

The Current

News for July 2020



CARES Act Funding Offers COVID-19 Relief to Small Businesses

As our community continues to feel the effects of the shut-down due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Port of South Whidbey has partnered with the Port of Coupeville and Island County to administer a financial assistance program to small businesses within the unincorporated areas of Central and South Whidbey Island. The Reimbursement Grant program may be used for any expenses dating back to March 1 that have not already been reimbursed by other relief funds, including rent payments and PPE equipment purchases. Business owners will be required to fill out a short application and provide receipts for reimbursement. To complete the application, please click the link below.

https://portoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Unincorporated-District-1-Small-Business-Grant-Application-Final.pdf

On the Wharf



Wharf and Businesses Re-Open After COVID-19 Shut-down

After nearly two months of closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Wharf businesses are re-opening! The Wharf's new fueling hours are from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 pm, with the breezeway and restrooms open during the same hours. Wharf businesses Coffee on the Cove, The Cove restaurant, Harbor Gifts, and kayak rentals have also re-opened. Coffee on the Cove is offering take-out service, while The Cove restaurant is open for take-out and limited dine-in services, and kayak rentals will be available throughout the season.

Seal Pup Makes Wharf New Home

The wharf has a new inhabitant! A harbor seal pup made its way to the Coupeville Wharf in early June and has made the area his home. You can find the little guy swimming around the wharf, licking algae off moored boats, or hanging out under the docks; sometimes, he even pops up onto the dock for a rest! If you see the pup on the dock though, please remember that he is a wild animal and best left alone an unbothered. Never touch a seal pup. Come by the Wharf and see if you can find him!



Learn More About Harbor Seals



Historic Schooner Returns to the Wharf

Whidbey Island is rich in maritime history, and the Suva is a part of that history. The 1925 pilot house schooner, designed by noted naval architect L.E. Geary, was built with growth Teak in Hong Kong for resident Frank Pratt. Now owned by the Coupeville Maritime Heritage Foundation, you can find the Suva moored at the Coupeville Wharf.

At Greenbank Farm



Greenbank Farm Survey Results

Greenbank Farm Survey Results are Here!

In March 2020, the Port of Coupeville conducted an open, anonymous online community survey seeking input on Farm amenities, land use, and recreation. The survey closed in mid-March, and after nearly 400 responses and almost 1,000 written comments, the data has been analyzed and the results are finally in! You can check out the Farm survey results by visiting the Port website <u>here</u> or by clicking the link on the left.

Farm Fence Project Breaks Ground!

A new fence is going up at Greenbank Farm! After a live public meeting and a successful online survey, the suggested fence line to protect the agricultural areas of the Farm is being built. In early June, Port staff and volunteers began building the fence along the eastern border, separating the trails and off-leash dog area from the agricultural land. As the project continues, please keep in mind that trails may be closed to



accommodate the fencing project.

Fencing Project begins at Greenbank Farm



Click for Information about Events at the Port

Master Gardeners Classes to Resume at End of Summer

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the WSU Master Gardener Classes will begin offering workshops and classes at the end of August, with a Winter Gardening class to be held on August 23, 2020. The Gardens at Greenbank Farm will remain open for the public to wander through. You can check out other scheduled events by clicking the link to the right.



Master Gardeners at Greenbank Farm Events

Upcoming Events

July 8, 10 a.m.:

Port of Coupeville Board Meeting, location or online to be determined. For instructions on participating, visit the Port website here:

<u>https://portoc.org/commission-</u> meetings/meeting-agendas/

July 22, 6 p.m.: Port of Coupeville Board Meeting. To participate, see instructions above.

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.





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Port Cancels Harvest Faire 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to effect community life. Many organizations' summer and fall events are being cancelled across the Island, including The Port of Coupeville. The Port has made the difficult decision to cancel its annual Harvest Faire at Greenbank Farm this September as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause uncertainty locally, nationally, and globally. We look forward to the return of the annual September Harvest Faire in 2021

