

# WHIDBEY NEWS-TIMES

SOUTH WHIDBEY RECORD

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

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## Defendant in animal cruelty case wanted on warrant

By **JESSIE STENSLAND**  
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A North Whidbey woman charged with multiple counts of animal cruelty is wanted on a \$2,500 warrant after failing to appear at hearings in Island County Superior Court.

Kristi L. Finch pleaded not guilty earlier this year to two counts of animal cruelty in the first degree, five counts of



Kristi Finch

animal cruelty in the second degree and tampering with a witness.

Finch failed to appear for a readiness hearing on Nov. 20, and the judge rescheduled it for Nov. 27. When she didn't appear again, Deputy Prosecutor Michael Safstrom asked Judge Christon Skinner to authorize a \$10,000 warrant for her arrest.

In court, Safstrom said he

has reason to believe 59-year-old Finch plans on leaving the state to set up a new animal breeding facility; under the terms of her release, she was ordered not to leave the state without permission of the court. Safstrom said he was concerned that she didn't appear in court telephonically because she didn't want anyone to ask where she is, although he admitted he had

no specific information about her whereabouts.

Safstrom also pointed out that Finch is charged with tampering with a witness, which he said demonstrates her disregard for court orders.

On the other hand, Finch's attorney, Eric Lewis, said he had been in contact with Finch over the last week and he didn't know why she failed to attend the hearing. He empha-

sized that she had attended all hearings before last week and suggested that the arrest warrant should be \$1,000.

In the end, Skinner decided to set the warrant at \$2,500.

The recent hearings were ahead of her trial, which is scheduled for Dec. 5 but may end up being delayed for the seventh time.

SEE SUSPECT, PAGE 5

## No fuel leaked from Navy aircraft

By **LUISA LOI**  
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There was no fuel released from the P-8A aircraft assigned to Whidbey Island that, on Nov. 20, overshot the runway while attempting to land on Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay in Hawaii, according to officials who spoke at a press conference held Monday at the Hawaiian base.

The cause of the accident is still unknown, but the Navy recovered a data recorder from the airplane.

Just minutes after the accident, a Navy Waterfront Operations team arrived on the scene to limit any environmental damage. In 30 minutes, the aircraft was surrounded by containment booms — used to capture any hazardous contaminants released in the water — which were on a boat already located in the bay. Later, the Navy was joined by teams from state agencies, according to Col. Jeremy Beaven, commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

Representatives of the salvage efforts who spoke during the conference estimated that the aircraft had just over 2,000 gallons of fuel on board.

SEE AIRCRAFT, PAGE 5

## Santa came to town



Photo by David Welton

Santa Claus (Mark Stewart Cassidy) is escorted by Police Chief Tavier Wasser to the Lighting of Langley. More images from the event can be seen on page 8.

## Elephant seal spotted on Thanksgiving Day

By **KIRA ERICKSON**  
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The sighting of a Northern elephant seal on a beach in Mutiny Bay last week caused something of a stir, even though she didn't stick around for long.

On Wednesday evening, a Whidbey resident sent a photo of the pinniped to Garry Heinrich, volunteer coordinator for the Central Puget Sound Marine Mammal Stranding Network. The next day, he went out to check on the seal, which turned out to be a healthy, two-year-old female.

"It was a Thanksgiving gift," Heinrich said.

Perhaps sensing that it was a day for celebrating over the carcasses of butchered animals, the seal skedaddled soon after she was spotted.

"Pretty much as we were standing there, she decided she didn't want to be bothered and went back into the water,"



Photo provided

SEE SEAL, PAGE 5

A Thanksgiving Day visitor to Mutiny Bay, this elephant seal from California didn't stick around for long.



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# Music program for veterans strikes a chord

*Guitar group brings peace to wounded warriors*

By LUISA LOI  
luisa.loi@whidbeynewsgroup.com

On a rainy and cold Sunday night in Oak Harbor, the sound of laughter and imperfect guitar strumming filled the room at Click Music with warmth.

What looked like a gathering of lifelong friends was in reality a weekly jam session involving guitar instructors and students who have generally known each other for less than a year.

A year ago, some of those students wouldn't have imagined themselves playing an instrument in front of other people, but there they were now, joking around and giving each other words of encouragement.

Among them, Oak Harbor resident Gary Raster perhaps had the biggest smile.

"I don't do people," he had said just a few days before.

He had also said he didn't do parades, either. But on Veterans Day, he paraded on Pioneer Way as a member of the Guitars for Vets group.

Guitars for Vets is a non-profit that was founded in Wisconsin in 2007 and counts more than 50 chapters in over 25 states, created with the goal of helping veterans with diagnosed mental or physical disabilities that resulted from serving. The program provides 10 private guitar lessons, a practice guitar and a guitar donated upon completion of the course, free of charge to students.

Over a year after its debut in Oak Harbor, the program has already changed lives, including Raster's, who used to be averse to change.

Raster is a Navy veteran who has served for 22 years as an aircraft mechanic. One day, in the middle of the Persian Gulf during the Desert Shield and Desert Storm operations, he realized he couldn't take the stress of his job anymore and decided to retire. Although he left, the stress never did and, as a result, he developed an addiction to alcohol.

While looking for an "avenue to a happy place," Raster came across an article by the *Whidbey News-Times* which talked about



Photo by Luisa Loi

Cole Cartee is a new instructor at the Oak Harbor chapter of Guitars for Vets.

a new program that used the power of music to help veterans with disabilities. Expecting to learn a few chords to play at the occasional campfire, he decided to give it a shot and set aside his fear of failure and embarrassment.

Nine months after taking that leap of faith, he was showing off his five shiny guitars while wearing a Guitars for Vets shirt, pages of sheet music spread all over his table. His enthusiasm for this newfound hobby eventually spread to his wife, who recently added a new guitar to the family.

The once self-critical Raster feels more at peace with himself and, as a result, his home has been more peaceful. Like playing the guitar, hitting the wrong string in life isn't the end of the world. This new perspective has given him the confidence to do things his past self wouldn't have been comfortable doing, such as allowing himself to play and make mistakes in front of strangers and people more experienced than him.

"This has helped me realize that there's no big deals," he said. "Everything's okay."

Playing the guitar releases vibrations that he feels through his torso, putting him in a relaxed state. Raster compared the feeling to being wrapped in a swaddling cloth.

"Whatever your issue may be, this is probably an avenue to give you some

relief," he said, addressing other veterans.

Similarly, Guitars for Vets graduate Candy O'Neal described the feeling as "sedating," which she said helped her mental health greatly, giving her confidence. It also gives her something to look forward to, like playing at open mics or practicing in the privacy of her own home so that one day she will be able to perform with her husband, local singer and songwriter Bobby O'Neal.

O'Neal, who served in the Navy for 24 years, credits the program for reducing her irritability and believes music is a great form of therapy, especially when paired with medication and talk therapy.

"It's such a powerful instrument to be able to convey your emotions," she said.

Furthermore, it gives her a break from her tinnitus, which she doesn't hear while she is focused on playing.

Despite attending lessons via video calls, Joy Sgobba, a DJ from Seattle, learned to play the guitar in a way that's easy on her carpal tunnel, which allows her to release her emotions and feel the soothing effect of the guitar's vibrations through her body. As someone who struggles to this day with the lingering stress of her past career in the Navy and the medical field, music gives her a break from being on fight or flight mode.

She recalled her admi-

ration for the guitar players she dated, but she was never the one to play. Now, she continues to take lessons as a post-grad with the goal of learning some Jack Johnson and Bob Marley songs.

Melissa Johnson is a guitar instructor and the Oak Harbor and Seattle Guitars for Vets chapters coordinator. Students attributed their confidence boost and improved quality of life to her gentle and patient teaching style that can adapt to different disabilities, mental and physical. One of her students, she recalled, said the program saved his life.

"The neurological pathways in the brain can be redrawn," she said.

The program, she added, also helps instructors through their healing journey.

Cole Cartee is a new addition to Oak Harbor's Guitar for Vets team, which includes Johnson and Army veteran Alan McClymond — who also teaches bass and banjo.

Cartee is an Army veteran with autism and ADHD who has been playing the guitar and writing his own songs for the past eight years.

"Music helps me untangle my mind," he said.

It was thanks to music that he was able to find comfort while struggling in the Army and recalled often getting in trouble for singing too much. Through the program, he hopes to help other veterans.

Every third Wednesday



Photo by Luisa Loi

Gary Raster shows some of his guitars at his house.



Photo by Luisa Loi

Right to left, Candy O'Neal and Melissa Johnson play at the Guitars for Vets Sunday Jam.

of the month, starting in December, Cartee and McClymond will host jam nights that are open to students who have yet to graduate and for veterans who are not part of the program.

Veterans, Cartee said, tend to search for brotherhood and a place where they can fit in. Jam sessions offer veterans an opportunity to connect with people with similar experiences and struggles, but also an environment that encourages them to grow as musicians and people.

Neo-graduate and Navy veteran Adura Philips shared a similar opinion.

"It's nice to know you're not alone in the things that

you struggle with," she said.

Last Wednesday, the Whidbey Island Chapter Military Officers Association of America donated a guitar to her for completing the 10-week course.

Guitars for Vets, Johnson said, accepts monetary and guitar donations, but is also looking for people who are willing to offer their time to fix guitars or teach guitar lessons. Currently, the organization is looking for an instructor who can teach on South Whidbey.

For more information about Guitars for Vets, visit [guitars4vets.org](http://guitars4vets.org) or email Johnson at [wa.oakharbor@guitarsforvets.org](mailto:wa.oakharbor@guitarsforvets.org).

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# Oak Harbor police investigate school bus crash

By **JESSIE STENSLAND**  
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Oak Harbor police are still investigating a Nov. 21 hit-and-run crash involving a school bus and a stolen car, according to Capt. Tony Slowik.

The car involved in the collision was later found abandoned in a city neighborhood thanks to tips from residents.

It was damaged enough to be undrivable.

Slowik explained that the school bus dash camera recorded the accident. It shows a car on Northeast O'Leary Street crossing in front of a school bus traveling on East Whidbey Avenue; the bus struck the back of the car. Slowik said the collision was clearly the fault of the car driver, who left the

scene.

No students were in the school bus at the time and the driver was not injured. Slowik said the bus driver was driving below the speed limit and tried to avoid the crash.

"The driver did a really good job when it comes to reaction time," he said.

The police department posted the video of the crash

on Facebook and asked residents for help in finding the damaged car.

The school bus appeared to be largely undamaged except for the "stop paddle," which was broken, according to police. The Washington State Patrol inspected the bus before it returned to service, which is the policy when a school bus is involved in a collision.



A dash cam on an Oak Harbor school bus captured a collision with a stolen car.

# Accordion aficionado plans holiday concert

By **LUISA LOI**  
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As the old saying goes, "It's not truly a party until someone breaks out the accordion."

Community members are invited to party to the rhythm of David Locke's accordion, which will fill the nave of the First United Methodist Church in Oak Harbor with Christmas music at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1.

Locke, who lives in Langley, has 71 years of experience with the proverbial squeezebox, which he began playing when he was 9 years old and he fell in love with its sound that could be funny, but also solemn. Even as the rise of rock 'n roll made the accordion seem uncool and comical, his loyalty to the instrument has only grown stronger over the years, just like his indifference to the "cruel jokes" people would make about it.

He recalled a woman who approached him after he played the accordion at a friend's celebration of life to tell him that, to her great surprise, he had made her



David Locke plays "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

realize the accordion could be a beautiful and touching instrument.

For most of his life, the 80-year-old Minnesota native has been sharing the joys of church music, making some people feel closer to God. To Locke, who has a bachelor's degree in church music, the act of playing music is a spiritual experience in itself, and conveys his spirituality better than the spoken word ever

could, especially through the organ and the accordion.

The accordion, he said, can also elicit feelings of hilarity and nostalgia in his audience. He found this to be particularly true with people

suffering from dementia, for whom he has played many times.

One of these people was an elderly woman who lived in Santa Barbara and had grown aloof as her mind de-

teriorated. Every week until she passed away, Locke would play the organ for her, which he said would bring her back to life. To this day, he plays for dementia patients at the Memory Cafe Oak Harbor chapter, helping them reconnect with their memories.

These experiences have deeply touched him and also convinced him of the power of music on the brain, even those that do not suffer from memory-related conditions, as it brings back memories from simpler times.

"I think it just helps people remember their past and their childhood," he said. "It gives me a reason for being here."

On Friday, anyone can take a seat and enjoy an hour of holiday tunes, some of which are from France, Scandinavia and Brazil. At this informal event, Locke said, guests will also have the opportunity to make

song requests and sing along if they "want to warm up their voices on some Christmas carols," as he said.

Locke is also available to perform at private events. He can be contacted at dlocke@whidbey.com or at (206) 334-0108.

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**December 3**  
Staff Holiday Party - Store closes early, at 4:00pm to allow our whole staff time to enjoy a holiday party together.

**December 24**  
Store closes 1 hour early (open 9:00am-5:00pm)

**December 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
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**December 31 New Years Eve**  
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**SOUND OFF**

**Gourd the beloved turkey will be missed**

By SARAH SANTOSA

I don't often let myself live in a place of anger or sadness for the animals of the world. Instead I bury the feeling, snuggle the creatures at my sanctuary and get to work making their lives better. But it's hard. It's both hard to resist the rage and despair, and hard to hold it, as touching that pain scorches like fire.

Well, I am going to touch that fire for a moment.

I have been told we are "good vegans" because we don't push it on anyone or make anyone feel shameful. In that case, I need to be a "bad vegan" right now. My first turkey friend, Gourd, died this week. He did not die of old age. No domestic



Photo provided

Gourd the turkey had a good life at Ballydeean Farm Sanctuary on South Whidbey.

turkey dies of old age in fact, their bodies have been bred to just keep getting bigger until they are slaughtered

or their systems collapse because they can no longer sustain their body. Imagine loving life, but not being able to age no matter what you do because it doesn't matter to the world if your body is functional, it only matters if you taste good quickly.

Suddenly, Gourd wheezed, collapsed, and vomited; slowly draining away for hours because humans have bred him to be the fattest food as fast as possible. Mostly for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Gourd was more than the juicy, fatty calories on your festive plate. He was my friend. He was silly, chatty, slow but strong. He loved his flock, even welcoming two little orphan piglets into

his home. Gourd's face was always changing and sharing his expression. He was thrilled to discover blueberry muffins. He fiercely chirped at power tools. He was sweet and warm to our small daughter, trusting her before he let anyone else in. He had a theme song that we sang on slow walks together morning and night.

Gourd defied the odds. He was plucked out of the garbage can by a family visiting a Tractor Supply during "chick season." He had been live-shipped in a cardboard box, tumbling loose in the dark on trucks, arriving with both legs broken. He was no longer a viable "product," so the store threw him away. This young family plucked him out,

taped popsicle sticks to his tiny shattered legs, and he survived. He was loved by them and loved by us. But that only sustained him for three years before his body succumbed to humans' selective breeding. Which is "good" for a turkey; most domestic turkeys before they turn 1 (if they have been spared slaughter).

Gourd brought so much joy, taught us so much, exposed folks to the chirpy charm of turkeys, surprised them with his goofiness and spirit. Our Minneapolis nephews still sing his theme song. Gourd planted seeds of empathy in others and dug a gulf of care and grief in me.

The fact that Gourd died the week of Thanksgiving is

especially bitter. As I weep missing my friend, still looking for him each morning, holding my daughter's little hand in shared loss, most of you will ceremonially eat a Gourd. A friend and being that can't live because their body didn't need to work, only taste. A soul slaughtered for flavor.

This year I am thankful for the bird, the friend, the being that shared his short life with me and left me forever changed. Thank you Gourd.

Sarah Santosa and her husband Ansel are the owners of Ballydeean Farm Sanctuary on South Whidbey. Since writing this, the Santosas have welcomed a new turkey to the sanctuary named Delicata.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

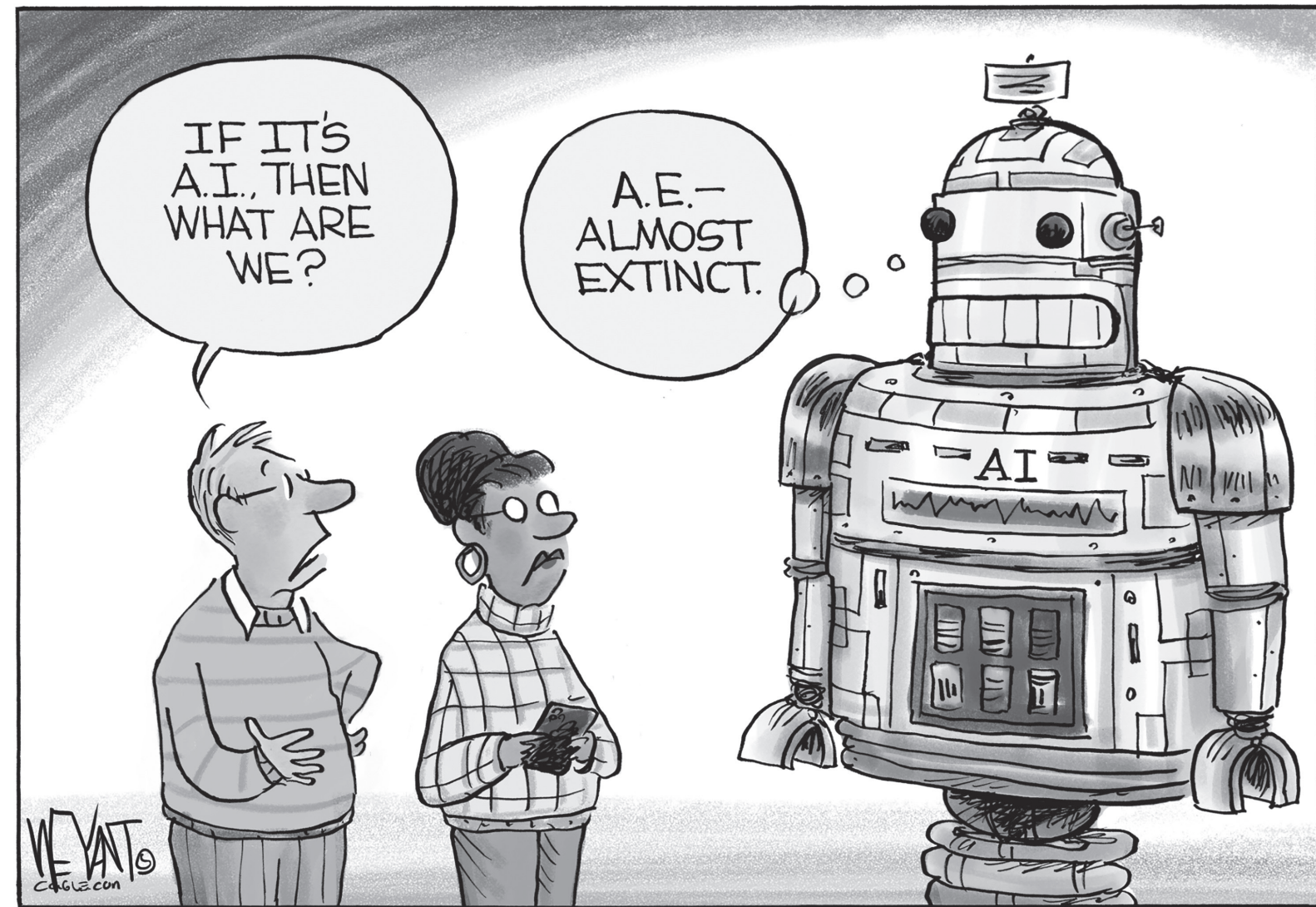
**Flooding**

**County rules prevent repair of tidegate**

Editor,  
At the recent county commissioner meeting, some comments were made regarding Greenbank Beach and the county's unwillingness to spend taxpayer dollars in an area where flooding is "a result of gravity" and that "we chose to live in an area where you couldn't control how water was hitting your home." Our lack of control is the result of the county's actions and implementation of a Shoreline Management Plan that makes it almost impossible to repair infrastructure on the beach. Our flood damage is not from king tides but the failure of a century-old tide gate system and the regulations that impede its repair.

We live at the bottom of a 1,500-acre drainage basin below Greenbank Farm. Water from three miles south of Greenbank Store up to two miles north of Greenbank Farm has all been channeled and piped to the marsh next to the farm. All this water has only one route to the sea - a tidegate that's privately owned by the Greenbank Beach and Boat Club.

Residents on the beach have no ownership in this structure and are helpless



when water backs up because it's often plugged. In 2022, an exceptional tide breached the dike containing the tidegate and flooded the area with sea water and was unable to drain.

Over the past 10 years, hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent designing a new fish-

friendly open channel to replace the tidegate, but the project was killed by the Planning Department's evaluation that it would affect water tables. They chose not to participate in any of the studies and nothing further was done.

The county refuses to get involved because the

tidegate is privately owned and instead is satisfied to just bring stormwater up to our doorsteps. They tell us to get insurance to protect us, but we are unable to get affordable insurance that has any meaningful coverage because of FEMA actions against the county.

I would be fine with paying my fair share of taxes to a Drainage District that would protect my home. There are several on the island and I don't understand why none was ever created here. The commissioners are the ones responsible for approving the creation of a drain-

age district - and wouldn't it make sense for Public Works, who has the manpower and equipment to maintain these systems and also the ability to deal with the myriad shoreline permits, to manage?

Randy Schroder  
Greenbank

**In Memory**

**Carters dedicated their lives to public service**

Editor,  
The passing of Rosalynn Carter has brought to mind what decent people she

and her husband, Jimmy Carter, have been. They served a one-term presidency that made a significant impact in office but accomplished much more in their years since the presidency.

As president, Carter established the Department of Education and appointed a diverse cabinet and administration showing a real understanding of how government could serve real people. Rosalynn focused

on mental health issues and took on other causes that made her a singular First Lady for her compassion, her service and her caring. Jimmy focused on human rights in his foreign policy and saw America's legacy as "rooted in our moral values" and "designed to serve mankind."

Once they retired, they created the Carter Foundation where Jimmy and Rosalynn labored to rid the world of childhood dis-

eases and supervise elections in an effort to grow democracies all over the world. They were fundamentally decent people with strong religious and rural roots who saw their role as serving their country throughout their lives. Even late in life, they were volunteers for "Habitat for Humanity" right up to the point where they could no longer swing a hammer. They lived in the same house they built in the '60s

and were modest and decent people who lived their values and beliefs. They were "selfless" people.

I contrast this with our most recent one-term president and his wife who define the word "selfish". Both were singularly concerned with "what's in it for them" throughout their lives. Neither have ever served others in any capacity, let alone their country. They have done nothing but incite hatred and elit-

ism since leaving the White House. Mar a Lago says it all. As Nancy Meyer commented in her letter to the editor on Nov. 15, Trump is "not a God, not even a moral good person." He is a "clear and present danger to American democracy" as stated by one of the most conservative judges in the country. Don't get me started on comparing Rosalynn to Melania.

Charles Niedzialkowski  
Oak Harbor

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# SUSPECT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

The Island County Sheriff's Office started investigating Finch last Christmas Eve after two

horses were found starved to death on her property, according to court documents. At least 11 horses, 24 dogs, 31 cats, two pigs, four chinchillas and some rabbits were living on the property at the time and many of them were emaci-

ated or living in small cages, a deputy's report states. The first-degree animal cruelty counts regard two horses that allegedly starved to death on Finch's property. The two charges included aggravating factors that could increase a sentence

beyond the standard range. The alleged circumstances are that the victims were "particularly vulnerable or incapable of resistance." The rest of the animal cruelty counts regard a horse, dogs and cats that Finch allegedly failed to provide

necessary care for, resulting in "unnecessary suffering or unjustifiable pain," according to the charges. This summer, prosecutors filed a motion of forfeiture of most of the animals that had been seized from Finch's farm. She fought the

motion, but Skinner ruled in the prosecution's favor. Lewis is Finch's third attorney after the first had a conflict of interest and the second filed a motion to terminate representation because he disagreed with her defense strategy.

# AIRCRAFT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

On Sunday, a Navy team defueled the plane, something that had never been done to a P-8A underwater. The fuel appeared to be in perfect condition as a result of tests conducted early Monday. Rear Adm. Kevin P. Lenox, who is also the on-scene commander and commander of Carrier Strike Group 3, said they could "put that in another plane and it would be good to go."

The officials said the aircraft is in remarkably good condition and its fuel system is intact. This means the plane can likely be put back into use after being removed from the water and being repaired. Removal might involve the use of a float and a crane, or giant rolls.

The plane is mostly sitting on its landing gear, with one of the engines resting on a coral reef. Once the airplane is removed from the site, environmental damage will be further assessed, but for now it seems that there have been no major impacts to the coral, as reported by Navy divers who conducted a hydrogeographic survey on the area surrounding the aircraft.

Lenox said that an ad-



U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Tania Guerrero

A P-8A sits in the waters off Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay.

ministrative investigation is being conducted by a senior naval officer in the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force from outside the chain of command of the aircraft crew involved in the accident, along with an

Aviation Mishap Board. "The Navy is committed to learning from this investigation, regardless of the cause," said Lenox. "These lessons be valuable in preventing such incidents going forward and making

us better." The nine passengers involved in the accident — three pilots, two officers and four enlisted crew members — managed to evacuate on their own and reported no injuries. They are part of the

Patrol Squadron 4 "Skinny Dragons," which is stationed on Whidbey Island and was on a detachment in support of maritime homeland defense. Patrol squadrons are no longer stationed at Kaneohe Bay, so they de-

ploy to Hawaii from other bases in patrol missions. Currently, the aircraft and crew are being replaced by a P-8A and crew assigned to VP-40 "Fighting Marlins" that arrived in Hawaii on Nov. 22.

# SEAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Heinrich said. Female elephant seals can grow to about 10 feet in length and weigh between 900 and 1,700 pounds with an average life span of 20 years.

A green tag indicated that she was from Año Nuevo State Park in California and not from the family of E-named elephant seals that have been spotted frequently on Whidbey Island. So "you can call her whatever you want," Heinrich said with a laugh.

The Island County Sheriff's Office got involved in the matter, posting to social media on Thanksgiving Day about the visiting seal. Heinrich explained that he and the sheriff's office were concerned the seal may have been beginning to molt, a process which can take five weeks. If that was the case, they wanted to warn people about coming too close to her. Federal law requires that people and their pets keep a minimum distance of 150 feet from seals. "We were worried that she might go back into the water and come back out at another location on Mutiny Bay," Heinrich said. "But we have heard nothing since that day, which is a good thing."

According to the Central



Photo provided

Puget Sound Marine Mammal Stranding Network, all elephant seals go through an annual molt, referred to as a "cata-

strophic molt." During this process, they lose their old fur and much of their skin before growing a pristine new fur coat. They prefer

to rest on the beach while

this happens. Their nose and eyes may look runny and their breathing will sound labored, but this is all normal.

Elephant seals are polygamous, living in large colonies of females and pups governed by a large mature bull known as the "harem master." Down in California, they congregate in massive numbers, but that isn't something typically seen in the Pacific Northwest. However, Heinrich said he learned from an expert with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that something — whether warmer waters or another factor — might be driving more of the population north, which could explain the

Thanksgiving Day visitor to Mutiny Bay.

"Any sighting of any elephant seal, we'd really like to know," Heinrich said.

In addition, the Central Puget Sound Marine Mammal Stranding Network is also working to track the three generations of elephant seals — Ellie, Eloise, Ellison, Elsie Mae, Elwood and Emerson — that have all visited Whidbey Island at one point or another. Some, like Eloise and Elwood, have not been seen since 2021. Sightings can be reported by emailing Heinrich at [garryh@orcaneetwork.org](mailto:garryh@orcaneetwork.org) or by calling 949-233-2822 and leaving a detailed voicemail message.



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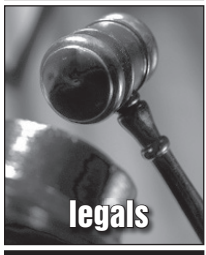


## pets/animals

### Dogs



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## legals

### Legal Notices

**CALL FOR BIDS FREELAND WATER & SEWER DISTRICT HARBOR HILLS ANTELOPE NORTH WELL DRILLING ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE \$268,000**  
Sealed Proposals will be received by the undersigned at the Freeland Water & Sewer District at the offices of Whidbey Water Services, 1667 Roberta Avenue, Freeland, Washington 98249 or mailed to P.O. Box 222, Freeland, Washington 98249, up to 10:00 a.m.; local time on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, for furnishing the necessary labor, materials, equipment, tools, and guarantees thereof to construct the Harbor Hills Antelope North Well Drilling. This project consists of preparing a drilling pad, and drilling, constructing, and testing an 8-inch well to a depth of approximately 300 feet below ground surface. The well will be constructed with a surface seal, 8-inch casing, and telescoping screen. The anticipated screen length is 20 feet. Upon completion of drilling and screen installation, the well will be developed and pump tests conducted. Flow rates are anticipated to be approximately 150 gpm. The Contractor shall provide all materials, equipment, and personnel for drilling, installing the well screen, and performing pumping tests. The Work shall be physically complete within 55 working days after the commencement date stated in the Notice to Proceed. All bidding and construction is to be performed in compliance with the Contract Provisions and Contract Plans for this project and any addenda

### Legal Notices

issued thereto that are on file at the office of the District Manager, District Office, Freeland, Washington. The Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud shortly after the time and date stated above. Proposals are to be submitted only on the form provided with the Bid Documents. All Proposals must be accompanied by a certified check, postal money order, cashiers check, or Proposal bond payable to the "Freeland Water & Sewer District" and in an amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total Proposal amount. Bid Documents for this project are available free-of-charge at the following website: <http://gobids.grayandoborne.com>. Bidders are encouraged to register in order to receive automatic email notification of future addenda and to be placed on the Bidders List. For assistance, please call (206) 284-0860. Contract questions shall be directed only to the office of the Project Engineer. Bidders are encouraged to contact the Owner to schedule an appointment to visit the site prior to submitting a Proposal. To schedule an appointment, please call Mr. Andy Campbell, District Operations Manager at (360)-331-5566. Financing of the Project has been provided by Freeland Water & Sewer District, Washington. The Freeland Water & Sewer District expressly reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive minor irregularities or informalities or informality in any Proposal. /s/ Terri Campbell DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR  
Legal No. WNT987863  
Published: The Whidbey News Times  
November 29, and December 2, 2023

### City of Oak Harbor Request for Proposal Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that the City of Oak Harbor has issued the following Request for Proposal. The complete Request for Proposal, including all submittal requirements, can be viewed at [www.oakharbor.gov](http://www.oakharbor.gov). If further information is required or to schedule a site visit, please contact Sandra Place, Central Services Manager at [spplace@oakharbor.org](mailto:spplace@oakharbor.org). RFP Title: Vending Services  
**RFP Due Date and Time:** December 14, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.  
**Brief Scope of Services:** Provide all labor, materials, tools, and equipment to perform Vending Services on City property.  
Julie Nester, City Clerk  
Legal No. WNT987675  
Published: The Whidbey News Times  
November 22, 29, 2023



### EBEY'S LANDING HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

On December 14, 2023, at 10:00 AM, the HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION will hold a session in the BOCC Hearing Room (Room #102B) Located in the Island County Annex Building, 1 NE 6th St, Coupeville, Washington, to consider the following **Roll Call; Discussion: Public Hearings: EBY-23-060:** Parcel No. S7530-00-00005-0, Captain Whidbey LLC- Removal and replacement of existing dock and installation of new buoys. **E B Y - 2 3 - 0 6 2 :** S8060-00-09025-0, San De Fuca Community Chapel, & c/o Keith Fakkema - Add a new 12' by 16' shed on the property adjacent to the Liberal League Hall/San De Fuca Community Chapel and the Hingston House. **COA-23-055:** Parcel No. S7302-03-00005-1 Lot 1, Mitch Aparicio / Stuurmans Enterprises Inc, Construction of a new single-family residence. **COA-23-056:** 402 NW Krueger St (S7302-03-00005-1 - Lot 2), Mitch Aparicio / Stuurmans Enterprises Inc, Construction of a new single-family residence. **EBY-23-061:** R13111-050-3140, Patricia Job, Installation of single-family manufactured home within a pit foundation on a concrete slab. House is 1,512 sq. ft. with small rear patio. Site is on or near: Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Design Review Area 1. The Historic Preservation Commission will hear testimony from interested persons in per-

### Legal Notices

son as noticed above or via video on Zoom at: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9szpr9> or phone 1 (253) 215-8782 US (Tacoma) Meeting ID: 937 5754 6931 Passcode: 993018. Written comments may be submitted via U.S. Mail at the address below or electronically at the emails also below. Should a change occur on the hearing regarding location, date or time, the change(s) will be posted on our website at: <https://townofcoupeville.org/2020-historic-preservation-commission-or> <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Planning/>. For additional information, email [c.bonsen@islandcountywa.gov](mailto:c.bonsen@islandcountywa.gov). HPC is a joint board of the Town and County. Please visit [www.islandcountywa.gov/planning/](http://www.islandcountywa.gov/planning/) for the Ebey's Landing Guidelines. The public may submit comments in writing to Planning & Community Development; PO Box 5000, Coupeville, WA 98239 for projects within the County (EBY). Projects within the Town (COA), submit written comments to Town of Coupeville, PO Box 725, Coupeville, WA 98239  
Legal No. WNT987835  
Published: The Whidbey News Times  
November 29, 2023

### Filed for Record at Request of and after Recording Return to:

FENIX LAW, P.S.  
Attn: Chad E. Ahrens  
748 Market Street  
Suite 317  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
**Grantor/Borrower:** Nonna's Fresh Pasta, LLC dba Agrodolce  
**Grantee/Beneficiary:** WBL SPO I, LLC  
**Trustee:** Fenix Law, P.S.  
**Current Mortgage Servicer:** Abbrev. Legal: 11N SCENIC HTS 2 LOT 33  
**Legal Description:** Page(s) 1  
**Ref. # of Related Documents:** 4480097, 4534067, 4563717  
**Assessor's Property Tax Parcel No.:** S8115-02-00033-0  
TO: Maria V. Litrenta  
1236 Canterbury Lane  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277  
Nonna's Fresh Pasta, LLC dba Agrodolce  
709 North 35th Street  
Seattle, WA 98103

### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE OF COMMERCIAL LOAN

**Pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington, Chapter 61.24 RCW I, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned Trustee will, on the **29th day of December, 2023**, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a.m., outside of the at the front steps of the Administration Building located at front entrance City Hall, 865 SE Barrington Dr., Oak Harbor, State of Washington, 98239, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder, payable, in the form of cash, cashier's check or certified checks from federally or State chartered banks, at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the county of Island, State of Washington, to-wit: LOT 33, PLAT OF SCENIC HEIGHTS, DIVISION NO. 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN VOLUME 7 OF PLATS, PAGE 73, RECORDS OF ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON. SITUATE IN THE COUNTY OF ISLAND, STATE OF WASHINGTON. Tax Parcel No. S8115-02-00033-0 Commonly known as 1236 Canterbury Lane, Oak Harbor, WA 98277 (the "Real Property") which is subject to that certain Deed of Trust dated 1/27/2020, recorded 1/28/2020, under Auditor's File No. 4480097, records of Island County, State of Washington from Nonna's Fresh Pasta, LLC dba Agrodolce, as Grantor to Guardian Northwest Title and Escrow Company, as Trustee, to secure an obligation (the "Obligation") in favor of WBL SPO I, LLC, the original Beneficiary. By that certain Assignment of Deed of Trust dated October 28, 2021, recorded November 18, 2021, under Auditor's File No. 4534067, records of Island County, State of Washington, the current beneficiary is WBL SPO II, LLC. By that certain Appointment of Successor Trustee, dated August 15, 2023, recorded August 18, 2023, under Auditor's File No. 4563717 records of Island County, State of Washington, the Beneficiary has appointed Fenix Law, P.S. as successor trustee. II. No action commenced by the Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust or the Beneficiary's successor is now pending to seek satisfaction of the Obligation in any Court by reason of

### Legal Notices

the Grantor's default on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust. III. The Beneficiary alleges default of the Deed of Trust for failure to pay the following amounts now in arrears or for which performance is now past due: Principal due in full \$126,331.18 Interest (Per diem is \$284.50): \$339,261.73 NSF Fees: \$490.00 Collection Fees: \$20,249.10 Prepayment Premium: \$126,812.15 Posting/Service Fees (est.) \$300.00 (BPO) Reserved Postal Costs & Copies (est.) \$45.00 Property Preservation Reserved  
**Subtotal \$613,489.16**  
IV. The sum owing on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust is: \$126,331.18 together with interest as provided in the note or other instrument secured from the 30th day of September, 2020, and such other costs and fees as are due under the note or other instrument secured, and as they are provided by statute. V. The above-described real property will be sold to satisfy the expense of sale and the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust as provided by statute. The sale will be made without warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances on the **29th day of December, 2023**. The default referred to in paragraph III must be cured by the **18th day of December, 2023** (11 days before the sale date), to cause a discontinuance of the sale. The sale will be discontinued and terminated if at any time on or before the **18th day of December, 2023** (11 days before the sale), the default as set forth in paragraph III is cured and the Trustee's fees and costs are paid. The sale may be terminated any time after the **18th day of December, 2023** (11 days before the sale date), and before the sale by the Grantor or the Grantor's successor in interest or the holder of any recorded junior lien or encumbrance paying the entire principal and interest secured by the Deed of Trust, plus costs, fees, and advances, if any, made pursuant to the terms of the obligation and/or Deed of Trust, and curing all other defaults. VI. A written notice of default was transmitted by the Beneficiary or Trustee to the Grantor or the Grantor's successor in interest at the following addresses: Maria V. Litrenta 1236 Canterbury Lane Oak Harbor, WA 98277 Nonna's Fresh Pasta, LLC dba Agrodolce 709 North 35th Street Seattle, WA 98103 by both first class and certified mail on the 22nd day of August, 2023, proof of which is in the possession of the Trustee; and on the 22nd day of August, 2023, the Grantor or the Grantor's successor in interest was personally served with said written notice of default and/or written notice of default was posted in a conspicuous place on the real property described in paragraph I above, and the Trustee has possession of proof of such service or posting. VII. The Trustee whose name and address are set forth below will provide in writing to anyone requesting it, a statement of all costs and fees due at any time prior to the sale. VIII. The effect of the sale will be to deprive the Grantor and all those who hold by, through or under the Grantor of all their interest in the above-described property. IX. Anyone having any objection to the sale on any grounds whatsoever will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the sale pursuant to RCW 61.24.130. Failure to bring such a lawsuit may result in a waiver of any proper grounds for invalidating the Trustee's sale. X. Notice to Occupants or Tenants: The purchaser at the Trustee's Sale is entitled to possession of the property on the 20th day following the sale, as against the Grantor under the Deed of Trust (the owner) and anyone having an interest junior to the deed of trust, including occupants and tenants. After the 20th day following the sale the purchaser has the right to evict occupants and tenants by summary proceedings under the Board of Foreclosure and the Trustee's Sale is entitled to possession of the property on the 20th day following the sale, as against the Grantor under the Deed of Trust (the owner) and anyone having an interest junior to the deed of trust, including occupants and tenants. After the 20th day following the sale the purchaser has the right to evict occupants and tenants by summary proceedings under the Board of Foreclosure and the Trustee's Sale is entitled to possession of the property on the 20th day following the sale, as against the Grantor under the Deed of Trust (the owner) and anyone having an interest junior to the deed of trust, including occupants and tenants. 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# To protect orcas, noise-measuring device dropped in Useless Bay

A team of scientists will analyze how big ships drown out communication for endangered whales — and how to make the waters more quiet.

By TA'LEAH VAN SISTINE  
Herald Writer

Noise pollution from large commercial vessels is a significant threat to southern resident orcas that reside in Puget Sound throughout the winter.

But according to Rachel Aronson, program director for Quiet Sound, crew members cut their noise pollution by almost half when they reduce ship speed by 30% to 50%.

A device dropped into Useless Bay off Whidbey Island this week will collect data over the next three months as ships pass by, providing insight on how re-

ducing speed can help local orcas.

Aronson and a team of scientists from SMRU Consulting launched from the Port of Everett on Monday morning for a hydrophone deployment mission, which took about six hours. The team assembled the device on the boat before heading to the drop site, using equipment to lift the 1,000-pound system off the deck and release it in the water.

The hydrophone's setup sort of looks like a moon lander, but for the ocean, said Jason Wood, managing director for SMRU. In addition to the actual hydrophone, there

is a current meter measuring the speed of water flowing by and a row of three large, gray cylinders that include batteries and a computer.

The Quiet Sound program started after Gov. Jay Inslee formed the Southern Resident Orca Task Force in 2018 to develop proposals for orca recovery.

Orcas use echolocation to communicate and find food, often using the same frequencies that come from large vessels traveling at high speeds. Only 75 southern resident orcas remain in the wild, according to experts. The population of their preferred food, Chinook salmon, has dwindled as the human population in the Pacific Northwest has boomed.

"When you have an endangered species that's hunting for another endangered species, they're not going to

have that many hunting opportunities," Aronson said. "When we make it quieter in the water, we give them the best opportunities possible."

That's why the governor's task force recommended creating a program that engaged with the maritime industry and encouraged them to reduce their underwater noise.

Aronson said Quiet Sound asks crews of vehicle carriers, cruise ships, container vessels — anything the size of ferries or bigger — to drop their speed to 11 or 14½ knots when traveling through Admiralty Inlet to the north end of Puget Sound.

She said her team shares the coordinates of the "slow down" area with mariners through a U.S. Coast Guard website and Puget Sound Pilots, so they know where to reduce speed.



Rachel Aronson

Lara Hsia from SMRU Consulting analyzes the hydrophone before it is deployed into Puget Sound.

Last year around this time, Quiet Sound collaborated with SMRU Consulting to conduct a trial hydrophone launch. The device sat at the bottom of the ocean for eight weeks. During that stretch, 70% of the ships that passed through voluntarily reduced their speed. Aronson said the team noticed a 48% reduction in noise intensity.

"This year," Aronson said, "we're hoping to get a higher rate of participation and see if we get a higher reduction in noise intensity, or if we get about the same amount of reduction of noise intensity for a longer period."

Aronson expects a report to be released next summer, detailing how the Quiet Sound program reduced noise pollution.

## Attend an upcoming chamber music concert

Come see a new group of musicians perform together as the Whidbey Island String Trio, a chamber group whose music is a nod to the past and leap toward the future. The concert takes place at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Whidbey Island, which is located at 20103 Highway 525 in Freeland. There is a suggested donation of \$25 at the door.

Musicians Gideon Freudmann, Gloria Ferry-Brennan and Aniela Marie Perry all have a classical

foundation and love for musical adventure. Their repertoire includes elegant waltzes, playful blues with forays into bossa nova, swing, hoedowns, and fiddle tunes. Their concerts combine delicate elegance with spontaneous exuberance.

Freudmann is a cellist and composer whose music appears in TV and film. He is a TED Talk speaker and a contributor to NPR and This American Life. He has composed music for film and dance and toured in Europe, Asia, Australia and throughout the U.S.

Violinist Ferry-Brennan has an illustrious career as a soloist performing with several distinguished orchestras and winning classical competitions. She plays with passion and elegance and is a beloved musical treasure.

Cellist Perry lived in Los Angeles for over 20 years where she collaborated with a veritable who's who in the music world and performed on numerous feature film and television scores. She is a Guinness Book of World Records unofficial record holder and an accomplished bass player.

## 'Home for Holidays' rings in the season

The Bells of Whidbey are ringing in the holidays with the group's third benefit concert. After organizing in the fall of last year, the members have raised over \$4,000 for local charities, including SPIN Cafe and Gifts From the Heart Food Bank.

The Bells of Whidbey are made up of eleven ringers plus subs. The community-based ensemble ring five octaves of English handbells and handchimes.

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, the Bells of Whidbey will present a festive program at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 555 SE Regatta

Drive in Oak Harbor. "Home For the Holidays" is a benefit for Habitat for Humanity of Island County. This musical kick-off to the holidays will precede other annual events in Oak Harbor, including the Christmas parade and tree lighting on Pioneer Way.

The Bells of Whidbey will be ringing holiday favorites, including "Over the River and Through the Woods," "Let It Snow," "Silver Bells" and "White Christmas."

Narrator Harry Anderson, soloist David Howell and Liz Chaffin, executive chief administrator of Habitat for Humanity of Island County,

are also on the program.

The ringers, all volunteers, come from different areas of Whidbey to rehearse weekly at Whidbey Presbyterian Church, Oak Harbor. They are Cheryl Coleman, Kathleen deVos, Eric Hopkins, Florence Livingston, Roland Livingston, Rich Melaas, Teresa Melaas, Jennifer Palmer, Diana Peters, Teri Ramsey, John Waide, Fred Wilferth, and Joan Wilferth. The director is Cheryl Waide.

Admission is by donation and all proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity of Island County.

## ISLAND SCANNER

The following items were selected from reports made to the Oak Harbor Police Department:

### Monday, Nov. 20

At 2:34 p.m., a resident reported that her husband has been getting blackout drunk during the past couple of weeks and she has a photo of him walking around the bedroom with a knife.

At 3:36 p.m., a caller reported that a woman in a Highway 20 parking lot was dancing and staring at cars.

At 11:02 p.m., a resident reported that a person was smoking inside a dumpster on Cabot Drive.

### Tuesday, Nov. 21

At 2:04 a.m., a driver reported that someone threw a rock at the car's window.

At 8:38 a.m., a resident reported seeing a coyote cross the street in the area of Southwest Fairway Drive.

At 3:06 p.m., a driver reported that a man was walking in the middle of Northeast Seventh Avenue.

At 10:34 p.m., a Northwest Hyak Drive resident reported that prowlers were lying down behind his shed.

### Wednesday, Nov. 22

At 1:07 p.m., a caller reported that construction workers on Overway Street got into a fight and one of them had a machete in his truck.

At 3:38 p.m., a caller on Second Street reported that someone stole her greens as she was decorating.

At 6:03 p.m., an Oak Harbor man reported that he was

ordered to turn over a gun and dog to his wife, but she was refusing to take them.

At 6:22 p.m., a caller reported a small fire behind Saars.

At 11:43 p.m., a caller reported that an injured owl was in the middle of Highway 20.

### Thursday, Nov. 23

At 12:50 p.m., a caller reported that two dead cats were on Oak Harbor Road.

At 5:26 p.m., a caller reported that a window was shot out at a building on

Highway 20.

At 5:26 p.m., a resident reported that a very large dead owl was on East Whidbey Avenue.

### Friday, Nov. 24

At 10:41 p.m., a Kettle Street resident reported that a bicycle was stolen.

### Saturday, Nov. 25

At 2:06 a.m., the hospital reported that a victim of a dog bite was in the ER.

At 6:03 a.m., a caller reported that a transient who had

been sleeping at a Highway 20 location was "a jerk."

At 8:30 p.m., a resident reported that a man was pushing a shopping cart that was on fire in the North Oak Harbor Street area.

### Sunday, Nov. 26

At 11:35 a.m., a driver reported that a child with a teddy bear was walking along Highway 20.

At 6:49 p.m., a caller reported that a homeless man was throwing things on Highway 20.

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Photo by David Welton

A group of young carolers joins in on the fun.



Photo by David Welton

Santa Claus (Mark Stewart Cassidy) arrived at the Lighting of Langley with a basket of candy canes and jingle bells.



Photo by David Welton

Karl Olsen plays the guitar and leads the gathered crowd in some carols.



Photo by David Welton

Langley Mayor-Elect Kennedy Horstman shares some words at the Lighting of Langley on Saturday.



Photo by David Welton

Many songs were sung about the holidays.



Photo by David Welton

Santa spreads cheer at the event in Langley.

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\*1 ticket per \$20 purchase with a maximum of 50 tickets per individual transaction up to \$1000. Drawing will be held at 4pm on Saturday, December 16. Must be 18 years older to participate. Do not need to be present to win. Receive one ticket at Oak Harbor Main Street Office, no purchase necessary. Sponsored by

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Join the fun!

**Patricia Ruth Duffin Skud**  
 (1927 - 2023)



Patricia Ruth Duffin Skud died quietly in her sleep in Bellevue, Washington, November 9, 2023.

She was born December 29, 1927 in Geneseo, Illinois.

Pat grew up in Wakefield Michigan, daughter of Francis Wilson Duffin a teacher and coach at Wakefield High School and Kathryn Elizabeth Montgomery Duffin, who taught in Ironwood Township Schools. In school she played flute in the band and was a majorette. As child she had the first of many cats that were always a part of her life.

In 1949, Pat graduated from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, where she studied speech and theater, and taught school before marrying Bernard Einar Skud of Ironwood, Michigan, on August 20, 1950 in the Wakefield Methodist Church. Pat and Bernie then drove a car called Betsy to Seattle, Washington where Bernie worked for the Fish and Wildlife Service and Pat for Reichhold Chemicals and in the Chemistry Department at the University of Washington, acquired a cat named Muggins, and began to raise a family, living in various places including Capitol Hill, Ravenna, and Northgate. While living in a Green Lake apartment they found bridge-playing friends who remained close for life. Pat sometimes joined Bernie on his trips to Southeast Alaska.

In 1956 Pat and Bernie moved across the country to Boothbay Harbor, Maine, where Bernie continued his career as a marine biologist and Patty raised two young sons. They brought a black and red Nash and after a stay in a cabin by the mill pond in East Boothbay moved to Townsend Avenue by the Rotary Club. Thursday nights they were entertained by the singing at the Rotary Club and through the Couples Club and bridge-playing, found friends for life. There was a black cat and Pat always remembered trips to Boston and Filene's basement.

In 1958 Pat and Bernie moved to Galveston, Texas, where Pat volunteered at the Methodist church and added a third son and a cat named Prissy. One summer was spent in Washington, D.C. but after two years Pat escaped the Texas heat and humidity when they returned, via a trip across the South, in a blissfully air-conditioned white Rambler, to Maine.

Back in Boothbay Harbor, Pat and Bernie lived at the end of McKown Point by the laboratory where Bernie worked. Pat helped organize the Friends of the Library, annual book fairs to raise money for the library, and was especially pleased with the addition of a children's wing at the Boothbay Harbor Memorial Library. She was also active at the Boothbay Country Club, the Methodist Church, where she served as Treasurer, a supporter of the Boothbay Playhouse, and sometimes a substitute teacher and prize speaking coach. Pat picked blueberries for pies and learned to make honey without bees. There were trips to visit the family and childhood friends in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. There was also, after farming out kids to friends, a trip to Italy. Mungojerrie, a Maine coon cat, and Hershey, a Labrador retriever, were important parts of the family.

In 1970, Pat and Bernie moved back to Washington State, residing in Bellevue. Pat drove a VW 412 to work at Hickory Farms, and attended Husky football games, and enjoyed the attractions, including theater, of urban life. Cat, Bug-Off, and puppy, Toffee, were added to the family.

In 1978, Pat and Bernie moved back to the east coast, first to the Washington D.C. area, and then returned to New England where they lived in Peace Dale, Rhode Island and were joined there by Pat's mother. Pat joined a bowling league and the General Federation of Women's Clubs. She and Bernie took a trip that she called her very best vacation, to South Africa and stopped in Rio de Janeiro on the way and Greece on the way back.

In 1986, Pat and Bernie moved with her mother to Vancouver, Canada, where Bernie was with the International North Pacific Fish Commission and the University of British Columbia. Pat volunteered at a hospital and entertained many visitors from the USA, particularly during the 1986 World's Fair.

In 1991, Pat and Bern retired to Oak Harbor on Whidbey Island, in Washington state. Pat immediately joined the Methodist church, participated in bible classes, and became a bell-ringer. She volunteered with the Whidbey Island County Museum and the hospital in Coupeville and helped promote reading with the Island County library. Cats Rusty, Mollie, and Allie were adopted in turn. Pat loved meeting with her PEO sisters, helping women advance through education. (Pat also was delighted to be introduced by a PEO sister to high-bush blueberries, a more pleasant picking experience than the low-bush berries of New England.) She studied French and took Elder Hostel trips to Oregon, France, and England. And she could be seen around town in her faux-woody Oldsmobile station wagon. In later years her weekly visit to the hairdresser was a highlight.

Pat is survived by three sons, Timothy of Alexandria, Virginia, Ferd of Anchorage, Alaska, Eric and wife Ann of Redmond, Washington. She was predeceased in death by her parents and husband of sixty years. Her sons would like to thank her church community, PEO friends, and her many friends in Oak Harbor and particularly her caregivers and trusted friend Westley Young, Jackie Coon, Myong Walrath, Emelyn Collantes and Crystel Manzella for adding so much to her life in her later years.

Memorial services will be held at Oak Harbor First United Methodist Church in Oak Harbor Washington on December 2 at 11 AM. Memorial contributions may be made to Oak Harbor Library, Sno-Isle Libraries or to your local Library.