



THE LOOP

Vol. 11, #11

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May 22, 2014

7th Annual Father-Daughter Dance An Island Favorite



The seventh-annual Father-Daughter Dance will take place at the Vashon Golf & Swim Club on Saturday, May 31st. Sponsored each year by Vashon Allied Arts, last year's event sold out early, leaving some dads scrambling for last-minute tickets. Uncles, Grandfathers, and other stand-ins are also welcome to attend. Proceeds from the event benefit VAA's Center for Dance. Smiles, laughs and great memories are guaranteed.

The theme for this year's dance is Somewhere Over the Rainbow. In keeping with tradition, dress will be semi-formal — dresses for daughters and coats and ties for dads. Desserts and drinks will be provided, along with a complimentary photo, frame and rose for daughters.

The dance will take place from 7 - 9:00 p.m. at VGSC. Music selections will be handpicked by an expert committee of island daughters. Song requests during the event are always welcome. John Sage graciously returns to provide the photography (check out finchhaven.com

to view prior events).

Once again a dinner will be held before the dance, starting at 5:45 p.m. The dinner will be buffet style with a vegetarian option available. Vashon daughters — invite a few friends, their dads, and make an evening of it!

Tickets go on sale May 1st, and are \$25 per person for the dance and \$20 per person for the optional dinner. Purchase in advance at The Blue Heron or the Heron's Nest. The dance is limited to 120 participants, and an early sell-out is expected again this year. Tickets for the dinner need to be purchased at least 7 days in advance to ensure an accurate meal count.

Dads and daughters alike will always remember this special evening. Daughters of all ages are welcome — regardless of age, you'll be sure to outlast your dad! Financial assistance is also available. Questions? Please call the VAA office at 463-5161 or Jeff Sayre at 463-2150.

Seattle Rock Orchestra “The coolest orchestra in town”



Seattle Rock Orchestra was born out of the desire to marry the unabashed energy of rock 'n' roll with the broader palette of musical nuances treasured in classical music. Since 2008, the group has perfected its unique blend of genres by re-imagining, arranging and performing high-quality, high-energy tributes to rock icons such as Queen, David Bowie, the Beach Boys, Beck and Radiohead. Recent milestones for the Seattle supergroup include selling out the Moore Theatre, wowning crowds at Sasquatch Music Festival in 2010 and 2011, and contributing strings on Macklemore and Ryan Lewis' Grammy-winning album The Heist.

On Saturday, June 7, Seattle Rock Orchestra “crosses the pond” to Vashon for a performance of epic proportions. Artistic Director Scott Teske and Music Director Kim Roy lead their eclectic ensemble on a sonic journey through the decades, playing hits by artists such as the Beatles, Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin

and more. More than 35 professional musicians — strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, choir and a rotating cast of guest vocalists — will pack the O Space stage for an unprecedented musical experience!

Two Vashon youth ensembles, i Solisti di Vashon and Vashon Youth String Orchestra, have diligently rehearsed their own rock renditions in preparation for opening the show. At a special point in the evening, the local kids groups will have the incredible opportunity to team up with Seattle Rock Orchestra, sharing the stage for fun, collaborative cover songs.

“This will be a rockin' event for the entire family. Parents and grandparents will relive the classic rock days and share this music with their children,” says Stephen Jeong, VAA Director of Performing Arts. “The collaboration between Seattle Rock Orchestra and our Island's aspiring young musicians will be the icing on the cake, giving local kids an

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Important Call To Action!

By Terry Sullivan

You are no doubt aware of the cynical maxim, “money talks”. Nowhere is this truer than right here in the US of A. In the last few years, the US Supreme court has enshrined the idea by claiming it to be protected in the US Constitution. Two recent rulings, Citizens United vs. FEC and, more recently, McCutcheon vs. FEC have set judicial precedent by stating that money is speech and is therefore protected by the first amendment, and that corporations are equivalent to persons and are therefore entitled to the rights conferred by the Bill of Rights in the Constitution. As a result, a corporation can give as much as it wants to a political campaign because any attempt to limit it is an infringement of “free speech.” Of course, you have the very same right, but it is likely that your resources are orders of magnitude less than a large corporation, so that makes those corporations much bigger and more powerful citizens than you are.

Likewise, giving a little stipend to any office holder is not graft. It is a small amplification of a request or suggestion by a constituent for that office holder to vote a certain way on a particular bill.

Of course, you or I can make our own requests to those office holders. Does the fact that you are giving little of nothing in the way of a monetary contribution make a difference in the importance a politician may assign to your request?

Some years ago, when campaigns were not quite as expensive as they are today, our Representative Jim McDermott told us at a town meeting that congress people spend on average 30-50% of their time raising money for their next campaign, i.e. a senator just elected to a 6 year term must collect about \$20,000 every day for those 6 years in order to have enough to run again. So, McDermott said that they tend to start their legislative week on Tuesday and finish on Thursday so they can spend the rest of the week raising money. So much for getting the important and urgent business of the nation done. Of course, that was when campaigns were not as expensive as they are now.

If you were one of these elected officials, would you spend time getting \$25 donations from small donors or \$25,000 donations from big donors? If

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Live Local Weather www.VashonWeather.com

The Vashon Loop has installed three weather station on Vashon Maury Island. Each weather station transmits it's weather information to www.wunderground.com, www.pwsweather.com and Weather bug Back yard. The easiest way to view the weather information is to go to www.vashonweather.com. Live weather information is also used on the www.vashonloop.com website and its sister site www.vashonnews.com.



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Nancy Morgan
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eeproofedit@gmail.com

Teekah Needs A Home...

I'm a seal point Siamese and one of the most beautiful cats at the VIPP shelter - sorry for bragging, but it's true! I have very lush deep brown and cream fur. One of my favorite things is being combed, and if you're really nice to me, I'll let you comb every hair on my body. The really good news about my hair is that I don't seem to lose very much of it by shedding. My desire is to be adopted by people who can spend time with me. I'll gladly follow them around and love them unconditionally.



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**Next Edition
of *The Loop*
Comes out
Thursday
June 5**

Deadline for the next
edition of *The Loop* is
Friday, May 30

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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.

VPD Finance Committee Notice of Meetings

The Vashon Park District Finance Committee will be meeting at Ober Park at 6 pm on the following days: 5/27, 6/5, 6/10 and 6/17.

Scott Harvey
Finance Committee Chair

VCC Caregiver Support Group

Vashon Community Care will host a Family Caregiver Support group open to all family caregivers in the community. It will take place the first Thursday of each month from 7-9 pm. Contact cara.aguilera@providence.org/ 567-6152 with questions.

Marijuana Anonymous

Marijuana Anonymous,
Presbyterian Church
Fridays 7 pm"

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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

Ad sales and design: Steven Allen
Phone 206-925-3837
Email: ads@vashonloop.com

Editor: Steven Allen
Email: editor@vashonloop.com
Publisher: Steven Allen
PO Box 1538, Vashon, WA 98070
Phone 206-925-3837

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Save the Date Vashon Chamber Events



Saturday May 24 - Ribbon Untieing Vashon Island baking company

Celebrate the opening of Vashon Islands newest bakery. Vashon Island Baking Company, located across from the Village Green. Saturday 24 at 11:30am. Come Celebrate and sample Vashon's new local bakery!

2014 Strawberry Festival

You don't want to miss it, July 18, 19 & 20. Learn more on the Vashon Chamber website www.vashonchamber.com, click on Events for all the information on how to enjoy this years festival. And it's not to late to be a festival vendor, forms and information are on the chambers website. You can also volunteer to be a Strawberry Festival volunteer. Be part of the behind scene that makes the festival run. Call the Vashon Chamber office at 463-6217 and find out how you can help out to make this the best festival ever.



Have a Story or Article

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

Free Container Gardening Workshop

Saturday, May 31st 11am-noon

- Pots to window boxes, planters to found objects — let's get creative!
- Find color combinations that work for your site.
- Sedums, sedums, sedums — can't get enough of these hardy perennials.

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The Roads of Vashon

The Roads of Vashon with Kathy Flynn de Gaxiola
Wednesday June 4th, 2014
7:00pm - 8:30pm
Havurat Ee Shalom, 15401 Westside Hwy SW
\$12 in advance. \$15 after June 1st, if available.
Tickets and info: <http://vashonroads.eventbrite.com>

Come Dance with us!

Come Dance the Joy!
Come Sing to the Divine!
Come Dance with us!

Vashon Dances of Universal Peace
Saturday May 24, 3 PM - 6 PM
Vashon Intuitive Arts
17331 Vashon Highway.
For info: Suzanna Leigh: @ 206-463-5255
Donations accepted but not required

FREE Container Gardening Workshop

Saturday, May 31st 11am-noon
The Country Store & Farm, 20211 Vashon Hwy SW
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Next Edition of The Loop Comes out Thursday, June 5

Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop*
Friday, May 30

Battle with the Bank Part I: Pick a Prey

By Brian Warner

As of this writing, I have recently emerged from a 4 1/2 year battle with the banks. That’s right, folks: after 53 months tangled in the web of a mortgage from hell, I finally ended up with the mortgage I thought I had in the first place – one that’s neither illegal, predatory, nor unscrupulous.

The all-consuming task of avoiding foreclosure was the prevailing theme of my life for years, and all my relations on Vashon heard about it, most more than they wanted to. I was a broken record, telling the same story over and over again with no resolution in sight. More than once I nearly gave up. I write this to encapsulate the experience while giving an ending to the unfinished story I’ve told for so many years; thank those whose help was invaluable; and pass on a word or two to those who are in the same situation.

Designed to Fail

Let’s get one thing straight: this mortgage was designed to fail. As most of you know, the architects of these loans bet against them and profited in the billions. When the economy crashed as a result of these corrupt dealings, they were bailed out to the tune of billions and in turn, gave themselves billions in bonuses. (Getting tired of that word “billions” yet? Because it will come up again.) Though the country had millions of homes in foreclosure and people all over were suffering from the fallout of these predatory practices, not one banker was criminally prosecuted. All the while that I was fighting to keep my beloved home in the beautiful woods of this little island, I watched as the bankers responsible were given no consequences for their actions, were again making record profits and (you guessed it!) doling themselves out yet more billions in bonuses. This situation added insult to injury and only fueled my resolve to keep hanging on.

The behavior of the banks at every juncture in this story is so outrageous that it’s hard to believe.

“Pick-a-Prey”

I’ll start not quite at the beginning of my story, with a refinance in 2006 to mitigate damages from a bank error in the previous loan that was costing me hundreds of dollars a month and hurting my credit. The new loan was a “pick-a-pay” loan. (The lawyers call them “pick-a-prey” loans because they’re so predatory.) This is the very loan that

caused so many problems – the worst in a macabre lineup of bad loans in which each one is uglier than the last. I signed the documents based on the bank’s explanation of the terms. Not only were these terms later found to be illegal, but the banks were found to have intentionally misrepresented these loans across the board. Although the bankers broke consumer protection laws by doing this, there has never been any real consequence or oversight.

A few years later, struggling to make ends meet as a handyman/carpenter in an economy ruined by the bankers, I began calling my bank to negotiate about my payments. Having been given the runaround for weeks, someone on the phone took pity on me. “You didn’t hear this from me,” he said, “but we won’t take you seriously until you miss a couple of payments.” Of course, as soon as I did this, they told me they’d take the house – it was all or nothing.

The Runaround

The process quickly devolved into a cyclical undertaking of paperwork, faxing and phone conferences. They continually gave me a target to hit, and when all the documents were compiled, they would tell me that the rules had changed, and the target was again moved. If I hadn’t had a loyal friend and organizer helping me with every step of the process, there’s no way I could have kept it up. We spent untold hours, month in and month out, gathering paperwork, making phone calls, and sending faxes. Nearly numb with the constant up-and-down, it took us 2 1/2 years of this runaround to conclude that these “home preservation specialists” were anything but that. I wasn’t dealing with people who could make decisions, but with one low-wage gatekeeper after another, paid to run you ragged until until you collapse of frustration and exhaustion and resign yourself to helplessness. Thousands of people, locally and nationally, are giving up and walking away in grief from their lifetime goal of home ownership. Believe me: it is advisable to get a second opinion when a doctor wants to remove one of your organs, or a banker wants to remove your home.

So, I got a lawyer. Should’ve done it in the first place, though there’s more to that story, too...

To be continued...In the next Vashon Loop out June 5.

Life Gets Better as We Get Older on every level except the physical

The myth of youth as the best years of your life burdens the young and makes us all dread getting older. Nationally-recognized author, storyteller, social worker and Islander, Wendy Lustbader, will de-bunk this myth as she shares lively tales that depict later life as the source of ever-expanding inner and outer discovery. Blending memory with pearls of wisdom, Lustbader will illustrate the bounties of a life well-lived. Sure, aging brings physical aches and pains, but it also bestows self-acceptance and true self-knowledge.

Wendy Lustbader, MSW, is the author of several books that have earned her a national reputation in the field of aging. She is also a popular speaker at conferences throughout the United States and Canada, using storytelling to animate complex subjects. Additionally, Wendy is a skilled psychotherapist, having worked almost twenty years with people from all walks of life at a community clinic in downtown Seattle. Currently, she is an Affiliate Associate Professor at the University Of Washington School Of Social Work. The books Wendy has authored include: Taking Care of Aging Family Members (co-authored with Nancy Hooyma), Counting on Kindness, What’s Worth Knowing, and her latest book, Life Gets Better. Wendy is known locally on Vashon as Wendy Grosskopf, being



married to Dr. Barry Grosskopf.

Come get excited about attaining an abundant length of days. Wendy’s talk, Life Gets Better as We Get Older, will begin at 4 pm on Sunday, June 1, at Bethel Church. This talk is part of Vashon Community Care’s Telling Stories Speaker Series, by and about Vashon Locals. Ticket sales are by donation and are available in advance at Vashon Book Shop or VCC. All proceeds from this talk benefit Vashon Community Care Foundation. The Telling Stories Speaker Series is sponsored by the C. Green Family Partnership.

No recycling this year

We have put on the Island wide electronics, appliances scrap metal recycling event for the last three years. We are sorry to say that this year it will not happen.

Friendly Earth has proven to be too expensive to work with any longer. The first year they came here, we received a check from them for \$1,000 out of the profits they gleamed from all of our recyclables. The second year they told us that the price of recycle products they received was low and we did not receive a check from them. The third year the event happened after the ferry surcharge was in effect and we negotiated paying the surcharge. That somehow got translated differently by them and Friendly Earth billed us for all their ferry fees, costing us over \$1,500. This year, being smarter, we asked for all terms to be in writing before the event was scheduled. Friendly Earth now wants us to pay for all their ferry fees, container fees for the scrap metal,

plus 30% of the money we raise through donations. Friendly Earth publicizes that they are a free recycler, but that does not seem to be the case for Vashon.

These donations are used for the Dental Van. The first two years our donations were about \$4,500. Then the third year because of the cost of the ferry fares we netted \$3,000 for the Dental Van. Giving \$3,000 to the Friendly Earth and having only \$1,500 for the Dental Van just doesn’t seem right. So we have decided not to have the event this year. If we can find another recycler with better terms, we will consider putting this together next year or later this year. If anyone knows of another recycling organization we can work with, please let us know.

Thank you,
Lee Kopines
Executive Director for Seeds4Success
Hilary Emmer
Dental Van Coordinator

Bubbles Needs A Home...

I do my best to get along with everybody. There were other cats in the household where I grew up, and I lived happily for years with a dog friend. I like to sit with people and purr while watching movies. Too much noise scares me; a home on the quiet side would be ideal. My long gray and white hair doesn’t seem to shed, so a new owner won’t have to clean up after me. And one last thing – I love to talk. I can tell you entire stories and will gladly do so.

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Island Life Bang Bang

By Peter Ray

I have a mixed relationship with guns. On my Mother’s side, her parents had a Korean War era bolt action rifle propped up behind the floor lamp that stood to one side of their fireplace. A few feet in one direction from the gun was an RCA color TV in a wooden cabinet- a few feet in another direction was a bowl on a glass covered coffee table which was filled with a variety of hard candies and silver-wrapped Hershey’s kisses. In truth, while I knew the rifle was there, I generally paid more attention to the candy bowl and the TV set, not worrying very much about the dental consequences of the one indulgence, and being continually baffled when we returned home and inspected the backside of our television as to why we could only get a picture on it that was black and white.

On our Sunday visits to my Dad’s parent’s house, usually for pot roast and potatoes, there was a very different piece of history on their fireplace hearth. It was a rectangular box with a pivoting metal handle. All sides of this box had regularly spaced holes in it, which I learned, at some point, were there to let air in and heat out, as this was intended for use as a foot warmer in horse drawn carriages. Apparently one scooped ashes, or perhaps smoldering coals, into the metal box within the box and placed it under one’s feet (presumably there was a lap blanket involved here as well to help contain the warmth) when heading out on a chilly carriage ride, or perhaps on a winter dash-about in a one- horse, open sleigh. There was also a round, metal Chinese checkers board with regularly spaced indents in it to keep the glass marbles you played the game with in place. I do not remember ever actually playing the game, but I do recall the noise that the marbles made when they were poured onto the metal disc playing board. These grandparents did not have a television or a radio, and there was never any candy bowl anywhere in sight. When I got that Johnny 7 One Man Army gun for my birthday, it was these grandparents that were not supposed to be told about it. My Mother’s brother gave me my first single shot .22 rifle. To a certain degree, mine was in some ways a conflicted youth.

I learned to shoot a .22 rifle at my uncle’s hunting cabin in the Catskill mountains of New York. There was a lot of space there, and he had set up a plywood platform that one could climb on to and shoot from the prone position at a target on the uphill part of the field it was in, so that bullets had nowhere to go except into the wood-reinforced backstop, or perhaps into the dirt beyond the back of the target. We never shot at animals- I never went hunting, except for once during bow and arrow season when I sat for hours along a deer path waiting for something. When

the something came along in the form of a doe and her fawn, I stood up slowly and drew the bow back carefully, only to find myself shaking so violently my arrow, when released, wasn’t even close to hitting a mark. Buck fever is an odd reaction- if I had been starving my reaction might have been different, or not. I don’t know if I could have pulled a trigger on a gun in the same situation, and I haven’t put myself in a hunting circumstance since then to find out.

As far as shootin’ for shootin’s sake goes, I have a hard time getting that one. I can understand shooting ranges and practicing to become a more accurate marksperson, but going out and ripping off either a few or a bunch of rounds has never registered on my radar as something worth indulging in. I do find watching video of wanton shootin’ for no apparent reason to be occasionally humorous, like some of the footage from the very early days of Burning Man, way before it became an over-commodified, high school-like kegger, back when guns on the playa were allowed and couches weren’t motorized and driven, but were the targets in drive by AK-47 shootings. But to tell the truth, having one’s neighbor rip off a few rounds at any hour of the day- 2pm, 10pm and 3am come to mind as gun events of record-becomes unnerving on a now seemingly unending basis.

I have had conversations with the sheriff’s office about this and have heard answers like: we don’t really know what the rules are and there’s nothing we can do about it. I took them for their uninformed word until a string of random bangs and pops and whoops and hollers sent me searching the lines of the King County Code, where under Title 12 and the titling words “Public Peace, Safety and Morals” one may find the subtitle “Offenses Against Property” and the sub-subtitle “No-Shooting Areas”. As far as I can see, there are no “no shooting Areas” on Vashon, but section 12.68.030 does fairly clearly state that “....except when a person is on his property or has written permission from the owner.... The discharge of such weapons and the trajectory of any projectile is restricted to said property, it is unlawful to discharge a weapon within five hundred feet of any building being capable of being occupied by people or domestic animals.... or trails used for hiking biking or horseback riding....” In both reading and writing this one more time, I can see where there might be some gray areas in enforcement. I have been in conversation with the renters involved, which seems to be a pointless exercise in denial and buck passing. The talks with the owner, who has not given written permission to shoot there, seem more encouraging. It will remain to be seen whether or not the uncommonality of common sense might have a chance of prevailing here.

We’ll see.



Wood stove news from Unforgettable Fire

The last several months have seen much tenuous action with wood stove regulation which we think our neighbors should know about.

To give you a history, when I was growing up on the Island one could feel the sting of creosote which hung in the air during inversion layer days when leaving my mothers home for school and the smell of woodsmoke was most always present. Unfortunately this meant that our wood stoves were polluting the air, and our lungs.

Stoves of old were able to emit up to 70 plus grams of particulate emissions per hour which were carcinogenic in nature and sized small enough to get lodged in the lung tissue. Worse yet some of these particles measuring 2.5 microns could pass through the walls of the lungs and into the bloodstream, the EPA had to act.

During the late 80’s and early 90’s as many as 280 manufacturers of wood burning products went out of business, some probably needed to.

The rest began producing stoves that would emit no more than 7.5 grams per hour, just 10% of what stoves normally produced. This was a clean up effort of the likes I do not believe any industry on the world had ever done. On the heels of that action 3 states (Washington, Oregon and Colorado) brought their standards to 4.5 grams per hour. This is the business atmosphere I grew up in. It was to this set of standards my first stove was designed to meet or beat, and beat it we did. Our Kimberly was certified at 3.2 grams per hour.

Not long after we had returned from attending the wood stove design challenge as one of 12 finalists out of 261 global applicants we saw the beginning of another round of EPA involvement. We knew as soon as we saw the proposals that many more companies would soon close. In January of this year a proposal was signed for review and public comments (including possible lawsuits) that would force all stoves to comply with a new standard of 1.3 grams per hour. Within weeks of this action Thelin Hearth Products of Grass Valley California announced that they were closing their doors for good.

I have long disliked catalytic stoves as I feel they do not keep up their performance over a long period and cats are rarely replaced. I am also aware that a group called the Cold Weather Institute in

Fairbanks Alaska is discussing the idea of banning catalytic stoves in the state. This opens fire on the half of the industry that could meet the new standards proposed by the EPA.

During this time we have been working with our second wood stove, the Katydid. I might say we were fortunate to be working on our Katydid when all this came up. While we have had to commit another \$85,000.00 to R&D and testing we are creating a non catalytic equipped stove that surpasses the strictest EPA proposal. The data we are seeing is both very stable and repeatable. We are quite sure this new stove will certify somewhere between .5 and .75 grams per hour, I believe this has never been done without the use of Catalytic elements.

At the time of this writing we are meeting with potential investors in green energy development. Funding is being discussed which would create an inventory, complete all certification processes, get samples to outside reps and cover promotional needs. We are highly encouraged by the response we are getting.

Now all that may seem really great for our company, but what about the others. This new set of rules will only create more jobless people who will heat their homes by burning such things as baby diapers, plastic toys, wet wood. I have personally seen this and it is wrong.

Our country can not afford to be losing jobs, especially when the thing being “over regulated” is so much less harmful than the alternatives. The use of Gas furnaces for example includes such things as fracking, drilling, spilling, explosions, maintaining distribution networks, and all of these things are driven by OIL. simply look at recent disasters like the coal ash dump into a river which feeds water to everyone living there. The BP oil spill will never be cleaned up and at one point last year there were 17 spills of major size in just thirty days.

I urge you to write the EPA comment line and your state representatives about this, become educated in the bigger picture of how laws are made and the consequences of inadequate foresight. This is something we should all be doing unless we want all our decisions made for us, and the benefit of those who prosper from laws which make no sense.

Roger Lehet

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Spiritual Smart Aleck



By Mary Iuel

The Singing Gene

People often tell me they cannot sing, or they are terrible singers. They offer lots of excuses. My favorite excuse for a less than lovely voice is, “I ruined my voice singing on the street for the Salvation Army.”

That was my mother. My mother and her siblings were raised in a Salvation Army orphanage in El Paso, Texas. Part of that experience was going out on the street to sing and try to reform the sinners of El Paso.

My mother was a gifted piano player, and she accompanied singers and choirs at school and in the orphanage. After she left school, during the Great Depression, she had the opportunity to be a concert pianist, but an older and supposedly wiser man advised her that it would be too risky, and she should stay with her \$10 a week bookkeeping job at the Hollingsworth Garage in Watsonville. She was just a kid – she graduated from high school just before her 16th birthday – so she listened to this advice, and stayed at the garage, where she met my father. In 1941 they married. But she saved up to buy her own piano while she was working at the garage, and she played it all through the years.

As for singing, though, my mother had a voice that sounded

auto mechanics on the Central California coast, but he watched his mouth and kept buying War Cry! Magazines whenever my Salvation Army lassie aunt came around, and in the fullness of time, they married.

So, Aunt Della sang on the street and had a beautiful voice, and my mother sang on the street and had the voice of a chicken.

The singing gene (but not the piano playing gene) came down to me and my brother, but I was the one who loved singing and began performing at age 8. I thrived on the attention and approval it got me.

My sons both can sing, but like my brother they don’t often choose to sing. My granddaughter used to make up songs in the car all the time when she was little, but she did not get hooked on singing the way I did. Now she’s having to sing for a show, and it turns out she has a voice.

So you’re sitting there, some of you, thinking, boy, I didn’t get the gene. Well, maybe not, but please – stop annoying people by whining about how you can’t sing. If you don’t feel good enough to be a professional, dry your tears. Most people aren’t good enough to be professional, and a lot of people who are good enough aren’t interested in a singing career. A lot of people who aren’t good enough have gone ahead and done it anyway. Think of that.

Community Cinema Vashon presents a free preview screening of The New Black

From church pews to the streets to kitchen tables, The New Black follows the African-American community as it grapples with the gay rights issue in light of the recent same-sex marriage movement. The film follows the struggle over marriage equality in the state of Maryland, where the battle for the hearts and minds of black voters – almost a third of the electorate – is fought from the pulpit. Through the stories of activists, families, and clergy on both sides of the debate, the film charts the evolution of this divisive issue within the black community.

In February 2012, after much discussion, the Maryland legislature passed a law allowing same-sex marriage. Immediately, opponents of the law geared up to put the issue before the voters through a ballot referendum – a strategy that had defeated same-sex marriage in other states. On one side, supporters of same-sex marriage included a number of black ministers who were challenging homophobia in the black church. Opposing them were other ministers who believed that gay marriage violated religious principles and who disagreed with placing the issue in the context of civil



Karess, Sam and volunteer on Election Day, photo Jen Lemen

rights. Against this backdrop the film traces the historical importance of the church to the black community, and explores the personal stories of African-Americans who, although raised in the church, felt unwelcome when they identified themselves as gay.

“For over three years I followed how this issue was being debated and understood in the African-American community,” said director Yoruba Richen. “I came to realize that the issue of gay rights in the black community is in many ways a fight over the African-American family, which has been a contested space since the time of slavery. Marriage is

not just about marriage for black people – it’s also about how blacks have become accepted as legitimate participants in American society. The gay marriage question has forced a conversation in the black community, which is taking place in our churches, our houses, our neighborhoods, and at the ballot box.”

Tuesday, May 27 at 6pm
Vashon Theatre - Free!
Community Cinema Vashon is presented thanks to the generous support of Voice of Vashon, Island GreenTech, and the Vashon Theatre.
www.communitycinema.org



The girls at the Salvation Army orphanage in El Paso, Texas, sometime in the early 1920s. My mother is the little girl in the front row immediately to the right of the Motherhood banner. My aunt is in the back row, fourth from the left.

like a chicken with a particularly accurate sense of pitch. As I say, she blamed that on the street singing she did for the Salvation Army in her youth, but I blame it on genetics. She got the gifted piano player gene, and she did not get the lovely voice gene.

My Aunt Della did have a lovely voice. She was five years older than my mother, or perhaps seven. She lied about her age when she was young and then had to recant and look for paperwork to prove she was two years older when she wanted to collect Social Security. When she graduated from high school, she went into the Salvation Army, which posted her in San Francisco, and then in Watsonville. There she met my Uncle Mike, one of the most profane

Don’t compare yourself to any of these people, or anyone else. They have nothing to do with you. The only question you need to answer is, do I enjoy singing?

I sang well enough to perform and over the years I must have made, oh, dozens of dollars. So why keep on singing if I can’t earn a living? Because it makes me feel good. I enjoy it. I sit here and plunk out chords on the guitar or piano and feel glad to be alive. That is the only reason to sing, or do any kind of music, or art, for that matter.

So if you enjoy singing, raise your good or lousy voice and let it sail. The only person to whom it matters is you. Enjoy. Have fun. Life is short. Sing!

Buck buck bacaw.

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For most of 2014 so far, we’ve been under the influence of inner-planet retrogrades, a distinctive feature of this year. First was Venus, then Mercury, then Mars. Now Mercury begins an interesting retrograde on June 7, which ends July 1. I say interesting because it begins in the water sign Cancer, and treks back into its own sign Gemini. That will provide contrast between instinct and intellect, which modern humans could use more of. Said another way, that contrast highlights the difference between emotional reflex and mental reflection, which you could say is the basis of a peaceful life. Mars for its part remains in Libra until July 25. The Sun enters Cancer June 21, at which time the Northern Hemisphere days begin to get shorter.

Aries (March 20-April 19)
If history has a tendency to repeat, that’s because so few people learn from their mistakes or pay attention. You have the ability to do both. There’s been plenty to pay attention to, and plenty you would do differently if you could -- and now you can. When you encounter challenges similar to what you’ve already encountered, remember to review how you handled them. In particular, note how you handled the feelings of others, and how you perceived the role of others in your life. Now you can reassign those roles. If you’re paying attention, you will make choices that lead you to be a more autonomous and independent person, but one no less committed to who and what you love. It’s just that you cannot have a relationship without a Self.

Taurus (April 19-May 20)
Venus will be in your sign for most of the month, which is of course good news for you. This hint of stability comes at a time when plenty will be vibrating on the inner levels of your life. I know it always is -- there are few signs that have as complicated of an inner life as does yours, though the message of the planets now is focused on seeing both sides of yourself, whatever that concept means to you. This is a fine time to analyze where your values conflict, and it’s also time to overhaul your ideas about money and the way you organize it. There is a valuable method of income that you may not have seriously considered yet, and I suggest you give it some thought the next few weeks, and take action soon.

Gemini (May 20-June 21)
Mercury is now making a long visit to your sign, interrupted by a spell between May 29 and June 17. During that time Mercury, associated with your sign, will be moving very slowly in early Cancer. The image is of you getting to experiment with being another person, perhaps the person you’ve always wanted to be but could never quite make contact with. While you are there, this may seem natural, and it may even seem extremely familiar, like you’ve done it before. Once Mercury goes back into Gemini midmonth, however, you’re likely to forget everything you just remembered. The way to avoid that will be to anchor your new reality while you are there, in particular on the emotional level, through contact with others, and with acting on your deepest desires. That will give you some reference points so that you can find your way back when you want to.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
One theme of this time in your life is sorting out your emotional sphere, questions around your sense of safety and belonging on the planet, and whether you feel confident in your home. Now the emphasis shifts to an inquiry into what you might be inclined to deny the existence of, including influences that touch your life originating before your birth. If your therapy, healing or personal growth process handles this territory, I suggest you go there. Even if not, you can help yourself by maintaining

a discipline of looking at both sides of every issue, particularly any anxiety, guilt or other shadowy emotions you feel. There is indeed another side, and it’s there if you’re curious and willing to see it. The good news is that doing so will likely provide significant psychic and emotional relief.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)
Part of how you’ll shine in your career this month is by being a master of psychology. You’re loved and trusted enough for people to reveal themselves to you. Then you’ll need to be a careful observer of what is not said, and a devoted analyst of any information you acquire. Everything is not what it seems. There are more than two sides to every story, then there are the emotional motives, which change when someone is in the context of a group. Be mindful of the two identities that a person can have, one when they’re acting on their own, and one when pressure, image and conformity come into the picture. Notice these things in yourself and you will be that much better equipped to notice them in others, though everyone will express this differently.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)
In professional matters, I suggest you work with Plans A, B and C. You’re likely to get where you want to go, however, it’ll probably be by a different route than the one you planned. Therefore, on any matter of real significance to you, work out a few contingencies, then be open to things happening by serendipity. In other words, don’t worry about the plans once you make them; actually respond to what’s happening in real-time. Above all, be aware of the tone, content and clarity of your communications with people in authority. You’re likely to experience direct benefits and rewards associated with that clarity, and experience one bungle after the next if it’s lacking. Therefore, edit your emails carefully before sending. Consider what requires a phone call or in-person visit. Think carefully; don’t miss the obvious.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)
Mars has stationed direct in your sign, and it’s now time to evaluate whether a particular relationship is right for you. You’ve gained considerable experience, and you have likely had many moments of revelation. All the facts in the world, however, don’t add up to what your intuition is telling you about whether someone belongs in your life. There is more, however. You have learned plenty about what kind of relationship and what kind of partner is right for you, and going forward it will be vital to apply this information to your choices. You’ve experienced a pattern of astrology that you will never experience again, though you will have a few last reminders of what you learned between now and the end of July. New worlds are opening up, and I suggest you open yourself up and be ready for them.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)
We live in a world where fear seems to stalk us even from before we were

born. Over the past six months, your relationship to fear has changed, and that process is now gathering momentum. Notice how what might have caused deep anxiety is now something you take in stride. The question is, what has really changed? That question has an answer. What has changed is your relationship to yourself. You have deepened your inner contact to a degree that you may have only guessed was possible, and that has resulted in your finding a place of greater confidence in yourself and faith in the flow of events. You are also smarter than you used to be -- there are rewards for putting your well-earned knowledge of life to actual use.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)
People may seem to make less sense to you than ever, but that doesn’t matter so much because you need them less than ever. If the adventure of Mars retrograde has taught you anything, it’s that you need to emphasize your independent streak, and leave the codependent thing to others. In fact you’ve yet to see the real benefit of not being so entangled in the lives of others, which will emerge when Jupiter enters fire-sign Leo in July. Until then, I suggest you keep your long-term commitments to a minimum, because within a matter of six or eight weeks you will have a whole new perspective on time and planning. Indeed you will have a whole new perspective on your existence as your vision for your life gradually comes into focus.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
You are about to discover how much devotion true leadership takes. It’s even fair to say that leadership and devotion are the same concept for you now, as you put your heart and soul into a deeply held personal goal. Remember that though this is a point of commencement, you’re not starting from the beginning. You’ve learned a lot the past six months, gone through several revisions of your plan and learned to state your goal in a way that you can accomplish. And you may have learned to let go of the folly of ‘things just happen’ and replaced that with ‘things happen more easily in the

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correct time, with sincere preparation’. That is what you have going for you now. One last thought -- in the digital age, proper work flow is second only in value to the idea itself.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)
Getting clear on your yes and your no is a top-level personal growth project. If you prefer the spiritual paradigm, it rates right at the top there as well. These are the two main commands that control the flow of your life. Without clear yes and no, it’s like having a car where none of the interior controls are connected to the moving parts on the vehicle. I believe that much of what people struggle with, especially here in Western culture, could be avoided or resolved were people to be in full possession of yes and no. For you, there is a wrinkle, which is making up your mind and asserting yourself in the face of conflicting information. What you seemed to agree with a month ago you may now have questions about. What seemed unlikely or impossible six months ago now seems plausible. I suggest you give any important decision at least one more month consideration, if you can.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
The recent Mars retrograde raised many questions of sex and gender, most of which were expressed in a public or political way. These are in truth deeply introspective themes, and over the coming weeks a question comes home for you. That question is: if everyone contains all gender and sexual potential within themselves, why do we need one another? If you can relate to yourself and to others from the polarity of male or female, submissive or dominant, giver or receiver, then what is the use of relating to others? The obvious answer is that it’s interesting, and when done well, nourishing. The more aware of your inner potential you are, the more fully you will be able to relate to others.

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Positively Speaking

The Fourth Lilac and the Doves

Moving down the line each tree looked satisfyingly prophetic about an abundant and joyful present with more on the way for the future. I love Ordinary Icons. Someday I'm going to write a book about them.

But wait...what's that on the end of the line? Past a bush equal in size to the beloved lilacs is a bush whose name I don't know. And there, standing maybe four feet tall, two little blossoms on the left side, is a young lilac. A fourth.

I told you last column how lilacs are an icon of righteousness for me; eternal good. They are like us humans. They take a long time to bloom. I told you how I had decided to plant a lilac when I reached a forever home and here there are three in the backyard signifying all the maturity of walking through flat out evil and not letting it change me for the worse.

That's the lesson us over-comers have for the world. You have to walk through evil and not let it effect you. It can't make you bitter or discouraged or ,like itself ,deceitful or manipulative.

Most of the world's spiritual, moral and financial strength comes from ordinary people with extraordinary moral fiber who take the hits and keep their integrity.

So...what ordinary icon does the fourth lilac bear? It is the life I've always wanted and never had. It is flying with my wings open no matter what, it is setting limits with people who waste my time or my money, it is love like I've never known.

Last Wednesday I did the healthiest thing I've ever done. I set some limits with people who had exploited my gigantic loving heart.

I love to be loving but there are those dependency based people who will take advantage of it. I told them I would not keep their secrets anymore. For me that is huge. Covering for them, valuing their lives more than mine, letting myself look bad or letting harm come to myself in deference to them is the last shred of healing I knew from my childhood because "He Told Me Not To Tell"

By Deborah H. Anderson



when I was a little.

Well, this week I learned how. To protect myself I mean.

At the very moment that act was completed and I was free of covering several someone else's shame, the Doves that have been cooing in the tree adjacent to the deck ,whom I had never seen, swooped into the tree. The next day one of them came and perched on the deck railing. Later that night as I drove to book club, I saw one perched on the cupola, the fancy part of the roof.

Everybody has something from which they must free themselves. For me it was an unhealthy loyalty to protecting other peoples' shameful behavior; behavior they themselves were ashamed of. I'm excited to move forward.

"Postscript" The storm was coming towards the house this afternoon. I had to be at home alone. There is a person in my life who baits me at random times to engage me negatively. Do you have such a person? Usually they're a family member with their own agenda. I knew I needed to lay low and keep to myself or, as my refrigerator magnate says, I was going to 'speak when angry and you'll give the best speech you ever regretted.' I went to the deck to watch the clouds that so mirrored my mood. As the light shifted, the blooms on the tree/bush I couldn't recognize before came in focus. Pink lilacs that had burst open in the recent heatwave. So I tell you this. There is enough strength and peace to receive from God if you are willing to sit down and receive it.

Five lilacs. I wanted three. God lead me to a place with five.

Ordinary icons...of safety and hope and promise. Amen.

Love,
Deborah



Important Call To Action!

Continued from Page 1

those big donors provided 80% of your campaign funds, would you cater to their needs more than the smaller people? Technically, it is the votes that count and corporation do not have the vote. However, past records clearly show that the candidate with the most money wins 90% of the time. That is why Congress tends to overlook your interests in favor of the wealthy special interests.

It all comes back to those Supreme Court decisions. Because they have interpreted the US Constitution as saying that Corporations have the same rights as people and that money is equivalent to speech, all past attempts to regulate campaign funding and all future attempts by Congress to do the same will be contested in court, found to be unconstitutional, and thrown out.

If we are to regain control of our government, we will first have to amend the US Constitution to specify that corporations are not people, and that money is not free speech. That will allow us to begin the long task of regaining control of our government.

That very amendment is now in the works. Our Rep. McDermott is a cosponsor as is Sen. Patty Murray. Sixteen states have passed resolutions supporting it. As many more, including our state, are in the process of passing resolutions. Initiative 1329 will

put the question on the ballot in Washington State next fall. In order to get on the ballot, we need to collect 300,000 signatures by June 20. We now have less than 100,000 with only a month to go. My experience so far is that 9 out of 10 registered voters that I approach want to sign. Often, while someone is signing my petition, 4 or 5 people will walk by. Four of those might have signed. We really need people to help gather signatures! I know many are intimidated by the idea of asking people to sign on to something. I've found people that don't sign are polite, people that want to know more get a small leaflet from us for them to study and learn more, People that want to sign are usually very appreciative of your willingness to be out there to give them the opportunity.

We need signature gatherers at the Farmer's Market in Vashon, at the Ferry docks, or anywhere and time that you want. You can pick up a petition from me and circulate it among your friends. We really need your help right now! You can tell your grandchildren that you were out there on the front lines when our great experiment in democracy was saved from extinction. Won't you help us?

Call or write me: Terry Sullivan, 463 2812,
terry.sullivan46@gmail.com

The Native People of Vashon-Maury Island

On Friday evening, June 6, the Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Museum will open a new exhibit illustrating the culture of Vashon's native people, the sxwobabc*, whose permanent villages thrived for thousands of years along the Quartermaster Harbor shoreline. "Vashon Island's Native People: Navigating Seas of Change," will summarize some of the many events that combined to destabilize their culture in the mid-19th century. What historians and anthropologists know about their history is fragmentary, since diseases and rapid white settlement forced them onto reservations in just one generation. Fortunately, Lucy Slagham Gerand, who was born around 1843 in a longhouse on Vashon, ensured that a few details of the sxwobabc presence on Vashon would survive.

As a child Lucy accompanied her parents to Medicine Creek in December, 1854, when Governor Isaac Stevens persuaded the tribes of the South Sound to sign a treaty giving away most of their land. For the next 75 years she, like other Coast Salish people, struggled with disease and dislocation as they moved to reservations and were urged to learn farming. She and her husband John Slagham found ways to adapt, learning new skills like gardening and knitting and continuing traditional ones such as fishing and clamming. They moved back to Vashon, and Lucy is remembered vividly by early pioneers. It is because Lucy shared many sxwobabc names for places on Vashon with an anthropologist in 1918 that we have inherited valuable details of their residence on Vashon Island. Nine years later she described the villages of her childhood to a U.S. Court of Claims, with further information about daily life and traditions from the deep-rooted culture of the sxwobabc.

Today the sxwobabc people are part of the Puyallup Tribe. Their descendants continue to come to Vashon and some live here. The Puyallup Tribe has been very successful economically in modern times, owning a port, two casinos, a hotel, and the largest Indian school in the country, Chief Leschi.

A grant from 4Culture has enabled the Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Museum



to commission an original piece of art by Puyallup artist Shaun Peterson to highlight the sxwobabc exhibit. Peterson, whose heritage is Puyallup and Tulalip, has won awards and earned a reputation as an outstanding spokesman on south Coast Salish design. His sculpture will be displayed for the first time during the First Friday Art Tour, 5-9 pm, June 6.

The Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Association thanks the sponsors who have made this exhibit possible, including 4Culture, Puget Sound Energy, DIG, Beth de Groen, Rick's Diagnostic & Repair Service, The Hardware Store, John L. Scott Real Estate, and the Northwest School of Animal Massage. The exhibit will close March 15, 2015. For more information, go to www.vashonheritage.org.

*The name "sxwobabc" means "swiftwater people," perhaps referring to their extensive use of the waters between Vashon, Tacoma, and Gig Harbor where their close relatives lived.



Island Epicure



By Marj Watkins

Defeating Diabetes

There’s apparently a plague of diabetes and pre-diabetes in this country. One of the doctors I most listen to says the only way to defeat it is to absolutely avoid all the sugar possible. It’s in most canned foods. Read the labels. If molasses, honey, sugar, dextrose, maltose, sucrose, fructose or any other word ending in ‘ose’ appears in the list of ingredients, he says, “Put it back on the shelf.”

Another very sage word of advice: “Eat raw foods.” You will lose weight, diminish your risk of diabetes or make it easier to regulate your blood sugar level if you have it. Also, if you were a bit on the heavy side there’s bonus from loading your menus with raw foods you’ll soon fit into your bathing suit better. Here’s a Greek-inspired salad high in protein and full of raw veggies to boot.

- Feta & Olive Salad
- 3 Servings
- 6 large green or red leafy lettuce, washed, dried and torn or cut in bite size pieces
- ½ lb. feta cheese, cubed
- 18 black olives
- 3 green onions, green part included, sliced
- ½ Cucumber, sliced
- 1 red ripe tomato sliced or diced

Line a serving bowl or three individual bowls with the lettuce. Top with the feta dice. Arrange the olives, green onions and tomato pieces around the feta. Line the salad bowl/bowls with cucumber slices. Pass the extra virgin cold-pressed olive oil and the red wine vinegar. Accompany with whole-grain, gluten free bread toasted and buttered. Use real butter. It and the olive oil give you Omega-3 fats.

- Lower Carbohydrate
- Black Bean Brownies
- Makes 16
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees
- 1 (15.25 oz) can Black Beans, rinsed and drained
- 3 eggs
- 3 Tablespoons olive oil
- ¼ cup cocoa powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¾ cup coconut sugar
- ½ cup chopped walnuts

Lightly grease an 8x8-inch square baking pan or dish. Combine the drained beans, eggs, oil, cocoa powder, salt, vanilla, and coconut sugar, in a food processor. Process until smooth. Stir the walnuts into the mixture and pour into the pre-greased baking can. Bake in center of preheated oven until the edges start to pull away from the pan’s sides, 30 to 35 minutes. Test with toothpick for doneness. Allow to cool in pan. Cut into squares. These, still in their pan, travel well to picnics and potlucks.

Brownies made with all purpose wheat flour and chocolate chips would stick you with 41 grams of carbohydrates each. These contain only 10 grams carbohydrate each and are low on the Glycemic Index. Each also yields 3.56 grams of protein.

By Richard Rogers

Just a couple weeks into its campaign, Voice of Vashon has already hit the halfway mark for fundraising to build Vashon’s own community FM radio station. Donations and pledges have now reached \$25,000 on the way to full funding of \$50,000 for the project. “Public support has been amazing,” reported Station Manager Susan McCabe. “We pulled in about \$12,000 on GiveBig Day by mounting an unprecedented public visibility effort in ferry lines, at the grocery stores and on Vashon Highway. GiveBig Day is an online giving event but we decided to put a face on it so people could really understand how important this radio station will be to our community.” A few house parties and a major “double your dollars” challenge grant have boosted the results.

The station has just launched a crowd funding effort using the Indiegogo website that should take the campaign the rest of the way to the total funding goal of \$50,000. Janet McAlpin and David Godsey, the pair behind Open Space for Arts & Community, gave VoV’s fund-raising campaign a huge boost with a \$5,000 matching fund pledge. This doubles every dollar donated up to the next \$5,000, bringing the total gift to \$10,000 with the help of other community donors, large and small. “We’ve been with the Voice of Vashon founders right from the start, 14 years ago,” says McAlpin. “The story of their persistence all these years to give our community an FM voice . . . well, it’s just inspiring. So David and I hope you will join us to support the building of KVSH FM.”

“It’s all about connections and community” says Jean Bosch, President of the VoV Board. “We are asking Vashon to help us take a gigantic step towards connecting our island community in a new and wonderful way. Nothing connects people like a small town radio station and now we have FCC approval to put one on the air . . . KVSH at 101.9 FM. We can all take this big step together by contributing to Raise the Tower for KVSH. It’s a place where we will unite as neighbors in voice and song, a place where we’ll share and hear stories and perspectives that shape our lives on this beautiful island, a place that will bring us closer together through understanding. That’s the power of community radio, the power of KVSH FM.”

The Raise The Tower campaign has so far received donations from over 200 individual supporters, evidence of strong community support. Voice of Vashon has sustained itself as a broadcast entity – and thrived – for 14 years on over 7,000 hours per year of volunteer effort from talented and devoted Vashonians. “It’s about the love,” says McCabe. “Your community support tells us that you understand the



value in Vashon having its own community FM radio station. You understand how local radio will help knit us together as a community and help keep us safe in an emergency. KVSH FM will join our Web, TV and radio “channels” so we can all share stories, music, performances and opinions in ways we cannot do so now. It’s so exciting that, after 14 years of work, we are finally fulfilling our dream to give Vashon its own FM radio voice.

That’s our name, after all: Voice of Vashon.” Raising the tower to meet FCC requirements, however, won’t happen on love alone. With the \$50,000 needed, VoV will purchase and install a transmitter, antenna and other equipment required to meet FCC regulations and to produce a high quality FM sound. The station will expand its Open Studio training program to add dozens of new volunteer program contributors, and extend coverage, even in areas that will be shadowed by Island terrain. Funds will also go toward adding and improving studio space at Sunrise Ridge. It takes a community to Raise the KVSH-FM Tower and it will be simple if everyone participates. To support VoV’s crowd funding effort, visit VoiceOfVashon.org/ RaiseTheTower.



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Sharing The Stage: Brothers From Another



Sharing The Stage Presents
Brothers From Another &
Student Openers
The Red Bicycle Bistro &
Sushi

SHARING THE STAGE is a dynamic music series on Vashon Island. Top name headliners play the island in professional venues...and high school band are the opening act!

Student musicians from Vashon Island High School will open for a hip hop duo from Seattle called Brothers From Another, bringing Vashon Island's residents together to focus on teens and young-adults and their musical interests.

Brothers from Another are the face of the next generation of Seattle Hip-Hop. Comprised of lyricist Tiglo and Cole, they have made their way through Seattle the rap scene since beginning in the basement studio of their high school. Since then, they have shared the stage with some of the biggest names in hip-hop including Kendrick Lamar, Macklemore and Ryan Lewis, and Wale.

While both attending four year University's with majors in Business Administration, they have found time to release 6 EP's and perform in some of the nation's most notable venues including the Bowery Ballroom in NY, the Troubadour in LA and the Fillmore in SF. Collaborating with some of the heavy weights of Seattle Hip-hop, including the Blue Scholars, Sol, Vitamin D, J Pinder and Sam Lachow, they have always held their own with a cool Sunday afternoon demeanor. They exude the easy going flavor of the mid 90's while maintaining a new school attitude in their lyrics.

The future is bright for the young duo that seems to possess knowledge and experience beyond their years. One listen to any of their songs and its clear they stay true to their fundamental beliefs that life

should be lived to the fullest extent, and their purpose is nothing more than to contribute to good living.

Rob Bordner and Fred Strong, parents of VHS alumni, formed Sharing the Stage with teacher Harris Levinson in 2009, and they produced their first show at the Red Bicycle in April 2010. The three partners wanted to provide a way for students to express themselves musically, creatively and freely. They also wanted to foster meaningful mentorships; student acts have received help from love local musicians Ian Moore, Van Crozier, Jacob Bain, and Dominic Wolczko. This year, Richard Montague and his marketing class at VHS have provided talent, energy, and impressive skills to publicize the show.

Headlining acts loved the idea of student opening acts, too. Sharing the Stage has previously hosted rock, hip hop, and jazz shows, with Visqueen, Macklemore, & Ryan Lewis, Thomas Marriott, Blue Scholars, The Wellingtons, Kublakai, and The Physics. In fact, Macklemore actually came out from back stage to enjoy the student opening acts when he performed on the island three years ago.

Our SHARING THE STAGE series is for both youth and adults, and pairs professional musicians with student and youth openers from Vashon Island. Our list of shows:

- 2010, Visqueen, rock
 - 2011, Macklemore & Ryan Lewis, hip hop
 - 2011, Thomas Marriott, jazz
 - 2012, The Blue Scholars, hip hop
 - 2012, Zac Anthony & Kate Goldby, The Wellingtons, rock
 - 2013, Tangerine, pop
- Vashon Productions, LLC, is NOT making a profit on these shows. Our budgets

Comedy Night is Back! You are so welcome. On Friday May 23, on the cusp of graduating the first class from our new school, we're tickled pink to bring you 8 (eight) students of comedy. They range in experience from freshman to wily fifth-year seniors majoring in funny business.

Where to start? How about with Jason Butler, who not only teaches history professionally on your dime, but has spent two years and countless thousands of dollars securing the patent to his "calf-less pants". For those times when you want long pants, but you still want people to be able to check out your fine calves, calf-less pants are the way to go. Your homework assignment: get there late so you can stand up the whole night.

If you caught Mick Etchoe's last performance then you know that he puts the pro(fane) in professional amateur. Did you also know that Vashon Youth and Family Services will have counselors on hand to help deal with the emotional trauma of Mick finishing up his set before you were ready? Mick will sign autographs (\$45, no checks) after his set, but he will not come home with (all of) you.

What can we say about Daniel Green? That he's been tearing up the teen scene? That we built an entire high school just for him? That when you hear his jokes you will not only envy his youth, but you will actually want to BE him? The stupid scientists have not yet perfected full brain transplants, so you'll need to live your own life, sweetcheeks. Your homework: Dance like EVERYBODY is watching.

We are wicked happy to welcome back Jon Whalen. Jon has the passion of an airport

evangelist, the talent of a Broadway star, the energy of a puppy and the body of a fifty-year-old man. He has promised no frontal nudity, but nobody is holding him to that. Watching Jon perform, it is easy to imagine him as a six-year old saying "I have an idea for a show!!!" Your homework assignment: try to imagine a career that suits Jon's personality.

A common complaint we hear about Comedy Night -other than "I peed my pants"- is that there isn't enough Blomgren. Problem solved, people, because we are pleased to announce a 100% increase in the amount of Blomgren!! Hello Anders. Hello Per-Lars. In the name of public safety, The Center for Disease Control has strongly urged the producers of BLOMGRENPALOOZA to provide urinary catheters and Depends undergarments for this somewhat-precedented event. Please rinse and return, thank you.

If everything on this planet made sense, we wouldn't need Jim Farrell. Alas, until Sarah Palin defeats the lizards and saves us all, we just might need Jim to keep picking up rocks and exposing little gross pieces of this world. Your homework assignment: Laugh until you cry. Cry until God hears you. Ask God to pull your finger.

Your host, Steffon Moody, traded his third-born child for a secret map to your funny bone. Good call-that kid looked like a frog. His assignment for the night is to guide you tenderly amongst the thorny brambles and outrageously implausible situations concocted by the fools onstage. Always upbeat and funny, he is your ally, your guidance counselor. Interestingly, Steffon is not on

drugs. Making his way back to our ridiculous island is our headliner and valedictorian, Kane Holloway. Kane has been performing all over the place recently, including on the "Just Another Hangover Tour," and the "Keeping Our Day Jobs College Tour." We'd like to think of this night as the "Vashon Island Tour". Kane will be selling those weird swimming nose plugs before his set, so you don't shoot beer out your nose. After his set he will be selling hard copies of his comedy CD "Kane Holloway: Testing Your Faith." After that he will be selling steaks from the back of a honda civic. Your homework assignments: write an essay comparing your life to that of a touring comedian, kiss your spouse with soul-level tenderness, buy Kane's CD.

The show starts promptly at 8 p.m. and is always crowded. By law children are permitted entry, but I swear to God if you bring a child to this comedy show you will be excoriated publically until your children cry. But lets face it, our teenagers expose themselves to more disturbing filth and illicit activity via the internet every day than we can possibly muster onstage once every three months. Profanity, sexuality, radical ideas; it happens, so let's just go ahead and include them in the conversation. Welcome, young citizens. It's a dirty, terrible, beautiful world we live in; may you move through it with thoughtfulness, grace and compassion. Pull my finger.

Comedy Night at Red Bike
Friday May 23, 8PM
206-463-5590
www.redbicyclebistro.com

count on sponsorship tickets due to substantial costs for venue rental, insurance, and supplemental sound equipment. Your sponsorship support (at any level) is always greatly appreciated, and sponsors will be acknowledged on a poster at our shows.

Our shows welcome all ages. Strict enforcement of our NO DRUGS, NO ALCOHOL policy ensures a safe environment for everyone. Security is provided by off-duty King County Sherri's Department officers and off-duty Vashon Firefighters. Refreshments will be available for sale.

For more info, contact:
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Blind Willies



San Francisco band Blind Willies, led by singer/songwriter Alexei Wajchman, plays music as powerful as it is eclectic. Offering up a raucous blend of folk, blues, Americana, rock ‘n’ roll, and original songwriting.

Blind Willies features Misha Khalikuov (cello), Alex Nash (drums), Daniel Riera (bass, flute), and Max Miller-Loran (keyboard, trumpet). They met while attending San Francisco’s School of the Arts. Accomplished across diverse genres including rock, jazz, classical, world, and hip-hop, the band has forged a dynamic and unique sound that reflects the deeply resonant American musical traditions that each

player has brought to the table.

They recently toured Europe (Ireland, England, Holland, Belgium, Germany) and will be releasing their fourth album in Spring 2014. Members of Blind Willies also perform with Rupa and the April Fishes, George Watsky, Jazz Mafia, Kev Choice Ensemble, Goodnight, Texas, and Marcus Cohen and the Congress.

This is an all-ages show ‘til 11pm, 21+ after that. Free cover!

Saturday, June 7, 8:30pm
At the Red Bicycle
17618 Vashon Hwy SW
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Seattle Rock Orchestra

Continued from Page 1

amazing memory that stays with them forever, and inspires others to follow their passions.” In an effort to introduce more kids to this innovative music, VAA and O Space offer free admission to children ages 8 and under.

In March, VAA launched a crowdfunding campaign through ArtsFund’s online power2give platform, with a dollar-for-dollar match by the Raynier Foundation. The goal was successfully met in April. Thank you to the dozens of generous donors whose collective contributions, along with the outstanding support of our sponsor Windermere Vashon, have made this

event possible for our community. Thank you to our beer sponsor Vashon Brewing Company.

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Tickets: Vashon Allied Arts (463-5131), Heron’s Nest,
VashonAlliedArts.org

An Island Treasure

the Portage Fill Big Band at Sunday Swing

By Maria Glanz



On Sunday, June 1, the Grand Hall at Open Space for Arts & Community will be filled with the fabulous sounds of the 18-piece, one-and-only, Portage Fill Big Band. Founded nearly 40 years ago, the ensemble has a passion for the big sounds of jazz and swing – and a group of musicians who bring that passion to life. The quality of the musicians is matched by their rich repertoire, featuring the sounds of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Bennie Goodman and more.

The Portage Fill Big Band has long been an Island treasure, with hundreds of people turning out to dance at their outdoor concerts at the Strawberry Festival and more. Portage Fill headlined one of the very first events at Open Space – the Inaugural Ball of 2008. Since then, we’ve been thrilled to have Open Space filled with the music of Portage Fill at the 2012 Inaugural Ball and last fall’s Sunday Swing.

The Portage Fill Big Band is one of those treasures that is so special to Vashon. I remember growing up and listening to my mom and dad’s records

of big band music, with my mom telling me stories of how they went out dancing every Saturday night in the years right after WWII. And they kept dancing, for years and years after that – some of my fondest memories are of watching my mom and dad dance. I had to miss the fall Sunday Swing here at Open Space, because I was in Ohio with my family – my dad had passed away on November 6th. I wish he and my mom had gotten to visit us here on the island in time to listen to Portage Fill – he would have been so tickled

And now as we move towards the end of a lovely Island spring, it’s time to swing some more.

Sunday Swing dances into the Grand Hall on June 1. Doors open at 3pm for dance lessons, and music kicks off at 4pm. We invite teens, couples, families, elders – everyone! To come swing on the dance floor or just tap your toes and smile. Dress for dancing – whatever that means to you! Wear your ball gown or the comfiest clothes in your closet, whatever brings out the dancer in you.

“Art” a dark comedy

Come see St. John Vianney Catholic Church’s production of “Art”, a dark comedy about the fraught relationship between love and truth whenever friends - and abstract art - are involved. Reza’s Tony Award winning play asks the question: If your friendship is based on tacit mutual agreement, what happens when one person does something different and completely unexpected? Are you who you think you are, or are you who your friends think you are? And is a work of art in and of itself valuable, or valuable only because you think it is?

“Art” runs June 13th, 14th and 15th at 7:30 p.m. at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 16100 115th Ave. SW. It stars Steve Tosterud, Kirk Beeler and Rev. Marc Powell, with direction by Ken Drew. Admission is free, but a donation of between \$10-\$20 is suggested; funds help enhance the church’s performance space. A Q&A with cast and director follows each show.

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