

May 28 through June 3, 2020

FREE

Whidbey Weekly

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Whidbey Is Getting Back To Business!

More Local Events *inside*



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Our stores, salons & restaurants are reopening their doors with safety in mind. Please help keep fellow shoppers and workers safe by wearing a mask and following social distancing guidelines. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you, and thank you for supporting local!



ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



What a great start to my day.

After almost hitting a deer who jaywalked in front of my truck, a black cat ran across the street.

Even the animals are issuing stay at home orders.

When I got back home safely, I had to laugh.

All my well bagged trash was still resting on the downed back gate of the truck.

The rear window of the truck had fallen to secure the trash before it was displayed on the main street of Freeland.

Maybe the black cat was a good luck charm, forcing me to turn around to go straight home to the safety of my absent-mindedness.

What day is it, anyway?

June bugs

Whether we call them lightning bugs or fireflies, these flying luminescences, often appearing in June, light up our world.

Did you ever catch them?

Did you ever put your captured incandescence in a Mason jar for adolescent analysis?

I miss those days in central Ohio where our front and back yards were a sanctuary for fun.

June also brought birthdays for Mom and me.

My best friend, Movie Mike, born three days before me, was a brief bike ride away for shooting hoops and the breeze. Nobody was better with a two handed set shot than Movie.

Eddie, TJ, and Jimmy were also June dudes. While none of us were concerned about horoscopes, as 6th graders we were reading *Downbeat*, *Photoplay*, and Mickey Spillane.

While we are here, how did June get its name? Was the month really named after Beaver's mother, June Cleaver?

No way, black and white TV breath. The month of June was named for the Roman goddess, Juno.

According to my post black cat research, Juno was, and may still be, the patroness of marriage and the well-being of women.

In 8th grade Latin class, our well-feared leader, Miss Wagner, taught that the word June was also from the Latin word, *juvenis*, or "young people."

That we were. We were a bunch of Eddie Haskell wannabes.

We were not yet juvenile delinquents, but, we were hopeful.

As we leave this merry, merry month of May, let us ready ourselves for the dairy, dairy month of June.

June is dairy month. Moo on, but wear a mask.

Hamilton history

One of the reasons I subscribe to magazines I never read is to acquire their promotional gifts.

Years ago, I saw a promotion for *American Heritage* magazine. If I acted swiftly, ordering a one year subscription would include a booklet entitled *299 Things You Should Know About American History*.

In high school, our American history teacher seemed to be stuck in the instruction of the Civil War. His lectures seemed to last longer than the war between the states.

While we spent about two days on the American Revolution, and about another week on World War I, our Civil War study was in so much detail I felt like coming to class in uniform.

With Southern parents, I was lucky to not be named Robert E. Freeman.

Too late. Robert E. was our uncle.

So, acquiring this booklet of history was imperative for me. I knew I would learn more history than I did in high school.

Here is an example, from item #168, revealed on pages 48 and 49 of the aforementioned *American Heritage* publication, copyrighted in 1997 and 2009. If you have read Ron Chernow's 900 page *Alexander Hamilton*, you may recognize the

name Schuyler, the maiden name of Alexander Hamilton's bride, Eliza, with their romance detailed at page 129 of the #1 *New York Times Bestseller* (aren't they all?).

"The rapid growth of railroads in the 1850s required large amounts of capital to buy equipment and to build the lines. They could also be highly profitable, which led to widespread speculation in railroad shares. Financier Robert Schuyler was a member of a prominent New York family, his aunt had married Alexander Hamilton. As an officer of the New York and New Haven Railroad, he privately printed 20,000 shares in the company and sold the bogus securities for nearly \$2 million—in a year when the entire federal government had total revenues of only \$74 million. By the time the news became public, Schuyler had fled the country."

Why wasn't fraud taught in our 10th grade American History class? It surely runs rampant today. Maybe we should follow the comments of Presidents Kennedy and Lincoln.

"There is little that is more important for an American citizen to know than the history and traditions of his country. Without such knowledge, he stands uncertain and defenseless before the world, knowing neither where he has come from nor where he is going."
~John F. Kennedy

"American history is not something dead and over. It is always alive, always growing, always unfinished—and every American today has his own contribution to make to the great fabric of tradition and hope which binds all Americans, dead and living and yet to be born, in a common faith and a common destiny."
~Abraham Lincoln

Thanks again to Edwin S. Grosvenor and John A. Garraty for assembling such a fantastic summary of historic facts.

Online Gala

For the last 30 plus years, I have had the pleasure and privilege of emceeing and auctioneering for many of our incredible nonprofit organizations here on the Rock.

We have more nonprofits on Whidbey Island than Lynnwood has storage lockers, car dealers, fast food places, and tattoo shops.

We love our nonprofits.

For the next three days, the South Whidbey Schools Foundation will hold its first ever online fundraiser gala. Producer and videographer Laura Canby has assembled a variety of video vignettes to inspire and educate.

Check them out at www.swsfoundation.org or on their Facebook page. Not only will you see folks you may know, you may want to share a donation of support.

Our schools, whether they be in Oak Harbor, Coupeville, or South Whidbey, all need our virtual hugs, our prayers, and our inspiration.

As Abigail Van Buren said once in her *Dear Abby* column, "If you ain't giving, you ain't living!"

The Fantom returns

Because of the lock down, I have had to resort to online communication with the Phreeland Fantom to acquire his jokes.

We have been meeting at surprise locations since it is always a surprise when we see each other.

However, the Phreeland Fantom has surfaced and cranked up the machinery to share these downloaded uploads:

Apparently RSVP'ing to a wedding invitation, "Maybe next time" isn't the correct response.

Have you ever listened to someone for a minute and thought "Their cornbread ain't done in the middle."

I asked my wife if I was the only one she had been with. She said "yes," all the others were nines and tens.

As I watch this generation try to rewrite our history, one thing I'm sure of, it will be misspelled and have no punctuation.

One-liner of the month

Congrats to Malia Mae, our four year young granddaughter, for this—"Gramma, you have spider webs in your nose."

Have a super week.

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

\$300 Prize!

Can you draw a logo?

The PBV-Naval Air Museum has a new name and needs a logo to go with it.
The new name is

Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum

See contest details at <https://pbymf.org/2020/03/25/complete-contest-rules/>

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Volume 12, Issue 22 | © MMXX Whidbey Weekly

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Bits & Pieces

Letters to the Editor

Editor, Memorial Day

I am humbled anytime I have the opportunity to pay homage to our fellow Americans who gave their lives in defense of our nation. Memorial Day is the opportune time for such reflection even when we grapple with the pandemic that has effected all of us. It is a time to pause and reflect. It is a time to honor our fallen heroes and no matter where they lie, grandiose settings or those less auspicious, in communities across our country, or around the world close to where they perished, each marker is a testament to self-sacrifice.

Beginning in the Revolutionary War, through the great conflicts in the 18th and 19th Centuries, and to this day, thousands of Americans have died in brutal battle, often far from home, in burning deserts, turbulent seas, and freezing forests. Since the birth of our nation, Americans have put themselves in harm's way to defend it, with many never to return.

The Memorial Day tradition was born out of the Reconstruction Era after the Civil War, a conflict of such bitter dispute it cost more than 600,000 lives. The Civil War demonstrated the severe consequences of where stark differences can take our nation. Memorial Day, originally named Decoration Day, helped heal the wounds of this conflict. Americans in various communities could come together in their shared desire to honor their heroes. Normally, it brings us together in mutual purpose, and I miss the wonderful community gathering in Coupeville last year in which I spoke of personal loss I have endured throughout my career as I remember those friends and shipmates who we have lost. While we cannot gather this year, we can stop, reflect and honor those who paid the ultimate price for all of us and in our own ways.

We should also understand Memorial Day is far more personal to some of our fellow citizens. Memorial Day is every day for many families, particularly for those who can still hear the voices of loved ones who fell defending our nation. These are our Gold Star families; we stand by them and support them in their loss and we honor them every day.

President Harry S. Truman said, "Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service to our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices." This is a day we reveal ourselves by those we remember and honor; those whose lives were taken while they were serving their nation. On Memorial Day, we can always try to put our differences aside and come together, in person or virtually, to honor the sacrifices of those who fought to preserve our nation.

By remembering and honoring the lives and actions of those who perished in our nation's defense, as well as their families, we reveal the greatest attributes of a people and as a Nation. We owe it to them, we owe it to ourselves, and we owe it to future generations who will still benefit from their sacrifices.

Capt. Matt Army, Commanding Officer of NAS Whidbey Island

Editor, Carolyn Cliff deserves your support

I worked in the Island County court system for more than 20 years, including eight years as

Superior Court Administrator and seven years as Chief Deputy to the Island County Clerk. This afforded me the opportunity to get to know Carolyn Cliff, both professionally and personally. As a result, I was pleased when she decided to run for the position being vacated by retiring Superior Court Judge Vickie Churchill. In my opinion, there is not a better qualified candidate.

Whether serving as a Judge Pro Tem in Superior Court or representing her clients, Carolyn impressed me with her meticulous preparation and attention to detail. Additionally, her demeanor both in and out of the courtroom demonstrated her ability to treat all people equally and with respect. Carolyn is serious, direct, highly competent and she also has a great sense of humor. She will be an excellent addition to the bench.

Maggie Lyen
Langley, Wash.

Register Now for South Whidbey Elementary Kindergarten

South Whidbey School District's goal is to register all prospective kindergarten students as soon as possible in order to prepare for the 2020-21 school year. Upon registration, you will be contacted with further information.

For online registration, visit <https://sw.wednet.edu>.

For paper registration, packets are available for pickup at the main entrance of the K-4 campus Monday thru Friday, 9:00AM to 3:30PM. Please call 360-221-4600 for more information.

[Submitted by Kim Glandon, South Whidbey Elementary School]

WSU Extension, Island County Provides Drive-In Wi-Fi Hotspot

Island County residents may now access FREE broadband internet from the safety of their vehicle while parked in the WSU Extension, Island County parking lot in Coupeville. WSU Extension, Island County now provides one of the first Drive-In Wi-Fi Hotspots being established by the Washington State Drive-In WiFi partnership. This program has begun placing broadband access points at WSU's county and tribal extension centers, as well as schools, libraries, and community centers across the state.

For WSU students, the project allows direct access to the university's wireless network. They'll be able to chat with advisors and access academic resources. Linked to an educational technology consortium called EduRoam, it also allows students from other educational institutions to log in just as if they were at their own school or dormitory.

Members of the public will also be able to access the Internet using drive-in hotspots, through a separate free public portal. Access is necessary for K-12 students whose classes are only available online, people working from home, those needing online-only government services. It also addresses a significant increase in tele-health due to limited in-person medical care.

For more information, contact Stinger Anderson at stinger.anderson@wsu.edu or 360-941-3171.

[Submitted by Stinger Anderson, WSU Extension, Island County]

Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative Launches Food Hub

Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative (WIGC) is excited to announce the launch of its Food Hub program.

WIGC Food Hub is an online marketplace where farms and producers from all over Whidbey Island can offer their available products for sale to the community. Dairy products are sourced regionally, from local producers in Skagit and Whatcom counties. None of the products are sourced from wholesale distributors. Customers can purchase fresh, local products and pick them up Fridays at one of three

island farm stands. Support local farms and eat great food, all while practicing safe social distancing.

"We're lucky on Whidbey to have so many dedicated producers who can provide food for our island community," said Kyle Flack, WIGC Board member from Bell's Farm. "Our ongoing experience with the coronavirus pandemic is revealing the weaknesses in our current food systems and reinforcing the importance of ensuring we have a diverse and healthy local food system capable of meeting the need for high quality food within our island community."

The Northwest Agriculture Business Center incubated the food hub with technical assistance and funding. NABC has created food hubs like this all over the Puget Sound region. By creating a hub where farmers, producers, and customers can interact, we can strengthen the connections between local agricultural producers, buyers seeking local agricultural products and community partners interested in supporting a thriving, sustainable local food system.

How it works:

Each week, farmers and producers list their available items on the Food Hub marketplace. From Friday through Tuesday, customers can log-in and order products for pickup the following Friday, from 3:00 to 5:00PM, at one of three local farm stands: Bell's Farm, Sherman's Farm, and Mutiny Bay Blues.

Cooperative membership is not required to buy from the WIGC Food Hub this year, but membership is another way to support local agriculture and a resilient food system.

Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative:

With the support of NABC, the Whidbey Island Grown brand was established in 2009 by local producers, and has grown with the dedication of many community members. In 2020, Whidbey Island Grown incorporated into a multi-stakeholder cooperative owned by growers, buyers, and community partners. Food brings us together, and so all stakeholders - from those growing food to those serving it in restaurants to those eating it at home - have a voice and a vote in the cooperative.

WIGC's mission is to support local agriculture and build a resilient local economy on Whidbey Island. By sourcing food locally instead of from large chains trucking in food from thousands of miles away, you can help the environment, the community, and have the opportunity to learn exactly how your food is grown. For more information about the Food Hub, visit whidbeyislandgrown.com and click I Want To Buy, or email foodhub@whidbeyislandgrown.com.

[Submitted by Shannon Bly]

Bayview and Tilth Markets Participate in New Statewide SNAP Market Match Program

Both Bayview and South Whidbey Tilth Farmers Markets are joining over 100 markets across the state to participate in the "SNAP Market Match" program. Shoppers who use Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) EBT benefits can get an additional "match" of \$10 or more to buy more fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs, mushrooms and plant starts. The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) launched the program April 1.

SNAP Market Match increases customer benefits by matching SNAP benefits dollar for dollar at any participating farmers market. Customers swipe their SNAP/EBT card at the market information booth and receive EBT tokens to buy any SNAP eligible items at the market. Customers also receive extra SNAP Market Match dollars which can be used for fresh fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, herbs and edible plants such as tomato starts.

Bayview Farmers Market opened April 25 and will be open every Saturday from 10:00AM to 2:00PM on Highway 525 and Bayview Road in

Sticking to Budget Can Boost Your Emergency Fund

During the coronavirus pandemic, our health concerns - for ourselves and our loved ones - have been at the top of our minds. But financial worries have been there, too, both for people whose employment has been affected and for investors anxious about the volatile financial markets. And one aspect of every individual's total financial picture has become quite clear - the importance of an emergency fund.

In normal times, it's a good idea for you to keep three to six months' worth of living expenses in a liquid, low-risk account. Having an emergency fund available can help you cope with those large, unexpected costs, such as a major car repair or a costly medical bill.

Furthermore, if you have an adequate emergency fund, you won't have to dip into your long-term investments to pay for short-term needs. These investment vehicles, such as your IRA and 401(k), are designed for your retirement, so the more you can leave them intact, the more assets you're likely to have when you retire. And because they are intended for your retirement, they typically come with disincentives, including taxes and penalties, if you do tap into them early. (However, as part of the economic stimulus legislation known as the CARES Act, individuals can now take up to \$100,000 from their 401(k) plans and IRAs without paying the 10% penalty that typically applies to investors younger than 59½. If you take this type of withdrawal, you have up to three years to pay the taxes and, if you want, replace the funds, beyond the usual caps on annual contributions.

Of course, life is expensive, so it's not always easy to put away money in a fund that you aren't going to use for your normal cash flow. That's why it's so important to establish a budget and stick to it. When developing such a budget, you may find ways to cut down on your spending, freeing up money that could be used to build your emergency fund.

There are different ways to establish a budget, but they all typically involve identifying your income and expenses and separating your needs and wants. You can find various online budgeting tools to help you get started, but, ultimately, it's up to you to make your budget work. Nonetheless, you may be pleasantly surprised at how painless it is to follow a budget. For example, if you've budgeted a certain amount for food each month, you'll need to avoid going to the grocery store several times a week, just to pick up "a few things" - because it doesn't really take that many visits for those few things to add up to hundreds of dollars. You'll be much better off limiting your trips to the grocery, making a list of the items you'll need and adhering to these lists. After doing this for a few months, see how much you've saved - it may be much more than you'd expect. Besides using these savings to strengthen your emergency fund, you could also deploy them toward longer-term investments designed to help you reach other objectives, such as retirement.

Saving money is always a good idea, and when you use your savings to build an emergency fund, you can help yourself prepare for the unexpected and make progress toward your long-term goals.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



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Langley. SNAP purchases are doubled up to \$15 in Market Match currency.

South Whidbey Tilth opened May 3 and will be open every Sunday from 11:00AM to 2:00PM at 2812 Thompson Road, Langley. SNAP purchases are doubled with Market Match currency with no cap at this time.

Both markets have vendors who also accept Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) coupons for Seniors and Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Those coupons will be available around June 1.

Washington state farmers markets are considered essential services and are permitted to operate during the governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy order. Farmers markets across the state are opening while implementing social distancing standards to maintain a safe and healthy environment for customers and vendors to reduce the spread of the coronavirus. During this pandemic, a growing number of people depend on SNAP benefits to feed their families and SNAP Market Match can help stretch limited food budgets. "Income should not determine whether individuals and families can get fresh fruits and vegetables, and unfortunately that is all too often the case," said Lacy Fehrenbach, Assistant Secretary, DOH Division of Prevention and Community Health. "By boosting the purchasing power of SNAP shoppers, the SNAP Market Match program will put more healthy food on the table for families across Washington State and keep money circulating to small and medium farmers."

"Food access programs at farmers markets such as SNAP and SNAP Market Match are incredibly important to the entire farmers market community – organizers, vendors, and shoppers of every income," says Colleen Donovan, executive director of the Washington State Farmers Market Association. "Such programs represent values we care deeply about: equity in our local food system, supporting local farms and food entrepreneurs, healthy families, and vibrant community spaces. Farmers markets are proud to be strategic partners with the Department of Health

in ensuring SNAP and SNAP Market Match reach every corner of the state."

Encouraging SNAP/EBT users to visit local farmers markets to use SNAP Market Match supports the livelihoods of an estimated 1,500 family farms in our state, stimulating the local economy, supporting healthy communities, and promoting sustainability. The Bayview Farmers Market has been a community market for over 20 years with more than 15 local farms offering a wide variety of locally grown food: meats, cheese, fruits, and plenty of vegetables. South Whidbey Tilth's Farmers Market has been operating continuously for 49 years and has been sited on its own 11 acre campus since 2000.

[Submitted by Susan Prescott, Market Committee Chair]

Clinton Walk-In Clinic Opens June 2



Maria Reyes, Manager of Patient Access Services, looks over last minute details before welcoming patients at WhidbeyHealth Walk-In Clinic Clinton Tuesday

Last week, WhidbeyHealth announced the June 2 opening of a new Walk-In Clinic in Clinton. Located at 11245 State Route 525, the clinic is available for island residents and visitors alike. No appointment is necessary.

Clinic staff is ready to address common problems such as back pain, stomach upset, cuts, earaches, allergies and the common cold. Advanced x-ray equipment is on-site as is a clinical lab. Patients can visit the clinic for diagnostic imaging, screening mammography or lab services ordered by their doctor.

WhidbeyHealth reminds anyone experiencing a life-threatening emergency to call 9-1-1 immediately.

"We want to ensure patients feel safe entering every WhidbeyHealth facility" said Colleen

Clark, WhidbeyHealth Chief Operating Officer. "Patients and supporters will be required to wear a mask which we will make available if they do not have one."

Safety measures include fever screening, universal use of masks by everyone at the clinic and maintaining spatial distancing. Patients with upper respiratory symptoms may be asked to return to their vehicles to complete their registration by phone and wait for a provider to see them. Staff will be equipped with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). WhidbeyHealth has also implemented a dry fogging disinfecting system to eliminate pathogens beyond the reach of sprays, wipes or UV lights.

"Our Board and administration have listened carefully to the south island community. This clinic offers another way for patients to access exceptional healthcare, close to home," WhidbeyHealth CEO Ron Telles said.

"Our life may be on pause, but our need for healthcare is not. Delaying care can create serious problems later and the Walk-In Clinic Clinton is one way patients can stay healthy," Telles added.

Walk-In Clinic, Diagnostic and Laboratory Hours are Monday-Friday, 7am to 7pm; Saturday, 9am to 4pm; Sunday, 12 to 4pm.

Walk-In Clinic Clinton can be reached at 360-341-5252. To schedule a screening mammography or x-ray appointment, call Central Scheduling Services at 360-678-7607.

More information is available online at whidbeyhealth.org and on Facebook.com/whidbeyhealth

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

Oak Harbor Music Festival 2020 Canceled

The Oak Harbor Music Festival's Board of Directors announced last Wednesday it will cancel the Ninth Annual festival, scheduled for Labor Day Weekend, due to ongoing concerns and uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This was an incredibly tough decision," said Board President Cynthia Mason. "We are well aware how much this festival has come to mean to our community. It's so much more than three days of free music. For so many people, it's a touchstone to mark the end of summer; it's a chance to slow down and celebrate friendship and unity and invite thousands to visit our beautiful island and to share this incredible event with us; and it's one of the biggest days of the year for many of our local businesses. We didn't want to lose all that, especially with the stress and worry the COVID-19 pandemic has brought to the entire world this year. We wanted it to be a celebration of the end of the turmoil. But after painful deliberation we decided to look forward to the 2021 Oak Harbor Music Festival as our opportunity to bring back all that joy."

A statement on the festival's web site and social media notes the Board's "greatest concern is for the health and safety of the musicians, volunteers, vendors, our generous sponsors and guests who pack SE Pioneer Way each year. Three days of free music bring us close, elbow-to-elbow and heart-to-heart with each other. We cannot imagine a socially distanced Oak Harbor Music Festival."

Mason said plans are already underway to keep the Oak Harbor Music Festival highly visible and to show gratitude to the Whidbey community for the years of support. "Our mission since day one has been to inspire our community with the power of music." That won't change, she said. "We want our friends and supporters to know: We aren't going away and we won't let you down."

Oak Harbor Music Festival's mission is to inspire our community with the power of music. As a 501(c)(3) organization, the festival has provided scholarships to graduating seniors from all three of Whidbey's high schools for the past seven years. www.oakharborfestival.com

[Submitted by Cynthia Mason, OHMF Board President]



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OPEN

WE'RE OPEN: Phase II begins in Island County

By **Kathy Reed** Whidbey Weekly

Island County has moved to Phase II of Gov. Jay Inslee's four-phase "Safe Start" plan to reopen businesses – more than a week ahead of the potential June 1 date set for the state as a whole.

Island County Public Health submitted its request for a variance to move to Phase II last Friday, after learning Tuesday the county was eligible to apply. An answer was expected early this week, but instead, state public health officials gave their seal of approval to the plan Saturday. Many small businesses were ready and began allowing people through their doors Sunday for the first time in two-and-a-half months.

"We are thrilled to be open and able to practice our beloved craft," said Misty Ellis, owner of The Hive Salon Co. in Oak Harbor.

"We are excited about the prospect of reopening, but we are being cautious about moving too quickly," said Mitch Aparicio, co-owner of Penn Cove Brewing Co., which has locations in Coupeville and Oak Harbor. "We understand everyone is anxious to get back to normal, but the safety of our staff and customers is our top priority."

Aparicio anticipates both locations will be opening in June, while takeout will continue Thursday through Sunday from 3 to 7 p.m. at its Coupeville location.

Provisions of Phase II allow for gatherings of five or less people from outside one's household and limited non-essential travel for approved Phase I and II activities. Businesses allowed to reopen include remaining manufacturing, additional construction, in-home or domestic services such as nannies and housecleaning services, professional services and office-based businesses, limited in-store retail, real estate, hair and nail salons, barbers, pet grooming services and restaurants and taverns (with reduced capacity of no more than 50 percent).

Camping, however, is not allowed in Island County at this time and businesses must meet all safety standards put in place by state health officials before they can open their doors. Tele-work is still strongly encouraged whenever possible. Those considered high risk are still encouraged to stay home and avoid any unnecessary travel or contact.

The reopening requirements mean a new way of doing business for many and businesses are coming up with creative ways to meet those standards.

"We are working at 50 percent capacity," said Ellis. "We have taken our lobby out so people cannot bring guests in with them. Everyone must wear a mask, everyone must wash their hands. We have an intense sanitation system in our back room when we are finished with clients and we are giving ourselves 15 minutes between each client to disinfect our salon and ourselves."

Ellis said the salon has a large selection of personal protective equipment, an air purification system and hospital-grade disinfectants and sanitizers to keep employees and customers safe.

"We will be following the state of Washington guidelines for Phase II reopening by reducing our occupancy by 50 percent and stepping up our cleaning and sanitizing," said Aparicio. "We plan on opening both locations and outdoor patios and will serve all beverages in plastic cups. We will also have a limited food menu until we can open to full capacity."

While some restaurants, like Penn Cove Taproom in Coupeville, have been able to provide takeout options throughout the closure period, it has been tough on small business in general.

"The shutdown has been very difficult on us and our staff," Aparicio said. "We did everything we could to apply for relief assistance and did our best to keep up to speed on the ever-changing rules and regulations. We were finally approved for the first round of the PPP (Payroll Protection Plan) relief program and fortunately, most of our employees returned to work. This allowed us to open for takeout services and continue working on the brewery construction."

"The loss of revenue, however, has put a major burden on us for sure," he continued. "Not only did we have two locations before the shutdown, but we were also in the process of building out our brewery and our third location in Freeland – equipment and material had already been purchased prior to the shutdown. The missing revenue we had forecasted to help with the expansion forced us to slow down the progress quite a bit. We are seeking other ways to get back on track."

Some of the repercussions of the shutdown can be felt industry-wide, said Ellis.

"Our industry has been stripped completely," she said. "Financially, emotionally, mentally - we have been broken down completely. But our industry has proven globally we are stronger together and I hope we continue to be strong through this and learn from these trials. I don't want us to

lose sight of this and I hope we stay as united as we have been over these last 10 weeks."

Ellis said while she feels the industry as a whole has not had anyone fighting for them at a government level, community support has been tremendous. She feels it is small business that continues to pay the economic price in this pandemic, making continued community support essential moving forward.

"We appreciate every person who has supported us locally, and as a community, it is crucial to support local businesses long-term," she said.

"The support we've received from the Whidbey community during the COVID shutdown has been amazing," said Aparicio. "Being able to offer drive through for takeout was very successful. However, we also recognized the priorities for our community and decided that collecting donations for the Coupeville School District to help buy much-needed computer hardware to allow students to complete their schoolwork from home was much more important."

Aparicio said they have collected more than \$3,000 to support the program and will continue collecting donations through the end of June.

"We value the support from our community," he said. "Without it, none of the local small businesses would be successful."

As of now, roughly one-third of the state is, or is eligible, to move to Phase II of reopening. The "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order remains in effect until May 31, although Gov. Inslee is making no promises the rest of the state will be able to move forward June 1.

"As I have repeatedly said before, these are decisions that are driven by public health data and science, not the calendar," he said last week. "To be clear: this does not mean that we will be able to open every county in the state on June 1. Counties that continue to have large numbers of infections are not in a position to open up stores, restaurants and services safely."

Island County is required to remain in Phase II for a minimum of three weeks and can proceed to Phase III only with authorization from the State Department of Health.

For more information, visit islandcountywa.gov or coronavirus.wa.gov. Go to penncovebrewing.com for updates and find The Hive Salon Co. on Facebook and Instagram.



Make a Difference

By Kelsi Mottet

Natural Resource Planner, Whidbey Island Conservation District

ADAPTING THE LAND: A WHIDBEY FAMILY'S STORY IN PROMOTING FOREST HEALTH AND PREPARING FOR WILDFIRE

"You know that smell when you go into woods that are not healthy? Musty... dank...rotting... it just has a funny smell to it? You don't always think of the smell of that forest, but our forest no longer smells like that. It smells completely different now."

Signed in to Zoom, headset secured, and camera phone at the ready, Freeland forest landowner Kirk Kirkconnell shares a poignant observation to me on our chat that demonstrates the sign of the times. Instead of taking a deep breath beside him and sharing the same experience, in our "new normal" I'm left to conjure up memories of smells whilst wandering woods, and nod in agreement with Kirk on the other side of my laptop. You see, I'm about to embark on a digital tour of the Kirkconnell's five-acre property, to learn more about his family's efforts the past two years in promoting forest health and reducing wildfire risk through active management. I'm on-screen though, along for the digital ride, and craving the fresh, healthy forest air.

"When we started looking to escape the suburbs and live a more rural lifestyle to raise our boys, with my wife growing up on Whidbey and working in Coupeville when I met her and family still on the island, Whidbey was a natural choice. We looked for many months here," recounted Kirk, his camera phone angled toward the driveway and house. "We knew we wanted to be more self-sufficient, grow our own food, and be closer to the water. We were not planning on being forest managers, though, but here we are."

In the spring of 2018, Kirk, his wife, Sarah, and three sons, found their new home on a five-acre property northwest of Freeland. "The property had the right balance of land and house we wanted to afford within the distance to the ferry that worked well."

Whidbey Island, this unique place with its special landscapes, is our shared home. Like the Kirkconnells, we are welcoming families new and old back to the island to join us in living here. As more move here, more homes are being built, often adjacent to forestland, which results in an increase in the Wildland/Urban Interface, or "WUI." This is a term coined by fire professionals to mean the area where homes and structures are more at risk to wildland fire because of their proximity to large, contiguous tracts of forestland. With more frequent and direct contact of us living near wildlands, we have a responsibility to know how to live in a way that balances our needs as residents with the ecological processes - wildfire included - that may occur on the land. In essence, to balance the health of the land and ourselves on it.

Over that first spring season of owning the property, the Kirkconnells spent considerable time observing it and noting its unique features. Nestled between Highway 525 and Mutiny Bay Road, their property slopes gently toward the west - two acres of previously cleared area for the existing house and the in-progress farm, with forest bordering three sides.

"Up above, it's a very sandy loam soil, and water drains through it quickly. It's all Pacific Madrone and Western hemlock with a few alders. In the lower section, we have a lot more Douglas firs, along with Western hemlocks. Most of the trees are about 40 to 50 years old, 80-plus feet tall, but only 6-10 inches in diameter," exclaimed Kirk, his camera phone tilting slightly as he positioned himself to point into the woods. "The trees were severely overcrowded, some areas as bad as a tree every 10-15 inches, and many were not healthy or already dead. The forest should have been thinned 20-plus years ago. I'm six-foot-four and could barely get through even when crouched down, crawling through branches. The woods were capped all the way to the ground, completely impenetrable."

Those first few months of the family's observation and connection to their land were critical, and it happened to time itself at the precipice of one of our region's most active wildfire seasons to-date. In Washington state, the summer of 2018 saw wildland firefighters put out over 1,850 wildfires, and nearly 440,000 acres burned. Granted, most of those wildfires were in central and eastern Washington, where fire regimes are naturally more frequent. But a growing trend of west-side wildfires is surfacing, in part due to increasing drought conditions among our shoulder seasons and in summer, and a growing WUI that puts more people in greater contact with wildlands. The summer of 2015, especially, with some of the hottest summer temperatures on record, saw fires crop up with more frequency on Whidbey. One especially notable fire that burned 10 acres of brush along a steep bluff slope adjacent to Fort Ebey State Park captured headlines, as it demonstrated that wildfire is not just a matter of if, but a matter of when. Wildfire knows no geographic boundaries; rather, it is a set of conditions - climate, topography, and fuels - which, when lined up, can affect any location.

As Kirk walked with his camera toward the top of his slope, he shared "Our forest borders the highway, so if someone flicks a cigarette butt in the middle of summer, well, it could burn from the highway down the property really easily. That is sort of the big thing."

For the Kirkconnells, a balance of wildfire preparedness and forest health were one of four key goals they identified as most important to apply to their new land.

"We want to have the open acreage produce at minimum 40 percent of our food needs, as well as have a healthy forest that is good for the plants in it, the wildlife, and for us to enjoy. We also want the forest to have a good balance between wildfire protection and forest health, and ultimately, leave the property in far better shape for generations to come. We did not know exactly where to go with it, what to do, what to plan for, and what resources were available to learn from." Kirk noted that when he first learned about the Whidbey Island Firewise Program in late summer of the first year owning the property, "I was taking the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course taught by the South Whidbey Fire Department in Freeland. Once I heard about the program, read up on it, and found out it was free, I knew that was the start we needed to get goals in place."

The Whidbey Island Firewise Program is an outreach and education program that started in 2016 and is available to all interested Whidbey residents. Partnerships between staff at the Whidbey Island Conservation District, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources Wildfire Division and our local fire districts bring together a breadth and depth of expertise in land management, forest health, and wildland fire and structure protection to benefit and empower residents on how they can proactively protect their homes and properties from wildfire. Resources and assistance can be accessed at www.whidbeycd.org/firewise/, and is tailored to the unique microclimates and niches spanning Whidbey Island, as well as to the individual homes and communities that request assistance.

One such service Kirk took advantage of was the free Firewise Home & Property Assessment, an informative and educational one-hour visit from the program's partners whereby they walk the property with the landowner, assess the exterior portions of structures on the property, note landowner successes, and offer suggestions for wildfire preparedness improvements based on the landowners' goals and questions asked.

"I didn't know what I didn't know," stated Kirk. "I needed more education on forest management. I figured it would be a useful thing having people that are local to the island come out and say 'Hey, for where you are, in your exact situation, this is what we recommend you do - and we'll help you find resources.' They stand there looking at your trees with you. It's not just some generic service. From talking with the firefighters, if we didn't try to have more distance between trees and remove fuel from the forest, if a wildfire were to come through here it would bounce between the trees and very likely take our house and shop with it. By some judicious tree thinning and limbing of low-hanging branches - a suggestion they made after visiting - we created a healthy understory, and are now less likely to have a crown fire."

Over the course of the next two years, the Kirkconnells spent a good amount of their free time tending to the forest and learning better forest management practices. "Thinning this overcrowded forest property and removing invasive weeds has been a lot of work. You could not walk through here when we first started," Kirk points to an area he deems a success from their efforts. The remaining trees are now spaced 10 to 15 feet apart. An understory of native shrubs is bouncing back and flourishing. "We have taken out approximately 600 trees in our three forested acres. I know that number sounds like a lot, but it was incredibly crowded and foul smelling. We chipped what we could and some of it we've kept for firewood. We use the chips on our farm or spread them back into the woods. We want to sequester as much carbon as we can, but some of the stuff we do burn and then use the biochar for soil health on the farm. There is definitely a balance to be

struck between forest debris providing nutrients, habitat that wildlife need, and what might be fuel for a wildfire and thus prioritized for removal."

Circling back toward his home, having toured the far reaching spaces of the forest thus far, Kirk mentions the idea of "doing something" as resonating most with him after that initial Firewise Assessment. "Either we do something and maybe save the forest, or we do nothing and it will reset itself in the not-too-distant future." Kirk had been reading about and taking forestry management classes through the Washington State University Extension Forestry Program, and "resetting" is jargon for when a forest stand dies off and starts over. It is a natural form of forest disturbance when things are out of balance, but most people would find it undesirable.

Kirk chuckled when I inquired about how he and his family managed their time, and what motivated them to do so much in such a short timeframe, compared to many. In a sea of priorities, what made forest health and wildfire protection rise to the surface? "Why are we spending so much time on this? Well, both because we ended up liking to work on it, and also, I don't want whomever owns this property in the future to see the forest as being poorly managed and with no plan. I want them to be able to enjoy it, the beauty and the wildlife. I don't want them to have the poor opinion we have of the previous owner's efforts on this property."

He mentions he'd like to send me a photo after our Zoom chat has ended, demonstrative of the success he feels his family has accomplished in their efforts of managing the forest thus far. "The proof is in the data. We took a core sample of one of the trees we left in the first area we thinned two years ago, and this last year that tree grew more in diameter than it had in the previous five to eight years! I feel this is proof that what we are doing is helping the trees we want to keep. If you thin over time, trees will go 'Oh, I gotta put better roots down! I have space and food to grow bigger!' This also means they can fend off disease better, too. We have seen owls flying through the woods - there was no way that was possible before we thinned, created open areas, and before we took all the branches up to around 12 feet. There's more songbirds, predatory birds, more pollinators, and the huckleberry crop last year was amazing and this year's is looking to be even better. The salal is healthy and expanding like it should to fill in the understory."

He smiles when he recounts that through the family experience of active management in his forest, his eight-year-old son can now educate him - and other adults - on how to properly limb a tree. He shares that his son now proudly shares tips like: "You do an undercut on the branch so that the branch doesn't peel from the tree and come crashing down on you! Don't use a ladder on a tree with a chainsaw, use a pole saw!"

As we concluded the digital tour together, I inquired if Kirk had any words of wisdom he'd like to impart to fellow Whidbey landowners as they seek to promote the health of their own landscapes. Speaking passionately, Kirk shared, "The Whidbey Island Firewise Program can help you with where your land is now and where you might think about managing it for the future. It may take time, money and effort on your part, but there are people and resources to help. I mean, you don't have to do all of these things in six months. Maybe we were too aggressive, maybe we weren't. It's an individual process, kind of like pursuing zero waste. You're never going to be perfect. But the fact that you're on that journey is better than had you done nothing. Help be part of the solution."

Visit SWSF's online Gala May 29 - 31

View videos from retiring teacher Rachel Kizer, a tribute to our beloved Jean Shaw, special messages from the Board, plus the humor of Jim Freeman.



Jim Freeman



www.SWSFoundation.org
& [Facebook.com/SWSFoundation.org](https://www.facebook.com/SWSFoundation.org)

*Raising funds for teacher-requested grants
to enhance the education of students
in South Whidbey public schools.*



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



Life Tributes



ROBERT D. CRAY December 1936 – May 2020



Robert D'Esting Cray was born in 1936 in Milwaukee, Wis., but he spent most of his childhood in Montana. During his junior year in high school, Bob moved to Oak Harbor, Wash., where he enjoyed playing football, baseball, working on cars, racing at Skagit Speedway, and making many lifelong friends. In March 1960, he met his wife, Maxine, and they spent the next 60 years together working, raising two sons, Garth and Trevor, and traveling nationally and internationally.

Bob became a professional land surveyor in 1970 and was a partner at Fakkema & Kingma Inc. in Oak Harbor for 43 years. He was active in both local and national professional land surveying organizations. For many years Bob also enjoyed serving on the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, and as chairman, signed his son Garth's professional engineering license and his son Trevor's professional land surveyor's license. In 1982 he was elected Washington State Surveyor of the Year. Bob's all-time favorite activity was working on cars, the highlights of which were restoring his 3000 Austin Healey with his son, Trevor, and then competing in car shows and rallies all around the U.S. and Canada.

Bob will be deeply missed by his wife, Maxine; sons, Garth (Janet) and Trevor; grandchildren, Diana and Darrell; brother, Richard; sister, Barbara; and a myriad of cousins, friends, and care providers. A Celebration of Life has been tentatively planned for August. Family suggests, for memorials in Robert's name, please consider donations to Parkinson Foundations or WhidbeyHealth Hospice Care.

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

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,

As our local businesses begin to reopen we ask for your protection and guidance. Please keep the business owners, their employees and customers safe and grant them patience as we all balance this delicate situation where lives and livelihoods are in jeopardy. Please guide our scientists to a cure for this disease that has already cost our citizens lives, jobs, peace of mind, relationships, and more. We ask these things in your mighty name, Amen.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ...

Romans 5:1-6 ESV



Island 911

Seriously, we do not make this stuff up!

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

3:22 pm, Pleasant View Ln.

Requesting call. States tenant wanted damage deposit returned; reporting party sent two times, now have cashed both.

8:02 pm, Lyle Ridge Cir.

Reporting party states kids were out in front yard playing; kids told reporting party male approached children at gate and said "Hey kids want some crack?" Driving small, white, beat up work van.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

7:29 pm, Hill Rd.

Reporting party states kids had campfire by bluff on Hill Rd. Reporting party tried telling them they weren't supposed to do that and kids got snotty.

MONDAY, APRIL 27

7:02 am, E Troxell Rd.

Reporting party advising vehicle drove into ditch at location; advising female is now walking away from location, reporting party advising heard foul language at approximately 4:50am. Reporting party advising female is walking barefoot, and is leaving her belongings on the ground.

11:01 am, Mobius Loop

Reporting party requesting call; was told people were being stopped at bridge and not allowed on the island if they didn't have a COVID card. ICOM advised not the case, reporting party still requesting call.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

6:06 pm, Seashore Ave.

Reporting party advising woke up and someone was there doing something to reporting party's head. States whoever it was also stole reporting party's pain killers. Did not see anyone.

4:50 pm, Langley Rd.

Reporting horse on side of the road. Now in driveway at location. Reporting party is keeping horse from coming down driveway, blocking it in.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

2:30 pm, Crockett Lake Dr.

Reporting party advising subjects wandering around from house to house in area; older male and female. Reporting party advising thinks they're on drugs, female is scratching herself and male is slurring.

8:35 pm, Crockett Lake Dr.

Caller states female is sitting in front of caller's residence and walking up and down street all day.

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

1:34 pm, Oak Harbor Rd.

Advising someone is threatening to come to location and beat reporting party up and slash his tires.

5:44 pm, West Beach Rd.

Caller advising motorcycle is "terrorizing" West Beach every day; just went by doing wheelies at high rate of speed.

6:26 pm, SR 20

Reporting party advising male walking on road, going through mailboxes tossing mail into road.

7:45 pm, SR 20

Red 1998 VW GTI. Reporting party stating car engine is going to "blow up." Wanted to advise law enforcement.

FRIDAY, MAY 1

10:27 am, SR 20

Requesting call, was just driving past location when something hit his vehicle and broke the windshield. Did not see anyone along roadway.

2:51 pm, W Troxell Rd.

Reporting party advising two people stole her vehicle this morning; advising she didn't report it but knows who took it. Is out with it now at location.

3:41 pm, Carl Ave.

Advising subject going berserk. Wearing woman's hat, yelling, does not see any weapons.

11:51 pm, Meadowood Ln.

Reporting party states there is a hired killer next door. Armed.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

12:41 am, N Main St.

Reporting party at WhidbeyHealth is requesting a ride. In bathrobe.

8:58 am, Ridgeway Dr.

Reporting party advising male subject was standing at end of her driveway, staring; reporting party advising subject came up to location and started looking into windows on house and vehicle.

2:59 pm, Norcliffe Way

Requesting call referencing grey squirrels hanging around; wants suggestions for how to trap them and relocate them. Reporting party was provided phone number to WILDCOMM.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

3:21 am, N Main St.

Reporting party advising subject got into reporting party's car and demanded a ride. Subject has now gotten out of vehicle and is trying to enter building. Subject adult male, wearing all grey.

4:31 am, SW 24th Ave.

Reporting party advising subject throwing cement blocks onto street. Reporting party recalling; states male also threw clothes on his porch.

7:30 pm, Paul Ave.

Caller requesting welfare check on her children; hasn't spoken to children or their father for a week. Normally doesn't have problems reaching children. States father took kids in middle of the night by breaking into reporting party's home.

9:01 pm, Fort Casey Rd.

States female just walked into reporting party's house. Unknown who female is.

MONDAY, MAY 4

8:48 am, SR 20

Reporting party advising 60-gallon water tank was stolen sometime overnight, requesting contact at location.

10:26 am, Cove View Cir.

Requesting call; has a no-contact order with ex-husband and received phone call from blocked number Saturday; wants to know if law enforcement can help her find out who the blocked number belongs to.

10:55 am, N Main St.

Caller states helicopter across the street has been making a lot of noise. Requesting call.

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



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



For Vets Only

Memories and recollections of U.S. Service Members

By Gene Berg



The Whidbey Veterans Resource Center strives to be a place for veterans and family members to connect and get information for veterans' benefit application assistance, access to Veterans Administration health care, support groups and friendships in the community. During the Stay Home, Stay Healthy phases, the WVRC is not open to in-person visits, however, we continue to connect and serve veterans in our network and encourage others to connect with the WVRC. The WVRC is not exclusively for veterans - the WVRC welcomes volunteers and community members who are supportive of activities and events recognizing veterans in our community. The WVRC does need additional volunteers - please call to learn more about volunteer opportunities!

While the Whidbey Veterans Resource Center is not open for in-person visitors, the team is currently serving veterans via the telephone and internet. The WVRC team looks forward to opening in a new way, going forward in the coming months when Phase III is possible, while accommodating social distancing and appropriate precautions, such as masks and any other recommended hygiene and distancing measures. During this time, the Whidbey Veterans Resource Center continues to support Veterans via zoom sessions, telephone conference calls and online resources facilitated by program coordinator and benefits-knowledgeable staff and volunteers.

The WVRC staff is assisting with merged calls to help folks connect with the veterans benefits customer service line and Veterans Service Officer support, as well as helping Veterans connect with Telehealth and Community Care referrals temporarily when Veterans Administration health care providers are not available for in-person visits.

One of the essential services the Whidbey Veterans Resource Center provides is van rides to the VA, which have not been possible during the virus shutdown since March. This partnership with Island Transit will resume with distancing and precautions with potential for twice-weekly rides when the virus situation is resolved enough to allow for appointments at the VA in Seattle. When trips to the Seattle VA are possible and considered safe, more information will be posted for the guidelines and sign ups to the van rosters. While it is pending, we are hopeful it will resume within 30 to 60 days.

For more information about all of the veterans services available through the Whidbey Veterans Resource Center, how to connect with other veterans and how to make a donation, please contact the Whidbey Veterans Resource Center at 360-331-8081 or at WhidbeyVRC@gmail.com and please visit our website at www.whidbeyvrc.org. If you can make a donation - any amount is so welcome!

Whidbey Veterans Resource Center

Connect. Educate. Serve.



- **Dedicated to serving Veterans**
- **Helping facilitate VA benefits**
- **Free Professional Counseling**
 - **Free Van Shuttle to VA**
 - **Educating families**

Need help?
Call 360-331-8081
You served us; Let us serve you!

South Whidbey Community Center • 723 Camano Ave, Room 403 Building C • Langley
www.whidbeyvrc.org

Island Angler

THE LORE OF SPORTFISHING

By Tracy Loescher



HALIBUT SEASON IS OPEN

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Tribal co-Managers announced this year's halibut season opener will be May 20. The season was modified from its original proposed date of April 16. The season was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I was excited about this year's original proposed April opener; this date would have been a couple of weeks earlier than the normal May 4 opener, which to me meant a better chance at catching some early season, shallow water halibut.

The last halibut my boat hooked into was last year in late July out on the banks; we were trolling for salmon when a 80- to 100-pound halibut decided he wanted a taste of the Coyote spoon we were trolling. At first we thought we may have snagged the bottom; the downrigger released and the salmon rod bent over like a willow tree and stayed there, then the rod tip started a slow deliberate bounce with a little upward give. It was at this point we knew we had a big flatfish on the line. We shut down the kicker motor and began the slow pull on the fish up from 115 feet; after all, we were pulling with a salmon rod and a reel filled with 20-pound test monofilament line.

The fish made a couple of runs for the bottom but we were able to get it turned and headed for the surface each time. After 35 minutes or so we saw color! The fish was big and beautiful. We knew we couldn't keep it due to halibut season being long over, but the thrill of the fight was worth every second. Three feet under the boat the big halibut decided he didn't like the looks of the boat anymore and with a swish of his wide tail, he turned and broke the leader. We were all disappointed; we wanted a picture to remember the fish by. As our heads hung over the gunwale, we watched as the fish disappeared into the blue-green darkness.

After studying bottom contour charts and tidal movements, halibut fishermen generally fish two ways: Either anchored near a shelf where they can feed their offering of horse herring, squid, salmon heads, or other chunk-bait over the edge where the halibut lie in wait for the opportunity to feed, or find a sandy, gravelly plateau and drift the length of this plateau while bouncing the same natural baits using a banana weight and a heavy hook, or artificial baits like large rubber curly-tail jigs or heavy vertical style jigs like cripple herring, or point Wilson darts. Both techniques are productive; the biggest challenge is simply finding a fish. The Puget Sound is not plentiful with fish like southeast Alaskan waters. Here are the details about what the WDFW has planned for recreational halibut fishermen this year:

"The halibut fishery will open in Marine Areas 5 through 10 beginning May 20 through June 30 on alternating days. The season structure was revised from what was originally planned to allow the halibut fishery to proceed in a manner that is consistent with the guidelines to limit travel. Anglers are encouraged to participate in these dates only if they can do so locally as part of a day trip, while also practicing physical distancing.

"In talking with public health officials and our partners at Washington's ports, we think we've found a balance between being able to provide these opportunities and bring that value back into these communities, while also continuing to prioritize public health," said Larry Phillips, WDFW coastal region director. "These dates depend on anglers continuing to get outdoors responsibly - something we know folks can do because we've seen a lot of great examples of it these last couple of weeks."

Anglers should only venture out well-prepared. WDFW recommends people bring their own needs for personal hygiene - handwashing materials, toilet paper and face masks/bandanas. Be prepared to change plans if access sites are congested. Please check ahead to ensure your intended access site is open and have local alternatives. Anglers should be aware the Port of Neah Bay is closed to the public; no moorage or fuel available there.

• Similar to last year, anglers fishing for halibut in Marine Area 6 will not be able to retain lingcod incidentally caught when fishing for halibut seaward of the 120-foot depth boundary. The depth restriction is designed to protect rockfish species, including yelloweye rockfish, which are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). However, lingcod retention will be allowed seaward of the 120-foot depth restriction in Marine Area 5, which is outside of the area where yelloweye rockfish are listed.

• In all marine areas open to halibut fishing, there is a one-fish daily catch limit and no minimum size restriction. Anglers may possess a maximum of two halibut in any form while in the field and must record their catch on a WDFW halibut catch record card. There is an annual limit of four halibut. Recreational fishery samplers will be available to collect catch information at fishing access sites throughout Puget Sound while practicing physical distancing guidelines.

• Because halibut fisheries are managed to a quota, anglers should check the WDFW website to ensure a specific area is open prior to fishing. Complete information about recreational halibut regulations and seasons is available online at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/regulations/halibut>.

Season details are listed below:

2020 Puget Sound halibut seasons: Marine Areas 5-10 are open May 28, 30, June 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29.

Puget Sound will be managed to an overall quota of 77,550 pounds as long as there is sufficient quota.

Marine Areas 11-13 will remain closed to halibut fishing to protect threatened and endangered rockfish species.

I disagree with the ruling about all rockfish being closed. Only yelloweye and Canary fish species are threatened, however, NOAA took the liberty to blanket close all rockfish. Meanwhile, GOOD LUCK halibut hunting! The 21 alternating days to catch a halibut will go by fast, so be prepared and ready, get out when you can, and most of all, be safe on the water and have fun fishing!

CAN DO SUDOKU!

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 on page 15

5			9	2				
	6			5		9	1	
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A return to the arts: WICA prepares Summer Nights Series

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

Prepare for music and performances under the stars with Whidbey Island Center for the Arts' (WICA's) Summer Night Series. While guests may be six feet apart, local music and artistic performances are being planned to make a return to the (outdoor) stage this summer.

Verna Everitt, executive director of WICA, said the vision for the Summer Nights Series is to hold performances and provide community entertainment in a safe way. Everitt said the center plans to bring in local musicians and a variety of acts, including a comedian and a play.

"It is definitely different," she said. "Number one, it is outdoors. We are not doing any programming for the summer indoors, but we do have a little stage with a platform and we are looking at taking sound and lights out there to make it sound great."

Robert Merry, chair of WICA's board of directors, said safety is paramount as the theater plans for future performances, and the center will not hold any events until Phase 3 of Governor Inslee's Safe Start program.

"Throughout the summer we do not plan to open up our mainstage theater at all but we will have outdoor programming," he said. "That is what Summer Nights is designed to do: get people together under strict guidelines, social distancing and masks and all the rest, while giving our community a taste of the artistic expression that we are known for."

Everitt said the theater is considering summer dates dependent on when it is safe to start programming. She said the performance dates will be subject to change, but the organization hopes to begin sometime in mid-to-late June, depending on guidance from the state and keeping the best interest of the community in mind.

"We have to stick our toes in the water and figure it out," she said. "First of all, the most important thing is that we are following all of the rules and regulations that Gov. Inslee has stipulated. Those rules are changing daily and we are keeping an eye on everything."

Merry said adaptation and creativity have been key to moving forward for the organization. He said looking beyond the Summer Nights Series, WICA has started to reconfigure the indoor theater for future seasons when indoor events are possible with social distancing in mind and a cabaret style of seating being used.

"We are adjusting to this thing as dramatically as we possibly can in order to get back in the saddle and to keep our mighty steed moving forward," he said. "That includes a whole new kind of programming for this coming season. We have sort of ripped up the old concept because we are taking events and coming up with a different approach to seating, a different approach to safety that is a far more stringent and active approach to safety, (and) a different approach to programming."

Everitt said she feels it is important to offer an opportunity for those who feel com-



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Center for the Arts

The upcoming Summer Nights Series at Whidbey Island Center for the Arts will feature "A Doll's House" as a staged reading, and "A Doll's House, Part 2" as a full production.

fortable with doing so to gather for performances.

"I like to say the stuff we do here quickens the heart and engages our minds," she said. "We want our minds off of this and we want to be swept away to another world and that is what we do here every day when things are normal, so we are going to try a little bit of that this summer."

In addition to starting to plan potential summer shows, Everitt said WICA has been finding ways to stay connected to the community through online means. The arts center recently started 98260, a video series centered on different organizations in the community, from restaurants to Whidbey Island Dance Theatre.

"I think the important thing is to stay relevant in the community because we are a touchstone; I like to say we are the town square where cultural happenings occur," she said. "When we closed our doors, we asked, 'How can we continue to stay relevant?'"

Everitt said WICA's mission of bringing artistic expression to Whidbey Island remains key as the organization moves forward.

"We are here to deliver art to the community and they need it now more than ever because art is something that does engage the mind and stirs the heart and we need that," she said. "It is our mission, and our mission has to be fulfilled even in circumstances like this. But the most important

thing I could say is the health and well-being of our community members is first and foremost, and once people feel comfortable, we will deliver the goods in a form of entertainment that will sweep them away for a little while."

Merry said he feels it is important to find a way to follow guidelines while also providing a place for arts in the community.

"We are doing everything we can to find that balance, that equilibrium, between the safety and the health of our patrons and our neighbors and at the same time maintaining our identity and our mission as people of artistic expression," he said.

Another goal of restarting programming is to offer an opportunity for local artists and performers to work again, Everitt said.

"We live in a very creative community," she said. "It is chock-filled with artists of every sort and they simply lost their livelihood, just like that."

WICA, which closed its doors to patrons March 11, has been cognizant and cautious while navigating through the environment caused by COVID-19, Everitt said.

"We were proactive and we are still proactive," she said. "I want people to know that we are proactive with their safety and health first and foremost."

For more information on programming and updated performance dates, visit www.wicaonline.org.



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Center for the Arts

Whidbey Island Center for the Arts in Langley is putting together a Summer Nights Series opening in June, which will feature outdoor performances, like this event from the past. There will be a number of safety measures in place for attendees.

Whidbey Playhouse board looks toward 2021

The performing arts community on Whidbey Island has been hit hard by COVID-19. The board of directors for Whidbey Playhouse in Oak Harbor was forced to cancel the rest of its 2019-2020 season due to the "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order.

In a statement released Tuesday by the Playhouse board, members said they have been hard at work planning for the 2020-2021 season, which includes virtual educational opportunities and addressing financial challenges from the cancellation of the remaining current season.

The announcement that Island County has moved to Phase II of the Safe Start reopening plan was bittersweet for the Playhouse board, which has pushed the new season back to January.

"The Playhouse will remain closed to the public," read the board's announcement. "When the board of directors, committee chairs and staff believe it is safe to open and we can follow all sanitization and social distancing guidelines, we will do so."

According to the announcement, the next season will start in January, 2021, due to uncertainty over when the Playhouse can fully open; the negative impact on revenue because of limited capacity under social distancing

guidelines; and uncertainty over the public's perception of safety in attending a production even with sanitization and social distancing measures.

"Unfortunately, no one has a crystal ball and while we can hope that everyone would support the Playhouse and attend all of the shows, the reality is we just don't know, especially as we hear about other events in Western Washington being canceled that were due to be held in September and October," the announcement said.

The board is currently looking at a three-show season and will announce the shows upon the approval of royalty rights. Season ticket sales will be opened once the shows are approved. The price of a season ticket package will be reduced and 2019-2020 season ticket holders will receive an updated discount code due to the cancellation of the last two shows of the season.

"Again, we thank you for your continued support and know that we miss seeing you all at the Playhouse," the statement said. "We will get through this together and we look forward to seeing you when it is safe to gather."

Contact the Whidbey Playhouse at 360-679-2237 or email the office at office@whidbeyplayhouse.com.



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Drive-In Days

The return of the Blue Fox

By Carey Ross

I grew up going to drive-ins.

When I was a kid and we didn't have much money, the drive-in served as a cheapish family outing that not only kept two unruly kids entertained, but also had the feel of a special occasion. My sister and I would change into our pajamas in the back of my dad's pickup truck and I'd never make it to the end of the movie before falling asleep.

As I got older, I continued my drive-in ways. My family moved to within a couple of miles of one when I was a teenager, and it just happened to be within walking distance of the house where my cousins—who were also my best friends—lived. Being able to walk to a drive-in might seem immaterial when the whole point of the thing is to drive there, but it came in handy for sneaking through the chain-link fence at the back of the parking lot when I couldn't come up with or didn't want to part with the price of admission. Maybe I should've felt bad about the number of times I crawled through the fence, hid in the trunk of a vehicle, or even hunkered down on the floorboards of a dark car in my efforts to dodge ponying up at the box office, but the plain fact is I did so time and again without even the barest pricking of guilt. I figured the only thing more quintessentially American than going to the drive-in was sneaking into one. I was simply engaging in a time-honored tradition.

When I moved to Bellingham to go to college, I was delighted to discover the town had a drive-in theater of its own. However, I was mystified to learn my roommates had no knowledge of this form of movie-going, having grown up in places where the landscape was denuded of drive-ins, leaving them deprived of one of summer's greatest pleasures. I soon educated them, and it was not long before they were clambering into the trunks of cars to sneak past the box office on their own.

Some things never change—except when they do, for it was not long before Bellingham's drive-in was turned into a park and ride (while it may be a necessary use of the land, it's certainly not a better one), and shortly thereafter, the one near my folks' house went dark as well.

Drive-ins all over the country suffered the same fate, and it seemed highly likely a glorious era in American entertainment was coming to a sad end.

Not so fast, said the Blue Fox Drive-In.

The Oak Harbor outpost was not only surviving, but it was also managing to thrive despite changing times and existential threats. A combination of fiercely committed family ownership; expanded snack bar offerings including pizza, Philly cheese steak sandwiches and more; a go-kart track for thrill seekers; and an abundance of steadfast community support saw it proudly hit its 60th anniversary during Memorial Day weekend last year.

Then COVID-19 happened.

Like so many other businesses, the Blue Fox was subject to COVID-19 shutdown orders. However, unlike other businesses, it is uniquely positioned to offer us the socially distant entertainment we all need so badly right now. There was just one problem: The powers that be were not convinced.

As the shutdown drags on—and on and on—the clamor for drive-ins has become louder and more insistent. The Blue Fox spent the weeks in quarantine doing what they could—instituting best practices to insure the safety of their patrons, opening the snack bar for takeout (including popcorn)—as they awaited news they could begin showing movies to the public.

That news came, and as of last Friday, the Blue Fox is back in business, kicking things off with free showings of "The Flintstones" and "Jurassic Park." Unlike the days of yore when being part of a lineup of vehicles eager to gain entry and find a likely viewing position was part and parcel of the drive-in experience, the Blue Fox instituted a reservation system. The system went live on their

website and if they were worried folks might stay home out of an abundance of caution, they were no doubt reassured when reservations for the opening weekend filled almost immediately.

As with everything else these days, COVID-19 has changed movie-going at the Blue Fox. Reservations are required (keep in mind you need only reserve for the number of cars in your posse, not the number of people, i.e. one clown car packed with nine people still equals just one reservation), walk-ins and standby tickets are not allowed, capacity is limited, routine cleaning has been ramped up, and social-distancing measures are in place all over the premises.

But while all this is necessary and welcomed, it's also beside the point, which is that during a time when we desperately need things that are not only familiar but also just plain fun, the Blue Fox is here for us. As it has been every summer for the past 60 years. And counting.

For showtimes, reservations and more information, find the Blue Fox at www.bluefoxdrivein.com.

NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
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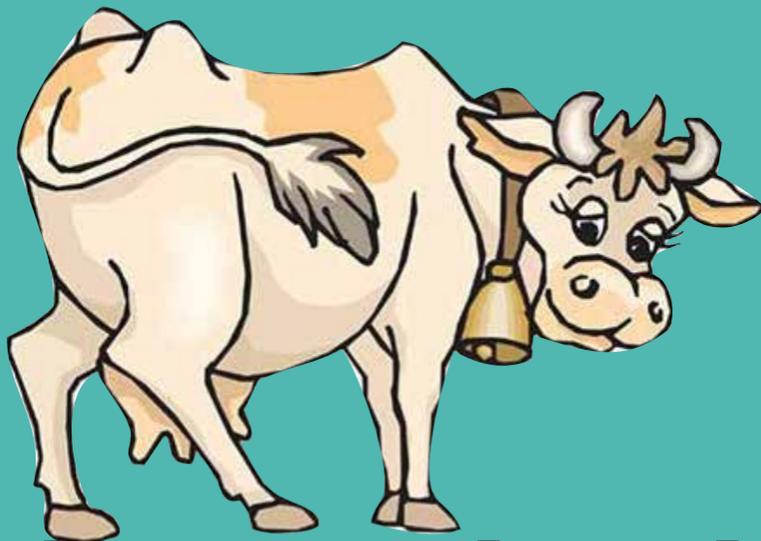
E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL (PG)
JAWS (PG)

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With regret, we have to cancel the 2020 Whidbey Island Fair. We will look forward to seeing you next year! July 15-18, 2021



Whidbey Island Fair

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Family Guide

By Amy Hannold

Fun is not canceled for the summer of 2020. The best perspective in these times is to embrace the opportunity to create as unique and extraordinary experiences as the time we are living in right now. Set aside all the “closed” signs, and open your mind to ways you can make memories, finding new avenues to enjoy this time with your children. This summer will pass as quickly as the ones before it, in hindsight. Make it your goal to plan ahead, and prepare for what you as a family want to do and always have a few surprises ready for those seemingly unbearable “I’m bored” moments.

As the parent of older children now, I would encourage you to take plenty of time to casually interview your kids in this unprecedented time. Ask them about their life now, their wishes for the future, how they see the world around them and what they possess within themselves to make the world better. Capture these answers through art-work, recordings or writing. I guarantee you they will be a cherished reflection in years to come.

Begin your quest for a “Super Summer” by creating a celebration of the arrival of summer. At this festive event, ask your kids what they would like to experience or do this summer. Their wishes might surprise you. Conduct an “Ideas for Summer Fun and Learning” survey. This tool includes lots of options for them to choose from, with room for them to add their own ideas. Once you have everyone’s list, create a list of materials

and procure them. You may also want to encourage your kids to create goals for the summer and track their progress throughout the season by celebrating milestones.

Once you have their input, take empty month calendars and map out what you are going to do and when. Designate a few special “family holidays,” adding the “crazy holidays” celebrated nationally each year within your calendar for the summer. Ta-da! You have a plan for the summer. Be flexible and leave lots of room for impromptu fun and “do nothing” days. Free printables of these tools are available at WhidbeyIsland.MacaroniKid.com.

Here are some ideas, to get you started:

Theme Days: Everyone has something they want to celebrate or explore. Creating theme days for these interests involves exploring them through art, music, food, décor, costumes, creative or active projects, media (a movie, virtual tour or online recorded lesson with an expert, etc.) and more. Perhaps a theme day isn’t a “thing,” but the answer to a question – like “What does a Veterinarian do?” (careers), or “Why is the sky blue?” (meteorology). Each person in your family could be the focus of a theme day, one day showcases the person’s interests, talents, favorite things, etc., those would certainly be days to look forward to!

Once you’ve taken a survey of yours and your child’s interests, you will have a list of theme

days to create. Research each and prepare a day revolved around each interest. Be sure to journal these special events via photos, writing, or video. Creating homemade postcards is also a way to memorialize the fun for years to come. A photo, with a short note from the sender, will give you all you’ll wish for in coming years by which to remember the day.

When looking for resources and ideas for your theme days, use the internet to visit museums, zoos, aquariums, or other places related to your subject, locally or beyond. Many of these places have at-home learning resources on their website and may also be hosting virtual events you can attend or view recordings of, on their Facebook or YouTube page to compliment your theme day.

Working Together, Apart: Invite friends or relatives to a live video group an activity such as cooking or creative projects. Create a guest list, and then find a date that works for your group. In your invitation, include all of the supplies they will need to participate. When it’s time to “meet,” enjoy connecting with each other while you work.

SUMMER CAMP IS STILL POSSIBLE
If you are looking for summer camps for your kids, there’s a world of possibilities available online. These “camps” will be useful for you, as having your older kids connecting with others throughout the summer will give you the time you need to get things done—or offer your younger children time they can look forward to with your undivided attention. Here are some virtual summer camp connections:

Varsity Tutor: Free week-long, online, interactive Virtual Summer Camps, June through August for students ages 5 to 18. There are also multiple-week free courses as well. Subjects include a wide variety of interests such as technology, filmmaking, school subject enrichment, science, art and more. Classes are taught in a safe online environment with expert instructors. Space is limited. This website can also connect you to one-on-one or group tutoring or classes, tuition applies. Varsitytutors.com

Activity Hero: A marketplace for online classes and camps where you can find single-session to week-long camps taught by schools and instructors across the country. A wide variety of subjects are available, fees vary as well; some have

scholarship options. Local in-person camps, classes and activities can also be found by zip code. Activityhero.com

Outschool: Find live, online classes taught in groups for learners ages 3 to 18. Classes range from one session to a semester, and include art to wellness, coding to world languages. Tuition varies too, from \$5 per student to more commonly paid activity-learning tuition (or less in some instances). If you’re not sure if virtual classes are right for your child, take one of these single-session opportunities to find out. These classes, although not free, could be considered a reasonable investment to offer your child exploration into their many interests over the summer. Classes are taught by individual teachers and organizations that have been evaluated by Outschool. Outschool.com

CELEBRATE DAD
Father’s Day this year is Sunday, June 21. What better way to begin a creative summer than to make Father’s Day gifts? Whether or not you are crafty, when you’re working with kids, your talent really doesn’t matter – it’s the tradition and experience of putting your art into a gift your children will remember. Making these for Dad can spark conversations about other creative adventures you can have as a family this summer. Ideas and inspiration can be found at Dodoburd.com/home-made-fathers-day-gifts. Two fun gifts are the Mr. Roboto, made from repurposed, recycled items such as tin cans and other household items. Looks like a lot of fun and the Father’s Day Lawnmower Card (possibly substituting Dad’s hobbies, work, etc., for the lawn tractor).

Seize the day, every day, this summer, to enjoy the moment. Be an example of undaunted enthusiasm and creativity to your kids and those around you. Let those good things you inspire be what carries us through, and beyond, these short summer months. Don’t forget to stop and absorb what’s around you – the scents, colors, and new adventures.

Whidbey Island Macaroni Kid has new ideas and resources, off-screen activities, and a daily calendar of virtual events to enjoy, all summer long. WhidbeyIsland.MacaroniKid.com

AUTHENTIC

KIDS FREE Online Magic Class on Monday 1 June at 3pm! email jr@jrrussellmagic for details!

- Look in the Magic Mirror!
- Put the bird in the cage!
- Don't blow it!

Put the bird back in the cage! Stare at the dot and slowly move the page towards your nose.

Magic Breath

CHALLENGE: Can you fold a postcard in a magical way so that it is really hard to blow away?

STEP 1: Get a normal sized postcard and place it flat on a table.

Try to blow the postcard away by blowing real hard at the edge of the postcard. (It will flutter away)

STEP 2: Fold all 4 corners of the postcard down into little triangles.

STEP 3: Set it back on the flat surface like a little table and again blow under the postcard. What happens?

You would think it would be easier to blow it away with space under the postcard, but it actually makes it harder because of the magic of SCIENCE!

A TRUE MAGICIAN practices in a mirror to see what OTHERS will see.

Look at this Magic Mirror. Can you circle 8 things that have vanished in the reflection?

MI _ O _ S _ A _ ELY COVE _ E _ O _ S

Help Patch the Pirate decode this tongue twister by putting back all the “Rrrs.”

CHECK OUT THE JR RUSSELL MAGIC FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE MAGIC!

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CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

ARIES (March 21-April 19)



The Practical Guide to Watering Your Pig features an ingenious pig-waterer that requires only a bucket, a brick and an overturned tire. Making sure your pig never runs out of clean water might rank low on your current list of challenges. Still, ingenuity and resourcefulness are at a premium. Can you come up with a bucket-and-brick solution to your specific problem? Don't neglect to include the overturned tire.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



It's metamorphosis time. That's when caterpillars turn into butterflies. They grow up. You've done this before, so automatically, you're suspicious. Take Santa Claus. You gave up a belief in free gifts, assumed a new belief, and presto! You're head over heels in credit card debt. We don't blame you for being wary, but might it be different this time? Think about . . . the stork! The earth shaking possibilities sometimes make growing up worth the pain.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



Hey, Grandpa! What's a maverick? "Why, that's a motherless calf. A little doggie that belongs to the first one to brand it." To which we add, if you're an independent thinker, it's also you. When your idea of what's good for you doesn't match what others think, what do you do? Submit to the branding iron? We know Grandpa's answer. "Join the stampede to a freer range." Git along, little doggie.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)



Where are you, while your values are under assault? Whatever you hold dear, someone is defending it against someone else who's attacking it. No safe space allowed. Want to risk a political minefield? Comment on the weather! And there's no middle ground, per Confucius: "Straddle fence, get bark in crotch." Best advice? Stand your ground against oppressors. And be careful crossing wooden fences.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



"If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen," they say. Alas. It's a hot, hot kitchen we're in, and walking away is not an option. Don't know about you, but Joe Walsh sang it best for us: "It's hard to leave when you can't find the door." Never mind The Joy of Cooking. This is the kitchen where you cook up solutions to problems no one ever saw before. So chop. Dice. Curry. Brown the precious roux. Do whatever bakes your bagel.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)



Jumping to conclusions is so popular these days, it may become our next Olympic sport. Running away from the facts, ever a favorite, is also surging. Not particularly gifted in either area? Don't despair. The greater need by far is for talented judging. Can you face a fact head-on, see it for what it is, and then act

rationally based only on what you see? You're a rare bird. Blow the whistle on the running and jumping as you see fit.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



You're trying so hard to keep life simple. The thirty flavors to choose from crowd simply makes your head explode! If we were talking ice cream, you could handle it, but alas, we're not. Half the country has declared the other half insane, both sides pelting you constantly with justifications. Just remember, it wasn't always this way. Sanity once prevailed, and will again. Until then, savor the little comforts. Join us for a scoop of vanilla?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



What can you do, when someone puts words in your mouth that you never uttered? Say, "Hold me beer," then rise up and defend? Pull out your rapier and challenge the scoundrel? Steady there, mate. Rejoice. When your enemy resorts to lying about you, you're winning. Whatever you're doing, do more of that. You're hitting them where it hurts. So hold onto your beer. Here, have a corn nut.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



Doubt clouding your horizon? Ours too. So we researched it. Raymond Chandler said, "When in doubt, have a man come through the door with a gun in his hand." A dramatic trick Chandler used to create suspenseful novels. General Patton said, "When in doubt, ATTACK!" He probably enjoyed reading Chandler's novels. So. Is drama of the Chandler and Patton sort useful in your situation? Maybe. Maybe not. We have our doubts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



Change is upon us. Take language. A barrel of monkeys in grandpa's day was fun. Today, the same barrel of monkeys is boring. Killer and wicked now mean awesome or amazing. Hella is lots of something good. Yes, change is upon us, and it's gnarly: beyond extreme. So, don't be a barrel of monkeys, dude. Killer times call for killer people. The rewards are gonna be gnarly, beyond wicked. Hella!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



"Looked for, he could not be seen. Listened for, he could not be heard." Remember? Fans of pop mysticism know that's the TV introduction of Kung Fu's Kwai Chang Caine. You don't have to be a monk in Shaolin Monastery to practice priestly martial arts. Want to deliver roundhouse kicks like Caine, while observing the six-foot rule? Verbal delivery. Yes, words. Deftly. Gently. Smack, right side of foot to left side of face. Peace, Grasshopper.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



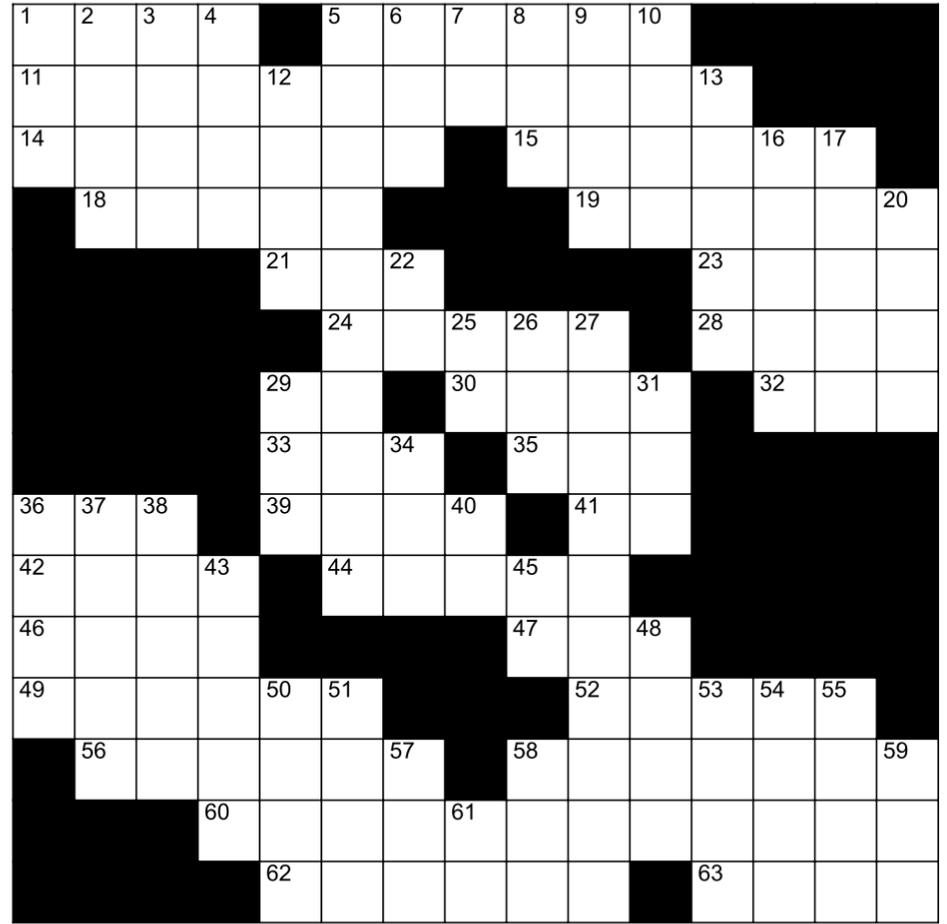
To paraphrase an old song, are you swinging on a star? Carrying moonbeams home in a jar? Us neither. Why is that? Might it be, as the same song warns, that we grew up to be a mule, because we didn't go to school? Or did we busy ourselves studying the wrong things? Afterall, it takes a certain knack to catch a moonbeam in a jar. Have you ever tried? Hmmm. Same here. Maybe we're on to something. . . .

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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. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 5. Not bad
- 11. NYC Mayor
- 14. Essays
- 15. Walk lightly
- 18. Those who utilize
- 19. Actress Judd
- 21. One-time community of nations
- 23. Norwegian river
- 24. Unconscious states
- 28. Make muddy
- 29. Unit of volume
- 30. Consciousnesses
- 32. Envision
- 33. When you aim to get there
- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Passports are some
- 39. Snakelike fish
- 41. Military flyers (abbr.)
- 42. Popular computers
- 44. Ecological stage
- 46. Wings
- 47. Used in combi-

- nation
- 49. Laid back
- 52. Princess's headgear
- 56. Musical composition
- 58. Famed Falls
- 60. Reiterations
- 62. Eras
- 63. Track event

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Defensive nuclear weapon (abbr.)
- 2. Instead
- 3. Gifts for the poor
- 4. A type of gin
- 5. Torments
- 6. One point south of due east
- 7. Actor Pacino
- 8. Feline
- 9. Chinese dynasty
- 10. Short cries for help
- 12. Straits can sometimes be this
- 13. Further
- 16. Variety shows
- 17. Supernatural
- 20. A university in Connecticut

- 22. Atomic #27
- 25. Of I
- 26. We all have one
- 27. Religious guilds
- 29. This can sting
- 31. Sunscreen rating
- 34. Brew
- 36. Religious leader
- 37. Indigo bush
- 38. Burn with a hot liquid
- 40. Jr.'s father
- 43. Ray-finned fish genus
- 45. Morning
- 48. Straight line passing from side to side (abbr.)
- 50. S-shaped line
- 51. Small bunch of hay
- 53. Ripened
- 54. Crater on Mars
- 55. Humanities
- 57. Of the ears
- 58. To the __ degree
- 59. Wood
- 61. Cools your home

Answers on page 15

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, May 28	Fri, May 29	Sat, May 30	Sun, May 31	Mon, June 1	Tues, June 2	Wed, June 3
North Isle H-71°/L-53° Sunny	North Isle H-74°/L-54° Mostly Sunny and Warm	North Isle H-72°/L-53° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-67°/L-55° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-67°/L-53° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-66°/L-52° Sun and Clouds Mixed	North Isle H-64°/L-50° PM Rain
South Isle H-75°/L-54° Sunny and Warm	South Isle H-80°/L-54° Mostly Sunny and Warm	South Isle H-77°/L-54° Sun and Clouds Mixed	South Isle H-72°/L-55° Mostly Cloudy	South Isle H-72°/L-55° Cloudy	South Isle H-70°/L-52° Sun and Clouds Mixed	South Isle H-68°/L-52° PM Rain



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- ✓FREE Battery Fluid & Fill
- ✓NEW Oil & Oil Filter
- ✓LUBE Chassis
- ✓INFLATE Tires
- ✓VACUUM Interior
- ✓WASH Front & Rear Windows
- ✓Wiper Blade
- ✓Air Filter
- ✓Belts & Hoses
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Most cars up to 5 qts. 5W20, 5W30, 10W30. Other grades extra. Some filters cost extra. Vehicles with Skid Plates may be extra. Plus \$1 Environmental Disposal Fee.

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Serving Whidbey Island since 1957

\$1*

Per gallon of Unleaded
Limited Time Only
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WE CAN SAVE YOU UP TO \$250 ON BRAKE SERVICE VERSUS OUR COMPETITORS. WARRANTIED AT 30K LOCATIONS NATIONWIDE.

TOYO TIRES - PASSENGER, LIGHT TRUCKS AND SUVS

**STARTERS
ALTERNATORS
TIMING BELTS
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**BRAKES
TIRES
TUNE-UPS
EXHAUST**

Flat Rate Auto Repair
only \$89⁹⁵ per hour
always
FREE ESTIMATES!

At Hilltop Service Center we only repair and replace parts that are needed. We will not oversell or install unnecessary parts. We are highly trained brake technicians, not high pressure sales people.

Diagnostic Scope & Scan

\$89⁹⁵

- Retrieving Codes
- Reset Check Engine Light
- Up to 1 Hour Diagnostic
- 12 month/12,000 mile warranty

Safety Inspection

Labor Includes

- Scope & Scan (Retrieving Codes, Reset Check Engine Light)
- Brake Inspection
- Tire Rotation
- 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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Radiator Flush & Fill

\$85⁹⁵

starting at

Flushes Radiator, Engine Block, Heater Core & Hoses to -35° below

Computerized TUNE-UP Special

\$79⁹⁵*
4 cyl

\$89⁹⁵*
6 cyl

\$99⁹⁵*
8 cyl

- Check Compression
- Clean/Replace Spark Plugs & Air Cleaner
- Inspect/Replace Distributor Cap & Rotor
- Check Charging System
- Inspect Ignition Cables
- Scope & Scan
- Adjust Timing & Idle Speed
- Safety & Brake Inspection

*Plus Parts

Brake Reline Special FREE Brake Inspections

2-Wheel Front Brake Reline or 2-Wheel Rear Brake Reline starting at **\$119⁹⁵**

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- H Raybestos Brake Shoes
- Machine Drums
- Rebuild Wheel Cylinders
- Adjust Parking Brake
- Bleed & Adjust System
- Road Test Vehicle
- 3 Year or 26,000 mile Warranty

DISCS

- Install Raybestos Disc Pads
- Machine Front Rotors
- Repack Wheel Bearings
- Clean-Lube Sleeve & Bushings
- New Seals
- Bleed & Adjust System
- Road Test Vehicle
- 3 Year or 26,000 mile Warranty

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The Best in Brakes

LIFETIME
BRAKE PARTS
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Most Cars - HD Shoes
Semi-Metallic Extra

We can save you up to \$100 on select tire sizes & brands vs. our competitors!

- Factory/Dealer Trained Certified Technicians
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- Genuine Factory Replacement Parts

Purchase Tires & Auto Repairs
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**FREE REBALANCE
FREE TIRE ROTATION
FREE ROAD HAZARD
FREE FLAT REPAIR**
with any Tire purchase

HILLTOP AUTO SERVICE 675-7011

826 S.E. Midway, Oak Harbor Serving Whidbey Island since 1957

OBITUARY for PAMELA KAYE YOUNG



Pamela Kaye (Harrison) Young was born to Gordon and Lyla (Leitch) Harrison Sept. 14, 1949 at Maynard Hospital in Lake City, Wash. She died peacefully of sudden COVID-19 illness in Coupeville, Wash. March 30, 2020.

Pam was a lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest, attending elementary school in Vancouver, Wash., until 1959, when in 4th grade, she moved with her mother, two brothers, and grandmother (Maggie Leitch) to Whidbey Island, Wash. She attended Coupeville schools, graduating with honors in the class of 1967. Pam thoroughly enjoyed her high school years and made many lifelong friends. She was active in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls organization, serving as Worthy Advisor, appointed as Grand Choir Director, and elected as Grand Faith in the organization. In her capacity as Grand Faith for the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in Washington, Idaho and Alaska, she attended a Grand Assembly in Sitka, Alaska, with the other officials. This was her first time flying, and the twin engine Beechcraft crashed in the ocean outside of Ketchikan, with the pilot and nine other members aboard (all survived with the plane, which then sank 600 feet under). This experience caused her, at the early age of 16, to understand the brevity of life and the importance of living life to its fullest (and gave her a lifelong emotional struggle with flying!). After high school, she completed secretarial courses on a scholarship at Northwest School of Business in Lynnwood, Wash. Pam lived in downtown Seattle for a year, working at Washington Federal Savings and Loan on 2nd Ave. before returning to Whidbey Island.



On her birthday at age 19, Pam married her high school sweetheart, Mike Lester, and together they had two beautiful daughters, Michele and Lyla. The marriage dissolved after nine years and she found herself a single mom of two. In 1978, while working for Island County, first in the Assessor's Office as a Personal Property Appraiser, and then transferring to the Building Department, she met and married David Young. In 1983, Pam and David welcomed two more beautiful girls with twin daughters, Emily and Laura. Pam then returned to work at Coupeville Schools, where she worked for 13 years with Special Education and Basic Skills students (K-12), starting the first ever Before School Reading Program for the district.



She authored a book, *Tell Me About the Good Old Days*, for her children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews; sharing stories told to her by her mother about growing up on the farm with nine siblings in Underwood, Minn., in the early 1900s. She served on the vestry at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, directed the outreach committee and was director of the prayer chain, and later attended Christ the King Church in Coupeville. She was a Girl Scout Leader, Director of March of Dimes for Central Whidbey, member of the Coupeville Parks Commission, and was elected as a School Board Member for the Coupeville School District. She volunteered for Gifts from the Heart, served as a Red Cross Volunteer, and organized many Coupeville High All School Reunions.

In retirement, Pam enjoyed traveling with her husband, hiking, walking the beach and shell collecting, quilting and crafts, painting and finding rocks for Whidbey Island Rocks, gardening, volunteering, and reaching out to those she felt God had sent to her for the love she could give. When her husband, David, retired in 2016, he took Pam to Paris, France and surprised her with a marriage renewal proposal on the Pont des Arts (Bridge of Love) with Notre Dame in the background. At the time of her death they had recently celebrated 40 years of marriage.

Pam is survived by her loving husband, David; her devoted daughters, Michele (Eric) Marshall of Oak Harbor, Wash., Lyla (Johnny) Annema of Mount Vernon, Wash., Emily (Zach) Lebovits of Portland, Ore., and Laura (Martin) Schneider of Kona, Hawaii; two brothers, Lyle Harrison of Oak Harbor, Wash., and Carl "Skip" Zapffe of Tygh Valley, Ore.; along with seven grandchildren, Janay, Thomas, Noah, Gracie, Jayden, Jordyn, Corbett, and those still to come. Pam was preceded in death by her parents.

Private family burial services under the direction of Wallin Funeral Home will be held at Sunnyside Cemetery with a Celebration of Life to follow, at a future date to be determined. People are invited to share memories and leave condolences on Pam's page at www.wallinfuneralhome.com. In lieu of flowers, Pam requested donations in her honor to her favorite charity: Gifts from the Heart (Coupeville Food Bank), PO Box 155, Coupeville, WA 98277.

