with separation and divorce. For more information, call Larry at 360-969-0552 or Lisa - DC4kids at 360-672-4239. Living Word Church is located at 490 NW Crosby Ave.

Duplicate Bridge Club

Every Tuesday, 10:30AM
Sierra Country Club Clubhouse, Coupeville
The club is ACBL sanctioned and we encourage anyone interested to come with or without a partner. For more information, contact one of the directors: Mardi Dennis at 360-675-5044, Sue Thomas at 360-678-7047, or Peter Wolff at 360-678-3019.

Eating Addiction Support Group

Every Thursday, 11:30AM
Private residence, Langley
Meeting based on Becky Jackson's book "Dieting, A Dry Drunk." Meeting time subject to change based on group's needs. For more information and meeting address: DietingRecovery.com, or contact Christina 360-730-1886; christinamjames@hotmail.com.

Free To Change Al-Anon Meeting

Every Friday, 7:00-8:00PM
Trinity Lutheran Church, Freeland
If you or a relative or friend has a problem with alcohol, you can find solutions for yourself at Al-Anon. As a Twelve-Step Program, we offer help by sharing our experience, strength and hope. Newcomers are always welcome!

Gamblers Anonymous

Every Friday, 7:00PM
St Augustine Catholic Church, Oak Harbor
The church is located at 185 N. Oak Harbor St., the meeting is held in the north end of the building. Enter through the double doors next to the parking lot. For more information, email OakHorboga@gmail.com
Washington GA hotline: 855-222-5542

International Order of the Rainbow for Girls

First & Third Mondays, 7:00-8:30PM
Masonic Hall, Coupeville
The Coupeville assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls would like to invite all girls ages 11-20 to attend meetings. Rainbow Girls is a service organization that teaches girls leadership and life skills. For more information, contact Naomie Robinson at robinsonnaomie32@gmail.com or visit www.nwrainbow.org. The Masonic Hall is located at 804 Main Street.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Whidbey Island

Fourth Thursday, 7:00PM-8:30PM
Trinity Lutheran Church, Freeland
NAMI is the largest grassroots organization dedicated to making life better for people with a mental illness and their friends and loved ones. The group is nonreligious but meets at Trinity Lutheran Church, 18341 State Route 525. It isn't necessary to preregister. Please contact Kathy Chiles, 206-218-6449 or k.chiles22@live.com for more information.

NAR-ANON

Every Tuesday, 7:00PM-8:00PM
St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Clinton
NAR-ANON family groups are world-wide for those affected by someone else's addiction. St. Peter's Lutheran Church is located at 6309 Wilson Place.

North Whidbey Coupon Club

Every Friday, 10:00AM-11:30AM
Christian Reformed Church, Oak Harbor
Cost: Free

All are welcome. Coupon-clipping, money-saving conversation and new friends. Our motto is "Eat Better, For Less." Kids welcome. Money-saving classes are available. Find us on Facebook: "Whidbey Coupon Club" and via email: nwcouponclub@comcast.net. The church is located at 1411 Wieldraayer Rd. For further information, please call 360-675-2338.

Open Meditation Group

Every Wednesday, 7:30PM-8:00PM
Alexander Counseling, 221 2nd Street, #10, Langley
Find refuge from the stress of a nervous world. Join for a weekly meditation and cultivate a deeper sense of tranquility and share the joys of peace.

WHAT'S GOING ON CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Island 911

Seriously, we do not make this stuff up!

THURSDAY, DEC. 5

6:50 am, Main St.

Caller states male is soliciting for oral sex outside door, states he's now walking towards Rite Aid.

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

1:13 pm, East Harbor Rd.

For information only; caller requesting patrol be notified of people doing drugs and illegal activity on South end. No specifics.

2:42 pm, Robinson Rd.

Reporting party advising was walking on beach and two poodles with no leashes tried to attack reporting party's dog; advising owners of dogs told reporting party not to walk dogs at location anymore.

2:45 pm, Foxglove Ln.

Requesting call to know how to defend his family against aggressive dog in area.

3:05 pm, Main St.

Advising black truck with male subject wearing Santa hat in parking lot trying to sell puppies; is close to coffee stand. Was told to leave by management yesterday; not allowed to do this, returned today.

3:36 pm, Silver Lake Rd.

Advising step-daughter lives on property,

just tried to burn down reporting party's home; reporting party states nothing is on fire, caught it before it caught fire.

5:52 pm, SW 24th Ave.

Caller advising someone is crawling around in bushes next to trailer.

6:40 pm, Twin View Dr.

Open wireless, sounds of a small child playing, "Who is this? We are just kids!"

9:12 pm, Lancaster Rd.

Female on line advising was an accidental dial, was walking, did not give location; said "I know you guys are gonna come check on me, sorry" then stopped replying to call-taker.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

5:35 am, Oak Harbor Rd.

Reporting party advising male outside throwing stuff around, riding people's bikes and talking "like he's all messed up," "high as a kite."

7:43 am, East Harbor Rd.

Requesting call referencing Neo Nazi group that may be passing through Mukilteo on way to Whidbey Island this weekend; caller found extensive flyers posted all over Old Town in Mukilteo, not sure if local law enforcement is aware.

10:02 am, SW Swantown Ave.

Caller advising ongoing issue with neighbor egging house; unknown when this occurred, found egg today, but seems fresh. Unknown name of neighbor.

1:21 pm, SW Scenic Heights St.

Reporting party advising loud popping sounds coming from the area.

5:24 pm, N Main St.

Advising male standing outside, wearing scrubs; reporting party states he is waiting for a ride from Bellingham, reporting party concerned he may have escaped from hospital.

5:51 pm, Sidney St.

Reporting party advising male standing in her driveway; unknown how long he has been there, reporting party was alerted when dogs started barking.

SUNDAY, DEC. 8

9:48 am, Silver Lake Rd.

Caller advising Friday night step-daughter tried to burn house down, already reported, released with new contact order; female now at house stealing. Caller not at location now, was driving by.

4:20 pm, Angela Ln.

Advising ongoing issues with neighbor yelling at reporting party with profanity.

MONDAY, DEC. 9

4:48 am, NW Heller St.

Caller advising male subject jumping in front of vehicles; caller was driving by, advising it was foggy and didn't get a good look.

11:03 am, NW Crosby Ave.

Advising someone mailed lewd sexual pictures and notes to church.

12:06 pm, Smugglers Cove Rd.

Reporting party states had a computer virus he couldn't get rid of so took computer to be worked on; person hacked

reporting party's computer and compromised it. Reporting party does not have computer back, worth approximately \$5,000. States he feels unsafe going to get computer back as the person owns guns. No threats have been made.

11:46 pm, Waterloo Rd.

Reporting party advising she received voicemail saying three pocket-sized pocket devices in her house; thinks it's a scam, came in at around 2 pm, just got off work. Reporting party is still at work.

TUESDAY, DEC. 10

12:05 am, NW 4th St.

Reporting party advising doesn't think it's fair neighbors make reports about her and gives them to a judge, for a year straight. Says if cops have been called on her, she wants to know about it.

3:07 am, Oak Harbor Rd.

Reporting party was sleeping, roommate came in and smacked reporting party in face, currently in reporting party's living room.

6:20 pm, SR 525

Advising male has been drinking, getting on motorcycle, ready to leave; was asked not to leave, now just crashed in parking lot, skid motorcycle on its side.

6:41 pm, Bercot Rd.

Reporting party advising hired male to do work prior, states just saw male on video stealing Christmas angel; has vehicle and male on video.

9:52 pm, East Harbor Rd.

Male calling on administration line asking if the pervert still works for department, advising "You tell him the 14 days of Christmas has started, we want him hanging by the fire. Does he still live off Double Bluff?"

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

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Photo Courtesy of Island Shakespeare Festival
Live, outdoor repertory theater from mid-July to the beginning of September at the Island Shakespeare Festival is just one of many things to enjoy on Whidbey Island in the coming year.



Courtesy Photo
Save the date for the Welcome the Whales Festival and Parade, to be held April 18 and 19 in Langley.

SAVE THE DATES! *What's coming up in 2020*

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

The presents have been opened and it's time to break out all those new calendars and date books!

There are several events to start thinking about as we head into 2020. Here's a list of some you might want to plan into your schedule. Please be advised, some of these could change, but you can always check *Whidbey Weekly's* ongoing event listings in "What's Going On," where you'll also find out the latest live music, plays and other events going on throughout the year.

JANUARY:

Jan. 4:

Sea Float Scramble, Langley
Read all about this traditional Langley event in Kacie Jo Voeller's cover story, page 7.

Jan. 17-19:

Whidbey Island Film Festival, Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley
This year's three-day festival focuses on films of the master of suspense, Alfred Hitchcock. For a complete list of films and special festival events, or to buy tickets, go to wicaonline.org.

FEBRUARY:

Feb. 1:

Sound Waters University, Langley
Sound Waters University has been bringing together people passionate about life in Puget Sound for more than 20 years, attracting more than 600 people to this annual event. No prior knowledge is required to attend - just an interest in learning about and taking care of this amazing place that we call home. soundwaterstewards.org/sw

Feb. 22-23:

36th Annual Mystery Weekend, Langley
Every year, some poor soul gets "done in" in Langley - it's up to you to figure out who dunnit! visitlangley.com

MARCH:

March 7-8:

Penn Cove Musselfest, Coupeville
Celebrate the bold, briny and blue at this annual event honoring the world famous Penn Cove Mussels. How do you like your chowder? Get your tasting tickets for a chance to find out how you like it best. penncovemusselsfestival.com

March 14:

Whidbey Gardening Workshop, Oak Harbor High School
Now in its 32nd year, the Whidbey Gardening Workshop provides advice and education in gardening practices for beginner to advanced gardeners. Featuring more than 45 classes, keynote speaker, Richie Steffen, of the Great Plant Picks Program and pre-workshop, hands-on field trips Friday, March 13. whidbeygardening.org

APRIL:

April 5-11:

Bunny Daze, Langley
You'll have a hoppin' good time as the City by the Sea celebrates its love for all things bunny. visitlangley.com

April 18-19:

Welcome the Whales Festival and Parade, Langley
Whale watching starts in early March, but Langley officially welcomes the whales with this parade and festival each year in April. visitlangley.com

April 23-26:

Holland Happening International Festival, Oak Harbor
For more than 50 years, Oak Harbor has celebrated Holland Happening, a festival celebrating the many cultures that have come together in Whidbey Island's largest city. Enjoy a carnival, food, vendors and more. oakhbororhchamber.com

MAY:

May 16:

Penn Cover Water Festival, Coupeville
The annual Penn Cover Water Festival brings families together to enjoy Native American canoe racing, entertainment, crafts and culture. penncovewaterfestival.com

JUNE:

June 27:

Whidbey Island Garden Tour, Various locations on South Whidbey
This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Whidbey Island Garden Tour. This year will feature five never-before-seen gardens on South Whidbey. wig.t.org

JULY:

July 3:

Celebrate America, Freeland
Thousands flock to Freeland every July 3 for an afternoon and evening of fun, food, games, entertainment and yes, fireworks! cawhidbey.com

July 3-7:

Old Fashioned 4th of July, Oak Harbor
A carnival kicks off the Old Fashioned 4th of July celebrations in Oak Harbor. Independence Day will feature a grand parade and much more, culminating in a fireworks display. oakhbororhchamber.com

July 16-19:

Whidbey Island Fair, Langley
Whidbey Island celebrates its rural lifestyle every year at the Whidbey Island Fair. Find everything you love at this annual old-fashioned fair. fair.whidbeyislandfair.com

July - September:

Island Shakespeare Festival, Langley
Typically running from mid-July through the beginning of September, the Island Shakespeare Festival features three productions in rotating repertory theater each season. These outdoor productions are by donation and feature professional actors and directors from all over the country. islandshakespearefest.org

July 31-Aug. 9:

Whidbey Island Music Festival, St Augustine's-in-the-Woods, Freeland
In 2020, WIMF celebrates two major milestones - the 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven's birth and the 15th anniversary of the Whidbey Island Music Festival. whidbeyislandmusicfestival.org

AUGUST:

Aug. 8:

North Whidbey Lions Club Car Show, Windjammer Park, Oak Harbor
The best North Whidbey car show is back! e-clubhouse.org/sites/northwhidbey/

Aug. 8-9:

Coupeville Arts & Crafts Festival, Coupeville
Featuring fine art and crafts from makers all over the region. coupevillefestival.com



Photo Courtesy of Oak Harbor Music Festival
Celebrate Labor Day Weekend at the Oak Harbor Music Festival. Three days of free music, plus food and shopping, starting Friday, Sept. 4 in downtown Oak Harbor.

Aug. 22-23, 29-30:
Whidbey Working Artists Open Studio Tour, Various locations on Whidbey Island
Tour the studios, meet the artists, see them at work! Artists of all types working in all medias are represented during this self-guided tour of studios all over Whidbey Island. whidbeyworkingartists.com

SEPTEMBER:

Sept. 4-6:

Oak Harbor Music Festival, downtown Oak Harbor
Three days of free music from artists of all genres from around the country, plus food, beer gardens, craft vendors and good times. oakharborfestival.com

Sept. 12-13:

Hydros for Heroes Jet Boat Racing, Oak Harbor
This professional racing event draws over 50 regional race teams. Bring your friends, bring your family, and come have a great time by the water at this free event. hydrosforheroes.com

Sept. 18:

Lady Washington Sails In, Langley
Lady Washington, the official tall ship of Washington State, arrives in Langley. Vessel tours and adventure sails will be offered Sept. 20-22. visitlangley.com

OCTOBER:

All month:

Haunting of Coupeville, various locations. hauntingofcoupeville.com

Oct. 25:

Monster Mash, Smith Park, Oak Harbor facebook.com/midwaymonstermash

Oct. 31:

Spooktacular Langley, downtown Langley visitlangley.com
No Tricks Safe Treats, downtown Oak Harbor oakhborormainstreet.com

NOVEMBER:

Nov. 28:

Lighting of Langley, downtown Langley visitlangley.com

DECEMBER:

Dec. 5:

Holly Jolly Parade, Langley visitlangley.com
Home for the Holidays, Oak Harbor oakhborormainstreet.com

Dec. 31:

New Year's Eve Fireworks, Oak Harbor oakhborochamber.com



Photo Courtesy of Penn Cove Water Festival
The Penn Cove Water Festival celebrates our area's Native American roots. This long-running festival will be held May 16 in Coupeville.



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



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.)

Black Christmas: This is the second remake of the 1974 classic that planted the very fertile seeds of the slasher genre, including not only the slasher itself but also the archetype of attractive, helpless women victims. Despite a supposedly fresh feminist take, the third time is not quite the charm. ★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 32 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)

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

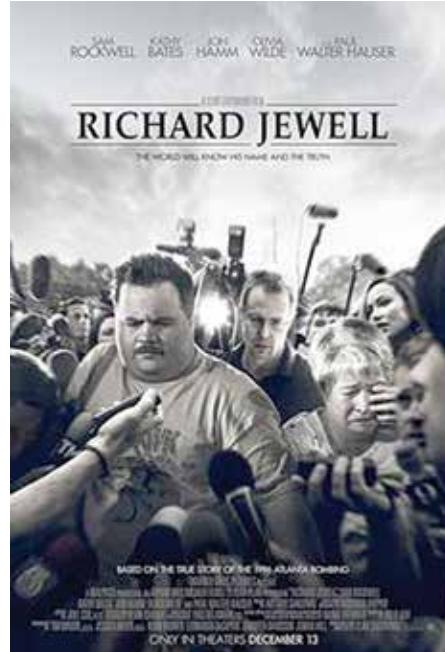
Frozen II: It's Disney's world and we're all just living in it. There's nothing we can do about that. We need to learn to let it go. ★★★★ (PG • 1 hr. 44 min.)

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 (Timothee 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 monumenally bad decisions at breakneck speed and you heard it here first. Maybe not first, but definitely not last. ★★★★★ (R • 2 hrs. 15 min.)

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

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OF SKYWALKER (PG-13)

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Friday, January 3

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Edmonds-Woodway - 7:15pm

Tuesday, January 7

OHHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynwood - 7:15pm

Wednesday, January 8

SVC Women's Basketball @ Everett CC - 5:00pm
SVC Men's Basketball @ Everett CC - 7:00pm

www.soundsportsnet.com

CAN DO SUDOKU!

On a scale from 1 to 10...3.5

Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9

Answers on page 15

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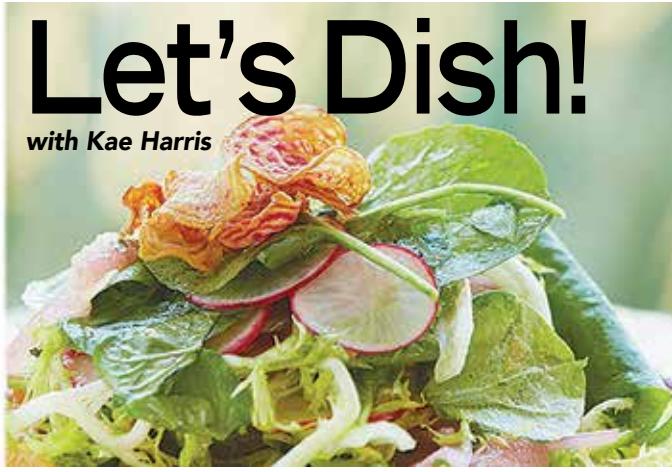


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Let's Dish!

with Kae Harris



SAME OLD TRADITIONS FOR A BRAND NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year to you all! I hope your festive season was a very festive one indeed and you all celebrated in due style, whatever that looks like to you. Was your month of merriment filled with a good many eats, sweets and treats? I hope so! I know for many people they have their standard traditions, their go-to fare, their 'old faithful' recipes over the holidays and that's wonderful. Traditions, especially those surrounding food, preserve a culture and a way of life that could date back some hundreds (maybe even thousands!) of years and there we are, continuing it on. Amazing!

There are a good many food traditions as far as New Year's goes and I know I discuss them almost every year, but what's a little reminder of the plentiful ways in which cultures everywhere beckon health, wealth and prosperity into the lives of the people within the celebrating culture? Perhaps we can even indulge in some of these practices ourselves. You see, I find culture to be a fascinating thing and in addition, it's also extremely complex. It weaves intricate webs across different lands, picking up tidbits from different peoples. I marvel at culture in all it's vast complexity and everything that springs forth from it.

As far as New Year's goes, what foods are commonly eaten over the changing of the year? Well, it would most certainly be those which are symbolic of all things good and prosperous. Greens are one such emblematic food. Yes, greens - like spinach, kale, green beans - things with literally a green hue. Being resonant of all things financially abundant, greens are often found on tables across the world in a bid to entice wealth. Why greens? Well, think of all the symbols representative of luck: Four leaf clovers, jade and money, to name a few, so if green is lucky, then I sure hope you filled up on some during your New Year's festivities!

Pork is next on the lucky list of, well, luck. A couple of years ago, I talked about how any sort of fowl was typically served at Christmas because fowl tend to scratch backwards in the dirt, which

is symbolic of leaving the old stuff behind and preparing the way for the New Year. How does this relate to pork? Well, pigs root forward with their snouts in the dirt - a representation of moving forward into the next year. Pork was also, in some parts of the world, a food reserved for the upper class of society and as such, it earned a reputation for prosperity as well. Pork belly with crackling anyone? You could always make sweet and sour pork, or perhaps some chops to go with your greens and get as much bang for your buck when welcoming in the bucks!

But if pork isn't really one of your favorite foods, or not something you eat at all, then you could always make your New Year's lucky protein of choice, fish. Due to their motion always being forward propulsion and the fact they swim in schools, the hope is by cooking, serving and eating fish during the New Year, you lay the groundwork for not only constant movement forward, but also of abundance. Whatever abundance is to you, I hope your year is abundant in it! And, dear readers, that's not all, because, not only are fish symbolic of perpetual forward motion and abundance, their shiny scales are said to be representative of coins/money so, have yourself a portion of your favorite fish and may your luck in all three of these areas be abundant!

Perhaps fish isn't something you enjoy. It's totally okay, and don't worry, if you don't eat fish during the New Year, your hopes of moving forward with money aren't washed away. You could always make and eat lentils! Yes, their circular shape and small size are physical metaphors for coins, which in turn, basically symbolizes money. Plus, lentils aren't only delish, they're versatile and very good for you, too! There are countless tasty ways to prepare these lucky little guys; curry, salads or soups and from there, the options on how to prepare them grows exponentially, so definitely indulge in a lentil dish over the New Year!

I actually came across a recipe for a lentil spaghetti Bolognese and it got me thinking about noodles. In many Asian countries, noodles are consumed during New Year celebrations to usher

in longevity. Look, if eating noodles will welcome long life, then it's a win-win, because noodles are fantastic, period. There is a caveat to eating noodles over the New Year, I found. You have to make sure the noodle doesn't break before the entire strand is in your mouth completely. Challenging? For some, perhaps. Methinks I could manage, for I have a large and forever running mouth, so I could possibly manage to make this work. A pork stir fry with some sort of noodle dish (chow mein, lo mein etc.), a lentil spaghetti Bolognese, perhaps even your favorite ramen dish, could all become ambassadors for health and a lengthy life this year!

Dear Readers, however you spent your holidays and whatever the way you spent New Year's, I hope the year ahead brings you health, prosperity and abundance. I hope your year moves forward and you are successful in as many areas as you can be. I hope your hard work rewards you with abundant measures of experience, expertise, money (of course) and skills you can put to great use in every facet of life. I hope, most of all, your celebrations were enjoyable and spent with loved ones. In order to help usher in a period of prosperity, I am including a simple stir fry recipe with noodles that I love. You could prepare this with whatever you so choose - chicken, pork or beef - and however you serve it, I hope you let me know how you liked it! Please do send any and all comments, questions and certainly, recipes you'd like to send to letsdish.whidbeyweekly@gmail.com and we can do just that and Dish!

Simple Stir Fry Noodles

1 Tablespoon vegetable oil
10 oz. egg noodles, pre-cooked
½ cup shredded carrots
¼ cup finely diced celery
½ cup green bell pepper
1 teaspoon minced garlic
½ teaspoon fresh minced ginger
¼ cup chicken broth
1 ½ tablespoons hoisin sauce
1 ½ tablespoons soy sauce
2 teaspoons cornstarch
¼ cup green onions, chopped
salt and pepper

In a large pan over medium/high heat, preheat the vegetable oil. Cook the carrots, celery and green pepper until just tender. Add garlic and ginger and cook for 30 seconds to a minute. Add the cooked noodles to the pan and toss to combine everything. In a small bowl, whisk together the broth, hoisin and soy sauce and cornstarch. Pour the sauce into the pan with the noodles and simmer for a couple of minutes or until the sauce has thickened. Sprinkle with green onions, serve and enjoy!

www.dinneratthezoo.com/stir-fry-noodles/

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

WHAT'S GOING ON CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Overeaters Anonymous

Every Monday, 6:00PM-7:00PM
Langley Fellowship Hall, Langley

Is food a problem for you? Do you eat when you're not hungry? Do you binge, purge or restrict? No dues and no fees! No weigh-ins, no diets, no judgments. Just caring support, hope and abstinence.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)

Second Mondays, 6:30PM-8:00PM
Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Whidbey Island, Freeland

For more information and support contact: WhidbeyPFLAG@gmail.com; Chapter President, Sharon Kabler at 360-222-4028; or Chapter Secretary, Erick Westphal at 360-331-3393.

Parkinson's Support Group

First Friday, 1:00PM
Oak Harbor Senior Center, 51 Jerome St.

First Tuesday, 10:00AM
Trinity Lutheran Church, 18341 SR 525, Freeland
No one need struggle with Parkinson's alone. Gain new friends, get the facts. Call 360-675-9894.

Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA)

Every Wednesday, 7:00-8:00PM
Every Sunday, 7:00PM-8:00PM

Trinity Lutheran Church Annex, Freeland

SLAA is a 12-step fellowship for those who wish to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. We offer relief for both those who suffer from a compulsive need for sex, and those with relationship-related compulsionality. We provide an environment free from shame and abuse where all can feel safe to share what they think and feel. You are not alone. For more information call 360-989-4248.

South Whidbey Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Second Tuesday, 10:00AM-12:00PM
South Whidbey Senior Center, Langley

Expanded quarterly workshops TBA. The Caregiver Support Group, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association, Western and Central Washington Chapter, provides emotional, educational, and social support for caregivers of those suffering from memory loss - in a confidential setting. For questions or additional information, contact Mel Watson at 360-321-1623 or mel@islandseniorservices.org.

South Whidbey Coupon Club

Every Wednesday, 12:00-4:00PM
Good Cheer Thrift Store, 114 Anthes Ave, Langley

At the South Whidbey Coupon Club, we also welcome those who would like to help clip coupons which will be used for Good Cheer's shopping. Find us on Facebook: "Whidbey Coupon Club" and via email: nwcouponclub@comcast.net. For further information, please call 360-675-2338.

"The Most Excellent Way" Support Meetings

Every Wednesday, 7:00PM
Church on the Rock, Oak Harbor

"The Most Excellent Way" is world-wide support group desiring to minister to alcoholics, drug addicts, and their families. "The Most Excellent Way" is a Christ based self-help group for people struggling with addictions of all kinds and self-centered behaviors. Childcare is provided. For more information, please call 360-675-3032.

TOPS® (Take Off Pounds Sensibly®)

Every Thursday, 9:00-11:00AM
Family Bible Church, Oak Harbor

TOPS® is the short name for TOPS Club, Inc., the original, nonprofit, noncommercial network of weight-loss support groups. TOPS® offers tools and programs for healthy living and weight management, with exceptional group fellowship and recognition. Weigh-in from 9:00AM-10:00AM, meeting is 10:00AM-11:00AM. For more information, call Shelly Weeks at 360-207-9039 or 360-240-1770.

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

Dining Guide

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CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

ARIES (March 21-April 19)



In money matters this week, it is important that you pay close attention to your motives. Especially avoid schemes that focus solely on making others' wealth your own, without giving equal consideration to the value you give in return. Be honest with yourself. Losses incurred as a result of false virtue will not be regained. The 5th is a fruitful and busy day, with many activities coming simultaneously to fruition.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



The breaks roll magically your way this week. Satisfaction is due, made sweeter by the great amount of work you have invested. Be aware that the aura of success presently enveloping you is highly attractive. You may be deluged by volunteers as a result, all eager to help you divide the spoils. A party atmosphere may ensue on the 5th, with back slapping aplenty. Savor the moment and let the good times roll.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



Have you been waiting for just the right moment to get a few things off your chest? Wait no longer, the time has come. Heavy feelings are no fun to carry around, and the 5th quite likely offers the perfect opportunity to unburden yourself. This is not a one way street, so be prepared to hear the other side of the story. For a healthy meeting of the minds, listen without planning your next words.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)



Your can-do attitude and fighting spirit are the wind in your sails this week. Given such a drive to succeed, it's a pretty good bet that you will come out on top in your endeavors. Let order in the chain of command augment your drive, and you're as good as home free. Leadership ability is essential to putting it all together. If you have it, don't be shy about using it. Diplomacy is a plus on the 5th.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



Friendly competition is a good thing for all concerned this week. The hazard is that you will take matters too seriously, and what should be productive energy will turn negative. If your activity on the 5th becomes a contest of personalities, know that you are not getting the full benefit of what the situation has to offer. Ideally, all parties will get more out of themselves by working together than by working separately.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)



Your stress and worry is about to pay off. A reversal of a troublesome situation is in the cards this week. Also possible is a breakthrough in a separate, equally stressful, matter that recently demanded a great deal of your time and energy. The satisfaction factor in both cases rates high. As these matters come to resolution, enjoy the glow of achievement they

bring. The 5th is a day of reckoning.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



All that is required for you to keep important matters on an even keel this week is to stand firm on your commitments and live up to your obligations. If you do your part as prescribed, the unsettled details of the matter will in all likelihood sort themselves out favorably. The hardest part may be soothing the hard feelings of someone who feels slighted by the way all has unfolded. Do your best on the 5th to be understanding.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



You are slated for transformation to a higher level of play this week. As a result, you may find yourself facing greater stakes in the game of life. If it seems that your successes are coming more and more easily, consider that to be a sure sign the game is about to ramp up. Regardless of your chosen arena, higher risk always means higher reward. Keep this fact in mind on the 5th and you won't underplay your hand.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



The high standards of performance you demand of yourself will be hard to achieve this week. The reality is that by more reasonable standards, your performance level is beyond reproach in the estimate of everyone except you. Push yourself to go the extra mile if you feel you must, but chances are high that you've already buried the competition. Consider these facts before you berate yourself on the 5th.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



A fair amount of social activity is required of you this week, more than you probably wish. Time spent in seemingly unproductive activity is anything but that, however. Hidden returns on your investments in the social circuit stand to come further down the road. Viewed through that lens, your obligations lack the sense of tedium you may otherwise experience. The enjoyments of the 5th are more immediate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



It's a great week you have in store, one in which you will advance most readily, and also most happily, via the efforts of your own hand. The happiness factor is linked to your criticisms of the group performance as too slow, too cumbersome, too prone to compromise. In short, if want it done your way, you must do it yourself. Even so, on the 5th you will not lack for people willing to share in the rewards of your efforts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



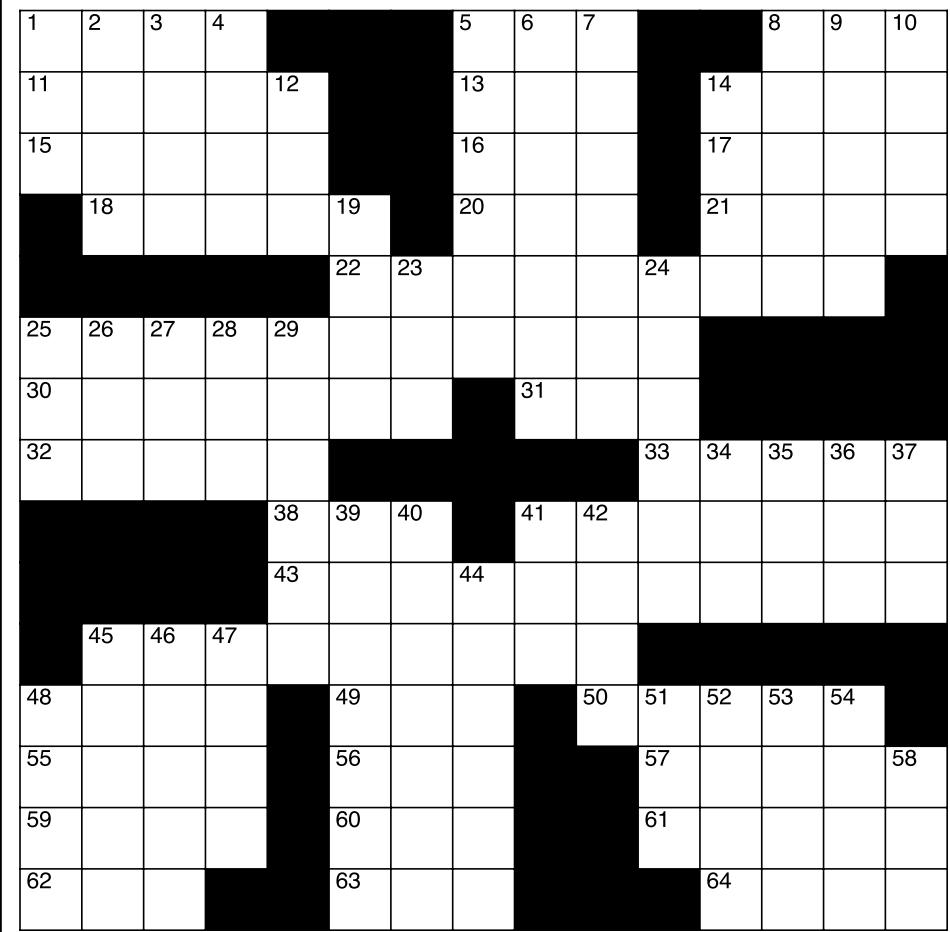
Events this week may appear calculated to keep you on edge. More likely, however, is that the built-in worry factor that seems to be ever-present is being added by you. Since the worst never seems to happen, the inevitable conclusion is that the fears holding you hostage are mostly in your imagination. Acceptance of that as fact is your key to freedom. The 5th is a great day to set yourself free.

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Chicken Little's knock on the head meant to him that the sky was falling, silly bird. His horoscope showed other possibilities. Don't wait for a knock on the head to ask what's up in your life. Wesley Hallock, as Whidbey Weekly's professional astrologer and horoscope writer, keeps one eye on the sky and alerts us to the prospects each week. 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. Fall down | 50. Wipe out | 23. Where you sleep |
| 5. American TV company (abbr.) | 55. Invests in little enterprises | 24. Ruled Russia |
| 8. Exclamation that denotes disgust | 56. Waste | 25. Indicates density of data (abbr.) |
| 11. Gallantry | 57. Resembles a large shrimp | 26. Sea eagle |
| 13. Chinese word signifying "doctrine" | 59. Derogatory name for rural resident | 27. Type of light bulb |
| 14. Prefix meaning "beside" | 60. Menswear accessory | 28. Wreath |
| 15. Act of imitating | 61. Tropical American tree | 29. Graduate with a degree |
| 16. Tall, rounded vase | 62. Pitching statistic | 34. What thespians do |
| 17. Sixth month of Jewish civil calendar | 63. Camera type | 35. "Orange is the New Black" character |
| 18. Rural Iranian village | 64. Cardinal number that is the sum of five and one | 36. Comedienne Gaster |
| 20. Time zone | | 37. Romanian monetary unit |
| 21. Military weapon (abbr.) | | 39. People treated as a group |
| 22. Gets rid of | | 40. Small European plant |
| 25. Aggressive | | 41. First responder group |
| 30. Addressed one's appearance | | 42. A person's head |
| 31. Affirmative | | 44. Giggle |
| 32. Denoting Indo-European languages | | 45. Bura-__: Chadic language |
| 33. French noble family | | 46. Snout moth genus |
| 38. Shock therapy | | 47. Body part |
| 41. Having characteristics of both sexes | | 48. Inspirational Wimble |
| 43. Large suitcase | | don champ |
| 45. One who identifies God with the universe | | 51. Revolutions per minute |
| 48. Swiss river | | 52. American software developer |
| 49. Frequently | | 53. Ancient Greek city |
| | | 54. Female sheep |
| | | 58. "The Science Guy" |

CLUES DOWN

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Surgical procedure of the heart (abbr.) | 5. State of insensibility | 23. Where you sleep |
| 2. Northern Scandinavia indigenous person | 6. Herb | 24. Ruled Russia |
| 3. Evergreen trees and shrubs | 7. Annuity | 25. Indicates density of data (abbr.) |
| 4. Meat from a domestic hog | 8. San Diego-based ballplayer | 26. Sea eagle |
| 5. State of insensibility | 9. Members of a Semitic people | 27. Type of light bulb |
| 6. Herb | 10. Any physical damage | 28. Wreath |
| 7. Annuity | 12. Woolen rug | 29. Graduate with a degree |
| 8. San Diego-based ballplayer | 14. Alsos Mission leader | 34. What thespians do |
| 9. Members of a Semitic people | 15. Aromatic plant used as culinary herb | 35. "Orange is the New Black" character |
| 10. Any physical damage | | 36. Comedienne Gaster |
| 12. Woolen rug | | 37. Romanian monetary unit |
| 14. Alsos Mission leader | | 39. People treated as a group |
| 15. Aromatic plant used as culinary herb | | 40. Small European plant |
| | | 41. First responder group |
| | | 42. A person's head |
| | | 44. Giggle |
| | | 45. Bura-__: Chadic language |
| | | 46. Snout moth genus |
| | | 47. Body part |
| | | 48. Inspirational Wimble |
| | | don champ |
| | | 51. Revolutions per minute |
| | | 52. American software developer |
| | | 53. Ancient Greek city |
| | | 54. Female sheep |
| | | 58. "The Science Guy" |

Answers on page 15

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Jan. 2	Fri, Jan. 3	Sat, Jan. 4	Sun, Jan. 5	Mon, Jan. 6	Tues, Jan. 7	Wed, Jan. 8
North Isle H-52°/L-42° Rain Possible	North Isle H-48°/L-38° Rain Possible	North Isle H-45°/L-36° Mostly Cloudy Rain Possible	North Isle H-44°/L-35° Rain Possible Windy	North Isle H-44°/L-36° Rain Possible Windy	North Isle H-44°/L-36° Mostly Cloudy Rain Possible	North Isle H-44°/L-37° Mostly Cloudy Rain Possible
South Isle H-53°/L-40° Rain Possible Breezy	South Isle H-44°/L-34° Rain Possible Windy	South Isle H-42°/L-34° Mostly Cloudy Rain Possible	South Isle H-41°/L-33° Rain Possible Windy	South Isle H-44°/L-35° Rain Possible	South Isle H-44°/L-35° Rain Possible	South Isle H-44°/L-36° Rain Possible



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- ✓ FREE Differential & Fill
- ✓ FREE Transfer Case & Fill
- ✓ FREE Windshield Washer Fluid & Fill
- ✓ FREE Battery Fluid & Fill

- ✓ NEW Oil & Oil Filter
- ✓ LUBE Chassis
- ✓ INFLATE Tires
- ✓ VACUUM Interior
- ✓ WASH Front & Rear Windows

- ✓ Wiper Blade
- ✓ Air Filter
- ✓ Belts & Hoses
- ✓ Headlights & Signal Lights

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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. More info at our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSound-DragonBoatClub?ref=hl

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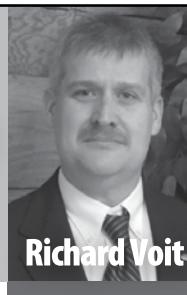
College student? Student of history? History buff? Opportunities are available to spend constructive volunteer hours at the PBY-Naval Air Museum. Go to www.pbymf.org and click on "Volunteer" or just stop by and introduce yourself. Imagine Oak Harbor's first Food Forest, Saturdays 11am-3pm, at 526 Bayshore Drive. Each week, we have volunteer opportunities available to help care for our community garden, share organic gardening tips, and learn Permaculture principles. All ages and skill levels welcome. Schedule can change due to

How'd you do?

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

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WhidbeyHealth celebrates 50 years in 2020

Celebrating history is wonderful. Using history as a foundation upon which to build and grow is even more exciting.

WhidbeyHealth is celebrating its 50th anniversary on Whidbey Island this year and is planning a year-long collection of events, activities and contests to help mark this milestone.

"This is the island's hospital, the community's hospital," said WhidbeyHealth CEO Ron Telles, explaining he and the board of directors have been working closely with local marketing company, Lionfish, to help make 2020 a very special year for both WhidbeyHealth and the Whidbey Island community.

"This will be a yearlong celebration filled with surprises," said Gloria Wildeman, Lionfish CEO. "A lot of really fun things are going to happen that will provide great opportunities to get involved and learn a little bit."

"We'll be talking about some of the changes happening, the vision of new leadership and the board in building on that 50-year history," she continued. "People will see the addition of new clinics, services and WhidbeyHealth reaching out with things people really need."

One exciting new addition to WhidbeyHealth's services is its walk-in facility opening in Clinton at the end of February.

"With the opening we're saying 'Here's the future,'" Telles said. "We've heard the community, which has shared its desire for easier access to health care. Now there will be a walk-in clinic for the south end, open seven days a week, and we're planning one in Oak Harbor by the end of 2020."

But that's just part of what is in store this year.

"We'll be launching an experiential journey through the history of the hospital and we're going to start taking the hospital on the road," said Wildeman. "There will be activities, events, experiences; something will be happening every month, all year long."

Telles and Wildeman say the coming year will help the Whidbey Island community get to know WhidbeyHealth better. For instance, they want the community to know about WhidbeyHealth's ability to do diagnostic testing right here at home, before someone has to go to the mainland for further treatment. People can have lab work or post-treatment therapy here on Whidbey Island. The coming year is about sharing how WhidbeyHealth can help people on Whidbey live healthier lives.

"We are your neighborhood health system," said Telles. "We have 750 employees who live on the island. We are a part of you, we've listened to you and we are bringing health care to you."

"This is really about you, the community," agreed Wildeman. "The coming year is a chance to get to know us better. We'll be out in the community talking about our history, where we are today and where we are going."

To learn more about upcoming events, the history of WhidbeyHealth and the services currently offered, visit whidbeyhealth.org.

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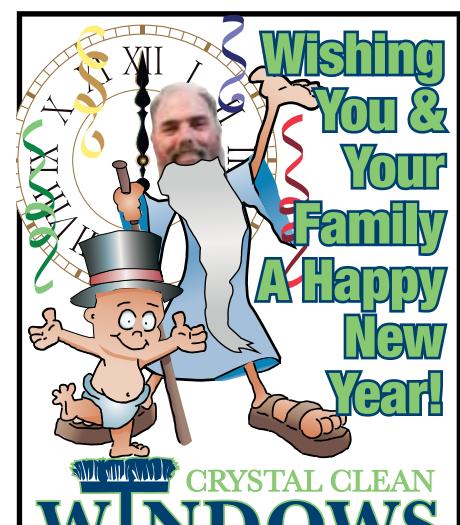
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