

May 21 through May 27, 2020

Whidbey Weekly

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MEMORIAL DAY 2020

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and Continue to Serve*



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MEMORIAL DAY

Honoring the memory of those who served

Although
there
is no
parade
this year,
we still
remember
our
nation's
heroes.

Thank You
to our Veterans
past & present
for your service.



ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



After another week of enjoying re-broadcasts of old ball games, old movies, and my collection of old TV shows, I feel like I have been in a time tunnel.

Thinking about it further, I realize the time tunnel method is the way I normally live.

I was going to say this is the way I live normally, but I knew we might get a slew of letters.

A northwest of Seattle slew.

Return to normal

Growing up, we often heard the expression that we were kids "just going through a phase."

Now we are adults, just going through a phase, but four phases—the four phases of the masked locals.

This First Phase seems a whole lot like the Non Phase which went unnamed until now. What has changed? Longer lines?

We are told the Second Phase will have new old freedoms coming.

Then the Third Phase will follow with more new old freedoms, preceding the Fourth Phase.

Swiss-American psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross in her 1969 book, *On Death and Dying*, wrote there are five stages of grief in terminal illness: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance.

Gov. Inslee says there are four phases needed for our economy to get going. None of the above grief categories are listed. Let us keep it this way if we can.

I have but one phase to look forward to—hugging our granddaughters for the first time since March. That will be my march to the Euphoric Phase.

Observations

After several days of dropped masks, it appears my masked days may be coming to a close. Either my head is too long for my ears to get in the stirrups, or my ears are too big to be looped. I look like a masked elf.

I would ask my barber's advice but my Zoom camera is not wide enough to cover the distance between my nose and ears.

With all the hot air I exhale, this mask deal is just too thermal. Maybe it is time to go to Plan B—covering my mouth and nose with clean diapers secured by a red knit John Prine hat.

Word cross

In the December 2019 *Smithsonian* magazine, one of the questions on my question list was answered.

Why are those popular word puzzles called crosswords?

After moving to America to be a journalist, Liverpool, England native Arthur Wynne, the father of crosswords, was working on the Fun page for his employer, the *New York World*.

Wynne called his first effort, "Word-Cross."

Later, an illustrator accidentally changed "Word-Cross" to "Cross-Word." Mr. Wynne made no objection after seeing the copy, so the term stuck.

The article may still be online at www.smithsonianmag.com. I would check for you, but I need to finish this column before getting back to watching the fawn on the lawn.

Is there anything more precious? Watching this little critter jump around the yard is just too much fun. The abundance of little white spots on the fawn is the best. Watching the fawn hop is like following the bouncing ball in those old *Screen Songs*, which were played in movie theatres to initiate group singing.

Where do those fawn spots go when the critter grows up?

See spots run. See spots go. See spots disappear.

Three for Fore!

Next month it would have been my pleasure to share time with some grand ladies of golf from around the state. Our Useless Bay Country Club activity has been postponed due to the phases and stages of our current links lockdown for groups.

When surrounded by royalty, my inner court jester appears with my fave golf jokes from old score cards. The joke authors are unknown, but, as you will read, all the unknowns, if known, are known to be funny.

Intruder alert

Police are called to an apartment and find a woman holding a bloody 5-iron, standing over a lifeless man.

The detective asks, "Ma'am, is that your husband?"

"Yes," says the woman.

"Did you hit him with that golf club?"

"Yes, yes I did."

The woman begins to sob, drops the club and puts her hands on her face.

"How many times did you hit him?"

"I don't know, five, six, maybe seven times...just put me down for a five."

Bridal Boyquet

The bride came down the aisle. When she reached the altar, the groom was standing there with his golf bag and clubs at his side.

She said, whispering: "What are your golf clubs doing here?"

The groom looked his bride right in the eye and said, "This isn't going to take all day, is it."

Tee'd off

A golfer teed up his ball on the first tee, took a mighty swing and hit his ball into a clump of trees.

He found his ball and saw an opening between two trees he thought he could hit through.

Taking out his 3-wood, he took another mighty swing.

The ball hit a tree, bounced back, hit him in the forehead and killed him.

As the golfer approached the gates of Heaven, St. Peter saw him coming and asked, "Sir, are you a good golfer?" to which the man replied, "Got here in two, didn't I?"

Best answer

Striving for levity at every turn, I often watch the news. In a recent broadcast on some station, a masked lady from France was asked why she was violating the stay at home order.

"Wearing pajamas all day doesn't help. I want to go shopping. It's good for me."

Prediction

While I may be, as Dad said, "a few fries short of a happy meal," I do think my common sense has become more common, at least insofar as it relates to me.

Given the present inaccessibility of courts and lawyers, I predict 2020 as the year for the lowest number of divorces filed since the last lowest year.

However, as we have witnessed during the last several weeks, the number of separations is on the rise.

Sheriff's blotter

Fans of Island 9-1-1 have been sharing their small town scenes. The following excerpts are taken from several March issues of *The Mountain Messenger*, established in 1853 in Downieville, Sierra County, California.

Saturday, Feb. 22—At 1:56 p.m., an overdue party was reported to be somewhere between Sardine Lake, Love Falls, and Wild Plum.

Monday, Feb. 24—At 1:05 a.m., a 9-1-1 call from Sierra City contained nothing but static.

Wednesday, March 4—At 7:05 a.m., a vehicle was reported to be ignoring the flashing lights on a stopped school bus by passing the vehicle multiple times.

Thursday, March 12—At 12:42 p.m., report of an impatient reckless driver in Loyalton who just had to pass on a double yellow line.

Thanks to Julie and Mike of Building Source in Freeland for sharing this news from the Sierra.

For locals only

After almost four decades on Whidbey, I am beginning to think and act like a local.

Finally, after all these years of trying, I now finish mowing the yard right before it starts to rain.

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

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REMEMBER TO WEAR A MASK

OR GET FREE CONTACTLESS GROCERY DELIVERY FROM

Island Senior Resources

GO TO WWW.SENIOR-RESOURCES.ORG
CLICK ON "ONLINE HELP REQUEST"
OR CALL 360-321-1600 OR 360-678-3373

We're all in this together.



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





Bits & Pieces

Veterans Not Forgotten, Memorial Day 2020: A Service of Remembrance Offered Online

The American Legion George Morris Post 129 and Oak Harbor Lions team up to celebrate Memorial Day online this year with the Lions' second annual Service of Remembrance. Special keynote speakers include NAS Whidbey Captain Matthew Army and SCPO Ben Bunnell, USN, RET. Colors will be presented by OHHS NJROTC and Sons of the American Revolution: George Washington Chapter, with Patriot Guard Riders at attention. Musical guests include Navy Band Northwest, Scottish American Military Society bagpiper Don Scobie, and OHHS NJROTC Melanie Villegas singing our National Anthem. Event includes NAS Whidbey Island Search and Rescue flyover, Sons of the American Revolution "Old Glory" presentation, historical flag lines and static displays, and Flag Folding by NAS Whidbey Honor Team. Oak Harbor Mayor Robert Severns will emcee, and presentations will be made by Representative Rick Larsen, Senator Ron Muzzall, and Island County Commissioner Jill Johnson. A traditional VFW, Legion, and Fleet wreath laying ceremony is included.

Last year, more than 450 people attended the ceremony in Maple Leaf. Due to social distancing, the event is pre-recorded and will be broadcast live online starting May 25, 10:00AM at www.facebook.com/ohlionsclub/.

According to Event Coordinator Kelly Davidson of Oak Harbor Lions Club, "Donations from the event allow us to meet pressing needs in our community for Oak Harbor Lions, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Fleet Reserve, whose facilities have been closed. Lions members thank everyone who contribute to this important work - you are truly helping Lions make a difference in our community." Donations received by May 22 will be recognized in the program. New this year, donations may be made in memory or in honor of your veteran. To donate please visit, <https://ohlions.org/>.

The Oak Harbor Lions Club has approximately 30 members and meets Wednesdays at 7:00PM at the Elks Lodge. Lions clubs are a group of men and women who identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved with the Oak Harbor Lions Club, please contact Bobbi Lornson at 360-320-7066.

[Submitted by Teresa Addison]

WhidbeyHealth Takes Next Steps in Opening Services for Our Community's Health

Life is on pause, but our need for healthcare is not.

Following Governor Inslee's plan to phase-out some stay-at-home restrictions, WhidbeyHealth continues to take steps to meet the healthcare needs of our community. Several services will re-open at the hospital and clinics, while maintaining strict safety precautions already in place.

WhidbeyHealth General Surgeon, Dr. Lean Oman, expresses the importance of re-starting surgical services for our community.

"I'm eager to get patients back on track with planned procedures because I know how great the need is for certain surgical services," Dr. Oman said. "I am also absolutely confident in the safety of our facilities here at WhidbeyHealth, which is always our first priority."

May 18 saw the start of scheduling three elec-

tive surgeries per day or 15 per week at the Medical Center.

Surgeries will be prioritized by a multi-disciplinary team based on criteria, including worsening of patient's condition, harm, etc.

As a safety measure, operating room teams will be swabbed regularly to be tested for COVID-19, which includes all providers and staff. This is several thousand dollars in cost per month (lab fees alone are \$125 per test).

Patients waiting for a procedure will be contacted to schedule pre-op, etc., which will largely be done at the Medical Center.

Emergency surgeries and cesarean births are not included in the 15 surgeries per week.

Maintaining surgical services are dependent on inventory of PPE, continued decline in COVID-19 spread, and guidance from the Governor's office.

As with all services available to WhidbeyHealth patients during the Coronavirus pandemic, the reinforcement of protective safety precautions for all patients and staff are the hospital's first priority in re-introducing services. Health and safety protocols for staff and patients during any visit will be strictly enforced and will include:

- Temperature screening upon entry to any building
- Patients showing a fever will have to reschedule their appointment
- Each patient support person will be required to wait in the car for the duration of the patient's visit
- Patients will be required to wear a mask on entry to any building
- All staff will be required to wear complete personal protective equipment (PPE), including masks, goggles and, in some cases, gowns
- Spatial distancing in waiting areas will be strictly enforced
- Surgical areas are included in the rotation of our new Halo Disinfection Systems (An evaporation system which uses a dry fogging delivery of disinfectant throughout any complex space to eliminate pathogens beyond the reach of sprays, wipes or UV lights)

To schedule an elective surgical procedure, please call 360-678-6799.

Stay connected with WhidbeyHealth for current information at facebook.com/whidbeyhealth or at whidbeyhealth.org.

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

Medicare Counseling Now Available by Phone in Island County

Residents of Island County who are getting ready to enroll in Medicare can now chat by phone with local volunteers to get help with their enrollment. The free island-wide service also assists individuals eligible for Medicare as a result of losing employer-based health insurance. This expanded phone service is a direct result of the sheltering orders intended to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus.

Volunteers with SHIBA (Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors) normally meet clients in person to discuss the many aspects of Medicare enrollment.

Call 360-321-1600 to schedule a phone appointment with one of the island's six counselors. It is important people enroll in Medicare when they are first eligible, as delays can result in lifelong financial penalties. The volunteers can also email or mail clients written material explaining Medicare and how to enroll.

There is no current information about when Medicare deadlines might be lifted or modified to accommodate people affected by the current stay-at-home order. For this reason, people are urged to call for counseling several months before they turn 65 or otherwise qualify for Medicare.

SHIBA is a national program managed by Washington's Office of the Insurance Commissioner. For additional information, go to www.Medicare.gov.

[Submitted by Jean Mathisen]

Skagit Valley College to Remain Online Summer Quarter, Cancels June Commencement Activities

In support of the Governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy directive to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, Skagit Valley College announced it will continue to operate online for Summer Quarter. In addition to the decision to remain online through the summer, the college has made the difficult decision to cancel its 2020 commencement activities originally scheduled for June in Mount Vernon, Oak Harbor, and Friday Harbor.

"Commencement is my favorite annual activity, and I share our students' disappointment in our inability to recognize them on stage this year," said SVC President Dr. Tom Keegan. "We take very seriously our responsibility to care for students, employees, and members of the communities we serve, and any large gathering may put them at risk. Despite the challenges we face today and our inability to celebrate at large gatherings such as commencement, the accomplishments of our students remain a great source of pride among the faculty, staff, and board of trustees."

Staff and faculty are creating alternative ways to celebrate and honor graduate accomplishments this year, which will include publications on the Skagit Valley College website, in the local newspaper, and keepsake grad packages. In addition, students who graduate this academic year will receive an invitation to participate in our commencement ceremonies next year. Graduates will still receive recognition on their official transcript of the degree, certificate and/or diploma they have been working to attain. As is the practice every year, diplomas will be mailed later in the summer. Students who plan to graduate this spring or summer should apply for graduation, <https://grad.skagit.edu/login.aspx>.

Summer Quarter classes begin Monday, July 6 and registration is going on now. www.skagit.edu/summer-2020

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

Attorney Kathleen Petrich, Candidate for Island County Superior Court Judge Position 2

Attorney Kathleen Petrich filed with Island County Elections for Island County Superior Court Judge Position 2, held for the past 24 years by Judge Vickie Churchill, who will retire at the end of her current term.

Admitted to the bar in 1992, Petrich has presented cases in courts both nationwide and internationally. She now serves as a pro-tem judge in the court, a position she assumed following a long career in private legal practice. During that time, she received the honors of Washington Super Lawyer (including its top Washington Women Lawyers list 2015-2017) and Best Lawyers.

When asked why she's willing to come out of retirement and run, Petrich said, "I'm eager to put my skills to work for the community and enhance the extraordinary goodness of Island County."

"Being an effective judge is hard work, and I'm a proven hard worker, with decades of experience in the law. Each person before the court has a matter of great importance to him, her, or them. Each deserves a fair, impartial, hard-working, smart, kind, firm judge who comes prepared and ready to render a just result. I will be that judge."

Petrich resides in Langley with her husband George, son, Forrest, and a large Bernese mountain dog. She serves as president of Friends of Langley Library and is a member of the League of Women Voters Whidbey Island and Slow Food Whidbey, and volunteered for

a community disaster preparedness group and for the Pawz 5K/10K Run, both in Langley.

[Submitted by Friends to Elect Kathleen Petrich for Island County Superior Court Judge Position #2]

Bonanza for Beginning Biking

By Maribeth Crandell

This spring has been challenging in many ways. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a huge public health crisis, job losses and economic uncertainty. But there have been some good things that have come from it. For one, there's less traffic on the roads and more people walking and biking.

Large cities around the world are closing certain streets to motor vehicle traffic in order to allow more room for pedestrians or cyclists. Seattle announced that 20 miles of city streets will be converted to bikes and pedestrians only. This is a good time to ride a bike for fun, exercise or to meet the bus for longer essential trips. Currently, bus routes are at a minimum, so some people would benefit from a short bike ride to meet the bus. Two or three bikes fit on each bus bike rack.

May is Bike Month. Normally I'd be helping to organize a bike to school event. Not this year. Instead, I'd like to suggest a few easy rides that could be done individually, or as a household, even if you're a beginner or someone who rides infrequently, like me.

My favorite rides on Whidbey are nearly flat so you can relax and enjoy the ride while you build strength and gain confidence.

On South Whidbey, Maxwellton Road has a wide, paved shoulder running from Langley almost eight miles to Maxwellton Beach at Dave Mackie Park. If eight miles is too far, stop at the Outdoor Classroom for a break. Sit by the creek and have a snack before you head back. It's a very gradual slope down to the beach and slightly uphill back toward Langley. Use the crosswalk and light at the highway. You could also put your bike on the Route 1 bus to this intersection at Maxwellton Road and ride south from there.

Near Coupeville, build your bicycle stamina with a ride around Crockett Lake. You could put your bike on the Route 1 bus and get off the bus at the ferry terminal where restrooms are available. Time your ride so you miss the ferry traffic on that side of the lake. This is a three mile loop with spectacular scenery. If you start your bike ride from the Park and Ride in Coupeville, you can add about four miles to your trip. That makes it 11 miles round trip. If you develop an appetite, you could get some takeout at Callen's across from the ferry terminal, or visit the Red Apple or a number of other restaurants offering takeout in downtown Coupeville.

In Oak Harbor, the Waterfront Trail is a good place for beginners, but watch out for pedestrians and dog walkers who use the trail. Try going early in the morning or maybe after dinner. It's light until 8:30 at night. The trailhead on the west end starts on Scenic Heights Road where there's a beautiful little park. From there, the trail is gravel and winds through a natural area until it gets to Beeksma Drive and changes to a paved pedestrian path along the beach. You can take the bus and get off at Harbor Station across the street from Flintstone Park. Then ride your bike west for just over a mile to the Scenic Heights trailhead and back again.

Or take a ride from Walmart out Swantown Road about three and a half miles to Joseph Whidbey State Park. There's a picnic shelter with great views of the water. Round trip is about seven miles back to the bus stop at Walmart.

First, take the bike out of the shed, pump up the tires, oil the chain and check the brakes. Bike shops are "essential businesses" so if you need a tune up, you can take it to a local professional. Ride your bike around the block a few times. Make sure your helmet fits, your bike light works and you're wearing bright colors to make you visible from a good distance when that occasional car comes along. Wherever you go, wear a helmet and dress bright. Ride in single file, give each other plenty of space and enjoy the ride.





WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

11:56 am, E Henni Rd.

Missing shaggy brown highland cow; if someone calls in that sees it, okay to give reporting party's number.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

1:23 pm, Steelhead Dr.

Advising six people doing construction on deck at house on corner of location. Requesting they be told they are not social distancing.

1:56 pm, Leahy Dr.

Requesting call in reference to neighbor cutting down trees on reporting party's property. Not occurring now.

3:10 pm, Beachwood Dr.

Requesting call; states neighbor passed away, had one of reporting party's dogs given to her; was supposed to return if anything happened. Didn't get dog back.

5:05 pm, SR 20

Reporting party advising vehicle swerved and hit guard rail right before the bridge. Reporting party blocked him in on road.

8:36 pm, S Main St.

Reporting party advising subject from earlier today was back in store trying to purchase alcohol, was handed money with red, gooey substance.

9:04 pm, Maxwellton Rd.

Reporting party advising trash can lids arranged in field spelling out "FOPD!" Was in area one hour ago, is still there in the north end near baseball fields.

11:26 pm, Quade Rd.

States ongoing issue with neighbor digging up reporting party's dirt and grass and putting it in their own yard; reporting party hasn't reported it until now.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

3:22 pm, North View Rd.

Requesting call regarding cat who keeps showing up at location; advising it is becoming extremely aggressive. Not there now, mainly shows up at night. Has been lunging at windows when it sees someone inside.

4:48 pm, S Main St.

Male subject in driveway at middle school passed out.

5:37 pm, Oak Harbor Rd.

Advising female burning fencing in yard - not allowed in park.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

8:51 am, Loerland Ln.

Reporting party advising had issue yesterday with altercation; subjects of altercation called on phone and said they were

in town and were going to go by and give him an "ass kicking," no time.

12:49 pm, Maxwellton Rd.

Caller advising sitting at location for mortgage company and homeowner is refusing to let caller leave. Unknown if male is armed - told wife "to get his gun."

11:02 pm, Bayview Rd.

Male subject crashed into trees. Male seems under the influence of drugs. Male laughing the whole time reporting party contacted him. No apparent injuries.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

9:57 pm, Bounty Loop

Reporting party advising husband was looking for missing beagle in Trillium Preserve. States beagle has come back, husband is now lost in woods.

MONDAY, APRIL 20

7:09 pm, Fairway Ln.

Reporting party advising in field behind address was walking dog and found large, black plastic garbage bag that looks suspicious. Looks like it may be a body.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

9:24 pm, SR 20

Reporting party advising child is running down road. Reporting party has stopped, is trying to get child out of road. Now running in middle of the highway.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

12:22 am, Arnold Rd.

Reporting party advising is staying at location and paying rent to stay there. Is now receiving threatening texts from roommate who is owner of residence. Roommate is currently in same residence, in own room, sending these messages.

1:03 pm, Montgomery Ln.

Reporting party advising received odd call from someone requesting to know his feelings about President Trump - found it odd because he was put on hold and

caller never came back to phone.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

1:30 am, Ward Ln.

Caller states someone just rang her doorbell. Caller only hearing; hasn't gone to check to see who is at front door.

3:14 am, Ward Ln.

Caller states person is ringing doorbell again. Only rang once. Sound of bell woke reporting party and her husband.

1:53 pm, SR 525

Reporting party advising driver acting erratic, speeding; got out of vehicle and yelled at reporting party, throwing cigarettes out of window.

10:11 pm, Bercot Rd.

Reporting party thought she called Coastal Bank on Evergreen Way. Called wrong number. Now caller at the wrong number is calling her back continuously. Requesting call from law enforcement.

Friday, April 24

6:22 am, Barque Rd.

Reporting party states he is trying to get a message to his ex-wife; needs her to know he has been let out of hospital. States "The hearse missed the turn and I am dead."

10:51 am, Intruder Ln.

Caller says someone cut a tree down from her yard. Suspects neighbor.

12:2 pm, Cerullo Dr.

Requesting call referencing neighbor at location cutting up RV/campers and burying them on his (subject's) property.

2:40 pm, Hastings Rd.

Playing loud music. Neighbor thinks she is a witch

6:18 pm, Sandy Hook Dr.

Advising group of 50 people playing and riding golf carts on the beach.

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

CREATIVE

Check out the **JR Russell Magic Facebook page** to get clues for where you can find magic tricks on Whidbey Island!



- Make a magic star!
- Read a secret message!
- Pull all the rabbits out of the top hat!

FUN FACTS!

Rabbits don't eat carrots in the wild.

Laughter increases creativity and the ability to solve tasks.

Magicians have invented thousands of things used by others, including the Movie Clapboard.



How many rabbits can you pull out of this hat? Circle them all.



Toothpick Star

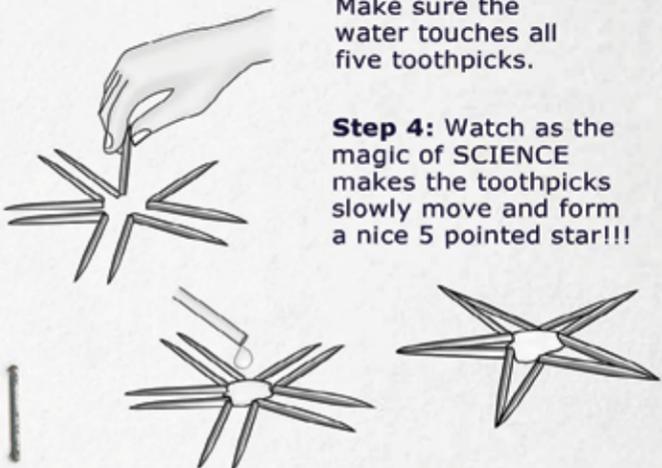
CHALLENGE: Can you make a star out of 5 broken toothpicks WITHOUT touching them?

STEP 1: Carefully snap 5 toothpicks in the middle so that they can fold into a V shape, but aren't completely broken into two.

Step 2: Set the toothpicks on a flat hard surface as shown here. Make sure that they are not touching each other but that the toothpicks are close to each other.

Step 3: Using an eye dropper or a straw, drop a few beads of water into the very center of the toothpicks. Make sure the water touches all five toothpicks.

Step 4: Watch as the magic of SCIENCE makes the toothpicks slowly move and form a nice 5 pointed star!!!



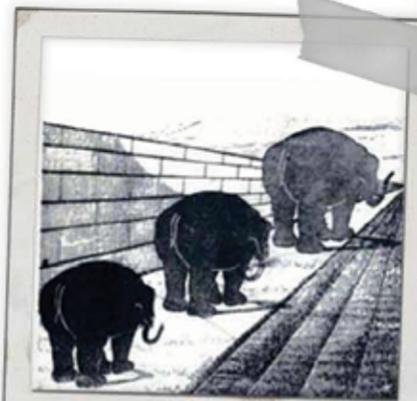
Q: What is as big as an elephant but weighs nothing?
A: The shadow of an elephant!

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A TRUE MAGICIAN knows that the key to being creative is not being afraid of failure.

Professor Buckets left you a secret message. Tilt the top of this page toward the ground and close one eye to see if you can read it.



Which elephant is the largest?

For a PDF copy of this activity page, email JR@JRRUSSELLMAGIC.COM

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





Oak Harbor celebrates seniors p. 10



VFW Post 7392 Oak Harbor, WA was live.

16 hrs · 🌐

Join us here "LIVE" at 10am on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25th for our second annual Service of Remembrance.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Whitehead Muzzal Post 7392 and the Oak Harbor Lions Club will livestream a Service of Remembrance on Facebook at 10 a.m. Monday.

This is a test



It's still Memorial Day

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

Virus or no virus, Memorial Day 2020 will happen. It might look a little different, plans may have been re-worked, but Whidbey Island will still observe the holiday honoring those veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice in their service to our country, and those who have also served or are still serving.

The annual Memorial Day Parade and Remembrance Ceremony in Coupeville will not happen, but that doesn't mean there isn't something in the works.

"While it is not nearly as grand as our parade and picnic etc., I believe now more than ever we need to move our minds away for a brief moment in time from what is currently happening and remember those who fought for our freedom and those who still are," said Lynda Eccles, Coupeville Chamber of Commerce executive director. "Memorial Day is the time to do that. We can hang flags, thank our veterans in our community, have a picnic in our garden, simply embrace the freedom these heroes have given us."

Eccles said the Central Whidbey Lions Club will still put out flags along Main Street, the Chamber is adding flags to flower barrels along the route and the Boys and Girls Club is

painting "Thank You for Your Service" signs that will be put on display throughout town. Plans are also underway for a small "reverse parade" which will travel past specific veterans' homes within the town of Coupeville. Contact the Coupeville Chamber for more information on this endeavor. (www.coupevillechamber.com)

Typically, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Fleet Reserve and most recently, the Oak Harbor Lions Club, join forces each year for a Memorial Day service at local cemeteries on Whidbey. This year the prerecorded service will be livestreamed by the VFW Whitehead Muzzal Post 7392 in Oak Harbor in conjunction with the Oak Harbor Lions Club. The Service of Remembrance, which honors all veterans past and present, will be held at 10 a.m. Monday and can be found online at www.facebook.com/ohlionsclub/.

"This island has a great sense of community," said Eccles. "A good example is what is happening today. Even though we are in our homes and social distancing when we have to go out, people are finding ways to reach out and support each other. That is what community is about, that is what Coupeville and Whidbey Island are about. We should always remember, and never forget, those who have given us freedom."

Amid reopening, islanders explore new ways of doing business

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

From restaurants to retailers, Whidbey Island businesses have made many changes in the wake of COVID-19. Adaptations have ranged from temporary closures to online ordering on the island and beyond. Now, the time has come for the state to begin reopening in four phases through the "Safe Start" program, as outlined by the state and Governor Jay Inslee.

Robyn Kolaitis, owner of Whidbey Party Store in Oak Harbor, said while the store was able to reopen May 4, the first phase of reopening has presented challenges as the store launched a website and curbside services.

"I just had to put a website up now and I still probably only have not even a quarter of our products online yet, so it has been very difficult," she said.

In preparation for the second phase of the state's reopening of nonessential businesses, Kolaitis said the store has been cleaning extensively.

"We are doing a complete cleaning of the store and we put up plexiglass and we are all wearing our masks and staying up to date on cleaning," she said. "And that is pretty much all we can do, (and) trying to keep social distancing."

Kolaitis said there has been some ambiguity for retail stores in what exactly needs to be done in each reopening phase.

"The governor has not been super clear on what he expects from us as small businesses," she said. "We are just doing the best we can."

Tyler Hansen, chef and owner at The Oystercatcher in Coupeville, said adapting to takeout only has brought its challenges for the restaurant. He said the Little Red Hen Bakery and The Oystercatcher combined efforts to make a single online ordering system, with orders being taken until 11:30 p.m. Thursday for Saturday pickup at The Oystercatcher.

"For us, the major challenge has been keeping all of the orders organized and getting them packaged," he said.

See REOPENING continued on page 7

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We've seen the effects of the COVID-19 emergency on TV and in the news: Lines of cars stretching along the highways waiting to collect an emergency food box. We've heard about restaurants and caterers dumping food while suddenly out of work employees go hungry. We've personally experienced the eerie sight of empty grocery shelves and participated in the great TP scramble. We might have been heartened that Feeding America has raised billions in donations and then wondered where the money will go. The more proactive among us might have shared a link to the MEANS app or offered to take a long-bed truck to Eastern Washington to pick up some potatoes after hearing about the tons languishing in warehouses. Many of us have donated to our local food bank, homeless shelter or other essential service organization, knowing tough times have suddenly gotten a whole lot tougher for the most vulnerable of our neighbors.

The past two months have thrown the cracks in our social and economic systems into screaming fluorescent pink relief. How could so many be in trouble so quickly? So many of us have been living on the economic edge of "just enough" that we need emergency rescuing so we don't take the U.S. economy down with us. Our production and supply chains have become so mercilessly cost-effective that "just in time" led to instant world-wide shortages of products both essential and frivolous.

Despite remarkably quick action by our government to limit the economic hardship of the millions who suddenly found themselves out of work, we all know this thing isn't over. The predominant emotion has slid from shock toward uncertainty. The only thing we know for sure is no one knows what will happen next month or next year. All but the most enlightened spend way too much time debating and musing over unanswerable questions.

Let me share part of the litany that keeps food bank directors up at night. How many people are going to be needing more food? For how long? How much will we be able to count on our normal sources for food? Should we be looking for new suppliers? What if production of produce in California is curtailed because of lack of labor or fires or drought? What if the truckers have to stop driving? Should we be stockpiling non-perishables just in case? What if we had an earthquake on top of this? What if the bridge went down and the ferries stopped? Grocery store shelves would be empty in a week. What if everyone then turned to the food bank?

What rescued me from these awfulizing forays was a two-week deep dive into the state of Whidbey's local food system. I learned from brilliant, dedicated and practical champions of resilient and sustainable agriculture there are many concrete actions being taken and many more needing just a little shove to get them running. I can still worry about tomorrow's quake, but if we're spared some time and we get to work now, we can rest easier about the coming years.

What I learned made me question the cost to our future of eating so much food from far away. If we always shop for the best price, we are rewarding the food industrial complex while hurting our local farmers and our local economy. While we encourage fossil fuel consumption to ship our grapes from Chile (random example from my shopping cart), we do nothing to ensure a sufficient supply of food grown here, in some of the most fertile farmland in the nation.

A good food bank prides itself on getting the most bang for its bucks. We can stretch those donation dollars to buy food worth many times that. But at what cost? Perhaps we should be helping our local farmers who have never hesitated to generously donate their excess and their expertise to us. As a small start, Good Cheer has received some state money to make contracts with local farmers, but it's a drop in the bucket. We are therefore starting a restricted fund for donors who want their money to support both the food bank and our local agricultural system. The double win of freshly picked organic produce to improve the nutritional health of the poorest and thriving local farms seems a no-brainer.

Of course, much more is needed to strengthen Whidbey's food system. Fortunately, Whidbey Island Grown has taken the long-awaited step of creating a cooperative. The online retail component went live May 15 and the wholesale system should follow soon. The farmers are doing their part to improve cost-efficiency by aggregating purchases, sharing equipment and hope to be able to build processing and storage capacity for shared use.

Now it's up to us, the consumers. If we want food to be there for us when the bridge goes down, we have to start buying more locally now. If we want our farmers to grow more, we need to support affordable housing for farm workers. If we want to eat some of the nation's best pastured meat and fruit and veggies processed for the winter, we need to push for reduced barriers to butchering, processing and sales through supermarkets.

Concretely and immediately, we can all sign up for Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) plans with our closest farm neighbor, haunt their farm stands and head for the farmers markets. We can do all of that and also register to buy everything from chocolate to cheese, lettuce to lamb, greens to granola to grass-fed beef, baked goods to beets with Whidbey's new cooperative food hub, on the whidbeyislandgrown.com website.

In this time of uncertainty, there's a lot I can't control. Supporting our Whidbey farmers and our future food security has given me a welcome sense of agency. It is a delicious feeling.

REOPENING continued from page 6

"We have essentially consolidated a week's worth of business into one day, and we have to coordinate food being prepared in our kitchen, production bakery, and retail bakery spaces. On a typical Saturday we have over 150 orders, containing more than 800 individual items."

Hansen said typically businesses have more time to plan for these kinds of changes, which was not the case in the current situation.

"Usually when you are changing a major aspect of your business you have months to plan and strategize," he said. "In this case we had days. But like anything else, with perseverance you can make it work, and I am glad to see our model and the models of other restaurants around the world are being adopted and adapted by many of our amazing restaurants on the island."

While some restaurants plan to bring back dine-in services in the coming weeks, pending a successful first phase of reopening, Hansen said The Oystercatcher will continue takeout service for the time being and will plan to reopen July 1 at the earliest. Starting Saturday, the Little Red Hen Bakery will be open for walk-up window service Saturdays and Sundays.

"We believe the situation is still too dangerous to start allowing the public back into our space, and I think the public feels the same way," he said. "We have seen all over the country, and world, that when places start to reopen for dine-in service, the business just isn't there. Even if the state governments say it is okay to go out, people just are not ready to return to life as normal and interact in confined spaces."

Hansen said even in the face of adversity, the restaurants of Whidbey Island have found ways to overcome current challenges.

"We have an extremely strong, resilient, and most importantly, cooperative restaurant community here on Whidbey," he said. "Sara (Hansen's wife and co-owner of the restaurant) and I have spoken with many of the chefs and restaurateurs on the island, and we have been able to share our experiences with them and they have done the same for us. The more we work together, the better off we will all be at the end."

For businesses throughout Coupeville, another opportunity for an online way of doing business is in the works. Lynda Eccles, executive director of the Coupeville Chamber of Commerce, said the new virtual shopping platform, Explore Coupeville (<https://explore-coupeville.com/>), will showcase a selection of what local businesses have to offer and allow for online purchases. In the future, she said the chamber hopes to include lodging promotions, Restaurant Week and even a virtual Christmas Market.

"The goal is to support our local businesses to be able to sell items online while they are closed," she said. "It complements their website and is another way for us to promote their business. It is not a limited time platform."



Photo courtesy of Whidbey Party Store
The Whidbey Party Store reopened May 4, and owner Robyn Kolaitis said the store now offers curbside options, along with call-in and online ordering.

Eccles said the chamber has been busy providing businesses with connections to resources and updates on available funds, as well as holding virtual meetings.

"Our support won't go away once they are given the green light to open their doors once again. We know it will be a slow start so we will continue with Explore Coupeville and promoting Coupeville," she said. "We have to do our best to help them get through this in any way we can."

Eccles said although business will look different than normal as reopening continues, she believes Whidbey Island residents will make an effort to continue supporting the local economy.

"Of course it will be different, there are a number of restrictions that require major changes to be made, but I believe strongly in the fact Coupeville residents will support the restaurants and will greet their reopening with support and appreciation for what they have done to keep open with pick-up and takeout over these last few months," she said. "It is the first stage in getting back to a new normal; it will be met with a sense of relief, maybe a little trepidation, but if we all follow the rules and act accordingly, it will be embraced."

Eccles said businesses have been forced to adapt, but continue to overcome.

"I believe this has forced us into making changes in our daily lives we never expected. It has taught us to be innovative and to make unexpected changes," she said. "Explore Coupeville is an example of one of those changes and to be innovative to find ways to support our community. I was reading a report from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce recently, which said, 'At times of crisis like this, we see innovation flourish.' I see that in our business owners in Coupeville as we start planning for the next phase."

For more information about Washington's Safe Start program, visit <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/safe-start>.

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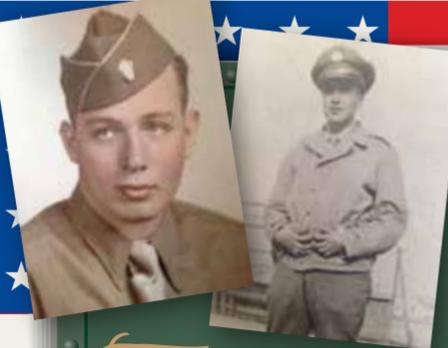
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Let's remember together!

More major events topple due to COVID-19

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

When it comes to longstanding community events that define summer on Whidbey Island, it's like the lyrics to Queen's "Another One Bites the Dust" just keep swirling around - "... and another one's gone, and another one's gone..."

Over the past week or so, the following events have fallen victim to the COVID-19 crisis: Whidbey Working Artists Summer Open Studio Tour; Whidbey Island Kite Festival; Coupeville Arts and Crafts Festival; Oak Harbor Kiwanis' Beachcombers Bazaar; Langley Street Dance; Whidbey Island Fair; Celebrate America; and Oak Harbor's Old Fashioned Fourth of July. All of them have pulled the plug on festivities this year.

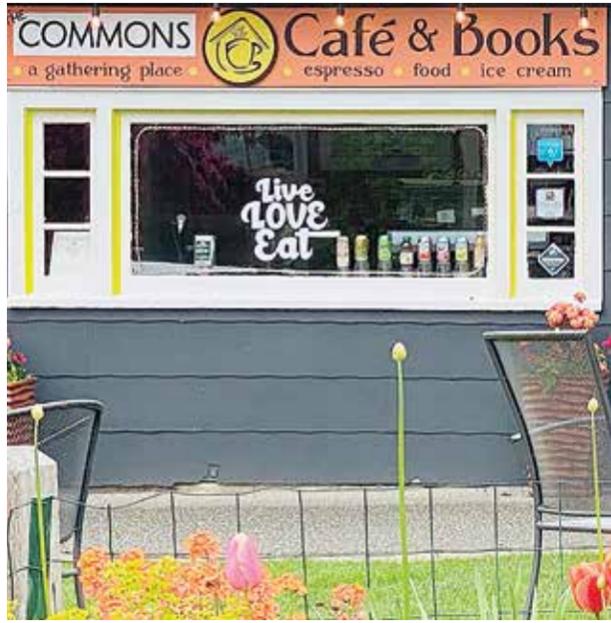


Photo Courtesy of Langley Main Street Association
A positive messaging campaign called "Love Letters to Langley" has arisen amid the COVID-19 cancellations. Inspirational quotes are being posted in businesses' windows.

None of the aforementioned events are small – all of them draw hundreds, if not thousands, of people. The impact to the local economy will be significant. For many organizations, the cost of trying to put on events safely is too much to overcome.

"The necessary protocols to protect the health of all Fair exhibitors and attendees appears to be cost prohibitive and detrimental to the enjoyment we expect from the fair experience," said a statement by the Island County Fair Association board of directors. "While we considered postponing to a later date, we came to the conclusion to spend the next year preparing for an amazing 2021 Whidbey Island Fair."

"The 2020 [Coupeville Arts and Crafts] Festival would have been the 56th consecutive Festival," said a statement from the Coupeville Festival Association. "Believing the Arts and Crafts Festival should be a time of celebration, not anxiety, the board did not enter into this decision lightly. Public health and safety has been and always will be a top priority. We are hard at work looking into methods to support our artisan vendors in a unique way in 2020."

"The loss of these events will impact the income of many of the artists negatively," said Kay Parsons, president of the Whidbey Island Arts Council, the umbrella organization for Whidbey Working Artists. "What is happening across the arts community is wrenching and not just for visual artists, but also for musicians and performing artists. It's going to be a long haul."

Many of these events are still weeks away, so one might wonder why they are being canceled so early. Organizers are looking at Gov. Jay Inslee's reopening plan and anticipating which phase could be in effect at the time of their event, making decisions based on the best case scenario.

"As America's 244th birthday draws near, the state will only be in Phase III by July, which restricts public gatherings to no more than 50 people in one public setting," states the press release issued by the Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce regarding the cancellation of its 4th of July events. "After conversations between Island County Public Health, Island County Commissioners, Oak Harbor City public affairs, the



Whidbey Weekly File Photo
There will be no fireworks lighting up the skies in Oak Harbor and Freeland this year, as both Independence Day celebrations have been canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

city fire chief and with the governor's phasing requirements for county populations over 75,000, we will not be allowed to hold gatherings over 50 people before August."

"It was extremely sad to have to cancel so many events, but after lots of thoughtful discussion within our organization, we really felt there was no alternative," said Michaleen McGarry, executive director of Langley Main Street Association. "The fact is, we care about the health of our community and in these unprecedented times, that means caring about one another from a distance."

As restrictions to the governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy

See CANCELED continued on page 12

Friday Night Lights celebrate Oak Harbor seniors

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

Lights were blazing last Friday at Oak Harbor High School as police and firefighters lined up to help celebrate the graduating class of 2020.

With cheers and applause, members of the senior class got to cruise through the flashing emergency lights in style, exiting through an arch made from two ladder trucks with an American flag suspended above. As graduates rolled by, receiving congratulations from staff and emergency personnel alike, they were presented with car magnets and rally towels. Participants were encouraged to decorate their vehicles, which ranged from classic wheels to riding lawnmowers. Social distancing rules were observed in most cases.

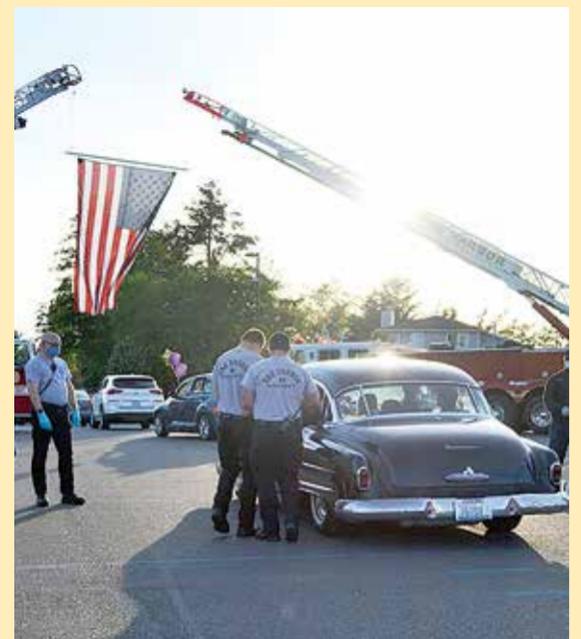
The event was part of the 2020 Senior Farewell Tour, which includes five weeks of special events to honor the graduating class.

"We are so proud of our seniors and are committed to celebrating and recognizing their accomplishments in creative and memorable ways," said Conor Laffey, communication officer for Oak Harbor Public Schools. "These five weeks will feature drive-thru celebrations, live stream award ceremonies, a new format for the senior breakfast and paper toss, special prizes and gifts, surprise visits, and a unique graduation event."

COVID-19 has interrupted the normal school year, with education moving to distance learning from home and large gatherings – like graduation ceremonies – halted. While no official plans have been released for graduation day, scheduled for June 13, Laffey said district staff are trying to make sure the class of 2020 has an experience to remember.

"Our high school team, led by principal Nate Salisbury, has done an incredible job creating this 2020 Senior Farewell Tour," he said. "Our seniors deserve to be celebrated, and it's no secret that this year will be different than in the past. But we are committed to making the end of the school year a special celebration with lasting memories."

A full list of events can be found online at www.ohsd.net/Page/8045.



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For the love of Lynn

A Seattle filmmaking force

By Carey Ross



While Seattle boasts its fair share of cultural icons, its relationship with those legends tends to be, well, complicated. Folks such as Jimi Hendrix and Kurt Cobain, while bright, blazing talents, burned out long before they had the chance to fade away. Seattle Seahawk Marshawn Lynch, aka Beast Mode, a widely embraced sports superhero, wore his fame uncomfortably, and his utterance of "I'm just here so I won't get fined" is as much a part of his legacy as his exploits on the field.

This was not the case for Seattle's most famous filmmaker, Lynn Shelton. Unfailingly kind, artistically adept and quick to share both her time and abundant talent, she was not only respected, but also beloved, universally so.

That's why when news hit of her sudden death May 15 from a previously undiagnosed blood disorder, it caused a ripple that went from the highest echelons of the Hollywood elite right on down to the Seattle community she remained an active and enthusiastic part of. Luminaries such as Reese Witherspoon, Ava DuVernay, and Judd Apatow paid tribute to the prolific director, using words like "inspiring, brilliant, genius" and "courageous" to describe her work, "kind, loving, pure joy" and "sunny" about her personality, and "horrendous, devastating" and "heartbreaking" to convey the sense of loss left in the wake of her death.

But it is in Seattle, the city she so loved, that Shelton's passing is most keenly felt. While the national press focuses most strongly on the prodigious director's most well-known projects—episodes of "Little Fires Everywhere, Mad Men, Glow," and "The Mindy Project," for instance—her films, shot in and around Seattle, are the true showcases of both her great skill and the big heart she brought to everything. They're also the best examples of the granular style at which she excelled, that of telling small stories about realistic characters through ample use of the improvisation she both encouraged and adored.

Shelton's true gift was for fearless creativity combined with a nurturing nature that evoked trust and enabled her to get performances from her actors that were entertaining as well as profoundly human. Nowhere were those skills more on display than in "Humpday," her breakout film. The premise is as simple as it is rife with comedic opportunity: Two heterosexual males (one played by Mark Duplass, frequent Shelton coconspirator) agree to make

a gay porn film on a dare and submit it to the "Stranger's" Hump! film festival. In the hands of a lesser director, this movie would be little more than an excuse for reductive jokes and toilet humor, but with Shelton at the helm it instead becomes an insightful observation of masculinity, and while it features jokes aplenty—many of them improvised on the spot—we laugh with its characters rather than at their expense, a hallmark of Shelton's deeply empathetic style if ever there was one.

If "Humpday" was the movie that acted as an announcement of a fresh force in filmmaking, "Your Sister's Sister" was the one that put Shelton on the map and saw her staking out her cinematic terrain. This time, she opted to make a rom-com — one that took the accepted conventions of that genre and transformed them into something decidedly unconventional. She once again taps Duplass to play her male lead, a man named Jack, struggling emotionally in the wake of his brother's death. Jack accepts an invite from his brother's ex-girlfriend, Iris (Emily Blunt), to stay at her family cabin in the San Juans, and when he shows up, he finds Iris' lesbian sister, Hannah (Rosemarie DeWitt), in residence and trying to recover from a loss of her own. An unlikely romantic tryst ensues, Iris shows up forming an even unlikelier romantic triangle, long-hidden feelings are confessed, things get complicated, someone takes their frustrations out on a bike, someone else takes a pregnancy test, and everyone comes away having learned family takes many forms, intentional or not.

It's worth noting nearly every single feature film directed by Shelton was lauded by critics, but few more than the final one she made before her unexpected death, "Sword of Trust." Firing on all cinematic cylinders, and with an excellent cast including Jillian Bell, Michaela Watkins, the always memorable Dan Bakkedahl, and a brilliant turn by her romantic partner Marc Maron, Shelton weaves a somewhat ridiculous yarn about a Civil War-era sword that is said to be definitive proof of the South's victory in the bloody conflict. Maron plays an acerbic pawnshop owner tasked with unloading the sword on the black market, which kicks off a wild journey through terrain marked by conspiracy theories and the belief in Southern supremacy. Pithy without being preachy, this is the rare comedy that manages to satirize the sins of far-right politics without looking down on the sinners.

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Answers on page 15

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Life Tributes

LYNN HELEN WOLFE

June 25, 1946 – April 12, 2020



Our family and friends are mourning the death of my sister, Lynn, who passed away Easter Sunday from COVID-19.

Lynn enjoyed traveling a lot. She always said she kept the road hot. Lynn went to nursing school to become a C.N.A. and later worked in nursing homes and medical offices.

Sadly, she was preceded in death by her son, Steven Parson, who passed away in an auto accident in June of last year. Both will be greatly missed.

There will be no memorial service at this time.

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

DON LOUIS KING



Don Louis King of Oak Harbor, Wash., passed away Monday, April 27, 2020, at the age of 93. After suffering from several mini strokes in a short period of time, he died peacefully in his home with family by his side.

Don was born in New Haven, Conn., July 7, 1926 to father, Elmer Leo King, and mother, Marie LaLiberte King. He was the third oldest of four sons. Don joined the Navy in 1944 when he was 17 and spent 20 years serving his country, retiring in 1964 having achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer. His career spanned from World War II to Korea and during that time he was awarded the following citations: United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, American Theater Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, WWII Victory Medal, China Service Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal and Good Conduct Award.

Having retired from active duty, he continued to serve as a Civil Servant, also for the United States Navy, and completed another 20 years working as a supervisor of ship building and repair. In conjunction with his supervisor duties, he was a liaison to foreign countries working with the U.S. Government. His final occupation before officially retiring was with the company Global Marine out of San Diego, Calif. The job afforded him the opportunity to travel all over the world as he did when he entered the Navy so many years before. Once retiring for good, he and his wife of 63 years moved to Oak Harbor to live out their golden years near the water in a small peaceful town. In full retirement he was able to enjoy playing golf everyday with his friends and was known to have a 2 over par handicap.

Don was preceded in death by his wife, Jeanne Isabelle King; his parents; and by his brothers, Russel King, Elmer King Jr., and Eugene King. He is survived by his granddaughter, Kathryn Comes; two great-grandchildren, Grant Gerber and Gabriel Gerber; several nieces and nephews; sister-in law, Ester King; and very close family friends, Pete and Geri Morgan.

Services will be held in Oak Harbor when the COVID-19 stay at home order has been lifted.

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

Pam's Prayer Corner

In honor of my late mother-in-law, Pamela Kaye Young, we are going to be running a 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.

Heavenly Father,

This Memorial Day weekend we remember those who have laid down their lives in defense of our country. From the inception of our great nation, there have been brave individuals who have been willing to sacrifice everything for the principles of freedom, equality, justice, and liberty. We ask that you bless those souls and hold their families close, provide them with peace and comfort in their loss. Please protect those who continue to stand the watch, protecting our citizens and others around the world.

We ask these things in the name of your mighty name, Amen.

For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

Romans 14:8



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





Let's Dish!

with Kae Harris



YOU REALLY CAN EAT YOUR HAT (IF IT'S MADE OF THIS...)

The last couple of months have afforded many of us the opportunity to get a front-row seat into our children's classroom demeanor. To be fair, I don't think my kids act the same way with me as they do with their teachers, or at least I hope they don't. It's probably safe to say I am not alone in feeling the depth of my appreciation for teachers deepen even more since having to teach my kids at home.

Our "classroom" time can be exceedingly frustrating, and that adjective doesn't do the interaction justice. Feeling overwhelmed is an understatement and I know I'm not alone in that feeling either. Now, to get to the point: the kids themselves are frustrated. They are bored and confused and going stir-crazy not being able to do much at all. So, what's a person with kids to do? Entertain them, right? Teach them? Not just classroom stuff. I mean teach them life skills. This is a grand time to do just that, an opportunity that might otherwise have gone overlooked for a while.

One of those life skills (and I'm sure you all know what I'm going to say), should be the basics of cooking. SAFELY, of course.

Yes, age appropriate assistance from little ones is a good thing, but if you want to keep it as safe as can be and add in extra fun, why not do some edible crafting? This is my secret ingredient, the ace-up-my-sleeve when it comes to getting the kids to try new foods. It's not always a success, but okay, we had fun and they got to engage in something tactile and different from the same 'ol, same 'ol.

The first edible craft we tried our hands at were edible flower pots. The name belies what they actually are. We did not actually snack on flower pots. Or flowers. We made our own out of chocolate pudding – this was the "dirt." We then added crushed up Oreo cookies – this was...also dirt I, suppose. A more textured variety of dirt, if you will. Let's call this the mulch. Anyway, then we added a few gummy worms to this delicious mess, stuck in a "trowel" (not a real trowel, obviously; a spoon) and that was it! Edible flower pots. So much fun – for the kids, too.

After we'd given our green thumbs a great workout, we figured the next time we crafted with food we had to know something about the craft itself or at least one of the ingredients. Something informative and educational. So, we set about finding our next food craft and we decided on

bread painting. That's right, bread painting. As in, literally painting on the bread with edible "paint." This is not only easy, but lets your kids explore their artistic side. All you need is gel food coloring, milk, slices of bread and that's it. In several small bowls, add a little milk. Into this, mix some food coloring until you have the desired palette and then, using brand new paint brushes that haven't been used before for anything, begin making art on the slices of bread. Let your artwork dry for a few minutes, then pop the bread into the toaster. Serve your bread canvas with any topping or spread you like and enjoy.

The idea of utilizing bread for things besides sandwiches, isn't a new concept. It dates back to at least the middle ages and on top of serving a functional purpose – more functional than sustenance, that is – as dishware, bread was obviously eaten after being used as a serving receptacle. This was called a "trencher" – a flat, round piece of bread atop which the meal was placed. After the meal was finished, the bread-platter itself could then be consumed or alternately, given to the poor as alms. It's important to note the bread itself was often stale. Wonderful. In any event, the point is, bread can be used for multitudinous reasons. Dishware in the middle ages, canvas for art today. It's all relative.

Breadware and canvases aside, my little ones and I attempted other edible crafts. This next one was especially fun because we found we were able to use ice cream cones for other purposes. You see, they were bought with every intention of using them for ice cream, but alas, they kept getting pushed to the wayside (not that I'm complaining), in lieu of the other dried goods that are kept on the shelf. Dried goods to make dinner and such. Anyway, I brought them out and we turned them into birthday hats. You can't actually wear them – as you already have guessed – but you can eat them; it absolutely gives new meaning to the phrase "I'll eat my hat." Well, there's no caveat there because we literally ate our hats. What we did

was assemble the ingredients: chocolate hazelnut spread, cereal of our choosing (we used what we already had, which was Cheerios and Froot Loops), raisins, peanuts and M&Ms. Assembly instructions: hold onto the cone and spread a layer of chocolate hazelnut spread on the outside of it. Next, decorate the "hat" by sticking the aforementioned items onto it in whatever design you so choose. Finally, eat!

By the way, the term "I'll eat my hat!" is a common phrase used when someone is absolutely certain about something. For example: "If my kids sit down and do their homework without complaining tomorrow, I'll eat my hat!" Why a hat? According to Bloombury International, one of the earliest references to the phrase was in Charles Dickens "The Pickwick Papers" in 1837: "If I knew as little of life as that, I'd eat my hat and swallow the buckle whole." Apparently, eating a hat was a pretty big deal, because of all the difficult things to attempt to consume, the king's hat would have been large and ornate, making his much more difficult to eat.

There we go. A tidbit of information for today. My dear readers, I don't know about you, but I sure do miss seeing my kids off to school and watching them enjoy being around their peers but, safety first! Since we are learning at home, if time and schedule allows, perhaps you'll join me in helping the kids learn a little about food, even if it's crafting something fun with the snacks you have at the house. If you have your own ideas and edible crafts, send those in! For any comments, questions and certainly any recipes you'd like to share, please send those to letsdish.whidbey-weekly@gmail.com and we'll do just that and Dish!

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

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CANCELED continued from page 10

order are slowly eased, the very events residents may have been looking forward to celebrating after this lengthy period of isolation are simply not going to happen.

"We think a community celebration might be just what is needed, but circumstances and finances might necessitate waiting until July 2021," said Matt Chambers, senior pastor at South Whidbey Assembly of God Church and coordinator of the Celebrate America event, which has been held July 3 in Freeland for the past 25 years.

"This is our 26th year organizing and sponsoring the event," Chambers continued. "We've been working for months preparing. Recently, we've been canceling the myriad of arrangements already in place. We are grateful for the hundreds of people who financially support the event, the vendors and volunteers. It really has become a wonderful community-building day."

But Whidbey Islanders are resilient and resourceful. Already those who were planning canceled events have begun searching for alternatives. Members of the Whidbey Island Arts Council are developing the Whidbey Art and Culture Trail, for example. While still in early stages of planning, it could potentially take some of the sting out of all the disappointing postponements.

"The Trail can be crafted to comply with any COVID-19 contingency," Parsons said. "We can promote mail order during Phase I and in Phase II we can move to appointments and curbside service."



And while the way we do business may change, there is hope some things will be able to stay the same – sort of.

"We are still considering an event the Saturday of Labor Day weekend," said Chambers. "It would be similar to our July 3rd event and might even be called Celebrate America. We won't make a decision for a little while."

"We will get through this, and as many have said already – we will get back to a new normal," said McGarry, who highlighted LMSA's positive messaging campaign for those visiting downtown Langley.

"In early April, Love Letters to Langley...was born out of the desire to brighten the spirits of those still downtown," she explained. "It was a labor of love finding quotes that were inspiring and comforting, and in many cases worked for the corresponding business."

The days of COVID-19 are difficult, to be sure. There are families among us grieving so much more than the cancellation of an event or two. Chambers reminds us this too shall pass.

"We live in a great community," he said. "There will be opportunities in the future to gather, celebrate and cheer each other on. Whidbey Island is a showcase and we'll have opportunity to do just that in the future."



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





Thus was the pre-entre appetizer invented, to forestall peering nervously into the pot. Nachos, anyone?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



If you were a wrist watch, what kind would you be? We'd be a Timex. Nothing fancy, but highly dependable. "Takes a licking, and keeps on ticking," Timex ads from the '50s and '60s proclaimed. If jewels are your thing, you might be a Rolex, highly expensive and ticking on rubies. Our point is that your happiness currently rests on timing. Things happening too fast, too slow? Don't get ticked off. Call time out, and synchronize your watches.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



The most important thing you can know to ensure a smooth week? It's posted at the start of every school zone: Slow When Children Are Present. Stepping beyond literal, we define as children anyone still learning their craft. The geniuses who whack your biorhythm like a piñata twice a year and call it Daylight Savings Time? You guessed it. Children at play. So easy on the gas. We're deep in a school zone.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



Where's the good, in a time when things long thought changeless are changing? With even mom, the flag and apple pie in doubt, where's the good? It is, in the words of Whitman, "That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse." You're writing our future. Whatever your beliefs, your doubts, your contribution matters. Will apple pie survive? With maybe a little cinnamon?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



Unless you live in a cave (and maybe even then), you know that change is in the wind. Change bigger than your last haircut, more startling than puberty. Are you standing dull as Diplodocus, waiting to be smacked between the eyes by an asteroid? We hope not. Evolution's arrow has been loosed, and we the people are its fletching, its stabilizer in flight. Don't yawn. Direct the bloody thing! Be a force for good! Visualize whirled peas.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



Remember when the prize in the Cracker Jack box was a tiny whistle or other cool trinket? No more. It's now a QR code for a downloadable game. That's old news. The theme, cherished things that disappear, is not. How's life for you? Is anything you once cherished now missing? Or still there, but much diminished? Caramel corn and peanuts not doing it for you? Time to blow the whistle. . . . Oh, wait!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



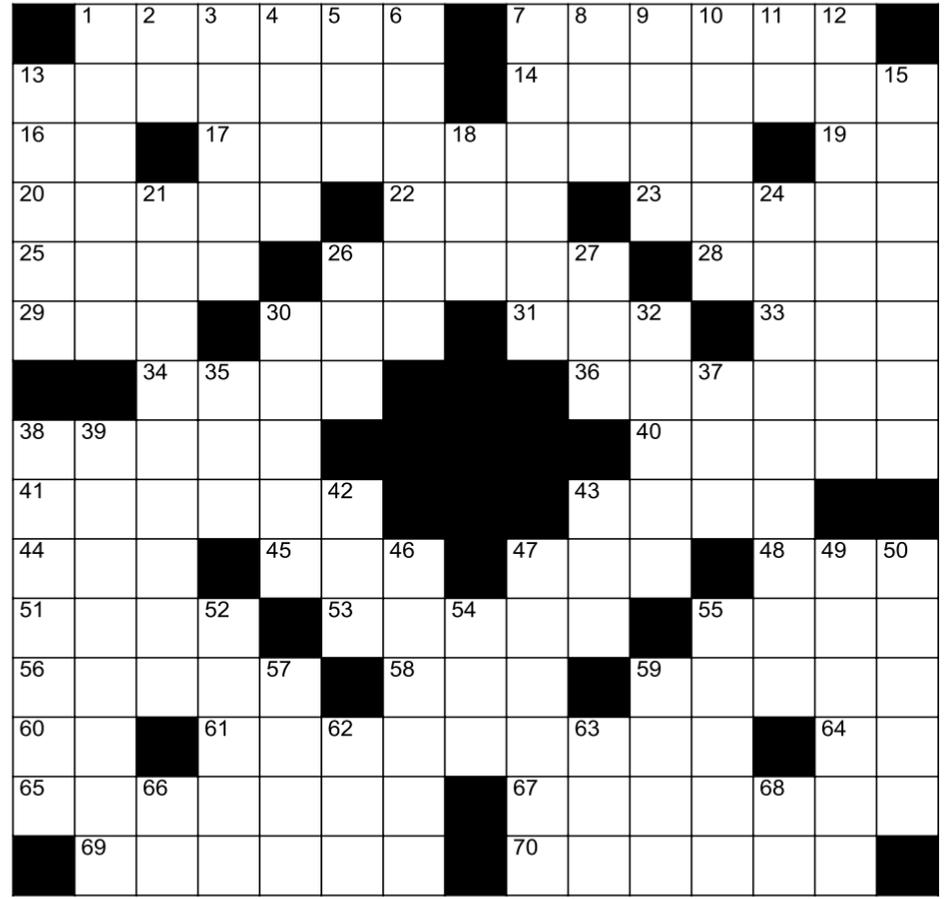
The plethora of red M&Ms in our communal candy dish reminds us to roll with the times. During the red dye scare (cancer!) of 1976-1987, red M&Ms vanished, to be replaced by orange. A lover of blue? You were out of luck entirely, until blue M&MS belatedly made the lineup in 1995. In life, as in the candy dish, the good comes and goes, replaced always by a new form of good. Trade ya two reds for a green. . . .

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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. Seed part
7. Productive
13. Popular cocktail
14. Sausages
16. Western state
17. Natural desires
19. Defunct British automaker
20. Early media tycoon
22. Move from one place to another
23. Letter of Semitic abjads
25. Female birds
26. Umbrella brand
28. Delinquent
29. Tax collector
30. Cooking tool
31. Female sibling
33. Flat-topped hat
34. Angolan currency
36. Boardwalk candy
38. European nation
40. Leaflike part of palm
41. Removed with solvent
43. Uttered words
44. Unfashionable person
45. Disappointed
47. Controversial device in soccer
48. 007's creator
51. Pain

CLUES DOWN

- 53. UCLA mascot
55. Razorbill
56. Turkic people
58. Mimic
59. Crime involving fire
60. And, Latin
61. A saponaceous quality
64. Dorm employee
65. Estate lands
67. States
69. They slow you down
70. Gets up

- 21. Fierce, destructive act
24. Bear bright yellow flowers
26. Japanese delicacy
27. Get off your feet
30. Male organs in some invertebrates
32. __, so good
35. Cleverness
37. Protest yacht
38. Anesthetized
39. Mollified
42. Touch lightly
43. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
46. Some windows have them
47. National capital
49. Squirrels like them
50. Grandmothers
52. Painter's tool
54. News organization
55. __ and thesis: musical term
57. Famed activist Parks
59. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
62. A number or amount not specified
63. Body part
66. Of I
68. Old English

Answers on page 15

CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

ARIES (March 21-April 19)



Take a slow cooker, add pressure, and what do you get? Voilà! A runaway hit known as an Instant Pot. Cooking times decrease dramatically. . . .

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



So. Your mind is made up. You know what you want and you're a greased door knob, defying all attempts to turn you. But, as every savvy negotiator knows, sometimes you have to give something to get something. . . .

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



Remember Anthony Scaramucci? Hired as White House Communications Director in 2017, "The Mooch" ran his notorious mouth, embarrassed the wrong people, and got himself fired in just eleven days. . . .

CANCER (June 22-July 22)



We love these times for their clarity. Take you. You're a wiggler. Inquisitive, restless, seeking. But nowadays, the more you wiggle, the quicker your "Bizarro World" opposite will appear. . . .

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



Hear the Doom Club, caroling the world's woes. The End is Near. All but dead and buried, we are. Listen more closely, now . . . there . . . did you catch it? Some of the voices are definitely off key. . . .

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)



Feeling edgy? We know. You're anxious to see what lies around the corner. So, from the Cookbook of Life, an idiom to ease your anxiety: The watched pot never boils. . . .

Weather forecast section titled 'YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST' showing temperatures and conditions for North and South Isles from Thursday to Wednesday.

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Equipment example: Owner's saddle, custom made Lmtd Edition #2082 Billy Cook (Oklahoma made), must see to evaluate. Best offer accepted. All leather, 16+ suede cushioned seat. Wide men's size boot stirrups, wrapped for easy mount/dismount, roping, and safety. Excellent condition. Price negotiable.(Original cost \$4800.) Long list of other equipment including top quality horse blankets, foal blanket, buckets, bridle holders, storage containers, stuff to set up and organize tack room or trailer.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pregnant? Need baby clothes? We have them and the price is right—FREE. Pregnancy Care Clinic, open most Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10am to 4pm. Call 360-221-2909 or stop by 6th and Cascade in Langley. Be the difference in a child's life and become a foster parent today! Service Alternatives is looking for caring, loving, and supportive families to support foster children. 425-923-0451 or mostermick@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. More info at our Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSound-DragonBoatClub?ref=hl

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

If you or someone you know has been a victim of homicide, burglary, robbery, assault, identity theft, fraud, human

How'd you do?

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

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. For our Freeland store (1592 Main Street, Freeland WA 98249), please contact John Schmidt: 360-331-6272, john@islandcountyhabitat.com. Habitat for Humanity of Island County, 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 and click on "Volunteer" or just stop by and introduce yourself.

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

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

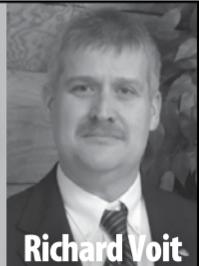
LAWN AND GARDEN

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	E	M	B	R	Y	O		A	R	A	B	L	E		
S	I	D	E	C	A	R		S	A	L	A	M	I	S	
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H	E	N	S		T	O	T	E	S		L	A	T	E	
I	R	S		P	A	N		S	I	S		F	E	Z	
		L	W	E	I				T	O	F	F	E	E	
S	P	A	I	N					F	R	O	N	D		
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Skyway honors our veterans on Memorial Day and every day

At Skyway Security Insurance, we love America and we strive to contribute to our community and neighborhood.

We have several veterans in our family spanning several generations, including World War II and the Vietnam and Korean Wars. Even today, as we and the rest of the world fight the war against COVID-19, we have family members on the frontline at hospitals. So we give our thanks and we owe our lives to American veterans, both the known and unknown, who have served our country.

Service and commitment to our community are of the utmost importance to us. Skyway Security Insurance continues to serve every day, in many different ways. Here on Whidbey Island, our agents have volunteered at the Organic Farm School, recognizing a great effort to educate farmers on high quality, sustainable farming, economic structure for business success and providing delicious, nutritious food for the community.

A family-owned company, Skyway Security Insurance has been offering quality service since 1949! Since getting our start on Mercer Island, we have had a satellite office on Whidbey for over a decade and have three agents here who are happy to offer their expertise in finding the correct insurance coverage to meet all your needs.

Skyway Security Insurance serves as an independent agent for Pemco, Safeco and Progressive Insurance, offering auto, home, boat, life and umbrella coverages, including renters' policies. Our staff works hard to get clients the best rates and to find the most suitable coverage, while providing prompt and courteous service.

Skyway believes it's your job to drive and it's our job to insure you and your family, so we offer a full range of coverage for all types of vehicles – motorcycles included. Three of our top auto insurance companies are refunding premiums during this unprecedented COVID-19 crisis, and Skyway continues to represent top companies that work quickly to identify ways to help our customers. SAFECO, Pemco and Progressive offer different options to meet the needs of our clients and agents can compare quotes and find the best fit for each person and family.

Skyway Security Insurance can help you protect what's yours with homeowners and personal property insurance as well. Perhaps you are in need of commercial insurance for your business - Skyway offers coverage for contractors, retailers, hairdressers and building owners, to name a few. Our staff and agents pride ourselves on prompt, efficient service to make a business owner's job easy.

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Whidbey Island is a great fit for Skyway Security Insurance and we hope to provide for our veterans, the community, the beautiful farms and the wonderful people that call Whidbey Island home.

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