

Summer Fair Fun Beyond Whidbey: Enjoy your fair favorites at the Stanwood-Camano Fair, August 1-3 (stanwoodcamanofair.org) and the Skagit County Fair, August 7-10 (skagitcounty.net). If you're up for a longer drive, the Northwest Washington Fair, in Lynden is August 7-16, (nwwafair.com). Later in August, the Evergreen State Fair, in Monroe, is August 21 to September 1, (evergreenfair.org). Fair season in Washington closes with the Washington State Fair, August 29-September 21 (Thefair.com).

Summer Playscape: Make new friends with families with children ages birth to five this summer. Mother Mentors of Whidbey Island will be hosting Wednesday playdates each week, July 23 through August 20, from 9:30–11:30 a.m., in both Langley and Oak Harbor. Visit Mothermentors.org/playscape to learn more about the fun opportunities to connect. The Summer Playscape locations are:

Playscape North

Whidbey Presbyterian Church

1148 SE 8th Avenue, Oak Harbor

Playscape South

South Whidbey Elementary South Campus

5476 Maxwellton Road, Langley

Step Together for the Kids: Steps (formerly Toddler Learning Center) is a nonprofit organization providing in-home early support services for infants and toddlers, birth to three years of age, with developmental delays on Whidbey Island, Anacortes, & San Juan Islands. A 5K "Rock 'n' Stroll" fun run/walk is being hosted on Saturday, August 30 to support the organization's services.

Dress up as your favorite rock star and bring the family to join the fun at Windjammer Park in Oak Harbor. Costumes of leather, lace, bandanas, giggles, smiles, tutus, crowns, big hair, glitter are welcome. Strolling, walking, running, skipping, hopping – and especially dancing is encouraged to cross the finish line. After checking in at 9 a.m. you'll, enjoy kids' activities, face painting, photo booth back drops, and more.

Strollers, tricycles and fur babies are permitted on the paved course which follows the waterfront out to Catalina Park at the Marina and back to Windjammer Park. At the end of the 5k, there will be snacks and refreshments. Registration is \$30 for ages 12 to adult, \$15 ages 5-11 and ages 4 and younger are free. Runsignup.com/Race/WA/OakHarbor/StepsROCKnROLLSTROLL or Takingstepstogether.org.

America's Night Out Against Crime: "National Night Out" is a free, crime-prevention, community-connecting event with emergency vehicles on display, demonstrations, lots of free activities and more. This year's event will be held on Tuesday, August 5, 4:00 p.m. to 7 p.m., at Windjammer Park in Oak Harbor and in Langley at the South Whidbey Sports Complex, also from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

A Weekend of Inspiring Creativity: Over 40 artists across Whidbey Island will have their studio doors open for you to see how they create during the free Whidbey Working Artists Summer Open Studio Tour, August 16 and 17, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Each artist demonstrates a different medium including sculpture, watercolor, print, fine woodworking, hand-blown glass, hand-thrown pottery, acrylic, oil,

fiber, jewelry, photography, encaustic and mixed media. Be inspired by these artists as you discover what it takes to follow a passion for making art. View a tour map and brochure at Whidbeyworkingartists.com.

A New Home for Naval Air Museum: The community is invited to the Pacific Northwest Naval Air Museum's new home at 545 Ault Field Road, Oak Harbor, for a Ribbon Cutting and Flag Ceremony, on Thursday, August 21 at 11am. The new location is scheduled to open on July 30 is the "soft" opening, where the public will be welcome ahead of the ceremonial day. The hours will be 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Pnwnam.org and Facebook.com/pnwnam.

Arlington's Skyfest and Airport Community Day: Anything that involves humans and machines in the air is the focus of Skyfest on Saturday, August 16. Airplanes, hot air balloons, warbirds, drones, classic car show, laser show, and more. See balloons glow, vintage aircraft, military vehicles and equipment, and a classic car show. Advance online "carload" style tickets only, no sales at the gate: Arlingtonflyin.org. On Sunday, August 17, the Arlington Airport hosts their Community Day, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring fly-overs, flight simulators, bouncy house, helicopter tours and more. Arlingtonwa.gov/240/Airport-Events.

Clinton's Library Friends Celebrate: A little library opened in Clinton 25 years ago, its existence has been a partnership of the Friends of the Clinton Library, Island County, Sno-Isle Libraries, and countless individual community members. Enjoy hotdogs, cake and family-friendly activities on Saturday, August 23, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sno-isle.org/locations/Clinton.

Upcoming August Events of Note:

Free Concerts in the Park with South Whidbey Parks and Recreation: Tuesdays, July 29, August 5 and August 26, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Lawn chairs/blankets and picnics welcome. Swparks.org/concerts.

Free Sounds of Summer Concert Series at Windjammer Park: Wednesdays, July 30 to August 20, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Lawn chairs and picnics welcome. Facebook.com/OHMusicFest, Oakharborfestival.com/summer-concerts.

Anacortes Arts Festival: August 1-3, AnacortesArtsFestival.com.

Coupeville Arts & Crafts Festival: August 9-10, CoupevilleFestival.com.

Meerkerk Gardens Bluegrass Festival: August 9, Meerkerkgardens.org.

Living History at Fort Casey State Park, August 30-31, on Saturday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Sunday, Facebook.com/FriendsofWhidbeyStateParks.

And, for Labor Day Weekend, the Oak Harbor Music Festival, August 29-31, oakharborfestival.com.

Summer Fun Bucket List: Don't miss these summertime favorites!

*Explore your local libraries for events and to complete the summer reading program. For military families, the NASWI Library has one too!

*Blue Fox Drive-In has their new go-cart track, movies, concession stand and an arcade all open 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week! Also check out the Lion's Club Flea Markets held there on Saturdays July 26, August 2-23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bluefoxdrivein.com and E-clubhouse.org/sites/whidbeyisland,wilclions@gmail.com.

*Kids are bowling free through the summer at Oak Bowl, and at the NASWI Convergence Zone, via Kidsbowlfree.com.

*Oak Harbor's Roller Barn hosts roller-skating on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays., Theollerbarn.com.

*Whidbey's State Parks have all sorts of outdoor fun, with Deception Pass Park also offering "Junior Ranger" events, Parks.wa.gov/find-activities/event-calendar.

*Shipwreck Shores Splash Park at Windjammer Park in Oak Harbor from 10 am and 8 pm daily.

* Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum in Everett, (Flyingheritage.org) and Heritage Flight Museum in Burlington, (Heritageflight.org).

*Skagit Kids Museum of Burlington, (Skagitchildrensmuseum.net) and the Imagine Museum of Everett, (Imaginecm.org).

Answer the question, "Mom, Dad – What Can I Do Today?" at WhidbeyIsland.MacaroniKid.com, you'll find a daily calendar of local activities, events and short-drive destination ideas for all ages. On Facebook, find events for all ages at [Facebook.com/groups/whidbeyislandeventsandmore](https://www.facebook.com/groups/whidbeyislandeventsandmore).

(Please leave off the bio paragraph for this month's column and for August's column.