

the silence of the

# MIME

39<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
MYSTERY  
WEEKEND



Langley • Whidbey Island



# Welcome to Mystery Weekend

Langley's Mystery Weekend began in 1984, based on the game of "Clue," with a handful of actors and co-writers. The idea was to bring visitors to town during the dead of winter.

From 1990 to 1999, writer Chris Crotty wrote the mysteries. Since 1999, Loretta Martin has been our chief mystery writer, with help from other cast members. This year, veteran actor Rachel McDougald penned the story, with back-up from Loretta Martin and fellow actor Mike Hill.

Now in its 39th year, Mystery Weekend involves the entire community in the fun. The Langley Chamber of Commerce organizes all the parts of the production. Business owners purchase clues and donate prizes. Community members play the parts in the story, and they make their own costumes, often raiding the local thrift store for costume parts.

Josh Hauser, who has owned Moonraker Books for over 50 years, is the only original performer left now, having performed in every mystery for 39 years! She plays Mayor Josh DeFax, who was appointed mayor in 2023, after former mayor C.Z. Cash eloped with retired Texas Ranger I.B. Fuzz. Taking I.B. Fuzz's place is her nephew Texas Ranger Chase Ketchum, played by Ben Parks.

Many of you sleuths have also been with us since the beginning. Year after year, dedicated mystery-solvers convene in Langley for another round of goofy fun. If you're a veteran, welcome back. If you are new to Mystery Weekend, we hope you'll become a regular too.

Have a wonderful weekend and visit Langley often.

**Langley Chamber of Commerce**



VisitLangley.com

(360) 221-6765

Cover photo: jim carroll - jshuimages.com

## Meet the Author Rachel McDougald

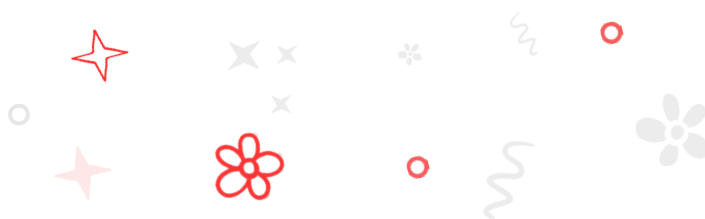


Rachel may be the only writer in Langley Mystery Weekend history who started out as a "suspect." She, her husband Joe, and their son Sean, have been volunteer actor/characters in the mystery for thirty years. Because of this "on the streets" knowledge she always brings the actor's perspective to the writing of the mystery. In 2020 Rachel was the lead writer for the Mardi Gras themed mystery.

"The writers provide the framework but the actor/characters (all volunteers) bring the story to life. All the costuming is theirs, the props, their characters' spontaneous arguments, and the other goofy 'shtick,' all of it comes from them. They are out on the streets all weekend in the cold or sun or wind or rain or even snow. The hopeful mystery solving "sleuths" come up with some weird questions the actor/characters never saw coming such as genealogy, food preferences, even leg length. The "suspects" need to be ready for everything. They share the truths they know, the twists in the story, and even some 'lies' they make up on the spot," said McDougald. "After all, one of them is the murderer and has every reason to direct suspicion on another character!"

Rachel shared some personal facts about herself:

- She doesn't function without coffee
- She names the worms in her compost pile
- She can usually parallel park on the first try
- She makes a wicked chili
- She firmly believes jet lag can kill
- She prefers dogs to people
- She won't peel carrots
- She has participated in Mystery Weekend for 30 years along with her husband and son
- She hates "Meet the Author" pieces.



## Synopsis

# The Silence of the Mime

This year's mystery centers on, essentially, a talent contest. In the story a PR firm has been hired to select 12 individuals to act as a Langley Host for one month. Each month advertising will feature a different individual and theme promoting Langley and its businesses. For example, January's host might focus on the town's artistic history, giving tours of our architecture, galleries, and teaching classes on chainsaw carving. March might be about our performing arts highlighting upcoming plays and teaching juggling and busking. June might be about water sports, kayaks, and windsurfing with classes in teaching your dog to paddle-board.

First though hosts must be chosen, and our PR guru is holding a series of group auditions. Those hoping to land a spot will gather twice a day during the weekend and they will be taught a brief dance. The PR guy doesn't care how well they dance but it allows him to look for individuals with the charisma, joy, goofiness, energy and the attitude he wants.

The town is awash with Langley-ites in ridiculous costumes practicing their juggling, showing off their paintings made by bugs and trying to coordinate their kazoo band – anything to get attention. Anything?

As the audition days draw near a windstorm hits town knocking down trees and power lines and ripping holes in roofs. It's not all bad though, A Buncha Dufus Roofers are on the job!

In the midst of this craziness, we have a murder! A local businessman, dressed as a mime, and practicing his unicycle skills, is run down by a car with no driver. No driver, and yet it was seen tracking him, turning as he did. How is this possible? Who'd do such a thing? And why?

Read the *Langley Gazette*, gather the clues, visit the scene of the crime and ask the hard questions, then turn in your best guess and join us for the reveal.

**Tag us in photos! #MW24Langley**

## Thank you to our sponsors and business partners alike!

Each February, our business community comes together to generously give their support to Mystery Weekend. The clues are sponsored and hosted, prizes contributed, and monetary contributions have been made by them for 39 years. We offer them all our heartfelt thanks.







# Meet the Suspects...

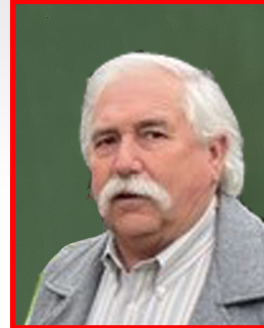
## Do any of them seem guilty to you?

Just remember, you can't always believe what they tell you because the guilty have every reason to cast suspicion on someone else. Characters marked in **red** are Merchant Representatives. Ask them for clues!



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**TEXAS RANGER  
CHASE KETCHUM**

Retired Texas Ranger called in for his exceptional detective skills.



**MAYOR JOSH  
D'FAX**

Mayor of Langley



**SUNSHINE  
HERSHEY TENTS**

Hippie, peace-nick, singer of song.



**MAJOR IRA TENT**

Retired military. Against change. Any change. Ever.



**BEA HYVES**

Gossip and busybody



**CLAIRE VOYANT**

Witch or psychic



**REEF LENZIO**

Son of Cy, Oceanographer



**SALTY  
MARGARITA**

Bartender, surfer, tourism specialist



**MARY POPKINS**

Reef's former nanny, MBA, former Shhh consultant.



**BLACKIE  
BEARDSLEY**

Master of Mascots, Public Relations expert



**RAY LUX**

Public relations mogul. Super rich. Super narcissist.



**ELECTRA LUX**

Public relations mogul. Difficult to please and impossible to find.





**TAP HOPPER**  
Dancer/choreographer.  
Beardsley's assistant.



**DEL ORIENT**  
Co-inventor of Lackey  
Valet



**SCOOTER ORIENT**  
Assistant to Ed Sill and  
Del Orient



**ED SILL**  
Co-inventor of Lackey  
Valet



**SAFFRON  
MEADOWS**  
Owner of local PR  
business specializing in  
web interface.



**ROOSTER FIXIT**  
Machinist who integrates  
Lackey with car



**BOOTS**  
Roofer



**POCKET**  
Roofer



**CRASH**  
Roofer



**RUFUS DUFUS**  
Owner of Buncha Dufus  
Roofing



**BUZZ**  
Roofer



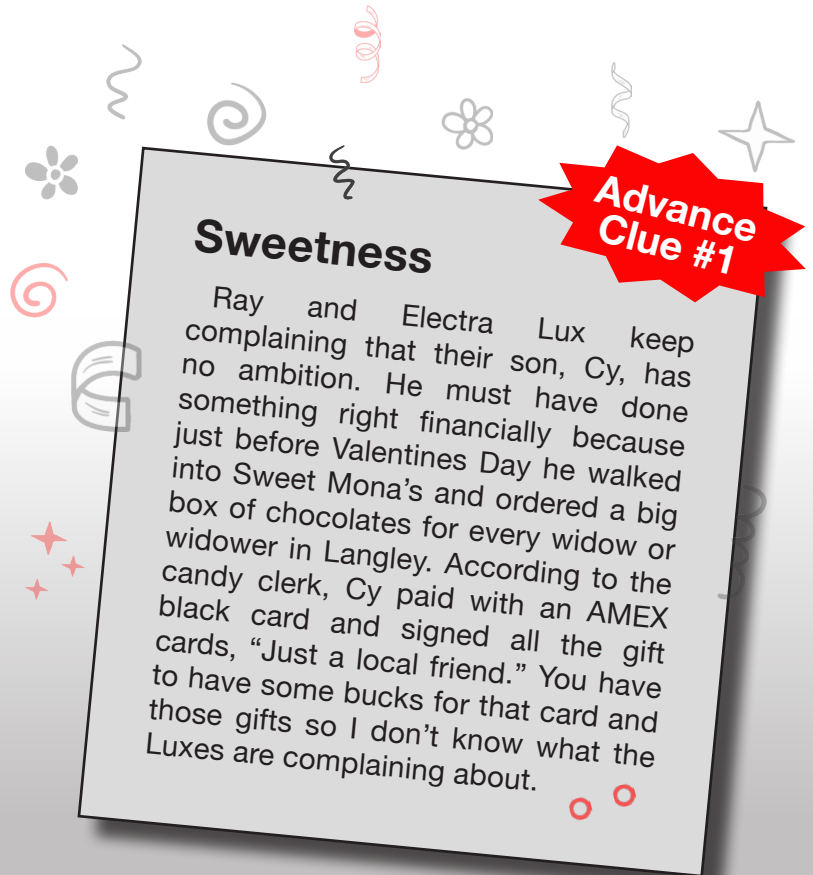
**DROP**  
Roofer



**SLIP**  
Roofer



**TRIP DUFUS**  
Roofer



## Sweetness

Ray and Electra Lux keep complaining that their son, Cy, has no ambition. He must have done something right financially because just before Valentines Day he walked into Sweet Mona's and ordered a big box of chocolates for every widow or widower in Langley. According to the candy clerk, Cy paid with an AMEX black card and signed all the gift cards, "Just a local friend." You have to have some bucks for that card and those gifts so I don't know what the Luxes are complaining about.

# Let the Fun Begin!

**Congratulations!** You are holding your Mystery Weekend Clue Map and Sleuth-solver Official Entry Form, along with a Langley Mystery Weekend *Gazette*.

**Ready to begin solving this mystery?** The first step is to read the “news” stories about the crime in your Langley Mystery Weekend *Gazette*. Find tidbits of information that might help you as you deduce the conundrum at hand.

**Start collecting clues.** Use your Mystery Weekend Clue Map that shows where to find printed clues to help you solve the mystery. Clue locations, and the Scene of the Crime are all within walking distance (less than 1 mile) of Mystery Weekend Headquarters at the Langley Visitor Center.

**Interview the suspects.** As you walk around Langley gathering clues, you will meet the suspects described in this puzzling story. You never know who might have valuable information to help you solve the mystery. But beware! Information pried from these ruthless folks may not necessarily be reliable. After all, the real criminal is out there and has every reason to lead you in the wrong direction!

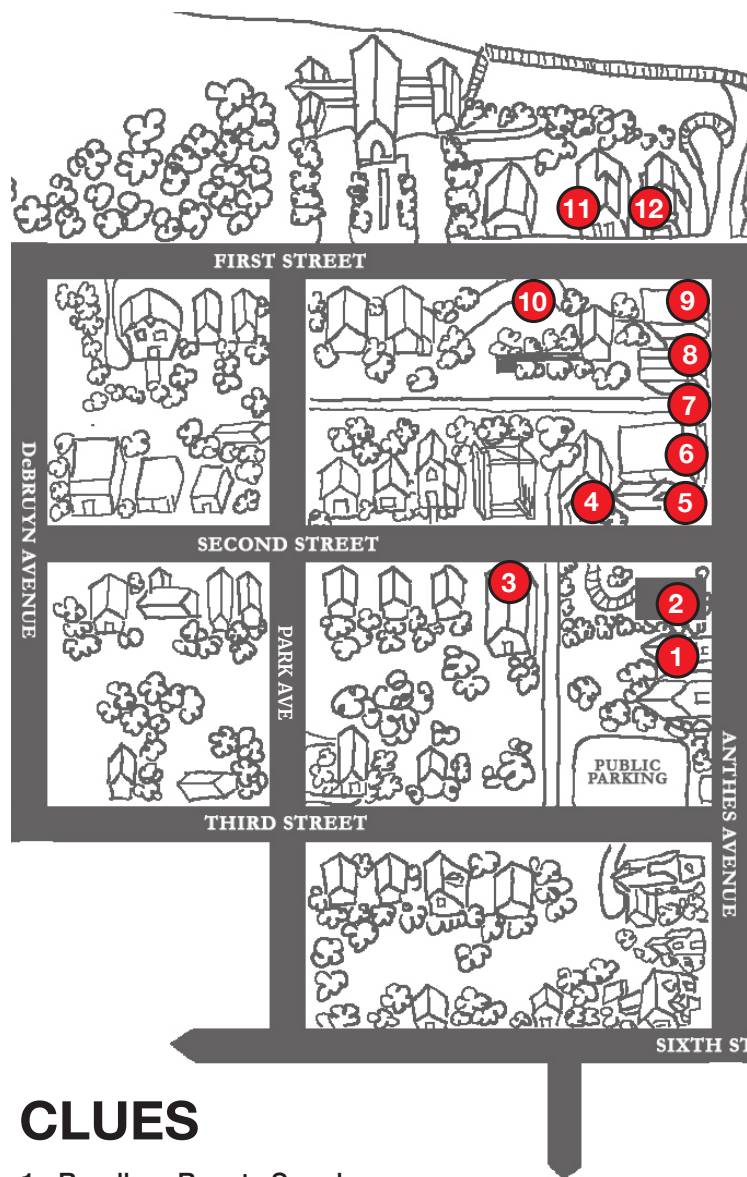
**Think you have solved the mystery?** When you think you have figured out “who-dun-it,” enter your solution on the Sleuth-solver Official Entry Form. Bring your completed form back to Mystery Headquarters. Correct solutions will be placed in a drawing for some select Grand Prizes. All the other entries (both correct and incorrect) will be placed in a drawing for additional prizes. All entries must be received by 4 p.m. Sunday to be eligible for the prize drawing.

The Murderer is revealed at 4:30 p.m. at Whidbey Children’s Theatre located at 723 Camano Ave in Langley.

You need not be present to win. Winners not present will be notified by email.

The complete mystery solution will be posted at [VisitLangley.com](http://VisitLangley.com) after 8 p.m. Sunday, February 25.

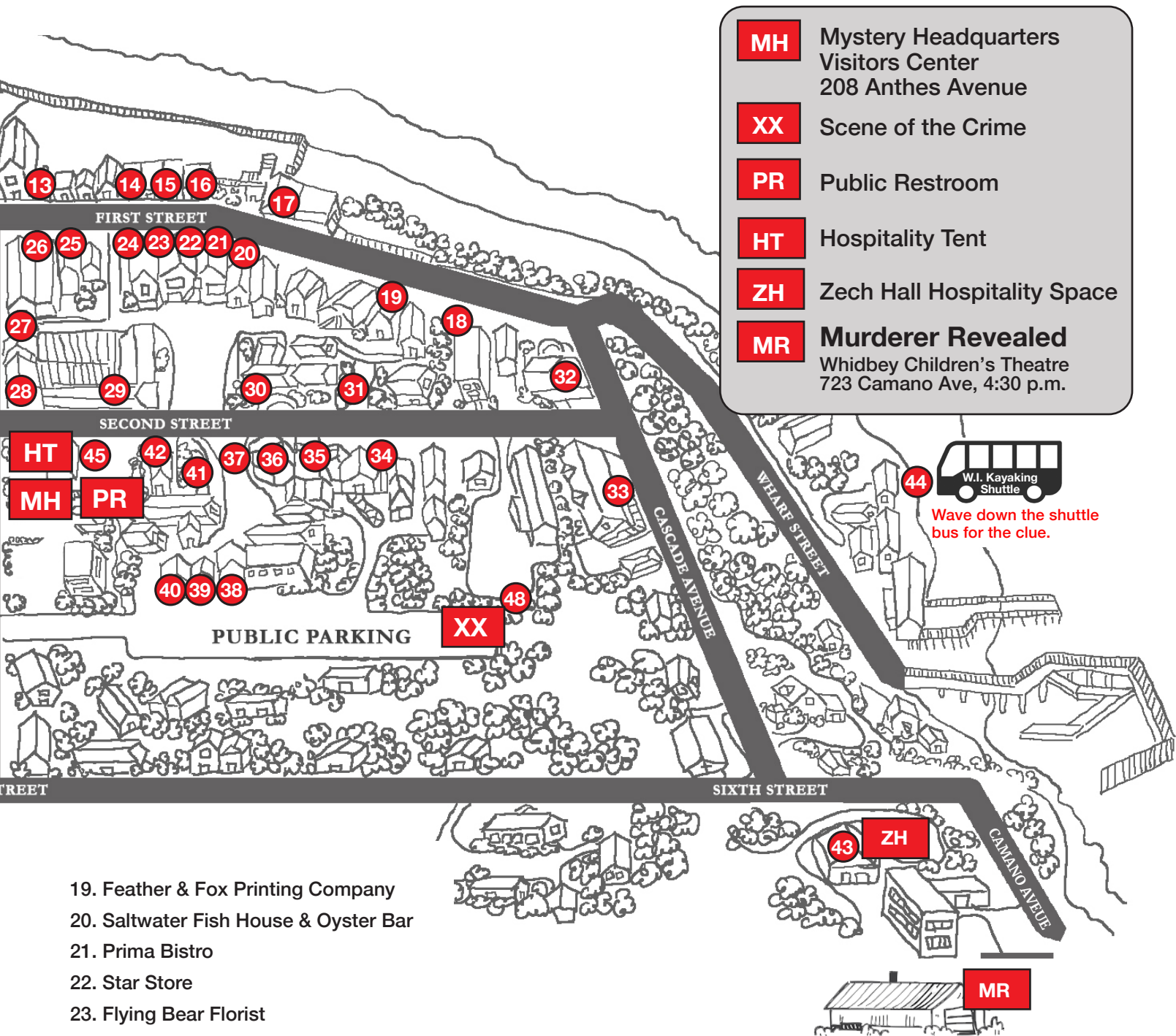
**Tag us in photos! #MW24Langley**



## CLUES

1. Bandbox Beauty Supply
2. C'Est Moi Salon - **Saffron Meadows**
3. Spyhop
4. South Whidbey Historical Museum
5. Grayhorse Mercantile
6. Alma
7. Salty Sea Coffee
8. Langley Whale Museum/Orca Network
9. Rob Schouten Gallery
10. In the Country
11. Music For the Eyes
12. Kalypso's Gifts - **Blackie Beardsley**
13. Sprinklz
14. WISH by the Sea
15. Foamy Wader
16. Ott & Hunter Winery Tasting Room
17. Village Pizzeria
18. Blue Sound Music





**MH**

Mystery Headquarters  
Visitors Center  
208 Anthes Avenue

**XX**

Scene of the Crime

**PR**

Public Restroom

**HT**

Hospitality Tent

**ZH**

Zech Hall Hospitality Space

**MR**

**Murderer Revealed**

Whidbey Children's Theatre  
723 Camano Ave, 4:30 p.m.



Wave down the shuttle  
bus for the clue.

- 19. Feather & Fox Printing Company
- 20. Saltwater Fish House & Oyster Bar
- 21. Prima Bistro
- 22. Star Store
- 23. Flying Bear Florist
- 24. Moonraker Books
- 25** Artisan Crafted Home - **Sunshine Hershey Tents**
- 26. Museo
- 27. Fair Trade Outfitters
- 28. Good Cheer
- 29. Whidbey Art Gallery
- 30. South Whidbey Commons
- 31. Animal Hospital by the Sea
- 32** Langley Library - **Major Ira Tent**
- 33** Saratoga Inn - **Ray Lux**
- 34. Double Bluff Brewing
- 35. The Braeburn
- 36. Village Wine Shop and Tasting Room

- 37. The Beach House
- 38. Seaglass Cove
- 39. Ultra House
- 40. Tonic Juice & Remedy
- 41. Sweet Mona's Chocolate Boutique
- 42. Windermere Real Estate
- 43. WICA
- 44. Whidbey Island Kayaking
- 45. Knights of Columbus
- 46** Whidbey Island Distillery - **Ed Sill**
- 47** Whidbey Weekly - **Trip Dufus**
- 48. Crime Scene clue - **Ranger Ketchum**

**CHARACTERS  
MARKED IN RED  
ARE MERCHANT  
REPRESENTATIVES.  
ASK THEM  
FOR CLUES!**

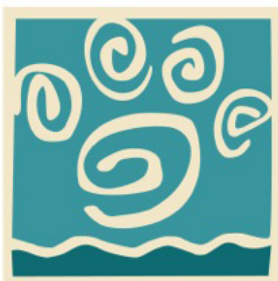


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In the heart of  
Langley  
114 2nd Street  
(360) 331-8090

animalhospitalbythesea.com

## Restaurant and Spirits Guide

### Braeburn Restaurant

197 Second Street, Langley  
360-221-3211 / braeburnlangley.com

### Blooms Winery

5551 Freeland Avenue, Freeland  
360-321-0515 / blooms5511bistro.com

### Comforts of Whidbey Winery

5219 View Road, Langley  
360-969-2961 / comfortsofwhidbey.com

### Dancing Fish Vineyards

1953 Newman Rd., Freeland  
360-632-4190 / dancingfishvineyards.com

### Double Bluff Brewing Company

121 Second St., Langley  
360-333-9113 / dblfbrewing.com

### Flower House Cafe Bayview Corner

2780 Marshview Ave., Langley  
360-321-7140 / flowerhousecafe.com

### Holmes Harbor Rod & Gun Club

3364 Brooks Hill Rd., Langley  
360-221-8494 / hhrodandgun.com

### Ikaika Bistro

121 2nd Street, Langley  
360-768-6837 / ikaika-bistro.com

### Inn at Langley

400 First St., Langley  
360-221-3033 / innatlangley.com

### Langley Kitchen

138 Second St., Langley  
360-321-1971 / langleykitchen.com

### Mommafiah

107a 1st St., Langley  
360-321-1971 / mommafiah.com

### Ott & Hunter Wines

204 First St., Langley  
360-221-7131 / otthunter.com

### Prima Bistro

201½ First Street in Langley  
360-221-4060 / otthunter.com

### Saltwater Fish House & Oyster Bar

113 First St. in Langley  
360-221-5474 / saltwaterlangley.com

### Salty Sea Coffee

111 Anthes Avenue, Langley  
206-657-6463 / saltyseacoffee.com





### Savory

220 First St., Langley

360-221-7106 / [savoryrestaurantwhidbey.com](http://savoryrestaurantwhidbey.com)

### Sprinklz Ice Cream Parlor

224 First St., Langley

360-221-6364 / [sprinklz-icecream.com](http://sprinklz-icecream.com)

### South Whidbey Commons Cafe

124 Second St., Langley

360-221-2414 / [swcommonscafe.org](http://swcommonscafe.org)

### Spoiled Dog Winery

5881 Maxwellton Rd, Langley

360-661-6226 / [spoiledogwinery.com](http://spoiledogwinery.com)

### Spyhop Public House

317 Second St., Langley

360-221-4494 / [spyhoppub.com](http://spyhoppub.com)

### Star Store Market & Deli

201 First St., Langley

360-221-5222 / [starstorewhidbey.com](http://starstorewhidbey.com)

### Sweet Mona's Chocolate Boutique

221 2nd St., Langley

360-221-2728 / [sweetmonas.com](http://sweetmonas.com)

### Tonic

221 2nd St., Langley

360-221-8242 / [toniclangley.com](http://toniclangley.com)

### Taproom Bayview Corner

5603 Bayview Rd., Langley

360-222-2643 / [taproombayviewcorner.com](http://taproombayviewcorner.com)

### Ultra House

221 Second St., Langley

360-221-4959 / [ultrahouse.us](http://ultrahouse.us)

### Village Pizzeria

106 First St., Langley

360-221-3363 / [villagepizzeria.com](http://villagepizzeria.com)

### Village Wine Shop

221 Second St., Langley

360-221-6313 / [villagewineshops.com](http://villagewineshops.com)

### Whidbey Doughnuts

5603 Bayview Rd, Langley

360-321-4653 / [whidbeydoughnuts.com](http://whidbeydoughnuts.com)

### Whidbey Island Distillery


3466 Craw Rd, Langley

360-321-4715 / [whidbeydistillery.com](http://whidbeydistillery.com)

### Whidbey Pies Pie Shop

111 Anthes Ave., Langley

360-221-6875 / [whidbepies.com](http://whidbepies.com)



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### Alicia Dietrich

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(310) 994-0073

[adietrich@windermere.com](mailto:adietrich@windermere.com)  
115971



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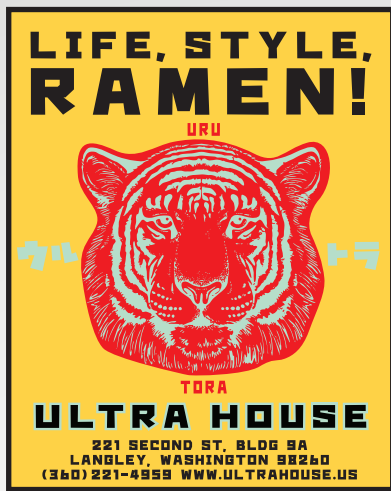
### Peggy Morgan

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WHIDBEY

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[pmorgan@windermere.com](mailto:pmorgan@windermere.com)  
129834





**Advance Clue #2**

## DNA Testing

Cy said his folks are so money-hungry he can't believe they are even related. Around New Years, he actually bought one of those DNA test kits. Then a few weeks ago Cy began meeting Sunshine for lunch a couple times a week. He actually talks to her, though in a whisper, and she seems concerned and careful when she whispers back. She always gives him a hug when their lunch is over and he leaves looking happier than when they started. Sunshine says Cy just asked her for some life counseling. I didn't know she did that.

## 39TH MYSTERY WEEKEND APPAREL

Available at [VisitLangley.com/store](http://VisitLangley.com/store) or the Visitors Center, 208 Anthes Ave.



**Advance  
Clue #3**

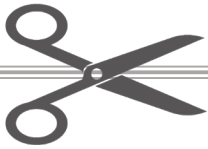
### Love is in the Air?

Reef Lenzio and Salty Margarita have been seen around South Whidbey lately hiking, boating, and even grocery shopping together. Rumors are flying about a budding romance. However, when wedding speculations reached the ears of our local mime, Cy looked surprised and upset with the gossip. Of course, he would not talk about why the gossip seemed to upset him. For once Reef and Salty are both keeping quiet in spite of all the questions by every busybody in town.

**Advance  
Clue #4**

### Cy's Notes to Tap

Talk about an odd couple! For the past two weeks Cy has been meeting Tap Hopper for coffee almost every day. Of course, Tap is his usual noisy self. His loud voice disturbs the quiet conversation, but Cy just listens and says nothing. After Tap winds down Cy quietly takes out a piece of paper, hands it to Tap, and just leaves. Taps reads it, makes a remarkably quiet phone call, pays the bill, and walks out. I don't see how those two could ever work together.



## Official Entry Form

### Mystery Weekend 2024: The Silence of the Mime

Name \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Join our newsletter list? ( ) Yes ( ) No

Do you visit Whidbey Island during other seasons or for other events?

( ) Spring ( ) Summer ( ) Fall ( ) Winter ( ) Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Who did it? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you reach your conclusion? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Return this form by 4 p.m. Sunday, February 25, 2024 to the Langley Visitors Center. Join us at 4:30 p.m. at the Whidbey Children's Theatre, 723 Camano Ave. Find out who the culprit is and watch the arrest. A drawing will be held for prizes. If you are a winner but not present, we will contact you via email. (Please print carefully.)



# Sleuth

*Think of the perfect murder... then go one step further*

By Harold Pinter and Anthony Shaffer

Directed by David Churchill

February 9-24 | 7:30 PM Evenings, 2:00 PM Matinees

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