



Island County

Serving the communities of Camano & Whidbey Islands

District 1 News December 30, 2020

## Last Day Reflections from Commissioner Price Johnson



Today is my last day on the job as District 1 Commissioner. I love the many layers of this job, and the communities I represent. It has been so rewarding to get up every day and try to help make the place I love better for the people I care most about. Working with my fellow commissioners, and other local leaders we have made great progress in areas of economic development, land protection, safety net services, transportation and criminal justice reforms.

I've been honored to also have the opportunity to represent Island County at the state and national levels. When advocating for rural communities and smaller counties like ours, I felt proud to represent the County in this way and believe it is important to share our perspective with decision makers in Olympia and Washington DC. County government is mostly invisible and often misunderstood by many people, including state and federal officials. Yet, to me it is the most impactful level of public service.

This year's pandemic has reinforced this even more for me. Island County stepped up as leaders, to act as convener and logistics center, key communicators, acting swiftly, responsibly and effectively in response to this crisis. Individual employees have poured themselves into these efforts. True heroes all. We have done well to meet the challenges, and still have significant work to do, and I'm honored to have been a part of this tremendous effort.

In parting, I want to thank you for your support and engagement with local government. Please stay safe and stay strong as we continue to face the impacts of this pandemic.

It has been my honor and great privilege to serve these past 12 years.

Happy New Year.

Helen Price Johnson