



NEWS ON THE HILL

BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

PNW KIDS

48° 45' 34" N 122° 29' 18" W

Quarantine Week 23 WHAT DID YOU DO THIS WEEKEND?

Submitted by News on the Hill Contributors

ELSA

I went on a boating trip and participated in Beach Masters (a made up game on Sucia Island), a dingy ride to Patos Island and its lighthouse, and saw the beautiful phosphorescence in the water.

AINE

I went on a 2 night boat trip with my best friend Stella. We climbed on rocks, swam in the ocean, we went on a dingy ride, built a fairy house, explored the beach, saw the old lighthouse, and watched The One and Only Ivan before bed.

EDIE

I got home Friday night from a week on Orcas where I made a huge zipline with my dad, then on Saturday I played with my cousins outside, and on Sunday I read, did art, wrote, and played tennis.

ELIZA

We camped at Sherwood Campsite near Mt Hood, Oregon.

EMERSON

I swam in a lake at Glacier National Park and went rafting.

JEWEL

This weekend I biked to the farmer's market on Saturday with just my parents and not my siblings, on Sunday I went to Artist Point and hiked the top loop as well as the Bagley and Chain Lakes Trails on Mt Baker, and I got to see my friend's new Baker cabin.

PAIGE

I had fun tubing, biking, and playing cards at Priest Lake.

VIKING

Submitted by Aine Watson

Viking the hound is a hunting dog. He's a great big, grey dog with white toes. He has a short tail. He wags his tail when he smells chicken. He puts his tail between his legs and crawls up into a ball when he's scared or angry. Viking loves to run around and chase rabbits. Since his owners have chickens, too, he sleeps by the chicken coop at night to make sure the foxes don't gobble them up. He also guards the house and love to eat mint chocolate chip ice cream – that's how he got his nickname choccie.



ART SCHOOL

Submitted by Elsa Watson



ORCAS

Submitted by Elsa and Aine Watson



On our way out to Sucia this weekend, we saw lots of boats floating around in a cluster. We went in for a closer look and saw 4 or 5 Orcas! They were really noisy and spouting lots of water. It looked like they were teaching the young orcas how to hunt. It's been a great summer of orcas this year!

MURDER MYSTERY

Submitted by Jewel Bryngelson

Quick recap of the previous editions. Ms. Montana invited six guests to her mansion:

Colonel Logan, a retired U.S. colonel who loved painting mountain landscapes and fine art.

Ms. Rachel, an international roller Derby Queen with an elusive past.

Ms. Katherine with a French interpreter by day and a singer by night.

Lil' Matt, a very tall world-famous rapper, with towering green and blue spiked hair who loved the Seahawks.

Mr. Tim, the magnate of a porcine empire who trained Huskies for the Iditarod

Dr. Debbie, the seemingly quiet owner of an animal shelter teeming with cats and dogs who also enjoyed a secret life of rocking out to punk rock bands.

When they got to the mansion Ms. Montana gathered them in the great hall, then the lights went out, blood was found where she had been standing, and Ms. Montana was gone. She was presumed dead and so all the guests searched for clues. Finally, they met up again and started accusing each other.

Dr. Debbie was blamed, but she told them that you can't accuse someone of murder without the body for proof. The guests realized that they had gotten all the clues out of order. They attempted to re-piece together the order of events. After re-piecing, the events together, Ms. Katherine was blamed, but she had not yet given her explanation and leaves us to this week's edition. . . .

They were all gathered in the dining room, Dr. Debbie had just accused Ms. Katherine. While all of you were looking for a suspect, I was looking for our host Mrs. Montana.

Ms. Katherine pointed at Dr. Debbie and explained, "Just like Dr. Debbie said earlier," then mimicking Dr. Debbie's soft soothing voice, "That's ridiculous! I'd never harm a hair on the head of any living thing! Also, you can't be accused of murder with no body!"

Ms. Katherine turned accusingly to the rest of the guest and continued, "That for me confirmed what we should be looking for, not who dunnit, but where is Ms. Montana."

The rest of the guests sounded like the back up singers in Ms. Katherine's choir when they all simultaneously said, "Oooooohhhhhhh!"

Ms. Katherine was tempted to roll her eyes, but simply said, follow me to see the clues, I found." The other guest followed Ms. Katherine like students trailing after a strict teacher in the hallway.

Ms. Katherine led them out of the dining room, through the great hall and up the grand staircase. Ms. Katherine explained she started with the last place she saw Ms. Montana the grand staircase where they found the drop of blood on the railing.

Next, Ms. Katherine led the other guests back down to the Great Hall where Ms. Katherine had realized that there were two old oak doors not one. One of the oak doors led into the rest of the mansion. The other door looked like a bedroom door. Ms. Katherine pointed out a smudge on their handle and said, "Another drop of blood!"

The rest of the guests once again said, "Oooooohhhhhhh!" like a group of backup singers. This time, Ms. Katherine gave into her temptation and had to roll her eyes.

Ms. Katherine explained that earlier while all of them were running around screaming like the world going to end, she had learned that this door led to an elevator! She ushered the other guests into the tiny elevator and pointed to the buttons. Ms. Katherine explained she had also noticed a smear of blood on the button labeled G. Carefully, because they didn't want to disturb evidence, Mr. Tim used the candlestick he was still holding to press the button.

The elevator began a slow journey down to the enormous garage beneath the mansion. There were four parking spots, three of which were occupied.

The first parking spot had a pink, burly, off-roading jeep that looked like a grown-up version of the Barbie jeep and appropriately labeled *Barbie Jeep* on the wall above. Next, was a custom royal blue retro caper labeled *Glamper*. Beside the "glamper" was a fancy purple colored, custom golf cart with giant snow tires. This fancy shmancy thing was labeled *ATV*.

The last parking spot was ominously empty, but anyone would know what was supposed to be there because it was labeled *Tesla*.

Just then the garage door slid open and a speedy silver Tesla zoomed in. Out jumped, Ms. Montana! All her guests gasped in relief and amazement!

"Hi," she said. "I had to get some Band-Aids at the store we were out and I cut my finger on the lion statue. I accidentally hit the light switch instead of the elevator button. I told all of you on my way out, but I guess you didn't hear me there was a whole lot of screaming."

Everyone gaped dumbstruck, then looked to Ms. Katherine. "Sorry, the screaming was mostly me," she said. "I read too many mysteries."

Dr. Debbie confessed, "I was screaming, too." Soon all the guests were admitting to screaming in panic. Then they told her the whole crazy story of her "murder" mystery.

"No worries," said Ms. Montana, "glad you were all occupied while I was out and had an exciting tour of my home. Let's get this party started!"

QUOTE OF THE WEEK (Use the key below to decipher the coded message.)

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KEY

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DOLL DRAMA

Submitted by Elsa Watson and Edie Culver

Buy two toys and get one free! Fabulous bargains are at stake!

Mmm steak! I'm hungry! We've been working all day and haven't sold a thing.

I told you this wouldn't work. We are never going to earn enough money for Harry Potter World tickets!



I can't believe they want to get rid of us! What did we ever do to them?

Where's their loyalty?

