Vol. 16, #25

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December 12, 2019

VoV's Old Man Winter Raffle

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If you want to be sure VoV Alerts are there when you need them, now is the time to provide your support. Make a donation to Voice of Vashon for the Emergency Alert Service and you could win the \$2,000 prize donated by VoV board members. Tickets are \$20 each or



buy 4 and get 1 free. Santa says those raffle tickets make great stocking stuffers! Look for Old Man Winter around town and buy your raffle tickets from Voice of Vashon volunteers at Vashon Thriftway. Info at VoiceOfVashon.org/winter.

The Road to Resilience

Confessions of a Slow Learner

As the latest climate summit, COP 25, finishes its first week in Madrid, I assume little has been done, because next to nothing has been reported. Since they began in 1994, the COP summits have grown progressively more futile – great piles of paper being consumed and really nothing of consequence having happened. This year has been especially chaotic, because just two months before the summit, Chile announced that they would no longer be able to host it due to social unrest. With some really extraordinary effort, Spain managed to make preparations to host the summit in record time. Adding to the ferment is the largest march of children in history. And Greta Thunberg had to change her plans. She originally came to the US as it was on her way to Chile, her ultimate destination, for the COP 25 summit. She had to cross the Atlantic once again in order to attend in Madrid.

It has been considerably frustrating trying to research this article for you. There has been virtually no coverage or analysis by the major media. The reports of the summit itself are lengthy and wordy, and, I suspect, intended to be that way to hide the fact that there is nothing of note to report.

One aspect did receive some coverage beforehand. Big energy providers, who fund and populate these talks are heavily invested in implementing Article 6 of the Paris accords. This article considers a world carbon offset market that they are interested in exploiting. It turns out that several countries, notably Brazil, China, and India, want to game this system by offering bogus carbon offsets. The result could actually be worse than the status quo as buyers of bogus carbon offsets are entitled to pollute more even though the reductions that they bought have not been made. At this point, I'm very skeptical that any progress will have been made by the end of this week. You will know by the time this paper comes out, if anybody bothers to report it.

By Terry Sullivan,

For 25 years, the world has been trying to reduce our carbon output. Not only has it not been reduced, it has steadily increased with the exception of 2014-16, when it remained essentially flat. Since then, it has continued to increase.

Where is the twelve-step program for civilizations? We are fatally addicted to growth economics, capitalism, and consumption. Obviously, the economic powers that be (not us) have decided that climate crisis mitigation does not pay, or, more likely, the transition to a new paradigm presents too many unknowns and is not deemed worth the risk. The same rationale goes for each us as well. We don't want to radically change our lifestyle either. In fact, the only ones that are raising sufficient objections are the young people who will inherit this mess.

In trying to think of something that would motivate us to act, I came up with something that we all know in a religious context and that has been bandied about for so long that few of us even hear it anymore. It is the only thing that we will go to the mat for regardless of personal cost, and we will do it joyfully. That thing is love — not the cute, warm, fuzzy love, or sexual love, as wonderful and important as those are. I'm talking about the fierce love that one has for their young children, or for a place, or an idea, or an art. It is the love that we will forsake our own welfare to protect and nurture. It is not at all about "me" or any separation of self from nature or about a remote deity that the religious counterpart has, until recently in some churches, usually focused on.

We have to love the Earth and everything on it in such a way that we personally feel the hurt that it or any part of it may feel. And our act of addressing those hurts would then be something that we take great joy in. If your child is thrashing in the water at the bottom of a well, do you stop to do a cost/benefit analysis? Do you feel anything other than utter joy when you have rescued them, even at great cost to you personally? That is the only force that will motivate us to do what needs to be done. Religion may have Continued on Page 7

Drama Dock presents "A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol"



Drama Dock's "A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol" features an all-ages all-Island cast of merrymakers.

By Pamela McMahan

A comedy-drama-musical treat for Vashon audiences of all ages arrives just in time for full-out holiday fun. Opening Friday, Dec. 20 at 7 pm, "A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol" brightens the stage at Vashon Center for the Arts for five shows over the next two weekends. The pandemonium of a live 1943 radio show replete with eccentric, loveable characters and a bucket of great swingera songs marks Drama Dock's holiday gift to the Vashon community.

Directed by Elise and Marita Ericksen, the show features an all-Island cast of familiar favorite Vashon performers along with some actors and singers brand new to the wonderful world of community theatre. They include Rich Wiley, Joel Kutzke, Hailey Quackenbush, Christopher, Dawn and Gabriel Dawson, Jesse Whitford, Lisa Peretti, Shannon Flora, Erica Wagner, Sue DeNies, Russell Baker and Paul Stephenson; Marita Ericksen appears as "Toots Navarre," the musical director, composer and pianist for WOV-Radio.

The story is a convoluted confection right out of the Golden Age of Radio, and the action on stage will take the audience back to the zany sweetness of that era. The time is December 24, 1943, and the Feddington Players are set to present their contemporary on-air version of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." The Players have been banished from their New York City studio and are now broadcasting live from WOV-Radio, a hole-in-the-wall satellite studio in the lobby of Hotel Aberdeen in Newark, New Jersey. Whether it's the rattle of bad plumbing, missed cues, electrical blackouts, or the over-the-top theatrics of William St. Claire (a veteran actor, but radio novice, played by Rich Wiley), this radio show is steeped in all the unpredictable mayhem of live radio of

that time. As an added treat, audiences will be entertained by the astonishing variety of special effects produced by WOV's "sound effectician," Isadore "Buzz" Crenshaw (played by Jesse Whitford).

Ranging across the America-at-war landscape of 1943, the characters in "A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol" are a slice-of-life of men and women of that time, both tragic and comic. Many have day jobs and make their way to the tattered Newark WOV-Radio studio after hours to perform in various on-air skits and other radio theatre antics. Guest performer for the WOV Christmas Eve show is William St. Claire, a retired star of stage and screen who looks down on radio as one of the bastard children of the stage. Fittingly, St. Claire is cast as Scrooge; his escalating foibles and acting missteps propel the show to a funny yet heartbreaking climax. St. Claire has an on-air breakdown and begins to connect his own life with that of the classic Dickens' character. In order to "save the show," the Feddington Players improvise a wacky, masterful ending to the Dickens' story in the guise of a film noir mystery, taking everyone on an unexpected wild ride.

Combining the melodic and lyrical delights of swing-era music with dramatic, crazy plot twists, "A 1940s Radio Christmas Carol" serves up many funny moments, some heartbreak and much hope. The show aims to capture Drama Dock's essential mission for Vashon audiences who love live theater.

Performances are Friday, Dec. 20 and Saturdays, Dec. 21 and 28 at 7 pm; Sundays, Dec. 22 & 29 at 1 pm. A "pay what you will" performance is Friday, Dec. 27 at 7 pm.

Tickets: vashoncenterforthearts.org

The Vashon Loop, p. 2 December 12' 19

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LOCATION

FRIDAY

December 13

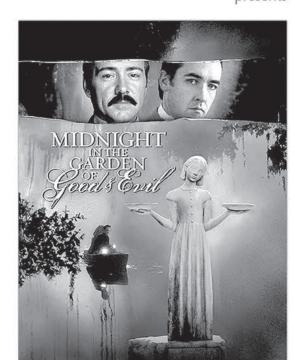
Vashon Senior Center

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the center

IN AND OUT

Queer Film Series











for more information visit vashonheritagemuseum.org vashonseniorcenter.org vashonpride.com

Find us on Skype Vashon Loop 206-925-3837

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

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Coming Soon

Concerts in the Dark - The Paperboys December 12 @ 8 pm

A Christmas Story December 14 @ 12:00 pm

It's a Wonderful Life (FREE) December 15 @ 1:00 pm

Annual Community Sing-A-Long December 17 @ 6:00 pm

Star Wars: The Rise of SkywalkeDe-Playing December 19 - January 4

Vashon Theatre 17723 Vashon Hwy 206-463-3232 Call for Times

For show times and info check www.vashontheatre.com

The Vashon Loop

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Make a date with Vashon! www.VashonCalendar.com

Vashon Library Events Art & Music Events Submit your Event on line at www.vashoncalendar.org

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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.

Alzheimer's **Association Caregivers Support Group**

Caring for someone with memory loss? Do you need information and support? Alzheimer's Association family caregiver support groups provide a consistent and caring place for people to learn, share and gain emotional support from others who are also on a unique journey of providing care to a person with memory loss. Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1:00-2:30 pm, at Vashon Presbyterian Church, 17708 Vashon Highway SW, Vashon, WA 98070. For information call Regina Lyons at (206) 355-3123.

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

FOR ORCAS AND FOR ISLANDERS PLEASE REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS ASAP TO 206-463-904 Vashon Hydrophone Project Orca Annie Stateler and Mark Sears Vashonorcas@aol.com t Vashon-Maury Island Whale Research gs NOT Disclosed to Whale Watch Boats

Marijuana **Anonymous**

ashonorcas.org

12 Step Meeting Has marijuana become a problem for you or a loved one? Join us Starting October 1st. Every Tuesday 7-8 PM Vashon Lutheran Church, 18623 Vashon Hwy SW

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

Vashon Island Pet Protectors **Holiday Bake Sale**

In front of Ace Hardware. Saturday December 14th 9am to

Stop by to purchase an array of goodies baked by some of the island's best bakers. If you would like to contribute please drop off your tightly wrapped & labeled goodies after 8:30 the morning of the 14th. For more information please call Victoria 463-5381.

Santa Paws

Santa Portraits with your Pooch, sponsored by 4Paws Veterinary Clinic & Connie Sorensen, Island Realtor. A fundraiser for Thumper's fund, for pets who can't afford urgent care. Sit with Santa and receive a high quality jpeg image from island photographer, Elsie Giordano.

Sunday, December 15th, 12pm-2pm. At 4 Paws Veterinary Clinic, 9822 SW Gorsuch RD. For information call 206-567-7782

Santa's Cottage

Get your picture with Santa Clause at his Cottage behind U.S. Bank. Photo's and signed Pillowcases (limited number of pillowcases)

Saturday December 14 Sunday December 15 Sunday December 22 All times are from 12:30pm - 3:30pm

See You Soon, Santa Clause

Indivisible Vashon Monthly Meeting

Indivisible Vashon's first event of the year is our January 15 monthly meeting at Vashon Co-Housing starting at 6:30PM. We will gather to celebrate the New Year, share Indivisible Vashon's 2020 goals, and invite you to share your 2020 goals and aspirations. Make your New Year Activist Resolutions with us so we, together, can create a better future!

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday night, January 15 from 6:30 to 8:30PM at Vashon Co-Housing, 10421 SW Bank Road. Look for the Indivisible Vashon banner outside the Common House. Inside you will find friends, food, camaraderie, fun and a dedication to a better future for us all. Parking is limited on Co-Housing property--please park on Bank Road. Bring a flashlight! For more information, see http://www.indivisiblevashon.org/

TRASH TALK

You know that huge pile of wrapping paper you end up with at the end of the holidays? Some creative reuse can make it much smaller this year. Wrap a present in a scarf, dish towel or piece of fabric. How about a pillow case for that large awkward toy? A bright ribbon makes it festive. Shopping bags work as well. Just glue a Christmas card or pretty picture over the logo.

ZERO WASTE VASHON

www.zerowastevashon.org

Next Edition of The Loop Comes out Thursday January 2

Deadline for the next edition of The Loop Saturday, December 28

Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment is for the Affordable Care Act health

This is the time to keep your current insurance or change to something that suits you better.

Or sign up after a lapse. See if you might qualify for Apple Health which is for low income people. Apple Health is free. Also children may qualify even if the adult in the household does not.

King County Public Health will be here on the following dates and time to help people navigate the system and answer questions.

Friday December 13th, 2019, 11am - 1:30pm at the Vashon Library.

This is for health insurance that will begin January 2020 You can also apply for:

ORCA LIFT: Metro reduced fare program

FOOD STAMPS

se habla español King County people do speak Spanish

Vashon Social Dance Group Monthly Dance & Lesson

Saturday, December 14

Waltz lesson 7-8pm. 8-9:30pm variety dance with Candy as DJ

No partner or experience needed

\$10 suggested donation

No one turned away for lack of funds

Community Christmas dinner

The annual Havurah-sponsored community Christmas dinner will be served at Vashon Presbyterian Church (our usual location at Holy Spirit Episcopal). All are welcome to join us for fresh-cooked holiday fare, delicious and festive. 5:30 pm Christmas Day, Wed.

Fabulous Celtic Music

Warm up your holiday season with traditional Christmas music from Ireland and Scotland on Saturday, December 21 at 7:30 pm at Church of the Holy Spirit, 15420 Vashon Hwy SW, Vashon Island. The Seattle-based Celtic band The Holly and the Haggis blends vocal harmonies with fiddle, pipes, flute, guitar, and percussion in lush arrangements of Christmas favorites to new carols for the season. The band will be joined by Irish step dancers from the Tara Academy of Irish Dance for an exciting show perfect for the entire family. A festive reception follows the concert. Tickets available at the door. Suggested donation: \$20, age 18 and under free.

Support Senior Health and Fun --Go To Amsterdam!



A raffle ticket would make a great holiday gift! No more than 500 will be sold so you have an excellent chance of winning. The stay aboard this exquisite houseboat is generously donated by CC Stone and Andrew Niss. Proceeds will be used to buy seniorfriendly outdoor exercise equipment to be placed on the outskirts of the kids playground at Ober Park helping make it "Every Body's Play Ground."

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Our Heroes



Photo of Rod Thurston courtesy the Heritage Museum

By Sean Malone and John Sweetman

Brother Mike and Kit Bradley and I were down in the woods smoking one of Kit's Mom's Herbert Tareytons. We kept a lighter and cigarettes in a jar that was buried under the roots of a giant fir tree stump on the trail to the beach. "I'm telling you," Kit said, "That wimp Mr. Rogers was a sniper and killed lots of Germans." My reply was non-committal, since I knew that Kit was wrong and that Mr. Roger's television show wasn't a kind of penance for all the killing he had done in WWII.

Sheriff Tex's show ran every afternoon on Channel 5 and we knew where Sheriff Tex lived on Mercer Island, because you could see his big pink house from the floating bridge. At the end of every show, Sheriff Tex would join his index finger and thumb of his right hand in a circle, click his tongue as if he was talking to a horse and say "Remember kids, "SAFETY," and that was how he signed off.

Uncle Bruce Brinton was our scoutmaster and teacher of all sorts of woods lore, such as building an Irish fish boat from canvas, sticks and rope. Uncle Bruce helped us lash the 6 foot circle of sticks into the shape of a doughnut, which would then be placed on top of a tarp and tied tight, so we could sit on the rim and dangle our feet in the hole in the center of the Irish fish boat. Uncle Bruce called it a "coracle" and told us kids how it had been used in Ireland for thousands of years. "Uncle Bruce" wasn't really our uncle, we just called him that because he wasn't really official and took us up to the mountain to learn how to glissade, using an alpine stock as a rudder and the heels of his boots for skis, a very ancient practice in Norway. Kit wouldn't dig in his heels to stop, as he was having too much fun and crashed into the rocks below. Kit wasn't hurt bad, but we did lose a Vashon scout when he fell off a cliff and was killed on the edge of the Nisqually glacier, the same glacier where we learned to glissade a few years earlier. You could use an ice ax if you didn't have an alpine stock, or any old stick that was 6 feet long and thick enough to hold your weight as you leaned back with your right hand holding the stock, just above the snow. The top of the stock was in your left hand, out in front. If the snow in the summer was just right, it made a swishing noise as you glissaded down the slope.

Rod Thurston was another hero of ours on Vashon. Rod dug water wells and if he didn't hit water, you didn't have to pay him \$25. He drove a wooden wheeled bicycle and as he came down Beal Road, where we lived, we could hear him singing and watch him come with his front wheel wobbling back and forth in the gravel. Rob played the violin and it was strapped across his handlebars most of the time and there was

always a pile of water-witching sticks lashed down to the rack behind him. "Hey kids, Rod's coming!" someone would yell and we would all run down to the road, even Kathy from next door or Colin from down the road. Rod would stop for us and enquire as to the health of our parents and then he would pull hard candy from his pocket that looked like it had been there for a long time, all fuzzy and sticky. Mom told us to politely thank Rod for the candy and then throw it away when Rod was gone. "Everybody knows we didn't do that."

Of course the real hero is my friend John Sweetman who bragged to me that he had Ted William's baseball mitt and could prove it; because it said "Ted Williams" right on it. I took him up, knowing that every baseball mitt had Ted William's name on it. John admitted that he wasn't a very good baseball player, but had played hard and had the bruises to show for it.

John was convinced that his glove, purchased via mail order, after a summer of earning money in the berry fields was 'genuine'. He ordered the glove after an enticing comic book ad, and finally got enough cash to buy the glove and save some money for Christmas presents. The glove had an actual signature from 'Ted Williams', although someone did point out that the glove appeared not to be 'broken in' with well formed pocket..

Acquiring the 'genuine' glove was a tough thing to accomplish after being fired (and rehired) about four times for throwing strawberries, which he defended by saying..'it helps my throwing arm!'.

John remembers that his old friend, Gene Amundson and rival for the secret mutual affections of Carol Harper..had also acquired a glove from Mickey Mantle (a Yankees player), but was argued to be not genuine because it had been given in a trade involving bicycle parts and marbles. .. and the signature was vague and kind of worn off.., although the glove did have the advantage of appearing to have a well worn pocket. And besides.. for reasons not yet known, we all hated the Yankees. At that time we could occasionally get games on the radio and would listen through scratchy reception from east coast stations or through what must have been retransmissions by KIRO. Sometimes one of us was sent out in the late summer drought to pour water over the radio 'ground' rod to improve radio reception. Only East Coast teams were heard, if at all.

Ted Williams was John's hero because he would be shown in 'movietone' news (In black and white film clips..) before the main feature of the films he saw. Later, and sadly John became a Cubs fan and was resigned to semi-decadal disappointment.

He remembers the milkman, also a

Spiritual Smart Algek

By Mary Tuel

Didn't Expect to See That

Front page story in a newspaper the other week:

In America the average life expectancy is going down, while in other first world countries people are living longer.

Actual causes of earlier deaths in the United States: opioid overdoses, suicide, illnesses brought on by lack of self-care, or bad diet, or bad diet because a good diet is unaffordable or unavailable, or illness left untreated because medical care is unaffordable or unavailable.

The person speaking in the article said that what this trend toward early death came down to was despair and hopelessness, not being able to see a future in which life could be improved with a job, a home, reliable food availability, reliable

It was a grim assessment of how tough it is for so many American people now, and how many of them cannot find the resources to prevail against the odds.

On page three of the same newspaper was an article about our President pardoning a Thanksgiving turkey. He joked about impeachment and finished up by saying he was so happy about the new prosperity in the country and the new spirit blowing across the land.

After reading these two pieces, one after the other, I thought, there it is in a nutshell, the dichotomy between what we see - people dying from despair - and what we're told to see - prosperity! A new spirit!

You know, there have been a lot of things I did not expect to see in my lifetime. I did not expect to see the Berlin Wall come down, and the Soviet Union to collapse. I did not expect to see marijuana become legal. I did not expect to see us have a black president. I did not expect to see us have a woman president.

Oh, wait.

Seriously, folks, I did not expect to see my country go down the road that Germany went down in the twentieth century. I grew up being taught, and believing, that we were better than that. We were the good guys who fought to defeat that.

In 2007, the last year of George W. Bush's second term, I read that Germans who had fled Germany in the 1930s and 40s were saying that it was already too late to flee the United States. They saw what was coming. They had seen it before.

A young population has grown up



without knowing survivors of World War II, or survivors of the death camps, or people whose families in Europe were wiped out. Young people have not grown up hearing those stories, or stories from their fathers or uncles or grandfathers, the vets who liberated the camps - not that those vets wanted to talk about it. They wanted their nightmares to go away: the sights, the smells, the discovery of what one group of human beings did to other human beings.

So now we have a country where we have people who think Hitler was a pretty cool guy, and white racial purity is a thing much to be desired, and they cheer for a guy who is incapable of putting together a simple declarative sentence.

Now we have thugs in the military who have no respect for the rules of engagement. Oh, there has always been rape and murder and torture and pillage in war, but there hasn't always been a President who gave it his blessing.

Don't forget, though, Donald Trump is not the cause of what is happening. He is an end stage symptom of a disease which has been building in this country for a long time. Since the founding of the nation, really, but in this virulent form since the nineteenseventies.

Millions of Americans think he is ducking peachy, and that the Republicans are doing a great job of running the country, channeling all the wealth to a few people and not caring much about the rest of us.

One could despair, and many people do.

And yet - I see our native people rising and speaking out, demanding to be recognized as human beings with rights and dignity, more than ever before.

I see our children saying they are fed up with being gunned down in their classrooms, and it must stop.

I see people responding to hate crimes with grace and righteousness, and people surrounding them with love and support.

I see people devoting their lives working to prevent mass extinction on our planet from climate change, even if they suspect their work might be hopeless because it is too late.

Yeah, climate change might make everything else fade into irrelevance. Didn't expect to see that in my lifetime, either.

Sometimes it takes something like that to make everyone realize we're all in this together.

Or not.

We'll see.

hero: 'I would get up early to see him bring the milk and cream'. "He told me stories about Norway before WWII, where they would wait to pick up their milk until the milk froze to where it pushed the caps up , releasing all that precious cream to which we would address, by licking it up. The milkman had been a Halibut fisherman in the Bering Sea on an old four-masted schooner. I think the boat may have been out of Port Madison. He told tales of bashing ice with baseball bats.. off the rigging and hull and close calls of adventure and danger .. with the near misses of being dashed aground.' 'John remembers a tale of near disaster off of Point no Point where the

and then refloated, but with a massive load of halibut.

'He was either Swedish or Norwegian, although it was hard to tell the difference'. It may have been a clue that he occasionally brought a jar of his hand caught herring, pickled with island grown dill'.

'I learned the trick of licking the cream that would rise after whole unpasteurized milk froze and lift the cardboard round up so one could lick off the cream and place the cardboard back on the container'.

John's Mother somehow knew what mischievous act had been done and never accepted the 'raccoon did it' excuse'.

Sean@vashonloop.com

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milkman claimed to have been grounded

Island Life Argument

By Peter Ray pgray@vashonloop.com

I am sitting here staring at a gallery of staunch supporters of the current president. Their images have been pilfered from the internets, printed to about the same size and rubber-cemented to foam core backing and then made into cut-outs with a bit of patience and an exacto knife. At the moment they are watching me from behind a brick wall, or at least a photo of one. I have decided, whilst stuck in my non-writing limboland, that the brick wall should be made of stone instead, as the unified field theory of the entire lot of them can be whittled down to that of an ordered pile of rocks when it comes to defending this current president against all adverse truths, both foreign and domestic.

From this side of that stone wall- from this side of the teevee screen, I just cannot concurrently visualize that which they are apparently seeing with their stalwart defense of their errant leader. From his asking of the Russians to find Hillary's lost emails, to his babbling on just yesterday about reversing EPA water conservation guidelines so he can wash his hands more quickly, I have been at a loss to explain to myself, or anyone else, as to why this person should still be president, let alone how he might have gotten to that place to begin with. Actually, that last part is not true. It's fairly easy to point out that he got there through cheating, lying, apathetic voters, Russian tampering and the electoral college, but this message and any others of its ilk would not have a chance in hell of surviving a leap over that stone wall that divides.

As I have been watching or listening to the recent cluster of impeachment related hearings, I have occasionally stopped all that I was otherwise doing and stood in front of the glowing flatscreen and wondered where the wall is hiding that so thoroughly and uniformly separates the members of the Republican and Democratic parties. It is as if the commercial for that insurance company, where the two guys have gotten a mime as a roommate to help with cleaning and expenses, and while they are talking about it and the mime is mimecleaning, he runs into one of those mimed obstacles in the middle of the room. "Oh", one says. "There's a wall there now? That's too bad." The wall in the hearings though is more than too bad, it's kind of a national disgrace.

If it weren't such an embarrassment it would be kind of an entertainment- a comedy sketch act not unlike the turnings of the Monty Python troupe from days gone by. That is why I titled this piece "Argument", because this nonsensical, day by day back and forth reminded me of that Python skit of that name for which I posted a connecting link on my facebooks collection of things the other day. It is fairly, easily find-able on the youtubes by searching 'argument monty python'. There is a need for more humor in these days.

I had been wanting to go back and look at the triumvirate of impeachments of our times- or at least my times. I was not overly consumed by Nixonian nonsense at the time, but was happy to see him go. I remember some of the names involved and had a basic understanding of what had transpired. Nixon approved of the break-in of the Democratic National Committee's headquarters at the Watergate office building. The burglars were there to get dirt on Democratic candidates and tap phones. Bill Clinton was being investigated by the Republicans to see if they could find any dirt on him relating to a real estate deal involving the Whitewater Development Corporation and bank finance fraud that he and Hillary had tangentially been connected to. Instead of any dirt there they got more than they bargained for when Ken Starr expanded his Clinton investigation into the Paula Jones sex harassment case and

ensuing Monica Lewinsky scandal. The Republicans got the dirt they were looking for but not the impeachment they wanted. And then there was Trump, who in looking for dirt on one of his current, political opponents, stepped into a cavalcade of mess when he was caught asking for political dirt on that opponent from the president of the Ukraine in exchange for withheld monetary assistance that had already been approved by Congress without any previous strings attached. Some might be noting a pattern here

I also had a look at the Federal Elections Commission (FEC) regarding Trump's actions, as they are mentioned as being tasked with investigating any perceived violations of the Act and Commission regulations relating to foreign nationals and elections in these United States. As has been said many times and many ways as of late, foreign nationals may not make contributions or donations of money or items of value in connection with any U.S. election. There are meant to be six members of the FEC, with appointees comprising no more than two people from each party. In order to investigate and make any rulings on suspected violations, four members must be present to vote. As it is, because Trump has failed to name anyone for a position there, the three existing members do not have a quorum to have any say in current events, which some might find not so surprising, given current events.

And then there is the invisible wall that was mentioned earlier, which stands somewhere between the party divide, even if you can't outright see it. It is that invisible vortex where opposing sets of matter and anti-matter arguments collide and vaporize each other, or at least that's the hope of one side. Here you have the inductive reasoning of the Republicans which states that there is no reason to impeach because they believe Trump hasn't done anything wrong, since the transcript of the call in question with the president of Ukraine was perfect, and instead of wasting time on this investigation, it is Hunter Biden who should be investigated so that Trump can carry on with his international campaign against corruption. On the other hand, there is the Democratic, deductive reasoning that holds that the actions of the president regarding the call with the Ukrainian president were "alarming", as stated by numerous witnesses to the call, who during the investigation said that there indeed had been a quid pro quo that found Trump asking for dirt on Joe Biden in exchange for withheld financial aid that had been approved by the U.S. Congress, which would be both a violation of U.S. law and a violation of his oath of office. All of these things would have gotten any Democratic president impeached in a nano second.

And so it is that the two Articles of Impeachment have just been set loose upon the world by the House Judiciary committee. In them we have charges of abuse of power and obstruction of justice. They are nine short pages long. You can read them through the googlesearch from sources throughout the internets. Both of the charges partly end with this statement:

"Wherefore President Trump, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national security and the Constitution if allowed to remain, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with self-governance and the rule of law. President Trump thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States."

With that, it would seem that if he is found guilty of these violations he would be getting off easy. It remains to be seen what arguments are still to unfold, and whether fact or belief will prevail. In that regard, I am reminded of a quote from a David Mitchell novel and a Wachowski and Tykwer film-Cloud Atlas. Actually, there are two quotes, both from a "replicant" (robot/android/ai) who becomes a rebel and a saint of sorts, and she is known as Sonmi 451. The first

Vashon Nobody's Above the Law Rally

Have you been listening to the impeachment hearings? Are you convinced, as we are, that impeachment is necessary? If so, please spread the word to your fellow Vashon-Maury Islanders that a Nobody's Above the Law rally will be held at the 4-way stop in town the evening before the US House floor vote to pass articles of impeachment for President Donald Trump.

MoveOn.org is sponsoring these events nationwide—co-sponsors include Women's March, Indivisible, Sierra Club, People for the American Way, Greenpeace, Common Cause, SEIU, National Organization for Women, and many others.

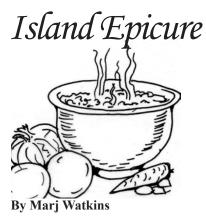
To get the exact date and time for the rally once a vote is scheduled, please RSVP at https://act.moveon.org/event/ impeach-and-remove-attend/search/.

The goal of the event is to be a visible, family-friendly, public gathering to demonstrate to lawmakers that their constituents are behind them to defend the Constitution—and that Trump has left them no alternative to uphold their oath of office but to support impeachment and removal.

Bring a sign or banner and your hope for Democracy.

See you there!





The Glories of GARLIC

You can get a lot of goodness out of garlic: Cut a clove in half and rub the inside of your salad bowl to convey a subtle flavor to the salad you'll put into it, plus kill any germs that may lurk there. Slice a clove or two and cook with kale for a more flavorful side dish. Drop a peeled clove or two of garlic into a stew you are making. It will enhance the flavor

On a long ago trip to South Korea, son Steve and I crammed on the Korean language all the way across the Pacific ocean. We--Steve, my husband John, and I-- rented a room in a yoguan (translation: mat house). Our chuin

on the warm floor for sleeping. and volunteered to do our laundry gratis. She had what she thought was very up to date laundry facilities. She didn't have to carry her washing to the river like her friends did. Right in her courtyard she had running water, a small concrete lined pond, and a washing rock on which to beat the clothes clean.

Every Korean restaurant table had

(landlady) was proud to have Amerians

staying in her house, She showed us how

to roll out three mats and spread them

Every Korean restaurant table had a little bowl of peeled garlic cloves on it. We were the only Americans there, and we watched amazed as the Korean diners ate garlic cloves as if they were raisins or candy. I managed to eat three cloves of garlic. That was a mistake. I could taste garlic for the next three days, and my poor family had to endure my garlic breath as well as every Korean's. They credited garlic for their good health.

For a sore throat and to prevent a cold, mashed garlic mixed with a little honey is effective. Try ½ teaspoon mashed garlic to a Tablespoon of honey.

Here is a sample of Korean home cooking:

Wanja-Jangorim MINI-BURGERS Makes 5 or 6

1/4 lb. ground beef

1/4 lb. ground pork

4 small eggs, boiled, cooled, and

½ long, skinny carrot, sliced into thin rounds

3 Tablespoons oil

Mixture A: 1 tablespoon soy sauce, 1 teaspoon minced green onion 1 teaspoon minced garlic,

1 teaspoon sesame seeds

Mixture B: 2 tablespoons soy sauce, 1 tablespoon sugar, 1 tablespoon rice wine or Pinot Blanc.

Combine beef and pork with Mixture A. Shape mini-burgers. Fry on both sides. Place meat, carrot rounds and eggs in fry pan. Add mixture B. Cook over medium heat until almost no liquid remains.

Serve hot with rice.

Local Weather

www.vashonweather.com
Local Rain Totals
Temperature hi/low
Wind Speed & Direction
Barometric Pressure
Weather forecasts

quote is this:

"Truth is singular- its versions are mistruths."

The second goes like this-

"Our lives are not our own. From womb to tomb we are bound to others, past and present, and by each crime and every kindness, we birth our future."

We will see where it all goes from here.

The Vashon Loop, p. 6

Classic holiday ballet, The Nutcracker, returns to VCA with some surprises



When the curtain rises at Kay Hall on December 13,14, and 15, the beloved overture to Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker will transport audience members back in time to a Victorian parlor on a snowy Christmas Eve, where Vashon Center for Dance (VCD) dancers will portray Clara's enchanting world and vivid imagination in The Nutcracker ballet.

For almost two decades, VCD has presented the timeless holiday story to island families and friends. This year — like a gift from Drosselmeyer — the classic ballet will include some surprises. Vashon Center for Dance Director Vadne White — to her own surprise — said she counted 10.

"It's practically a new ballet," she said. "There's new choreography for Doves, Arabian Coffee, Chinese Tea, Tarantella, Russian Tea Cakes, and a solo for Clara and the Dew Drop Fairy. Our Costume Mistress, Kate Guinee, created all new costumes for Snow plus there's a brand-new sleigh."

And then there's the unexpected tap solo for Fritz, or as he's been dubbed, Tapping Fritz. According to White, Johnny Joyce "has been relentless in asking me if I would ever consider having a Tapping Fritz. Since it was his idea, I gave him the role."

Clara's role will be more technically demanding than past years and performed by advanced-level students, Sadie Choo and Sophie Hancock. Returning as The Nutcracker Prince, Gus Holmes has an updated role with more partnering and lifts.

"Our Sugar Plum Fairy will be danced by Gwen Burwell, who has a lovely regal presence on stage and beautiful technique," White added. "The Dew Drop Fairy is a new role and brilliantly danced by the fantastic Mia Giovanna Kuzma. I'm excited that Jonathan Kuzma will return as Drosselmeyer, and Sarah Alexander again will delight the audience and cast with Granny's Antics."

Modern dancers will kick up their heels in the Russian dance, while tap dancers tap away as Toy Soldiers and 13 adults enact the parents, aunts and uncles in the Party Scene. White, Crissy Baker, Vanessa Wiley, Christine Juarez, Kathleen Bonner and Julie Gibson all contributed choreography to the show, which includes more than 100 dancers.

Behind the scenes, the cast of characters is no less impressive. Oahn Garvik, previously of Houston Ballet, provided rehearsal coaching and student guidance, while Baker worked diligently to facilitate all aspects of production. Parent volunteers jumped in to help, including Zoe Barlow managing the Green Room; Tricia Thompson, who together with her husband, Clint, built the new sleigh, overseeing props; Jonathan Kuzma bringing his vast knowledge and hands-on effort for larger props; and Jodi Burwell, Rebecca Lanphear, Zoe Rothchild and Larissa Web, members of VCD's Parent Advisory Committee, organizing surprises slated for intermission.

As for the students, in addition to the magic of Clara's dream, there's the reallife magic and surprising motivation that comes from performing The Nutcracker year after year.

"From the dancer's perspective, they see themselves progress through the roles," White said, "so the annual production is a measure of their achievements. And since The Nutcracker is done by all the professional companies, it is relevant to them. They see it as really important to their chosen art form."

Tickets are available at VashonCenterForTheArts.org

Performances:
Friday, December 13, 7pm
Saturday, December 14, 1pm & 7pm
Sunday, December 15, 1pm
\$17 General, \$15 Senior, \$13
Member/Student, \$20 at the door

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Northwest Sinfonietta



Northwest Sinfonietta, the region's premiere professional chamber orchestra, will perform at Vashon Center for the Art's Kay White Hall on Sunday, December 22 at 7:30pm. The group brings a Baroque-inspired program perfect for the season, including works by Baroque masters Handel, Purcell and Torelli as well as Respighi's beloved Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite No. 3 and Holst's St. Paul's Suite. Guest Artist Judson Scott, an active performer and educator around the Puget Sound area, joins the group on piccolo trumpet.

Island violinist Karin Choo has been performing with Northwest Sinfonietta since 2012, and became Executive Director of the group this past summer. "I cannot wait to introduce Northwest Sinfonietta to the Vashon community, and to perform this beautiful program at the beautiful Kay White Hall," says Choo. The Sinfonietta is in its 29th season, and this will be the ensemble's first concert

on the Island.

For tickets, visit https://vashoncenterforthearts.org/kay-hall-events/ or call the VCA Box Office at 206.259.3007.

Sunday, December 22, 2019 at 7:30pm Kay White Hall, Vashon Center for the Performing Arts

Northwest Sinfonietta Strings Judson Scott, trumpet

Torelli, Concerto à quattro in G minor, Op. 8 No. 6, per il Santissimo Natale

Torelli, Sonata Trumpet Sonata in D Major, G.1 Respighi, Ancient Airs and

Dances, Suite No. 3 Handel, Concerto Grosso in A Major,

Op. 6, No. 11 Purcell, Trumpet Sonata in D Major,

Holst, St. Paul's Suite

6 th Annual 5 x 5 Show at VALISE Gallery

In November and December, the 6th annual 5 x 5 Show returns to VALISE Gallery for a 2-month run showing more than 200 works of art. The gallery will be jam-packed with a scrumptious array of affordable art by new and



Dot Cherch

longtime members Lenard Yen, George Wright, Hita von Mende, Sharon Shaver, Jiji Saunders, Robert Passig, Rachel LordKenaga, Pascale Judet, Bill Jarcho, Julian Dahl, Dot Church, Jennifer Hawke, and Gregory Burnham. Members of the collective have been busy in their studios painting, drawing, photographing, assembling, cutting, gluing, drawing, smiling, drinking coffee/whiskey/ tea, laughing, and creating! Each artist received 20 blank 5"x 5" wood panels on which to create art. The results will surprise and delight you! Every piece of art is priced at \$75, and one-of-a-kind art makes the best holiday gift.

The celebration continues on First

Friday, December 6 from 6 to 9 pm. The show runs through Saturday December 28. VALISE Gallery is open Fridays and Saturdays from 11 am to 5 pm (plus Sundays from 12 noon to 3 pm), and is located in downtown Vashon at 17633 Vashon Highway SW, Vashon Island, Washington.

VALISE stands for Vashon Artists Linked in Social Engagement. We chose these words for their humorous, ironic, and activist bent. The gallery is dedicated to presenting subjects and media that are daring and unexpected. We want to stir our audiences. We want to challenge members to initiate fresh work. We want to share the venue with the community and inspire new ideas. Half of our shows are by collective members and the other half are by artists from Vashon and beyond, regional and nationwide. The goal of VALISE gallery is to be an important and accessible art venue for the community.



Sharon Shaver

December 12' 19

The Vashon Loop, p. 7



Planef Waxes





Aries (March 20-April 19)

Keep in mind how ridiculously easy it is to wade into a conflict and choose a side implacably, however complex the matter in question actually is. Any subject under discussion can be reduced to soundbites, though generally doing so involves sacrificing much of its nuance and humanity. Resist such temptations firmly, and take extra care with your communications, as Thursday's Gemini Full Moon approaches. This is good practice for anyone, though for you in particular at this time it relates to your ongoing personal growth. Pay attention to the calling of your higher mind, and resolve to honor the truth no matter what it is.

Taurus (April 19-May 20)

Recently you've been asking some searching questions about your trajectory, which is somewhat due to the ongoing party in your 9th house. Relatively few people end up devoting their whole life to one specific purpose, so there's no need to feel anxious if you haven't yet heard a calling in a clear direction. For the time being, it may be most useful to do the work in front of you, and let this lead onward organically, while keeping your ears open for messages and signs. This is not guaranteed to bring fame and fortune, though it certainly answers a desire to be of service in the present, and is as valid a route to self-actualization as any other.

Gemini (May 20-June 21)

Monday, your ruler Mercury enters your opposite sign Sagittarius; then on Thursday there will be a Full Moon in your sign. Both of these events describe the more profound connections between you and loved ones. That is, how you see yourself as reflected in them, and how their movements and words around you, and yours around them, reveal the shape of your mind. None of this detracts from your sense of self, nor should it; what you perceive merely adds another dimension to what you already know. Recognize your own uniqueness, and that of each person in your life, and notice all the ways you enrich one another's world.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

There is no fast-track route to self-fulfillment. There is no hack, no single action that can be applied in order to bring you in alignment with the divine spark within you. Yet there are many paths from which you can choose. If any one factor unites them, I would suggest it is agape — that sacred, universal love that embraces all alike, and from which derives the Golden Rule. If you're uncertain where to invest your energies, invoke this love and let it inflame your soul; open your mind to the cosmos, and pay attention for any messages or synchronicities that emerge. This will surely produce some results.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)

Yours is a fixed sign, which means you sometimes need to watch for stubbornness or a tendency to get stuck in certain patterns. The approach to this week's Full Moon features themes of this nature. In particular, notice if you're experiencing reluctance to ask for the help you need, especially if you know your friends would come through. True, doing this means having to admit you're only human after all. Yet the only person passing judgment on this undeniable fact is you. Take your courage in both hands and speak up. The sooner you get past this point, the sooner you can move ahead at full speed, with the knowledge you are supported.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)

Remember that the past and its lessons are what brought you here to the present moment, just as what you do now will help forge the future. Even when recalling less pleasant times, how you dealt with

circumstances then can inform your understanding of who you are today, just as the strength you've gained from past challenges supports you ongoing. Your memories are a piece of the puzzle of you, an essential component of the whole truth as well as a resource to draw on when necessary. From this can come a more complete acceptance of the person you were, as opposed to judging yourself with convenient hindsight.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)

Though there is still a decided emphasis on the area of your chart reflecting family, home and the past, the Full Moon this week will reconnect you with a desire to look forward and set certain aims. Your encounters with former challenges and emotions have resulted in a new strength, a sort of imperviousness to potential obstacles, and a most healthy determination to celebrate the good things in your life. Why not? Pleasure is no sin; it does not intrinsically harm others or oneself. Spending at least some time enjoying yourself will refresh you, and probably also embolden you to strive for your aspirations more decidedly.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

Your charts this week describe the multiple healing effects of intimacy and of allowing yourself to be vulnerable with someone you trust. Physical affection can work many positive changes to your body and mind, and you would certainly benefit from gathering the courage to reach out should you need it. One crucial key with any sort of intimate relationship is to walk the narrow path balancing love and independence. This especially means taking care not to lose yourself in another person's world, nor to absorb them into your own; yet it also requires a willingness to be open and share the light and warmth of your soul.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)

The forthcoming Gemini Full Moon describes you learning something significant about a loved one, and most likely about yourself also. Because close relationships tend naturally to involve at least some projection, we might erroneously assume we know how a partner will respond to a certain scenario. Recognizing this, when it happens, can be of significant help toward understanding who you are, because the projected reaction comes from somewhere within. Should you notice anything like this occurring during the week, use it as a sort of flashlight to help you see more clearly into the depths of your mind.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

If this week's astrology has one particular message for you, it's that you need some fun. Make sure you set aside a reasonable amount of time, preferably daily, for relaxing and enjoyable activities. Get out of doors in the fresh air, and meet up with friends when you can. There's a lot of pressure on Capricorn right now, as you are no doubt palpably aware. Yet also present in your sign are both the traditional benefics, Venus and Jupiter; they're helping you open a curtain in Saturn's dark hall, so that heat and daylight can flood the room. Let their visit sprinkle a little extra charm into your everyday existence.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

One of the most beautiful things about creative self-expression is its capacity to bring about emotional healing, in a way that's both organic and constructive. The approaching Full Moon in your 5th house of art and pleasure affords an opportunity for you to experience that blessing. This process requires you to be vulnerable, which usually feels somewhat risky, especially if your chosen work skirts the edge of what's

ROGER SHERMAN

OCTOBER 19, 1978 - NOVEMBER 22, 2019



Roger Grant Sherman, a native son of Vashon, passed away at home unexpectedly on Friday, November 22, 2019 at a mere 41 years of age.

Roger, a sixth generation Vashon Islander, came in to the world on October 19, 1978 and loved to boast that he was, "born and raised on the streets of Burton". A reserved child, his participation in the Boy Scouts and organized sports informed his character and ingenuity. He graduated from Vashon High School in 1997.

Roger married the love of his life, Jaimie, on September 11, 2004. He was a devoted husband and father who never hesitated to show his love or support to family and friends. He revered all of God's creation; animals, plants and fungi alike. He created gardens, raised animals and worked tirelessly to improve the world around him at every turn with a shovel, a backhoe or a hug. He was wise beyond his years and generous with his insights, advice and words of encouragement.

Roger was known for his indefatigable work ethic and altruism which he learned from his father, John, having spent his lifetime learning from and working together with him. Roger has left an indelible mark on Vashon. He was committed to the island community selflessly showing up when there was a need without being asked or need for recognition.

He is survived by his parents, John and Kay Sherman; his sister, April Sherman; his wife Jaimie Sherman (née Northup); his daughters, Mercie and Harmonie; an extended family of nieces and nephews along with innumerable friends that called him brother and friend. He will be greatly missed by all fortunate enough to know him.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2pm on Saturday, December 14th, 2019 at The Sportsman's Club, 19720 Singer Rd SW, Vashon, WA 98070. All are welcome. In lieu of gifts, please consider donating to the family fundraiser through GoFundMe (https://www.gofundme.com/f/Roger-Sherman-Family-Support-Fund) or directly to: A Standard Construction, Jaimie Sherman, 17423 100th Ave S., Vashon, WA, 98070

Layout and design by Vashon Beachcomber

considered acceptable, or challenges norms. A lot of good art does this in some way. Yet the payoff is like nothing else; you can craft an entirely new relationship to yourself, to your self-image and to your memories.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Thursday's Full Moon in your 4th house suggests that the facts you already know are more relevant than you might think. When it comes to answering a particularly puzzling question, your lived experience and previously established wisdom can supply what you need. Said another way, it's your perspective that's important here. Make sure you give it sufficient weight, and watch out for the appearance in your conversation of soundbites and talking points peddled by others. The truth is almost always more complex than a sweeping or simplistic idea can allow for. And it's the truth you're after, no matter how deep you need to dig.

Read Eric Francis daily at www. PlanetWaves.net

Road to Resilience

Continued from Page 1

overused or misused the concept, but this kind of love is first and foremost a very practical device. There is no economic solution to the crisis we are facing.

How do we identify with and truly love our world? I think that is for each of us to figure out. If you are a parent, you know about bonding with your children—bonding is a good thing, because taking care of kids, especially infants, can be grueling. Without that bonding, there would be far fewer children surviving to adulthood. We need to bond with our larger family in Nature. There is a lot of hard work ahead and, with love, we will get it done and be joyful that we did.

Comments? terry@vashonloop.com

Find us on Skype Vashon Loop 206-925-3837

Rubles Needs a Home

In Russia, my name means money and that's no hoax! But I don't care about material things; after being abandoned, I'm just looking for people to love me. I make friends as soon as I meet somebody, and I've lived with dogs so I would be a good fit for many households.

We shelter cats are well-cared-for. I would like you to do us a favor, though. Think about adding one of our residents to your family. When you adopt a VIPP cat, you're not making a good call, you're making a PERFECT call!



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Shigwa Needs a Home

I'm a pixie-bob/tabby mix - the only one in the shelter and probably the only one you'll ever meet! Some of my ancestors might have been wild, but my behavior is mild. One of my favorite things to do with my person was to nestle my head in her hand. I'm even nice to mice, so if you're looking for a mouser, keep looking!

I'm smart and sociable, and I'd like to tell you about my day. I hope you're ready to listen!



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