

April 9 through April 15, 2020

# Whidbey Weekly

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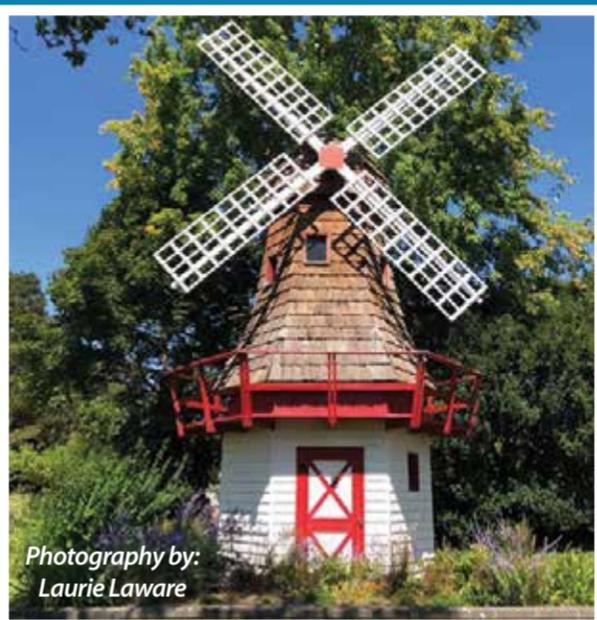


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# ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



After checking the definition of essential to determine whether or not I would be allowed to write this week's column, I am humbled.

According to my interpretation of the definition, "absolutely necessary; indispensable," our editor has cut me some slack.

Surely, Whidbey

Weekly is essential.

We have the Island 911 feature reporting past criminal and civil concerns on page 9.

We have astrologist extraordinaire Wesley Haddock reporting future concerns on page 13.

Since nothing is going on, this leaves me to cover the present.

The present has passed and is past by the time this sentence is read.

So, to satisfy our governor's recommendations, with my mask at the ready, I am writing this week's page three while sitting at home. It shall be my attempt to offer up some essential information insofar as it relates to my essentiality.

Shall we begin?

### Bandanna blues

I need some help with my bandanna I look more like Santa Ana  
The general at the Alamo  
We all know how That did go  
My bandanna is just a hanky with pretty colors I'm looking lanky  
Go to the store There's a line to get in  
We're all wearing masks To not do so a sin  
My nose the wrong size Or maybe the slope but wearing this hanky I look like a dope  
Living alone I wash my hands often  
Too much pollen Then fear-filled coughin' I think I'm okay but how would I know? wearing this bandanna wherever I go

### Chuck it bucket

With all this extra time to think about things I have never thought about, I started a list of items I would not have on a bucket list if I had one.

- 1. Serve on a jury for a murder trial
- 2. Eat macaroni and cheese for 14 consecutive days without talking to anyone
- 3. Asking the I.R.S. to audit me

### Line up

Needing business size envelopes, I checked on Amazon for a bulk purchase. Apparently, envelopes are a premium in bulk. Being a member of Amazon non-Prime, I was guaranteed delivery by May 25.

Why not go to Payless instead?

So, I grabbed my bandanna and my gloves and headed out for another adventure in procurement.

Knowing the new Payless one door rule, and seeing a fairly spacious parking lot, I pulled in to a slot quite close to the action. There was store manager Tom Brown right in front of me, retrieving a cart.

"Tom, you are doing a great job. Getting any sleep?"

"When I'm not working."

I started to blast through the doors by the video and pull tab boxes until I saw Dee standing in my way.

"We have a line," she said, pointing to a gathering of masked individuals six feet apart, standing along the wall.

A minute or two later, when I was next to enter, I asked Dee, "Do you have any envelopes?"

"Plenty of envelopes. Aisle 8."

A fellow approached Dee to ask, "Got any baby wipes?"

"No baby wipes."

Then, behind me, a tall silver haired masked gentleman spoke, "Envelopes and baby wipes. That'd be a good country song."

As soon as I got back to the caboose with my non-adhesive business size essential envelopes, I

wrote these lyrics for the yet-to-be country song suggested by the masked gentleman. Think they will change the name of the popular TV show, *The Masked Singer*?

Do you have envelopes?

Yes, we do.  
Some you lick.  
Some have glue.

Do you have baby wipes?

We do not.  
Not a one.  
Do we got.

Envelopes and baby wipes

Both we need  
Essential for parents  
And the baby who peed

Okay, so it needs work.

Don't we all?

### Quotes to note

*The world is full of suffering. It is also full of the overcoming of it.* ~Helen Keller

*Tax reform is when you take the taxes off things that have been taxed in the past and put taxes on things that haven't been taxed before.* ~Art Buchwald

*I figured out why Uncle Sam wears such a tall hat. It comes in handy when he passes it around.* ~Soupy Sales

*If we got through Hitler, we can get through anything.* ~Mel Brooks

*I've eaten five times, taken three naps, and it's still...today!*

~From the Phreeland Fantom's friend who runs a business and has closed her office because of the pandemic

### Assumption violation

Last week I suggested listening to the Mariners' re-broadcasts of their classic games every night at 7pm on 710 AM KIRO was great therapy for us baseball fans.

Wrong, baseball breath. Last night I listened to KIRO's re-broadcast of game one of the American League Division Series from 1995.

When the score was Yankees 8, Mariners 4 in the 7th inning, I thought an incredible rally was about to take place.

Wrong, assumption breath. You just violated rule #3 of Don Miguel Ruiz's *Four Basic Agreements* – Do not make assumptions.

Last week I assumed the Mariners would re-broadcast their victories. Why would any team re-broadcast a loss?

Methinks because the Mariners are still so excited they were in a playoff mode 25 years ago, coming in second place is still a victory to a team used to losing.

My sincere apologies for my false prediction the Mariners would be 30-0 by Willie Nelson's 87th birthday April 30. I just checked KIRO's schedule.

They are broadcasting more losses. Six of them.

Our re-broadcast fantasy of perfection has been sidelined.

The Mariners only go 24-6 this month since they replay the losses from the series in 1995, 2000, and 2001.

It's enough to make a guy wanna spit, again and again.

Take your mask off first.

Of course, the bottom line – any Dave Niehaus, win or lose, is better than no Niehaus.

### Be the carrier

Grandma recently shared the following words of wisdom which she saw on a friend's Facebook post. The words are superimposed on a pretty picture of a green field and blue sky. Feel free to imagine your own picturesque setting. I'm using Everett Aqua Sox stadium.

*Also Highly Contagious is – Kindness, Patience, Love, Enthusiasm, and a Positive Attitude-Don't wait to catch it from others-Be the Carrier*

### Free humor

I just Binged "best jokes for the COVID-19 pandemic." There weren't any jokes listed, but there was a picture of Arnold Schwarzenegger playing chess with a donkey.

### Last paragraph

Congratulations, and thanks to all of you who are participating on the side of caution in your altered lives.

Stenciled in white letters on the top red steel step of my 92 year young caboose are two words – *Be Careful.*

For me, it translates to being full of care.

May we all be full of it.

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

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Whidbey Weekly  
LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

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

Publisher..... Eric Marshall  
Editor ..... Kathy Reed  
Marketing Representatives..... Penny Hill, Noah Marshall  
Graphic Design ..... Teresa Besaw  
Production Manager ..... TJ Pierzchala  
Circulation Manager..... Noah Marshall

Contributing Writers  
Jim Freeman  
Wesley Hallock  
Kae Harris  
Tracy Loescher  
Kathy Reed  
Carey Ross  
Kacie Jo Voeller

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# Bits & Pieces

## Letters to the Editor

### Editor

Last week my grandson CELEBRATED his 12th birthday – Yes, he actually had a celebration while sheltering in place and practicing social distancing!

At the suggestion of a friend, my daughter arranged a surprise convoy/flashmob of family and friends to drive by their house - at a pre-arranged time - honking and waving and sending good wishes!

Some brought balloons (which they lined the driveway with), some brought snacks, and another family brought cookies. Needless to say, this simple gesture of love made an otherwise quiet birthday a VERY happy one indeed, and, like I reminded my grandson, he may forget most of them but he will ALWAYS remember his 12th birthday!

I thought it was an idea worth sharing in hopes other birthday kids can create their own special ways to celebrate.

Lynn Flaaten  
Greenbank, Wash.

### Editor,

The Lions are not sleeping through the current health crisis. You will see Coupeville Lions Club members performing some essential services throughout our community to support those in need.

Perhaps you have seen a Lion shopping at Prairie Center. Our Lions are shopping for at-risk folks who call in their grocery list and never need to come into the store, as well as providing some much-needed relief to over-burdened grocery clerks.

We are helping distribute food with Meals on Wheels, distributions of food from Oak Harbor Help House and volunteering at Gifts From The Heart Food Bank. We continue to provide loans of medical equipment for those in need, as well as eyeglass collection distributions. Lions are continuing to pick up trash along Highway 20. Lions are also sewing masks to donate to WhidbeyHealth Medical Center. Our Lions Club is providing meals to over-worked employees at Careage and we are continuing to seek out more ways to serve in this time of crisis.

This is a difficult time for all and it's a time for the community to come together and support one another. The Coupeville Lions Club has leapt into action to provide help where necessary and is proud to be a member of this wonderful community.

Brian Pulk  
President, Coupeville Lions Club

**Rotary Clubs on Whidbey Unite to Create PPE Task Force**  
**Whidbey Island Rotary clubs join forces to provide vital PPE supplies**



Whidbey Rotary Task Force delivers PPE to WhidbeyHealth Medical Center. L-R: Jack Ng, Rotary Club of South Whidbey; Harry Hawn, purchasing manager; Tim Waldner, executive director of facilities; Ron Telles, CEO. Photo credit: Jin Ma

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Whidbey-Health Medical Center in Coupeville is experiencing critical shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE) vital for the daily operations of the hospital, according to Ron Telles, CEO WhidbeyHealth.

"This is a difficult time – perhaps the most difficult we will know in our lives. Despite the issues we face, remarkable support from our community continues to roll in," said Telles.

Rotary members from Whidbey Island have long supported the community through a range of service projects. Now, the Rotary Clubs of Whidbey Island, under the leadership of Rotary International District 5050 Assistant Governor, Bruce Enter, have responded to this emergent situation by forming an all-island Rotary PPE Task Force. The mission of the task force is to fund, source and procure masks, gloves and other personal protection equipment essential for the safety and welfare of health care providers and front-line responders on Whidbey Island.

"The four Rotary Clubs of Whidbey Island identified an urgent need in our community. By joining forces, we were able to activate our members, expedite our response to this growing problem, and magnify our efforts to provide support to front-line aid workers, quickly putting our 'Service Above Self' mission into action," said John Joynt, president of Rotary Club of Whidbey Westside.

The newly formed task force unites the Rotary clubs of Oak Harbor, North Whidbey Island Sunrise, South Whidbey, and Whidbey Westside together with Assistant District Governor, Bruce Enter.

The four clubs have donated \$2,000 each for the purchase of PPE. The task force secured a matching grant of \$5,000 with assistance from Rotary District 5050 Governor, Brad Whitaker. Rotarians from the four clubs have also contributed individual donations to the effort. A Go Fund me page to enable ongoing donations is forthcoming.

Rotary Club of South Whidbey member Jack Ng, who initiated the project, has led efforts to procure the personal protective equipment. To date, Whidbey Rotary PPE Task Force has delivered over 12,000 protective masks and more than 7,000 latex gloves to the WhidbeyHealth Medical Center. Two hundred goggles have been ordered to be donated to the medical center as well. The Task Force plans to distribute disinfectant spray to Island County Department of Emergency Management for use by island fire, rescue and EMS workers following medical calls.

"The Whidbey Island PPE Task Force came together quickly, as you would expect from neighboring Rotarians, to assist the medical organizations in taking care of citizens in need, starting with the WhidbeyHealth Medical Center. Given the time constraints and the dire need, the Task Force has been remarkably successful," noted Steve Schwalbe, president of the Rotary Club of Oak Harbor.

The public is invited to contribute to the ongoing efforts of the Whidbey Rotary PPE Task Force by making donations to the Oak Harbor Rotary Foundation. To help this cause during the coronavirus pandemic, please send personal checks made out to:

Oak Harbor Rotary Foundation-PPE  
PO Box 442  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Rotary members throughout the world take action to make communities better. They contribute their time, energy, and passion to carry out meaningful and sustainable projects that promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, help mothers and children, support education, and grow local economies. Today, our most pressing humanitarian challenge is fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Rotarians of Whidbey Island are united in this effort.

[Submitted by Steve Schwalbe, President, Rotary Club of Oak Harbor]

### Island Transit Further Reduces Services

Beginning April 6, Island Transit has once again reduced service as a result of the evolving COVID-19 outbreak and Governor Jay Inslee's Stay Home, Stay Healthy initiative. This is the second reduction in service in as many weeks. The agency has been operating under its Emergency Service Plan since March 23.

The revised Emergency Service Plan calls for bus and paratransit services to operate Monday through Friday only. All Saturday service will be suspended effective Saturday until further notice. Additionally, the number of trips on the current routes will be reduced, and two routes will be suspended entirely. Routes being affected include:

#### On Whidbey Island:

Route 1 - From Oak Harbor to Clinton and to Coupeville and Mukilteo ferries  
Route 60 - Connects Langley and Bayview and Clinton ferry dock  
Route 22 - Oak Harbor city service  
Route 411W - Connects Whidbey Island to Skagit Transit in Anacortes

#### On Camano Island:

Route 1 - Serves north and west sides of Camano Island  
Route 2 - Serves south and east sides of Camano Island  
Route 3 - Connector route from Camano Island to Stanwood  
Route 411C - Service to Mount Vernon and connections with Skagit Transit

Additionally, the NASWI route on Whidbey and the connector route from Camano to Everett will be suspended until further notice.

"The safety of the traveling public and our employees is the number one priority of Island Transit," according to Island Transit Executive Director Todd Morrow. "We wish we did not have to make these service cuts, but given the challenges presented by COVID-19, we have no choice."

Detailed information about route and schedule changes are available now on Island Transit's website at [www.IslandTransit.org](http://www.IslandTransit.org). Island Transit staff will work with customers to find alternative routes or methods of transportation. If you need assistance, please call Island Transit at 360-678-7771.

Island Transit highly recommends all transit riders sign up for Rider Alerts through the agency's website at [www.IslandTransit.org](http://www.IslandTransit.org) to continue to stay informed about service changes as they may continue to be modified in the next several months.

With people now complying with Governor Inslee's Stay Home, Stay Healthy order, ridership on Island Transit has dropped dramatically. Whidbey Island ridership dropped by 79 percent last Friday compared to the same day one year ago. Camano Island ridership dropped by 76 percent for the same period. This drop is consistent with ridership levels across the state. Revising Island Transit's routes and trips to reflect this decrease in ridership provides the opportunity to reduce the number of transit employees working out in the public.

Those who are traveling should be doing so only for essential purposes under the governor's order. Those purposes include going to work at an essential work place, traveling to a pharmacy or grocery store for food and medicine, and routine medical appointments. Island Transit is asking the public to limit their travel to those purposes. Signs on its buses and facilities remind the public of the governor's order.

Island Transit is working with public health authorities to make sure these bus trips can be as safe as possible for its riders and employees. Those practices are outlined on the agency's web page.

The mission of Island Transit is to provide safe, accessible, convenient, and friendly public transportation services which enhance our Island quality of life.

[Submitted by Meghan Heppner, Island Transit]

### EMS - We Stay Protected To Protect Our Community



The WhidbeyHealth Emergency Medical Services (EMS) team plays a vital role for all Whidbey Island residents every day when responding to emergency requests for assistance, triaging patients and providing emergency medical treatment and transport for sick or injured patients.

But now, because of the current COVID-19 outbreak, EMS has become even more challenged. The defense of the Coronavirus for both patients and EMS staff must be careful, thorough and consistent. The WhidbeyHealth EMS team is rising to this challenge with a routine system of high level protection.

The care and transport by EMS with the potential presence of Coronavirus presents unique challenges because of the enclosed space in an ambulance during transport. Each time an ambulance responds to a call, the EMT or paramedic will wear personal protective equipment (PPE) as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

"We completely protect ourselves and the patient," said WhidbeyHealth EMS Manager Roger Meyers.

"Every time we go on a call, we put on a mask, gloves and goggles. We send a single scout in to screen for COVID-19 symptoms from 6 feet away, and if they do have symptoms all crew members will don gowns. After a run involving a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patient, we take off the PPE, and our uniform. We then take a shower; put on a clean uniform carried in an outside compartment on the ambulance; and then wash our contaminated uniform. We also clean our shoes after each and every run."

The ambulances are also completely disinfected after each transport. Following these strict guidelines for PPE and cleaning procedures assures protection for both EMS staff and our patients.

Recently, Meyers has partnered with North Whidbey Fire and Rescue for separate quarters for his EMTs and paramedics in order to follow social distancing guidelines and prevent potential infection among his crew.

"Thanks to North Whidbey Fire and Rescue's gracious offer, most of the EMS crews are now spread out and housed individually not only at our EMS quarters in Oak Harbor, but at two unmanned fire stations that contain sleeping quarters, including North Whidbey Fire and Rescue's station #2-1 and station #2-5," said Meyers.

Meyers said he is identifying other stations on the island where EMS staff can be housed in isolation.

Reports of our community being very conservative about calling an ambulance are reassuring to Meyers.

"It seems like the community is taking Governor Inslee's message of 'Stay Home, Stay Healthy' to heart," Meyers added.

"Thank you for not calling 911 unless absolutely necessary. It keeps us all safer in the end."

Stay connected for current information at [facebook.com/whidbeyhealth](https://facebook.com/whidbeyhealth) or on our website at [whidbeyhealth.org](http://whidbeyhealth.org).

[Submitted by Patricia Duff, Public Relations Officer, WhidbeyHealth]

### Skagit Valley College selects Tomaz Marinelli as new Men's Soccer Coach

The Skagit Valley College Athletic Department is pleased to announce it has selected Tomaz Marinelli as Men's Soccer Coach. Coach Marinelli comes to SVC from Lake Tahoe Commu-



nity College, where he served as the assistant coach for both the men's and women's soccer programs for the past two seasons. Prior to that, he coached the men's program at Indian Hills Community College in Iowa. Both programs were nationally ranked, reaching the National Tournament at Indian Hills in 2017 and the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCCAA) Quarterfinals in 2018 with Lake Tahoe.

Coach Marinelli graduated from The University of Iowa after moving to the United States from Brazil, and holds a United States Soccer Federation coaching license, is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) by the National Strength and Conditioning Association, and also holds a Performance Enhancement Certification from the National Association of Sports Medicine.

Coach Marinelli is also fluent in Portuguese and Spanish and he is excited to lead the Cardinals men's team. "I enjoy the development of student athletes into adulthood through high achievement in the classroom and on the field of play. My teams typically play an aggressive high-pressing style, aiming to dictate play and create turnovers that lead to goal scoring chances."

Skagit Valley College is a member of the Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC), which consists of two-year colleges in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and one college in British Columbia.

[Submitted by Arden Ainley, Chief Public Information Officer, SVC]

### For Nature's Sake: A Forested Wetland is Saved



The landscape is full of shades of green inside a lush forest tucked mostly out of sight on Central Whidbey Island. Under a closed canopy of mature trees, including many giant Sitka spruce and Western red cedar, and surrounded by huge hummocks of sword ferns with moss underfoot, it's a natural haven for wildlife. The addition of wetlands attracts wild creatures big and small.

Holly Jill St. John and her husband, Paul Mackley, fell in love with this special place when both were stationed at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. They purchased the 31-acre property in 2005 and dreamed of one day retiring on a small corner, keeping the remaining acreage forever wild for nature.

"We loved that property because it represents what the island was – old growth forest and wildlife habitat," St. John said. "And we wanted it to remain like that."

Although the couple's plans changed over time, their dream to preserve the property for nature never wavered. They reached out to the Whidbey Camano Land Trust last year to explore how to make that happen. The Land Trust recently acquired their property as a wildlife preserve, thus fulfilling their long-held desire to permanently protect it. Use of the property will be very limited to keep it a refuge for wildlife.

"The whole purpose is to let nature prevail without human intrusion," said Pat Powell, executive director of the Land Trust.

Taking a step back, the St. John Wetland Preserve represents something even larger. Saving mature forest sequesters carbon and maintains clean water quality and aquifer recharge, all ways that local conservation efforts help tackle climate change at the local level.

"The property has healthy forested wetlands, which are really important for birds and other wildlife," said Land Trust conservation director Ryan Elting. "Being wet for much of the year, it's not well-suited for public trails. The preserve is also located in a narrow part of

Whidbey Island where preventing habitat fragmentation is critical for ensuring the migration of wildlife up and down the island remains possible in the future."

This newest preserve is located west of the recently protected Noble Fir conservation easement property with its large wetland complex, forest and shoreline. Together, these properties are part of an important wildlife habitat corridor between large protected areas at Crockett Lake, Lake Hancock, and Greenbank Farm.

St. John and Mackley are now living in San Diego, where Mackley retired after 30 years of military service. Despite the distance, they're pleased to know the land they once owned will continue to benefit wildlife and the environment. They made a significant donation of land value to help fund the property acquisition.

St. John said she was moved after reading an advance version of this article.

"It made me cry," St. John said. "Until then, I don't think I had really grasped that the land truly is permanently protected, now, and a part of a larger protection project in that area. We appreciate all the entire Whidbey Camano Land Trust team does."

The Land Trust thanks St. John and Mackley for their forward thinking and for caring for the property for the past 15 years.

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

### Local Business News

#### Penn Cove Brewing Company Announces Technology Fundraiser for Coupeville Schools

#### Limited Operations at Coupeville Taproom for drive-thru beer and cider to-go and to support the Coupeville School District

Penn Cove Brewing Company (PCBC) announced last week they are offering drive-thru pick-up for to-go growlers, cans, and bottles. The limited operations will take place Thursdays from 5:00 to 7:00PM, Fridays and Saturdays from 3:00 to 5:00PM at the Coupeville Taproom, 103 S Main Street.

In the spirit of craft, community, and collaboration, PCBC will also be collecting donations to benefit Coupeville School District students while schools are on mandatory closure. This money will help purchase urgently needed computer hardware and connectivity to help provide remote schooling access to all students during the mandated school shutdowns. Approximately 20 percent of families in the central Whidbey school district are affected by the lack of access to the technology or connectivity needed for important access to schoolwork. The district is currently offering free internet service in the schools parking lots for families who need access, but this is not an ideal learning environment. One hundred percent of the donations collected will go directly to Coupeville School District.

Pre-orders are welcome at [info@penncovebrewing.com](mailto:info@penncovebrewing.com) (include your phone number). PCBC will call you to confirm the order details and then have your order ready for pick-up the next day. A new PCBC growler and fill is \$22, a growler fill only is \$17. Happy hour prices on all cans and bottles, while supplies last. For safety's sake, no need to leave your car; there is a drive-thru window – just follow the signs. Beer sales and pick up by customers age 21 and over only.

Full menu of beer and cider on-tap choices are available at [Untappd.com](http://Untappd.com), [untappd.com/v/penn-cove-brewing-company/4453132](http://untappd.com/v/penn-cove-brewing-company/4453132)

Gift certificates and new swag are also available for purchase.



**Saturday, April 18 2:00pm on Orca Network Facebook page and [www.orcanetwork.org](http://www.orcanetwork.org)**

**Saturday, April 18th, 3:00pm Zoom Webinar on Gray Whales Featuring John Calambokidis, Cascadia Research Collective & Steven Swartz, Laguna Ingacio Eco-system Science Program**

**Check our Facebook page for costume ideas, or share one of yours!**

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#### UPDATE

Due to the COVID-19 virus, we have had to cancel all future impact panels and community outreach activities through April, and later, if deemed necessary by Island County, the City of Oak Harbor, and Washington State. We will keep all of our Partners in Prevention, stakeholders, donors, volunteers and supporters notified when we are permitted to resume our panels and outreach.

The Impaired Driving Impact Panel of Island County (IDIPIC), is a network of concerned individuals, dedicated to deter driving under the influence and underage drinking in our communities through education and awareness.

We provide three impact panels per month, two in Oak Harbor, and one in Freeland. We also provide impact panels on NAS Whidbey upon request. Our panels include driver's education students and their parents, court-ordered offenders, and the general public. Only court-ordered offenders pay a fee for the panel.

#### NAS WHIDBEY

There are no current engagement with NAS Whidbey Island due to the COVID-19 crisis. We presented two separate NASWI panels, at Sky Warrior theater, March 13, to personnel from NOPF (Naval Ocean Processing Facility). We are staying in touch with our Navy contacts via email.

#### SAFE RIDE HOME

Safe Ride Home, www.saferidehomewhidbeyisland.com, provides a free service to those who live on the south end of Whidbey Island. Its mission is to provide a pre-funded safe ride home for members of South Whidbey, Clinton to Coupeville, when they find themselves in an unsafe situation. This service is for emergency rides only.

**Update:** Bars and restaurants are closed and taxi drivers are on limited service. People should not need a Safe Ride Home during the COVID-19 virus situation.

Safe Ride Home is looking to establish a chapter serving Oak Harbor and the surrounding area. If you are interested in this activity, please contact Safe Ride Home President, Brian Grimm, at 360 929-3277 or bjgrimm@gmail.com

#### OAK HARBOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brian Mullen is the Prevention-Intervention Counselor for Oak Harbor High School, and he can be reached at 360-279-5766 or bmullen@ohsd.net.

#### SOUTH WHIDBEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

As mentioned in the update at the beginning of this column, we are staying in touch with our community connections at the South Whidbey School District via email and phone during the COVID-19 situation. Here is a list of its ongoing prevention efforts: Peer to Peer – includes weekly engagement with a broader focus this month on students' wellness support and staying healthy during social distancing. Students created a social media (Instagram - southwhidbeysquared), and they are developing positive messages of encouragement and connection during a time of isolation. Students will also post informative facts for Alcohol Awareness Month (April). And there is a monthly newsletter for parents: [https://sw.wednet.edu/community/cpwi/student\\_assistance\\_professional\\_newsletters](https://sw.wednet.edu/community/cpwi/student_assistance_professional_newsletters).

#### TEEN MARIJUANA USE

Washington state has legalized marijuana use for anyone over 21. Our concern is for teens who may want to experiment with marijuana before they are 21. To help educate teens, the Marijuana Prevention and Education Program (a part of Washington State Dept. of Health), has a campaign called *You Can*. Its website (www.youcanwa.org) gives information on basics, health effects, consequences, vaping, and inspiring teens. Both parents and teens can benefit from this site, and all sources for the information are listed.

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Social distancing is our most effective tool in slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Nichol and I continue to stay in touch with many of our Partners in Prevention, donors, volunteers, speakers and supporters via e-mail and phone. All panels and presentations are on hold until social distancing rules and guidelines for our state change.

#### WASHINGTON TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION (WTSC)

<https://wtsc.wa.gov/>  
(Doug Dahl, Target Zero manager for WTSC, submitted this. Thank you, Doug.)

Washington drivers are getting better at attentive driving. In 2015, two years before our new distracted driving law took effect, 171 people died in crashes involving a distracted driver. In 2019, 49 fewer distracted driving deaths occurred. Most Washingtonians (74 percent) know using a hand-held phone while driving is illegal, and most Washingtonians (69 percent) agree using a hand-held phone while driving is dangerous. Washington drivers are paying more attention and saving lives.

Finally, our IDIPIC funding just covers our expenses and the cost of two part-time contractors. Even though we are not able to activate our community outreach and involvement in person, Nichol and I continue to maintain our community connections via email and phone from home. We are also accepting donations on behalf of our co-sponsor, Safe Ride Home. Every monetary donation will receive a thank you letter as proof of your generosity. Both IDIPIC and Safe Ride Home are 501c3 nonprofits, registered in the State of Washington.

On behalf of myself and Nichol Rayne, thank you for caring about our community on Whidbey island. If you have any questions, please contact me at [idipic@idipic.org](mailto:idipic@idipic.org).

### LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR ROADS SAFE



## IDIPIC

### Impaired Driving Impact Panel of Island County

[www.IDIPIC.org](http://www.IDIPIC.org)

IDIPIC is a 501c3 non profit and donations are tax deductible and can be mailed to PO Box 358, Oak Harbor, WA 98277



The Concept is Simple, If you find yourself in a situation where you need a ride home CALL! It's SAFE, you'll get a ride home by a clean, sober, insured, taxi driver It's CONFIDENTIAL, no questions asked. It's a GREAT decision! Safe Ride Home operates from Clinton to Coupeville. 360-395-8714



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





Live greener: Earth Day online p. 10

## After over 50 years combined service, two Island County judges seek new paths

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

2020 will be a year of change for Island County's judiciary system. After this year's election, Island County Superior Court will see two new judges seated on the bench. With over 50 years of service between them, the court's current judges, Alan Hancock and Vickie Churchill, have chosen to not seek re-election, which will leave the bench to be replaced entirely.

Judge Vickie Churchill, who has served as an Island County Superior Court judge since 1997, said although she would be happy to keep working, she will soon reach the 75-year age limit for judges, and will no longer be able to serve.

"I really like the job, I wish I could continue but I cannot," she said. "I love working with people and working with Judge Hancock, he is such a great guy, and the staff, they are wonderful."

During her time as a judge, Churchill was a recipient of the Outstanding Judge of the Year Award from the Washington Bar Association and was instrumental in implementing a Juvenile Detention Center, parenting classes, mediation for family law cases, and three drug courts in Island County. Over the course of her career, Churchill has been focused on advocating for adequate court funding and bringing programs to the court to benefit community members of all ages.

"I was on the legislative committee and got involved in many, many things to keep funding for the courts because every economic downturn the courts lose money," she said.

See JUDGES continued on page 10

## Staying mentally healthy amidst COVID-19

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

We are living in stressful times. COVID-19 has disrupted our lives. Many have lost jobs, others are working from home, our kids are not in school, we can no longer socialize with friends and even family because of social distancing. It is normal to feel anxiety and stress as we stare our new reality in the face.

For those dealing with mental health issues, these feelings can be compounded.

"Many of us have underlying mental health issues which become symptomatic due to stress," said Mike Long, a trained volunteer and Family-to-Family Class instructor for South Whidbey National Alliance on Mental Illness support group "The anxiety of contracting COVID-19 and the increase in loneliness due to isolation are major causes for stress, which can trigger symptoms."

"This is just a general observation from talking to people, but depression and anxiety are on the rise," agreed Ellen Rider, an education group leader for the same South Whidbey NAMI support group. "Frankly, who doesn't suffer from depression and anxiety at some point in their lives?"

Just as no one is immune from potentially contracting the COVID-19 virus, which can affect people differently, everyone needs to be able to recognize the potential mental health impacts the virus and all the safety measures surrounding it can have – which can also affect people differently.

"We all cope with things differently," said Rider.

Some signs one may be struggling with potential mental health issues could include high anxiety, loneliness and obsession – such as fixating on disease prevention or news. Still other signs could include lack of sleep, little to no appetite, fatigue, agitation, being argumentative or angry, cognitive decline, inability to focus, staring, lack of enjoyment or laughter, lack of interest, threatening behavior or paranoia, among other things, according to Long.

Despite social distancing, there are still ways we can connect with one another, especially with those we know may be struggling with mental health issues.

"It's kind of like when you are sick – you don't want to talk to anyone," explained Rider. "But with mental health, it's even



worse. I encourage people to get in touch, check in with people from time to time. Let people vent and talk, so they know they're not alone."

"We can use social media for connecting with our family and friends through online services such as Skype, Zoom, Facebook, etc.," said Long. "There is a great online South Whidbey community help service called [www.whidbeyhelp.com](http://www.whidbeyhelp.com), where you can post your own needs or respond to others' needs."

In addition to reaching out and talking to people, Island County Behavioral Health last week issued some tips for managing stress and anxiety during this unusual time, such as getting enough sleep, eating healthy, exercising and taking breaks from social media and news. Recommendations also include relying on information from official sources such as Island County Public Health, Washington State Department of Health or the Centers for Disease Control; following guidelines for disease prevention like washing hands frequently, avoiding close contact with people who are sick, cleaning and disinfecting surfaces regularly, covering coughs and sneezes and staying at home when ill.

Finally, be aware of the resources available. Health experts believe one in five Americans experience a mental illness and nearly one out of every 25 adults in America live with a serious mental illness. Island County Human Services has a mental health line especially for COVID-19 – 360-678-2346. The line is staffed from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Island County residents can reach the local VOA crisis line 24 hours a day at 1-800-584-3578 or the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

More information on mental health can be found online at [www.islandcountywa.gov/humanservices/behavioral-health/Pages/Home.aspx](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/humanservices/behavioral-health/Pages/Home.aspx) or at [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org).

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**AFCM Delbert W. Swatosh, U.S. Navy (Ret.)**



Delbert W. Swatosh, 90, died peacefully in his Oak Harbor, Wash., home March 23, 2020 with his loving wife, Arlene, who had been his sole caregiver for the past two years, by his side.

Del was born July 28, 1929 in Austin, Minn., to Frank and Echo (Messenger) Swatosh. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1950 in Minneapolis Minn. He and Arlene were married at St Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Minneapolis. Del retired as a Master Chief in 1983 after 33 years of faithful and devoted service to his country.

After his retirement, Del and Arlene enjoyed 30 years of traveling to various countries and visiting all 50 states. In retirement, Del also spent time as a volunteer at the Naval Hospital Pharmacy on Whidbey Island, watching his beloved Mariners, and helping his kids with projects around their homes. Del participated in "one last mission" by taking part in a Puget Sound Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. with his daughter, Mary.

In addition to his military service, Del was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus, John E. O'Brien council, in Oak Harbor. He held several leadership positions in the council, including Grand Knight, Financial Secretary for the charities program, Faithful Navigator, and District Deputy. As chairman for the Pennies for Heaven charity, Del led his council to receive top honors from the Washington State council for 15 consecutive years. Besides his council activities, he was the club manager and volunteer bingo manager for over 20 years. If the council had any activities going on, community or charitable, Del could always be found leading the way. The council recently honored Del by establishing a high school scholarship in his name.

He was a member of St. Joseph NAS Whidbey and St. Augustine's Catholic Churches in Oak Harbor for the past 43 years.

Del is survived by his wife, Arlene; four children: Mary (Bob) Tock of Walla Walla, Wash.; Tim (Karen) Swatosh of Rochester, Minn.; Charlene (Russ) Hawkins of Anacortes, Wash.; and Kevin (Kim) Swatosh of Everett, Wash.; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandsons. He is also survived by five of his nine siblings, Tim, Tom (Judy), Jim (Diane), John (Priscilla), and Linda (Bob) Distad; and preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, Elyce Baier, Catherine Buxton, and Jean Tourville; and his brother, Frank.



**Pam's Prayer Corner**

*In honor of my late mother-in-law, Pamela Kaye Young, we are going to be running a new weekly section called*

*Pam's Prayer Corner. This is a place where believers can share their prayer requests for others to help lift them up in faith.*

*The prayers can be for you, a family member, or anything weighing on your soul.*

*Email info@whidbeyweekly.com or call 360-682-2341 to share your prayer requests.*

I will get us started this issue:

Heavenly Father,

Our community and our nation are becoming overwhelmed with fear. We know when this goes unchecked it leads to irrational thinking and eventually civil disobedience. We need your help with overcoming fear, worry, anxiety, and depression. We ask that you lift up your people, help to ease their burdens - mental, physical, financial, and spiritual. Please help us to remember you are in charge, now and forever, and you will lead us out of temptation, protect us from evil and deliver us from our enemies. You are faithful, the same yesterday, today and forever, and your love can conquer all. During these troubling times we need your grace now more than ever.

Amen

**Psalm 91**

*1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*

*2 I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.*



Del's love for his family, faith, and country would have made the perfect country song.

A private graveside service with Rite of Committal was held April 2, 2020 at Maple Leaf Cemetery with Rev. Paul Pluth, J.C.L., presiding. Military honors were provided under the auspices of the NAS Whidbey Island Honor Guard.

A memorial mass at St. Augustine Catholic Church will take place in the summer.

Arrangements entrusted to Wallin Funeral Home, Oak Harbor. Please visit Del's page in our Book of Memories online at www.wallinfuneralhome.com to share memories and leave condolences.

**Thomas William Reynolds**

Jan. 13, 1945 - Mar. 26, 2020



Thomas departed peacefully March 26, 2020 at the age of 75. He was surrounded physically by his loving family, and spiritually by family members across the globe who could not be by his side. He will be greatly missed and remembered as a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and a hero who proudly served our nation in the U.S. Navy.

Thomas was born in Rockwood, Tenn., Jan. 13, 1945, to Edgar and Dolly Reynolds. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Soledad Reynolds, who passed away June 30, 2017. The two of them are finally reunited and will be together through eternity. They were married in 1974 in Olongapo City, Philippines. Thomas brought Soledad and their family to the USA in 1976. He and his family were stationed in Meridian, Miss. and moved to Oak Harbor, Wash., in 1979.

Thomas proudly served our country in the U.S. Navy for 28 yrs. He joined the Navy in Nov. 1963, where he specialized in jet engines as a maintenance technician. In Dec. 1992, Thomas retired as a Senior Chief Petty Officer. He was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal (Sep-78 and Feb-80), Letter of Commendation/Salute to Excellence (Jul-83), Navy Achievement Medal/Gold Star (May-89), Good Conduct Award (7), National Defense Service Medal (2), Vietnam Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Expeditionary Medal (2), Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (3), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Humanitarian Service Award, Navy Unit Commendation, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

His military service includes: RTC, San Diego, Calif., (Nov-63); VC-7, NAS North Island, Calif., (Feb-64); VA-125, NAS Lemoore, Calif., (Feb-66); VA-155, NAS Lemoore, Calif., (Apr-66); NATTC, Memphis, Tenn., (Feb-69); HC-2, Lakehurst, N.J., (Jun-69); HS-10, Imperial Beach, Calif., (Aug-71); HC-1, Imperial Beach, (Sep-72); HS-2, Imperial Beach, (Jan-74); VT-7, NAS Meridian, Miss., (May-76); VA-128 NAS Whidbey Island, Wash., (Jun-79); VA-196, NAS Whidbey Island, (Sep-79); Search & Rescue, NAS Whidbey Island, (Sep-82); VAQ-139 NAS Whidbey Island, (Mar-86); Search & Rescue, NAS Whidbey Island, (Sep-89), and Fleet Reserve 31, December 1992.

While in the Navy, he sailed across the Pacific and Indian Oceans on the USS Constellation, USS Coral Sea, USS America and USS Enterprise, and had the opportunity to experience amazing cultures in several countries such as the Philippines, Australia, Thailand, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and Brazil. After retiring from the Navy in 1992, he started a new career in the aviation industry as a QA Auditor in the aircraft maintenance department for Tramco/Goodrich Aviation Technical Services/Goodrich Corporation in Everett, Wash. Approximately 10 years later, he retired completely to help care for his loving wife, Soledad, who courageously battled cancer.

Thomas is survived by his three loving children: daughter, Rosemarie and Steven Quimby of Bellingham, Wash.; Grandchildren: Crystal Quimby, Jonathan Quimby and Ashley Quimby. Son, Jovita and Carmelita Fronda of Palm Springs, Calif.; Grandchildren: Lea Urita and Nestor Urita. Daughter, Alice Ruth and Terry Schmitt of Springville, Utah; Grandchildren: Edward Schmitt and William Schmitt.

He is also survived by his three loving sisters: Betsy and Mike Mallet (Ariz.), Alice and Terry Wagner (Ore.) and Judy and John Watts (Ore.). Siblings who preceded him are Henry Winchester, James Reynolds, Pat Morris, Reva Lucas, Linda Woodring, Sue Perry, Laurie Reynolds and Gay Winchester.

Thomas inspired many lives, including many nephews, nieces, cousins, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law and the friends he made along the way throughout his lifetime. The stories and memories will continue on through his family. His sense of humor, love, care and service to our nation will always be remembered. We miss and love you dad!

**Tatsuko Mills**

July 28, 1935 - March 28, 2020



Tatsuko "Mitzi/Baba" Mills was born July 28, 1935 in Takasaki, Japan. She passed away peacefully in her home March 28, 2020.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Kuzazo and Fuku Miyahara; her husband, Charles "Chuck" Mills (1969) and her son-in-law, Howard Foshee (2008).

She is survived by three daughters: Deborah Foshee, Linda Routon (Kevin) and Tina Lynch (Michael); four grandchildren: Randy "Danny" Doan, Mika Foshee, Paige Lynch (Levi) and Jack Lynch; two great-grandchildren: Destiny Doan and Harley Doan; and her family in Japan.

She never let fear hold her back and taught herself to drive in the family Chevy at night at the peril of mailboxes and a tricycle. She learned English by watching soap operas. She ran Food Town's Oriental Food Department in Oak Harbor, Wash., and was always ready with cooking advice. She was a homemaker and international distributor of mushrooms.

She will be remembered for her big heart, compassion and being a great friend. She loved attention, food, gardening, hiking, the mountains, travel, fashion, music, singing karaoke, dancing, gambling and Tom Jones (who brought her onstage twice, which she loved to talk about). She was friendly, fun, exciting, a little over the top, different and sometimes embarrassing, but she was never boring. She loved life, people, friends and family.

A special thank you for the great care given to her by her oncologist, Dr. Kiarash Kojouri, and surgeon, Dr. Allison Porter. Arrangements have been made with the assistance of Whidbey Memorial Funeral and Cremation Service.

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



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**TUESDAY, MARCH 10**

**1:09 am, Jones Rd.**

Reporting party believes someone is using electro magnet to harass; states it's causing him to have pain in his left eye. Requesting law enforcement and medical.

**11:24 am, Aviator Ln.**

Advising delivery people stole 600 people [sic] out of his wallet; reporting party advising he called the distributor and they have had delivery truck pull over, but does not know where it's pulled over at.

**12:24 pm, NE 7th Ave.**

Requesting phone call, advising kids haven't come to check on her in three days.

**2:09 pm, East Harbor Rd.**

Reporting party brought female to location to make report; refusing to exit reporting party's vehicle. Female not being aggressive but won't leave reporting party's car.

**4:18 pm, SR 20**

Advising horse loose, running on SR 20.

**5:29 pm, Boon Rd.**

Advising vehicle was driving over 100 mph past reporting party's house, ran through fence, ruined field; drove off.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11**

**5:28 am, Steiner Dr.**

Reporting party home alone, states someone came to door and asked to be let in; reporting party said no and male went away. Male came back and reporting party ran out the door and went to Clinton gas station.

**10:54 am, Mobius Lp.**

Advising son was in accident, looking for property owner of field on Boon Rd.

**11:52 am, SR 525**

Advising back door of Totem delivery truck is open, items falling out of back of truck; appears to be food items.

**12:54 pm, Starlight Ln.**

Requesting contact referencing stolen gray 2016 VW Golf; reporting party's daughter has vehicle in Seattle and just called to say it was stolen; local law enforcement told her she needed to call him and have him report it stolen.

**2:45 pm, Dugualla Rd.**

Advising subject stole her Girl Scout cookies and ate them; verbal argument only.

**4:15 pm, Wilson Rd.**

Caller advising on Forest Lane off Wilson Road, mail truck is sitting on roadway unoccupied, no flashers, no lights.

**8:20 pm, Starlight Ln.**

Caller advising received third party information saying suspects are returning vehicle to 20th Ave. NE, Shoreline, Vision House Apartments complex. Suspects told caller's daughter they were getting gas and taking vehicle back.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 12**

**12:07 pm, Sunset View Pl.**

Advising of ongoing issue with neighbor; just swerved, trying to hit reporting party with vehicle, sped off down Crosby.

**12:44 pm, Penn Cove Rd.**

Requesting contact at Monroe Landing boat launch, is on beach, standing beside what reporting party believes is human skull.

**1:50 pm, SR 525**

Advising male subject acting strange, going through trash; employee went out to tell him to leave, he said he would stab them. No weapons seen.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 13**

**6:56 am, Jaydee Way**

Caller states someone is staying at his house without his permission; reporting party not at location now, unknown who person is, associated to silver '98 Crown Victoria in driveway.

**2:48 pm, SR 525**

Advising male subject at bar appears to be on something, pulling out toys and playing; white male, approximately 30 years old, last seen wearing black jacket.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**

**2:49 pm, Dike Rd.**

Advising female in teal green, early 90s Honda parked north of Waterside; female flailing around then slumped over steering wheel and now back to flailing around by herself in vehicle.

**4:29 pm, Barr Beach Rd.**

Reporting party came back from walking dog when male neighbor started screaming at reporting party about cutting tree branches; has it on video; male subject pushed reporting party over four-foot bulkhead.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15**

**1:40 pm, Jones Rd.**

Reporting party advising falcon/hawk is bothering livestock; requesting call, transferred to state for wildlife.

**2:18 pm, SR 525**

Advising male subject walking on road, walking towards church, punching sky, yelling. No weapons seen.

**2:47 pm, Powell Rd.**

Reporting party advising tennis shoes thrown over wires in area; advising is a sign of drug dealing; showed up in last few days. Ongoing issues with vehicles meeting up and leaving area.

**4:15 pm, Heller Rd.**

Caller advising asked someone to move vehicle, subject pulled a pipe on him; active arguing in background.

**8:04 pm, Columbia Beach Dr.**

Reporting party manages parking lot at ferry terminal; states white female, flower-patterned skirt and black leggings, pounded on his door, said she was there to drink. Female is not wearing shoes.

**MONDAY, MARCH 16**

**12:47 pm, West Beach Rd.**

Requesting call; caller bought truck and trailer from subject and now person is continually harassing caller; follows her around town and made threats against her business and her property.

**5:23 pm, Goss Lake Rd.**

Advising ongoing harassment by neighbor, not occurring right now but expects it to start shortly, available by phone. Advising neighbor comes over and flashes lights in window and rocks trailer.

**6:43 pm, Koontz Ranch Dr.**

Advising two eagles fighting, now locked together and appear injured.

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

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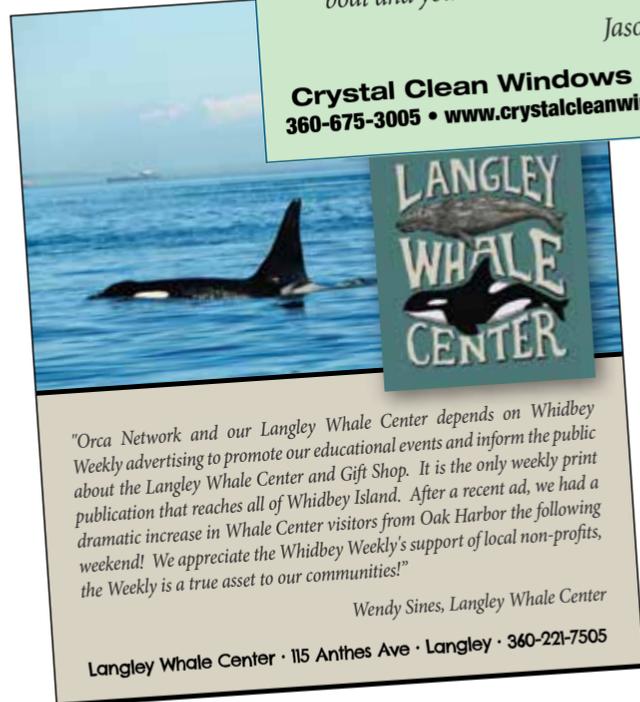
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# Live a little greener: Earth Day and more online

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

From building rain gardens to calculating a household's carbon footprint, Whidbey Earth and Ocean Month often brings inspiration and new ways for community members to go green. The month typically brings a number of events and a festival to the area, but this year's celebration will look different than it has in the past. Goosefoot, a local nonprofit involved with presenting the event, has been focused on moving its resources for Earth Day and more to an online format.

Sami Postma, events and education coordinator for Goosefoot, said the committee behind Earth and Ocean Month was determined to continue to provide resources and ways for community members to safely celebrate and observe Earth Day from anywhere.

"We decided to go ahead and put up the virtual festival which allows us to put up resource guides and videos and interviews and anything that our participating organizations send us in one place online so that anyone can access at any time," she said.

Postma said the event is the collective effort of a committee made up of representatives from Goosefoot, Greening Congregations Collaborative, South Whidbey Tilth, Whidbey Institute, Whidbey Watershed Stewards and Washington State University Waste Wise.



Photo by Kim Tinuviel

*While the usual festival and gatherings of Whidbey Earth and Ocean Month will not be possible this year, the spirit of the event will be continued with online resources at [www.whidbeyearthday.org](http://www.whidbeyearthday.org), which includes ideas to go green while staying close to home.*

"Goosefoot is just the megaphone amplifying the voice of everybody who is out there doing the work," she said.

Postma said the Whidbey Island community is surrounded by a wealth of natural resources and spaces needing preservation and protec-

tion, and even in a time where groups are not able to gather, there are steps individuals and families can take to become greener.

"We are already surrounded by such natural beauty that people come from all over to see it, so we need to take care of it," she said.

The committee had planned on several events and gatherings to support environmental awareness, but has transitioned to providing support for the event online at [www.whidbeyearthday.org](http://www.whidbeyearthday.org), which will be continually updated with more resources, projects and activities. She said island residents have been very responsive to Whidbey Earth and Ocean Month in the past, and many community members strive to help reduce their environmental impact.

"We already have a community that is aware of the problem and their impact on it and they are looking for ways to help," she said.

Postma said the website currently offers access to activities ranging from ideas for exploring the outdoors close to home, constructing a rain garden and informational videos about environmentally-focused groups around the area.

"There are a lot of great resources out there

See EARTH DAY continued on page 11

# Schools are closed through the end of the school year

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

Students in Washington K-12 schools will not be returning to the classroom to finish the school year.

Gov. Jay Inslee, along with Superintendent of Public Instruction, Chris Reykdal, announced Monday school closures will be extended for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year due to the novel coronavirus outbreak. This affects all public and private schools in the state.

"We simply cannot take the chance of reopening on-site instruction in this calendar school year," Inslee said. "We cannot risk losing the gains we have made after the peak of this pandemic presumably will have past."

All schools will continue with plans for distance learning for the remainder of the school year.

"We know that distance learning can never replace the learning and other benefits that students get from attending

school in person," he said. "But this unprecedented health emergency demands that we take this step."

Inslee said officials would continue to look at potential options to bring students back for things like graduation ceremonies for seniors. But graduating seniors are still expected to meet requirements and keep up with their work.

"Our seniors are going to graduate," said Reykdal. "They have requirements by the state for certain credits and those are moving forward and they're being engaged...and our state Board of Education is poised to waive some of those credits for students who absolutely need that. But it does require a good faith effort. We can't just put our pencils and pens down and say we're done, we've got to work through this."

In Oak Harbor, public school officials said this is a scenario for which they have been preparing since Gov. Inslee announced a 30-day closure last month.

"Our new online and distance learning program launches Monday, April 13 and our teachers and staff look forward to connecting with all of our students through innovative means," read an online statement from Oak Harbor Public Schools Superintendent Lance Gibbon Monday. "We'll be sending you more information this week about the new system. You can also find updates on our distance learning page at [www.ohsd.net/distancelearning](http://www.ohsd.net/distancelearning). We will continue developing and expanding this program to carry us through the end of school in June."

"We are currently in the process of calling each student and establishing a personal connection with them and checking on their needs (Chromebook, internet)," said OHPS Communication Officer Conor Laffey. "We are still issuing Chromebooks and have enough to make sure each student

See SCHOOLS continued on page 12

## JUDGES continued from page 7

"We wanted to try (to keep funding), not for ourselves, because that is a separate type of funding, but for the court system and for the people that come in the door. We call it keeping the courthouse doors open."

Churchill, a native of Texas, said like many, she moved to Whidbey Island as a military spouse in 1977, and has appreciated the welcoming nature of the community.

"I have always been most impressed about how this community supports military members that arrive with their families and that has been the case for me," she said.



Laura Houck Photo Courtesy of Island County Superior Court Judge Vickie Churchill has lived on Whidbey Island for over 40 years and began her service as a judge for Island County Superior Court in 1997.

Churchill said she began law school 15 years after completing her undergraduate degree, as she had always felt a calling to pursue a law career but did not have the opportunity to do so earlier on.

"You cannot stop doing what you want to do just because you think you are too old," she said. "You do it because you are always going to get older."

Judge Alan Hancock, a Coupeville native, began his time as an Island County Superior Court judge in 1989. Hancock said he always hoped to return to Coupeville to live on the family farm where he had grown up and serve the island community.

"It was always our desire to come back to Coupeville and live here and for me to initially be a lawyer and ultimately a judge here in Coupeville," he said.

Hancock said during his time in law school at the University of Washington, he began to consider becoming a judge.

"I had a strong feeling that it was my calling as my vocation to be a judge," he said. "Given the attributes that I was given as a person, it was the best way I could apply the skills that I had and the desire that I had to serve other people. It just seemed to be the right fit for me."

In his time serving Island County, he was a chair of the Superior Court Judges' Association Ethics Committee and Family and Juvenile Committee and was a recipient of the Washington State Bar Association's Outstanding Judge Award.

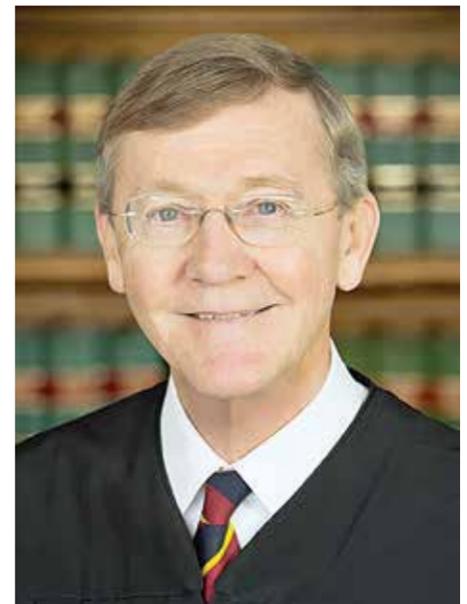
"We think that issuing the appropriate decision is the most important thing that we do but at the same time, we need to be involved in all of the management activities of the court," he said. "We need to be involved in committee work with the various committees of the Superior Court Judges' Association and both Judge Churchill and I have been actively involved in a number of committees and task forces and councils over the years to improve the law and the administration of justice. We are proud of that and our successors will do the same."

Hancock said he and Churchill plan to work with the next elected judges to ensure a smooth change in the courts.

"I expect there will be a smooth transition," he said. "We will certainly do everything we can to assist the new judges who will be elected and make the transition as smooth as possible. Our programs are running very smoothly and we are very proud of the work that we have done with the court to improve our service to the public and make sure that everyone has access to justice, and our programs have been very successful in seeing that those things happen."

After more than 30 years of service, Hancock said he and his wife plan to visit more with their children and grandchildren and he looks forward to having more time to maintain the family farm where he grew up and now lives. He also plans to pursue his bagpiping hobby.

"(I will be) spending more time with the family and devoting myself to the farm more



Laura Houck Photo Courtesy of Island County Superior Court Judge Alan Hancock, a Coupeville native, has served Island County Superior Court since 1989.

than I have been able to do previously and getting involved in community activities," he said.

Hancock said he feels lucky to have been able to serve his fellow citizens as a judge in Island County.

"It has been a great honor to be able to have practiced law and been a judge in my home community all these years," he said.

For more information about the Island County Superior Court, please visit [www.islandcountywa.gov/SuperiorCourt](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/SuperiorCourt).



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# More than Movies

The Pickford's virtual screening room

By Carey Ross



William Shakespeare once said, "All the world's a stage," and while this might be true in a theoretical and metaphorical sense, these days all the stages of the world have gone dark. Same goes for movie theaters—and it's not the kind of darkness that comes when the house lights go down and the trailer reel begins.

However, of the things uniting First World humans across the globe these days, foremost is we're all streaming something all the time. Netflix and chill is no longer the stuff of memes and casual dating scenarios, it is our new way of life.

Not so fast, says the Pickford Film Center.

It's been less than a month since the Pickford saw what was coming down the COVID corridor and decided to close for the duration of the pandemic as a matter of public safety. In that time, the staff (which includes me, the Pickford's second-longest-serving projectionist) has been hard at work figuring out how to beam a first-rate arthouse movie experience into people's homes.

After all, we've shown movies pretty much everywhere a movie can be shown, from the roof of the Parkade to abandoned buildings to various patches of grass hither and yon. Why can't we show movies in your living room as well?

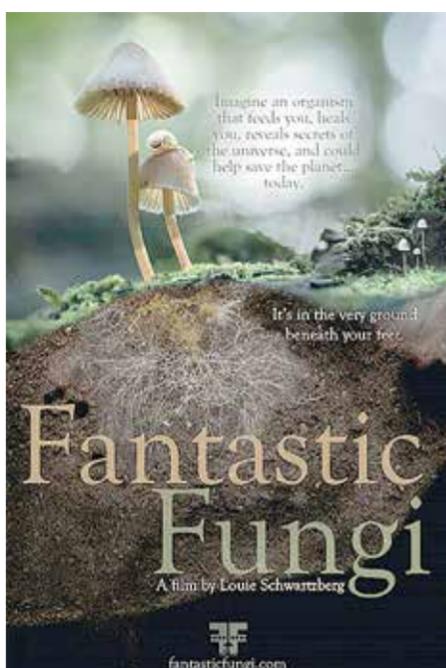
No, Pickford staffers will not come knocking on your door to set up a screen, fire up a projector and pop popcorn for your viewing pleasure—although such a prospect does sound like a lot of fun.

Instead, the ever-creative and always crafty nonprofit movie house has created a virtual screening room where anyone with an internet connection and a screen can watch brand-spanking-new films that have not been released in theaters. They've been able to pull this off thanks to unique partnerships with such distributors as Oscilloscope, Kino Lorber, and other indie companies that are able to be more innovative and nimble than their larger, more corporate counterparts.

Much like other new releases that show up on various outlets, these films are rentals, but most will cost you about the price of a single movie ticket and, even better, a portion of the proceeds from the virtual screenings will go toward keeping the Pickford operational until actual operations can start up again. So, just like going to watch a movie at the Pickford proper, you can entertain yourself and support the coolest nonprofit arthouse movie theater around at the same time. But unlike a regular Pickford screening, you need not be anywhere near Bellingham to partake. You can watch from anywhere in the world, whenever you want.

So, then, what can you watch via the virtual screening room? Allow me to present a sampling of the offerings.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the movie that has been running in some form or fashion at the Pickford since October kicked off more than six months ago. Yes, I am talking about "Fantastic Fungi," otherwise known as "the mushroom movie." Odds are decent if you live anywhere near the Pickford or its sister cinema, the Limelight, you've seen the fascinating documentary that has so entranced audiences. Even so, it's well worth a second—or even a third or fourth—watch. Maybe more than any part of the nature



world to ever be profiled on film, mushrooms are mind-blowing. More than mind-blowing, darn near magical. But don't take my word for it. The virtual screening room awaits.

Also available to rent is "Saint Frances," written by and starring Kelly O'Sullivan in a screenwriting debut which signals the emergence of a striking new talent. O'Sullivan takes a cinematic trope getting a lot of mileage these days—the messy young woman with a lot of baggage who makes poor life choices—and treats it with a refreshing and welcome comedic honesty. She's a woman who knows she doesn't want children, but somehow ends up as the nanny to Saint Frances, the young daughter of a lesbian couple. It's O'Sullivan's rendering of such typically forbidden topics as postpartum depression, menstruation, abortion and more that makes this movie so watchable, but don't discount her young costar, Ramona Edith Williams, who steals every scene.

If you, like me, love music documentaries and are so desperate for entertainment you watched a Jonas Brothers doc the other night (anything goes during lockdown), I have some sweet cinematic relief for you in the form of "Once Were Brothers: Robbie Robertson and the Band." Brought to you by a powerhouse trio of executive producers—Martin Scorsese, Brian Grazer, and Ron Howard—this takes a look at the legendary music group through the eyes of its lead guitarist and primary songwriter. Rare archival footage and photography of the Band is eye and ear candy for fans and newcomers alike, while a host of luminaries—from Bruce Springsteen to Eric Clapton to Peter Dinklage, and more—weigh in on the particular sorcery and legacy of this decidedly dysfunctional but still-influential band of brothers.

This is just a taste of the wonders to be found in Pickford's virtual screening room. Even though we're all currently confined to our various domiciles, you can still take a cinematic trip around the world with such films as Poland's "Corpus Christi," Georgia's "And Then We Danced," Romania's "The Whistlers," France's "The Perfect Nanny," Brazil's "Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands," Italy's "L'Innocente," China's "The Wild Goose Lake," Germany's "Balloon," and others. All of the movies and their rental info can be found at [www.pickfordfilmcenter.org](http://www.pickfordfilmcenter.org).

## EARTH DAY continued from page 10

and we are going to be adding even more," she said.

Whether it is for Earth Day efforts or assisting small businesses with improving their online presence, Postma said transitioning programs online and using platforms like Zoom and social media has been key for Goosefoot and the continuation of its community efforts.

"Technology has been completely vital," she said. "The whole office is working from home, but I am still able to get out all of this information, keep the website updated, keep our social media going so we can maintain that crucial social connection with each other even though we cannot see each other in person. I am offering a whole series of online webinars for businesses to help them get online and connected with their customers, so the fact that we have access to this technology is enabling us to continue to assist our community despite the current situation."

Marian Myszkowski, program director for Goosefoot, said the ability to transfer programs to the virtual realm has been a key piece in allowing Earth Day-related activities and other programs to continue as the community continues to implement social distancing and stay-at-home measures.

"With all the technology available, there are new ways to find how to continue to keep social interactions and education happening in different ways," she said.

Myszkowski, who helps coordinate the annual art show held in conjunction with Whidbey Earth and Ocean Month, said the show will move online as well. While the "Rags, Rubbish, and Refuse: Artists Who Get Dirty" exhibit was open at the Hub Art Gallery on March 6, it was closed after the "Stay Home, Stay Healthy," order was issued. She said as of Saturday, the show will be available to view online at [www.frontroom-gallerybayview.com](http://www.frontroom-gallerybayview.com).

"All the artwork on display is made from recycled and repurposed materials," she said. "Each piece displays levels of creativity and ingenuity that will become more and more relevant if we continue to face restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic for much longer. Their work must be seen. Creativity is known to thrive in times of adversity. Many of us will rely on creative pursuits to keep us sane."

Myszkowski said in addition to the continuing Earth and Ocean Month, Goosefoot has been working to bring other programs and resources to the online community.

"When the stay at home and essential business-only orders were implemented, we looked at how Goosefoot could best retool its programs," she said. "Individual entrepreneurs and small businesses were going to be hit hard, so it was important to continue our free business workshops by putting them online as webinars."

Myszkowski added Postma would be conducting a 10-part webinar for Online Selling and Social Media, and Goosefoot will also be including a digital edition of its farm stand brochure, available after April 13 at [www.whidbeyfarmstands.com](http://www.whidbeyfarmstands.com).

"This will allow for the addition of new farm stands that crop up (pun intended) and for the addition of producers of single items, such as eggs and honey," she said. "A print version will still be available. One of the best things we can do for our health — and for an important segment of our local economy — is to purchase as much food as we can from our local farmers and ranchers."

For more information on Whidbey Earth and Ocean Month, visit [www.whidbeyearthday.org](http://www.whidbeyearthday.org), and find more about Goosefoot's current online courses at [www.goosefoot.org/workshops](http://www.goosefoot.org/workshops).

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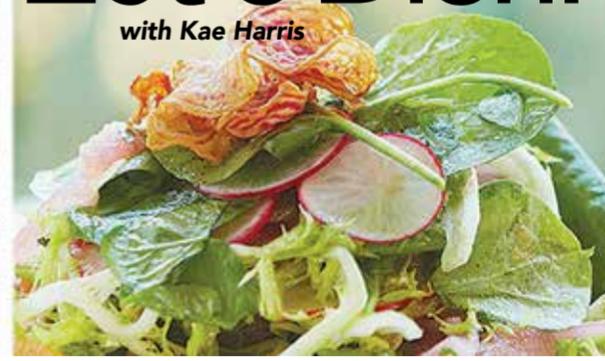
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# Let's Dish!

with Kae Harris



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## COOKING IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

In these crazy times, with all the seeming madness going on everywhere, it's easy to feel a sense of panic take over from time to time. I know this is especially true for me, particularly when it comes to ensuring my family has "enough" for "just in case." Actually, I found myself being exceptionally happy over the fact I finally located my old bread machine (which I hadn't seen in donkey's yonks) and if need be, I can make bread. Not that you need a bread machine to make bread, it just makes it a tad easier. Or does it? In all of this upheaval, I found so many recipes for bread that don't require a machine and make use of the most minimal of ingredients. I came across countless recipes for all kinds of things which, like the bread recipes, were easy on the ingredients and stretched a long way.

I think we all flexed more creative muscle than usual in recent weeks and that's a good thing. Some of us have undoubtedly found ways to use up the cans of something-or-other that have been sitting in the back of the pantry, waiting to be used. I found ways to help my family get their protein from non-animal sources and in the process, use up the overlooked cans of black beans, be a

filling enough meal and be delicious on top of it all. Some pickled jalapenos in the mix takes it up a notch or two, and I swear it's one of the best left-over lunches you'll have the next day.

I also found a fondness for three ingredient scones. Not scones like we know in America, but more like the British version (the ones akin more to a biscuit). In any event, they require only three ingredients to make and can be a breakfast item, a snack or even a side to your main meal. If you have self-rising flour, sprite or another lemon-flavored carbonated beverage and cream, you have the necessary ingredients for scones. Trial and error and testing a few different recipes saw to it that I was rather disappointed with one I came across. It had 160 some odd five-star reviews, and I was like "yes, this is it." Lo and behold, it was not it. In fact, they turned out like rocks. Operator error? Possibly. Nonetheless, I was disappointed, so I found another similar recipe which worked like a charm. Funny enough, my partner enjoyed the rocks – I mean scones – so they didn't go to waste. Or maybe he just didn't want them to go to waste. Whatever the case, they were eaten, so win-win I guess, though I'm not sure for who.

Now, rock scones aside, there have been numerous occasions where I've been able to turn my kitchen table into a "classroom" of sorts, for my kids. I get to tell them all about when I was a little girl and how we cooked and ate, and help them get involved in making the things they'll eat. It's better than ripping my hair out homeschooling and trying to remember math from years ago, only to be told by my kids I'm doing it wrong! Yes, this period is rough and a sense of normalcy is definitely lacking. Maybe creating fun memories in the process isn't a bad thing at all. Developing skills that are certainly beneficial (i.e. cooking) is in no way a bad thing and while we may have wanted to do this before, the time might just not have been there. It is now.

The last few weeks have been dedicated to looking up recipes, writing in my recipe book – yes, I like to write in a recipe book still, as archaic as it seems – and making use of what I have in my cupboards before venturing out to purchase more. Additionally, I've found ways to turn the same few ingredients into multiple dishes which I then freeze for use at a later date. My roast chickens were turned into chicken salad sandwiches, casserole and chicken noodle soup, for example, while my cans of tuna that had been staring longingly

at me for months, were made into tuna melts and tuna noodle casserole on two separate nights. I'm pretty sure I've made 7,768 home cooked meals the last week and that's just for last week. At least it feels that way.

But while I'm going on about things to make and freeze, I did find my pizza bites freeze decently and all you need are your preferred pizza toppings, biscuit dough and pizza sauce. Seriously, a tasty lunch for kids and while the assembly is a little involved, it's not too time consuming to make. All you do is flatten your biscuit round onto a prepared cookie sheet (I line mine with aluminum foil), spread some pizza sauce onto it, add shredded cheese, some chopped onions and green peppers (if I have them) and pepperoni, then take another flattened biscuit round, place it on top of the toppings (which I guess now are the fillings) and press the edges together. I repeat until I've made several of these and then bake them at 350°F for 25 to 30 minutes or until the biscuit dough is baked through. Remove it from the heat, allow it to cool, cut into quarters et voila! Pizza bites! You could use any traditional pizza toppings – these are just the ones I like.

My dear readers, in these uncertain times, when everything is out of sorts, a sense of normalcy is a luxury and while we can, we should maybe make use of the time we have and the resources we find ourselves with (whether they're scant or not) and get creative. Reaching out to friends, family and even those whom we don't know (on a socially acceptable distance level, of course), for ideas and tips is a wonderful way to connect with people and to learn new, helpful things and in turn impart our own informative gems! If any of you have ideas, recipes, tips and tricks you'd like to share, I'd love to know them and hopefully, keep sharing those, so please do send any and all comments, questions, tips, tricks and recipes you might like to share to [letsdish.whidbey-weekly@gmail.com](mailto:letsdish.whidbey-weekly@gmail.com) and we'll do just that and Dish!

## SCHOOLS continued from page 10

has access. The biggest challenge is internet access. For those students, we are creating packets of the materials."

Students and teachers at South Whidbey School District are on spring break this week, but in a letter to parents, SWSD Superintendent Jo Moccia said the district will continue to improve its online/distance learning as teachers and instructors become more familiar with it.

"We will continue to provide computer resources as needed and will help with connectivity if necessary," Moccia wrote. "While this [closure] is extremely disappointing for all of us and not the outcome that we would have wanted, it is a necessary step in order for us to do our part in stopping the spread of COVID-19 and making sure we keep as many people as possible safe and healthy."

### STAY HOME ORDER EXTENDED

Gov. Inslee's announcement on school closures comes on the heels of his announcement late last week that his "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order has been extended through May 4.

As before, all gatherings are banned, non-essential businesses are to remain closed, residents are to remain at home as much as possible and practice social distancing if they must venture out. Officials said social distancing measures appear to be helping to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, but residents should continue to follow the order to make a greater impact.

Washington State Parks will also remain closed through May 4.

### FACE MASKS RECOMMENDED, REQUIRED ON NAS WHIDBEY ISLAND

Meanwhile, local, state and federal health officials all suggest people wear cloth face masks while out in public, particularly in places where a social distance of at least six feet cannot be maintained. Because manufactured masks are needed for healthcare workers, officials say cloth masks, which can be made at home, are sufficient.

Masks will not protect the wearer from potentially contracting the COVID-19 virus, but they can help prevent the wearer from spreading the virus, which can be transmitted whether a carrier is showing symptoms or not. This is currently just a recommendation for most Washington residents.

However, anyone working on NAS Whidbey Island, whether active duty or civilian, and their families MUST wear a cloth



face covering on all Department of Defense property and installations when maintaining social distance is not possible. In addition, all uniformed and civilian Navy personnel are encouraged to follow all Center for Disease Control guidelines - including the use of face coverings - while off government property.

According to the order, official uniform face coverings will be coming. Until then, medical or construction-type masks can be worn if people have them. If not, they can fashion their own or wear cloth coverings such as bandanas and scarves, providing they are "conservative in appearance, not offensive and conform to CDC guidance."

Any face covering – whether for use by military personnel, civilian employees or the general public must meet the following requirements:

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face and allow breathing without restriction
- Cover the face only from nose to chin.
- Must secure in place with ties or ear loops.
- Any cloth mask must have multiple layers of fabric.

Directions on how to make your own face coverings can be found on the CDC website: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html). Patterns for sewn fabric masks are also available online.

### LOCAL STATISTICS

As of press time Tuesday, there were 142 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Island County. Of those, 111 were on Whidbey Island, 31 on Camano. There have been five deaths, all of them on Whidbey Island.

In a press release Friday, Island County Public Health said it was investigating several confirmed cases of COVID-19 among employees of Walgreens, Walmart and IDEX in Oak

Harbor. According to the release, there may have been "potential public exposure" at Walgreens between March 22 -27 and at Walmart between March 23-30. IDEX is not open to the public.

### ISLAND TRANSIT MAKES ADDITIONAL SERVICE CUTS

For the second time in as many weeks, Island Transit has announced cuts to its service as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The additional reductions went into effect Monday, according to a press release issued Friday.

The revised emergency service plan eliminates all Saturday service beginning this weekend, reduces the number of trips on current routes and suspends two routes completely - the NAS Whidbey Island route and the connector route from Camano to Everett.

"The safety of the traveling public and our employees is the number one priority," said Todd Morrow, Island Transit executive director. "We wish we did not have to make these service cuts, but given the challenges presented by COVID-19, we have no choice."

Detailed information about route and schedule changes is available at [www.islandtransit.org](http://www.islandtransit.org). Riders are advised to sign up for Rider Alerts through the agency's website.

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT WEBSITE FOR CORONAVIRUS NEEDS

WhidbeyHelp.com has been created to help neighbors in need on South Whidbey Island. According to an announcement by the Langley Chamber of Commerce, "To slow the spread of the novel coronavirus, current best practices include social distancing for everyone, and remaining at home for people who are particularly vulnerable to complications. These measures have left some people in a tricky situation, unable to take care of basic needs."

A local web developer designed WhidbeyHelp.com as a tool to help people with needs connect with people who have the ability and resources to lend a hand. Anyone in the "at risk" population is encouraged to ask for help with grocery delivery, post office runs or any necessary errand to enable them to remain at home.

### INFORMATION SOURCES

For the latest on local and state information, visit [www.islandcounty.wa.gov](http://www.islandcounty.wa.gov); [www.ohsd.net](http://www.ohsd.net); [www.coupeville.k12.wa.us](http://www.coupeville.k12.wa.us); [www.sw.wednet.edu](http://www.sw.wednet.edu) or [www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus](http://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus).



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# CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

## ARIES (March 21-April 19)



For maximum success, tend to your tittles. Easily confused with titillating, a tittle is in no way sexual. A tittle is the tiny dot above a lowercase i. More broadly, any tiny part. Drop tittle into a sentence to impress your favorite word nerd. Or dangle it in front of your spell checker for the thrill of proving the beast wrong. Attention to detail leads you to success. So cross your t's and dot your i's. Better yet, give them a tittle.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



Wise counsel giving you the good, the bad and the ugly of your situation makes this a spaghetti Western week. Are you listening? Or are you squint-eyed and chewing a mental cigar while plotting your escape? The showdown is coming. A fast gun would put ego aside and hear the wise one's food for thought. What he or she has to share, you won't get any other way. So sprinkle some Parmesan and dig in.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



Flipping through the Cookbook of Life, searching out something tasty? Limited by time, money and a few meager ingredients? Okay. Don't despair. Let's see what you've got. You're alive on Earth, the home of free will. Daily, hourly, come new chances to express that will, to change something, if only your mind. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Everything you need for a great soup for the soul. Can you smell it?

## CANCER (June 22-July 22)



Speedsters might heed the biblical passage that says, "The race is not to the swift." You can overcome your slower opponent, but you will need a strategy. Use your brain and don't be caught napping. Like the hare who lost a race with the tortoise, overconfidence plays into your opponent's hand. Plan your actions and execute them methodically. Speed comes under many names, and short-cut is one. Stick to the course.

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



Life been handing you lemons? Take heart. It was being down on his luck that inspired Colonel Sanders to franchise his fried chicken. What have you up your own sleeve? Whether it's a MOM tattoo or something more obviously useful, pull it out, put it on the table. You never know what you can do until you try. And if all else fails, the world can always use another good recipe for lemonade. Start squeezing.

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



Are you an optimist or a pessimist? Churchill defined a pessimist as seeing difficulty in every opportunity, and an optimist as seeing opportunity in every difficulty. Tip: Surround yourself with people of both types. Toss out a question or two and sip your latte while they

argue matters out. Things may get heated, yes, and a consensus may be slow in coming, but in the end it's worth it. Biscotti while you wait?

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



Are you being a people-pleaser? That's someone who tries too hard to please everyone. The predictable end, in story and fable, is that you please no one. You are not responsible for how

others feel, no matter who proclaims otherwise. If you can't say no, if you agree to be agreeable and then feel burdened, you're trying too hard. Don't be taken advantage of this week. First do what's right for you. Then work on pleasing the rest.

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



Working harder and playing less? In film and proverb, that made Jack a dull boy. Jack's practices may have gotten him into trouble, but that needn't shine a bad light on you. Far from it. Your industrious nature only increases your popularity in certain circles. Your courage in tackling the hard tasks doesn't make you dull, it makes you sought-after. So praise your work ethic. It's what makes you you.

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



Is patience always a virtue? Not when it's costing you money. Faced with a leaky financial vessel, one must caulk the leak, stop the cash outflow, or go broke. Impatience then becomes a virtue. In that case, burn the midnight oil. Go without food or sleep. Do what you must, as if your life depended on it, for it very well may. So. Patience or impatience, which is right for you? Whatever floats your boat.

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



Are you in a race with no finish line? That's often the plight of those who test their own limits. By this point in the race, you should recognize the dangerous curves. Heavy workload, voluntarily assumed. Too often taking on the work of others. Days and weeks that blur together. But this is your race. You're both the lead driver and race director. Who says you can't raise the caution flag and take a slow lap? No one but you.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



The well-to-do worry more about what they save than what they spend. The poor worry about saving money only when they have none. Most of us fall in between. We worry, worry, worry, about spending too much AND saving too little. And yes, we even worry about the poor. What's a person to do? Stop worrying? Not gonna happen. So step back, have a good laugh at yourself. You're only human. Now resume normal behavior. Worry, worry . . .

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



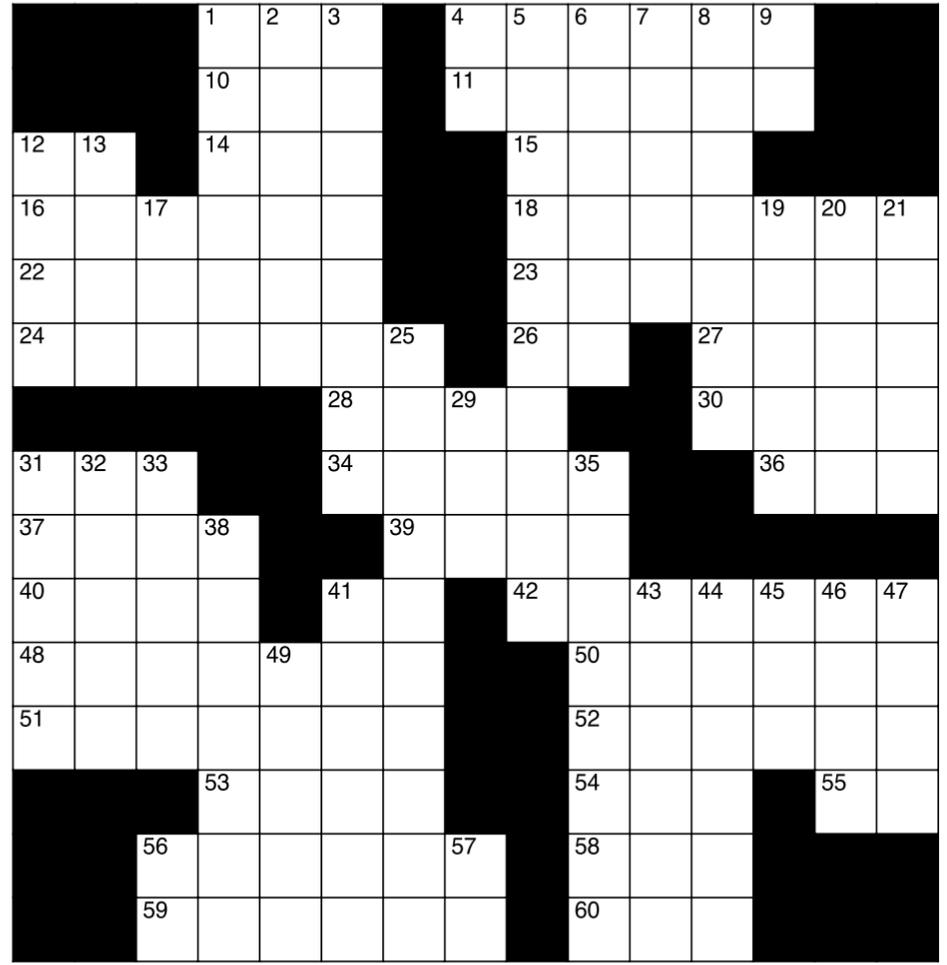
Bad news, it is said, goes twice around the world before good news can get its pants on. The naked truth about your week may not travel far. Hopping on one foot, struggling with its pants, the truth rates your full attention, nonetheless. Just doing what you do, while staying out of your own way, will get you where you're going. And don't worry too much about the dress code. It's come as you are. Very informal.

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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. Revolutions per minute
- 4. Hymns
- 10. Brew
- 11. Did not acknowledge
- 12. Atomic #77
- 14. Partly digested food
- 15. Not one
- 16. Lesotho capital
- 18. Copyreading
- 22. Living organism that feeds on organic matter
- 23. One's biological father
- 24. An aggregate of molecules
- 26. Equally
- 27. Khoikhoi people
- 28. Jump in figure skating
- 30. Lantern
- 31. TV network
- 34. Georges \_\_, French philosopher
- 36. Sharp, shrill bark
- 37. Albanian monetary units
- 39. Launched Apollo

## CLUES DOWN

- 1. Flower cluster
- 2. A form
- 3. Inner organ regions
- 4. Local law enforcement
- 5. A citizen of Senegal
- 6. Positively charged electrodes
- 7. Connects granules
- 8. Business practice
- 9. The Mount Rushmore State

- 12. Leader
- 13. Hindu queen
- 17. Proofreading mark
- 19. European country
- 20. Greek mythological nymph
- 21. Grandfather
- 25. Clears
- 29. Amount of time
- 31. Mollusks
- 32. German municipality
- 33. Body part
- 35. City of Angels hoopsters
- 38. Suffocate
- 41. Pleasing to the eye
- 43. Poplar trees (Spanish)
- 44. Ship officer
- 45. Individual investment account (abbr.)
- 46. Prefix meaning within
- 47. Ceased to live
- 49. Day by day
- 56. Not color
- 57. Condition of withdrawal (abbr.)

Answers on page 15

## YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, April 9	Fri, April 10	Sat, April 11	Sun, April 12	Mon, April 13	Tues, April 14	Wed, April 15
North Isle H-51°/L-37° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-51°/L-39° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-53°/L-38° Showers Possible	North Isle H-54°/L-40° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-56°/L-42° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-55°/L-43° Mixed Sun and Clouds	North Isle H-56°/L-42° Mostly Cloudy Chance of Rain
South Isle H-54°/L-38° Mostly Cloudy	South Isle H-53°/L-39° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-56°/L-39° Showers Possible	South Isle H-57°/L-41° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-59°/L-41° Mostly Cloudy	South Isle H-58°/L-43° Mixed Sun and Clouds	South Isle H-59°/L-46° Mostly Cloudy Chance of Rain



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- Inspect Belts & Hoses
- Inspect Exhaust System
- Check Charging System
- Test Ignition Cables
- Tire Rotation & Balance
- Inspect Suspension
- Check all Fluids
- Test Anti-Freeze

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- Inspect Ignition Cables
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# Community Bulletin Board

To place an ad, email [classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com](mailto:classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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

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

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Habitat Stores depend on enthusiastic volunteers to help carry out our mission. We are looking for volunteers to help us with customer service, merchandise intake, store up-keep, organization and pick-ups of donated items. If you have two (2) hours or more per week to donate, please join us in our mission to create affordable housing in our community by volunteering at our Oak Harbor Store. Hours: Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm and Sun, 11am-

4pm. Please contact Tony Persson if you are interested in volunteering at our Oak Harbor store (290 SE Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor, WA 98277): 360-675-8733, [tony@islandcountyhabitat.org](mailto:tony@islandcountyhabitat.org). For our Freeland store (1592 Main Street, Freeland WA 98249), please contact John Schmidt: 360-331-6272, [john@islandcountyhabitat.com](mailto:john@islandcountyhabitat.com). Habitat for Humanity of Island County, [www.islandcountyhabitat.org](http://www.islandcountyhabitat.org), 360-679-9444.

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

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

Looking for board members to join the dynamic board of Island Senior Resources and serve the needs of Island County Seniors. Of particular interest are representatives from North Whidbey. For more information please contact: [reception@islandseniorservices.org](mailto:reception@islandseniorservices.org)

## How'd you do?

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

## HEALTH/FITNESS

Treadmill by Sears Lifestyler with electronic ergometer. Comes with mph speed, distance scan, \$50. Located in Oak Harbor, 360-301-1989 (1)

## HOME FURNISHINGS

Pair of comfortable accent chairs (with matching armchair covers), excellent condition. Subdued striping with peach, rust, cinnamon soft corduroy fabric. From no-pets, no-smoking home. \$50 for the pair; Antique solid oak, 48" diameter dining room table, with two 12" leaves and four solid oak captain's chairs, \$375 or best offer; Solid oak, 42" diameter sun room table, with two solid oak captain's chairs, \$150 or best offer. Come see them in Anacortes. We can send pictures, tell you measurements, and deliver to Anacortes and Whidbey Island. Home phone, 360-678-1167. Text, 360-320-0525. Email, [bowen@whidbey.net](mailto:bowen@whidbey.net)

## MISCELLANEOUS

Craftsman 14-drawer tool chest that sets atop a 3-drawer Craftsman cabinet. Contained within are sockets (sae and metric) in large variety of sizes, crescent wrenches, screw drivers, pliers, small tap and dye set, torque wrench, files, air tools, and much more. Value of cabinet and tools \$2000. Will sell for \$700. Call 360-679-9001 (0)

## ANIMALS/SUPPLIES

Emergency Pet Food Bank: We are a grassroots group

committed to assisting you with pet food and similar needs during this challenging time. Contact Rita Bartell Drum, 631-707-5980 or email [ritadrum777@gmail.com](mailto:ritadrum777@gmail.com) (3)

Excellent grass hay, good for horses, \$7 per bale. 20 bale minimum. 360-321-1624

If you or someone you know needs help in feeding pet(s), WAIF Pet Food Banks may be able to help. Pet Food Banks are located at WAIF thrift stores in Oak Harbor (465 NE Midway Blvd) and Freeland (1660 Roberta Ave) and are generously stocked by donations from the community. If you need assistance, please stop by.

## WANTED

**WANTED Running or Not: We buy cars, trucks, travel trailers, motorhomes, boats, tractors, & much more! If you want to sell or get rid of anything, call TJ's Recycling, 360-678-4363. We will haul junk vehicles away. (2)**

**Always buying antiques, collectibles, sporting goods, tools, garden equipment, furniture, vehicles, tractors and boats. Cash paid at loading out. 45 years experience. 360-678-5888 or text 360-9691948 (2)**

Art, Antiques & Collectibles. Cash paid for quality items. Call or text 360-661-7298

Was your Dad or Gramps in Japan or Germany? I collect old 35 mm cameras and lenses. Oak Harbor, call 970-823-0002

## No Cheating!

			R	P	M			P	S	A	L	M	S		
			A	L	E			D	E	N	I	E	D		
I	R		C	U	D			N	O	N	E				
M	A	S	E	R	U			E	D	I	T	I	N	G	
A	N	I	M	A	L			G	E	N	I	T	O	R	
M	I	C	E	L	L	E		A	S		N	A	M	A	
						A	X	E	L			G	L	I	M
C	B	S				S	O	R	E	L			Y	A	P
L	E	K	S			N	A	S	A						
A	L	U	M		B	E		E	L	A	P	S	E	D	
M	A	L	O	D	O	R				A	L	U	M	N	I
S	U	L	T	A	N	A				K	A	R	A	T	E
					H	I	N	T		E	M	S		O	D
					B	E	L	I	E	D		R	O	E	
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On a scale from 1 to 10...7.2

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 below

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

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By Kae Harris

Getting into gear for all the beauty spring and summer bring to us is as easy as enjoying the beautiful Washington views from the comfort of our own homes. What better way to make sure our viewing pleasure is as clear as can be than making our viewing portals streak free and crystal clean? Since 2010, Crystal Clean Windows and More LLC has been a veteran owned and operated business, bringing indispensable services to Whidbey Island. Owner Jason Leman and his team take the utmost pride in their work and ensuring a "job well done" is just par for the course when they're called to work their magic on your home or place of business.

Using non-toxic, eco-friendly cleaners safe for use around all your loved ones, Jason and his staff ensure your windows reach their full potential and glimmer in all their glory. While we're all practicing social distancing and helping our communities stay as safe and healthy as possible, Jason places the wellbeing of his customers above all else, and so on the advice of health authorities he continues to offer his invaluable services, with the exception of interior window cleaning for the moment. He will revisit this service in the future when it is safe and appropriate to do so, but in the meantime his exterior cleaning is still going strong. Using the RODI (reverse osmosis deionization) system and water-fed poles, removing sediment and contaminants that dull your windows has never been easier. Crystal Clean staff are able to maintain a socially-acceptable distance, whilst delivering a spot-free shine to your windows, each and every time.

And it doesn't stop at windows, because Crystal Clean Windows and More LLC, does just that – more! Gutter cleaning to sweep your gutters clear of debris and get them going and flowing again is just another day at the office for this crew. Make those gutters even more gorgeous by getting them whitened too – all adding to the aesthetic value of your abode or place of work and on top of all of that, the functional flow of water around the building means you'll avoid potential costly repairs back-ups and clogs can bring.

Don't need to get the gutters groomed? What about your roof? Moss is messy and the time is just right to make a move on the lichen now! His eco-friendly practices mean non-toxic cleaners are the order of the day, and no-pressure washing will put your mind at ease that not even a single shingle will be damaged. Moss is merely swept clear off your roof with Jason's method, maintaining the structural integrity of your building and what's better than peace of mind, especially lately?

Crystal Clean's team brings professionalism and expertise, all in one go, so you can rest assured no job is too big or too small and whatever it is, expect nothing but the best from Jason and his crew. For more information about his services, even during our current, uncertain times, give Crystal Clean Windows and More LLC a call, 360-675-3005, and find out just how they strive to give your home a fresh feel while keeping you and yours safe. For more information online, visit [www.crystalcleanwindowswhidbey.com](http://www.crystalcleanwindowswhidbey.com) and wipe away the weary feel today!

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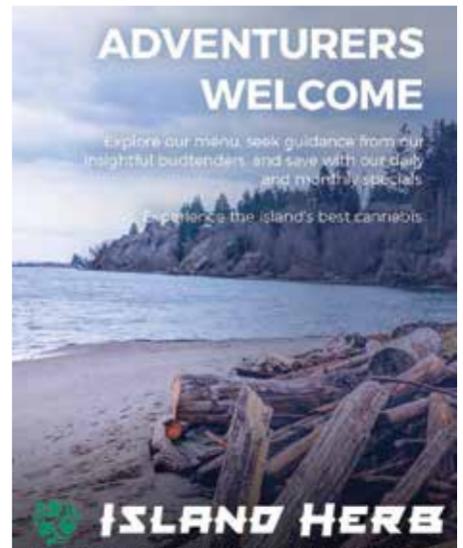


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## COVID-19 Selfcare

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- Social distancing
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- Hand sanitizing
- Avoid touching your face
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill

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WhidbeyHealth

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