

**Events, Information, and Entertainment in the Port Susan Area** Camano Island • Stanwood • Warm Beach • Silvana • Conway





Visit us at puresmokenw.com Purveyors of mouthwatering barbeque cooked simply over wood and served fresh at a fair price. Pure Smoke NW is located in Stanwood at 10219 269th St NW, directly across the street from City Hall. Featuring a variety of slow-smoked meats, scratch-made sides, and desserts. We offer catering, online orders, large events, and in-person ordering with outdoor seating. Check out our online menu and social media for hours, weekly specials, and more!



TheCrab@TheCrabCracker.com

	Artist of the Week	
e of ents	Business Spotlight	
	CALENDAR OF EVENTS	4-15
	Classes and Workshops, Etc.	44
	Classifieds Listings	
le	Clubs & Meetings	42-43
	Community Information & Announcements / News	33-39
S O	Cooking Mamas	45
	Dining Guide	25
	Kids' Korner	18-19
	Maps	26-27
	Moonshine Wisdom & Wit	21
	Pet Pages (animals available for adoption)	47
	Photos & Art	22-23
Find us on: facebook。	Tide Tables	54
	View from the Bleachers	52-53

#### Welcome to The Crab Cracker! Here's What's Crackin'...

The Crab Cracker is a community magazine created **BY** local residents **FOR** local residents. It is a FREE publication printed every two weeks and distributed throughout the communities of Camano Island, Stanwood (and Warm Beach area), Silvana, and Conway. It contains an extensive calendar of events, original stories, feature articles, fun and interesting sections, community news and announcements, tide tables, and more. Please send us any material you want our communities to know about for possible entry into this publication. It is content provided from YOU that makes this publication the popular source of information and entertainment that all of our friends and neighbors enjoy.

Cover image: "Cocoa Cat". Happy New Year from The Crab Cracker Community Magazine



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Submission DEADLINE: JANUARY 4 for Next Edition (January 12-25)

www.TheCrabCracker.com

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 FORD GIESBRECHT PERFORMANCE

at Tapped Camano, 5:30-7:30pm at 848 N Sunrise Blvd. Ford plays an eclectic mix of Brazilian classical, American and Latin jazz standards, old rock and original music. conversation friendly. No cover.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 MINIMUM WAGE BAND

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282. Brought together through chance and happenstance, the boys of Minimum Wage bring to you a wide range of experience and a variety of genres that merge into a blend of toe-tapping and dance happy sets of Rock and Roll that covers decades of great music.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 FINE FILM FRIDAY



2:00 PM – 4:30 PM at the Camano Island Library. Join us for another exploration of what Kanopy media platform has to offer with the Masterpiece Classic mini-series, "To Walk Invisible". The two-part series follows the Brontë sisters in the eventful three-year period that saw them rise from ordinary, unmarried women, taking care of the household and their widowed father, to the secret authors of the world's most sensational literature. Intermission with snacks and discussion questions.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

#### **FAMILY BINGO**

at the American Legion Hall ON CAMANO ISLAND, 609 W. Camano Drive. Doors open at 4:30 P.M. and Bingo starts at 6pm. Snacks and beverages available.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 STARDRUMS & LADY KEYS

8 pm - Conway Muse Hayloft with Lonnie Williams on sax and Walter Young on guitar. This is always a fun show by this much loved band. Last chance to see them in 2023! Tickets \$18 in advance \$20 night of show.

#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"Happy New Year! I promise you, this year will be exactly the same as the last, you'll just be a little older. Cheers!"

—Unknown

# Calendar of Events



NEW YEAR QUOTE

"May the new year bring you significantly more joy than the holidays did."

—Unknown

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 JOE COOK BLUES BAND

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282. The Joe T. Cook Blues Band is one of the premier blues bands touring the west coast. The members are all award winning blues professionals with more than 30 years experience as gigging blues musicians. The band performs high energy traditional Chicago and west coast style blues, with elements of the old school Texas sound.

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 NEW YEARS EVE DANCE



Camano Junction Big Band Dance. 8pm to 12pm at the Camano Center, 606 Arrowhead Rd. A free dance class starts at 7:30pm a half hour before the dance starts at 8pm. Admission \$25 for adults & \$15 for students. Light snacks & a champagne toast will be provided, wine, beer, soft drinks and water can be purchased at the no host bar.

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 NYE PARTY WITH STACY JONES BAND

At Conway Muse Hayloft. Ring in 2024 with the Stacy Jones Band! This will be the funnest event around and is sure to sell out. Come join our festivities with the best blues band around. Speakeasy opens at 7 pm, Doors at 8 pm, Show time 9 to midnight. High energy Roots Rock, Blues, and Americana. Tickets \$35 Advanced \$40 Night of Show.



www.TheCrabCracker.com

# ALASDAIR FRASER & NATALIE HAAS



SUNDAY JANUARY 14, 2024 Stanwood High School PAC

TICKETS Youth \$18 Seniors \$25 General Public \$28

7400 272ND ST. NW, STANWOOD, WASHINGTON 98292

Sponsored by NW Scottish Fiddlers

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 FULL SPECTRUM NYE PARTY!

8:00pm at Pub 282. Pacific Northwest 70's + 80's variety rock band featuring a veteran lineup.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 1 POLAR PLUNGE @ FORTE



Forte' Music Dance Art will be sponsoring their 14th annual Polar Plunge! Meet at Forte' at 12PM, we will walk to the Utsalady Beach and do a little tidying up. It's our way to help start off the year with a beautiful beach. Every year we have a lively adventurous group of people join us for the event! We welcome people to come cheer us on as it is not necessary to take the plunge! If you plan to plunge bring a towel & protective foot wear. Come see what magic awaits you. 1095 Essex St. A-1 Camano Island. For more info, contact Chris Tuohy at 360-572-9262.

## MONDAY, JANUARY 1 TODDLER STORYTIME WITH JENNIFER

10:00 AM – Camano Island Library. Jump and bounce together into a world of stories, music, and movements that nurture the desire to read in toddlers. A play time or art activity may follow.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!



#### MONDAY, JANUARY 1 NAUGHTY BINGO

8pm at Beauty Bar Salon + Lounge. Always free to play. Come have some naughty fun and maybe win some prizes! 360-629-2324.

#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"Making resolutions is a cleansing ritual of self-assessment and repentance that demands personal honesty and, ultimately, reinforces humility. Breaking them is part of the cycle."

—Eric Zorn

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 1 CAMA BEACH STATE PARK FIRST DAY HIKE



9:00 - 11:00am at Cama Beach State Park. Enjoy a hike out to Cranberry Lake with Parks' staff. Length of Hike: 2.5 miles. Where to Meet: Drop-off Shelter. Are leashed dogs allowed? Yes. Restrictions: Rocks and roots on the trail. Some up and downs in the terrain. Things to bring: Wear comfortable hiking shoes and bring poles if that's something you like to use. Join the Interpretive Specialist, Meredith Peterson, and other park staff for a walk out to Cranberry Lake to get out and get moving on the first day of the year. This gentle trail leads you through the forest to a marsh ecosystem, where there is an active beaver lodge and signs of their activity along the way. Enjoy hot drinks and snacks at the drop off shelter before the hike begins.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 2 FORD GIESBRECHT PERFORMANCE

at Tapped Camano, 5:30-7:30pm at 848 N Sunrise Blvd. Ford plays an eclectic mix of Brazilian classical, American and Latin jazz standards, old rock and original music. conversation friendly. No cover.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 2 FAMILY STORYTIME WITH JENNIFER

10:00 AM – Camano Island Library. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and creative activities together as a family to prepare for the wonder of reading. A play time or art activity may follow.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3 FAMILY STORYTIME WITH VICKY

10:30 AM – Stanwood Library. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and creative activities together as a family to prepare for the wonder of reading. A play time or art activity may follow.

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3 STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Boys Basketball vs Shorewood. Freshmen & JV: 5:30pm. Varsity: 7:15pm.

#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"This New Year's, I was going to make a resolution never to be late again, but I didn't wake up until January 2."

—Melanie White

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 4 TODDLER STORYTIME WITH ALEX

10:30 AM – Stanwood Library. Jump and bounce together into a world of stories, music, and movements that nurture the desire to read in toddlers. A play time or art activity will follow.

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 4 STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Varsity Boys Swimming vs Cascade. 3pm at Stanwood YMCA. Boys Wrestling vs Marysville Getchell. JV: 5:45pm. Varsity: 7pm.

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 ARTISTS RECEPTION FOR MAUREEN WILSON



5-7pm at Beach 1 Gallery. "Camano Island is not only my home but provides inspiration for my creative side. I have enjoyed arts and crafts since childhood and so I guess creativity is just a part of who I am.Painting with alcohol inks can be challenging because the inks have a mind of their own. But I love the challenge of directing the ink to form all sorts of flowers! Bringing a pop of color to a home or workspace is my motivation. When I'm not painting I spend time with my husband, kids and grandbabies. I am an avid reader and also enjoy gardening, hiking, going for my morning walk along the beach, attending local concerts, line dancing, and happy hours with friends!" Her art will be displayed and for sale the entire month of January. The Gallery is open 7 days a week. We will be serving pop, wine, bottled water and individual bags of chips for the reception. 1243 Beach Drive, Camano Island, 360-387-1655

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 **DOGGER LIVE @ THE CONWAY BOXCAR** Dogger returns to the Conway Boxcar. Dogger turns 41

Dogger returns to the Conway Boxcar. Dogger turns 41 at midnight! North end BDay party! Country, classic rock, 90's covers and originals and more! 9pm.

The Crab Cracker had compiled this list of current events, derived from submissions & content from various resources, with effort to ensure accuracy. We recommend that you contact the venue or event to confirm the info provided.

Thank you.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 JOE COOK BLUES BAND

8 pm - Conway Muse Hayloft. Joe Cook Blues band returns to the Conway Muse. A great way to welcome the new year - with some awesome high energy blues played by some of the best. Joe won't disappoint! Tickets \$15 Advanced \$18 Day of Show. All Sales Final at Show Time.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 E-CYCLE

10am-2pm, across from Stanwood Middle School on 94th Ave., follow signs. Accepting all TVs, monitors, computer towers & laptops only (for recycling). This is put on by Stanwood-Camano Aktion & Kiwanis Clubs & donations benefit their many local service projects.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 BEAUTY BAR DIVAS

Join us for beauty bar divas, some of the best celebrity impersonators in Washington. Show starts at 9pm at Beauty Bar Salon + Lounge, 10011 - 270th St NW, Suite A, Stanwood. And we are open till 2:00 a.m. for karaoke and dancing after the show!! (360) 629-2324.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 SCOUT TREE RECYCLE



Bring out your Tree! (Ding). Bring out your Tree! (Ding). SCOUTS TREE RECYCLE at IGA, 9-4pm. Scouts learn this process first hand, and provide community service. We love to find your tree, too! Need a pick up? Text Tamara Drake at 425-344-8544, Name, address, and email for confirmation and details. Curbside pick up starts at 9am. Accepting natural trees, no ornaments/flocking/stands. When you drop off your tree at IGA, pick up a bag of last year's trees made from Lenz Blenz --- Limited supply!----Donations are most appreciated and help support outdoor activities. (Like the 50mi bike ride to Lopez Island!) Many folks attach a donation to the tree, or mail it in ahead. Troop 46, Address: 49 S. Sunrise BLVD. Camano Island, WA. Happy Holidays and Thank you! And, YES! -Accepting wreaths and Garlands. Give your wreath a 2nd life--metal rings and decorations live longer at the Kristoferson's Farm for next year's wreaths!

#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"Sorry for all the annoying behavior I did throughout the year. May you give me another chance to do that in the next new year!"

—Unknown

# Calendar of Events



#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"Dear love, success, money and happiness, please can we be good friends in 2024?"

—Unknown

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 PNW AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT: LANGDON COOK

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM at the Community Resource Center of Stanwood-Camano. You're invited to a join us in welcoming Langdon Cook to the Stanwood-Camano Community for an informative, insightful, and entertaining presentation of his latest book "Upstream:-Searching for Wild Salmon, from River to Table." Cook clearly outlines scientific information, giving details on the salmon's life cycle, distribution, preferred habitat, and physical appearance. Cook connects with chefs, fishermen, ecologists, fish wranglers, reef netters, Native Americans, and countless others to get their perspectives on the state of dwindling salmon stocks and the impact on them of fish hatcheries, commercial fishing, dam building/removal, and wildlife conservation. Registration required. Book signing available after the event. Register at https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/ events/6501d92c5c850f48004d3029

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 BRONN JOURNEY HARP CONCERT



Benefit for Caring Place Ministry. Caring Place Ministry, a free clothing and household items outreach of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Stanwood, is hosting a Bronn Journey harp concert at 2:30PM (in the church sanctuary). In lieu of a set ticket price, we ask for a generous offering in proportion to your means. Seating is firstcome-first-seated. A LIGHT NO DARKNESS CAN OVERCOME is the theme for this wonderful Christmas-Epiphany season concert that will include a sing-along and presentation of Caring Place's mission to Stanwood-Camano and surrounding communities. More info: 425-367-9641 or jack.richards4@frontier.com.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 8 STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Boys Basketball vs Everett. Freshmen & JV: 5:30pm. Varsity: 7:15pm.



### TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

## Expanding in January 2024!

Our popular Transitional Kindergarten program is expanding to Cedarhome Elementary School in January! This important program helps kids who haven't accessed preschool to prepare for kindergarten.



#### MONDAY, JANUARY 8 SPEAKER FRANCHESCA PEREZ ON TRIANGLE COVE



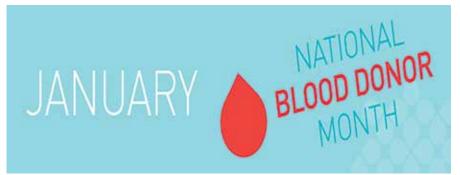
10:45 am- The public is invited to this free zoom presentation on the Triangle Cove acquisition and future plans by Stillaguamish Tribe. Franchesca Perez coordinates the Marine Stewardship and Shellfish Program for the Stillaguamish Tribe, overseeing multiple monitoring projects and advocating for the Tribe in marine resource issues. Franchesca earned a Master's degree in Marine and Estuarine Science at Western Washington University and has a broad base of science experience ranging from molecular biology to larval crab ecology. Sponsored by Sound Water Stewards. FREE.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 9 FAMILY STORYTIME WITH JENNIFER

10:00 AM – Camano Island Library. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and creative activities together as a family to prepare for the wonder of reading. A play time or art activity may follow.

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 9 FREE COOKING DEMO

in the barn at Hazel Blue Acres in Silvana. 2pm and 6pm at 430 Hevly Road. Samples and Recipes are included! No reservation necessary. Questions? Call 360-770-7261.



**NEW YEAR** 

QUOTE

"My New Year's

resolution was

to stop saying

'You go, girl' to myself."

—Zach

Galifianakis

# Calendar of Events



NEW YEAR QUOTE

"Many years ago, I resolved never to bother with New Year's resolutions, and I've stuck with it ever since."

—Dave Beard

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10 FAMILY STORYTIME WITH VICKY

10:30 AM – Stanwood Library. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and creative activities together as a family to prepare for the wonder of reading. A play time or art activity may follow.

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10 STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Boys Wrestling vs Monroe. JV: 5:30pm. Varsity: 7pm. Girls Varsity Wrestling vs Monroe. 6:15pm.

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10 DEATH CAFÉ

7pm-9pm at 580 W Monticello Dr. Camano Island. Ages 18 and over. Come for cake and conversations. Death Cafe is a social gathering for a group directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives, or themes. It is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counselling session. Read more at www.deathcafe.com. Plenty of parking. Tea and cake provided. If you feel inclined, please bring a healthy snack to share. There is no charge for this event. RSVP appreciated but not required. Vicki Tracy 425-239-9166, call or text. Accessibility info: There is one flight of stairs up to the house for entry. Please call me to see if I can arrange assistance.

#### WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY, JANUARY 10-11 SPARTAN LITTLE CHEER EVENT

Spartan Cheer is hosting their winter Spartan Little Cheer event. Stanwood High School cheerleaders will help teach youth participants a routine from 4-6 p.m. on Jan. 10 in the Stanwood High Commons. The Little Cheer participants will then perform during halftime of the Jan. 11 home Spartan girls basketball game.Participants receive a Little Cheer t-shirt, poms, and hair bow to keep. Wear athletic gear and bring your spirit! Spartan Little Cheer is an ASB fundraising event. Little Cheer is open to students in grades K-8. Deadline to register is Jan. 9. Families can register their child online under the Cheerleading tab on our Winter Sports webpage at https://shs.stanwood.wednet.edu/athletics/winter\_sports

#### HEALTH & WELLNESS CLASS

Monday, January 8 from 6 to 8 pm. Come join us for plant-based soup recipes. Lifestyle presentation by a MS nutrition & functional medicine specialist.

Held at the Cedarhome SDA Church, 28505 68th Ave. NW, Stanwood. Registration, call 360-386-7611.



#### WORLDLY SPLENDOR

www.worldlysplendor.com

Your Place for Antiques, Art, Décor, Oriental Rugs, Vintage, and Seasonal Items

8705 271st St NW, Stanwood (360) 488-3250 worldlysplendor@gmail.com

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 11 CYBER TERRORISM



The Camano Preparedness Group's meeting presents a program "Cyber Terrorism, Cyberwarfare & Cyber Crime: What the average citizen needs to know and can do" with James Province. This talk will explore what can happen and what countermeasures you should consider to mitigate risks. It isn't just your email or social media that is at risk to you! The public is welcome to attend all our meetings. This meeting will be at the Vista Fire Station, 273 N. West Camano Dr. Camano Island at 7:00pm. For more info contact Sue at kk6sue@ gmail.com. Also see our website: camanopreparednessgroup.org and our FaceBook page.

#### THURSDAY, JANURY 11 TODDLER STORYTIME WITH ALEX

10:30 AM – Stanwood Library. Jump and bounce together into a world of stories, music, and movements that nurture the desire to read in toddlers. A play time or art activity will follow.

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 11 CHRIS EĞER

7:30pm at Pub 282. Rock and Blues, Country, Funk and Soul collide in this modern take on vintage roots music. These are not overproduced, synthesized tunes created by a computer. This is raw, powerful, handmade – in the USA!

#### THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 11-12 STANWOOD COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Take a little time off from the holiday hustle to make this season brighter for someone who needs it – a patient in our community. "I'm the father of a 3yr old who needs bi-weekly transfusions until she can have a stem-cell transplant. If it wasn't for donors like yourself, she wouldn't make it to transplant. Thank you so much, our appreciation goes beyond words." Direct quote from our Thank The Donor Program. Stanwood Community Blood Drive – 9am-5pm at St. Cecilia Catholic Church – Social Hall - 26900 78th Ave NW Stanwood, WA 98292. To schedule an appointment please visit Bloodworksnw.org/ giveblood or call us at 800-398-7888.

#### IF WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT, WE CAN'T PRINT IT.

Send your info and/or images to: thecrab @thecrabcracker.com

### CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING So you can be there to meet him.

Don't wait, talk to your healthcare provider today.



SkagitRegionalHealth.org/CancerScreenings

Your journey to the Washington State GOP Convention begins with precinct caucuses hosted by the Island County Republican Party!

ISLAND COUNTY REPUBLICAN CAUCUS Saturday, January 13, 2024

10:00 am (Doors open at 9:15 am)



Camano Island Elger Bay Elementary School 1810 Elger Bay Road Camano Island, WA 98282

Help Craft the Republican Party Platform! Elect Delegates & Alternates to the 2024 Island County Republican Convention!

ALL REPUBLICANS WELCOME!

Learn More & Find Your Precinct: www.lslandCountyGOP.org



#### 1 Day of Classes & Workshops on All Things Salish Sea



Keynote Speaker: Jason Hodin of Friday Harbor Lab On Sunflower Seastars Captive Rearing and Camano's Connection!

"You, Me & the Salish Sea" Come together for a common goal & connect with your community

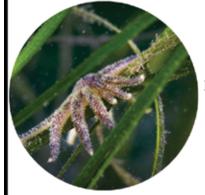
Celebrating 30 Years: Saturday Feb. 3 @ Coupeville HS

Tickets on Sale Dec. 28 Pre-select classes beginning Jan. 1 www.soundwatersuniversity.org





<u>Ticket Pricing Options\*</u> \$70| Saturday Classes & Workshops \$50| Zoom Streaming Sessions Only \$65| Early bird special Dec. 28 – Jan. 1 \$30| Field trips for attendees 2/4, 2/10 & 2/12 (Leque Island)





#### NEW YEAR'S EVE NOISE MAKER CRAFT PROJECT



Noise Maker Supplies: Paper plates; Rice or beans; Hot glue gun and glue; Inexpensive foam paint brush; Crayons, paint, or stickers.

Directions: This project will require some adult supervision. I always used hot glue to really make sure we didn't have rice and beans flying all over the house while the boys celebrated. First, gather your supplies. You will need two plates for each noise maker. Then, glue the foam paintbrush to one of the plates. Next, add some rice and beans to the plate. Now, add hot glue around the edge of the paper plate and secure the second plate on top. You may need to do this in sections. And, you can use a clothespin to clamp the plates together so you don't burn your fingers with the hot glue. Once you have glued the edges together, you will need to fill in the gaps between the foam paint brush and the plates with more hot glue. I like to use paint brushes because they are easier for little hands to hold than craft sticks are. However, you could make a noisemaker without a handle too. Finally, it's time to decorate your Noise Maker!



TheCrab@TheCrabCracker.com

**NEW YEAR** 

QUOTE

"Last year's res-

olution was to

lose 20 pounds

by Christmas.

Only 30 pounds

to go."

Unknown

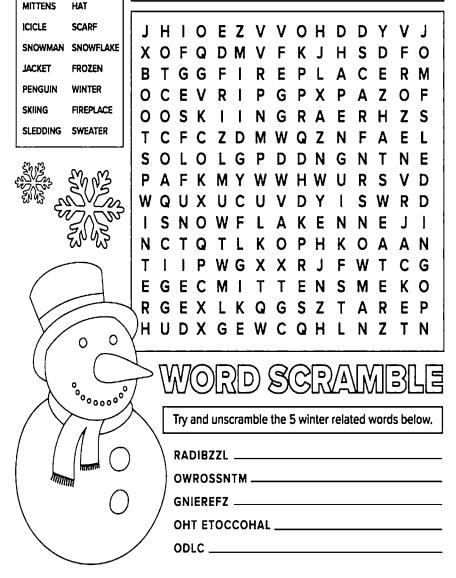


HOT COCOA

BOOTS



Search the puzzle below to find the 16 winter related words.







606 Arrowhead Road \* Camano Island \* 360-387-0222 \*

- Open Monday-Friday 9am-4pm
- Rental Space for Weddings, Events, Parties, Meetings & More!
- Programs, Education, Resources, and Services for Older Adults
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Individual & Business Memberships

Shop Camano Center's 2nd Chance Thrift Shop! 1335 State Route 532 \* Camano Island \* 360-629-6142

- Open Wednesday-Saturday 10am-4pm
- Donations accepted Thurs-Saturday 10am-4pm
- Proceeds support Camano Center Programs & Services, which are critical.
- Top Thrift Shop Awards Recipient!





#### Story by Jack Archibald.

For further moonshine wisdom and wet powder wit, check out the SKEETER DADDLE DIARIES at www. skeeterdaddle.net

#### WHY WE THROW A NEW YEARS PARTY

For the past 25 years or so the mizzus and me throw a big New Year's Party here on the South End, partly so we don't get to know the sheriff's deputies any better than we do now, which is what we tell the neighbors, but the real reason is a bit more shrouded in the mists of lost memories. I got a call today from Brent, an old friend now in Alaska, and it triggered a couple of neurons into firing spasmodically once more and voila, I was back in, oh, 1985 down at the shack with just a few of us struggling mightily to make it to midnight so we could toast the new year and pass out in our bunks. My brother was here with his wife and we had Brent and Liz visiting from Portland. My brother is what you'd call a spark plug for party stuff. Meaning, when conversations lag, he springs into instant action. 'Let's go around the room,' he says, 'and tell what the best day of the year was for each of us.' So Brent goes first and he relates a warm summer day when he and his collie were at the park and the sun was shining and the Frisbees were sailing and it was just a golden day, a boy and his pooch, fetching the Frisbee. Not maybe what my brother had in mind, I bet, but just a hippie dippy zen day that stood out for Brent more than some birthday or Christmas or the day he got a raise or the usual dopey stuff we trot out when you play Name Your Best Day. I don't remember what my favorite day was. I don't remember Karen's or my brother's or my brother's wife's favorite day. But I remember Liz's turn, Brent's girlfriend who I'd know a long time. A real long time. A way too long a time. And as the clock ticked glacially toward 1986, gears needing oil, glasses waiting for that toast and then goodnight everybody, my brother sez, 'Okay, Liz, what was your favorite day?' And to this day I can remember Liz turning to Brent who was rubbing his collie's head, probably still warm in his remembrance of a summer day in the park, and the clock's hands stopping forever, the wood stove throwing a heat nothing like what she was focusing on poor Brent with a laser look that would burn through titanium like it was cheap plastic, and our glasses with champagne broke in the sudden stillness before she said, 'My favorite day .... (and the 'my' was a small caliber bullet) My favorite day was the day we got back together, Brent. Maybe you've had a New Year's 'Party' like that. The room emptying of air and sound and mirth, as if a stopper had been pulled from the tub of our happiness and no matter how hard you try, and Brent desperately tried, that stopper won't go back in and all the merriment drains out by your feet and deep down in your cold curling guts you know, you know absolutely this is not the way you wanted to ring in the next year. You know what they mean by ill-omened now and all the months to come you will dread the next New Years' Eve the way you would dread death itself. And of course Liz and Brent broke up and Brent moved to the furthest corner of the earth and my brother admitted maybe that wasn't the best holiday icebreaker of all time and we decided either to forsake New Year's altogether or bring so many people in we couldn't possibly go around the room and play parlor games like Stab Your Lover. And that is how the South End got its gala New Year's Extravaganza Potluck and BYOB Party. And of course, you're invited! Unless you got some serious issues with your girlfriend or boyfriend, lover or husband, wife or mistress. Then I think you got a new parlor game for you and a few select friends. Happy New Year anyway.

## Photos and Art



#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other."

—Unknown



Camano sunset photo by Donald Miller.



Winter painting by Jed Dorsey.



Recently moved to Camano, seeking boarding with kind-hearted horse folk, for my sweetheart retired gelding. Looking for a large paddock/small pasture with a safe/clean/dry shelter, and 24/7 access to the paddock. Arena and round pen not needed, but another older gelding buddy in an adjacent paddock would be a big plus. Happy to provide partial self-care. My gelding has been at his current location for 8 years, great references! If interested, please call or text Chris at 360.348.2532."

## Photos and Art



"We are long time Camano residents and look forward to your Crab Cracker(s) every couple of weeks. My husband, Paul Colaizzo, took this picture on the morning of December 13 around 7:30 as the sun was rising over Beach #2 at the Camano Country Club. With appreciation for all you do," – Patricia L. Colaizzo, MAOM

#### Stanwood United Methodist Church ~ Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors ~

In-Person Sunday Service at 10:00am. Live Online Services available at 10:00am at www.stanwoodumc.org or on our Facebook page at: Stanwood United Methodist Church.



### **360-629-9555** 27128-102nd Dr. NW,

Stanwood, WA 98292 www.stanwoodumc.org Handicapped Accessible Pastor Justin White





www.TheCrabCracker.com



#### YES FOR STANWOOD-CAMANO SCHOOLS

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## Dining Guide



#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"New Year's Day now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual."

-Mark Twain

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January 11-April 4, 2024 6:00-8:30pm Restoration Church Camano Island 788 Smith Rd. More Info: griefshare.org/groups/175418



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## MEDICARE QUESTIONS?

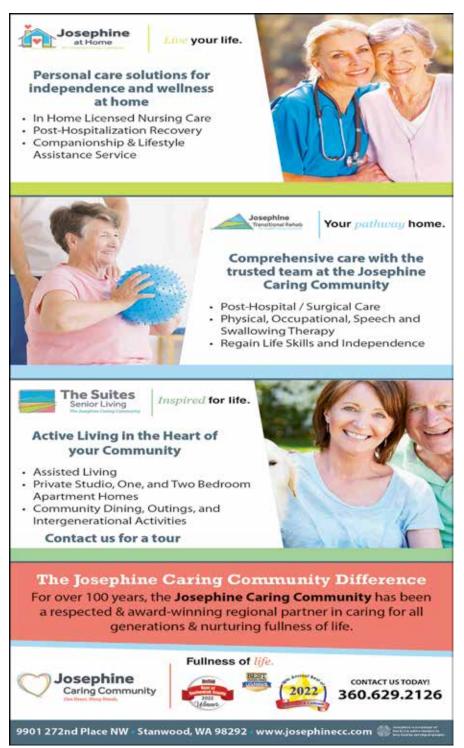
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#### NEW PUBLIC ART INSTALLED AT CHURCH CREEK CAMPUS



Scott Fife's latest creations are now perched in front of Lincoln Hill High and Saratoga School at the district's new Church Creek Campus. Fife, a sculpture artist from Vashon Island, was commissioned to craft a larger-than-life bronze eagle and a pair of smaller eagles as part of the construction process for the new building. The state Legislature has prioritized art in public places. When the state constructs a building, one-half of 1% of the cost goes to public art, according to the state Arts Commission. However, per state law, this money cannot be used for clock towers, electrically powered water features, memorials, logos, signage, or the depiction of school mascots. Fife's sculptures are typically created from cardboard, screws, and glue seemingly mundane materials used to create expressive works of art. Screw heads and corrugated pieces of cardboard are visible when inspecting the pieces up close. From far away, they look like feathers. Current Lincoln Hill High teacher Nick Clack — who studied Fife's art while a student at Eastern Washington University in 2006 — joined students admiring the work as it was being installed last week. "The detail is just amazing," Clack said. During the construction phase of the Church Creek Campus, a local art committee made up of parents, staff, and community members formed to examine options for public art and ultimately select Fife's work. Fife then turned sketches into a cardboard creation in his home studio. These were then cast into bronze by Tyler Fouts and Travis Fouts at Blue Mountain Fine Art Foundry in Baker City, Oregon. The art joins four stained glass murals made by Camano Island artist Jack Archibald that adorn windows of the Stanwood High School — two at the entryway, one in the library, and one at the Performing Arts Center. Photo — Blue Mountain: Tyler Fouts and Travis Fouts from Blue Mountain Fine Art Foundry in Baker City, Oregon, help move Scott Fife's large eagle sculpture into position in front of Lincoln Hill High on Friday, Dec. 8, 2023.

Are you interested in promoting your art, craft, or live performance?

Email us info or a bio about yourself and we will feature this page to you... and it's all FREE!

#### **CUDDLE PARTIES FOR ADULTS?**

In a world that often seems fast-paced and digitally driven, the idea of a "cuddle party" might initially strike some as unconventional or even a tad peculiar. They offer an extraordinary chance to experience a healing type of authentic human connection which our society is sorely missing. My wife and I are excited to start hosting these events at our home on Camano Island. Wait! It's not that weird! Studies show the many healing benefits to cuddling. Those include physiological benefits like reducing stress and anxiety, relieving symptoms of depression, and promoting a sense of calm and contentment. It also includes physical benefits like boosting the immune system, getting better sleep, improving digestion, lowering blood pressure, and relieving pain. Cuddle parties are clothed, non-sexual events that provide a space for warmth, human connection, and genuine platonic affection. It's like a slumber party during the day for adults. This type of touch is common for children, who are more than happy to lovingly jump in an adult's lap or play and hug each other when they feel safe. But somewhere in the teens there is usually a shift and healthy platonic touch is socially limited or lost as it gets folded into sex and intimate relationships. For many, something is lost in the process resulting a feeling of disconnection, separation and even a lack of love. Now where can those needs be met in a healthy way? I was one such man who experienced this problem thirty years ago. I was pretty mixed up about touch, intimacy, connection, sex, nurturing and love. I had issues with depression and anxiety. In 2005, I ran across the concept on CuddleParty.com. I read the web site and about how there were sometimes 200 person parties happening in the New York area where they started. Rough New Yorkers cuddling? But here was a structure with very clear rules. I had this desire to reach out and yet the opposing pressure that it wasn't appropriate to do so. I wanted to experience one. After attending a few parties, a whole new world opened up. I was enjoying touching and snuggling others I chose to. The fear and uncomfortable feeling that I was doing something wrong was replaced with relaxation and appreciation. I understood what I had been missing. It gave me a framework for learning about consent, safety and explicitly stating and holding boundaries for both myself and others. I was back in that childlike innocence of touch. Since then, I've witnessed many others go through the same process when they attend. At first they are very tentative and perhaps just watching, then trying something simple like getting a back rub, and then easing into whatever is natural for them. Some decide it's not what they need. After over 30 parties, I've never seen anyone run screaming out the door. So, if any of this story resonates with you, maybe give a cuddle party a try. \* Article by Rob Boucher. Cohosting with his wife Vicki Tracy.

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#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

ocal Story

"The funniest part of a new year is making new resolutions. I am pretty sure you have one too. Let me know about your resolution, and I'll try not to laugh as I did in the last year."

—Unknown



"Good evening James & Malynda Shipley, I am a fan of your Crab Cracker and have been for years. Thank you for going to all the effort you put in to publish it every two weeks. Back in issue 281 (Aug 28, 2020) you had a boardwalk across a beach as your front cover. Since that time, you have been using the same photo off and on as the background of your real estate add. I find that rather cool. I thought you may like to hear the story about that board walk....

First, it is located on the east end of Juniper beach. If you were to go there today you would see that it is all stacked high on the beach. We do this so the winter storms do not destroy it. This spring it will go back out but I am getting ahead of myself now.

My brother (Rob) and I originally built that in the late 1990s or early 2000s. It was built because my wife has MS and at the time used a walker to move around. She could not get across the logs with her walker. The build back then was a combination of wool I salvaged from a deck I rebuilt at my Renton home and wood we scavenged off the beach. We used that walkway for several years, replacing boards as we needed always due to rot (we have never put any surface finish on it).

By about 2010 that dock (what we call it) had run its course and it was time for retirement. My brother got his hands on a whole bunch of 40" 2x6 boards (I think they were from a big box store shelves) so we built a new dock again using those and some long 2x6's I salvaged from rebuilding a deck on my next house in Everett. The picture you have is of that dock.

Every spring we clear out enough logs and replace several support

posts that have washed out over the winter so the new dock will be just above all the driftwood. There is usually a lot of chainsaw use in this step.

Toward the end of this dock life my wife's MS had worsened and she was now wheel chair bound. This dock has steps at the end leading down to the sand and that did not work.

In 2021 we retired this dock and went to our 3rd dock. The previous 2 docks had 12' sections and they were mighty heavy and we are all 20+ years older now so version 3 dock will used 10' sections and the dock surface will be 5/4 cedar we got from my uncle (He also replaced a deck). Finally, the last section will slope down to the sand (Rather than use stairs). The hand rails have always been driftwood from the beach. Now, you may wonder how the wheelchair my wife has works in the sand. Well, it doesn't so I built her a beach wheelchair that uses big balloon tires. That works great!

So that is what is there now. We built it originally for my wife but many people on the beach (including our elderly parents) use it so they can get to the beach without climbing over the logs. It has been a very successful addition to Juniper beach for more than 2 decades now.

That is the story in a nutshell. I have been wanting to write this for a couple years now but never seemed to make the time to do it. You two have a wonderful Christmas and New year." – Randy Pedersen

	Upcoming Classes and Events	
	KIDS * TEENS * ADULT	
	OPEN HOUSE @ The Floyd	12/14
	<ul> <li>Monthly Meeting (Zoom)</li> </ul>	12/20
	<ul> <li>Turn It Digital Workshop TEENS/ADULTS</li> </ul>	01/10
	<ul> <li>Mixed Media w/ Beth Erickson TEENS/ADULTS</li> </ul>	01/19
	<ul> <li>Abstract Drawing w/ Andrew Curry TEENS</li> </ul>	02/07
ANWOOD MANO ITS WOCACY	Charcuterie Board Wood Burning w/Crystal Bailar ADULTS	02/22
HHISSION		MORE INFO: WWW.SCAACWA.ORG



#### CAMANO PET SUPPLY STORE

Food, treats, toys, gifts and much more. Come visit us today!

We are the community store: Offering classes, events, and a place to gather with those that love pets as much as you!

Located behind Heritage bank, next to Camano Plaza on: 185 McElroy Drive, Camano Island, (360) 505-0331





Ellen Mier (December 24, 1944 to July 13, 2023)

Ellen Jane Mier of Josephine, Texas passed away on Thursday, July 13, 2023, after a short battle with advanced lung cancer. Ellen was predeceased by her parents Alice and Burt Ische and her older brother, James Ische.

Ellen was born on December 24, 1944. Ellen, daughter of Bertel and Alice (nee Burg) Ische. At the youthful age of fifteen, Ellen met the love of her life, Marty Mier. Ellen and Marty dated throughout high school and were married in March of 1965. Shortly after their marriage Ellen and Marty spent time in California, where Marty served in the Air Force. Mark, the oldest son, was born in California. After Marty's service, they returned to Wisconsin where they spent time in the Milwaukee area where Joe was born.

In 1985 Marty and Ellen moved to the Pacific Northwest, specifically the Seattle area for a new adventure. They lived in Bellevue, Renton, and Camano Island during their time and made many friends. Ellen was a champion for her sons Mark and Joe. Ellen held a special place in her heart for her grandson Will, with whom she loved spending time. In addition to Marty, Mark, Joe, and her grandson William, Ellen is survived by her brother Tom Ische (Lyneen), Alice Bryant (Wayne), Janice Hilgendorf (Bill) and sisters in law Suzy Ische, Roylynn Swindawicz, Joanie Labonty, Frannie Knoebel (Phil), and brothers in laws Jimmy Mier (Peggy), Steve Mier, Dick Mier (Karen), Mike Mier (Debbie), and Bill Mier. Many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews also survive Ellen.

To honor Ellen's memory, enjoy a wonderful meal with your family; something Ellen loved to do with her family. Memorials to honor Ellen's memory include The American Cancer Society, the American Lung Association, or a charity of your choice.

# **Community** Information



#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"My New Year's resolution is to stop hanging out with people who ask me about my New Year's resolutions."

—Unknown

#### LIBRARY STORYTIMES

A play time or activity will follow after storytime). Monday: Toddler Storytime with Jennifer - 10am - Camano Island Library. Jump and bounce together into a world of stories, music, and movements. Tuesday: Family Storytime with Jennifer - 10am - Camano Island Library. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and creative activities together as a family. Wednesday: Family Storytime with Vicky - 10:30am - Stanwood Library. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and creative activities together as a family. Thursday: Toddler Storytime with Alex - 10:30am -Stanwood Library. Jump and bounce together into a world of stories, music, and movements.

#### **BIG RIG CHRISTMAS PARADE**



Thanks to all the Drivers and all Spectators who came out tonight for the Inaugural Big Rig Truck Parade-Cruise. We had 48 participants, and many spectators lined up and down the streets on the sidewalks. We hope everybody enjoyed their night. We look forward to bringing this back Bigger and Better next Year. We Also Thank our Sponsors Jimmy's Pizza & Pasta, SAAL Brewing Co., Ixtapa Mexican Restaurant, Stanwood Car Quest, Mammoth Burger, NAPA Stilly Valley Auto Parts, Jasmin Aisian Bistro - Stanwood Commerce Alliance.



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#### THE BEST KEPT SECRET



Have you ever wondered about the little red building with the stained glass window by Terry's corner on Camano Island? It's a small wonderful art gallery. Artists from the Camano Arts Association have filled the place with art that would make wonderful gifts for Christmas. It's open Friday 12 PM to 4 PM, Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM and Sunday 11 AM to 3 PM. Stop by and check it out. (Free cider on the next 2 Saturdays)

#### **UPDATE: FREE LITTLE PANTRY**

Last week we had some wonderful people who donated to the pantry. Amazon delivered many boxes of food for the shelves! Elger Bay grocery had a food drive and the pantry was one of the recipients of some of that food. And then others who stopped by and left food. We received some Ensure and Tiger Milk. Someone donated some wonderful seasonings. We have lots of cereals on the shelf again. Lots of canned foods and other packaged foods. It's so heartwarming to see all these donations. We still have a few beautiful stocking hats that a local Camano knitter donated. Just in time for these cold winter months ahead. Please get yours now! I just wanted to thank all those who have donated recently and this year. It takes a loving community to keep a pantry full of food so no one has to go hungry. So....a big thank you to all who have made a big difference by donating this year. From The Free Little Pantry to all of you: Happy Holidays!



**NEW YEAR** 

QUOTE

"The new year

is a time to start

afresh, to start

things all over

again, but you

realize things

are too compli-

cated and you

can't start. Hap-

py New Year!"

# **MUSIC FOR TEENS**



"I am posting a message that is very important. I was at the Stanwood community center yesterday. They have a teen program there that is music. It is so awesome. These kids are forming bands and learning to play instruments and making instruments. If you have any music instruments that you are not using, please consider donating them. Guitars, drums, keyboards---- ANYTHING, music related. But they especially need electric guitars and acoustic guitars. These kids are amazing and many of them cant afford to buy these instruments. And the man in charge of all of this (Doug Standish) is also amazing." Facebook post by Annie Stein.

#### CUDDLE PARTY™

at Monticello Awareness Wellspring (MAW), SATURDAY, JANUARY 20th 2pm-5:30pm, 580 W Monticello Drive, Camano Island. Please arrive between 1:30pm-1:45pm for a prompt 2pm start. Get your snuggle on at our first Cuddle Party<sup>™</sup> on Camano Island. Cuddle Party is a social event with a 30-minute opening circle to go over the framework of the remaining 3 hours. Read more about this at http://cuddleparty.com. The opening circle is designed to teach the communication skills required to make the party safe and fun. Ticket purchase online in advance only \$20-\$60 sliding scale. For details and to register go to http://bit.ly/CuddleCamano. Come freshly showered and hygienic with your favorite pajamas to wear. Plenty of parking available. 18 years and older. Questions? Reach out to your host Vicki Tracy 425-239-9166.



CARING PLACE...A local ministry clothing bodies and souls in Jesus' Name! Hosts BRONN JOURNEY

(Harp and Voice) in Concert at OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 9901 272nd Street NW, Stanwood. Sunday, January 7th at 2:30pm (Offering for Caring Place will be received.).

**NEW YEAR** 

QUOTE

"I was going to

quit all my bad

habits for the

new year, but

then I remem-

bered that

nobody likes a

quitter."

Unknown

# COUNTRY LIVING EXPO READY TO ROLL IN LATE JANUARY



The annual Country Living and Modern Homesteading Expo is returning to Stanwood High School on January 27. The daylong gathering features people from all backgrounds coming together to learn about homesteading and nature from each other. Most of the presenters are volunteers — local farmers, veterinarians, stockmen, homesteaders, and folks that are passionate about food preservation, soil conservation, livestock management and production, gardening, fibers, and more. The local FFA chapter volunteers, Washington State University Extension, and the nonprofit Livestock Master Foundation help organize the event that also offers food, local vendors, lots of learning, and a day of community."People helping people, whether they know each other or not. Sharing hard earned lessons with others so that all can benefit," said Joan DeVries, WSU Livestock Advisor Program Coordinator in Burlington. "It's a truly remarkable event." The keynote speaker will be John Paul Driver, who explores the art and science of farm financial management, sharing invaluable insights, strategies, and success stories. To see schedules, find registration, and get more information, visit https://extension.wsu.edu/skagit/countrylivingexpo. Costs: \$80 for adults, and \$40 for students ages of 12-18 (though \$20 discounted registration is available). Ages: The expo is geared toward people age 12 and older. Vendor information: 6x5foot table area for \$50 and a 10x10-foot large vendor spot for \$350.



TheCrab@TheCrabCracker.com

### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions."

—Joey Adams

#### ARTIST DONATES ARTWORK FOR DISPLAY AT CAMANO ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



Artist John Ebner, left, standing with Commissioner Janet St. Clair, presents to Island County a giclee print of one his paintings, titled "Mount Baker," during a town hall meeting held Thursday, Dec. 14 on Camano Island. On the screen in back is Washington State Rep. Dave Paul, who attended the meeting virtually. Ebner, who lives on Camano Island, donated the 30-by-50-inch framed artwork to Island County for display at the Island County Camano Administration Building at 121 E. Camano Drive. For more information, contact the Board of Island County Commissioners Office at 360-679-3850 or bicc@islandcountywa.gov.



# **Community** Information



# NEW YEAR QUOTE

"Good resolutions are simply checks that men draw on a bank where they have no account."

—Oscar Wilde

# HOLIDAY LIGHTS / ELECTRICAL CORD DRIVE

Now through January 31. Free at Camano Transfer Station. Safety First! Toss out the old and in with the new. Don't chance it. Extension cords, computer cords, appliance cords, and more. No Coaxial or cable cords. See signage for details. Troop 46 Scouts and WSU Waste Wise volunteers are here to help make this possible. And special thanks to Brian and John, and Laura and the attendants at the Transfer Station. Happy Holidays! Be safe!

# BLOOD DONORS URGENTLY NEEDED DURING NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

The month of January is usually a period of critical blood shortages. People stop donating blood during the holidays and when they get sick during cold and flu season. Blood drives also get snowed out during the winter months. More than 50 years ago — on December 31, 1969 — the president of the United States signed a proclamation designating January as National Blood Donor Month. The new monthly observance was meant to honor voluntary blood donors and to encourage more people to give blood at a time when more blood is needed. This January, the need has never been greater. 1 in 7 people entering a hospital will need blood and local hospitals are at capacity. In fact, blood is being transfused in local hospitals faster than it is being donated. Your donation this month is critical to health of our community. Please make a blood donation appointment today. Preparing our blood supply for extreme weather is critical for patients. Book your blood donation appointment today as part of your emergency preparedness plan. "Our daughter underwent a spinal fusion surgery and needed a transfusion post-surgery. Thanks to you she's doing much better! We appreciate your effort in donating. It makes a difference". "Thank you so much for your blood donation. It's been received by Elena, a 3-year old fighting leukemia. She's an unbelievably special little girl— your gift has landed in a good place"

# THE SPOT

Hosted by Youth by Dynamics Stilly Valley. Tuesdays & Saturdays. TUES 2:30-5pm. SAT 7:30-10pm. Fun, food, hang out. Middle school & high school. 9831 271ST ST NW, Stanwood. 425-879-7633.

## **TOY BOAT BUILDING**

Saturdays at 10am in the Cama Beach Boathouse. Build a wooden toy boat. Bring it home as a souvenir! \$5 suggested donation.



# LEARN ABOUT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S **REPLACEMENT LEVY**

Come learn about Stanwood-Camano School District's replacement levy that will appear on the February 13 ballot. The levy bridges the gap between state funding for the district and the cost of staff, materials, services, and facilities our students need to fulfill the community's desire to prepare all students for the future of their choice. Join us at this free public event to learn more and ask questions. More info: www.stanwood.wednet.edu/levy. All events are from 5:30-6:30 p.m. January 3: At YMCA Community Room. January 11: At Lincoln Hill Retirement Center (Social Room). January 18: At Warm Beach Conf Center - Cedar Lodge Chapel 20800 Marine Drive Stanwood. January 25: At Brookdale Senior Living 7212 265th St NW Stanwood. February 1: At Warm Beach Conf Center - Maple Center Main 20800 Marine Drive Stanwood, February 8: TBD.

# STANWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY **MUSEUM EXHIBITS**

Open for guided visits and history research 1 - 4 pm Wednesday and Saturdays. Tour the D. O. Pearson House Museum, the Eldridge Center Gallery and Library, the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center 3rd Floor Exhibits and the Veterans Memorial (Outside). Volunteers welcome! More info: www.sahs-fncc.org.



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# Clubs and Meetings



look for us online at

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> or on Facebook.

Download current or past editions. **Ski, Snowboard or just hang out in 2024!** The Merry Mountain Ski Club, a non-profit club, brings you easy travel for a fun ski day in a luxury coach with stops in Bellingham, Burlington, Stanwood and Monroe. We have a Seattle and Kirkland bus too! Great folks & great fun. Come and join us. Get in touch with us for more details! Every Tuesday for 6 weeks beginning January 9, 2024. Additional weeks possible if interest warrants! call: 206-550-4908 email: tuesdayskibus@gmail.com website: www.merrymountain.com

**GRIEF Support Group:** Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. January 11-April 4, 2024 6:00-8:30pm at Restoration Church, Camano Island, 788 Smith Rd. More Info: griefshare.org/groups/175418.

**Stanwood Coin Club** meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Stanwood Library meeting room 7-9pm. Bring your questions @ collecting. Buy, Sell, Trade, Learn. This club has been active since 1961.

**Friendship Tea:** Drop by for tea, treats, and a chance to visit with friends, both old & new. Join us 1st, 2nd & 3rd Tuesdays of every month from 10:30-12:00 at the Camano Center. No charge to Camano Center Members. \$5 fee for non-members. Please check in at the Front Desk. For more information, call Connie at 360-652-7211.

**Rainy Day Room Playgroup** Free weekly play group on Thursdays at 10-11am at the Community Resource Center for ages 0-5 and their grown-ups! Friendship and community....getting out of the house.

**"Weight Loss and TOPS Clubs on Camano or Stanwood:** TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly). We provide great fellowship and support in your weight loss journey. Camano Island: We meet Thursday mornings for weigh-in from 8:15 to 8:45; meeting at 9 am. First meeting is always free. Join us and see why TOPS provides support both during your weight loss, and afterward, helping you to keep it off! Camano Lutheran Church, 850 Heichel Rd, Camano Island. Call Sandy 387-6953 or Karen (leader) at 387-9716 for more information. Stanwood: We would love to meet you and invite you to join us in friendship and weight loss support! We meet on Thursday mornings at Cedarhome Baptist Church. 29000 68th Ave NW. Stanwood. Wa. at 10:00 am. Everyone is welcome! More info: Gay at 360-393-7117.

**Teen Programs** Monday through Friday at the Community Resource Center, please visit www.crc-sc.org/teenprograms for more details and schedule of activities.

**PFLAG Support Group** Free support group for friends, family, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. First Friday of every month at the Community Resource Center 6-7pm.

**The Wardrobe** By Appointment: at the Community Resource Center – Free clothing for teens in need – restocked for Summer with new t-shirts, tanks, shorts, flip flops and hygiene products! Call 360-629-5257 or email info@crc-sc.org for an appointment.

# Clubs and Meetings

**Kaleidoscope Play & Learn** Tuesdays and Wednesdays - a FREE play group for 0-5 years and their grown ups. Facilitators guide children and their caregivers through a variety of developmental activities that promote early learning, and is inclusive of all young children, languages, and cultures. At Community Resource Center of Stanwood Camano.

**Camano Island Quilters-Machine Embroidery Group** Every 1st Friday of the month. 10am-noon at Skagit Regional Clinics in Stanwood, 269th St., Conference Rm A. CIQ members will share help, ideas, designs, etc. Come join in the conversations.

**Camano Island Quilters Open Sew** Every 2nd Monday of the month. Open to the public. 10am-2pm at Stanwood United Methodist Church, 27128 102nd Dr NW. Bring your sewing machine, project & basic tools for an afternoon of fun! Bring a sack lunch.

**Teen Late Night** Every Thursday. Grades 9-12, 4PM-6:30pm at Community Resource Center of Stanwood Camano. A safe place for teens to come and connect over food & fun.



- Must be 3 or 4 years old by August 31st, 2023
- Income eligibility guidelines apply
- Foster & Kinship Care instantly qualify

(360) 386-3221

- AM/PM Classes
- Small class sizes

- Preschool instruction
- Developmental screenings and referrals
- Nutritious meals and snacks)
- Health and dental screenings
- Home Visits
- Parent Leadership Opportunities
- Family Events
- Kindergarten Readiness Activities

#### TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE



Washington State Department of CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

www.josieseceap.com

mayaa@josiesjcc.com

# **Classes and** Workshops



## NEW YEAR QUOTE

"It's time to make old mistakes in different ways. Hurray! Happy New Year!"

—Unknown

FamilySearch Center - FREE Open Geneology Workshop: (HOLIDAY CLOSURE: DEC. 19 – JAN. 3) at 795 Ell Rd., Camano Island. Extended hours: Tuesdays 10 am-2 pm, and Wednesdays 6 pm-8 pm. Get help to find your ancestors with free access to websites and records. Questions? Contact us at 801-240-4357 or camano@familyhistorymail.org.

**Health and Wellness classes** - January 8 from 6-8 pm. Come join us for plant based soup recipes. Lifestyle presentation by a MS nutrition & functional medicine specialist. Held at the Cedarhome SDA Church - 28505 68th Ave. NW, Stanwood Registration call 360-386-7611.

*Medicare Basics Class:* 1/09/2024 10:00am-11:00am. Educational only Session: Understanding the Four parts of Medicare. Vidor & Associates, Inc., 10320 State Route – 532, Stanwood, (425)361-2944. www.vidorassociates.com.

**Medicare Basics Information Class** January 6 (10:15am) Free event open to the public. How your Medicare benefits work, as well as the options for supplementation. Location: Camano Island Library Meeting Room. RSVP with John- 360-967-9601

Social partner dance class! Beginners, drop-ins welcome. Wednesdays at 3pm at the Camano Center. www.socialdancesimplified.com.

**Yoga Classes In-studio & Online** at Movement Arts. IN-STUDIO – View our schedule to monitor our status. LIVE STREAM – book classes in advance to attend our live studio class from your own home. ON-LINE VIDEO LIBRARY – practice anytime, anywhere – just practice! Go to www.movementarts.com and follow the links to view our video library of online hour length classes; regular membership rates apply.

Virtual Guitar Lessons with Ford Geisbrecht. All ages, levels & styles. Learn at your own pace. Ukelele & Bass also available. 360-631-0661.

**Yoga for Beginners** Five Week Session Jan. 2-30. Tuesdays 6:00-7:15pm. Prepares you with the first steps toward a regular practice. We look forward to meeting you on your path! Sign up through movementarts.com or call 360-629-9100. Space is limited, \$95.

**Yoga for Better Posture** Feb 6-Mar 12, Tuesdays 6-7:15pm. In this sixweek course we will learn a systematic approach to improving and maintaining good posture using all the tools of yoga available to us. Sign up at movementarts.com/events or call 360-629-9100 \$119



Ukulele & Bass Lessons Also Available Serving Stanwood & Camano Island 360-631-0661 • guitarbyford.com



# Classes and Workshops

**Free workshop: turn it digital** January 10. Learn how to turn your physical art into digital copies for your website and art submissions! 5:30-7pm at Camano Center, 606 Arrowhead Rd. Have you ever needed a digital image of your physical art piece? Have you tried to answer a call for art but the process prevented you from entering? Do you want to be able to have digital copies of all your physical art? This class is for you! Come join David Booth for this FREE workshop on how to create digital copies of your art. This class will be versatile to any personal or professional situations and will be a great opportunity to prepare for the upcoming Stanwood Archway call for art! Feel free to bring your own laptop, tablet, iPad to work on and bring your questions on all things digita!

**Private Music Lessons:** Hart Music School offers live lessons for piano, guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, voice, and songwriting for all ages and skill levels. Our experienced teachers provide personalized instruction to help you reach your musical goals. Call 425-780-2289 with questions. Book a complimentary 30-minute lesson at HartMusicSchool.com/free-trial.

**Yoga Nidra Meditation Workshop** Jan 27, 3pm. (Yogic Sleep) is a powerful and relaxing practice of guided meditation. Learn to move beyond the conscious mind into a sleep-like state in which creative awareness flourishes. \$35. Sign up at movementarts.com/events or call 360-629-9100

# Healthy Hearing <mark>Habits</mark>



A key part of healthy aging is taking care of your physical, mental, and hearing health!



Avoid Ioud sounds





Have your hearing tested annually

# Call Stanwood Hearing to schedule a hearing check-up!

9300 271st Street NW, Suite B-5 • Stanwood, WA 98292 Near QFC, between Papa Murphy's and H&R Block p: 425-272-9435 | f: 360.572.4765 w: Stanwoodhearing.com

STANWOOD HEARING

# Keep your septic system happy.

# Snohomish County residents can earn up to \$500 in rebates for:

Inspections | Minor Repairs Riser Installation | Pumping

# Learn more & apply at SavvySeptic.org

# **Questions?**

Email savvy.septic@snoco.org or call 425-388-3636

Funding: This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement PC-01J89801 to the Washington State Department of Health. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.









# CASA'S PET OF THE WEEK:

**SCHMIDT!** I was brought to CASA as a stray and am now looking for my forever home. I love people and enjoy getting snuggles. I am very outgoing and love to make new friends. Due to my deafness and sensitive eyesight, I will need an experienced owner who is willing to be patient with me. Even though I may have some limitations, this has never slowed me down! Please stop by to meet me if I sound like the partner for you!

*Camano Animal Shelter Association (CASA):* 360-387-1902. www.camanoanimalshelter.org



## NOAH'S PET OF THE WEEK:

**DONNER** - Looking for a playful, active pup to add some life and love to your family? Look no further! At 2 months old, this adorable, rolli-polli furball is looking for a FURever home committed to training while giving out plenty of love and patience. If you are ready to add this handsome, cutie-pie pupper to your family, come and talk to an Adoptions Matchmaker today!

The N.O.A.H. Animal Adoption Center: (360) 629-7055. www.thenoahcenter.org



## SAVE-A-MUTT'S PET OF THE WEEK:

**MIKA** is a tender hearted lady who is as beautiful on the inside as she is on the outside. She absolutely loves her people and is dreaming of a family that will include her in their plans. She is affectionate and so loving. Mika is simply a great family dog. FIRST STEPS: Visit https:// www.save-a-mutt.org/adoption-application/ to fill out an application. We are a local foster home based rescue.

Save-A-Mutt (Silvana, WA): (425) 280-0502. www.save-a-mutt.org

Yoga and Pilates movementarts.com MOVEMENT ARTS 360-629-9100 Camano Commons



Announcing our Newest Neighborhood:

# **Forest Lane**

Come Tour and View These Brand New Assisted Living Units Designed for Active Seniors.

Overwhelming joy is a common resident experience as they live and thrive in a vibrant purposeful Christ-centered community with the freedom to actively engage and pursue the things in life that matter most to them. Our new Forest Lane assisted living community is designed for seniors who want to remain active and involved yet require extra help and support with the activities of daily living. Our caring and dedicated staff members provide round-the-clock assistance while encouraging residents to maintain a high level of independence.

Contact us today to learn more: (360) 652-2640 • www.warmbeach.org

> Warm Beach Senior Community 20420 Marine Drive • Stanwood, WA 98292

#### FOR SALE OR FOR FREE:

*For Sale:* 17 FT Coleman square back canoe with paddles and small electric motor. \$380; Twin Size Platform Bed, no mattress \$40; 1950's Diner type dinette table, with curved metal legs and self storing ectensions.\$40. Camano Island 360-387-3303.

*Vintage 1964 Shasta Airflyte with wings.* Excellent inside and out. See to believe!\$7200.00 360-572-4217 or 425-905-5009.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Store your car, RV, or boat indoors** in the safety of or our modern barn. Located 4 miles from Stanwood on Camano Island. Two stalls, one 10' tall for \$350/month, the other 8' tall for \$275/month. Call for pictures, details, or a visit. Contact Ed 425-551-0394

**Boarding needed:** Seeking boarding with kind-hearted horse folk, for my sweetheart retired gelding. Looking for a large paddock/small pasture with a safe/clean/dry shelter, and 24/7 access to the paddock. Arena and round pen not needed, but another older gelding buddy in an adjacent paddock would be a big plus. Happy to provide partial self-care. If interested, please call or text Chris at 360.348.2532."

**RV Space for rent.** Private Property mid is. off of ridge rd. Clean & respectful person appreciated. 500. a month. Call or text for details. 4259237363 Thanks Brian

#### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:**

*Science and Math Tutoring:* I can help you review and strengthen your math and science skills. I have many years of experience with a very gentle approach. E-mail ijmuzinich@gmail.com or 360-661-9517.

*Camano Decks & Sheds LLC* Local, Affordable & Efficient. Free estimates 10% discount for seniors & ADL ramps. Jim 360-913-2941 E-mail: jmitchell8974@gmail.com. Serving Outlying Areas.

#### WANTED:

*Village Community Services* is hiring Direct Support Professionals in Stanwood. Please apply at www.villagecommunitysvcs.org/get-in-volved/ or through Indeed.

**Need respite in-home care** for elderly Stanwood man, mid-March 2024. Prefer mature (over 35), within half hour of Stanwood, agency-employed or business licensed/bonded/insured. Details after contact. Email: lizpetha@gmail.com.

**Considering a career in real estate?** Windermere is looking for sales associates in our Stanwood and Camano Island offices. Contact Jill at jillvail@windermere.com for more information. windermerestanwoodcamano.com.

#### NEW YEAR QUOTE

"I made no resolutions for the new year. The habit of making plans, of criticizing, sanctioning and molding my life, is too much of a daily event for me."

—Anaïs Nin

# Join our team

# Pop-Up Recruitment Guent

# We are HIRING Bus Drivers



# Friday, January 12 from 12:30pm -4pm

# Camano Sno-Isle Library

848 N Sunrise Blud Camano Island, WA 98282

\$2000 Sign-on Bonus!

Be prepared to stay until Ypm. You will learn about the position, benefits, fill out the job application, and take the uideo test. Aesume encouraged. Snacks will be prouided!

> RSUP 360.678.7771 Walk-Ins must arrive at 12:30pm !





www.islandtransit.org/popup



## **CONFETTI WINE GLASS CAKE**



VANILLA CAKE: 3 2/3 c. cake flour spooned and leveled; 1 tsp. salt; 2 tsp. baking powder; 3/4 tsp. baking soda; 1 1/2 c. unsalted butter room temperature; 2 c. granulated sugar; 3 lg. eggs plus 2 lg. egg whites room temperature; 1 T. vanilla extract; 1 1/2 c. buttermilk room temperature; 1/2 c. assorted jimmies (sprinkles)

VANILLA BUTTERCREAM FROSTING: 1 c. unsalted butter room temperature; 1/2 c. vegetable shortening; 5 1/2 c. confectioners' sugar; 1/3 c. heavy cream; 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract; 1/8 tsp. salt; Assorted jimmies for decorating

INSTRUCTIONS: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease three 9-inch cake pans, line the bottoms with parchment paper, then grease the parchment paper. VANILLA CAKE: In a large bowl, whisk together cake flour, salt, baking powder, and baking soda; set aside. Using a handheld mixer or stand mixer fitted with a paddle or whisk attachment, beat the butter and sugar together until smooth and creamy, about 3 minutes. Scrape down the sides and bottom of the bowl with a rubber spatula as needed. Beat in 3 eggs, 2 egg whites, and vanilla extract on medium-high speed until combined, about 2 minutes. Scrape down the sides and bottom of the bowl as needed. With the mixer on low speed, add the dry ingredients just until combined. With the mixer still on low, pour in buttermilk beat until just combined. The batter will be slightly thick. Pour batter evenly into prepare pans. Bake for 23-25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out clean. Allow cakes to cool completely in the pans set on wire racks. The cakes must be completely cooled before frosting and assembling. VANILLA BUTTER-CREAM FROSTING: In a large bowl, using a handheld mixer or stand mixer fitted with a whisk or paddle attachment, beat the butter and shortening until creamy, about 2 minutes. Add confectioners' sugar, heavy cream, vanilla extract and salt with the mixer running on low speed. Increase to high speed and beat for 2 minutes. Add more confectioners' sugar if the frosting is too thin, add more heavy cream if the frosting is too thick. ASSEMBLE and DECORATE: Using a serrated knife to slice off the tops of the cakes to create a flat surface. Discard (or crumble over ice cream). Place one cake layer on your cake stand, cake turntable, or serving plate. Evenly cover the top with frosting. Top with the second cake layer and evenly cover with frosting. Top with the third layer. Spread the remaining frosting over the top and sides. Pipe with rosettes if desired and sprinkle with jimmies. Refrigerate the cake for at least 1 hour before serving. This helps the cake hold its shape when cutting. Cover any leftover cake tightly and store in the refrigerator for up to 5 days.

Recipes by Cooking Mamas created by Dusty Hutchins-McNutt.

"Great recipes begin in Mama's Kitchen!"

Visit me at: www. CookingMamas. com

# View from the Bleachers

Read more of Tim Jones' humor every week at www. ViewFromThe-Bleachers.net or check out his new YouTube channel by the same name.

## I THINK MY PARENTS JOINED A CULT -SHOULD I BE WORRIED?

Dear Doctor Tim: I hope you can help me. I'm extremely worried about my elderly parents. They're both in their mid-seventies. Until six months ago, they seemed to lead normal, albeit boring, lives. My mom spent most of her days sewing dresses for her grandchildren and reading romance novels. My father liked to go fishing and do the daily word Jumble in the paper.

But something's changed lately, and I'm worried about them. I think they may have joined a cult. The other day I saw them holding these paddles and swinging them at each other wildly. Do you think they might have joined some freaky S & M cult that gets off on spanking? They disappear in the middle of the day for hours at a time, several days a week. And when they head off, they never tell me where they're going. One of them usually shouts something creepy like, "I'm going to spank your mom again!" What the heck is happening?

Lately I've noticed that they're using words I've never heard them utter in the past. Expressions like "doing an Erne" and talking about some guy called "Nasty Nelson." It's like they're speaking in code. And just this morning, they got into a heated argument when my mom seemed to be getting on my dad's case shouting, "You're always in the kitchen!" Dr. Tim, I've known my father for fifty years, and one thing I know is he's NEVER in the kitchen. He feels cooking is a wife's job. (I know. Don't get me started.) Do you think this might be a sign of early stage dementia? I think they're losing it. I worry they might be in some bizarre cult. But why now? Aren't they too old to join a cult?

Dr. Tim, is there anything I can do to pull them out of this dark mysterious sect they appear to have been sucked into before it's too late? – Signed, Concerned in Camano

Dear Concerned, I appreciate your sharing your understandable concern about your parents. I won't sugarcoat this. Your suspicions are correct. Your elderly parents have in fact entered into a cult. The cult of Pickleball. I must warn you, they can be aggressive in their recruitment tactics, sending out legions of their members to indoctrinate unsuspecting folks like your parents. Tragically, I've seen several close friends get swept up into their strange, obsessed world.

"Pickleballers" as the cult members weirdly refer to themselves, often appear at first glance to be positive, friendly, and engaging people. But be careful. This is how they lure you in. They'll tell naïve senior citizens things like "it's a great physical activity for your age" or "it's a fun way to meet new people." What they don't tell you is that all those new people you'll meet are.... PICKLEBALLERS! And they can be insufferable, rambling on about their current DUPR rating (don't ask – you don't want to know, trust me), or they'll compare pickleball paddles for no apparent reason.

I've lost some close friends to this enigmatic sect. Good people, normal people, who once they picked up that paddle somehow could no longer talk about anything else. It's extremely difficult to de-program someone once they've become indoctrinated into this bewitched world. Some families have tried to help their elderly parents withdraw from the sport by introducing them to shuffleboard or lawn bowling or darts, sort of the way medical professionals try to wean addicts off of heroin by substituting methadone. But in most cases, the septuagenarians just can't handle the cold turkey withdrawal from this sport they desperately crave. And before you know it, they quickly lapse back into the cult, cheerfully saying odd expressions like "I'll dink to that!"

Trust me. I know how alluring this game can be. Because I'm a victim, too. I was recently invited to play a pickup game. I had no idea what I was getting into. And before long, I was hooked. I wish you luck in getting your parents back. The odds are not in your favor, I have to tell you. Just ask my kids.

Let me know how it goes. I have to wrap this up. I can't be late for my 1pm pickleball match. It's a round robin. Many of my new best friends will be there. And one of them just bought a new ONIX Z5 graphite carbon fiber pickleball paddle that's USA Pickleball Approved. I confess, I'm really jealous. – Dr. Tim

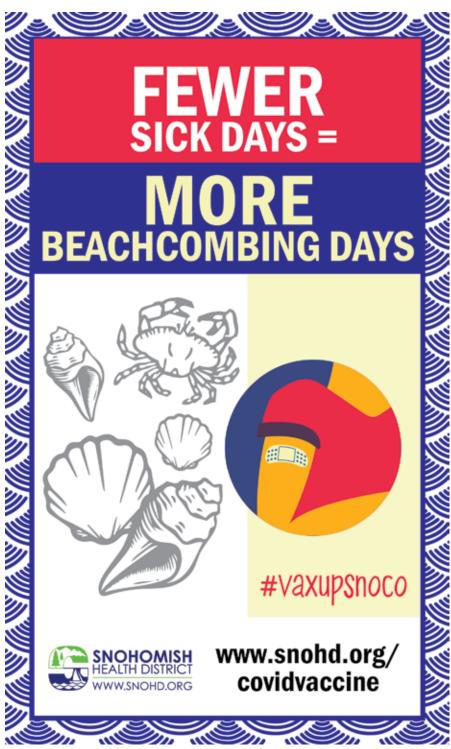
[Read more of Tim Jones' humor every week at www.ViewFromThe-Bleachers.net or check out his YouTube channel by the same name.]



#### TIDE TABLES / SARATOGA PASSAGE / DECEMBER 29 - JANUARY 11

Date		High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Moon Visible	Date		High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Moon Visible
F	29 29 29	High Low High	7:28 AM 1:03 PM 5:17 PM	12.3 7.6 9.7	$\bigcirc$	F	5 5 5	High Low High Low	12:13 AM 4:25 AM 11:03 AM 6:25 PM	7.6 6.4 11.1 1.8	
Sa	30 30 30 30	Low High Low High	12:14 AM 7:58 AM 1:46 PM 6:04 PM	-1.2 12.2 7.2 9.2	Q	Sa	6 6 6	High Low High Low	2:07 AM 5:41 AM 11:39 AM 7:08 PM	8.5 7.8 10.9 0.7	
Su	31 31 31 31	Low High Low High	12:53 AM 8:28 AM 2:31 PM 6:55 PM	-0.5 12.0 6.7 8.6	0	Su	7 7 7 7	High Low High Low	3:22 AM 7:11 AM 12:17 PM 7:49 PM	9.7 8.6 10.8 -0.5	
м	1 1 1 1	Low High Low High	1:29 AM 8:54 AM 3:17 PM 7:55 PM	0.7 11.8 5.8 7.9	0	м	8 8 8	High Low High Low	4:10 AM 8:28 AM 1:00 PM 8:32 PM	10.7 9.0 10.8 -1.5	
Tu	2 2 2 2	Low High Low High	2:07 AM 9:25 AM 4:06 PM 9:05 PM	1.9 11.7 5.0 7.4	$\bigcirc$	Tu	9 9 9	High Low High Low	4:48 AM 9:26 AM 1:46 PM 9:15 PM	11.5 9.1 10.9 -2.4	
W	3 3 3 3	Low High Low High	2:47 AM 9:57 AM 4:55 PM 10:30 PM	3.4 11.6 4.1 7.2		w	10 10 10 10	High Low High Low	5:22 AM 10:12 AM 2:34 PM 10:00 PM	12.1 8.9 11.1 -3.0	
Th	4 4 4	Low High Low	3:30 AM 10:29 AM 5:42 PM	4.9 11.4 3.0		Th	11 11 11 11	High Low High Low	5:55 AM 10:55 AM 3:26 PM 10:45 PM	12.4 8.5 11.2 -3.3	







Stanwood & Camano Island

# We live here. We work here. All in, for you.



360-387-HOME | 360-629-8233 WindermereStanwoodCamano.com



Stanwood - 7359 267th St NW, Ste D, Stanwood, WA 98292 Camano Island - 818 N Sunrise Blvd, Camano Island, WA 98282

Windermere Real Estate/CIR