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Governor eases agritourism rules p. 8

Nontraditional WIG Weekend will celebrate local food and farmers

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

Whether it is watching a video tour from a local farm or trying out a restaurant participating in Local Eats - Patio Seats, Whidbey Island Grown (WIG) Weekend will celebrate local farmers and businesses alike, albeit this year in a more virtual format due to COVID-19-based advisories and restrictions. The event will take place over this Labor Day weekend, Friday through Monday.

Shannon Bly, an organizer for Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative, said the annual WIG Weekend highlights aspects of the local food system and encourages partnerships between local entities. Bly said the team behind the event asked questions and worked to form a creative and safe approach to offer opportunities to connect with farmers and local businesses through virtual and other means.

"What can we do online?" she said. "What can we do that will still support the local food system, not just farmers, but the whole system and highlight partnerships? Because that is what WIG Week has always been about, is highlighting partnerships with our members."

Bly said the Local Eats - Patio Seats portion of the event provides a spotlight for island restaurants, including Rustica Cafe and Wine Bar, Prima Bistro and more. Bly said a full list of participating restaurants can be found by clicking the photo link on the WIG Weekend web page (whidbeyislandgrown.com/whidbey-island-grown-week/).

"We have Local Eats - Patio Seats, and that is where restaurants are going to be serving specials or dishes from local farms or from their own farms," she said. "Prima Bistro and Orchard Kitchen both have their own farms where they grow stuff for their restaurants which is really cool. We are just encouraging people to go out, get some take out, sit on the patio and eat."

Participants can also view virtual farm tours and videos from local growers by visiting whidbeyislandgrown.com/wig-weekend-2020-virtual-farm-visits, with content going live Friday. Bly said the hope is to bring a sense of connection to farms and farmers.

"Growing food and cooking food, they are both so physical and so part of the land, and (those things are) not on the internet," she said. "So finding ways to be virtual and put forward that feeling of that connection to land, that connection to weather, that connection to plants, it has been a little bit difficult. So I hope that (for anyone) watching the videos, the videos will put forward some of the feeling behind that, but it definitely cannot replace the experience of going out to a farm, chatting with farmers, petting sheep and just being out in those spaces."

Bly said participants can show their support by posting photos of dishes made with local ingredients, sharing a video of a



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative
As part of Whidbey Island Grown Weekend 2020, a number of island restaurants are participating in Local Eats - Patio Seats, which will highlight local produce and other offerings. Prima Bistro in Langley will have dishes featuring its own homegrown produce. Patio and limited indoor dining, as well as take out, will be available.



of Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative

The Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative Food Hub, launched in May, provides a way to support local producers with a weekly online order which is made available for pickup at four different locations every Friday.

virtual farm tour, or sharing other photos celebrating local restaurants and growers and using the hashtags #whidbeyislandgrown and #wigweekend2020. Bly said it was important to Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative to continue with the event, even in a different format, to raise awareness of all the island has to offer.

"We need our farmers," she said. "We love our restaurants and all of our businesses and we want to keep all of that. This (event) is just a little token, a little reminder that we are Whidbey strong and we need to come together and we need to support all of the aspects of our local food system. It was really important to us to keep something happening around that idea."

Bly said beyond the event, the Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative Food Hub, which was launched in May, will continue to sell locally made products to the community year-round.

"We are going to continue to offer a place for people to buy from our local farms as long as we have producers listing on there," she said. "We have a lot of value-added products: meat, honey, jam, frozen blueberries, all our cheese and dairy (which is from Skagit County but that is close by). All of that stuff will still be available."

Those looking to buy locally can explore different options and visit farmers markets around the island, including the Langley Friday Street Market from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the Coupeville Farmers Market and Bayview Farmers Market, Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the South Whidbey Tilth Farmers Market, Sunday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the Oak Harbor Public Market Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m. Bly said the hope is to encourage people to participate in WIG Weekend and provide ideas for continuing to eat and shop locally.

"We want everyone to go out on WIG Weekend and celebrate local," she said. "And then however we can continue that forward, whether it is making a relationship with a local farm, continuing to eat out at restaurants or buying from the food hub all winter, all of those things will help our local food

system and keep it around for the future, which is what we want."

Kyle Flack, co-owner of Bell's Farm in Coupeville and Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative member, said while he hopes to open the farm to tours in the near future and for WIG Weekend, the ability to do so will depend on updated agritourism guidelines from the state of Washington and Governor Jay Inslee.

"We are hoping to open up (tours), but otherwise we will post some videos, some virtual farm tours and we also have our honesty stand that is always open here for people to come," he said. "They can buy our products and they can see our miniature donkeys out by the road, and hopefully we will be able to do some farm tours based on the governor's updated guidance." (See story on page 8)

Flack said continuing with the fourth annual WIG Weekend helps bring people from across the community together, even in a more digital format.

"I think that even if it has to look different or we cannot have it exactly the way we like, I still think it is really important for us to continue trying to make that connection between the community and farms," he said. "We do not want to isolate ourselves and we want our community to invest in us, and part of that is by showing the community what we are doing and why we should be invested in."

For those looking for ways to support Whidbey Island's food system, Flack encourages people to get out and explore local offerings. Flack said he also recommends visiting the social media pages of Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative and various local farms to keep up with current happenings.

"I think if anyone is thinking of simple ways to help local farms or help the local economy: one, stop at a farm stand, and two, shop on the food hub," he said.

For more information on Whidbey Island Grown Cooperative and WIG Weekend, visit whidbeyislandgrown.com. Photo Courtes



ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



One of our readers pointed out that humor was the only thing keeping him from kicking his cat.

When I asked him if he was fast enough to kick a cat, he replied he did not even have a cat.

Had he had a cat, and, well, you know the rest of the story.

I have never kicked an animal.

I have thrown a basset, but his ears acted like wings so his landing was on all paws.

Church ladies

As a kid, and even today, the best part of going to church for me, other than the hugs, coffee, and cookies, is the church bulletin.

It is always a good feeling to walk into any building and immediately get something for free.

Church bulletins also give me something to look at during the sermon. I always hope the preacher knows my head is down because I am in prayer.

According to the email I was forwarded by the Director of the ADHD Chapter in Greenbank, the following excerpts are allegedly from church bulletins. Just remember the first four letters of bulletin.

The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on the Water. The sermon tonight: Searching for Jesus.

The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.

Ladies. Don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off—let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again" giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24th in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's "Hamlet" in the church basement Friday at 7PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

Thoughts for any day

Another benefit of having a suspect short-term memory, I can use the following reader email humor which may have been shared before. Who is remembering?

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."

Aliens probably ride by Earth and lock their doors.

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

I miss the 90s when bread was still good for you and no one knew what kale was.

Do you ever get up in the morning, look in the mirror and think "That can't be accurate."

I want to be 14 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.

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

I told my wife I wanted to be cremated. She made me an appointment for Tuesday.

My wife asked me to take her to one of those restaurants where they make food right in front of you. I took her to Subway. That's when the fight started.

Me: Sobbing my heart out, "I can't see you anymore....I'm not going to let you hurt me again." Trainer: "It was one sit-up. You did one sit-up."

I went line dancing last night. OK, it was a roadside sobriety test...same thing.

International Bacon Day

Thanks to Karen McInerney for pointing out this Saturday we patriots of pork and pork by-products can celebrate yet another excuse to eat bacon.

International Bacon Day, an unofficial observance by many, but a daily observance by some, is often celebrated the Saturday preceding Labor Day.

Originally conceived in 2004 at the University of Colorado in Boulder by graduate students with lots of lettuce and tomato, International Bacon Day began.

I always take too many of those fake bacon chips at salad bars. After you soak a few of those in Thousand Island, it can get bleak. Ever read the side of the jar for McCormick Bac'n Pieces? Don't.

This November, I bet Melanie Bacon gets a lot of write-ins. Over the years, I have voted for people just because of their names. Sometimes I don't have a picture of them or the last four digits of their Social.

Let me know if and how you celebrate. Some folks will have bacon omelets, some bacon pizzas, and some BLTs.

Back in the day, we used to order and enjoy the Wendy's Baconator when my buddy, Frank McGee, and I journeyed to Oak Harbor for our adventures. Frank liked to order his baconator with an Arnold Schwarzenegger's Terminator imitation. Frank did that accent well, adding his own Bremerhaven born German flair.

If, on the other side of bacon, you want to avoid the celebration, read the article I just finished on Web MD, *The Truth about Bacon*, www.webmd.com/diet/features/truth-about-bacon#1.

You may just want to go right to a tuna fish sandwich.

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



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Happy Labor Day

Let's help keep your income-producing investments working as hard as you are.



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Bits & Pieces

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

Over the course of the last 25 years, my late husband and I retained attorney Carolyn Cliff to assist us with several different legal issues. We were impressed with Carolyn's intelligence, professionalism and thoroughness, and we loved it when her wit and sense of humor shone through at appropriate moments. Carolyn helped us to consider all aspects of pertinent issues. When she was not familiar with relevant local laws and policies involved with our issues, she researched them deeply.

I can think of no one who would be a better Superior Court judge for Island County. Because Carolyn is a longtime resident of Whidbey Island, her familiarity with our county's communities and our issues and regulations is a huge bonus. I'll be voting for Carolyn in the general election this fall, and I hope you will too.

Elsa Leavitt Swenson
Freeland, Wash.

Washington College Grant Allows More Students Opportunity to Realize Their Dream of Attending SVC

More students will be able to realize their dream of attending Skagit Valley College (SVC), thanks to increased funding by the State of Washington for low- and middle-income students and families.

Free Money for College! The Washington College Grant (WCG), formerly known as the State Need Grant, provides guaranteed funding to all eligible residents of Washington State.

In addition to guaranteed funding for eligible students, the program has also expanded to include students and families with higher incomes who may have been previously ineligible. Eligibility is determined by completing a federal or state financial aid application: FAFSA or WASFA. Students who are eligible to complete the FAFSA should do so, and those who are ineligible to complete the FAFSA, may complete the WASFA.

For more information, visit <https://wsac.wa.gov/wcg>, <https://www.skagit.edu/wa-college-grant>, or contact the SVC Financial Aid Office, 360-416-7666. Fall Classes start Sept. 22.

[Submitted by Arden Ainley, Chief Public Information Officer]

COVID-19 Unable to Stop Hearts & Hammers Completely

South Whidbey Hearts & Hammers (SWH&H) was forced to cancel its May 2 workday this year due to the pandemic. However, volunteers from the 26-year-old organization, which is based on neighbors helping neighbors with home repairs, have been able to keep the spirit of kindness alive and well, while still maintaining the health and safety of its volunteers and homeowners.

"We recognize this year was unique," said SWH&H Board President Baz Stevens. "But we want to make sure our community understands what HAS been done, despite COVID-19."

Stevens said the organization has taken on only the most critical needs of our community.

"We've focused on outdoor jobs only and those that are a matter of imminent safety," Stevens said.

Volunteers managed to install a hot water system for one homeowner where there was none. They also replaced an entire septic system that was not functioning at all.

Additionally, the crew was able to upgrade a gutter system for the health and safety of one homeowner, replace a broken window and managed to safely install two new roofs, all while remaining pandemic-safe.

"We are now considering how we can be more creative in our approach in light of COVID-19," Stevens said.

"The possibility of our volunteer kick-off spaghetti dinner in February looks unlikely, but we are hoping a May workday might still be possible. We realize all these events may have to take a different form," he added.

The board is batting around a few ideas including virtual fundraisers or a fundraiser outside in a park where spatial distancing can be easily enforced.

"We recognize this coming year is going to be different and the ideas continue to percolate among the board members," Stevens said.

For those homeowners who received a letter of acceptance for the 2020 workday, South Whidbey Hearts & Hammers will be re-contacting you to make sure the need is still there. Those homeowners will not have to re-apply for help with their homes. If you have not been contacted by January, please call South Whidbey Hearts & Hammers at 360-221-6063 to make sure you are still on the list. For those who have not yet applied for help with repairs to their homes, the application process will begin in September via the website at www.heartsandhammers.com.

The board is also considering the option of assessment by phone for those who apply for help in 2021. "We are thinking outside the box as we all must do during these strange times," Stevens said.

[Submitted by Patricia Duff]

The Snowy and the Great Gray Owls

Join award-winning author and photographer Paul Bannick for an intimate visual exploration of the life histories of the Snowy Owl and the Great Gray Owl. Through dozens of never-before-published images of the "Arctic Owl" and the "Great Gray Ghost," Bannick describes how they survive, breed and live alongside other wildlife on the Arctic tundra, the Western mountains and in wintering areas farther south.

Thursday, Sept. 10 at 7:00PM, the Whidbey Audubon Society hosts the first of its free monthly programs of the 2020-2021 season. The presentation is open to the public and available on Zoom. To register and receive the password for the room, go to the events list at www.whidbeyaudubonsociety.org.

Paul Bannick is an author and wildlife photographer specializing in the natural history of North America with a focus on birds and habitat. Coupling his love of the outdoors with his skill as a photographer, he creates images that foster the intimacy between viewer and subject, inspiring education and conservation. He is both the author and photographer of two best-selling bird books, *Owl: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls* (Braided River 2016) and *The Owl and The Woodpecker, Encounters with North America's Most Iconic Bird* (Mountaineers 2008).

After graduating from the University of Washington, Bannick worked successfully for 15 years in the computer software industry beginning as one of the original 75 employees of the Aldus Corporation. He later served as a director for Adobe Systems, and also worked as a senior manager at Microsoft. Wishing to combine his passion for wilderness conservation with his career, he turned his attention to nonprofit work and currently serves as the Director of Major Gifts for Conservation North-

west, an organization dedicated to protecting and connecting wild areas and recovering native species from the Pacific Coast to the Canadian Rockies.

[Submitted by Susan Prescott, Whidbey Audubon Publicity Chair]

NRA Personal Protection Outside the Home Class Offered

The North Whidbey Sportsmen's Association is offering a series of monthly safety classes to the general public.

The next class – NRA Personal Protection Outside The Home Class – will be held Saturday, Sept. 19 from 9:00AM to 5:00PM and continue Sunday, Sept. 20 from 9:00AM to 5:00PM at the NWSA range located at 886 Gun Club Road in Oak Harbor. This class builds on skills already gained in other shooting classes and shooting styles, which the student must be able to show documentation or competency. The class also gives a thorough legal brief about the provisions of law pertaining to the ownership and use of a firearm. Defensive shooting skills are emphasized in this class. This class includes shooting on the NWSA Pistol Range. The cost of the class is \$50 and includes a book.

For questions or to register, visit nrainstructors.org and search 98277 to bring up the class. Additional information can be found at www.northwhidbeysportsmen.org.

NWSA is an organization of men and women, who support, encourage and engage in the responsible use of the outdoors, including hunting, fishing, and the shooting sports: archery, shotgun, rifle and pistol.

[Submitted by John Hellmann, NWSA Training Coordinator]

Island County Astronomical Society Monthly Meeting

The Island County Astronomical Society (ICAS) will be holding its September monthly meeting as a virtual webx meeting starting at 7:00PM Monday, Sept. 21. Anyone interested in astronomy is invited to attend (virtually). There will be short presentations about current topics in astronomy and a good time is guaranteed for all. For more information and a link to connect, please email ICAS_President@outlook.com.

[Submitted by Andy Nielsen, Publicity Manager, ICAS]

North Whidbey Fire and Rescue Works to Improve Communication with Taxpayers

North Whidbey Fire and Rescue has been taking steps to improve communication with its taxpayers. Fire Chief John Clark says this is something the agency had been working on prior to the pandemic.

"We've known for some time that we need to be more proactive in reaching out to the families and businesses we serve," said Chief Clark. "The pandemic has elevated this need so these projects have been timely."

The fire district recently updated its website to make it more user-friendly for the public. It is also sending regular content to the local news media, and increased its presence on social media.

North Whidbey Fire and Rescue is also working to increase participation in its monthly Board of Fire Commissioner meetings. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30PM at Station 25 (2770 Heller Rd., Oak Harbor).

State and county regulations limit attendance to 20 people due to physical distancing requirements and masks must be worn. As a result, the fire district will continue to use Zoom for all regular board meetings, and Facebook Live for special meetings.

Community members can find information about how to access the meetings on the fire district's website at www.nwfr.org/board-meetings. Fire district employees also post signs at Station 25 and District Headquarters (770 NE

Grandparents: Consider These Financial Moves

Each year, on the first Sunday after Labor Day, we observe National Grandparents Day. Although it's not as widely recognized as Mother's Day or Father's Day, if you're a grandparent, you probably want to do whatever you can to help your grandchildren on their journeys through life. So, you might want to consider the following moves:

- **Contribute to their education.** If you want to help your grandchildren pay for college, you have a variety of options, including 529 plans. You could also simply set aside some money in an investment account earmarked for education. But you don't just have to stick to helping out financially – you might also want to do some research to see what scholarships are available.

- **Consider a UGMA/UTMA account.** The Uniform Gifts to Minors Act (UGMA) and Uniform Transfer to Minors Act (UTMA) are custodial accounts that provide a relatively easy way for you to give money to your young grandchildren. A financial advisor can help determine if such a plan is right for you. However, once you put money into the UGMA or UTMA, you no longer have any legal access or authority over the funds unless you are the custodian managing the account.

After children reach the age of majority – typically 18 or 21 – or the age of termination if the state where they live allows for the assets to be held until a later age, they will control the assets, and they may not want to use the money as you had envisioned, such as for college. (Also, tax issues for custodial accounts can be complicated, so, before opening a UGMA or UTMA, you'll want to consult with your tax advisor.)

- **Consider gifts to older grandchildren.** If you have older grandchildren, you might want to help them out if they're saving for a down payment on a home, or are between jobs, or perhaps are even having children of their own. You can give \$15,000 per year, per individual, without having to file a gift tax return. Your spouse can also give \$15,000 per year to the same individual, again without triggering the need for a gift tax return.

- **Review your will.** If you've already created your last will and testament, you may want to review it upon the arrival of grandchildren. You can include specific instructions, such as requiring your grandchildren to turn a specific age before they can receive their inheritance. You could also codify the same requirements through the use of a living trust. Contact your legal advisor to determine if such a trust is appropriate for your situation.

- **Update beneficiary designations.** If you want your grandchildren to receive proceeds from various accounts, such as your 401(k), IRA and life insurance, you may need to update the beneficiary designations, which can even supersede the instructions on your will. Keep in mind that if you have grandchildren with special needs, you may want to designate a supplemental needs trust for your grandchild as the beneficiary instead of naming your grandchild directly. Again, contact your legal advisor for more information.

These aren't the only steps you can take to help your grandchildren, but they should give you some options to consider. The world is an expensive place, and any assistance you can provide to your beloved grandkids can make a big difference in their lives.

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



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Midway Blvd., Suite 201, Oak Harbor) which show the online format and access information. Lastly, meeting access information is shared widely through the fire district's Facebook page /northwhidbeyfire.

"This is about transparency," said Clark. "We want to make it as easy as possible for our community to participate in fire district business."

Clark is also looking for invitations from community organizations and home owner associations to share information about the fire district through a brief presentation. These events can be in person or a virtual format.

Do you have an idea as to how the fire district can improve communication with the community? Contact Chief Clark personally at 360-675-1131 or chiefclark@nwfr.org.

"Every time we reach another person, it means we're doing a better job serving our community, preventing fires and saving lives," he said. [Submitted by North Whidbey Fire and Rescue]

A Living Tribute: New Program Provides a Personal Piece of Nature Preserve on Whidbey Island

Earth Sanctuary announces its Memorial Tree Program to honor people, pets, anniversaries, or milestones while supporting a 500-year plan for a self-sustaining, old growth forest

Earth Sanctuary, a 72-acre nature preserve on Whidbey Island, introduces its Memorial Tree Program, offering an opportunity to purchase or gift a tree to honor a loved one, mark a milestone or to simply combat climate change. Each tree will be planted and maintained by resident naturalists, becoming a part of the preserve's 500-year plan to create a self-sustaining, old-growth forest.

From May to July of this year, Earth Sanctuary received a 44 percent increase in visitors, welcoming those seeking respite from the global health crisis. Now visitors can return nature's favor, and own a piece of its future, by supporting its mission.

"Many of us have had increased feelings of chaos and confusion as the pandemic impacts the world, and while we abide by public health recommendations, this is also a time where we can do small things to make the world a better place," said Earth Sanctuary Founder Chuck Pettis. "The Memorial Tree Program develops and maintains healthy forests that create and sustain wildlife habitats and diverse balanced ecosystems. Trees combat climate change and global warming while creating oxygen for healthier, cleaner air."

Twenty years ago, when Earth Sanctuary founder Chuck Pettis began clearing, creating and planning the nature preserve, the goal was three-fold: achieve its 500-year plan to create a mature old-growth forest for the earth's future; create a nature preserve with maximum wildlife diversity and population; and fight climate change by planting thousands of trees.

Throughout the old-growth forest, sacred spaces, sculptures, and wide variety of wildlife, Pettis has planted more than 15,000 native plants and 3,300 trees since 2000. His 500-year plan was developed with a variety of ecologists and experts to ensure a healthy, self-sustaining forest will prosper. The program is detailed in the Memorial Tree portion of Earth Sanctuary's website, suggesting support for planting longer-term trees to replace red alder, which has a short lifespan. Cedars, spruces, firs, pines, redwoods, sequoias, and other varieties will be planted.

Learn more about the Memorial Tree Program at www.earthsanctuary.com.

[Submitted by Erin Osborne, Osborne Northwest Public Relations]

Households May Receive Follow-Up Visits From 2020 Census Takers

Visits Serve as Quality Checks to Ensure Everyone Is Counted

With door-to-door visits by census takers now underway, the U.S. Census Bureau is informing households they may also receive a follow-up visit to ensure everyone is counted in the 2020 Census. So far, 64.9 percent of all hous-

ing units have responded online, by phone or by mail, and another 17.5 percent have been counted by census takers and other field data collection operations. In total, over 82.4 percent of all housing units throughout the nation have been accounted for in the 2020 Census as of Aug. 30. The Census Bureau is working to count the remaining households—about 1 in every 5 households across the nation.

On a daily basis, the Census Bureau updates its list of households that have responded. It is possible a locally hired census taker will still visit the address as part of the Census Bureau's quality assurance program for the 2020 Census, even if a household has already responded. The public is encouraged to cooperate with census takers as they follow up.

For example, census takers are visiting households where there may be some confusion about the address. If the community's addresses recently changed or the household responded with an address that does not match the Census Bureau's address list, census takers will visit to verify the address and collect a response in person. Please respond when the census taker visits. If a census taker left a notice of their visit, you can respond online or by phone using the Census ID provided on the notice. This ID links your address to your response and ensures you are counted in the right place. The Census Bureau has rigorous methods and processes to resolve any duplicate responses.

In some cases, a second census taker may visit a household to conduct a short interview. This additional interview is one of the ways to check the quality of census takers' work.

In addition, other Census Bureau representatives continue visiting homes for ongoing surveys occurring at the same time as the 2020 Census, such as the American Community Survey. These ongoing surveys affect only a small number of households nationwide and provide valuable information to help community leaders plan for hospitals and schools, improve emergency services, and make informed decisions about creating jobs.

Households can still respond to the 2020 Census by going online at 2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020, or by completing and mailing back the paper questionnaire they received.

Local Business News

Rob Schouten Gallery presents Expressions of Light
New paintings by Teresa Saia

Teresa Saia will be in the gallery Saturday from 2:00 to 4:00PM.

Teresa Saia's Expressions of Light exhibition of dry pigment pastel paintings defy the traditional notion of muted colors and present her landscapes bathed in an abundance of vibrant light and color. Working in a loose, sketching style, Saia captures the dramatic light as it penetrates the land and reflects off the water at dusk or in the early dawn. The mood and emotion conveyed in her paintings evoke a deep sense of the mysterious, romantic, peaceful and yet familiar settings. Her paintings explore the beauty she finds in the Pacific Northwest and her home on Whidbey Island.

Recognized by numerous national awards, Teresa has a strong following in both private and corporate collections. She is also a recognized workshop instructor nationally and in Europe. She enjoys creating a supportive and energetic atmosphere in which students can thrive, establishing their own style and direction.

The exhibit will run through Sept. 28. All items are available to view and for sale at www.robschoutengallery.com.

Rob Schouten Gallery, a premier showcase for Whidbey Island and Northwest artists, is located at 101 Anthes Avenue in Langley. September gallery hours: Weekends 10:00AM to 6:00PM, Weekdays 11:00AM to 5:00PM, Tuesdays by appointment.

For further information, call 360-222-3070 or email info@robschoutengallery.com.



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Open Air Thursdays

WALK, SHOP & DINE DOWNTOWN FROM 3-7PM

Thursday, September 3 we'll be giving out chalk for
Main Street Chalk Walk!

Stop by the Harborside Village to
get some chalk. Do some chalk
art downtown on the sidewalk
or bring the chalk home and do
some art over the weekend.
Take a photo and post using
#ohmainstreetchalkwalk
Winning art will get a gift
certificate to Paint Your World!



Bring your masks and come to downtown
Oak Harbor for some outdoor fun, flavor & shopping!



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5
10:24 am, Main St.

Reporting for information only; reporting party was at location, employees and other customers were not wearing masks, one subject was coughing and breathing heavy. Reporting party felt very unsafe, is not requesting contact.

12:48 pm, Fircrest Ave.

Advising around 1 am, subject was at her residence and left note on door saying "I need a new partner and we need to use the vehicle, I am hurt." Reporting party says subject is outside her residence at location now, did not speak to her directly.

3:06 pm, Taylor Rd.

Caller reporting neighbor's sheep in her yard.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

6:26 am, SR 20

Male subject came to location and was banging on side of house. Male is claiming he has Alzheimer's and is lost.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

1:58 am, Stellar Ln.

Reporting party states made a call today about someone taking refrigerator; states subject is back and is dismantling reporting party's RV.

7:16 am, Windward Way

Caller says ex-girlfriend who lives at location owes him money.

11:48 am, Labrador Ln.

Reporting party received call from foreign country asking for ransom money. Male subject had female detained who was crying and male told reporting party he would shoot female if reporting party contacted police.

12:52 pm, Tanglewilde Ln.

Advising motorhome on street is now on reporting party's lawn. ICSO told subjects it needed to be moved or it would be towed.

11:43 pm, Lakeside Dr.

Advising cougar sighting outside of location. There now. Caller transferred to state for wildlife.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

12:04 am, Mobius Loop

Reporting party states he is in parking lot of business in Oklahoma. States he asked for deputy to call him earlier and no one called. Was using a friend's phone. Friend had to leave and bar is now closed.

10:06 am, Silver Lake Rd.

Reporting party states he was following someone to tell them their right taillight was out and didn't want a complaint against him that he was being an aggressive driver. Just happened five minutes ago, no longer following vehicle.

1:22 pm, Northgate Dr.

Reporting party called last night to tell storage manager he was going to pick up vehicle today, says manager tried to hide vehicle from him. Reporting party now has vehicle because he found it and had his own keys.

2:14 pm, Main St.

Caller reporting male urinating on building.

5:39 pm, Cornet Bay Rd.

Reporting party and his girlfriend are on a log stuck in the water, both have life jackets. Male about 30 feet offshore, female about 60 feet.

7:09 pm, Heller Rd.

Advising three males standing in middle of roadway. Painted a line. Reporting party thinks they are going to race. Red car parked where line was painted.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

10:32 pm, Mobius Loop

Reporting party requesting call about corruption in ICSO. Advising last call at the bar and is going to be kicked out, has not received call.

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

9:20 am, NE 9th St.

Reporting party states a Canadian flag is flying above American flag on street and he wants it taken care of; thought of knocking on door to let them know it's against the law, but called it in instead.

2:28 pm, Deception Pass Bridge

Advising group of teenagers is throwing traffic cones over the bridge.

5:32 pm, Mobius Loop

Male on line rambling about amale with a shotgun in the bank. "Next week the Wells Fargo stagecoach will be parked in the parking lot."

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

3:20 pm, Byrd Dr.

Advising neighbor is making vague threats over trees on caller's property.

9:21 pm, Seaway Ln.

Reporting party states male is in her residence. Says her daughter is dealing with male in living room. Reporting party is in her bedroom.

10:38 pm, Williams Rd.

Reporting party states he has blood coming out of his ear because stalker put an electrical magnetic field in his ear. States person stole a device from a hospital and can control magnetic field remotely. Reporting party states needs medical attention and wants law enforcement to check on stolen device and harassment situation.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

8:21 am, Seaway Ln.

Female calling asking why she had a missed call from ICOM. Call-taker looked up phone number. Reporting party reported prowler yesterday and had no recollection of the incident.

2:59 pm, Farragut Dr.

Reporting party advising neighbors across the street are having a dispute. Subject has a loudspeaker and is yelling at neighbor about cutting trees down.

9:54 pm, Shawn Ave.

Reporting party advising eight or nine men with guns drawn. Reporting party verified six weapons. Construction workers for "some company."

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



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THE HOLE IS CLOSED

September is the month Puget Sound salmon fishermen turn their attention towards Coho (silvers) and away from Chinooks (kings), not by choice but by seasonal closures. Coho salmon do not reach the sizes the kings do, but believe me when I tell you that pound-for-pound, a Coho can hold its own. A snappy Coho will rip your mainline from the downrigger clip on its first attempt; a Coho will pull heavily on your reel's drag system, and a Coho will give you a silvery aerial jumping display to show us just how easy it is to dislodge and spit out a sharp hook. The Coho might not be the king, but he is a complete package of fighting spirit.

Coho are a blast to catch from a boat, but what makes Coho special to all anglers are their close-to-shore travels. Plan your fishing times one hour before and one hour after low or high tide; Coho like to travel 10 to 30 feet off the beaches and fairly near the surface, this tendency allows anglers to target these wonderful fish all around Whidbey Island. Marine Areas 8-1 and 8-2 have been closed to summer Chinook retention for many years, but Coho retention has been kept open until this year; I'm guessing because there will be no winter Blackmouth season this year, the state regulations simply say Marine Areas 8-1 and 8-2 "entire area closed."

If you've been on Whidbey Island for very long and have become interested in salmon fishing, you may have heard of a famous fishing spot called "The Hole." It is located on the south side of Deception Pass, directly under the bridge, and depending on the Deception Pass current speed, the hole becomes a deep-water calm spot and salmon holding area. This time of year, the hole and the shoreline of North Beach would normally begin to fill with fishing boats and shore fishermen in search of chrome-bright Coho salmon that love to sit in this calm sweet spot, feeding on bait fish and preparing to commit to the rivers. While they are schooled up in the hole, they can be an easy target for a seasoned fisherman.

Unfortunately, the hole is located in Marine Area 8-1 and closed to all salmon fishing. By no means is the hole the only spot around the island where we can catch Coho, but for the many fishermen who wait all year to fish this unique and productive area, they will have no choice but to wait and hope the hole will be open next year. I suspect some die-hard boat fishermen may move out and around the corner into Marine Area 6 and all of the hopeful shore fishermen will most likely move to West Beach, which also faces Marine Area 6, which for now is open to Coho retention. The Coho will not stack up along West Beach like they would in the hole, but the fish will still be traveling along this western shoreline before making their turn at West Beach Point and heading through Deception Pass; it's in the same general area and it's as close to the hole as we're going to get.

If the hole is a unique and special fishing spot on the North end of the island that's been shut down, then Possession Point Beach is surely its unique counter-part on the south end of the island that's also been restricted (Marine Area 8-2). Possession Beach sits on the southeast side of Whidbey and is another area where fishermen wait all year to fish for Coho. This well-known stretch of beach is a hot spot for drifting fresh herring under a float and casting lures into the moving currents. One of the reasons this beach is popular is because there are not many places where you can go and buy fresh herring right on the beach. Possession Point bait shop is such a place. If the Coho are hitting nothing but fresh herring you're in luck; the bait shop is right on the beach. I wonder if the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the tribal co-managers considered the impact the complete closures would have on small businesses and local residents?

All is not lost! I know there are die-hard fishermen and women like me, so let's touch on the areas around the Island we can target. The west side of the Island is open; public beach access can sometimes be difficult, but starting south and working north here are a few places that have proven themselves over the years as Coho spots and other notable access points worth checking-out:

- **Double Bluff:** I have never fished from the beach here but offshore fishing is good; if you have any friends or relatives who live near the beach that will grant you access, chances are it will pay off.
- **Bush Point:** This area gets fished pretty heavily during the peak of the Coho season and for good reason - this area tends to hold fish and produces limits of Coho every year.
- **Lagoon Point:** This area is small and can also get a little crowded, but remember this: Points point to fish and Lagoon Point is no exception.
- **Admiralty Bay:** I call this crescent shaped shoreline "Pebble Beach." When this marble-sized gravel beach gets large schools of fish traveling along it, there may be no other place that can put as many fish in the cooler than this one.
- **Fort Casey:** The north-bound fish must come around this point and when the sea lions and the riptides are at rest, this deep water area can produce a good bite.
- **Ebey's Landing:** Not much vehicle parking here, but if you finesse-fish in and around the large kelp beds, the feeding Coho will respond to your offering.
- **Libby Beach Park:** This park marks the southern end of West Beach; from this point north there are no major points of land protruding into the Sound, so any small changes in beach contour you see, concentrate your casts here, and remember if you only get one time to fish all along West Beach, fish it at least 30 minutes before and after high tide; there is not much fishable water at low tide.
- **Hastie Lake Park:** Cast in front of any and all jumping fish you might see, but remember they don't have to be jumping to be cruising by underwater; blind strikes are common.
- **West Beach Park:** you can't catch fish sitting on the couch, cast away!
- **Moran's Beach Park:** At this point, the fish are closing in on North Beach; this stretch of sandy shore south of West Point is known for biting fish; keep casting and watch for any signs of fish on the surface.
- **West Beach:** This beach is located in Deception pass State Park next to Admiralty Bay. It probably has the most public access, so prepare for sunbathers, beachcombers and curious young anglers.

I want to emphasize most of the parks and fishing beaches are near privately-owned property, so be respectful of property owners and pick up after yourselves; also don't forget your Discover Pass.

Here is a basic list of what you will need to catch fish: A medium weight 7- to 8-foot rod; a 3500 to 4000 series spinning reel filled with good quality, 15-pound monofilament line; a minimum of two or three 2.5-inch Buzz-Bombs in pink or pearl and blue (you will have to replace the factory-provided treble hooks so pick up a pack of 2/0 siwash hooks to pinch on in their place); and most important, have confidence while fishing.

Coho fishing is well worth the effort and they are fantastic table fare. Be sure to check the regulations carefully before heading out. The summer will be gone before we know it so get out when you can and GOOD LUCK FISHING!

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CELEBRATE LOCAL FOOD

Whidbey Island Grown Weekend is a celebration of local food with farm fresh specials from your favorite restaurants, virtual farm tours and videos, and farm open houses.

- Local Eats - Patio Seats ... Island farmers and restaurants are teaming up to create delicious dishes for dine in or take out.
- Virtual Farm Connect ... Island farmers are sharing videos of their farms, practices, and lives. Connect with the amazing people who grow our local food.
- Find Local Food ... Find places to buy fresh from island farms on our website.

All the details are at whidbeyislandgrown.com

Governor eases initial agritourism COVID restrictions

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

Governor Jay Inslee's COVID guidance relating to agritourism, released Aug. 20, drew such immediate backlash from agricultural groups and citizens, that updated, less restrictive guidance was released last Friday afternoon.

Initial guidance would have restricted farms' ability to conduct animal viewing; hay, wagon or train rides; children's play equipment/games; and fire pits/bonfires. The new guidance allows those activities, provided strict sanitation and social distancing requirements can be met.

For Island County, agritourism – the use of agricultural land for tourism, education and entertainment purposes – makes up a large chunk of the county's overall tourism industry. Harvest time on Whidbey boasts seasonal activities like u-pick pumpkin patches, hayrides, corn mazes and more. Curtailing those activities could have made a challenging time even more difficult.

"We are pleased to see that Gov. Inslee has revised the state's guidelines," said Sherrye Wyatt, executive director of Whidbey and Camano Islands Tourism. "I believe he took into consideration the input from the agricultural community and revised some of the guidelines that had been initially announced."

One online petition started on Change.org on behalf of local farms gathered more than 21,000 signatures in a week. Wyatt said agritourism is popular because it provides something visitors and locals are looking for – experiences.

"The fastest-growing segment of the tourism industry is the experiential visitor, those seeking authenticity and ways to

immerse [themselves] into the culture of a community," she said. "Part of what differentiates [Whidbey Island] from other destinations is our rural landscape and the sincere commitment to support local producers. We offer visitors something real, and there is a lot of financial savvy and value in that. Many of the best memories people have come from engaging all of the senses, which is exactly what happens when you're doing something simple on a farm, like picking out a pumpkin."

Those who call Whidbey Island home are no stranger to its beauty, its rural character, its bountiful farm produce and its unequalled artistic community. All of these things draw thousands of visitors to the island each year. Now, in the midst of a worldwide pandemic, tourism numbers are down. Wyatt said at one point county-wide lodging tax collections were down by 40 percent. Whidbey's farms are not the only industry feeling the impacts of COVID-19.

"Winter is coming and that tends to be the quiet season, so we are concerned for small businesses, and the lodging community in particular," Wyatt said. "We are hoping local residents will help pick things up by treating themselves to an overnight outing for a mini-break. Lodging owners have been taking extreme measures and following stringent protocols to offer clean and safe accommodations."

"Although it has been very difficult at times, the local business community has been able to adapt and overcome many challenges this pandemic has presented," she continued. "The continued support of the local community is critical and very much appreciated. Making an investment in our own neighbors and helping support their businesses will benefit the county for many years to come, well after the pandemic."

Wyatt said the pandemic hasn't only affected tourism and agritourism. With early – and in some cases, continuing – supply chain problems, Whidbey Island's farmers have come through in a big way to support the community.

"Since the rise of the global pandemic, the essential need to connect Whidbey Island families with farmers became even more critical," said Wyatt. "The Organic Farm School quickly created an innovative, touchless drive-through farm stand complete with online pre-ordering."

She also cited the new cooperative food hub established by Whidbey Island Grown as a prime example of how island farmers have stepped up to fill in the gaps created by COVID.

"This was done to meet the growing demand for safe, local food and to provide outlets to sell products," said Wyatt. "Many traditional markets for farmers were immediately lost or impacted by COVID-19 (including restaurants and farmers markets). WIG's new cooperative has now evolved into a flourishing food hub with four pick-up locations. Small grants



Sherrye Wyatt Photo Courtesy of Whidbey and Camano Islands Tourism
Masking, social distancing and strict sanitation requirements are now a must at agritourism locations, such as the Tilth Market on South Whidbey.

from the Port of South Whidbey and Whidbey Community Foundation helped make this possible."

Agritourism has been a mainstay for Whidbey's local economy for more than a decade. While the pandemic has not helped, Wyatt said the strong base already established will help local farms continue to find ways to succeed.

"Offering accessible on-farm experiences and the safe handling of food have always been top of mind for local farmers," she said. "We saw that during the 10 successful years of the Whidbey Island Farm Tour and more recently during Whidbey Island Grown Weeks. (Read about this year's event on page 2.) I expect our local agricultural community will continue to seek innovative ways to offer authentic experiences to visitors that are safe and meaningful."

Wyatt urges everyone who calls Island County home to do what they can to continue to support local farms and local businesses.

"Local farms and other businesses need support from Island County residents now more than ever," she said. "We encourage residents to take this time to stay here, appreciate and explore both islands of our county. We've lost a significant amount of visitor spending. Without local support of these businesses, several will not survive this pandemic."

"Why not purchase gift certificates from local lodgings to give as holiday gifts to friends and families to visit next year?" continued Wyatt. "Why not buy gifts made right here in the islands this year, as they are more unique and meaningful? We do live in a place where people choose to spend their vacations; maybe it is a good time to remind ourselves how great a place Island County is."

Find more information at whidbeycamanoislands.com.



Sherrye Wyatt Photo Courtesy of Whidbey and Camano Islands Tourism
The COVID pandemic has meant new regulations for all phases of business in Washington, including those agritourism businesses like farmers markets, such as the Tilth Market on South Whidbey. Gov. Jay Inslee recently loosened some agritourism restrictions previously placed on local farms.

Whidbey Island Marathon goes virtual for 2020

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

Those interested in running the Whidbey Island Marathon can participate in this year's event from anywhere, as the marathon has gone virtual for 2020.

Jared Loranger, owner of Fizz Events, said those who are not already registered can sign up for the virtual edition of the iconic race until Sept. 20. The full- and half-marathon run/walk options are \$60, while the 10K/5K distances are available for \$30. Runners can complete the distance anytime, anywhere between now and Sept. 20 and can upload results online. Loranger said the hope is to offer a safe option for runners and walkers to take part in the event, albeit in a different format than usual.



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Marathon
Marathoners and racers will receive a shirt, finisher's medal, custom running buff, and more. Items vary based on which distance participants register to complete.

"We want people to still look forward to things, not just our race but doing things," he said. "Obviously, with so many events and so many running races and gatherings canceled, it is hard to get out there and it is hard to keep yourself motivated."

Loranger said the race, which is owned by the City of Oak Harbor, was moved to virtual participation only to keep residents and participants safe. Loranger said each year, the race typically has participants from 30-35 different states. With the potential risks posed by traveling and the possibility of transmission of COVID-19, Loranger said organizers of the event and city officials felt it would be best to move forward virtually.

"We made the decision out of an abundance of caution," he said.

Loranger said the decision was made at the beginning of August, but prior to announcing and advertising the switch to a virtual race publicly, everyone who had been signed up for the race was notified.

"We wanted all of our participants to know what was going on before they started seeing ads for a virtual run that they thought they were doing live," he said.

Loranger said more race swag will be available to participants, and for those who had already registered prior to the virtual rates, next year's race would be offered at a largely discounted rate.

"You get a different response from different people," he said. "Some are super stoked that something is still happening, some people really like the swag, some people do not want anything to do with virtual."



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Marathon
Runners will be able to take part in the virtual Whidbey Island Marathon experience from any location in 2020. Jared Loranger, owner of Fizz Events, said next year's event has been moved from the usual April date to September 12, 2021.

Loranger said the swag offerings will include a participant shirt, custom finisher's medal, bib and a custom running buff. He said packages will be mailed out to all participants, whether local or living in another area, so it will not be necessary to pick anything up.

"We want to make sure everything is as contactless as possible for everybody and make sure they stay safe," he said.

Loranger said completing the race virtually adds flexibility to the event, and allows participants to get creative, whether it is creating an at-home finish line or challenging a friend who lives in another state to also complete the race.

"One of the things that I think is the main advantage is you can do this thing anywhere," he said.

Loranger advised participants to remember to keep safety in mind, wherever they choose to complete the course.

"On a safety note, more importantly, if you are running on roads, they are not closed," he said. "We are obviously not out there with cones, we are not out there with traffic control and police officers to help control those intersections. So if you are running the Whidbey Island course or another busy

See MARATHON continued on page 9



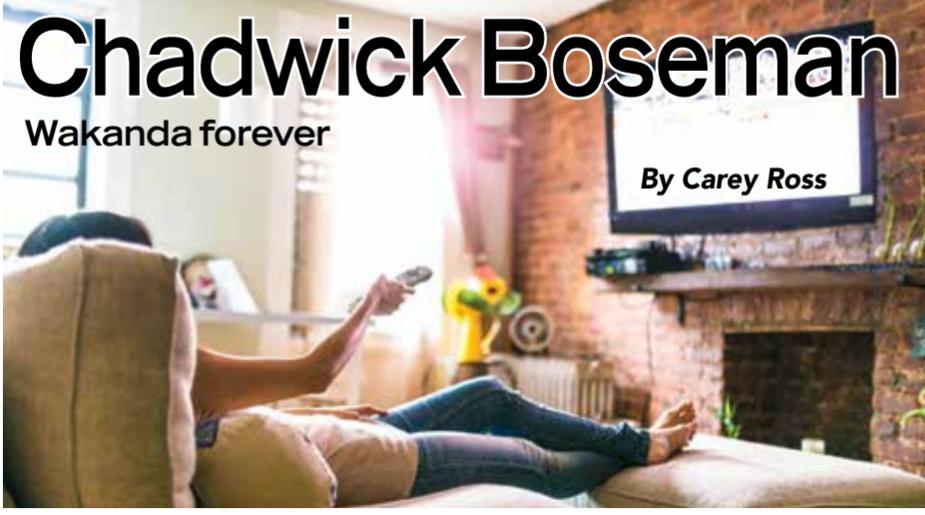
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Chadwick Boseman

Wakanda forever

By Carey Ross



He lived a beautiful life. And he made great art. Day after day, year after year. That was who he was. He was an epic firework display. I will tell stories about being there for some of the brilliant sparks till the end of my days. What an incredible mark he's left for us.
~Ryan Coogler



When he directed Chadwick Boseman in **Black Panther**, Ryan Coogler had no idea the actor was ill.

"Chad deeply valued his privacy, and I wasn't privy to the details of his illness," Coogler said in a statement released after Boseman's Aug. 28 death after a four-year battle with colon cancer. "After his family released their statement, I realized that he was living with his illness the entire time I knew him. Because he was a caretaker, a leader, and a man of faith, dignity and pride, he shielded his collaborators from his suffering."

In truth, by the time filming began on the groundbreaking Marvel epic in 2017, Boseman was already being treated for late-stage colon cancer.

To put a finer point on it, being an actor in the Marvel Cinematic Universe is unlike any other job in Hollywood. The commitment is huge, the physical demands intense. To embody a superhero—an Avenger, no less—means signing on for a training regimen that often begins up to a year before cameras roll. Filming is prolonged, dangerous and physically exhausting. Playing an Avenger is incredibly strenuous for a person in perfect health and tip-top physical condition.

Boseman was neither of those things. He took on the role of T'Challa/Black Panther, and the many duties that come with being part of the most successful film franchise in history, while also undergoing cancer treatment.

He told almost no one. His death, when it came, shocked the world.

Before he became the Black Panther, Boseman was drawn to those roles that brought with them deeper meaning than just a couple of hours of entertainment on the big screen. He had that rare combination of leading-man charisma and dignified gravity that gave his presence real weight and depth whenever he stepped into a scene—and he knew how to use it.

His breakout role was a big gamble for the little-known actor: Jackie Robinson in the 2013 movie **42**. Like the baseball player who famously broke the color line, Boseman had to tread carefully, balancing Robinson's trademark outward stoicism with the athlete's internal struggle, grounding someone who has become somewhat mythical in humanity while still preserving the magnitude of his achievements. That Boseman died on the day Major League Baseball designated to honor Robinson served as a tribute to both extraordinary men.

Where Boseman had to exercise restraint in his portrayal of Robinson, his next role gave him the chance to put his god-given charisma—not to mention some of his sweet

dance moves—on full display. In **Get On Up**, the James Brown biopic that was director Tate Taylor's follow up to **The Help**, Boseman proved electrifying, perfectly capturing both the energy and absurdity of the Godfather of Soul. Taylor's direction earned accolades as did the supporting cast (Viola Davis and Octavia Spencer among them), but critics saved the lion's share of their praise for Boseman, calling him everything from "startling" to "dynamite" to "magnetic" and "utterly watchable." If **42** hadn't already announced Boseman as a major talent, **Get On Up** certainly would've done the trick.

After his introduction to the MCU in **Captain America: Civil War** but before the release of his own standalone superhero movie, Boseman played another mighty hero, one that isn't as much a household name in Black history as Martin Luther King Jr. or Malcolm X, but who is no less important: Thurgood Marshall, the nation's first Black Supreme Court Justice. **Marshall** details a period in the lawyer-turned-justice's early life when he defended a Black chauffeur accused of raping a white woman. It was an old-school court drama as removed from the MCU and Wakanda as a movie could be and, once again, Boseman charmed critics with a performance which showed Marshall as both larger-than-life civil rights icon and a human with flaws and depth.

But there's no remembering Boseman without Wakanda and the groundbreaking role that meant so much to so many. In this country, we like our superheroes to be two things: white and male. **Black Panther**, which was years in development, would challenge our accepted ideas about not only what a superhero could be, but also what a superhero movie was supposed to look like. Long before its release, it was steeped in controversy. Could a little-known star carry such an important film and character? Would comic-book nerds turn out in droves for this movie as they had for the other Avengers? How would such a film fit into the canon? All of the questions boiled down to one essential inquiry people seemed almost afraid to voice out loud: Would **Black Panther**, with its nearly all-Black cast, Black director and Black crew, be too Black?

When it was released, the movie was unabashedly, unapologetically steeped in Black history and centered in Black culture. This was purposeful and both Coogler and Boseman had no small hand in making sure that when the world was introduced to Wakanda in its fully formed glory, it would be a world in which Blackness was celebrated and honored in all its power and promise. Anchoring that power and promise was Boseman's performance. In the greater realm of the MCU, Black Panther was a superhero, but in Wakanda, T'Challa was a king—and this distinction was important to making Wakanda proudly self-determined in a way that was new to the MCU yet still served the characters and story. As to whether such a daring experiment in a fairly rigid genre would be embraced, well, a billion dollars in box office and seven Oscar nominations (with three wins), including a widely held belief that **Black Panther** was worthy of a Best Picture nod, put those questions to rest.

After his death, no one knows what will become of Black Panther, either the character or the franchise itself. But because of Boseman and his remarkable work, Wakanda truly is forever.

MARATHON continued from page 8

roadway, make sure to follow the rules of the road and remember you are a pedestrian and you still only have those same accessibility as you would as a person walking on a sidewalk. Be safe, but have fun with it."

Moving forward, Loranger said the 2021 Whidbey Island Marathon has been moved from April to September 12, 2021, with registration opening in January 2021.

"We have already chosen to push our marathon date from the historical April date to September of next year in hopes that we will see either a vaccine or other medicines that come in to kind of help alleviate everything that is going on right now," he said.

In the future, when in-person races and events return, Loranger said he feels there will be a greater awareness of safety, and new policies and procedures for races may have to be implemented, such as having

multiple start times and personal protective equipment available.

"A lot of the running community is based on gathering, so it is going to be hard to come back and produce a race with people making sure they feel safe unless we have different protocols in place," he said.

In the meantime, Loranger said the focus will be on providing a quality virtual experience to keep people engaged in staying active.

"Our goal is to continue to help keep people motivated, help keep them running even without in-person events," he said. "We see a lot more people are doing these sort of things (virtual races) because it is a good way to stay motivated. If your gym is not open, you can still go outside and run, you can still ride your bike, you can still go for a walk."

For more information or to register, visit runwhidbey.com.

CAN DO SUDOKU!

On a scale from 1 to 10...3.8

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 11

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

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TENET (PG-13)
BILL & TED FACE THE MUSIC (PG-13)
Monday, Sept. 7 & Tuesday, Sept. 8
TENET (PG-13)
BILL & TED FACE THE MUSIC (PG-13)

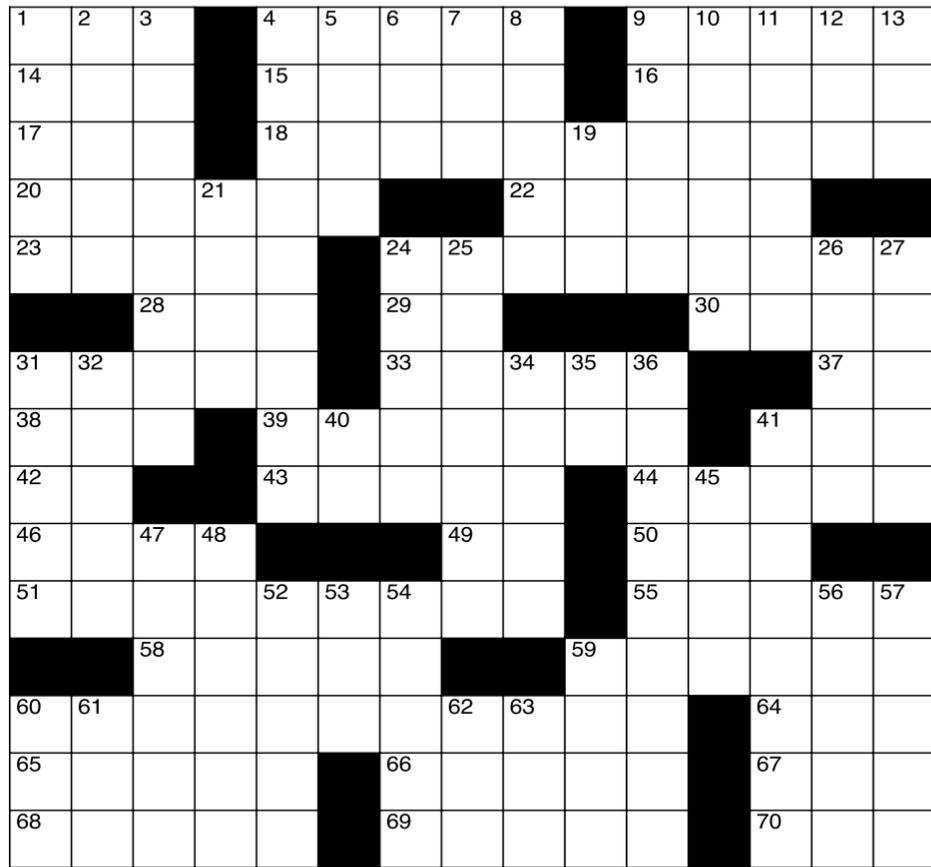
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Thank you for reading! Please recycle the Whidbey Weekly when you are finished with it.



Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Part of (abbr.)
- 4. Persons
- 9. Moved with a curvy trajectory
- 14. Bitterly regret
- 15. Cause to feel embarrassed
- 16. Type of toast
- 17. Bobby __, NHL champ
- 18. Analogies
- 20. Mixes
- 22. Beloved flowers
- 23. Clinton special prosecutor
- 24. Avoids
- 28. Innermost brain membrane: __ mater
- 29. Atomic #18
- 30. Remain as is
- 31. One who's been canonized
- 33. Indian king or prince
- 37. The Bay State
- 38. Forms adjectives
- 39. Give off
- 41. Partner to flow
- 42. Biblical Sumerian city
- 43. Popular clothing material
- 44. Organism parts
- 46. Central US Native American people

- 49. Blood type
- 50. Wrath
- 51. Perennial tropical grass
- 55. Vetches
- 58. Buffaloes
- 59. Envelope type
- 60. Tuberculosis
- 64. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 65. Pops
- 66. Indo-European languages
- 67. Fiddler crabs
- 68. Large bank
- 69. Not fresh
- 70. Scientist's device (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- 1. High schoolers' dances
- 2. Style of rock music
- 3. Maryland athlete
- 4. Softened by soaking
- 5. Native Aussies
- 6. Some are on it
- 7. Clairvoyance
- 8. Broken piece
- 9. Wrong
- 10. Starts over
- 11. Where to hang clothes
- 12. One point north of due east
- 13. Gov't lawyers

- 19. Mass of eggs in a shellfish
- 21. Smile
- 24. Wrap
- 25. A citizen of Iran
- 26. Island off the coast of Tanzania
- 27. Knives
- 31. Beloved "Doctor"
- 32. Type of turtle
- 34. Leg (French)
- 35. Indicates position
- 36. Self-doubt
- 40. Of I
- 41. Retired but allowed to retain title
- 45. Algerian port
- 47. African country
- 48. "Wayward Son" rockers
- 52. Bring out of sleep
- 53. Auburn legend Newton
- 54. Heavy wooden shield in ancient Greece
- 56. Choose to represent
- 57. Peace
- 59. Work hard
- 60. Reciprocal of a sine
- 61. Express delight
- 62. Explosive
- 63. Journalist Tarbell

Answers on page 11

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Sept. 3	Fri, Sept. 4	Sat, Sept. 5	Sun, Sept. 6	Mon, Sept. 7	Tues, Sept. 8	Wed, Sept. 9
North Isle H-69°/L-51° Mostly Sunny	North Isle H-72°/L-54° Sunny	North Isle H-73°/L-51° Plenty of Sunshine	North Isle H-73°/L-53° Sunny	North Isle H-75°/L-50° Sunny and Warmer	North Isle H-73°/L-51° Sunny	North Isle H-72°/L-52° Partly Sunny
South Isle H-71°/L-56° Mostly Sunny	South Isle H-79°/L-56° Plenty of Sunshine	South Isle H-78°/L-54° Sunny	South Isle H-78°/L-56° Sunny	South Isle H-80°/L-52° Sunny and Warmer	South Isle H-79°/L-54° Plenty of Sunshine	South Isle H-78°/L-54° Mixed Sun and Clouds



CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

ARIES (March 21-April 19)



Minnesota Fats, the pool shark, was famous for his banter and his bank shots. Talking incessantly to rattle his competition, Fats loved to bounce his shots around the table and off the rails a time or two on their way to the pocket. What Fats did with banter and cue, you can do, too. Got gab? It'll get you where you're going. Be patient. Play the angles. Make time work for you. Do that, and you'll put your competition away. Rack 'em up!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



Practicing mental free throws is known to improve a basketball player's on-court performance almost as effectively as the real thing. Where are you trying to improve? Might mental rehearsals be your ticket? Yes, with one caveat. Practicing the unknown is like multiplying zero. Any number times zero is still zero. Do you have a good feel for what you wish to do? Great! Ease into your hammock and practice away!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



The perfectionist in you sees a better way. Your helpful side blurts it out. And the other person seems not to hear. Now you're standing on a banana peel. Anymore constructive criticism risks blowing up the whole conversation. But can you stay silent, while watching mistakes being made? It may help you to know that people learn by making mistakes. You've stood on this banana peel before. Did you learn anything?

CANCER (June 22-July 22)



Remember when almost everyone could agree on where we, as a people, wanted to go, and the only disagreement was about our best route to get there? When our differences were differences of style, and bore no ill intent? Even if you can't remember, isn't it refreshing to imagine such a time! The main hurdle to cross in reaching any goal is the belief that it is possible. Keep that in mind when envisioning tomorrow.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



Negotiators are paid to unite warring rivals. How do they do it? How do porcupines mate? Two porkies must first be convinced there's something worth risking each other's thorny quills for. The convincer? Chemistry. (We'll skip the messy details.) What convinces warring rivals to end their war? The negotiator; by sniffing out the chemistry, the thing the parties value more than war. Care to try your skills?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)



Tolerance. Much touted, widely trumpeted, and, alas, little in evidence these days. Where has the steadfast sympathy for different beliefs and practices gone? Does anyone know? Has anyone mounted a search? Tolerance begins

at home. If it's missing, perhaps it is there we should look for it first. About those who proclaim tolerance most loudly and practice it least: What is their stance on home?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



The old debate about sharing the wealth has risen again. Its focus? Whether 'tis better to give the people a fish, or teach them how to fish. George Carlin said, "Give a man a fish, and he'll eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he'll sit in a boat and drink beer all day." Don't particularly like fish or fishing? Open a bait shop. You'll eat whether anyone catches a fish or not. And the debate rages on.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



Rigid thinking. It's your mind in a box. What's outside the box? What have you walled yourself off from? Something you've wanted all your life? How would you know, until you venture out of the box? You see the problem. The way out of the box? It's so easy. Whatever you're thinking, leave open the possibility that you could be wrong. That's how you free your mind. With a 99 percent certainty.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



Shopping for clothes? Trust Ciara, who says, "Confidence is what makes a simple white tee and jeans look good." What confidence does for clothes, it can do for your week. Building your life off the thrift store bargain rack? Wear your sequins and sneakers with confidence. Don your second hand Pendleton proudly. It's not the clothes that let you make an equal splash at home or at work. It's the confidence.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



Good cop/bad cop. A prime example of teamwork from a team that's not obviously a team. The accused sides with the kindly good cop against the mean bad cop, and gives up what both cops want—a confession. The key to making it work? Compassion. If even false compassion gives good results, what might the genuine article produce? Have you discovered the power of compassion in your own life?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



"The most courageous act is to think for yourself. Aloud." So said Coco Chanel. Perfumed courage being presumably better than other kinds, Ms. Chanel gave us Chanel No. 5, on the belief that the number five gave her good luck. Your lucky number may be different, and your choice of scents less chic, but vocalizing your thoughts to dissenters has much to recommend it this week. You choose the fragrance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



The poet Sanobar Khan said, "Funny how our hearts were designed to love so fiercely, but break ever so gently." Trust a poet to teach us about passion without once using the word. To tell us that love never willingly harms. Isn't that enough to guide your actions unerringly through the course of the week? To cue your hand in matters large and small? Love. It heals all.

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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.



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