Return of the hairy ferry for Movember

Moustaches are about to grow back on one of our Seattle/Bainbridge vessels! Look for them in the month of November on Tacoma as we team up again with the Movember, a global nonprofit focused on supporting research and awareness for men’s health issues such as prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention. During last year’s campaign, our search for ’staches was a big hit, so we’re bringing it back! Growing one? Why not show it off and help us support a great cause? Send your moustache photos to wsfcomms@wsdot.wa.gov or post it on our Twitter and tag @wsferries (include the hashtag #Movember) or on our Facebook page.

Tour of Nichols Bros. Boat Builders shipyard

For the third year in a row, one of our ferries will feature a moustache in November for men’s health awareness. Send us a photo of your ’stache!

October 31, 2019
Happy Halloween!

Daylight saving time and our sailing schedule

Daylight saving time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 3. The full sailing day of Saturday, Nov. 2, will start and end on Pacific Daylight Time. Terminals and vessels will turn their clocks back one hour after the end of the full Saturday sailing schedule. Vessels that have trips remaining at or after 2 a.m. will complete their normal Saturday sailing schedule before changing their clocks back. The sailing day starting on Sunday, Nov. 3, will be under Pacific Standard Time.

Vehicle reservations for winter schedule available Tuesday, Nov. 5

The first round of vehicle
With an aging fleet, it’s important that we keep great working relationships with the region’s shipyards. Along with House Transportation Committee Chair Rep. Jake Fey (D, 27th district), I visited Nichols Bros. Boat Builders on Whidbey Island yesterday to get an overview of the company and take a tour of the facility. During my time there, I was able to meet with a few members of their leadership team to discuss workforce development, as well as our past, present and future shipbuilding needs.


Forum on maritime energy solutions

Chief of Staff Nicole McIntosh and I attended a forum this week aimed at connecting our state’s maritime industry with research and development institutions as we continue to look for ways to reduce our carbon footprint. The Washington Maritime Blue workshop focused on identifying maritime energy needs for decarbonization and provided us with an opportunity to network and collaborate with other agencies and industries.

reservations for our winter sailings will go live at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5. If you’re planning ahead for trips on our Anacortes/San Juan Islands or Port Townsend/Coupeville routes between Jan. 5 and March 28, 2020 – set your alarms. Don’t plan quite that far ahead? Don’t worry! While the first tier opens Monday, the second tier of reservations opens two weeks before each specific sailing and the final 30 percent of space on each sailing becomes available two days before.

Planning a winter getaway? The first tier of vehicle reservations for Jan. 5 to March 28, 2020, will open at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Friday Harbor terminal and Tokitae featured on ABC’s “Rock the Park”

We had a TV cameo on ABC over the weekend! At the beginning of Saturday’s episode of “Rock the Park,” the show’s hosts discuss what they will be doing throughout the episode in the San Juan Islands. You see them aboard Tokitae, followed by a few shots of our Friday Harbor terminal. In addition to featuring us,
Chief of Staff Nicole McIntosh, Governor Inslee’s Maritime Sector Lead and Board Chair of Washington Maritime Blue Joshua Berger and I at this week’s Blue Forum.

Owl rescued from Suquamish in good health

I’m thrilled to report that an owl found aboard Suquamish on the morning of Monday, Oct. 14 is in good health. Customers and vessel crews discovered the bird on the outside deck just before 6 a.m. conscious, but dazed. We contacted Sarvey Wildlife Care Center and they sent a volunteer to rescue the barred owl. Sarvey says it’s unclear what happened, but it is starting to eat again, doesn’t appear to have any serious injuries and will be released soon!

the episode showcases the natural wonders of the San Juan Islands in a beautiful way!

Tokitae and our Friday Harbor terminal are featured in the beginning of the latest episode of ABC’s “Rock the Park.”

“I am writing to express my deep gratitude to the employees of the WSF who assisted me on Sunday, October 20 near the Mukilteo terminal. I was not a WSF passenger, but was paddling my sea kayak in the vicinity of the Mukilteo ferry terminal when I capsized […]. I was incredibly grateful to see one of the rescue vessels from the ferry coming to my assistance. […] While I was not injured, I was facing the very real possibility of hypothermia. I hate to think about what could have happened to me if Helen [Gima, Able-Bodied Seaman], Steve [Elwood Jr., Able-Bodied Seaman] and the other WSF employees had not reacted so quickly and effectively. […] Best regards.”
All of us at WSF are so happy to hear that the barred owl found on board Suquamish two weeks ago is in good health and will be released back into the wild soon!

Amy Scarton
Assistant Secretary, WSDOT/Ferries Division

-Mukilteo kayaker

WSF Weekly Updates are available on our website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly
Questions? Contact us at WSFWeeklyUpdate@wsdot.wa.gov

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