What's Out There - November 6, 2020: Culinary and Art opportunities.

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 weekend of Nov. 6th, 2020.

Nourishing food and drink are what's out there, inside and all around Port Townsend. Starting with the food, at long last I experienced a Cornish pasty from Tommyknocker's, the downtown hot spot. The vegan Shepherd's Pie pasty was my chosen comfort food, with its house-made "ground beef," in quotes, a blend of mushrooms, walnuts and cauliflower, snuggled up with veggies and Mashed Potatoes inside a savory crust, with a special house-made vegan gravy. Just as hearty is the deep bowl of Skipper's Smoked Salmon Chowder, set off by vegetables including carrots, onion, celery and leeks. The Skipper's name is not some cutesy nautical reference. It is in fact the chef's name. Nikki Skipper earned her bachelor of culinary arts degree at De la Salle University in Manila, the Philippines. She was the chef at Taps, at Fort Worden, before she and her man. Thomas Skipper, opened their downtown restaurant.

I also want to tell you about a venerable Port Townsend establishment: Eaglemount Winery and Cidery, off South Jacob Miller Road. My tasting partner and I pedaled our bicycles there last weekend and discovered the Log Cabin hard apple cider — and the serene setting where we could have a sip. Eaglemount has a deck from which you can gaze out at the woods and sky, as well as a fire ring with seating if you want to be closer to the earth. The cider was dry and delicious there at the winery, and tasted just as nice at home. While Eaglemount's many ciders, wines and meads may be found at the Port Townsend Food Co-op, Aldrich's and Chimacum Corner Farmstand, the complete fresh-air experience awaits you out there on the homestead. The Eaglemount tasting room is open from noon to 5 o'clock on Saturdays and Sundays. Trudy, the cider maker, said in the past they've stayed open all year; this year, she will see how it goes. So you might want to visit soon, so your senses can take in the fall flavor and color.

Coming back around to downtown Port Townsend — and to the online world — our visual art venues are doing it up right now. The Port Townsend Gallery on Water Street, is welcoming people to its indoor and outdoor spaces. So you can not only explore the tin-can art by Loran Scruggs, and photography by Tom Saknit, but you might also behold the imposing birds created by metal sculptor Greg Neal. You've got to be ready for them when you step out the back door: the gliding heron, a larger-than-life swooping swallow, and an attacking eagle are all in flight in the gallery's backyard. The picturesque brick buildings and the blue waves of Port Townsend Bay add to the atmosphere.

And nearby at the Northwind Arts Center, the grand gallery on Water and Quincy streets, where the November exhibition is "Manzanar: Their Footsteps Remain," by photographer Brian Goodman. I walked past Northwind as the crew were hanging the show, and it looked magnificent. The gallery is open to in-person visits from noon to 5 o'clock every Thursday through Sunday, and you can explore the show online at NorthwindArts.org.

That's What's Out There. I'm Diane Urbani de la Paz, here for you on KPTZ. Thanks for listening.