

THE CRAB CRACKER
ISSUE 393
December 13-26, 2024
Christmas Edition



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

THEATER ARTS GUILD PRESENTS

THE SECRET GARDEN THE MUSICAL

At The Historic Lincoln Theatre

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December 6-21, 2024

THE SECRET GARDEN is presented by
arrangement with Concord Theatricals
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THEATER
ARTS GUILD

Book and Lyrics by MARSHA NORMAN
Music by LUCY SIMON
based on the novel by
Frances Hodgson Burnett

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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: "Christmas puppy." Photo by Andrew Te.



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Submission DEADLINE: DECEMBER 19 for Next Edition (Dec. 26 - Jan. 9)

Calendar of Events



DECEMBER 13

THE DAY OF THE HORSE

Recognizing the contributions of horses to the country's history, economy, and culture

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

CHRISTMAS SWEATER WEATHER BRUNCH



9am-noon at HOTWORX - 26477 72nd Ave NW Suite 107, Stanwood. Get ready for another HOTWORX event! Friday the 13th, a freaky start to our 12 days of Christmas countdown... Stop by the studio, come in for your workout, whether it's your 1st session or your 30th in your favorite Christmas sweater and win prizes based on the Coziest Sweater; Ugliest Sweater; Most Creative. Snacks & Brunch items.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Girls Basketball vs Ferndale. JV: 5:40pm. Varsity: 7:15pm.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

THE SLAPDASH PUPPET COMPANY PRESENTS "WELCOME TO THE JINGLE!"

2 performances: 10am and 2pm at the Camano Island Library community room. Join us in welcoming back the Slapdash Puppet Company featuring professional puppeteers Phil and Ken. These talented entertainers will bring festive stories to life with colorful characters and enchanting tales. This entertaining variety show will be the perfect way to get kids into the holiday spirit!



NATIONAL DAY OF THE HORSE
December 13



National Cocoa Day

December 13

Calendar of Events



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13
TRAVEL TALK



10:00-12:00 at Camano Center, 606 Arrowhead Road, Camano Island. Do you enjoy sharing your travel experiences or hearing from others of their travel adventures? This month we tour Switzerland, starting in Chamonix (France) at Mt. Blanc and travel from Lake Geneva to Zurich. Mountains, scenic villages, cows with bells and yodeling, oh my! Absolutely no sales pitches nor promotions, just travel fun! Camano Center members free, non-members \$5. Questions or if interested in presenting one of your trips, contact Mark Kraus at 425 503-9072.

Matzke Fine Art Gallery and Sculpture Park

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Calendar of Events



DECEMBER 13

SANTA LUCIA

Region:
Scandinavia
and Italy

Purpose:
Feast day
celebrating
Saint Lucy
who died as a
martyr

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

FULL COLOR DREAM PLUS CHECKER BLOOM

The Conway Muse welcomes Full Color Dream plus Checker Bloom at 8 pm. Tickets \$10 Advanced \$12 at Venue. All Ticket Sales Final at Show Time.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

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.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

10am-3pm. Donate Blood! Reservations required visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time> to reserve your time slot. Stanwood Camano Rotary Club is proud to host a Red Cross Blood Drive at the Foursquare Church in Stanwood. It will be held in the building facing the Viking Village Parking lot.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

WARM BEACH BLOOD DRIVE

Make an impact with a donation to help celebrate Washington State Blood Donor Day. You won't just be helping someone get a little closer to their cure, you'll be giving them HOPE to see another day. 10am-4pm at Warm Beach Senior Community. Call Bloodworks NW at 800-398-7888, or go to bloodworksnw.org/giveblood to schedule your one hour donation appointment.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

CD WOODBURY TRIO

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282 at the Camano Plaza. 2022 Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame inductee, CD Woodbury has transformed himself from journeyman sideman and "the NW's best kept secret" into an internationally recognized rising star of the Pacific NW blues scene with his work as singer, songwriter, and guitarist.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

JIMMY WRIGHT BAND

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282 at the Camano Plaza. Catering a wide variety of music

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

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, DECEMBER 14

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.

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MERRY UFF DA

It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas!

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

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48%

over 3 years

in older adults at increased risk for cognitive decline*.

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w: Stanwoodhearing.com

*ACHIEVE 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?

KFC is the meal of choice on Christmas Day in Japan. This happened following a successful marketing campaign over 40 years ago.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

STARDRUMS & LADY KEYS

The Conway Muse welcomes back Stardrums & Lady Keys with Lonnie Williams, Walter Young & special Guest Matt Clauson at 8 pm. Tickets \$18 Advanced \$20 At Venue.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

COOKIES + SHOPPING: A HOLIDAY EDITION

Noon-4pm at Cookie Mill, 9808 SR 532, Stanwood. Event by just-jamesboutique. Just because Just James Boutique closed its Stanwood location doesn't mean you still can't shop!! Come shop our mobile boutique at Cookie Mill. The trailer will be loaded with clothes, gifts & MORE!!! First 10 customers get a 12oz. latte on JJB!!!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

CABAM! CAMANO BLUEGRASS JAM + DINNER (\$) + OPEN MIC

at the South Camano Grange, 2227 S Camano Drive. Come and join the Jam & enjoy some smokin' bluegrass. Banjos, mandos, guitars, fiddles, dobros and a bass or two. It's all here. All we need is YOU! Old timers and newbies alike. (Free admission except for the optional dinner). 3:00 - 5:30 pm - Bluegrass Jam. 5:30 - 6:00 pm - Dinner (Donation- provided by Camano Farm Ashram - donations go to Camano Farm Ashram. 6:00 or 6:15 pm to 8:00 or 8:30 pm - Open Mic (sign up before dinner!). For more info: CABAM282@gmail.com.

SATGURDAY, DECEMBER 14

"BIG RIG TRUCK" LIGHTED CRUISE



The Stanwood Commerce Alliance is excited to host the 2nd Annual Big Rig Truck Lighted Cruise from 5-7pm. Experience the power and beauty of these incredible rigs as they cruise through town, lighting up the night with a glow! Fun for all ages. This is a free community event - no registration required. The cruise will start at the east end of Main Street in Stanwood and continue to the west end, offering spectators a perfect view of these impressive vehicles as they light up the town. Big rigs, street legal side by sides, construction/lifted trucks, dump trucks, and big rig tractors (no trailers). Staging for the cruise will begin behind the businesses by the Amtrak train station around 5PM or you can join the cruise at anytime. Whether you're a truck enthusiast, a fan of holiday lights, or just looking for some family-friendly fun, this event is sure to brighten your evening.

*"Have You Been
Nautical or Nice
This Year?"*



Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for the New Year.

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Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

Today, the electric candles that are displayed in so many American homes at Christmastime reflect the ancient Celtic reverence for the candle as a symbol of light during the darkest time of the year.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE



at Hazel Blue Acres from 9 am - 2 pm. Visit the barn for fabulous refreshments, great local gift ideas, a lovely holiday photo backdrop and some fun prize drawings. This time of year we have frozen organic blueberries, smoked salmon, sockeye salmon fillets, take & bake pies, hazelnut treats, a blueberry jam selection, ice cream & more! The farm is located at 430 Hevly Rd., Silvana. Feel free to call with any questions: 360-770-7261.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 TEEN RECHARGE & CHILL: ARTFUL HOLIDAY CARDS



3:00 - 5:00 PM at the Stanwood Library. (Teens & Adults). Join us with The Fat Brush: Art Workshop for a creative and festive event where you can craft one-of-a-kind greeting cards using repurposed old book pages and vibrant acrylic paints. Our featured design will highlight the beauty of sheet music and the delightful charm of cardinals - it's the perfect way to "wing it" and easily add a unique flair to your cards! (Other options will be available as well.) By the end of the event, you'll leave with a beautifully personalized card that captures the magic of the season - ideal for gifting to loved ones or holding onto as a cherished keepsake. This workshop is designed to be approachable and you'll have guidance every step of the way!

MEDICARE QUESTIONS?

We're here to help.



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Calendar of Events



DID YOU KNOW?

In some countries, tallow from the Yule candle was rubbed on the farmer's plow to promote fertility in the fields.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

THE CRC PRESENTS: LEMON BOY, MUTUAL STOKE, END OF SMALL SANCTUARY & SALOON

as well as teen bands from the CRC "AMPLIFY" program LIVE at Port Susan Middle School! MUSIC | ART | HOPE. FREE show for youth ages 11-18 held in the PSMS Cafeteria & Stage! Parents are welcome to attend. No leaving and then reentering the venue. Respect the space, respect each other. Doors - 6:00 PM. Music - 6:30. SALOON | PNW Pop-Punk; END OF SMALL SANCTUARY | Doom Metal; "AMPLIFY" | Teen Band Showcase; MUTUAL STOKE | Two Piece Punk; LEMON BOY | SOUR Punk. Event finishes by 9:45 PM. RSVP www.crc-sc.org/events.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



The American Legion, Post 92, has once again partnered with Wreaths Across America. Our goal was to raise enough funds to place a wreath on every Veteran's grave at Anderson Cemetery (Stanwood), Camano Lutheran Cemetery (Camano Island) and Camano Island Pioneer Cemetery (Camano Island) which will be over 790 wreaths this year. Your donations definitely made a great difference and helped us reach our goal! Please feel free to join us at these Cemeteries starting at 10am for a brief ceremony and then the placement of the wreaths. We really appreciate your help and couldn't complete this project without our generous community's amazing support!

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Calendar of Events



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

BINGO AT THE VIKING HALL - SILVANA

5pm. \$10 for a book of 15 games and \$1 for each black out game. We will begin serving dinner at 5pm. All profits will go to a community service project. More info: 360-618-2076.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

"STILL" - A CHRISTMAS CONCERT

with Jeff Johnson- Keys and vocal; Eliot Grasso - Flute, whistle, and pipes; Brandon Vance - violin. 7pm at St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1318 SR 532, Camano Island,. \$20 suggested donation.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

PUZZLE EXCHANGE

2pm at the Stanwood Library. We are a family friendly event, so bring your bag or box and come swap a puzzle or more. We ask that any puzzle you own that is not chosen please take it home and bring it to our next exchange. Hope to see you there!!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

CAROLING IN THE PARK

5:30pm to 7pm at Warm Beach Community Park. Sing along at the Park. We will have candy canes, hot chocolate and Holiday cheer. * Santa and his elves ride around in the North County Fire trucks each year.

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Upcoming Classes and Events

★ Visit our website for tickets & registration: www.scaacwa.org ★

• Dry Needle Felting w/ Aleita TEEN/ADULT	12/20
• Mindful Reflection Thru Art w/ Gaylynn (FREE)	01/29
• Cookie Decorating w/ Ellice Lien TEEN/ADULT	02/05
• Explore Your Creativity YOUTH (FREE)	02/12
• Mindful Reflection Thru Art w/ Gaylynn (FREE)	02/26
• Explore Your Creativity YOUTH (FREE)	03/12
• Mindful Reflection Thru Art w/ Gaylynn TEEN/ADULT	03/26

STANWOOD
CAMANO
ARTS
ADVOCACY
COMMISSION

MORE INFO:
WWW.SCAACWA.ORG

Calendar of Events



DECEMBER 15

BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

Our country ratified the Bill of Rights on this day in 1791.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

2024 DECEMBER DOUBLES DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT

8am-5pm at Kayak Point Disc Golf Resort. This is an unsanctioned disc golf tournament event. More information will be coming soon. In your spare time, check out Aces BBQ & Grill. Aces offers several breakfast options, smoked meats and traditional sides, plus cold draft brews and non-alcoholic drink options. Aces will be open for business in the clubhouse from 9am - 2pm, with breakfast from 9am - 11am. https://www.discgolfsce.com/tournaments/December_Doubles_2024

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

HOLLY & JOLLY VENDOR FAIR



A fundraiser supporting dancers attending "Dance the Magic." 11am-3pm at The Dance Project NW, 7009 265th St NW #106, Stanwood. A festive holiday market to support local dancers who have been invited to perform at the prestigious Dance The Magic event at Disneyland in the fall of 2025. The Holly & Jolly Vendor Fair will feature an array of local vendors showcasing unique gifts, crafts, and products perfect for the holiday season. A bake sale will also be held, with all proceeds going directly to the TDPNW Foundation's fund to help dancers make this dream performance a reality.

JANUARY 5TH | 2:30 PM

Bronn Journey Concert

BENEFITING THE CARING
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BRONN JOURNEY
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OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
9901 272nd Street NW,
Stanwood.

Sunday, January 5th at 2:30pm
(Offering for Caring Place will
be received.).



SANTA-CON



AT ARROWHEAD RANCH
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Grab your Santa costume (or hat) and join us for music, games, Axe throwing, good beverages, and a lot of SANTAS! 21+



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Seas & Greetings



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Calendar of Events



DECEMBER 16

LAS POSADAS

A Mexican Christmas tradition. The tradition commemorates Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a warm place to stay the night.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

BELL CHOIR PERFORMANCE

10am at Stanwood United Methodist Church in the Sanctuary. Come enjoy beautiful music performed by our very own Bell Choir. They practice each week on Mondays at 5-6:30pm in the Sanctuary and usually perform the 3rd Sunday of every month. Coffee Hour will follow at 11am in Wesley Hall. Contact the church office at 360-629-9555 for more information.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

LIGHT LANGUAGE DRUMMING CIRCLE

with Lola Singer. 10am-noon. Raise vibrations through sound on farmland amidst therapy horses. For people of all ages. Bring your enthusiasm and instruments! Drums, rattles and anything that makes a joyful noise! Additional instruments will be provided. Light Language Drumming Circles are designed to build community, deepen your spiritual gifts, and express your soul through sound. PAY-WHAT-YOU-LIKE DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED (BUT NOT REQUIRED) TO HELP SUPPORT SONIA'S NON-PROFIT, HOOVES & HEROES (an organization that helps veterans & first responders). <https://spirit2spirit.org/>

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Girls Basketball vs Shorecrest. C Team & JV: 5:30pm. Varsity: 7:15pm.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

SHS WINTER BAND CONCERT

7-9pm at Stanwood High School Performing Arts Center.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Varsity Boys Swimming vs Marysville Getchell. 3pm at Stanwood YMCA.

Boys C Team & JV Basketball vs Glacier Peak. 5:30pm.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

TEEN RECHARGE AND CHILL: THE SCIENCE OF SOUND

(Teens & Tweens). 3:00 - 5:00 at the Stanwood Library. Swing by to unwind, charge up your devices, and have fun! This week, we're diving into the science of sound! You'll get to build your very own musical instruments using everyday materials like rubber bands, straws, bottles, and more. Once you've crafted your instrument, you'll have a chance to experiment with BandLab's AI Song Starter, write your own song lyrics with our prompts and madlibs or do a quiz to see how much you know about the science of sound. No experience required! Just bring your curiosity and creativity. All materials will be provided. This event is perfect for teens who are interested in science and/or music or just want a chill place to hang out after school. Bring a friend, meet new people, or just hang out solo. We'll have snacks and plenty of space to socialize. Feel free to bring your own favorite games or activities.

Calendar of Events



THIS DAY IN HISTORY:

The first airplane flew on December 17, 1903. Wilbur and Orville Wright made four brief flights at Kitty Hawk, NC

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

EXPLORE YOUR CREATIVITY

with Stanwood Camano Arts Advocacy Commission. 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM at the Stanwood Library. Join us for an art class with Stanwood Camano Arts Advocacy Commission (SCAAC)! We will provide everything you need. Our theme will be Falling into Winter and we'll be making giftable art! For kids ages 6-11.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

SCARC ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Presentations include the year in review. There will probably be an interactive game. Perhaps a raffle. Please join us for a fun, entertaining and informative evening! This year's party will be held at Stanwood United Methodist Church, located at the corner of 102nd Dr and 271st NW, Stanwood. Festivities should begin around 5:00PM with the dinner starting abpit 6:30. This party is open to all SCARC members, families and guests. Bring them all! Visiting Amateur Radio Operators are also invited, as well as any ARRL Officials and BEARON's Members. This is a POTLUCK EVENT with no restrictions on what you should contribute. Whatever dish or dessert is your favorite will be welcome! SCARC will supply ham as the main dish as well as the Christmas Punch, coffee and tea. Activities during the evening will likely include the following: - Special W7PIG slide/video presentation - Door prize Drawings - Live Music. Attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable donation for the food bank. SCARC requests attendees to RSVP. Please include the number of guests which you plan to bring. Contact us at W7PIG@yahoo.com with your RSVP or for more information. We hope to see you there!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Boys Wrestling vs Marysville Getchel. JV: 5:45pm. Varsity: 7pm.
Girls Varsity Wrestling vs Marysville Getchell. 6:15pm.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

CARD MAKING

9:00 am – 12:00 pm at Stanwood United Methodist Church. This is a fantastic group of people who gather together on variable days and times to make cards. They welcome anyone to join them! You don't have to be real "crafty". They'll teach you! All proceeds from card sales go toward our various ministry projects. 360-629-9555.

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Calendar of Events



CHRISTMAS TRIVIA:

In "The Garfield Christmas Special" what does Garfield give to Grandma Arbuckle?

[Old Letters]

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

CHRIS EGER

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282, Camano Island. Rock and Blues, Country, Funk and Soul collide in this modern take on vintage roots music.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Boys Varsity Swimming vs Archbishop Murphy. 3pm at the Stanwood YMCA.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

SHS WINTER CHOIR CONCERT



7-9pm at Stanwood High School Performing Arts Center.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

FAMILY HOLIDAY MIXER

Event by PFLAG Stanwood-Camano. 5:30pm-8pm at SAAL Brewing Company, 10209 270th St NW, Stanwood. Bring the family for holiday fun! PFLAG Stanwood-Camano has reserved the top floor of SAAL Brewing, and will be proving light bites. Wear your ugly sweater, formal dress, silly costume, just be merry and bright! We will play some holiday games and enjoy our found families. Free and friendly. PFLAG Stanwood-Camano members will get a special gift, so sign up now to be a cool kid. All your friends are doing it.



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Calendar of Events



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

WINTER HOLIDAY CONCERT

An evening of holiday music and cheer in our gym at Twin City Elementary. K-2 concert begins at 5:30PM. 3-5 concert begins at 7:00PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

BILLY STAPLETON POWERHOUSE

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282 at the Camano Plaza. They play everything from killin' Rhythm and Blues, Rock, Blues, Soul and Jazz.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

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.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Boys Basketball vs Edmonds Woodway. C Team & JV: 5:30pm. Varsity: 7:15pm.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Special Worship Services



Saturday Worship, December 21

6:00 PM Longest Night Service
of Light into Darkness

Sunday Worship, December 22

8:30 AM Choir Presentation
of Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve, December 24

5:00 PM Family Candlelight Worship Service
11:00 PM Traditional Candlelight Worship Service

Calendar of Events



FRIDAY-SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20-21 **FREE OUTDOOR LIVE NATIVITY**



at Cedarhome Baptist Church 29000 68th Ave NW, Stanwood. Friday, December 20th 6-8:00 pm and Saturday, December 21st 5-8:00pm.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Noon at Stanwood United Methodist Church, 27128 102nd Drive, Stanwood. This worship service is for those experiencing grief and other personal pain. During this season of joy and celebration, many who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, family crisis, health or financial issues, may not feel the joy in the holidays. This service acknowledges many feelings during difficult times while also being a time of reflection and remembrance. We hope to see you there. Contact the church office for more information. 360-629-9555.

Family Medicine

Camano Island

LOCATION:

127 N. East Camano Drive
360-387-5398

Clinic hours:

M-Th: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Fridays: 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SkagitRegionalHealth.org

Skagit  **Regional Health**



JODIE BREWER-PEET, PA-C
Family Medicine

DANIEL CEVETELLO, DO
Family Medicine

Calendar of Events



DECEMBER 21

FIRST DAY OF WINTER

Winter Solstice. Marking the shortest day in the Northern Hemisphere. This holiday has great significance and spiritual practice.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
SANTA-CON 2024



4-8pm at Arrowhead Ranch, Camano Island. A Santa Claus convention that happens once a year. It's your chance to spread holiday cheer in the most magical way possible! Also, it's FUN! Grab your Santa costume, ugly sweater, or hat, and join us for music, games, Axe throwing, good beverages, and a lot of SANTAS! Join us in the big enclosed event tent for beverages, put-put golf, corn hole, and other fun games. Inside the big red barn, there will be a BBQ dinner for purchase, trivia, and raffle prizes. In the Arrowhead Axe barn, you can throw axes and compete against your fellow Santas. Must be 21 years old. Photo ID required. Bring cash and tip your bartender.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

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, DECEMBER 21

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, DECEMBER 21

CRIMINAL SQUIRREL ORCHESTRA

7:30pm - 10:00pm at Pub 282 at the Camano Plaza. Criminal Squirrel Orchestra: A band dedicated to the fascination that original music brings to the squirrely soul, and how harmonies, nuance and nuts make things more fun.

Calendar of Events



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
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.

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



HANUKKAH

Jewish festival commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem.

Date: December 25, 2024 - January 2, 2025

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

CHRISTMAS CINEMA AT THE GRANGE



Join the Camano Farm Ashram for a special showing of the Yuletide favorite, *The Bishop's Wife*, at the South Camano Grange. Movie showing begins at 5pm. Come in the 4 o'clock hour (early) to say hi, get your seat, a bowl of "hippie corn," and a cup of spiced farm apple cider. The movie is an absolute classic - 1947 *Christmas in Minneapolis*, with a church bishop, his wife, an angel, the professor, and the Robert Mitchel Boys Choir. The film features quintessential Christmas scenes, delightful humor, and important life lessons. Family friendly, and free of charge.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

THE LONGEST NIGHT

Service Our Saviour's Lutheran Church will hold a Longest Night service at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary. This is a quiet service of comfort, original music, candlelight, and hope for all who are grieving, hurting, or experiencing loss or loneliness this season. Join us to acknowledge your pain and fears while hearing loving words of Jesus, the Light of the World. Members of the church's Stephen Ministry program will be available for private conversation and prayer after the service for those who wish to share their needs. For more information, call the church office at 360-629-3767.



Today, December 22th is
National Short Person Day

Calendar of Events



KWANZAA

December 26 –
January 1

This holiday created in 1966 in the USA aims to celebrate family, culture, and heritage. Modeled after the first harvest celebrations in Africa

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

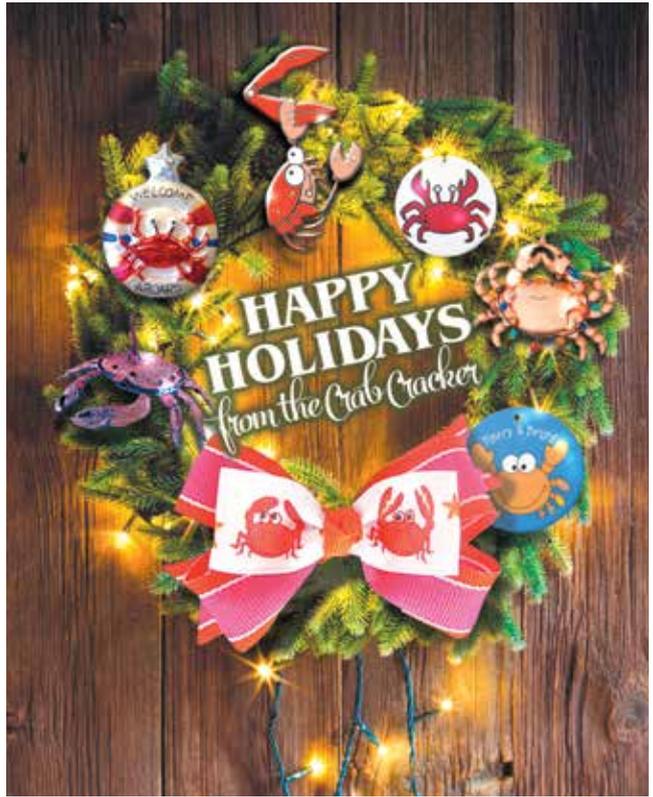
LINE DANCING & LESSONS

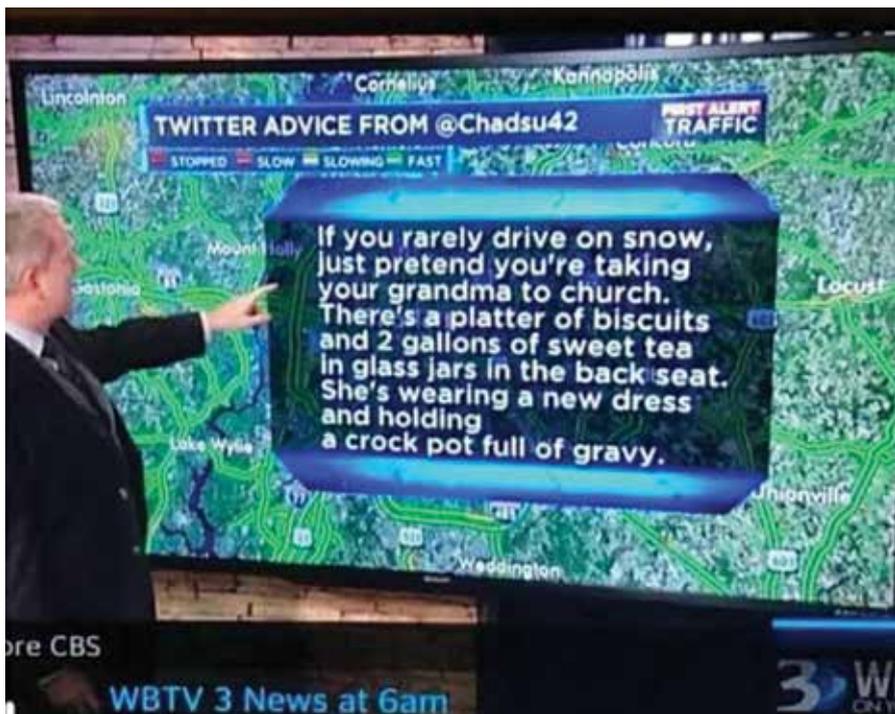
Event by Lady Di Dancin'. 6-8pm at Stanwood Eagles Foe 3041, 6419 Pioneer Highway. Come on out and learn a new line dance & practice the ones you know. Everyone & ALL AGES welcome! Lessons are donations/tip based.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS

The Crab Cracker wishes you all a joyous holiday.





COLD WEATHER TIPS FOR YOUR DOG

DOGS LESS TOLERANT OF COLD

If short coat



If seek out warm spots in the house on a normal basis



Puppies, senior dogs, or dogs with a disease, like diabetes

DOGS MORE TOLERANT OF COLD

If long coat

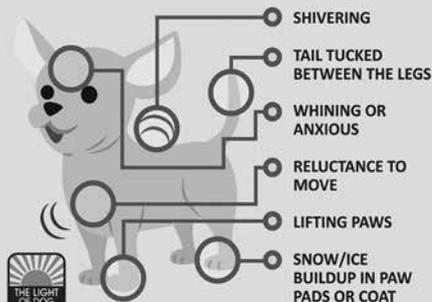


If seek out cool tile and cool parts of the house on a normal basis



COLD WEATHER TIPS

WATCH FOR COLD INTOLERANCE SIGNALS



www.TheLightofDog.com



Less tolerance to windy/overcast/precipitation/snow or ice covered paths.



Sunny and dry, but cold can be fine for many dogs.



Stay active to stay warm.



Be cautious walking on ice, as falls are bad for humans and dogs.



Post walk, remove from your dog deicer chemicals that are typically used on roads and sidewalks.



Consider using pet-safe deicers on your property to protect your pets and the others in your neighborhood.

Moonshine Wisdom & Wit



Story by Jack
Archibald.

For further
moonshine
wisdom and wet
powder wit,
check out the
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DIARIES** at
[www.
skeeterdaddle.net](http://www.skeeterdaddle.net)



A CHRISTMAS CAROL ON THE CHINESE SOUTH END

Back in the less consumer-driven days of early Christmas, we South Enders would hang our stockings by the chimney with great care. Mostly so they wouldn't catch fire...I mean, we used that chimney for heat. How Santa was going to get down the brick chute without scorching those red pajamas of his, us young'uns didn't have a clue. So we worried about St. Nick. Well, mostly we worried he wouldn't leave us anything at all while he was hustled off to the nearest burn unit. Our parents told us not to lose any sleep over it – Santa probably had fire retardant uniforms. Oh, right, like Kris Kringle moonlighted as a chemist half the year.

But Santa always did seem to find the South End on Christmas ... which didn't help to explain the half empty stockings and the paucity of presents under the tree every year at our house. We kids just figured Santa had checked his stupid list, probably twice, and we were blacklisted on the NAUGHTY side once again. We even used to leave cookie bribes and a jug of something savory to drink when he showed up. It was odd how the jug was always empty and still, the stockings were sadly deficient. Pa always said the reindeer must've been thirsty and we'd say, hey, if Donder and Blitzen could find their way here and down a burning chimney with a 6 inch hole in the woodstove, how come St. Nick couldn't find us? And Ma would give Pa a dirty look and say, something was Blitzen all right, but it wasn't the reindeer....

Santa finds the South End pretty easily now, I'm telling you. Come Christmas morning it looks like a China R Us down the middle of the living room, barely room to squeeze near the tree. Nowadays we don't leave Santa a plate of cookies. He expects an ATM machine and a Visa Card. Christmas down on the South End lasts and lasts – about 12 easy payments, then it starts all over



Kid's Korner



CHRISTMAS TRIVIA:

In "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," the Grinch lives where?

[on Mount Crumpit]

PINECONE TREE CRAFT



Supplies needed to make a pinecone Christmas tree: Pinecones, Wood slices, Wooden stars, Acrylic Paint (Green, White, Red, Yellow, Blue), Paintbrushes, Hot Glue Gun

The first step is to paint your pinecone solid green. I used green acrylic paint and a fairly small paintbrush. Definitely try to make sure to get in all the little crevices. This may take one or two coats of paint to make sure everything is covered and there is no pinecone showing through. Alternatively, you could leave a bit of pinecone showing through on purpose. This would make for a more rustic looking Christmas Tree. Once the pinecone is completely dry it is time to move onto some snow! Using a small paintbrush and white acrylic paint, create some snow covered branches by painting the tips of the pinecone. Next, go in with another small paintbrush and add tiny little Christmas lights. I picked up these small wooden stars from my local craft supply store. Again using acrylic paint, I covered both sides of this wooden star a bright yellow paint. Using a few dabs of hot glue, I attached the painted Christmas Tree to the wood slice. For the final touch, I again used hot glue to stick the wooden star to the top of the pinecone. Since it's a smaller, thinner area than the base of the pinecone, I would recommend holding the star in place for a few seconds while you let the glue fully dry.

Source: <https://pjsandpaint.com>.

Kid's Korner



CHRISTMAS TRIVIA:

In "The Polar Express", what time is on the clock when the train comes to take the boy to the N. Pole?

[11:55pm]

YARN BALL ORNAMENTS

Sweet and soft these ornaments just might peak your kids interest in learning to knit or crochet. Get ready for an ugly sweater gift next year!



To make: Wrap yarn around a clear plastic Christmas ornament, holding the beginning of the yarn in place with a dab of hot glue, until the ornament is completely covered. Thread bamboo cocktail picks through the yarn to mimic knitting needles. Hang as desired.



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WINDERMERE  REAL ESTATE



Black Ice

Because black ice can form so quickly and is so camouflaged on the road, Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials call it the deadliest of all winter driving hazards. Here's what to look out for:

- ▶ Pavement that looks dry but appears darker in color.
- ▶ Low-lying areas that may have water runoff from nearby trees or land.
- ▶ Bridges, which typically freeze first.
- ▶ Underpasses and other road areas that are shaded from the sun.
- ▶ Air temperatures that fall below 40°F (expect icy conditions).



Windermere

REAL ESTATE



MID-ISLAND **\$1,500,000**
 Builder's own home on a shy 5 acres, huge shop, detached guest house, studio, all beautifully finished, and so much space!
 #2296551



VIEW HOME **\$1,145,000**
 Perfect for multi-generational living, spacious Madrona Beach home with two levels of living, fully fenced yard and close to the beach. #2256860



WATERFRONT **\$799,000**
 Single-level Island home and detached shop, big yard and 125' of high-bluff frontage, nearby path to beach, first time on the market. #2269196



MADRONA **\$495,000**
 Comfortable Camano one-level home with large garage/shop, outbuildings on a double lot and nearby beach access. #2313037



LOST LAKE **\$450,000**
 Nestled on 28' of lakefront, 2-bedroom Camano home offering tranquility and potential for customizing or investment.
 #2291242



NORTH END **\$799,900**
 Spacious corner lot with beautifully maintained Camano home conveniently located yet private, minutes from the beach.
 #2290924

STANWOOD
 7359 267th St. NW, #D
 360.629.8233



CAMANO ISLAND
 818 N. Sunrise Blvd.
 360.387.4663

Visit WindermereStanwoodCamano.com for more information

Windermere Real Estate/CIR

Artist of the Week



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!

ANITA COULSON - HANDMADE PINECONE WREATHS



Northwest pine cone wreaths handmade by local artist Anita Coulson. Hand-gathered, cleaned, and painted. "I can make one any color, any theme." These last for many years. Find her on Facebook.



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- Puppy Training
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- Virtual Dog Training
- Service Dog Training
- AKC Fitness / AKC Tricks
- Board and Train

Business Spotlight



Are you interested in promoting your business or organization?

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

THE DANCE PROJECT NW



Located in the heart of Stanwood, The Dance Project NW is a leading dance studio dedicated to nurturing talent, fostering creativity, and inspiring excellence in dancers of all ages and levels. Led by Amber Welte, The Dance Project NW offers a diverse range of classes including ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, and contemporary, our studio offers a supportive and inclusive environment where students can explore their passion for dance and develop their skills under the guidance of experienced instructors. From recreational dancers to aspiring professionals, we welcome everyone to join us on a journey of self-discovery, artistry, and empowerment. Visit our website at <https://thedanceprojectnw.com/> to learn more about our classes, programs, and upcoming events.



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Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

During Christmas in Newfoundland people called Mumpers dress up in crude disguises and go from house to house dancing and playing music while the hosts try to identify them.

THE CHRISTMAS MAP IS HERE!



The 5th Annual Christmas Map is up and running! The map includes locations to see Christmas lights and decor, Holiday events, and Markets/craft fairs. You can even filter the map to only show events happening in a particular week to help with planning all your fun this holiday season! Do you love putting up Christmas lights or outdoor holiday decor? Add your house to the map so that all your hard work can bring joy to others. Displays big and small welcome, we want to see them all! I ask that you share with family, friends, and neighbors to help spread the word. These fun maps are not possible and won't be able to grow without you. Thank you for all your support! FIND THE MAP HERE: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit...> ADD YOUR HOUSE HERE: <https://forms.gle/9uhxYTLBFYhNaWzA6>

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!

Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

A large part of Sweden's population watches Donald Duck cartoons every Christmas Eve since 1960.

COLD WEATHER SHELTERS AVAILABLE



As temperatures drop, there is an Extreme Cold Weather Shelter to provide warmth and safety for those in need. The St. Aidan's Episcopal Church shelter opens on the second consecutive night below 32°F and welcomes men, women, and families, with limited space for pets. It is located at 1318 Hwy 532 (across from Camano Thrift Center). Check-in: 7 PM (Doors close at 9 PM). Capacity: 12 cots available. For a ride, please contact Snow Goose Transit at 425-866-6873. For updates on shelter openings, call 512-710-5349. Camano Island Library is also a shelter location. Learn more at <https://snohomish-county-public-safety-hub-snoco-gis.hub.arcgis.com>

COMMUNITY MEAL – CAMANO

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday except for Holidays. 11:45 am - 12:30 pm at Camano Center located at 606 Arrowhead Rd. Camano Island. By Donation. All donations welcome! You determine your ability to contribute to your own or someone else's meal. Out full cost of a meal is \$12.20. Coffee or tea is \$1.00.

Come Celebrate the birth of Christ

Walk Thru Live Nativity

Friday, December 20th
6:00-8:00 pm

Saturday, December 21st
5:00-8:00 pm



Cedarhome Baptist Church
2900 68th Ave NW
Stanwood, WA
www.cedarhome.org

Community Information



CHRISTMAS TRIVIA:

In "The Muppet Christmas Carol" which muppet plays Charles Dickens?

[Gonzo]

CAMANO PLAZA GIVING TREE



The community has really gone above and beyond! Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this event! This is just a fraction of the gifts that have been dropped off this week and it's only the beginning of December. All gifts will benefit the Holiday House organized by the Stanwood Camano Food Bank and go to local families. Please have all your gifts returned to the store (or the Holiday House) by Saturday, December 14th in time for distribution.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 19 SANTA RUN AND FOOD DRIVE

Silvana fire district firefighters will be assisting Santa Claus this year as he makes his way through the Greater Silvana community, sharing Christmas cheer and holiday joy. Santa will be handing out candy canes as he rides his Christmas lighted hovercraft. Dates: December 20-22. To see full schedule, go to www.firedistrict19.com or call 360-652-8277.

Do you need an Ace Handyman?



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WSU Snohomish County Master Gardener Foundation
presents the 22nd Annual Sustainable Gardening

2025

Winter Speaker Series

All are invited to attend!

\$85 for the series or
\$20 per single session
Fridays, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

★ **New Venue!!**

Everett Station
Weyerhaeuser Rm, 4th floor
3201 Smith Avenue
Everett, WA 98201
(free parking at train station)

For more information,
registration and payment options,
www.gardenlectures.com
Questions? Call Snohomish County
WSU Extension Office
Monday-Friday, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
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”



WSU EXTENSION
Snohomish County



WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.
Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation need to contact Mary Watts at 6705 Puget Park Dr, Snohomish WA 98296; 425-357-6001, mary.watts@wsu.edu at least two weeks prior to the event.



Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

Some zoos accept donated Christmas trees as food for their animals.

NORTH COUNTY SANTA RUN FOOD DRIVE

Monday - Thursday, Routes begin at 5:30 pm. Friday - Sunday, Routes begin at 5:00 pm. LOCAL ROUTES: Sat 12/14 - ARLINGTON / BRYANT - Kackman Estates; Meadow Ridge. Sun 12/15 - WARM BEACH - Kayak Estates; Warm Beach; Soundview. Mon 12/16 - STANWOOD - North/East - Cedarhome. Tue 12/17 - STANWOOD - South/West - Church Creek; Fox Hill; Downtown; North/East - Chandler Reserve.

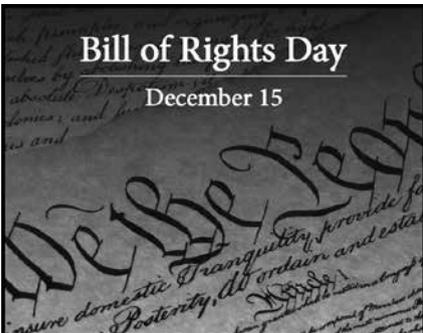
LOCAL CHRISTMAS TREE FARMS



- **Fish Creek Tree Farm** - 18420 3rd Ave NE, Arlington (East of Lake Ki). 360-652-9030. Open 10 am until dusk.
- **Holiday Forest** - Christmas trees-you choose and you cut, Christmas wreaths, Christmas boughs, trees baled, saws provided, winter wagon rides, snacks and refreshment stand. 3125 280th Street NW, Stanwood, 360-629-9097. Email: holidayforest@frontier.com.
- **Muskrat Flats Tree Farm** - 501 Pioneer Hwy E (just east of Silvana). 360-652-9184. Cash & personal checks only. \$80 any size.
- **The Tree Farm** - Local Family owned U-Cut Christmas Tree Farm and wreaths. Cash or Check only. 3011 268th St NW, Stanwood, (425) 244-7179.
- **Triple C Farms** - Christmas trees- pre-cut or you choose and you cut, saws are provided. 27314 36th Avenue N.W., Stanwood, 425-245-2133. Noble Fir, Douglas Fir, Grand Fir, Fraser.

Bill of Rights Day

December 15



STUPID
TOY DAY
ON 16 DECEMBER



Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

Tinsel was invented in 1610 in Germany and was once made of real silver.

HOLIDAY HOUSE

Stanwood Camano Food Bank is offering brand new toys to children ages 0-18 from December 4th through December 21st. Holiday House is available to families who reside in the zip codes of Stanwood & Camano Island. For questions, please contact the Food Bank via email at scfoodbank@scfbs.org or by phone at (360) 629-2789.

SHS TEXTILE DRIVE

benefiting SHS Booster Club Grad Night 2025. Accepting clothes and textiles at Haggen parking lot. December 21 (1-2pm).

SANTA WISHES AND SANTA LETTERS



Santa mail wanted, Young and Old. Preview Properties NW in Stanwood welcome your Santa letters and wish list as well as nominations for families in need of a little help from Santa. Mail Box located at 10123 270th St NW Stanwood. If your child would like a letter back from Santa please include a self addressed envelope. For any further information call 360-629-3400 ask for Sue or Danica Head Elfs Or email THENORTHPOLEMAILBOX@GMAIL.COM

DECEMBER 14TH-A SIMPLE GESTURE

Our drivers will be out Saturday morning between 9 & 11 to pick up your green bags. The most needed items are: hearty soups and stews (Progresso type), canned tomato products (diced, sauce, paste), black, pinto, garbanzo beans, baby wipes and TP. Your donations really make a difference!



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Insurer license and location info: farmers.com/ComparingStates/. Insurers
not authorized in all states. Each insurer solely financially responsible.

Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

Brenda Lee recorded "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" when she was only 13 years old.

GREETINGS FROM THE NORTH POLE POST OFFICE

Santa replies to your child's letter - complete with the North Pole Postmark! The Greetings from the North Pole Post Office program adds to the excitement of Christmas. How to get a letter postmarked from the North Pole: Have the child write a letter to Santa and place it in an envelope addressed to: Santa Claus, North Pole. Write a personalized response to the child's letter and sign it "From Santa." Insert both letters into an envelope, and address it to the child. Add the return address: SANTA, NORTH POLE, to the envelope. Ensure a First-Class Mail stamp is affixed to the envelope. Place the complete envelope into a larger envelope, with appropriate postage, and address it to: NORTH POLE POSTMARK - POSTMASTER - 4141 POSTMARK DR., ANCHORAGE AK 99530-9998. We recommend sending your letters by December 7 so that they can be received by the Postmaster no later than December 14. Santa's helpers in Anchorage, AK, will take care of the rest.

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: Friday, November 29, 2024 - Friday, January 31, 2025. Location: Camano Solid Waste Drop-box 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.



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Zach McNutt

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425-244-6215

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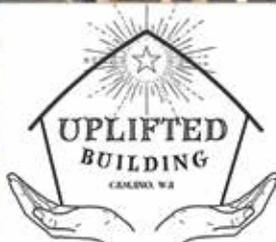
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(Physical Address - by appointment only) 1283 Elger Bay Road #B, Camano Island, WA 98282

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Contact Jacob today at UpliftedBuilding@gmail.com

Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

If you gave all the gifts listed in the Twelve Days of Christmas, it would equal 364 gifts.

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.

GIVING WREATH

This holiday season, consider making a meaningful difference by donating to help a family in need. Many families face challenges meeting their basic needs, such as rent, utilities, gas for their car to get to appointments, or propane to heat their homes. Your generosity can bring warmth and hope to a struggling household, ensuring they have essentials to make the season brighter. By donating to the Giving Wreath at the CRC, your kindness can alleviate stress and create moments of joy. This season of giving is the perfect opportunity to spread compassion and make a tangible impact on the lives of others. Donations can be made online or in person at the CRC. If you would like to have a CRC Giving Wreath in your business or organization, please reach out to Randi at events@crc-sc.org.

RESOURCES

Did you know our Resource Coordinator can assist individuals and families with many different basic needs including rental assistance, PUD assistance, propane, gasoline for appointments, and other necessities. If you are in need or know someone that is and they live in the Stanwood-Camano area, our Resource Coordinator is available to meet and talk about what we can help with. This can be a phone appointment or in-person appointment. Please call 360-629-5257 x 1001 or email resources@crc-sc.org to schedule either type of appointment. In addition, Stanwood WIC (Women, Infants, Children) will continue to have office hours on Tuesdays at the CRC from 10-5pm.



December 20

SACAGAWEA DAY

www.TheCrabCracker.com



Pristine Panes NW

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425-308-3298

pristinepanesnw@gmail.com

www.pristinepanesnw.com

Community Information



NORAD'S SANTA TRACKER

A 1955 Sears ad was supposed to print the number of a store where children could call and tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas. The number printed was to be the hotline of the U.S. Continental Air Defense. Colonel Shoup ordered his staff to give the children updates on the flight coordinates of Santa.

SEAN SWARNER – SPEAKER, AUTHOR, PERFORMANCE COACH, ADVENTURER, WORLD RECORD HOLDER, 2-TIME CANCER SURVIVOR



Teri Swarner, a Camano Island resident, shared with us an inspirational story about her son Sean - defying the impossible. Meet Sean Swarner, a living testament to resilience. Given 14 days to live, he emerged as the first cancer survivor atop Everest, scaling all seven continents' peaks, skiing to both Poles, and completing the Hawaii Ironman World Championship. He also ran seven marathons in seven days on seven continents. Beyond milestones, he founded The Cancer Climber Association, wrote "BECOMING UNSTOPPABLE: Conquering Your Everest" and is a sought-after speaker. He has spoken in front of over 1 million people and hastaken over 1,000 people on Adventure Expeditions. Beyond his achievements, Sean Swarner's global impact extends to philanthropy, collaborating with local artists in Moshi, Tanzania to sell paintings. This outlet and the community rely on tourism for nearly 100% of its income. He was the only person in recorded medical history to have both Stage 4 Hodgkin's and Askin's Sarcoma cancers, and spent an entire year in a medically induced coma. Sean survived, but only with one fully functioning lung. From that point forward, he was on a mission to prove that anything is possible. From crawling in a hospital to Everest's summit, Sean's journey inspires globally. Ready to connect with Sean Swarner? Go to his website at www.seanswarner.com.

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.

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.

Community Information



DID YOU KNOW?

The Montgomery Ward department store created Rudolph the Reindeer as a marketing gimmick to encourage children to buy their Christmas coloring books.

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!

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.

LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS 2024



SELECT NIGHTS 11/29-12/29. (Requires advanced admission purchasing. Guests will be asked to select a date and time at checkout and will be asked to show your admission ticket printed or on your phone.). This innovative event for people of all ages includes over one million lights in dazzling displays, creative activities, and so much more! Listen to fun Christmas music while you comfortably drive-thru in your car. This year we have two Activity Stops , Joyland and Santa Village, for a park-and-get-out experience! Each Activity Stop features different options of fun to enjoy together. \$40 per vehicle. Tickets and info at <https://www.thelightsofchristmas.com/>

Photos and Art



DID YOU KNOW?

The oldest artificial Christmas trees date back to the late 1800s and were made of green raffia or dyed goose feathers. Next the Addis Brush Company used their machinery that wove toilet brushes to create pine-like branches for artificial Christmas trees that were less flammable and could hold heavier decorations.



*Seasons Greetings at the Camano City Schoolhouse.
Photo by James M. Shipley.*



Camano Commons Tree Lighting 2024. Photo by Ian Gleadle.

Photos and Art



Nativity photo by Ben White.



DID YOU KNOW?

Nova Scotia
is the world's
leading exporter
of Christmas
trees.



Christmas lights / display photo by James Wheeler.



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Classes and Workshops



DID YOU KNOW?

'Jingle Bells' – was the first song sung by astronauts Tom Stafford and Wally Schirra in space, on December 16, 1965.

Give the gift of Music for Christmas and start off the New Year learning how to play an instrument or continue your journey to grow as a musician. Instrumental instruction on the saxophone, flute, clarinet, piano & voice lessons. I have the ability to come to you! Contact Chris Tuohy 360-572-9262 or jazzman2e@mac.com.

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 December 13, 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.



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mqstanwood.com
tami@mqstanwood.com

Classes and Workshops



DID YOU KNOW?

Christmas might be a public holiday; however, it is not a biblical holy day. The Bible does not say anywhere to keep Christmas as a holy day.

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.

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. 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.

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.socialdancessimplified.com.

Private Music Lessons: piano, guitar, bass, aand 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.



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



CamanoCenter
Get connected.

AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCES FOR CAMANO ISLAND

NWRC Aging and Disability Resource Program Specialists provide information, referrals, and assistance in obtaining services that support independence, dignity, and health of older adults and people with disabilities.



Wednesdays
9am-4pm
at the Camano Center
360-428-1309
adrccamano@dshs.gov



**Aging and Disability Resource
Program Specialist
Nikki Turner**

Clubs and Meetings



look for us
online at

www.TheCrabCracker.com

or on
Facebook.

Download
current or past
editions.

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.

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.

Are you troubled by someone else's drinking? When you don't know where to turn...AI-Anon/Alateen Family Groups can help! **SUNDAY**, "Courage to Change" Camano Lutheran Church, 850 Heichel Rd, Camano Is, 6:00pm; **WEDNESDAY**, "One Day at a Time," Stanwood Senior Center, 7430 276th ST NW, Stanwood, 7:00pm (For Zoom hybrid meeting call 360-618-0464 if you would like the meeting ID for Zoom), **THURSDAY**, "Stanwood AFG", United Methodist Church, 27128 102nd Dr., Stanwood, 7:00pm, **SATURDAY**, "Paths to Recovery," Camano Lutheran Church, 850 Heichel Rd, Camano Is, 10:30am. For more info call 360-618-0464.

Friendship Tea: Drop by for tea, treats, and a chance to visit with friends, both old and new. 1st Tuesday mornings of every month from 10:30-11:30 at the Camano Center. No charge for Camano Center members; \$5 for non-members. Please check in at the Front Desk. Call Connie (360). 652-7211.

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.

Weddings

at the Camano Center



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Outdoor
Options**

www.camano-center.org



CASA'S PET OF THE WEEK:

ATTICUS is a friendly, outgoing guy who would love an active family to give him the stimulation he needs. He is a smart guy who knows some commands such as sit and down, but will need some further training in his new home. Atticus has lived with other dogs and cats before and has done well. He has also lived with kids before and would do well with dog savvy kids. Stop by to visit Atticus if he sounds like the guy for you.

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



NOAH'S PET OF THE WEEK:

My name is **MEADOW LARK** and I'm a 8 month old kitten full of energy and zest for life! I am looking for my new furever home - is that with you? I would love for you to come meet me today at The NOAH Center.

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



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

MAYA is a lovely lady who is dreaming of a home for the holidays. She is a tender hearted girl and would be happiest in a home that is quiet and calm with a predictable routine. Once she is comfortable she will be the best friend ever. Maya loves going for walks and will prance around when she sees her leash. **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

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For a complimentary title and/or escrow quote,
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www.ltco.com

Dining Guide



DID YOU KNOW?

The Spanish national anthem has no words.

The 'Marcha Real' is one of only four national anthems in the world (along with those of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, and San Marino) to have no official lyrics.

AMIGO MEXICAN RESTAURANT & LOUNGE (Stanwood) • (360) 629-5052
BAKED CAFE (Camano Island) • (425) 530-3314 or (425) 232-5885
BEAUTY BAR SALON + LOUNGE (Stanwood) • (360) 629-2324
BEST BURGER HUT (Stanwood) • (360) 853-0067
BLUE HERON KITCHEN & BAR (Camano Island) • (360) 502-8700
CAMA BEACH CAFE (Camano Island) • (360) 387-3266
CAMANO ISLAND INN (Camano Island) • (360) 387-0783
CAMANO THAI (Camano Island) • (360) 926-8688
CENTER CAFE (Stanwood) • (360) 629-7403
COASTAL VIE (Stanwood) • (360) 355-9541
CONWAY MUSE (Conway) • (360) 445-3000
CONWAY BOXCAR (Stanwood) • (360) 629-0651
CONWAY PUB & EATERY (Conway) • (360) 445-4733
COOKIE MILL (Stanwood) • (360) 629-2362
DOS REALES (Stanwood) • (360) 629-0822
DRAGON PALACE (Stanwood) • (360) 629-8106
DUCK IN CAFE (Stanwood) • (360) 629-3440
FARMERS CAFE – (Stanwood) • (360) 629-4953
GYRO STOP (Stanwood) • (360) 572-4175
IXTAPA MEXICAN RESTAURANT (Stanwood) • (360) 629-5228
JACK IN THE BOX (Stanwood) • (360) 629-2384
JIMMY'S PIZZA (Stanwood) • (360) 629-6565
JOHNNY'S BURGER STOP (Stanwood) (360) 629-9427
JOURNEY'S END CAFE • (Camano Island) • (360) 387-9120
LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA (Stanwood) • (360) 629-6999
MAMMOTH BURGER COMPANY (Stanwood) • (360) 572-4500
MCDONALD'S (Stanwood) • (360) 629-9787
MIYAKO'S TERIYAKI & WOK (Stanwood) • (360) 629-4535
MUSTARD SEED BAKERY & CATERING (Stanwood) • (360) 572-2499
NAHA TERIYAKI (Stanwood) • (360) 629-0681
PADDLE PUB (Stanwood) • (360) 652-4156
PAPA MURPHY'S TAKE 'N' BAKE PIZZA (Stanwood) • (360) 629-3826
PAT'S THAI (Stanwood) • (360) 572-2381
PATINI'S GRILL (Stanwood) • (360) 629-0822 or 360-572-2981
PHOENIX PAVILION (Stanwood) • (360) 629-4662
PRIMAL BARBECUE (Camano Island) • (360) 572-2122
PUB 282 (Camano Island) • (360) 926-8960
PURE SMOKE BARBEQUE (Stanwood) • www.puresmokenw.com
RALIBERTO'S TACO SHOP (Stanwood) • (360) 629-2000
ROCKAWAY BAR & GRILL (Camano Island, at Camaloch) • 360-926-8920
SAAL BREWING CO. (Stanwood) • (360) 629-0102
SAHARA PIZZA (Stanwood) • (360) 629-6886
SASQUATCH SUBS (Stanwood) • (360) 610-2765
SEN - JAPANESE RESTAURANT (Stanwood) • (425) 765-4577
SPARTAN DRIVE IN (Stanwood) • (360) 629-8988
STANWOOD CAFE (Stanwood) • (360) 629-8427
STANWOOD CUPCAKES (Stanwood) • (360) 926-8241
STANWOOD GRILL (Stanwood) • (360) 629-5253
STANWOOD HOTEL & SALOON (Stanwood) • (360) 629-2888
STANWOOD THAI (Stanwood) • (360) 572-2200
STARBUCKS (Stanwood) • (360) 629-2701 • 629-5027 • 629-2500
STILL WATER LOUNGE (Stanwood)
SUB JOINT (Camano Island) • (360) 230-9611
SUBWAY (Camano Island) • (360) 631-5055
SUBWAY (Stanwood) • (360) 629-2678
TACO TIME (Stanwood) • (360) 629-5018
TAPPED CAMANO (Camano Island) • (360) 572-4986
THAI THAI KITCHEN (Stanwood) • (360) 629-0600
TWIN CITY LANES CAFE (Stanwood) • (360) 629-3001
WAYNE'S CORNER CAFÉ (Stanwood) • (360) 939-2300
WILLOW & JIM'S COUNTRY CAFE (Silvana) • (360) 652-0372

Classified Listings



DID YOU KNOW?

Our modern day Santa Claus has to travel at more than the speed of light to deliver gifts to all the kids in the world and he would have 31 hours (considering all the time zones) on the Christmas day to get his favorite job done.

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:

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.

Clean Cuts Mobile Haircuts by Leah. "I will come to you!" Licensed & insured, experienced cosmetologist. Serving North Snohomish County and Camano Island. 360-722-2892.

Stained glass shop, design, and fabrication. Got broken stained glass? We can fix it. Message 360-629-9377.

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.

Your Home Remodeled, Repaired. Douglas, local craftsman. www.Alpinerenovationsllc.com. 425-478-2098.

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.

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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Karla Jacks

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Laurie Caniglia

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Lcaniglia7@gmail.com



Malynda Shipley

425-299-7892

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Amy Schmitt

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"Great recipes
begin in Mama's
Kitchen!"

Visit me at: www.CookingMamas.com

CARAMEL PECAN CINNAMON ROLLS

A Christmas morning tradition in our family, this recipe lovingly known as "Sticky Buns," has been passed down 6 generations! Merry Christmas from our family to yours!



CINNAMON ROLLS: 3 pkg. dry active yeast; 1/2 c. warm water; 2 c. milk; 1/2 c. butter, softened, plus 1/2 c. for kneading & spreading over dough; 1/2 c. granulated sugar; 2 tsp. salt; 2 eggs, lightly beaten; 6 c. all-purpose flour

CINNAMON SUGAR: 1 c. granulated sugar; 3 T. cinnamon

CARAMEL PECAN TOPPING: 1/2 c. butter, melted, divided ; 1 1/3 c. brown sugar, divided ; 1 c. light corn syrup, divided ; 2 c. pecans, chopped, divided

DIRECTIONS: 1. **CINNAMON ROLLS:** Preheat oven to 400 degrees. In a small bowl dissolve yeast in warm water and set aside. In a large saucepan, over low heat, combine milk, 1/2 cup butter, sugar, and salt. Heat until butter has melted, stirring occasionally; do not bring to a boil. Remove from heat, pour into a large mixing bowl, beat in eggs, and yeast mixture. Gradually add 3 cups of flour, until combined. Slowly add 3 more cups of flour, mix well. Turn dough onto a buttered surface. Knead dough with buttered hands, do NOT use more flour, butter hands frequently. Place dough into a large, buttered bowl, cover with a dish towel, let rise until dough has doubled in size. 2. **CINNAMON SUGAR:** In a small bowl stir together sugar and cinnamon, set aside. 3. **CARAMEL PECAN TOPPING:** Prepare in two 9x13-inch glass baking dishes. Place 1/4 cup butter in each baking dish. Heat in the oven until melted, watch closely, making sure not to burn the butter, remove from oven. Stir in 2/3 cup brown sugar and 1/2 cup corn syrup in each baking dish, spread evenly to cover the bottom of the baking dishes. Sprinkle 1 cup chopped pecans over each dish, set aside. 4. When dough has risen, butter a large flat surface and roll out dough 1/4 - 1/2-inch thick. Butter dough and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar, roll into a log and slice into 24 1-inch pieces. Arrange 12 rolls in each dish over caramel and pecans, cover with a towel again and let rise. 5. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from oven, let stand 3-5 minutes, then carefully invert dish onto a sheet of foil. Let cool, then cover with foil. Yields 24 rolls

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.

SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH ME

There's something wrong with me. And I'm not just saying this because my adult daughters routinely tell me, "Dad, there's something wrong with you" (usually after reading my latest humor column).

I used to think I was a fairly normal person, but I consulted several (former) friends who were surprisingly eager to point out my many character flaws. The evidence was pretty damning. Cases in point (all of these examples are true):

I have an unshakable belief that Krispy Kreme donuts are the key to a long, healthy, and happy life. Okay, so my wife just informed me that donuts are neither healthy nor likely to extend your life. Well, one out of three's not bad.

I graduated from law school and even passed the bar exam. Afterwards, I never practiced a day of law in my life. It was just not my thing. I probably should have figured that out before I took out \$20,000 in student loans.

I don't like the taste of onions. But I love French onion soup. Weird, I know. I can't explain it.

I am an embarrassingly slow reader. So much so that I once took a speed reading course to overcome this deficiency. At its conclusion, my reading speed had declined slightly. Because of this challenge, I tend to shy away from reading lengthy books. And yet I've chosen as my avocation to be a writer. Please explain this to me, because it makes no sense.

I sing to my cats. All the time. And yet except for my cat Zippy, they rarely show even the slightest appreciation for my crooning. At least they don't roll their eyes like my daughters did when I sang to them as young kids.

I still like the BeeGees, John Denver, Cat Stevens, and Rick Astley. In case you were wondering, yes, I am Caucasian.

I'm terrified of snakes. All snakes. I don't care if it's a 10-inch garter snake or I'm watching one on the National Geographic channel. I'm getting weak in the knees just typing this paragraph.

I once offered a ride in my car to a pair of strangers. On their honeymoon. And in the process, I almost drove off a cliff with them in the back seat. Thankfully we all survived. Otherwise that would have really put a damper on their honeymoon. Did I mention, some people say I'm not a very good driver?

When I put the silverware away after emptying the dishwasher, I always make sure the forks are facing the same direction – but mainly just to annoy my wife.

The primary reason I exercise is so I can have another slice of cake.

Our two daughters were born in China. When my wife and I were planning the adoption announcement for our first daughter, Rachel, I had

View from the Bleachers



the fun idea to take a photo of our cute baby wearing a sweater with the words MADE IN CHINA. (Sadly, my wife thought it was a juvenile idea.)

I've lived in the Seattle area for the past 30 years. I still don't drink coffee. My go-to caffeinated beverage is Mountain Dew. (Just like it is for most teenage males under age 18. Starting to see a pattern?)

When I receive phone calls from obvious scammers ("You are wanted by the FBI for bank fraud") I NEVER hang up. I ALWAYS egg them on and try to keep them on the line as long as possible – and if possible, ask them if they know a good fajita recipe. Eventually, they always hang up on me in annoyance – just when I thought we were starting to bond.

I once stripped down until I was almost completely naked... in front of over 600 strangers. Simply because the street performer who had corralled me to join him on stage asked me to keep taking off my clothes. Which I kept doing. I am nothing if not compliant. Thankfully, I wasn't arrested. But I am no longer allowed back in Victoria, BC.

I tell people, "I may be in my sixties, but I have the maturity of a man half my age." Then my wife always corrects me, inserting, "He's lying. Tim has the maturity of a seven-year-old."

Like I said, something's wrong with me. But at this stage of my life, I am way out of warranty, and I don't think I can be fixed.

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TIDE TABLES / SARATOGA PASSAGE / DECEMBER 13-26, 2024

Date	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Moon Visible
F 13	High	4:02 AM	11.6	☐
13	Low	8:43 AM	7.6	
13	High	1:59 PM	12.3	
13	Low	9:18 PM	-3.0	
Sa 14	High	4:58 AM	12.5	◯
14	Low	9:43 AM	8.1	
14	High	2:41 PM	12.1	
14	Low	10:04 PM	-3.6	
Su 15	High	5:49 AM	13.1	◯
15	Low	10:41 AM	8.3	
15	High	3:24 PM	11.8	
15	Low	10:49 PM	-3.7	
M 16	High	6:35 AM	13.3	◯
16	Low	11:36 AM	8.3	
16	High	4:10 PM	11.4	
16	Low	11:34 PM	-3.4	
Tu 17	High	7:19 AM	13.3	◯
17	Low	12:28 PM	8.2	
17	High	4:58 PM	10.7	
W 18	Low	12:17 AM	-2.7	
18	High	8:03 AM	13.0	
18	Low	1:22 PM	7.9	
18	High	5:46 PM	10.0	
Th 19	Low	12:59 AM	-1.7	◑
19	High	8:45 AM	12.7	
19	Low	2:23 PM	7.4	
19	High	6:37 PM	9.1	

Date	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Moon Visible
F 20	Low	1:42 AM	-0.5	◐
20	High	9:24 AM	12.3	
20	Low	3:28 PM	6.7	
20	High	7:34 PM	8.2	
Sa 21	Low	2:25 AM	0.9	◐
21	High	9:58 AM	12.0	
21	Low	4:27 PM	5.9	
21	High	8:47 PM	7.4	
Su 22	Low	3:10 AM	2.4	◑
22	High	10:29 AM	11.7	
22	Low	5:20 PM	4.8	
22	High	10:16 PM	7.0	
M 23	Low	3:58 AM	3.8	◑
23	High	10:58 AM	11.5	
23	Low	6:06 PM	3.8	
Tu 24	High	12:06 AM	7.2	
24	Low	4:49 AM	5.2	
24	High	11:29 AM	11.3	
24	Low	6:49 PM	2.6	
W 25	High	1:58 AM	8.0	◑
25	Low	5:48 AM	6.5	
25	High	12:01 PM	11.1	
25	Low	7:28 PM	1.6	
Th 26	High	3:02 AM	9.1	◑
26	Low	6:54 AM	7.4	
26	High	12:37 PM	11.0	
26	Low	8:05 PM	0.5	



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The Stanwood Camano Thrift Store Needs Your Help to Keep Our Community Warm

As the colder months approach, the Stanwood Camano Food Bank Thrift Store is in need of winter clothing donations to help keep our neighbors warm this season. With a 25% increase in thrift store sales and a 70% rise in household visits compared to last year, your donations make a real impact.

The need is greater than ever. As the cost of living and food remains high, 1 in 4 Washingtonians rely on food banks. Your gently used winter coats, sweaters, pants, boots, socks, hats, and beanies will help us provide for families in need.

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