

June 30 through July 6, 2022

# Whidbey Weekly

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# Whidbey Weekly NEWS



Whidbey mourns  
passing of Jim  
Freeman p. 10

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JUNE 30 - JULY 6, 2022

## Whidbey Island hosts a wealth of July 4th attractions

By Melanie Hammons Whidbey Weekly

From north to south and points in between, there's no lack of activities around Whidbey Island in July. The bonus attraction is, some of these get going before the July 4th holiday, and some even last all summer long.

### AMERICAN ROOTS

Music sets the mood for everything Americana-related this month. From the north end of the island, beginning Saturday and running through August 27, Deception Pass State Park announces the popular 2022 American Roots Concert Series. Now in its 16th year, come enjoy a variety of musical traditions including jazz blues, Latin, Brazilian, Bluegrass, Sea Shanties, steel

pan, Celtic, and mariachi. Opening the concert series Saturday, the park welcomes Miho and Diego, with their bold blend of Latino, Japanese and American music, featuring the "quera," a traditional Andean flute, and the marimba.

These free concerts are in the outdoor North Beach Amphitheater of the Park, from 7 – 8 p.m. Deception Pass Park staff would like to remind everyone attending that cars must display a current Discover Pass in order to park there for free. For more information, see [www.parks.wa.gov/1245/American-Roots-2022-Concert-Series](http://www.parks.wa.gov/1245/American-Roots-2022-Concert-Series).

### OAK HARBOR FESTIVITIES

Oak Harbor plans a multi-faceted Independence Day celebration as well, which runs Saturday through Monday. Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Vicki Graham, says the holiday's events begin in Windjammer Park Saturday at the Ship Wreck Shores Splash Park. All sorts of food trucks will be on hand from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The customary street fair Sunday and Monday, July 3 and 4, begins at 10 a.m., and features merchandise vendors and arts and crafts. The fun builds from there with a parade that starts at 11 a.m. on July 4.

Beginning at 8 p.m. on July 4, attendees can look forward to an evening of music billed as family-friendly entertainment by the band False Sense of Security. The group, sponsored by the local Ace Hardware store, promises a show that will be "Rockin' live in Oak Harbor."



Pamela Headridge Photo Courtesy of Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce  
*There are a couple of opportunities to enjoy fireworks this 4th of July. The Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce will hold its fireworks show Monday evening just after dusk at Windjammer Park, and Blue Fox Drive-in is also hosting a fireworks display Monday night.*

### COMMUNITY UPDATE:

*The annual Celebrate America event normally held in Freeland July 3 has been canceled this year. No makeup date has been set.*



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Markets

*For those looking for a veteran and pet friendly, no-fireworks day of fun, check out the community picnic event Sunday from 3 to 9 p.m. at Greenbank Farm.*

## WICA provides cool entertainment for hot summer nights

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

Anyone in search of a cool night of entertainment in the coming weeks need look no further than Whidbey Island Center for the Arts in Langley. WICA's Summer Nights Series, sponsored by Whidbey Telecom, officially begins Friday when the Hot Club of Troy takes the stage at 7:30 p.m. A variety of performances, festivals and activities will continue through Aug. 20.

The series, which began three months into the COVID shutdowns in 2020, was meant to bring people together for a hybrid "food and enter-

### Summer Nights Series at WICA

*July 1: The Hot Club of Troy*

*July 2: Tiller's Folly*

*July 3: Bahia*

*July 5-9, 10: Film Camp with David Churchill and Zachary Schneider*

*July 8: Walt Wagner Trio*

*July 9: Snohomish Tribe Blue Heron Journey*

*July 15: Nathaniel Talbot Trio*

*July 17: Babushkas in Ukraine*

*July 22-24: Whidbey Island Guitar Festival*

*Aug. 1-12: WICA Conservatory Theatre Camp*

*Aug. 13: Saratoga Orchestra Conductors Workshop*

*Aug. 13: Hedgebrook Screenwriters Showcase*

*Aug. 14: Tekla Cunningham and the Whidbey Island Music Festival*

*Aug. 19: Dr. Savage Summer Dance Party*

*Aug. 20: Gloria Ferry Brennan with Mark Findlay*

Tickets at information at [wicaonline.org](http://wicaonline.org)  
Whidbey Island Center for the Arts,  
565 Camano Ave., Langley

tainment" option during those early days of the pandemic. A tent was purchased and placed outside Zech Hall, to accommodate outdoor programming. Organizers soon discovered WICA was filling a heretofore unforeseen niche in entertainment programming.

"For years, WICA had been dark, i.e., no programming in the summer, thinking that people did not want to come inside," shared Deana Duncan, WICA's executive artistic director.

"This new outdoor space was literally a game-changer for our organization, fundamentally changing how and when we program. Local artists were eager to have a place to perform and patrons walked up the Cascade Corridor from downtown and we realized early this was going to work."

The Summer Nights Series has evolved over the past three years, and this year will feature free entertainment and happy hour outside before headlining entertainment inside on the main stage.

"We've added happy hour outside in the tents on Friday and Saturdays from 5-7 p.m., moving the headliner act back inside to better support the tech needs and guarantee quality of sound and light as well as the ability to seat more people," explained Duncan. "And this is the second year of the hugely popular Wednesday Night Bluegrass Jams, allowing an open-air jam space for bluegrass artists and audiences."

Duncan said any fears of not being able to find performers to sustain the series quickly disappeared.

"We are blessed on Whidbey Island with an amazing variety of world-class talent in all genres," she said. "[This year] we are also bringing in a Seattle favorite, Walt Wagner, who has not been here since COVID, and off-island talent like Tillers Folly, film director Holly Morris, playwright Amy Wheeler, an expanded Whid-



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Center for the Arts  
*Local artists Gloria Ferry-Brennan and Mark Findlay will close out the Summer Nights Series at Whidbey Island Center for the Arts on Aug. 20. They will present an evening of chamber music masterpieces, featuring Beethoven's electrifying "Kreutzer" sonata and Brahms' dramatic third sonata in D minor. Rounding out the program will be works by Tchaikovsky and Kreisler.*

bey Island Guitar Festival led by Andre Ferianti, and amazing collaborations with Saratoga Orchestra, Whidbey Island Music Festival, and Hedgebrook Women Writers Retreat.

"Artists have loved playing Summer Nights," continued Duncan. "Both the happy hour outdoor groups and the mainstage headliners. We definitely have our favorites we ask back every year and there is no shortage of those who want to play the series."

With the added ability to use the main stage this season comes a broader variety of programming. For instance, filmmaker Holly Morris was at WICA earlier this week for a screening of her film, "The Babushkas of Chernobyl." Local playwright Amy Wheeler will bring her new project, based on this film, to WICA July 17. The organization will also host the Hedgebrook Women Writers Retreat's inaugural screenwriters conference in August. WICA has hosted the Hedgebrook Playwrights Festival in conjunction with ACT Theater in Seattle for two decades, which Duncan said is proof of the power of working together.

See SUMMER continued on page 6

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## JAMES E. FREEMAN

Jim Freeman, a long-time resident of Whidbey Island, died June 19 at the WhidbeyHealth Medical Center in Coupeville, a week short of his 75th birthday.



During nearly 40 years as a resident of Freeland, Jim became widely known and revered in the South Whidbey community through his regular column that appeared in the Whidbey Weekly and his frequent role as an emcee for numerous Island events.

James Edmondson Freeman was born in Denver, Colo., June 25, 1947, and spent most of his growing up years in Columbus, Ohio and Oil City, Pa. After graduation from Oil City High School, Jim attended and graduated from William Jewel College in Liberty Mo., where he was a member of Kappa Alpha Order Fraternity. In 1968 he entered the U.S. Marine Corps and was named outstanding recruit in his class at Parris Island, S.C. After completing his Marine service at Camp Pendleton near San Diego, Calif., he attended and graduated from California Western School of Law.

Following his graduation from law school, Jim worked as a field representative for his law fraternity, Phi Alpha Delta. In 1975 he became associated with world-renowned singer Willie Nelson and organized the performer's national fan club. Later, he was a cast member of the L.A. Connection Improv Comedy Troupe and then a disc jockey in Bend, Ore. He first visited Whidbey Island in 1983 shortly after filming a TV commercial for a Seattle bartending school. He decided to relocate from Los Angeles to Whidbey, eventually purchasing a 1928 Milwaukee Road red railroad caboose on five acres of land near Freeland that he dubbed the "Loose Caboose," calling himself – very accurately – the Conductor of Fun. He lived up to the title.

A 2016 profile of Jim in the Everett (Wash.) Herald, observed:

"Freeman's voice resonates with confidence and quirk. His mannerisms ooze charm. No wonder he's the perennial emcee at poetry slams, festivals and fundraisers. He cranks out a witty column for the Whidbey Weekly. Mukilteo Coffee Roasters named a coffee blend after him. "He's an original, a total original on this island," said retired teacher Jean Shaw, his co-host for fundraisers. "We've done all these talent shows together. We had the school board dress up in black garbage bags and go down the aisle doing 'The Grapevine.' They weren't just talent shows."

Jim is survived by his long-time partner, Carol Ryan; his sister, Linda Freeman of Atlanta; his brother, Lewis Freeman and his wife, Gretta Sandberg, of Monterey, Va.; nephews Dennis Freeman of Reston, Va., and Oliver Freeman of Denver, Colo.; niece Tama Whitelaw of South Portland, Maine; grandnieces Willow Whitelaw and Maya Whitelaw of South Portland, Maine; and numerous cousins.

The family has indicated that a memorial event celebrating Jim Freeman's remarkable life will be held later in the year at a date to be announced.

Jim's passions were many and varied and included playing the clarinet (at a younger era of his life), Dixieland music, cowboy actor Roy Rogers, comedian Jerry Lewis, western movies in general and the music of Benny Goodman, Fats Domino, Little Richard and, of course, Willie Nelson.

Jim's warm smile and infectious laughter brought joy to all who crossed his path. He will be fondly remembered by so many. When Jim's name comes up in conversations, smiles will break out. Thanks, Jim, for a lifetime of laughter!

Have a Safe & Happy 4th of July!



2022

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## Happy Independence Day

Wishing you and your family a safe and festive July Fourth holiday.



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## Bits & Pieces

### Letters to the Editor

**Editor,**

#### Tribute to Jim Freeman

Allow me to voice my intense sadness and pain at the passing of Jim Freeman, Whidbey's Conductor of Fun. I just read of his departure today, and the emptiness in my heart right now is undoubtedly felt by his many Whidbey Island friends, acquaintances and anyone who spent five minutes with the guy.

Though I never took him for granted, I always assumed he'd show up at Whidbey events, or I would read his weekly column, or someone would tell me about their latest visit with Jim. How can he not be with us?

All I can hang onto right now is the fact that he touched so many people in so many ways. The tributes and memories and stories will start as a trickle, then likely turn into a flood of appreciation and love for a man who gave everything he had to Whidbey Island and the people he spent time among.

Our collective loss is enormous. Jim would likely tell us not to dwell on his passing but, Jim, come on. Being around you made me start laughing immediately, giddy with anticipation at what you would say next. Your generosity and kindness brightened my day every time. Your take on life and all its potholes was sharp, dead on, and never cruel. I fervently hope your spirit lives on among us.

Mike Diamanti  
Coupeville, Wash.

#### Island County Solid Waste Transfer Stations Reopened Tuesday

Railway and Supply Chain Issues Resulted in Temporary Closure

Due to the inability of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) to provide inter-modal shipping containers, which are used to ship solid waste by rail to the regional landfill, Island County solid waste transfer stations exceeded storage capacities, and were temporarily closed to residential and commercial self-haulers, Sunday, June 26. Residential curbside collection services and transfer station recycling operations remained open. BNSF has indicated that the container shortage is the result of staffing and related supply chain issues, and that they are working to resolve the issues.

In anticipation of shipping containers becoming available, Island County transfer stations reopened Tuesday, June 28. Excess stockpiled refuse will be removed, and normal collection and disposal services will be resumed.

Until such time BNSF can resolve the container shortage issue, it is possible temporary closures may reoccur. The impacts have been regional, with other counties also experiencing temporary closures. Due to the day-to-day uncertainties of container availability, with the transfer stations operating near full capacity, it is recommended the county Solid Waste Division web page be checked for current status and open hours.

Transfer station current status, open hours and other information can be viewed at [www.islandcountywa.gov/PublicWorks/SolidWaste/Pages/Home.aspx](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/PublicWorks/SolidWaste/Pages/Home.aspx).

In the event a temporary closure may reoccur, every effort will be made to provide as much advance notice as possible, and to quickly reopen. If this occurs, place garbage bags in securely closed containers to minimize vector attraction and nuisance odors, and check the above web page for reopening alerts.

[Submitted by Lourdes Shuart, Senior Office Specialist, Island County Public Works]

#### Greater Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce Announces Grand Marshal for 4th of July Parade



The Greater Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce Retired Commanding Officer Butch Bailey as Grand Marshal of the 2022 4th of July Parade.

Having served our community as commanding officer of A-6 Intruder Training Squadron, VA-128 and commodore of A-6 Intruder Type Wing, Attack Wing Pacific, Bailey has dedicated an insurmountable effort to bettering and protecting Whidbey Island. Through the Navy League, Butch has also exposed the public to the importance of "our sea services to our nation's defense, well-being and economic prosperity." You can find and meet Bailey at the monthly Oak Harbor Area Council of the Navy League meetings to help support our sea service personnel. The Greater Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce is very proud to have Butch represent our beautiful city of Oak Harbor, Wash.

[Vicki Graham, Executive Director, Greater Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce]

#### Independence Day Travel Rush to Bring Long Waits for People Driving onto a Ferry

*Check online schedules often, especially for Edmonds/Kingston route*

Fourth of July travelers planning a state ferry ride over the holiday weekend should be prepared for long waits if boarding in a vehicle. In addition, all riders should regularly check online sailing schedules, as some timetables are dependent on crewing levels.

Schedules are likely to change most frequently on the Edmonds/Kingston route, where a second boat is added daily if crews are available. Customers are encouraged to sign up for rider alerts to receive an update each night and morning about which schedule is operating on each run.

Washington State Ferries is restoring service on a route-by-route basis outlined in its COVID-19 Service Restoration Plan (PDF 794KB). As shown in the latest plan Progress Report (PDF 587KB), service has returned to pre-pandemic levels on the Seattle/Bainbridge, Mukilteo/Clinton and Anacortes/San Juan Islands routes.

"With elevated cases of COVID-19, and continued vessel and crewing availability constraints, our service restoration

efforts have slowed considerably in recent weeks," said Patty Rubstello, head of WSF. "While we continue to hire new employees, our biggest issue is a lack of licensed deck officers such as captains and mates, who require significant training time. To encourage current crew members to become licensed deck officers, we're developing a "Pilotage Training Program," so they'll be paid to train as pilots and take required exams."

#### Busy travel times

Ferries are popular every holiday weekend and people boarding a ferry by vehicle should be prepared for long waits. The busiest sailings will be westbound (or onto an island) Thursday, June 30 and Friday, July 1, then eastbound (or off island) Monday and Tuesday, July 4-5. To reduce or eliminate waiting, riders may consider taking an early morning or late-night sailing or walking on.

Before heading to a terminal or boarding, people driving on board should check terminal conditions. Anacortes/San Juan Islands and Port Townsend/Coupeville routes also offer vehicle reservations.

#### Holiday schedules

On Independence Day, July 4, there will be a few holiday schedule changes for the Anacortes/San Juan Islands, Mukilteo/Clinton and Point Defiance/Tahlequah runs, along with the Edmonds/Kingston route if supplemental service is added. The Seattle/Bainbridge Island run will operate on a Saturday timetable and the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route will run on a Sunday timetable. Holiday sailings are marked on the schedules for each route.

It is against the law to set off or transport illegal fireworks aboard a state ferry.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention still recommends people wear face masks in indoor public transportation settings, but they are no longer required.

People using state highways to get to the ferry terminal should plan for potential holiday travel backups and delays by checking real-time traffic information on the WSDOT traffic app for mobile devices or online using the updated WSDOT travel map feature.

WSF, a division of the Washington State Department of Transportation, is the largest ferry system in the U.S. and safely and efficiently carries tens of millions of people a year through some of the most majestic scenery in the world. For breaking news and the latest information, follow WSF on Twitter and Facebook.

[Submitted by Justin Fujioka, WSDOT]

#### Try The Trail Less Traveled on Whidbey and Camano Islands with New Field Guide

*"Field Guide, 24 Trails off the Beaten Path" presented by Whidbey and Camano Islands Tourism details carefully selected options to alleviate impact on well-loved places*

Whidbey and Camano Islands Tourism launches a new publication to suggest alternatives to popular, well-loved trails, *Field Guide, 24 Trails off the Beaten Path*. In partnership with Sound Water Stewards, Island County Public Works, Whidbey Camano Land Trust and other local partners, the publication is intended to take on the go, measuring 4.5 inches wide and 6.75 inches tall. It details 24 trails along wooded hideaways, pastoral vistas and rugged beaches.

"Many of the popular recreation areas on the islands are being over-loved, impacting the trails, beaches and the user experience," notes Ryan Elting, executive director of the Whidbey Camano Land Trust. "This book gives you some great

alternatives to explore somewhere new. Treat them well and talk to other trail users about good practices that leave-no-trace, including picking up after pets."

Available June 29, at visitor centers throughout Whidbey and Camano Islands, each of the 24 trails is also detailed on the website, [whidbeycamanoislands.com/24trails](http://whidbeycamanoislands.com/24trails). "Two Minute Trailer" videos offer a virtual tour of each location with helpful tips regarding stroller and wheelchair accessibility, parking, dog-friendly spots and other amenities.

"It's been wonderful to see so many locals and visitors finding respite in the vistas, beaches and wooded trails of the islands," notes Sherrye Wyatt, film liaison, PR and marketing manager for Whidbey and Camano Islands Tourism. "We're all seeking solitude and sanctuary in the outdoors, yet wanting to respect the sensitive environment of the islands - here are 24 ways to do just that."

Find different types of experiences, ranging from English Boom on Camano Island, a classic beach walk for sunset strolls, to a new view into the open meadows and agricultural roots of the island, like the Beachview Farm Trail in Oak Harbor. For a complete list of visitor centers carrying the guide, visit [www.whidbeycamanoislands.com](http://www.whidbeycamanoislands.com).

[Submitted by Erin Osborne, Osborne Northwest Public Relations]

#### Whidbey Community Foundation Annual Grant Cycle Opens Friday

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

This year, WCF will prioritize funding for child and family wellness, food insecurity, and technology capacity building.

"Our Grants Committee is made up of community members from all across our island and helps WCF determine priority areas for funding. This year, WCF will focus on three grant programs. Through the Child and Family Wellness grant program, we are continuing our investment in the health and well-being of our youth and the families that support them. We will prioritize nonprofits working to address Mental Health and/or Early Childhood needs on Whidbey Island. Through the Food Insecurity grant program, we are aiming to support community-based organizations and programs that are fighting food insecurity and providing access to nutritious food. And through the Technology Capacity Building grant program, we want to support Whidbey nonprofits by helping technology investments that help to expand their reach or impact," stated Robin Hertlein, board member.

Grant applications of up to \$5,000 will be accepted beginning July 1 through Aug. 31. Please check WCF's Grant Application page on its website for more details. Paper copies can be made available. Visit WCF's website, [www.whidbeyfoundation.org](http://www.whidbeyfoundation.org), for more information. If you have questions about the grant process, email [info@whidbeyfoundation.org](mailto:info@whidbeyfoundation.org) or call 360-660-5041.

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

#### Sno-Isle Libraries to Add 100 Open Hours

*Customers have more time to connect with their library*

Sno-Isle Libraries will add 100 open hours each week across its 23 library locations to provide more convenience for its customers. The new expanded hours will take

**BITS & PIECES CONTINUED ON PAGE 7**



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# Attention Veterans *Calling all Vets!*

By Whidbey Veterans  
Resource Center



Please join to give a voice to on-island and off island transportation needs. The Whidbey Veterans Resource Center provides rides and assistance to the Seattle Veterans Administration, weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The WVRC is aware of the many challenges Veterans, seniors, and others have in finding assisted transportation options. While providing VA connections, healthcare and benefits assistance, support groups, Veterans and families events, the WVRC van, in partnership with Island Transit, developed the program for weekly VA rides and occasional rides to on-base services at NAS Whidbey Island, steadily since 2018.

The Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization (IRTPO) invites public participation in the 2022 update of the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan – this includes Veterans!

This planning process brings together agencies and organizations that work with individuals that are elderly, disabled, Veterans, low income, and agencies that provide transportation services in and around Island County. The meeting will be held on July 6, 2022, at 1 p.m. In-person attendees are welcome at Coupeville Library, and a Zoom connection is also available at the Freeland Library. Presentation starts at 1 p.m. Discussion, questions and the opportunity for input will follow.

Some providers may also be hosting small group participation opportunities for this meeting. For more information call Ben Jones, IRTPO Transportation Planner, at 360-240-5546. Join the meeting link at: [www.islandcountywa.gov/PublicWorks/Roads/Planning/Pages/Human%20Services%20Transportation.aspx](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/PublicWorks/Roads/Planning/Pages/Human%20Services%20Transportation.aspx).

The Whidbey Veterans Resource Center supports this effort in the planning process and invites your participation and awareness of this very important long-term planning process.

For WVRC information please call 360-331-8081.

## WEEKLY VETERAN SUPPORT GROUPS:

- Women Veterans - spouses, Mondays, 5 – 6 p.m.
- Mixed group, Veterans, Tuesdays 5 – 6 p.m. Join anytime.

Contact us for links to these recurring session times. Joining by Zoom is still available for remote attendance into the group room.

Veterans Benefits assistance is available by appointment – open hours will resume in August 2022!

When Veterans receive service-connected compensation funds it improves their economics through monthly direct deposits for Veterans and eligible surviving spouses. Eligibility for VA healthcare is a benefit to many Veterans. If you have questions about the WVRC and services available, call 360-331-8081 or email us at [WhidbeyVRC@gmail.com](mailto:WhidbeyVRC@gmail.com) or contact us on the website: [www.WhidbeyVRC.org](http://www.WhidbeyVRC.org).

## Addressing Transportation Gaps for those with Special Transportation Needs



Have you or someone you know experienced difficulty getting to medical facilities, work, school, grocery shopping, or appointments?

Has the COVID-19 pandemic increased this difficulty?

Have you found reasonable alternatives to accommodate your transportation needs?

Do you have suggestions or concerns about transportation access?

Date | July 6, 2022  
Time | Presentation starts at 1:00 pm, Discussion to follow.  
Location | Coupeville Library: 788 NW Alexander St, Coupeville, WA 98239  
Join Virtually | <https://dearinc.zoom.us/j/9904713141?pwd=bHpCbEubGE1NG1KoG04Z3FjMGIGUT09>

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**SUMMER** continued from page 2

"These types of community collaborations are at the heart of WICA's new focus on Art First," she said. "There is a saying that 'art changes lives.' But it's so much deeper than that. From the bottom of my heart, I believe that art MAKES a life. It shines a light on our humanity and at its best, art asks huge and hard questions. WICA is dedicated to centering our work on this dialogue with our stakeholders, our community, our artists and patrons."

Duncan said WICA is also pleased to bring back the WICA Conservatory, which features professional-level film and theater education for youth. There are two camps this year – the film production camp from July 5-10 and the theater camp from Aug. 1-12. Openings for both are still available for youth ages 15-20.

Organizers encourage anyone interested in tickets to any of this summer's offerings to act quickly. Outdoor events are free, including



Photo Courtesy of Whidbey Island Center for the Arts  
*The Nathaniel Talbot Trio will appear at Whidbey Island Center for the Arts July 15, one of several different local and regional artists to appear as part of the Whidbey Telecom Summer Nights Series.*

happy hours and bluegrass jams. Tickets for indoor concerts vary in price. The outdoor venue comfortably seats 60 to 80 people, while indoor seating is still at half capacity (136 seats). Dates, descriptions, tickets and details on youth camps are all available online at [wicaonline.org](http://wicaonline.org).

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## Insurance and You

Note: This article has been modified for this page and was originally printed March 24, 2022, from [extramile.thehartford.com](http://extramile.thehartford.com).

### Traveling? Are You Covered by Insurance?

By Allison Kade

Here's what you'll need to know to determine whether you'll be covered while you're on vacation—whether traveling domestically or in a foreign country—and the steps you can take if you're interested in more extensive coverage or if your insurer won't cover you while you're away.

### Your Insurance: What You've Already Got Going for You

Your current homeowners or renters insurance policy might already cover you for losses like theft while you're traveling. If so, you might not need to do anything extra to make sure you and your belongings are protected while you're out and about. If your policy includes off-premise protection, your belongings should be covered even when they're not inside your home. When you're traveling, this could lend a lot of relief if your luggage is stolen or your valuables go missing from a hotel room.

### Figure Out How Much Is Covered

Usually, when it comes to losses outside of a home that you own, you're covered for up to the full amount of personal property coverage on your homeowners policy (just check with your own carrier to confirm).

But of course, there are deductibles and limits to consider. Let's say you have to meet a \$500 deductible before your policy will pay out. If your luggage is stolen but it's only worth \$400, it's probably not worth your time and effort to claim that loss on your policy.

Also note that not all items are covered to the same extent, or even at all. Many policies limit payouts on specific high-value items like cameras, computers and jewelry. Be sure to verify which of your items are covered by your current policy and to what extent—and if you want to ensure the safety of your belongings while you're on the go, you might consider buying supplemental valuable items coverage.

### Protect Yourself Against Liability

Your homeowners or renters insurance policy will often cover you for liability in case accidents happen while you're traveling. For example, maybe you inadvertently break the dishwasher in your rental

house. Or maybe you're out golfing and you accidentally hit someone with your golf ball and that person needs to pay for medical care.

Although you might not be able to replace broken items or pay for medical expenses on your own, your homeowners or rental policy can cover the damaged parties for your liabilities. If you're planning to leave the country for vacation, double check with your insurer that your liability coverage works in foreign countries.

### Double-Check Your Rental Car Coverage

In most cases, you'll need collision coverage on at least one vehicle on your policy and you'll need to be traveling within the United States, its territories, Puerto Rico or Canada for rental coverage to be provided through your auto policy.

If you meet both of these conditions, comprehensive and collision coverage may be extended to your rental vehicle, subject to your deductible. If you have a multi-car policy with different deductibles, the lower deductible usually applies.

Be sure to ask the rental agent about this since you may have to pay from \$1,000 to the full value of the car if the car is damaged. You should consider your financial ability to handle this payment, even in the short term, before you reject the waiver.

If you're planning to rent a vehicle while traveling abroad, you can contact the U.S. consulate in advance regarding the particulars of rental coverage options in the country you're planning to visit. You can also ask the rental car company about coverage options.

### Have the Right Insurance Coverage

Traveling for work? You probably won't be able to submit claims to your home or rental insurer. If you're on a work trip and you're required to tote gear along with you, those losses should be covered under your employer's business insurance policy.

Self-employed? Don't assume you're covered for business property just because you're covered for other kinds of items. Many insurance policies limit the amount of coverage for business tools (e.g., computers). If you need to insure your own business items, you should consider a business insurance policy.

Whatever the case, make sure you've explored your options and have the coverage you need to feel secure during your journey.



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**BITS 'N' PIECES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**

effect Friday. By increasing access to library facilities, customers will be able to utilize meeting rooms, study areas, internet and staff expertise later into the day.

"As library service providers, we are always seeking new ways to provide equitable access. Expanding our hours will give customers more flexibility to use essential services and connect with their community library," said Diane Lai, Sno-Isle Libraries community libraries director.

In 2021, library customers checked out 6.4 million items, remotely printed 800,336 pages, and accessed the library's Wi-Fi 1.47 million times. Sno-Isle Libraries also worked to reduce accessibility barriers and improve convenience with Express Lockers at two locations. You can learn more in Sno-Isle Libraries' 2021 Community Report.

Sno-Isle Libraries continues to embed equity, diversity, and inclusion into its organization. Sno-Isle Libraries invites you into your local library. Many libraries will open at 9:00AM and will remain open later into the evening, making it easier for you to visit. There is something for everyone at the library, the collections and programs are designed with you in mind.

Find your library at [sno-isle.org](http://sno-isle.org).

[Submitted by Katie Leone, Marketing and Communications Manager, Sno-Isle Libraries]

**Oak Harbor Music Festival Awards  
Three Scholarships to Island  
Musicians**

Oak Harbor Music Festival's board of directors announced three scholarships awarded to Whidbey Island graduating seniors.

Multi-talented Julia Maher of South Whidbey High School has had a passion for music since early childhood. She has honed her skills on a variety of instruments and conducted student bands, and will study to be a music instructor.

Oak Harbor's award-winning trumpeter Paige Jenkins will attend the University of Washington this fall, where she intends to study music and visual arts along with her major in Political Science.

Samantha Zenger heads from Oak Harbor to Oregon State University after spending her OHHS years in Marching Band, Jazz Band, and Wind Ensemble. She'll continue playing and performing alongside her major in Environmental Science.

Each scholar was awarded \$3,000 to apply to college tuition.

"What a thrill to continue our tradition of honoring high school seniors every year, and helping them to continue being inspired by the power of music," said OHMF Board President Cynthia Mason. "In our first 10 years, through 2021, we awarded 34 scholarships to deserving local musicians for a total of \$63,500. This is a beautiful testament to the support we get from the Whidbey Island community that has been so loyal to us over the years."

Oak Harbor Music Festival's mission is to inspire our community with the power of music. As a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2012, the festival is three days of free music on Pioneer Way every Labor Day weekend.

[www.oakhborofestival.com/](http://www.oakhborofestival.com/)

[Submitted by Cynthia Mason, Board President, Oak Harbor Music Festival]

**Whidbey SAR Rescues Injured Hiker**

A Search and Rescue (SAR) team from Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island rescued an injured hiker on Mount Washington in the Cascade Mountains Sunday, June 19.

At approximately 7:50PM Sunday, the SAR crew received a call to rescue a hiker with a leg injury who was accompanied by an uninjured hiker. The SAR crew was able to obtain the cell phone number of one of the hikers and got an updated position from them.

The SAR crew flew in above the clouds, which were in a layer from 4,000 to 6,000 feet, and found the hikers after a few minutes of searching at about the 6,000 foot level. The SAR crew then inserted two crewmembers onto a steep slope nearby to prepare the hikers for extraction.

The weather continued to improve in the area and by 9:35PM the SAR crew were able to extract the two hikers and two crew members. The hikers were delivered to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

Naval Air Station Whidbey Island SAR has conducted 14 missions this calendar year, which includes eight MEDEVACs, five rescues, and one search.

The Navy SAR unit operates three MH-60S helicopters from NAS Whidbey Island as search and rescue/medical evacua-

tion (SAR/MEDEVAC) platforms for the EA-18G aircraft as well as other squadrons and personnel assigned to the installation. Pursuant to the National SAR Plan of the United States, the unit may also be used for civil SAR/MEDEVAC needs to the fullest extent practicable on a non-interference basis with primary military duties according to applicable national directives, plans, guidelines and agreements; specifically, the unit may launch in response to tasking by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (based on a Washington State Memorandum of Understanding) for inland missions, and/or tasking by the United States Coast Guard for all other aeronautical and maritime regions, when other assets are unavailable.

[Submitted by Thomas Mills, NAS Whidbey Island]

**Local Business News**

**Penn Cove Gallery Welcomes New Artist – Stacey Neumiller**

Stacy says it best, "I delight in rural farm life. To me it's the best possible way to live, but not everyone can or wants to live on a farm or in the country. That's where my art comes in. I paint my vision of what rural farm life embodies: animals, birds, crops, fresh air, fragrant grass, and of course, red barns. All of these things ground me and quiet my soul. My art allows me to share my connection to this pure, simple life-style."

Visit Penn Cove Gallery at 9 Front Street in Coupeville to see Stacey's view of our rural countryside. Open daily from 10:00AM to 5:30PM, for more information go to [www.penncovegallery.com](http://www.penncovegallery.com).

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# Life Tributes

## Joyce Elaine Williams Foxx



Joyce Elaine Williams Foxx, age 84, peacefully answered God's call to eternal rest Thursday, April 28, 2022 at her home in Las Vegas, Nev.

Joyce, the youngest of three children, was born May 8, 1937 to the late Rolland C. and Margaret H. Williams. In 1940, family moved to Wayne, Pa., and eventually settled in Ardmore, Pa. Joyce attended Lower Merion Township schools, West Chester University (B.A. and M.A.) and completed education in 1987 at Seattle University (PHD).

Her teaching career started in Bridgeton, N.J., and Virginia Beach, Va., where she met Harry O. Hawkins and married in 1966. Joyce Williams Hawkins was a charter member (November 1967) of the national sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Incorporated Gamma Mu Chapter, Virginia Beach.

Military commitment moved them to Oak Harbor, where she began her long and accomplished career in the Oak Harbor School District, initially as a substitute teacher in 1967 and then, over the next 16 years, she taught science, physical education and music (guitar and piano).

In 1970, Joyce started the girls track team at Oak Harbor High School. She also coached JV girls basketball. 1983 was a transition year as she became vice principal and held the athletic director position until she retired in February of 1995.

Joyce was highly involved in the community throughout her time in Oak Harbor. She was heavily involved in her faith as a member of the Assembly of God Church and the First Baptist Church (now Church on the Rock), a member and president of Oak Harbor Education Association, a founding member of the Oak Harbor Black Citizens Association, local choirs, supporter/performer at the Whidbey Playhouse and little league baseball coach.

Joyce remarried in March 1991 to the late Henry T. Foxx of Wilmington, Del. Together they opened TeeJay's BBQ after she retired from OHHS. Their success-

ful business adventure came to an abrupt end when they both returned to Philadelphia to care for Joyce's father. They finally returned to Whidbey Island 10 years later and remained very active in their retirement pursuits, which included traveling, summer picnic gatherings and enjoying the love and friendship of family and friends.

Joyce leaves to cherish her memory: son, Elgin (Teresa); daughter, Amber (Kristoffer); sons, Elvin (Tiffany) and Henry III (Brandy); cousin, Robert Spady; and sisters-in-Law, Mary Williams and Vinell Williams; the offspring of her brothers, Rolland Jr. (Lavonda and Veronica) and Waverly (Starletta, Waverly II and Thaxton) and golden girls (Barbara, Faye, Christina, and Mary); along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Joyce was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Foxx; brothers Rolland C. Williams Jr. and Waverly M. Williams; and nephew Wade Williams. A celebration of life will be held for family, friends, and others whose lives Joyce touched at the Church on the Rock, 1780 SE 4th Ave. Oak Harbor, WA starting at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 9.

## Richard Dyer Bergdoll



Richard D. Bergdoll passed away peacefully at his daughter Lora's home after succumbing to his battle of thyroid cancer May 20, 2022.

He was born in Cumberland, Md., to Ellis R. Bergdoll and Martha E. Bergdoll (Huffman) Sept. 8, 1938. Richard grew up in Berkley Springs, W.Va., and then moved to Flinstone, Md., where he graduated at age 18. He loved to hunt and fish as a child and visited his family's farm and logging company in West Virginia.

Richard joined the military in March 1957 and was honorably discharged in April 1961. He worked for Island Title Company for 12 years and at the same time started a tax and bookkeeping service out of his home in 1972. He prepared taxes all the way up to the current year. Richard obtained his real estate and broker's license in the 70s and as a realtor sold many homes through the years. He also played country western music in several bands as a lead guitarist in the 70s and early 80s. In his later years, he played with the old-time fiddler's group, which performed at the senior center and other venues.

Richard was preceded in death by his father, Ellis R. Bergoll, and his mother, Martha E. Bergdoll. He is survived by his five children, Lora Howe, Lisa Lacy, Richard Bergdoll, Jr., Jessica Bergdoll and Roseann Bergdoll, as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Richard was buried in West Virginia in the same cemetery as his parents. There is no memorial service planned at this time. The family wishes that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the American Cancer Society or any charity of choice.

The most important things to Richard were his faith in God and his family. He also enjoyed his love of playing music, which has been a lifelong passion for him. He had many friends he acquired over the years through his businesses and his love of playing music. He was loved by many and will be missed dearly.

## Heidi Yvonne Kuzina



Heidi Yvonne Kuzina, age 72, of Lynden, longtime former resident of Oak Harbor, entered her heavenly home Wednesday, June 1, 2022.

Heidi was born March 10, 1950, in North Bellingham. She attended Ferndale schools and graduated from Ferndale High School in 1968. She was married to Paul Edward Kuzina June 9, 1972, at Calvary Temple in Bellingham. The couple resided in Bellingham and Blaine, before moving to Los Angeles, where Paul attended the California College of Mortuary Science. They returned to Whatcom County,

where they resided in Ferndale, eventually serving as youth pastors at Bethel Temple Church (now Whatcom New Life Assembly). In 1980 they moved to Snohomish County, where she was employed in the Snohomish School District as an instructional aide. During this time, they were members of the Snohomish Free Methodist Church. In 1985 they moved to Wenatchee, where Heidi worked for Ken's Pharmacy and the Wenatchee School District. While in Wenatchee, they were active members of the Wenatchee Free Methodist Church. In 1992 they relocated to Whatcom County, where Heidi was employed as an instructional aide at Central Elementary School in Ferndale. In 1997, they moved to Oak Harbor. Heidi worked as tourism and events director for the Greater Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce and then as marketing director for Regency on Whidbey Assisted Living and then Summer Hill Assisted Living Community. In 2007, Heidi and Paul opened Whidbey Memorial Funeral Home as a compassionate ministry to the bereaved, with Paul continuing as owner. The couple were active members at Oak Harbor Church of the Nazarene, where they led worship for a total of 10 years, also directing seasonal choirs. They moved to Lynden in July 2021 to be near family.

Heidi was known for her warm and loving personality. She was an incredible cook, and her culinary creations were enjoyed by family and friends alike. The Kuzina home was always a place where guests were made to feel welcome and loved. In addition, Heidi was a decorator extraordinaire, and brought beautiful seasonal changes to every home she and Paul lived in, as well as to the retirement communities, bringing much delight to the residents. She was a gifted pianist and singer, and she and Paul sang at many church services, weddings, funerals, and other events throughout their marriage.

From the beginning of their marriage, Heidi and Paul determined to begin a new heritage, building their home with Christ as the foundation. Together, the

See LIFE TRIBUTES continued on page 12



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# Your Island Transit

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE AND A MILLION-MILER DRIVER!

Congratulations to Dana as he shifts gears, facing a new direction, embracing the miles he traveled, and looking forward to the road ahead. After 25 years of service, Dana retired as an Island Transit bus operator. As he set foot one last time inside the bus barn, he celebrated this milestone; there were awards, good food, and handshakes. Dana shared some stories. "When I was new, I heard another bus operator report over the radio - a keg was rolling down the hill toward the ferry." He recalled more recently how his bus got stopped just north of the Deception Pass Bridge when a semi-truck was blown against the railing. He turned around and waited at a diner for seven hours until the road was cleared. His favorite passengers were "those kids on the spectrum" and how smart they are. Passengers brought balloons and cookies for Dana's last day of driving. He recommends the job to others. He appreciates the camaraderie, the living wage and benefits. Ride on Dana, happy trails.



*Mike asks Dana for autograph on his last day*

## Did You Know...

Island Transit is hiring bus operators on Whidbey and Camano Islands. No need to have a CDL – all training is paid for and covered by the agency. Call 360-678-7771 or check the website at [www.islandtransit.org](http://www.islandtransit.org)

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# Whidbey grieves the loss of its “Conductor of Fun”

By Kathy Reed Whidbey Weekly

No one could make you laugh like Jim Freeman, Whidbey Island's self-described "Conductor of Fun" and our colleague here at *Whidbey Weekly*.

Jim passed away June 19, leaving a gaping hole in our hearts and, we are sure, in the hearts of his faithful readers and the many, many friends he acquired on and off Whidbey during his far-too-short life. He was 74 chronologically, although he was still very much a kid at heart.

His "joie de vivre" and humorous observations made him the life of the party, whether it was simply enjoying a meal with friends or emceeing an event. He was quick with a comeback and a natural comedian. He was smart enough to become a lawyer, and smarter still to recognize that career path wasn't for him. But more than anything, he was kind. He cared about people.

"In a world full of busy people, Jim took the time to sit and chat," said Laura Tarasoff, a longtime friend.

Tarasoff described getting to know Jim at south Whidbey poetry slams. One evening, when her new car was hit in the parking lot, Jim came to the rescue.

"Jim graciously stayed there with me, making sure my lights all worked and it was safe to drive," she said. "All the way home to Coupeville I vented my emotions about what had happened but kept coming back to how kind and patient Jim was with the situation. Later we would joke about my first poetry slam being taken too literally."

"When I got home, I sent him an email to let him know I had arrived safely. I included a cheeky poem about the event," Tarasoff continued. "Years later, Jim would send me a letter with the obituary of the gentleman that had hit me and a copy of the poem he had printed out and saved. Our friendship was forged in poetry and understanding that people need more grace than we often want to give them,



Photo Courtesy of Teresa Besaw

Whidbey Island has lost its "Conductor of Fun." Jim Freeman, left, passed away June 19. He is pictured with "Whidbey Weekly" co-worker, Roosevelt Rumble, at one of many staff lunches for which we would gather.

## 4TH OF JULY

continued from page 2

The evening culminates in the always much-anticipated fireworks show, which usually begins sometime after dark.

"We encourage everyone to come out and safely have some fun," Graham said. She said more information about Oak Harbor's July 4 celebration can be found at the website [www.oakharborchamber.com](http://www.oakharborchamber.com) or on the Chamber's Facebook page.

### BLUE FOX FIREWORKS

For those who enjoy movies plus a fireworks show, be sure to check out what the Blue Fox Drive-in, 1403 Monroe Landing Road in Oak Harbor, has to offer. Social media manager Kelsey Bratt says this is the drive-in's third year of featuring a July 4 fireworks show, a tradition she said they're glad to continue. Following the fireworks, stick around for a double feature to round out the evening. The first show will be "Minions," with the second feature to be announced soon.

Those interested in viewing Blue Fox's fireworks must pay the \$10 car reservation in advance. Box office opens at 4 p.m. Admission prices per person will be collected upon arrival, and the staff requests that people arrive at their allotted time slot. For more information about admission, or additional questions, please refer to the website [bluefoxdrivein.com/4th-of-july](http://bluefoxdrivein.com/4th-of-july).

### PET FRIENDLY, NO-FIREWORKS FUN

With at least two scheduled fireworks shows in the works, it's nice to know there are alternatives for those who are more into

peace and quiet. Mark your calendar for Sunday, July 3. From 3 to 9 p.m. at Freeland's Greenbank Farm, Tammy Cox of Whidbey Island Markets has announced a veteran/pet friendly event and community picnic. It is a no-fireworks celebration intended to give veterans, trauma survivors, pets, and others a chance to relax and enjoy themselves.

"This is the first year we've been involved in something like this," Cox said. "But I've been approached several times by people who said a no-fireworks picnic would be greatly appreciated by many individuals. There'll be opportunities to grill food, share meals, throw Frisbees, fly kites, etc." she said. In keeping with that same spirit, attendees are asked to not bring weapons, political clothing or signage to the event.

Since this is a pet-friendly event, there will be several fun dog contests from 4 to 6 p.m., such as Best Woof, Best Begging Face, etc. All nonprofits devoted to military personnel services or pet welfare are invited to come set up informational displays or fundraisers. Registration is required, but there is no charge. Food trucks, veteran-owned businesses, or those with wares related to veterans or pets are invited as well; there is a small charge of \$10 – \$30 for these, and registration is required. For more information, or to register, see the website [whidbeyislandmarkets.com](http://whidbeyislandmarkets.com).

### MAXWELTON PARADE IS BACK

South Whidbey rightfully lays claim to one of the longest running July 4 parade events island-wide. Only during the two World

he especially enjoyed interviewing the younger contestants. And he wasn't beneath getting down to dog level to have a few words with them! He would contact me to be sure he had the following year's Mutt Strut on his calendar so he didn't book another job in its place. His own enjoyment of the Mutt Strut meant a lot to us!

"Jim had a way of making people feel special and appreciated," she continued. "And that sense of humor, oh my! That's what I'll miss most about him."

Longtime friend, Frank Rose, chair of the Langley Arts Fund, said he would often enjoy time with Jim over breakfast at the Freeland Café. Frank, an artist who specializes in portraiture, sculpted a portrait of Jim a few years ago.

"He had an interesting face, he was a friend," Rose said about why he wanted to use Jim as a subject, creating a fired clay portrait with a finishing patina that makes it look like bronze.

"The piece has been on a shelf for four or five years. I'd like to find a home for it so Jim's legacy can be remembered."

Rose said he'd be happy to entertain offers for the piece and donate the money to the Langley Arts Fund.

"I think Jim would like that," he said.

We think Jim would love that – he loved this community, its people. He loved sharing tidbits in his weekly column – whether they actually happened was another story.

"Jim had the best stories - some real and some he just made up," said Eric Marshall, publisher of *Whidbey Weekly*. "I remember asking him one time about an exchange with a reader he wrote about. Turns out, he made the whole thing up. He also had great jokes, although not all of them were fit for publishing."

It is Jim's laughter Marshall said he will miss the most.

"It was so genuine and had a way of lifting your spirits," he said. "We were sitting together at a Freeland Chamber luncheon before COVID. The room was relatively quiet as we sat and listened to the presenter. Something the presenter said struck Jim as funny and he let out with a loud 'HA!' For a second you could tell he was slightly embarrassed by his outburst, then suddenly the whole room erupted in laughter as a result of Jim's amusement. He had the ability to brighten up any room or situation."

"Jim was the class clown that was smarter than most people in the room, but didn't need to prove it," Tarasoff said. "He understood that more people needed a good laugh than needed facts. If laughter is the best medicine, Jim was the village medicine man. When you saw the smile creep onto Jim's face, you knew he had caught something everyone else missed. He struggled only in stifling his laughter. He was a loud man of quiet faith, he



Photo Courtesy of South Whidbey Schools Foundation  
*Jim Freeman and Jean Shaw worked together on the South Whidbey Schools Foundation for many years, sometimes surprising teachers and students with grants.*

lived the example of grace and kindness. He said judgement was not his gig, there was too much of that in the world.

"Whidbey lost a big personality with a small-town spirit," she continued. "He was someone who saw the little things and celebrated them. Jim reminded us to pat each other on the back and laugh at ourselves. The only thing quicker than his wit was his graciousness."

Those of us at *Whidbey Weekly* who worked with him looked forward to the emails and notes he would send to us with some funny anecdote or observation. It was, quite simply, a joy.

"He was always upbeat. I don't think he was ever in a bad mood. He made coming to work Mondays more fun. I would look forward to reading his column as I was placing it on the page," shared TJ Pierzchala, *Whidbey Weekly* production manager. "I will miss our weekly chats back and forth via email. When he would send his column, he would usually tell a little story about something he'd done over the weekend or tell about a strange fact he had learned. When I would send his proof to him, I would reply with a story of my own weekend adventures. Over the last 10 years or so, we really learned a lot about each other. I will forever cherish the lunches we shared, the stories we shared, and the friendship we had."

"Sometimes he'd send me funny things in snail mail too, and Seahawks related stuff because he knew we were fans," said *Whidbey Weekly* graphic artist Teresa Besaw. "TJ and I would meet him for lunch occasionally. Our lunches were such a treat - being in his presence and listening to his stories. We just laughed and laughed. I will miss him and those lunch dates together."

In the words of Jim's beloved television hero, Roy Rogers, "Happy Trails," our friend.

"The island has lost a true original," said Marshall. "I don't know any other person who is as respected, admired and beloved as Jim. He truly was one-of-a-kind."



Photo Courtesy of False Sense of Security  
*The Pacific Northwest band False Sense of Security will perform at the Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce's 4th of July festivities at Windjammer Park Monday, July 4th. The family-friendly concert gets underway at 8 p.m., preceding the traditional fireworks display.*

Wars and the recent pandemic has the Maxwelton Independence Day Parade in Clinton ever been canceled. Harriet Arnold, a supporter and organizer, in fun calls the one-eighth-mile route "the world's shortest parade."

"Everyone is invited to participate. It begins at noon, starting from Swede Hill Road, and ends at Dave Mackie Park. Registration starts at 10:30 a.m.; there's no cost to participate, and afterward, there'll be fun family games in the ballpark," said Arnold. She added there will be shuttle bus service available.

For more information about the Maxwelton Independence Day Parade, send any questions to [maxweltoncc@outlook.com](mailto:maxweltoncc@outlook.com). See also the Facebook page for Maxwelton Community Club.



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# Recipe of the Week

## IMPRESS GUESTS WITH HOMEMADE BURGERS THIS FOURTH OF JULY

Burgers may not qualify as fancy fare, but they're perfect for Independence Day celebrations. This year, party hosts can add a little something extra to their barbecues by whipping up some homemade ham-burgers. This recipe for "Mushroom and Swiss Burgers with Bacon and Aioli" from "The Essential Kamado Grill Cookbook" (Rockridge Press) by Will Budiaman is sure to make your Fourth of July festivities more flavorful.

### MUSHROOM AND SWISS BURGERS WITH BACON AND AIOLI (Serves 4)

8 bacon slices  
8 ounces cremini mushrooms, sliced  
Kosher salt  
Freshly ground black pepper  
2 pounds ground beef  
4 slices Swiss cheese  
4 kaiser rolls, split  
1/2 cup aioli (see below)  
1. Prepare the grill for direct grilling at 500°F, then preheat a 10-inch cast iron skillet on the grate with the lid closed.  
2. Put the bacon in the skillet. Close the lid and cook for 1 to 2 minutes or until browned and crispy around the edges. Transfer to a plate.  
3. Add the mushrooms to the skillet. Close the lid and cook, stirring once, for 7 to 9 minutes or until browned. Transfer to a plate. Season with salt and pepper.  
4. Meanwhile, in a large bowl, season the beef with pepper and 4 teaspoons of salt. Using your hands, mix until just incorporated; form into four 1-inch-thick patties with a slight dimple in the center.

5. Put the burgers on the grate. Close the lid and cook, flipping halfway through, for 8 to 10 minutes total for medium, or until an instant-read thermometer inserted into the center registers 135 F. (If using store-bought ground beef, always cook it to 160 F, or well done.) In the last minute of cooking, top the patties with the cheese to melt and place the rolls cut-side down on the grate to toast.

6. Spread the aioli on the buns and assemble the burgers, dividing the bacon and mushrooms between them. Serve immediately.

#### Aioli (Makes 1 1/4 cups)

1 large egg  
1 cup vegetable oil  
2 garlic cloves, peeled  
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt  
1. Put the egg in the bowl of a small food processor. Blend until beaten.  
2. With the machine running, slowly stream in the oil through the feed tube until emulsified (the mixture thickens).  
3. Blend in the garlic and salt.  
4. Transfer to an airtight container, refrigerate, and use within 5 days.

Troubleshooting: Is your aioli just not coming together, staying thin and runny instead of thickening? You may be streaming in your oil too quickly. But don't throw out the batch. Instead, pour it into a small cup or bowl, wash and dry the bowl and blade of the food processor, and start again with a fresh egg. Use the previous batch as your "oil."

## WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

### ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you are on fire lately. There's seemingly nothing you touch that won't turn to gold afterward. This trend will continue, but try not to let it go to your head.

### TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, unless you take swift action, you could be heading for a financial free-fall. Start to pull back spending for a while and see if the situation will right itself.

### GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21

It's time to make amends with someone who did you wrong, Gemini. Life is too short to hold grudges, and this person has mended his or her ways since.

### CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, when plans change on a dime, you are ready to roll with the new situation. Higher-ups could get a peek at your quick thinking, which can land you a promotion.

### LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

Make the most of every opportunity that comes your way this week, Leo. You may not get many chances to prove your worth in the weeks to come, so it's important to act now.

### VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, it is important to remember that your online presence never goes away. Watch what you post and say in social media groups, as it could come back to bite you.

### LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Something that started out as a part-time venture could turn into much more, Libra. Figure out if this is the path you see yourself going and then jump on it.

### SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Let loose and have fun for a change, Scorpio. Don't delay when others want to invite you out for a night on the town or even a brunch. Say "yes" to any and all opportunities.

### SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

There's a lot going on right now and it may have your head spinning, Sagittarius. Delegate some of your workload if you can. Don't be too hard on yourself.

### CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Family matters come to the forefront this week, Capricorn. You must dig in deep to address them. There are two sides to every story, so try to get all the facts first.

### AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Just when you started to lose hope, that new horizon you were seeking comes into view, Aquarius. It is well-deserved and there will be smiles for the weeks ahead.

### PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, if you find yourself with too much extra time on your hands, why not volunteer with the community to pass the time?

## OAK HARBOR CINEMAS

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2:00pm, 4:30pm & 7:30pm

JURASSIC WORLD DOMINION (PG-13)  
Friday – Thursday:

1:00pm, 4:00pm & 7:00pm

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DOMINION (PG-13)**

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**\*JULY 4 SHOWING SOLD OUT!**





# Island 911

Seriously, we do not make this stuff up!

## THURSDAY, MAY 26

### 11 am, Heller Rd.

Caller states has been having mail stolen; advising no one is taking her report seriously; had male two weeks ago bring her mail from the mailbox to her door, then asked for her mail back; believes fraud may also be occurring.

### 12:07 pm, Saratoga Rd.

Reporting party states is working at location and can hear someone yelling; sounds like they are in pain; coming from two-three houses north, male voice. States may be a goat; sounds as though yelling "Help," but hard to tell.

### 12:26 pm, Hunt Rd.

Reporting party states subject is illegally dumping garbage bag into ditch in front of reporting party's house; ongoing issue.

### 8:21 pm, Voyager Ter.

Caller states has been having issues with contractor; thinks they have been breaking into her house and now is stalking/harassing her and her family; sending messages to reporting party and her family.

### 11:04 pm, SR 20

Advising of male outside screaming and acting "crazy," running around without shoes on; is by himself; smacking on door a bit, pouring water on himself; male with facial tattoos, coat, shorts.

## FRIDAY, MAY 27

### 12:23 pm, Goldie Rd.

Advising theft of copper occurred last night; reporting party has video of theft by transient. Recalling, states he has set up meeting with person who stole the copper; requesting call.

### 1:02 pm, Goss Lake Rd.

"I want Island County Sheriff Office to get people to come out from their hide and go seek."

### 1:11 pm, SR 525

Advising on Freeland Ave. off of SR 525, there is a half-naked female in bus shelter; last seen 20 minutes ago; no weapon reported. White female, 30-40 years of age, long black hair, no pants on.

## SATURDAY, MAY 28

### 9:12 am, Mobius Loop

Advising FBI needs to be called in reference to weapons and would hate to take sheriff into custody.

### 9:31 am, Cultus Bay Rd.

Reporting party advising someone drove through fence last night; neighbors have video footage, but reporting party is unaware of anything further, did not see it happen. Advising she feels it is intentional, regarding "boundary disputes."

### 6:47 pm, NW Front St.

Requesting call in reference to being advised by third party of an employee from another business who went to location and yelled at employees there about a "pride" flag they put up.

### 10:13 pm, Lyon Rd.

Reporting party advising someone set three or four teddy bears in road; looks like they are trying to bait people to stop.

## SUNDAY, MAY 29

### 6:40 pm, S Main St.

Advising four subjects at gas pumps are

smoking; were told not to, then started yelling at reporting party, so then told them to leave but they are still there. Two males, two females.

### 8:33 pm, SR 20

Advising large tan cow on shoulder; caller received report from bus driver; advising just south of "S" curves.

## MONDAY, MAY 30

### 10:47 am, Appian Way

Advising of ongoing issue with receiving calls from subjects offering to buy caller's house; feeling pressured to sell.

### 7:07 pm, Clinton Beach Pl.

Advising neighbor has been peeking out window and video taping reporting party; wants to know what legal action can be taken to stop this; has also been pointing guns at reporting party's dog.

### 8:08 pm, Sandy Point Rd.

Caller advising had 10 people on his property; he and his neighbor are both armed and checking if subjects left; reporting party and his neighbor are on separate parts of the property.

### 9:19 pm, SR 20

Large cow on the side of the road; caller advising cow was not in the road when seen five minutes ago.

## TUESDAY, MAY 31

### 2:34 pm, Humphrey Rd.

Male subject not saying what is wrong; said "Never mind." Still on the line, though, said "The other night you had...;" "Never mind" again.

### 9:05 pm, Main St.

Caller wants to talk to an officer about her employer; has slapped reporting party on several occasions.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

### 11:05 pm, West Beach Rd.

Caller states saw six to eight lights "spread out," floating in the water; flashing red lights, about "60, 70, 90 yards from shore;" reporting party is not familiar with Smith Island and can't confirm if that would be the source.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 2

### 11 am, Cultus Bay Rd.

Mail truck driver screamed at reporting party about their dog; ran over reporting party's foot when he sped off; mail truck now leaving.

### 2:42 pm, Secret Corner Ln.

Caller states belligerent neighbor is now shooting a gun by horses this morning (three shots heard), then sped off in their vehicle past reporting party's residence; vehicle last seen toward Becker; stopped at the corner and fired a gun shot.

### 2:58 pm, Quail Walk Ln.

Poor connection; Fed Ex driver reporting homeowner for location is blocking roadway with a vehicle; white Ford F150 with gray trim; ongoing problem with homeowner stating reporting party is speeding.

### 4:43 pm, Shore Meadow Rd.

Advising female on the beach with her goat and as she was leaving the area was yelled at by another citizen; male citizen apologized to the reporting party, stating he was worried about his dogs.

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

## LIFE TRIBUTES

continued from page 8

couple raised three beautiful daughters. She transferred her gifts as a cook, musician, and homemaker to each of them, as well as her love of family. Above anything else, she had a deep and abiding love for her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As a couple, their greatest desire was that their children would walk in the ways of Christ and raise their families to serve Him and to love others to a saving knowledge of the Lord.

Heidi is survived by her loving husband of 50 years, Paul, at home in Lynden; three daughters: Rev. Korie Noell Taylor and husband Rev. John Taylor of Surabaya, Java, Indonesia; Holly Danae Priestman and husband Matt of Lynden; and Rev. Kylie Susanne Green and husband Rev. Ryan Green of Eugene, Ore.; ten grandchildren, Ellia and Alyssa Taylor; Annalise, Jacob, Alex, Alize and Isaiah Priestman; and Riley, Mason and Olivia Green; brother, Paul Michael Gamlen and wife Janell of Springfield, Mo.; niece, Shantell Gamlen of Springfield, Mo.; and three nephews, Brenton Fox and Andy Fox, of Ferndale and Adam Fox of Marysville; cousins, Marcia Gamlen Ellis of Troutdale, Ore., and Doug Gamlen and wife Josie of Vancouver, Wash. Heidi gained much respect and love wherever she lived, and therefore also leaves a host of friends as well, many of whom she called "chosen family."

Visitation was at Whidbey Memorial Chapel in Oak Harbor, Friday, June 3. A graveside service was held at Enterprise Cemetery, Ferndale, Friday, June 3. A memorial service was held for Heidi Saturday, June 4, at Whatcom New Life Assembly in Ferndale. Memorials are suggested to Whatcom Hospice or the Sumba House of Hope, a ministry that houses, disciples, equips and educates students from one of the poorest islands of Indonesia; <https://giving.ag.org/donate/600001-7A1887?fundid=93176>.

Family and friends may share memories and condolences at [whidbeymemorial.com](http://whidbeymemorial.com). Friends and family are also invited to wear something yellow, her favorite color, in her remembrance. Arrangements are with the collaboration of Evans Funeral Chapel, Anacortes, and Whidbey Memorial Funeral Home, Oak Harbor.

## Doris Marie Monlux



Doris Marie (Oliveira) Monlux earned her wings June 20, 2022 in Oak Harbor, Wash. She passed peacefully in her home in her favorite chair while in the care of a caregiver and friend, surrounded by love and comfort.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Manuel A. Oliveira and Elsie Souza Oliveira, and husband, William Robert Monlux. She is survived by her brother, Eric Manuel Oliveira (Rusty) of Anderson, Calif.; her daughters, Debbie Alvarez (Mark) of Poulsbo, Wash., Susan Tramm (Paul) of Marysville, Wash., and Ann Ellis (Gene) of Canton, Texas. Doris also has eight surviving grandchildren: Kelli Eck (Alex), Casey Alvarez (Jeanette), Parker Ellis (Liz), Marisa Tramm, Tyler Ellis, Alex Tramm, Hayleigh Tramm, Eli Ellis, and one deceased grandson, Ben Alvarez; five great-grandchildren: Kayli Eck, Zackary Eck, Hayden Alvarez, Jack Ellis, and Waylon Ellis; as well as one great-great-grandson, Emmett Paloma.

Doris was born in Honolulu, Hawaii Feb. 1, 1936. She graduated from Manteca Union High School in 1954 and attended Modesto Junior College. She was married June 8, 1958, to William R. Monlux in Manteca, Calif., where she took on the very important role of a Navy wife, which at times left her to carry the role of two parents. She was a very strong and caring person which showed every day in the way she lived her life. She loved crafts and continued to crochet just prior to her death. She also painted, made Japanese dolls, made crafts for craft fairs, and wedding cakes for family and friends. She played tennis, golf, and bowled on mixed leagues for many years. She also liked to travel, camp, fish and loved spending time with family, friends, and her beloved Schnauzers! She loved the outdoors and enjoyed the wildlife in her yard; she made sure to feed the deer, squirrels and birds. and always took care of her hummingbirds, which were her favorite. You could find her playing pinochle or slots and on wild nights, playing Bunco with her Bunco group, as she loved to laugh, enjoy life and end each day with a smile. In addition to being a homemaker and mother Doris was always willing to volunteer. She was a Camp Fire Girls Leader, Girl Scout Leader, member of 4H, Rainbow Girls, helped in our schools and held board positions or was a member of many organizations through her lifetime: the YWCA, Ombudsman, Navy Wives Club of America, Chiefs Wives Club, and North Whidbey Help House.

The family would like to deeply thank the many caregivers and friends who supported and cared for her; you were there for her when we couldn't be, and we appreciate you greatly. We'd also like to thank the Lions Club, WhidbeyHealth Hospice, Puget Sound Kidney Center, Skagit Valley Hospital and Nephrology Clinic as well as the many paramedics and EMTs who were quick to respond to her calls for assistance.

Having volunteered with the Help House since 1978 and serving as secretary for 30 years, in lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to the North Whidbey Help House. To donate, please visit [www.northwhidbeyhelp-house.org](http://www.northwhidbeyhelp-house.org).

Pallbearers: Paul Tramm, Mark Alvarez, Gene Ellis, Casey Alvarez, Alex Tramm, Eli Ellis, and Alex Eck.

The next time you see a hummingbird, smile and think of Doris. To leave a comment for the family, please visit [www.wallinfuneralhome.com](http://www.wallinfuneralhome.com).

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



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# OUR Community

## An Upbeat Question of the week

By Helen Mosbrooker

Why do we celebrate the 4th of July?

### Eulalie V.

First grade, Oak Harbor



It's something with America and here's what it is: celebrating the United States of America's birthday. It's like a birthday party.

### Kenzley S.

3rd grade, Oak Harbor



To show how thankful we are for our freedoms. It's like throwing America a birthday party and we all get to have bbq's and ice cream and shoot fireworks all night!

# CAN DO SUDOKU!

On a scale from 1 to 10...5.7

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

Answers on page 15

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

### Izic B.

3rd grade Oak Harbor



Fourth of July is a day of freedom and joy. We are not held captive anymore. We can worship and be free. It's a time to rejoice because we are independent and united. It's amazing how we are able to stand up for what we want and win our freedom.

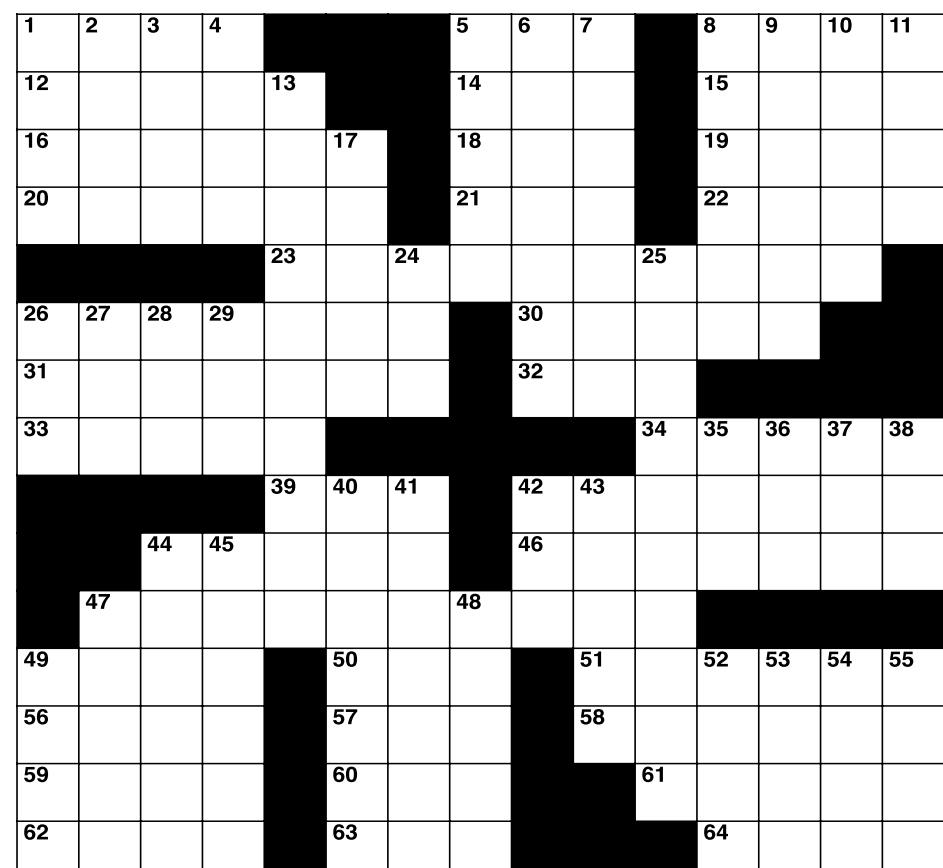
### Charlea P.

3rd grade, Oak Harbor



We celebrate Fourth of July because it was the day that we declared our freedom.

# Crossword Puzzle



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Orator's podium  
5. UK-Netherlands gas pipeline  
8. Partner to "oohs"  
12. African antelope  
14. Indigenous Thai person  
15. Monetary unit of Angola  
16. Becomes less intense  
18. Insurance mascot  
19. Tech hub \_\_ Alto  
20. Actress Tomei  
21. Airborne (abbr.)  
22. Type of smart watch  
23. Natives  
26. Incompetent person  
30. Rare Hawaiian geese  
31. Unspoken relationships  
32. Passports and licenses are two  
33. Claw  
34. Status quo  
39. Mimic  
42. Fur-lined cloak  
44. Ancient foreigner  
46. In an angry way  
47. Ill-intentioned  
49. Monetary unit of Serbia  
50. S. American plant  
51. One or the other  
56. An alias for Thor  
57. Gratuity  
58. In a painful way  
59. French commune  
60. Promotional materials  
61. Greek city  
62. Assistant  
63. Confederate general  
64. Former NJ governor  
odor (abbr.)  
25. Keeps a house cozy  
26. Ballplayer's accessory  
27. Southwestern Russian city  
28. Pro sports league  
29. Congress investigative body (abbr.)  
35. Stop standing  
36. Utilize  
37. Sign language  
38. Famed ESPN broadcaster Bob  
40. Being of central importance  
41. Ruin environment  
42. Dessert dish  
43. Sea eagles  
44. Fertilized  
45. Jerry's friend Benes  
47. Indian river  
48. Pass into a specified state or condition  
49. Nocturnal rodent  
52. A way to travel  
53. Iron-containing compound  
54. Ancient Greek City  
55. NFL signal caller Matt

### CLUES DOWN

1. Used by gymnasts  
2. "Luther" actor Idris  
3. Broad volcanic crater  
4. Not for  
5. Blur  
6. Tots  
7. Acted leisurely  
8. About the Alps  
9. Gets out of bed  
10. Town in "The Iliad"  
11. Welsh given name  
13. Remove salt  
17. Calvary sword  
24. Mental disorder concerning body  
Answers on page 15

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

Thurs, June 30 North Isle H-65°/L-57° Partly Sunny Passing Shower	Fri, July 1 North Isle H-68°/L-56° Partly Sunny	Sat, July 2 North Isle H-67°/L-57° Mostly Sunny	Sun, July 3 North Isle H-66°/L-58° Cloudy	Mon, July 4 North Isle H-65°/L-57° Sunny with Patchy Clouds	Tues, July 5 North Isle H-66°/L-59° Cloudy	Wed, July 6 North Isle H-67°/L-56° Cloudy
South Isle H-70°/L-57° Partly Sunny Passing Shower	South Isle H-71°/L-59° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-72°/L-58° Partly Sunny	South Isle H-69°/L-57° Cloudy	South Isle H-68°/L-58° Sunny with Patchy Clouds	South Isle H-69°/L-60° Cloudy	South Isle H-71°/L-59° Cloudy

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- Tire Rotation & Balance
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- Check all Fluids
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Aug 10

**Zan Fiskum**

Aug 17

**The Chris Eger Band**

Aug 24

**Janie Cribbs & the T.Rust Band**



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