

March 17 through March 23, 2022

FREE

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Whidbey Irish Wildlife Society Presents  
Whidbey Island's 2022

# St. Patrick's Day Parade

4pm • March 17, 2022

Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor

Featuring Grand Marshal Maria McGee

Immediately following the parade Corned Beef & Cabbage dinners will be available for \$12 per plate at the American Legion Hall. Children Welcome.

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Irish Wildlife Society

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Langley park accessible to all p. 10



Kathy Reed/File Photo  
Rain or shine, Oak Harbor's annual St. Patrick's Day parade is back as an in-person event, to be held today at 4 p.m. on Pioneer Way in downtown Oak Harbor.

## Green is good – Oak Harbor's Saint Patrick's Day parade is back!

By **Melanie Hammons** Whidbey Weekly

Oak Harbor's annual St. Patrick's Day parade will be turning the downtown green with an in-person event once more. The parade begins promptly at 4 p.m. Thursday along Pioneer Way.

The pandemic shut down 2020's parade, as it did most other cultural events and gatherings; 2021's event was drive-by only. But there are several great reasons to join in the fun this year in downtown Oak Harbor, says Susan Konopik, president of the Whidbey Island Irish Wildlife Society, which plans the parade each year.

"For one, March 17th means that spring is just three days away. Two, the day following

the parade is Friday, easily everyone's favorite day of the week," said Konopik, (who goes by 'Sooz'). "And three, there's no charge to be in the parade."

Local businesses, nonprofits, first responders, several dance groups, and families, among others, are participating. One characteristic such a diverse group shares is what Konopik describes as a common appreciation for a really "Main Street" type of event.

"Our local Society is very close to celebrating 50 years as an organization. It's been sort of a grassroots-type effort that began in the 1970s. But all along, we've tried to keep that old fashioned spirit going," she said.

Some people have the idea that a Saint Patrick's Day celebration is only for the Irish among us, said Konopik. "But I'm not even Irish myself," she countered. "You might say that we'll have Irish of all stripes marching this year," including residents of Thailand, Pakistan, Jamaica, and the Philippines, among others who will make up the parade's contingent. And of course, the parade's namesake, "Saint Paddy" himself, will make an appearance, too.

According to Konopik, there will be awards given for "Best Kids' Entry," and "Best Irish Spirit." And in keeping with the holiday, there will be the uniquely titled "Most Likely to Create Shenanigans" award. The judges for that one are none other than Oak Harbor's finest, local police department and fire department personnel.

Those aren't the only prizes in play, however.

Two independent pub crawls are featured this year. Local bars and taverns plan to take the fun a couple of notches higher with their own trivia games, prizes, etc. But the most intense competition is for the "Grand Potato Award," said Konopik.

"The winner of that coveted honor is where our society will be hosting our monthly meetings for the next year," she said.

Beyond the prizes, pub crawls, and merry-making, there are also other themed events to look forward to, said Konopik.

"The American Legion hosts a really delicious corned beef dinner that day. That's something we always look forward to, not to mention the traditional sing-alongs and skits that follow the meal," she said.

Each year, the Whidbey Island Irish Wildlife Society chooses a Grand Marshal for the parade.



Kathy Reed/File Photo  
The annual St. Patrick's Day parade through downtown Oak Harbor is sure to bring out the "wearer' o' the green," among participants. The parade takes place at 4 p.m. Thursday along Pioneer Way.

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See ST. PATRICK'S continued on page 10

# ON TRACK

With Jim Freeman



Jim Freeman decided to go back on vacation for awhile longer. This column originally ran March 19, 2020.

\*\*\*\*\*

Is it just me or did someone in the world hit the pause button?

The events of the last few days and weeks have put my mind in freeze frame. Even with dirty windows in this 92-year young caboose, I find myself staring more.

Just staring.

Maybe we can stare together. Instead of social distancing, our minds can distance.

Where do we take them?

Where do they take us?

Yesterday, I watched so much negativity on the news, I felt like taking a sitz bath in hand sanitizer.

Instead, I had a Fanta orange soda pop and watched another episode of *The Lone Ranger*, from the fifth and final season of 1956, when the show was first broadcast in color.

The scenery in those episodes, many of them shot in Kanab, Utah, is filled with superb staring surroundings. "Hi-Yo, Scenery, Away!"

It also occurred to me while staring, an adult form of contemplation, there have been some benefits to our new world situation.

### Time out

In the last 72 hours, for the first time ever, I filed my income taxes online using the www.irs.gov/freefile web site.

Doing so was like being in an episode of *Columbo* with Peter Falk, "One more thing."

In solving any mystery, patience is part of the process. Sherlock Holmes seldom said, "I've got it," in the first 30 pages of the book. Maybe after a couple hundred pages, Holmes and Watson started to get dialed in.

The IRS free file experience is worth attempting. Even if one uses a professional tax preparer, we, the taxpayers, have to do all the preparing for the preparer and filer so he or she knows which boxes to check and what numbers to put in those boxes.

For me, the interaction with the online IRS process was foolproof. I was the fool with the proof. Even when I tried to make a mistake, the IRS mystery helper caught it first, red sentences blaring.

Using this IRS free file was akin to having an open book test, but with a proctor who kept my answers between the lines.

Another nice feature: As one fills out the details of W-2s, 1099-Misc, SSA-1099, 1099-DIV, 1099-INT, and whatever else is in your bread basket, there is a running total in the upper right side of the computer screen which tells you how much you owe the Feds.

When I finally figured out what the number was, and why it kept changing, it was no different than the feeling I get at Midway Coin Op Laundry in Oak Harbor trying to determine how many more quarters I need to insert in the washer.

Upon completing my filing, I hit send with a smile.

Seconds later, I received an email with the subject line, Update: 2019 Federal Tax Return has been rejected.

So much for my first ever government grade card.

After being guided by the government in their rejection email, and after hitting all their blue links, I discovered I had used incorrect information in one square regarding my adjusted gross income from 2018.

Correcting this, I hit submit again.

Instead of watching and worrying, I left my computer chair, retreated to the caboose TV area, and turned up the volume on *Judge Judy*. Not much volume was needed. She was already yelling.

After engaging the mute button, I went back to check email. Eureka! Breaking news – 2019 Federal Tax Return has been accepted.

Thank you, Alexander Hamilton.

My \$3 refund will be mailed within 7 to 21 days.

I decided to take the refund payment in one lump sum. Some lump, eh? There was an option to split it into two payments.

Why do that?

With a buck fifty, I can only get a half a cup of coffee.

Show me the money! Hold out for the whole.

Without the world being on pause, I may never have attempted doing my taxes online. I would have held out for Kate and Ed and our reliable friends at the AARP tax assistance program, like many of us do every year.

Yet, those great volunteers had to vacate their island locations at senior centers because of their safety and the safety of the people they serve.

Yep, it has been a staring out the window kind of time lately.

Maybe tomorrow I'll clean the windows.

### Langley history

One-hundred years ago, Langley became the second municipality in the nation to elect an all woman council. It did not take these trail-blazers long to take the lead after President Woodrow Wilson signed the 19th amendment weeks earlier, giving women the right to vote.

### Fonts for thought

"We can't control life, but we can control how we respond to life's challenges. The answer lies in stabilizing the mind."

~Eknath Easwaran, *Strength in the Storm: Creating Calm in Difficult Times*

"Our memories are card indexes consulted and then returned in disorder by authorities whom we do not control."

~Cyril Connolly, British critic (1903-1974)

### On getting older

Among the hundreds of books our Grandpa Freeman had, one entitled *100 Best Sermons for Special Days and Occasions* caught my eye many years ago. Published by Harper Brothers, and edited by G.B.F. Hallock, D.D. in 1923, this book offered a story on page 84 you may enjoy if you are over 40.

"When Longfellow was well along in years, he was asked how it was that he was able to keep so vigorous and write so beautifully.

"His reply was to point to a blooming apple tree nearby and say--"That apple tree is very old but I never saw prettier blossoms upon it than those which it now bears. The tree grows a little new wood each year, and I suppose it is out of that new wood that those blossoms come. Like the apple tree, I try to grow a little new wood each year."

### Memory loss

The following info from Professor Rebecca Amariglio of Harvard Medical School are tips to identify one's degree of memory loss.

These five activities are considered by her as "probably normal aging."

Walking into a room and forgetting why you entered; having trouble recalling the names of unfamiliar people; a change in memory compared with when you were younger; memory changes similar to other people of the same age; and, misplacing items, but later recalling where you put them.

Feel better?

I sure do, particularly the first one. Fortunately, I only have three rooms, so forgetting and remembering why I entered the rooms does not take too long.

If I just stayed in one room, I would never have to go look for my memory.

These five signs are potential concerns for cognitive decline:

1. Getting lost in familiar surroundings.
2. Having difficulty remembering details of important events.
3. Difficulty following the plot of a television program or a book because of memory problems.
4. Memory changes that are worse than those of people your same age.
5. Misplacing items, and being unable to locate them later.

No wonder I look at the keyboard to type. Where did those letters go?

To read past columns of *On Track* in the *Whidbey Weekly*, see our Digital Library at [www.whidbeyweekly.com](http://www.whidbeyweekly.com).

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# Bits & Pieces

## Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser



Scouts BSA Troop 4319 is having a Pancake Breakfast this Saturday, March 19, to raise funds for summer camp in July. This is the first of several fundraisers with a goal of \$4,175 (the cost to send eight Scouts and three leaders).

Breakfast will be served from 9:00 to 11:30AM. A plate of pancakes and sausage is just \$7. Orange juice, coffee and tea will also be available.

The American Legion is located at 690 SE Barrington Blvd. in Oak Harbor.

[Submitted by TJ Pierzchala]

## Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County Hosts a Kindness Campaign and Rewards with Round-Trip Tickets

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County (BBBSIC) announced it will host a Kindness Campaign through the month of March, rewarding participants with round-trip tickets through Southwest.

"There's three ways to win, and so many round-trip flights will be given away! You can participate in the Kindness Campaign by nominating folks for their enduring kindness and/or a need for kindness, committing an act of kindness, and purchasing raffle tickets to sustain the kindness our mentors give youth in the community!" said Tiffany Scribner, executive director.

As the proud recipient of 100 one-way e-passes from Southwest's One Million Acts of Kindness, One Million Dollars of Thanks, Big Brothers Big Sister of Island County is so excited to promote kindness in our community.

### 3 Ways to Win:

**Promote Kindness.** Share how you spread kindness in the community. Post a video committing an act of kindness to the BBBSIC Facebook page with #LittleActsBigKindness. Facebook.com/bbbsic

**Reward Kindness.** Nominate someone for their kindness, or their need for it. Tell their story at [bbbsislandcounty.org/kindness](http://bbbsislandcounty.org/kindness).

**Sustain Kindness.** Keep the kindness going. Support one-to-one mentoring programs by buying raffle tickets at BBBSIC and supporting locations. Raffle tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100. Tickets available for purchase at the BBBS office, Diva Lounge Salon, Edward Jones office of River Powers, Melissa York Studio, and through staff members and members of the board of directors.

Chosen winners in each category will receive round-trip e-passes through Southwest.

To be entered in the "Promote" category, you must post your video to the @BBBSIC Facebook page and include the hashtag #LittleActsBigKindness. Each winner in

the "Promote" category will receive two round-trip e-passes. To be entered in the "Sustain" category, you must purchase a raffle ticket. Cost is \$25 for one or \$100 for five tickets. Tickets must be purchased in person. The drawing will occur March 31, at 4:00PM at the BBBSIC Office. Participants do NOT need to be present to win. Employees of BBBSIC may NOT purchase raffle tickets. Each winner in the "Sustain" category will receive two round-trip e-passes. To nominate someone for the "Reward" category, you must complete the nomination form at [bbbsislandcounty.org/kindness](http://bbbsislandcounty.org/kindness). You may not nominate yourself. Winners in the "Reward" category will receive round-trip e-passes in a quantity to be determined.

Southwest flight e-passes are valid only in the United States, its territories and its possessions, including Puerto Rico and must be used for travel by Nov. 1, 2022.

[Submitted by Tiffany Scribner, Executive Director, BBBSIC]

## Discover Practical Spirituality And its connection to improving real life

Tom McElroy, practitioner of Christian Science healing and international speaker, will present his talk, "Spiritual discovery: How you can better the world," March 25, noon, CS-OH-WA.com/Talk (you may view this live web event at 721 SW 20th Ct, Oak Harbor).

The talk will focus on universal healing precepts found in the Holy Bible, especially in Christ Jesus' life and teachings, and show how they are available for anyone to understand and experience through the lens of Christian Science. The talk is free, open to the community, and sponsored by First Church of Christ, Scientist, Oak Harbor

"Spiritual discovery is about understanding more of what God is and learning to see our lives and the world through God's all-good nature," says McElroy. "It's about stripping away surface-level appearances in order to discern what actually IS. Spiritual discovery reveals what is substantial, lasting, and powerful — and this leads to healing. What's the outcome? Progress. Transformation. Wholeness. For anyone." Sharing examples of healing from his own life and professional practice of Christian Science, McElroy will explain why Christian Science is both Christian and scientific, meaning people can prove its effectiveness for themselves, as fully described in the book *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, written by the founder of the Christian Science movement, Mary Baker Eddy.

McElroy will also touch on the life of Mary Baker Eddy, a mid-nineteenth century woman from New England, who came to understand, confirm, and teach what she felt was original Christian healing. Eddy herself said she was especially inspired by Christ Jesus' demand, "He that believes on me, the works that I do will he do also; and greater works than these will he do, because I go unto my Father" (found in the Gospel of John 14:12 in the Bible).

For over 150 years, people around the world have worked to follow Christ Jesus in this practice of Christianity and continue to do so today, with healings of physical ills and personal difficulties.

Tom McElroy has been a Christian Science practitioner for many years, helping people on a daily basis through this scientific approach to prayer. He travels from his home base near Boston, Mass., to speak to audiences around the world as a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.

[Submitted by Liz Bryan]

## Earth & Ocean Month 2022 Caring for Our Common Home

On Whidbey Island, Earth Day has expanded to encompass the whole month of April. Collectively known as Whidbey Earth and Ocean Month, activities appeal to a wide range of interests, ages, and backgrounds. After a pause due to world events for the last two years, this year's Earth and Ocean Month is returning with more activities than ever.

The overall theme for 2022, Caring for Our Common Home, has also been split into four weeks and areas of focus: Waste, Transportation, Water and Food. Activities to help learn more about how we can keep our island home beautiful include lectures, an art show, work parties, walks and tours, and more. Participating organizations include the Greening Congregations Collaborative, Island Transit, Orca Network, Pacific Rim Institute, Sno-Isle Libraries, South Whidbey Tilth, Whidbey Audubon Society, Whidbey Watershed Stewards, and more.

Most events are free and open to everyone. A complete schedule is available at [www.whidbeyearthday.org](http://www.whidbeyearthday.org).

### Events include:

Rags, Rubbish, and Refuse: Artists Who Get Dirty in the Bayview Cash Store Hub Gallery features artwork made exclusively from recycled and repurposed materials from local artists. On view April 1 – May 8. For more information call Marian Myszkowski at 360-321-4232.

Family in Nature in Deception Pass State Park helps families explore the wonder of nature. This 90 minute-nature-based program is fun and highly interactive for children ages 3-5 years old and their families. These programs are held every other Friday and Saturday starting April 1, and are held in partnership with the Deception Pass Park Foundation and the Fidalgo Nature School. Contact Hayley at 360-675-3767 ext. 231 or [Hayley.johnson@parks.wa.gov](mailto:Hayley.johnson@parks.wa.gov).

Planting at the Prairie (Wed, April 6 at 9:00AM): Come restore a native prairie by planting grasses and forbs at Admiralty Inlet Preserve in Coupeville. Sign up at [www.wclt.org/get-involved/volunteer/](http://www.wclt.org/get-involved/volunteer/) or contact Taylor Schmuki at [taylor@wclt.org](mailto:taylor@wclt.org).

Adventures of the Wild Wolf (Fri, April 8 at 4:00PM): Deep in the mystical mountains of western North Carolina, if you listen quietly at night, you might hear the ancient and enthralling sound of ... a wolf! Although wolves no longer live in the wild in western N.C., they definitely still live here in the West. Tanya and Rob will read and act out passages from her book. Sponsored by Sno-Isle Libraries and held online; register at <https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/61f0741ef1cb7141003b0fc2>.

Low Tide Beach Walk (Wed, April 20 at 1:30PM): Jointly offered by the Sound Water Stewards and the Marine Resource Committee, stroll the beach at Bush Point and learn more about the ecology of the waters around Whidbey. Register by contacting [education@soundwaterstewards.org](mailto:education@soundwaterstewards.org).

Whale of a Bus Tour to the Welcome the Whales Festival (Sat, April 23): Come onboard with a whale watching guide to learn about marine mammals on your way to the festival in Langley. Catch the free Island Transit bus in Oak Harbor departing at 9:50AM and ride the bus for free down the island and then back after the festival.

Guided walks, work parties, and additional lectures and gatherings will take place throughout Whidbey during the month of April.

# HSA: A healthy way to save for retirement

Many expenses in life are unpredictable. But there are two things you know you'll have to pay for: medical bills and retirement. You'll probably need to take a variety of steps to meet these costs, but one financial instrument that can help is a health savings account (HSA).

If you're not familiar with an HSA, here are the basics:

- **Eligibility** – If you are enrolled in a qualified high-deductible health plan (HDHP), you can generally contribute to an HSA. While HSAs are typically offered through employers, you can still open one if your employer doesn't provide it, or if you're self-employed, although you must have HDHP coverage. You also can't be enrolled in another health insurance plan, other than those permitted, such as dental, vision, long-term care and disability insurance, and you can't be enrolled in Medicare. Also, you can't be claimed as a dependent on another person's tax return.

- **Contribution limits** – In 2022, you can put in up to \$3,650 to an HSA if you have single coverage, or \$7,300 for family coverage. And if you're 55 or older, you can put in an extra \$1,000 per year.

- **Tax benefits** – An HSA has triple tax advantages: Your contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, so they can reduce your taxable income for the year; your earnings grow tax-free; and your withdrawals are tax-free, provided the money is used for qualified medical expenses. (Withdrawals taken before age 65 that aren't used for qualified medical expenses are taxable and subject to a 20% penalty; once you reach 65, the penalty no longer applies, although withdrawals are still taxable.)

In addition to its providing tax benefits, an HSA can help you in other ways. Perhaps most significantly, your HSA can be an additional financial resource for your retirement. That's because the money in your HSA can be carried over from year to year – you aren't obligated to "use it or lose it." So, the money not spent on annual medical expenses can continue to grow tax-deferred. Plus, an HSA is "portable" – it moves with you when you leave a job.

Furthermore, unlike a 401(k) or a traditional IRA, an HSA does not require you to begin taking withdrawals once you reach 72 – you can leave your account untouched for essentially as long as you'd like. And while you may need to use your HSA funds to meet your medical expenses in retirement – which can be considerable, even with Medicare – you can use what you don't spend on medical costs for your other needs without penalty, once you reach age 65. (As mentioned above, any HSA withdrawals not used for qualified medical costs are taxable.)

Here's one other point to keep in mind: Your HSA likely contains investment options, along with a cash account. If you put all your funds in the cash account, as many people do, you might be depriving yourself of the growth opportunities provided by the investment options. On the other hand, of course, these investments generally carry more risk. One possible way to benefit from both parts of your HSA is to keep enough cash to cover your health insurance's out-of-pocket maximum and invest the rest.

As you can see, an HSA can help you in numerous ways. If you have access to one, consider taking advantage of it.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.*  
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For more information, contact Sami Postma at sami@goosefoot.org or 360-321-4246.

[Submitted by Sami Postma, Goosefoot]

### "Sounders" Gray Whales – Unprecedented Early Arrivals Since December



Gray CRC531- Photo by Marilyn Armbruster

Each year, typically beginning mid-February to early March, the small population of gray whales known as the North Puget Sound (NPS) grays, or "Sounders," detour from their long northbound migration between Baja, Calif., and the Bering Sea, heading east to feed on ghost shrimp buried in the tidal flats around Whidbey, Camano, and Hat/Gedney Islands, and nearby shorelines.

Orca Network's Whale Sighting Network (WSN) assists Cascadia Research Collective (CRC) to track the arrival and presence of the grays. In the past decade, the whale designated CRC53, and nicknamed "Little Patch," has often been one of the earliest or first arrivals, and this year was no exception. His official arrival date of Dec. 7, 2021 means he chose to skip the remainder of the southbound migration to the mating and birthing lagoons of Baja, Mexico to feed in these inland waters.

CRC22 "Earhart" was next to arrive, showing up two months earlier than usual, which means she too chose to skip the remainder of the southbound migration to come feed. As of March 9, another nine returning "Sounders," two 2022 "newbies," and one new, unknown whale have been confirmed by Orca Network's WSN, Cascadia Research, and the Pacific

Whale Watch Association. The ninth Sounder, CRC44 "Dubknuck," just arrived last Thursday. Whale Sighting Network received this update from John Calambokidis, research biologist, Cascadia Research Collective prior to Dubknuck's arrival:

Sounders gray whale update and recent survey in north Puget Sound

"Hannah Clayton and John Calambokidis from Cascadia completed a survey Sunday, March 6, out of Everett and covered Possession Sound, Saratoga Passage north to Skagit Bay and Port Susan and found whales in a number of areas and also obtained some good acoustic recordings. Based on photo-IDs, Alie Perez confirmed eight different IDs from the survey: 22, 53, 185, 531, 723, 2249, 2356, and 2362.

"With these and other recent sightings she shows at least 13 individuals identified so far this season, 12 of those known IDs (CRC #s 22, 53, 56, 185, 383, 531, 723, 2249, 2356, 2362, 2440, and 2441) and one is a new individual. Some of these have been around for several months and this represents some of the earliest arrivals of the Sounders gray whales to this region Cascadia has documented." – John Calambokidis

In 2019, NOAA designated a gray whale Unusual Mortality Event, or UME, defined as "a stranding that is unexpected (and) involves a significant die-off of any marine mammal population." During the UME years, several of the "Sounders" have been arriving earlier and staying longer. Also, during the UME years there has been an increase in the number of additional grays who have discovered these feeding areas, approximately 25 individuals since 2018. Many of these "newbies" have returned one or more years, taking advantage of the ghost shrimp found along some north Puget Sound shorelines.

Whale sightings from the public provide critical information about the travels of the

whales, and timely reports enable Orca Network to alert its volunteers, the public, and researchers who can get out with the whales to obtain photo identification and prey and fecal samples from the whales during their time in Puget Sound. All sightings are in turn shared with researchers, agencies and the public. Sign up on Whale Sighting Network website ([www.orcanetwork.org](http://www.orcanetwork.org)) to receive weekly Whale Sighting Reports.

Observers can help by reporting any whale sighting immediately and, when possible, photographing the whales to help provide IDs. Call Toll free 866-ORCANET (672-2638), email [info@orcanetwork.org](mailto:info@orcanetwork.org) and [ccalisa@orcanetwork.org](mailto:ccalisa@orcanetwork.org), or post to the Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/pg/OrcaNetwork/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/OrcaNetwork/).

Watercraft operators are reminded to be on the lookout for these slow-moving whales and to respectfully share the water. Gray whales can surface anywhere unexpectedly. Follow all Be Whale Wise laws/guidelines ([www.bewhalewise.org](http://www.bewhalewise.org)) while operating a vessel of any type. At first sight of any whale, all vessels should slow to under seven knots and keep at least 100 yards distance from gray whales.

Orca Network's Whale Sighting Viewpoints Map is a useful tool which can assist observers with finding public shore-based viewpoints around the Puget Sound Regions. Orca Network's map can be accessed from: [www.orcanetwork.org/Viewpoints.html](http://www.orcanetwork.org/Viewpoints.html). The map (in printed large format) and current sightings are also displayed at Orca Network's Langley Whale Center on Whidbey Island, located at 105 Anthes, Langley.

The Whale Sighting Network, Langley Whale Center, and Orca Network website and social media pages also provide up to date information about the latest research and issues related to gray whales, orcas, other cetaceans and their habitats.

[Submitted by Susan Berta, Orca Network]

### A New Baby in J Pod



Center for Whale Research

March 1, the Center for Whale Research (CWR) received word that J Pod was nearby (off Landbank, San Juan Island), and there was possibly a new addition to the Southern Resident orca family.

The CWR's photo-ID expert, Dave Ellifrit, found the whales near Kelp Reef and confirmed the new addition to J pod. The calf was next to J37, with J47 and J40 nearby. CWR field staff last saw J37 during Encounter #12 Feb. 11, and she did not have a calf at the time. It is estimated this baby was born within the past few days, given its "lumpy" physical nature.

Dave captured images of J37 with her new baby traveling in a tight group with other family members. CWR designates this newborn: J59. J59's sex is unknown at this time. Its size and shape are typical of a calf in good physical condition. J59 is the first calf born into J Pod since September 2020, when J41 gave birth to J58 (female).

The new mother, J37 (born 2001), is part of the J14 matriline and has two siblings, J40 (female, born 2004) and J45 (male, born 2009). She was a young mother, only 11 years old when she gave birth to her first calf in 2012: J49 (male).

[Submitted by Center for Whale Research]

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# Your Island Transit

## MEET ERIC

*Island Transit Facilities Maintenance*

Eric started working for Island Transit on the facilities and maintenance crew less than a year ago. At first, he drove to work putting 42 miles a day on his 35-year-old truck. That's 210 miles a week to work, and back, which means a lot of wear and tear on his truck. After a couple of months, he decided to take the bus. He drives two miles to the park and ride closest to his home then catches Island Transit's fare-free bus for the rest of the trip. He reduced his driving commute from 210 miles a week to just 20 miles. Eric likes saving money on gas, oil, and upkeep. Because he's the one who maintains his vehicle, it also saves him time and trouble.



Previously, Eric worked on the mainland and sometimes took the bus to the ferry to start his commute. In his new job, he can take the bus right to the Island Transit building near Coupeville. Since he's been riding the bus regularly, he's found it to be very relaxing and comfortable. He usually spends his bus time reading. He's also enjoying getting to know the other passengers on the bus and sees their friendly faces at the start and end of each day.

At work, Eric moves through each department, fixing, cleaning and maintaining things. When asked if he had any reservations about riding the bus during the pandemic, he explained, "I've seen how they (coworkers) take care of the buses so they're always very clean. The leaders at Island Transit are concerned about our health so they make it as safe as possible. We wear masks and sit apart from each other." Island Transit provides free masks and hand sanitizer on each bus and is currently completing the installation of new air filtration systems to purify particles and clean viruses from the air.

"The drivers are friendly, cautious and helpful. They call ahead if I need to make a connection with another bus. They're always concerned about our safety."

Eric and the others on his crew have been installing the new grant-funded bus stop seats around Whidbey and Camano Islands. Besides knowing this will help many riders waiting for their buses, he also gets to use them as a rider.

# Wellness Walk



**Saturday, March 26 • 11AM-3PM**  
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# Make a Difference

By Heather McCoy  
Executive Director, Whidbey Island Conservation District

### Looking Forward

Spring is just around the corner and with it comes the wonderful sense of new growth and opportunities. The days are getting longer, seedlings are sprouting, and baby animals are entering the world. For me, as a relatively new landowner on Whidbey, this spring holds the excitement of planning my spring garden.

This spring also marks a special time for us at the Whidbey Island Conservation District: we are inviting you to help craft a strategic plan to lead us into the future. Our new long-range plan will guide WICD's priorities, activities and initiatives for the next five years. Starting last winter, the process of developing this new plan has given us the collective opportunity to reflect on our organizational values, to document the perspectives of a diverse range of stakeholders and to craft our findings into a road map guiding us through 2027.

### Our Planning Process

We began our long-range planning process by hosting virtual community meetings and an online survey to collect input from the public and our partners this winter. This feedback helped us identify what our community feels are the natural resource conservation needs, priorities and opportunities on which our work should focus in the next five years. In December and January, we held two WICD board of supervisors planning sessions to incorporate feedback into a long-range plan draft. Since January, the board and staff developed the long-range plan's set of institutional goals, supported by specific objectives and tasks.

Now, we welcome our community to read the draft and share your feedback! Our public comment period is open until March 24. Feedback from the Whidbey community – its landowners, land managers, and residents – is a critical part of our planning process. Our services are meant to provide valuable resources to all Whidbey Islanders. Your input on our draft plan will help us to improve our plan to best serve our local needs. We hope you will share your thoughts with us by visiting our website.

### The Nature of CDs

Most folks agree that conservation works best when people who live and work in an area learn to take care of their own natural resources. This is central to the nature

of conservation districts, or CDs. CDs are community-based hubs of natural resource expertise and resources.

We are staffed and led by locals who understand the needs of the landscapes and fellow community members they serve. Each of Washington's 45 CDs serves a distinct geographic area: WICD serves all of Whidbey Island. Our purpose is to engage our own community with voluntary actions that keep our air, water, soil, habitats and working lands healthy for all.

While we are a political subdivision of Washington State, we are a non-regulatory agency; we do not enforce compliance or impose penalties. Instead, we work collaboratively with people to help them responsibly and efficiently manage their land. We provide technical assistance, resources, and sometimes even funding for implementation of best land management practices to help people articulate and meet their own property goals.

Our assistance ranges from habitat restoration, livestock and nutrient management, forest health and wildfire resiliency, stormwater and other water resource management and agricultural support. Regardless of the natural resources involved, our work uses the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service's Nine Step Conservation Planning Process. This process takes a holistic ecosystem or watershed approach to managing natural resources. We focus on the natural systems and processes that sustain natural resources, such as soil, water, air, plants and animals, while considering social, cultural and economic perspectives. Our services are tailored to meet the needs of the local people, local properties and natural resources. One key way we prioritize our services is through our strategic planning process, through feedback from community members like you.

### How You Can Make a Difference

Visit our website (whidbeycd.org/long-range-plan) to review the draft of our long-range plan and share your comments before March 24. Comments can be submitted through our online form or emailed to heather@whidbeycd.org. You are also welcome to share your comments by calling the WICD office at 360-678-4708. The WICD Long-Range Plan final draft will be reviewed by the WICD board of supervisors at the April 27 board of supervisors virtual meeting from 9 a.m. to noon, accessible to the public via Zoom.

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# What's Going On

## St. Patrick's Day Parade

Thursday, March 17, 4:00pm  
Pioneer Way, Oak Harbor

Entries include Island Transit, Oak Harbor Fire Department, Whidbey Cruzers, Thrive, Wicked Teuton, Miss OH Scholarship Pageant, Summit Assistance Dogs, Wandering Trails Tours, In Motion Dance Studio, Saint Patrick, and much more!

Immediately following the parade, a corned beef and cabbage dinner will be available at the American Legion Hall for \$12 per plate. Children welcome.

## St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Thursday, March 17, 5:00-8:00pm  
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

Free and open to the public! Music, Guinness, and a no-host full bar! Featuring

music from Seattle singer-songwriter, Jed Crisologo. Come and raise a glass in honor of the Irish. For more information, visit [www.WICAonline.org](http://www.WICAonline.org) or call 360-221-8268.

## Live Music: The Sea Notes

Friday, March 18, 6:30-9:00pm  
Orlando's BBQ, Oak Harbor  
No Cover

Featuring vocalist Valetta Faye. Orlando's is located at 656 SE Bayshore Dr, Ste 1. For more information, email [colschwabe@gmail.com](mailto:colschwabe@gmail.com).

## Zan Fiskum In Concert

Friday, March 18, 7:30pm  
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

WICA welcomes Maple Valley raised singer/songwriter and *The Voice* alum, Zan

Fiskum! Zan's debut CD, "Sleeping Problems," makes her statement with beautiful thematic anthems and love songs, deep with meaning and passion. For tickets or more information, visit [www.WICAonline.org](http://www.WICAonline.org) or call 360-221-8268.

## Male Ensemble Northwest in Concert

Saturday, March 19, 4:30PM  
Whidbey Playhouse, Oak Harbor  
Tickets: \$15

Male Ensemble Northwest was formed in 1982 and includes choir directors from Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Its purpose is to inspire young musicians in public schools and share the love of choral artistry with all communities. This hour of choral music will feature styles from Ireland, Russia, Finland, the Silk Road, Haiti and the USA. For tickets or more information, visit [www.whidbeyplayhouse.com](http://www.whidbeyplayhouse.com) or call 360-679-2237.

## Live Music - Steven Crabtree

Saturday, March 19, 6:00-9:00pm  
Penn Cove Taproom, Freeland

Steve Crabtree has traveled the globe performing his own music and the music of his heroes for more than 30 years. His unique blend of folk, rock, country, blues and cabaret has stunned and entertained audiences of all ages and creeds. No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit [www.penncovebrewing.com](http://www.penncovebrewing.com).

## Live Music - McTuff

Saturday, March 19, 7:30pm  
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

Some of the best of the NW music scene come together to create a powerful and jaw-dropping funk and jazz sound like you've never heard, exhibiting a mix of stellar musicianship, seasoned songwriting, and deep groove where no musical stone gets unturned. McTuff is best experienced LIVE. It's a movin' and groovin' adventure you will not soon forget. For tickets or more information, visit [www.WICAonline.org](http://www.WICAonline.org) or call 360-221-8268.

## BloodworksNW Pop-Up

Monday, March 21, 10:00am-5:00pm  
Tuesday, March 22, 9:00am-4:00pm  
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts, Langley

Close to 10,500 children under age 15 are diagnosed with cancer every year. Blood donors are a critical lifeline for these children and their families. Your donation can make all the difference in the world. Sign up today at <https://schedule.bloodworksnw.org/>. Appointments and masks are required. No guests under the age of 16 are permitted on site.

## Live Music - Curtis Moore

Saturday, March 26, 6:00-9:00pm  
Penn Cove Taproom, Coupeville

Singer, songwriter and storyteller Curtis Moore's unique voice infuses Americana, folk, country and blues, creating a unique experience full of stories from his life that will make you laugh and cry. No cover. For more information, call 360-682-5747 or visit [www.penncovebrewing.com](http://www.penncovebrewing.com).

## Classes, Seminars and Workshops

### Growing Cool Season Vegetable Crops

Saturday, March 19, 10:30am-12:00pm  
Tilth Campus, 2812 Thompson Road, Langley

This class, taught by Anza Muenchow, will help you enjoy all those fresh organic greens this season from your backyard garden. She will discuss soil preparation, the best varieties to grow in our climate and pest prevention. Mid-March is the time to plant many vegetable starts and sow your peas, parsley and arugula. Cost is \$5 for Tilth members and \$15 for non-members (cash, check or card payable the day of the class). R.S.V.P to [education@southwhidbeytilth.org](mailto:education@southwhidbeytilth.org).

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### BAIT THE HOOK!

Is it possible to catch fish with a plain, bare hook or without bait? Yes, it is! Here is how I did it in Klamath Falls, Ore., as a kid. There was a good size marina near my home where my young fishing buddies and I would visit on weekends and after school. The marina was full of small, what we called shiners; they swam around the boat docks in schools of silver glittering balls. We discovered this little baitfish would attack a small, shiny, bare hook. We would stalk the bait balls and quickly drop a single shiny hook down into the middle of the swarm of fish; the water was so clear we could see the shiners follow the hook downward and eventually bite it. We got pretty good at catching shiners for fun with just a bare hook.

That being said, for most fish it takes a little bit more than a bare hook to get them to bite. Let's take a look at some of the most popular prepared baits we use on the water:

- **Frozen Bait:** Just about any kind of small minnow or shiner can be frozen and used later. Save the small-to-medium flat Styrofoam platters that come from hamburger or chicken, lay your baitfish out in an orderly fashion and place them on a flat surface in the freezer until completely frozen. You can now vacuum seal them or simply slip the platter in a zipper seal-style bag. Here are other baits that freeze well: Crayfish, frogs, crabs, clams (freeze them in the shell), and shrimp. Crickets, mealworms, wax worms, and grubs freeze, too. Just remember to put them in corn meal first. Catfish are about the only fish that will eat frozen bait equal to thawed bait. Note: night crawlers, sand worms, blood worms and other soft-bodied baits DO NOT freeze well, they basically turn to mush after they thaw out.
- **Preserved Bait:** Most of us think of cured salmon eggs, brine-soaked herring and cut-bait, but the brining process has been around for a long time and used by largemouth bass fishermen for years. Strips of pork rind, eel skins, and other tough fish skin like a lingcod, can be brined with sugars and salt then used for bait.
- **Specialty Bait:** Specialty baits are everywhere you look these days. They can be found from Bass Pro Shops to Walmart. These specialty baits are usually very effective at getting fish to bite; lots of research and testing has gone into the baits before they hit the market. Berkley has a huge selection of specialty baits – soft dough baits in a huge range of colors, rubber curly tail grubs and swimbaits soaked in liquid attractant, and a saltwater sheet-bait that can be cut into small pennant-shaped strips to be placed on the hook. However not all specialty baits are high tech. Whole kernel corn, marshmallows, green peas, Easy Cheese and peanut butter mixed

together, chicken liver, small chunks of hotdogs, dough balls made from Wheaties cereal mixed with strawberry soda, small pieces of kitchen sponge soaked with garlic or anise oil. All of these simple but effective baits will get a fish's attention.

- **Fresh-Meat Bait:** This is typically parts of animals that are used to fish for catfish or a shark. One of the main reasons is the blood trail that is produced by the flesh quickly gets the fish's attention.
- **Dead-Fish Bait:** Cut-up parts of fish probably deserve a special category. Generally, any kind of fish can be used and is a natural food for many species of game fish. I'm sure you've heard the phrase "there is always a bigger fish;" the water truly is an eat or be eaten environment. The ability to detect scent in the water is the second most developed sensor the fish has; vibrations felt by the fish's lateral line is the only thing more sensitive. My grandfather would carry a small burlap bag along with us whenever we would travel to the mighty Snake River in search of catfish. If we saw an unfortunate roadkill, we grabbed it and carried it with us to the riverbank; we would then place the roadkill in the burlap bag, tie it off to a long line and toss it out for a basic chum bag, Grandpa and I were serious catfishermen.
- **Additives and Dyes:** "Jacks Juice" was one of the early companies to produce spray-on scents. Jacks' had clam, crab, garlic, shrimp and crawfish scents to help get fish to bite. Some of the latest additives are made by Smelly Jelly, Pro Cure, Mikes and Bang. The range of scents seems endless, everything from night crawler to bloody tuna is available to add to casting spoons, trolling lures, and rubber swimbaits. I am a fan of additives; I think it can make the difference between an average day of fishing and a great day of fishing. A couple of things to keep in mind with additives and dyes are: They can stain carpet, discolor your boat's gel-coat and make things sticky, so secure the bottles and containers of scents at the end of the day. Another thing to remember is to keep the scents out of the sun as much as possible; some of the scents can become rancid and unrecognizable from the original scent.

Halibut season is definitely beginning in April this year. Be sure to visit the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to get details and dates. Our fishing licenses will expire at the end of the month, so keep that in mind. The early reports from the North of Falcon meetings show a slight increase across the board for coho returns, but Chinook numbers are about the same in most rivers and the Puget Sound from last year. Spring is just around the corner, start taking a look at your fishing gear and boat to identify any issues left over from the winter months. Think summer!

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# Langley Arts Fund paves the way to enjoyment for all

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

The Langley Arts Fund and the city of Langley will dedicate a new walkway at 1:30 p.m. today in Whale Bell Park, making it easy for people with limited mobility to not only view a gray whale statue installed during the pandemic, but to also see the great beasts themselves as they travel through Saratoga Passage.

"The walkway project was a follow-up from placing Georgia Gerber's 'Hope: The Wishing Whale' in Whale Bell Park," explained Bruce Hanson, a member of the Langley Arts Fund. "One of the improvements we could see with the whole of Seawall Park is improving the accessibility, so people can enjoy not only the art, but the whole experience."

If it seems a bit out of an art organization's comfort zone to build a walkway, Hanson said the group knew this project was an important one, and members concluded Langley Arts Fund was the only organization with the knowledge and motivation to do it.

"From the history of installing 'Hope: The Wishing Whale,' we had familiarity with the permitting and the process it would take to make the walkway happen," he said. "We all feel very strongly that art and nature [should] be accessible for people who have mobility impairments or other barriers to participation. I myself have a mobility impairment due to a spinal cord injury. I am a part-time wheelchair user, so I had a personal interest in seeing this happen."

"The mission of the Langley Arts Fund is to identify projects, artists, partnerships and funding to nurture and support our community's creative endeavors," Diane Divelbess, the vice-chair of the Arts Fund, said in a press release about the walkway. "This can only be successful when everyone can access the experiences that make Langley unique."

Langley Arts Fund secured a grant from the Washington State Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment, which paid for the engineering and construction of the walkway, according to the press release. The arts fund also had the support



Kate Willette Photo Courtesy of Langley Arts Fund  
**Bruce Hanson, a part-time wheelchair user due to a spinal cord injury, demonstrates how those with impaired or limited mobility can now make their way all the way to the water at Whale Bell Park because of a new walkway installed by the Langley Arts Fund.**

of architect Ross Chapin and Country Roads LLC founder, Clayton Reaves, who oversaw the installation of the walkway.

"The grant was for \$7,200," said Hanson. "Amazingly, the total cost of the project came to \$7,185."

Thursday's dedication ceremony will be an informal one that will officially "open" the new walkway and give members of LAF and the public an opportunity to stroll the new path. The ceremony will also honor Peter Morton, a founding member of the Langley Arts Fund and a former Langley city council member.

"While we were installing Hope it became clear that the waterfront was not accessible for some members of our community," Frank Rose, LAF chair, stated in the release. "I'm very proud of what the whole team did to make this project happen. Peter was an integral part of our effort and we will miss him."

"Peter's role in the project was that of project manager," Hanson



Frank Rose Photo Courtesy of Langley Arts Fund  
**Bruce Hanson, a member of the Langley Arts Fund, said the organization wanted to provide better access to art and nature for those with limited mobility. He said the need became clear following the organization's installation of the Georgia Gerber statue 'Hope: The Wishing Whale' in Whale Bell Park in Langley.**

said. "In that role he was very persistent in seeing that this project continued to move forward. When we hit snags or issues along the way, he was able to keep us on track and focused on the final goal. Peter did this work as a private citizen and not as a council member. His experience on the council was helpful, because he knew who to ask when we had questions."

Langley has been recognized as a Great American Art Town, attracting and inspiring artists, visitors and residents. Langley Arts Fund looks for projects and people to help nurture that creative spirit. The new walkway is but one of the recent projects the organization has undertaken.

"The most rewarding projects we've done have been around sculpture in downtown Langley," said Hanson. "This includes the placement of 'Hope: The Wishing Whale' and our loaned sculpture program. At present there are five sculptures in downtown Langley that we have placed either temporarily or permanently over the past two years."

"Going forward, right now we're working on our first telecom utility box wrap to make these rather dull, drab boxes around town much brighter and happier," he continued. "It's taking longer than we expected due to supply chain issues getting the materials and producing the wraps. We hope to have our first wrap installed soon."

The organization is also launching a giving program called the Big-Arted Bunch, which will enable donors to contribute regularly to the Langley Arts Fund, which operates under the umbrella of the Whidbey Island Arts Council. The giving program is open to anyone and those interested can sign up on LAF's website, langleyartsfund.org.

Hanson said he believes the new walkway will be a great way to connect people of all abilities throughout the community.

"For me, the most rewarding part of this project was actually getting in my wheelchair and wheeling out to the viewpoint to see the water," he said. "I've also noticed there's always people out there now, as the walkway is much more inviting and welcoming. People are going out there to sit on the bench and look at the water. The other day I saw a young family with a stroller and a couple small children playing out there. I doubt they would've gone out there if the walkway hadn't been there."



Kate Willette Photo Courtesy of Langley Arts Fund  
**Langley Arts Fund member Bruce Hanson tries out the newly installed accessible walkway at Whale Bell Park in Langley. The walkway was installed by LAF to provide access to those with limited or impaired mobility.**

## ST. PATRICK'S continued from page 2

Konopik said this honor is open to community members who are not members of the Society.

"We look for someone who just does a lot of good around our community," she explained. "We want to recognize those in the background who are a positive influence in the community."

This year, they welcome Maria McGee, who owns The Lotus Tea Bar and Studio in Oak Harbor. As if operating a business were not enough to keep her immensely busy, McGee also teaches yoga classes at Skagit Community College and Oak Harbor's senior center. She said she's not only appreciative but deeply honored to be selected Grand Marshal for this year's parade.

"I grew up in this town," she said. "It means so much to represent it in this way. Plus, I get to wear a Saint Paddy's outfit, and ride in a pickup truck!"

McGee's selection is especially meaningful on a personal level, too. Along with celebrating March 17 as a holiday, it also happens to be her birthday, making the occasion doubly significant for her and her loved ones.

McGee has owned the combination tea bar/yoga studio for 12 years. She successfully shepherded it through the pandemic's challenges. The business serves over 150 different varieties of tea, something that leads to another interesting observation. Among some of her most popular selections are, (what else?) the green teas. And what could be more fitting for Saint Patrick's Day than that?

For more information about Oak Harbor's 2022 Saint Patrick's Day parade, contact ohrishwildlifesociety@outlook.com. The Whidbey Island Irish Wildlife Society can also be found on Facebook.



Photo Courtesy of the Whidbey Island Irish Wildlife Society  
**Even Irish pirates have enjoyed the Oak Harbor St. Patrick's Day parade in year's past. This year's parade is back and will wind its way through downtown Oak Harbor at 4 p.m. today.**





Everyone has "corned beef and cabbage" on the brain come St. Patrick's Day. But Shepherd's Pie might appeal to a greater number of people with Irish roots.

This savory dish originated in England but also made the jump to Ireland, where it became a popular comfort food. While Shepherd's Pie can be made with freshly cooked ground meat, it also is a great way to use leftovers from a previous meal. Shepherd's Pie is commonly mistaken for Cottage Pie, which is very similar, yet tends to use beef as the meat of choice.

Many families have their own ancestral recipes for Shepherd's Pie, but for those looking to cook the dish for the first time, try "Shepherd's Pie," courtesy of Alton Brown, which appeared in Season 12 of his hit show "Good Eats."

**SHEPHERD'S PIE** (Yield: 8 servings)

- 1 1/2 pounds russet potatoes
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 carrots, peeled and finely diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 1/2 pounds ground lamb
- 1 3/4 teaspoons kosher salt
- 3/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 teaspoons tomato paste
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 cup half-and-half
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 large egg yolk
- 1/2 cup corn kernels, fresh or frozen
- 1/2 cup English peas, fresh or frozen

Heat oven to 400° F.

Peel potatoes and cut into 1/2-inch dice. Place in medium saucepan and cover with cold water. Cover and bring to a boil over high heat. Uncover, drop heat to maintain a simmer, and cook until tender (10-15 minutes).

Heat oil in an 11-inch saute pan over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add onion and carrots and sauté just until they begin to take on color, 3 to 4 minutes. Add garlic and stir to combine. Add meat, salt and pepper, and cook until browned and cooked through, approximately 3 minutes.

Sprinkle meat with flour, toss to coat, and continue to cook for another minute. Add tomato paste, broth, Worcestershire sauce, rosemary, and thyme and stir to combine. Bring to a boil, then decrease the heat to low, cover, and simmer slowly until the sauce is thickened slightly (10-12 minutes).

Meanwhile, combine half-and-half and butter in a microwave-safe container and microwave until warmed through, about 35 seconds.

Drain potatoes and return to saucepan. Mash potatoes (a masher is an excellent tool for this), then add hot half-and-half mixture, as well as salt and pepper. Mash to smoothness, then stir in egg yolk.

Add corn and peas to meat mixture and spread evenly in 7"x11" glass baking dish. Top with mashed potatoes, starting around the edges to create a seal to prevent the mixture from bubbling over, and smooth the top with a rubber spatula. Place on a half sheet pan lined with parchment paper on the middle rack of the oven and bake for 25 minutes, or just until potatoes begin to brown. Place on cooking rack and let rest for at least 15 minutes before serving.



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Movie Showtimes:  
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**UNCHARTED (PG-13)**  
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**WEEKLY HOROSCOPES**

**ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20**  
This week you will have an opportunity to see things how they are and not necessarily as you imagine them to be, Aries. This clarity could require some restructuring.

**TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21**  
Long-term goals are nearing completion, Taurus. You have gained so much from your pursuits and you have made plenty of friends along the way. Take time to appreciate that.

**GEMINI – May 22/June 21**  
Communication difficulties arise this week, Gemini. Someone can coach you into getting your point across with sufficient finesse. Seek a communication mentor.

**CANCER – June 22/July 22**  
Cancer, there may be some passionate discussions coming up this week with family members. Everyone wants his or her point of view to be heard.

**LEO – July 23/Aug 23**  
Leo, you need to be flexible, especially over the next few days. People may put you to the test with a perceived unwillingness to compromise, but cooperate when possible.

**VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Virgo, in order to reach a destination you have in mind, you may have to rethink the route you're taking. A direct course just may not be the way to go in this instance.

**LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Always be honest with yourself and others, Libra. That means being true to you and never putting on masks just to hide others from how you are truly feeling.

**SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Scorpio, you want to do things for others out of the goodness of your heart, and you will not need anything in return. Good deeds are their own reward.

**SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Sagittarius, dining out too many days in a row may leave you feeling sluggish. Reassess your eating habits and commit to making more meals at home for a bit.

**CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Capricorn, recognize that not everyone has your best interests at heart. Others' intentions may not be sinister, but your own interest and the interest of others may not align.

**AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Sometimes you are a bit proud and do not like asking for or accepting others' help, Aquarius. You deserve the breaks that others are willing to offer you, though.

**PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20**  
This is a good time of the month to nurture loved ones, Pisces. Play with your kids or sit and chat with an elderly relative who needs you.

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# Life Tributes

## Delores Estella Randall



Delores passed away at her home in Oak Harbor Feb. 11, 2022, just a few days following her 88th birthday.

Delores was the oldest of three sisters born Feb. 6, 1934, in Helena, Mont., to Stella and Jiggs Hamlin. She grew up in Helena at the top of Rodney Street. After graduating from Helena High School, she moved to Chicago and attended Little Company of Mary Hospital School of Nursing.

Delores graduated in 1955 and would spend her career in health care as a nurse and instructor. While in Chicago, her cousin, who was in the Navy, introduced her to his friend, Les Randall, who served with him on the USS Oriskany. On Jan. 28, 1956, Delores and Les married at The Cathedral of St. Helena in Helena. It was a beautiful, snowy, and minus-16 degree day that would start their wonderful 64 years together.

For the first 12 years of marriage, Delores and Les lived in Mountain View, Calif. There they had a family: Teresa, John, and Connie. Delores worked as a nurse until they moved to Willow Grove, Pa., for the U.S. Navy. After a couple of years in Willow Grove, it was back across the country to Oak Harbor, Wash., and NAS Whidbey Island. Oak Harbor would become their home and oasis for the next 52 years. They raised their family and lived their lives overlooking the water off Delta Court from their wonderful, quiet cul-de-sac.

Her neighbors were the best anyone could ever imagine; after 52 years, she and her friend, Dot Newberry, were the "ranking" residents of the neighborhood and so loved by all. Over the years, she saw many neighbors move in and out, but the deer seemed to always stay and hang around her garden. She loved her home and enjoyed neighborhood walks and the annual cul-de-sac party. Her neighbors on both sides have been the most caring folks. Marilyn and Tim, and Lexi and Danny checked in on her and made sure she was always safe and happy. Our family is so thankful for their open hearts and Delores was, too. She always felt so loved.

She was passionate about her garden, spending many days taking care of it and watching the birds and squirrels. It brought her joy. She was a member of the Oak Harbor Garden Club and enjoyed the many gardening tips. Delores went on to

teach, sharing her knowledge of nursing with the students at Oak Harbor High School and Skagit Valley College (Oak Harbor) for over 25 years. She influenced many young students to choose a career in health care. She was active with the League of Women Voters and very much enjoyed her time with the ladies in the Red Hat Society. She also spent her time helping others through serving on the Oak Harbor Help House Board for many years. She got to share her passion for the outdoors and spend time at Ebbys Landing helping visitors enjoy their visit to beautiful Whidbey Island. Delores was raised Catholic and practiced her faith at both the Whidbey Navy Base Chapel and St. Augustine.

After retirement, Delores and Les traveled all over the country and to Canada. They attended reunions for Little Company of Mary and the USS Oriskany, along with visits to family and friends all over and always with their favorite dog, Poppy. Spending time with her seven grandchildren meant many miles on the road and they always made the journey. Delores spent a lot of time on the road in their van, stopping at little cafes for lunch that no one knew about, and they loved every minute of it.

Delores's life was full, she will be missed by many. Her times with family, friends and pets over the years were her favorite. She was a kind, gentle and smart woman. Thank you for being a daughter, sister, mom, grandma, great-grandma and friend, unconditionally loving us all. We love you, deeply. Rest in peace.

Delores is survived by her three children: Teresa Montoya (Gene), Riverside, Wash.; John Randall (Tina), Battle Ground, Wash.; Connie Purchase (Tom), Gig Harbor, Wash.; seven grandchildren, Rachel Wright, Jennifer Mitchell, Ian Montoya, Katie Davis, Chase and Courtney Randall, Vince Purchase; and seven great-grandchildren, Kyleigh, Brooke, Trent, Chad, Stella, Cadin and Emmett; and two sisters, Gracie Cooper (Coop), Pasco, Wash., and MaryAnn Safford (Tom), Helena, Mont.; and brother-in-law, Peter Randall.

She will rest with her loving husband at Tahoma National Cemetery. Services at the cemetery will be held Friday, March 25 at 10:30 a.m. and a celebration of Delores' and Les's life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 26 at Wallin-Stucky Funeral home in Oak Harbor.

Funeral and future service details can be found on Wallin-Stucky Funeral Home's website. Please share your memories, stories, photos, and condolences of Delores on her Memory Wall there ([www.wallinfuneralhome.com](http://www.wallinfuneralhome.com)). Thank you.

## Karen Marie Hossfeld



Karen Marie Hossfeld, born May 4, 1959, passed away in her sleep Feb. 20, 2022 at her home in Oak Harbor, Wash.

Daughter of James and Nina Hossfeld, she was born in Providence, R.I., the fourth of five siblings. She grew up in San Diego, Calif.

Karen was in the first graduating class at Southwest High School in San Diego. She loved the culinary arts and attended the very first class in the Culinary Arts Institution of America at Mira Mesa College in San Diego and worked in the restaurant field as a sous-chef. She then turned her interest toward banking and liked analyzing the bank operations systems.

She married and lived in Italy for 10 years, where her two daughters were born. She moved back to the States and lived in Oak Harbor until her passing.

Karen had many jobs in Oak Harbor, from working as an application/operations analyst and online banking analyst at InterWest Bank; then as the pastoral assistant for administration at St. Augustine and St. Mary Mission Parish, while studying business management and accounting at Columbia University; to administrative assistant at the trust board of Ebbys Landing National Historical Reserve in Coupeville. Her most loved work was being the owner/operator and chef of her very own bakery (Kakies Bakery) on Pioneer Way. The business was there for only three years, but she was so happy to have had her lifelong wish to have her own bakery, if only for a short while. She then took some time off work and went back to school studying medical administration, insurance, billing and coding and graduated from Everest College with honors. Her last years were spent working for Island County in accounts payable and then as administrator/office manager in facilities.

Karen is survived by her brothers, James Hossfeld, Jr. of San Diego and Frederick Hossfeld of Negros Oriental, Philippines; sisters, Maureen Edmond of San Diego and Dianne Varshock of Oak Harbor; daughters, Carmen and Dianne Tonini, both of Oak Harbor; and granddaughter Emily Quillen of Oak Harbor.

Karen was a very private person, loved her children and family and touched many people in her life. She enjoyed giving cooking lessons with friends and puzzling. Her favorite times were spent going camping on Orcas Island and at Deception Pass State Park, along with taking drives just to see different places. She especially loved baseball and seeing a good Mariners game. Karen will be greatly missed.

Family and friends are encouraged to share memories and condolences at [www.whideymemorial.com](http://www.whideymemorial.com). There will be a funeral mass celebrating Karen's life at St. Augustine Church. Please feel free to contact her family members for the date and time of the mass.

## Marcella Diane Doyle



Marcella Diane Doyle, daughter of Joseph and Marie Pelinski, was born Dec. 10, 1935, in Des Plaines, Ill., and passed away to be with her Lord Jesus Christ March 2, 2022 in Oak Harbor, Wash.

Marcie married her handsome sailor man, Leo, Sept. 21, 1957, and began a life together that would span 63 wonderful years. During this time, they lived and called home to Foley, Ala., Milton, Fla., Norfolk, Va., Pensacola, Fla., Kodiak, Alaska, Oak Harbor, Ewa Beach, Hawaii, and then retiring in Oak Harbor in 1977.

Marcie was a parishioner at St. Augustine's Catholic Church for over 50 years.

## 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](mailto:info@whidbeyweekly.com) or call 360-682-2341 to share your prayer requests.*

God, we praise You! Your seeds of righteousness and praise have been planted in the earth. May we be like "sprouts" in Your garden, sprouting up in hope, as we grow in You. Fortify us with strength as we "burst forth" into who we have been created to be in You. We will praise and honor You, God! May our lives bring You glory! God, we also pray for those in Ukraine who are suffering as exiles in another country or under the threat of violence. Bring them comfort and allow your peace to envelop them during this time of crisis."

Matthew Erikson  
Hope Church Oak Harbor - Pastor

*"For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations."*

(Isaiah 61:11 ESV)



Marcie never sat idle. She was a member and president of the Ladies Altar Society and one of the founding members of the National Organization of Catholic Daughters Society. She chaired the funeral receptions at the church for many years. How befitting it is that the first funeral reception allowed after COVID restrictions were lifted is for her. When not serving at the church, she volunteered at NAS Whidbey Naval Hospital, helped with Meals on Wheels and as room mother while her boys were in grade school.

Marcie enjoyed many things; her eyes would light up anytime the family would get together and she would go out of her way for absolutely everyone. She enjoyed baking chocolate chip, snickerdoodles and holiday themed cookies for Leo, her kids and grandkids. The first place the family would look when coming to visit is the pantry for the cookie tins. Keeping with her Polish heritage, she enjoyed preparing a variety of foods. The most popular were baking hoska bread, kolaczki cookies and apple slices that she learned from her mother. Since the mid-60s, Sunday morning sourdough pancakes have been a staple treat for breakfast for the family. Marcie was also a talented cake decorator and made cakes for birthdays and special occasions.

Marcie enjoyed spending time with family and friends, whether it was going fishing, crabbing, camping, and watching the Mariners spring training in Arizona, wine touring or the horse races with the church ladies. One highlight Marcie had was a river cruise with Leo and friends through Europe. Marcie was a great listener and was always interested in hearing about what was happening in your life. Those who knew Marcie loved her quick wit, beautiful smile and fun personality.

Marcie was preceded in death by her husband, Leo, and her daughter, Mary Catherine. She is survived by sons Michael (Darcy), Brian (Elizabeth), Kevin and Daniel. Marcie had seven grandchildren who she adored: Alan (Thandra), David, Matt (Becky), Corey (Jessica L.), Chris (Jessica N.), Jasmine (Marcus) and Ben. Marcie was blessed with six great-grandchildren: Tristan, Zachary, Deklan, Raelyn, Aria and McCoy.

A Life so beautifully lived and a heart so deeply loved by family and friends.

A funeral mass was held March 16 at St. Augustine's Catholic Church at 10 a.m., with a reception to follow at the church hall. The mass was live streamed and available to view at [www.facebook.com/STAOAKHARBORWA](https://www.facebook.com/STAOAKHARBORWA); click on videos.

Marcie will be interred at the Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Wash.

Arrangements were entrusted to Wallin Stucky Funeral Home, Oak Harbor. To leave messages or condolences for the Doyle family, please visit Marcella's Book of Memories page on the funeral home website at [www.wallinfuneralhome.com](https://www.wallinfuneralhome.com).

### Teresita Smith



Teresita Smith was born in the Philippines June 24, 1964, and passed away Feb 28, 2022, in Oak Harbor, Wash.

Teresita was married to Andrew Smith, and her son is also named Andrew Smith. Teresita came to Oak Harbor 33 years ago and married Andrew. They met while her husband was stationed in the Philippines.

She was the most loving mother and wife anyone could ever hope for and her son was her life! She always talked about him and worried about him until her death. On one of her birthdays, her son bought her a dog named Sam, who she adored.

She will be missed by all her friends and her family. God bless her and rest in peace because we know she is with God now.

### Albert "Al" Bakker



Albert D. "Al" Bakker, age 82, of Oak Harbor, passed away Thursday, March 3, 2022, at his home. Al was born in Everett May 28, 1939. He grew up in Freeland and graduated from Langley High School. After graduation, he joined the United States Air Force and spent most of his enlistment in Texas. He retired after 20 years and moved to Oak Harbor. Al started Bakker Heating and Appliance Repair and after 30 years, retired again.

Al leaves behind his wife, Carolyn, and "girlfriend," Emma Lambert (chocolate lab), as well as honorary grandson,

Diego.

Al will be interred at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Texas. At his request, there will not be any services. Donations may be made to a favorite charity. Friends are encouraged to share memories and condolences at [www.whidbeymemorial.com](https://www.whidbeymemorial.com).

### Jean Marie Owen



Jean Marie Owen was born June 11, 1926 and passed away Jan. 11, 2022.

She was the mother of Paris Anglin and Sharon Jergens.

A memorial service will be held March 31 at First Reformed Church in Oak Harbor at 11:30 a.m. Lunch to follow.

**Life Tributes can now be found  
online at [www.whidbeyweekly.com](https://www.whidbeyweekly.com)**



### FRIDAY, JAN. 28

#### 10:21 am, Goss Lake Rd.

"What are we going to do about all the calls I am making and the cops not showing up? They are acting like I am stupid and calling for no reason. I have not seen them today."

#### 2:50 pm, Secret Corner Ln.

States neighbor is digging with equipment and hit water line or spring. Flooded reporting party's driveway and acres. Reporting party states has made contact with neighbor, who got upset and told reporting party to leave his property.

#### 6:10 pm, Haines Rd.

Caller advising neighbor at location is putting a loud whistle into his house.

#### 7:37 pm, Meadowood Ln.

Advising male keeps talking about shooting reporting party and spent last night with female next door. States it has been going on for a long time; male is with the FBI and has been trying to get other people to shoot reporting party, too.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 29

#### 11:19 am, NW Crosby Ave.

Caller advising found gun in the street; pistol. Wants to talk to law enforcement about it; found it on Thursday.

#### 9:03 pm, Jones Rd.

Advising male attacked reporting party with ladder yesterday; states he broke lock on reporting party's shack and shoved reporting party. Subject is on property.

### SUNDAY, JAN. 30

#### 2:56 pm, Race Rd.

Large black with white cow in reporting party's yard. Believes owner lives behind reporting party.

### MONDAY, JAN. 31

#### 3:05 pm, SR 525

Advising hit debris in roadway in northbound lane; cardboard boxes and root from a large tree. 100-pound root.

#### 3:09 pm, Robinswood Ln.

Not occurring now, but several times past week; caller believes someone is casing her neighborhood due to someone stole her trash cans a week ago; vehicle driving down roadway taking pictures of houses.

#### 3:48 pm, Meadowood Ln.

Caller advising neighbor at location is, at this second, pointing a rifle at him; cannot give description of weapon. Has been happening past two years. FBI brought the weapon to them.

#### 3:51 pm, Prairie View Ave.

Advising occurred yesterday; walking with dog off leash, was yelled at and followed by female upset over issue. Argued further.

#### 4:55 pm, Main St.

Advising customer came to location earlier, removed mask, coughed in server's face stating "I have COVID."

#### 7:20 pm, Huckleberry Ln.

Reporting party advising she was hiding behind tree and heard people talking about drugs being made at location; advising they were all in the garage.

### TUESDAY, FEB. 1

#### 8:47 am, Goss Lake Rd.

Advising Langley Police Department was caught in garage last night; Sheriff also

showed up. Reporting party is going to continue to sneak around at night and catch these people.

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2

#### 1:34 am, Ocean View Dr.

Reporting party advising people are outside of house in bushes. Possibly three people outside home.

#### 2:02 pm, Zylstra Rd.

Requesting call; hit a cow last night near location; has already contacted owners.

#### 11:20 pm, Storkson Dr.

Caller states three males loitering at location; one was laying on ground sniffing something, other subjects associated to bicycle. States clerk seemed uncomfortable with subjects outside.

### THURSDAY, FEB. 3

#### 10:50 am, Nancye Ln.

Wife and reporting party gave truck to subject for repairs; gave it to him four years ago; has not seen or heard from subject. Vehicle still not repaired.

#### 2:51 pm, Ault Field Rd.

Caller advising subject is prowling around neighborhood taking children; subject vehicle is a blue van.

#### 3:24 pm, NW 6th St.

Requesting to talk to a Sheriff about neighbor harassment; available via phone; advising neighbor "is being mean to me."

#### 7:59 pm, Goss Lake Rd.

Reporting party advising she has been hiding behind a tree every night because she has been threatened with knives; going on about court papers and property she had to take control of; advising law enforcement was trespassing on her property and she had caught them climbing on the tree with no trespassing sign.

### FRIDAY, FEB. 4

#### 4:05 pm, SR 525

Requesting call and check of location. Upset about subjects flying "F\*\*\* Joe Biden" flags at location. Another caller advising subject is intimidating people.

### SATURDAY, FEB. 5

#### 11:19 am, Carl Ave.

Male subject advising he is in California and shouting swear words and names asking if call-taker is from earth.

#### 3:16 pm, Bayview Rd.

Requesting call regarding whether it is legal to have big banners and signs at location saying "F\*\*\* Biden." Advising two males and truck with large sign.

#### 3:43 pm, Shorecrest Dr.

Caller advising duck boat washed ashore; floated up to shore; does have gear and shotguns still. Two dead ducks in boat.

#### 4:57 pm, Carl Ave.

Need a federal inspection, screaming "What planet are you from? Sorry to bother you;" now yelling, making noises.

#### 5:41 pm, Mobius Loop

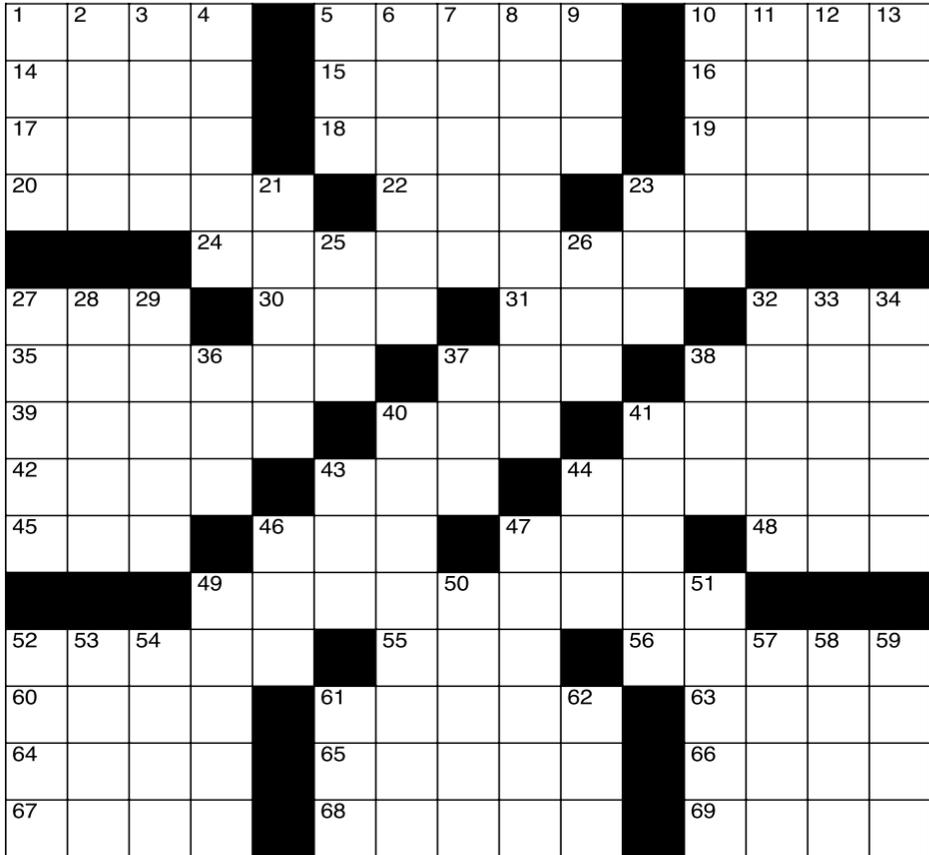
Asking call-taker if they read the news; regarding ISIS leader being killed; placed on hold. Disconnected.

#### 8:21 pm, Intruder Ave.

Reporting party advising female yelling she is not going to leave and is trying to force her way into a room.

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





**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Type of footwear
- 5. Studies a lot all at once
- 10. Adventure story
- 14. Hundred thousand
- 15. Former U.S. Vice President
- 16. Ruler
- 17. Indian city
- 18. Similar
- 19. Ship as cargo
- 20. Volcanic craters
- 22. Boxing's "GOAT"
- 23. Bullfighting maneuvers
- 24. London soccer team
- 27. Score perfectly
- 30. No (Scottish)
- 31. SoCal hoops team (abbr.)
- 32. Woman (French)
- 35. Unwanted attic "decor"
- 37. Peter Griffin's daughter
- 38. Broad, shallow crater
- 39. Large instruments
- 40. Low bank or reef
- 41. \_\_\_ and Venzetti
- 42. Oil group
- 43. Father
- 44. Aggressive men
- 45. Pairs well with green
- 46. Travelers need it
- 47. Digital audiotape
- 48. Midway between northeast and east

49. Chemistry descriptor

- 52. S. China seaport
- 55. Sound unit
- 56. Heavy cavalry sword
- 60. Thick piece of something
- 61. Spa town in Austria
- 63. Boyfriend
- 64. Norse personification of old age
- 65. Type of box
- 66. Tie together
- 67. Fiber from the coconut
- 68. Chicago mayor
- 69. Old English letters

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Type of sauce
- 2. Pattern of notes
- 3. Plant with long seedpods
- 4. Map out
- 5. Numbers cruncher
- 6. Make a mental connection
- 7. Italian tenor
- 8. N. America's highest mountain peak
- 9. Witness
- 10. Arabic given name
- 11. Music awards
- 12. "The Immoralist" author
- 13. Area units
- 21. Units of loudness
- 23. Political action committee

25. Bar bill

- 26. Witch
- 27. A theatrical performer
- 28. 2-door car
- 29. \_\_\_ and flowed
- 32. Papier-\_\_\_, art medium
- 33. City in Georgia
- 34. Irregular
- 36. College sports conference
- 37. Angry
- 38. Partner to cheese
- 40. S. American mammal
- 41. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 43. Split pulses
- 44. Disfigure
- 46. Cow noise
- 47. Erase
- 49. Chadic language
- 50. Reward for doing well
- 51. Paid TV
- 52. Millisecond
- 53. Other
- 54. Colombian city
- 57. Necklace part
- 58. Every one of two or more people
- 59. Regrets
- 61. They come after "A"
- 62. Horse noise

Answers on page 15

**CAN DO SUDOKU!**

On a scale from 1 to 10...6.2

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

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

Answers on page 15



**OUR Community**  
An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

As a pastor, what are you recommending to the members of your community on how to help the people of the Ukraine?



**Pastor David Parker**

First United Methodist Church, Oak Harbor

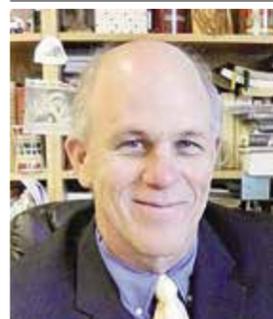
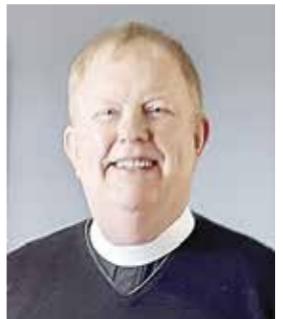
I am asking my congregation to utilize our United Methodist Committee on Relief agency for financial donations, which shares front-line help in all humanitarian crises both at home and abroad. All overhead is paid by the denomination so 100 percent of any gifts go directly to relief work. Here's how you can give: Online at <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>; by toll-free telephone 888-252-6174; by check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 or given at or through any United Methodist church.

I am also encouraging my people to pray that God would confound the advice and strategies for Putin's armed assault (see 2 Samuel 15:31b - "LORD, turn Ahithophel's counsel into foolishness."), embolden and encourage the people of Ukraine, and bring a just and peaceful settlement and end to this egregious war. I am also encouraging us to not hate the Russians, they too are victims of Putin's administration. May the peace of heaven return to us all in this global family.

**Father Paul Pluth**

St Augustine Catholic Church, Oak Harbor

I am recommending that people pray for the citizens and military of the Ukraine and the defeat of Vladimir Putin, and to donate online to the Ukraine Relief Fund of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, which represents the Catholics of the United States.



**Pastor Jim Lindus, Trinity Lutheran, Freeland**

Prayers are great, food actually feeds people. Prayers are mysteriously helpful. Money actually provided critical services to refugees. Trinity is giving \$40,000 to assist refugees in Eastern Europe.

We are giving through Lutheran Disaster Relief-- where all overhead is covered by the church -- meaning 100 percent of the donation goes to help people on the ground in Eastern Europe. They partner, too, with other relief agencies.

**Pastor Drew Barnhar**

Living Word, Foursquare Church, Oak Harbor

There are a couple of ways we have encouraged our community members to engage:

Pray: Pray for leaders in both Ukraine and Russia. Pray for hearts to be softened and for division and hatred to be overcome by good. Pray for protection for families and children. Pray for families who have been separated from their kids and spouses, that the Lord would guide and protect them and provide the resources they need. Pray for relief workers, pastors and churches in both Ukraine and Russia. Pray that God would unite them in love and service to one another.

Give: Give to local ministry leaders who are caring for needs in both Ukraine and Russia through Foursquare Disaster Relief, [www.4sq.ca/GiveFDR](http://www.4sq.ca/GiveFDR).



**YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS WEATHER FORECAST**

Thurs, March 17	Fri, March 18	Sat, March 19	Sun, March 20	Mon, March 21	Tues, March 22	Wed, March 23
North Isle H-54°/L-44° Mostly Cloudy	North Isle H-55°/L-42° Cloudy Showers Possible	North Isle H-51°/L-40° Rain Possible	North Isle H-52°/L-39° Rain Possible	North Isle H-51°/L-41° Partly Sunny	North Isle H-52°/L-42° Chance of Showers	North Isle H-51°/L-43° Showers Possible
South Isle H-52°/L-44° Cloudy	South Isle H-55°/L-44° Cloudy Showers Possible	South Isle H-50°/L-38° Cloudy	South Isle H-52°/L-39° Mostly Cloudy	South Isle H-50°/L-40° Chance of Showers	South Isle H-51°/L-41° Showers Possible	South Isle H-50°/L-41° Chance of Showers

# Community Bulletin Board

To place an ad, email [classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com](mailto:classifieds@whidbeyweekly.com)

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Richard Voit



Richard Voit Agency  
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A102, Oak Harbor  
[rvoit@farmersagent.com](mailto:rvoit@farmersagent.com)

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:njlish@gmail.com). More info at our Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSoundDragonBoatClub?ref=hl](http://www.facebook.com/NorthPugetSoundDragonBoatClub?ref=hl)

Medical Marijuana patients unite; If you need assistance, advice, etc. please contact at [420patientnetworking@gmail.com](mailto: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://victimsupport-services.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@island-shakespearefest.org](mailto:jeff.natter@island-shakespearefest.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@bbbsic-islandcounty.org](mailto:admin@bbbsic-islandcounty.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 Islands. Volunteers primarily include medical and public health professionals but other volunteers who have no healthcare backgrounds are also utilized. MRC responds to local emergencies such as natural disasters and public health emergencies. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us at Island County MRC website for application and information.

If you are looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity, look no further! When you volunteer at one of the Habitat for Humanity of Island County stores, you are helping local families attain decent, affordable housing. Income from the stores is vital to giving families a path to homeownership. We need people who can commit to help out in our Oak Harbor or Freeland store at least two-hours per week. Schedules are flexible. Our friendly volunteers provide customer service, help with receiving donated household items and furniture, and maintain the store. We also need drivers and driver helpers who will professionally represent Habitat as they pick up donated items using our trucks. Please call either store for more information. Oak Harbor: 360-675-8733, Freeland: 360-331-6272.

College student? Student of history? History buff? Opportunities are available to spend constructive volunteer hours at the Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum. Go to [www.pnwnam.org](http://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](mailto:wamothermentors@gmail.com) or call 360-321-1484.

### JOB MARKET

Seeking part time, weekend landscaper for three acres. All equipment provided. 360-730-1526 (3)

Island Transit is hiring bus drivers for both Camano and Whidbey Islands. No experience needed – we pay for your CDL training. Full benefits include medical, dental, and two retirement plans. Wage Range is \$20.23 - \$27.67 per hour after completion of training. Please visit [www.islandtransit.org/employment](http://www.islandtransit.org/employment) for details. Completed applications can be sent by email to [humanresources@islandtransit.org](mailto:humanresources@islandtransit.org) or mailed to: Island Transit, 19758 SR 20, Coupeville, WA. Positions will remain open until filled.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Baseball cards, sets and singles, all brands, 1950s to 2000; Foreign coins and paper money, U.S. copper cents, \$1 per roll; Foreign stamps and complete collections beginning to 2010s. 360-675-1061 (0)

### ANIMALS/SUPPLIES

Good Quality Grass Horse Hay round bales for sale, \$70: Feeder Round Bales for sale, \$60. 360-321-1624

If you or someone you know needs help in feeding pet(s), WAIF Pet Food Banks may be able to help. Pet Food Banks

### How'd you do?

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

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.

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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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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

### No Cheating!

C	R	O	C		C	R	A	M	S		S	A	G	A
L	A	K	H		P	E	N	C	E		A	M	I	R
A	G	R	A		A	L	I	K	E		L	A	D	E
M	A	A	R	S		A	L	I		P	A	S	E	S
				T	O	T	T	E	N	H	A	M		
A	C	E		N	A	E		L	A	C		M	M	E
C	O	B	W	E	B		M	E	G		M	A	A	R
T	U	B	A	S		C	A	Y		S	A	C	C	O
O	P	E	C		D	A	D		M	A	C	H	O	S
R	E	D		M	A	P		D	A	T		E	N	E
				P	O	L	Y	M	E	R	I	C		
M	A	C	A	O		B	E	L		S	A	B	E	R
S	L	A	B		B	A	D	E	N		B	E	A	U
E	L	L	I		C	R	A	T	E		L	A	C	E
C	O	I	R		D	A	L	E	Y		E	D	H	S

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Telephone..... 360-682-2341  
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- ✓ NEW Oil & Oil Filter
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- Check Charging System
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- Tire Rotation & Balance
- Inspect Suspension
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