

The Current

News from the Port of Coupeville December 2019



Celebrate the Holidays at Greenbank Farm

Usher in the season with festivities and shopping at Greenbank Farm's Holiday Market, December 7/8 and 14/15 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. You'll find unique gifts, arts and handcrafted items for everyone on your list. Plus visit Santa's Workshop for a perfect photo opportunity from

noon to 2:30 p.m. on weekends.

Sirens Announce Santa's Arrival

Don't miss the action when Santa gives his reindeer a rest and arrives at the farm by fire truck! Enjoy the spectacle, along with carols, cider and cookies at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7. The grand entrance will be followed by the tractor lighting ceremony, a farm tradition you won't want to miss. Plus enjoy holiday decor, walking trails and your favorite farm shops throughout the season. Events are free so come down and catch the holiday spirit. More on the [Port's Facebook page](#). (Image courtesy of Aaron Burden.)

On the Wharf



Shine Bright at the Greening of Coupeville Parade

Don't miss the Greening of Coupeville Parade, Saturday, December 7 from 4-6 p.m. The procession travels through downtown ending with the brilliant tree lighting at Cook's Corner Park. Afterwards, head down to the Wharf for some cocoa and carols, and see the the Oak Harbor Yacht Club's Lighted Boat Parade passing at 5:45, weather permitting. Details and more wonderful holiday events on

Port Welcomes New Faces

Join us in saying ahoy to **Brad Olson**, (far right) as the new assistant manager at the Wharf. Brad, a highly experienced mariner, has enjoyed a career captaining cruise ships. He and his wife recently purchased the Kingfisher bookstore on Front Street in Coupeville.



Katie Wells (near right) from Oak Harbor has also joined the team providing event and administration assistance at Greenbank Farm. Reach her at adminassistant@portofcoupeville.org.



Kellie Tormey continues to focus on grants and community programs including editing *The Current*. Contact her at community@portofcoupeville.org.

[Come visit us!](#)



Diners Delight at New Wharf Restaurant

Experience Coupeville's newest hotspot, The Cove, located at the head of the Wharf, overlooking Penn Cove. Owners Damien and Tiffany Cortez, who also own the popular Bayview Taproom, have created a menu inspired by local bounty, including seafood, gourmet burgers and an impressive list of tapped and bottled beers, ciders and wines. The Cove also features child-friendly favorites. Hours are Thursday through Monday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

At Greenbank Farm



[Learn more about the program.](#)

Farming Expands with Growing Veterans

We're thrilled to welcome Growing Veterans to our farm community at Greenbank. The successful non-profit is headquartered in Lynden, Washington with expansion plans for Whidbey. The group empowers veterans to cultivate purpose and belonging by growing food, community and each other. They have leased an acre of prime land on the farm's

eastern border which includes the largest green house structure. Visit their website (at left) and stay tuned for an upcoming service day to help them get growing.

Public Weighs In On Farm's Off Leash Dog Area

At the November meeting of the Port Board of Commissioners, more than 50 community members voiced their support and concerns for maintaining the off-leash dog area at Greenbank Farm. A number of suggestions arose, including volunteer patrols, gated entrances and improved signage. The Port has proposed fencing some of the off-leash area to protect leased farm land and crops. The Port will continue to seek input on farm land use, with plans for a survey in early 2020.



Contact us to share your views and stay informed.



Visit the Holiday Market for gifts, raffle items and more!

Community Donors Organize Farm Raffle for Preservation

The Port of Coupeville is profoundly grateful to community volunteers **Judi Moore, Billie and Hank Jung, Hollie Swanson and Linnea Peover** for their work to procure donations and raffle baskets at this year's Harvest Faire. Together, their efforts raised awareness and several hundred dollars for preservation efforts of the historic barn. Like Santa's elves, the team is back at work assembling gift baskets for a raffle at the Holiday Market, so be sure to stop by and give them a hand.

Rain Garden Revival

On Saturday, October 19, the Port teamed up with the Whidbey Island Conservation District for a work party at Greenbank Farm to improve the habitat of the local Orca population. Volunteers restored a rain garden in collaboration with the Master Gardeners of WSU Extension-Island County. Rain gardens collect rain water and can be a cost-effective way to reduce runoff. Come



Create Your Own Rain Garden

check it out, located near the north parking lot or build your own at home!

Upcoming Events

Dec. 7, 3:30 p.m.:

Santa's Arrival and Tractor Lighting Ceremony

Enjoy cookies, cider and carols at Greenbank Farm, Main Barn, 765 Wonn Road, Greenbank.

Dec. 7, 4-6 p.m.:

Greening of Coupeville Parade

Visit the wharf following the parade for prime viewing of the Oak Harbor Yacht club Sail on Penn Cove, weather permitting.

Dec. 7/8 and 14/15, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.:

Holiday Market at Greenbank Farm.

Join local artists, vendors and artisans and shop from an array of handcrafted local items.

Dec. 11, 10 a.m.:

Port of Coupeville Board Meeting,
Masonic Lodge, downtown Coupeville.

Greenbank Farm is available for weddings and events. Call us at 360.222.3558 or click on the link below for details on how to rent the farm.

[Find out more](#)



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(Image by Chris Greenhow.)

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