

October 8 through October 14, 2020

600th Issue

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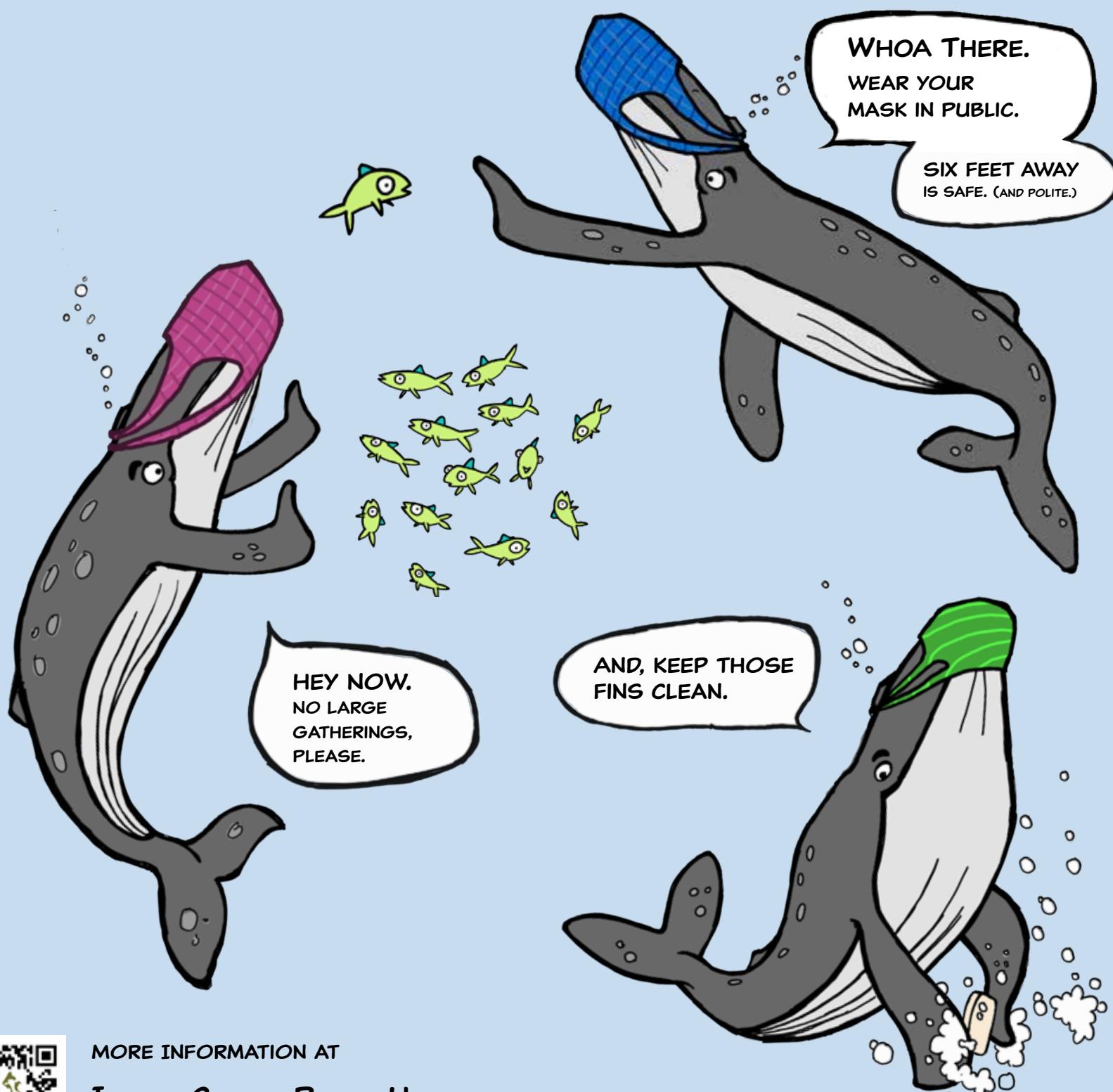
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ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



Were I a calendar, it would not be October. How can it be October?

It is now over a week into the month and I still don't believe it. I used to be that way with some of my grades.

For me, ever since this period of confusion has begun, time has been unclock like. All the months have seemed to me like one giant month that is still going.

Not leap year, but creep year. All the months have crept together like a fur ball. Is it really October? How did it get here?

October

Since the Romans had "octo," the Latin word for eight, as the eighth month on their calendar, we non-Romans have October.

This is about as exciting as it gets on the back story. I looked ahead about where November and December came from. More Latin. More numbers. No excitement.

Wonder why they didn't call them Latin numerals. Maybe the Latins just wrote words while the Romans got their numbers.

Cheese please

Ever since Mom made me my first Velveeta grilled cheese, I have been curious about cheese. In grade school, kids would often yell out in class wondering who cut the cheese.

Given the increasing curiosity that has occurred during this pandemic, I asked Alexa the other day how long I could freeze cheese.

Swiftly she responded, "Six months, but freezing is not recommended for cottage cheese, cream cheese, feta, goat, fresh mozzarella, Neufchatel, Parmesan, or opened processed cheese."

"What about Velveeta?"

"Toss it, no matter how new it is."

Think tank

What word with only six letters incorporates seven words besides itself without transposing? Let me make a sandwich while you work on this.

The answer, which I paid for refusing to take the time to figure this out, is: *Herein*. The seven included words are: *I, he, in, her, ere, here, rein*.

If you were able to figure this out, I suggest you run for county commissioner. In fact, it is not too late to start working on your yard signs for next time.

I Can't Remember

*Just a line to say I'm living,
that I'm not among the dead.
Though I'm getting more forgetful
and mixed up in the head.*

*I got used to my arthritis,
to my dentures I'm resigned.
I can manage my bifocals,
but God, I miss my mind.*

*For sometimes I can't remember
when I stand at the foot of the stairs,
if I must go up for something
or have I just come down from there?*

*And before the fridge so often,
my poor mind is filled with doubt,
have I just put food away,
or have I come to take some out?*

*And there's times when it is dark
with my nightcap on my head,
I don't know if I'm retiring,
or just getting out of bed.*

*So, if it's my turn to write you,
there's no need for getting sore,
I may think that I have written,
and don't want to be a bore.*

*So remember that I love you,
and wish that you were near.
Now it's nearly mail time
so must say 'Goodbye, dear.'*

*Here I stand beside the mailbox,
with a face so very red,
instead of mailing you my letter,
I opened it instead.*

~Author unknown, but appreciated

Grease giving

Did your mom or grandma have a soup can on the stove where she kept her bacon grease?

Our Mom peeled the Campbell's tomato soup label off before putting the can to work. I loved it when Mom let me lift the still warm iron skillet to accurately pour the bacon grease into the empty soup can.

Dad would not eat eggs unless they were basted in bacon grease. Smart man. I still cannot enjoy an egg cooked in butter.

As we used to say back home, "Where's the grease?"

I ask this because I never saw anything else but soup cans of dried grease on our family's stove counter tops.

It was grease recycling for both our grandmas, all our aunts, and even some cousins yet to be kissed. Why?

This rationing began during World War II when the American Fat Salvage Committee encouraged the housewives of America to save their grease for collection. This grease would be recycled and used to manufacture bombs.

"A skillet of bacon grease is a little munitions factory," announced a booming voice in the Disney produced propaganda cartoon. "Every year 2 billion pounds of waste kitchen fats are thrown away—enough glycerin for 10 billion rapid-fire cannon shells."

Talk about bringing home the bacon.

Food for thought

We may live without poetry, music, and art
We may live without conscience and live without heart;

We may live without friends, We may live without books,
But civilized man, cannot live without cooks.

Pt. 1, Canto, Stanza 19, *Lucile*, 1860, epic poem by Lord Lytton

Minor point

Way back in 1872, a lady named Virginia Minor (1824-1894) went to vote at her local polling place in Missouri. The fellow in charge of the facility would not allow Ms. Minor to vote.

This powerful trailblazer went to court, appealing her verdicts all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

The court, in a unanimous opinion, ruled against her on the grounds that being a citizen did not give women the right to vote.

Post script – In 2016, more women voted in the presidential election than men – 55 percent to 45 percent.

Fidgeting

Our grandma Pearle, who would have been 136 last Friday, had what we called a "nervous leg." Whenever Grandma sat still, which was rare to see, whichever leg was crossed over the other began kicking. Like a small exercise for her ankle.

If both feet were planted, one of her feet would begin to bounce up and down, which made it look like she was shaking something invisible off her knee.

Whenever my sister and I would imitate Grandma, whether knowingly or unknowingly, we were told by one or both parents to stop "fidgeting."

According to a recent study at the University of Missouri, sitting still is not necessarily all it has been claimed to be. In fact, "mild toe-tapping while seated can dramatically cut your risk of cardiovascular disease."

Assistant professor Jaume Padilla was the go-to-guru on this study published in the *American Journal of Physiology*. There is a load of science talk in this article about blood flow and arteries, but I want to be able to enjoy lunch.

The point is, because many of us are sitting more and moving less, rocking the invisible baby on our knees can help, unless we vibrate above someone's apartment.

According to Professor Padilla, "While we expected fidgeting to increase blood flow to the lower limbs, we were quite surprised to find this would be sufficient to prevent a decline in arterial function."

Look Ma, I'm fidgeting for blood flow.

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

Congratulations to Eric Marshall and his Staff at Whidbey Weekly for their Special 600th Edition Celebration from all of your friends at the Whidbey Island Lions Club!
Thank you for all your wonderful support to our organization and for your dedication to being a "True Hometown" Newspaper! Here's to another 600 Editions!



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Volume 12, Issue 41 | © MMXX Whidbey Weekly

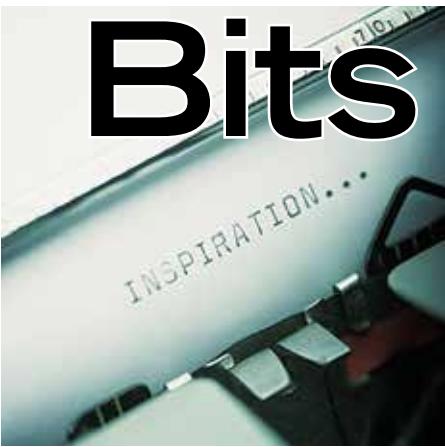
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Bits & Pieces

because she wouldn't play ball with her county employer. You'll probably see more in coming weeks, such is the fate of the whistleblower.

That hogwash certainly doesn't come from the church choir but some giant slippery conduits that operate in the dark, for their special interests, using cherry picked character defamation. These are the influences that the opposing candidate likes to cozy up to.

This community has dealt with this same soap opera for dozens of years now and sees it for what it is, balderdash. Back in 2008 it generated a ton of public reaction including boycotting the local newspaper and countless letters to the editor claiming crapola. A clear verdict was delivered when Angie was elected to replace a 20-year fixture as our county commissioner.

Local voters recognize and trust Angie for what she is, a dedicated public servant who stands up to bullies, offers meaningful solutions, and works in the interest of real people. That's why over 500 people have supported and endorsed her campaign at angieforall.com.

As for her abilities, I served on the county planning commission while Angie was in office and was delighted to find her to be the most prepared, articulate and ethical person wandering the halls.

Angie has not changed, she'll still blow that whistle and her tenacity produces results. We're darn lucky to have such a qualified and motivated fighter in our corner. For God's sake let's all vote and compare the two candidates using that timeless "follow the money" advice, recommended by our Washington State Public Disclosure Commission, which shows Angie is supported by individuals while her opponent does well with special interests like giant developers and real estate PACS.

Dean Enell
Langley, Wash.

Editor,

You may have noticed Sen. Ron Muzzall has been missing from the campaign scene lately. It's because he has been helping his neighbors who have been hugely impacted by the recent fires in eastern Washington.

The fires have destroyed the hay, watering troughs, barns and equipment, so feeding/watering/caring for the farm animals is difficult to impossible.

Sen. Muzzall has been working to help feed, water and care for the stocks, acquiring and delivering donated hay and anything else that is needed; consequently his time for campaigning has been limited.

It seems to me that a person doing that is a far better choice to represent us in Olympia than somebody spending their time raising money to spend on ads. Taking care of your neighbors rates far above writing advertising explaining what you might eventually do. I'm sure

the people of District 10 would get the same caring and compassion if the need arose.

Rick Kiser
Oak Harbor, Wash.

Editor,

As a former Island County Commissioner for nearly 15 years, I want to publicly thank retiring Superior Court Judges Vickie I. Churchill and Alan R. Hancock for their decades of service. Their presence on the bench will be missed.

But we do have a wonderful opportunity to continue this high standard of excellence by electing Chris Skinner, running unopposed for Judge Hancock's seat, and Carolyn Cliff, who is opposed as she seeks to replace Judge Churchill.

I have known Carolyn since she moved to Whidbey Island some 30 years ago and opened her law practice. I am familiar with some of her work, as well as the work she did for the county.

There are four reasons why Carolyn will make an excellent judge: She knows the law. She is honest. In essence, she already is doing the job through her two decades of service as a judge pro tem. And perhaps most important to me, she has handled all the different kinds of cases heard in Island County Superior Court. This is in stark contrast to her opponent.

Carolyn has a history in Island County, and that knowledge also gives her an added advantage.

Mike Shelton
Langley, Wash.

Editor,

Bruch for House

I am confident people in my neighborhood do not want Seattle radicals running our government.

But that is what is happening. Huge urban Democrat majorities in power in our legislature for nearly 40 years dictate how the rest of us must live.

State legislative seats are allocated by population density, so the urban chunk of our state has the lion's share of lawmakers making decisions for us. Some of their policies are driven by extremists.

This year Democrats rammed through the law mandating comprehensive sex education starting in kindergarten without a single Republican can vote.

Republican Bill Bruch, a Legislative District 10 candidate for the state House of Representatives, has consistently opposed that sex-ed law in solidarity with thousands of parents who do not want state bureaucrats meddling in their child rearing.

Bruch's Democratic opponent was instrumental in pushing that law forward. Bruch's opponent also voted on party lines to raise our taxes 11 times.

We need to send Bruch to Olympia to resist the next big fight – the yearly push for a state income tax.

To help keep Seattle radicals out of our classrooms and off our backs, please vote for Bill Bruch.

Sandy Stokes
La Conner, Wash.

Insects versus Birds: Strategies Insects Use to Avoid Being Eaten



This is a soldier fly that is mimicking a vespid wasp to avoid being bird prey.

Entomologist Joseph Sheldon presents a virtual program Thursday about the amazing relationship between birds and their insect prey. The bizarre appearance of many insects can only be explained by considering their role and effectiveness in avoiding bird predators.

"My personal involvement and formal study of insect anti-predation strategies began more than 50 years ago as a graduate student in the University of Illinois' Department of Entomology. It resulted in a ground-breaking publication in the journal *Evolution* that overturned the foundational assumptions of insect mimicry," explained Sheldon.

This presentation will examine this story and will overview the various strategies utilized by insects to avoid bird predation.

Sheldon attended high school in Saint Helens, Ore., received his bachelor of science degree at the College of Idaho in biology and his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois in entomology, insect ecology. He has 36 years of college teaching at Eastern College and Messiah College, both in Pennsylvania, as well as summer teaching at Au Sable Institute of Environmental Science from 1987 to 2007. Joe served as president of the American Entomological Society (1991 to 1997) and president of the American Scientific Affiliation (1998 to 1999). He was invited to and did present expert testimony about the Endangered Species Act for the House Committee on Resources in 2004. He and his wife, Donna, retired to Whidbey Island in June of 2007. He is a founding board vice chair of Pacific Rim Institute for Environmental Stewardship (2009 to 2015), board secretary for Whidbey Island Theological Studies (WITS) 2014 to the present and has been a board member of Whidbey Audubon Society since 2016, serving as field trip chair, secretary and now member-at-large.

The presentation will begin at 7:30PM with a brief meeting beforehand. To register for the free presentation, visit the Whidbey Audubon website.

BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Workshops: "Bridging our Differences"

Saturday, October 10, 2:00pm

Wednesday, October 21, 2:00pm

Monday, October 26, 6:30pm

Author event: "Beyond Civility"

Wednesday, October 14, 6:30pm

Meet the Artists

Friday, October 23, 5:00pm

Panel Presentation: "Does Civility Still Matter?"

Wednesday, October 28, 6:30pm

Please register in advance at www.civilityfirst.org
or email civility1st@gmail.com to receive a Zoom link.

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electdamian.com

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BITS 'n' PIECES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

bon Society website, www.whidbeyaudubon-society.org. The sign up is on the front page. Just scroll down a bit. Both Whidbey Audubon members and nonmembers are welcome.

[Submitted by Susan Prescott, Whidbey Audubon Publicity Chair]

Announcing Local "Orca Recovery Day 2020" Virtual Events

Conservation districts and other organizations across Washington State will host an online Eco-challenge event as well as local events including an Orca Forum, Orca Trivia Night, and Community Art Contest. The purpose of Orca Recovery Day events is to raise awareness about urgently needed recovery efforts for the Southern Resident Killer Whale population and to join together in improving habitats that contribute to ecosystem health.

What: 3rd Annual Orca Recovery Day

Due to the continuing pandemic, the 3rd annual Orca Recovery Day will be going virtual. Orca Recovery Day is a region-wide day of action to improve salmon habitat and water quality for the critically endangered Southern Resident Orca community. In 2019, 2,300 people participated in 65 work parties across the Pacific Northwest. Here on Whidbey, Whidbey Island Conservation District hosted four events with 100 participants.

There is strength in numbers. Your local conservation districts believe the solution to the planet's biggest challenges lies in the power of collective action. By taking action in our own lives and inspiring the people around us, each of us contributes to a world of impact.

This year, with the health and safety of our human community in mind, Whidbey Island Conservation District is going virtual with its events. That doesn't mean that we can't make a collective difference for our Southern Resident Orcas! Each of us can go out as individuals, households, and COVID19 germ pods to take actions that will help the orca pods.

All Whidbey Island Conservation District's

events are on its website at www.whidbeycd.org/orca, and descriptions of the events are also listed below. Join others in making a collective difference for our Southern Resident Orcas!

Ecochallenge: Now through Nov. 5

Ecochallenge is a fun online platform that lists actions and activities you can take to help the Southern Resident Orcas. Participants from all over the Pacific Northwest will be joining. You can join a team or create your own, take actions to help the Orcas, report those actions, and Whidbey Island Conservation District will tally all the actions to show the collective impact of our community. How it works:

1. Go to orcarecoveryday.ecochallenge.org
2. Create an account
3. Join the team - Whidbey Island Conservation District - or create your own team of two or more people.
4. Choose up to five daily actions and 10 one-time actions to take between now and Nov. 5.
5. Report the actions you and your team take, earn points, and win prizes!

Let's come together on Whidbey Island and show our region how awesome we all are at taking actions to help the Orcas!

Orca Forum: Oct. 14 from 5:30-7:00PM

Learn about orcas research taking place in the Puget Sound in this workshop put on in partnership with Northwest Straits Foundation and County Marine Resource Committees.

Speakers will be:

Dr. Rich Osborne, UW Olympic Natural Resource Center and former curator of the Whale Museum in Friday Harbor, will present a primer on local whales and their historical ecology called "Southern Resident Killer Whales: An Introduction to the Indigenous Fish-Eating Orcas in Our Area."

Dr. Jacques White, director of *Long Live The Kings*, will talk about salmon and steelhead survival and recovery, as relating to their critical role in the diet of Southern Resident Orcas.

Dr. Deborah Giles, research director with Wild Orca and the Center for Conservation Biology, will talk about her research this summer on killer whale health and conservation biology. She does really cool work!

Orca Trivia Night: Oct. 15 at 7:00PM

Get your trivia on! In partnership with Northwest Straits Foundation, Whidbey Island Conservation District is holding a trivia night themed all things Orca, Salmon, and Marine Habitat.

How it works:

1. Trivia will be held on myquiz.org. Check back here for the code to enter the game.
2. Assemble a team of trivia pros, or sign up as an individual
3. If you are a team, only ONE player can sign in to the game. Connect over video chat or phone with the other players on your team, and designate your most trusted teammate to read the questions and provide your team's answers.
4. Top three teams earn prizes!

Orca Inspired Art Contest: Oct 1-31

Sound Water Stewards and Island County Marine Resource Committee are hosting a community art contest. All ages welcome! The theme of the contest is: "Orca Recovery and the Human Connection to Orcas."

Entries can be made in any art medium or style. Create your Orca-inspired art, scan it or take a photo, and submit your entry to education@soundwaterstewards.org by Oct. 31.

Entries will be accepted in the following categories: Grades 1-5, Grades 6-8, High School, Adult.

Two winners will be chosen in each category, and the winning artwork will be displayed on the Sound Water Stewards, Island County Marine Resource Committee, and Whidbey Island Conservation District web pages. Full contest details are available at www.whidbeycd.org/orca.

BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Orca Recovery EcoChallenge

Oct 5th - Nov 5th

TAKE ACTIONS TO HELP THE ORCAS

Sign up, report actions you or your team take, earn points, and win prizes!

orcarecoveryday.ecochallenge.org/

ORCA RECOVERY DAY
Saturday, Oct 17th

A region-wide day of action to improve salmon habitat and water quality for our critically endangered Southern Resident Orcas.

Other Virtual Events include:

Orca Forum
Wed, Oct. 14, 5:30-7pm

Orca Trivia Night
Thurs, Oct. 15, 7pm

Orca Inspired Art Contest



Find the details for all the orca recovery events at www.whidbeycd.org/orca.html

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What's Going On

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

Author event: "Beyond Civility"

Wednesday, October 14, 6:30PM

Online event

Celebrate Civility Month with this free online event. Please register in advance at www.civilityfirst.org or email civility1st@gmail.com to receive a Zoom link.

Orca Trivia Night

Thursday, October 15, 7:00PM

How it works: Trivia will be held on myquiz.org. Check back here for the code to enter the game. Assemble a team, or sign up as an individual. If you are a team, only ONE player can sign in to the game. Connect over video chat or phone with the other players on your team, and designate your most trusted teammate to read the questions and provide your team's answers. Top three teams earn prizes!

Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below

Cost: Free

How to be an Anti-Racist Family

Saturdays, October 10, 17, 10:00-11:30AM

Webinar series

In this time, when inequities and violence suffered by people of color have been so clearly revealed, it is imperative we use an anti-racist lens in all aspects of our lives, rela-

tionships and family. Presented by Kenesha Levin of Levin Education and Consulting. Register for this Zoom event at www.sno-isle.org/online-events.

Books2Movies: The Book Thief

Friday, October 16, 2:00PM

Freeland Library (online program)

It's an age-old debate, "Which is better: the book or the movie?" *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl, who learns to read and share her stolen books with her neighbors and a Jewish man hidden in her basement during bombing raids.

Read or listen to the book, watch the movie, then join us online for a lively discussion. Brandon Henry, who works at The Clyde Theater in Langley, leads the discussion. Registration is required. For more information, visit www.sno-isle.org/online-events.

Galleries & Art Shows

Jacob Kohn - New Landscapes 2020

Exhibit continues through November 2

Rob Schouten Gallery, Langley

Jacob Kohn's New Landscapes 2020 exhibition is a departure from this eminent realist painter's usual subject of water surfaces. Bringing the same soft focus quality and smooth brush work to these new landscape paintings Kohn explores the light and movement in the complicated levels of space created by trees and plants, hills and skies.

If you do not yet feel like venturing out, you can see the entire exhibit at www.sno-isle.org/orca.

robschoutengallery.com and can even make your purchase online.

Meetings & Organizations

Whidbey Island Genealogical Searchers (WIGS)

Tuesday, October 20, 1:00PM

Online meeting

Heidi Mair will present "The Progressive Era and Women's Rights." All are invited to join us for this free educational program. You will need a Zoom invitation in order to attend. Non-WIGS members wishing to attend, send an email to whidbeygensearchers.org no later than Oct. 17.

Classes, Seminars and Workshops

Bridging our Differences

Saturday, October 10, 2:00PM

Wednesday, October 21, 2:00PM

Monday, October 26, 6:30PM

Online workshop

Celebrate Civility Month with these free online workshops. Please register in advance at www.civilityfirst.org or email civility1st@gmail.com to receive a Zoom link.

Orca Forum

Wednesday, October 14, 5:30-7:00PM

Learn about orcas research taking place in the Puget Sound in this workshop put on in partnership with Northwest Straits Foundation and County Marine Resource Committees. More information can be found at www.whidbeycd.org/orca.

Coronavirus Fraud Prevention Presentation

Thursday, October 15, 10:30AM

Online seminar

Coronavirus scams are spreading nearly as fast as the virus itself. As of Oct. 1, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) had logged more than 214,000 consumer complaints related to COVID-19 and stimulus payments, 68 percent of them involving fraud or identity theft.

Victims reported losing \$154 million. Dollars lost climb as we age - the median loss for people age 80 and older is more than twice the average.

Fraudsters are using the full suite of scam tools — phishing emails and texts, robocalls, impostor schemes and more — and closely following the headlines, adapting their messages and tactics as new medical and economic issues arise.

Island Senior Resources and the AARP Fraud Watch Network will share information about how best to protect your health and your finances from the coronavirus. You can join using your computer, laptop or tablet. No computer? No problem! You can call in, listen to the presentation and ask questions using your telephone. Contact reception@islandseniorservices.org or call 360-321-1600 ext. 0 for details.

Probing the Universe with Hubble Space Telescope - An Afternoon with Dr. Robert Williams

Friday, October 16, 4:00-5:00PM

Online Event

Dr. Williams is Astronomer Emeritus at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Md., where he served as Director from 1993-1998. Dr. Williams devoted much of his Director's Discretionary time on the Hubble Space Telescope to the landmark Hubble Deep Field project, which revealed in remarkable detail the structure of galaxies in the early universe.

A link to join the event via Zoom will be sent to registered participants the day of the event. Register online at sno-isle.org.

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Whidbey Weekly NEWS



Frightful fun at Spooky Museum p. 11

www.whidbeyweekly.com

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

OCTOBER 8 - OCTOBER 14, 2020

Central Whidbey kicks off safe and spooky season



Photo Courtesy of the Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association
The Haunting of Coupeville will bring festive cheer to Coupeville throughout the month of October. Participants can enter a pumpkin decorating contest, check out the town's frightfully festive scarecrow decorations or venture to Sherman's Pioneer Farm for fall fun.

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

The month of October will bring plenty of spirited, spooky and safety-conscious fun for all ages to the town of Coupeville. This year's Haunting of Coupeville will highlight activities for the whole family, including a pumpkin decorating contest, ghoulish decorations throughout the town, festive farm visits and more.

Vickie Chambers, executive director of the Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association, said the organization will be putting on a Painted Pumpkin Contest, where participants will have the chance to take part in a virtual decorating competition.

"Certainly, we all want to have a little normalcy in our lives and to not have any events during a holiday is discouraging," she said. "If we can create an alternative event that is safe and provides protection within the COVID-19 rules, we want to continue to do that, whether it is now or through the first of the year. So we are coming up with ways to participate in a holiday, yet keeping people distanced and safe."

Chambers said although the town normally holds Pumpkin Races in October, the Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association wanted to hold an event which did not require gathering. The virtual contest will allow people to paint, carve or decorate a pumpkin at home and then drop it off on one of the hay bales throughout the historic district of downtown Coupeville between Oct. 14 and 28. Participants will be able to take a photo and upload it online at hauntingofcoupeville.com. Online voting will take place and prizes will be awarded for the top three pumpkins.

"It gives people something fun to do for the holiday," she said.

Chambers said various Coupeville organizations are finding ways to celebrate safely. The Coupeville Chamber of Commerce has organized the annual Scarecrow Contest, which features creative scarecrows from local businesses that can be voted for online, and eerie downtown decorations, including a pun-filled faux graveyard.

"They still have the scarecrow corridor and graveyard," she said. "Then, if we add the pumpkins all around, I think that just really adds a layer of enjoyment to the holiday."

Chambers said the hope is to encourage people to continue to shop locally and enjoy the festive decorations and activities around town while staying safe.

"It is really important for us to remind locals that our shops are open and excited about having the local support so that they can remain open," she said. "This is a hard time and we are going into the quiet season. And if the Whidbey Island residents think of all the communities and the small businesses within our communities and support them by shopping or visiting, that is critical to keeping our business culture alive and well, whether it is in Oak Harbor (or) all the way down to Clinton."

Chambers said local organizations, from the Historic Waterfront Association to businesses, are working hard to come up with ideas to get people involved and safely celebrate holidays in the community. Chambers said locals can visit shops or stop

by Sherman's Pioneer Farm to pick the perfect pumpkin and go for a trolley ride.

"By inviting and creating activities this month or next month that are safe, yet it brings people into our communities, I think it helps remind them that we are open and we are here to accommodate their needs," she said. "It is important for our whole island economy. And it gets people out of the house, it gets them away from the computer screen and gets them walking in the nice October air, and that is doubly healthy."

Chambers said Whidbey business owners and organizations are working hard to continue providing services and plenty of spooky cheer while carefully incorporating necessary safety measures and social distancing.

"I believe Whidbey Island has really done a great job of following the mandates regarding COVID-19," she said. "I know that the communities work hard at controlling gatherings, they work hard at distancing and complying with masks, so I am very proud of our business community because they want to do everything they can do to be safe yet open and ready for business."

For more information and updates, visit hauntingofcoupeville.com, coupevillehistoricwaterfront.com and coupevillechamber.com.

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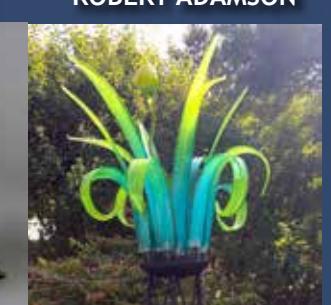
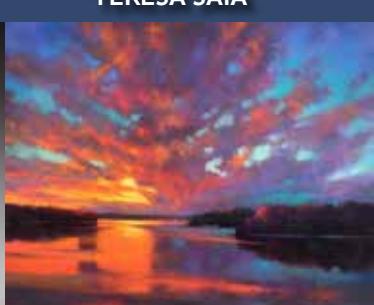
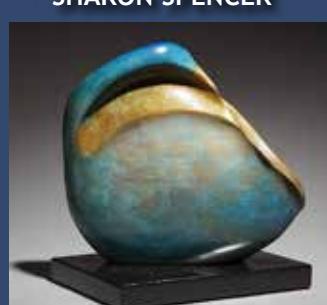
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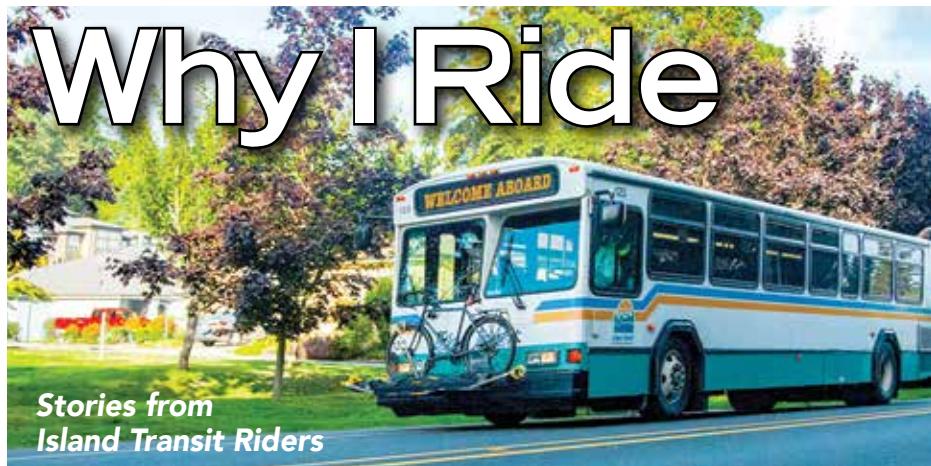
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Stories from
Island Transit Riders

Bikes, buses and babies – California Couple Credits Public Transit for New Life on Whidbey

Janet Young and her wife Laura Bergman, both 35 years old, have never owned a car. They've always ridden the bus, bicycled or walked. Public transit played a big role in helping them achieve their dream of moving to Whidbey Island. Today, it's still a big part of their new life.

"We loved San Francisco, but Whidbey Island is the place we wanted to be," says Young. In 2016, the California couple needed a change. They both quit big jobs, moved to Whidbey and started a family.

Young says taking public transit helped them achieve their dream. "Instead of spending \$30,000 on a car when I was 21, I put money in the stock market and watched it grow. For ten years, I was able to save even more by avoiding car insurance, gas and maintenance costs."

People spend about \$8,000 a year to operate a car. "Eventually, that money became a sum we could live on," says Young. "Cars are not part of our cost of living. It's saved us a lot. In fact, it's changed our entire lifestyle."

The couple also uses the bike racks on the bus to combine biking with bussing. "Biking expands your reach by five miles, so with the routes run by Island Transit, it means you can go anywhere on the island without using a car. We've been completely astonished at how much we can do on the island by bus," she says.

"Before the state's stay home order, we took the bus a lot for everyday things like groceries, doctor appointments, visiting friends, and going out. I even took the bus to the hospital to give birth," says Young who adds that using the bus reduces her carbon footprint. "Some day when our kids grow up and they face a world that experiences wild fires every summer, when they turn to me and say 'Mom why didn't you fix this and combat climate change



Pictured left to right: Laura Bergman, Janet Young, Baby Quinn.

before it was too late?,' I want to tell them that we did everything we could. We absolutely did."

Before settling down to raise a family, Janet Young traveled extensively and experienced transit all over the world. When asked what the main difference is between other transit systems and Island Transit, Young boasts, "It's so clean! People are super friendly, and it's free. So, I actually think compared to lot of transit systems, ours on Whidbey is world class."

Young and Bergman will raise their children to take the bus. "It's a really safe place. I send my 81-year-old grandma on the bus alone. She's from Taiwan and doesn't speak English. The drivers remember her stop and remind her where to get off. So, if Grandma can do it, anyone can."

Island Transit, established in 1987, is a fare-free public transit system serving Island County with routes that cover most of Whidbey and Camano islands. The system currently runs 14 routes with 26 vehicles and 68 operators. For more information on Island Transit, go to www.islandtransit.org.

BITS 'N' PIECES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Why: The Southern Resident Orca Whales that call the Salish Sea (Strait of Georgia, Strait of Juan de Fuca, and Puget Sound) home are critically endangered. In 2019, three more Southern Resident Orcas died. Their numbers have been in steady decline, due mainly to a loss of food supply of their primary food source: Chinook salmon.

This fall, there have been two new births for the Southern Resident Orcas. Two baby boys were born in September. Survival rates for newborns and juveniles up to 3 years is very low, and it's up to us all to take recovery efforts and help these new babies survive.

Recovery for the Southern Resident Orcas will take a coordinated and ongoing effort by all who reside in watersheds that provide habitat for the Orca's primary food source: primarily Chinook salmon, which are also endangered. Improving fish habitat will also support sport and commercial fisheries in Washington that have an estimated economic impact of \$2.7 billion. These watersheds span every corner of Washington State and surrounding lands. Providing clean waterways that support fish health and overall improved water quality will benefit more than just the Southern Resident Orcas; doing so will benefit all life that call Washington State and surrounding lands/waterways their home.

Generous sponsors have already stepped forward to support Orca Recovery Day events including, but not limited to, One Tree Planted, Washington State Conservation Commission, Ruth Foundation: A legacy of the Gary E. Milgard Foundation, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, Boeing, Puget Sound Energy, and the Russell Family Foundation.

For more information: Local event details and information can be found at www.whidbeycd.org/orca. Regional details can be found at www.BetterGround.org/ORD.

[Submitted by Shannon Bly, Outreach Coordinator, Whidbey Island Conservation District]

Two Whidbey Island Neighborhoods Receive National Firewise USA™ Site Distinction

The wildfire smoke we experienced on Whidbey in early September may seem now like a distant memory with fall on fast-track. Its presence in our area was a reminder that although this time Oregon and California are the hot spots, wildfire sculpts all landscapes – including ours. On Whidbey, we have our own wildfire history and ecology worth learning and preparing for. Many of your fellow islanders are doing just that!

Congratulations to two communities – Whidbey Island Campers Haven in the Central Whidbey Island Fire and Rescue District and Pondilla Estates in the North Whidbey Fire and Rescue District – who were recognized by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) as Firewise USA™ sites. They represent Island County's second and third nationally recognized communities. Sierra Country Club in the North Whidbey Fire and Rescue District was the County's first, recognized in 2018. They

join the growing network of more than 1,500 communities nationwide who are taking action and ownership in preparing and adapting their homes and landscapes for wildfire. To view the network, visit bit.ly/2ShawUZ.

The Whidbey Island Firewise Program, is a free service available to any landowner and community on Whidbey Island, and is a partnership between the Whidbey Island Conservation District, local fire districts, and the Washington Dept. of Natural Resources Wildfire Division. This outreach and education program takes NFPA's national model on wildfire preparedness, tailors it to the unique characteristics of wildfire ecology on Whidbey Island, and offers support and guidance for landowners and communities interested in working together to reduce their risk.

Whidbey Island Campers Haven and Pondilla Estates, over the course of just over a year, worked collaboratively to accomplish several steps to become a national Firewise USA™ site. These steps included local agency fire expert consultation and presentations on wildfire ecology and hazards for community members, development and implementation of a community action plan that provided outreach and education on wildfire preparedness, and volunteer time investment in preparedness actions, like fuels reduction projects on individual properties and common-owned spaces.

"The work we have done to date has raised the awareness and cooperation of all members about fire safety and prevention. We each take responsibility for our own sites, and small work groups are working on the common areas," shared Joy Page, Firewise Committee lead for the Whidbey Island Campers Haven. "Our campground is located in a forest that surrounds our RVs. The spike of wildfires in the past five years in the U.S. and British Columbia energized us to reach out to the Firewise program to develop a comprehensive plan to reduce the potential for a wildfire, and mitigate risks in our campground."

Melanie Beckstrom of the Pondilla Estates Firewise team echoed a similar sentiment.

"I continue to learn strategies that will benefit my own property, and I look forward to promoting Firewise among the growing numbers of those in our community who are becoming more aware of the need to be prepared when it comes to the fire dangers around us," she said.

Beckstrom's neighbor and Firewise counterpart, Teri Jo Summer Reiger, added, "My sense is that the Firewise program has shown how many hands can work together, and that taking care of where we live generates connection among neighbors."

If you are a landowner or community interested in proactive wildfire preparedness support, visit www.whidbeycd.org/firewise to learn more.

[Submitted by Kelsi Mottet, Natural Resource Planner, Whidbey Island Conservation District]

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Roller Barn's Spooky Museum promises frightful fun

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

Beware! There are startling things happening at the Roller Barn in Oak Harbor this month, as owners of the historic structure stir up some creepy fun at their Spooky Museum.

The museum, a COVID-friendly alternative to the usual Frightville event, promises a scary good time for all who dare to take a tour, which will be offered Fridays and Saturdays from 6 to 10 p.m., beginning Friday, Oct. 16 and running through Halloween night. No-startle matinee tours will be offered from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday Oct. 24 and 31. Reservations/tickets are strongly encouraged and can be made online at spookymuseum.com.

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee announced a ban on haunted houses in September, leaving a black hole for some in terms of the usual frightening entertainment offered this time of year. The Roller Barn's new owner, James Croft, a self-proclaimed lover of all things



Photo Courtesy of James Croft

You never know who you'll run into at the Spooky Museum.
The attraction at the Roller Barn in Oak Harbor opens for tours Friday, Oct. 16. All COVID-19 safety protocols for museums will be enforced.



Halloween and a longtime Frightville volunteer, said he couldn't bear to let the spirit of the season slip away because of a pandemic.

"The whole thing for me with the barn, it's never been about us, it's always been about giving the barn back to the community," he said. "So, looking at the rules and guidelines for COVID, doing a museum fully follows the guidelines."

"We changed the name from Frightville to Spooky Museum because we wanted it to be different – because it is going to be a different level," Croft continued. "Frightville is really scary. The Spooky Museum is startling, but it's not as scary, in a sense. It does have some of the normal props that are bloody and gory and it has a lot of animatronics, which you don't normally have in Frightville. Frightville's animatronics are humans – they jump out at you. These animatronics don't move [out of place], they stay where they're at or they sway side to side."

Croft credits family friends, Jay and Shaulana Lujan, with getting all the animatronics in order.

"Animatronics are cool, but I build props that are more on the commercial level, haunted house level, so without them, we couldn't have done this," he said.

Can a Spooky Museum measure up to the terrifying scares typically offered up at Frightville? Croft said the creep-o-meter will be fully engaged at the museum, which might even attract more people to the Halloween haunt than the popular Frightville.

"It's still going to be a fun thing to do on Halloween or building up to Halloween," he said. "Honestly, it might actually appeal to more people, because there's so many people that are afraid of haunted houses that might actually attend this because it isn't."

"You won't have a clown that will scare you out the door, but he will scare you in the room that you're in. He's not going to be following you; if he is, then I think we'd all better run, because something else is happening, then," Croft chuckled.

While Croft didn't want to give away too much about what folks will encounter inside the Spooky Museum, he did open up about one of the new items he's building.

"One thing that I think is going to be fantastic is a big, basically almost life-size Jack-in-the-box, and we all know what happens with a Jack-in-the-box when the music plays," he said. "That's startling on its own. So that's one of the props we're building. It's gonna be spooky. Yes, the clown does come out

Spooky Museum at the Roller Barn

98 NE Barron Dr., Oak Harbor

Tours:

Fridays & Saturdays
Oct. 16-17, 23-24, 30-31
6 - 10 p.m.

No-startle Matinee Tours:
Saturday, Oct. 24 & 31
3 - 5 p.m.

Cost:
\$7 per person, with reserve tickets
\$10 at the door, tours not guaranteed

Reservations HIGHLY recommended

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www.spookymuseum.com

of the box, but he's not as cute as a regular Jack-in-the-box. He's spooky."

Croft is careful to point out the Spooky Museum will follow COVID-19 health guidelines issued for all museums to a T. Tours will start every five minutes, will be limited to five visitors at a time and will last 10 to 15 minutes, depending upon how fast groups move through. Masks are required both during the wait outside and inside the museum. Touching the props will not be allowed.

"Reservations are highly recommended because once we fill all those time slots we can't add extra people because of COVID restrictions," Croft explained. "We would have to turn people away. Reservations

See SPOOKY continued on page 12

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SPOOKY continued from page 11

guarantee a spot. There is a maximum of five people a tour, so people can have a group of five; if they're short in a group and we have extra people, we will add them. For example if you have a group of three and a couple of two comes in, you'll go with some people you don't know, but no tour will ever go above five, so if you bring 10 people, you're breaking up into two tours."

The Spooky Museum is NOT recommended for young children or for children or adults who may have nightmares. No-startle matinee tours will be offered from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24 and 31.

"The normal Spooky Museum isn't recommended for any kids that have nightmares, or even adults for that matter, because it is still very scary," Croft said. "You just don't have the human element of the scare, but there's definitely a lot. With Frightville,



Photo Courtesy of James Croft
If it's creepy, chances are you'll find it at the Spooky Museum, this year's Halloween attraction at the Roller Barn in Oak Harbor. The museum will be open for tours Friday and Saturday nights starting Oct. 16 and running through Halloween. No-startle matinees will also be offered.

the human scares you so fast through the haunted house you miss most of it. With the Spooky Museum, you'll be able to take it in and there's a lot of stuff in there. But it will be scary, I promise you that."

All proceeds from the museum will benefit Save the Roller Barn. The purchase was made final June 1, but Croft said they came in \$25,000 short of the fundraising goal to help with the purchase because COVID struck just as they were to hold their major events. Plans to use the basement for laser tag and an arcade had to be put on hold because of the pandemic, and roller skating is a Phase IV activity under the state's reopening plan, so there has been no income during the pandemic.

"Your support not only gives you family fun and a spooky evening, but it also helps save the Roller Barn," said Croft. "It's an iconic building."

The building is still being used by the Boys and Girls Club until that organization can move into its new home, which Croft anticipates will be in December.

"Hopefully in January we'll be able to do fitness on roller skates," he said. "Again, there will be a lot of limitations with that. But the Boys and Girls Club has priority in the building, so as long as they need it, they can use it. Once they're in their new building, at that point we'll be able to open it up."

Croft hopes the Spooky Museum will help restore a bit of normalcy during uncertain times. He's got 6,000 square feet of creepy, crawly, frightful fun to help save the spirit of Halloween 2020.

"I just hope it gives people some normalcy for Halloween," he said. "Trick or treating isn't going to be the same, 90 percent of the events have been canceled, so instead of people just sitting at home Halloween night wondering what to do, hopefully it gives them something. It's all fun. Halloween is the best."

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CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

 Life coming apart at the seams? You're not the only one. Many a personal circumstance is showing signs of undue wear. Were the things returnable, people would be shipping their lives back to the maker, ASAP. But that's not happening. Something about a buyer beware clause, cloaked in tariffs and changing trade agreements. You know, the usual. The only recourse? Durable wear. We hear it's making a comeback.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

 Natural salespeople have never met a stranger. Meeting one is like greeting an old friend. Our hearts are warmed and we're sold, even before we know what we're buying. Such is the power of charisma. Not a natural? Not a problem. Auditions for supporting roles happen daily. Show up at the tryouts. Cultivate your power to warm hearts. One day, you just might land yourself a lead role.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

 Good news for the serially somber! Ring the church bell. Notify the mournful, contact the terminally tenebrous. Alert those stuck reading Tragedy and Hope because they can't get past the tragedy. Help is on the horizon. Safer than a vaccine, free of adverse side effects, this is the miracle cure. The perfect antidote to drear. Its name? Humor. It's the mosh pit where melancholy meets its demise. Consult your comedic physician.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

 Our Boomerang Logic Award goes to former UCLA basketball coach, John Wooden, who said, "Things work out best for those who make the best of the way things work out." Swish! Wooden's advice was anything but. Servant or savant, hoopster or huckster, dunking dollars or doughnuts, the rules are the same: Use what life gives you, go where it takes you. The shot you don't take is the shot you won't make.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

 Today's lesson in meteorology comes to us, not from The Weather Channel, but from Haruki Murakami: "When you come out of the storm, you won't be the same person who walked in. That's what the storm is all about." Just like a TV forecast, Haruki's map is defined by highs and lows, tempests and disturbances. It clears the air and brightens your horizon, while teaching you about rainbows. That's what life is all about.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

 "What's mine is mine, and what's yours is mine." That's a humorous way of saying, "Everything is mine." Alas, many spouses, and even worse, many elected officials, take it as gospel. They'll spend your money and tell you how to think, because they're smarter than you. Or so they think. Does anyone know

better than you, what's right for you? "Get out!" That's a humorous way of saying, "I don't think so!"

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



Persuasion is an art form. Listen as Mr. Keating (Robin Williams in Dead Poets Society) persuades hormone-ladden high school boys to fall in love with language: "Language was developed for one endeavor, and that is--? Mr. Perry." "Uh . . . To communicate?" "Nooo! To woo women!" Mission accomplished. Don't just communicate this week. Target people where they live. That's the gentle art of persuasion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



"Live free or die: Death is not the worst of evils." John Stark's freedom toast has twice been shortened. "Live Free Or Die" became the official state motto of New Hampshire. "Live Free" is enough for objectors who blank out the full motto on their car license plate. Next in this downward progression? "Live." Just "Live." Bland and boring. Is that the evil Stark hinted of? Does America's freedom experiment end in cold oatmeal? Food for thought.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



Baseball commentator Earl Weaver said, "It's what you learn after you know it all that counts." Crack! Three-run homer! Want to strike out the know-it-alls in your life? Throw wicked change-ups no debater can hit? Curves that come out of nowhere? Facts. Hurl facts. Compared to facts, opinions are but wild pitches flung with bias. Dirt balls. Got it? Facts are your friend. Okay, champ, take the mound.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



A specialist is popularly defined as someone who knows more and more about less and less. Continuing down that winding lane, do we arrive at the place of knowing everything about nothing? Hmm. The generalist, on the other hand, knows a little about everything, and isn't an expert on anything. There's good to be said about both camps. But be wary of Specialty Lane. No one is sure where it leads. Generally speaking!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



The family feud between the Hatfields and the McCoys spanned decades and ended in the public execution of one and life in prison for eight. What kicked off the fracas? Thirteen years of bad blood following the Civil War, and a stolen pig. The message is clear. Left unresolved, grudges are deadly. So don't wait. Settle your family differences before things get ugly. And hands off other peoples' pigs.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



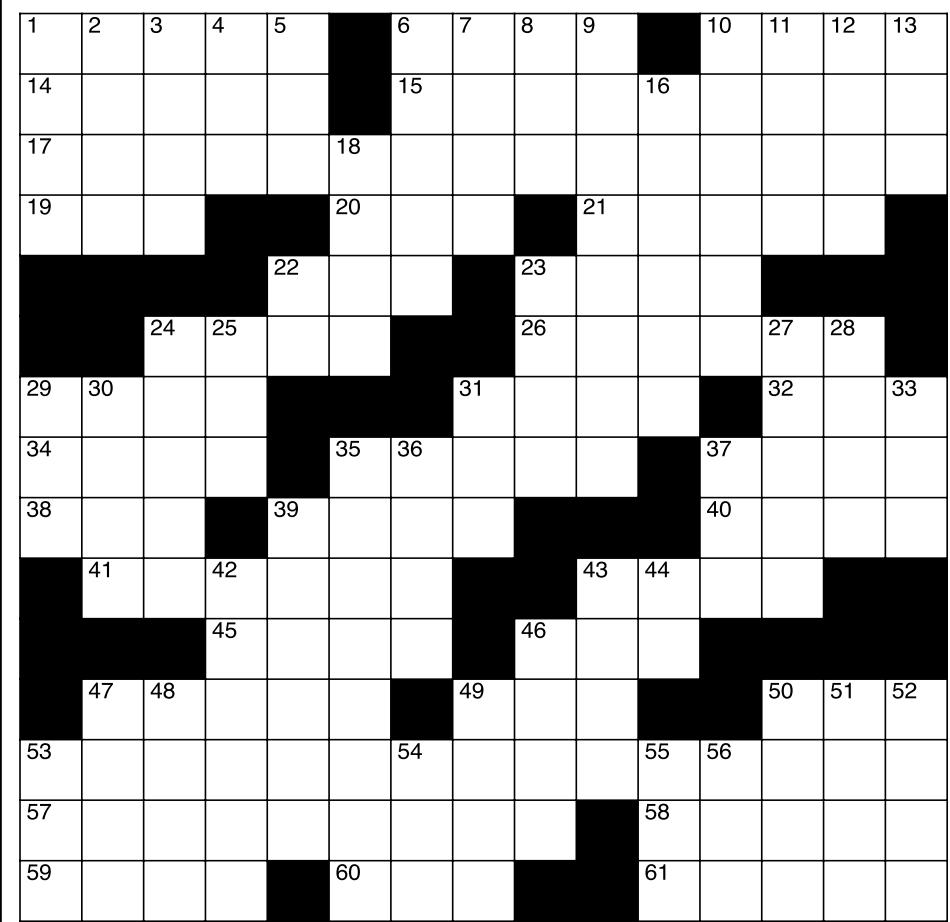
Every story has two sides, right? Your side and the other side. "Wrong!" says the quick-witted wag. "There's a third side--the truth." Jokes aside, we all see the world through the lens of our own bias. Hashing out the differing views is what makes the world go round. But wait. What about the romantics who say it's love that makes the world go round? Ahh. Theirs is a special lens. It sees the world from all sides.

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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. Battered corners: dog —
- 6. __ Mater: one's school
- 10. National capital
- 14. Frogs and toads order
- 15. Bathrooms (French)
- 17. Praise
- 19. Witch
- 20. Consume
- 21. Pork and lamb are two types
- 22. Rocky peak
- 23. Women's undergarments
- 24. From end to end
- 26. Bed sheets
- 29. South Sudanese king
- 31. Dislike immensely
- 32. Diving seabird
- 34. Breathe noisily
- 35. Full of roots
- 37. Inside
- 38. Small island in a river
- 39. Tear into pieces
- 40. "CSI" actor George
- 41. Make less dense
- 43. Derogatory term for a country native
- 45. Pike and pickerel genus
- 46. Important in respiration and other biochemical reactions (abbr.)
- 47. Belgian city
- 49. "The Joy Luck Club" author
- 50. Essence of "Aloha"
- 53. Suggestions
- 57. One who overindulges
- 58. Expression
- 59. Maize dough
- 60. Make into leather
- 61. British noblemen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One of two or more people or things
- 2. Small, deerlike water buffalo
- 3. Part of a ladder
- 4. Unit of work
- 5. Patriotic women
- 6. Fragrant essential oil
- 7. Aggressive, uncouth man
- 8. One thousandth of an inch
- 9. Brisk and cheerful readiness
- 10. Serving no practical purpose
- 11. Prevent from going forward
- 12. Camera part
- 13. Former CIA
- 16. Colorless, odorless gas
- 18. Long division of time
- 22. Atomic #73
- 23. Make a bleating sound
- 24. The kids love him
- 25. Female condition prior to menstrual period
- 27. Founder of Sikhism
- 28. Sudanese swamp
- 29. He/she can help with your finances
- 30. Part of the human body
- 31. Mortar trough
- 33. Greek island
- 35. Change pagination
- 36. Queens hip hop group
- 37. Precursor to the EU
- 39. A way to go on
- 42. Slender marine fish
- 43. Georgetown's mascot
- 44. Farm state
- 46. Military leader (abbr.)
- 47. Russian river
- 48. Teams' best pitchers
- 49. In a more positive way
- 50. Long French river
- 51. Reactive structures in organic chemistry
- 52. Distinctive practices
- 53. Male gypsy
- 54. When you hope to get there
- 55. Men's fashion accessory
- 56. Journalist Tarbell

Answers on page 19

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Oct. 8	Fri, Oct. 9	Sat, Oct. 10	Sun, Oct. 11	Mon, Oct. 12	Tues, Oct. 13	Wed, Oct. 14
North Isle H-63°/L-49° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-59°/L-47° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-57°/L-42° Chance of Rain	North Isle H-59°/L-45° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-55°/L-46° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-56°/L-44° Chance of Rain	North Isle H-55°/L-44° Mostly Cloudy
South Isle H-66°/L-50° Mostly Cloudy	South Isle H-61°/L-49° Mostly Cloudy	South Isle H-60°/L-44° Cloudy with Chance of Rain	South Isle H-61°/L-47° Mostly Cloudy	South Isle H-57°/L-47° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-58°/L-46° Chance of Rain	South Isle H-57°/L-45° Mostly Cloudy



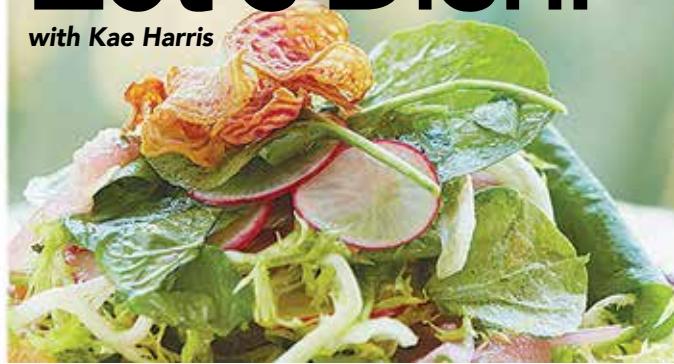
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Let's Dish!

with Kae Harris



THINKING OUTSIDE THE (CAKE MIX) BOX

Halloween is almost upon us and this year, it is doubtful anyone will be going anywhere doing the usual tricking and treating. This doesn't mean you can't still enjoy treats. You can enjoy the same treats you look forward to your kids getting in their candy bags or buckets each year, except you'll likely just have to be the one who puts it in their candy receptacle. I mean, even if you're just going to take a couple out every now and then, the point is the candy was given first to the kids and then enjoyed by you – and them, of course – after. In any event, as this year is a little different than others, I thought it would be fitting to try something, well, a little different.

I was thinking about this because it's my oldest child's birthday this month and I decided I will be making his cake this year. Usually I order it from somewhere, but this year, it's a little different. He loves a chocolate cherry combination and I thought there is no better cake to make than a black forest cake. I researched recipes and scoured the web for the BEST version of the cake and the directions on achieving it when I realized all the recipes I was looking at (with the greatest reviews, mind you), called for cake mix. Really? Apparently so. I thought about it and how I really wanted this cake to taste less 'boxed-mix' (not that there is anything wrong with it, of course) and more bakery-bought.

I started wondering, as I usually do, about cake

mix and when it came to be the store-bought staple so many of us have used. Turns out it's a pre-World War II invention and the reason for its rise was due to a surplus of molasses. I know, I also assumed the impetus for its advent would be a healthy left over portion of flour – a surplus, but no. Molasses it was. In the 1930s, a company, P. Duff and Sons, was able to successfully dehydrate molasses and using the newly powdered syrup, developed a recipe for a "gingerbread baking mix," this led to the application of a patent resulting in an instant mix for gingerbread cake. Perfect timing too, as the great depression meant items such as baked goods became a luxury. However, it wasn't until after World War II that cake mixes had their renaissance, redefining the very definition of baking "from scratch."

So, with this little history lesson out of the way, let's talk about this bakery-in-a-box. While the convenience of cake mixes cannot be denied, there are some shortcomings to this time-saver. The earliest examples suffered from less than savory odors and tastes from the powdered milk and dehydrated eggs added to the mix, and the problem of taste persisted into the 1950s with the underlying, yet ever present, chemical taste. Today's mixes have, thankfully, overcome these earlier problems, with smell and taste being pleasant for the most part. I find the shortcomings of modern cake mixes are down to texture and consistency. I will follow the magic recipe on the box down to the letter, but my resulting masterpiece always seems to be

lacking the texture I look for in the perfect cake... until sour cream came into my life. Yes, you read that right: sour cream. By adding ½ to 1 cup of sour cream in addition to the ingredients already called for, I found I was able to get a much fluffier, lighter and moister cake.

This gives food for thought: if the addition of sour cream can make such a profound difference, what other tips and tricks are there to elevate the simple cake mix recipe? Turns out, there are quite a few and these kitchen secrets can make the difference between your kid having a wonderful birthday party or being scarred for life. Maybe that's a stretch, but these tips will definitely give your cake that extra something to uplift it to the bakery-quality we all desire.

For a chocolate cake, when the recipe calls for water, be sure to add HOT water. That's it. Hot water causes the chocolate flavor to bloom, thus making it more pronounced. Equally, you could substitute water for brewed coffee or even melted chocolate ice cream (when your decadence knows no bounds). In a white cake mix, use only egg whites and substitute the missing yolks with a tablespoon of butter for every egg yolk you take out in order to get a fluffier and whiter cake. Speaking of butter, use melted butter (preferably unsalted) as a substitute for oil to give your cake the flavor that is sadly missing from vegetable or canola oil. While adding butter may seem conventional, how about adding mayonnaise? Two tablespoons of mayonnaise improves the texture and will increase the richness of your cake. While we're delving into the unconventional, why not substitute oil with equal parts of applesauce? This, coupled with using milk, buttermilk or another non-dairy milk (such as almond or coconut milk) instead of water, leads to a very satisfying, truly home-baked cake. Water can also be replaced with soda (dark colas work best), fruit juices (orange juice pairs very well with vanilla) or melted ice cream. Playing with liquids means you can also, literally, poke holes in your cake, pour a flavored mixture over it and let the liquid soak into the cake. Finally, adjust the egg ratio in your recipe; an extra egg results in a thicker and moister cake, extra yolks give more density while extra egg whites make for a lighter, more airy cake. This simple trick allows you to tailor the recipe to your liking!

I hope you find these tips useful; having pledged my allegiance to sour cream, I am very tempted to give these other substitutes a go to see if I can truly raise the bar in my "baking-from-scratch" credentials! I've included a recipe for caramel pumpkin poke cake I found on www.allthing-smamma.com/pumpkin-caramel-poke-cake. I decided to use my own frosting recipe though; let me know how you like it. What about you dear readers? Do you have a baking secret you swear by, or have you used any of these methods and can confirm, or debunk, their effectiveness? Let me know by writing to letsdish.whidbeyweekly@gmail.com, along with any questions and comments so we can continue to Dish!

Caramel Pumpkin Poke Cake

1 box yellow cake mix
1 cup canned or cooked pumpkin (not the pie filling)
Vegetable oil (as per package instructions)
Water (as per package instructions)
Eggs (as per package instructions)
Pumpkin pie spice (1 to 2 teaspoons)

Sauce

1 jar caramel sauce/caramel topping
Frosting
1 cup butter, softened
4 cups powdered sugar
5 tablespoons sweetened condensed milk

For the frosting: Beat butter until light, creamy and fluffy. Slowly add the powdered sugar and mix with an electric mixer until well combined. Add the sweetened condensed milk, 1 tablespoon at a time until you reach the desired consistency. Adjust with powdered sugar/condensed milk until you reach your desired thickness. Set aside. Preheat oven to 350°F and grease a 13x9 inch baking dish. Mix all cake ingredients in a large bowl with an electric mixer for two minutes, scraping down the sides. Pour into prepared pan and bake for 28 to 33 minutes until done. Next, poke holes into the cake with the end of a wooden spoon and while the cake is still warm, pour jar of caramel sauce over it. Refrigerate for two hours before frosting. Cut, serve and enjoy!

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Island 911

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MONDAY, SEPT. 14

10:19 am SR 525

Reporting party states person laying on side of SR 525 at bus stop. Fetal position. Male subject, dark jammie type-clothing. Not moving. Unknown breathing status. Caller states that's enough information and hung up on call-taker.

10:51 am, SW Heller St.

Caller advising at house on west side before the light, hairy male came running out of house and ran up the side of the street and got into a white Jeep after handing the person in the Jeep something. Occurred an hour ago.

1:35 pm, Pacific Dogwood Dr.

Requesting call, wants to know if people are allowed to put political signs on her property without her permission.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 15

11:23 am, Stellar Ln.

States it's the known "tweaker" command on Stellar Lane, states have a fire going. Unknown if cooking but it's creating a lot of smoke. Subjects are also smoking crack in driveway.

4:22 pm, Laurel Ln.

Occurred five minutes ago, vehicle was speeding on Laurel Lane; 50-60 mph; reporting party states he stepped out in front of vehicle to stop them from speeding. Driver threatened him and told him to move. When reporting party didn't, the driver sprayed him with mace. Reporting party denied aid.

4:33 pm, Sandy Hook Ter.

Reporting party states neighbor's son just ran into back of their vehicle with a golf cart. All parties still at location. No injuries.

11:34 pm, NE Goldie St.

Reporting party states just got out of gym. Male walked up and yelled at reporting party saying "are you gonna f*** me up?" And then punched reporting party's window.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16

12:58 pm, Smugglers Cove Rd.

Requesting call. Advising two weeks ago, large black SUV tailgated reporting party.

2:40 pm, Bonnie View Acres Rd.

Requesting call regarding two roosters dumped off at easement next to location sometime within past month.

4:42 pm, Wilkinson Rd.

Reporting party calling on behalf of subject. Advising subject is moving out of location and was told by someone she had a place to move to somewhere in Langley; gave person \$10,000 cash, now that person is saying she can't move to new location.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17

12:46 am, E Sleeper Rd.

Reporting cow in road on Sleeper close to Taylor. Black cow with red tag in ear.

8:44 am, Taylor Rd.

Advising cows in road. Unknown name of owner. Cow in road now.

9:03 am, Harbor View Dr.

Reporting male subject knocking on her downstairs window at 4:30 this morning; states this has happened twice before in the middle of the night when it is dark.

12:43 pm, SR 525

Reporting party advising female was at location and broke things. Female then dropped everything, prayed, then said she would be back tomorrow.

2:06 pm, E Squire Rd.

Reporting party requesting contact. Advising was going down the road and subjects keep looking at reporting party's plate. Advising was checking the mail and male and female that camp next door were looking at reporting party's plate.

5:12 pm, SR 525

Requesting call referencing female that was in location earlier today. Advising just called location asking to sell reporting party and grandson a gun and teach him how to kill people.

8:19 pm, SR 20

Reporting party advising Jeep in front of reporting party is watching YouTube while driving; red Jeep. Reporting party advising phone is mounted to the window and reporting party can see clearly that the subject is watching videos.

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

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A Fall Haul, Y'all

More seasonal cinema



By Carey Ross

It's all James Bond's fault.

Over the course of 24 official films, 007 has dispatched some iconic villains—from Dr. No to Goldfinger to Hugo Drax and so on—but such badassery has not come without collateral damage. A lot of collateral damage.

But I never saw the shaken-not-stirred secret agent taking down an entire theater chain simply by failing to show up on time. Now there's a plot twist no one could have predicted.

However, this is exactly what has happened. When it was announced the release of *No Time to Die*, Bond installment number 25, would be delayed until spring 2021, after having already been bumped from spring to autumn 2020, Cineworld, the parent company of Regal cinemas, announced the temporary closure of every single one of its theaters in the United States until further notice.

Far from some nefarious plot worthy of a Bond film, their reasoning was as simple as these things get: Mainstream multiplexes rely on major blockbusters to survive, which is especially true now, when so many theaters are closed or operating at limited capacity due to COVID-19 shutdowns. With distributor after distributor delaying major release after major release, chains such as Regal have nothing to show. Nothing to show and the math doesn't pencil.

Blame it on Bond, blame it on COVID - either way, it appears as if none of us will be stepping foot inside a mainstream theater anytime soon.

Which brings us right back to where we started this pandemic, which is to say on our couches, watching movies at home. With Halloween on the horizon, I'm one of the many people who will begin to binge watch horror flicks shortly. But before I invite Freddy, Jason, and Michael into my living room, I plan to take a deep dive into a different kind of seasonal cinema, those movies steeped in autumn's golden glow. Don your favorite sweater and pick up a PSL (pumpkin spice latte) because it's fall haul, y'all.

Before I watched it, I knew I'd love *Knives Out*. It checked all my mystery boxes: major Agatha Christie vibes, a director (Rian Johnson) as obsessed with both *Clue* and *Gosford Park* as I am, and a patriarch with a name (Harlan Thrombey) ripped straight from the pages of a Choose Your Own Adventure whodunit. Add to this a stellar cast including Daniel Craig, Michael Shannon, Toni Collette, Christopher Plummer, and Jamie Lee Curtis, all bringing their considerable chops to bear on wholly absurd characters, and it was a movie that felt made for me. But it was Chris Evans—and his much-remarked-upon sweater—that makes *Knives Out* a fall flick I will watch over and over again. As spoiled, smarmy Ransom Drysdale, he's about as far as can be from the highly moral Captain America—and he's become my favorite Hollywood Chris because of it.

When Harry Met Sally is one of those movies that probably shouldn't hold up, but thanks to a timeless rom-com turn by Meg Ryan (all apologies to Billy Crystal, but he's not doing the heavy lifting here) and

plentiful footage of the glories of New York during fall, the Nora Ephron/Rob Reiner classic is always good for a rewatch. Centered on Harry's (Crystal) premise that men and women can't be friends, it traces a dozen years of his very fulfilling and only sometimes frustrating friendship with Sally (Ryan), introducing us to such phrases as "high-maintenance" and "transitional person" that have now become part of our lexicon. Life sure seems a lot more complicated than when the movie was released in 1989, so pull up a piece of pecan pie and travel back to a simpler time.

There is no opinion I've had to defend more times in my life than my ambivalence about Wes Anderson, both his style and his films. I'm not going to hash that out now as I'm not here to hate on anyone, but I will say nearly all of Anderson's cinematic efforts leave me cold, save for one standout: *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. Somehow, all of the things that irritate me about Anderson's live-action movies become strengths when rendered in charming stop-motion animation. Impeccable voice work by George Clooney, Meryl Streep, Anderson stalwarts Bill Murray and Owen Wilson, and others, combined with Mr. Fox's dapper corduroy suit that suits the season, make this an animated adventure perfect for autumn.

For so many people, fall means football. I am not one of those people, but I do enjoy a football film, such as *Any Given Sunday*, *Remember the Titans*, or even *Rudy*. However, of all the fine football flicks out there, my favorite is *Friday Night Lights*. Before it was an acclaimed television drama, it was a 2004 film directed by, of all people, Peter Berg (he also developed the TV show). And before it was a movie, *Friday Night Lights* was an excellent nonfiction book written by Buzz Bissinger (seriously, I encourage you to read it—you've got time these days). Both the book and film follow the Permian Panthers, a high school team in football-obsessed West Texas, as they make their 1988 state championship run. There's a lot more on the line for kids, parents and townspeople than just a trophy, as the film capably captures (it also features Tim McGraw in his first big-screen role) and the country crooner does a good job with it.

So far, all of my recommendations are for movies most people would consider to be good. But sometimes when the leaves fall and a chill creeps into the air, all you want to do is bundle up, find a blanket, pour a little whiskey into your hot apple cider and watch something truly, completely, unequivocally and unapologetically terrible. Have I got the movie for you. On paper, *Autumn in New York* doesn't seem so bad. It stars Richard Gere at his matinee idol best as a 48-year-old womanizer (clearly the role was a stretch for him), and Winona Ryder as the somewhat free-spirited 22-year-old woman he falls for. It's your classic May-December romance as he tells her they have no future on account of how he's a commitment-phobe and she tells him they have no future on account of how she's dying. Cue autumnal scenes of New York in which she recites poetry, he falls in love—and then there's something about an illegitimate daughter and a swan and by the time it's over, Richard will be crying but you probably won't be.

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Answers on page 19



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Limited Time Only
* Ask for details



**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
SERPENTINE BELTS**

**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

\$89⁹⁵

- 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

Radiator Flush & Fill

\$85⁹⁵

starting at

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

Computerized TUNE-UP Special

\$79^{95*}

4 cyl

\$89^{95*}

6 cyl

\$99^{95*}

8 cyl

*Plus Parts

- 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

Brake Reline Special

**FREE Brake
Inspections**

2-Wheel Front Brake Reline or 2-Wheel Rear Brake Reline starting at

\$119⁹⁵

DRUMS

- 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

Raybestos

The best in brakes

LIFETIME

BRAKE PARTS

AVAILABLE

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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Purchase Tires &
Auto Repairs
using your Exxon/Mobil
Card to make time payments.

**FREE REBALANCE
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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

Community Bulletin Board

To place an ad, email classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Island Shakespeare Festival is seeking new members to join our Board of Directors. We're looking for people who are passionate about high-quality live classical theater and can devote time and energy to support the work of Island Shakespeare Festival's important cultural, social, and fiscal position on Whidbey Island. Our current needs include individuals with backgrounds in the following areas: human resources, donor relations, finance, as well as other skills related to overseeing a performing arts organization. Board members are asked to provide input and feedback to the Board and staff of ISF, attend one full board meeting per month, serve actively on board committees, and attend activities and events sponsored by ISF. Women and persons of color strongly encouraged to apply. For more information, please contact jeff.natter@islandshakespearfest.org.

Volunteer with Habitat - Make Lasting Change. Do you believe everyone deserves a decent, affordable place to call home? Do you have some time to donate to help Island County families fulfill their dream of home ownership? We are now accepting applications to join our Resource Development Committee. No experience necessary, just a desire to make Island County a better place to live. <http://bit.ly/HabitatCommittee>.

Big Brother Big Sisters of Island County (BBBSIC) is actively seeking new member(s) for its Board of Directors. Join the board's exciting array of professionals! BBBSIC is seeking individuals who are committed to defending the potential of youth in our community through their time, skill sets, and influence in the community. To complement the existing board, candidates with expertise in accounting, law, nonprofit management, networking, or fundraising are of particular interest. Committed to diversifying its board to better represent our community, BBBSIC encourages BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ community members to inquire. Please contact admin@bbbsislandcounty.org for more information.

If you are looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity, look no further! When you volunteer at one of the Habitat for Humanity of Island County stores, you are helping local families attain decent, affordable housing. Income from the stores is vital to giving families

a path to homeownership. We need people who can commit to help out in our Oak Harbor or Freeland store at least two-hours per week. Schedules are flexible. Our friendly volunteers provide customer service, help with receiving donated household items and furniture, and maintain the store. We also need drivers and driver helpers who will professionally represent Habitat as they pick up donated items using our trucks. Please call either store for more information. Oak Harbor: 360-675-8733, Freeland: 360-331-6272.

College student? Student of history? History buff? Opportunities are available to spend constructive volunteer hours at the Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum. Go to www.pnwnam.org and click on "Volunteer" or just stop by and introduce yourself.

JOB MARKET

Housekeeping person needed. Understandable English speaker a plus. Small studio, 2 hours each week if possible. Pay fair and negotiable. 360-321-4224 (3)

Local Non-Profit SEEKING VIDEOGRAPHER for Virtual Event. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County is preparing for the 2020 Festival of Trees with some distinct creativity.

Due to COVID-19 and necessary safety precautions, Festival of Trees will look a bit different this year but will be full of the same holiday cheer! We need a local VIDEOGRAPHER to make several recordings for our online event and work with our planning team and

tech support group. Festival of Trees will host a LIVE virtual event Dec. 4, including the live auction of decorated trees. A week-long silent auction will showcase a variety of local treasures and wreaths. This annual event raises over half of the annual budget for BBBSIC. In order to continue changing the lives of youth on Whidbey Island, BBBSIC and Festival of Trees need your support. Local businesses are encouraged to donate auction items to support Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County. For more information, please contact Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County at development@bbbsislandcounty.org, or call 360-279-0644 (2)

Island Transit is Hiring! If you are looking for a solid career with great pay and benefits including two retirement plans, we are hiring for the following positions: Marketing and Communications Officer, Safety and Training Supervisor, Fleet Vehicle Journeyman Mechanic, Transit Bus Operators. Visit www.islandtransit.org/ employment to apply. Island Transit is a drug and alcohol free workplace and an equal employment opportunity employer. (2)

HOUSEWARES

106-piece Desert Rose China including wine glasses and drinking glasses, \$250 set. Call 360-321-8004 (1)

HOME FURNISHINGS

Natural, light colored wood display case, 80" h x 36" w x 18" d. Top two shelves are adjustable, bottom has two door

storage with a shelf, \$200. Call 360-321-8004 (1)

MISCELLANEOUS

Steel door with baked on polyester enamel coating, "white." Insulated (R-value unknown) 6 windows on second panel down. All in like new condition. 360-678-4889 or 425-422-0801 (1)

ANIMALS/SUPPLIES

Horse equipment: Trail Trim Feno pack saw and clippers, each in leather scabbards, attach under fender, beside pommel. Good condition. Current prices, saw \$133, clippers \$35. Asking \$50 for both; Two Australian Outback waterproof, full length, ALL weather "duster" trail coats. Perfect mountain camping coats. Covers rider & horse. Oil cloth exterior, insulated, brush & wipe clean. XXL dark brown, XL light brown, new are \$230. Asking \$70 each. Very good condition. Make appt to see; 2" extra thick well-constructed saddle pad for bareback riding. Has safety hand grip, buckle cinch. (red/beige stripe) 16-18" seat. Good condition. \$35; Two horse helmet head bumper poll guards. New, \$27. Like new, purchase both, comes with 2 pair felt leg wraps to protect legs while trailering. All pieces asking \$30; English riding quilted saddle pad, sky blue, with pockets, for trail. Like new. 21" front to back, 19" length from withers. New, \$60. Asking \$20; Copper Mylar bit with detachable leather reins. Bit cost \$165, reins \$50-70. Asking \$60 for set; Single ear,

poll head stall, black leather hackamore bridle (hackamore alone new, \$40-\$110), head stall has "cushioned" nose bar, curb chain, with 72" black leather reins. One rein with snap on can be used as single loop rein. Asking \$60; Black suede leather chaps, unisex, great for back country—full length protects, surrounds legs and aids grip. Size large, very good condition. 29" inseam hangs at boot ankle, could be shortened if desired. New \$100-\$160, asking \$60. Call 206-409-5383 (1)

Excellent grass hay, no rain, good for horses, \$7 per bale. 20 bale minimum. Good quality round bales available also. 360-321-1624

or get rid of anything, call TJ's Recycling, 360-678-4363. We will haul junk vehicles away.

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

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

Always buying antiques, collectibles, sporting goods, tools, garden equipment, furniture, vehicles, tractors and boats. Cash paid at loading out. 45 years experience. 360-678-5888 or text 360-969-1948.

How'd you do?

WANTED

Kitten under six months, female preferred. 360-672-7813 (1)

WANTED Running or Not: We buy cars, trucks, travel trailers, motorhomes, boats, tractors, & much more! If you want to sell

No Cheating!



CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

US Postal Mail

**Whidbey Weekly Classified Department
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Oak Harbor, WA 98277**

Email.....classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com
Telephone.....(360)682-2341
Fax(360)682-2344

PLEASE CALL WHEN YOUR ITEMS HAVE SOLD.
Please try to limit your classified to 30 words or less, (amounts and phone numbers are counted as words) we will help edit if necessary. We charge \$10/week for Vehicles, Boats, Motorcycles, RVs, Real Estate Rental/Sales, Business Classifieds and any items selling \$1,000 and above. We do charge \$25 to include a photo. The FREE classified space is not for business use. No classified is accepted without phone number. We reserve the right to not publish classifieds that are in bad taste or of questionable content. All free classifieds will be published twice consecutively. If you would like your ad to be published more often, you must resubmit it. Deadline for all submissions is one week prior to issue date.



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

"But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it."
Romans 8:25

OCTOBER 8 - OCTOBER 14, 2020

Whidbey Weekly

Business Spotlight

PEDIATRIC PHYSICAL THERAPY

Now accepting new patients!



- Developmental Delays
- Torticollis
- Cerebral Palsy
- Down's Syndrome

Dr. Bryant is a Board Certified Pediatric Clinical Specialist with over 14 years of experience working with children - from newborns to adolescents.

Coupeville 360-682-2770 Oak Harbor 360-679-8600

WWW.HARADAPT.COM

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Whidbey's Premier Audiology Clinic
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360-678-1423

20 N.W. Birch Street, Coupeville
coupevillehearing.com

A vertical banner for Thrive Community Fitness. It features a dark background with orange and white text. At the top is a full moon and bats. Below the moon, the word "Spooky" is written in a large, stylized orange font. Underneath "Spooky" is the text "LOW ENROLLMENT Only \$15". Below that is the text "when you join during the month of October!". At the bottom is the Thrive logo and the text "Expires 10/31/20 360-675-2600 32650 Hwy 20 • Building D • Oak Harbor thrivecommunityfitness.com

A vertical graphic for WhidbeyHealth. It features a teal header with the WhidbeyHealth logo. Below the logo is the text "FLU SEASON IS HERE Protect you and your family GET YOUR FLU SHOT TODAY!". There are three call-to-action boxes: "WEAR A MASK" (with a person wearing a mask icon), "WASH YOUR HANDS" (with a hand washing icon), and "WATCH YOUR DISTANCE" (with two people maintaining distance icon). At the bottom is the text "DON'T WAIT!" and the tagline "Go to your doctor or your local pharmacy.".



Got Gutter Gunk? Crystal Clean Windows and More LLC Gets your Gutters Going This Season

By Kae Harris

COVID-19 doesn't stop nature from doing what it does best here in the Pacific Northwest. With fall ushering in the wet, windy weather, it's important to make sure your home or place of business looks its best and keeps the elements at bay in its own way. What better way to do this than ensure your gutters are clear of clogs and the water flow around your abode is good to go? Let Crystal Clean Windows and More LLC do the draining on your gutters.

With an expert team of professionals, Crystal Clean owner Jason Leman offers only top tier services to his valued customers. Removing backups and clogs from gutters means home and business owners avoid the potential pitfalls gunked up gutters can cause. From backups and overflows to flooding and foundation damage, if left to its own devices, a gutter that can't drain properly can cause extensive damage and costly repairs down the road. By calling Crystal Clean Windows and More to clean out those clogs and get your gutters grooving again, you're steering clear of myriad problems. Let Jason's team "sweep your gutters clear, just a few times a year" and you'll be thankful you did! If the cleaning isn't valuable in and of itself, Crystal Clean offers gutter whitening to give it a little something special, adding to the aesthetic appeal of your home or place of business – nothing but the best services for Crystal Clean's customers!

Not in need of well-groomed gutters? Then how about the roof? Moss can be miserable at this time of year with the wet weather giving rise to some rather unlikeable lichen. Maintaining a moss-free roof means its structural integrity is preserved. With highly effective, non-toxic, eco-friendly cleaners, Jason just sprays and sweeps away the menacing moss – not a single shingle is damaged, and your roof will be right as rain again – a perfect description for our neck of the woods!

Whether the weather dictates a good 'ole gutter clean or a scrub down that raises the roof on your home or business, just know you don't need a special time, season or reason to get your windows gleaming. Using the reverse osmosis deionization (RODI) system, Crystal Clean Windows and More goes the extra mile to ensure no sediment or contaminants dull your windows' shine. Grime and gunk don't stand a chance and with the same safety standards applied to all his products and services; Jason uses only high quality, non-toxic cleaners, safe for use around pets and people alike.

For service second to none with a company that prides itself on a job well done each and every time, Crystal Clean Windows and More is your go-to for gutter, roof and window cleaning and more. The professionalism and customer service dispensed by Jason and his team are unparalleled, with quality and safety at the forefront of each and every job, especially during these current uncertain times. For more information, visit their website at www.crystalcleanwindowswhidbey.com or call them at 360-675 3005 and get your gutter gleam on today!

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Autumn is here, and your gutters are filling up fast!

Introducing SkyVac –
The World's Most Powerful
Gutter Cleaning Machine

- Eliminates risks associated with working at height
- Improves productivity: wireless camera identifies areas of the gutter to be cleaned
- Cost saving: no need for traditional access equipment

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GROUND
UP TO 40ft

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zjzale.skyway@gmail.com

An advertisement for Island Herb. It features a scenic view of a beach and forest. The text "ADVENTURERS WELCOME" is at the top, followed by "Explore our menu, seek guidance from our insightful bartenders, and save with our daily and monthly specials. Experience the island's best cannabis." Below that is the "ISLAND HERB" logo. At the bottom, it says "Phone and online ordering available through Leafly 5565 VAN BARR PLACE, UNIT F, FREELAND, WA OPEN DAILY 1 WHIDBEYISLANDHERB.COM | 360-331-0140 This product has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming. Marijuana can impair concentration, and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of this drug. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. For use only by adults twenty-one years of age and older. Keep out of the reach of children."

RED HOT BUY!

**RV/Marine
Antifreeze, Gal.**

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\$7.00
(\$3.50 each)**
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