VIVA VASHON
Vashon Island Visual Artists tour makes a festive weekend
WEEKEND PLUS • C11

Book-It conjures magic from fantasy tale
WEEKEND PLUS • C3

WSU’s Leach agrees to contract extension
SPORTS • B1

November surprise: Seller’s market returns as King County housing inventory tightens

By KATE CONGER | November 30, 2018

For years, economists have been telling us to be unusual in the migration of ocean- going animals. Now, researchers have found that even the smallest creatures in the ocean travel much farther than we thought.

“Sound is to marine animals what light is to people on land,” said Joe K. McLaughlin, a lead scientist on the Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Northwest multiple listing service, or NWMLS.

McLaughlin, who wrote the study, said it was published in the peer-reviewed journal “Nature.”

For months, McLaughlin and his team have been working on the study, which indicates the presence of marine animals moving around the Pacific Northwest.

The study, which is available online, details how marine animals move through the ocean and how they get to their destination.

The researchers used a combination of satellite tracking and genetic analysis to determine the movements of marine animals.

They found that marine animals such as salmon, herring, and seals move much farther than previously thought.

“Sound is an important and often overlooked aspect of marine animals’ behavior,” said McLaughlin.

The study also found that marine animals can travel thousands of miles in a single year.

“Sound is important to marine animals because it helps them communicate with each other,” said McLaughlin.

The researchers hope their findings will help marine animals better understand their environment and how to protect their habitat.

“We need to do more research on the subject,” said McLaughlin.

For more information, please visit www.marineanimals.org.

Feds sued over social media screening of visa applicants

By CHARLES KIMBALL | November 29, 2018

WASHINGTON — Two decision-making officials sued the Trump administration Thursday in a lawsuit that challenges the government’s requirement to check the social media activity of visa applicants.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Seattle, alleges that the administration is not providing adequate protections for visa applicants.

The lawsuit was filed on behalf of a 22-year-old Iranian named M.L., who applied for a visa to the United States.

M.L. said he was denied a visa because of his social media activity, which included posts about his political beliefs and his opposition to the government in Iran.

“The Trump administration’s policy is unconstitutional and violates the First Amendment,” said M.L.

The lawsuit seeks a court order blocking the administration from considering social media activity in visa applications.

For more information, please visit www.washlaw.com.

Amid calls for transparency, Uber’s report details 3.4 million sex assaults in U.S. adults

By GEOFF BURKE | November 30, 2018

The report, which was released last week, details the number of sexual assaults that occurred in the United States in 2017.

It found that 3.4 million sexual assaults were reported by Uber riders and drivers in 2017.

The report also found that the number of sexual assaults reported by Uber riders and drivers increased by 17% in 2017 compared to 2016.

The report was prepared by the National Sexual Assault Hotline, which is funded by the Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services.

“The number of sexual assaults reported by Uber riders and drivers is concerning,” said Dr. Jennifer Gunter, a professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco.

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For more information, please visit www.nationalsexualassault.org.

Robot lends an ear to sea creatures — and noisy humans, too

By JON MEINIG | November 30, 2018

For centuries, humans have been using the ocean to travel and communicate with each other.

But recently, scientists have discovered that marine animals can also hear and communicate with each other.

“The ocean is a vast and complex environment,” said Dr. Kate Haxel, a marine biologist at the University of Washington.

Haxel has been working on a project to explore the ocean’s mysteries.

In recent weeks, Haxel and her team have been testing a new technology that allows them to listen to the sounds of the ocean.

The technology, called Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Ocean Drilling and Sonar Testing, allows scientists to listen to the sounds of the ocean and record what they hear.

“Sound is a key to understanding the ocean,” said Haxel.

For more information, please visit www.ocean.drillingandsonartesting.org.