

chuckanut news

Annual Summer Social

Sunday, July 21
5 to 8 pm

Cicchitti's Pizza Truck

The Penny Stinkers Band
Dance Music from the 70s, 80s, & 90s

Come join us in the parking lot of the Fire Hall...or inside if it's raining.
Enjoy excellent pizza and ice cream—and back by popular demand—the great local band everyone enjoyed last year.
All Chuckanut residents are invited.

WTA Stewards Local Trails

by Brian Orlick (pictured below)



Chuckanut Bay residents may have come across a volunteer trail work party while exploring trails in the Chuckanuts, Blanchard Mountain, the Mt. Baker area, or somewhere else in the state. It is a sure bet that those volunteers were working for the Washington Trails Association (wta.org), that has been maintaining and building hiking trails in Washington State for more than 25 years. WTA partners with city, county, state, and federal land stewards and aims to ensure trails for everyone, forever.

At Larrabee State Park there is an opportunity to volunteer on nearly every Wednesday of the year and indeed several Chuckanut Bay residents do so. I have worked in Larrabee with many volunteers from Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, and King Counties to as far away as Oregon and Hawaii! Many high school and college students come out to get required volunteer hours. WTA has three “rules” for work parties — be safe, have fun, and get some work done. I am constantly amazed at how much work does get done by crews that number from 10-24 volunteers. Thank a trail crew when you come across them, or even better, come on out and join in. For more information visit wta.org/volunteer.



Introducing... The Penny Stinkers

The Penny Stinkers live in the Pacific Northwest and hail from Bellingham, WA. Bellingham has a rich culture and a strong arts community, and the Penny Stinkers are proud to be an integral part of the Northwest's music scene.

The Penny Stinkers began as a folksy "busking" band; however, through the last decade it has grown into a unique, high-energy party band that balances trips down memory lane with the latest in musical genres and hard-charging originals. The group's robust vocals, in combination with its multi-faceted guitar and rhythm styles, serve to attract an enthusiastic following wherever the band performs. Above all, the Penny Stinkers is a dance band, one that gets people on their feet and dancing. The band is known for long sets, like three hours long! Once they have the floor moving with dancers, they tend to keep them there!

JEFFREY SLOUGH Rhythm Guitar—Vocals

As the Penny Stinkers primary lead vocalist, Jeffrey's astounding vocal range and comfortable command of virtually any musical style he tackles ensures crowd-pleasing enjoyment. Jeffrey also provides a rhythm guitar backdrop to the Penny Stinkers sound.

Jeffrey began performing as a musician, singer/songwriter and comedian with the United States Air Force. He subsequently toured throughout Europe for a number of years, playing venues that ranged from grand theaters to small town squares. After returning to the United States he

"The Penny Stinkers is a dance band, one that gets people on their feet and dancing...once they have the floor moving...they tend to keep them there."

studied musical theater and developed the powerful vocal style that has become his trademark. Jeffrey's ability to move from smooth-edged balladeer to a forceful rasp reminiscent of Tom Waits keeps audiences spell-bound. In addition to performing throughout the United States and Europe, Jeffrey has used his command of music to teach high school students for over 20 years, and truly enjoys introducing young people to American folk music.

MICHAEL HANDRON Lead Guitar—Vocals

Michael began his professional work as a guitar player in the Los Angeles and Ventura, California, region soon after graduating high school. As a Gen X kid growing up in the LA '80s, he was exposed to all the funky Glam and Alternative music of the times. Those experiences shaped him into a guitar player who appreciates—and can perform—a wide variety of guitar styles.

His guitar heroes range from Angus to Edge, Gilmore to Prince, as well as many flavors in between. Michael relishes his role as a tasteful, smooth lead guitar player but also enjoys kicking on the wah-wah pedal to get the dance floor moving.

There have been many bands and singer/songwriters he has been privileged to accompany on his musical journey, ranging in styles from rock, pop, new wave, reggae, funk, aka, Americana and swing. Michael brings all of those influences to the Penny Stinkers, as well as his many years of experience in playing with original and cover bands in clubs, festivals, amusement parks up and down the West Coast.

Michael adds a beautifully melodic voice to the Penny Stinkers songs whenever he sings lead, as well as doing his part in the three- and four-part harmonies that are a hallmark of the band.

JD SINCLAIR Bass Guitar—Vocals

JD was raised in a large family — nine children in total — and from an early age was surrounded by musical influences. He started on the bass guitar back in 1979 when his roommates, who were starting a band, didn't have a bass player. His influences have been many, from original rock and early blues to the flavors of Elmore James, Muddy Waters, The Grateful Dead, Taj Mahal, and many more.

For years JD took the 'purist approach' to playing, using just a bass guitar hooked to an amplifier. Today he uses a variety of electronic effects in order to attain the exact sound he wants. In addition to the standard five-string electric he plays with the Penny Stinkers, JD also has proficiency with stand-up bass, ukulele bass, and electric upright.

In addition to stellar bass guitar, JD offers a striking vocal harmonization that blends well with the other members of the Penny Stinkers. Along with Jeffrey, JD is one of the founders of the Penny Stinkers.

In JD's words: "I've always felt bass, I dig it. It's the foundation. It reaches to the core of your backbone; it drives your feet and body to the music. I get to drive the bus. When you drive the bus, things shake and heads bob, it's great!

Bass has such a unique space to fill: it's intimate with the drums like crackers and cheese; Rhythm guitar plays off of you like fondue, and lead guitar and you share a circus together. Where else would I be...?"

MICHAEL LANZ Trap Set—Percussion

It started with a bet. Mike's father wagered him when he was 12 to play Ray Charles' "Hit the Road, Jack" without dropping the beat. No chump change either—\$5 in cash. Needless to say, Mike started his musical career in deep financial debt. Since then, Mike has been providing grooves for numerous bands in the Pacific Northwest for the last 20 years. Honing a repertoire to support myriad styles, Mike sports subtle ghost notes and lush cymbal swells as well as attacking the kit with thumping back-

beats. Preferring to keep his trap set simple and classic, Mike truly utilizes every inch of his kit. You'll often find him tossing out rimshots and occasionally incorporating the metallic tones of his stands with his sticks. As the newest member of the Penny Stinkers, Mike has responsibilities that lie beyond music. Without Mike, drink coasters wouldn't be regularly rotated during rehearsals and the pretzel bowl would simply go empty.

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Come listen to the Penny Stinkers at the CBCA's Annual Summer Social on Sunday, July 21, 2019. Don't forget your dancing shoes!

CBCA Membership

If you haven't yet paid your CBCA "dues" for 2019, you can do so by sending a check for \$30 to: CBCA, PO Box 4403, Bellingham, WA 98227. Alternatively, you can make your membership contribution in person at the Summer Social on Sunday, July 21st.

CBCA Board Members

Bob Earl, President
Jennie Tuckerman, Vice President
Karen Ekdahl, Treasurer
Gale Gropp, Secretary
Rob Scofidio, Board Member
Brian Orlick, Board Member
Chris Kreager, Board Member

Gray Whale in our Bay



For at least five days in early May, many Chuckanut residents were able to view an unusual sight in the bay. A California Gray Whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) was observed in Pleasant Bay and Chuckanut Bay. This is the second year in a row a whale was seen in the bay. The whale would feed for a few minutes, come up for air, blowing (spouting), then hump over and dive again to resume feeding.

Most Gray Whales migrate from Baja California to Alaska and have one of the longest annual migrations of any mammal, traveling about 10,000 miles round-trip. However, there is a small summer resident group near Seattle. Photos of the whale were sent to Cascadia Research Collective (CRC), a scientific research and education non-profit. Barnacle and lice patterns are used to

identify individuals from photographs. Although the whale does not appear to be one of the summer residents nor last year's whale, CRC is checking to see if it is a "known whale" and will add it to their sightings database.

On a sad note, an unusually high number of Gray Whales were washing up dead on West Coast shorelines on their annual migration north this spring. More than 20 Gray Whales were stranded ashore in California, nine along the coast in Oregon and 13 in Washington and it was still early in the "Stranding Season". Typical strandings number six per year in Washington. Stranding, commonly known as beaching, is a phenomenon in which whales and dolphins strand themselves on land, usually on a beach. Beached whales often die due to dehydration, collapsing under their own weight, or drowning when high tide covers the blowhole. There is no universally accepted reason for the stranding behavior. Most of the dead and stranded whales this year were emaciated.

SAFETY ON CHUCKANUT

At the CBCA General Meeting on October 3rd, members discussed various ideas to help "calm" traffic along Chuckanut Drive. Guest speakers at the meeting were Todd Carlson from the Washington State Dept of Transportation (DOT) and Lt Lucas Brandon from the Washington State Patrol. One of the biggest concerns was an increasing number of vehicles speeding at 60 mph or more and passing other vehicles in spite of the double yellow line. Follow-up discussions between the County Public Works Department and the WSDOT are exploring the possibility of installing a flashing speed sign on Chuckanut, similar to the two that are on 30th Street just north of us.

The most effective means of reducing the number of dangerously speeding vehicles was increased enforcement by the State Patrol. Unfortunately, the detachment around Bellingham is already undermanned. However, one of the troopers later commented that it helps if residents call in reports of speeding—e.g., the "racing" of several vehicles. The State Patrol keeps records of all such reports, and an increase in reports can lead to an increase in resources for the detachment. For example, an additional unmarked car would allow them to patrol Chuckanut more frequently, increasing their likelihood of apprehending speeders. Bottom line: Residents who observe dangerous speeding, racing, and passing in the no-passing zone should call 911 and ask for the State Patrol to report speeding. The 911 operator will connect you immediately to the State Patrol dispatcher.

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We Live Here!

by Rob Scofidio

I felt a nudge in my side as I looked out over another spectacular sunset over Lummi Island. I looked over at my wife Angie, next to me, who playfully giggled: 'We live here!'. We live here. I've heard that grouping of three words many times over the past several years as I've come to appreciate the wonders and beauty of the Pacific Northwest and specifically the Bellingham/Chuckanut region. I'm sure you already have!

Originally from the western New York area, then, later the general east coast while in the US Air Force – I retired from the USAF in '00 and moved to San Diego for work where I met and married my wife Angie. We lived in San Diego, CA before being assailed by the ever-growing congestion and high cost of living and were blessed to find Bellingham (that's a story for another day) and the Chuckanut area in '11. When thinking about where to go on our next vacation, most of the time we look out on our front yard and know we are already there! So

much to see and do including driving along scenic Chuckanut Drive, wandering along the interurban trail, hiking up to Fragrance Lake, Lost Lake, or Oyster Dome, and Larrabee State park with its rugged shoreline. And it doesn't stop there! I've learned to ski at Mount Baker, and became a kayak enthusiast able to participate in the iconic 'Ski to Sea' race for four years running.

Additionally, I've recently connected with a neighbor to start a monthly tour of the local area waterfalls. In June we explored Whatcom Falls Park and actually found the fourth waterfall in the park after a bit of sleuthing.

I know that for most of you the items I've referenced above are common knowledge and I'm sure you can list many items I've not included! That's the point. We live here. That said it's always good to be gently reminded of all the wonders of our local area! I hope next time you are enjoying one of our local area perks, you'll be reminded to think 'We live here!'

[Chuckanut Emergency Response Team](#) ➞

CERT UPDATE

Our Chuckanut Emergency Response Team (CERT) trained on 4 June, and practiced evacuating a casualty to a local dock for transfer by boat to the hospital.

If "the Big One" triggers rock slides on Chuckanut Drive north and south of us, we may be isolated for quite some time. Water evacuation could be our only realistic way to get critical supplies in or severely injured people out during such as disaster.

If you are interested in helping our local Chuckanut CERT team, please contact any CBCA Board member or any current CERT member.

