

# Town breezeway features Marjorie Walker art

Submitted by the Town of Friday Harbor

There is a new outdoor public art history installation in the Sunshine Alley breezeway in Friday Harbor. The exhibit honors late artist and San Juan Island resident Marjorie Walker (1906-92) and will be displayed through 2019.

Walker was born in 1906 in Brooklyn, New York, to an affluent family that afforded Walker and her sister, Jean, the best schools and a childhood rich in culture and experience. Walker studied art at the famous Art Students League of New York, whose students and faculty included the likes of Calder, O'Keefe, Rockwell and Pollock.

In 1923, the sisters first saw the San Juan Islands while on a six-week, cross-country tour through Canada, Alaska and the western United States. They vowed to return someday, and almost 30 years later they made good



Contributed photo/fridayharbor.org  
Marjorie Walker created art on San Juan Island.

on that promise.

On the high-bank shore of False Bay, Walker built a rose-draped building she called the "Little Different Studio."

She had many island art students over the years and supported herself almost entirely with her own art. For more information about Walker, see the comprehensive essay at [fridayharbor.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=21](http://fridayharbor.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=21).

The town staff extends a special thanks to Alicia and Jeff Carnevali for the use of their building and to the many islanders who shared their stories and images of Walker's artwork from their personal collections. Project committee members included Emily Reed, Julie Capron, Robin Jacobson, Megan Kilpatrick-Boe, Julie Greene, Sandy Strehlou and graphic artist Chris Minney.

# Island Rec receives \$15K



Contributed photo/FANS  
FANS members.

Submitted by FANS

This December, the donors of Families and Neighbors Support Island Rec, or FANS, helped the group contribute \$10,000 to Island Rec. In 2018, the total contribution was \$15,000.

"Thanks to the benevolence of so many of our neighbors, including the many business sponsors for our fall carnival, this has been one of the most successful fundraising years since we started in 2012," said FANS President Kyle Loring.

These funds bolster Island Rec's capacity to provide

scholarships for programs, like swimming lessons and teen adventure camps; community activities, like Music on the Lawn and Movies in the Park; and amenities like Eddie and Friends dog park and island trails.

"Island Rec is very fortunate to be able to count on FANS and its generous donors," said Island Rec Director Maddie Ovenell. "Every dollar that FANS raises for Island Rec allows us to not only maintain our current level of recreational programming but to also explore new ideas and expand opportunities. I

am continually amazed and thankful for the dedicated FANS volunteers and the community's enthusiastic support for Island Rec."

FANS raises funds through its annual spring fundraising drive, snack shack at Music on the Lawn and fall Children's Carnival. The FANS Club campaign continues through the end of the year. Donations may be made at [www.islandrecfans.org](http://www.islandrecfans.org) or via check to P.O. Box 875, Friday Harbor, WA 98250.

# Free days at state parks

Submitted by WSP

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is offering two free days in January when visitors to state parks will not need a Discover Pass for day-use visits.

The first free day is Tuesday, Jan. 1, which gives visitors the opportunity to take part in a First Day Hike, a nationwide initiative that aims to get people outdoors on New Year's Day.

The second free day is Monday, Jan. 21, in honor of the holiday celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

State parks free days are in keeping with the legislation that created the

Discover Pass – a \$30 annual or \$10 one-day permit required on lands managed by Washington State Parks and the Washington departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Wildlife.

The Discover Pass legislation provided that state parks could designate up to 12 free days each year when the pass would not be required to visit state parks.

The Discover Pass is still required to access lands managed by WDFW and DNR on these days.

Ten more free days in 2019 will be on the following dates:

- Tuesday, March 19: State parks' 106th birthday.
- Saturday, April 20: Springtime free day.

- Monday, April 22: Earth Day.
- Saturday, June 1: National Trails Day.
- Saturday, June 8: National Get Outdoors Day.
- Sunday, June 9: Free Fishing Day.
- Sunday, Aug. 25: National Park Service Birthday.
- Saturday, Sept. 28: National Public Lands Day.
- Monday, Nov. 11: Veterans Day.
- Friday, Nov. 29: Autumn free day.

# Washington ranks in top 10 for the healthiest states

Submitted by Raffetto Herman Strategic Communications

Washington ranks as the ninth healthiest state in the nation this year, leading the way for the Pacific Northwest, according to the annual "America's Health Rankings" report from the United Health Foundation. To contribute to the high score, there was a low premature death rate, as well as prevalence of physical inactivity and low birth weights. However, challenges remain, such as low Tdap immunization coverage among adolescents and a high incidence of pertussis.

For all states, rankings are based on four determinants that directly influence health outcomes: behaviors, community and environment, policy and clinical care.

Washington scored five out of five stars in behaviors, clinical care and outcomes.

Washington ranks in the top three of all states for physical inactivity, occupational fatalities and low birth weight. There has also been an increase in high school graduates throughout the past five years, which could affect health.

Topping the list as the healthiest states in the country this year are Hawaii (No. 1), Massachusetts (No. 2) and Connecticut (No. 3), while the states with the greatest opportunity for improvement are Louisiana (No. 50), Mississippi (No. 49) and Alabama (No. 48).

For more information and the full report, visit [www.americashealthrankings.org](http://www.americashealthrankings.org).

# Tennis anyone?

Submitted by Island Rec

Island Rec is offering a session of intermediate tennis skills and drills for adults this January and February with Caroline Hansen. Classes are for ages 16 and up and will be held from 2-3:30 p.m., Sundays, Jan. 13 – Feb. 3 inside the county fairgrounds building. Register by Jan. 3 for the early bird special rate of \$74 or \$83 thereafter. For more information, visit [www.islandrec.org](http://www.islandrec.org), call 360-378-4953 or visit the office 11 a.m.-5 p.m., weekdays, at 580 Guard St.



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