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Meerkerk featured in museum p. 6

GiveBig event helps dozens of local nonprofits

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

For anyone wondering how they can discover or lend a financial hand to Island County nonprofit organizations, it's not too late to consider GiveBig Washington.

This online fundraising event, which kicked off April 20 and culminates with a two-day GiveBig event May 4 and 5, is one option for those looking to donate to worthwhile organizations close to home. Local organizations can still register for the event by the end of business today (April 29).

While much of the current focus is on the GiveBig event coming up next week, this online tool can actually help organizations raise money all year long.

"Participating organizations stay in the system and pay an annual participation fee to be on the platform and re-register each year for GiveBig," explained Nancy Long, executive director for 501 Commons, the organization that oversees Washington Gives and the GiveBig Washington fundraiser.

"We went to a year-round platform because it is more consistent," she continued. "A lot of donations come in at the end. People focus on giving days, culmination days, and that is when the vast majority of donations come in. But it's nice to have this buffer time, when organizations can start fundraising early, get donations from board members and staff. Then when the day comes, they are already set up and they look successful. That sets them up for greater success."

Long said as nonprofit organizations participate in the process of doing GiveBig, they learn a lot about fundraising, how to set up an organization's profile or fundraising campaign. Their participation also earns them ongoing support from 501 Commons.

"An organization gets access to several training opportunities – specialized pieces like videos, emails from me about what to do in the next two weeks and fundraising principles, techniques and tips to help them make the most of GiveBig," she said. "There are longform and short form guides; a nonprofit doesn't have to know a lot about fundraising to get started."



Many nonprofits have had to cancel normal fundraising events since COVID struck more than a year ago. It prevented organizations from making new contacts, which makes fundraising difficult. Long said another benefit to the GiveBig platform is that organizations of all sizes can participate and can be discovered by people in their area looking for an opportunity to help.

"Money is flooding into some types of organizations because of strong public awareness and desire to give at whatever level they can give," she said. "Anything really directly related to the pandemic has had a lot of donor interest, but it's been very tough for other nonprofits. A big part of that is having those relationships cut off during COVID."

As of press time, there were 28 Island County nonprofits registered to participate in GiveBig next week. Some have been participating for several years, some are new. All the organizations we spoke to said they are grateful for the fundraising opportunity GiveBig provides them.

"We've participated over the past few years," said Saratoga Orchestra Executive Director Larry Heidel. "Each year the event becomes more visible and an important spoke in our fundraising wheel. It's a great way to share information about our orchestra with residents that may be new to the island. Hopefully we'll see them sitting in the audience at one of our future concerts and events."

"We normally host our annual GALA fundraiser in the same timeframe as GiveBig, however COVID has forced us to cancel the event for the second year, so we're partnering with GiveBig this year to reach and ignite our donor base," said Gloria Wildeman, a marketing representative for WhidbeyHealth, a first-time participant. "The financial impact of COVID has been tremendous. The combination of unanticipated expenses and reduced insurance revenue currently represent \$15 million in losses."

Giraffe Heroes International, based in Langley, has participated in GiveBig from the beginning. The organization honors people all over the world who are "sticking their necks out for the common good," according to its founder and creative director, Ann Medlock. The project tells their stories via social media, articles, talks, materials for schools and in books. Medlock said they first tried the platform out to see if it would

work.

"It seems to get people thinking about making gifts to nonprofits, so it's good to slipstream into that large river of giving action," she said. "People are giving to groups that help those who are hardest hit by the shutdown, but they haven't turned away from wanting our powerful stories to be moving out into the world. Our gifts of under \$100 have actually increased so we've gotten new donors as well as kept our longstanding ones."

Carol Squire, executive director of Good Cheer Food Bank and Thrift Stores, which has participated in GiveBig the past few years, said the organization has received phenomenal support from the local community and urges supporters to continue to donate to Good Cheer directly, because of the processing fees involved in the online donation platform. But GiveBig has helped it expand its reach.

"Events like GiveBig are a great opportunity to attract new donors," Squire said. "But our community here on Whidbey has been and continues to be awesome. It's almost as if we haven't had to ask."

The artistic community has been hit particularly hard by the COVID shutdowns. Whidbey's Island Shakespeare Festival was forced to cancel its season last year. The loss of its season was a big financial blow, so the company hooked up with GiveBig last year.

"Traditionally, we hold our major fundraiser in May to prepare for summer expenses, and with that being impossible two years in a row, GiveBig is the perfect opportunity to connect with donors and supporters at this crucial moment," said Olena Hodges, ISF artistic director. "This platform is fantastic because it helps us all really celebrate philanthropy as a community. Lots of Whidbey nonprofits participate and it brings us all joy to celebrate this campaign together and with our donors, many of whom support lots of our organizations."

Whidbey Weekly has also joined the GiveBig effort by becoming a media sponsor. Publisher Eric Marshall hopes the effort will help those organizations who have been struggling in the wake of the pandemic.

"Some venues were shuttered for months and now only operate at limited capacity. Numerous nonprofits were unable to hold their annual fundraisers. Major events, such as the Music Festival and the Coupeville Arts and Crafts Festival, which

See WALLIN continued on page 14

Development of new Oak Harbor park complex moves forward

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

Oak Harbor now has another multi-use park in its future. In a city council meeting held April 20, council members voted unanimously to rezone two parcels of land comprising 75 acres from Planned Industrial Park (PIP) to Public Facilities (PF). The land was also designated as a city park by the council. The parcels, commonly referred to as Harbor Heights, are located near Gun Club Road and will eventually be home to a community sports complex.

Joel Servatius, a member of the council, said during the meeting he felt the rezoning was an important step in creating a future space to serve the community.

"I would also just like to thank staff and everyone involved in this process," he said. "I think for those of us that are here it is one of those landmark events that is starting what will hopefully be a regional place in Oak Harbor that people will come to. So, it may seem like a simple gesture getting this process started by changing the zoning, but I think it is an actual landmark or watershed event."

Sabrina Combs, communications/IT manager for the City of Oak Harbor, said in an email the approval and rezoning will allow the next stages of the project to move forward.

"Designating the Harbor Heights Sports Complex property as a city park allows the police department to enforce Oak Harbor Municipal Code requirements for city parks," she said. "The next step in the process is to initiate the phase one project design and permitting elements as part of the Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) grant for the construction of two soccer fields and 50 parking spaces. Note, a decision regarding the name of the park has not been made yet."

Combs said the timeline for phase one construction is planned to take place between February 2022 through August 2022.

"This timeline is determined to meet construction requirements before the RCO grant closure in December 2022," she said. "The timelines for subsequent phases of the project have not been determined yet."

The land was selected in an effort to support continued development in Oak Harbor according to the city's plans, Combs said.

"The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan identified the need for a community park in the northwest quadrant of the city through a spatial level-of-service analysis," she said. "As other factors such as the relocation of fields from Fort Nugent was needed, there was a need for acreage and these properties seemed to fit the purpose."

Combs said the hope is the park will serve as a way to help expand recreation in Oak Harbor.

"The Harbor Heights Sports Complex park will provide additional recreational opportunities for the community, address lost soccer fields after the Oak Harbor School District constructs the new school on the Fort Nugent property, and provide sports tourism opportunities in the future to assist the local economy," she said.

Combs said Oak Harbor has focused on continuing to pursue the plans it put forth in 2019.

"The city adopted a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan in 2019 and it provides

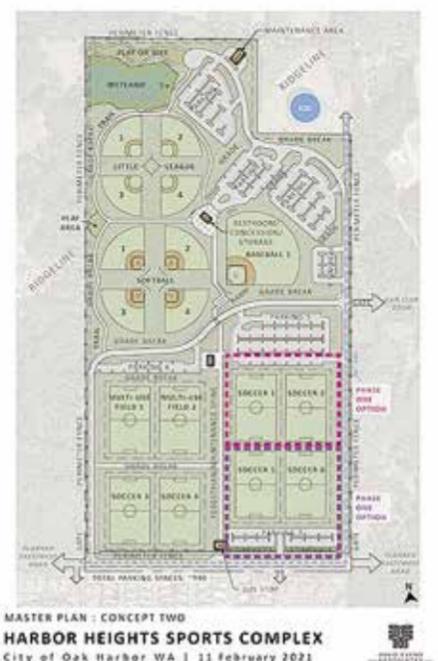


Image Courtesy of City of Oak Harbor
Concepts for the park include features such as soccer fields, multi-use fields, walking areas and more. Pictured here is the second concept for the park.

See WALLIN continued on page 14

ON TRACK

With Jim Freeman



Thanks to you interactive readers for sharing such great stuff this week. It must be springtime humor time.

The following urban legend was shared by our cousin, Emma, over there in Alabama. My world cultures teacher in

high school was named Urban. He was funny too.

A lawyer in Charlotte, N.C., insured his very expensive cigars against fire, along with other potential risks like theft.

He smoked the cigars and before having made even his first payment on the policy, made a claim for their destruction as a result of "a series of small fires."

The claim was denied by the insurance company. The lawyer did what any good lawyer would do. He sued. He won.

The story does not end there. While the judge agreed the claim was frivolous, he also acknowledged that the insurance company had warranted the cigars were insurable and also guaranteed it would insure them against fire.

Rather than endure a long and costly appeal, the insurer accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000 to the lawyer for his loss of the rare cigars lost in the "fires."

The insurance company duly forwarded their check and waited for it to be cashed before having their client arrested on 24 counts of arson.

They won.

The lawyer was duly convicted of burning his own property and sentenced to 24 months jail and a \$24,000 fine.

Is that justice or what?

No, it is an urban legend that made me laugh.

Caddy whacks

Thanks to a retired risk management director in Scottsdale, Ariz., we can share the following moments of comedic interlude. The caddy sounds like he learned from Don Rickles.

Golfer: "Think I'm going to drown myself in the lake."

Caddy: "Think you can keep your head down that long?"

Golfer: "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 on this course."

Caddy: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."

Golfer: "Do you think my game is improving?"

Caddy: "Yes sir, you miss the ball much closer now."

Golfer: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?"

Caddy: "Eventually."

Golfer: "You've got to be the worst caddy in the world."

Caddy: "I don't think so, sir. That would be too much of a coincidence."

Golfer: "Please stop checking your watch all the time. It's too much of a distraction."

Caddy: "It's not a watch. It's a compass."

Golfer: "How do you like my game?"

Caddy: "Very good, sir, but personally, I prefer golf."

Golfer: "Do you think it's a sin to play on Sunday?"

Caddy: "The way you play, sir, it's a sin on any day."

Golfer: "This is the worst course I've ever played on."

Caddy: "This isn't the golf course. We left that an hour ago."

Golfer: "That can't be my ball, it's too old."

Caddy: "It's been a long time since we teed off, sir."

Money musings

Tomorrow is the due date for our Island County property tax. In honor of our county

auditor and her terrific team, here are some money quotes.

Successful investing takes time, discipline, and patience.

No matter how great the talent or effort, some things just take time: You can't produce a baby in one month by getting nine women pregnant. ~Warren Buffet

A stockbroker urged me to buy a stock that would triple its value every year. I told him, "At my age, I don't even buy green bananas." ~ Claude Pepper

There were times when my pants were so thin I could sit on a dime and tell if it was heads or tails. ~Spencer Tracy

Every day I get up and look through the Forbes list of the richest people in America. If I'm not there, I go to work. ~Robert Orben

Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back. ~Oscar Wilde

An accountant is someone who solves a problem you didn't know you had in a way you don't understand. ~Anonymous

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well. ~Anonymous

ADD chuckles

Somewhere in my life someone told me I was ADD or ADHD. I always felt more LSMFT.

Regardless, anyone with grandkids knows attention is of the moment. That moment can last a lot longer with coloring than eating weird looking vegetables.

In honor of us all, the following one liners sans graphics are courtesy of www.TotallyADD.com. Stop by their site for more. You can even submit your own observations.

When Lenny's office caught fire, all of his unfinished paperwork was destroyed.

Today I bought a cupcake without sprinkles. Diets are hard.

Don't let yesterday take up too much of today. ~Will Rogers

This one caught my eye, from www.lmno-trightinthehead.com.

Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision. ~Unknown

From www.womenafter50.com:
Despite the old saying "Don't take your troubles to bed," many women still sleep with their husbands.

From @ChristopherFerry:
The Devil whispered to me, "I'm coming for you." I whispered back, "Bring pizza."

Origins

Thanks to the global graduates website, I learned some cool stuff last weekend.

Here is a prime example of the educational advantage of checking their bounty out.

Ever been under the weather?

Back in the disease-ridden days on the old sailing ships, the number of sick sailors often exceeded the space in the log to list their names. When this happened, the excess names of the sick were recorded in the column usually reserved for noting down the weather conditions. Hence "under the weather."

By hook or by crook, we used to say as an indication of our desire to accomplish the mission. It did not start out that way. According to www.farmerslamp.com, *This old saying is said to come from a Medieval law stating peasants could use branches of any tree for firewood with one condition. They had to be able to reach the branch using a shepherd's crook or a billhook. Using one or both of these tools, they could get wood for heating and cooking.*

If you have not left the building, we have time for one more. *Pull out all the stops* comes from the organist literally pulling all the stops from every pipe on an organ in order to play at maximum volume.

No wonder Mom cranked those Albert Schweitzer records. She was pulling out Al's stops and her own.

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

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Bits & Pieces

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

We must cancel the Maxwellton 4th of July parade again this year. I have read the rules set forth by the CDC, Island Health Dept., and Governor Inslee's Washington State Coronavirus Response regarding large gatherings in open areas during Phase 3. They limit the number of spectators to a maximum of 400 (we usually have 2,000), require the ground to be marked at six-foot intervals for standing in line for the restroom and ordering food. While watching the proceedings, groups can be no larger than six and must also be six feet away from the next group. Of course, all of these would be impossible at the parade. Spectators and participants are also to wear masks, which we cannot enforce.

BJ Hoogerwerf,
Maxwelton Community Club president and parade organizer

Washington State Resumes Use of Johnson & Johnson Vaccine

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) will immediately resume use of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine across the state. This decision is based on recommendations from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup, as well as careful consideration and close review by DOH.

The 11-day pause was taken as a precaution after six cases of a rare but severe type of blood clot were reported following administration of the J&J vaccine. In these cases, a blood clot in the brain formed, which is called thrombosis. This is coupled with low blood platelets, known as thrombocytopenia. When those both occur after a vaccine, it is referred to as thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS).

Last week, the CDC said a total of 15 cases of TTS have been reported, which includes the original six cases. All the cases occurred in women between the ages of 18 and 59, occurring six to 15 days after vaccination. DOH is not aware of any cases in Washington. The warning signs of TTS include severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain, and/or shortness of breath. People experiencing TTS symptoms following vaccination should contact their healthcare provider or seek medical attention immediately. At this time, available data suggest the chance of TTS is very low – with only 15 cases identified out of about 8 million vaccines administered nationwide – and the vaccine's known and potential benefits outweigh its known and potential risks.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted Friday to reaffirm its recommendation of the J&J vaccine for those 18 and older. ACIP recommended the FDA include a warning statement, and for J&J to provide an information sheet at vaccination to inform people about the increased risk of TTS. Members of the Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup agreed information needed to be created and shared as soon as possible. DOH quickly acted on the changes, sharing their J&J webpage with providers and creating materials providers can share with those receiving the J&J vaccine. People concerned about the increased risk may instead choose Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna.

"Above all else, safety is our top priority. The

pause was proof the surveillance systems in place to monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines are working," said Secretary of Health Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH. "These findings once again show we have three vaccines available that are effective and safe."

Providers with J&J on hand can once again begin scheduling appointments and administering the vaccine. During the pause, about 170,000 doses of J&J were being held by providers across the state. The three-week forecast from the federal government shows Washington will begin receiving more J&J the week of May 2 when 4,300 doses are expected to arrive.

The CDC's announcement can be found at www.cdc.gov/media/releases.

[Submitted by Island County Department of Emergency Management]

Whidbey Eagles Aerie Continues Tradition of "People Helping People"



The Whidbey Eagles Aerie canceled its 2020 and 2021 Plant Sale events due to COVID. Normally, those annual events generate the bulk of the \$10,000 to \$20,000 the Eagles historically distributes to local charities each year. With its motto "People Helping People" in mind, the organization still found a way to distribute \$8,000 among 12 local charities this year. Checks of \$500 and \$1,000 were mailed April 7 to the charities listed below. Hopefully the 2022 Big Plant Sale will be back in full swing next year. Recipients of this year's distributions are: Senior Services/Meals on Wheels, Helping Hand of South Whidbey, Enso House, Hearts and Hammers, Friends of Friends, Readiness to Learn, Whidbey Island Nourishes, Whidbey Homeless Coalition, Good Cheer Food Bank, South Whidbey EMS First Responders, WAIF and Whidbey Island Angels.

[Submitted by Bruce Howard, Whidbey Eagles Aerie]

WhidbeyHealth Enters Operations Transfer Agreement with Eden Health

WhidbeyHealth is committed to continually informing the community about changes to the healthcare services provided at Whidbey Island Public Hospital District and this press release provides an update about changes currently underway.

Over the past 36 years WhidbeyHealth Home Health Care has compassionately served thousands of patients across the island, a service it has been proud to provide to the community. As part of WhidbeyHealth's continued efforts to improve its financial position and establish a sustainable model for long-term financial health, WhidbeyHealth has made the decision to discontinue its Home Health Care services.

WhidbeyHealth has partnered with Eden Health, an employee-owned division of EmpRes Healthcare Management, LLC in an operations transfer agreement to ensure continuity of care for its Home Health Care patients. The partnership is valued greatly as Eden Health has offered to admit WhidbeyHealth's current patients as well as hire its current employees to ensure continuity of care. WhidbeyHealth has great confidence in the partner it has selected. Eden Health has an exceptional reputation for quality care while promoting integrity, dedication, and empathy.

The transition of care will take place June 1.

[Submitted by Conor O'Brien, Manager, Marketing & Community Relations, WhidbeyHealth]

Island Transit Launches 2021 Community Surplus Vehicle Program for Nonprofit Agencies

Island Transit, Island County's public transit agency, announces the 2021 launch of its Community Surplus Vehicle Program. This relaunch continues Island Transit's commitment to enhance the quality of life for Island County residents. April 5, 2002, Island Transit's Board of Directors approved the first Community Surplus Vehicle Program. The vehicles, originally part of Island Transit's fleet, will be used to improve equitable access to transportation throughout Whidbey and Camano Islands and strengthen connections in the community. Vehicles in the program were purchased with public funds and have reached the end of their useful transit life. This is a competitive program, averaging over 30 applications in each surplus year, with only 14 vehicles available in 2021. Vehicles not surplus will be auctioned at a future date.

Since its inception, Island Transit has awarded surplus vans and wheelchair lift-equipped paratransit vehicles to qualified 501(c)3 organizations throughout Island County. All qualified 501(c)3 organizations with transportation needs are encouraged to apply. Recipients will be chosen through a competitive process based on how they propose to use the vehicles to serve their communities. Applicants must be prepared to demonstrate current 501(c)3 status. Program materials and documentation are available online at www.islandtransit.org.

Interested applicants are invited to preview available vehicles; this is in-person and by appointment only from May 17-21. All safety measures will be in effect, including required masks and social distancing. Appointments can be made via email to riley@islandtransit.org. Recipients will be announced to the public June 22.

Applicants who require assistance with obtaining materials or have questions about the program may contact the main office at 360-678-7771. Completed applications should be emailed to info@islandtransit.org or mailed to Island Transit, 19758 SR 20, Coupeville, WA 98239, ATTN: CSVP.

Applications must be postmarked no later than June 4.

[Submitted by Selene Muldowney-Stratton, Marketing & Communications Officer, Island Transit]

Skagit Valley College now Accepting Fall Quarter Applications for its Applied Bachelor in Environmental Conservation Degree

Skagit Valley College (SVC) is pleased to announce applications are now being accepted for fall enrollment in its Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Conservation (BASEC) program.

As SVC's first applied bachelor's degree and now in its seventh year, BASEC is a two-year, 90-credit program for those who hold an associate degree in fields such as Environmental Conservation and Biology, or who have completed the equivalent college level credits. The program offers an exceptional learning experience made possible due to Skagit Valley's unique ecology of temperate forests, shorelines, and mixed-use wilderness areas and a fully accredited lab. Classes meet three days a week and are a blend of lectures and discussions, labs, and field trips.

The program is led by Dr. Claus Svendsen, a pioneer in the development of Skagit Valley's watershed research programs and initiatives. Dr. Svendsen's ecological interests focus on conservation biology, preservation of biodiversity and ungulate ecology, in particular how hoofed animals shape grazing and browsing ecosystems.

Applied bachelor degrees at SVC are selective admission programs, which begin each fall.

BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Look at your financial situation holistically

What's the biggest financial mistake you can make? Choosing the wrong investments? Waiting too long to save for retirement? Underestimating the costs of retirement? All these are reasonable answers, but the biggest mistake you might make is not looking at your financial picture holistically – that is, not bringing into the picture all the elements of yourself. Let's consider some of them:

- Your views on helping your family – Your decisions about helping your family are clearly going to be a major part of your financial strategy – and this is true at virtually all stages of your life. When your children are young, you'll need to decide if you're going to put away money for their college education, and, if so, how much, and in what investment vehicles. When they're young adults, you may also need to decide how much financial support you're willing to provide for things such as the down payment on a new home. And when you're drawing up your estate plans, you'll need to consider how to distribute assets to your children, grandchildren or other family members.

- Your personal beliefs – As someone with civic, ethical and moral concerns, you want to positively affect the world around you. And that's why you may feel compelled to make charitable gifts throughout your life and then make philanthropy part of your legacy. To accomplish these objectives, you'll want to include gifting techniques in your financial strategy today and your estate plans for tomorrow. Of course, for the estate planning component, you'll need to work with your tax and legal advisors.

- Your purpose in life when you retire – When you retire, you may be stepping off a career path, but you're also entering a world of possibilities. How will you define, and live out, your new sense of purpose at this stage of your life? Do you seek to broaden your horizons by traveling around the world? Do you want to give back more to the community by volunteering? Can you spend more time pursuing the hobbies you enjoy? Each of these choices will carry different financial implications for how much you'll need to accumulate for retirement and how much you will need to take out each year from your retirement accounts, such as your IRA and 401(k).

- Your health – Your physical and mental health can play big roles in your financial plans and outlook. On the most basic level, the healthier you are, and the better you take care of yourself, the lower your health care bills will likely be during retirement, which will affect the amount you need to put away for health care. And you also may need to prepare for the costs of long-term care, which can be enormous – in fact, a private room in a nursing home can easily cost \$100,000 per year, according to the insurance company Genworth.

It can be challenging to weave all these elements into a single, unified vision, so you may want to get some help from a financial professional. But, in any case, be prepared to look at your situation holistically – because, when putting together a lifetime's financial strategy, every part of your life matters.

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



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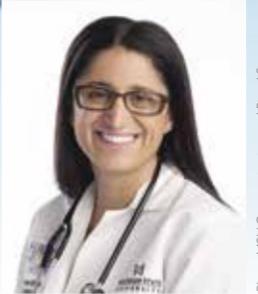
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Moderated by **ENRIQUE CERNA**,
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Coupeville museum exhibit celebrates 30th anniversary of Meerkerk Gardens

By Alec Brown Whidbey Weekly

To celebrate 30 years of being a public nonprofit, Meerkerk Gardens has partnered with the Island County Historical Museum in Coupeville to put on a special display outlining the garden's fascinating history. Anyone can view the exhibit during the museum's operating hours, which are Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This particular feature is expected to stay until June, though the date may be extended.

For those unfamiliar, Meerkerk Gardens is a rhododendron garden near Greenbank which was created by Max and Ann Meerkerk—two people who were both eccentric and creative enough to become local historical figures. The gardens now serve many facets of Whidbey culture.

"Philanthropically, the gardens represent the Meerkerk's vision of a peaceful woodland garden open to the public," said Dr. Re McClung, vice president of the Meerkerk Gardens board of directors. "Environmentally the gardens utilize sound gardening techniques to protect the rich habitat as home to birds and wildlife, conserving resources by managing rainwater, composting and building the soil. Horticulturally, the gardens is a learning center where dedicated volunteers receive hands-on training while caring for the gardens. Classes and tours educate the public about rhododendron culture and nature programs for children inspire future gardeners. Culturally, the gardens enrich lives through musical events like Mother's Day, the Bluegrass festival, and Octoberfest. Socially, the gardens bring people together for a shared experience, and introducing visitors to our community.

"The museum exhibit is a historical retrospective telling the story of Ann and Max Meerkerk and their 'secret garden' that has evolved into Meerkerk Gardens today," McClung continued. "The gardens welcome over 20,000 visitors each year who enjoy the all-season walking paths and visual displays of rhododendrons and companion plantings. Through this exhibit we want to bring in new visitors who will be interested in preserving this special piece of history through the renovation of the Meerkerk's home and the establishment of a permanent historical museum."

The display includes information boards describing Ann and Max Meerkerk, their lives, and the early history of the gardens. It also includes artifacts recovered from the Meerkerk house, such as architectural plans, samples of Ann's artworks, and hybridization journals they kept which detail the journey of their unique rhododendrons.

Dr. McClung researched and wrote the history of the Meerkerks while Cynthia Woerner, Meerkerk's promotions and



Photo Courtesy of Cynthia Woerner Photography
The Island County Historical Museum is currently hosting the History of Meerkerk Gardens exhibit. Visit the museum during normal operating hours to learn more about this fascinating piece of local history.

development coordinator, created the graphics, layout, and looping video of bloom season photographs available at the exhibit.

Many of the artifacts on display were acquired to rehabilitate the property and establish a permanent exhibit at the Meerkerk estate.

"We were down in the basement...finding boxes of slides and boxes of artifacts," said McClung. "We caught everything just at the right time. Another year or two, everything would have been gone totally. Just to save all these special treasures has been a remarkable opportunity for us.

"And these were fascinating people," she continued. "They are both renaissance people. They always lived off the grid. They always tried unusual things together."

Max, who was related to the Kaiser Wilhelm bloodline and had PhDs in law and philosophy, grew up wealthy and served as an emissary between Germany and China, where his interest in rhododendrons and the arts first bloomed. After serving in the first World War and not wanting to fight in the second, he came to the United States to start an antiquity store.

Coincidentally, Ann had opened a pottery studio in New York City as well. Her love of pottery and his love of antiquities eventually pulled them together.

But there was one little problem – Max was already married at the time.

"The woman he was married to was the woman who he was in business with," stated McClung. "And it seems like they were more business partners than in marriage. So she said it was okay to get a divorce. So he went to Las Vegas, got a divorce, and married our Ann. But her family wasn't crazy about him; they thought he was a bit of a scoundrel."

After visiting a friend in Meerkerk, they decided to move from their home in Idaho and settle down here on Whidbey Island. But there was yet another obstacle.

"[Max] had his fingers in a lot of stuff," described McClung. "He was the president of the Weimaraner Society and raised Weimaraner's. So if you wanted a Weimaraner in the United States, you knew Max. At some point they owned, like, 88 of these, and they were living in Idaho at the time...they fell in love with Whidbey Island, came over here and bought the property in one day, and then they had to move all their 88 dogs from Idaho to Meerkerk. So they loaded them up in trailers, and every time they would take them out on the road for the bathroom, people would admire them, so they sold like 35 dogs before they even got to Meerkerk."

"They were fabulous, amazing, artistic people," said Island County Historical Museum Director Rick Castellano. "Anyone that travels with 55 dogs deserves an exhibit."

When they eventually settled down at Meerkerk in 1961, Ann had a clear vision of what she wanted to do with the land.



Alec Brown/Whidbey Weekly
A new display available at the Island County Historical Museum in Coupeville shares the history of Meerkerk Gardens and its founders, as well as fascinating artifacts from the estate.

"Her idea was the sustainable garden of rhododendrons," Dr. McClung stated. "She wanted it to be a place where people could go. A peaceful woodland garden—that's what she wanted to build.

"They cleared acreage, laid out growing areas, put in water lines and began planting rhododendrons brought in from gardens all over the Northwest and brought in from Asia and England," she continued. "Before Max's death in 1969, they added another 20 acres and after his death, Ann purchased another 20 acres, to make the property 53 acres [as] it remains today. Before she passed away, Ann made an arrangement with the Seattle Rhododendron Society to take over the care and maintenance of the gardens and open them to the public. Meerkerk Gardens became a nonprofit 501(c) 3 in May 2003. Over the years, new plantings, new pathways, new hiking trails and a beautifully welcoming gatehouse have been added to enhance the visitor experience."

Details and stories like these and many more are available at the exhibit. Visit the Island County Historical Museum to get the complete Meerkerk history—and visit the Meerkerk Gardens between June and May to enjoy the garden during peak season. The gardens are open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5.

According to Castellano, the exhibit has been a great success.

"It's just been so well received," Castellano stated. "We see, especially lately, people escaping King County and other surrounding counties to come on the weekends. That's when most of the people are here. This is a very localized exhibit, but the people that are coming from off-island are standing here and reading every one of these panels, which is quite an endorsement to this exhibit. People love eccentric people, and talented people. And they were eccentric and talented people."

One part of the display came from a joke.

"We have live rhododendrons in the museum!" he continued. "When they first came here and we talked about doing a collaboration, I said, kind of jokingly, 'only if you bring live rhododendrons.' And they showed up with live rhododendrons! I love it. It kind of goes with the whole eccentricity of it, of Max and Ann Meerkerk, their creative bent. They would have loved this. It's not just these things, but it's the hybrid books, her artwork, and the live plants, you know."

"I just encourage everyone to come and see [the display] and go see the gardens," Castellano concluded. "We're so fortunate to have those here on the island. With her eccentric vision, they're there."

Visit the Meerkerk Gardens website at Meerkerkgardens.org, and learn more about the Island County Historical Museum at islandhistory.org.



Alec Brown/Whidbey Weekly
This ornate spinning wheel made by Ann Meerkerk herself is one of over 40 spinning wheels she owned—many of which are on display at the Island County Historical Museum right now. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays.

HYDROS continued from page 8

the long-term planning for city Parks," she said. "Development of this space meets the objectives of the plan and guiding principles outlined in the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan."

Combs said Oak Harbor spent several months gathering community input and researching various concept designs. She said the concept designs include, but are not limited to, elements such as disc golf, a bike course, multi-use fields, soccer fields, baseball fields, T-ball fields, walking areas, a play area, parking, maintenance, concession, bathrooms and other amenities.

"The consultants mapped out several different activities to fill the 75-acre space and

provided parking, access routes, and other features to meet the needs of our growing community," she said.

Combs said currently, completing phase one is the main objective for the newly-designated park.

"The focus at this time is on the first phase for two soccer fields and 50 parking spaces," she said.

For more information on the project and to view the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, visit oakharbor.org. A virtual tour of proposed concept designs for the park can be viewed on Youtube at the following link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=OE25mAkjNoY.

HYDROS continued from page 8

make money for the nonprofit (then donates much of the money back into the community) and draw crowds for local businesses, were all canceled," he said. "My hope is to bring top-of-mind awareness to our local nonprofits and that those with the means to give will kick in a little bit of money to help sustain them."

"I think the main thing I want people to know is that they don't have to be big donors to make a difference," said Long. "By everybody gathering together, finding causes they care about, organizations they value and that match their interests, they can give at whatever level they can. This crisis is affecting every nonprofit. Now more than ever is the time to give."

For more information about GiveBig and to find the latest participating local nonprofit organizations, visit givebigwa.org.

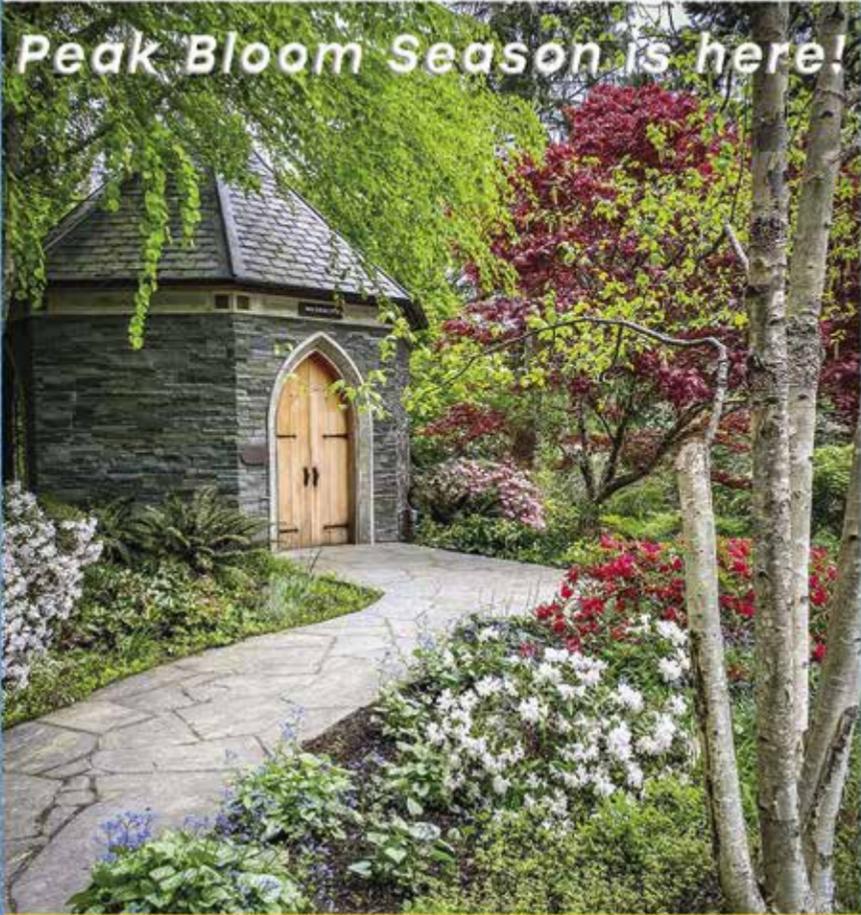
"I encourage folks to participate in GiveBig because it's a celebration," Hodges said. "It's a really fun way to get involved and to show support of all our amazing community has to offer."

"It's easy, it supports all the great nonprofit work that makes Whidbey an amazing place to live and ultimately, it just makes you feel good," said Heidel.



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

What's In Your Water? The Doctor Will Tell You

The Trudy Sundberg Lecture Series took an unexpected break in 2020, but it returns in May in virtual form.

The Trudy Sundberg Lecture Series, in collaboration with the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation, will present Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha with her discussion, "What's in Your Water?" Award-winning broadcast journalist Enrique Cerna will join Hanna-Attisha in this virtual conversation on Zoom at 5:00PM Friday, May 7. Please register in advance for this event.

Event organizer Marshall Goldberg was finalizing plans for their presentation at last year's Trudy Sundberg Lecture Series when the coronavirus pandemic canceled all in-person Sno-Isle Libraries events. Hanna-Attisha and Cerna quickly agreed to honor their Trudy Sundberg Lecture Series commitments in 2021.

Hanna-Attisha is a Flint, Mich., pediatrician who took charge of efforts to address the city's drinking water crisis after the water supply was switched in 2014 from the City of Detroit to the Flint River. In the months that followed, numerous residents in the poor, predominantly Black city reported becoming sick.

Hanna-Attisha believed most of the symptoms she was seeing in her young patients were attributable to lead poisoning.

Through 2015, initial investigations showed state and local officials and the consultants they hired downplayed the complaints about Flint's water and insisted it was safe. Flint's state-appointed emergency city manager declined an offer by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to reconnect Flint to its system for free.

In September 2015, Virginia Tech University published a study which showed elevated lead levels in Flint children's blood and attributed it to the city's new drinking water supply. It confirmed Hanna-Attisha's suspicions of lead poisoning.

She publicized the findings but officials continued to insist Flint's water was safe despite tests showing lead levels up to seven times higher than allowed under federal rules.

President Barack Obama declared a state of emergency in 2016 and the Michigan attorney general's office launched its first criminal investigation that resulted in several charges and a civil lawsuit against consultants hired by state officials. A second criminal investigation in 2019 resulted in 42 new charges against nine suspects, including former Gov. Rick Snyder.

Fixing the lead contamination has been expensive.

In 2016, the City of Flint began a four-year, \$150 million effort to inspect every residence in the city and replace lead or galvanized steel drinking water supply pipes with copper.

In August 2020, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced the State of Michigan had reached

a \$600 million settlement for dozens of civil lawsuits filed over the Flint water crisis. Additional settlements pushed the total to \$641.2 million. Eighty percent of the funds will go to treat children in Flint who suffered lead poisoning.

In the year since the 2020 Trudy Sundberg Lecture Series was postponed, much has changed in Flint, but the pandemic also highlighted entrenched racial and class disparities faced by residents in Flint and surrounding Genesee County, Hanna-Attisha said. She spoke with *PBS News Hour* reporter John Yang May 12, 2020.

Coronavirus hit Flint hard. At the time of the interview, the Genesee County health department reported the City of Flint had 40 percent of the county's COVID-19 cases, even though the city accounts for only 25 percent of the county's population.

Hanna-Attisha was one of those cases.

"Knock on wood, I'm feeling so much better," Hanna-Attisha told Yang. "I still can't taste or smell, but the scary respiratory cough, shortness of breath things are all gone."

Yang asked if the Flint water crisis was making the pandemic situation worse.

"Absolutely, we cannot rule out the water crisis in Flint, and also in Detroit," Hanna-Attisha said. "Many families, and up to 5,000 families in Flint, could not even wash their hands. They did not have running water to wash their hands. I mean, what is the most important thing to do to kill the virus right now? Look, we can actually kill the virus with soap and water. But we can't do that in many places, including in Flint."

While the Flint lead contamination will likely result in a population of children who will have long-term health and education deficits, she said, the pandemic was making things worse for children.

"Now we have this pandemic, which creates significant gaps in education and nutrition and health care," Hanna-Attisha said. "Our kids can't go to high-quality child care anymore. They can't participate in literacy services. The home visiting programs, all these things that we have put into place to buffer, to mitigate the impact of the water crisis with the lead exposure are gone right now."

Flint residents already had good reason to distrust government officials who lied to them about the dangers of their tap water, Hanna-Attisha told Yang.

"We are just beginning to recover from our last public health crisis, and then this is an added public health crisis that is straining very limited resources and exacerbating pre-existing, chronic disparities," she said.

"We have, fortunately, over the last few years in our recovery from the water crisis, have been able to build some of the public health infrastructure to support families. However, that infrastructure, just like the public health infrastructure throughout our nation, needs more support and needs more funding."

Award-winning Seattle broadcast journalist Enrique Cerna will interview Hanna-Attisha. He had a distinguished career over four decades with KOMO Radio, KING-TV and KCTS-TV before retiring in 2018 as senior correspondent for KCTS. He anchored current affairs programs at KING and KCTS, moderated state-wide political debates, interviewed major newsmakers, produced and reported stories throughout Washington State and for national PBS programs.

Cerna earned nine regional Emmy awards and numerous other journalistic honors. He is a member of the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences Northwest Chapter Silver Circle for his work as a television professional.

"He has a great reputation," Goldberg said of Cerna. "I couldn't tell you how thrilled I am to have him as moderator."

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

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HALIBUT

It is hard to believe that years ago some commercial fishermen once considered the mighty halibut a "trash fish." Talk about turning trash into treasure! Today's fish markets fetch a steep price-per-pound for this white, steak-like flesh. This wonderful fish, now like most all other commercially harvested sea creatures, is heavily regulated in U.S. waters, which reaches over and also limits the recreational fisherman's opportunities to help maintain a sustainable balance between supply and demand. The cold, rich waters of Alaska and British Columbia are still the leader in halibut numbers, but the halibut's natural habitat spreads these bottom dwellers all along the west coast and during season, they can be regularly caught from the San Francisco Bay to the Puget Sound.

Does this mean the sandy plateaus and shallow depressions throughout the Puget Sound are covered with the prized halibut? Hardly. Is there enough out there to get us fishermen out of bed and on the water in hopes of landing a fish? Yes! Every year there are reports of Island Anglers catching nice-sized halibut in our local waters. If you are ever at a boat launch and see a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) "fish checker," you could politely ask them if any halibut have been brought back to the dock that day.

Catching Puget Sound halibut from shore is pretty tough, simply because the water depth the halibut like is unreachable from the shoreline. Halibut do move up into shallower waters to spawn, but are generally still in 60 feet of water or more. I was stationed at NAS Adak Alaska in the early 90s and we would fish for halibut from the end of the giant rock jetty that protected the harbor. We would center our heavy weight and a large chunk of bait rig on an 18X18-inch piece of plywood and tacked an inflated balloon down to the board, then set the whole thing adrift; once the wind pushed the balloon, board, and our bait out into the deeper water, we quickly pulled the gear off of the board and let it settle to the bottom, grabbed a cold beer and waited to hook that night's dinner.

Here are three of the most common techniques used to catch halibut:

Drift Fishing: This technique works well when the tidal currents are moving fairly slowly. Long plateaus, and contoured bays from 75 to 300 feet deep are perfect for drift fishing. First establish the current direction, then position your boat on the up-current end of the plateau or bay. Next, drop down your bait or artificial lure of choice and let the current do the driving; bounce your rig along the bottom, lifting and jiggling as you drift along. Hopefully someone on the boat encounters a flatfish settled on the bottom. Kicking up silt, sand and broken shells with the weighted rig is a good thing. It draws the attention of the halibut to come investigate the disturbance. Beginner fishermen might think they are getting bit as the rig hangs on the sometimes-rough bottom; simply lift and hold the rig off the bottom. If the rod

continues to bounce and tug downward, chances are you have a fish on the line!

Fishing-on-Anchor: Unlike drift fishing where you are actively moving to the fish, on-anchor you're waiting for the fish to come to you. Being successful on-anchor means having prior knowledge of the area you're fishing. Just motoring out to 150-feet and dropping anchor anywhere will not normally produce any fish. Most anchored fishermen have either caught fish in that very spot in the past or a spot has a long reputation of holding and producing fish. One rule of thumb to follow if you are fishing a new area is to find the edge of any plateau or locate any depressions or trenches; at this point, try to place the boat on-anchor so your bait will be resting down current near the edge of the deeper water drop off point of the plateau. Or, get your bait to rest in, or as close to the low spots as possible. To increase your chances of attracting a halibut, most anchored fishermen will lower a chum-bag to the bottom. Two ways of getting the (frozen) chum to the bottom is to hook the chum-bag to the anchor rope using a large carabiner clip and let it slide down to meet the anchor; you can retrieve the chum when you pull anchor or you can attach a tag-line to the bag and slide it back up the anchor rope. If the chum-bag is not too heavy, many fishermen lower the bag down via a downrigger; this makes deployment and retrieval easy.

Trolling for Halibut: This technique is widely used for salmon but seldom used to search for halibut. However, if you are already a salmon troller, then the rest is easy. Just "super size" your gear; use a larger level-wind reel filled with 65-pound braid and scale up to a heavy action 8.5-foot downrigger rod. Bump up your leader to 80-pound monofilament, increase the size of all barrel and snap swivels used and switch from a plastic to a chrome metal flasher. Pick a 4-inch spoon, a 5-inch rubber squid, in either white or black, or a large horse herring to begin with. Smear some herring smelly-jelly on the artificial lures, lower the set-up down near the bottom – low enough to have the metal flasher bang the sea floor on occasion – and start hunting. I've yet to catch a halibut during the chopped up open season we get trolling, but it's only a matter of time!

Lake trout, halibut, and lingcod seasons are upon us and greater fishing opportunities to get out on the water are here. This is my email – tlfishmonger@gmail.com; feel free to ask questions or drop me a fishing tale, be safe, and GOOD LUCK out there!



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TOP TIER HOME MAINTENANCE



SUNDAY, MARCH 21
7:26 am, NW Front St.
 Male subject drank hand sanitizer. Caller now just repeating "no, no, no."
MONDAY, MARCH 22
12:12 pm, Alamo Way
 Requesting call referencing fraud on bank account. Advising "better to call law enforcement before I call the little bastard and say I'm going to shoot you."
5:02 pm, SR 525
 Advising ongoing issue with female coming into store taking items; coffee, creamer sugar, etc. Does not wear mask.
TUESDAY, MARCH 23
11:17 am, SR 20
 Caller upset with traffic back up due to construction. Advising "They don't know what they are doing." States is backed up to Troxell Road from the bridge.
11:47 am, Newman Rd.
 Requesting call, not on site, regarding video of subject who has come to location on several occasions and stealing their envelopes.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24
12:22 pm, Richardson Ct.
 Female on line asking to be transferred to Whatcom. Asked if she needed law or fire and she disconnected. Recalled, assumed caller was lying and disconnected again.
2:57 pm, Heller Rd.
 Reporting party advising ex-boyfriend just came and stole stuff out of her vehicle; stole a pair of shoes; Advising he came back and put shoes back in the car.
4:15 pm, Main St.
 Reporting party states someone tried to take her cart while she was trying to load her child into her vehicle 10 minutes ago. Male tried to act like nothing happened after he grabbed cart.
5:31 pm, Shawn Ave.
 Caller states is walking and male subject is following. Afraid to go home. He keeps calling her his soul mate. Wearing black hoodie, dark baggy jeans, goatee.
6:11 pm, Smugglers Cove Rd.
 Reporting theft of mail. Available for call. Reporting party recalling, states there was actually no mail theft and to cancel.

States wife has been bringing in mail and leaving empty packages in mailbox.
7:04 pm, Porter Rd.
 Reporting party advising white female, 30s, blonde hair, is in front yard yelling at reporting party; was cursing; has black and white dog with her. Reporting party advising unknown who subject is.
THURSDAY, MARCH 25
4:29 am, Mobius Loop
 Male on line advising reports he's been making have made it into federal hands; states he has made several reports and no one cares; advising he only gets snot-nosed replies from private numbers regarding his wife's safety.
9:49 am, Devries Rd.
 Reporting party advising female sitting in middle of road; someone almost hit her; saw her rummaging through mail earlier. White female, 5'07" with brown hair, wearing white nightgown.
11:35 am, Langley Rd.
 Subject with automatic weapon strapped to their back at bus stop outside; unsure if it's paintball gun or an actual weapon. Weapon has orange trim on it.
12:16 pm, Mountain View Ln.
 Reporting party's son advised approximately 30 minutes ago male subject knocked on reporting party's door and asked reporting party's son if he wanted to go for a ride.
7:30 pm, Donna Dr.
 Reporting party states found damage to internet cable. Pulled across yard. Possibly attempt of theft of services.
7:41 pm, Scenic Ave
 Reporting party advising juvenile female sitting on utility box; reporting party told subject to get off box, subject refused and was disrespectful.
9:44 pm, Mobius Loop
 Male on line, speaking incoherently. Male recalling, saying "death before dishonor."
11:44 pm, SR 525
 Reporting party advising two vehicles have been cutting him off when he got off ferry at Clinton. Has been an ongoing problem of traffic in general on island.

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

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.

Spring Clean Up

Saturday, May 1, 10:00AM-4:00PM
Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor

Let's make historic downtown Oak Harbor beautiful! Volunteers needed to paint pots, plant flowers, pull weeds, prepare for a pop-up plaza, and more. To volunteer or for more information, call 360-279-8995 or email director@oakharbormainstreet.com.

Art Talks: Frida Kahlo

Wednesday, May 5, 11:00AM-1:00PM
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley
All Seats: \$20

Kahlo's life has become as iconic as her work, in no small part because she was her own most popular subject. Her works were intensely personal and political, often reflecting her turbulent personal life, her illness, and her relationship with the revolutionary muralist Diego Rivera. Presented by art historian Rebecca Albiani. For tickets or more information, visit www.wicaonline.org.

Shop Out for Kids

Wednesday, May 5, 11:00AM-7:00PM
bayleaf, 101 NW Coveland, Coupeville

A portion of the day's sales will be donated to the Coupeville Schools Foundation which supports the Coupeville Schools with "an extra measure of support through teacher grants, scholarships and the Promise Fund. For more information, visit www.4coupevilleschools.org.

Women Build 2021

Friday, May 7, 8:30AM-4:00PM
Saturday, May 8, 8:30AM-4:00PM
Construction: 1725 SE 10th Avenue
Painting: 1370 Lofton Loop
Oak Harbor

Join a group of women (and some men) to help three different families get closer to moving into their new homes. Never picked up a hammer in your life? Don't worry, experienced staff and volunteers will make sure you feel comfortable with whatever task you're working on. This is a rewarding experience for all involved. For more information or to register, visit <https://islandcountyhabitat.org/women-build-2-0/>.

Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below
Cost: Free:

Meet Author Steve Olson

Thursday, April 29, 6:30-8:00PM

Meet Steve Olson, award-winning author of *Eruption: The Untold Story of Mount St. Helens*, and 2017 winner of the Washington State Book Award for history and nonfiction. *Eruption* examines the history and science behind the 1980 eruption with page-turning accounts of what happened to those who lived and those who died. Register at <https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/>.

Discuss the Classics with Rita Bartell Drum

Thursdays, 12:30 or 7:00PM

Enjoy a pleasant hour of shared wisdom and fellowship as we consider the words and hope of times past and weave a fabric of renewed hope by leaning on the "Classics." Contact: ritadrum777@gmail.com for Zoom link.

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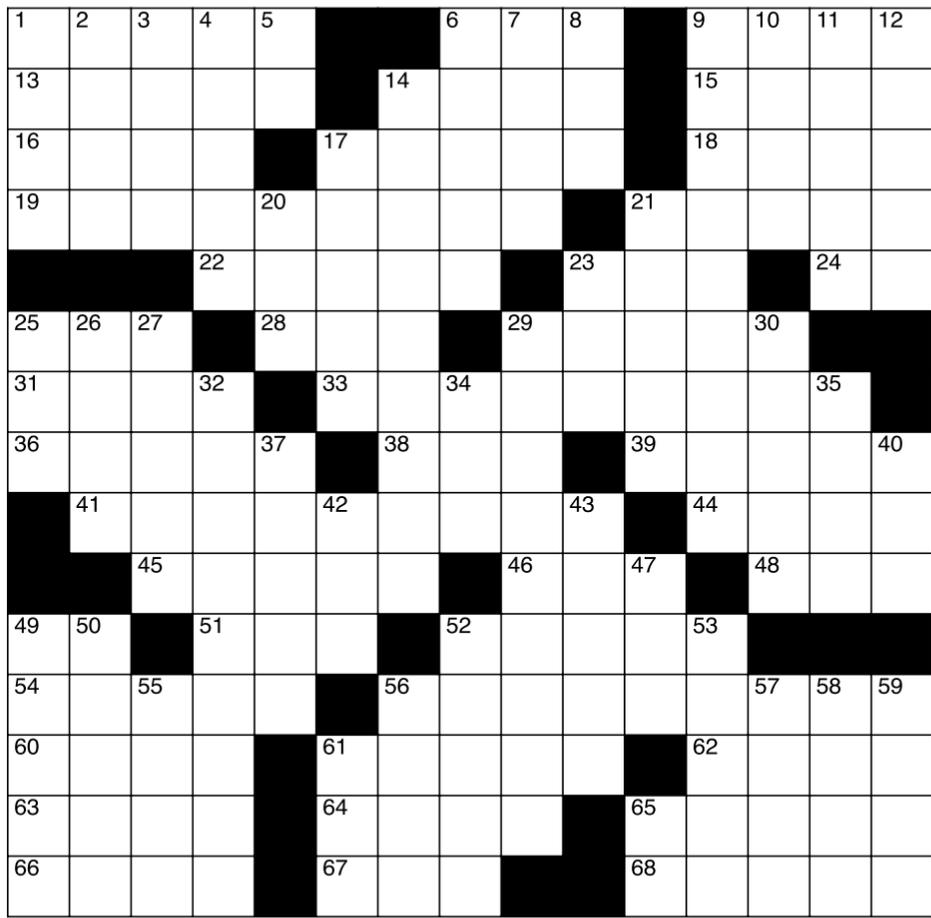
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Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. One who manufactures
- 6. Science degree
- 9. Database management system
- 13. Desert
- 14. Inventor Musk
- 15. Welsh valley
- 16. Round Dutch cheese
- 17. Saying
- 18. Comedian and TV host
- 19. Uppermost portions of the brain
- 21. City in Transylvania
- 22. Where astronauts go
- 23. Men's hairstyle
- 24. Indicates position
- 25. One point east of due south
- 28. Businessmen may have one
- 29. Grass part
- 31. Running back Gurley
- 33. Unwavering
- 36. Options
- 38. Annoy
- 39. Greek mountain
- 41. Pastas
- 44. Fishes
- 45. Wrap
- 46. Potentially a criminal (slang)
- 48. Seize

49. The Constitution State

- 51. Upset
- 52. 1991 men's Wimbledon champ
- 54. Central Chinese province
- 56. Predisposition
- 60. A notice of someone's death
- 61. One-time Kentucky Rep.
- 62. Swiss river
- 63. Dried-up
- 64. Finger millet
- 65. ___ Allan Poe
- 66. German river
- 67. Brew
- 68. Kenyan river

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Millisecond
- 2. Acts as military assistant
- 3. Knot in a tree
- 4. Husband-and-wife industrial designers
- 5. The Ocean State
- 6. Point the finger at
- 7. Parts in a machine
- 8. Midway between northeast and east
- 9. Portray precisely
- 10. Blister
- 11. Mental illness
- 12. Nose of an animal

14. What students receive

- 17. Semitic peoples
- 20. Beats per minute
- 21. Family of drugs
- 23. Atrocious
- 25. Type of microscope (abbr.)
- 26. ___ or bust
- 27. Icelandic poems
- 29. A citizen of Pakistan
- 30. Very pale
- 32. Metric linear unit
- 34. Sea eagle
- 35. Biblical judge of Israel
- 37. Isaac's mother (Bib.)
- 40. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 42. Cool!
- 43. Large hotel room
- 47. Type of boat (abbr.)
- 49. Picked
- 50. Type of hookah
- 52. Attack
- 53. Directs
- 55. Belgian WWII resistance fighter
- 56. Finished negotiation
- 57. Heroic tale
- 58. Middle Eastern country
- 59. Protein-rich liquids
- 61. Malaysian Isthmus
- 65. Spielberg's alien

Answers on page 15

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p>Thurs, April 29</p> <p>North Isle H-62°/L-46° Rain Possible</p> <p>South Isle H-66°/L-47° Rain Possible</p> | <p>Fri, April 30</p> <p>North Isle H-59°/L-45° Showers Possible</p> <p>South Isle H-62°/L-46° Showers Possible</p> | <p>Sat, May 1</p> <p>North Isle H-58°/L-44° Partly Sunny</p> <p>South Isle H-61°/L-45° Mixed Sun and Clouds</p> | <p>Sun, May 2</p> <p>North Isle H-59°/L-44° Partly Sunny</p> <p>South Isle H-62°/L-44° Partly Sunny</p> | <p>Mon, May 3</p> <p>North Isle H-60°/L-45° Cloudy</p> <p>South Isle H-64°/L-45° Cloudy</p> | <p>Tues, May 4</p> <p>North Isle H-61°/L-44° Mostly Cloudy</p> <p>South Isle H-65°/L-44° Mostly Cloudy</p> | <p>Wed, May 5</p> <p>North Isle H-61°/L-45° Mixed Sun and Clouds</p> <p>South Isle H-65°/L-45° Mostly Cloudy</p> |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|



OUR Community

An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

What is the most rewarding thing, for you, living on Whidbey?



Marlane Harrington

Langley

In addition to the incredible beauty of South Whidbey, I would say the sense of community; it still has the feel of a small town

Gene Kelly Barner

Edward Jones, Oak Harbor

For me, the most rewarding thing is observing the daily display of nature. Whidbey is a place where I can enjoy wide open spaces, mountain views, water views, and just the right amount of humans, for now.



Nancy Hernandez

Coupeville

What I like most about living on Whidbey Island is the secure feeling that comes from knowing that you will always run into a familiar face. I grew up in a big city where there was so much traffic and stress every day. So I really enjoy the tranquility, the beautiful surroundings, and the cool weather.

Isaac Nickols, Sr.

Pioneer Automotive Services, Oak Harbor

To me, the most rewarding thing about living here is the community. It just feels like a big family. With the military, people come here from all over the world, so the conversations about their experiences are always amazing to hear.



CAN DO SUDOKU!

On a scale from 1 to 10...4.4

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

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| | 3 | | | | 1 | 9 | | |

Answers on page 15

Community Bulletin Board

To place an ad, email classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com

RV/TRAILERS



1995 Northland 1120 Grizzley extended cab camper, 11'6", all seasons. Air-conditioned, 3-way refrig., h/w, propane heat, in/out shower. Lots of Storage. Can sleep 4 Super clean, no leaks or damage. Trailer hitch included. Always stored under cover. \$5,500 OBO. 360-941-1785 (1)

BOATS/PARTS FOR SALE

1984 16' Achilles aluminum, hard-floor inflatable with extras. 1975 25-hp Evenrude S/S. Both two owners since new. 2010 King galvanized saltwater trailer with bunks and stanchions Will handle larger boat. Like new. Boat and motor are oldies but goodies \$2,250 OBO. 360-941-1785 (1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pregnant? Need baby clothes? We have them and the price is right—FREE. Pregnancy Care Clinic, open Tuesday-Friday, 10am to 4pm and Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm. Stop by at 670 SE Midway Blvd. in Oak Harbor.

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@servalts-cfs.com

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

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.

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.

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

Receptionist: Hearing Health is hiring a full-time receptionist with a goal to move into the front office manager position. You will manage the patient flow, act as the face of our company and ensure patients receive a sincere, heartwarming welcome with efficient and prompt service. You'll be working with our Practice Manager to coordinate and execute all front desk responsibilities (phone calls, scheduling appointments, managing patient referrals and medical documentation, etc). Our ideal candidate will combine a pleasant personality with a dynamic professional approach to achieve clinic goals while conducting themselves effortlessly in our fast-paced, demanding environment. We take our patient care very seriously, and

No Cheating!

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we'll only consider a teammate who has a real work ethic. However, we also require a genuine sense of humor and a fun-loving approach to the daily stresses of a position in healthcare. We pride ourselves on keeping an energetic and infectious atmosphere; we need someone who will radiate the same feeling. Contact frontdesk@coupevillehearing.com if interested. (3)

Administrative Assistant/ Customer Service Position: Small health and life insurance agency seeking full-time administrative assistant/ customer service person. Successful candidate will be responsible for general office administration as well as customer service. Must be able to work independently and to be a contributing member of a team. Responsibilities include: Answering incoming telephone calls and greeting/assisting clients; Clerical: word processing, data entry, spreadsheets, communication composition, scheduling, project coordination, and filing; Administrative sales support. Skills required: Excellent customer service and telephone techniques; Attention to detail with strong organizational and math skills; Ability to multi-task and function with frequent interruptions; Microsoft office software skills and knowledge; Ability to work independently. Prefer local, South Whidbey resident. Must be available immediately. Please send cover letter and resume to jjins@whidbey.com (2)

Maintenance Worker I/II/III: The Town of Coupeville has a current opening for a Maintenance Worker Level I, II, or III. This is a non-exempt position performing manual to journey level work and other duties as assigned, in the streets, parks, buildings and utilities of the town. This is a full-time position, wage scale ranging from \$20.52 to \$30.17 per hour, depending on experience. For

a complete job description, including minimum qualifications for each level, and instructions on how to apply, please visit our website: www.townofcoupeville.org/join-our-team/. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Town of Coupeville is an EOE. (2)

Seasonal Maintenance Worker: The Town of Coupeville has a current opening for a Seasonal Maintenance Worker. This is a temporary position, performing manual to journey level work and other duties as assigned, in the streets, parks, buildings and utilities of the town. Pay rate - \$14.50 per hour. For a complete job description, including minimum qualifications for each level, and instructions on how to apply, please visit our website: www.townofcoupeville.org/join-our-team/. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Town of Coupeville is an EOE. (2)

Sierra Pool Attendant: Sierra Country Club HOA in Coupeville is seeking a part-time Pool Attendant for the summer 2021 pool season. Minimum applicant age is 16. Varied schedule. Shift 11am-7pm, 3-4 days/week; \$13.50/hour. Details and application available at: http://sierracountryclub.net/index.php/Jobs_&_Volunteering (2)

Island Transit is Hiring! If you are looking for a solid career with great pay and benefits including two retirement plans, we are hiring. Visit www.islandtransit.org/employment to apply. Island Transit is a drug and alcohol free workplace and an equal employment opportunity employer.

ANIMALS/SUPPLIES

Natural Barnyard Topsoil - Good for gardens, flower beds, etc. Unscreened, 10 yard loads, \$225 delivered. South Whidbey. 360-321-1624

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WANTED

WANTED: We buy running or not! We recycle cars, trucks, motorhomes, travel trailers, motorcycles, boats, tractors, dump trucks and much more. Free estimates on junk removal and junk vehicle removal. TJ's Recycling, 360-678-4363

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

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

How'd you do?

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CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

US Postal Mail

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E-Mailclassifieds@whidbeyweekly.com
Telephone..... 360-682-2341
Fax 360-682-2344

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

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Labor Includes

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- Inspect Exhaust System
- Check Charging System
- Test Ignition Cables
- Tire Rotation & Balance
- Inspect Suspension
- Check all Fluids
- Test Anti-Freeze

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- Adjust Parking Brake
- Bleed & Adjust System
- Road Test Vehicle
- 3 Year or 26,000 mile Warranty

DISCS

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- New Seals
- Bleed & Adjust System
- Road Test Vehicle
- 3 Year or 26,000 mile Warranty

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