

My Monday Memo

June 20, 2022

Adventures in the PNW

Issue 108

Duck Daze Parade 2022

By Rachel Brandes

The University Place Duck Daze Parade is back! Due to the pandemic, the last couple of Junes came and went without the annual parade that celebrates the beginning of summertime. On June 4th, 2022, the City of University Place prepared for the festivities and put on a nice event. Living in the best spot ever, this parade ends at Rachel's apartment building, on the back side at the fire station.

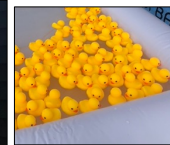
On her walk to grab a coffee prior to the parade, Rachel spotted a few hidden, but not so hidden, miniature ducks, which are pictured through today's newsletter. Event coordinators do a great job of making this event fun for the kids with the hidden ducks, painted rocks, and small grab bag type toys planted around the event. Local businesses were out with activities and prizes, and the Sherriff's tactical team was on hand to show off their equipment to families. An open house was held at the fire station, but Rachel isn't sure of what they had to offer this year, as once the parade concluded, she avoided the crowds and retreated to her dwelling.



Rachel's plan was to stay away from the crowds, as she had been self-quarantining in preparation of surgery. As you will see from one of the included photos, she was quite far from the actual parade and crowd. The red corvette in the picture would turn left in the intersection to complete the route.

You will also see the front corner of a local police cruiser. As Rachel quite enjoys the company of a man in uniform, she stopped and struck up a conversation with Deputy Cooney, on parade duty that day. The two ended up talking to for the entire hour she was there. Deputy Cooney grew up in the area and had some fun and interesting stories about University Place. He and his wife, like Rachel, have two sons, one of which is in the Armed Forces. The two had a nice conversation and enjoyed the parade together. He even told Rachel he had looked into retirement in Mesquite, Nevada of all places. She advised him against this, of course. Once the parade ended, they thanked each other for the company and Rachel headed home.

Rachel then enjoyed the live music in the courtyard from her balcony and did a fair amount of people watching from a safe distance. Until next time, be well.



Today is... June 20th

National Hike with a Geek Day

On this day in 1975...

Steven Spielberg's thriller *Jaws* was released in theatres, and it was a huge success, essentially creating the genre of summer blockbusters.

Quote of the Week

"Close your eyes and imagine the best version of you possible. That's who you really are. Let go of any part of you that doesn't believe it."

- C. Assaad

MIRA'S PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Where's Blake Been?

Home in South Korea

What do we have here? A rare sighting of Blake!

Blake has been keeping very busy with work and school, as he works on wrapping up his bachelor's degree. He still isn't sure on where he will land next, but sources say the U.S. is a certainty. Who knows, maybe he will end up in Washington. Wouldn't that be fantastic?



We are told this photo was shot as proof of life for Blake's mother, as she hadn't seen a photo of him in some time.

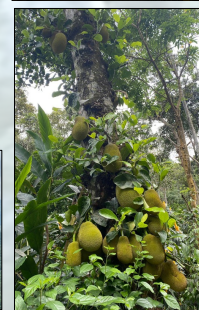
Alec's Adventures in Asia

In this week's *Alec's Adventures in Asia*, Alec, Mohith, Jack, and Kalli continue to enjoy India. A small change to their plans gave them a bit of additional time in India. They should be in Thailand as of this week's newsletter.

Pictured this week we have Alec at a tea plantation, a picture of a jack fruit tree, and some beautiful scenery in India near a tiger reserve. Alec tells his mother that these jack fruits are said to get quite large, as in 150 pounds large. Wow, that is some big fruit.

The photo with all four of the travelers was taken at a restaurant where they were served a traditional Kerala, which is the state they were in at the time. It consisted of steamed fish in a banana leaf, and according to Alec, "a ton of other stuff."

Next week we should get to see photos from Thailand. Safe travel wishes to go out to these adventurers.



Did you find it?

Merriam-Webster's Word of the Day will return in the near future.