





HMC Newsletter March 2019



President's Message

Whew! We made it to March after the February snowstorms, power outages and ferry ramp problems. Here's hoping those problems are behind us. For the most part members are to be thanked for their patience and understanding. It's important to know that everything that could be done, was done to bring our ferry back to full operational service in the shortest time possible. And remember, Herron Island is a small private island with a private transportation system. We only have one ferry and one set of ferry docks. We're kind of unique in that way. Sometimes stuff happens that inconveniences us (like unplanned Coast Guard inspections!) but we do our best to mitigate those circumstances.

This might be a good time to address the subject of Rumors. Those pesky and annoying rumors that bring out everyone's anxiety. Rumors were rampant during the ferry ramp problems. We heard (third hand) that "we had the part to repair the ramp motor but just hadn't gotten around to calling a repairman". Nothing could be further from the truth! We heard (again third hand) a suggestion that we haven't provided our crew with the necessary tools to keep the ferry running. Again, not true! We even heard that we "allowed the generators to run out of fuel". *Unbelievable and simply untrue!* Each mechanical failure was unique and unpredicted. Upon discovering the failure, all parties mobilized into action to get it repaired. Exacerbating the problem if you recall, we were operating under several inches of snow, ice, power failures and bad roads to name just a few of obstacles that we faced. Considering those obstacles, I think our crew and our Maintenance Manager did an outstanding job; sometimes at their own peril. And as long as we were able to, we kept you apprised of the status every step of the way. Please, please, please...don't listen to rumors! If you have a question or "heard something" (maybe on

Facebook?) bring it to the Island Manager or the Board. You'll get the straight scoop, warts and all!

This might also be a good time to address our ability to communicate when the power is out. Although this has already been mentioned it doesn't hurt to bring it up again. When the internet is down we are unable to communicate through broadcast emails. The Constant Contact email application does not work on some cell phones, although I'm told that the iPhone has an app that will work. I have an Android device and didn't have the capability to send out emails. And remember, cell phones are mostly dependent on 4G technology which often doesn't work when cell phone coverage is spotty. I was only sporadically able to post messages on the HMC Facebook page and did so whenever possible. So in the future, keep checking the HMC Facebook page for the latest information because we probably won't be able to send a broadcast email. Also, when a widespread event happens like Snowmadgeddon 2019, the chances are pretty good that internet service is impacted for almost everyone. The HMC Facebook page, through 4G service may be the best communication tool out there. By the way, one local news station reported that the Feb. 9th-11th storm saw the most snow dumped on Washington State in 70 years!

File this one under "Is it that time again already?"..The Small Boat docks are scheduled to be returned to the water on Saturday, March 23rd. Volunteers are always needed to help with this important event. See the article further down in this Beachcomber for details. We look forward to seeing you there.

(Continued on Page 2)

President's Message (continued from Page 1)

And it's not too soon to be talking about our upcoming Board elections in June. We will have three open Board seats and members are strongly encouraged to consider running for a seat on the Board. Being a Board member is an eye-opening experience. It's an up close look at the running of our unique community. We are much more than your average HOA. Most HOAs control the color you can paint your house, tell you where you can and cannot park your RV, and dictate how tall your grass can be. Not us. Herron Island is more like a small city in that we manage a Ferry, a Water system, Roads, Parks, Beaches, Paid Employees, and are subject to the oversight of many government agencies, all being managed by an elected Board of Directors (volunteers) and a few paid administrative employees. This year we are going to take some time to address specific questions about what it's like to be a Board member. Following our April 13th Board meeting members are encouraged to stay behind and ask the current Board about their experiences as a Board member. So, SAVE THE DATE! Being a Board member is not always easy because you can never please all of the people all of the time, but it's always eye-opening and rewarding in being able to help manage our community and shape our future. A Board Candidate application and other information about being a Board member can be found further down in this Beachcomber.

At this month's Board meeting we received a presentation by the Chairman of the Short Term Rentals Task Force. Reed West gave a very informative overview of the Task Force's findings and made recommendations to be considered. The Board will be addressing those findings and recommendations and will follow up with a report-out to the membership within the next few weeks. Which provides the perfect segue to the following:

Very soon Herron Island will begin to see our population soar with visitors and vacationers. The upcoming holidays and nice weekends always bring more people to the island. We welcome these visitors but remind members that Herron Island is home to many year-round and part-time residents whose lives can be disrupted by others who are not familiar with the island rules and the living standards we enjoy on the island. Please make sure that your guests or renters are aware of and respect the rules of our community. Rules violations can be costly and are always the responsibility of the member sponsoring the guest or renter.

Until next month.....

Janet Podell, HMC Board President

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Important Phone Numbers

Island Manager

Jane Wooster (253) 884-9350

HMC Board of Directors

(253) 884-9350
(253) 884-9350
(253) 884-9350
arge (253) 884-9350
rge (253) 884-9350

Additional Contacts

Additional Contacts	
Charles Smith, Water Repair	(206) 707-4645
Charles Smith, Water Committee	(206) 707-4645
Gary Wanzong, Finance Committee	(253) 884-9350
Curt Haney, Roads Committee	(253) 884-9350
Beth Owen, Rules Committee	(253) 884-9350
Jim Davies, Parks Committee	(253) 884-9350
Mike Shettlesworth, Emergency Prep.	(253) 330-2482
Alan DeGood, Small Boat Docks	(253) 884-9350
Carolyn Snyder, Office Manager	(253) 884-9350
Ken Freeman, Beachcomber/Webmaster	(231) 544-2456

Herron Island Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The office is CLOSED Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and after 2:00 PM on Fridays before Board meetings.

Office Phone: (253) 884-9350 Office Fax: (253) 884-5047

Website: http://www.herronisland.org

Office email: Office@herronisland.org

HMC Water email: HMCWater@herronsland.org Manager email: HMCManager@herronisland.org Beachcomber email: beachcomber@herronisland.org

Parks email: HMCParks@herronisland.org Roads email: HMCRoads@herronisland.org

Member Input to Board: MemberInput@herronisland.org

Emergency 911 Ferry Cell phone (253) 691-1457

(Cell phone to be used for scheduling heavy loads, big vehicles or having something in tow, and for information regarding ferry services.)

Ferry Business

- Call ahead if you are planning to use the ferry for a trailer, boat, or large vehicle!
- Only those guests with valid passes will be allowed on the ferry.
- Plan your arrival at the dock at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
- Walks-ons are not to be on the dock or ramp when cars are being loaded. Watch crew for permission to board.
- Only service and delivery people may charge fares.

WE HAVE EXPERIENCED GUESTS AND SERVICE PEOPLE EXPECTING TO COME OVER TO THE ISLAND WITHOUT GUEST PASSES. THIS VIOLATES THE ACCESS POLICY THAT WAS PUT IN PLACE FOR ALL OF OUR SECURITY. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR GUEST HAS A VALID GUEST PASS SIGNED BY YOU TO ENSURE THEY ARE ABLE TO RIDE THE FERRY. BLANK GUEST PASSES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS AT THE OFFICE, BY MAIL, AND ON THE FERRY.

Nondiscrimination Statement

If you wish to file a Civil Rights complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint form, found online at:

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html

or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Director, Office of Adjudication 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

Or fax to (202) 690-7442 or email to

program.intake@usda.gov.

Beachcomber news items must be submitted by 5:00 PM on the Wednesday after the monthly Board meeting on the second Saturday of the month. Items MUST be emailed in electronic format to beachcomber@herronisland.org. Include your name and phone number in case any questions arise. Paid advertisements are to be arranged with the HMC office PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

Island Manager Report

March 9, 2019

Administration:

The annual audit is complete, it will be reviewed March 14.

On-site Reserve Study will begin March 21

USCG inspection, 3/1/19 - noted deficiencies complete

Reflective tape for life preservers

Updated alcohol testing strips onboard the ferry

Rope added to life saving rings

Disaster Planning – HMC would like volunteers to work on writing an island disaster plan and potentially working with Pierce County disaster Mitigation Planning. For more details please contact me at the office: hmcmanager@herronisland.org

Departments/Committees

Maintenance: Gary Wanzong to report

Parks: Jim Davies

The next work party is scheduled for:

May 18th at 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for adding wood chips Goodpastor Park and installation of swing sets. There will be removal of existing rubber chips a week before.

*The Parks Committee would like some additional members, please contact me at the office or speak with Jim Davies.

Policies: Mike Gage to report

Roads: Curt Haney to report

Emergency Preparedness: Mike Shettlesworth to report

LIKE the following for emergency information on your FaceBook feed:

Peninsula Light to receive regular communication including safety tips

Pierce County Dept of Emergency Management

Water: Charles Smith - no report

Please call Charles at 206-707- 4645 for immediate needs

<u>Legal Liaison</u>: There are 20 delinquencies; 10 with our attorney for action



SAVE THE DATE..... It will soon be time to install the small Boat Docks....

All hands on "dock"!

When: March 23rd at 9:00 a.m.

Where: North Beach

Dress warm, bring your gloves and community

spirit. Join the activities.

Potluck style Brunch....for all participants when job is completed

Volunteers are invited to help by preparing a breakfast or lunch potluck dish to share!

All are welcome

Welcome, New Islanders!

HMC welcomes new Members to Herron Island:

- Cindy Feist
- Jeffrey & Su Jin Jez
- Gladys Dulyea



Are You on the List?



HMC now has 386 Member email addresses on the notification list. If you want to get notice of the online Beachcomber, or get the latest on windstorms, power outages, water line breakages, or other news, please send an email to office@herronisland.org and request that your email address be added. To be used for HMC purposes only.

Words of Caution

During our recent wind and snow storms we experienced downed power lines around the island. Members are reminded that these may still be "hot" and should stay far away from any power lines that are on the ground. Whenever possible, Roads Committee members will place orange cones or caution tape around a power line on the ground. Please make sure you give these areas a wide berth. Peninsula Light will make all repairs to downed power lines but until they arrive stay aware and stay away!





Also, following our wind and snow storms some tree limbs around the island may have been weakened but did not break during the storms. These could still be dangerous and could break off when least expected. Be aware of your surroundings when travelling around the island. If you see cracked and/or leaning branches steer clear and notify the Island Manager.



Noise Compliance



Our HMC Rules Committee has seen several noise complaints on the island lately, and would like to remind everyone that Herron Island does have a noise ordinance that "prohibits frequent, repetitive, or continuous sounds made by any animal or machinery, vehicles, and sound amplifiers that unreasonably disturb or interfere with the peace, comfort, and repose of property Owners or possessors." HMC Rules Section H addresses this issue and also defines the Pierce County noise limitations. Violations of the HMC Rule can result in a fines from \$500 up to \$2,000.

Noise pollution disrupts the peace and serenity of our surroundings, Impacts our quality of life, and depresses the value of our properties. Please be considerate of your neighbors on the Island.





Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday, April 21st, 2019, 8:30 AM

For information, please contact: Brigitte Vogel at 253.884.4777

Giving Back to our Mainland Neighbors

Our ferry crew got together and decided to give back to the community by volunteering their time to help keep Herron Road litter free. They became sponsors for the Adopt-A-Road program and regularly pick up litter along Herron Road. Two signs are installed along the road going to and from the ferry dock.

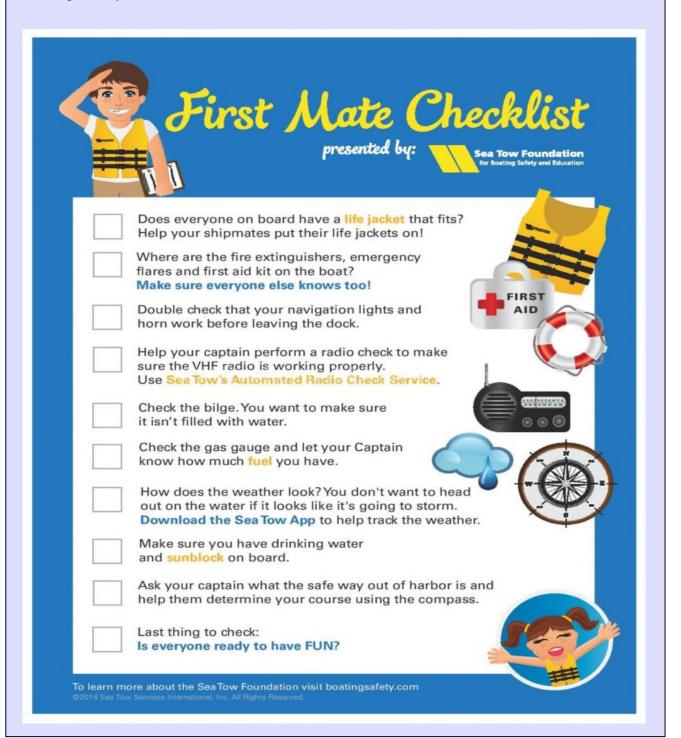
We always knew our crew was fantastic and now our mainland neighbors know it too.

Thank you Capt. Joe Taylor, Capt. Joe LaPoint, Capt. & Deckhand Dan Morgan, Charlie Folk, and standby's Nick Kelly, Scott Young, and Dave Tegge!



Ready for Boating Season?

As we move closer to the start of boating season, remember to check your safety equipment like buoyancy vests and fire extinguishers for current expiration dates. See Boating Safety checklist below:



New to Herron Island?



Welcome! We encourage you to meet your neighbors and get involved in island events and activities. Purchase a copy of the HI Boosters Directory (\$5) from Robin Kelly at d_kelly@centurylink.net and find your neighbors close by. Stop and say hello when you're out and about. The folks around here are very friendly and will always wave even if they don't know you.

Your neighbors can help you with obtaining off-island services such as trash collection, propane servicing, or obtaining a mailbox on the mainland. Did you know that being a walk-on passenger to the mainland to collect your mail is free of charge?. The ferry crew calls that a "turnaround". No charge for "turnarounds" as long as you don't leave the mainland parking lot.

Make sure you get your email address included on the island broadcast email list to receive important information about island issues. The office staff can help you with that. Send an email to them at office@herronisland.org and request to be included on the list.

Want to follow the ferry in real time? There's a GPS app for your laptop or mobile device that shows you where the ferry is and whether or not they are shuttling. Go to www.vesselfinder.com and search for Charlie Wells in the find vessel box.



Board Candidates Needed

This year there will be three Board seats up for election. Members are encouraged to run for a Board seat and become part of the operation of our island community. These seats will be filled at the Annual Membership Meeting on June 8, 2019.

A Board candidate application can be found below. Applications for a Board seat must be received at the office no later than 10:00 am, May 11, 2019.

And **SAVE THE DATE!** On April 13th, following the regular Board meeting, the Board will take your questions about what it takes to be on the HMC Board.

BOARD CANDIDATE APPLICATION

NAME:
YEARS AS A MEMBER OF HMC:
OCCUPATION:
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:
EDUCATION OR TRAINING:
HMC EXPERIENCE ON THE BOARD, COMMITTEES, OR OTHER ACTIVITIES: GOALS:
CANDIDATE STATEMENT:
Signature

HMC Management's business practice requires that all Board members successfully complete a Background Check. Should you be elected to a Board position, you will be asked to complete a separate authorization for a third party to conduct a Background Check. Candidates unwilling to authorize a Background Check do not meet the eligibility requirements to hold a Board seat.

Top 10 Things New Board Members Should Keep in Mind

(Adapted from Community Associations Journal March 2016)

Documents referred to in this article can be found on the HMC website

CONGRATULATIONS! You are on the board! The contribution you are making to your association is valuable and necessary to keep things running.

With a little reading and talking to other board members, you'll be up to speed in no time.

- 1. You don't have to make up the rules, you only need to follow and/or enforce them. Most boards already have a process in place to make things run smoothly.
- 2. **Get to know the lingo.** Board meetings can be filled with a lot of industry jargon, acronyms and abbreviations. Following are a few examples to get you started:
 - a. RCW Revised Code of Washington
 - b. Reserve Study budgeting tool require by state statute that list all major components within your community and then compares upcoming projects with how much money is available.
- 3. **Familiarize yourself with the rules.** Governing documents are a hierarchy of rules. The top documents have the highest authority and the broadest language. The bottom of the list has the least authority and the narrowest language. Understand that the legalese may take a little getting used to before it actually makes sense. Read it through and understand that many things will make sense as you get further along in your reading and experience.
- 4. **Revised Code of Washington** (RCW or state statutes) that apply to your association. (For HMC, that is RCW 64.38.)
- 5. Articles of Incorporation
- 6. Bylaws
- 7. Rules & Regulations (Note: HMC See Island Rules)
- 8. **Get familiar with existing contracts.** Know what is included in your association's contracts with service providers. You can renegotiate expectations as needs change.
- 9. Familiarize yourself with the current concerns the board is discussing. If you have the opportunity, schedule an appointment with your association manager or another board member to get you up to speed or ask for meeting minutes from the last 3-4 meetings (Note: HMC These are posted.)
- 10. Things take longer than you might expect. Even the smallest project can take some time due to the process that must be followed. Be patient, bed prepared and take the opportunity to move things along expediently when the occasion arises.
- 11. **Rely on the experts**. You do not need to be an expert to be a board member. You only need to know when to consult an expert. Once an expert is consulted, understand that it is in the association's best interest to listen to the expert's advice. If you still have questions or concerns, keep asking questions or consult another expert.
- 12. An association manager is part of your team. A manager never takes the place of the board and a manager has little to no authority in making decisions for your community. Use a manager to facilitate, advise, educate, organize, and, among many other things, do the leg work for the board so that operations can go more efficiently and effectively.
- 13. **Your association is a business.** Taking this to heart will help you when making decisions. Personal concerns can easily burden you when considering a decision for the association. When this happens, remind yourself to "keep it business" so that you can eliminate the personal portion and make the best business decision for your association.
- 14. Look at the big picture. It is easy to get caught up in the details of any concern. Remember the main purpose of the project and let go of the smaller details that may only add to frustration rather than the actual goal.

Keep asking questions, don't take things personally and be efficient and effective when communicating. Being a board member can be a very rewarding and educational experience.

2019 HERRON ISLAND OYSTER FESTIVAL!

Saturday April 6th 1:30pm-10pm

North Beach

OYSTER Shucking Contest

OYSTER Recipe Contest & POTLUCK

Tour a Large Island OYSTER Grow

Live Music by Free Rain

The Boosters' first Oyster Festival will happen Saturday, April 6th at North Beach*

1:30 - 3:00 Walking tour of two oyster-growing operations and explanation on how to raise oysters. Dress for the weather and for walking on a wet beach.

4:00 – 4:30 Oyster Shucking Demonstration

4:30 - 5:00 Oyster Shucking Contest

5:00 – 6:00 Oyster Hour – including recipes for sauces for raw oysters and cooked on grill. Judged contest for best raw and best cooked recipes.

6:00 - 7:00 Potluck dinner

7:00 – 10:00 Concert by band "Free Rain" and special guests. Bring your dancing shoes!

Boosters contact for questions and to volunteer: Merry Kogut, Boosters V.P.

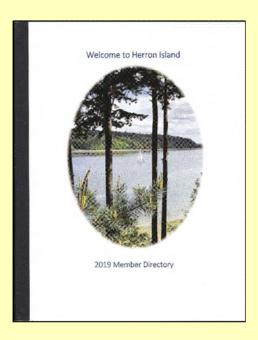
253.265.0060 (landline) 253.884.8484 (cell/text) merryakogut@gmail.com

Or use Facebook Messenger

*Some details are subject to change because of the weather, so please check for details on (1) the Herron Island Facebook group page and (2) on the bulletin board by the old store at the intersection of Ferry St. and East Herron. All events are currently scheduled for North Beach but could be moved to the Community Building in case of heavy rain.

New Island Directory

If you are new to the island or have an outdated Herron Island Member Directory, you may want to purchase a copy of the 2019 edition (\$5.00 each). This year's directory includes full color front and back covers, a plat map and paid advertising by local vendors, contractors, and service people who will come to the island. Every effort is made to keep the data base as current as possible, so please feel free to contact Robin Kelly at 253-884-1883 or email her at delige centurylink.net if you need to update your information or purchase the latest edition.



Don't know who to call? Check the inside front cover for a quick and easy reference list, including HMC office, ferry cell phone, burn ban information, fire department and more.

A Time Sensitive Community Garden Offer

Please call Betty Eccles by April 15 at 206-940-5439, or send an email to bettyeccles@gmail.com, to confirm you will be a return gardener, or that you will be requesting a garden plot for 2019.

Any gardener not returning should clean up their plot for the next gardener. New gardeners will be assigned a plot on a first come basis. Multiple plots will be assigned when there are less than 20 requests. Consequently, no one will have multiple plots when there are 20 requests to have a plot.

All gardeners must accept responsibility for the upkeep of their assigned plot; including maintenance of the gravel path area bordering their plot; clean up, and disposal of weeds. Gardeners may construct elevated growing boxes; decorate with garden ornaments; etc. These must be removed when a gardener does not expect to request a plot in the upcoming year.

Annual expenses, as they occur, will be shared by all gardeners (i.e. hose replacements, etc).

You will be amazed at the joy and beauty that comes from simple gestures like tending seedlings and watching them grow. As humans, we can carve out a small piece of heaven for ourselves and for the people we love; it's called a garden. Hoping you will join us this year.



Committee Members Still Needed!

Part of the success of Herron Island can be attributed to the volunteers who contribute their time and expertise to participate on our various HMC committees.

One of our current committees is still in need of new members:

The Parks Committee - This committee is chaired by Jim Davies and is chartered to promote and maintain safe and useable park grounds and equipment for HMC Members and guests. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Jim Davies at jada40@att.net.

Board Member Email Addresses

HMCJanetPodell@herronisland.org

HMCMikeGage@herronisland.org

HMCFerdReichlin@herronisland.org

HMCChetLatimer@herronisland.org

HMCBobHartnett@herronisland.org

Please use these email addresses for all future communications to Board Members. They can be accessed on our website (herronisland.org) under the HMC Board tab.

Committee Email Addresses

HMCRules@herronisland.org

HMCRoads@herronisland.org

HMCEmergPrep@herronisland.org



Winter Ferry Schedule

WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE - OCTOBER 1 THROUGH MARCH 31													
MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNES- DAY		THURS- DAY		FRIDAY		SATUR- DAY		SUNDAY	
IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML	IS	ML
6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00				
7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00				
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6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00
								7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
								8:30	9:00				

HOLIDAY SCHEDULES - WINTER

Thanksgiving 8:30AM 11:30AM - Noon 6:30PM - 7:00PM

Christmas 8:30AM 6:30PM - 7:00PM

New Year's 8:30AM 11:30AM - Noon 6:30PM - 7:00PM

For all your Herron Island Real Estate Needs....



Whether you are interested in a primary residence, second home or vacant land on Herron Island I will work with you through all the details. Either buying or selling you can trust in my knowledge and integrity from property search or marketing plan through contract to close.

I have excellent knowledge of how Herron Island "works" (home owner assessments, water, USDA loans, dolphins etc), this is particularly helpful when working with new buyers to educate them.

I look forward to and value my time spent with buyers, sellers and seekers – an opportunity to explain, show and enjoy this lovely little island that we call home!

- Full time Herron Islander 10+ years
- Licensed since 2002
- Dozens of Herron Island sales
- Professional marketing materials
- Color flyers
- Show any listing (all brokerages)
- Notary Public
- Availability...I'm here!!



Karen Dorans Managing Broker

253.219.4076 - Call/Text karen@herronisland.com



3123 56th St NW, Suite 1, Gig Harbor, WA 98335 www.discoverherronisland.com

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