

June 24 through June 30, 2021

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Whidbey Weekly

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Whidbey Island Music Festival

SUMMER 2021



3 CONCERTS • 6 PERFORMANCES



 Whidbey Weekly
& PRINTING

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Pool remains closed p. 10

Whidbey Island Music Festival

Emerging from pandemic with fresh perspective

By **Kathy Reed** Whidbey Weekly

As long and as hard as the pandemic has been, it has provided artists with time to delve into their creativity in new and imaginative ways.

So, while the Whidbey Island Music Festival is still all about the classics, audiences may find new depth and new experiences await them when they attend.

This year's festival consists of three different concert programs – six performances - spread out over three months. The first concert performance Saturday is sold out, but don't despair, a second performance will take place Sunday at 2 p.m. at Whidbey Island Center for the Arts in Langley. The program entitled "Between Heaven and Earth: A Year with Brahms," pairs WIMF founder and violinist Tekla Cunningham with Whidbey Island pianist Sheila Weidendorf.

Concert two, "An die Musik: A Schubertiade," will be performed outdoors at Cultus Bay Gardens in Clinton at 4 p.m. Saturday, July 17 and again at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 18, with

a garden concert in Freeland. These performances feature soprano Danielle Reutter-Harrah, Cunningham on violin, harpist Maxine Eilander and guitarist Stephen Stubbs as they explore the songs of Franz Schubert, Niccolò Paganini and Zoe de la Ruë.

The trio of concerts concludes Saturday, Aug. 28 at the garden of Shirley Collins in Langley and will be repeated Sunday, Aug. 29 at 2 p.m., as part of the Summer Nights Series at Whidbey Island Center for the Arts. Organist Henry Lebedinsky joins Reutter-Harrah and Cunningham for a program of Bach arias and chamber music.

"We are doing things differently this year," explained Cunningham. "Usually all the concerts are indoors at St. Augustine's-in-the-Woods, but as we are still emerging from the pandemic and the church is not yet available, almost everything is being done outdoors. We thought some garden concerts would be a really beautiful, nice way to ease back into gathering."



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Music Festival
Composer Franz Schubert wrote for piano and harp. Harpist Maxine Eilander will bring his compositions to life as she plays her 19th century harp during July's Whidbey Island Music Festival performances.

This weekend's performances by Cunningham and Weidendorf are very special to her, Cunningham described. The two have been acquaintances and have played together before, but the pandemic enabled them to dig deep into the compositions – both musically and emotionally.

"Sheila and I were "pod" partners – she and I assessed what each other was doing and were able to make a music bubble," she said. "For the last 17 months we've been meeting every week, diving really deeply into knowing [the compositions]. It's been a real journey of discovery. I've never had this kind of musical experience, playing the same thing this much. It felt like a real lifeline, to be able to make music with somebody. It gave us a spaciousness and freedom that we couldn't get elsewhere. To have this bubble where we could explore was very special."

Weidendorf said she realized not long into the pandemic that she needed a break from constant public performances and enjoyed the opportunity playing with Cunningham presented.

"First of all, understand that in our 'regular' performance life, we are constantly learning, rehearsing, performing new repertoire," shared Weidendorf. "It's non-stop — which has its own nature of challenge and exhilaration, to be sure! But it's rare to have the opportunity to just – be – with and in the music for an extended period."



Erika Pierson Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Music Festival
Local musicians Sheila Weidendorf (left) and Tekla Cunningham kick off this year's Whidbey Island Music Festival this weekend with two performances. Additional concerts will be held in July and August.

See WIMF continued on page 6



Whidbey Island Fair

July 15-18

FUN IN THE SUN IN 2021

Entertainment • Carnival • Country Fair • Petting Zoo
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ON TRACK

With Jim Freeman



Are you tired of being warm? Isn't it great to not have to start a wood stove for a few days? Even my space heaters are sleeping.

Just ask Jim

To get the answer to this week's

question, I had to crank up my landline to contact the locals.

Our question – How long do you have to live here to be a local?

In the early '80s, I asked South Whidbey icon Ray Gabelein, "Hey Ray, how long do I have to live here to be a local?"

"Twenty years."

Twenty years later I called Ray to share my enthusiasm.

"Twenty years today, Ray. I am finally a local."

"We've changed it to 30. Call me next decade."

Now I have lived here over half my life. I am confident my credibility exists in asking other 30 year plus Whidbey residents what they think. Here are some of their responses.

"Until you talk like an Islander, you are not a local. The number of years is not the guide. Are you talking about fishing and cows?"

"You are not a local until the gossip about you gets back to you within 10 minutes."

"Ten to 15 years should be good enough."

"As long as your kids go to school on Whidbey, your localism is secure."

"When you know what your neighbor is doing, you are a local."

"I was born here, at Island Hospital. Whidbey General was yet to be. Not only am I native not in the Navy, I am a local. For me, unless you know the Whidbey Telephone phone booth on Classic Road, south of Greenbank, is really our island version of the Mason-Dixon line, forget being a local."

It occurred to me Alexa, Siri, and Cortana are not locals, so asking them the question was of no value. They move around too much.

If you ask one of the above inanimate objects, please let me know their answer. Like our locals, the answers may all be different.

Play it by ear

While eavesdropping recently, I heard a gentleman say, "We'll play it by ear."

Wondering if this expression deals with musicians, I checked online. Maybe I am not a C student after all.

"This saying has its origins in music, as 'playing something by ear' means to play music without reference to the notes on a page. This sense of the phrase dates back to the 16th century, but the present use only came into being in mid-20th century America, primarily referring to sports."

This expression may not translate in other languages. Ever see someone play a piano with one of their ears?

Family food

Growing up in 1950s Ohio, we watched our 10 inch black and white RCA television to learn about family activities and family values. Some of our teachers were Danny Thomas in *Make Room for Daddy*, Robert Young in *Father Knows Best*, and Ozzie Nelson in *The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet*.

My sister and I loved seeing the family meals showcased. With a traveling father and a working big brother, our only experiences with family dinners were at Thanks-

giving, Christmas, and Easter. We always had to dress up, so that was another clue Mom was getting out the fancy china and the Brownie camera. We did not take too many pictures. Too darn expensive, plus by the time the pictures were developed, we had grown.

Another clue was the homogenized Borden's milk might be warm. Given Mom got no help on holiday meals, the milk was usually poured too soon.

Today, Tom Selleck hosts their nightly family dinner on "Blue Bloods." Do they ever show the dishes being washed post meal time? They sure don't look like paper plates.

I have often envied families that sit around the table to eat. Do they really talk about their day? Do they really talk about current events? Do they really eat without cell phones?

The microwave just beeped. Sounds like Aunt Stouffer is about to serve. I'll try not to forget taking time to floss. All the extra salt could swell up my tongue.

Library benefits

After 15 months, being able to go to the Freeland library is fantastic. So great to see Karen, Susan and Keith have not aged.

While Smart TVs have no shortage of movies to watch, it gets tiring to wait for the forced commercials which interrupt the viewing of the films.

With DVDs now available at the library, I am saving time watching movies without interruption. Furthermore, with no commercials, I am eating less ice cream.

The other night I was watching a movie called *Reprisal* starring Bruce Willis. The good guy and the bad guy looked so much alike I was even more confused than if the film was in a foreign language.

The ending was filled with firepower. Several minutes went by before anyone was injured. Remember – lousy shooting makes for longer movie endings.

The ending reminded me of my trying to hit a 40mph fast ball in one of those batting cages. Swing and miss. Shoot and miss. Kinda similar.

Vacation whiners

The following complaints are allegedly actual, provided by Thomas Cook vacations.

"On my holiday to Goa in India, I was disgusted to find that almost every restaurant served curry. I don't like spicy food."

"We booked an excursion to a water park but no one told us we had to bring our own swimsuits and towels. We assumed it would be included in the price."

"The beach was too sandy. We had to clean everything when we returned to our room."

"No one told us there would be fish in the water. The children were scared."

"Although the brochure said that there was a fully-equipped kitchen, there was no egg-slicer in the drawers."

"The roads were uneven and bumpy, so we could not read the local guide book during the bus ride to the resort. Because of this, we were unaware of many things that would have made our holiday more fun."

"We had to line up outside to catch the boat and there was no air-conditioning."

"I was bitten by a mosquito. The brochure did not mention mosquitoes."

"My fiance and I requested twin-beds when we booked, but instead we were placed in a room with a king bed. We now hold you responsible and want to be re-reimbursed for the fact that I became pregnant. This would not have happened if you had put us in the room that we booked."

And on that note, let us play it by ear.

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

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Coast Salish Salmon and Orca Culture, Virtual Event

Saturday, June 26th and Sunday, June 27th at Noon



Orca Network and the Penn Cove Water Festival have joined together for this 2 day Virtual Event to celebrate Orca Month

Interviews, songs and stories with Coast Salish peoples about salmon and orcas
Information on the parallels between culture, diet and sacredness of Salmon to the Coast Salish people and orcas and how you can take action on protecting the salmon and orcas

Register for the free, virtual event at:

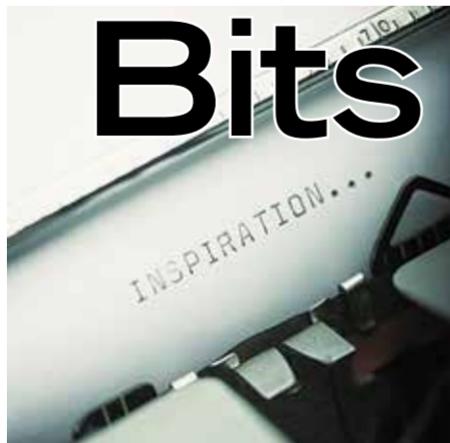
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For more information on Orca Month events www.orcamonth.com



Penn Cove Water Festival





Bits & Pieces

Letters to the Editor

Editor,

We want to thank the South Whidbey community and SaviBank for the support shown to the Soroptimist of South Whidbey Island "Shred" event Saturday, June 12. We got off to a rocky start, but with the ingenuity and support of our sponsor, SaviBank, all turned out well in the end. With teamwork and lots of effort, all documents were securely shredded by 2:00PM Saturday and we were able to have one of our most successful events ever.

Again, we thank SaviBank and the South Whidbey community for your trust and support. We are fortunate to live in such a wonderful place!

With gratitude,

Marlane Harrington
Soroptimist International of South Whidbey Island

Live Fire Training Planned

South Whidbey Fire/EMS will be having a live fire training event all day Thursday. This event will run from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. Firefighters will be practicing their firefighting skills with an acquired structure and live fire. After lunch the firefighters will allow the fire to consume the building. The address of the site is 5661 Harbor Ave. in Freeland. The public is welcome to watch from a distance, but will be asked to stay back for their safety.

Academy Update

The 2021 Island County Fire Academy ran from Jan. 18 to April 17, 2021 with 10 fire candidates from Central and South Whidbey fire departments. South Whidbey Fire/EMS is excited to welcome three successful new graduates: Gene Reynolds, Station 31, Freeland; Cooper Ullmann, Station 32, Clinton; and Carson Wrightson, Station 31, Freeland. Lessons were delivered virtually via Zoom during the week and the academy followed state mandates with social distancing and face coverings when possible for the Saturday hands-on practical. The Island County EMT Academy begins in August and runs to December. The next Island County Fire Academy will start February 2022. To apply, visit www.swfe.org.

[Submitted by Sherrye Wyatt]

Learn How to Crab Local Waters Free Virtual Seminar Offered to Whidbey and Fidalgo Communities



Photo by Jennifer Geller

America's Boating Club (ABC) of Deception Pass is offering a free Crabbing 101 seminar, to be held virtually Saturday from 11:00AM to 1:00PM.

Community members can learn how to catch Dungeness crab from the shore or boat, including making sure you've got the proper equipment, the best bait, license requirements and regulations and the best locations to drop your crab pots.

"We'll cover everything you need to catch, clean and cook Dungeness," said John Hudson, Crabbing 101 instructor. "Even a tried-and-true recipe for crab cakes is included."

According to Hudson, Dungeness is arguably the tastiest shellfish in the Puget Sound, and plentiful in our area. "It is an exciting summer activity, and even better is that it doesn't require expensive equipment or a large boat."

The seminar is free, although attendees are welcome to donate \$5 or more to the club's education fund, supporting future boating safety and fun classes. To donate, visit www.deceptionpassailandpowersquadron.com. Those interested in attending can contact Pat Waters at 360-720-2589 or frenchsailor@comcast.net.

America's Boating Club of Deception Pass is a 44-year-old nonprofit organization with over 80 members from Whidbey and Fidalgo islands. It is part of the United States Power Squadrons, a nonprofit boating organization dedicated to education and training of safe boating activities.

[Submitted by Jennifer Geller, America's Boating Club of Deception Pass]

Coast Salish Salmon and Orca Culture ~ Orca Month Event Join Orca Network and the Penn Cove Water Festival Association for a two day virtual event

Saturday and Sunday at 12:00PM, Orca Network will bring together Coast Salish culture and Southern Resident Orca culture, both of which revolve and have evolved around Pacific Northwest salmon for many generations, and align well with the 2021 Orca Month theme, "We are Family."

The event will include aspects of the traditional Penn Cove Water Festival (canceled due to COVID-19) such as the Native opening ceremony, arts, dance and song, storytelling, canoe race culture and presentations about the central theme of salmon and orcas in Coastal Salish life and culture.

Orca Network will bring to this special event the importance of salmon and orcas to the Coast Salish Tribes, and look at the parallels between the culture, diet and sacredness of salmon to the Coast Salish and the Southern Resident orcas. The critical need for salmon, shared by both orcas and Coast Salish peoples who depend on them for survival, is an issue Orca Network is encouraging the public to take action on, as salmon are truly the lifeblood of the Pacific Northwest.

The event will include interviews with elders, stories passed down through generations about salmon and orcas, actions being taken by Tribal communities to restore salmon runs, and reflection of these topics in poetry, song, and art.

Registration link and more information are available at www.OrcaNetwork.org and on its Facebook event page: <https://fb.me/e/1N-nMEFnqO>.

To learn more about the Penn Cove Water Festival, typically held in Coupeville each May, visit www.PennCoveWaterFestival.com.

There are still many events to take part in during the remainder of Orca Month; find out more and see the calendar of events at www.OrcaMonth.com.

[Submitted by Susan Berta, Orca Network]

South Whidbey Tilth Scholarship Fund

South Whidbey Tilth recently received a generous gift from the Tom Roehl Memorial Foundation. This seed money will be used toward a scholarship for a South Whidbey resident who

has a passion and focus for environmentally sound, socially equitable and sustainable agriculture. High School graduates or equivalent (up to age 25) are encouraged to apply for the \$500 scholarship. The application deadline is June 27. The recipient will be announced in July. Interested applicants may request an application by emailing tilthscholarship@south-whidbeytilth.org.

[Submitted by Susan Prescott, South Whidbey Tilth]

City of Oak Harbor is Holding a Rededication and Celebration for the Renovated Rotary Memorial Bridge at Windjammer Park

The City of Oak Harbor will celebrate the re-dedication of the renovated Rotary Memorial Bridge at Windjammer Park with the Rotary Club of Oak Harbor and the Rotary Club of North Whidbey Island Sunrise Thursday, July 1 at 11:00AM. The city and Rotary clubs are excited to unveil the renovated bridge to the community. The event will include speeches by Mayor Bob Severns and Rotary Club of Oak Harbor President Kurt Schonberg. Light refreshments will follow the event.

Details for the event are provided on the City's calendar and Facebook page. The City of Oak Harbor would like to thank the Rotary clubs for their partnership on this project. This dedication completes an effort begun in 2019.

All work on this bridge was done by the city, TransTech Engineering LLC, Rogue Metal Works and Blue Mountain Electric Company, and especially, the work public works, development services, engineering, and parks division staff provided for this project. The parks division re-built the bridge to engineering specifications, including demolition, removal, and replacement of concrete pillars; placing plaques; rebuilding the bridge; and placing the new railings.

This bridge highlights what cooperation looks like when the community and city come together to create improvements for the community. More details about the project are available on the City's website, www.oakharbor.org/publicworks/page/rotary-memorial-bridge-windjammer-park.

[Submitted by Sabrina Combs, Communications/IT Manager, City of Oak Harbor]

Whidbey Community Foundation Annual Grant Cycle Opens July 1

Whidbey Community Foundation (WCF) is pleased to announce its fourth annual grant cycle will be opening July 1. Any organization that operates with a charitable status or for a charitable purpose on Whidbey Island is eligible to apply for a grant. The organization does not need to have a headquarters or physical presence on Whidbey, so long as services are provided on the island.

This year, WCF will prioritize funding for childhood wellness, environmental conservation and sustainability projects, and racial equity projects.

"Our grants committee is made up of community members from all across our island and helps WCF determine priority areas for funding. This year, WCF will focus on three grant programs. Through the Childhood Wellness grant program, we are continuing our investment in the health and well-being of our youth, particularly during this time of COVID recovery. Through the Environmental grant program, we are aiming to advance specific conservation and sustainability projects on Whidbey (and our surrounding waters). And through the Racial Equity grant program, we want to support nonprofits and others in our community who commit to anti-racism work and hope these grants are a starting point for dialogue, learning, collaborative action, and healing," stated Robin Hertlein, board member and chair of the grants committee.

Grant applications of up to \$5,000 will be accepted beginning July 1 through August 31. Please check WCF's Grant Application page on its website for more details. Paper copies can

Even "singles" need estate plans

If you don't have a spouse or children, you might think you don't need to do much estate planning. But if you have any assets, any familial connections, any interest in supporting charitable groups – not to mention a desire to control your own future – you do need to establish an estate plan.

In evaluating your needs for this type of planning, let's start with what might happen if you die intestate – that is, without a last will and testament. In this scenario, your assets will likely have to go through the probate process, which means they'll be distributed by the court according to your state's intestate succession laws, essentially without regard to your wishes. Even if you don't have children yourself, you may have nephews or nieces, or even children of cousins or friends, to whom you would like to leave some of your assets, which can include not just money but also cars, collectibles, family memorabilia and so on. But if everything you own goes through probate, there's no guarantee that these individuals will end up with what you wanted them to have.

If you want to leave something to family members or close friends, you will need to indicate this in your last will and testament or other estate planning documents. But you also may want to provide support to one or more charitable organizations. Of course, you can simply name these charities in your will, but there may be options that could provide you with more benefits.

One such possibility is a charitable remainder trust. Under this arrangement, you'd transfer appreciated assets – such as stocks, mutual funds or other securities – into an irrevocable trust. The trustee, whom you've named – in fact, you could serve as trustee yourself – can then sell the assets at full market value, avoiding the capital gains taxes you'd have to pay if you sold them yourself, outside a trust. Plus, if you itemize, you may be able to claim a charitable deduction on your taxes. With the proceeds, the trust can purchase income-producing assets and provide you with an income stream for the rest of your life. Upon your death, the remaining trust assets will go to the charities you've named.

Aside from family members and charitable groups, there's a third entity that's central to your estate plans: yourself. Everyone should make arrangements to protect their interests, but, in the absence of an immediate family, you need to be especially vigilant about your financial and health care decisions. And that's why, as part of your estate planning, you may want to include these two documents: durable power of attorney and a health care proxy.

A durable power of attorney lets you name someone to manage your finances should you become incapacitated. This arrangement is especially important for anyone who doesn't have a spouse to step in. And if you become incapacitated, your health care proxy – also known as a health care surrogate or medical power of attorney – lets you name another person to legally make health care decisions for you if you can't do so yourself.

Estate planning moves can be complex, so you'll need help from a legal professional and possibly your tax and financial advisors. You may not have an immediate family, but you still need to take steps to protect your legacy.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC.



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be made available. Visit WCF's website www.whidbeyfoundation.org for more information. If you have questions about the grant process, email info@whidbeyfoundation.org or call 360-660-5041.

For more information, the public is invited to join the Zoom community forum about the 2021 annual grant cycle held Wednesday, July 7 from 2:30 to 3:30PM. To register, please visit www.whidbeyfoundation.org.

[Submitted by Maureen Rice, Whidbey Community Foundation]

Skagit Valley College Enrolling New Students for the Cardinal Career Scholars Program

Skagit Valley College is enrolling new students into the Cardinal Career Scholars program for summer and fall quarters. Summer classes begin July 6 and fall classes begin Sept. 21. The federal program, funded by the Department of Labor, provides job skills instruction, educational opportunities and individualized employment services for students who wish to earn a certificate. In addition, Cardinal Career Scholars provides funds for tuition, books, transportation and more.

To qualify for the program, students must be 16-24 years old, eligible to work in the U.S. and in need of financial assistance. Veterans and persons with disabilities, who are over 24 years old, are also eligible. Certificates are available in the following areas: Automotive, Dental Foundations, Marine Technology, Multimedia and Interactive Technology, Nursing Assistant Certificate, Technical Design, Veterinary Assistant, Welding.

Benefits of the Cardinal Career Scholars program include:

- Additional funding, support tuition, books, transportation and more.
- Upon graduation, students will have access to individualized employment services for 12 months.
- One-on-one support from start to finish with admissions, registration, and graduation.

- High School diploma or GED not required.

Information sessions for the Cardinal Career Scholars program are held on Wednesdays at 3pm via Zoom, meeting ID: 845 4012 2452. For more information, visit https://www.skagit.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/cardinal-career-scholars/ or contact Mayra Ramirez, mayra.ramirez@skagit.edu.

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

Gear Up for a Slice of Island Adventure and a Whole Pie



The Sea, Trees & Pie Bike Ride offers beautiful scenery around nearly every turn. Whidbey Camano Land Trust photo

Buckle your chin strap and get ready to enjoy wonderful scenery, nature and delicious pie. Registration for the Whidbey Camano Land Trust's Sea, Trees & Pie Bike Ride is underway.

The sixth annual summer ride is a non-competitive event for riders of all ages and abilities. Participants can choose between three scenic Central Whidbey routes and ride at their convenience any time between July 10 through Sept. 5.

As you cycle, soak in the natural beauty of the island while supporting the Land Trust's conservation work. Once you complete the ride, registered entrants can turn in their voucher to receive a locally-made pie redeemable at the 3 Sisters Market in Coupeville.

The cost is \$25 for a single rider and \$40 for families. Children 16 and under are free. Helmets must be worn by all riders.

Proceeds benefit the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, a nonprofit nature conservancy that

protects the islands' most cherished lands and waters. The bike ride showcases dozens of properties permanently protected by the Land Trust. Crockett Lake, Whidbey's largest wetland system, is a prominent natural feature along all three routes.

Riders may choose from routes consisting of 5-, 10-, or 20-mile loops. The 5-mile loop over fairly level terrain is designed for both beginning and young bike riders.

The start and finish lines for all routes are located at the State Parks birding platform near the Coupeville ferry terminal. A Discover Pass is required to park there. After registration, you'll receive an email including more information, a course map and a pie voucher.

Register for the ride at www.wclt.org/bikeride.

[Submitted by Ron Newberry, Communications Manager, WCLT]

Local Business News

Inspired Wellness PLLC Marks Grand Opening in Oak Harbor with Cost Free Community Meetings

Whidbey Island's newest personalized holistic healthcare center is hosting the Whidbey Island Self-Growth Initiative, a free bi-weekly women's group focused on self-care and self-growth. Meetings will launch Sunday at 1:00PM at the office of Inspired Wellness, PLLC located at 720 SE Pioneer Way Suite 1B in Oak Harbor.

The primary focus of the group is to encourage women in the community to foster self-love, develop a positive self-image, and cultivate a loving attitude toward self and others in a safe and supportive environment.

Meetings, which will be held in the newly opened office of Inspired Wellness in downtown Oak Harbor, will serve as a safe, loving community space for women to learn how to relate to themselves in a positive, healthy, and life-affirming way while supporting and being supported by other women.

BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

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WIMF continued from page 2

"It feels like Tekla and I have discovered a precious, precious jewel," she continued. "The Covid Year was a chrysalis of sorts, a very tender and vulnerable time for everyone. So now to take this precious jewel out of the comfort and safety of our cocoon and share it in the world feels admittedly daunting (we used to perform so much; it is such a surprise that this now feels extraordinary). But also, it feels like an act of love. Musicians make music; this is what we CAN do to offer some sweetness and balm to our world after these 14-odd months of isolation and fear and loss the whole world has experienced together."

With so much time to think about this year's festival (last



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Music Festival
Soprano Danielle Reutter-Harrah will perform in July and August as part of the Whidbey Island Music Festival.

year's was done virtually), Cunningham said the pieces all seemed to fall easily into place.

"This summer felt easier because of the pandemic – Brahms we've been working on for so long, and Schubert seemed like such a beautiful way to return," she said. "Bach is universally beloved. It's really conversational, beautiful and nourishing for people right now."

Cunningham said she was excited to bring harpist Maxine Eilander on board for the Schubert selections in July.

"Maxine has a 19th century harp; Schubert wrote for both harp and piano," she explained. "I've always wanted to hear Danielle Reutter-Harrah sing these songs with that accompaniment. The harp gives a real sense of spaciousness, it creates a magical sound – it feels radiant and celestial. And with Schubert a lot of his songs are about the outdoors, so I saw this as a great way to return from COVID."

Besides collaborating with local musicians, WIMF also chooses a local artist to create the festival poster each year. This year's artist is Stacey Neumiller of Coupeville.

"She is just an amazing landscape artist and we wanted to feature her this year," Cunningham said.

Information and tickets are available online at whidbeyisland-musicfestival.org and tickets are also available through WICA for select performances. Organizers ask that those attending be fully vaccinated and ask that proof of vaccination be provided for the indoor concerts. For the outdoor concerts,



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Music Festival
Guitarist Stephen Stubbs will perform along with violinist Tekla Cunningham, harpist Maxine Eilander and soprano Danielle Reutter-Harrah in July for the Whidbey Island Music Festival.

audience members should bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit upon.

Cunningham hopes audiences will be as thrilled to share in these festival performances as the artists are to be a part of them.

"Hopefully we'll be bringing joy to people who may have been isolated – joy and community," she said. "And I hope they come away with appreciation, feeling happy and uplifted. It's one thing we can experience together and I hope it will be calming and nourishing."

GUEST COLUMN



By Colleen Klamm, Infection Preventionist at WhidbeyHealth

COVID Safety One year later, where do we go from here?

We are now more than one year from the onset of the pandemic and one thought stands out to me:

WhidbeyHealth has not had any transmission of COVID-19 within our facilities!

Throughout the pandemic our community provided masks (hand sewn – which I chose to wear daily when appropriate), volunteered in the vaccine clinic and exhibited numerous other acts of support for which we are immensely grateful.

What have we learned?

Basic health, wellness and hygiene principals apply during the pandemic. Hand washing, wearing a mask when appropriate, and avoiding touching your face are the recommendations during every cold and flu season. With the heightened focus worldwide during the pandemic, there was virtually no flu reported (globally).

Infection Prevention is an ongoing journey. The pandemic highlighted the importance of quality care, education, and supporting our healthcare teams. As the year continues, WhidbeyHealth is here to support you as you have supported us!

Visit WhidbeyHealth's Visitor and Guest allowances as we continue through the pandemic: <https://whidbeyhealth.org/covid-19>.

SAFETY IS PRIORITY ONE At home, At Work and On the Go!

Keeping you safe and healthy continues to be our top priority and COVID has put us to that challenge like never before. Information, testing and guidance on basic health precautions like washing hands, masks, and physical distancing, along with the delivery of vaccines have been invaluable in keeping our community safe.

In addition to the extra precautions, treatment and transport of COVID patients and responding to over 8,000 emergency calls last year, our EMS teams are bringing back our safety skills and prevention courses including:

- ACT Antidote/CPR/Tourniquet training; preparing you to take immediate action when an emergency occurs.

- AED Automated External Defibrillator training that saves lives when a sudden cardiac event occurs
- Child & Babysitting Safety Classes great for expectant or new parents, grand-parents and anyone responsible for child activities and injury prevention.
- SAIL [Staying Active and Independent for Life] Fall prevention.

Taking a team mentality and doing our very best to help one another stay safe is what makes our community special and #WhidbeyStrong.

To learn more, visit <https://whidbeyhealth.org/emergency-services/ems>.



SAFETY IS PRIORITY ONE

Keeping you safe and healthy continues to be our top priority and COVID has put us to that challenge like never before.

Information, testing, and guidance like washing hands, masks, and physical distancing, and the delivery of vaccines have been invaluable in keeping our community safe.

As vaccines shift the COVID landscape, our EMS teams are bringing back safety skills and prevention courses like ACT first aid training, child and babysitting safety, child car seat checks and SAIL fall prevention.

Working together to keep us healthy and #WhidbeyStrong.

GET TRAINING

National Safety
Month 2021

WhidbeyHealth Medical Center, 101 North Main Street, Coupeville, WA - 98239-3413
<https://whidbeyhealth.org>



THANK YOU FOR READING WHIDBEY WEEKLY | REDUCE → REUSE → RECYCLE



Family Guide

By Amy Hannold

Free Books and a Space to Create: A new, community space for art exploration and free book swaps opens for its first event Wednesday, June 30, 3-8 p.m., at Oak Harbor's "Read and Create Space," located at 210 SE Pioneer Way. This all-ages, free event is the beginning of a series of creative events planned for this summer.

Whether or not you have good-condition books, games or puzzles to donate, you're welcome to stop by and enjoy a variety of inspiring activities. Spaces to create art with your family and friends will be featured, to be joined by artists, performers, authors and other special guests at future events.

Donations of usable items are being collected at the Oak Harbor Sears store. Click "Read and Create Space Oak Harbor" on Facebook, for more information. Hosted by the Whidbey Island Arts Council and Whidbey Island Macaroni Kid, with special thanks to Jim Woessner and Carol Vinson, for generously providing the location for these events. Eventsandinfo@comcast.net

Kids Discover, This Summer at Meerkerk Gardens: Two outdoor environmental programs are being offered to kids ages 7 to 9 (with an accompanying adult), and kids ages 10 years and older.

Ages 7-9, Fridays 10-11 a.m.: A one-hour program including a scavenger hunt and learning about the basics of botany and some of the garden's most interesting plants and features.

Ages 10 Years and Older, Saturdays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.: A two-hour program including a scavenger hunt, botany and a woodland walk featuring native species and ecosystem ecology.

Program Instructor, Olivia Sasson, is Meerkerk Garden's summer intern. She is currently pursuing a degree in Conservation of Natural Resources from the Faculty of Forestry at the University of British Columbia. Her background includes ecosystem ecology, soil science, knowledge of native plants and land management practices.

Registration is open weekly for June 18 through Aug. 6 programs. There is a limit of 8 students per class. Cost: \$10. To register: Meerkerkgardens.org/toursandclasses.

Junior Ranger Fun in Our Local Parks: The following Junior Ranger programs require registration by emailing CentralWhidbeyInterpretation@parks.wa.gov. Note: a Washington State Discover Pass is required for park access.

Nature Journaling:

July 1, 10-11 a.m., at Fort Ebey State Park's Beach Shelter

July 8, 10-11 a.m., on the beach at Fort Casey State Park

Description: Join a park ranger and a naturalist from Sound Water Stewards and learn all about keeping a record of your nature explorations in a nature journal. We'll take a closer look at some seaweed at the beach for your first adventure into nature journaling!

A Tree Says What?:

August 19, 10-11 a.m., at the Fort Casey State Park Picnic Area

August 26, 10-11 a.m., at the Fort Ebey State Park's Beach Shelter

Description: Did you know trees talk to each other? Join a park ranger and a naturalist from Sound Water Stewards and learn about Whidbey Island's trees and how they talk to each other.

Safe Kids Virtual Academy: CBIRT (Center on Brain Injury Research and Training) has partnered with Safe Kids Washington, Washington DSHS, and the TBI Council of Washington to bring this free, virtual summer activity.

In addition to learning about safety, there will be fun games, a grand prize drawing, and lots of

chances to win gift cards! Register at tbieventsportal.org/#safekids.

Event Schedule:

6-12 years, June 25, 12-4 p.m.

6-12 years, Aug. 6, 12-4 p.m.

Kids age 6-12 years old will learn how to stay safe when biking, skateboarding, swimming, playing sports and much more, including how to pick the right helmet for the right activity and how to wear it correctly.

13-18 years, July 9, 12-4 p.m.

13-18 years, July 24, 12-4 p.m.

Teens age 13-18 years old will learn car and driver safety, how to stay safe and keep their friends safe when biking, skateboarding, swimming, playing sports and much more, including how to pick the right helmet and how to wear it the right way.

3-5 years, Aug. 21, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Learn simple things you can do to make sure your child is safe in the home, car and community.

Oak Harbor Music Festival Announces Teen Talent Contest: Island County teens ages 12 to 18 are invited to audition for a space to perform live at the "Teen Talent Showcase," as part of the Oak Harbor Music Festival. The deadline to enter is July 15, at midnight. Create an audition video of your group or solo performance and email your submission to music@oakharborfestival.com. Four finalists will showcase at the festival Sunday, Sept. 5. oakharborfestival.com

Oak Harbor Police Department Explorers Program: Young men and women interested in a career in law enforcement and related fields receive an introduction to law enforcement as well as the importance of continuing or higher education, self-discipline and respect for diversity and dignity through training experiences, interaction with members of the Oak Harbor Police Department and other agencies, and involvement in community events.

The Explorers program is for young people ages 14 (after the completion of eighth grade) through 20. Youth interested in law enforcement or a related criminal justice field: contact Sergeant Gravel at jgravel@oakharbor.org or Officer Andreano at jandreano@oakharbor.org for more information or an application packet.

Whidbey Island Lions Club Hosts Swap Meets:

Make some summer cash or go and find some treasures at the Swap Meets, featuring a variety of vendors offering collectibles, antiques, crafted items, produce, classic car parts, garage sale goodies, local businesses and organizations and more. The events will take place Saturdays in July and August, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Admission is free, 12' x 12' vendor space is \$20 per week. Information and to register, wilclions@gmail.com.

Plant, Pick, Clean, Give: Growing a garden?

Donate your extra produce to our local food banks this summer. Growing a row for your neighbors would be a great service (and outdoor science) project for students this summer. Check with your local food bank for its acceptance hours and donation guidelines. Here's a guide to growing produce with children: kidsdogardening.com/easy-to-grow-vegetables-with-children.

The Summer of Homemade Fun: For a printable checklist of homemade summer fun to consider, go to happyhooligans.ca/fun-things-kids-do-at-home-this-summer.

Got Fun On Your Calendar? We Do! Connect with Whidbey Island Macaroni Kid and you won't miss local events and activities. Our website and social media provide you with the information you need to enjoy a great mix of at-home, off-screen, and short-distance adventures. WhidbeyIsland.MacaroniKid.com



OAK HARBOR CINEMAS
YOUR LOCAL MOVIE THEATER

Showtimes for the week of 6-25-2021 thru 7-1-2021

F9 The Fast Saga (PG-13)
Friday thru Tuesday: 3:30pm & 6:30pm

F9 The Fast Saga (PG-13)
Friday thru Tuesday: 4:00pm & 7:00pm

The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard (R)
Friday thru Tuesday: 4:15pm & 7:15pm

Wednesday & Thursday: CLOSED!

1321 SW Barlow St • Oak Harbor
Movie Hotline 360-279-2226
Book A Party or Special Showing 360-279-0526
www.oakharborcinemas.com

Check out our new & improved website!

www.whidbeyweekly.com

1131 SE Ely Street
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Now Showing!

Thursday, June 24 thru Tuesday, June 29

F9: The Fast Saga (PG-13)

The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard (R)



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360-675-5667 • www.bluefoxdrivein.com

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.

Curse of the Starving Class

Thursday, June 24, 7:30PM
Friday, June 25, 7:30PM
Saturday, June 26, 7:30PM
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley
Standard Ticket: \$35

The play, a perfect balance of dark comedy and biting satire, is about a family faltering in their search for security, escape and the American Dream. Written by Sam Shepard. Directed by Deana A. Duncan. For tickets or more information, visit www.wicaonline.org.

Dine Out for Kids

Friday, June 25, 11:30AM-9:00PM
Front Street Grill, Coupeville

Front Street Grill will donate a portion of the day's sales to the Coupeville Schools Foundation. The foundation provides extra support to students through teacher grants, college scholarships and the Promise Fund.

Coast Salish Salmon and Orca Culture, Virtual Event

Saturday, June 26, 12:00PM
Sunday, June 27, 12:00PM

Orca Network and the Penn Cove Water Festival have joined together for this two day virtual event to celebrate Orca Month. Interviews, songs and stories with Coast Salish peoples about salmon and orcas, information about the parallels between culture, diet and sacredness of salmon to the Coast Salish people and orcas

and how you can take action to protect the salmon and orcas. For more information or to register for the free, virtual event, visit www.orcamonth.com.

Sasquatch Walk

Saturday, June 26, 1:00-3:00PM
Downtown Oak Harbor

Fundraiser for Pioneer Way Pop-Up Park. \$30 to participate. Preregistration required. Register at oakharbormainstreet.org/events. Meet at Flintstone Park by 12:45PM. Eat, drink, and have fun!

Pie 'n Pops

Saturday, June 26, 1:00PM
South Whidbey Community Center, Langley

Saturday, June 26, 4:00PM
First Reformed Church, Oak Harbor

Bring your lawn chair or blanket, a favorite beverage, maybe a sunhat and enjoy a mini-outdoor concert by Whidbey's Saratoga Orchestra. A perfect outing during the beautiful Whidbey summer. You'll want to save room for a delicious slice (or two!) of pie. Baked by Wild Crow Pie Co., Whidbey's Organic Gourmet Pie Company, only \$5/slice! For more information, visit www.pnwmusic.org or call 360-929-3045.

Upcoming Sno-Isle Library Events

See schedule below
Cost: Free:

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.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 7:41 am, Leahy Dr.

Male subject ran out into roadway; says he needs help; there is a male subject in his house with a gun.

12:20 pm, Leahy Dr.

Reporting party advising people outside with guns in woods; reporting party called about same thing earlier today.

4:28 pm, E Fakkema Rd.

Advising about six cows running in reporting party's yard; unknown who they belong to. No longer has any visual.

5:36 pm, Terrace Dr.

Reporting party states stray cat seen in reporting party's yard. Requesting call about what to do.

6:11 pm, SR 20

Caller states heard what sounded like someone being hurt, difficult to hear caller. Caller advising occurring in women's bathroom of business he is in, unknown name of business or address.

8:26 pm, N Main St.

Reporting party advising female is on tricycle-type machine "zipping" through the street and parking lot; has been told to stop in the past. Reporting party advising not hurting property, but is using the parking lot.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

8:19 am, Rieppma Ave.

Reporting party states at 7 a.m., witnessed light blue truck drive into fence intentionally numerous times. Reporting party states he didn't know extent of the damage so didn't call right away. Did take pictures of damage. No plate available for truck.

10:22 am, Sage Ln.

Reporting party states he believes someone is under his house. Reporting party states is a person. Big movement.

1:09 pm, East Harbor Rd.

Male caller on administration line wanting to speak to someone in narcotics division about something occurring on the "federal level." States knows about drugs being sent through mail; when asked for more information caller said, "Never mind, I'll take care of it myself" and hung up.

1:36 pm, Sandberg Ln.

Caller advising garbage can that was lost has been recovered with someone else's garbage in it. Caller not making a lot of sense.

4:17 pm, 4th St.

Reporting party advising subject is naked, taking a bath in creek next to apartments. Not acting aggressively, is behind bushes.

10:50 pm, SR 20

Reporting party states hearing cows mooing very loudly for hours and thinks they are in distress. Reporting party hearing them from Rolling Hills, but thinks they are in area of SR 20 and Arnold.

FRIDAY, MAY 14

2:46 am, NE Harvest Dr.

Reporting party advising there is a naked woman at front door. Reporting

party advising female is jiggling the door handle.

4:28 am, SR 20

Reporting subject in northbound lane waving at cars. In all black, no weapons.

9:43 pm, Mark St.

Reporting party advising brother is making threatening comments; telling people to go to bed and saying, "Test me and see what happens."

SATURDAY, MAY 15

8:04 am, SR 20

Advising male subject "freaking out" on Waterloo Road. Bent over, pants down, no weapons seen, was another guy there but not involved.

MONDAY, MAY 17

3:27 pm, NW Redwing Dr.

Reporting party advising two days ago, friend's boyfriend came into back yard and tried to let his dogs into reporting party's yard. Reporting party talked to male that night and said he wasn't allowed to do that, male left.

8:17 pm, Haines Rd.

Reporting party advising neighbor has a machine running that is shaking the house; would like law enforcement to come and listen to it.

11:03 pm, Haines Rd.

Reporting party advising getting ready for bed and neighbor started spraying windows with hose. Neighbor sprayed reporting party with hose and accused reporting party of making noise.

TUESDAY, MAY 18

8:14 pm, Ault Field Rd.

Reporting party advising she sees rooster running in and out of road; checked with some neighbors and he did not belong to them.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

4:44 pm, Cranes Landing Dr.

States FedEx truck was driving quickly earlier and nearly ran reporting party over around 2 pm today. Reporting party already reported to FedEx.

6:25 pm, Haines Rd.

Male on line advising he is calling another time to report neighbor who is "making his whole house shake." Advising "he doesn't even pay his taxes." Ongoing civil complaints between neighbors.

THURSDAY, MAY 20

1:58 pm, Pebble Beach Dr.

Reporting party states neighbor posted pictures of reporting party on social media this morning saying things about reporting party that aren't true. Reporting party states she has never even met neighbor.

7:31 pm, Heller Rd.

Reporting party advising was out of town Monday, roommate was at work. Believes subject broke in and took black leather bag with human remains in it.

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

It's about being a community that takes up the fight!

Meet Cancer Survivor Thomas Piper

"I thank God for the saving skills of cancer treatment professional practitioners. I am a 9+ years survivor of prostate cancer, thanks to the miracle of radiated gold seed implants. There are 2 special times for me connected to the Whidbey Island Relay for Life annual fund raising event.

- 1) What a joy to walk and rub elbows with fellow survivors during the opening ceremony lap.
- 2) During the evening luminary walk there are bitter/sweet emotions as time is spent to stop and remember those who's lives were taken by cancer. Hope prevails in the future."

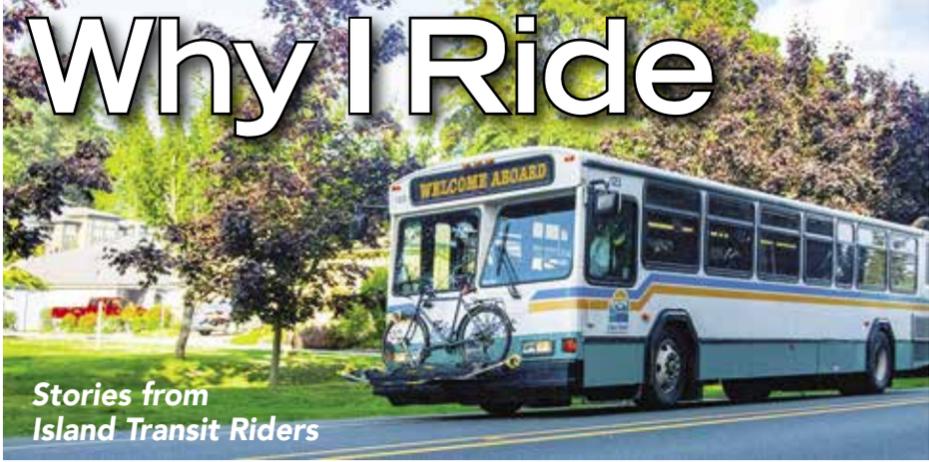


RELAY FOR LIFE FUNDRAISING EVENT SEPTEMBER 10, 2021 • BLUE FOX DRIVE IN



Would you like to be a part of the 2021 Relay for Life on Whidbey Island? Attend our ZOOM Meeting on July 13, email us, go to our website or follow us on facebook for more information!

relaywhidbey@gmail.com • www.facebook.com/whidbeyrelay • RelayForLife.org/whidbeyislandwa



Why I Ride

Stories from Island Transit Riders

Shifting Gears to a New Career with Island Transit Two Men, Two Paths, Two Adventures

After 24 years in the military, retired Navy Chief George Alderette had gained a lot of experience. Often times he would supervise up to 300 sailors at once, "In the military you learn to work in all kinds of situations, both stressful and calm, and with many different personalities. You learn to communicate, to listen and to follow instructions. You learn to sympathize."

Those same skills were helpful in maintaining good relationships with his co-workers and most importantly, his family, while he was overseas. He was gone for 12 out of the 24 years he served. In 2012 he retired from the military and began looking for a new job. At one point he had five different job offers. He compared the pay, the pension, the health-care benefits, and the hours. He wanted to be able to go home at the end of the day and be with his family.

After considering his many options and talking with his friend Tino, he chose Island Transit as his future employer. Tino, also retired from the military after 20 years, has served his community for the past 18 years as an Island Transit bus operator. These two men have a close friendship after all these years. "It's the people. I love the people," says Alderette, "Whether it be family, coworkers or bus riders. Taking care of the people is huge."

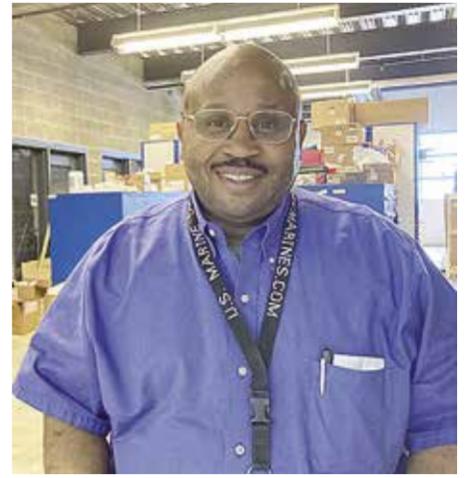


Mark grew up in Philadelphia and joined the Marine Corp as a young man in 1983. His career took him across the United States and the world: to NWS in Charleston, S.C., to Camp Lejeune in N.C., to Desert Storm in the Middle East, to NS Sand Point in Seattle, to Fort Lewis in Tacoma, to Charlotte, N.C., to Yuma, Ariz., and finally NASWI on Whidbey Island.

When his wife saw Whidbey Island, she said, "This is it!"

They have six kids; when the oldest was 13, they decided to settle down and give their children a chance to put down roots in a rural community with good schools. After 23 years in the military, Mark began looking for something new. His realtor suggested he apply to be a bus driver with Island Transit. When he went to get an application, he was told they weren't looking for bus operators, but instead asked, "Would you happen to be a diesel mechanic?" Why ... yes.

Mark got the job; he is currently one of the most senior employees at Island Transit. Eventually, he moved from being a mechanic to working as the Parts Inventory Coordinator. His transition from a military career to civilian work was a smooth one for him and his family.



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Equal Opportunity and Drug Free Workplace



www.islandtransit.org   

BITS 'N' PIECES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

The group is one of many upcoming cost-free wellness and self-improvement groups on the horizon for the Whidbey Island community. In an ongoing effort to bring valuable resources to the island, Inspired Wellness Founder and Medical Director, Dr. Carina Hopen, is currently partnering with small groups and individuals to bring cost-free small groups and networking opportunities to Oak Harbor.

"As part of giving back to the community, we are brainstorming ideas to open up our space as a cost-free place of learning," says Dr. Hopen. "We would like to launch a "Skill-share Collective" where the community can teach and learn from each other. We hope to provide classes for topics such as mindfulness, optimizing productivity and flow states, learning how to write, cultivating creativity, tackling creative blocks, book clubs, etc. We want to foster a place for community connection and support, as well as a space to meet like-minded people."

Dr. Hopen believes holistic health includes the community as sources of inspiration and healing. As her practice evolves, Dr. Hopen envisions creating a supportive community space where individuals can make new friends, learn from each other, find personal growth and build a tribe.

Inspired Wellness, PLLC, is a tiny solo practice led by Dr. Carina Hopen. Her holistic practice is not your typical medical practice, and she is not your typical doctor. Inspired Wellness intends to help the community on many levels. Dr. Hopen is committed to changing the trajectory of healthcare one person at a time. She is taking a bold step by offering an innovative high-tech and high-touch specialty program based on the principles of lifestyle and functional medicine.

For more information, please contact Dr. Hopen at 360-320-1798 or visit www.inspired-wellnesspllc.org.



Apply today!

Safest drivers in Washington!

Camp Casey pool remains closed for summer

By Kacie Jo Voeller Whidbey Weekly

The pool at Camp Casey Conference Center has long been the site for swimming lessons and summer fun for a number of Whidbey Island residents.

Robin Myers, conference services manager at Camp Casey, said the pool will not be reopening this year.

"The pool was closed in 2019 due to age-related damages," she said. "After much assessment it was determined that in order to re-open the pool, it, as well as all surrounding support buildings, must be completely replaced at a cost of over a half million dollars. Due to budget constraints, there is not currently a plan to replace the pool."

Myers said the pool has left a legacy in the area, with many residents able to share memories of learning to swim at the facility. She said the local Lions Club was an instrumental piece in bringing swim lessons to Camp Casey, as well as starting some of the island's first organized swimming lessons at Admiral's Cove.

"Doug Kroon, with the Knead and Feed – (he was) the last owner, (and) he was with the Lions Club – he learned to swim at Camp Casey," she said. "There are a lot of people

that have a rich history (with Camp Casey)."

While there are no plans in place to reopen the pool at this time, Camp Casey has started welcoming back visitors to its other facilities, with a number of safety measures in place. Myers said the team at the conference center will be opening conscientiously, with guidelines from the state for group activities being closely followed.

"We are opening our dorm-style lodging but we are doing it very cautiously so that one person is allowed in a bedroom, and the governor has directed that any indoor activities are prohibited with the exception of sleeping," she said.

Myers said the team at the center plans to conduct most activities outdoors and will work to accommodate current safety regulations in regard to COVID-19.

"If you are coming to soccer camp, you are going to be inside to sleep and that is it, everything else is going to be outside, including dining," she said. "We are planning to set up tables and chairs and here at Fort Casey we are really embracing the Pacific Northwest in an outside retreat sort of environment."

Myers said COVID-19 brought a number of



Photo Courtesy of Camp Casey Conference Center
Camp Casey's pool has a history of providing community members and visitors alike a place for recreation and swim lessons. In 2019, the pool closed due to age-related damages and remains closed for the 2021 season.

challenges to the operation of the conference center, but the team looks forward to providing services in the coming summer. With travel restricted and discouraged during the pandemic, the camp's usual operations were limited in order to comply with safety measures.

"People come to Camp Casey Conference Center to lodge and meet and dine with us," she said. "We do not generally have a retreat from Oak Harbor High School come just because we are so close. We have a bunch of off-island people. And when people cannot travel around and group travel cannot happen, it is a bit more challenging."

Myers said Camp Casey often hosts patrons who come on school trips or for sports camps.

"Especially with the demographic, the majority of our visitors are 22 and under which are not in the vaccinated arena," she said. "Twelve and up is starting to get some traction which is awesome, but it still takes a bit longer for that to open up."

Myers said for those looking to enroll their children in swim lessons, or those interested in pool swimming this summer, there are a number of alternative options around the island.

South Whidbey Learn to Swim lessons, offered through the South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District, will be located at Useless Bay Golf and Country Club. At the time of publication, a limited number of upper-level lesson spots were still available

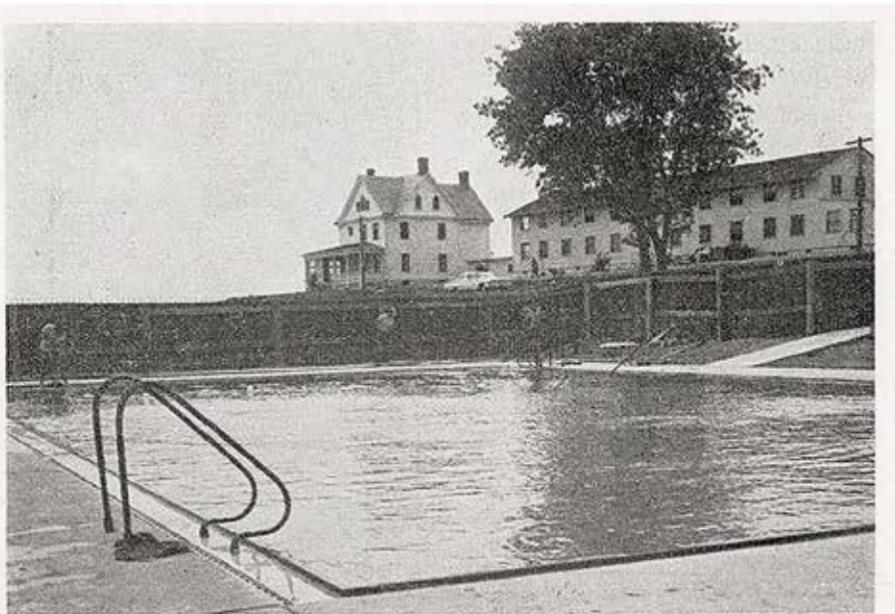


(swparks.org/event/swim-lessons). On the northern side of the island, swim lessons and swimming will be available through North Whidbey Pool, Park, and Recreation District at John Vanderzicht Memorial Pool. Swim lessons begin June 28, and more information can be found by visiting nwpprd.org. Each location has its own COVID-19 precautions, which are listed on their respective websites.

Myers said the staff at Camp Casey Conference Center values their connections with the community and are disappointed to not be able to offer swim lessons and use of the pool to both residents and visitors to the island. However, she shared the team at the center looks forward to serving the community and visitors with safety in mind in other capacities for the upcoming season.

"[Operating the pool] has been a wonderful opportunity and we are equally sad that we are not fully operational this summer," she said.

For more information on Camp Casey Conference Center and reservations, visit casey.spu.edu.



REAL COOL POOL AT CASEY—so cool in fact that it has to be heated. Here is the new 42x75 swimming pool at Camp Casey, built to Olympic specifications. It will add greatly to the service of Casey to church, school and civic groups.

Photo Courtesy of Camp Case Conference Center
The pool at Camp Casey was renovated in 1995. Here, the pool is shown in an article from the Seattle Pacific College Bulletin in August 1960.

Active duty, veterans to have separate vaccination incentive

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

Active duty military personnel, staff, veterans and their families who have received or begun their COVID-19 vaccinations through the Department of Defense, the Veteran's Administration or the National Guard will now have their own incentive program through the Washington State Lottery.

Gov. Jay Inslee announced "A Heroes Thanks" at a press conference last week. The drawings will begin July 20 and will consist of a \$100,000 cash prize, Amazon and state parks gift cards the first two weeks and a grand prize drawing of \$250,000 the third week.

The announcement of this incentive program comes two weeks after the start of the "Shot of a Lifetime" program. Because of difficulty sharing data with the federal government, names of veterans, military members and staff and their families are not included in those drawings. However, the VA has now provided recipient information to state lottery officials and they should be automatically entered in the drawings. Those who received their vaccination(s) through the DOD will be able to register for the drawings, although details on that have yet to be released. (Check walottery.com/vax to find out more.)

"I am happy to say we have found a way to honor our active duty military and veterans in this regard," Inslee said last week. "Clearly, these are some of our most treasured Washingtonians and I'm glad to be able to provide this incentive program for them. We are so grateful for these service members, veterans, their families and those who work for the military for their service to our country."



The state has announced an incentive program specifically for active duty military and staff, veterans and their families who have received or initiated their COVID-19 vaccinations through the federal government. The weekly lottery-style drawings begin July 20 and will consist of two drawings for \$100,000 and one grand prize drawing of \$250,000. Gift cards from Amazon and Washington state parks will also be awarded.

While the cash prizes for A Heroes Thanks are less than those of the Shot of a Lifetime incentives, the governor said the program has a guaranteed positive outcome.

"We know heroes are going to win, and I feel good about that," Inslee said. "It's well worth it for a relatively small investment."

The goal of both incentive programs is simple – get people vaccinated against COVID-19. The state will reopen fully June 30 – even sooner if the state hits its goal of 70 percent of the

population ages 16 and older initiating or completing their vaccine.

Vaccination rates had declined steeply in the weeks before the Shot of a Lifetime incentive was announced, by as much as 50 percent each week.

"We have arrested that decline largely," Inslee said. "I'm glad it seems to be encouraging people to think about getting vaccinated."

As of last Thursday, the state's vaccination percentage stood at 67.8. Inslee and Department of Health officials say they believe they can achieve 70 percent before June 30, which would mean COVID restrictions would be lifted earlier.

"There is a distinct possibility we can hit that 70 percent mark before June 30," said Inslee. "That's one of the reasons I'm excited about people getting vaccinated in the next few days. The numbers are growing."

"Given where we are now and how far we need to go, I think we can make the goal before June 30," said Lacy Fehrenbach, deputy secretary for COVID response. "If we do or do not, and when we do, depends entirely on the people of Washington. We could hit it early [this] week if enough people step forward and get vaccinated. There is supply to do it, the logistics to do it and we would love to see it happen."

"It could also go down to the wire," she continued. "It really depends on all of us, just like everything else we have done throughout this pandemic."

Find more information at doh.wa.gov or islandcountywa.gov.





LATE SEASON HALIBUT AND SUMMER SALMON

Up to now low halibut catch numbers translate to extended halibut fishing opportunities. The pre-season quota for the recreational fishermen has not been met, so the state has given us more days in the month of June and there are plans to designate days in August and possibly into September. Here is the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) announcement on the extended fishing:

“Reason for action: Prior to the start of the recreational halibut season, additional days were identified that could be opened if recreational catch in Marine Area 2 (Westport) was tracking slower than expected. Those days are June 17, 20, 24, and 27. Quota remaining in Marine Area 2 is sufficient to cover much of the expected catch through June 24. Similarly, in Marine Area 1 (Ilwaco/Chinook), there is quota remaining to support keeping the all depth and nearshore areas open through June 24.

“Additional Information: WDFW is working with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to re-open Marine Areas 3 - 10 to sport halibut fishing in August and September. Anglers can plan for late summer halibut fishing under these additional dates, pending federal approval.

“Even though increased fishing opportunity was provided early in the season by adding more consecutive fishing days in the Puget Sound region and opening the eastern Puget Sound region (Marine Areas 6 ? [sic] 10) in mid-April, recreational catch in these areas and in Neah Bay and La Push (Marine Areas 3 and 4) is lower than expected at this point in the season. To maximize fishing opportunity and provide recreational anglers with the opportunity to access the remaining Washington sport allocation, openings in Marine Areas 3 and 4 (La Push/Neah Bay) and Marine Areas 5 ? [sic] 10 (Puget Sound) are proposed to begin on Thursday, August 19, three days per week, Thursday through Saturday, through September 24 or, until the quota is projected to be taken, whichever occurs first.

“Sport halibut season dates in August and September will remain open as long as there is enough quota to open for another day but may close prior to September 24 if the Washington sport allocation is projected to be taken. Alternately, additional days per week could be added, as well as openings in other areas, to access the Washington sport allocation through the close of the Washington sport season at the end of September.”

I wish the state had considered some days in July. Numerous marine areas will be opening up for salmon on July first and when fishing near the bottom for kings, halibut will often follow and inhale a salmon lure. If you are fishing in August and September for salmon and are in a known halibut area, consider tying up a

few 50 or 60 pound leaders. Salmon will still strike the spoon on the heavier leaders and you just never know, you could get lucky and troll near or over an ambushing halibut. However, it's nice to know we will be able to fish for those wonderful halibut late into the summer.

With the absence of last winter's Black-mouth fishery, die-hard salmon fishermen will be ready at the gate come July first. Some of the migrating salmon will already be here and hopefully many others are on their way. On the odd years when the pink salmon join the yearly coho and Chinook salmon it can be all-out pandemonium on the boat; imagine three to five species of salmon all bunched together, chasing prey and feeding heavily in preparation for spawning. Imagine the entire water column from the surface to the bottom holding hungry, snappy fish. This is a unique time when downriggers are not required to catch salmon; trolling with a simple 6- to 8-ounce banana weight with 45 inches of 30-pound monofilament leader and a 3.5-inch cookies and cream spoon will attract a near surface pink or coho salmon. There have been years when we could not get our lures through the pinks and cohos to hook the larger chinooks near the bottom – the incredible numbers of fish would strike the spoon or bait on its way down; if only every year was like that.

I read an interesting study about rain water, or the lack of it to be exact, (Ref: U.S. Drought Monitor). One of the exceptionally good years of salmon fishing in the Puget Sound was in 2013. That year the western United States drought picture was very intense and looked very much like this year's prediction. Could this mean that our summer fishing will be similar to 2013? Scientists use many historical variables to make predictions and make educated guesses. Fisheries biologists often point out that warm earth and water conditions are the top reasons why large numbers of salmon are not returning. In the past 21 years, 2013 was one of the warmest, driest years on record yet, that year the Puget Sound offshore salmon fishing was truly unbelievable. It will be interesting to see how this summer plays out.

The new 2021-2022 Sport Fishing Rules should be hitting the streets soon – be sure to pick up a copy and read through the sections to identify any changes from last year's regulations. As painful as it is, please make an effort to check the WDFW online website for emergency changes to any body of water or Marine Areas you may be fishing; it could save you a wasted trip. I'm excited about summer salmon fishing and hope we all get to fill our catch cards this year. Be safe, and GOOD LUCK out there! Here is my email – feel free to drop me a fishing report or ask questions: tfishmonger@gmail.com.

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Life Tributes

Anita Theola Fuge Gibson



Anita Theola Fuge Gibson was sent home and reunited with her husband of 75 years, Fredrick Allister Gibson, 94 years, May 28, 2021, at the age of 95 years at Skagit Valley Hospital in Mount Vernon, Wash., with her daughter Christine Marie Gibson by her side.

Anita was born in Seattle, Wash., Nov. 21, 1925. She was raised in Seattle. Her father, Charles Lester Fuge (fireman), was born in Oregon City, Ore. Nov. 28, 1888. Her mother, Martha Christine Ericksen, was born in Utsire, Norway June 2, 1895. Martha had 12 children.

Anita met Fredrick in Seattle after he had joined the U.S. Navy. Anita was working for the American Can Co. in Seattle. They were married April 28, 1943, in Seattle.

Shortly after, Fredrick was sent off to war.

They traveled around until Fredrick was stationed at NAS Whidbey Island. They lived in Coupeville, Wash., for one year. Then in 1953 they bought their first home in Oak Harbor, Wash., where they lived their entire lives, raising their four daughters.

Anita's mother Martha's parents homesteaded Stuart Island, Wash., in the San Juan Islands. Anita's uncle, Ralph Ericksen, inherited some land there and Anita and Fredrick bought a lot overlooking Prevost Harbor, where they built a summer home. The only way to the island was by boat or plane. The whole family would spend summers there as much as possible. Anita enjoyed fishing, crabbing, and walking the island to visit family and friends.

Anita's real passion was dancing. She joined a group that performed all around. She crocheted and knitted quilts and she loved giving away all her hand-made items. Being such a giving and loving person, Anita made a huge difference in the lives of others with her family and friends being the center of her life, giving everything of herself and taking only love in return. Her love for her dogs was precious.

Anita had a special place in her heart for her sister, Charlotte Wick, who has two daughters, Lillian and Charlene; their aunt Anita truly loved them dearly. We would meet for a week in Seaside, Ore., for a fun getaway. Anita's three girls would join in the week of fun and memories.

Anita also started a family picnic for her large family that took place at Woodland Park in Seattle for over 40 years. It was a picnic celebration of her love for her family. Anita would reminisce about her life just like it was yesterday. She had a very meaningful life.

Her abundantly loving and caring nature was a true gift and great example for us all and will be truly missed.

James Paul 'Roman' Jiles



Roman was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, June 15, 1996, and died in Oak Harbor, Wash., June 11, 2021. Adopted into a loving family, Roman leaves his mother, Karen; his sister, Laura; his aunt, Gail; and his cousin, Marci, all of Whidbey Island.

Roman came home to Whidbey Island at age 3 and attended schools in Langley, from the Children's Center to South Whidbey High School, where he graduated in 2014. Following high school, Roman worked at a number of jobs in the south end, while pursuing his love of music.

The Jiles family sends thanks to the many people who have helped Roman along the way, especially neighbors and friends associated with Ryan's House. Roman will be remembered with love; he will be greatly missed.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, July 10 at 2 p.m. at Whidbey Presbyterian Church, located at 1148 SE 8th Ave. in Oak Harbor. In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution in Roman's name to Ryan's House, 19777 SR 20, Coupeville, WA 98239.

John Thomas Kohlmann



John Thomas Kohlmann passed away peacefully Sunday, June 13, 2021 at his home in Oak Harbor, Wash. He was preceded in death by his wife, Pat Kohlmann, who died April 10, 2020.

John served as a Supply Officer in the U.S. Navy for 21 years, with duty stations all over the world and all over the United States. After retiring from the Navy in 1986, he became a real estate appraiser, which led to beginning his own successful business.

In 2000, John and Pat moved to Coupeville, Wash. and became active in the Lions Club. John took the lead in helping the club establish a thriving Leos program at the high school, and served in several leadership capacities, including president of the Coupeville Club and Zone Chairman.

In 2018, they moved into Regency in Oak Harbor, and a year later, Pat moved into the memory care unit. John became active in the Oak Harbor Lions Club, continuing to recruit new members and support their many activities.

John and Pat would have celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary June 13, so it is fair to say he died of a broken heart. He is survived by daughter, Cindy, her husband, Eric, and his daughters, Cahaley and Lizzy; his son, Ryan, his wife, Annett, and their sons, Larson and AJ. Also surviving John is his younger sister, Anita, along with her family, brother-in-law, Charles, and his family, and aunt, Naomi.

Donations in John's memory may be made to the newly established "John Kohlmann Memorial Scholarship" administered by the Coupeville Lions Club, to be awarded to a graduating participant in the Leos program who displays outstanding leadership capabilities. Please mail donations to the Coupeville Lions Club, P.O. Box 473, Coupeville, WA 98239.

To read a full history of John's life and share memories, visit his online obituary at www.whidbeymemorial.com.

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.

Lord,

We thank you today that you are continuing to renew and restore all things. You are faithful to your promises. You are sovereign over every situation. You bring light to the darkness. You mend the broken hearted. You comfort the afflicted. You heal the sick. In you we live and move and have our being. Strengthen us today to trust you. To trust you with our lives, our families, our city, our nation, and our world. You are making all things new. You are faithful to complete the work you start. Fill us with the power of your Spirit to walk in grace and embody your love. In your name we pray. Amen.

Drew Barnhart
Lead Pastor, Living Word Church

"And he who was seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new.'"

Rev 21:5 ESV



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OUR Community

An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

What do you most enjoy about being part of the Schooner Suva crew in Coupeville ?



Captain Jonny Johnson

Captain of the Schooner Suva

The Schooner Suva is more than just a boat, she is a scientific wonder and a work of art. Designed to bend the wind and the water, Schooner Suva harnesses the energy of nature herself and in the hands of a skilled crew can move her 27 tons through the water with grace and ease. I cannot think of a more elegant way to get out and enjoy the beauty this world has to offer.

She's a beautiful vessel to be sure; the beauty in that craft reflects her crew, past and present, who have cared for and operated her for nearly a century. I love being part of the team that is keeping the lovely Schooner Suva alive, this is a wonderful, wonderful group of people to work and play with.

Captain Kirby Stevens, Coupeville

I most enjoy meeting people that have never sailed before and experience for the first time the freedom that sailing gives you. They are amazed at seeing such a large vessel being propelled by nothing but the wind and the power that the sails generate. When Suva sails, people from all over the country get to enjoy Whidbey and the surrounding area.



Jason McGee, Coupeville, Sr Bosun, SV Suva

I enjoy being with people. On Suva I have the opportunity to work as a team with fellow crew members, sailing a beautiful, historic vessel. When sailing with passengers, it is fun getting to know them - who they are and where they are from (we once actually had visitors from Suva, Fiji Island). I am able to share with passengers some of the history and cultural heritage of the area as well as the simple joy of being under sail in Penn Cove.

Chris Bradley, Coupeville

I have sailed on Suva for over five years. I have come to anticipate and most enjoy the reactions of our cruising guests at the moment when Suva's sails have all been hoisted on a good breezy day and the maneuvering motor has been shut off. We are SAILING. Our passengers' smart phones all seem to have (temporarily) lost their allure. They are caught up in a Suva moment. Nearly 100 years old and still a crowd pleaser.



David Young, Coupeville

Being part of a crew is a good lesson in teamwork that most of us learn in our working careers, whether you like your coworkers or not! I have developed several new adult friendships and have enjoyed the camaraderie of fellow sailors.

Sailors are typically a personality in and of themselves:).

I like and respect all things old, so restoration and preservation of this one-of-a-kind classic wooden boat gives me great pleasure. I like tools in general, and the woodworking and maintenance with Suva has taught me a range of new and very specialized disciplines. So helping with Suva maintenance has been a plus for my "crewing" experience.

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST

Thurs, June 24	Fri, June 25	Sat, June 26	Sun, June 27	Mon, June 28	Tues, June 29	Wed, June 30
North Isle H-68°/L-55° Bright and Sunny	North Isle H-71°/L-57° Mostly Sunny	North Isle H-74°/L-58° Sunny and Warm	North Isle H-74°/L-58° Mostly Sunny	North Isle H-73°/L-57° Mostly Sunny	North Isle H-71°/L-55° Mostly Sunny	North Isle H-68°/L-53° Mostly Sunny
South Isle H-74°/L-57° Mostly Sunny	South Isle H-77°/L-61° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-82°/L-60° Sunny and Very Warm	South Isle H-80°/L-60° Mostly Sunny	South Isle H-79°/L-59° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-77°/L-57° Sunny with Patchy Clouds	South Isle H-73°/L-55° Sunny

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13							14					
15						16	17	18			19	
20						21				22		
23						24				25		
26			27	28	29				30			
			31					32				
			33					34				
35	36	37					38					
39						40				41	42	43
44					45					46		
47				48						49		
50			51					52	53	54		
55		56						57				
58								59				

CLUES ACROSS

- Most courageous
- Insurance giant
- Small trace left behind
- In a way, signals
- The same letter or sound at the beginning
- The Great Lakes State
- Engage in a contest
- Drinks served to celebrate a birth (Spanish)
- Manpower
- Undivided
- Strong, magnetic metal
- People of Tanzania
- Sorts
- Cop car accessory
- Trade
- Sullen and ill-tempered
- Distinctive practices
- Motor vehicles
- Electrodes
- Polish river
- Human feet
- Make very hot
- Toppin and Kenobi are two
- Blackbird
- One point west of due south

47. Large beer

- Third stomachs
- Rare Korean family name
- Hectoliter
- Aquatic invertebrate
- Where we live
- Poked holes in
- Partner to ways
- __ Ann

18. An electrically charged atom

- New Zealand conifer
- Type of brandy
- Comments to the audience
- Tears down
- Gifts for the poor
- More painful
- Good friend

CLUES DOWN

- Expressions of approval
- Replace the interior of
- Not awake
- Roman numeral 7
- Sun up in New York
- Institute legal proceedings against
- Bugs homeowners don't want
- Maltese-Italian composer
- Very long period of time
- Touchdown
- Agents of downfall
- Complacently or inanely foolish
- Argentina capital Buenos __
- County in New Mexico

34. Lying in the same plane

- Line in a polygon
- Clouds of gas and dust
- Norse god
- Health care pro
- Close tightly
- One's holdings
- Became less intense
- Wilco frontman
- Woman (French)
- Expresses delight
- TV channel (abbr.)
- Beverage
- Unit of work or energy
- Cleaning accessory
- Dorm worker

Answers on page 15

CAN DO SUDOKU!

On a scale from 1 to 10...3.0

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

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

Answers on page 15



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- ✓ FREE Battery Fluid & Fill

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- ✓ LUBE Chassis
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- Tire Rotation & Balance
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GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

Here we go again! Five family yard sale with quality household and yard items for all ages. Saturday, June 26, 8:30am-4pm and Sunday, June 27, 8:30am-2pm, 1734 Whales Run Place (Look for the red signs one mile towards Oak Harbor from the Coupeville traffic light on SR 20). Furniture, BBQs, tools, DVDs/ Blue Rays, clothes, best-selling books, and much more! Masks appreciated.

CALLING ALL VENDORS: Community Yard Sale Event! Saturday, July 19, 9am-3pm, 3616 Saratoga Rd., Langley. Reserve your space at the Baby Island Saratoga Club. 360-730-1047 (2)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pregnant? Need baby clothes? We have them and the price is right – FREE. Pregnancy Care Clinic, open Tuesday 10am-4pm, Wednesday 12pm-7pm, and Thursday 10am-4pm. 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@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

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

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@islandshakespearefest.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.zierner@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

CAREGIVER: All Heart Agency, LLC is hiring full and part time caregivers for adults with disabilities on Whidbey Island (Oak Harbor). Must pass background check and be at least 18 years old with high school diploma/GED or higher education. No experience needed. Paid training and benefits. Please call Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm, 360-320-6072 to schedule time for application and interview at Coupeville office (1)

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

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If you or someone you know needs help in feeding pet(s), WAIF Pet Food Banks may be able to help. Pet Food Banks are located at WAIF thrift stores in Oak Harbor (465 NE Midway Blvd) and Freeland (1660 Roberta Ave) and are generously stocked by donations from the community. If you need assistance, please stop by.

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

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

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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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PAID OPINION

An Open Letter to the Governor, DOT Secretary and Staff

By Joseph C. Coomer (phone 360-929-2397)

Subject: *Many of the State's bridge structures are not earthquake-proof and thus are not safe.*

The number one responsibility of government is to keep its citizens safe. To allow many of this State's bridge structures that are not earthquake-proof without modifications to make them earthquake-proof does not meet our State government's responsibility.

To explain that in 1993 I had this idea of how to make an item like your home to be earthquake-proof. *Just suspend it. It is that simple! When one suspends an item, the act of suspension eliminates all dynamic loads. During an earthquake, a suspended item will have little or no motion due to the quake. This is because there are no "ties" that connect the quake-moving earth to the suspended item, so it is impossible for the quake to force the item to move. One should conclude that suspension is the key to earthquake-proof design.*

(Try to grasp that as the inventor of this concept, I am not only an authority on it, as no one else has considered the concept, I am the only authority until others are trained to understand all facets of the concept.)

The definition of inertia is it resist acceleration. Try to understand that the roadway structure which weighs many tons and it has *enormous inertia*. As one follows the action of a quake, first the quake accelerates the roadway supports keeping them in sync with its motion. The supports will try to accelerate the roadway structure with its enormous inertia. *If there is a failure, this is the point where it will fail, the connection between the support and the roadway.*

The proposed solution is to suspend the roadway as shown in the illustration. *As the suspended roadway has little if any motion during a quake, it will survive even a magnitude 10 earthquake unharmed.*

Try to understand the big picture. With the roadway suspended, its supports need only be designed for the static or dead-weight load of the roadway and also its own acceleration loads created by the quake. Even the suspended roadway being suspended experiences no dynamic loads from the quake, so its steel reinforcement requirements may be reduced by 50%.

For the Secretary and others responsible, this can be very serious. This writer has tried hard in his letters to convince them that their bridge structures will not survive a major quake like a 7.5 or 8. If a major quake occurs and there are casualties especially fatalities, those responsible could face "manslaughter" criminal charges. A jury would not be impressed with their defense of, "I thought Mr. Coomer's idea was BS."

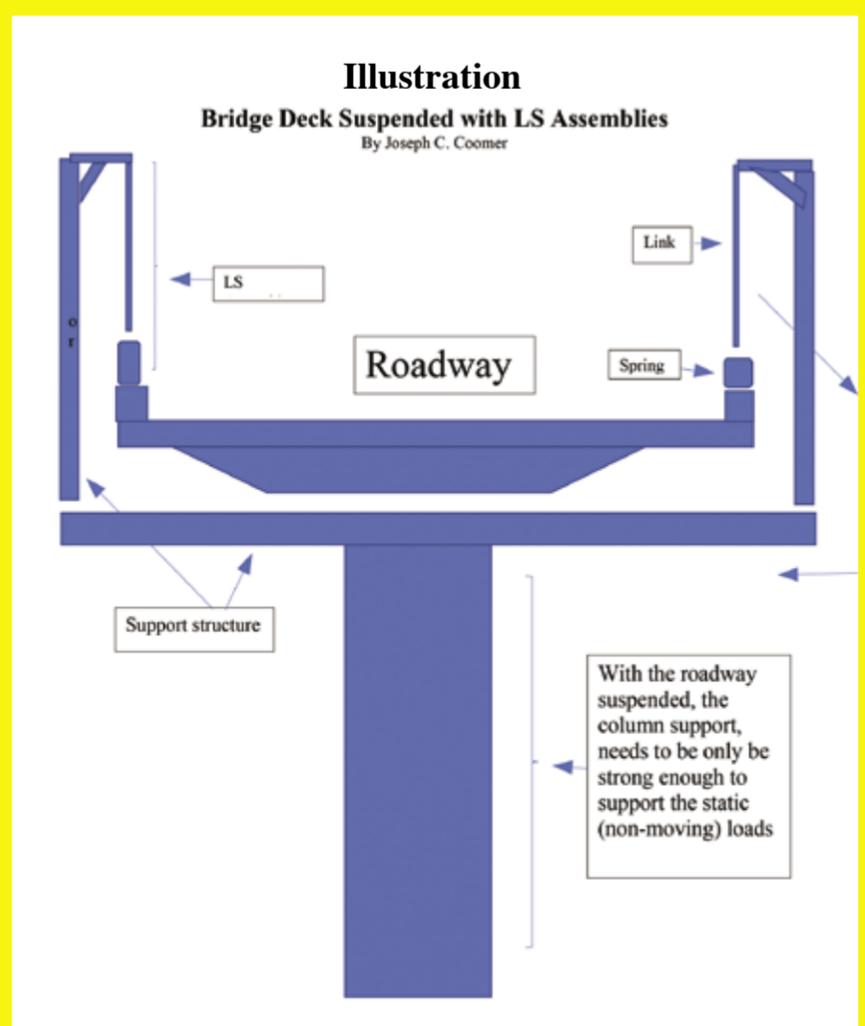
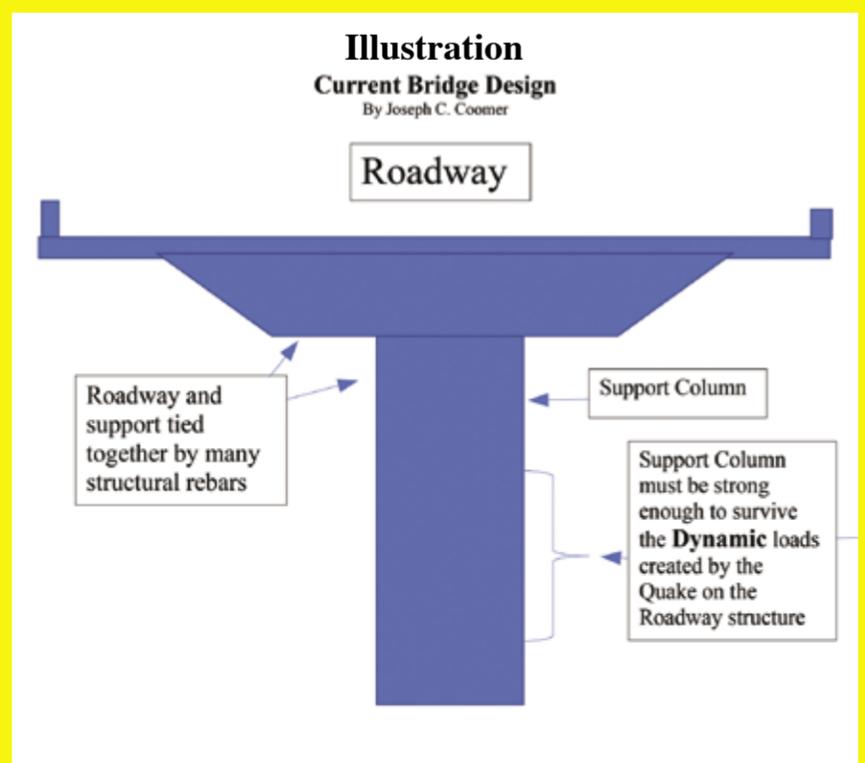
Similar to bridge structures, other items like that beloved structure one calls home can be designed or modified to be suspended and thus earthquake-proof able to survive a magnitude 10 quake unharmed. *(Two important points of suspended structure. As the structure does not move, it can be made of with masonry products like brick or stone. Being suspended, it requires no foundation. My article on this subject is available upon request.)*

I charge that major newspapers like The Seattle Times, the LA Times, The Orange County Register, The San Jose Mercury News, and many others failed in their responsibilities to their readers by refusing to publish my work both on this subject and my Forest Fire Solution.

Please, recognize that this breakthrough in earthquake-proof design is not local, state, or even national news, it is **WORLD NEWS!** The world needs to know, so please publish it. (It could even be nominated for a **Nobel Peace Prize award.**)

Please give the suspension idea the respect that it deserves.

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



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