

The Best Art Tour in the Northwest!

The Holiday 2013 Vashon Island Art Studio Tour will be held on two weekends, December 7th- 8th and 14-15th, from 10AM - 4PM each day. It's a free, self-guided event. Preview the art and follow the numbers designated on the Studio Tour map, which is available online at VashonIslandArtStudioTour.com, and at most island businesses. Forty-five studios, shops and galleries (representing over 150 artists!) will open their doors to visitors.

Jacqui Lown Paintings etc @ Marjesira is stop number 11 on the tour, 25134 Vashon Hwy SW

"I work in both watercolor and oils. My paintings range from very literal translation of the beauty I see, to metaphysical and dreamlike; from views through beveled glass windows to whales swimming in the night sky. There will be new original paintings as well as giclee prints and cards. I will also have an array of other items available, such as hand spun and knit, hats and shawls. I just love working with my hands.

"I am excited to be showing at Marjesira, which has recently opened as a B&B. It was once a hotel, general store and post office and is now on the historical register. It is right on the water's edge of outer Quartermaster Harbor and has been a wonderful place to create my art. The shell-strewn trail and long flight of stairs may be a



challenge for some. Parking at the garage on the road is limited, but there is more parking along 250th. I may be able to make special arrangements for those that could handle a level bulkhead instead of stairs. Please call for more information. It will be well worth the adventure down to the Inn."

Artist Ken C. Judd is stop number 31 on the tour, 9805 SW 188th St

"I've been drawing and sketching since I was 4 years old. As I got older I decided to get out of representational

Find Some Great Birds on the Christmas Bird Count!



By Ed Swan

The Vashon-Maury Island Audubon Society is sponsoring the local Christmas Bird Count (CBC) again this year, and we're looking forward to seeing some great birds. You can join in the fun and citizen science in two ways:

1. Join an expert counting birds at one of Vashon's many bird hot spots like Tramp Harbor, Mukai Pond or Point Robinson. Bird watchers from absolute beginner to experienced are welcome; everyone can contribute because every extra pair of eyes means more birds get spotted.
2. Count the birds coming to your own bird feeder or property. Keep a list during the count day of the birds you see around your place.

This year, the count actually comes a little after Christmas on Sunday, January 5. People across the country will be conducting counts during a two week period stretching from just before to a little after Christmas. The name Christmas Bird Count comes from early conservationists trying to change a deadly tradition. In much of the nineteenth century, on Christmas Day, many Americans would get their guns and compete to shoot as many animals and birds off all kinds as they could, regardless of edibility. Tens of thousands of birds would die in day, wasted for "sport." Conservationists started a movement to count, not kill, the birds. This idea worked together with action to create hunting seasons and protections for non-game species to successfully prevent the extinction of several bird species.

The Christmas Bird Count now plays an extremely important role in understanding bird populations across

the continent. The coming count is the 114th CBC. The CBC represents one of the largest sets of data over more than a century of time, providing a very strong statistical basis for understanding trends in the health of bird species.

On Vashon, we now have fifteen years of data and that begins to provide enough data to see some real trends rather just some sort of wobble in numbers. For example, The Vashon count documents that Western Grebes numbers, once plentiful here, have fallen 95% since censuses in the 1990's. This mirrors a disturbing trend across Puget Sound. At the same time, several duck species such as scoters and goldeneye appear to be holding steady in our waters even while other areas of the Sound see an almost continuous decline.

Every year on our count, every group sees some really cool birds to report at the end of the day that add excitement to the numbers. Last year around Wax Orchards five different raptor species showed up: Red-tailed Hawk, a first for Vashon Rough-legged Hawk, Northern Harrier, Bald Eagle and American Kestrel. Many of the water watchers saw three species of loons in a number of locations: Common Loon, Pacific Loon and Red-throated Loon.

If you would like to sign up for the Christmas Bird Count on Sunday, January 5, call Ed Swan at 463-7976 or email at edswan@centurytel.net.

Ed Swan is returning after a long break to writing columns on birds and wildlife habitat for the Vashon Loop. Ed is also releasing the vastly expanded and revised second edition of The Birds of Vashon Island, the comprehensive book about Vashon birds, habitat and natural history. Order now by contacting Ed at the address above or at Ed's website: www.theswancompany.com.

The Road to Resilience

Coping with The Season

By Terry Sullivan, Transition Vashon

Here we are again in the season of consumer frenzy. It is easy for most of us to heap scorn on the Black Friday shootings and fist fights in WalMarts and the like. It is quite a bit more difficult to disown the urge to buy that caused it. Kids are the biggest reason we need to shop. As we all know, they don't understand the madness of using up all our resources making new stuff that we need to buy and sell in order to keep our economy going. They only see their friends and the expectations about "The Season" that they share.

There is certainly everything right with showing our love and connection by exchanging gifts. The fact is, though, that corporate advertising and our own tacit consent to a long tradition of buying from them builds expectations for the kinds of gifts that only corporations can provide. A lot of us can see that we need to change this tradition, but we don't intend to be the Grinch to our little loved ones at this special time of the year.

I don't know about you, but, for me, it is a case of damned if I do and damned if I don't. Part of me insists that I resist the urge to buy presents and instead make them or give none at all. I usually begin thinking about making presents about a month before Christmas. I always find that the gifts I would like to

make and give require way more time than I have. I don't know why I can't think of the kinds of gifts that live up to the couple of hours of loving attention that I want to give to each person, or at least start thinking a little earlier. In the end, I usually end up having to buy a little something from the corporate sector, especially for our grandson. And so, I serve myself a double helping of guilt.

If we need to buy, we should try to buy locally homemade goods from our friends and neighbors. I'm hoping that someday they will be able to support themselves with sales throughout the year instead of depending on the Seasonal frenzy, but, until then, we should try to support them.

I find that the only way to deal with this is to deconstruct the whole phenomenon and take the little steps that I am able to take to consume less while being careful to nurture my joy and serenity, without which all my gifting efforts are in vain. Whatever the effort you put out, it is not really a big deal in the long run. Even a complete failure to produce material gifts can be forgiven if you remain fun to be with, that is, if you can give the gift of yourself. I make this sound easy, but, believe me, I struggle with this every year, as Elizabeth, my

Continued on Page 9



WINDERMERE VASHON

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Windermere Vashon is offering free Heli-Cam photos to our sellers to enhance the marketing of their homes and properties. The heli-cam can go off the edge of a cliff, hover 200 ft above the water, facing your home, get single-shot overviews of your entire property! Eighty percent of all buyers first locate the property they will purchase online. Having the best photographic presentation of your property will help you sell---for more!



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Windermere Vashon



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Vashon Island, WA
EST. 1964

The Country Store and Gardens

Holiday Open House
Saturday, December 7th, 9am-6pm
Come Celebrate The Holiday
With Our New Management & Employees
10% OFF EVERYTHING

Prizes, NW Food Samples, Free Gift Wrapping
Pruning Seminar 11am, Wreath Making Workshop 1 pm

Lots of gift ideas to choose from:
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Sunday 10 to 4:30

Like us on facebook: [Facebook.com/countrystoreandgardens](https://www.facebook.com/countrystoreandgardens)

VASHON ISLAND

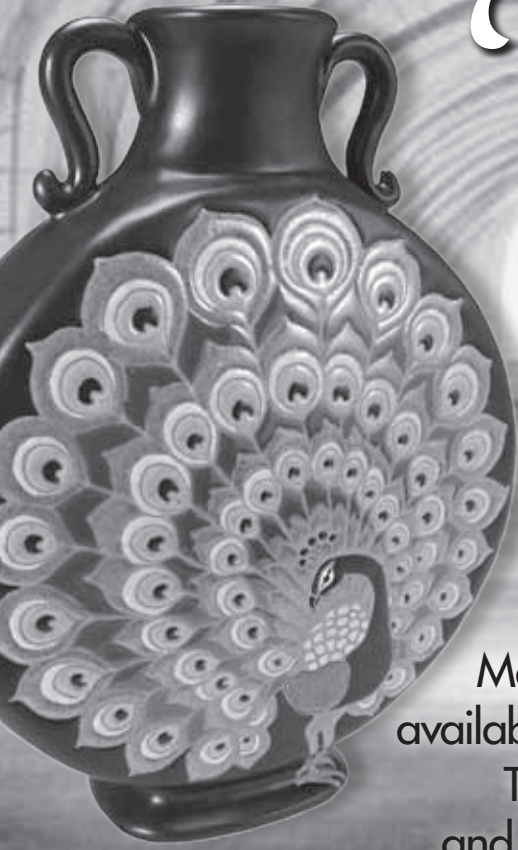
Art Studio Tour

HOLIDAY 2013

DECEMBER 7-8 & 14-15
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10 AM – 4 PM

Maps and brochures available at Island businesses.
To preview the art and plan your route, visit

VashonIslandArtStudioTour.com



Reverberation watercolor by Jacqui Lown, #11 Peacock Vase by CW Pottery, #12

Cassava & Sweet Potato Pie



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Crafted on Vashon Island in small batches

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Next Loop comes out December 19

Get in The Loop

Submissions to the Loop

Do you have an event or Public Service Announcement? Email questions or submissions to Steven Allen, editor of the *Loop*, at editor@vashonloop.com. Photos are welcome as jpeg or pdf attachments.

Water District Meeting

Water District 19’s next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10th, 2013 at 4:30 PM here at the District Office Board Room. This meeting will also be the last meeting for outgoing President Steve Haworth ~ The district’s General Manager Jeff Lakin and Staff wish him well on his new adventures. It has been a pleasure to have him be a part of the district’s Board of Commissioners and for all the years he has been a representative for the customers of Water District 19. The District Office boardroom is located at, 17630 100th Ave SW.

Last two sign up times for Health Insurance

The last two days for this year will be Thursdays Dec 5th and Dec 12th at the Senior Center from 10-1pm. This sign up is being done by the happy Vashon volunteer in-person assistants.

Come and get signed up for health insurance. About 80% of the people signing up in the state are qualifying for Washington Apple Health. This is the free insurance. The other 20% are getting federal subsidies to help pay for the insurance.

Kiwanis Toy Drive Store Dates Change

Parents/guardians (no children) may shop for 2 complete outfits, 2 toys and or games etc and a pair of PJ’s for each child. This is for Vashon families only. The store will be open for those families in need on Saturday December 21th from 9 AM until 4 PM and on Sunday December 22th from 10AM until 2PM. Location will be in the Vashon I G A Plaza next to the Auto Parts.

Vashon has been making a better Christmas for over 200 children. Donation boxes are place in Prominent locations. All new unwrapped items of clothes, games and toys for infants to 18 are needed. Cash or check donations may be mailed to: Kiwanis, P O Box 262, Vashon. (Marked Toy Drive)

Contact information for the Toy Drive:
Joyce Smith , 372-5030
Jan Lyell , 229-8085

Exchange

Get into the Christmas spirit with St. John Vianney Church’s stage production of Ray Bradbury’s heartwarming story “EXCHANGE”, with actors Patricia Kelly and Fr. Marc Powell, and direction by Jim Roy. The play runs at 7:30 p.m. Fri. Dec. 13th and Sat. Dec. 14th at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 16100 115th Ave. SW.

Admission free/ \$10 suggested donation, or canned food for the island food bank. A snack potluck follows each performance.

*Based on the short story “EXCHANGE”, by Ray Bradbury, c. 1996 and performed by permission of Don Congdon Associates, Inc.

Sci-Fi Saturday Santa Claus Conquers The Martians

Alien invaders kidnap everyone’s favorite right jolly old elf in this low-budget mixture of children’s comedy and sci-fi adventure. Christmas is not far away, and countless children are glued to their family’s TV sets, watching reports about Santa Claus (John Call). However, this is happening on Mars, and leaders of the Red Planet aren’t sure what to do for their kids who are pining away for a visit from the gift-bearing earthling. Martian leader Kimar (Leonard Hicks) dispatches two of his emissaries, the chronically grumpy Voldar (Vincent Beck) and the moronically cheerful Dropo (Bill McCutcheon), to Earth to bring Santa back for a visit. After arriving on Earth, Voldar and Dropo abduct two children, Betty (Donna Conforti) and Billy (Victor Stiles), and order the kids to show them the way to Santa’s workshop, from which all three are taken to Mars against their will. As Santa, Betty, and Billy try to find a way back to Earth, Voldar becomes enraged with the Earth kids, while the children bond more comfortably with the intellectually-challenged Dropo. Shot on a shoestring budget on Long Island, Santa Claus Conquers the Martians has developed a rabid cult following over the years, and yes, it’s true, Kimar’s daughter Girmar really is played by a ten-year-old Pia Zadora.

Please bring cash and food donations for the Chicken Soup Brigade. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Next Edition of The Loop Comes out Thursday, December 19

Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* Friday, December 13

Compost the Loop

The Loop’s soy-based ink is good for composting.

Vashon Social Dance Group

Saturday December 7, 2013 at our monthly Vashon Social Dance Group Event. we will have Ari Levitt as our guest instructor.

7:00 - 8:00 pm Night Club Two-step lesson

8:00 - 9:30 pm Dancing to deejayed music

Ober Park Performance Hall 17130 Vashon Highway SW 98070

Suggested \$10 donation. Come alone or bring some friends, just join us for this spectacular opportunity to learn NC2 from Ari, who was mentored by Buddy Schwimmer - the inventor of NC2 Step.

Ari is an awesome instructor and dancer and will be on hand to teach us Night Club Two-step and dance and play. He will have lots of fun Holiday music to dance to and a good time will be had by all.

Vashon Solstice Celebration 2013 “The Return”

On December 21st, at 7pm, the 2nd Annual Vashon community solstice celebration takes place at the Open Space on Vashon. This year’s event is called “The Return”, and will build on the huge success of last year’s event, “The Beginning”.

Labeled a “Ritual/Performance/Dessert/Party”, the evening is an all-ages celebration of the return of the light, on the longest night of the year. The event will include a live steel drum band, dancing, a huge dessert potluck, a (fire-marshall approved) outdoor fire, musical performances, mythic storytelling, and a great celebration of community.

A large team of community members are collaborating to create this year’s festivities. Led and produced by Kevin Joyce and Martha Enson (EnJoy Productions), the creative team (including Michael Meade and many island artists) is drawing together islanders of all ages to participate in creating dances, organizing the desserts, decorating the space, helping with ticket sales and greeting party-goers.

Tickets are \$15/person, and \$30 for families. You are reminded to dress warmly (some of the event will be outside, regardless of weather), and to bring a dessert to share. Tickets are available at Brown Paper Tickets. Call 1800-838-3006, or go to vashonsolstice.brownpapertickets.com

There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer and be involved in this great community event. If interested, call Kevin 818 8136 or Martha 818 8126, or write to Martha@en-joyproductions.com. See you on Solstice!

Destination DC Bake Sale

At the Tree Lighting event, Saturday, December 7th, McMurray students will sell both holiday baked treats in front of Blooms, 5-8 PM and freshly roasted chestnuts in front of Frame of Mind, 4-9 PM. All proceeds will help a group of over 30 students travel to Washington DC in June, as part of the Washington DC Exploratory Trip for 8th graders. Stop by for some delicious seasonal treats!

Auditions for “Born Yesterday”

Drama Dock announces auditions for its spring 2014 production of Born Yesterday, directed by Chaim Rosemarin.

When: Wednesday Dec. 11 and Thursday Dec. 12, 7 to 9 pm, VHS band room.

Call backs and late arrivals on Sunday, Dec. 15, 1 to 5 pm.

12 male and 4 female roles. Some of the male roles are bit parts.

Actors need not prepare a monologue. The audition will consist of reading selected scenes from the play. A few copies of the script are available for perusal at the Vashon Public Library

A Broadway hit from the 1940s that is, alas, all too relevant in today’s highly politicized world, Born Yesterday is a classic romantic comedy-cum political satire. Uncouth, blowhard millionaire Harry Brock goes to Washington to buy himself a senator or two, bringing with him his (supposedly) dumb blonde ex-chorus girl mistress Billie Dawn. He hires an investigative journalist to “train” her to appear less ignorant, and boy does he get more than he bargained for.

Performances in the New (!) Vashon High School Theater March 14-16 and 21-23.

Recycle your holiday lights at PSE

Well it is that time of year again. Changing the worn out holiday lights for the sparkling new ones. BUT do not throw these away. We are recycling the worn out, used, broken down and tired holiday lights.

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is teaming up with Girl Scouts of Western Washington again this year on the holiday lights recycling program. Working together, we hope to keep thousands of strings of lights out of the landfill. Collection begins in mid-November and continues throughout December.

All proceeds from the 2013 Holiday Lights Recycling Program will fund shark conservation efforts.

So for us on Vashon drop your holiday lights off at the Puget Sound Energy office just south of town. Patti, the infamous “PSE Patti” has agreed to be our drop off location again this year. We will be collecting until the end of this year.

The Vashon Loop

Contributors: Kathy Abascal, Deborah Anderson, Marie Browne, Eric Francis, Troy Kindred, Terry Sullivan, Orca Annie, Steve Amos, Ed Swan, Mary Litchfield Tuel, Marj Watkins, Peter Ray.

Original art, comics, cartoons: DeeBee, Ed Frohning, Rick Tuel, Jeff Hawley

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Vashon and Seattle team up to conquer The Troll

Vashon Film Society will screen a locally made documentary about the famed Fremont Troll public art sculpture on Friday, December 6 for its monthly series of First Friday Art Films at the Vashon Theatre.

“The Hall of Giants” explores the creation and endurance of the Fremont Troll – a sculpture which sits under the bridge’s north end and ranks second only to the Space Needle as a beloved city icon. The film, named after the dramatic view corridor under the Aurora Bridge in Fremont, chronicles how public art can help define and revitalize urban spaces.

The film is also a celebration of Seattle's scrappy underdog roots, given that this popular tourist attraction was once a dump site. Led by a team of volunteers, the grant-funded art project cost "less money than the city would spend on a new police car," as Troll lead artist Steve Badanes states in the movie. At its core, the film spins a cautionary tale about the specter of gentrification, where artists and citizenry are pushed out of areas by development, and how neighborhoods and entire cities can grow estranged from the cultural and artistic roots that once established them. It's an old tale, but it's one that still resonates in modern times.

"The Hall of Giants" is something of an underdog in its own right; it's the first feature film that director Michael Falcone has ever produced, but it was well received and attended at its initial test screening last year at Hales' Palladium. "People just kept coming through the door," Falcone said. "Before we knew it, we were looking at a near-capacity crowd in the same space that hosts large-scale events like The Moisture Festival. I was completely unprepared for that." When the film premiered its final cut at SIFF Cinema's Uptown Theater this September, the house was nearly full again. "The Troll brings good fortune to those who are touched by it," says Falcone.

The film's production started in 2010 with a modest grant from the Fremont Arts Council. Falcone teamed up with director of photography Hank Graham with the intent of making a short film to document the challenges involved with the making of the Troll. As interviews with the Troll's creators progressed, much broader themes began to take shape, and the film's arc widened.

¹“Once I saw that ‘Giants’ was less about a statue and more about larger issues like gentrification and art’s role in keeping that in check, I thought, hey, I think I might have a feature here,” explained Falcone. He sought out the photographs and footage necessary to support a larger film narrative and



eventually struck pay dirt when he discovered The Seattle Municipal Archives media collection. “It’s an amazing resource. I’m indebted to them for providing so much good material,” Falcone enthused.

In 2012, Falcone won a Seattle CityArtist Grant and used the funds to hire Vashon-based editor James Culbertson to polish the rough film he'd cobbled together on an old underpowered MacBook. The two filmmakers began a creative partnership that transformed the film into its current polished state. A University of Washington test screening gave the project more positive feedback, and attendees volunteered their services to help with post-production work after viewing the rough cut of the film. "The Hall of Giants" is now complete, with a run time of ninety minutes – a feature film made for \$3000 and no out of pocket expenses from the filmmakers.

“It’s not lost on me that the creation of the Troll sculpture has proven a fitting model for the creation of this film. ‘The Hall of Giants’ is a grant-funded and volunteer-driven project that had humble beginnings, but through the faith and sweat equity of a supportive community, bigger things have come to life. It’s been an amazing experience,” says director Falcone.

The Vashon Film Society screening is at 9:30 pm on Friday, December 6, and both director Michael Falcone and editor James Culbertson will do a Q&A after the Vashon Theatre show. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

Free On Line Classifieds
www.VashonLoop.com

Dandy Needs A Home

Notice something different about me? I thought you might. It's no big deal – one of my eyes became very sick and had to be removed. I was given a clean bill of health, and I'm getting along just fine. Nothing has changed; I'm still the same golden-haired beauty I was before, with the same gentle personality. I'm compatible with other cats, and I like people who are kind and patient while I get to know them. I meow quietly to get their attention so noise, and I'm content to be by myself



and patient while I get to know them. When I feel comfortable with them, I meow quietly to get their attention so they'll pet me. I don't make a lot of noise, and I'm content to be by myself most of the time.

Go To www.vipp.org Click on Adopt

Progressive Foodies, Diabetics & Environmentalist Unite!

Simply Raw: Reversing Diabetes in 30 Days is an independent documentary film that chronicles six Americans with 'incurable' diabetes switching their diet and getting off insulin.

The film follows each participant's remarkable journey and captures the medical, physical, and emotional transformations brought on by this radical diet and lifestyle change. We witness moments of struggle, support, and hope as what is revealed, with startling clarity, is that diet can reverse disease and change lives.

Additional wisdom is provided by Morgan Spurlock, Woody Harrelson, Anthony Robbins, Rev. Michael Beckwith, and Doctors Fred Bisci, Joel Furman, and Gabriel Cousens.

What does this have to do with our healthcare system and our foot print in this world? Everything. Eating a Whole Food Primarily Plant Based Diet has been shown through history to significantly lower healthcare cost.

In 2007 United Nations published a report on livestock and the environment with a stunning conclusion: “The livestock sector emerges as one of the top two or three most significant contributors to the most serious environmental problems, at every scale from local to global.” It turns out that raising animals for food is a primary cause of land degradation, air pollution, water shortage, water pollution,



loss of biodiversity, and not least of all, global warming. This was in 2007 and the evidence has been mounting since.

Jessica Bolding MS EAMP began showing food movies and teaching classes 1.5 years ago on what she found cured her self of an auto immune disorder that once threatened to cripple her life. Jessica searched for what was curing the incurable. She found plant based foods and has used this approach for herself and many of her client with astounding results.

Come out on Dec 10th 6pm at Vashon Theater to watch the transformation that people go through physically and emotionally on a vegan Raw diet. After the movie PRAHM will host a discussion and talk about a 30 day challenge class in January of 2014 full of science and support.

The Vashon Island Holiday Art Studio Tour 2013

WATERWORKS STUDIO

A MANDALA OF ART

Preview Party
Friday, December 6
6:00 pm

Tour Hours
December 7-8 & 14-15
10 am to 4 pm

The Artists' Tree
with New Works by
Our Artists

Enjoy Spiced Tea
& Cider with
Tasty Cookies

Music by Richard Person & Jim Hobson

Darsie & Christine Beck- Newest edition of Darsie's book, artist bags, & his wonderful watercolors. Chris's recent work of functional ceramics in porcelain

Lindsay Aickin- Symbolic & vibrantly colored prayer flags, calendars & ornaments

Jill Andrews- Tiny elves, knitted childrens toys and balls, felted mittens & more

Susan Bates- Luscious felted wearables from scarves to handbags

Zoe Cherokee- Warm & colorful wool cowls & fingerless gloves for adults & children

Ginny Cizek- Smokin' jewelry, stunning boxes & symbolic altars with Ginny's unique touch

Bob Horsley- New & dazzling watercolor & gouache landscape paintings

Ilo Kimono (Dana Ilo)- Vintage & modern silk kimonos re-imagined into elegant wearables

Terry Jansen- Fresh & inspiring watercolors

Julie King- Unique one-of-a-kind creations for yard & garden-recycled, salvaged & found materials

Lavender Sisters- Vashon's own lavender elegantly presented for bed, bath & culinary use

Mike Maher- Fine paintings, prints & notecards of Island & Northwest scenes

Ray Pfortner- Encaustic photo transfers, calendars, snow globes, mousepads, notecards & more

Jayne Quig- Pastels, monoprints & mixed media painting in a variety of sizes

Kate Rutherford- That exquisite "signature of Vashon" stone jewelry- serene & utterly unique

Gray Thompson- Astounding airplanes & ferry boats for kids, copper etched candleholders

Janice Wall- Deeply rich & colorful pastel paintings in a small format

Kathleen Webster- Quintessential images of Webster favorites on notecards

Waterworks is #21 on the Tour Map & located at 7012 SW 240th Street (Manny Island), 206/463-2653.
On the Dockton Road, turn left at 240th, third driveway on left. Visa/ Mastercard accepted.
Visit Waterworks at www.waterworksavashon.com and on Facebook and the studio tour website at www.vashonislandartstudioartstour.com.

Island Life Plunge

By Peter Ray

No matter how you slice it, you do not drift, bask, bob or immerse oneself in forty nine degree water. In that sense, Scott Bonney got it totally right when he dubbed the recent day after Thanksgiving, Burton to Dockton harbor swim as the "Too Much Turkey/ Pilgrim Plunge". There is no easy way to get into cold water, beyond the basic necessity of telling yourself that it is a wise choice to begin with. Even after you have done the mental gyration that allows you to believe that the hyper-hydrating, hypothermic activity you are about to partake of is indeed a smart and beneficial act of self discipline and athletic prowess, any sign of weakness or self doubt between the time and act of stripping down to swimming essentials and splashing down in a well chilled aquatic environment of your choice leaves you wide open to take that ever beckoning door of sanity and reason to a spot of relative safety and warmth. I know. I have been knee deep at the water's relative edge in my core-protecting shorty wetsuit and have been overcome by the desire to not be cold. Somewhere between the sensation of sharp, moist coldness lapping at my shins and a brief check back on personal options for the rest of the day, there is a box that I must fill in with one of two words in order to proceed. Those words are why and plunge.

There is a good reason for asking the why question. I learned that lesson the day, one year in late Spring, when I swung from a rope swing into a swiftly moving river. I can remember thinking, as the splash and the coldness enveloped me, "oh, I just finished my third high school swimming season as an All-American and now I'm going to drown from a dumbass swimming hole dip." If water had not been such a familiar environment, regardless of how hostile the temperature turned out to be, that might have been a different set of thoughts. This situation suddenly demanded a particularly steep learning curve, but one that relative calm and a determination to swim once again in warmer waters allowed me to reach the shore in a timely but humbled fashion. For almost fifteen years I avoided cold water until peer pressure and the challenge of the first Emerald City Open Water Swim drew me to the edge of Lake Washington and its



fifty six degree environment of early June. I recall a teammate who had gone ahead of me at the start suddenly turning and running toward shore muttering "no Way" as he passed. I also remember the shock of the plunge with only two Speedo racing suits and a bathing cap between me and that particular aquatic reality, and how the first two hundred yards were spent doing head-high breaststroke until my spasming diaphragm would allow me to put my head in the water and swim and breathe without having to take panicked and semi-involuntary gasps.

So no- I did not go into the harbor last week in anything resembling an intentional bathing suit. There is, of course, always the possibility that swimming might become an unwelcome option while out on the water,

so anything one wears has the potential to become a costume for a bathing of sorts. My choice of dress for this occasion was a combination of multiple, breathable thermal layers and biking gear, which also suits paddling in a kayak to a tee. There were two of us in kayaks, and we tagged along behind Scott's boat as the ten swimmers on board moved from why to plunge. In the past, the swims that have gone either way between Dockton and Burton beach have involved pretty much exclusively Islanders, or as the group dedicated to promoting swimming in the waters surrounding the Island refer to themselves: Whulgers. As well as the Salish Sea, the First People referred to the waters of Puget Sound as the Whulge. Joining the Whulgers for this plunge were fellow open water swimmers from Seattle and Tacoma. Among the notables was a friend of mine from years past in masters swimming. Scott Lautman trains in Puget Sound and elsewhere and has recently completed what is known in the world of open water swimming (OWS) as the triple crown, consisting of the English Channel swim (21mi.), the Catalina Island Channel swim (20.2mi.) and the Manhattan Island Marathon Swim (28.5mi.). Andrew Malinak made news this past summer with his attempt to swim across the Strait of Juan de Fuca. He was thwarted in his attempt by changing currents and tides and 46 degree water. He had to abandon his attempt just shy of Port Angeles after being in the water for over seven hours. He has also completed the circumnavigation of Manhattan. Guila Muir is an avid open water swimmer and runs Say Yes to Life which promotes open water swimming with organized swims around the Sound. And of course from this homefront, Wendy had to be among those plunging as a part of rounding out her year of open water swim success.

For the most part, the first Pilgrim Plunge was indeed a success. I say most, as nine of the ten swimmers made it across without a hitch. The tenth swimmer, in an email accounting of his adventure which was forwarded this way, stated that when he asked himself who was president and only could come up with George Bush for an answer, he decided that it would be best if he were towed the last hundred or so yards to the Dockton Marina by Paul in kayak 2. From there he was first warmed in the park showers and then was taken for hot tea and more hot showers at the Lynge/ Johnson residence from which he emerged



coherent and cognizant of who our current commander in chief really is. After I got the waterside bonfire going for the swimmers who were recounting having passed through the jellyfish universe two thirds of the way across, I was reminded of finishing my own fifty six degree swim, as I watched the shakes settle in and pass around the fire. I remembered small cups of hot chocolate that were uncontrollably drained of all warmth and fluid by the violent rotation back and forth of forearms trying to be still but couldn't, and all because somebody cried plunge. There is a fascination with doing the difficult and definitely a sense of accomplishment having done it. As far as cold water goes, though, especially this cold, I think the word that will continue to go in my answer box is- why?



Dorsal Drought Ends

By Orca Annie Stateler, VHP Coordinator

The advent of December brought with it a refreshing end to our dorsal drought. Two killer whale ecotypes, Resident and Transient, visited Vashon-Maury waters at the start of the month. In accordance with an ostensible treaty between the Kéet Nations, Southern Residents traversed the territory on December 1, Transients blew through at a fast clip on December 2, and Residents returned on December 3.

The Southern Residents arrived in a small, curious assemblage -- call it “something’s up” -- of partial pods. Based on our observations and photos sent to Chez VHP thus far, it appears that only 16 to 18 whales were present: Onyx (L87) with J Pod Group A, led by 102-year-old Granny (J2) ; the K13 matriline, Skagit’s family, who traveled with super matriarch Lummi (K7) when she was alive; and possibly another K Pod family.

Historically, these fragmented configurations in Puget Sound have been associated with births or ailing pod members who disappear during the winter. We pray that someone is preggers – at least two gals in this group are due for additional calves. Food availability likely influences these smaller formations, as well.

J Pod was once the most cohesive of our three Resident pods. For a decade or more, the Group A and Group B phenomenon has been observed regularly in summer, but I did not see it in local waters until the winter of 2011, after Ruffles (J1) died.

At our marine mammal talks, people often ask us if seals can differentiate between Resident and Transient killer whales. Our neighborhood Harbor seals demonstrated their knowledge on December 2, huddling for security several feet from shore when Transients smoked



down sound. The group of six or so female and juvenile orcas appeared to be on a mission to penetrate the Narrows. They did not dally anywhere between Bunker Trail and Point Defiance.

I surmise that, since Transients were still in the deep South Sound, the Residents did not venture westward through Dalco Pass when they reached Browns Point on December 3. Granny (J2) knows best for her family. In 1993, researcher Graeme Ellis witnessed an agitated encounter between J Pod and the T21 Transient group near Nanaimo, BC. The Transients seemed intimidated by the unusually aggressive Residents, perhaps because J Pod had a new calf at the time. Typically, the two ecotypes avoid interaction.

Dear readers, we are grateful for your sighting reports and for photos from Richard, Greg, Kelly, Rayna, and Meg. We appreciate Captain Joe’s astute mariner’s eye – what a lucky break that he was doing lighthouse tours on December 1 for the Point Robinson Holiday Open House!

Please support the work of the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP): REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS ASAP TO 463-9041, as well as seal pups and sick, injured, or dead marine mammals on Island beaches. Prompt reports to the VHP expedite vital data collection efforts by Mark Sears and other researchers, and sustain an accurate record of whale sightings for Vashon-Maury initiated three decades ago. Send photos to Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com.



“Granny (J2) with her family in East Passage. Photo © Mark Sears.”

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Ah, Youth

By Mary Tuel

In 1966, after my first year of college, my parents and I had a disagreement which led to a parting of the ways. I ended up living in San Francisco, in a stairwell on Oak Street in the Haight-Ashbury.

In 1966 the Haight-Ashbury was still San Francisco’s open secret. There was a mix of attitude and drugs and music, oh the music! Mostly at the Avalon Ballroom (hosted by the Family Dog) and the Fillmore Auditorium (hosted by Bill Graham. Free apples!), played by all those bands: Big Brother and the Holding Company, Jefferson Airplane, the Grateful Dead, to name but a few, and the blues gods: Bo Diddley (whose bass player told me we could make beautiful music together), the Paul Butterfield Blues Band, Charlie Musselwhite, Chuck Berry.

The music, the attitude, and of course the effects of using marijuana and LSD were central to the Haight-Ashbury zeitgeist. Grass was \$10 a lid, the best LSD was made by Owsley, and it was still legal.

I was 18 and had acquired one marketable skill in my education: typing. I signed up with a temp agency, and was a lucky college dropout wandering through what was then the coolest place to be in the whole world.

In 1966 I encountered a lot of people who were famous or about to be – Jerry Garcia sitting in the laundromat on Haight Street waiting for the dryer to finish – Alan Ginsberg in flowing robes wafting up the stairs to the Avalon Ballroom with his retinue of young people – Neal Cassady and Ken Kesey (who was on the run from the law) dressed in white jumpsuits, walking down Page Street to a dance put on by the Hell’s Angels (free oranges!), stopping to chat and share a smoke.

In the winter of ’67 I went back to college, making one more attempt to reconcile with my family and color inside the lines, but darn, the Haight-Ashbury was so much more interesting than college. At the end of that school year I hitchhiked up through Big Sur to Monterey to attend the Monterey Pop Festival. When I got home and was dropped off by the carload of hippies that gave me a ride, my parents could see that I had not changed much from the summer before. We fell out. Again.

So I landed in the Haight-Ashbury again, working for the temp agency again, sleeping on various friends’ couches and floors until I found a room in a flat on Clayton Street.

It was the “Summer of Love,”

and the world turned its attention to the Haight-Ashbury. By that time there were tourist buses, and crowds of tourists and curious young people who had come to see what the Summer of Love was all about.

George Harrison and his then-wife Patti Boyd came one day and stayed until he was recognized. Then they walked back to their limousine which was parked on Masonic Street as fast as they reasonably could with hundreds of hippies trailing along singing, “We all live in a yellow submarine!” I can only imagine the fear that must clutch a famous person’s heart when being pursued by a mob like that. At the time I was part of the mob. George and Patti graciously stopped and shook a few hands, including my friend Bob’s, before saying good-bye and ducking into the limo and getting the heck out of there.

I was impressed with how short and slight George Harrison was, an observation I would make again a couple of years later when I saw the Rolling Stones. Man, those British kids who grew up on rations and shortages after World War II did not get very big.

The flat on Clayton Street was across the street from Chet Gurley’s house, and Big Brother and the Holding Company rehearsed there sometimes during the summer of 1967. Janis did not have a rehearsal volume – she was full tilt, all of the time.

My friend Bob looked out the flat window one day, and said, “Shel Silverstein is sitting on the curb across the street.” I looked out the window, and sure enough, there he was. Bob and I went down the stairs and across the street and struck up a conversation. He was polite, even friendly, to us. He was sitting there doing an ink drawing of the San Francisco skyline as it looked from where he was sitting. That drawing appeared a couple of months later in Playboy Magazine, along with the article he wrote about the Haight Ashbury.

A lot of water has gone over the dam since 1967, friends. I’ve dropped a lot of heavy names here (thud, thud, thud), and so many of those people are gone now - Janis Joplin and Chet Gurley, Bill Graham, George Harrison, Alan Ginsberg, Shel Silverstein, Jerry Garcia, Neal Cassady and Ken Kesey. All those voices and instruments that moved us so, gone silent. Mick Jagger is still around, for some reason. Go figure.

I walked through it all oblivious, a lonesome kid looking for love and attention and getting on a lot of peoples’ nerves. Bad things happened in the Haight, but for some reason they didn’t happen to me. Did I mention I was lucky?

Never was much one for drugs – I had too much on my mind and drugs got in the way. Went to LA to become a rock star in 1969, and came crawling out looking for some peace and quiet in 1971. Moved to Vashon Island in 1973, and soon settled down and became remarkably conventional, at least for me.

Growing up on the farm I thought life was so boring and I couldn’t wait to get out of there and get a life where things happened. Now I look at life since the farm and think, you can’t make this stuff up. As it turns out, life is more exciting now than it ever has been.

I didn’t see that coming.



art. I started to do what I called ‘science fiction’ or ‘surrealism.’ In 2009 I moved into this house we rented and there was all this leftover stuff from this old guy, Harold, and it had a spirit to it. I looked into the basement and there were these workbenches that had drawers of antique hardware and strings of copper. I just started fiddling around with a piece of cedar and all this free hardware and I made my first couple of pieces which sold on the island in 2010 at Open Space and then it just kind of grew, I kept stretching it. I found construction piles that had broken furniture and I tried to make furniture at first but I was running out of room. I was trying to refinish in a funky way. These guys just kind of kept on growing. Everything I do is one-of-a-kind. I find a part, then those parts challenge me and I fight back. And that’s how I create.”

Heather Brynn is the proprietor of Stop number 41, SAW-Starving Artist Works, 9922 SW Bank Rd, next door to Café Luna.

“For as long as I remember, my favorite pastime was to create with my hands. I started selling my handcrafts at the age of 13, going home every day and making more product to sell..... school work was not a priority. I started making jewelry in the late 80’s and sold through craft fairs, retail outlets, and sales reps until I became a Realtor in 1997, which I continue today. I still make jewelry but also make shibori dyed scarves, beeswax candles, hair accessories, knitted scarves and felted items. Since my father owned a sporting goods store in which I spent a lot of time, it had been a long dream of mine to own a retail shop. Opening the shop has given me, and 3 of my children, a venue to sell our arts and crafts, along with over 70 talented Vashon Island artists represented in SAW.”

Mirror Maker Lynanne Raven is the artist at tour stop number 4, Ravensong Studio,

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“I make one-of-a-kind mirrors from cutout wood. I got my degree in textile design from the University of Washington so



I am actually a fabric designer. I decided I wanted to challenge myself so I tried something different, and translated that repetitive design into designing mirrors. My challenge was to learn how to use heavy, dangerous woodworking tools, which was something completely different. I still have all my fingers which is really important since I need them to play the ukulele. I’m thoroughly enjoying doing something totally different. I like a challenge, I like a change, I like trying new things.”

Tour Stop number 1 is Charlotte Masi Gourds, 10311 SW 116th Place, just up the hill from the north end ferry dock.

“I work with gourds and



transform them into vases, bowls, pots, rattles, and ornaments. I also embellish them with materials like wood, metal, and beads. The thing I enjoy most is developing new techniques and I’m always testing new ideas and methods, for instance, last year I began to slice and recompose the pieces creating more sculptural forms. I’m currently working with wire and adding wire-bending elements to my pieces and taking a class at Pratt to learn to patina the metal. My next adventure will be to add metal with innovative patinas that will add another dimension to my work.”

Liz Lewis Pottery is stop number 7, 12714 SW Cemetery Rd.



“I’m a producer of earthenware pottery and I’ve been doing it for 35 years. I have a great relationship with color. That’s why I enjoy working on a white background, and earthenware gives the brightest colors. Over the years my work has become more and more decorative, and the colors are more popular now. I like making pots for people to use. I work with kids and adults in my teaching studio. I conduct classes and summer clay camps here so it’s an active place and a nice little community of clay people.

“The sales that I do during the Art Tours are the best shopping for Liz Lewis Pottery that you can find. That’s when I have the biggest inventory and it’s the shows that I’m the most proud of. My year of production revolves around the Spring and the Holiday Art Tour. I’ve been doing the Art Tour since 1988 when it was just a group of potters and we’re now at our 35th anniversary.”



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Aries (March 20-April 19)

We live in a time when everything comes down to power. Every question, action taken, or choice made becomes a question of power over others, or whether an individual has the strength to stand up to it. It would be one thing if this were just the king and his men. It’s now every major corporation and countless events that unfold on the individual and intimate levels of existence. Sex becomes a question of rape. Food becomes a matter of mass poisoning. Rule One is: you do it if you can. This comes at a price, which is self-mastery. As long as the name of society’s game is domination of others, we will overlook that the essential mission of arriving on Earth in a body is to be the master of your consciousness, your choices and to the greatest extent possible, your destiny. That theme comes into focus now, and as your ruling planet Mars moves into Libra and then into aspect with the historic Uranus-Pluto square, this theme will remain in focus for the foreseeable future. It is true that many forces in your personality are leading you to feel less than stable, though that is precisely what you must learn to harvest and focus with discipline and a true commitment to self-reinvention, clarity and the ability to direct your will.

Taurus (April 19-May 20)

You are right in that zone where self-respect and respect for authority merge into the same thing. You have wanted and indeed needed to level the playing field of life for a long time; to experience some sense of your own presence with other talented people on a peer-to-peer level. What you are learning is that the human property that facilitates that experience comes from you. It’s your recognition of your own gifts and your own potential that allows you to recognize the talent and leadership of others as something inherently human rather than mythical or supernatural. If you perceive authority as a leadership quality, as aptitude and as a hard-won achievement, you will be more inclined to be its student and to crave cultivating those same qualities in yourself. What you’re about to experience is an opportunity to dismantle and understand the familial experiences that led you in the other direction -- to mystify those who seemed powerful; to distance yourself from them; to feel anything but equal. As you identify and discard various internalized structures, especially the authority structures of your family, you will free up energy, time and space. That will come in handy as you discover not only talents but also a profound desire to make your contribution to society.

Gemini (May 20-June 21)

It is time for you to think bigger, which means with a long-range vision and focusing your sense of mission. This is setting a high standard in a world where 140-character messages by rank idiots make world news, but so be it. Over the next few weeks, information is likely to come through that has nothing to do with your work-a-day world, your circle of friends or any of your usual patterns of conversation. You will be getting big-picture information at the same time you experience a kind of earthquake around the values that guide your life. Go deeper, not for an hour or for a special occasion, but rather take your whole existence into the realm of active meaning. When you recognize that something you feel or think is true, or when you have an experience that changes you, start making decisions -- immediately -- based on what you have learned or discovered. Stop yourself from making excuses not to. It would be helpful if you were to take notes, by which I mean carry a notebook and use it, because there are some observations you will make that will evade memory. These are things you will want to remember, indeed, things for which you may have searched a lifetime.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You may notice that certain people you are intimate with are willing to go places you never imagined they would. That’s a cosmic signal that you are ready to go places that you never dreamed of, both in intimate situations and ordinary life. This is not a passing trend. You are embarking on one of the most significant phases of your life, when it comes to your ability to deepen your intimacy, your capacity for empathy and most of all, for experiencing some emotional balance in your relationships with others. While it may not be possible to insist that others know where you’re coming from at all times, you can understand yourself in the context of another person’s life, which is almost as good. A perceptive ability is opening up that is allowing you to see how others see you and to sense who you are to them. Before long you will be able to time travel with this experience, and look back over the course of your life and benefit from the awareness of how others experienced you, even when you were a child. This depth of understanding will help you adjust your emotional reality, and experience the feeling of actually belonging in the world. That you do is a true fact. To feel that way is a privilege.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)

You may feel like you’ve got an unusual amount of work piled on you, however the way to think of this is as approaching a truly significant achievement. There may be something you’ve wanted to accomplish for years, and you now have that potential. It will help if you get busywork out of the way, avoid running around on errands or doing everyone else’s job. That is to say, keep yourself on a routine of constantly prioritizing and reassessing your priority scheme. The point of this, if it’s not obvious, is to eliminate as many unnecessary activities as possible and direct your energy to what you know matters. If you are uncertain, knock it down the priority list and focus on what you are confident you want to do or know you must accomplish. One thing I can tell you is that by thinking things through and letting your mind do most of the work, you can spare yourself a lot of pointless effort and wasted time. I don’t mean worrying, which you’re better at than you let on. I mean thinking of your goals, desires and the circumstances of your life as puzzles you want to solve, and getting your thoughts together before you take action. A sketch on the back of an envelope may be enough.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)

Authentic creativity requires meltdowns, breakdowns, risks taken, the collapse of the known order and, sooner or later, total submission to the creative process. Well, not the creative process, but your process of birthing yourself into a new stage of your existence, which happens in tandem with what you create. As you go through this, you may have the sensation of betraying authority. That, in turn, could lead to the insidious feeling of guilt, intermingled with the pleasure of creation, liberation or sex, as if what you are doing is ‘so right but so wrong’. Here is a clue: It cannot be both. The right and the wrong you perceive are servants of different masters. So you need to ask yourself, who is the inner voice expressing disapproval (in the form of guilt or fear) and what is the source of the feeling that you really are expressing or exploring something meaningful? All the art in the world leads to this one theme: who has authority for the creation of your life and the expression of your life force? If it is ‘someone else’ then it would make perfect sense for you to feel bad about it. If it’s you, then it makes perfect sense for you to feel beautiful, perhaps a little shaken up, vulnerable and rather unusual.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)

Events of this month can serve either as a hologram or miniature model for what you can do with yourself during the coming year or, alternately, as an example of what you do not want. There’s likely to be some mix of the two, though I am inclined to think that you are about to discover the benefits of actually asserting yourself. I suggest you do this in your own style (well, that’s always what you do) but don’t let the concept of style include any form of passivity, compromise before the conversation, or getting snagged up in your contemplation/indecision thing. The idea here is to be bold and take a chance. This is where what I will call the reverb factor comes in. When you assert yourself, you’re likely to get a little echo back, in the form of some disapproval from someone. This verges on being a universal phenomenon, and it’s a potential stumbling point for those at a new phase of experimenting with their will and influence. The problem is that it’s enough to keep most people in their shell, silencing their opinions or otherwise refusing to ruffle feathers. Yet overcoming this seems to be the whole point of your astrology this month, and the phenomenon lasts well into next summer. Start the ruffling now and you’ll get some valuable practice.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

If you over-focus on the concept of sex in one relationship, you may miss the point of the whole human sexual experiment. That point (the little arrow on the Scorpio symbol) is how every aspect of life is fundamentally creative; how creativity always requires some transformation or movement of resources (which could be called ‘destructive’ to the form that existed before); and that any form of sex, or art, or expression will unquestionably offend someone, somewhere. Therefore, that someone may be offended by some aspect of your personal expression cannot be a valid criteria for determining the appropriateness of something. Once you catch that little riff, you will become a revolutionary, particularly where the stuffy, rigid thought forms of your parents or other caregivers are concerned. Those shadow figures are unlikely ever to give you direct permission to exist. So I suggest you open your aperture, open your mind and allow experience to happen. Daring to express yourself passionately, against the rules, is the one dependable thing that will crack all the stifling patterns that have you doing the box step -- not waiting for permission or approval from anyone. As Ginsberg suggested, Art recalls the memory / of [your] true existence / to whoever has forgotten / that Being is the one thing / all the universe shouts.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)

The more you retreat, the more you’re putting yourself into position for maximum contact and action. It may seem like a paradox; however, we both know you’re determined to experience those very things, despite what appears to be a certain emotional hesitancy. When the spark meets the fuel, however, your specific frame of mind will not make a difference, except for how much fun you have when the time comes. So whatever you are doing with your emotional energy, however you feel about putting yourself forward and embracing your feelings and those of others, I suggest you count yourself as moving in the direction of what you know you want the most, whether you think you’re doing it or not. You are in a rare, beautiful position to learn the nature of trust where intimate exchanges are concerned. Part of that trust involves understanding that you have the power to opt in and also to opt out. This state of being often exists for you only in potential; only right now that potential is more like low-hanging fruit. I recognize that you don’t necessarily want to get overly caught up in someone else’s world, and in that you have options. You know that every relationship involves taking a chance. What is not said often enough is that not daring also involves a risk as well.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

You are rapidly moving toward a breakthrough. Since this is something you have initiated but cannot control, I suggest focusing on aligning your intentions with your actions, every single time you make a move. It is debatable whether control even exists. What you can be certain exists is the potential to guide your existence and your creative power one step at a time, one decision at a time, in a series of conscious steps. This is a little like rock climbing or rafting or any other noncompetitive sport. You know your goal, you have your basic approach, and then you deal with the questions and challenges of the moment in the moment you are living them. This is the most efficient -- and fun -- way to get to your destination. It’s also the best way, at the moment, to align your life with what you want. I am suggesting this as an alternate to control dramas, resistance, power struggles and other huge wastes of energy and focusing power. Your chart is set up for incremental progress that all of a sudden manifests as a kind of crest that feels like you suddenly overcame some huge obstacle; really, all you can ever do is look forward and take one step at a time.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

Rather than project your values onto a ‘cause’ or going overboard to express your devotion to a relationship, I suggest you take an even bolder step: embody what matters to you the most. We all know the human tendency to have high ideals in some abstract dimension -- and those born under your sign are especially susceptible. You can apply this to any desire to become a better person, or the notion that you will accomplish something great in the future. I suggest you skip the whole ‘becoming’ thing and go right into being. This may seem like a leap, but really, it’s a kind of un-leap. Try gathering your existence, your values, your desires into the present moment and noticing how you feel, and where you are. I know you may be experiencing a powerful need to lead by example, which implies demonstrating a level of certainty. I would propose that certainty is the last thing you want now, and the last thing that’s in the stars. You are however in a moment of dancing with some rich, fertile uncertainty, which will do more to nourish you than any goal-setting or devotion to anything outside yourself. Stay with the feeling and have faith what it will give birth to, in each moment as you live it.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Remind yourself at all times, whenever you need to, that you are the one who directs the shape and flow of your life. More significantly, you provide the shape and color to the vital force that comes through you. The more you honor these ideas, the more influence you will have over your life. Yet they will not be real to you until you put them into practice, and get some experience doing so. This will necessitate a change of orientation from focusing primarily on the activity and relationships in your life, to your actual existence. Your core relationship is to yourself, though I assure you that this violates every rule of our society -- this, despite the prevalence of narcissism and self-obsession, which has nothing to do with the concept of a core relationship. Narcissism is a mockery, and in truth it’s always about someone else. One of the biggest and best favors you can do for yourself this month and for the coming year is to focus your vision. Have some concept of what you want to be doing, and then refine it regularly as you process additional experiences and information. This is not merely a psychological exercise; it’s working with a manifestation principle. You can be a passive recipient of your experience, or you can vision yourself into existence.

Read Eric Francis daily at
www. PlanetWaves.net

Positively Speaking

The Gifts of the Magi: Healthy Wealth

By Deborah H. Anderson

That someone on Ebay was selling a version of the Multiform Bender for \$40 is kind of astounding. More startling still was finding out that Kalamazoo was buying all of JA Richards and tearing it down to develop more parks and recreation green spaces. You know what’s that like? It’s as if someone bought K2 and then turned all of the space underneath into a gigantic public park. Culturally impactful shall we say.

Like K2, all the work of the Multiform Bender and other jigs and such had been outsourced to China. Like K2, all the buildings had been left empty and unused. The end of an era had come.

So much of my life has been defined by the Multiform Bender, and other related machinery. So many of my days spent visiting ‘the shop’ where the smell of machine oil and the metallic taste of ambient particles rested on the surface of one’s tongue and the inside of one’s nose.

With an eighth grade education, an adolescent orphan John Arthur Richards settled himself in Albion Michigan learning the printing trade. In the course of a few years, he met up with a man who had invented a process using tools and dies. JA asked if he could purchase the patent, or some such business process, and went on to make an industry of it in the early 20th century. He married adolescent orphan Anna Armstrong and they had ten children, five girls, five boys with two sets of twins, one identical and one fraternal.

Do you know what’s it like to grow up in a family where the largest character that demands the most attention is a business? Odd. Different. Fun sometimes, and other times it causes so much friction there doesn’t seem to be a positive point.

I think it’s like this. The first generation is obsessed with the business and the money it makes. They crave it like water, way more than a passion. They are enamored of their ability to run it. The second generation isn’t thrilled about what it cost them to make the business most important, but they like what the business buys. The third generation either helps keep it staggering along out of family loyalty, takes it for granted, or squanders the privilege with loose living and drink.

So Mom was number nine of the ten kids. She married down, according to the family standards, but she married noble. Dad was a preacher man. His family was supposedly poor, but they had two houses, one in town and one at the lake. I dunno. Poor is relative I think.

Flash-forward to, grandchild #26 I think I was. Maybe. I have to look at the chart. Yes, there is a chart. Raised with all the right rules from when to wear gloves to not going out in public with wet hair,



a separate set of dishes for breakfast than other meals, no jelly jars or mismatched cutlery, and I end up on an Island, in the ministry, and all indications would seem to direct one’s gaze towards hell freezing over before I can recover from being a full time Mom and get some financial traction. Nobody knows my history and I become labeled, poor and stupid. A bit incongruous. And there’s a problem. I don’t know how to be poor.

Eventually, because there is such a strong business gene and I have a lot of faith, I’m able to get what I know will be helpful for financial independence even though the odds seem against it.

When things were just beginning to turn around I wanted to find a book called ‘Making Money God’s Way’. Then I wanted to write a book called, ‘How to be Poor”. In those wanderings, I happened to have a chance encounter with the ever delightful Ava Waits of avawaits.com fame. I listened to one of her teleseminars on lessons she had learned as a poor girl growing up on a wealthy Island. Wow.... suddenly my background, story and heritage came slamming in my back and covered my face. You know what she said that did it? She said what she had noticed about wealthy people is that they fix things when they are broken.

Bam. There has not been anything that’s bothered me more in the last twenty years of puzzling financial struggle than the fact that I can’t just fix something when it’s broken or keep it looking nice. It must have been time to remember, because suddenly I felt like a whole person again and knew just how I was going to rebuild and reconstitute.

As much as we would like to think Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, it’s really about businesses making a comeback. It has been for centuries.

And the real news is that the numbers were down for spending over the Thanksgiving holiday. If you want to be a part of real Christmas you can only give gifts like Gold, and Frankincense and Myrrh. That means you can only buy a person a gift that is precious to them, acknowledges their calling in life, or confirms their destiny. Use that as the rule for purchasing. Healthy wealth is money that has meaning and purpose and nurtures others.

Spend wisely, spend meaningfully. Because ya know. In a couple of decades, what you purchased may be replaced for a pretty park.

Love,
Deborah



Serena Needs A Home...

My name describes me well – I’m serene with no use for drama, fuss and noise. When people walk into the room where I live at the shelter, they may not see me at first. I don’t seek center stage or try to compete with other cats who run up and beg to be noticed. I just sit and watch, hoping the visitors will come over and pay attention to me. When they do, I purr, sit on their laps and, if they allow, lick their faces! Are you looking for a beautiful cat who’s elegant but no drama queen? I’m looking for a serene home. Maybe we’re a match.

Go To www.vipp.org Click on Adopt

Vashon Library December Programs

Children & Families

Adults

Family Story Times

Tuesday, December 3, 10 and 17, 11:30am

Held at VYFS PlaySpace, 9822 Gorsuch Road Vashon, WA 98070.

Newborn to age 6 with caregiver.

Come for a fun-filled, half-hour of stories, finger plays, movement and music!

Registration not required. You do not need to be a member of Playspace to attend. Please call the Vashon Library with any questions, 206.463.2069.

Great Books Discussion Group

Selected Poems by John Keats

Monday, December 2, 6:30pm

The Great Books Discussion Group meets on the first Monday of the month, October through June. Visitors are welcome. The only requirement to participate is that you have read the material under discussion.

Teens

What You Need to Know about Financial Aid

Wednesday, December 11, 6:30pm

Held at the Vashon High School Library, 20120 Vashon Hwy SW, Vashon, WA 98070.

Presented by the University of Washington Tacoma Office of Student Financial Aid.

Geared toward high school students preparing for college, go over what types of financial aid, how to apply using FAFSA, and many other tips to help you navigate the process of funding your education.

Registration not required.

Free ESL Classes

Thursday, December 5 and 12, 6pm

Held in the library.

Presented by Paula Madsen

Learn how to speak, read and write in English. Free weekly lessons, beginning to intermediate level, taught by an ESL Instructor.

Call 206.463.2069 for more information.

Computer Class: Facebook Basics

Monday, Dec. 9, 10:15am & 12:15pm

Learn the basics of the social networking web site Facebook. Instructors will demonstrate how to use it, why it is useful, discuss privacy and help set up accounts. Prerequisites: Basic understanding of the Internet and students must have an email address. Register online or call 206.463.2069 for assistance.

PANDORA'S BOX

Survived 3-day anniversary event - check

Put store back together - 3 days - check

Ready for Cheryl's annual canned turkey sale for Thanksgiving - check

Ready for Black Friday?

Cheryl's anti-Black Friday campaign in effect

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Island Epicure



By Marj Watkins

Breakfast Delights

Some people can get by without eating breakfast. Not me. I wouldn't last until ten o'clock without. My usual breakfast starts with a half grapefruit or orange wedges. It continues with oatmeal cooked with raisins or dried cranberries and topped with whole-milk yogurt. Sometimes I raise the protein level 3.5 grams by stirring in a tablespoon of Adams' natural peanut butter into the cooked oatmeal. Peanuts and salt are the only ingredients Adams puts into their peanut butter – never preservatives or corn syrup.

My son chooses a high protein breakfast of a slice of ham, a scrambled egg, toast with cherry preserves or marmalade, and coffee. When we have overnight guests we often make waffles or crêpes and serve them with cottage cheese or ricotta, and peach or cherry preserves. We choose whole fruit over juices. It tastes better to us, and still has its fiber. Oranges, sliced or diced, offer a host of nutrients. They ripen in December, so we're on the near edge of the time of year when oranges are at their best.

Here is a favorite waffle recipe, adapted from my sister-in-law Jean Hall's Oat Nut Waffles. Try them on a weekend morning when you have time to make them, and when your kids or working family members have time to enjoy them. This recipe is in my book "Wholegrain and Gluten Free", available at The Minglement and Roasterie.

Gluten Free
OAT NUT WAFFLES
2 ¼ cups water
1 ½ cups Bob's Red Mill or Trader Joe's guaranteed gluten free rolled oats

½ cup raw cashew nuts or sliced almonds or ¼ cup almond butter

1 Tablespoon olive oil
½ teaspoon salt

Combine all ingredients in a blender. Blend until light and foamy, about ½ minute. Spray cold waffle iron with olive oil. Let batter rest while waffle iron is heating. The batter will thicken as it stands and the dry ingredients absorb liquid. Blend again briefly.

Bake in hot waffle iron 8 to 10 minutes. Set timer. Waffles should be brown and crisp and easily come out of the waffle iron. If the waffle is reluctant to leave the waffler, give it another minute or two to cook. Eat with strawberries in season, and yogurt.

If using a Belgian waffler, spray it with oil while cold as above, heat it until the dial in the little round window reads: Cook. Ladle in enough batter to almost fill all the deep squares. It will spread as it begins to cook. Bake 3 minutes. Turn the waffler over and bake another 2 minutes.

Road To Resilience

Continued from Page 1

wife, will tell you.

For those loved ones that understand the consumer madness, I can send a card (hopefully homemade) or maybe only an email or phone call; it's the thought that counts. I like to have a party on Christmas Eve for friends that don't have family or other engagements. Here is a place where I always splurge on store bought goodies: exotic fruits, cheeses, sweets, and beverages. We will roll out our homemade baked goods, pickles, dried fruit, and wine as well so I don't feel too bad about that. No matter how bad things get, I think that we will always be able to find some exotic foods that come from afar. One of my favorite quotes from sometime sage Billy Sandeford is "Everything in moderation.....including moderation!"

Transition means we start from where we are and we make changes as we are able. It doesn't mean we fret and berate ourselves for our unsustainable lifestyle. It does mean that we educate ourselves about the size and nature of the dilemma we are in and that we do make an honest effort to move toward lowering our carbon footprint by living more simply. I find that the easiest time to change a habit is when there is something I need to do to maintain it that is a real pain in the butt, i.e. foregoing purchasing a new dryer and, instead, getting a drying rack. Change is hard, but sometimes sticking to business as usual is harder. More often, making the right choice is just a matter of being awake and aware when you arrive at a fork in the road where you can just as easily go one way or the other. No pain!

So my advice, for what it's worth, (to you and me) is to chill and have fun, but don't do everything just because you always have. And, if you need to buy, buy local. Everybody will thank you for it.

Comments?
terry@vashonloop.com

Get In The Loop

Send in your Art, Event, Meeting Music or Show information or Article and get included in The Vashon Loop.

Send To:
Editor@
vashonloop.com

Find the Loop on-line at
www.vashonloop.com

Abstracts

JESSIKA SATORI



Jessika Satori will have a collection of abstract paintings during December at Vashon Intuitive Arts on 17331 Vashon Highway SW.

The opening reception will be during Vashon First Friday Art Walk December 6, 2013 at 6 to 9pm.

Jessika, a twenty year Vashon Islander, known for film directing and producing, has been painting for most of her life. Formally trained in costume design and art history, Jessika studied with abstract artist Peggy Zehring, who studied under disciples of Wassily Kandinsky at the University of Chicago and privately with Elaine deKooning.

Jessika's show, entitled ABSTRACTS, will include several paintings and a special exhibit on Friday during the Artist's reception – The Evolution of an Artist.

Chorale Celebrates Benjamin Britten's 100th birthday:

75 singers under the direction of Gary D. Cannon and accompanied by harp and flute will perform in the Vashon Island Chorale's annual holiday concerts to be held at Bethel Church on Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 pm and Sunday, Dec. 8, 3pm.

Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" first premiered in 1943 and is beloved by singers and audiences. Traditional Christmas carols round out the concert program which does include an audience sing-along.

Tickets (\$15/general, \$10/senior & student) are available at the Vashon Book Shop and at www.brownpapertickets.com.

Tickets can also be purchased at the door (if still available). info@vashonislandchorale.org.



Five soloists featured in Benjamin Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" practice with the Chorale at a recent rehearsal. (l-r) Shannon Flora, Marita Ericksen, Kaycie Alanis, Sarah Alexander and Amy Holmes. Artistic Director Gary D. Cannon is at the piano. Photo by Rick Wallace.

Joanna Gardiner

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The Jeff Kanzler Band



First Friday at The Red Bicycle Bistro & Sushi, The Jeff Kanzler All-Star Band

Comparisons are as inevitable in music as in life and in this sense singer/songwriter Jeff Kanzler is no exception ("reminiscent of a young Bob Dylan" Don Yates - KEXP, "John Vanderslice" Maurice Dielemans - Kindamuzik (Dutch Music zine), "Doug Macleod or Steve Goodman" Dani Heyvaert - MazzMusikas (Belgium).

Jeff released "Black Top Road" (currently available on iTunes) to critical acclaim and extensive airplay in the US, Europe, Japan and surprisingly Brazil. Called "an essential album in a year of a few essential albums" Dan Wilkinson - AmericanaUK, "brilliant" John Richards - KEXP, making KEXP's top 10 list of 2007 Americana releases and reaching #4 on the Euroamericana chart and selling thousands of copies (no small feat for an independent release) Jeff implausibly set down his

guitar in 2009 and has rarely picked it up since.

That all changes First Friday, Dec 6th at the Red Bike when Jeff returns to a NW stage with a full band for the first time since 2008.

With a new EP nearing completion and a band comprised of veteran Vashon musicians Loren Sinner, Jason Staczek, Dianne Krouse, Dan Bruce, Kevin Almeida and Seattle pro, Derek Pulvino, it promises to be a fun night with a lot of great music.

And if you were wondering, "why now?" Jeff has a simple answer. "I just haven't felt like it for a long time."

Come out to the Red Bike on Friday, Dec 6th and see what we've all been missing.

Friday, December 6 at 8:30pm. This is a free cover all-ages show 'til 11pm, then 21+ after that.

At the Red Bicycle
17618 Vashon Hwy SW
206-463-5590
www.redbicyclebistro.com

Drama Dock's production of A Child's Christmas in Wales

Southcenter, shopping, stress, crowds, full parking lots, picked-over must-have merchandise, long lines, more stress...let us help you escape from all that. Drama Dock's production of "A Child's Christmas in Wales" is most definitely NOT 'all that.' Escape the rush and hassle of what the holidays have become, without even getting on a ferry. Instead, journey with us to something simpler, filled with innocent wonder. Dylan Thomas' wonderful storytelling puts you in Wales, in Vashon... reminiscing Christmases past while surrounded by eager young people experiencing it all afresh. We all have stories this time of year, or are in the midst of creating them. Or both, intertwined energetically in a joyous froth of holiday fun.

The program starts with The VAA Youth Chorus, including singers from the "Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown!" cast and the Vashon Island Youth Chorus. Some of the students in the CCW cast are also singing with us. We will be singing "In Winter" (a duet with Alivia Jones and Sarah Hotchkiss), "Hanukah Nagilah", "Minka", "Nutcracker In About 3 Minutes" and "Suo Gan", a Welsh Lullaby.

Then some of Vashon's well-known adult singers are presenting music to recreate the holiday spirit of the time of Dylan Thomas's wonderful story. They are singing a collection of Celtic and holiday carols, including



Holly and the Ivy, Carol from an Irish Cabin, and a sing-along of Auld Lang Syne. The vocal ensemble directed by Elizabeth Nye includes Marita Ericksen, Lizzy Schoen, Judy Olson, Gaye Detzer, Barbara Garrett, Stuart Tribble, John DeGroen, Dick Paulson, and Rick Skillman. Leslie McMichael and Jane Valencia, harpists, will accompany the ensemble and play some Celtic songs.

The best gauge of the energy and enthusiasm of this dramatization of "A Child's Christmas in Wales" comes from the cast itself: "it's Christmasy!... pretty silly and I like that!" from our youngest actor. From a more chronologically gifted cast member: "...what a delight it is to be adrift in the mellifluous language of Dylan Thomas, savoring memories..." From some more youthful actors: "It is a lovely piece for Christmas; it sums up the entire feel of the season. Also, I get to blow up balloons on stage..." "I'm in a cast of professional (well, not really, but they sure

act like it) actors. However, we still always have tons of fun together at rehearsals. I think that this is going to be a marvelous show!" "The show is essentially a rag-rug of memories braided together, creating one Christmas, one family..." More: "a play that is so much about generations sharing together: memories of Christmas; adventurous, vibrant stories told among loving family members in a locale not unlike our own. And the language, the Dylan Thomas poetry is such a treat to speak." "There's real heart in these particular scenes of the season, which bring us into the best shared memories of childhood."

Your chance to see this wonderful, heartwarming Christmas show comes December 20, 21, 23, and 16 at 7:30 pm and the 22nd and 24th at 2 pm at the Blue Heron. Tickets are \$10 for VAA/Drama Dock members/students/seniors and \$15 for general admission, available at Heron's Nest, VAA and VashonAlliedArts.org.

Rumor Has It

This Vashon band will lift your spirits while you kick up your heels and dance. This group of fabulous Island musicians came together a few years ago and they've cooked up a delicious stew they like to call "stringband rock." See if you can stay off your feet, because the harmony will carry you away. It's bluegrass rock jams, it's Motown, it's Celtic rock, it's blues rock, it's country rock, it's rock and roll, it's reggae rock, it's a little bit of everything rock and a little bit of heaven, right here on Vashon. Rumor Has It plays a variety of dancing music



styles through their own unique sound.

Friday, December 13 at 8pm. This is a free cover all-ages show 'til 11pm, then 21+ after that.

At the Red Bicycle
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Dancing with DJ Whitmore

Michael Whitmore is an acoustic multi-instrumentalist musician, a writer, an occasional two-bit actor & raconteur and very often a DJ. His credits include a NEA Composers Grant, three solo CD's, plus several dozen album and soundtrack appearances, not to mention a rather geeky reputation as a life long record collector.

Having worked in the best record stores up and down the west coast, he has collected several thousand LP's and 45's specializing in soul and funk, R&B, mid-60's psychedelia, boogaloo and old school hip-hop.

With almost two decades of experience spinning vinyl, DJ Whitmore is one of the two DJ's that hosts Vashon's monthly dance night at the O Space -- Club O -- and can be seen on any given First Friday Gallery Cruise hovering over a couple of turntables surrounded by pile of vinyl at either the Heron's Nest or Snapdragon.

Saturday, Dec. 7, 9pm
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The Nutcracker

When the clock strikes midnight in the Nutcracker ballet, a world of fantasy and dreams leap onto the stage, with dancing mice and fairies and a mesmerizing parade of delicious sweets and candies. The central characters of the “The Nutcracker” are children, and its story revolves around a little girl’s vivid dream on Christmas Eve, with toys and inanimate objects coming to life to illustrate a timeless tale of good overcoming evil. It’s easy to understand why the nutcracker is a favorite children’s story, and why it’s the most performed ballet in history.

On Saturday, December 7, music director of the Seattle Philharmonic Adam Stern (recognized by many as the voice on the Seattle Ferries), will be giving a special pre-show lecture about his many years of directing Tchaikovsky’s signature musical score to Nutcracker. Titled “Nutcracker Revisited,” Adam will reveal behind-the-scenes insights about this classic composition and share funny anecdotes from his experiences with countless Nutcracker productions. This is an Island holiday tradition that is not to be missed.

Tickets: \$12 Member/Student/Senior, \$16 General (\$15 Saturday Pre-show Reception sold separately), \$5 Children’s Matinee.

Friday, December 6, 1 pm - Children’s Matinee (abbreviated and narrated by VAA Director of Dance Christine Juarez)

Friday, December 6, 7 pm - Join us 15 minutes before curtain to enjoy



Photo by Mike Urban

Christmas melodies sung by cast members of “Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown” directed by Marita Ericksen.

Saturday, December 7, 1 pm - Join us 15 minutes before curtain to enjoy Christmas melodies sung by cast members of “Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown” directed by Marita Ericksen.

Saturday, December 7, 5:45 pm - Pre-show Reception with Adam Stern

Saturday, December 7, 7 pm
Sunday, December 8, 1 pm - Join us 15 minutes before curtain to enjoy Christmas melodies sung by cast members of “Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown” directed by Marita Ericksen.

Performed at Open Space for Arts and Community 18870 103rd Ave SW, Vashon, WA

The Acrobatic Conundrum presents: THE WAY OUT



Eight strangers find themselves in a room with no exit. They are isolated from the world in a bunker where supplies are scarce. In the absence of enough, the new arrivals see themselves in a different light: vindictive and kind, desperate and hopeful. With no allies but each other, 8 disparate personalities vie for survival, connection, and a way out.

“The Way Out” is 90 minutes of heart-stopping acrobatics, aerial, theater and dance. It is a truly contemporary form of storytelling, using the raw physicality of the performers, video projection, the choreography of Elizabeth Rose and artistic direction of Terry Crane.

“The Way Out” was originally performed for three weeks during Summer 2013 in Seattle, WA. This show is being re-mounted at the end of a 5-day Artist Residency at Open Space on Vashon Island in preparation for the show to be performed at the Contemporary Circus Arts Festival in Chicago, IL January 2014.

Featuring performances by: Tanya

Brno, Marta Brown, Arne Bystrom, Emma Curtiss, Joselynn Engstrom, Tyler Ferraro, Elizabeth Rose, Jonathan Rose

The Acrobatic Conundrum is a contemporary circus company from Seattle, Washington, founded in 2012 by Terry Crane and Joselynn Engstrom. The Conundrum presents original, extraordinary circus acts alongside moments of absurd and intimate humanity. The artists of the Acrobatic Conundrum tell their stories as individuals as well as take physical risks live onstage. As a company, they are dedicated to a vision of human courage, connection, and collaboration.

December 19, 2013 at 7:30pm (doors open at 7pm)

Tickets: \$15, \$8 for children 12 and under. Available at Vashon Bookshop, www.brownpapertickets.com/event/516176 and at the door.

Location: Open Space for Arts & Community. 18870 103rd Ave SW, Vashon Island WA 98070

www.openspacevashon.com/

Alaska Native Art at Vashon Woodworkers on Island Studio Tour

By Orca Annie Stateler

This weekend, December 7 - 8, and the next, December 14 - 15, Tlingit artist Odin Lonning is at Vashon Woodworkers on Bank Road, Stop #6 on Vashon Island Holiday Art Studio Tour. He will be demonstrating Coastal carving techniques. Odin’s Northwest Coast Native pieces include carved panels, boxes, and sculptural items as well as painted drums. Other talented artists in this group will have turned bowls, handmade wood spoons, colorful rolling pins, and delightful wood earrings. Studio Tour hours are 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and Sunday.

Odin’s art is also on display through December at HUB070, in the Spinnaker Building next door to Chase Bank. Exhibited works are traditional and contemporary pieces that exemplify



“Kéet Klumachin,” carving
© Odin Lonning, Tlingit.

the sophistication of Northwest Coast Native art. Proceeds from Odin’s holiday art sales benefit the Vashon Hydrophone Project’s whale research and marine mammal stranding response. Call 206-463-9041 or email OdinShark@aol.com for more information.



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Live Entertainment
December 6, 8:30pm
The Jeff Kanzler Band

December 13, 8:30pm
Rumor Has It

December 21, 8:30pm
Bill Brown & The Kingbees

December 27, 8:30pm
Katahoula

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Greetech Night – Simply Raw , Tuesday Dec 10th 6pm.

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New helmets & safety vests from Phoenix Performance Products (Tipperary)

We also have plenty of heated buckets to keep your animals well-hydrated during the colder months, plus lots of reflective vests, strobe lights and reflective gear to keep you, your horse and dog safe, too!

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Next Edition of The Loop Comes out Thursday, December 19

Deadline for the next edition of The Loop is Friday, December 13

Lopy Laffs

LOGJAM



BY Jeff Hawley

I'm REALLY excited about this year's Island OPEN HOUSE! I've organized all of my coupons! They're alphabetized, sorted by location-annotated, collated, cross-referenced, categorized by subject, footnoted, calligraphed, digitized, sized, highlighted...

V.I.P.S.

WWHOOOSH!

I'll bet if you start now, you'll be ready by next year's Island Open House!

SIGH MY ORNAMENTS ARE IN SORRY SHAPE !!! HALF OF THE LIGHTS ARE BURNT OUT !!!

THE BALLS ARE CRACKED AND FADED - YECHE! THIS ANCIENT PLASTIC CANDY CANE IS MELTING!

BUT IT'S O.K. - AT CHRISTMAS, ALL OLD THINGS BECOME NEW AGAIN!

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