Bring your four-legged, feathered, finned and furry friends to Bellingham Parks and Rec’s inaugural Pet Parade Sat., June 20 at Maritime Heritage Park

Strawberries will take center stage at Burlington's Berry Dairy Days June 19-21. Car and fireworks shows, a carnival, magic acts, a grand parade and more will also take place throughout the weekend

SATURDAY [06.20.15]
ONSTAGE
The Drowsy Chaperone: 7:30pm, Bellingham Theatre Guild
100 Lunches: 7:30pm, Quality Inn Grand Suites
Shrek, the Musical: 7:30pm, Claire vg Thomas Theatre, Lynden
To Kill a Mockingbird: 7:30pm, Anacortes Community Theatre

DANCE
Dancing for Joy: 1pm and 6:30pm, Mount Baker Theatre
Spring Dances: 2pm, Hillcrest Meeting Hall
Contra Dance: 7-10:30pm, Glen Echo Community Club
Salsa Night: 9:30pm, Cafe Rumba

MUSIC
Five Local Flavors of Music: 6-9pm, Heart of Anacortes

FRIDAY [06.19.15]
ONSTAGE
The Drowsy Chaperone: 7:30pm, Bellingham Theatre Guild
100 Lunches: 7:30pm, Quality Inn Grand Suites
Shrek, the Musical: 7:30pm, Claire vg Thomas Theatre, Lynden
To Kill a Mockingbird: 7:30pm, Anacortes Community Theatre

DANCE
Ferry Farewell Flotilla: 5pm, Community Boating Center
Relay for Life: 6pm today until 12pm tomorrow, NW Washington Fair Grounds, Lynden
Sin & Gin Tour: 7pm, historic Fairhaven

VISUAL ARTS
Solstice Art Walkabout: 5-8pm, historic Fairhaven

SUNDAY [06.21.15]
ONSTAGE
The Drowsy Chaperone: 2pm, Bellingham Theatre Guild
Shrek, the Musical: 2pm, Claire vg Thomas Theatre, Lynden
Laughing at the Stars: 8:30pm, Star Club

DANCE
Dancing for Joy: 6:30pm, Mount Baker Theatre

MUSIC
Concert of the Century: 3pm, Bellingham High School

COMMUNITY
Father’s Day Car Show: 9am-3pm, BelleWood Acres
Antique Fair: 9am-5pm, Christianson’s Nursery, Mount Vernon
Berry Dairy Days: Through today, throughout Burlington

GET OUT
Boat Show: 9am-4pm, La Conner Marina

FOOD
BellingHAM BaconFest: 12-3pm, Depot Market
Feeding a Need 5K: 8-11am, Heritage Flight Museum, Ferndale
Ferndale Public Market: 2-7pm, Pioneer Park

MONDAY [06.22.15]
ONSTAGE
Guftawingham: 9:30pm, Green Frog

DANCE
Dancing for Joy: 6:30pm, Mount Baker Theatre
FATHER’S DAY WEEKEND

HAPPY Father’s Day!

JUNE 20 - 21
Hot Seats & Prizes 5pm-9pm!
Prize packages get better as the night goes on.
Complimentary Father’s Dinner
Buffet Saturday and Free Play Sunday.
See Players Club for complete details.

10 SPORTS BAR

MARCH 17 - AUGUST 9
Join us every Sunday during the game
for your chance at winning the
ULTIMATE CAMPING PACKAGE!

BATTLE AT THE BAY XII

JULY 11
Catch all the exciting fight action
at 7pm! Seats go quickly, so get
your tickets early!
Must be 18 years of age or older.

EXPLORE it all
AT SWINOMISH CASINO & LODGE

EXPLORE our Rewards!

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I identify as black,” Rachel Dolezal told reporters after her parents complained she is, in fact, white. Dolezal, 37, resigned this week as chapter president of the NAACP in Spokane amid allegations she lied about her race. The accusation that Dolezal was actually raised as a white woman and formerly self-identified as white but actively tried to deceive people into thinking she was black—curating an entire life to suit this story—has left the nation amused, outraged and dumbfounded.

NONPROFITS SHOULD NOT PROFIT

Charter Review Amendment 7 was intended to stop county or grant funds from being given to nonprofits. The reason was the belief by many county residents that tax funds should not be used by nonprofits to regulate their fellow citizens. An example of this would be Futurewise actively lobbying and suing the Growth Management Hearings Board over water use. Futurewise sued and fought to limit the water use of farmers, well owners and other rural people. Their claim was that allowing too many well permits compromised water quantity and quality.

Their argument merits consideration. However, it is not customary, nor should the public allow county funds to be delegated to an organization actively lobbying against its own citizens.

ReSources has received, according to the Bellingham Herald, a $12,500 contract to provide education about waste reduction. However, many of us realize their actions are often nothing but unmitigated lobbying against the Gateway Pacific shipping terminal at Cherry Point. That farmers could benefit from such a terminal to ship Washington wheat, potash and other dry bulk commodities causes such environmental groups apoplexy. (Yes, initially, coal also will be commodified export facility.)

A citizen in Blaine has requested “emails and written communications between any of the members of the CRC regarding any subject relating to CRC business.” This citizen requested all such emails sent to or from any CRC or any person and “any emails from CRC personal emails as well…” Obviously these 15 citizens on the CRC, who are paid zero dollars for their service, relish pulling up all emails from the past five months and forwarding them to the county, which must then pay to have them reviewed by county personnel. It seems to me that the citizens of Whatcom County—after voting for 15 Charter Review Commission representatives—are now seeing them harassed because they believe the county should not fund the lobbying efforts of environmental groups.

Let us call this request what it is: unfettered harassment and attempted intimidation.

—Mark Nelson, Bellingham

Editor’s Note: This newspaper supports open government and the rights of citizens to view documents related to matters of public policy.

HAPPY WHERE WE ARE

Bellingham and Whatcom County are updating their Comprehensive Plans. Bellingham is in the process of adding areas to receive urban sprawl (UGA).

Last week the Bellingham Planning Commission voted to add 880 acres to the Urban Growth Area.
The W Larson Road properties were pulled into the Caitac UGA without any notification. I believe it states in the City Comp Plan that citizens shall be notified in a timely manner. This was not done.

All (100 percent) of the property owners living on the south side of Larson Road do not want to be included with the Caitac property in Bellingham’s Urban Growth Area.

We can only hope the Bellingham City and Whatcom County councils will be a bit more considerate in their decision making and take into consideration what smaller property owners want.

—Donna Macomber, Whatcom County

SUPPORT TODD DONOVAN

Todd Donovan will make a great County Council member. I look for leaders who share my values and demonstrate commitment. Todd has worked hard in our community for the past 24 years, as a teacher at Western, as a nonprofit board member, with his neighborhood association and as a leader on the Charter Review Commission. He and his wife are raising two children here.

He has shown his commitment to Whatcom County with hard work. I trust his vision for the future and I trust his leadership to get us there. He will have my support this fall.

—Mary H. Mele, Bellingham

WAITING FOR KATHY TO CHANGE

I was disappointed to see that the Republicans had chosen to run Kathy Kershner for Whatcom County Council again. Kathy first got involved in local politics in the fervor of the tea party. She ran for County Council with a big pink heart on her signs; and she won by a very narrow margin.

In the first few months she showed her true colors when she voted to cut funding for food banks and for domestic violence services. She stood in the way of clean energy projects. She accepted funding from the coal project developers. She voted to appoint the commission that didn’t seem to understand why slaughterhouses should be regulated. And the voters let her know what they thought and replaced her at the first opportunity.

I’ll be waiting to hear whether she can show evidence of a change in her approach or ideas.

—Nancy Orlowski, Bellingham

ACKNOWLEDGE WHAT WE DO

I am in seventh grade at Fairhaven Middle School. In my social studies class, we have been learning about the past 200 years of Washington’s history. This includes the genocide of Native Americans, and also the cultural genocide through putting the natives in small reservations and sending the children far off to schools where their culture was belittled and they were transformed into the ways of the white culture. These things have now been found to be directly linked to problems many reservations face today.

Though there have been some apologies made, I feel that there has been little done in acknowledging our society’s actions in the past. The natives were living here first for thousands of years, yet they seem to get little respect. I noticed that in Fairhaven, there is a plaque that apologizes to the Chinese community for the Chinese deadline which was in place in 1898 to 1903. You probably know of this plaque. Former Mayor Dan Pike put it in, in 2011, as a formal apology to the Chinese community.

This made me think, why is there no such thing for the native community? I believe what was done to them was worse than the Chinese deadline, the native people’s culture was absolutely destroyed! I think they deserve an apology from Whatcom County. It doesn’t have to be big or grand, but something like a plaque would remind our society of what has been done and it will show that we acknowledge previous actions and are sorry for them. It is just a thought, but I believe that it is the right thing to do.

—Kiara M. Schwarz, Bellingham

FROSTY RECEPTION

It’s been a rough day for the Polar Pioneer. First its exit from Seattle’s Elliott Bay was dogged by a flotilla of kayaktivists determined to impede its departure for the Arctic, where Royal Dutch Shell hopes to drill for oil in the American waters of Chuckchak Sea. Around 20 kayaktivists were detained for violating the 500 hundred yard “safety zone,” but no arrests were made.

Then it met a small band of kayaktivists off the coast of Bainbridge Island. Trying to go around them, it is believed it got stuck in mud at low tide. According to kayaktivist Deborah D’Angelo, the Shell vessel did not begin to move again until the tide rose. “It would start up, then stop again, turning different directions,” she said. Seven hours passed before Shell’s rig was underway again.

It is now headed north toward Port Townsend, where citizens are gathering with boats and kayaks to once again try and thwart its progress. It is a spontaneous gathering, with no formal organization actually orchestrating the protest. On hearing the Shell rig was delayed in shallow waters, people just started heading to Port Townsend in the hopes of making a stand.


—Rob Lewis, Bellingham
**The Gristle**

**Wrong Mix, Wrong Fix:** With a deadline looming to place a measure on the November ballot, Whatcom County Council continues to struggle with a sales tax proposal to site a $122.5 million jail and Sheriff's complex in Ferndale. And though they’ve struggled mightily (and admirably) to develop the programmatic alternatives to incarceration that policymakers understand are essential to control future costs of criminal justice in Whatcom County, a plurality on Council remain unsatisfied with the jail proposal. Perhaps worse, their most powerful allies in the effort, Bellingham City Council and administration, appear even more unsatisfied.

Council County continued to hear public comment on the jail proposal last week. They unanimously approved an ordinance to create a task force dedicated to create and enhance programs to help effectively reduce the numbers of inmates jailed primarily due to mental illness or drug dependencies, diverting them into less costly alternatives to jail. For the sake of furthering discussion, Council also approved the interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and her seven cities that will govern costs and contributions to the proposed jail. Council could not, however, muster agreement to place a proposed .2 percent sales tax measure on the ballot for consideration by voters in November.

Council member Ken Mann refused to support even the interlocal agreement. "I don’t want to send the message to the City of Bellingham that I like the plan," Mann said, reflecting the unease of many on Council who nevertheless saw the detailed agreement as essential to move the discussion on to COB.

Bellingham City Council on Monday also refused to support the interlocal agreement signed by the county and other cities, likely dooming any chance a jail initiative will squeak on to the November ballot.

We’ve noted before that Whatcom County and COB—the commerce and population center of the county—probably have enough steam on their own to finance a new jail in partnership, regardless of support from the other smaller cities. The corollary is even more certainly true: Without the agreement of COB, the county has no chance of financing a new jail. The city’s reluctance to agree should not be seen as pigheaded, but essential cover the county needs to reconsider the wisdom of rushing the jail initiative to the polls rather than continue to tune it into a better product for a future ballot.

The central issue is the structure of the tax proposal itself—committing the entire capacity of a public safety sales tax to the construction of a jail exhausts the instrument for any other purpose, including the jail alternatives County Council recognizes must be part of a humane and cost-controlled criminal justice system.

Speaking to Bellingham City Council in May, Whatcom County Executive Jack Louws volunteered several startling admissions:

“Putting this jail facility use agreement together, I—the administration—somewhat lost track of one of the tasks that we were assigned, which was to create ways to keep people out of jail. Our County Council identified that as something we needed to take a close look at,” Louws confessed.

“It became evident early on that the sales tax revenue we were going to receive would be used solely for the construction and the operation of the facility,” he said. “The financial arrangement that we have does not account for the need we have outside of that” for alternatives to jail.

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**Free Trade’ Costs**

**Why the Trans Pacific Partnership is Nearly Dead**

How can it be that the largest pending trade deal in history—a deal backed both by a Democratic president and Republican leaders in Congress—is nearly dead?

The Trans Pacific Partnership may yet squeak through Congress but its near-death experience offers an important lesson.

It’s not that labor unions have regained political power (union membership continues to dwindle and labor unions have more clout in Washington than ever) or that the President is especially weak (no president can pull off a major deal like this if the public isn’t behind him).

The biggest lesson is most Americans no longer support free trade.

It used to be an article of faith that trade was good for America.

Economic theory told us so: Trade allows nations to specialize in what they do best, thereby fueling growth. And growth, we were told, is good for everyone.

But such arguments are less persuasive in this era of staggering inequality.

For decades, almost all the gains from growth have been going to a small sliver of Americans at the top—while most peoples’ wages have stagnated, adjusted for inflation.

Economists point to overall benefits from expanded trade. All of us gain access to cheaper goods and services.

But in recent years the biggest gains from trade have gone to investors and executives, while the burdens have fallen disproportionately on those in the middle and below who have lost good-paying jobs.

So even though everyone gains from trade, the biggest winners are at the top. And as the top keeps moving higher compared to most of the rest of us, the vast majority feels relatively worse off.

To illustrate the point, consider a simple game I conduct with my students. I have them split up into pairs and ask them to imagine I’m giving $1,000 to one member of each pair.

I tell them the recipients can keep some of the money only on condition they reach a deal with their partner on how it’s to be divided up. They have to offer their partner a portion of the $1,000, and their partner must either accept or decline. If the partner declines, neither of them gets a penny.

You might think many recipients of the imaginary $1,000 would offer their partner one dollar, which the partner would gladly accept. After all, a dollar is better than nothing.

But that’s not what happens. Most partners decline any offer under $250—even though that means neither of them gets anything.

This game, and variations of it, have been played by social scientists thousands of times with different groups and pairings, and with remarkably similar results.

A far bigger version of the game is being played on the national stage as a relative handful of Americans receive ever-larger slices of the total national income while most Americans, working harder than ever, receive smaller ones.

And just as in the simulations, those receiving the smaller slices are starting to say “no deal.” Some might attribute this response to envy or spite. But when I ask my students why they refused to accept anything less than $250 and thereby risked getting nothing at all, they say it’s worth the price of avoiding unfairness.

Remember, I gave out the $1,000 arbitrarily. The initial recipients didn’t have to work for it or be outstanding in any way.

When a game seems arbitrary, people are often willing to sacrifice gains for themselves in order to prevent others from walking away with far more—a result that strikes them as inherently wrong.

The American economy looks increasingly arbitrary, as CEOs of big firms now rake in 300 times more than the wages of average workers, while two-thirds of Americans live paycheck to paycheck.

Some of my students who refused anything less than $250 say they feared allowing the initial recipient to keep a disproportionately large share would give him the power to rig the game even more in the future.

Here again, America’s real-life distributional game is analogous, as a few at the top gain increasing political power to alter the rules of the game to their advantage.

If the American economy continues to create a few big winners and many who feel like losers by comparison, opposition to free trade won’t be the only casualty.

Losers are likely to find many other ways to say “no deal.”

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*Views expressed are not necessarily those of Cascadia Weekly*
THE GRISTLE

“It would take two affirmative votes of the public to pursue a hybrid model” that used property tax and sales tax to generate additional revenue, Louws noted. “In discussions with the mayors and other elected leadership of Whatcom County it was decided that the sales measure was the appropriate path forward.”

Who decided that? Not County Council, who are now asked to support a jail initiative they had no early hand in crafting, and one that the executive admitted omits the very programmatic alternatives Council members were convinced needed to be part of the package. Instead, Executive Louws worked closely with the Sheriff’s Office, private consultants and city administrators to craft the mechanism of the financing instrument to construct the jail, deciding unilaterally on the sales tax.

“The decision about how to pay for things was hatched without us and was discussed with the mayors for months before we heard about it,” Council Chair Carl Weimer observed.

Curiously, though, Louws apparently did not work closely with Bellingham Mayor Kelli Linville, whose office stressed again and again throughout the fall an opinion that property tax was the appropriate (and stable) instrument to finance large-scale capital facilities construction, as opposed to the more volatile (and over-subscribed) sales tax that would then be exhausted for other goals.

“I was not consulted about how the jail would be financed,” Linville said. “Had I been, I would have said what I’ve said all along, which is that the financing part of the proposal is not something I would have recommended. But I believe I was told about the proposal before the other mayors were consulted,” she said.

True, a property tax does require a higher threshold of 60 percent voter approval for a capital facilities construction bond. And true, that property tax cannot then be used to operate the completed jail facility. But, frankly, the county has years to attempt to pass an associated public safety sales tax to operate the jail and fund jail alternatives: The facility itself probably cannot be completed prior to 2020 and there already are healthy financial instruments in place to operate the jail at its current size.

To meet the higher threshold of a property tax will certainly take a lot more enthusiasm, more consensus, more buy-in and support for a better plan, more time to convince the public. But all that is exactly what Whatcom County’s jail proposal needs.
Group consultants presented his company’s findings to a group of community leaders and policymakers this week.

Eichenthal observed the region’s population is growing despite the fact that its wages are lower and its property costs are higher. Whatcom County jobs have historically trailed the state in average annual wages, on average, by approximately 20 percent, he noted. Meanwhile, Whatcom County’s median home price is higher than the state’s median home price. Whatcom residents are also willing to, on average, spend a higher percentage of their income on new homes than state residents overall, Eichenthal confirmed, an indicator that residents are gathering value from more than just their incomes.

The research also suggests that changes to the consumption amenities can change the current and future values of this second paycheck, affecting a region’s economy and—potentially—the variety and types of jobs in a region. As a result, any potential changes such as an increase in rail traffic could alter those economic benefits. Indeed, evidence hints that the change may already be underway.

“We outlined a series of data points, not just population and employment, but digging deeper into things like relative wages in comparison to other parts of the state,” Eichenthal explained.

“To fully weigh the pros and cons of any proposed project, policymakers and the public need to understand the full impact that development can have on the local economy. Over the last decade and a half, economic growth and vitality in Bellingham and Whatcom County has been fueled by the area’s natural beauty and amenities,” he said. “Development of the Gateway Pacific Terminal poses real risks to economic growth, and there is early evidence that it may already be holding back the local economy.”

The study was commissioned by the public policy research group, Communitywise Bellingham. Over the past three years Communitywise Bellingham has commissioned and produced a series of reports on the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal and associated impacts. The goal of the reports is to provide communities and decision makers with critical information on GPT’s local impacts, including topics that are not being studied in the coal port’s official environmental review.

“These are questions an informed community needs to ask,” said Shannon Wright, executive director of Communitywise Bellingham.

A recent study commissioned by Whatcom County pegged the annual spending on outdoor recreation at $705 million in 2013. Eichenthal’s own data
suggests visitors to Whatcom County spent about $574 million in that year.

“This study addresses the hard questions we need to ask ourselves as we consider tradeoffs that could leave us on the losing side of the ledger with a doubling of train traffic from GPT and 900 coal tanker trips through our waters,” Bellingham City Council member Michael Liliquist agreed. “The quality of life we enjoy in Bellingham is a linchpin of the city’s economy and by extension the economy of the whole county.”

“So much of the employment growth in Whatcom County was in two sectors directly related to this concept of a ‘second paycheck’—leisure and hospitality, and retail activities,” Eichenthal said. “What we attempt to do in this report is explain what that concept is and demonstrate that it is at work here, and talk about the benefits Bellingham and Whatcom County have enjoyed of value generated by these amenities and quality of life.”

Property values could be another casualty if GPT moves forward. Nick Bryngelson, who owns a home and nearby apartment complex on South Hill in Bellingham, says his family has held off on a planned remodel because he believes the increased rail traffic that would come with GPT would reduce his home’s value. He also said he and his family may leave the neighborhood if GPT is built. According to the report, the rail line through Bellingham’s waterfront is currently at its practical capacity of approximately daily 14-15 trains per day.

“Add up the noise, reduced access to the waterfront, and diesel exhaust and the neighborhood loses a lot of its appeal and value,” Bryngelson said. “I’ve talked to a lot of neighbors who feel the same way. We stand to lose many of the things that make this area a great place to live, play and raise a family.”

“There’s some preliminary data, very preliminary data, gathered over the past couple of years that there is evidence that both the increase in train traffic independent of the development of the terminal, and the prospect of that development, may indeed already be having an impact on the economy,” Eichenthal confirmed.

“We did a preliminary look at some of the real estate values along the rail line going through Bellingham. The data suggests that median prices of homes away from the rail lines have recovered at a greater rate since the recession than homes that are close to the tracks,” he said.

Since 2011, when the GPT was launched, population and job growth in Bellingham and Whatcom County have slowed, lagging behind the state and Seattle: a big turnaround from 2001 to 2010 when the county out-paced statewide growth in both economic categories.

“I would never claim that we have evidence unequivocally linking this to an increase in rail traffic and associated noise and vibration,” Eichenthal stressed. “And there are potential stigma issues independent of train traffic. There could be stigma, justified or not, attached to the transportation of coal, and proximity to a large coal export facility, that would make some individuals less likely to move to Whatcom County or more likely to leave.”

In weighing the economic impact to Bellingham’s second paycheck effect, the study also looked at the claims of GPT-related job creation and concluded it may be significantly overstated. The study says that two reports commissioned by GPT developer SSA Marine used a higher multiplier of direct jobs to estimate indirect job creation than are used by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) to analyze the job impact of various economic sectors.

The SSA Marine-commissioned reports produced in 2012 multiplied each direct job by 2.93, 2.8 and 2.96 respectively to calculate total jobs. Since then, new data shows that the BEA indicates a job multiplier for this economic activity in Whatcom County as low as 1.8. That is in line with comparable total job creation estimates for similar developments on the West Coast, including the proposed Millennium Bulk Logistics coal export terminal in Longview. This data discrepancy means that SSA Marine’s published job numbers likely represent the most upper range of reasonable job projections, Wright said.

“We’re not in a position to present hard and fast projections of what’s going to happen going into the future,” Eichenthal said. “I think the real purpose of this report is to provide as much information as possible for the public to understand their local economy, to understand risks that may result from changes to that economy.”

“For example,” he said, “to the extent there are risks to the net benefits of the waterfront redevelopment and the region’s baseline economy trajectory, what entity would pay for mitigation actions to limit the potential negative impacts? Does additional freight rail traffic accelerate remediation needs sooner than later?” These are questions an informed community must ask.

The study released this week follows up on an earlier report also prepared for Communitywise Bellingham by Public Financial Management, or “PFM,” Group. PFM is a leading provider of independent financial advisory services to state and local governments and nonprofit institutions. The studies are available online at www.communitywisebellingham.org.
TUESDAY

Seattle police arrest five members of a protest group called the Raging Grannies for protesting Shell's Arctic oil rig. The grannies—the oldest of whom is 92—chained wooden rocking chairs together to block train tracks leading into the port where the oil rig sits. The Seattle Times reports the women dressed in long skirts and sipped from porcelain teacups. Another group of younger protesters left before arrests were made. The grannies were processed and quickly released from custody.

A Whatcom County man is dead, after an accident during a demolition project in Blaine. James Bost, 52, was helping disassemble a 30-foot-tall piece of machinery at Golden Nut Company Monday, when the support holding it collapsed. He was crushed by a steel support beam during the collapse.

WEDNESDAY

Two teens are dead and two others are badly injured after an SUV hit them near Ferndale. The teens were on a walk with 30 other students as part of a PE class at Windward High School. The SUV drifted from the roadway on West Smith Road near Graveline Road, striking the four boys. Two Ferndale teens—Shane Ormiston, 18, and Gabriel Anderson, 15—are pronounced dead at the scene. Drugs are suspected as a cause of the accident. The 34-year-old Bellingham driver is charged with two counts each of vehicular homicide and vehicular assault. Prosecutors say he took a nap in his car after he killed the teens.

A husband and wife are dead in an apparent murder-suicide near Nooksack. Whatcom County Sheriff’s deputies responding to a call about a shooting arrive to find a woman barely alive in a truck and a man dead in the family home. Both suffered shotgun wounds. The couple’s children were unharmed. Investigators believe a history of escalating family violence resulted in the husband killing his wife, then turning the weapon on himself.

A serial robber is finally behind bars after hitting several Whatcom and Skagit County businesses last year. Police say Dennis Ridley, 63, was responsible for the armed robbery of Man Pies and the Whatcom Farmers Co-op in Bellingham and a donut shop in Burlington. Ridley’s photo was distributed across social media, and police say he fled to Orange County, Calif., because “there was too much heat.” He was arrested there, and through an exhaustive extradition process was transported back to Washington.

Gov. Jay Inslee appoints Brian Stiles to the Skagit County Superior Court, replacing Judge John Meyer. Stiles’ term is effective beginning in July.

It’s back to the drawing board after Bellingham City Council rejects the financial terms that undergird an initiative to build a proposed $122.5 million jail and Sheriff’s complex.

The Shell Oil arctic drilling rig Polar Pioneer cuts and runs out of Seattle on its way to Alaska, but the vessel is dogged by hundreds of kayaktivists. The U.S. Coast Guard reports 24 protesters were detained for violating the established protection zone around the ship. One of them is Seattle City Council member Mike O’Brien. According to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, there is a significant risk of a major oil spill if Shell begins drilling in the Arctic. Any spill would be almost impossible to contain in harsh Arctic conditions with the nearest port a thousand miles away in Dutch Harbor.

A massive column of black smoke could be seen for miles shortly after the fire broke out at the farm. Fire crews are able to keep the fire from spreading to other nearby barns and a home.

A fire destroys a storage barn on a raspberry farm south of Lynden. A massive column of black smoke could be seen for miles shortly after the fire broke out at the farm. Fire crews are able to keep the fire from spreading to other nearby barns and a home.

A Whatcom County man is dead, after an accident during a demolition project in Blaine. James Bost, 52, was helping disassemble a 30-foot-tall piece of machinery at Golden Nut Company Monday, when the support holding it collapsed. He was crushed by a steel support beam during the collapse.

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NORTHWEST PASSAGES

Bruce Shepard will retire as president of Western Washington University at the close of the 2015-2016 academic year. Shepard, who next fall will begin his eighth year as president at Western, provided strong and steady leadership for a university increasingly recognized in the state, region and across the nation for its academic excellence. A national search for the new president will be conducted over the next year by the university’s Board of Trustees.
checked the dogs’ welfare and counseled the driver about Washington laws. Police also consulted Customs and Border Patrol who found no cross border violations. No crime was committed and the matter was closed.

GROUND CONTROL TO MAJOR TOM
On June 5, Bellingham Police received a note in the airlock at police headquarters.

STORM CLOUDS APPROACHING
On May 26, Blaine Police responded to a Whatcom County Sheriff’s Office request for assistance investigating a suspicious circumstance call on California Trail Road outside the city limits. “A passerby reported seeing an elderly man using a gas can to pour a trail of fuel from the road to a nearby residence,” police reported. “The arriving officer and deputy discovered that the man had coordination problems and had spilled some petrol while trying to fill his lawn mower. There was no impending crime or catastrophe, and the approaching rain clouds convinced the homeowner to set aside his errand for the day.”

SCENIC ROUTE
On June 6, a towing company called Blaine Police to report they were in route to a report of a single vehicle running off the roadway somewhere on Drayton Harbor Road. “An officer responded and contacted a Canadian couple who had stopped along the road to take in the beauty,” police reported. “Apparently the vehicle’s park function did not engage and the emergency brake was not set. When the occupants exited the vehicle and crossed the road, the vehicle rolled off the roadway and over the embankment. There was no damage to the vehicle and the owner called a tow truck.”

ALIEN SKIES
On May 20, a family in Lynden observed a flashing blue orb in the sky. “My wife and I noticed large flashes of lightning in the foothills behind our backyard,” the witness reported. “It was difficult to see exactly where it was because it was inconsistent when we tried to look directly at it. The lightning had no sounds of thunder afterwards as there weren’t any clouds in the sky either. My daughter woke up shortly after we saw the first flashes from a bad dream and noticed there was a blue flashing orb in the sky. I gave her binoculars and had her point it out to us. My daughter also noticed about eight red/blue lights coming from the vicinity of the blue one heading toward to lighting near the foothills. I took photos of the sky where she said they were but still my naked eye couldn’t see what she saw however the camera did. This went on for over an hour or two. She also saw the stars squeeze and pull tight in a spot in the sky similar to what a black hole or worm hole is described.”

THE MAGNA CARTA, the document that laid a legal cornerstone for thousands of judicial systems, was sealed 800 years ago on June 15, 1215. It was signed under threat of war by the barons of King John of England and was nullified within weeks, but set the tone for rule of law and ended the divine right of kings.

PERCENT of the American public who think Congress should pass a law so that people in all states can be eligible for federal assistance to purchase medical insurance. A looming U.S. Supreme Court decision could make subsidies available only in states that established their own insurance markets.

PERCENT of Americans who consider themselves liberal, the highest number since Gallup began polling on political identity in 1992.

PERCENTAGE points that separate Americans who consider themselves liberal compared to Americans who consider themselves conservative (38%). Liberals remain the nation’s largest ideological group, but the conservative-liberal gap is now the smallest since Gallup began tracking political identity.
Being Mortal
AN END TO EVERY STORY

Between 2010 and 2050, the United States Census projects that the number of Americans who are 65 or older will double, and by 2030 one out of every five people in the country will be over age 65. The baby boomers are aging, and even though life expectancy is increasing and technology is pushing out horizons, the last time I checked, death was still inevitable. Being able to have common-sense, compassionate conversations about end-of-life issues, according to Dr. Atul Gawande in his latest book Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End, is the next transformative challenge facing medical practitioners and society at large.

Gawande notes that, unfortunately, medical school leaves young doctors ill-prepared for these conversations; 97 percent of medical school students do not study geriatrics, and their study focuses on diagnosing and fixing. American’s health expectations tend to center on living longer, and doctors who naturally want to be competent and “fix” patients are faced with the inherent dilemma that aging and dying are unfixable. Being Mortal suggests a simple template for framing end-of-life treatment conversations, which Gawande learned from watching those of his patients that handled end-of-life conversations well and practiced personally when his father was diagnosed with a cancerous spinal cord and brain stem tumor.

Instead of focusing on how to beat steep odds (as Gawande puts it, “hope is not a plan”), he suggests exploring fears and goals: What are your priorities if your time is limited? What are your goals for treatment? Your fears? What tradeoffs are acceptable as a result of your care? Framing treatment around the answers to these questions simplifies assessing when treatment is helping achieve goals and when treatment begins to interfere with achieving goals.

Interestingly, sometimes stopping treatment actually helps to prolong life. Gawande relates the results of a Boston Mass General study where stage four lung cancer patients were divided into two groups. One group received traditional oncology care and the other group’s care included palliative care specialists who had quality-of-life conversations with the patients and planned treatment around achieving their goals. Patients in the second group spent fewer days in the hospital, stopped chemotherapy sooner, engaged hospice care earlier and lived, on average, 25 percent longer.

Yes, “death is the enemy,” Gawande writes, “but the enemy has superior forces. Eventually, it wins. And in a war that you cannot win, you don’t want a general who fights to the point of total annihilation. You don’t want Custer. You want Robert E. Lee...someone who knows how to fight for territory that can be won and how to surrender it when it can’t.”

Death Cafés, group-directed discussions of death with no agenda, objectives or themes, have provided a forum for us to start having these conversations in our communities.

I asked Sandy Stork, one of the organizers for a Bellingham-based Death Café meeting, what she thought of the book: “Gawande has written a remarkable book that speaks to the part of us that sometimes fears that at the end of our lives our doctors will retreat when we need them most,” she says. “He calls this ‘Medicalized Aging’ because doctors are good at extending our lives, but not so good at listening to our hearts. I was so touched and inspired—indeed, left hopeful—by his words that I gave my primary physician a copy of Being Mortal, and at my next appointment he thanked me and shared what he had learned. Do read this book and you will be surprised at how moved you will be and perhaps feel lighter and freer, too. Dr. Gawande is challenging us, especially doctors, to bring death out of the closet.”
COMMUNITY

WED., JUNE 17

ONE GENERATION’S TIME: The Whatcom Peace & Justice Center and Community to Community will host a free screening of the documentary One Generation’s Time: The Legacy of Silme Domingo & Gene Viernes at 7pm at Garden Street Methodist Church, 1326 N. Garden St. Silme’s sister Cindy will be in attendance to talk about her quest for justice.  
www.whatcomjc.org

JUNE 18-21

BERRY DAIRY DAYS: Fireworks, live music, a road run, a parade, magic shows, a salmon barbecue, car and stunt shows, a carnival and strawberry shortcake will be part of “Berry Dairy Days” happening from Thursday through Sunday throughout Burlington.  
www.burlington-chamber.com

FRI., JUNE 19

WCC OPEN HOUSE: Campus tours, music, food, a photo booth, application and registration workshops for new and returning students, a barbecue and more will be part of an Open House happening from 11am-2pm on Sunday throughout Whatcom Community College. 337 W. Kellogg Rd. The free event is also a celebration for the graduating class of 2015.  
www.wcl.edu

SAT., JUNE 20

FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY: “Celebrate the Magic of Summer!” will be the focus of Family Activity Day activities taking place from 10am-4pm at the Whatcom Museum’s Lightcatcher Building, 250 Flora St. Live music, magic shows, art and science activities and more will be part of the family-focused fun. Entry is $3.  
www.whatcommuseum.org

JUNE 20-21

ANTIQUE FAIR: Antiques and vintage collectibles will be on display and up for sale at the second annual “Antique Fair” happening from 9am-5pm Saturday and 9am-3pm Sunday in Mount Vernon at Christiansonn Nursery, 15806 Best Rd. If you like antiques and English rose gardens, this free event is for you.  
www.christiansonnscnursery.com

SUN., JUNE 21

FATHER’S DAY CAR SHOW: Bring pops to a Father’s Day Car Show taking place from 9am-3pm at BelleWood Acres, 6140 Guide Meridian. The event—which benefits the Whatcom Humane Society—will also feature classic rock, a barbecue, dog frisbee golf, and more. Admission is free; the barbecue is $15.  
www.bellewoodfarms.com

Labyrinth Celebration: Celebrate the solstice at a fifth anniversary celebration for the Fairhaven Labyrinth from 11:30am-3:30pm at Fairhaven Park, 107 Chuckanut Dr. Entry is free.  
(360) 410-9228

TUES., JUNE 23

WINGS OVER SKAGIT: The Burlington Historical Society honors the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II at a “Wings Over the Skagit” event from 6-8pm at Burlington’s Heritage Flight Museum, 15043 Crosswind Dr. Attendees can learn more about the Skagit Regional Airport’s role in WWII, take tours and more. Entry to the all-ages event is $5.  
www.heritageflight.org

“Honeydripper’s Tales” performance at 8:30pm at Honey Moon, 1053 N. State St. (in the alley). Entry is free.  
www.honeymoonreads.com

MON., JUNE 22

ESCAPE THE ORDINARY: Tales by multiple-award-winning authors and up-and-comers will be shared at an “Escape the Ordinary” reading featuring selected writers from Tales for a Lazy Afternoon—a Skagit Valley Writers League anthology—at 6:30pm at the Mount Vernon City Library, 315 Snoqualmie St. Entry is free.  
www.mountvernon.gov

POETRY NIGHT: Those looking to share their creative verse as part of Poetry Night can sign up at 7:45pm at the Bellingham Public Library, 210 Central Ave. Readings start at 8pm. Entry is by donation. P.S. Please use the back fountain entry.  
www.poetrynight.org

INVISIBLE BRIDGE: Bestselling Nivenland author Rick Perlstein reads from his newest book, The Invisible Bridge: The Fall of Nixon and the Rise of Reagan at 6:30pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St. The tome is described as a “dazzling portrait of America on the verge of a nervous breakdown in the tumultuous political and economic times of the 1970s.”  
www.villagebooks.com

WED., JUNE 24

BOOK CLUB: Bring a book you enjoy, share the title, what you liked about it, and read a brief excerpt at the E-I-This-One Book Club at 4:15pm at the Everson Library, 104 Kirsch Dr. A projector with a wifi-connected laptop will be available for further investigations.  
www.wcls.org

ORCAS AND MEN: Seattle-based investigative journalist and author David Niewart reads from Of Orcas and Men: What Killer Whales Can Teach Us at 7pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St. This in-depth book, a mix of cultural history, environmental reporting, and scientific research, details what we have learned about orcas from studying them closely in the wild.  
www.villagebooks.com

THURS., JUNE 25

BOOK TALK: Librarian Katie Bray leads a bimonthly “Book Talk” at 1pm at the SkillShare Space at the Bellingham Public Library, 210 Central Ave. Participants can share their favorite titles, make selections, get reading ideas and hear more about great new books.  
730-7230

SKAGIT WRITERS LEAGUE: “The Arc of the Scene” will be the focus of Skagit Valley Writers League presentation by Scott Driscoll at 6:30pm at the Mount Vernon Senior Center, 1401 Cleveland Ave. Please register in advance for the free event.  
www.skagitwriters.org

CHUCKANUT RADIO HOUR: Former Washington State Poet Laureate Samuel Green, his wife Sally Green, and a number of other acclaimed regional and local poets will join a “Plethora of Poets” lineup at a Chuckanut Radio Hour live taping at 7pm at the Heiner Theater at Whatcom Community College, 237 W. Kellogg Rd. Performance poet Kevin Murphy, guest musicians, Weekly columnist Alan Rhodes and others will also take part. Tickets are $5.  
www.villagebooks.com

Yoga & Craft Fun Camp

Centered around compassion and nature!

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June 29 – July 2 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Led by Kelli Gauthier, certified Kidding Around Yoga instructor

Only $70/child, rising kindergartners to 4th grade students. Sibling discounts available.

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The Community Enrichment Center
at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
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A Supportive Environment to Encourage Learning
Between the Buos

RACE DAY ON THE COMMITTEE BOAT

It was nine minutes before our scheduled departure on the committee boat for the Corinthian Yacht Club's Thursday night regatta, and as our able-bodied crew stood waiting outside the marina gates at Squalicum Harbor, there was still no sign of Captain Swipples.

Although my fellow deckhands-in-training seemed content to stand on the grass buffeting the predominate breeze, Ms. Carol Wilder, Captain Swipple's allergy-stricken first mate, kept close watch on the time.

"Hmmm," she mused. "The old salt must be running late from work."

"Perhaps he got waylaid by road construction," one of the trainees remarked.

"Moribund traffic impediments provide all the more reason to set our course toward the Clam Flats," the skipper announced to the crew, "If any of you waisters can't see fit to help set the leeward bouy from the race boats arrive, I'm gonna send the whole lot of you out to find Charlie Noble."

The skipper, as he is wont to do at various junctures, became fuming mad. But much to his credit, instead of busting out a cat o' nine tails and commencing a reign of brutality, he simply tore off his work uniform and peeled down to his Speed Racer T-shirt and a pair of plaid boxers.

"Hey, you scalawags!" the skipper announced to the crew, "If any of you waisters can't see fit to help set the leeward bouy before the race boats arrive, I'm gonna send the whole lot of you out to find Charlie Noble."

The ironic juxtaposition of such a time-honored nautical reference being bandied about by a full-grown man in an advanced state of undress was hardly lost on me. But it left more than one of my crewmates feeling inexplicably baffled.

"It's actually pretty humorous, all things considered," Captain Swipples explained to the neophytes.

"Granted, Charlie Noble can be a pretty slippery character to find. But even at his most elusive, you're better off spending years searching for a guy who doesn't exist than mucking around, say, for even a split second, down at Davey Jones' locker."

By the time we finally reached the location where Captain Swipples intended to set the windward anchor buoy for the impending regatta, he was loath to discover the crew's focus had drifted far beyond the operative confines of his boat.

"All hands on deck!" the skipper growled, struggling singlehandedly to successfully deploy our first buoy starboard long before any of us arrived concurrently to assist.

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ATTEND

WHAT: Corinthian Yacht Club's Thursday Night Racing Series

WHEN: 6pm every Thursday through Sept. 3: a Twilight Race begins at 6pm Fri., June 19

WHERE: Bellingham Bay

INFO: www.cycbellingham.org
**FAIRY DAY:** Kids and adults can come in costume to an “International Fairy Day” celebration happening from 11am-2pm at the Garden Spot Nursery, 900 Alabama St. Fairy food, a noontime parade, crown-making, face-painting, prize drawings and the launch of the children’s activity book *In the Mt. Baker Faerie Forest* will be part of the free event.

**JUNE 20-21**

**BOAT SHOW:** Bring dad along to La Conner Yacht Sales’ 19th annual “Boat Show & Swap Meet” from 9am-4pm Saturday and Sunday at the La Conner Marina, 539 N. 3rd St. The free event features the chance to board all different types of boats and see what would best suit your cruising needs. You can also buy or sell marine-related treasures at Saturday’s Swap Meet.

**BOATING CENTER OPEN:** The Community Boating Center has resumed operations for the 2015 season from 10am until sunset on Saturdays and Sundays at their headquarters at 555 Harris Ave. Rentals include kayaks, sailboats, rowboats and paddle boards. Registration for youth camps and adult classes are currently available online. Starting tomorrow, the center will operate through the week.

**GARDEN WORKSHOPS:** "Easy Houseplant Propagation" will be the focus of an 11am workshop Saturday at My Garden Nursery, 929 E. Bakerview Rd. On Sunday, attend "Cool Color Combinations" at 11am and "Organic Vegetable Gardening" at 12:15pm. All events are free; please RSVP.

**SOLSTICE CELEBRATION:** Attend a Solstice Celebration from 3-8pm at the York neighborhood’s York Farm, 1474 James St. The all-ages event will include tours of the small farm, live music by Falling Up Stairs, the Dixieland Jazz Band, and the Catkins, dance by members of Portico Dance Company, food by Diego’s Mexican Grill food truck, brews and soda, and more.

**MOUNTAIN DESTINATIONS:** “Backpacking Washington’s Mountain Ranges” will be the focus of a free presentation by Kathy Whitman at 6pm at REI, 400 36th St. Please register in advance.

**CHUCKANUT RADIO HOUR**

- **Plethora of Poets:** Join us as we welcome former Washington State Poet Laureate **SAMUEL GREEN**, his wife **SALLY GREEN**, and a number of other acclaimed regional and local poets! Our musical guests will be The Lady Crooners.
  - **Tickets $5 available at Village Books & brownpapertickets.com**
  - **Thurs, June 25, doors at 6:30pm in the Heiner Theater at WCC**

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**FREE EVENTS AT VILLAGE BOOKS**

**Join us in welcoming the bestselling author of Nixonland**

**RICK PERLSTEIN** as he presents

the INVISIBLE BRIDGE

The Fall of Nixon and the Rise of Reagan

Tues, June 23, 7pm

**DAVID NIWEERT**

**Of ORCAS and MEN**

What Killer Whales Can Teach Us

Wed, June 24, 7pm

**Join us for the Live Taping of the**

Chuckanut Radio Hour

featuring

A Plethora of Poets

**Join us as we welcome former Washington State Poet Laureate**

**SAMUEL GREEN**, his wife **SALLY GREEN**, and a number of other acclaimed regional and local poets!

**Tickets $5 available at Village Books & brownpapertickets.com**

**Thurs, June 25, doors at 6:30pm in the Heiner Theater at WCC**

**Produced by Epic Events in conjunction with the Historic Fairhaven Association**

**Fairhaven Outdoor Cinema**

Presented by Ben Kinney & Keller Williams Realty

**Scales & Tails**

**Pet Parade**

Saturday, June 20th

Check-in begins at 10am  Parade starts at 11:00am

**Maritime Heritage Park**

Here’s your chance to strut your stuff! Fun prizes for everyone! Grand prizes for Best Dressed Pet, Best Float or Wagon and Most Unusual Pet!

FREE! (Suggested donation of one item of pet food for local humane societies and rescue organizations)

Pre-registration suggested

Call Bellingham Parks and Recreation at 360-778-7000 or go online to www.cob.org/ezreg

ALL ages welcome!
Summer School

When I was a teenager attending a two-week drama camp at Western Washington University approximately one million summers ago, my biggest acting coup was convincing the rest of my fellow thespians that I’d lost my glass eye in our dorm’s bathroom sink. My subterfuge (I don’t actually have a glass eye, making it impossible to lose) was so successful it resulted in my camp crush running at breakneck speed to find a janitor to retrieve my missing body part.

I can’t promise that your own kids will learn how to lie/act with such panache when taking part in WWU’s 10th annual Summer Youth Theatre Institute camps that are just around the corner—June 23-July 10 for secondary students, and June 24-July 3 for elementary-age kids—but I can guarantee they’ll learn a lot about what it means to be involved in the theatrical arts.

With access to all the accoutrements of a professional theater—including ample space to learn about everything from stage movement to blocking and directing, a loaded costume shop, and a performance venue to show off their talents at the culmination of the workshops—it’s likely the skills your progeny learn here might translate into a further interest in the craft. Additional lessons include choreography, audition skill building, improvisation and monologue and scene writing, warm-up techniques and more. Based on personal experience, I can say with confidence they’ll also have fun doing it.

Down the hill at Bellingham Arts Academy for Youth, the first of a number of summer camps—three weeks of rehearsals and performances focusing on the Tony Award-winning musical Bye Bye Birdie—will get started Mon., June 29 at the State Street space dedicated to making the most of kids’ innate talent. Other offerings include The Ugly Duckling (June 29-July 10), Green Eggs and Ham (July 13-24), Robin Hood: Men In Tights (July 20-Aug. 9), and an “80s Dance Camp” (July 20-24). If you’ve been lucky enough to be in the audience at a BAAY show, you already know the instructors are able to coax performances out of players of a variety of ages that rival those of longtime actors. And, since it’s a venue that focuses on kids year-round, those who are interested in learning more can stick around long past the season’s last stand.

Also on board for summer session is the Neighborhood Playhouse, which in addition to providing quality theatre for young audiences, also takes time during Bell- ingham’s warmer months to teach area youth a few of their tricks. Led by Seattle Children’s Theatre alum Lizanne Schader and helped along by a cast of professional actors, this year’s classes and performances include “A Midsummer Night’s Dream: A Young Actor’s Lighthearted Introduction to Shakespeare” for kids in grades 3 to 5 (July 6-July 10), “Camp Comedy” for those in 6th-12th grade (July 6-10), “Theatre by the Book” for those in kindergarten through second grade (July 20-24), and an audition-only production camp for 6th-12th graders culminating in performances of The Magical Land of Oz (July 20-Aug. 1).

Even if your kids don’t think summer’s a good time to learn something new, it’s likely they’ll find something to like in the roster of classes mentioned here. They’ll be encouraged to act out, and sometimes that’s a good thing. 🎈
Tickets are $10-$12; additional showings happen "nonstop fun, romance and explosive hilarity." The play focuses on a successful mystery playwright and includes Grand Suites, 100 E. Kellogg Rd. The event, at 7:30pm Friday and Saturday at the Quality Inn takes place at 2pm Sun., July 5.

JUNE 22

GUFFAWINGHAM: A weekly open mic for comedians, "Guffawingham," takes place at 9:30pm every Monday at the Green Frog, 1015 N. State St. Entry is free.

THURS., JUNE 25

BUTT KAPINSKI: Acclaimed Los Angeles-based performer Deanna Flesher returns to Bellingham to bring her solo show, Butt Kapinski, to the stage at 9pm Thursday through Saturday at the IDiom Theater, 1418 Cornwall Ave. The film noir murder mystery and its titular detective will rely on the audience—and improvisation—to help tell the story. Tickets are $10-$12.

DANCE
THURS., JUNE 18

FOLK DANCE: Join the Fourth Corner Folk Dancers to learn lively folk dances from Eastern Europe, Greece, Turkey, and Israel from 7:15-10pm every Thursday at the Fairhaven Library, 1117 12th St. Suggested donation is $5; students and first-timers are free.

FRI., JUNE 19

DANCEPLAY: Unearth your innate ability to partner dance with fluidity and confidence at a “DancePlay” event taking place from 7:15-9:15pm at Presence Studio, 1412 Cornwall Ave. Dance Play invites you on a “two-hour shared journey of gender-neutral, step-free dance.” Entry is $10.

DANCE PARTY: A mix of swing, Latin and ballroom will be highlighted and danced to with an introductory lesson at the weekly Friday Night Dance Party from 7:30-10pm at the Bellingham Dance Company, 1705 N. State St. Admission is $5-$7.

SAT., JUNE 20

SPRING DANCE: Dancers ages 4 to 16 will share their talents when Fairhaven Ballet presents “Spring Dances” at a 2pm performance at the Hillcrest Meeting Hall, 1400 Larrabee Ave. Tickets will be $5-$10 at the door.

CONTRA DANCE: Join the Bellingham Country Dance Society for a Contra Dance featuring live music from Northern Contrast Band from 7-10:30pm at Evoer’s Glen Echo Community Club, 7694 Goodwin Rd. Entry is $4-$5; please bring finger food to share.

SALSA NIGHT: Join DJ Antonio Díaz as he mixes a fabulous combination of the best Latin rhythms at the bimonthly “Salsa Night” taking place from 9:30pm-12am on the first and third Saturdays of the month at Cafe Rumba, 1140 N. State st. Entry to the all-ages event is $4.

JUNE 20-22

DANCING FOR JOY: “A Journey Through the Seven Days of Creation” will be the focus of at Dancing for Joy’s annual Spring Show at 3pm and 6:30pm Saturday, and 3:30pm Sunday and Monday, at the Mount Baker Theatre, 104 N. Commercial St. Tickets are $12-$15.

JUNE 24-27

DANCE CELEBRATION: Students of the Skagit Valley Academy of Dance present “DanceCelebration!” performances at 7pm Wednesday through Saturday in Mount Vernon at McIntyre Hall, 2501 E. College St. By popular demand, the recital will include revitalized favorites from years past, as well as new creations by the talented faculty. Tickets are $20-$35.
Sew Beautiful

THE MANY GUISES OF NATURE

The inspirations of nature take many guises when translated through art, appearing as textures, color or moral lesson. The current three installations at the La Conner Quilt & Textile Museum present these interpretations—and more.

On the ground floor gallery is “Shades of the Northwest,” an engaging display of fabric art by Andi Shannon of Mount Vernon. Shannon doesn’t usually work with pink and purple, but when a friend gave her five pieces of hand-dyed fabrics, she created “Aurora Purpura” to honor the Northern Lights, which she used to adore when living and working in Ruby, Alaska (population 300), standing outdoors in 30 degrees below zero.

Shannon’s many fabric creations, including three-dimensional wall hangings, scarves, purses and thread jewelry, can be found in half a dozen Washington museum gift shops. And you might say her distinguishing mark is attention to textures. Her scarves have the airy quality of lichen or sea-foam. From other Alaskan memories, Andi has reinvented the “deep moss” of those woods with a yarn collage, using endless loops of yarn laid out in random, free-motion circles, sewn together to create a completely new kind of fabric.

She likes to begin a piece by “upending boxes of fabric and digging for colors and textures.” Next, she quilts free-motion on her sewing machine, perhaps providing a counter point with “chunky hand stitching.” The result, as in “Shades of a Northwest Winter” is a wavy, complex abstraction avoiding straight lines, in subtle, pearlescent shades of gray and blue—the colors of rain.

Shannon once feared that her endless experiments with form and materials would prevent her from receiving recognition. “Don’t worry,” laughed one museum curator, “I’ll always recognize an Andi Shannon.” (And July 18-19, you’ll be able to visit her at her workshop during the Skagit Artists Studio Tour.)

On the second floor, the Contemporary Quilt Art Association shows off bright colors. Barbara Kanaya’s “Step in Time,” I would have thought was inspired by ancient Egypt, but evokes Machu Pichu in Peru.

“Moving Toward Extinction,” by Barbara Osteen, is a beautiful elegy of humanity’s tragic addiction to petroleum, with a great black X of a traffic intersection watched over by a single, leafless tree. Its triptych form emphasizes our broken-ness. The mood of this work has an uncanny resonance with the headline painting, “Switchback,” by Michael Paul Miller, most recently at the Museum of Northwest Art down the street in La Conner.

Among the many excellent works by CQA members, I enjoyed the three-dimensional “Prysm,” by Bonny Brewer and a stunning “Red-Winged Dragonfly” by Bonnie Buchanan. Two works by Carla Stehr take abstraction as a pure form at 12:30pm at Whatcom Museum’s Old City Hall, 121 Prospect St. Entry is free.

Dahlgren is in town to participate in the installation of his new work, “Constructing a New World,” in Barkley Village.

By Stephen Hunter

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 19-21
MONA AUCTION: The public can preview the 271 artworks featured in the Museum of Northwest Art’s 23rd annual Art Auction for free from 2-5pm Friday at the La Conner-based gallery at 321 E. First St. A silent auction and dance party takes place that night from 6-10pm; entry is $30. Saturday’s sold-out art auction and dinner happen from 4-9pm, and a “Bid, Brunch & Buy” gathering happens from 9am-12pm Sunday, where juried artwork not already sold will be re-hung and presented for your enjoyment (and purchase). www.monaartmuseum.org

JUNE 22-26
KIDS DO ART: Youth ages 6-12 can sign up for “Kids: Do Art!” workshops happening Monday through Friday at Lynden’s Jansen Art Center, 321 Front St. Sampler sessions (two hours a day for all five days), afternoon intensives, and full-day options are available. Workshops focus on everything from painting on silk to pointillism, ceramics, storytelling, dance, marimba-playing, and more. Prices vary. www.jansenartcenter.org

THURS., JUNE 25
DAHLGREN PRESENTATION: Swedish painter, sculptor and conceptual artist Jacob Dahlgren will give a Brown Bag presentation focusing on his work and provide insight about abstraction as a pure form at 12:30pm at Whatcom Museum’s Old City Hall, 121 Prospect St. Entry is free. Dahlgren is in town to participate in the installation of his new work, “Constructing a New World,” in Barkley Village.

ONGOING EXHIBITS

ALLIED ARTS: View “Bold Abstracts” through June at Allied Arts, 1418 Cornwell Ave. The Juried Artist Series exhibit includes works by Robert Marks, Courtney Odell, Geoffrey Wilce, Yvette Nuemann, Kellie Becker, and Kay Little. www.alliedarts.org

ARTWOOD: New pieces by members can be viewed through June at Artwood Gallery, 1000 Harris Ave. A reception happens from 5-8pm tonight as part of the Summer Solstice Art Walk. www.artwoodgallery.com

CITY HALL: Photographs by winners of the “Essence of Bellingham” contest can be seen through June 30 at Bellingham City Hall, 210 Lottie St. Winning entries were selected based on photographic quality, subject matter and how well the “essence of Bellingham” was captured. www.cob.org
A reception for Debra Stern’s “From Graphite to Clay” takes place at Good Earth Pottery, June 19 in historic Fairhaven.

**DEMING LIBRARY:** The Monday Painters will highlight their works at a group showing of paintings in watercolor and gouache from June 23-July 24 at the Deming Library, 5044 Mt. Baker Hwy.

**FISHBOY GALLERY:** Check out the contemporary folk art of RR Clark from 1:30-5pm every Mon.-Fri., at the FishBoy Gallery, 417 Virginia St.

**GOOD EARTH POTTERY:** Debra Stern’s “From Graphite to Clay” will be featured through June at Good Earth Pottery, 1000 Harris Ave. A reception happens from 5-8pm as part of the Summer Solstice Art Walk.

**HONEY SALON:** “Unbreakable Girls,” a new collection of gouache paintings, embroideries and quilts by Jennifer Dranttel that showcase the overlooked stories of brave and fearless women of myth and history, can be seen through July at Honey Salon, 310 W. Holly St.

**GALLERY CYGNUS:** A new show of paintings by Maggie Wilder exploring landscape and the possibilities of local mythology can be viewed through June 28 at La Conner’s Gallery Cygnus, 109 Commercial St.

**FOURTH CORNER FRAMES:** “Hidden Treasures” shows through June 30 at Fourth Corner Frames & Gallery, 311 W. Holly St. The exhibit features the work of Robert Finnigan (1927-1997), a New York artist with a strong mid-century style of what he called “Modified Realism.”

**GOOD EARTH POTTERY:** Debra Stern’s “From Graphite to Clay” will be featured through June at Good Earth Pottery, 1000 Harris Ave. A reception happens from 5-8pm as part of the Summer Solstice Art Walk.

**JANSEN ART CENTER:** See the Early Summer Juried Exhibit through July 31 at Lynden’s Jansen Art Center, 321 Front St. Viewers can also check out the third annual Juried Cup Show and exhibits by the Whatcom Artist Guild and painter Amanda Houston.

**LUMMI LIBRARY:** A “Flo Konecke Retrospective” can be viewed through August at the Lummi Island Library, 2144 S. Nugent Rd. Konecke, a profile artist, was “a true island renaissance woman and local superhero.”

**MAKE SHIFT:** Artworks by Aaron Brick, Ciara Sama, Gigi Daven, Karie Jane, Pandora Sweet, Rihannon Rosenbaum, and Steeb Russell can be seen at a “Hair” exhibit through June at Make. Shift Art Space, 306 Flora St.

**MINDPORT:** “Stones & Bones,” featuring found object photography by Kevin Jones, shows through July at Mindport Exhibits, 210 W. Holly St.

**POSITIVE NEGATIVE:** View a “Camera Obscura and Pinhole Camera” exhibition through June at Positive Negative, 929 N. State St., #1. The exhibit features works by photographers who converted everyday objects into image-recording devices to yield prints.

**RAGFINERY:** A variety of textile-related workshops happen on a regular basis at Ragfinery, 1421 N. Forest St. See details online.

**SCOTT MILO GALLERY:** The Women Painters of Washington will be featured through Aug. 4 in Anacortes at the Scott Milo Gallery, 420 Commercial Ave.

**Sculpture Northwest Gallery:** “Regional Stone/Regional Sculptors: New Work of the Northwest Stone Sculptors Association” can be seen from 12-5pm every Fri.-Sun. at Sculpture Northwest Gallery, 203 Prospect St.

**SMITH & VALLEE:** View prints and oil paintings by Kris Ekstrand Mosesworth, prints by Elizabeth Tapper, and sculptures by Brian O’Neill until June 28 at Edison’s Smith & Vallee Gallery, 5742 Gilkey Ave.

**WATERWORKS:** Melinda Hannigan’s “Boxing the Compass” is on display until June 27 at Friday Harbor’s WaterWorks Gallery, 315 Argyle St. In the exhibit, the working side of the maritime world is presented as abstracted ideas painted on canvas.

**Whatcom Museum:** “Bellingham’s National Art Exhibition and Awards” and “The Owl and the Woodpecker: Photographs by Paul Bannick,” and “Back at the Park: Vintage Views from the Photo Archives” can currently be viewed on the Whatcom Museum campus.

**Whatcom Art Market:** From 10am-6pm every Thursday through Monday, stop by the Whatcom Art Guild’s Art Market at Fairhaven’s Waldron Building, 1314 12th St.

**Whatcom Art Foundation:** “Eco-Design: The Future of Architecture” can currently be viewed on the Whatcom Art Foundation campus.
KILLING US SOFTLY

Depending on your age, the voice you hear in your head when the song “Killing Me Softly with His Song” is mentioned is quite possibly that of Lauryn Hill, who, with her fellow Fugees, saw her cover of it hit the top of the pop charts in 1996.

With all due respect to Hill—she’s a goddess, her version of “Killing Me Softly” is iconic and her album The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill is flawless—but when I hear “Strumming my pain with his fingers/Singing my life with his words,” the only voice I hear is Roberta Flack’s.

It is true Flack had a hit with the song—which spent five weeks atop the Billboard chart and eventually won the singer a couple of Grammys—years before I was born. But thanks to my mother’s record collection, which was replete with ‘70s divas such as Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross and, yes, Roberta Flack, songs like “Killing Me Softly” were part of the soundtrack of my youth.

But Flack is no one-hit wonder. Along with “Killing Me Softly,” the silky-voiced singer from North Carolina can count “The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face,” “Feel Like Makin’ Love,” “Where Is the Love,” “The Closer I Get to You,” and more among her rich roster of songs that have become classics. She’s also the first solo artist to win back-to-back Grammys for Record of the Year (for “The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face” in 1973 and “Killing Me Softly” in 1974), an achievement that has not been duplicated by anyone since. And lest you think Flack’s fire flamed out along with so many others with the end of the ‘70s, she made her way back to heavy rotation in the ‘80s with “Making Love” and “Tonight, I Celebrate My Love.” And then when the ‘90s came along, so did Flack, charting another hit, “Set the Night to Music,” a duet with Maxi Priest that was inescapable radio fodder for a time.

Such longevity is a welcome thing for any musician, but for Flack, it didn’t come about via luck or accident. She was born into a musical family, began playing piano when she was nine years old and got early inspiration from seeing Sam Cooke and Mahalia Jackson perform. As she got older, her piano study became serious and she eventually displayed such great skill that she was awarded a full music scholarship to prestigious Howard University, where she enrolled at the age of 15.

And then she began to sing.

It should come as no surprise that Flack excelled in college, where she changed her major from piano to voice, became assistant conductor of the university choir and won ovations and accolades for her outstanding work on everything she touched.

From there, Flack should’ve been a shoo-in for the kind of success she now enjoys, although summer is only just now, just barely upon us, you’d never know it from the weather and the wardrobe and the vibe Bellingham has been sporting these days. As such, we occasionally like to expand our horizons beyond the dark bars that keep us engaged in our music scene most months of the year and seek out happenings that are a bit outside our norm.

That’s how I feel, anyway.

Sure, the downtown core and all its many music venues and diversions will always have my heart on lockdown, but every now and again a girl needs to explore her options a little.

This week marks the kickoff of “Blues, Brews and Barbecue,” one of the increasing number of outdoor music series happening in our area this summer. This particular series takes place every Thursday beginning June 18 at the Hotel Bellwether’s Waterfront Terrace, and, as its title suggests, features blues music (in the form of Midnight Legend on June 18 and Jasmine Greene the week after), brews (local because, duh) and barbecue (from a new menu). The Bellwether can assume a comfortable position among the very best of Bellingham’s spectacular outdoor music locales, so make your way there if you’re a person who enjoys good food and music in an idyllic setting.

Also happening in the coming days is the Bellingham Music Club’s Gala Centennial Concert, which is Sun., June 21 at Bellingham High School. In case you just skimmed that, let me reiterate: the party, which will feature award-winning musicians from the world over, is to celebrate the Bellingham Music Club’s 100th anniversary, which is a pretty big deal no matter how you consider it. The BMC’s history is an interesting one, and if you’d like to know more, I’d suggest reading Dean Kahn’s excellent story about it that appeared in the Bellingham Herald recently. And then go to the concert and help ensure the club will be around for another hundred years. We often think of our music scene as something that stretches back just a few decades, but as with many things, that view is more myopic and self-serving than it is truthful, and the Bellingham Music Club is evidence of that fact.

If you happen to be anywhere near the York neighborhood on Sat., June 20, stop by the York Community Farm’s annual Solstice Celebration and fundraiser. Diego’s Mexican Grill food truck will provide tasty eats, Aslan and Boundary beer will flow and music by Falling Up Stairs, Bar Tabac, Dixieland Jazz Band, and the Catskins will be heard all day long. As well, the dedicated all-volunteer staff of the neighborhood farm will be on hand to explain their mission of “ultra-local food security.” Stop by and find out how you can get your hands dirty from farmer and volunteer coordinator Mary Loqum, and then make your way to the beer garden where my main man Larry will pour you a pint. Tell them I said hello.😊
but instead she made her way in the music industry like so many other obscure artists: she worked a day job—in her case, as a teacher—and worked on her music career during nights and weekends. With her classical training, she got paid gigs accompanying opera singers, and would then sing the blues and soul standards she loved for the crowds during intermission. Bit by bit, Flack built a following, until she was discovered and signed to a deal with Atlantic Records.

Music is rife with stories of bands that have taken weeks, months, even years to record albums, but Flack is the rare case of the exact opposite of those nightmare scenarios—she recorded her debut album, from top to bottom, beginning to end, in a mere 10 hours. It was, appropriately enough, titled First Take, and hopes were high that it would take the world by storm.

It would’ve been nice had that happened, but, in truth, sales of First Take were sluggish and Flack might’ve found herself in danger of fading into obscurity—no matter how silky-smooth her voice or elite her training might be—were it not for a little help from an unlikely source: Clint Eastwood.

It was Dirty Harry himself that selected “The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face” to be part of the soundtrack to his directorial debut Play Misty for Me, and the rest, as they say, is award-winning, platinum-selling, superstar-making history.

And yes, Flack and Fleetwood are still friends. During her decades-long career, Flack has become known for more than just her incredible voice. She’s also devoted a considerable portion of her life to advocating for causes and organizations she’s passionate about. She’s sung for Nelson Mandela, campaigns for artists’ rights as a member of Artist Empowerment Coalition, is a spokesperson for the ASPCA, and founded a school in the Bronx to teach music to underprivileged children.

Flack’s life is characterized by hard work and high achievement, and now when she performs, people are quick to line up and laud her. And when she launches into her most famous song, the one about strumming and singing, she still kills us all, ever so softly. 😊
### Music Venues

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### Education, Homes, and the Community We Build Together

**The Great Equalizer**

**JUNE 24, 11:30 AM - 1 PM**

BTC, SETTLEMYER HALL

RSVP: erinbren@kulshanclt.org | 360.671.5600

With Steve Clarke, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning at Bellingham Public Schools
## music venues

### See below for venue addresses and phone numbers

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<th>Venue</th>
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<td>Old World Deli</td>
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<td>DJ Jester</td>
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<td>Royal</td>
<td>Karaoke</td>
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<td>Country Night</td>
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<td>Rumors Cabaret</td>
<td>Levelled</td>
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<td>DJ Shortwave</td>
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<td>Skagit Valley Casino</td>
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<td>Skylark’s</td>
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<td>Walt Burkett &amp; Vocals</td>
<td>Karaoke</td>
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<td>Star Club</td>
<td>Aireeoke</td>
<td>TGF Karaoke</td>
<td>Laughing at the Stars</td>
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<td>Swillery Whiskey Bar</td>
<td>Karaoke</td>
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<td>Swinomish Casino and Lodge</td>
<td>Nowhere Near Nashville</td>
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<td>The Underground</td>
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<td>DJ B-Mello</td>
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<td>Via Cafe and Bistro</td>
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<td>The Village Inn</td>
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<td>Wild Buffalo</td>
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<td>Snug Harbor, Blake Noble, Olivia De La Cruz</td>
<td>A Tribe Called Red</td>
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**Deals:**

- **The Green Frog**: 1015 N. State St. • www.acoustictavern.com | Edison Inn 5829 Cain St., Edison • (360) 766-6266 | The Fairhaven 1114 Harris Ave • 778-3400 | Glow 202 E. Holly St • 734-3305 | Graham’s Restaurant 9889 Mount Baker Hwy, Glacier • (360) 599-3660 | U.O. 316 Commercial Ave., Anacortes • (360) 755-3956 | Honey Moon 1013 Main St St. • 734-0728 | KC’s Bar and Grill 180 W. Main St., Everson • (360) 966-8815 | Kulshan Brewery 2238 James St. • 389-5348 | Make Shift Art Space 306 Flora St. • 389-3969 | Main Street Bar & Grill 2004 Main St., Ferndale • (360) 384-2982 | McKay’s Taphouse 118 E. Maple St. • (360) 647-3600 | Nooksack River Casino 5048 Mt. Baker Hwy., Deming • (360) 354-7428 | Pop’s 714 Lakeway Dr. • 671-1011 | Paso Del Norte 758 Peace Portal Dr, Blaine • (360) 332-4045 | The Redlight 1017 N State St. • www.redlightwineandcoffee.com | Rockfish Grill 320 Commercial Ave., Anacortes • (360) 588-1720 | The Royal 208 E. Holly St. • 738-3701 | Rumors Cabaret 1119 Railroad Ave. • 671-1849 | The Shakedown 1212 N. State St. • www.shakedownbellingham.com | Silver Reef Casino 4876 Haxton Way, Ferndale • (360) 383-0777 | Skagit Valley Casino Resort 5984 W. Barre Lane, Bow • (360) 754-7777 | Skylark’s Hidden Cafe 1100 31st St. • 735-3662 | Star Club 311 E Holly St. • www.starcoulebellingham.com | Swillery Whiskey Bar 118 W. Holly St | Swinomish Casino 12885 Casino Dr., Anacortes • (360) 288-8883 | Temple Bar 106 W. Champion St. • 676-8660 | The Underground 211 E. Chestnut St. • 738-3701 | Underground Coffeehouse Viking Union 3rd Floor, WWU | Via Cafe 7829 Birch Bay Dr., Blaine • (360) 778-2570 | Village Inn Pub 3020 Northwest Ave. • 734-2490 | Vinatstruction 120 W. Holly St. • 656-6817 | Wild Buffalo 208 W. Holly St. • www.wildbuffalo.net | To get your live music listings included, send info to clubs@cascadiaweekly.com. Deadlines are always at 5pm Friday.
Inside Out
A PIXAR PERFECT MOVIE

On paper, Inside Out sounded like another lunatic gamble: an adventure that takes place entirely within the head of an 11-year-old girl, featuring her Emotions as characters—although if anyone could pull off a concept like that, it would be the team that made us care about rats who cook, toys that bond, and robots who fall in love. Sure enough, in execution, Pixar’s 15th feature proves to be the greatest idea the animation studio has ever had: a stunningly original and robots who fall in love. Sure enough, in execution, Pixar’s 15th feature proves to be the greatest idea the animation studio has ever had: a stunningly original.

Just when her Emotions think they’ve got everything under control, Riley’s parents decide to move from Minnesota to San Francisco, sending her Emotions into turmoil—because it’s not enough for Pete Docter and co-director Ronnie Del Carmen to introduce such a compelling model for how the brain really works; they’re also expected to craft an interesting story around it. For the first 11 years of Riley’s life, her Emotions have stood crowded around an instruments panel of what looks like an air-traffic control tower inside her head. Amusingly swift glimpses into the minds of other characters suggest everyone is wired more or less the same way, while still allowing for wild variation in the efficiency of the five Emotions they’ve been dealt.

In Riley’s case, she’s young and her Emotions are still hammering out the dynamic between themselves. Like, what’s Sadness’ role exactly? “I’m not actually sure what she does,” I’ve checked,” Joy says, hinting at one of the points of the film’s positive-minded agenda: helping young audiences to understand and appreciate what role sadness plays in their own lives.

Incoming memories are stored in bright glowing orbs, color-coded according to whatever emotion was dominant at the time she experienced it, then stored in the appropriate place in the vast landscape of her mind. Riley’s brain might as well be another planet—unusually dangerous, all things considered, with different islands for each of her key qualities. It’s full of amusing nooks and crannies, like Imagination Land and the more sinister Subconscious, which this fantastic voyage takes time to visit along the way.

Too often, movies that introduce wildly fantastical parallel worlds never find time to explore them—the way Dorothy only visits one corner of Oz in the 1939 film, or how Wreck-It Ralph only taps into a few of its potential gaming universes. Doctor and Del Carmen make it a point to poke around here, and though the film absolutely could have been denser, they’ve opted for just the right balance of context and story, lest spending too much time with the Emotions deprive audiences of experiencing the actual emotions that come from connecting with Riley and her family.

For that reason, although Inside Out takes place almost entirely in Riley’s head, every so often, the film surfaces to check in on how she’s doing in real life, as if taking a deep breath of relatability before plunging back into her more abstract interior world, since it otherwise might have been all too easy for the film to get “lost in thought.” We see Riley as an infant, at several stages in her childhood and again at 11 (Kaitlyn Dias), trying to cope with the disappointment of San Francisco, where the family’s house is a dump, new friends are hard to find and playing hockey isn’t the same as it was in Minnesota.

Though her parents (Diane Lane and Kyle MacLachlan) express concern, it’s up to Riley—and by extension, the five Emotions struggling to operate her mental command center—to keep her happy amid all these changes. But something’s off: Blame it on the cross-country move or the approach of puberty, but the Emotions don’t seem to work as they always have before. Most alarming, Sadness is tired of being exiled, but every time she touches something, it turns blue—and so does Riley.

Joy—who superficially resembles Disney’s favorite fairy, Tinkerbell, minus the wings—means well, but she’s a bit of a control freak, and in trying to protect Riley’s “core memories,” she accidentally ejects herself and Sadness from Headquarters. It’s a long way back, as the brain terrain crumbles around them, and in the interim, Riley’s mental state begins to unravel with Fear, Anger and Disgust left in control, unwisely deciding that the best idea is for Riley to run away.

While the initial idea was directly suggested by Disney’s 1943 Reason and Emotion short—a wartime one-reeler that characterized the eponymous disciplines forever dueling for control—the Pixar team has rethought the model, giving it the most intuitive and indelible form, with the result that viewers can’t help but imagine a similar dynamic operating in their own heads.

Concepts like this come around maybe once a decade, but linger for centuries, and even if others (like early-’90s TV show Herman’s Head) got there first, you’ve gotta hand it to Pixar for making it endure. At the risk of hyperbole, people will still be thinking in terms of these anthropomorphized Emotions long after movies as we know them are gone, in the distant future, when screens are obsolete and immersive stories are beamed directly into your frontal lobe. There’s a reason they call Pixar’s inner team the Brain Trust—they can be counted on not only to imagine, but also to execute such original ideas as these.
Eight feet tall and puffing with yellow plumage, Big Bird is more than a mere pop-culture icon. Since 1969, when the bouncy-legged Muppet made his debut on the groundbreaking PBS series Sesame Street, the eternal boy-bird with the high-pitched voice has been the identifying figure for generations of preschoolers and grade-schoolers. What Big Bird learned, millions learned along with him.

I Am Big Bird: The Caroll Spinney Story is a documentary portrait of the eternal boy-man who brings Big Bird to life, the puppeteer Caroll Spinney. Although the film, co-directed by Dave LaMattina and Chad Walker, is a little treacly (the music! the agony!), Spinney himself is a great subject. The son of a loving mother and a hot-tempered, abusive father, Spinney grew up playing with puppets—losing himself in the magic, the fantasy and the weirdness of bringing fluffy fabric to life by moving your fingers and hands inside it.

He joined the Air Force in the early 1950s, traveling the world, drawing comic strips about life in the military. Then he went to work doing kiddie TV, as a supporting character in the creepy-ish 1960s show, Bozo’s Big Top. But Spinney wanted something more meaningful, and he got his chance after running into Muppets mastermind Jim Henson at a puppet festival in Salt Lake City: an invitation to join the cast of a fledgling experiment in children’s programming, Sesame Street.

Spinney, in his 80s, is still Big Bird, going on 45 years now, although he has long had a younger understudy, Matt Vogel—one of the many talking heads to offer adoration and insight in the film. Others speaking about Spinney include director Frank Oz, producer Joan Ganz Cooney, former Sesame Street castmates Emilio Delgado, Bob McGrath, and Sonia Manzano, and Spinney’s second wife, Debra, whom he met on the show. (Spinney’s account of their meeting is comically odd—he may have some facial recognition issues). His grown children also offer testimonials.

Spinney comes across as a man whose warm spirit is literally at the core of the loving, if loopy Big Bird. But the film reminds us that he’s also long served as the principal puppeteer and personality of another Sesame Street mainstay—the perennially cranky Oscar the Grouch.

Would an I Am Oscar the Grouch doc be an altogether different affair, with Spinney revealed as a bitter curmudgeon, a miserable misanthrope? Happily, from the evidence provided in I Am Big Bird, the answer is no. 😊
**FILM SHORTS**

**Aloha:** The movie that will forever be remembered as having chosen obviously not-Asian Emma Stone to play a character that is half Asian. ★ (PG-13)

**Avengers: Age of Ultron:** Summer blockbusters, meet your new God. ★★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 21 min.)

**Entourage:** This movie, which has been in the making for half a decade, has no reason to exist. But if it had a reason to exist, that reason would surely be the chance to see Jeremy Piven reprise his role as Ari Gold. And then we can all mourn the Ari Gold spinoff that almost was. ★ (R • 1 hr. 45 min.)

**Don't Think I've Forgotten:** Cambodia's Lost Rock and Roll: Before Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge made Cambodia synonymous with killing fields and acts of genocide, it was home to a burgeoning brand of rock 'n' roll that had its roots in Western culture but boasted a sound and style all its own. ★★★★ (Unrated • 1 hr. 45 min.)

**Ex Machina:** Alex Garland (28 Days Later, Sunshine) crafts for us a prescient story about a future in which machines become sentient and robots are our sexy new rulers. ★★★★ (R • 1 hr. 48 min.)

**Far From the Madding Crowd:** Thomas Hardy gets the adaptation his classic novel so richly deserves, with his incomparable heroine, Bathsheba Everdene, embodied with great skill and spirit by the equally incomparable Carey Mulligan. ★★★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 59 min.)

**Grease:** Help kick off the 2015 season of the Fairhaven Outdoor Cinema with Danny Zuko, Sandy Olsson, the Pink Ladies, the T-Birds, and all the rest of the Rydell High crew when this 1978 classic shows at 8:15pm Sat., June 20 on the Fairhaven Village Green. Danny may be stranded at the drive-in and branded a fool, but you don't have to be. A performance by Bellingham Dance Co. opens the show. ★★★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 50 min.)

**I Am Big Bird:** The Caroll Spinney Story: See review previous page. ★★★★★ (Unrated • 1 hr. 30 min.)

**I'll See You in My Dreams:** Bellingham native and all-around nice guy, Jeremy Passmore. It also stars the Rock, and if anyone can wrestle a giant earthquake to the ground, it's him. ★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 3 min.)

**Pitch Perfect 2:** An all-girl, a cappella singing group comes to New York and then finds itself in a battle of wits andvoices against the world's best boy band in the history of music, and I will fight anyone who tries to tell me otherwise. This biopic, which details the triumphs and considerable tragedies of the life of Blythe Danner, bathsheba Everdene, embodied with great skill and spirit by the equally incomparable Carey Mulligan. ★★★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 45 min.)

**San Andreas:** I love a cheesy natural disaster movie. And this one just happens to be based on a script by Bellingham native and all-around nice guy, Jeremy Passmore. It also stars the Rock, and if anyone can wrestle a giant earthquake to the ground, it's him. ★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 3 min.)

**Spy:** Even in terrible movies (Tammy, Identity Thief), Melissa McCarthy's comedic skills cannot be denied. This, by all accounts, is the exact opposite of a terrible movie—and it's the breakout starring role McCarthy's been destined for since Bridesmaids. ★★★★★ (R • 1 hr. 57 min.)

**Tomorrowland:** All I know about Tomorrowland is it's the place at Disneyland where Michael Jackson (disguised as Captain EO) lives and it is also home to Space Mountain, which is good enough for me. All I know about its cinematic namesake is that it bombed at the box office, probably because people have no clue what to do with a film that's not a remake or a sequel. ★★★ (PG • 2 hrs. 10 min.)

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**Showtimes**

© Regal and AMC theaters, please see www.fandango.com.

© Pickford Film Center and PFC's Limelight Cinema, please see www.pickfordfilmcenter.com

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**Now Showing June 19 - 25**

**Pickford Film Center**

**I’ll See You in My Dreams** (PG-13) 92m

“Now after 43 years in feature films, Blythe Danner has gotten the opportunity to show what she can do, and in I’ll See You in My Dreams, she is simply jaw-dropping, just wonderful.” San Fran Chronicle

Fri: (2:15), (4:30), 6:45, 9:00
Sat: (2:15), 4:30, 6:45, 9:00
Sun: (3:15), 5:30, 7:45
Mon - Wed: (2:15), (4:30), 6:45, 9:00
Thu: (2:00), (4:15), 9:00

**Love & Mercy** (PG-13) 121m

“Bill Pohlad vibrantlly illuminates two major breakthroughs — one artistic, one personal — in the life of the Beach Boys’ Brian Wilson.” Variety

Fri & Sat: (12:30), (3:15), 6:00
Sun: (Noon), (2:45), 5:30
Mon - Wed: (12:30), (3:15), 6:00
Thu: (12:30), (3:15)

**Don’t Think I’ve Forgotten: Cambodia’s Lost Rock and Roll (NR)** 105m - “Yumpos as both an objective record and a poetic lament: It’s a film that’s every bit as entrancing and haunting as the lost music it celebrates.” The A.V. Club

Fri & Sat: 8:45; Sun: (12:45), 8:15
Mon - Thu: 8:45

**Night of the Ghouls** (1959) 79m

Rocket Sci-Fi Matinees

Ed Wood’s first film without any contribution from Bela Lugosi (who died 3 years earlier.)

Sat: (Noon) - $2 Admission

**My Neighbor Totoro** (G) 88m

Castles in the Sky - Opening Night!

Kicking off our new summer series with the fan favorite Totoro, showing both versions (dubbed and subtitled) on different screens at the same time.

Thu: 6:30

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**Near a Record and Roll (NR)** 105m - “Yumpos as both an objective record and a poetic lament: It’s a film that’s every bit as entrancing and haunting as the lost music it celebrates.” The A.V. Club

Fri & Sat: 8:45; Sun: (12:45), 8:15
Mon - Thu: 8:45

**Night of the Ghouls** (1959) 79m

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Thu: 6:30

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**I Am Big Bird:** The Carroll Spinney Story** (PG-13)** 92m

“Out of costume, Spinney is as impossibly sunny as his alter ego (with none of the crankiness of his other incarnation, Oscar the Grouch).”

Fri & Sat: 6:00; Sun: 5:15; Mon & Tue: 6:00

Wed: (1:00); Thu: 6:00

**Ex Machina** (R) 108m

“Thematically epic, it demands to be seen at least twice.”

Fri & Sat: 8:15; Sun: 7:30; Mon & Tue: 8:15; Wed: 9:15

Thu: 8:15

**Far from the Madding Crowd**

Fri & Sat: (12:30), (3:15); Sun: (11:45AM), (2:30)

Mon & Tue: (12:30), (3:15); Wed: (3:15); Thu: (12:30), (3:15)

**Julie Taymor’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream** 124m

Wed: 6:00
**“F Plus Plus”—that’s a lot of Fs.**

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2015 Jonesin’ Crosswords
(email@jonesincrosswords.com)

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**Across**

1 Bread spreads
2 Squeal (on)
9 Office-inappropriate, in web shorthand
13 “Here ___ Again” (1987 #1 hit)
17 Moved a rowboat
1840s slogan in the Oregon border dispute
19 Address a crowd
20 See 17-Across
22 Business priority
25 Abbr. on a lotion bottle
26 Parisian pronoun
27 Topmost point
28 “Dig in!”
31 Game pieces
33 Circulation improver
34 Doughnut shape
36 “Star Wars” home of Jar Jar Binks
40 Sold extremely quickly
43 College applicant’s creation
44 Carell of “The Office”
45 “Go on, scat!”
46 Abbr. on old Eurasian maps
47 Field arbiter
49 Brownie ingredient
50 “Based on that ...”
51 Concise
53 Ball bearer

3 Down

1 “Pow!” reaction
2 2018 Super Bowl number
3 “The Santaland Diaries” occupation
4 Get the best of 5
6 Surveil
7 Hilarious joke
11 Kills an enemy, in gaming slang
12 “___ people ...”
16 Some police dept. employees
18 No longer burdened by
21 Spin stat
22 “Mazes and Monsters” author
23 Australian gems
24 “Seinfeld” surname
27 Topmost point
30 “___ Frutti” (Little Richard hit)
32 “Can’t be”
34 They may be bear markets
35 “I’ll have what ___ having”
37 Biblical genealogy word
38 “Drab” color
39 Again and again
40 Portrayed
41 Assuming
42 “Based on that ...”
44 Carell of “The Office”
45 “Go on, scat!”
46 Abbr. on old Eurasian maps
47 Field arbiter
49 Brownie ingredient
50 “Based on that ...”
51 Concise
52 18 or 21, usually
54 “I’ll have what ___ having”
56 Words before...
**FREEWILL ASTROLOGY**

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Would you like to stop pushing and struggling for a while? Is there a clenched attitude you would love to let go of? Do you wish you could take a break from having to give so much and try so hard and be so strong? Then do it! Now would be a good time to take a sabbatical from any situation that feels too demanding or frustrating. You wouldn't incur the wrath of the gods or the twists of karma if you sneaked away to indulge in some recreational frivolity. For the foreseeable future, “relax” and “surrender” are your words of power.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Theologian Karl Barth speculated that when the angels get together to praise and honor God with music, they perform the compositions of Bach. But when they are playing for each other, they are more likely to choose Mozart. I guess that’s because Mozart’s stuff is loose and free and inventive compared to Bach, who’s formal and so-ber and systematic. Mozart is more for parties, while Bach is for real. I’m seeing the coming days as a time when you, like the angels, should be especially willing to express yourself in very different ways, depending on the audience.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Before E. Annie Proulx became a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, she wrote a series of how-to books, including a dairy farmer’s manual of hers that I especially want to call your attention to right now is Plan and Make Your Own Fences & Gates, Walkways, Wells & Drives. It might be inspirational for you to read it. You’re in a phase when it makes perfect sense to create new paths for yourself to travel on. This will allow you to forgo at least some of the paths that others have built and that can’t actually take you where you need to go.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** I’m getting itchy to see you blow your own cover. I would love you to come all the way out of your hiding place, even just for a while, and see what happens if you make full disclosures and brave displays. My hope is that you will close the gap between the real you and the images that people have of you. Does that sound interesting? Or have you become so fond of being a big riddle that you can’t imagine any other way to be? Maybe you can tempt the casual observer if I add this: Taking your disguises off even briefly will enable you to discover intriguing secrets about yourself. And then once you put your disguises back on, you will seem more mysterious than ever.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** A new cycle will begin for you after your birthday. Between now and then you will be wrapping up the current cycle. I invite you to do so with a flourish. Don’t just wait around passively for the themes of the last 11 months to fade away or go to sleep. Instead, set an intention to bring them to a climactic close. Schedule a splashy graduation or a grand finale. Plan a cathartic party or a celebratory rite of passage. Take a playful leap of faith or try that magic trick you’ve been saving for the perfect moment. Or all of the above!

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** I wish you could take a break from having to give so much and try so hard and be so strong? Then do it! No foggy thinking or sloppy language allowed! Now would be a good time to take a sabbatical from any situation that feels too demanding or frustrating. You wouldn’t incur the wrath of the gods or the twists of karma if you sneaked away to indulge in some recreational frivolity. For the foreseeable future, “relax” and “surrender” are your words of power.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** If you are fully committed to being both honest and kind, you will have more power to heal other people than you’ve had in a long time. You will have a resemblance to a magic potion or a wonder drug. Here’s a caveat, however: The therapeutic influence you have to offer might be scary to those who aren’t ready to be cured. The solutions you propose could be disruptive to anyone who is addicted to his or her problems. That’s why I advise you to be discerning about how you share yourself. P.S. The medicine you are generating is not too potent for your own use. It’s exactly what you need to transform limitation into liberation.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Would you like to take a sabbatical from any situation that feels too demanding or frustrating? You wouldn’t incur the wrath of the gods or the twists of karma if you sneaked away to indulge in some recreational frivolity. For the foreseeable future, “relax” and “surrender” are your words of power.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Now is a favorable time to wish upon a star. In other words, you can enhance the likelihood that your wish will come true if you choose this phase of your cycle to enlist the assistance of a higher power. It’s your duty to make sure, however, that you choose upon the right star. Pick a higher power that can truly help you with your wish, not necessarily one that has worked for other people’s wishes. Here’s another crucial detail: Be precise in formulating your wish. No foggy thinking or sloppy language allowed!
THE ADVICE GODDESS

DORK MATTER

I'm just out of a bad relationship and ready to start dating. I recently met a guy I liked at the mall. There was definitely a physical attraction, and we had a lot in common, but not an hour after we met, he sent me a text that said, “Miss you already.” That set off red flags for me. Sweet or creepy? I'm on the fence.

—Want To Be Charitable

He's looking forward to watching you sleep—from the third-floor apartment across the way, with a set of high-powered binoculars.

Then again, it's possible that socially, he's kind of a mouth-breather. Socially clueless guys will sometimes dig around in the “Chicks Love This Stuff” bin, pull out some romantic-sounding line and lay it on a woman, hoping it'll stick. They don't get that prematurely expressed affection can creep women out. Sure, his “Miss you already”—or one of its cousins, “I loved you before I even knew you!”—sounds like a sweet sentiment. But using it before real feeling has time to develop can suggest that one's underlying motivation is not “Can't wait to take you to Paris” but maybe “Can't wait to keep you in a crate under my bed.”

That's probably where your intuition is taking you. Intuitions—gut feelings—are judgments we arrive at without conscious reasoning. But they don't come out of nowhere. Your brain compares input from your current environment with prior situations (from your past and your evolutionary past), looking for patterns that suggest danger is afoot. The thing is, these alerts are often wrong. But that actually isn't a bad thing. Evolutionary psychologists Martie Haselton and David Buss find that we seem to have evolved to make the less costly error—like your ignoring the side of red-flagging a guy because it's less costly for you to end up home alone on a Saturday night than to end up crated or dead.

Should you override your weirdodar? It can feel unfair to write somebody off on the basis of one yicky remark. But if you're going to take a risk, it should be an informed risk, meaning that you use information about past behavior (which you're rather short on) to predict the likelihood a situation will go south. You also factor in your ability to deal if it does. Like if he turns stalker, will you be all “Not gonna make it through the armed guards and the moat around my house” or “My neighbors in 4B would cheerfully buzz in Charles Manson”?

On the other side of informed risk is “cross my fingers and hope it turns out okay,” which, given the level of information you have, is pretty much where you are now. However, the reality is, sometimes throwing caution to the wind makes sense, like if the guy in question seems to be the last man on earth or your last shot before eternal spinsterhood. If this is the case, it would probably be prudent to pair your high hopes with a bedside Taser, on the off chance Mr. Right turns out to be Mr. Right Outside In Your Bushes.

BREAK ROOM WITH A VIEW

I'm dating my coworker, and this is kind of embarrassing, but I've hooked up with two other guys at our company. These encounters happened awhile back, and they were meaningless. My concern is that one of these guys will get wind of the fact that I am seeing and really like this guy and tell him and he'll be put off. He knows I used to be pretty wild and said he didn't want to know the specifics, but he also didn't know that they involve our coworkers. Should I warn him?

—Unsure

To be human is to engage in episodes of poor judgment: drop-crotch pants, cornrows on a white person, vajazzling (adhering sparkly gemstones to a part of your body that nobody looks at and grumbles, “Gosh, if only it weren't so plain”). Likewise, though life partners sometimes start as coworkers, it's generally best to score hookup partners from the larger population pool—men whom you might occasionally run into at the grocery store, as opposed to every 45 minutes in the coffee room.

However, what's done is done, and what your new beau wants to hear about it is none of it. And sure, there's a chance that one or both of these guys will spill, but there's also a chance that neither will. If it comes out, deal with it as needed. Otherwise, what he doesn't quite know won't, well, let's just say the abstract idea that you were wild is different from his having mug shots in his head of the specific coworkers who've ignored the tattoo on your pelvic bone: “Abandon All Hope, Ye Who Enter Here.”

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### Sudoku

Arrange the digits 1-9 so that each digit occurs once in each row, once in each column, and once in each box.

```
 7 2  
 9 3 6  
 3 5 1  
 8 7 5  
 1 6 7 3 8 2 4  
 1 6 3  
 7 8 4 5 1  
 5 1  
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**Jen Sorensen: Slowpoke**

**pretty in pain**

A new study shows that injuries from wearing high heels doubled from 2002-2012.

Can lead to musculo-skeletal disorders.

**WHY MUST WOMEN SUFFER TO LOOK FORMAL?**

*Men’s dress shoes: actually called loafers.*

AHHHHH...

*Women’s feet: at strict military attention.*

---

**Foot Cones**

Shown: Ferragamo two-tone leather points.

X-ray view.

If you like high heels, you’ll love now.

---

**GRAB A COCKTAIL DRESS, CRAM ON SOME CONES, AND YOU’RE READY FOR THAT PARTY IN THE HAMPTONS!**

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Tastes Like Summer
DINNER ON THE BAY

O n the surface, the name-brand hot dog and Doritos and I consumed on a recent boating excursion in Bellingham Bay were nothing special. But the alchemy of salty sea air, sunny skies and a picture-perfect vista combined to make the meal a memorable one. I’ve always avowed that food eaten outside tastes better, but bringing boating to the equation ups the flavor ante. Following are a few ways to add dinner on the bay to your own summer-to-do list.

It’s been three years since I boarded San Juan Cruises’ Victoria Star for a summer-time “Chuckanut Cracked Crab Dinner Cruise” ($29-$59), but I’m guessing the setup hasn’t changed much in the time that’s passed. During the edible excursions—which happen every Friday and Saturday through the summer—passengers are treated to a Dungeness crab buffet complete with sides and dessert while motoring through Bellingham Bay and beyond to the craggy shores of Lummi Island’s undeveloped west side, Shaw Island, and Viti Rocks National Wildlife Refuge.

While some people onboard the cruise I was on seemed to be more interested in what was on their plate than in their scenic surroundings, all appeared to be having a spectacular time. Since that trip, the boating company has added a weekly “Bellingham BREWers Cruise” (currently taking place every Wednesday through Sept. 16) and “UnWINed on the Bay” (July 9-Sept. 17). Both events are $35 per person and feature locally sourced libations from area breweries and wineries, hearty snacks and an unparalleled view of the place we call home. The cruises fill up quickly, so advance reservations are recommended. More info: www.whales.com

While you will have an opportunity to relax and take in heaping helpings of natural beauty, you should know you’ll be working up an appetite when you join the crew of the Schooner Zodiac for one of their Friday night “Bellingham Bay Salmon Dinner Sails” happening June 19-Sept. 4. Passengers help assist the crew in the raising of what is purported to be the largest mainsail on the west coast of the United States, but after the sails go up, it’s smooth sailing—and a meal prepared by a professional chef featuring locally caught salmon accompanied by seasonal salads and an array of side dishes. Entry is $59-$79 for the dinner and sail; sunsets are free. More info: www.schoonerzodiac.com

I can attest that the Island Mariner’s Island Caper provides many perfect perches for sightseeing (and supper). In fact, there’s not a bad seat on the 110-foot tour boat. While I prefer to make my way to the top of the watercraft and find a shaded seat under the open-air environs, as long as there’s sea air and the whisper of a breeze to be found, I’m good to go. While the longtime company is primarily known for its whale-watching tours throughout the San Juan Islands, the boat sticks closer to its slip at Squalicum Harbor for a couple days each week during the summer. Bring dinner along when you join the seasonal Whatcom Museum History Cruises every Thursday from July 9-Aug. 27 ($28-$35), or let them do the cooking during “Beer & Brats” evening cruises most Friday evenings and some Wednesday evenings from June 26-Sept. 18. Cost is $35, and includes Kulshan Brewing Co.’s beer, Hemplers bratwurst sausages and locally made buns. While that’s all well and good—really good—I’m guessing a Ball Park frank and Doritos would also make the grade. More info: www.islandmariner.com ©
WAY. Strawberry u-pick, a pop-up fair trade market, farm walks, a beer garden, live music and more will be part of the fun. Entry to celebrate small farms and fresh, local food is free.

**WINE FUNDRAISER:** The Bellingham Branch of the American Association of University Women will host a Wine Tasting fundraiser from 2-5pm at Vartanyan Estate Winery, 1628 Huntley Rd. Entry is $30 and includes appetizers, wine samples, live music and raffles. (360) 671-5518

**SUN., JUNE 21**

**BACONFEST:** More than 50 bacon-related food samples from local purveyors will be available at the second annual “Bellingham BaconFest” from 12-3pm at the Depot Market Square, 1200 Railroad Ave. Entry is $10 and gets you five tasting tickets (kids under 10 are free). Proceeds benefit the Max Higbee Center.

**www.maxhigbee.org**

**FERNDALE PUBLIC MARKET:** Attend the Ferndale Public Market from 2-7pm every Sunday through Oct. 11 near the town’s Old Settler’s Village, 2007 Cherry St.

**www.ferndalepublicmarket.org**

**TUES., JUNE 23**

**BURGERS AND BREWING:** Kulshan Brewery’s Wes Finger will team up with Mataio Gillis for a “Burgers and Home Brewing” course at 6:30pm at Ciao Thyme, 207 Unity St. Entry is $48.

**www.ciaothyme.com**

**PIE CLASS:** Alice Clark of Alice’s Pies will teach participants how to make a pie from start to finish at a “Strawberry Rhubarb Pie” class at 7pm at the Book Fare Cafe at Village Books, 1200 11th St. Entry is $15 and includes the revealing of her secret pie pastry recipe and technique, a recipe and a slice of warm pie. Please register in advance.

**www.alicespies.com**

**JUNE 23-24**

**CAMP COFFEE, COOKING:** Coffee gurus will discuss backcountry brewing options at a “Making the Ultimate Cup of Camp Coffee” workshop at REI, 400 36th St. At 6pm Wednesday, “Gourmet Camp Cooking” will be focus of the food-related fun. Both event are free; please register in advance.

647-8955 OR **www.rei.com**

**WED., JUNE 24**

**SIPS, SAVORIES, SWEETS:** Head to Mount Vernon for “Sips, Savories & Sweets in the Summer Garden” from 5-8pm at Christianson’s Nursery, 13806 Best Rd. Tickets are $60 and include small plates, a drink, Deception Distilling samples, a garden and art silent auction, and a featured garden presentation. Proceeds benefit the La Conner Library.

**www.christiansonnursery.com**

**ICE CREAM TASTING:** Join Mallard Ice Cream owner Ben Scholtz for a “Mallard Ice Cream Tasting” gathering at 6:30pm at Ciao Thyme, 207 Unity St. He’ll also share some secrets for his ice cream success and sources for his fabulous ingredients. Entry is $25.

**www.ciaothyme.com**

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Thursdays, June 18 & 25

**Cash & Prize Drawings:**
Hourly, 2 - 7 pm

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$12.95 Per Person

Comes with a Summer Seasonal Berry Shortcake Dessert!

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Friday & Saturday, 5 – 10 pm
Tax & gratuity not included. Not available for splitting.

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**Hump Day Hot Seats**

Wednesdays, June 17 & 24

Players-Buck Dinner Buffet

5 - 9 pm

$5

$1,000 Grand Prize

Drawings 8 - 10:30 pm

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**Market Buffet**

**Special**

Sundays: 10 am – 2 pm
Dinners: 4 – 8 pm

Only $21.50

Tax & gratuity not included.

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**For ALL MEN!**

Plus a Special Gift at Rewards Club Center!
(First-come, first-served, while supplies last)

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 21**

One Day Only: $10 Free-Play

Visit Rewards Club Center to activate your Free-Play offer at card-in.

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SPECIAL Brunch: 10 am – 2 pm
Dinner: 4 – 8 pm

$21.50

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Comes to a Summer Seasonal Berry Shortcake Dessert!