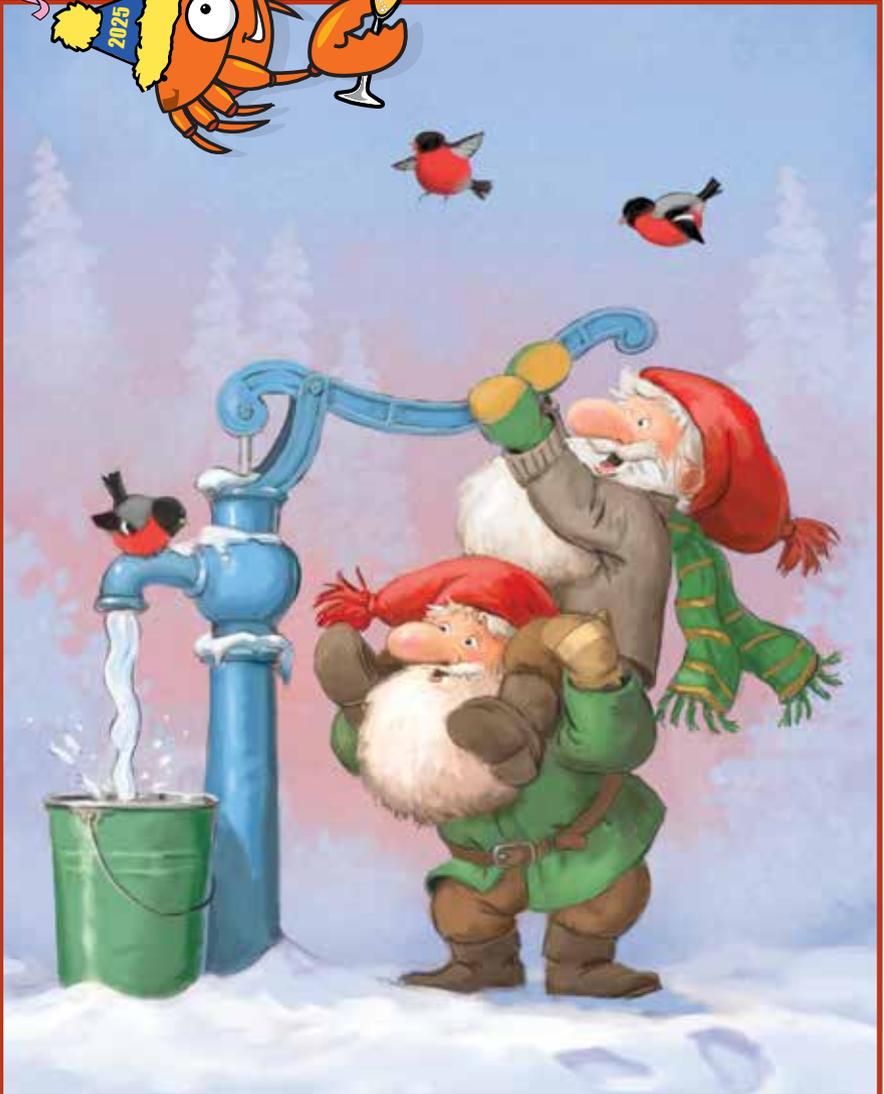


THE CRAB CRACKER
New Year Edition

ISSUE 394
December 27, 2024-
January 9, 2025



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



CamanoCenter
Get connected.



Venue Rentals



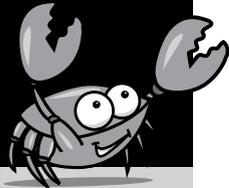
Now booking for 2025 dates!



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- On-site Catering Available
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- Outdoor heaters
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- Projector

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Table of Contents



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Activity for Adults.....	23
Artist of the Week.....	26
Business Spotlight.....	27
CALENDAR OF EVENTS.....	4-19
Classes and Workshops, Etc.....	38-39
Classifieds Listings.....	42
Clubs & Meetings.....	40
Community Information & Announcements / News.....	29-35
Cooking Mamas.....	43
Kids' Korner.....	22
Moonshine Wisdom & Wit.....	21
Pet Pages (animals available for adoption).....	41
Photos & Art.....	37
Tide Tables.....	46
View from the Bleachers.....	44-45

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 photo: "Winter Nisse" illustration by M. Phillip.

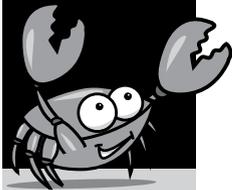


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James and Malynda Shipley, owners, proprietors
thecrab@thecrabcracker.com or 425-299-7892 / 425-299-7893
P.O. Box 2535, Stanwood, WA 98292 • www.thecrabcracker.com

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Submission DEADLINE: JANUARY 2 for Next Edition (January 10-23)

Calendar of Events



look for us
online at

[www.TheCrab
Cracker.com](http://www.TheCrabCracker.com)

or on
Facebook.

Download
current or past
editions.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

JOEL ASTLEY

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282. Blues, rock, funk, soul, jazz, Americana, country. Award winning harmonica and vocals, & visual arts!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Varsity Boys Basketball vs Hoover. 1:15pm.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

FAMILY BINGO

at the American Legion Hall ON CAMANO ISLAND, 609 W. Camano Drive. "Camano Island American Legion Bingo is pushing it up...Now with \$150 and \$250 blackout jackpots!" Doors open at 4:30 P.M. and Bingo starts at 6pm. Snacks and beverages available.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

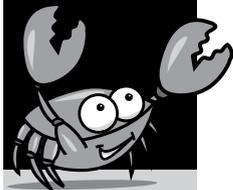
HOLIDAY BIG BAND SWING DANCE



at our new location, The Floyd. Dance to the music of Camano Junction, a 18-piece big band with some of the best musicians in the Northwest. Free dance lessons start at 6:30 PM as well as during intermissions. No credit cards, just cash, check or venmo. \$12 for adults. \$10 for students. The Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center is at 27130 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood



Calendar of Events



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

JOE COOK BLUES BAND

8 pm – Conway Muse. Catering a wide variety of music

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

JIMMY WRIGHT BAND

The Conway Muse welcomes the Joe Cook Blues Band at 8 pm. Tickets \$15 Advanced \$18 at Venue. All Ticket Sales Final at Show Time. Tickets Available at the Door.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

ULTIMATE FRISBEE PICKUP

9-11:30am at 7401 272nd Street Northwest, Stanwood. Free, friendly pickup games. Rain, snow, shine, we've played together since 2011! Adults and high schoolers of all skill levels welcome. Come join us! Check our Facebook page for more info: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stanwoodultimate/>

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

55 & OVER KARAOKE

with Melissa & Chris. 5-7pm. Beer and Wine \$5.00/Pub Mix \$2.00 Boat. Lincoln Hill Retirement Community & Senior Center "Dining Hall", 7430 276th St. NW, Stanwood.

Matzke Fine Art Gallery and Sculpture Park

2345 Blanche Way, Camano Island, WA

"35th Annual Small Works Show"

Over 275 Art Works



Barbara Noonan



Janie Olsen



Jack Gunter



Christen Mattix



Gary Giovane

Open every Fri. Sat. & Sun.

11:00 - 5:00

Holiday Gifts and
Local Artisan



COATS FOR KIDS

Brand new coats now available for children ages 0-18 of Stanwood & Camano Island.

Appointments are required and can be scheduled at the Food Bank during scheduling hours:

Wednesday
9am - 1pm

Thursday
11am- 1pm

Saturday
9am- 1pm

stanwoodcamanofoodbank.org/coats



GADGETS - GIFTS - GOODIES
Stanwood's One Stop Gift Shop

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SCAN ME

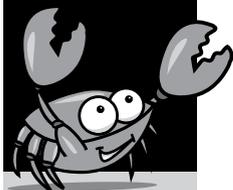
8706 271st St. NW
Stanwood, WA 98292

mqstanwood.com

tami@mqstanwood.com



Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

Over 50 tons of trash are left in Times Square after New Year's Eve celebrations.

About 3,000 pounds of that is confetti

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

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.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

TRIVIA NIGHT

with Darren. 6-8pm at SAAL Brewing Company, 10209 270th St NW, Stanwood. It is free to play with prizes for first and second place. Always a lot of fun!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

NEW YEARS EVE AT THE CONWAY MUSE

The Conway Muse hosts another killer New Year's Eve Party featuring your favorite local musicians including Nurhachi, Biff Got Killed, Sour Fuzz, Nick Vigarino & Nightshift! 8 pm. Champagne toast & more included in ticket price! Band merch from multiple bands available. Advanced Tickets \$38 Day of Show \$45. GET YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE - THIS SHOW WILL LIKELY SELL OUT!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

ROCK RADIO ROCKIN' NEW YEARS EVE!

8pm at Pub 282. A Classic Rock / Blues cover band playing hits from the 60's, 70's and 80's.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2024 - JANUARY 1, 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Say goodbye to the old year and welcome the start of the new year.

National Bacon Day



December 30

It's the first of the month



Have you tested your
smoke alarms today?



nfpa.org/education

Maximizing Your Home's Value in Today's Market

In today's housing market, research shows that there are **3 top questions** that homeowners have when getting ready to sell their home.

- #1. How to get top dollar.
- #2. What's strategic marketing look like?
- #3. What are practical ways to improve my home to sell for a higher price?

I consider these questions daily on my facebook page with tips from easy electrical upgrades, staging advice and how to select the right paint palette. I am here to guide you every step of the way. My goal is simple: make your home quickly stand out, attract more attention and increase its appeal in this competitive market. Stay up to date and informed by following my Facebook page or YouTube channel @tourwithmelanie.

You'll get daily tips and insights. Let's work together to get your home sold for top dollar!

Melanie Galloway 360-391-4628

Interior Designer + Real Estate Broker

License #23018393 Realty One Orca



Melanie Galloway
← REAL ESTATE BROKER →

Research Shows Good Brain Health is Connected to Better Hearing

Recent research suggests there is a link between hearing properly and brain health.

When left untreated, hearing loss can lead to:



Social Isolation
& Depression



Fatigue



Cognitive Decline

A recent study showed that hearing intervention slowed down loss of thinking and memory abilities by

48%

over 3 years

in older adults at increased risk for cognitive decline*.

Not taking advantage of the latest Oticon hearing aid technology advances? Trade in your current hearing aids from another manufacturer and upgrade to Oticon Intent 1 to get up to a \$200 rebate from Oticon.

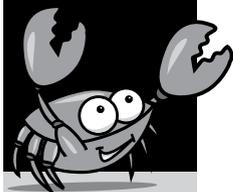
Good through 12/31/2024, not eligible for devices purchased before 6/13/2024.

STANWOOD HEARING

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

*ACHESIE, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. "A landmark study of the effect of hearing intervention on brain health in older adults."

Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

Many Brazilians welcome the New Year at the beach.

It is considered good luck to make seven wishes while jumping seven waves — so you can count on a good old New Year's beach party down in Rio de Janeiro!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

NEW YEARS DAY POLAR PLUNGE



We are celebrating 15 years of the community annual Polar Plunge! Meet at 1095 Essex St A-1, Camano Island at noon when we will walk to the Utsalady Beach. Every year we have a lively adventurous group of people join us for the event either as "plungers" or "cheerleaders"! If you plan to plunge bring a towel & protective foot wear - there are often sharp things in the ocean and on the beach. Come see what magic awaits you. As you start your year with a clean sweep! Hot beverages and cookies will be provided! Call Chris Tuohy for more info: 360.572.9262.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

STATE PARK FIRST DAY HIKES



Join your friends in a healthy start to the new year, a hike in one of Washington's State Parks, including Cama Beach State Park and Camano Island State Park. All hikes are free and a Discover Pass is NOT needed to park. **Cama Beach First Day Hike:** 9:00 - 10:30am. Join the Interpretive Specialist, Meredith Peterson, and other park staff for a walk out to Cranberry Lake. 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. Where to Meet: Drop-off Shelter. **Camano Island State Park First Day Hike:** 1:00 - 2:30pm. Join the Interpretive Specialist, Meredith Peterson, and other park staff for a walk along the Howard Adams Trail. This gentle trail leads you through the forest, where we will set our intentions for the new year and enjoy time spent outside. Enjoy hot drinks and snacks at the drop off shelter before the hike begins. Where to Meet: Group Camp Parking Lot.

PNW
COLLECTIVE



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HARD,**
Be Kind

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It's the first of the month



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smoke alarms today?



World Introvert Day

JANUARY 2

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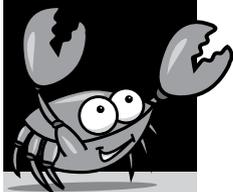
Financing Available OAC

EMAIL:

darrowscarpets@frontier.com

27028 - 99th Ave. NW • Stanwood • Next to Ledum's Floral

Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

If you hear plates breaking in Denmark on New Year's Eve, it's considered good luck.

The Danes hold a tradition of throwing plates at the front door of family and friends' homes to welcome good fortune for the new year.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

WEDNESDAY NIGHT TRIVIA!

7-9pm at Pub 282. Test your knowledge on music, history, current events, pop culture & more! All ages and free to play!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

DSHS MOBILE OFFICE

is Coming to Lincoln Hill Retirement Community & Senior Center, 7430 276th St NW Stanwood, 10:00 – 2:00 pm.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

LIT LAB

December's Lit Lab with a Tradition theme was well attended with many well crafted, meaningful pieces shared and heard. Participants decided on "The Shape of Things" topic for our first meeting of the new year at Camano Lutheran Church, 850 Heichel Road off SR532 at 6 pm in Pioneer Hall. Plenty of parking in front. Plan to read something about 5 minutes long. We will have a sign up sheet if you have a longer piece you would like to share. Hope you can join us; please write if inspired!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

STEWART WOODS – FRIDAYS IN THE SPEAKEASY

Bring your dinner in and enjoy Stewart's music and a cocktail! 6:30 – 8 pm – No Cover. Conway Muse, 18444 Spruce Street, Conway.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

FAMILY BINGO

at the American Legion Hall ON CAMANO ISLAND, 609 W. Camano Drive. "Camano Island American Legion Bingo is pushing it up... Now with \$150 and \$250 blackout jackpots!" Doors open at 4:30 P.M. and Bingo starts at 6pm. Snacks and beverages available.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

AKTION CLUB'S 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 4

SEMBLANCE

Celebrity tributes, impersonations & more at Beauty Bar Salon + Lounge, 10011 - 270th St NW, Stanwood. Live FREE SHOW!!! Show starts at 10 pm. Be there or be square! More info: (360) 629-2324.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Girls Basketball vs Sedro-Woolley. C Team & JV: 5:30pm. Varsity: 7:15pm.

MEDICARE QUESTIONS?

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M-F 9:00am – 3:00pm
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Stanwood, WA 98292
WAOIC # 782423
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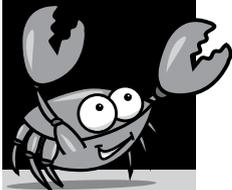
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Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 80% of resolutions made at the beginning of the year are forgotten by February.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

MICHELE D'AMOUR AND THE LOVE DEALERS

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282. Reviving the Rhythm of Memories - Their award-winning band delivers an electrifying blend of blues, old-school R&B, funk, and soul that transports you to the golden era of music.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

ULTIMATE FRISBEE PICKUP

9-11:30am at 7401 272nd Street Northwest, Stanwood. Free, friendly pickup games. Rain, snow, shine, we've played together since 2011! Adults and high schoolers of all skill levels welcome. Come join us! Check our Facebook page for more info: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stanwoodultimate/>

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

THE FIRST FOCIP WINTER WALK OF 2025!



at CAMANO ISLAND STATE PARK. Meet at 9:45 at the picnic shelter near the boat ramp. A Washington State Park pass is now required. The walk includes 2 elevation gains of about 50 ft. with the rest of the walk having some short rises and downs. The trail is 3 miles long with excellent views of Saratoga Passage and Elger Bay including a walk through a beautiful "fern grotto" and ravine. The pace is moderate and adjusted for youngsters and adults. The walks take place rain or shine. Walks are cancelled if there is snow or extremely high winds. Participants are asked to wear appropriate clothes for the weather and sturdy shoes or boots. No dogs please for safety of the walkers.

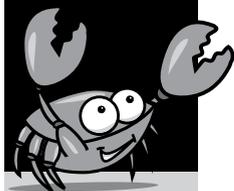


FULL CIRCLE ARTS



Embrace Your Creativity
Movement/Music/Visual
Arts Instruction
M. Andrew Curry
206-245-5482
macurryartist@gmail.com

Calendar of Events



SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

SCOUTS TREE & WREATH RECYCLE



9am-3pm at Camano Plaza IGA. DROP OFF OR PICK-UP. Please email: Troop46Camano@outlook.com for curbside pick-up requests. Many folks attach a donation to the tree, or mail it in advance. 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. Wreaths are deconstructed and recycled at the Kristoferson's Farm for next year's wreaths!

Sound Waters University

Presented by Sound Water Stewards

The Power of Place - Voices for the Salish Sea

8:00am - 4:00pm | Cost \$70 | Registration required

Saturday, February 1, 2025

Coupeville High School on Whidbey Island



A One-Day University for All

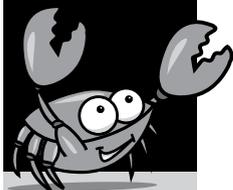
Correlating field trips available on Sunday, February 2, 2025



[https:// www.soundwatersuniversity.org](https://www.soundwatersuniversity.org)



Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

Robert Burns' 1788 Scottish folk song called "Old Long Syne" means "times long past."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

BEACH 1 GALLERY ARTISTS RECEPTION FOR VICKY DODGE

5-7pm. Vicki Dodge was born in the South, raised in the Pacific Northwest, and holds a Master of Arts from Central Washington University. She spent a lifetime creating art in stoneware, fiber, oil paint, photography jewelry, and most recently, mosaics. Vicki continues to laugh, love, and create every day. 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 bags of chips for the reception. 1243 Beach Drive, Camano Island.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

2ND ANNUAL 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 first-come-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.

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Stump Grinding
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JANUARY



NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

ramahan kareem

Ramandan



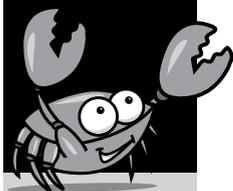
January 6 to February 4



January 7

NATIONAL BOBBLEHEAD DAY

Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

The confetti dropped in Times Square is holding secret messages.

The confetti in Times Square has thousands of people's wishes written on them. In 2015 "wishfetti" became a part of the tradition.

People write their wishes for the new year and submit them to the Wish Wall in Times Square (or online) and those wishes are turned into the confetti that falls over the crowd at midnight.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

55 & OVER KARAOKE

with Melissa & Chris. 5-7pm. Beer and Wine \$5.00/Pub Mix \$2.00 Boat. Lincoln Hill Retirement Community & Senior Center "Dining Hall", 7430 276th St. NW, Stanwood.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

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.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

TRIVIA NIGHT

with Darren. 6-8pm at SAAL Brewing Company, 10209 270th St NW, Stanwood. It is free to play with prizes for first and second place. Always a lot of fun!

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

RESILENCE

presented by Community Resource Center Stanwood Camano. CRC Teens will be showing their art 6-8pm at Stanwood Tattoo, 10003 270th St NW, Stanwood. Join us for opening of this art show. Teens will perform some acoustic music and art will be available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit the teen programs at the CRC.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

TEEN/TWEEN CHILL & RECHARGE: BOARD GAMES & VIRTUAL ADVENTURES

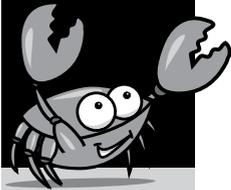
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM at the Stanwood Library. Stop by to unwind, have a blast, and experience a gaming adventure like no other! This week, we're combining classic board games like Uno and Risk with the exciting world of Oculus Quest VR. Whether you're into friendly competition or virtual exploration, we've got something for everyone! Bring a friend, meet new people, or just relax and play on your own. We'll have plenty of space, snacks, and the perfect vibe to enjoy some fun and relaxation. This drop-in event is perfect for teens and tweens ages 9 to 18 who want to try out a mix of tabletop games and immersive VR experiences. Whether you're battling it out in Castle Panic, challenging your friends to Bananagrams, or exploring new worlds in VR, you're sure to have a great time! No registration required – just drop in anytime between 3:00 and 5:00 pm to recharge and enjoy some free snacks. The best part? You get to take home fun memories and a new high score!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

NARCAN® GIVEAWAY (NALOXONE) WITH HOST

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM at the Stanwood Library. Join representatives from Evergreen Recovery Centers' HOST drop-in program and learn how you can save a life! During this short training, HOST will distribute two Naloxone (aka Narcan®) kits to each attendee and will provide instructions on how to administer the medication. Representatives will be on-site for 90 minutes, and attendees can drop-in throughout this time to receive the training. Both nasal and injectable kits will be available. Hosted by the Stanwood Library.

Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

The annual tradition of gathering in Times Square for New Year's started as a party to celebrate the opening of the New York Times building in 1904.

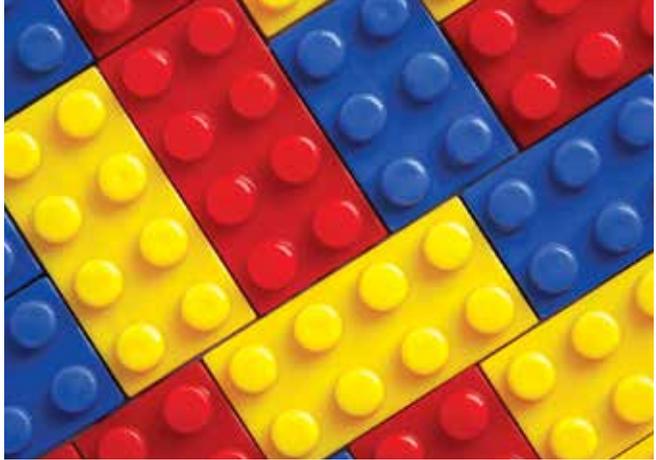
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

WEDNESDAY NIGHT TRIVIA!

7-9pm at Pub 282. Test your knowledge on music, history, current events, pop culture & more! All ages and free to play!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

LEGO® AFTERNOON



4:00 PM – 5:00 PM at the Stanwood Library. Stop by for an afternoon of LEGO®! Build alone or with friends -- we'll provide everything you need.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

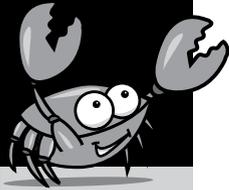
FUSION POWER PLANT PRESENTATION

Stanwood-Camano branch of AAUW invites you to join us for a fascinating presentation by Helion Energy, Everett, and their technology in the pursuit of building the world's first fusion power plant, enabling a future with unlimited clean energy. Electrical engineers, machinists, technicians, material handlers and more work together on the future of clean energy production. Join us to learn something new and have your questions answered. [helionenergy.com/news] Social Half Hour begins at 12:30 p.m. at the SCAF Meeting Room located at 26911 98th Dr. NW, Unit A, Stanwood. Our program begins at 1:00 p.m.

National Bubble Bath Day



Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

There wasn't a ball drop in NYC until 1907. Fireworks were previously used to welcome the new year.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Varsity Boys Swimming vs Kamiak. 3pm at Stanwood YMCA.
Varsity Girls Wrestling vs Lake Stevens. 6pm.

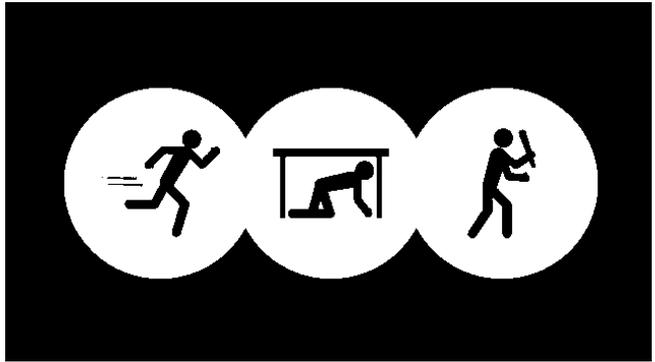
THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

SCSD-PRESENTED HEALTH & SAFETY FORUM: SCHOOL SAFETY

6pm at Stanwood High School. The district is holding this community forum "to address concerns and provide more details about how we assess and respond to safety concerns. This forum will also allow families to learn about the laws, policies, and protocols we follow and to share their feedback and suggestions."

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

PROGRAM: "ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING"



The meeting of the Camano Preparedness Group will feature "Active Shooter Training" with Island County Sheriff, Scott Fague. These crazy times require extra vigilance. Sheriff Fague will teach us how to be more vigilant and what to do if you find yourself in a bad situation. This is something that everyone should know! The meeting will be at the Vista Fire Station at 273 N. West Camano Dr., Camano Island at 7:00pm. It is open to the public. For more information, contact Sue at kk6sue@gmail.com.

Office Space Available

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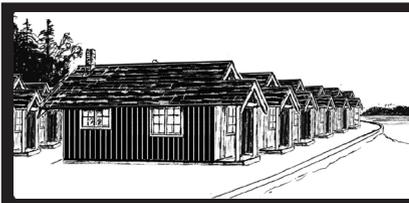
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SAVE CAMA BEACH CABINS

Do you miss having the cabins open and seeing visitors excited about the park, Camano Island, and Stanwood? Does your business miss the income from tourists? Does your family miss the fun educational events at the park? There is a new group forming to reopen the cabins.

Save Cama Beach Cabins group is asking the Washington State Legislature for funding to repair the septic and water systems so the cabins can be used again. A website with more information will be available soon. They need your help to contact the Governor and your State Legislators to urge their support for this effort so the Cama Beach cabins can be reopened for all of us.

Governor's office: 360-902-4111
Representative Clyde Shavers: 360-786-7884
Representative Dave Paul: 360-786-7914
Senator Ron Muzzall: 360-786-7618

Thank you for your help! Watch the Crab Cracker for more information!!

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Moonshine Wisdom & Wit



Story by Jack
Archibald.

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NEW YEAR ON THE SOUTH END

New Year is coming right up, plenty of time to make those resolutions for 2025. Being a South Ender, it's difficult to conjure up anything much that needs improvement, but then again, nobody's perfect, I guess, so I've been wracking my brain for some small trait that might need bettering. So far I'm kind of stumped.

Don't get me wrong. It's not like I think I'm Buddha or anything, not as if all my waking thoughts are pure as the driven snow, not like I couldn't find a flaw or two in my persona, but jeez, you start messing with a good thing, hellfire, you might just be asking for trouble, create some distortion in the cosmos, open yourself up to worry and woe. Sure don't want to start the New Year off on the wrong foot, stumble into 2023 when a waltz might have been more apropos.

Oh, sure, I suppose I could be more generous maybe with those donations to the Food Bank or the Senior Center. And I could probably dial up my Humility a notch, but I'm not really after Sainthood, not that I was actually in the running. At least I don't think so And besides, it's hard, really hard, to be humble as a long term South Ender. We Old Timers just try not to be Braggers, about as close to humility as we can get.

So maybe, once again, I'll leave the Resolutions to all the rest of you. And please, whatever you do, don't resolve to move down here on the South End thinking that migration or refugee status would suffice. It's not that simple and honestly, some of my fellow Enders, just between you and me, could use some serious improvement. Maybe that's my Resolution: to help these folks. To be a Light and a Way! To show them the Path!!

Then again, that attitude just puts a dent in my Humility Index. Naw, folks got to make their own Resolutions. Sorry, you're on your own. Same as last year. Good luck to ya! You'll be fine. Probably.

Kid's Korner



DID YOU KNOW?

Wartime restrictions put the Times Square tradition on pause in 1942 and 1943. Revelers observed a moment of silence at midnight instead.

NEW YEAR NOISE MAKER



Supply List: 4 inch paper plates; Paint pens or markers; Curling ribbon; Paper straws or Jumbo popsicle sticks; Craft pom poms; Beans – any small, dry variety ; Hot glue gun & glue sticks ; Additional themed craft items, if desired

Assembly: Decorate the backside of two paper plates in any desired theme or design. I like to coordinate the designs since one plate will be used for the front of the noisemaker and one for the back. Glue the straw or popsicle stick to the inside of the backside plate. fusing a straw, flatten the portion that will be glued to the plate to make final assembly easier. Also be sure to attach about halfway into the plate for stability. Place a small amount of beans in the plate, just above where the handle is glued. Hot glue an even bead of glue all the way around the outside ring of the plate and carefully place the front plate on top and slightly press down until set. Add curling ribbon and additional décor where the plate and handle meet to finish the look.

Source: <https://homeschoolhideout.com>



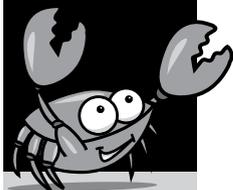
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Activity for Adults



DID YOU KNOW?

The original Times Square ball was made from 700 pounds of iron and wood.

MAKE A NEW YEAR'S WREATH



Tools and Materials: white foam wreath; multicolor tinsel garland; floral picks; glue gun and sticks; New Year's hat; New Year's headband; party horns; party blowers; party noisemakers

Directions: 1. Create a Vibrant Base. Begin by covering the wreath form in festive garland. Use floral picks to secure the garland to the form. Make sure the garland covers the entire form. 2. Add Festive Focal Points. Add typical New Year's party supplies to your wreath to give it some eye-catching fun. We used floral pins and hot glue to attach a New Year's party hat and a deely bopper headband with stars. We evenly spaced these two elements at the bottom to give the wreath balance. 3. Incorporate More Playfulness. Glue together a cluster of horns and noisemakers and attach them prominently to the front of the wreath on each side. 4. Add the Blowers. Complete your creation with a flourish of brightly colored party blowers, tucking them around the wreath to add a final touch of whimsy.



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Artist of the Week



STEVE ROSTAD



I am new to Camano Arts Association. Much of my art is concerned with exploring the microscopic world of the brain and associated nervous system. I spent 30+ professional years understanding and helping patients with issues related to the nervous system. It has allowed me a rich source material to relate visual representation of details of the biologic world, which is my passion.



Camano Island

NEW BABY, NEW FAMILY



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FOR APPOINTMENT
LAUREN SOLBAKKEN, RN PHN

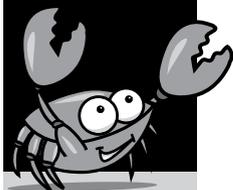


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MUST LUV BOXERS RESCUE CENTER & SENIOR SANCTUARY



"We absolutely love the Boxer breed - and we're committed to making a difference in the Pacific Northwest.." must luv boxersOur organization strives to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome unwanted and abandoned Boxers within Washington state.

Along with our rescue efforts, it's our goal to inform people about the realities of pet guardianship and provide education and resources to pet owners. We promote spaying/neutering and encourage responsible care of the Boxer to enhance the lives of owners and their companions alike. The real work has begun! We are doing a lease to own with a piece of property in Stanwood, WA with enough space for Boxers to romp, woods for exploration, and existing structures that can be renovated. There's also a few that need to be torn down.

There's no "how-to" manual for our vision, but collectively we have a lot of heart and are eager to transform this property into a rescue center and senior sanctuary filled with wagging tails and joyous barks. Check out our plans for the property and discover all the ways you can help support our vision.



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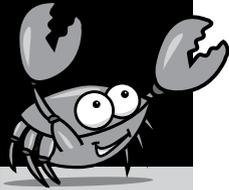


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Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

Waterford comes up with a new ball pattern every year. The sphere is made up of 2,688 crystal triangles and has over 32,000 lights.

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Cascadia Eye takes great joy each year in reaching out to young people. Our \$1,500 Excellence in Education scholarship has been going strong since 2003, giving us a chance to assist high school graduates grow their education with an eye to the next generation. We consider students with: 1) a GPA over 3.25; 2) graduating from the following local areas: Skagit Valley/North Snohomish County (includes Camano Island), Coupeville/Oak Harbor/Island County areas (does not include Camano Island); 3) plans to study in any field/major at a university, college, or trade school. Applications may be printed and duplicated as necessary. They are available on our website, at high school counseling offices, or they may be picked up in any of our locations: Mount Vernon - Little Mountain, Mount Vernon - Market Street, Sedro-Woolley, Stanwood or Coupeville. Students should email completed applications (or are welcome to ask questions) to marketing@ncascade.com or may drop them off at any of our locations. They are due on April 1, 2025. Information and application webpage: <https://www.ncascade.com/about/our-commitment-to-giving/excellence-in-education-scholarship/>

FULL OF WORDS: A 6-WEEK WOMEN'S WRITING CIRCLE

(Free at the Camano Island Library, Jan 24 - Feb 28). Details here: <https://tinyurl.com/full-of-words/>

LIFE LINE SCREENING

January 6, 9am at Stanwood United Methodist Church. Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings. A package of four screenings to identify cardiovascular disease and other chronic conditions will be offered: • Carotid artery ultrasound that scans the carotid arteries for buildup of fatty plaque—one of the leading causes of strokes. • Abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound screening for an abdominal aneurysm that could lead to a ruptured aorta. • Heart Rhythm Screening (AFIB) A quick and easy test using a 6-lead EKG placed on the arms and legs to identify the presence or absence of an irregular heartbeat. • Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening-Evaluates for PAD in the lower extremities, which increases the risk of cardiovascular disease. Schedule your appointment today and receive special package pricing. Register by calling toll free 1-800-690-6495, text the word "circle" to 797979, or register online at <https://llsa.social/HC>.

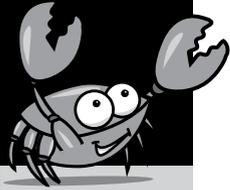


Happy New Year from Arrowhead Ranch!

Heartfelt thanks for making 2024 a success! Here's to an even brighter 2025, full of exciting adventures and new opportunities—we can't wait to share them with you!



Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

Instead of a ball, Miami, Florida rings in the new year with an orange, Mr. Neon, the 35-foot, sunglass-clad metal fruit

VOLUNTEER FAIR

SCAF is hosting our second annual Volunteer Fair for Stanwood-Camano. This event is Saturday, February 15, 10am-noon, in the Utsalady Elementary School Gym: 608 Arrowhead Rd, Camano Island. Booths are available to all nonprofits/service organizations/government agencies that provide services to the Stanwood-Camano area and utilize volunteers. To register visit www.s-caf.org.

DRESSEMBER



There are 9 Stanwood/Camano girls wearing dresses every day this cold month of December to raise awareness about the problem of human trafficking. Please consider donating to help end this tragic reality for even one individual. You can donate to a girl individually as their team has a group goal to raise \$5,000.00 to fight this great evil in our world. Go to the website below to see what this is all about! Click on each girl's profile to hear why this is important to them individually, donate to one of the girls on the team 'Salt & Light' so they can be excited about knowing their impact of wearing a dress each day this month. By participating in DresseMBER, you directly impact the fight to prevent, intervene and protect the lives of trafficking victims, survivors, and vulnerable communities worldwide. <https://dresseMBER2024.funraise.org/team/salt-light/>

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Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

Stay away from lobster and chicken on New Year's. Lobster and chicken are both considered bad luck foods. According to superstition, if because of a lobster's ability to move backward and a chicken's ability to scratch itself backwards, if you eat either on New Year's, you won't be able to move forward.

SEEKING LOCAL ARTISTS

Stanwood Tattoo Company is looking to highlight a different local artist every month. They are doing this is to showcase artists whose art is non-traditional and outside of what is usually featured in our community, as well as give an opportunity to youth, LGBTQIA+, BI-POC, Disabled and Neurodivergent artists. Traditional artists are welcome to inquire too! Vendors may sell or just display art at Stanwood Tattoo Company. (Vendors keep 75% of the sale price, plus all applicable tips and the shop pays taxes on everything.) They are filling spots for 2025. Contact Lei, lei@stanwoodtattoo.com, 360-939-2223, or stop by.

CAMANO ISLAND LIBRARY IS 10 YEARS OLD!



2025 marks ten years since the opening of our own Camano Island Library...and it's time to celebrate this anniversary! The Camano Island Library Friends (CILF) are making plans to do just that with several events. Our first happening will be a tea at the Camano Center on February 18 from 2:00 until 4:00. All lovers of libraries, books and book clubs are invited to enjoy a delicious and festive afternoon tea and engage with other book enthusiasts who share a common pleasure. Please contact Ann Neupert at acerpalmatum@duck.com by January 31 to reserve your spot or check with Kelli Bragg at the library. Future events include an author visit in the spring, a special kids' program and a culminating event on August 16 with food and music to celebrate the retirement of the 10-year bond voted on by our community to establish the Camano Island Library as part of Sno-Isle Libraries. Celebration is certainly in order when we consider what an asset the library has become to our island!

TEMPERATURES ARE DROPPING!

Visit bit.ly/stanwinterweather for important winter weather tips like preventing frozen pipes and heating safety. You can also find our snow plow priority route map which shows what roads crews will clear first in the event of snow or ice. Priority routes are determined by needs like emergency services, transit and school bus routes. Stay safe and stay warm!



WSU Snohomish County Master Gardener Foundation
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2025

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Questions? Call Snohomish County
WSU Extension Office
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at 425-357-6010

All proceeds go to the Master Gardener Foundation
of Snohomish County, a 501(c)(3) organization, which
provides major funding support to the Snohomish
County Master Gardener Program.

January 17 | Richie Steffen
“Gardening with Early Ephemerals”

January 31 | Laura Watson
“Layering for a Dynamic and
Beautiful Garden, and Vines”

February 7 | Far Reaches
“Growing and Conserving New
and Rare Ornamentals”

February 14 | Lorè Sampson
“Rediscovering Peonies”

March 7 | Candy Brown
“Gardens for Birds”

March 14 | Mark Turner
“Wildflower Photography”

March 28 | Dee Montpetit
“Garden Journeys: Before and
After Transformations”

April 4 | Linda Chalker- Scott
“Myths and Gardening Folklore”



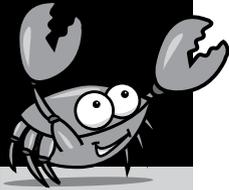
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Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

In Key West, Florida, a drag queen named Sushi is lowered from a bar rooftop in a giant, red, high-heeled shoe.

This has been happening since 1996.

COLD WEATHER SHELTERS AVAILABLE

As temperatures drop, there is an Extreme Cold Weather Shelter to provide warmth and safety for those in need. Learn more at <https://snohomish-county-public-safety-hub-snocogis.hub.arcgis.com>

COMMUNITY MEAL – CAMANO

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday except for Holidays. 11:45 am - 12:30 pm at Camano Center, 606 Arrowhead Rd. Camano Island. By Donation. All donations welcome! Full cost of a meal is \$12.20. Coffee or tea is \$1.00.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS AND ELECTRICAL CORDS RECYCLING

Free at Camano Transfer Station. Recycle your old or damaged holiday lights, computer cables, and electric cords including phone charger cables. Troop 46 Scouts and WSU Waste Wise volunteers are here to help make this possible. Collection Dates: Now until January 31, 2025. Location: Camano Solid Waste Dropbox and Recycle Park, 75 E Camano Hill Rd. Hours: Daily: 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM. This special collection is supported by Waste Wise program of WSU Island County Extension. Questions? Contact Waste Wise at 360-639-6060.

STANWOOD CAMANO LITTLE LEAGUE WINTER SOFTBALL CLINIC

12/02/24-2/27/25. Every Monday and Thursday, 6-7:30pm. \$15 per session. Hitting - fielding - pitching - catching. More info: www.stanwoodcamanoll.org.

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.

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.



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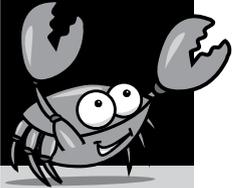
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Community Information



DO YOU HAVE A PRESS RELEASE

or an announcement you want the community to know about? Let us know and we will publish it here in Community Information **FOR FREE!** Call us for info.

HOOVES AND HEROES COFFEE BREAK

A free social event for active duty, veterans, first responders, emergency support personnel, and their families. Meet with members of your community and learn more about our program with the help of some coffee. 9-10am on Thursdays at 2532 292nd St NW, Stanwood. More info: info@herehoovesandheroes.org.

LIVE ONLINE TUTORING HELP AVAILABLE!!!

Get expert help with live online tutoring, learn study skills and collaborate with other learners through the Brainfuse resource. Tutors are available everyday online from 1pm - 11pm PDT. Stop by the library any time during open hours (Mon-Sat 10am - 6pm) to get a personalized tutorial of this online resource.

BASKETBALL FREE PLAY FOR THE COMMUNITY

Every Friday at 795 Ell Rd., Camano. *Note: it is at an LDS church and I am a missionary, but we are here to play basketball. It is indoors and it's not quite a full size court, but it's good enough to have fun. All are welcome.

ADULT FUTSAL

Futsal is a soccer-based game played on a hardcourt, using the basketball court, Mondays at Camano Chapel. 6pm-8pm, ages 18+. Cost is free!

BREWCAD WEEKLY 3 STRIKE TOURNAMENT

6pm-10pm on Mondays at The Brewcade, 7009 265th St NW #102, Stanwood. \$5 buy-in 3 strike Pinball tournament. Sign ups start at 6:00pm and flippers up at 6:30pm. Pot splash happens if there's over 15 players!

COMMUNITY OPEN SEW

Mondays with Camano Island Quilters. 10am - 2pm at Stanwood United Methodist Church, 27128 102nd Dr NW. Open to public, enter thru back entrance of church. Want to sew with others, need help on a project? We are here to help you with your sewing needs. Bring your sewing machine, a project, and basic tools for an afternoon of fun! Bring a sack lunch. (No microwave).



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Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

If you live in Italy, wearing red underwear is considered lucky.

Grapes are also supposedly lucky.

Spanish households carry on the tradition of scarfing down 12 grapes in the first 12 seconds of the new year. The grapes represent each month of the year.

SACRED CEDAR CO. EXPANDS WITH NEW NATIVE ART COLLECTION AND COMMUNITY-FOCUSED INITIATIVES IN STANWOOD



Sacred Cedar Co., a vibrant gallery and gift shop in Stanwood, is excited to unveil a significant new addition—a collection of Native art, including masks, totem poles, prints, and baskets. This expansion underscores the shop's dedication to showcasing authentic Native art that honors culture, history, and craftsmanship. Founder Chenoa, of Tlingit and Norwegian descent, relocated Sacred Cedar Co. from La Conner to Stanwood to share her passion for Native and local art with her community. While the gallery features Native art, it will continue to diversify, offering even more artistic expressions from various backgrounds. "We're providing talented local artists a year-round platform," says Chenoa. "It's about celebrating creativity and the diversity of talent in the Stanwood-Camano area." The new collection adds to Sacred Cedar Co.'s current offerings by local creative's, including jewelry, woodworking, plant design, and photography. Recently, Sacred Cedar Co. opened a loft space for community events, workshops, and activities. The loft has hosted a macramé class, Sound Bath, and Reiki sessions, with more events planned since opening last month. Upcoming workshops include drum making led by local native artisans and leather medicine bag making by local Native artisans, deepening the connection to cultural traditions. Chenoa invites anyone interested in hosting their own event to contact Sacred Cedar Co. at sacredcedarco@gmail.com. The space is available for individuals, groups, or small businesses. Sacred Cedar Co. is more than just a gallery and gift shop—it's a hub for creativity, culture, and connection.

Phone: 425-328-4057.

CO-ED ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Saturdays from 9-11:30am at 7401 272nd St NW, Stanwood. Join us for a fun morning of co-ed Ultimate Frisbee pickup games in Stanwood. Whether you're a seasoned player or new to the sport, this event is open to all skill levels.



BUILDING

A STRONG

STANWOOD-CAMANO

COMMUNITY

The Community Coalition of Stanwood-Camano (CCSC) is a group of local organizations and individuals working together to cultivate a stronger Stanwood-Camano community.

Let us know:
What are the unmet needs in this community?

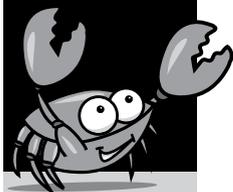


Join us for an informal town hall meeting on **January 23, 2025** to build a stronger community! Scan the QR code to submit your thoughts.



**January 23, 2025 6:30 PM | Stanwood-Camano Area
Foundation (SCAF) Office
26911 98th Dr NW Suite A Stanwood
COALITIONSTANWOOD-CAMANO.ORG**

Photos and Art



DID YOU KNOW?

The island nation Kiribati rings in the new year first, while American Samoa is one of the last places to ring in the new year.



Going for a Winter Swim, Brrrr!! Photo by Roy Spires, Camano Island.



Happy New Year! Photo by Dee.



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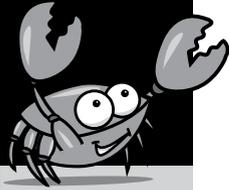
📍 Camano Island, WA

✉ HerigstadDesigns@gmail.com

☎ 360-422-2554 (call/text)

🏠 LIC# 604960291

Classes and Workshops



DID YOU KNOW?

Hershey, PA drops a giant Kiss to ring in the new year.

Free Macbook and iPad / iPhone Tutoring 3 / 30-minute sessions in the Camano Center Library (1pm, 1:30pm, 2pm) the first and third Wednesday of each month. Email Joyce to sign up at fact@msdeadlines.com.

Financial Peace University. Change financial emergencies to an inconvenience, become debt free, and retire with dignity. Plus much more! Starts Tuesday, January 7th at 6 PM. 9 week course includes a manual, \$100 per couple. Register in advance at camanochapel.com.

Reiki and Restore February 21, 6:30-8:00pm. 90 minutes of deep relaxation as you enjoy restorative yoga poses with an optional reiki session as part of a long soothing savasana. Reserve your spot at movementarts.com/events or call 360-629-9100. Next Sessions: Jan 10, Feb 21. \$35

Yoga for Beginners January 7- February 4, Tuesdays 6-7:15pm. Whether you are brand new to yoga or returning after a long absence, this five-week course will prepare you with the first steps toward a regular practice. \$95 Register in advance at movementarts.com/events or call 360-629-9100.

Yoga for Better Posture 6-Week Course: Feb 18-Mar 25, Tuesdays 6-7:15pm. Posture matters. Do you notice fatigue in your neck and shoulders? Does your low back ache? How is your breathing? It might seem like these are three different questions, but all of them can be improved with better posture and by developing your proprioception, an awareness of how you are standing, sitting and generally carrying your body. Incl. Workshop Manual \$119. Register in advance movementarts.com/events or call 360-629-9100

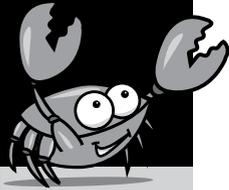
Yin and Pin February 21, 2-4pm Where Ayurveda, Yin Yoga and Chinese Medicine meet! In this event, you will soak up the slow, meditative practice of yin yoga. This class will ground, soothe and restore you. Sign up to reserve your spot at movementarts.com/events or call 3760-629-9100. \$35.

Yoga is back again! Pathway to Wellness Massage & Yoga. Every Friday from 930am-1030am. Call or text to reserve a spot. 425 308-0598. 10120 270th St NW, Stanwood. www.pathwaytowellnessmassage.com.

2025! HAVE A TOTALLY CLAWSOME NEW YEAR!
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Classes and Workshops



DID YOU KNOW?

Baby New Year has been a symbol of the holiday since around 600 B.C., starting in ancient Greece when an infant was paraded around in a basket in celebration of Dionysus, the god of fertility (and wine). The baby represents a rebirth that occurs at the start of each new year.

FamilySearch Center – FREE Open Genealogy Workshop at 795 Ell Rd., Camano Island. Tuesdays 10 am-2 pm; Wednesdays 6pm-8pm. Get help to find your ancestors with free access to premium websites and records. Contact us at camano@familyhistorymail.org, or find us on Facebook.

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. ONLINE 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.

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

Homeownership workshop on the fourth Thursday of each month at Elite interiors next to UPS store from 6 to 8 PM. We will not be holding them In June, November or December.

Line Dance Lessons at the Camano Center with Kari — every Wednesday 3:00pm-3:45pm. Fun and exercise! More info at www.socialdancingsimplified.com.

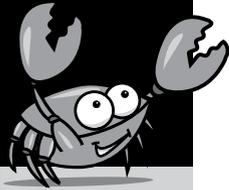
Private Music Lessons: piano, guitar, bass, and voice for all ages and skill levels. Our experienced teachers provide personalized instruction to help you reach your musical goals. Call 425-780-2289 with questions or book a complimentary 30-minute lesson: HartMusicSchool.com/free-trial. Now accepting applications for new teachers.

YogaTone: Sundays Jan 5, 12, 26 and Feb 2. 10-11am. Stay and Play this New Year! Sign up for YogaTone! You can join us for a fantastic, fun, positive sweat/dance/movement/yoga class that's designed for just about anyone. Find rhythm and melody in the body, even if you think you can't dance! Drop ins welcome if space is available. \$92 for 4 classes or \$30 drop in register at movementarts.com/events.

Medicare Basics Information Class January 10th (10am) Free event open to the public. We will be explaining how your Medicare benefits work, as well as the options for supplementation through private insurance. Location: Camano Island Library Meeting Room. RSVP with John- 360-967-9601

Celestial Sound Bath With Anna Sundari Knight on January 26th, at the Sacred Cedar Loft located above Sacred Cedar Co. they can sign up in person at the shop or reach out on social media @sacredcedar-co. I think it was \$8 or \$16 to advertise a class, can you send an invoice so I can pay. I'd like it in the next edition if possible. Flyer attached if you need any other info. Thank you for all you do we love your publication!

Clubs and Meetings



Rainy Day Room Playgroup Free weekly play group on Mondays at 10am and Thursdays at 3:30pm at Community Resource Center for ages 0-5 and their grown-ups! Friendship and community....getting out of the house. More info: www.crc-sc.org/events.

Teen Programs Monday through Friday, 2:30-5:30pm at the Community Resource Center, please visit www.crc-sc.org/teenprograms for more details and schedule of activities.

Kaleidoscope Play & Learn Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10-11:30am and 3:30-4:30pm - 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. RSVP at www.crc-sc.org/events.

Ski, Snowboard or just hang out in 2024! The Merry Mountain Ski Club brings you easy travel for a fun ski day in a luxury coach with stops in Bellingham, Burlington, Stanwood and Everett. Great folks & great fun. Get in touch with us for more details! 206-550-4908 or tuesdayskibus@gmail.com.

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.

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CASA'S PET OF THE WEEK:

MANCHEGO is a 5 month old kitten looking for his forever home. Manchego is a sweet, cuddly boy who loves to be the center of attention. He does well with other cats and dogs. He would make a wonderful addition to any family wanting a snuggly, outgoing boy. Come visit Manchego is he sounds like the cat for you. Stop by to visit Atticus if he sounds like the cat for you.

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



NOAH'S PET OF THE WEEK:

HELLO! My name is **HARLEY**. I am a 3 yr old who is sight impaired, but that doesn't stop me! I want ALL the pets and loves! I would love a home with no other animals and a consistent routine and furniture layout. Come meet me today at The NOAH Center to see if I'm the cat for you.

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



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

MURIEL is a lovely lady. She is a little shy at first and, because she was used solely for breeding, she hasn't experienced the love and belonging that she deserves. Muriel is a homebody and would love a home where she can lounge around. **FIRST STEPS:** Visit www.save-a-mutt.org/adoption-application/ to fill out an application. We are a foster home based rescue.

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



***NEW* 5-Session Pen & Ink Drawing Class (teen & adult)**

WED Sessions start
2/05/25, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

SAT Sessions start
2/08/25 10:30AM - 12:00 PM

To sign up visit: scaacwa.org/classes



Classified Listings



DID YOU KNOW?

Americans drink around 360 million glasses of sparkling wine on New Year's.

Corks can fly out of the bottle at a speed of 25 miles per hour, so it's best to open bottles at a 45-degree angle (away from yourself and others).

FOR SALE OR FREE:

Firewood logs 4 ft to 8 ft. Fir, alder, Maple, Cedar. Will help load. \$120. P.U. load. 360-387-9229.

MISCELLANEOUS:

I buy vinyl record albums: Rock, Pop, Jazz and more. I'll buy a few or a collection. Call Mike @ 425-530-8021.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

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Compass Point Composites Fiberglass Repairs and Fabrication. Boats, autos, sports, custom plugs, molds, and parts. 35 Years experience with a great crew. Google for photos and more information. Cheers, Erik 425-308-7423.

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Are you looking for someone who has a caring heart to be a companion/Caregiver for the one you love? I have lots of experience and references. I have had the pleasure in working with the elderly and disabled off and on for 42 years . Give me a call (650)455-3666. Steff.

Learn to square dance, have fun, meet new friends, lessons start September 10th, first lesson free, for info call Jerry at 425-327-4742.

"I fix stuff and know things. How can I help?" 206-245-5482.

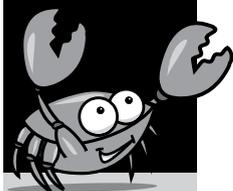
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Psychonauts: Certified guide and comprehensive education in meditation, lucid dreaming, psychoactive substance use and ritual. Free initial consultation. 206-245-5482.

WANTED:

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. windermere-stanwoodcamano.com.



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Visit me at: www.CookingMamas.com

TOMATO BASIL SOUP WITH GRILLED CHEESE CROUTONS

This is one of my all-time favorite soups! It's easy to make and always a hit with family and friends. I promise you will NEVER eat tomato soup from a can again!

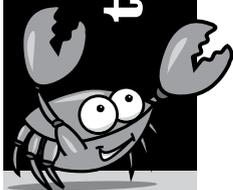


INGREDIENTS: 1 T. extra virgin olive oil; 1 med. yellow onion diced; 4 cloves garlic pressed; 1 1/2 tsp. kosher salt; 1 tsp. black pepper; 1/4 tsp. red pepper flakes optional; 4 c. chicken broth; 2 (15 oz.) cans diced tomatoes with liquid; 1 (10 oz.) can tomato sauce; 1 Parmesan rind; 3/4 c. chopped fresh basil divided; 3 T. unsalted butter; 1/4 c. all-purpose flour; 1 c. heavy cream

GRILLED CHEESE CROUTONS: 2 T. unsalted butter; 4 soft white bread slices; 4 slices sharp cheddar cheese

INSTRUCTIONS: TOMATO BASIL SOUP: In a large Dutch oven, heat olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the onions, garlic, salt, black pepper, and red pepper flakes; cook until softened, about 1 to 2 minutes. Add the broth, diced tomatoes with liquid, tomato sauce, Parmesan rind, and 1/4 cup of the basil and cook, stirring occasionally, for about 30 minutes. Remove the Parmesan rind and puree the soup with an immersion blender until smooth. In a small saucepan, melt 3 tablespoons of the butter. Whisk in the flour and continue to cook, whisking, until the mixture is lightly browned, 1 to 2 minutes. Add the cream and cook, stirring, until thickened. Add the cream mixture to the soup and cook over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally, until the soup has thickened about 10 minutes. **GRILLED CHEESE CROUTONS:** Meanwhile, melt 2 tablespoons of butter in a medium skillet over medium heat. Place 2 of the bread slices in the skillet; top each bread slice with 2 cheese slices, 2 tablespoons chopped basil, and another bread slice. Cook until the bread is golden brown and the cheese is melted, about 3 minutes per side. Cut each sandwich into 9 pieces (croutons). Serve soup topped with grilled cheese croutons and remaining chopped basil.

View from the Bleachers



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

THE SAD LIVES OF COUPLES WHO OPTED NOT TO HAVE KIDS

My wife and I raised two self-confident, spirited daughters. Now in their late twenties, they both had to overcome several daunting childhood adversities, starting with the fact that one of their parents was a humor writer who had the maturity (on a good day) of an eight-year-old. But out of respect for their privacy, I will not reveal which parent that was.

I often feel deep empathy for all those couples who opted never to have children. Both my wife and I have siblings who sadly made the mistake of choosing a life without offspring. Recently we called my wife's sister to let her know how sorry we felt about their shortsighted decision to never have kids, but no one was home. Turns out her sister was away with her husband on a two-week Caribbean cruise.

Oh sure, people who opt out of having heirs have time to travel the world, but how can the fleeting pleasures of 14 days in the Maldives in a four-star villa looking out on sparkling blue water possibly compare to the joy of a three-day getaway weekend to Disneyworld in Florida with your kids in July. Trust me, the It's a Small World ride will totally be worth the 50-minute wait in 97-degree heat and sweltering humidity.

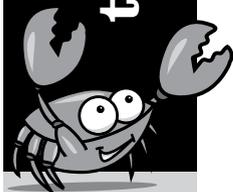
Childless couples will never know the thrill of visiting the emergency room for stitches after your 5th grade daughter came up with the brilliant idea to skateboard down a playground slide during recess. Or the surprise of returning home two hours earlier than you planned on a Saturday night to discover your 17-year-old son hosting a kegger party – with strippers. Thankfully, the neighbors called the cops, who broke it up before things really got out of control.

I'm not going to lie to you, raising a family can be expensive. People say the biggest purchase a couple makes is buying a house. That couple apparently never had kids. Because the cost of supporting a child to age 18 is equivalent to the cost of buying FOUR houses – except that they don't increase in value over time, you can't sell them for a profit, and after 16 years they'll probably inform you that they hate you. Okay, so having kids tends to be expensive – and exhausting. You can't put a price tag on your 13-year-old's beautiful smile. On second thought, you can. That would be \$13,000 over six years for braces.

I'm getting the gnawing feeling I'm not making a very good case for having kids. My point is that our daughters have brought me so much happiness that it's impossible to quantify. So what if our decision to procreate delayed my retirement plans by 13 years? So what if vacations for 20 years as our kids were growing up would consist of camping in a tent instead of villas in the south of France? So what if every now and then, I found myself getting sucked into shouting matches with my middle school girls about the fact that just because the Millers let their daughter Ashley have a smart phone doesn't mean you're getting one.... And so many other precious memories.

It's true, childfree couples can live more spontaneously, hopping in the car and driving off to wherever their spirit moves them. Meanwhile, we parents spend most of our spare time as chauffeurs, taking our kids to soccer practices, piano lessons, birthday parties, and the occasional ER.

View from the Bleachers



Sometimes I envy those kid-free couples being able to purchase a fancy new car every three years. But I'd like to see them try to haul six kids in their shiny red sports car to the mall to see Frozen – for the fourth time, like we can in our 12-year-old Toyota minivan.

What I'm saying is I can think of dozens of reasons not to have kids. But all of those reasons stacked on top of each other still won't offset the one reason we chose to raise a family: Because for us, having a family was more important than accumulating expensive houses and fancy cars. No regrets.

My life is filled with memories you can't put a price tag on – like the summer I taught my then 16-year-old daughter how to drive. Okay, technically, you CAN put a price tag on that memory: \$1,650 to be exact – the cost to replace the car's front bumper when she drove it into a landscaping rock next to our driveway on the very same day she passed her driver's test. Ah, the joys of parenthood.

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

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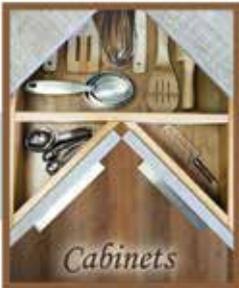
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Erik - **425-308-7423**

TIDE TABLES / SARATOGA PASSAGE / DECEMBER 27, 2024 - JANUARY 9, 2025

Date	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Moon Visible
F 27	High	3:52 AM	10.1	
27	Low	8:00 AM	8.0	
27	High	1:15 PM	11.0	
27	Low	8:43 PM	-0.3	
Sa 28	High	4:36 AM	11.0	
28	Low	8:58 AM	8.3	
28	High	1:54 PM	10.9	
28	Low	9:21 PM	-1.1	
Su 29	High	5:15 AM	11.7	
29	Low	9:51 AM	8.4	
29	High	2:32 PM	10.9	
29	Low	10:00 PM	-1.7	
M 30	High	5:51 AM	12.2	
30	Low	10:42 AM	8.4	
30	High	3:12 PM	10.8	
30	Low	10:40 PM	-2.2	
Tu 31	High	6:25 AM	12.6	
31	Low	11:30 AM	8.3	
31	High	3:54 PM	10.6	
31	Low	11:20 PM	-2.4	
W 1	High	6:57 AM	12.9	
1	Low	12:15 PM	7.9	
1	High	4:40 PM	10.4	
1	Low	11:59 PM	-2.3	
Th 2	High	7:29 AM	13.0	
2	Low	1:01 PM	7.4	
2	High	5:31 PM	10.0	

Date	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Moon Visible
F 3	Low	12:39 AM	-1.7	
3	High	8:02 AM	13.0	
3	Low	1:51 PM	6.7	
3	High	6:27 PM	9.4	
Sa 4	Low	1:20 AM	-0.7	
4	High	8:34 AM	12.9	
4	Low	2:44 PM	5.7	
4	High	7:32 PM	8.8	
Su 5	Low	2:04 AM	0.8	
5	High	9:07 AM	12.8	
5	Low	3:39 PM	4.4	
5	High	8:52 PM	8.2	
M 6	Low	2:53 AM	2.6	
6	High	9:41 AM	12.6	
6	Low	4:32 PM	3.0	
6	High	10:24 PM	8.1	
Tu 7	Low	3:48 AM	4.5	
7	High	10:17 AM	12.4	
7	Low	5:27 PM	1.5	
W 8	High	12:15 AM	8.5	
8	Low	4:49 AM	6.3	
8	High	10:56 AM	12.2	
8	Low	6:24 PM	0.2	
Th 9	High	2:05 AM	9.6	
9	Low	6:00 AM	7.7	
9	High	11:41 AM	12.0	
9	Low	7:20 PM	-1.0	



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