

# THE BEACHCOMBER

September/October 2022



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### President’s Message

Janet Podell, President  
HMC Board of Directors

By the time you read this, the *Charlie Wells* will have returned to Herron Island following its biennial maintenance, inspections, and beauty makeover. The ferry left the island on Sunday, Sept. 11th at 7:45am and made its long journey to Seattle. The trip took 8 hours and the boat was safely berthed at the Stabbert Maritime Shipyard in Seattle at 3:45pm that afternoon. The next day (Sept. 12th) the ferry was hauled out of the water and moved into dry dock where it remained until the work was complete and the Coast Guard released it back into service. Our ferry returned to Herron Island on Friday, Sept. 23 after its long journey from Seattle to the safety of its protected waters in Case Inlet. Full ferry service resumed on Saturday, Sept. 24.

The best part about this year’s shipyard event is that it came in ahead of schedule and under budget. There were many things that made this dry dock different from past years. First of all, the recently formed Ferry Committee played a very active role in the preparations to ensure the scope of work to be performed was thorough and accurate. Secondly, HMC contracted out several services that would normally have been contracted out by Stabbert, who in turn would then have tacked on a 20% markup to the price. Thirdly, we hired a Shipyard Project Manager who just happens to be an HMC member and a member of the Ferry Committee. Kris Mullan personally owns, operates, and maintains a vessel that is larger than the *Charlie Wells*. He is very familiar with the operations at the Stabbert shipyard, and has a strong working relationship with the Coast Guard. Kris graciously offered his services and spent every day at the shipyard managing the progress of the effort. A special shout out goes to Captain Taylor who was also onsite at the shipyard overseeing the efforts, and our Island Manager, Katri Rahkonen who spent several days there to help manage things from a business standpoint. She also drove to Ballard and transported the crew back home from the shipyard after its arrival on Sept. 11th.

Continued on page 2

*President's Message continued from page 1*

And let's not forget the crew who transported our ferry to and from the shipyard...Captains Taylor, LaPoint and Morgan, along with Deckhand Charlie Folk. Thank you to all!

This was very clearly a combined effort by many forces. We owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who had a hand in the preparation and execution of this year's shipyard event.

**Why do we go to the shipyard In September?**

Members have been asking how we decide that September is the chosen month to go to shipyard for our biennial out-of-water maintenance and inspection. There are several reasons.

1. HMC is on a set schedule with the Coast Guard for inspections, one of which is the out-of-water inspection that is done at the shipyard. Penalties for missing an inspection are severe as we once found out a few years ago. Our ferry comes up for its out-of-water inspection every other year in September. Other Coast Guard inspections occur at the mainland ferry dock.
2. The weather is an important factor. When the ferry is gone, we postpone removal of the small boat docks so members have a way to be transported to the mainland in private boats. If we postpone too long, severe weather may roll in which could seriously damage our docks and any boats docked there
3. Given the risk of bad weather it would actually be in our best interest to schedule shipyard events earlier in the summer months, but that would impact the ability of our membership and their guests to enjoy the island during that time. Consequently, we schedule shipyard events following the last summer holiday of the year: Labor Day. But caution and safety are a primary consideration for our ferry and our crew, so September is the chosen time for this to happen.

**What's happening with the Wave/Astound broadband installation?**

As our new Island Manager, Katri Rakhonen reported out at the September Board meeting, we had a very informative meeting with the Wave/Astound people recently. They reported that they are having some permitting issues with Pierce County (which should come as no surprise to anyone who has built on the island), and they assure us that those issues are workable, but it may postpone the schedule by a little bit. We are still fully hoping to have this service ready and available to those members who wish to sign up during the upcoming winter months.

**An important reminder**

The Board has called for a total burn ban (High Risk – Red Level) during the ferry's absence and beyond. We simply cannot be too careful and request that everyone remain diligent towards the risk of fire.

*Continued on page 3*

**WELCOME, NEW ISLANDERS!**

Tracy Doherty  
**We're glad you're here!**



**ARE YOU ON "THE LIST"?**

HMC now has 448 Member email addresses on our notification list!

If you want to get the latest on windstorms, power outages, water line breakages, or other news, or even be notified when the latest edition of the Beachcomber is published, please send an email to [office@herronisland.org](mailto:office@herronisland.org) and request that your email address be added.

This will be used for HMC purposes only.

REMINDERS

The ferry begins operating on the winter schedule **October 1.**

New car decals for ferry access are mailed in October and should be displayed starting **November 1.**

*President's Message continued from page 2*

While there NO open flames allowed anywhere on the island (including at North Beach), you may still use propane fueled barb-e-ques and pellet stoves/smokers as long as there is no wind. It was brought to our attention that chainsaws can also release sparks which could cause a fire. We ask members to refrain from chainsaw activity on hot and windy days.

Well, that's it for this month. I hope everyone enjoys the remaining days of summer. And as a reminder, the Beachcomber will not be published in October, but we'll see you here again in November. ●

Schedule of Membership Billings

**General Assessments:** Assessments for the general fund are billed semi-annually.

- 1st half: Billed October 1
- 2nd half: Billed April 1

**Water Assessments:** Assessments for water-related services are billed quarterly.

- 1st quarter: Billed November 1
- 2nd quarter: Billed February 1
- 3rd quarter: Billed May 1
- 4th quarter: Billed August 1

**Special Assessments:** These are billed and due on the first day of the month as designated by the Board of Directors.

**Miscellaneous Billings:** These are other items billed to your Member account, such as charged ferry fees for contractors. They are billed and due on the first day of the month following the month in which the item was processed.

**NOTE:** Bills that are not received or postmarked by the **25th of the month** they are due are late and subject to a late fee, charged to your Member account. ●

HAULING A TRAILER OR BOAT?

**Call ahead to the ferry phone (253) 691-1457 and talk with the Captain to ensure tides and load coincide.**

Making this call **does not** indicate a reservation. The Ferry Access Policy states: *“HMC requires that a confirmed notification be made to the captain in advance to transport any combination (in-tow) of any length, and/or single vehicles longer than 25 feet. The notification must be confirmed by the captain. The captain’s phone number is 253-691-1457. The captain cannot guarantee that you will be able to board the ferry at the time requested.”*

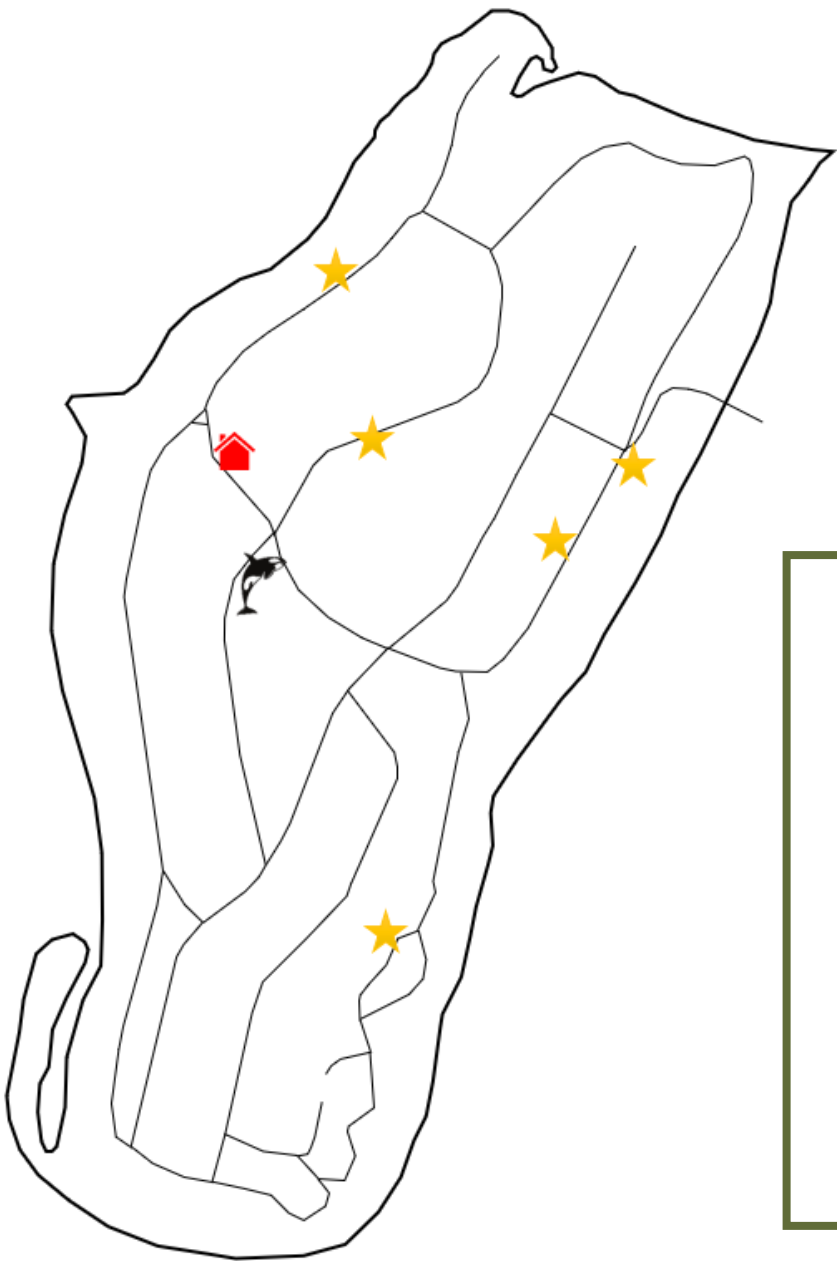
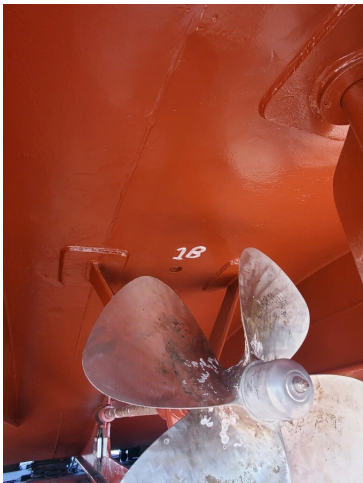
With heavy increases of trailers and large vehicles to Herron Island it is necessary for the crew to manage the loading as they see fit and shuttle to accommodate as needed. Getting to the ferry early for your crossing with a towed trailer/boat is your best chance of getting on the ferry run you hope to be on.

**NOTE:** Service Providers must get to the ferry early to get on the run they need. Please ensure they have instructions from you, they call ahead to the captain, and have a ferry pass that is filled out.



Dry Dock 2022

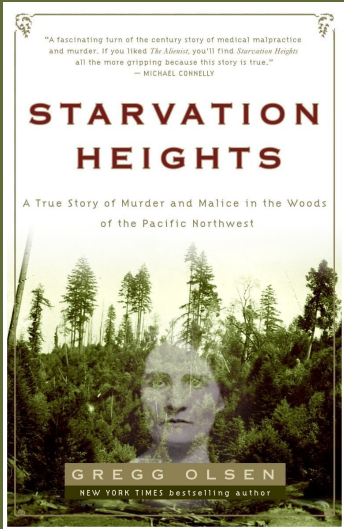
Ever wonder what our island ferry looks like when it’s out of the water? Here are some pics of the *Charlie Wells* in dry dock this year. Pictures used with permission from Katri Rahkonen and Kris Mullan.●



BOOK OF THE MONTH

Find this title in a LFL on the island or check it out (in person or digitally) from your local library!

Starvation Heights  
by Gregg Olsen



In this true story of murder and malice in the woods of the Pacific Northwest—a haunting saga of medical murder set in an era of steamships and gaslights—local author Gregg Olsen reveals one of the most unusual and disturbing criminal cases in American history.

LFL Map Key



Little Free Libraries

- 22418 Maple Drive
- 1216 West Herron Blvd NW
- 1009 West Yew Blvd NW
- 306 North Fir Lane NW
- 21928 Ferry Street - **NEW!**
- 826 & 828 East Herron Blvd NW



LFL for Kids


- 22509 Maple Drive NW



FUTURE EVENTS\*

Every Saturday  
9:00am-10:00am  
Yoga  
@ North Beach, hosted by  
Joyce Major

Sat, Oct 8  
11:am-12:00pm  
Craft Party  
@ The Community Center,  **Special  
Craft  
Date!**  
hosted by Cindy Estlund  
4:30pm  
Oktoberfest Potluck  
@ The Community Center

Sat, Nov 12  
11:am-12:00pm  
Craft Party  
@ The Community Center,  **Special  
Craft  
Date!**  
hosted by Cindy Estlund  
HI Annual Thanksgiving  
Dinner Potluck  
Details TBD

Sat, Dec 3  
Wreath-Making Party  
@ The Community Center,  
hosted by Cindy Estlund

Sat, Jan 14, 2023  
Potluck/BOOSTERS Meeting  
@ The Community Center

*\*Dates subject to change.  
Join our email list today to  
be notified  
of any updates!*

Monthly Message

*Robin Kelly  
Boosters President*

Greetings!

**Labor Day Weekend** turned out to be just as fun as all the other summer events! Thank you, everyone, for your volunteerism and participation in these events. Shout out to Frank Lee and Ted Jensen for organizing a last minute baseball game; Cindy Estlund, Erin Layne and Diane Thynes for the grilled hot dogs; and Joyce Major and Dan Marten for the cotton candy. Haydz and Mike Clingman did an excellent job with setting up Karaoke Saturday night...so much fun! The Booster's Merchandise Sale and the Krispy Kreme Donuts were a big hit as well. Thank you Leslie, Merry, and their gang of volunteers for always going above and beyond. Ted Jensen and Frank Lee's Clam Bake and the potluck were also enjoyed by everyone; thank you again Cindy, Diane and Erin, for helping with the potluck. Joyce Major and Sharon Stone did an outstanding job at organizing a new fun game, "Street Scrambles," which also turned out to have a lot of participation and everyone said they had a really fun time. We look forward to doing that and karaoke again next summer. Again, a huge thank you to all the volunteers who always step up to the plate to help organize, set up and run these events, and those who help clean up afterwards. You are soooooo appreciated.

Our next big event will be **Oktoberfest**, which is **Saturday, October 8 at 4:30pm** at the Community Center. Please join us for music and dancing to Dr. Roes' "Down Home Band" and a delicious German themed potluck. [Cindy Estlund](#) has moved the date for her **Craft Party** to **October 8th** as well, so we can make the cute little pumpkins with succulents for centerpieces for the tables. If you would like to participate in this fun project, please let Cindy know.

*Continued on page 6*



October's monthly craft!  
Photo Credit: Cindy Estlund



*Monthly Message continued from page 5*

Plans for the **Annual Thanksgiving Dinner** on **November 12** are under way. [Jen Hancock](#) and [Joyce Major](#) will be coordinating the food, so please let them know ahead of time what you plan to bring so we can make sure we have enough of all the traditional Thanksgiving entrees, sides, and desserts. The Boosters typically donate several turkeys, but of course someone has to cook them! 😊 [Cindy Estlund](#)'s monthly **Craft Party** will be moved to the second Saturday of November, too, so please let her know if you are able to participate ahead of **November 12th**.

We are also struggling to find photos for the 2023 Herron Island Calendar. The deadline for submitting is September 30 (see instructions below)—and please don't forget to reserve your calendars, because that makes it so much easier to know how many we need to print. You can reserve them by responding to my post on the H.I. Facebook page, or email [herronislandcalendar.mail.com](mailto:herronislandcalendar.mail.com) (not gmail). ●



**GET THE LATEST SCOOP!**

If you want to get the most up-to-date info on Booster-sponsored events, meetings, or volunteer opportunities, get on our email list!

Please send an email to [robin.kelly712@gmail.com](mailto:robin.kelly712@gmail.com) and request that your email address be added.

This will be used for BOOSTERS purposes only.

**2023 HERRON ISLAND CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS**

**Calling all photographers!** We are now starting to collect photo entries from our Members to be considered for the 2023 Herron Island calendar. There are many terrific photographers out here who have captured very special glimpses of the island's beauty or uniqueness— exactly what we are looking for!

**All photo submissions must meet the following standards:**

- Photos must be in landscape orientation (no portrait, i.e. "vertical" photos)
- Photo files should be in a JPEG or TIF format
- Photos must be submitted in as high a resolution/size as possible (lower resolution photos cannot be enlarged for the calendar without significant loss in quality)

**Email any photo files you wish to be considered to Howard Owen at [hvo\\_guitar@yahoo.com](mailto:hvo_guitar@yahoo.com) no later than September 30.**

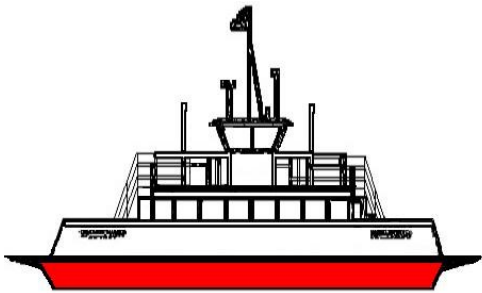
- Put "Herron Island Calendar" in the Subject line
- Send photos as attachments to your email (not embedded in the body of the email)
- Each person may submit up to three (3) photos (please do not ask us to accept any more than this, so pick your best ones!)



A committee will be making the selections in early October. Don't miss the September 30 deadline to see your great shots in print!

## Ferry Corner

A trip on the *Charlie Wells* is a special thing for Herron Islanders and their guests! Please do your part to make it a safe one by following the tips outlined below.



- **Fill out guest passes completely.** Incomplete passes will not be taken, causing the holder to wait for boarding—potentially on the next ferry run!
- **One car on the ramp** at a time. Speed limit on ramp is 5 mph. Do not leave ramp until motioned aboard by the crew.
- **Stay off the phone.** We appreciate your full attention as you board the ferry. Pay special attention as you drive down the ramp onto the ferry or when turning to load on an outside lane. The crew will point to the lane you should be in and guide by indicating if you need to move a little left or right.
- **Turn off the engine** and set parking brake once loaded.
- **Do not start your engine** until guided by the crew.
- **Turn off all vehicle lights** while on the pier, ramp, or ferry, while loading or unloading. Lights make it difficult for the crew to see!

The ferry is governed by the United States Coast Guard and the Master of the Vessel (the Captain) is in charge at all times. If you are not paying attention to the rules and guidance in the policies, or the signs on the ferry, the crew will direct you to pay attention. There is no time to challenge the crew; if you wish to report a problem please email the Island Manager at [HMCManager@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCManager@herronisland.org).

The ferry crew’s instructions must be followed at all times. At the captain’s sole discretion, driver or passenger behavior may prevent them from boarding the ferry or cause them to be removed from the ferry. The captain may choose to contact the Sheriff’s Department for assistance.

Alcohol, cigarettes, vapes, and similar products may not be used on the ramps or on board the ferry. Vehicle drivers and passengers must remain inside their vehicle while vehicles are loading or unloading from the ferry. They must return to their vehicles prior to docking. The same rule applies to motorcycle riders and passengers.

**The ultimate responsibility for safely loading your vehicle is in your hands.** Please review the last page of the ferry schedule for additional rules required for all passengers.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation! ●

## TIPS FOR SMOOTH SAILING

- **Call ahead** if you are planning to use the ferry for a trailer, boat, or large vehicle!
- **Plan ahead** and arrive at the dock at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time of departure.
- **Walks-ons** are not allowed on the dock or ramp while cars are being loaded. Watch crew for permission to board.
- **Bring exact payment.** Only service and delivery people may charge fares.
- **All visiting parties must have a ferry guest pass\***—vendors, service people, guests, and visitors alike. Be sure to fill it out completely before boarding!

*\*Our ferry guest pass system is part of our current Ferry Access Policy ([found on the website here](#)) and was put in place for all of our security. Please make sure your guest has a valid—signed—guest pass 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.*

HMC Contact Info

HMC Board of Directors

Janet Podell	President	<a href="mailto:HMCPresident@herronisland.org">HMCPresident@herronisland.org</a>
Dave Hancock	Vice-President	<a href="mailto:HMCVicePresident@herronisland.org">HMCVicePresident@herronisland.org</a>
Sherry Hayman	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:HMCTreasurer@herronisland.org">HMCTreasurer@herronisland.org</a>
Ken Phillipson	Secretary	<a href="mailto:HMCSecretary@herronisland.org">HMCSecretary@herronisland.org</a>
Steve Drake	Member-at-Large	<a href="mailto:HMCBoardMember@herronisland.org">HMCBoardMember@herronisland.org</a>

Additional Contacts

Sherry Hayman	Finance Committee	<a href="mailto:HMCTreasurer@herronisland.org">HMCTreasurer@herronisland.org</a>
Dan Marten	Roads Committee	<a href="mailto:Dmarten102@aol.com">Dmarten102@aol.com</a>
Mike Fassio	Rules Committee	<a href="mailto:HMCRules@herronisland.org">HMCRules@herronisland.org</a>
Tracy Anspach	Parks Committee	<a href="mailto:Anspach@comcast.net">Anspach@comcast.net</a>
Ken Higgins	Emergency Preparedness	<a href="mailto:Ke7gow@yahoo.com">Ke7gow@yahoo.com</a>
Sherri Anderson	Small Boat Docks	<a href="mailto:Sherrilee611@gmail.com">Sherrilee611@gmail.com</a>
Dave Hancock	Ferry Committee	
Carolyn Snyder	Office Manager	<a href="mailto:Office@herronisland.org">Office@herronisland.org</a>
Meghan Sanford	Beachcomber	<a href="mailto:Beachcomber@herronisland.org">Beachcomber@herronisland.org</a>
Carol Smith	HMC Calendar	
Josh Roppo	Webmaster	

Misc. Contact Info

Member Input email: [MemberInput@herronisland.org](mailto:MemberInput@herronisland.org)  
Emergency: 911  
Ferry Cell: (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.*

Office Hours

Monday	closed
Tuesday	8:30am-4:30pm
Wednesday	closed
Thursday	8:30am-4:30pm
Friday*	8:30am-4:30pm
Saturday	closed
Sunday	closed

*\*Closes at 2:00pm on Fridays before Board meetings.*

Office Info

Phone: (253) 884-9350  
Fax: (253) 884-5047  
Email: [office@herronisland.org](mailto:office@herronisland.org)

[www.herronisland.org](http://www.herronisland.org)

THE BEACHCOMBER PUBLICATION

Submissions

- HMC Board Meetings: 2nd Saturday of every month
- Beachcomber Submissions Due: Wednesdays after each Board Meeting, by 5:00pm

Paid ads to be arranged with the HMC office prior to publication.  
Please include your name and phone number with your submission to [beachcomber@herronisland.org](mailto:beachcomber@herronisland.org).

Published monthly, except Feb/Oct/Dec

Feedback? Photography? Questions?

Are you a Committee Chair who wants to advertise an upcoming meeting or work party?  
Did you take a great island picture you're just dying to share?  
Or do you just want to give a little feedback and tell us how we're doing?  
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!  
[beachcomber@herronisland.org](mailto:beachcomber@herronisland.org)



Paid Advertisement

**My Herron Island Properties for Sale/Pending:**

- **1307 E Herron Blvd:** (MLS # 1966790): Stunning custom-built home on 70' waterfront. **PENDING!**
- **209 W Herron Blvd:** (MLS # 1984194): 3,440 sq. ft. with 3 beds/3.75 baths + double lot. **\$479,000**
- **1505 W Herron Place:** (MLS # 1976430): 1,344 sq. ft. 3 beds/1.75 baths, lagoon frontage. **\$379,000**
- **1322 W Herron Blvd:** (MLS # 1982451): 1,200 sq. ft. 1 bed/1 bath + loft on 2.23 acres. **PENDING!**
- **615 W Yew Blvd:** (MLS # 1941229): 1,164 sq. ft. with 2 beds/2 baths plus double lot. **\$349,000**
- **1207 E Madrona Blvd:** (MLS # 1991016): 1,370 sq. ft. cabin – bring tool belt & HGTV ideas! **\$275,000**
- **124 E Herron Blvd:** (MLS # 1991017): 904 sq. ft. 2 bed/1 bath/Loft. **PENDING!**
- **510 W Madrona Blvd:** (MLS # 1941236): 0.386 acre lot is the only vacant land currently for sale. **\$34,900**

**2022 to date = 18 Closed Sales on H.I. plus 3 Pending!**

**[www.DiscoverHerronIsland.com](http://www.DiscoverHerronIsland.com)**

Karen Dorans, Island Resident Broker

Call/Text: 253.219.4076

Email: Karen@HerronIsland.com



Karen is a full time resident; call her anytime to view any listed property or to discuss selling your island home!

*“Living here, Working here”*

**PAID ADVERTISEMENTS**

Paid ads to be arranged with the HMC office prior to publication.  
Please include your name and phone number with your submission to  
[beachcomber@herronisland.org](mailto:beachcomber@herronisland.org).

*Note: HMC Management neither endorses advertisers nor vouches for their being properly licensed.*

Find these documents on our website:

[Ferry Schedule](#)  
[2022 Cancellations](#)

Effective July 8 2022 TEMPORARY through September 8, 2022

SUMMER FERRY SCHEDULE - APRIL 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30													
MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		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	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				
*** ferry will not operate during these times to allow for mandatory crew breaks. This includes shuttle runs.													
HOLIDAY SCHEDULES - SUMMER													
Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day run on the Sunday schedule.													

WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE - OCTOBER 1 THROUGH MARCH 31													
MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		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				
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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 - 9:00am		11:30am - noon		6:30pm - 7:00pm								
Christmas Day	8:30am - 9:00am				6:30pm - 7:00pm								
New Years Day	8:30am - 9:00am		11:30am - noon		6:30pm - 7:00pm								

**NOTE: Check for low tide ferry cancellations. They are posted on the HMC website.**  
Reservations must be made with the ferry when towing or a vehicle exceeds 25 feet prior to arrival.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

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

[www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html)

It can also be found 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 on 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](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).