

Waves of Our Lives

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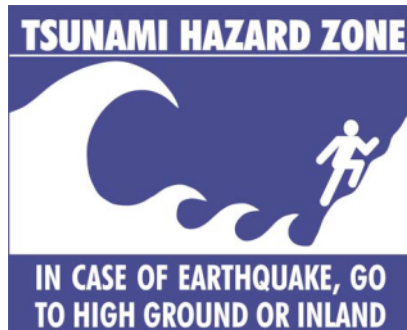
Port of Friday Harbor

February 2018

Tsunami watches and power outages, oh my!

We ended January with a little excitement and trepidation from emergency management alerts, and just a few days later experienced a County-wide power outage.

Whole lot of shaking going on



The recent 7.9 magnitude earthquake in the Gulf of Alaska created a flurry of activity among officials and triggered tsunami "Watch" notifications which were sent out via social media, texts and phone calls. The SJC Department of Emergency Management confirmed that there would be little or no impact here in the San Juan Islands from this distant earthquake, and eventually the "watch" was canceled.

It was a reminder however that the primary threat to the Islands is from a local earthquake that we would feel here. As the saying goes, "When the ground shakes, go to high ground". Knowing that feeling major shaking is our warning, means we don't need to rely on expensive and difficult to maintain sirens for a warning.

You can learn more about tsunamis and how one could impact the San Juan islands on the County's DEM website at <http://sanjuandem.net/tsunami>. This page highlights the primary tsunami threat which is from a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. For more, follow the DEM facebook and twitter pages, and sign up for Island Alerts via <http://sanjuandem.net/alerts>. They use these tools to send emergency information to the public.

If you have any questions about the tsunami watch, or any other preparedness question, please write to dem@sanjuandem.net, or give them a call at 360-370-0587.

Lights out

Power went out the evening of February 4th for all of San Juan County and thousands of Puget Sound Energy (PSE) customers on the mainland, stemming from a transformer failure over on the mainland which plunged the islands into darkness for around 5 hours. OPALCO kept us updated via their website, call center, FaceBook, and Twitter notifications. PSE had power restored throughout the area by 2:00 am.



OPALCO continues to work with Bonneville Power Administration and Puget Sound Energy to find solutions for redundancy on the mainland path to our island power supply.

During this event, OPALCO's call center was inundated by more than 4,000 calls. Before calling to report an outage, check OPALCO's outage center at <https://www.opalco.com/outages> on your smart phone to see if your area is already reported and to get updates.

Life is not about waiting for the winds to change, it's learning to adjust your sails.

~ unknown

"Keep your faith in beautiful things; in the sun when it is hidden, in the Spring when it is gone."

~ Roy R. Gibson

"If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely."

~ Roald Dahl

"February is merely as long as is needed to pass the time until March."

~ Dr. J. R. Stockton

"If people did not love one another, I really don't see what use there would be in having any spring."

~ Victor Hugo,
Les Misérables

F hangar is starting to take shape!



The rain and wind haven't stopped Port Staff from making some serious headway. It's starting to resemble an Erector Set now, with steel on site and the main structural members quickly going up. The columns are already bolted in place and trusses are going up next. After that, they'll attach the purlins and it'll quickly transform into a much more recognizable structure as the tin siding and roofing are attached. You can get a great look at it from above through the fence on Franklin road. Go check it out!

Highschool students attend ground school

Six local highschool students and two recent graduates have begun a private pilot ground school course under a scholarship program sponsored by the COVE Youth Center, a program of Safe San Juan's. This new scholarship was funded by the generous support of local pilots and businesses to keep the passion of flying alive in local youth.



Known as "Ground School", it is comprised of a fixed curriculum of classroom instruction on the basic theory of flight, federal aircraft rules, navigation, weather, and the details and procedures of safe aircraft operation. This course teaches the student pilots key components that they need to know before flying and do not have time to learn in the air, but once completed they are able to apply the knowledge gained as they continue with flight training.

“There is currently a huge pilot shortage so we want to provide the opportunity locally and create a community of students interested in flying,” said Kathleen Bartholomew, one of the main sponsors behind the project. “After the course, students will be ready to apply for a student pilot license and the top performer will be given a free introductory flight lesson.”

The first night included an introduction of instructors Dan DeShon, Dan Schwartz and Mari Peterson (present via Skype from Alaska), an overview of the course, and introduction to aerodynamics (why and how an airplane flies) as well as some background on aviation history.

A big thanks goes out to the donors for the program who provided the scholarships, and included Aeronautical Services, Mark and Dawn Alger, Kathleen Bartholomew and John Nance, Monica Van Appel-Pereich and Jacoba Porter from Windermere, Westwind Aviation and Robert W. Brunkow. Also contributing to the program were Westwind Aviation who is providing an introductory flight lesson to every class member who completes the class, and to Ernie's Cafe (Patrick & Christine) for donating use of their premises for the evening classes.

To learn more about the program, the COVE Youth Center, and Safe San Juan's visit <http://www.safesj.org>.

New fire extinguishers coming to the marina

The handful of aging and cumbersome 100lb wheeled units that used to lurk around the marina are being replaced with something much more manageable and familiar. In the coming weeks the Maintenance Staff will be installing extinguisher boxes and new 20lb portable extinguishers. The new extinguishers will be found dispersed throughout the marina in significant quantity, so that first responders will be able to grab them more quickly and use them effectively.

Please remember that the first action you should take if a fire breaks out is to make sure a call goes out to 911, alerting our local experienced emergency personnel who can be on site in short order.

For boaters this is also a great reminder to check your own extinguishers, making sure you have the sufficient quantity and they're located appropriately according to USCG regulations. While you're at it, give them a dusting and check when they were last serviced. If there isn't a tag or sticker noting the last service, look for a plastic collar around the neck indicating the year. If none of those are present, you'll still find a year of manufacture printed on the main label.

Quick fact, did you know that most extinguishers are supposed to be broken down every 6 years by a qualified and trained service technician? This ensures the cylinder is safe for holding pressure and the valve and gauge are functioning correctly. Don't test them yourself however without having them recharged immediately afterwards. Once a dry chemical type extinguisher is discharged even a little bit, residual powder left in the valve will cause the remaining pressure to bleed off rendering it unusable when you need it the most.

While you're at it, don't forget to check the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, both on board and at home! Hit the test button so you know what they sound like.

Survey says...

If you participate in either boating or fishing in Washington State, please take a moment to check out these two surveys. Your feedback helps support important services that keep our waters clear and full of fish.

Washington state pumpout survey



The objective of this survey is to help measure and evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the education and outreach activities of

the Pumpout Washington Campaign - a partnership between Washington State Park's Clean Vessel Act Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Washington Sea Grant. Pumpout Washington's primary task is to increase awareness and use of marine sewage pumpout stations in Washington by engaging directly with boaters and marina operators. The results of this survey will also help determine what other programs or opportunities boaters would like to see receive support from the State.

<https://catalyst.uw.edu/webq/survey/aaronb5/341131>

WDFW survey on supporting sustainable fish populations

The intent of this survey is to gauge public understanding of how this program benefits Puget Sound fisheries. The information gathered will help state fishery managers shape future enhancement activities in Puget Sound.

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/psrfef/survey.html>



Friday Harbor Salmon Classic

The Friday Harbor Salmon Classic officially starts on Friday the 9th, and if past years are any indication it should be an exciting couple days.

The Classic is a not-for-profit event with generous proceeds going to salmon enhancement organizations and Salmon for Soldiers.



Regulars and liveboards in the marina can expect increased activity leading up to the event, and especially on the mornings of the derby days as everyone heads out bright and early at the cannon blast. That's right, they quite literally start the derby off with a blast! Exciting times!

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Photo: Lindsey Smith

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Marina Maintenance

(360)378-4072

After hours security

(360)317-8672

Pay on-line

portfridayharbor.org

CPI and Appraisal adjustments for Port lease tenants

It's that time of the year when most Port lease rates adjust according to their terms, either by the Consumer Price Index or via fair market appraisal. Tenants will see an adjustment on an upcoming statement to reflect this.

Go Paperless!

This is the first month that we're not printing a stack of newsletters, which is great for the environment and keeps us from getting a papercut. Did you know we also offer paperless statements via email? Just let us know if you would like to opt in and we'll switch you over. While you're at it, sign up for automatic payments. The \$5 fee we used to

charge for that service has been eliminated, so if you're still paying your bill manually come visit the office or call now to get setup and stop worrying about missed or late payments!

WiFi growing pains

Port Staff have been working to replace the finicky old equipment which frustrated many folks throughout the summer, but that effort hasn't been without it's setbacks. WiFi in a marina is a tricky beast to tackle and we've discovered new issues related to the physical environment. Please bear with us as we work to resolve those issues and add additional equipment to provide better coverage throughout the marina.



January photo contest winner!

It was a tough choice with a lot of really great submissions, but one photo came out on top of the staff's votes. Congratulations to Lindsey Smith, who sent in this striking shot of a seagull out at Jackson Beach! Another of Lindsey's submissions is featured in the banner above! She will be receiving a 2019 Port calendar and will be entered into the drawing for the grand prize at the end of the year. There's still 11 months to go in the contest so find more info and send in as many submissions as often as you want via <http://www.portfridayharbor.org/photocontest/>

"If you don't do it this year, you'll be one year older when you do."

~ Warren Miller



Photo: Lindsey Smith