

What's Out There – October 30, 2020

Hello! This is Diane Urbani de la Paz with What's Out There, ways to connect with arts and culture while staying close to home, for the week going forward from Oct. 30th, 2020.

Trick or treating may not be what's happening this Halloween, but with the full moon above us, evening scavenger hunts could be the thing. The Port Townsend Public Library has suggestions. Go on a walk and see how many pumpkins you can see on porches or in yards. Find a spider making a spiderweb. Find things near you that are orange. Try scavenging for a costume, in your home, for things you can make into a costume. See what you can do in 15 minutes.

And if I may add my own possibilities: Take a walk and see how many dogs you encounter, and in what kinds and colors. Venture out and see how many red things you can find.

This week I visited yet another spot on the local takeout dining landscape. Pho-filling Fresh Asian Kitchen, not far from Pourhouse and Pane d'Amore on Washington Street in Port Townsend, has a multifaceted menu. It wasn't easy to choose, but I selected the vegetarian spring rolls with peanut sauce and the veggie stirfry, while my carnivorous companion went for the basil fried rice with pork. The spring rolls are stuffed with the classic noodles that go on forever, or for at least six feet or so, with some lovely, long-stemmed cilantro, which give them a fresh flavor. The stir-fry further improved my relationship with tofu. A slice of flavorful carrot or a little broccoli tree makes this dish an interesting blend of textures. As for the fried rice, we chose just the half order, and it provided two full meals of delicately seasoned goodness. Phofilling — that's p-h-o filling — is open every day except Sunday, from 11:30 to 3 and from 5 until 8 o'clock in the evening.

With longer nights coming, I look forward to more hours for reading books. And the Big Library Read, the world's most inclusive book club, has a new title. It's *Reverie*, the novel by Ryan La Sala. The story is about what happens when the secret worlds people hide come to light. Much more about the novel, and links to the ebook and discussions of it, can be found at BigLibraryRead.com. If you're seeking good reads and connections to discussion groups, you might visit the websites of the Port Townsend Library, the Jefferson County Library, or the North Olympic Library System, which is at N-O-L-S.org.

That's the story for now, and this is What's Out There. Take a look at the full moon this weekend, and take care of yourselves. I'm Diane Urbani de la Paz, here for you on KPTZ. Thanks for listening.