

November 19 through November 25, 2020

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ON TRACK

with Jim Freeman



Is it just me or have you also wondered why people driving their vehicles without any passengers are still wearing a mask?

This and That

My apologies to you readers. A representative of the Associated Press Stylebook

which recommends and advises journalists on the proper use of words, punctuation, and more, has contacted me.

Apparently, I am in violation.

My violation – the overuse of the word *that*.

That was a surprise to me.

That is a busy word. *That* can be used as a pronoun, an adjective, a conjunction, or an adverb.

That is a multi-tasker. No wonder I overuse the word.

As well-known *Daily Herald* columnist Andrea Brown writes weekly, "What's Up With That?"

According to the Associated Stylebook, which I tossed years ago because I have no style, I am a violator of excess *that*'ing. That information was disturbing. It is too late to recall my excess *Thats*, but I could and shall count my *Thats* from now on to keep them at a minimum.

I grew up in the *That* Generation.

TV's *That Girl* with Marlo Thomas was popular from 1966-1971.

TV's *That Was The Week That Was* was popular from 1964-65.

TV's *That's Incredible!* was popular from 1980-89.

That'll Be the Day was one of my fave songs from 1957. Thank you Buddy Holly and The Crickets.

That Certain Feeling (1958) with Bob Hope and Eva Marie Saint was one of my fave above average movies, as was *That Championship Season* (1982) with Bruce Dern, Robert Mitchum, Stacy Keach, Marty Sheen, Paul Sorvino, and Arthur Franz.

That Darn Cat (1965) with Hayley Mills and Dean Jones, *That Funny Feeling* (1965) with Bobby Darin and Sandra Dee, and *That Touch of Mink* (1962) with Cary Grant and Doris Day were all crowd pleasers to my *That* Generation.

Isn't that amazing?

As Bugs used to say, "That's All, Folks."

Book in the Boat

Our thanks to Tom DeMund, author of *Feather River Country Adventure Trails*, for sharing this classic joke from yesteryear, or was it yesterday?

"One morning a husband returns to the cabin after several hours of fishing and decides to take a nap. Although not familiar with the lake, his wife decides to take the boat out since it is such a beautiful day. She motors out a short distance, anchors and reads her book.

Along comes a Game Warden in his boat. He pulls up alongside the woman and says, 'Good morning ma'am. What are you doing?'

'Reading a book', she replies, thinking 'Isn't it obvious?'

'You're in a Restrictive Fishing Area,' he informs her.

'I'm sorry officer, but I am not fishing, I am reading.'

'Yes, but you have all the equipment. I'll have to write you up a ticket.'

'For reading a book?', she replies.

'You're in a Restricted Fishing Area,' he informs her again.

'But officer, I'm not fishing, I'm reading.'

'Yes, but you have all the equipment. For all I know, you could start at any moment. I'll have to write you up a ticket and you'll have to pay a fine.'

'If you do that, I'll have to charge you with a sexual assault', says the woman.

'But I haven't even touched you', says the Game Warden.

'That's true, but you have all the equipment. For all I know, you could start at any moment.'

'Have a nice day, ma'am,' and he immediately departs.

Moral: Never argue with a woman who reads. It's likely that she can also think. Sure, God created man before woman. But, you always make a rough draft before the final masterpiece."

Thanks also to Paul Guffen of "On the Shelf" for reprinting the above joke in his Nov. 5 column in *The Mountain Messenger*, the oldest weekly newspaper in California.

What would you do?

Last month, in the Oct. 18 issue of *Parade Magazine* in the Sunday supplement of the *Seattle Times*, Paulette Cohn and Kathleen McCleary asked 100 citizens and celebrities throughout the country what they would do if they were president.

My favorite responses are quoted below:

"I would impress upon people that you don't need to despise somebody just because you disagree with them." ~Actor Ben Affleck

"I would dance. I would dance 14 times a day. Everybody else would too. We'd all be happy and strong. I would write stories too. I'd write stories about happy things about my family. I'd have parties in the White House to celebrate Chinese New Year with a big dragon and some red lanterns hanging up." ~Kindergartner Parker Curry, age 5

"If I were president, I would resign because y'all not about to stress me out and make my hair turn gray like Obama." ~Kalen Allen, 24, actor-comedian

"No matter how the election goes, there's a whole section of this country that's going to feel really left out and angry. As president, I'd want to make people see we have more in common than we do not." ~Adam Bercovici, 61, retired LAPF lieutenant, technical consultant for Stumptown, Bend, Ore.

"First, we pay teachers more than members of Congress, since teachers are more valuable. Second, I want an Amelia Earhart or Rosa Parks Day to prove to our daughters that men don't get all the holidays. Third, Halloween is permanently on a Saturday. That last one is my daughter's idea." ~Brad Meltzer, 50, author.

"I would make every member of the Senate come to work in their underwear (laughs). It would strip them down and make them maybe not as arrogant as they are. Actually, if I were president, I'd love to have the power to cause somebody's trousers to drop. I think it would be a great superpower." ~Glenn Close, 73, actress

Said and read

"Goodness is the only investment that never fails." ~Henry David Thoreau

"Disagreement is the oxygen of democracy." ~Jon Meacham, Distinguished Professor at Vanderbilt University

"A keen sense of humor helps us to overlook the unbecoming, understand the unconventional, tolerate the unpleasant, overcome the unexpected and outlast the unbearable." ~Billy Graham, from his 1991 book *Hope for the Troubled Heart*, page 187.

Old but still funny

At 10:15 p.m., a Langley man, 19, admitted to intentionally backing into the car of a Langley woman, 18, after a dispute in Casey's parking lot. She said the dispute started when he asked her what was going on, she replied "Nothing." He asked "Why?" and she answered "Because you're dumb."

The woman claimed her car was dented, but a deputy told her the dent was an old one. They decided to drop the whole thing.

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

Penny,
we thank you for being a
part of the team for 11 years.
You'll be missed!
Love,
Your friends at Whidbey Weekly.



Penny Hill 01/09/41 - 11/04/20

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Do your Thanksgiving celebrations look different this year?

- Is it smaller?
- Are masks being worn with extended family and friends?
- Is food being prepared or served with COVID safety in mind?
- Have you decided to stay local?

Thank you.



Keeping it up Keeps cases down



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





Bits & Pieces

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

It's 6:00PM and the Friday the 13th windstorm still rages outside. The power is still out over most of Whidbey Island. We look out our windows and see only darkness, with a few lights from homes with generators.

At times like this we feel very grateful for our electrical independence. Whidbey Sun and Wind installed a battery supported solar system for us a few years ago, and we have been delighted with its performance. It provides electricity for all our needs, from heat to microwave to computer, and we also receive an annual rebate from PSE for excess electricity sold back to the company. We also have a solar hot water heater with battery backup.

Whidbey Sun and Wind is a local company located in Coupeville, so any questions or problems can be immediately addressed. With solar panels we are secure and safe from interruptions to electrical service plus we are helping to slow global warming from use of fossil fuels – and we avoid the noise and inconvenience of running a generator.

The price of solar panels is going down all the time as the country works toward phasing out fossil fuels. Many households on the island receive enough sun to benefit from the use of solar panels and hot water heaters. I hope more families will make the change.

Harry Abbott
Mary Fiddler
Oak Harbor, Wash.

Island County Sheriff's Office News Release

On Nov. 11 at about 11:45AM the Island County Sheriff's Office dispatch received a call from the FAA who stated an aircraft had reported it lost an engine and was going down. The FAA reported it was somewhere near the Langley Airport on Whidbey Island. A witness called and stated a plane coming over the airfield stalled and crashed into the ground.

Deputies arrived on scene and located a Cessna 177 had landed nose first into the woods just west of the airfield at Whidbey Airpark on Crawford Road, Langley, Wash.

Both pilot and co-pilot were confirmed deceased. Witnesses state the plane came from the west and flew over the runway, it made a sharp turn and landed in the woods just at the edge of the airpark.

The pilot was Carl Dahlman of Seattle, Wash. He was 78 years old.

The co-pilot was Joshua McCormick of Edmonds, Wash. He was 25 years old.

The FAA and the NTSB will be investigating the cause of the crash.

The plane is registered to a flying club in the Seattle area.

[Submitted by Island County Sheriff's Office]

Annual Salmon Benefit Dinner to be Virtual

For the first time in 32 years, our community cannot gather in November to enjoy a salmon benefit dinner. Currently, the proceeds fund a library for EDELAC, the School of the Streets in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. The pandemic

has made EDELAC even more essential, providing food, medical supplies, and internet access for online learning. At the same time, EDELAC's primary income from tourist trekking has abruptly stopped.

Because of the great need, Langley United Methodist Church is still hosting the benefit without the party! Please contribute generously by visiting www.langleyumc.org. All donations go directly to the school. All donors who contribute before Thanksgiving (Nov. 26) will be eligible for four drawings including:

- Salmon dinner for six delivered to your Whidbey home on a convenient date.
- Beautiful throw pillow embroidered by Laura, the teacher the church hopes to sponsor.
- Delicious pie of choice from Whidbey Pies.
- Colorful Guatemalan woven scarf.

For more information, contact shiner.dianne@gmail.com

[Submitted by Dianne Shiner]

Miss Oak Harbor Scholarship Pageant Informational Meeting

Applications for the 2021 Miss Oak Harbor Scholarship Pageant being held March 13, 2021, will soon be accepted. Any Oak Harbor freshman-senior who identifies as female and who would like more information is encouraged to attend the informational Zoom meeting Dec. 2. Meet the Miss Oak Harbor Board of Directors and past royalty, and have all your questions about the pageant answered.

The informational Zoom meeting link and applications for the 2021 pageant are available online at missoakharbor.com. The pageant is limited to the first 25 applicants who submit completed applications, accepted Dec. 2 - Jan. 3.

Since 2015, the Miss Oak Harbor Scholarship Pageant has awarded more than \$50,000 in scholarships and awards. The organization's mission is to provide scholarships for young women interested in the advancement of their education through the spirit of a competition that embodies the four points of the crown: scholarship, service, success, and style. This unique six-week program focuses on personal and professional growth through the development of leadership, communication, and marketability. The hope is participants will gain confidence, self-esteem, and a sense of accomplishment to enable them to serve as role models for the youth of their community.

More information can be found by visiting missoakharbor.com, emailing missoakharbor@yahoo.com, or by speaking with any board member: River Powers, Cheryl Grehan, Kristin Griffith, Kate Hauter, Mollie Brodt, Maria McGee, Devon Denman, Mara Powers, and Shelby Bassett.

[Submitted by River Powers]

WhidbeyHealth Updates Pandemic Visitor and Support Persons Policy for Public and Staff Safety

Due to the rise in positive COVID-19 testing results throughout Island County, WhidbeyHealth has made the decision to modify its current Visitor and Support Persons policy, effective immediately. In an abundance of caution for its patients, staff, and community, and in order to continue to provide excellent healthcare when you need it, WhidbeyHealth will be restricting the number of visitors and support persons accompanying patients within its medical center, primary and specialty care clinics, and walk-in clinics. The modifications to the policy and guidelines are in accordance with WhidbeyHealth's regional, state, and federal partners. Routine visitation is being suspended at all of WhidbeyHealth's locations in favor of its modified policy.

WhidbeyHealth will be taking the following steps to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure:

- Temperature monitoring and COVID-19 symptom monitoring will continue before entrance is permitted of any persons (patients, visitors, support persons, and staff) to all of WhidbeyHealth's locations. Additional monitoring of travel history and exposure history is also in place prior to entry.
- Patients will not be denied care if exhibiting signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2).
- Visitors, support persons, and staff will not be granted entrance if they cannot meet the temperature monitoring requirements (temperatures less than or equal to 99.9°F/37.6°C), or if there is exposure history.
- All patients, visitors, and support persons will be required to be masked during any/all interactions with WhidbeyHealth staff.

WhidbeyHealth will allow the following number of visitors/support persons to departments/areas of care:

- Emergency Department: No visitors or support persons.
- Medical/Surgical Inpatient Department: No visitors. One (1) support person. If a support person wishes to stay, they must remain in the hospital for the entire length of the patient's care.
- Intensive Care Unit: No visitors. One (1) support person. If a support person wishes to stay, they must remain in the hospital for the entire length of the patient's care.
- WhidbeyHealth Family Birth Place: No visitors. One (1) support person. If a support person wishes to stay, they must remain in the hospital for the entire length of the patient's care.
- Surgical Services: No visitors and no support persons. Responsible adult support person should remain in their vehicle or return home during the procedure.
- MAC: No visitors or support persons.
- Rehab Services: No visitors or support persons.
- Respiratory Therapy: No visitors or support persons.
- Lab: No visitors or support persons.
- Diagnostic Imaging: No visitors or support persons.
- Primary Care, Specialty Care, and Walk-In Clinics: No visitors or support persons.

Minors under the age of 18 may have one support person (parent or guardian) during the treatment. The parent or guardian may trade-out with one another as needed. Exceptions to this policy may be necessary in certain circumstances. In these instances, it is the responsibility of the department/unit/area of care leadership to communicate the exception(s) being made.

Certified doulas are allowed to enter the facility and participate in the birth experience of a laboring patient. Doulas are in addition to the one (1) person currently allowed with laboring patients. If a support person is visiting a confirmed or suspected patient in isolation status, department staff will provide the visitor/support person with and educate them of the proper personal protective equipment to wear, as well as how to put on, take off, and respiratory and hand hygiene practices. In efforts to provide its patients safety at all of its care locations, WhidbeyHealth retains the right to dismiss any visitor or support person who is unwilling to follow the mask wearing guidelines or compromises the safety or healing environment.

Additional modified access will apply to the following areas within the Medical Center:

- West Wind Café: Only employees will have access to the West Wind Café. Visitors and support persons may request a meal through the kitchen as part of WhidbeyHealth's standard patient meal services. General public access remains restricted at this time.
- Gift Shop: Patients, visitors and support persons (as defined above) will not have access to the Gift Shop. The Gift Shop will be able to offer "curbside pickup" to WhidbeyHealth customers through phone ordering between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can place "curbside pickup" orders by calling 360-678-7656 x3901.

More information about coronavirus and COVID-19 is available online:

- Island County Public Health: www.island-countywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx
- Washington State Department of Health: www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19
- CDC Guidance for Isolation: <https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html>

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

[Submitted by Nic Wildeman, Community Relations, WhidbeyHealth]

Sno-Isle Libraries Services Continue Under New COVID-19 Restrictions



A full-slate of contact-free and online services will continue to be available from Sno-Isle Libraries under the latest COVID-19 restrictions announced by Gov. Jay Inslee Nov. 15.

"We know many of our customers enjoy holding a book while reading and we have procedures in place to help make that possible," Sno-Isle Libraries Executive Director Lois Langer Thompson said Sunday, following Gov. Inslee's announcement.

Contact-free services include pickup of physical materials at any of the library district's 23 community libraries across Snohomish and Island counties. Items such as books, DVDs and CDs may be reserved online and then picked up in a labeled bag at the door of the customer's preferred library location.

Other contact-free services include signing up for a library account, remote printing and pick up, checkout of laptops for use within range of a library's Wi-Fi signal and activity bundles for children and teens.

Customers who miss browsing the shelves can get help from library staff through the Library Picks and Quick Picks program. Answering a few questions in an online form or a paper version available at the door puts five items on hold for the customer.

In addition, physical materials are quarantined following state guidelines before being made available for further circulation.

"We are here to serve our communities while prioritizing the safety of our customers and employees," Langer Thompson said. "Our contact-free services meet the guidelines set forth by Gov. Inslee."

The library district is also expanding online resources including the digital collection and transitioning many events to online.

Available for download are eBooks, digital audiobooks, comics, graphic novels, magazines and newspapers. Movies and TV shows are available for streaming online. Customers can also access a host of learning resources and databases.



Online events include storytimes for children, trivia games for families and adults, arts and crafts, book groups and others.

"While access to the buildings is restricted at this time, in many ways the libraries are open and available to all 24-7," Langer Thompson said. "We will continue to serve our customers and communities while we monitor and adapt to conditions."

[Submitted by Jim Hills, Sno-Isle Libraries]

Time is Running Out: 3 Key Items to Consider Before the Dec. 7 Medicare Enrollment Deadline

In a year filled with unforeseen challenges and important decisions, people with Medicare have through Monday, Dec. 7 to select their Medicare Advantage or Prescription Drug Plan coverage for 2021. To ensure you have the right Medicare plan for you in place come Jan. 1 of next year, it's important to focus on these three key topics:

- **Navigating plan options during COVID-19:** Traditionally, the annual Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug Plan open enrollment period offers opportunities for in-person educational events and one-on-one meetings with licensed sales agents. This year, you can safely access the resources you need to choose the best plan for you, online or by phone. The Medicare Plan Finder is a great place to start.
- **Doctors in network, prescription drugs covered?** As you connect with a licensed sales agent or research information online, remember to confirm which doctors and hospitals are in a plan's network. If you have a preferred physician or health care facility, a licensed health insurance agent can help you see if a specific doctor or hospital is in a plan's network and taking new patients. Although Original Medicare does not cover most prescription drugs, many Medicare Advantage plans include prescription drug coverage, or you can sign up for a Part D

Prescription Drug Plan separately. A licensed sales agent can look up the medications you would like covered and help you estimate what the cost of each drug would be on a plan.

- **New, innovative benefits:** Beyond vision, hearing and dental coverage, if you aim to become healthier, look for fitness program benefits as many Medicare Advantage plans include them. If you are comfortable using technology, access to virtual doctor visits is broadly available and enables you to seek care through your phone or computer, without having to leave home. Some Medicare Advantage plans offer benefits to help address the COVID-19 pandemic including offering home-delivered meals for members with a COVID diagnosis.

If you are not comfortable accessing plan information online, Medicare.gov has an option for setting up a phone call.

For more information, go to Medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227).

[Submitted by Jesse Gamez, Intermountain Medicare President, Humana]

Langley Library Due for a Major Makeover

Sno-Isle Libraries is tentatively moving forward with plans to remodel and update the Langley Library to improve its accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and overall usability for customers and staff.

The project is subject to the state Legislature's approval of a \$700,000 matching grant from Washington Department of Commerce. Sno-Isle Libraries is providing \$550,000 from its 2021 capital fund and the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation is committed to raising \$150,000.

"The original library was dedicated in 1923 to the memory of those who served in World War I. There were two additions, in 1980 and 1993," Langley Library Manager Vicky Welfare said. "As building use and community needs

have changed over time, we recognized several areas of potential enhancement: improving ADA access with the entryway and throughout the facility and improving public and staff areas to help create a more welcoming space."

The Langley Library was a popular community gathering point until coronavirus precautions in March limited access to all Sno-Isle Libraries facilities.

"Before COVID hit, we were hosting programs in our library all month long, but because we have no meeting room, we had to move furniture each time and use the library space before we opened or after hours," Welfare said. "Just think of the potential of having a meeting room that could be used by the community."

The City of Langley owns the library building and now uses the basement to store documents. The city fully backs the project.

"We are pleased to support a capital facilities improvement project in service to a library that meets current and emerging community needs, and provides greater levels of access for all residents," Mayor Tim Callison wrote in support of Sno-Isle Libraries' state grant application.

At this point in the process, Sno-Isle Libraries' construction plans are still in the idea phase, but they do account for the building's status on the city's Register of Historic Places and acknowledge the age and changing needs of its customers.

The average Langley resident is 57 years old. Before the library's closure in March, many retirees and longtime older residents used the library daily, Welfare said.

Accessibility upgrades have been challenging and have not been significantly updated since 1993, Sno-Isle Libraries District Manager Chy Ross said. Current accessibility measures do not take best advantage of the library's historic entrance and other historic features.

BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



Maria Reyes
Manager
(Patient Access)

SOME HEROES GO BEYOND

"Maria goes above and beyond to be a positive influence on the WhidbeyHealth Community. She leads by example, demonstrating how the patient experience should be. Maria checks in on her staff and ensures they have the tools needed to be successful and are optimistic about the job and department."

Maria is a **real healthcare hero**.

I was fortunate enough to give Maria her 25 year pin last week. In the 25 years at WhidbeyHealth she has always put the patient first and to make sure her employees are supported. If you don't see her in her office, she will be helping her team in every way possible.

Thank you, Maria...you rock!

Ron Telles, CEO
WhidbeyHealth



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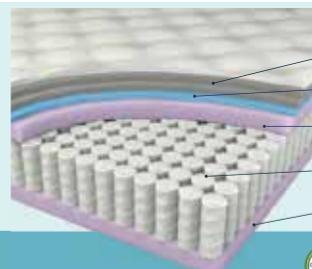
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Land Trust hosts otter presentation p. 10



Whidbey Camano Islands Tourism has launched a local holiday shopping guide to help boost local business during this shopping season.

'Tis the season to keep it local

By **Kathy Reed** Whidbey Weekly

We may have to stay close to home for the holidays this year, but there's no reason we can't take the time to appreciate what Island County has to offer and better yet, share it with those who can't be with us.

In the spirit of helping local businesses through the tough economic times brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Whidbey-Camano Islands Tourism has launched one of a few shop local efforts funded by grants from Island County's CARES funds.

"Whidbey and Camano Islands 2% Joint Advisory Board has recently shifted its energy to encourage residents to take a renewed sense of pride and adventure and become explorers

of their own county," said Sherrye Wyatt, executive director of Whidbey-Camano Islands Tourism. "We've been working closely with Island County Chambers of Commerce and representatives of the Island County Economic Recovery Task Force since March on a number of fronts. We've launched essentially a 'shop local with a twist' campaign funded by CARES money. Our main goal is to encourage everyone to stay safe and close to home this holiday season to slow the spread of COVID-19."

This local shopping guide, which arrives in mail boxes this week and is also accessible online at whidbeycamanoislands.com, includes not only gift items unique to Whidbey and Camano Islands, but also a collection of experiences to enjoy once it is safe to do so.

According to Wyatt, there is plenty to see and do in Island County.

"What may surprise many of us who live in Island County is just how little time we've spent exploring our sister island," she said. "Why not do that now and invest money into our own county, where you'll instantly have a local return on investment?"

"Another pleasant surprise is just how many world class, high quality artisans live here," Wyatt continued. "In preparing the guide, we were overwhelmed by how many cool gift items, self care, shelf stable foods, books, jewelry, tea, CDs of local musicians, art supplies, hand forged or carved things, craft beverages, candles, clothing and more are all made right here by our neighbors."

For those looking for a way to share a piece of Whidbey Island with a friend or relative far away, the guide features descriptions and photos of some of the unique items available for purchase. There are also offers on places to stay and eat. Cost and travel-friendly sightseeing ideas are also featured.

"We've partnered with Island Transit and are highlighting accessible places to visit by bus with easy walks for everyone, even those with strollers or wheelchairs," said Wyatt. "We're profiling great places to get outside and experience outdoor art on both islands."

If a stay-cation is of interest, this local shopping guide has options for that as well.



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Camano Islands Tourism
New items and offers from Island County businesses like cheeses from Glendale Shepherd in Clinton will be added to the holiday shopping guide through December. Check it out at whidbeycamanoislands.com.

"There's even 14 properties offering 20 percent off a three night stay for locals to take an island mini-break, find a new creative space to work remotely, or to secure a safe place for visiting friends and family to social distance but still visit safely during the holiday season," Wyatt described.

Wyatt said new items and offers will be added in the coming weeks, encouraging people to check the website for the latest additions.

"Continue to check the site (whidbeycamanoislands.com) throughout November and December to discover more things to do in your own backyard – places to eat or shop, video profiles of artisans, unique gift ideas and a very special giveaway (\$1,000 getaway to the Inn at Langley, deadline to enter is December 31.)," she said.

Shopping local just might be the only way to go in a year like 2020.

"Let's do what we can this holiday season to keep each other safe by finding joy in experiences close to home," encouraged Wyatt. "Together we can help flatten the curve and promote a healthy and vibrant Island County."

Look for other local shopping guides and features from the Coupeville and Langley Chambers of Commerce, which also received CARES funding to promote local businesses and shopping. Whidbey Weekly reached out to each of them but did not get responses by its print deadline.



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Camano Islands Tourism
It might be a good year to send a piece of Whidbey or Camano Islands to loved ones who can't travel here for the holidays. Several items are available for purchase through the tourism website.



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.

Holiday Market

Through December 10

www.staugustinesholidaymarket.org

Online store featuring one-of-a-kind crafts and gifts. Proceeds go to local charities. Orders to be picked up at 5217 Honeymoon Bay Road, Freeland. Visit www.staugustinesholidaymarket.org.

Dine Out for Kids

Saturday, November 21, 8:00AM-4:00PM

Coffee on the Cove, Coupeville

Coffee on the Cove will donate a portion of its sales to the Coupeville Schools Foundation. The Foundation provides an extra measure of support to the Coupeville Schools through teacher grants, college scholarships and the Promise Fund. Coffee on the Cove is located at 26 Front St.

Shop Out For Kids

Thursday, December 10, 11:00AM-5:00PM

Aqua Gifts, 2 Front St, Coupeville

Aqua Gifts will donate a portion of its sales to the Coupeville Schools Foundation. The Foundation provides an extra measure of support through teacher grants, college scholarships and the Promise Fund.

Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below

Cost: Free

Books2Movies: A Man Called Ove

Friday, November 20, 2:00PM

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.

This month's title: *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman, is about Ove, a curmudgeon who people call "the bitter neighbor from hell." But behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness.

This meeting takes place on Zoom! To receive a Zoom invitation, please register. An email address is required.

Craft and Chat: Wool Handwarmers

Friday, December 11, 11:00AM

Craft and Chat is an online social event that offers you the opportunity to skill share, learn about library resources and make connections with fellow crafters. In this Craft and Chat session we will create wool handwarmers. This meeting takes place on Zoom. To get a Zoom invitation, please register. Email address is required.

Books2Movies: Where'd You Go, Bernadette

Friday, December 18, 2:00PM

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. This month's title: *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* by Maria Semple is about a misanthropic matriarch who leaves her eccentric family during a crisis and mysteriously disappears. It is set in the Seattle area. This meeting takes place on Zoom. To receive a Zoom invitation, please register. An email address is required.

Meetings & Organizations

Kayaking the Fjords of Norway

Saturday, November 21, 11:00AM

Zoom meeting

Join Whidbey Island Nordic Lodge members when they connect virtually with adventurer, author and speaker David Ellingson and hear about his kayaking adventures in the Sogne and Hardanger fjords in Norway, where his ancestors emigrated from in the 1850s.

Dave will not only talk about the beautiful places he paddled, but also about the wonderful people he met along the way and the pleasures and challenges of the kayaking itself. A question and answer session will follow his presentation. Kayakers are especially welcome to this meeting.

The Lodge's meeting will start with a short business meeting before the program begins. Following the program, information about how to obtain an autographed copy of Dave's book, "Kayaking the Fjords of Norway," will be made available.

If you are interested in attending this virtual

program, please email whidbeyislandnordic lodge@gmail.com and you will be provided with the link to the Zoom meeting.

Classes, Seminars and Workshops

North American River Otters on Whidbey Island

Friday, November 20, 6:00PM

Join Dr. Heide Island, professor of Comparative Animal Behavior and Neuroscience at Pacific University, for a fascinating presentation about her study of North American river otters on Whidbey Island. Dr. Island's talk will take place via Zoom video conference. Dr. Island has been studying the behaviors of river otters on Whidbey for two years. Her presentation will include lots of fun photos and videos of otter behavior. The program, hosted by the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, is open to the public and is free. Please RSVP at www.wclt.org/rsvp.

NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting

Friday, November 20, 6:00-9:00PM

Saturday, November 21, 9:00AM-5:00PM

NWSA Range, Oak Harbor

Cost: \$35

This course introduces students to the knowledge, skills and attitude necessary for owning and using a pistol safely. The pistol handling and shooting portion is completed at the NWSA range where students will learn about safe gun handling, pistol shooting fundamentals, and pistol shooting activities. The Basics of Pistol Course will also help prepare the student for participation in other NRA courses. This class includes shooting on the NWSA Pistol Range. Students can register online at nrainstructors.org.

For questions or to register, call NRA instructor John Hellmann at 360-675-8397 or email NWSA.Training@gmail.com. Additional information can be found at www.northwhidbey sportsmen.org.



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HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

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This section will publish every Thursday through December 10.
 Deadline is the Thursday prior to publication.



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 Call: 360-682-2341 or email: publisher@whidbeyweekly.com

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIGHT

This holiday season sponsor a luminaria for only \$25 to pay tribute to that special person or pet in your life. Your luminaria will light our main lobby at WAIF's Coupeville shelter and help fund vital programs that help light the way to forever homes for Whidbey Island's homeless pets.

Visit www.waifanimals.org/gol to sponsor a luminaria today.



St. Augustine's in-the-Woods Holiday Market ONLINE

staugustinesholidaymarket.org

November 10-December 10

One-of-a-Kind Crafts & Gifts

Proceeds will go to these local charities:

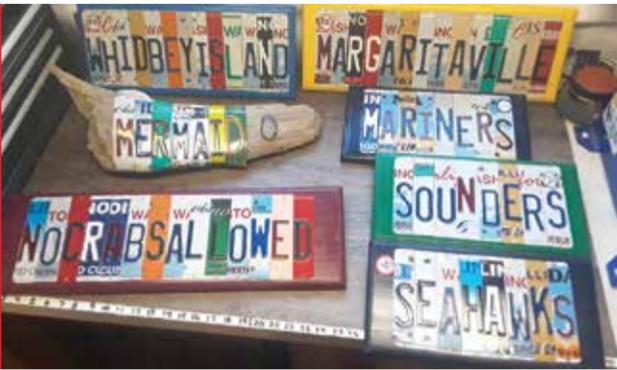
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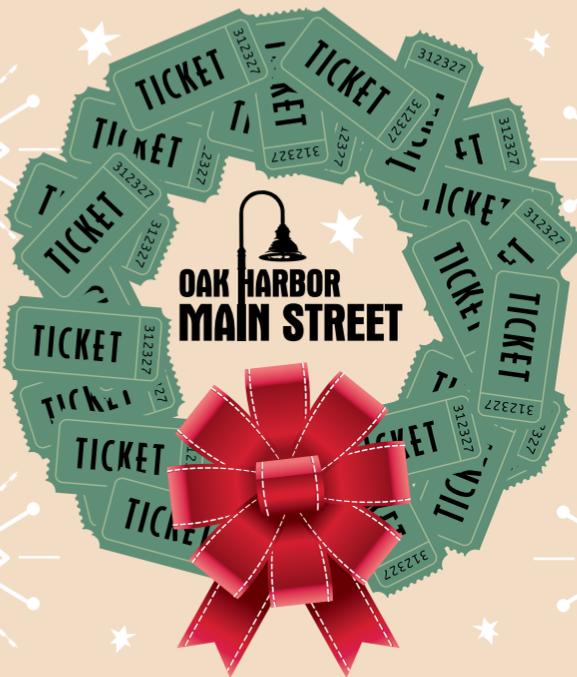
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NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 18, 2020

Earn a GREEN TICKET for every \$20 purchase* at participating merchants between November 1 and December 18, 2020 and be entered to win \$1000 CASH, \$500 CASH OR A \$100 Main Street Gift Certificate!
 Drawing will be held at 4pm on Saturday, December 19.
 Must be 18 years older to participate. Do not need to be present to win.

*1 ticket per \$20 purchase with a maximum of 50 tickets per individual transaction up to \$1000.

Annual Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association Red Ticket Drawing

\$2,300 Cash

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 Rain Puddles Kids Boutique
 Balanced Mind Hypnosis
 Coupeville Auto Repair
 Briggs Shore Ceramics
 Little Red Hen Bakery
 Collections Boutique
 Coffee On The Cove
 Callen's Restaurant
 Front Street Realty
 The Crow's Roost
 A Touch of Dutch
 Front Street Grill
 Currents Bistro
 Sunshine Drip
 Toby's Tavern
 Salon Blue
 Aqua Gifts

Island County Historical Museum
 The Seaside Salon and Spa
 Kingfisher Bookstore
 Rain Shadow Nursery
 Whidbey Natural Pet
 The Tye Restaurant
 The Coupeville Inn
 the Oystercatcher
 Penn Cove Gallery
 Penn Cove Brewing
 Madrona Blossom
 The Honey Bear
 Sea Bre's Yarns
 Lavender Wind
 Marbley
 bayleaf
 Ciao



Each \$20 Purchase = **1 Red Ticket**

Red 2020 Ticket

Shop Locally

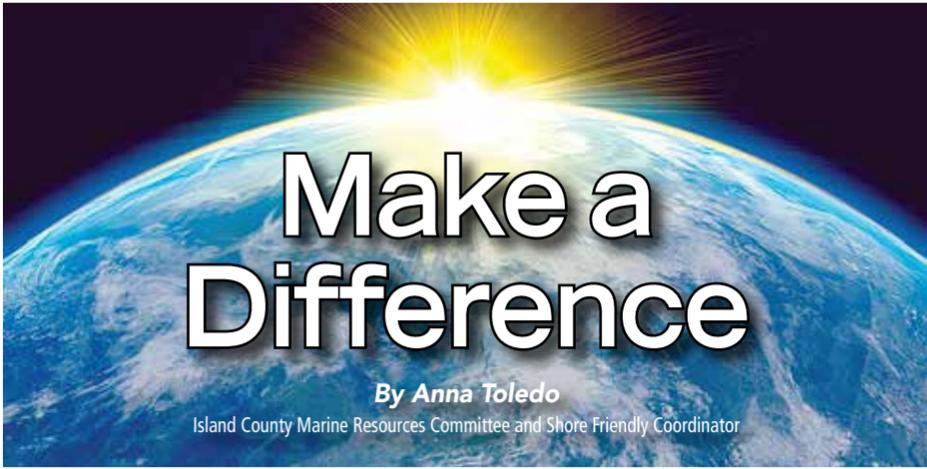
\$1500, \$500 & 3 \$100 PRIZES!

Weekly Drawings for Gift Baskets!

The kick-off for this year's event is Sunday, Nov. 15th
 Win cash prizes by participating in our Facebook Live Event at 1pm on Sunday, Dec. 20th.
 Tune in to the Live Event through the CHWA or Coupeville Chamber website, or through the CHWA Facebook page in order to win. Must be 18 years or older.

CoupevilleHistoricWaterfront.com • CoupevilleChamber.com

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



Make a Difference

By Anna Toledo

Island County Marine Resources Committee and Shore Friendly Coordinator

MAKING OUR SHORELINES FRIENDLY FOR FISH AND PEOPLE

A walk along the shoreline is one of the activities that has remained a constant this year. Whether you are drawn by the salty breeze or expansive views or the chance to catch a glimpse of a whale, there is peace and adventure to be found along our Island County shores. There are many local organizations working to preserve our beautiful shorelines and many ways for you to help those efforts.

Little fish with a big purpose

The Island County Marine Resources Committee (MRC) is an advisory board to county government, made up of local volunteers, with the goal to protect and restore local marine resources through monitoring, restoration, and outreach. One of the MRC's activities is to monitor beaches around Island County to understand when and where forage fish lay their eggs (or spawn) and how they use restored beaches.

Around our Island County shorelines, small fish known as forage fish utilize our beaches and nearshore habitats. Forage fish represent a critical link in the marine food web, supporting larger species, such as seabirds, seals and salmon, which in turn support our iconic orca population. When we can improve habitat for forage fish, we improve conditions for the many marine creatures that make our shorelines so inviting.

Two species of forage fish – surf smelt and Pacific sand lance – lay their eggs on our sand and gravel beaches. This spawning behavior relies on natural shoreline habitat. The less altered a shoreline is, the more likely it is to support these important fish.

For many years, shoreline armoring, such as bulkheads and seawalls, were installed around Puget Sound to protect shoreline properties from erosion. Over the recent decades, we have learned more about the impact these structures can have on the marine environment, including that they are not always the most effective erosion protection method, and that they cover up important habitat which supports the very marine life that draws us to the shoreline.

Shoreline restoration

The MRC also works to identify and support nearshore restoration projects. The MRC is currently partnering with the Northwest Straits Foundation and local community members to remove shoreline armoring at Seahorse Siesta, a private community on south Whidbey. The project involves the removal of an old grounded barge and concrete bulkhead that jut out into the intertidal habitat.

The armoring sits at the bottom of a feeder bluff. Feeder bluffs are coastal bluffs whose natural erosion contributes sediment to the shoreline that "feeds," or builds up, our beaches. Removing armoring at the bottom of this feeder bluff will restore the natural sediment movement along the shoreline. It will also



This restored shoreline at the Sunlight Shores community provides improved habitat, natural beauty, and shoreline accessibility. Photo by Anna Toledo

uncover habitat for those small, but important, forage fish in which to lay their eggs.

How to make a difference along the shoreline

Whether you live along the shoreline, on a farm, or in the woods, there are actions you can take to protect our beaches. The activities we do on land impact the waters around Island County. Read on to learn about actions you can take to support healthy shorelines.

Manage water runoff

You've seen it after a rain storm – water rushing down streets and into storm drains or ditches. This stormwater can pick up pollutants on its journey, which may end up flowing onto our shorelines and into the waters of Puget Sound.

While you may not live near the shoreline, runoff from your property may make its way to the shore and into the ocean. There are actions you can take to lower pollutants that end up in the water as well as decrease runoff. Here are a few to get you started:

Maintain your car. Fixing car leaks not only keeps your car running well, but also keeps excess fluids from dripping on the road, which contributes pollutants to stormwater runoff.

Install a rain garden. Rain gardens add natural beauty to your property and treat polluted runoff at the same time. Maximize your rain garden's utility by directing water from impervious surfaces (e.g. your roof or driveway) into the rain garden.

Minimize impervious surfaces. Your driveway, roof, deck, and patio are all potential areas where stormwater could be contributing to runoff. You can minimize this potential by utilizing pervious materials, installing a green roof, or converting a paved patio to one with native vegetation.

Whidbey Island Conservation District, as well as Washington State University Extension – Island County, have great resources for implementing stormwater management techniques at your property and in your daily activities.

Make your beach Shore Friendly

If you live along the shoreline, there are actions you can take to preserve or restore natural habitat while also protecting your property. Now through April 2021, shoreline landowners are invited to apply for mini-grants through the Island County Shore Friendly program for actions that remove or prevent shoreline armoring.

Eligible activities include shoreline armor removal, soft shore protection, native vegetation planting, drainage improvements, and moving a house or septic system, when these actions are associated with either the removal or prevention of shoreline armoring. Mini-grant amounts range from \$500-\$5,000, depending on the eligible activity, and can be used for initial consultation, project design, permitting costs, or project implementation.

Grant funding is provided by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program, and administered through Island County. For more information, visit: www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/DNR/Shore-Friendly/Pages/Home.aspx or contact Anna Toledo at a.toledo@islandcountywa.gov or 360-678-2349.

To learn more about the Island County Marine Resources Committee, visit www.islandcountymrc.org.

Make a Difference Column is coordinated by Whidbey Island Conservation District. View current and past articles at whidbeycd.org/make-a-difference-column.

Home for the Holidays

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Take home a beautiful, locally handcrafted soup bowl from **Good Cheer Thrift Stores** for a minimum donation of \$20 and support **Good Cheer Food Bank**.

Our annual **Empty Soup Bowl Night** is via Zoom (meeting ID 882 451 3254) on Friday, November 20 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Details at www.GoodCheer.org

Email your favorite soup recipe with produce from local farmstands and markets to carol@goodcheer.org so that we can share it with others.

Langley Good Cheer Thrift Store is open Wednesdays and Saturdays Noon to 5 p.m.
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“Otterly” Awesome! Land Trust hosts river otter presentation

By **Melanie Hammons** Whidbey Weekly

Now you see them, now you don't. That just may be the most descriptive phrase you could apply to the North American River Otter, according to Dr. Heide Island, professor of Comparative Animal Behavior and Neuroscience at Pacific University. Island will give a free informational presentation on the creatures via Zoom at 6 p.m. Friday. The event is being hosted by the Whidbey Camano Land Trust.

Born and raised in Alaska, Island said the two things that drew her life-long interests were marine systems and marine mammals. In school, she very much enjoyed field work. By the time she became a full professor, she knew river otters were where she wanted to focus her research.

Island has devoted the past two years to the study and research of these elusive residents

of Whidbey Island. Interestingly, she says the name, “river otter,” is a bit of a misnomer on Whidbey, which, though it's surrounded by water, has no rivers of which to speak.

But the island is brimming with estuaries, lakes, wetlands and ponds; there's a mix of saltwater and freshwater environments. And those features are key to explaining why the river otter's appearances can seem so elusive and fleeting, said Dr. Island.

“River otters display a coastal preference, but they thrive in both healthy marine and freshwater settings,” she explained. “They are amazingly adaptable, capable of moving quickly from fresh water to salt water.”

In other words, there's more than just shyness driving their behavior. Dr. Island offered some metrics to prove just how quickly they can switch locales.

“They are able to move between marine and freshwater environments within two minutes. They are mission-oriented (finding food.); if one feeding patch has scarce resources, they lose no time in moving on,” she said.

That adaptability trait impacts more than just their food choices. It turns out they have a very good reason to seek out freshwater sites exclusively from time to time – they need to clean and groom their coats; for that, only fresh water will do.

The river otter's successful dual-environment adaptation engenders an even greater appreciation when one considers the inherent differences that exist between marine and freshwater settings, said Dr. Island.

“This documented movement, from fresh-

See **OTTERS** continued on page 12

“It's Otterly Awesome”

Friday, 6 p.m. via Zoom

To learn more about the North American River Otter, including lots of insightful photos and video footage, join Dr. Heide Island's talk scheduled for 6 p.m. Friday via Zoom video conference. The program is hosted by the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, open to the public, and free.

Please RSVP at www.wclt.org/rvsp.



Photos Courtesy of Dr. Heide Island

Find out more information about the elusive, adaptable North American River Otter at a special presentation hosted by the Whidbey Camano Land Trust at 6 p.m. Friday. There is no cost to attend the Zoom program and all are welcome.



Governor imposes restrictions once more

By **Kathy Reed** Whidbey Weekly

The rapidly growing number of COVID-19 cases across the state has prompted Washington Gov. Jay Inslee to reimpose tough restrictions.

In a rare Sunday press conference, Inslee laid out a four-week plan to try to stem an increasing infection rate and keep hospitals across the state from becoming overwhelmed.

“Left unchecked, it will assuredly result in grossly overburdened hospitals,” Inslee said. “It will prevent people from seeking necessary medical treatment because of the stresses our hospitals will be under. Left unchecked, the economic devastation long term will be continually prolonged. Most importantly, left unchecked, we will see continued untold numbers of deaths. We will not allow these things to happen.”

Inslee said we are seeing a third wave of infections he said is trending to be even worse than previous spikes.

“We are today in a more dangerous position than we were in March, when our first stay at home order was issued,” he said, citing the current extent of the infection rate across the country and the time of year as reasons for the new restrictions.

“We acted early. We also had the benefit of heading into summer,” Inslee said. “But now we're heading inside and we're heading into the virus' home arena. This is where the virus gets us – inside, where we're heading during the winter.”

The new restrictions, most of which went into effect Tuesday and will remain in effect through Dec. 14, include a ban on indoor social gatherings with people from outside one's household, unless they quarantine for 14 days prior to the gathering or have quarantined for seven days prior and receive a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the gathering. Outdoor gatherings are limited to five people outside one's household. The order also prohibits gyms, fitness facilities, bowling centers, movie theaters, museums, zoos and aquariums from operating indoor activities.

Perhaps hardest hit are restaurants and bars, which had to close all indoor dining effective at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday. Outdoor dining and to-go service is permitted. Table size for outdoor dining is limited to five people and all guidance must be followed.

Also included is a 25 percent capacity limit at retail stores, including grocery stores. Religious services are limited to 25

percent capacity or no more than 200 people, whichever is smaller. Choir, band or ensemble performances are not allowed. Real estate open houses are prohibited. Indoor visits at long term care facilities are prohibited. Personal services such as hair and nail salons are limited to 25 percent capacity as well. (View the full list of restrictions at governor.wa.gov.)

Inslee said he knows the impact to business will be painful.

“The COVID pandemic is not just a public health crisis, it is an economic crisis as well,” he said. “We cannot take lightly the impact on businesses in this regard. But this is clear – we also cannot enjoy a full economic recovery, which we all desperately want, without knocking down this virus.”

The governor did announce there will be \$50 million available to help mitigate the impact to businesses and workers through grants and loans. Details on the plan will be forthcoming.

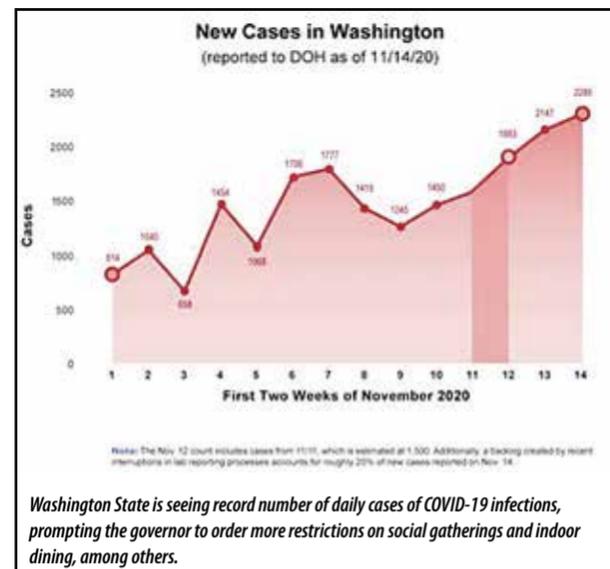
Just as across the rest of the state, case numbers in Island County are steadily rising, due in part to residents' behavior, according to local health officials.

“Since last Monday we added 48 new cases which represent about 10 percent of all cases in the county,” said Keith Higman, Island County Public Health director. “I believe that mitigation measures in our county are no longer effective at keeping COVID from spreading and that many of us are participating in social activities that have proven to be risky.”

Island County Commissioner Janet St. Clair said although hospital capacity at WhidbeyHealth is good, she is concerned about dwindling capacity in other counties that could affect Camano Island residents.

“I am deeply concerned by the extraordinary rise in cases in Island County, the decreasing hospital capacity in Skagit and Snohomish Counties and the spike in cluster outbreaks in our region,” she said. “This has become increasingly personal as friends have lost loved ones to this pernicious pandemic and I know of more people impacted. Simultaneously, I grieve for our small business community and especially our restaurants as they take another blow to their economic stability. We must support small business and our restaurants during these times.”

“I wish the infection rates were lower,” said Island County Commissioner Helen Price Johnson. “Island county is doing better than surrounding counties, but our rates are rapidly rising too. We must stay strong. If we support each other, keep our distance, wear masks and wash hands, we can best take care of each other.”



According to Higman, Island County is working to continue its ability to meet public health demands.

“We continue to add staffing resources to help with our efforts and are currently looking for more contract tracing help and public health nurses,” he said.

In addition, both Price Johnson and St. Clair pointed to the start of the Island County Economic Recovery Taskforce's buy local campaign as a way to help local businesses stay viable through this latest round of restrictions.

“Shop and eat local,” St. Clair said, pointing to the upcoming holiday as an opportunity to help. “Some restaurants are offering Thanksgiving take out prepped for you, so all you need to do is set the table and watch the game. If you are like me and want to cook, order take out the day before or the weekend after. [There are] so many good options in our communities. Leftover turkey only goes so far.”

While the COVID-19 situation appears dire at the moment, Gov. Inslee said there is hope on the horizon in the form of two promising vaccine candidates.

“There is light at the end of this tunnel,” he said. “We will continue to fight, adapt and persevere. It may be months before we're totally out of the clear, but medical advances are putting us closer to the goal of restoring all activities eventually. For now, we have to keep everyone's interests in mind and take steps that protect all Washingtonians.”

Go to coronavirus.wa.gov or islandcountywa.gov for additional information.



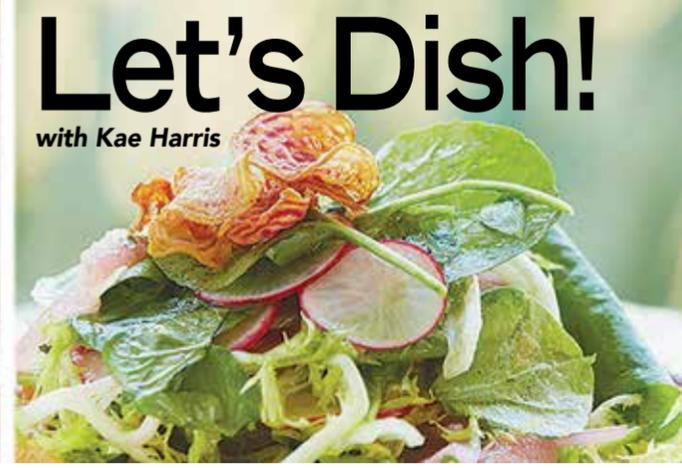
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Let's Dish!

with Kae Harris



GIVING THANKS: TRICKS TO A STRESS-FREE THANKSGIVING!

"I can't cook a Thanksgiving dinner. All I can make is cold cereal and maybe toast," utters Charlie Brown dejectedly in the Thanksgiving classic, "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" (Charles Schulz made sure there was no ambiguity with the title!) Sadly, the stress of crafting the perfect Thanksgiving Day meal is not only on the mind of Charlie Brown; many Americans throughout the country are stressed about making the perfect roast turkey or having their signature side be the star of the show while banishing from memory Aunt Judy's simply sublime arti-

choke-potato gratin from the year before. In the Thanksgiving rat-race, I feel as though we've lost sight of the true meaning of this day. While I want to have the perfect meal, I don't want to spend the entire day, and the three days leading up to it, in the kitchen and miss out on, well, being thankful with my family and friends. Let's take the stress out of the holidays with these time saving tips to create the perfect meal!

A "traditional" Thanksgiving dinner is made up of several staples. These include (but are not limited to): roast turkey (the star of the show), mashed potatoes, stuffing (or dressing), cranberry sauce, a side of vegetables

(usually in the form of a green bean casserole or brussels sprouts) and a pumpkin or apple pie for dessert. These dishes are classics for a reason: they're delicious! In addition, food invokes memories and emotions, thus, the nostalgia factor associated with each item is undeniable. While cooking these items from scratch can be time-consuming, you don't have to over-exert yourself to get a delicious result. Unfortunately, a lot of cooking shortcuts leave much to be desired in the flavor department, but fear not dear reader, we are about to embark on a Thanksgiving hacks marathon!

First things first: the turkey. The centerpiece of a Thanksgiving feast, it can also be the source of bitter disappointment. Dried out turkey meat and soggy skin are the usual complaints and everyone has an opinion about how you should have cooked the bird. Pity they weren't around to help you cook it in the first place, but I digress. In order to get your turkey to meet the lofty standards of every invited guest, follow these simple tips:

1. Brine your turkey. Dry brining with salt and spices, or wet brining in a salt solution the day before not only seasons your turkey, but ensures the meat remains moist during cooking.
2. Cook white and dark meats separately. Blasphemy! While carving the turkey may seem like the highlight of the meal, recent

polls have shown most families do not carry out this practice today. From a cooking standpoint, white meat and dark meat have different fat content and muscle structure, meaning they cook at different rates. Cooking them separately ensures each portion is cooked to perfection.

3. Start cooking at a high temperature before finishing off the cooking process at a lower temperature. This will ensure the skin is crispy and the turkey stays moist during the roasting process.
4. Experiment with flavors. Why not spice things up and choose a culinary theme for your meal? Use a masala mix to give an Indian twist (tandoori turkey anyone?) or use adobo and chilis to add some zing. Break out of the box to have a Thanksgiving to remember!

Use the pan drippings with a roux and chicken broth to whip up a homemade gravy that goes perfectly with your turkey, as well as the next item on our list: mashed potatoes.

A side of creamy, buttery mashed potatoes is the quintessential Thanksgiving meal side dish. Again, everyone has their secret trick to make their mashed potatoes the best. The truth is, the ultimate mashed potato starts

LET'S DISH CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Dining

Guide

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LET'S DISH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

with the most basic element: the potato. Choosing the right type of potato is over half the battle in establishing mashed potato superiority. Potatoes low in starch, such as red-skinned potatoes, will ensure your mash never turns "gummy," no matter how hard you work it. For fluffier mashed potatoes, use russets or Yukon golds; avoid the problem of gummy potatoes by using a ricer to ensure perfect consistency. Mashed potatoes are a blank canvas and you can be as creative as you like. Add extra butter, garlic, chives, cream...your options are limitless. Just

remember seasoning is key and lumps are a no-no, unless you're a fan of rustic smashed potatoes.

After all that protein and starch, a side of veggies is a welcome break. But what veggie side should you go with? While green bean casserole is perfectly acceptable, it would be nice to change things up with a fresh and easy vegetable side dish. I've found a winning recipe not only confined to Thanksgiving is a roasted vegetable medley. Cut up zucchini, yellow squash, red peppers, yellow peppers, a red onion and some whole mushrooms into bite size pieces before tossing in

balsamic vinegar and olive oil and roasting in a 450-degree oven for 30 to 40 minutes. Add steamed broccoli for extra color and crunch; all these healthy veggies will make you feel less guilty about all the calories you've already consumed!

Thanksgiving does not have to be a stressful experience; given the current climate we are living in, things are stressful enough. This year, I know I am thankful for my family more than ever. I hope these simple tips take some of the worry out of your Thanksgiving meal and you are able to spend more quality time with the ones you love. Finding

simple recipes will allow everyone, including the kids, to get involved, thus making your meal a truly shared experience. May this Thanksgiving be your best one yet and may the age-old debate continue at the table: is canned cranberry sauce better than homemade cranberry sauce? Let me know if you found these tips and recipes useful by writing to letsdish.whidbeyweekly@gmail.com, along with any questions and comments so we can continue to Dish!

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

OTTERS continued from page 10

water to saltwater, then back again, means they are constantly moving from water with very little buoyancy, to saltwater, which has a great deal of buoyancy," she said. "Not to mention the temperature shifts that are involved as well. And their navigational skills enable them to successfully forage even when the water has low visibility."

Studying river otters yields far more valuable information than most people are aware. The North American River Otter is considered a "bellwether," or indicator species, said Dr. Island.

"We've learned many details affect their foraging patches – salinity, currents and tides, seasons, and time of day all have a role to play. And it goes beyond that."

"Lately, there's been much concern expressed about the health of Puget Sound in general, and local waters in particular," Island continued. "By studying how well these resident river otters fare, questions are answered. Light is shed on issues dealing with water systems and other animal species like salmon, rockfish, and Ling cod. In regard to declining salmon counts, for instance, does the river otter's diet play a significant role? No. It turns out the otters dine mostly on flatfish."

Volunteers and citizen scientists have supplied her with a wealth of river otter information on behavior and distribution. Often, it's as simple as people just reporting sightings. Others host trail cameras on their property. Island said her findings would be woefully incomplete without their help.

"I've been fortunate. First, Whidbey Islanders are very welcoming and accommodating to scientists. But secondly, with the pandemic restrictions, I've been unable to do as much research with university students as I normally would. So the call-ins and trail camera recordings have given us an especially welcome boost in a most unusual year," she said. "My website gives more information about ways volunteers can participate."

North American River Otters enjoy a broad range across the United States.

"They don't have many natural predators, and the population here on Whidbey seems stable," said Dr. Island. She has a few helpful tips for people hoping to catch a glimpse of river otters in the wild. Early morning seems to offer the best chance of viewing but river otters may be seen at any time of the day.

The best way to differentiate between sea otters and river otters?



Photo Courtesy of Dr. Heide Island
Whidbey Island may not have any rivers of which to speak, but the North American River Otter, which is capable of moving from freshwater to saltwater at will seems to find the area more than sufficient. Learn more about these creatures at a Zoom presentation given by Dr. Heide Island Friday.

"Sea otters always float on their backs," Island explained. "River otters float belly down. I'd describe their appearance as they move through the water as almost snake-like."

And they can move quickly; Dr. Island said her average viewing window of river otters is about eight minutes.

It would seem the unique combination of

marine and freshwater worlds gives great advantages to river otters here. Even with "no rivers," Whidbey has still proven to be a good home for the North American River Otter.

Find more information at heideisland.com or register for Friday's presentation online at www.wclt.org/rvsp.

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CHICKEN LITTLE & THE ASTROLOGER

By Wesley Hallock

ARIES (March 21-April 19)



Fighting to change the world? That is really the fight to change yourself. The world is what we've made it; no more and no less. To make it better, we must become better

people. Where to begin? Start by making your bed. The feeling of accomplishment begins a chain reaction that will carry through the day. And if by chance it's a bad day, you'll at least come home to a bed that's made.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)



The world is moving too fast to get off and walk. That leaves no choice but to ride out the world's tight turns, steep slopes, and occasional inversions. No end is in sight.

Proselytizing is a national pastime, you see, and shaking you up as a way of winning you over is now de rigeur. Roller coaster rides are tame by comparison. At least the roller coaster doesn't try to convert you to its way of thinking.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)



Feel a thirst coming on? A viral video of Happy Hour at an African waterhole shows an unfortunate buffalo calf as the prize in a tug-o-war between a toothy and determined

crocodile at one end and an equally determined pride of hungry lions doggedly gripping its other end. Incredibly, the calf survived. Moral? Even on the worst of days, you can snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. And be careful where you wet your whistle.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)



"Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom." That from a founding father of our country, Thomas Jefferson. On the B side of the honesty record, the father of modern

advertising, Edward Bernays, who sold America its first World War with a slogan, "Making the World Safe for Democracy." Catchy slogans and jingles for manipulating minds are Bernay's legacy. Does knowing kindly your desire for a return to honesty?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)



Are dietary fads and paid promotions handicapping your ability to be fit and healthy? How can you know, when today's virtue is yesterday's vice and contradictory opinions

abound? The sad truth is, you can't. Not, at least, until you regain trust in your own experience and make common sense common, again. The way to do that came out of India in the era of the Beatles: Eat what your mother gives you and meditate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)



Who's the odd one in your group? The crazy one. Nice, but nutty as a bag of pistachios. Don't be ashamed to say it's you. Being the crazy one is not always a bad thing.

Sometimes, and especially when it comes to worldviews, being the crazy one is a good

thing. In the words of John McPhee, "The ones who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world are the ones who do."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)



What happens when a difference of opinion becomes a battle of wills? Of course. An argument ensues, the idea becomes secondary, and the one with the strongest

personality wins. Or appears to win. Dale Carnegie saw it differently. He said, "A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still." Arguing doesn't change minds, Carnegie believed, which means arguments can't be won. Care to argue that?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)



It doesn't matter what enemy life has given you to fight. Put on a happy face and the battle is half won. Sun Tzu knew it when he told his generals,

"When you are weak, appear strong." Dick Van Dyke knew it when he sang, "Take off that mask of tragedy, it's not your style. You'll look so good, you'll be glad you decided to smile." Where the happy face leads, a happy heart will follow. Seriously!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)



Secrecy is a funny thing. There is secrecy that is privacy, and secrecy that is meant to deceive. Secrecy for privacy is good, as when playing your cards close in a poker game. But beware of

secrecy to deceive. In the words of Joseph Pulitzer, "There is not a crime, there is not a dodge, there is not a trick, there is not a swindle, there is not a vice which does not live by secrecy."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)



Believe in yourself. If you can do that one thing, there's little that you cannot do. Muhammad Ali knew that when he explained his rise to fame as a prize fighter, saying, "It's lack

of faith that makes people afraid of meeting challenges, and I believed in myself." In the quiet place beyond both certainty and doubt will you find the faith Ali spoke of. It's the place where great accomplishments are born, and it's waiting for you now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb 18)



Adapt and overcome. So powerful is this implied concept of intelligent, flexible strength, the United States Marine Corp encapsulated it into the Marine slogan,

"Improvise, adapt and overcome." More than just martial force, it's a cultivated mindset. From ballerinas to business people to the baker making the doughnuts, any and all who face problems can benefit from fortitude. Adapt and overcome.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)



What makes the important people in your life important? Is it something they do for you? Or do they make you feel you can accomplish things for yourself? It's an important

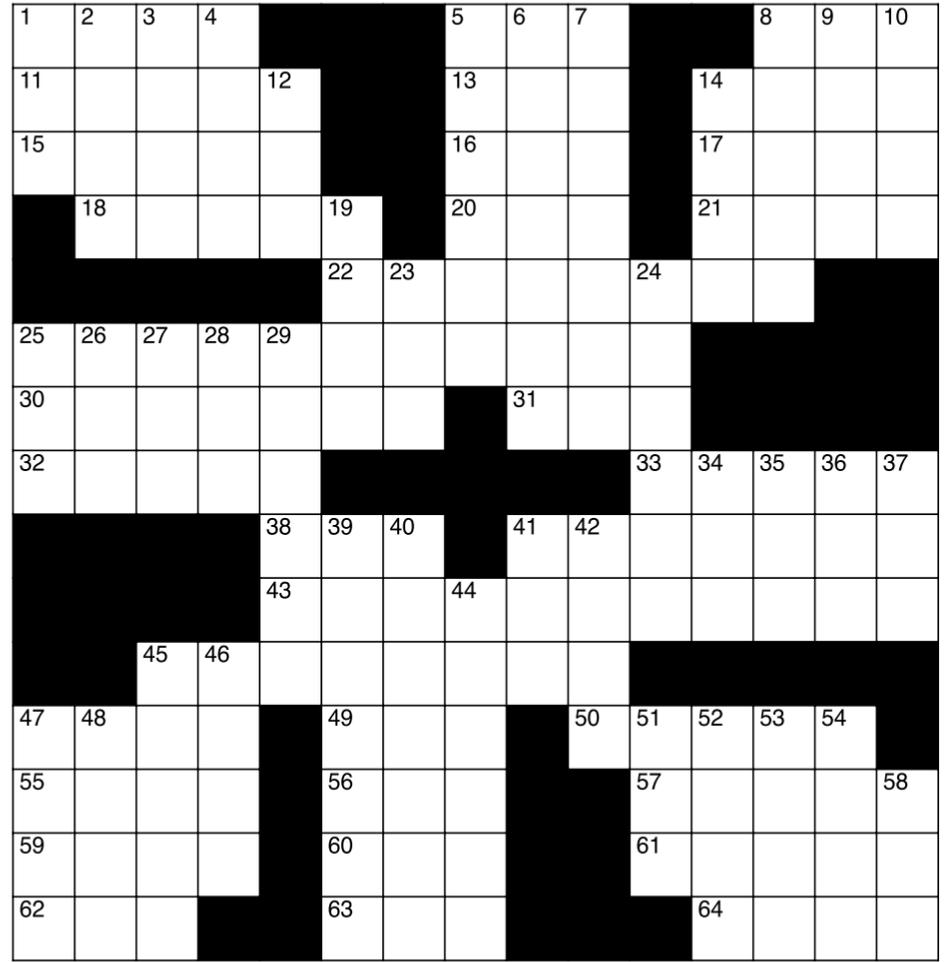
question, because someone doing for you creates dependency on that person, while doing for yourself is liberating. In the words of author Terry Goodkind, "If you want to be a slave in life, then continue to go around asking others to do for you."

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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. Dutch word for "language"
- 5. Popular music style
- 8. Body part
- 11. Largely dry valleys
- 13. Brew
- 14. Ancient Greek sophist
- 15. Where rockers play
- 16. Human gene
- 17. One point east of northeast
- 18. Adversary
- 20. Small cask or barrel
- 21. About ear
- 22. Benign tumors
- 25. In a different way
- 30. One charged with a crime
- 31. Chinese principle underlying the universe
- 32. Long, narrow straps
- 33. Passover
- 38. Ottoman military commander
- 41. One who does not succeed
- 43. Data
- 45. 3D image
- 47. Whale ship captain
- 49. Japanese title
- 50. Made of wood

55. Yokel

56. Exercise system ___-bo

57. Supreme being

59. Playing card with three spots

60. Hostelry

61. Spiritual leader

62. Single lens reflex

63. Time of the 90th meridian, used in the central U.S.

64. Thomas __, American cartoonist

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Shuttered airline
- 2. Swiss river
- 3. Port city in Yemen
- 4. It can be straight
- 5. Tennis player's tool
- 6. Estranged
- 7. Garden archway
- 8. Assists
- 9. Grain crop
- 10. Millisecond
- 12. U.S. Founding Father Adams
- 14. Small, deerlike buffalo
- 19. Easily manageable
- 23. Male parent
- 24. Nearsightedness
- 25. Patriotic women
- 26. Decorate a cake with frosting
- 27. ___ fi (slang)
- 28. A joke rooted in wordplay
- 29. Attack violently
- 34. Keyboard key
- 35. ___ juris: independent
- 36. Corporate executive (abbr.)
- 37. Adult female bird
- 39. Pertains to knowledge
- 40. Pashtoes
- 41. Prefixed title for Italian monks
- 42. To be fired from a gun
- 44. A way to position
- 45. ___ process: produces ammonia
- 46. Follow instructions
- 47. Humanistic discipline
- 48. Throw
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. American hate group
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Seizes
- 58. Baseball stat

Answers on page 19

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, Nov. 19	Fri, Nov. 20	Sat, Nov. 21	Sun, Nov. 22	Mon, Nov. 23	Tues, Nov. 24	Wed, Nov. 25
North Isle H-49°/L-43° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-51°/L-44° Rainy and Windy	North Isle H-52°/L-41° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-52°/L-43° Rain Possible	North Isle H-46°/L-40° Rain Possible	North Isle H-47°/L-41° Cloudy & Windy Rain Possible	North Isle H-49°/L-39° Cloudy & Windy Rain Possible
South Isle H-47°/L-41° Cloudy with Showers	South Isle H-49°/L-43° Rainy and Windy	South Isle H-50°/L-40° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-50°/L-42° Rain Possible	South Isle H-46°/L-39° Rain Possible	South Isle H-48°/L-41° Rain Possible	South Isle H-49°/L-40° Rain Possible



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PAID ADVERTISING

Our Nation in Peril

Written and paid for by Joseph C. Coomer, phone 360-929-2397

First, I must thank Publisher, Eric Marshall for this opportunity to express my unfiltered opinion in his paper, *Whidbey Weekly*, an opportunity that I would not have in the other island paper, the *Whidbey News-Times*. They pulled my paid full-page political ad scheduled for publication on 8/31. ***This means that our Constitutional's 1st Amendment right, the right of speech and press must now be filtered by the left before it is published.***

That Publisher objected to my opinion that voting for Joe Biden was equivalent to voting for Al Capone, as the candidate has a well proven history of major corruption. ***(If there were an honest justice system, Joe Biden should be serving time in prison for his crimes and not serve as our President! He is a crooked almost senile old man, certainly not mentally qualified to be President.)***

A newspaper is in business to primarily sell ad space. They are not responsible for the content material in the ad nor should they have a legal right to dictate its content as that should be protected by our Constitution's 1st Amendment, the freedom of speech and the press. Have we lost that right?

Yes, our beloved nation is in serious peril of losing all our Constitutional Rights from being a Democracy and being able to express our opinions without first having it filtered to meet the left's requirements.

In our history, we have switched back and forth from Republican to Democrat and back again resulting in keeping the Nation somewhat neutral. That has been key to making our nation great.

Now, this practice may end with the main-stream-news-media (MSM) are now just Democratic Party operatives posing as reporters. MSM is respected by none and hated by about 50% of the population as reporting news is secondary to the importance of promoting their liberal ideology. They report only the negatives (mostly lies) of the Republicans and only positives of the Democrats. Our judicial system is broken as only Republicans are punished and the Democrats are not. MSM ignores the crimes of the Democrats including a confession of their Presidential candidate who confessed to a Quid Pro Quo crime demanding that Ukraine fire a prosecutor that was investigating a corrupt energy company that was paying his son a fantastic salary even though the son had no qualifications for the job.

Now, we must face the reality that the Democrats through massive election fraud have stolen our presidential election. For several months now the Dems have used legal action to weaken the integrity of our election laws. This includes; no signature verification requirement, receiving ballots after the deadline, no postmark requirement, no picture ID requirement, and the list seems endless. Before and during the election there was wide spread use of illegal voter harvesting, bribing voters, numerous dead people voting, not allowing bipartisan viewers to observe the vote counters. The worst fraud was a software program that counted Republican votes as Democratic votes. Other suspected fraudulent ballots appeared from nowhere with every vote was for the Democratic candidate, and not a single vote for the Republican and others only had marked the Democratic Candidate and nothing else was marked. These suspected fraudulent ballots were in the thousands. To hear the media and the Dems insist that there

is no significant fraud is ludicrous.

If action is not taken now, that same scene will be repeated in the Georgia Senate races as the Dems are advocating that Democrats from other states register to vote in this race. (The Republicans need to monitor these new registrations as they are also fraudulent too.) There is nothing too corrupt that the Dems will not use to win.

As elections are critical to our democratic system, it is proposed to have a serial number for each ballot and part of that serial number will be the voter's precinct. (A precinct should not have more votes cast than there are registered voters!) Only requested absentee votes will be allowed to be mailed with the balance of the voters voting on election day. ***All*** should demand the end to mailed ballots as it only gives an opportunity for massive voter fraud that we are currently witnessing.

If we have any justices on the Supreme Court who believe in justice and the law, they will have but one option, cancel the election on grounds of massive election fraud and declare the Republican Candidate the winner.

At Trump 30,000 + attendee rallies, one could hear chants of, "We love you," a chant not heard at the 50 attendee Dem rallies.

In a Dems mind, what was good for the Nation and its citizens was not their concern. All that mattered was defeating Trump and electing Biden so they could install their socialistic agenda. Have we changed from having the best President in our history to having the worst one?

Even now the pandemic is being political. With President Trump on the verge of reducing our prescription drugs, pharmaceutical companies are hitting back by delaying the vaccine. Why not use the "Right-to-try" laws and allow all that desire the vaccine now the ability to do so, with the only requirement being to sign a "release-from-liability" statement? Is the shutdown justified now with the survival rate at over 90% and considering what it does to the economy? All will now continue to pay top dollar for our prescriptions as the pharmaceuticals reap an excellent return for their donations to the Democratic Party. Predict that the Chinese will also have a good return too as the tariffs will be gone along with many thousands of our jobs. The unions will also have good return as the right to work laws in many states are eliminated requiring all to pay dues even if you are not a union member. Trump policies including reduction in regulations created a great return of jobs, but now they will be gone.

For a conclusion statement, one should recall Margaret Thatcher's statement, "Socialism works great until they run out of other peoples' money." Even in defeat, Trump will continue to lead by controlling public opinion. He will continue his rallies turning red counties from a simple majority to major majorities as they refuse to be economic slaves to the big city Dems. To counter the corrupt MSM's monopoly, they will establish an online newspaper reaching their 70 million supporters. Although the Dems may claim victory with their massive fraudulent election, it was not. The war is not over, but just beginning. The future of our Nation is in peril!

Donations appreciated and can be mailed to Joe Coomer, 2920 N. Heller Rd. MH E, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

The views and opinions expressed in this ad are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper.



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Home for the Holidays

By Carey Ross

Turkey and a side of cinema



I have begun to watch holiday movies. And I'm not talking about classic holiday movies that are generally considered to be good like *It's a Wonderful Life* or *Scrooged* (all right, maybe the latter is only considered a classic in my house). Those are vastly superior to the swamp of seasonal cinema in which I find myself happily mired. You may assume I'm referring to the cottage industry of Christmas movies that take over all Hallmark channels (yes, there is more than one. No, we do not need to talk about how I know this) this time of year, but the waters I have been swimming in are far murkier.

I have been watching Lifetime holiday movies.

Yes, I am talking about Lifetime Television for Women, the channel responsible for such highbrow film fare as *Newlywed and Dead*, *Stalked By My Doctor*, *Sorority Surrogate* and my personal favorite, *Mother, May I Sleep with Danger*.

I realize my revelation might take on the tone of a confession, but make no mistake, there is no shame in my Lifetime game.

And while Christmas movies of the more legitimate kind will no doubt figure into film suggestions I will inflict upon you in the coming weeks, it would be a shame to skip past Thanksgiving with its rich variety of cinematic options. I will save the true Turkey Day classics for next week, but if you're looking for some more unorthodox choices to get you in the mood for our annual day of eating, you've come to the right place. With gatherings curtailed due to COVID (yes, this means you—all of you), we won't have the shenanigans of extended family and friends to entertain us, so a film fest might be just the ticket.

Given I wasn't really raised on cartoons—we were more a *Muppets* kind of family—I've never been one for animated adventures. Unless they happen to star poultry, that is. Turns out, there's more to this genre than just *Chicken Run*, like, for instance, 2013's *Free Birds*. Technically speaking, this is more an anti-Thanksgiving movie than anything else as the plot centers around a pair of turkeys who travel back in time in an attempt to change the menu of the first Thanksgiving. Not only does the movie feature voice work by Amy Poehler, Owen Wilson, and Woody Harrelson, but it also boasts the following things: a telenovela-watching turkey who lives at Camp David, a poultry-fronted organization called the

Turkey Freedom Front, a time-traveling A.I. named Steve, and the tagline, "Hang On to Your Nuggets." How *Free Birds* is not a widely lauded holiday classic, I will never know.

For those of you who prefer your Thanksgiving movie meal to come with a side of Oscar cred, I have a pair of options for you, each featuring tour-de-force turns by iconic leading men. Al Pacino is not what anyone would call an understated actor and sometimes his shouty acting style can be a bit much. But in the right role—*The Godfather's* Michael Corleone, *Scarface's* Tony Montana, *Glengarry Glen Ross'* Ricky Roma—the nine-time Academy Award nominee is a force of nature. The actor won his only Oscar for the 1992 film *Scent of a Woman*, in which he plays a blind veteran who is supposed to be looked after by a student (Chris O'Donnell), but ends up teaching him life lessons during one unforgettable Thanksgiving break. One of very few actors with more Oscar nods than Pacino was Paul Newman, whose onscreen style was certainly different, but no less electrifying. Hands down his best later-life leading-man performance came courtesy of author Rick Russo and the adaptation of his book *Nobody's Fool*. As Sully, an irrepressible 60-something small-town construction worker prone to all manner of mischief, Newman's famous blue eyes twinkle with trouble. It's tough to imagine anyone else bringing Sully's brand of devil-may-care charm to the big screen quite like Newman.

In terms of my personal preferences, my favorite not-classic Thanksgiving movie has to be *The House of Yes*. First of all, if you're wanting family fare, look elsewhere. Sure, it focuses on a family and its dynamic over a Thanksgiving weekend, but just a few scenes in, you'll realize this is not your standard story of returning home for the holidays. Marty (Josh Hamilton) brings his girlfriend (a surprisingly good Tori Spelling) to meet his family during the long weekend—without giving her a much-needed heads up about what's in store. Namely, what's in store is his twin sister, played by Parker Posey, who is fresh out of a psych ward and obsessed with Jackie O. To describe the plot further would be to give away too much, but suffice it to say Posey—always watchable, criminally underrated—steals every single scene and it's a joy to watch her do it.

CAN DO SUDOKU!

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Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order
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Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9

Answers on page 19

	2			3			5	
	5	1		8				
	4	3		1	9			
7	9		6		2	4		
			4					
	8	4		7		5	3	
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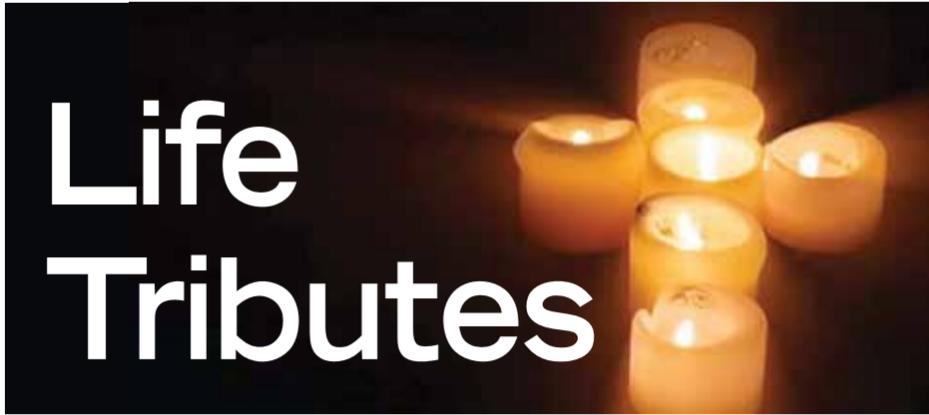
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JOHN H. "JACK" MOELLER



Beloved husband, proud father and loving grandfather, John H. (Jack) Moeller, of Coupeville, Wash., passed away peacefully in his sleep at his home the morning of Oct. 29, 2020 due to advanced lung cancer.



Jack was born July 19, 1928 in Chicago, Ill., to Herbert W. and Florence P. Moeller. In 1946, after attending high school in Chicago, Jack entered the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and was accepted into the Naval ROTC program. In 1950, Jack graduated from IIT with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. He served for three years during the Korean War, first aboard the USS Fiske and later aboard the USS Porterfield. In June 1953, Jack was honorably discharged, and in September of that year, began attending Princeton University, where he earned a master's degree in engineering. In 1956, Jack began working for Cook Electric Co. as a project engineer at its Technology Center in Morton Grove, Ill.

In November 1961, Jack married the love of his life, Mary J. Kandzor, a native of Chicago. In 1963, Jack left Cook Electric to work with the Ventura Division of the Northrop Corporation, located in Newbury Park, Calif. During his career at Northrop's Ventura division, he was involved with the NASA Space Program's Ringsail Parachute Recovery System used during the Apollo mission, and saw their family grow with the additions of Lisa Marie (1962), Jonathan Jude (1964), and Christopher Jason (1972). Jack briefly left Northrop and moved his family back to Illinois where he worked with TAB Engineering for a short period but ultimately returned to California and Northrop as a group chief in the engineering department, retiring in 1990.

During the 1980s, Jack and Mary purchased a 40-acre parcel in an isolated area north of Paso Robles, Calif., which they named Wild Boar Ranch after observing the animals during a visit. The parcel was arrayed with ancient oak trees, dense chaparral hills, and a golden meadow and hill. Over the years while visiting the property, they worked together to design and make many improvements, including the laying of roads, coordination of a well and natural wildlife pond and construction of a barn. Also during this time, the family grew with the additions of grandchildren Ashley, Nikolai, and Josiah.

Jack had a lifelong interest in classical music, including the drum and bugle corps in high school, the Ventura County Master Chorale and singing with the church choirs at Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic Church in Thousand Oaks, Calif., and St. Mary's Catholic Church in Coupeville. In retirement, he continued his love of music by joining the Shifty Sailors in 2001, a 20-man singing group focused on singing songs of the sea. His wonderful bass voice can be heard on multiple albums, including *H is for aHoy*, and *Ho, for the Life*, where he was the featured soloist for the song, "Blow the Man Down."

In 1995, Jack and Mary moved to Coupeville, where they enjoyed many happy years together, where the family grew once again with the additions of grandchildren Aislinn, Gavin, and Breanna, and where they recently celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary.

Jack is survived by his wife, Mary, two sons, Jonathan and Christopher and five grandchildren: Ashley, Nikolai, Josiah, Aislinn, and Breanna. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Joan, brother Donald, daughter Lisa and grandson Gavin.

The Moeller family suggests memorials in Jack's name may be made out to the American Cancer Society online at: www.cancer.org.

A graveside service with Rite of Committal is scheduled for Nov. 20 at 1 p.m. at Sunnyside Cemetery in Coupeville. Rev. Paul Pluth, J.C.L. will be presiding. Special songs will be performed by the Shifty Sailors and military honors provided under the auspices of the NAS Whidbey Island Honor Guard and Bugles Across America.

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

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

Pam's Prayer Corner

In honor of my late mother-in-law, Pamela Kaye Young, this column is a place where believers can share their prayer requests for others to help lift them up in faith. The prayers can be for you, a family member, or anything weighing on your soul. Email info@whidbeyweekly.com or call 360-682-2341 to share your prayer requests.



Back on January 20, 1981, at the outset of his first inaugural address, President Ronald Reagan started with this observation: "To a few of us here today this is a solemn and most momentous occasion, and yet in the history of our nation it is a commonplace occurrence. The orderly transfer of authority as called for in the Constitution routinely takes place, as it has for almost two centuries, and few of us stop to think how unique we really are. In the eyes of many in the world, this every-four-year ceremony we accept as normal is nothing less than a miracle."

Heavenly Father, with gratitude for the past and hope for the future, we give you thanks for the gift of our liberty and our democratic government. As we stand at yet another precipice of transition, work another miracle in our land. May we steward this sacred trust with deep respect for the dignity and humanity of all who occupy this land. Lead us to come together, in the midst of our differences, into the space of common hope and civic good for all. Help us not to cast this moment in time as the story of "winners and losers," lionizing some while demonizing others. May we be mindful of those who think and live differently than us. Call us back to the renewal of your natal vision for all humanity: the pure love of God and the loyal love of neighbor. Make us one in patient graciousness, and human goodness, if not in political conviction.

We ask this blessing upon our land in the name of Jesus Christ who calls us to live as Peacemakers (Matthew 5:9). Amen.



THURSDAY, OCT. 15

1:22 pm, Stellar Ln.

Reporting party advising neighbors are taking materials from his fifth wheel and throwing them into a fire. When reporting party tried to take materials out of the fire, neighbors tried to hit him with them.

7:55 pm, Greenoch Loop

Reporting party advising individual (unknown gender) is walking around neighborhood and whistling; does not live in neighborhood. Reporting party is giving third party report, was called by neighbor one minute ago.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16

6:46 am, SR 525

Reporting party states subject in parking lot is making reporting party and customers uncomfortable. States subject is making weird noises and hand gestures at people as they come by.

1:26 pm, Bayview Rd.

Caller received information saying there is going to be a Neo Nazi meeting at location this Sunday, the 18th, and is very upset and afraid about this.

2:41 pm, Stellar Ln.

Reporting party advising someone is trespassing on his property. Reporting party has trespasser's vehicle blocked in back yard of property.

4:03 pm, West Beach Rd.

Caller advising a new guy has shown up at location in the past week or so. Caller has been "hearing" his stories about having knowledge of a dead body in a carpet. Unknown when/where.

5:07 pm, East Harbor Rd.

Advising she is an "activist" and has concerns about this weekend's gathering at the Grange. Requesting call.

SATURDAY, OCT. 17

8:28 am, Bayview Rd.

Reporting party states calling "out of fear" because group of white supremacists called Patriot Prayer are meeting at location Sunday.

6:59 pm, Rodgers Rd.

Advising son's girlfriend stole her dog. Reporting party has custody of his son. States female is at Best Western.

SUNDAY, OCT. 18

8:53 am, Bayview Rd.

Reporting party requesting call, is upset about Patriot Prayer meeting today at location, was advised law enforcement is aware and will take action as appropriate. Reporting party would like to know what law enforcement "action" will be.

9:38 am, Dugualla Rd.

Reporting party states male subject intentionally defecated in toilet to the point that it is clogged. Because toilet is clogged, she hasn't defecated since Tuesday and is constipated. Is bloated.

2:00 pm, SR 525

Third party report of four people with guns outside guarding ballot box.

5:22 pm, Andreason Rd.

Advising female drove through six mailboxes and is now stuck; got out and took pictures of her vehicle then left. Now states female is still there, vehicle is stuck.

MONDAY, OCT. 19

4:59 pm, N Main St.

Caller states "crazy" lady is on helicopter pad and is messing with helicopter. White female, 40s, dirty blonde hair and brown hat. No weapons seen. Female now climbing out of helicopter pad over the fence.

TUESDAY, OCT. 20

8:14 am, Sidney St.

Requesting call; states was contacted via phone by someone claiming to be with Department of Treasury. Accused reporting party of money laundering and moving weapons across state line. Reporting party states he gave the person all his monies, \$24,300 + \$7,500 between his checking and savings account.

11:32 am, Kinkaid Dr.

Requesting call; states has been mowing lawn for female at location for some time and he has not received payment. Feels female is normally good at communicating but now is wondering if someone has her phone or is "playing games," since payment hasn't been received and he can't reach her. Concerned he shouldn't be at her house/location.

1:15 pm, Humphrey Rd.

Requesting contact regarding neighbors stealing his fence. States they do this at 1 or 2 in the morning. Also like to make noises at night to make sure everyone is awake.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

7:50 am, Taylor Rd.

Reporting party hit large, black cow.

9:43 am, Humphrey Rd.

Ongoing issue with neighbor. Advising they are stealing portions of reporting party's fence in the middle of the night as well as being loud.

11:26 am, Colonial Way

Reporting party advising for last few weeks political signs are being damaged; this morning reporting party found yard torn up. Unknown who did this.

11:36 am, Pinewood Cir.

Requesting call. Advising was given dog by neighbor and now neighbor took dog when she was at work.

1:45 pm, Hunt Rd.

Requesting call referencing ongoing issue of traffic and motor vehicles in area of location. Caller would like to see speed limit reduced and more traffic arrows placed on corner in area of location.

2:14 pm, Williams Rd.

Requesting call regarding neighbor's dog continually going to the bathroom in her yard.

2:34 pm, Hunt Rd.

Advising all cows have been found except one. All black Angus cow.

7:11 pm, French Rd.

Reporting party advising transient female at location urinated at foyer and is now nude in female's restroom. Reporting party advising female is talking to herself.

7:29 pm, Maxwellton Rd.

Advising 8 to 12 goats in road at location. Reporting party no longer on scene.

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



BITS 'N' PIECES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

The current wheelchair ramp reaches the main entrance door from Second Street. The ramp is long and narrow and has a tight 90-degree turn before it reaches the front entry.

The library's historic 1923 entrance faces First Street and is only three steps above street level. It's now the emergency exit in the children's area. Welfare said a new ADA-compliant ramp from this door would have less grade to cover to reach the sidewalk, but exterior work would have to preserve the existing style and historic details.

Work on the library will focus on upgrades to provide universal accessibility inside and out, including a full interior remodel and update, while preserving and enhancing the historic nature of the building, Ross said in the state grant application. The goal of the project is to increase the library's ability to meet current and emerging community needs with traditional and innovative library services.

Initial stages of the project will include community input to ensure the community has input on interior redesign, Ross said. The project will be closely coordinated and done in partnership with the Friends of the Langley Library, the Langley Main Street Association and other local groups.

Pending budget approval by the Legislature in early 2021, this project is expected to start the design and development process in May, with construction starting in September and concluding in December. A grand opening will be held in January 2022.

[Submitted by Communications Specialist Kurt Batdorf, Sno-Isle Libraries]

Whidbey Community Foundation Joins Nationwide Celebration

Whidbey Community Foundation joined in a nationwide celebration, Nov. 12-18, to recognize the increasingly important role community foundations play in fostering local collaboration and innovation to address persistent civic and economic challenges.

For more than a century, community foundations have served as a trusted partner and resource whose effect can be seen in the lives of millions and in the vibrant neighborhoods that continue to thrive through its mission-driven work. During this time, community foundations come together to share and reflect about the stories of impact over the past year.

"The work of community foundations spans beyond the practice of giving. There is a tangible impact that can be seen in the lives of those these organizations serve," said Sara Kelly, Whidbey Community Foundation board president. "We are more determined than ever to bring our community partners together to find innovative and effective solutions for some of our most challenging social problems and advance the most promising of opportunities to benefit Whidbey Island."

Community foundations are independent, public entities that steward philanthropic resources from institutional and individual donors to local nonprofits and represent one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy. In response to the pandemic, Whidbey Community Foundation formed the COVID-19 Community Resilience Fund, which has raised more than \$230,000 from nearly 200 donors. Among the priority issues of the fund, WCF has invested in local child care with grants to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Coupeville and Oak Harbor to help offset the cost of care for families, and funding to Opportunity Council as pass-through grants available to all licensed child care providers on Whidbey Island.

"COVID-19 has had devastating impacts on child care programs that have already been running on thin margins. Providers who remain open face even greater challenges than before. These grants help stabilize providers on Whidbey Island that have been forced to adapt quickly with revenue shortfalls and increased costs, all while continuing to provide quality care for the children in our community," stated Kelly.

As community foundations find solutions for communities large and small, urban and rural – it is the collective work of these organizations that will have the most profound impact. This was most evident amid this year's coronavirus pandemic where over \$1 billion was distributed by community foundations in response to the crisis. Additionally, community foundations went beyond the money to help their communities adapt during this critical time—supporting charities, schools, nonprofits, and small businesses through partnerships with public institutions in cities, states, and in cooperation with the federal government.

Community Foundation Week was created in 1989 by former president George H.W. Bush to recognize the work of community foundations throughout America and their collaborative approach to working with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to address community problems. For more information about Community Foundation Week visit www.cof.org/cfweek and follow #Community-FNDWeek on Twitter.

Whidbey Community Foundation was founded just four years ago by longtime community members, and up until that point had been the only community in Western Washington not yet represented by a community foundation. Since then, Whidbey Community Foundation has distributed more than \$420,000 in grants to Whidbey nonprofits and collaborated with community partners to bring capacity-building resources to our nonprofit sector.

[Submitted by Jessie Gunn, Program Manager, Whidbey Community Foundation]

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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@islandshake-spearefest.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 Brothers 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.

The Island County Medical Reserve Corps (ICMRC) is a local network of volunteers organized to improve the health and safety of communities on Whidbey and Camano Island. Volunteers include medical and public health professionals as well as other community members with no prior healthcare background. ICMRC utilizes volunteers to strengthen community health, enhance emergency response

capabilities, and boost community resiliency. They prepare for and respond to natural and manmade disasters such as winter storms, flooding, earthquakes, as well as public health emergencies such as disease outbreaks. If you are interested in volunteering please go to the Island County MRC website for more information or contact s.ziemer@islandcountywa.gov

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.

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

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

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

JOB MARKET

Island Transit is Hiring! If you are looking for a solid career with great pay and benefits including two retirement plans,

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

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