Vol. 2 #13

TO INFORM AND AMUSE ~ TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM

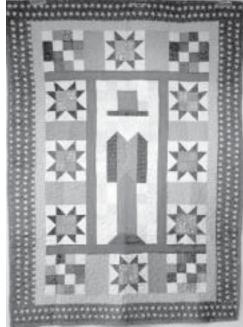
June 29, 2005

American Hero

Quilt-a-thon Booth at **Strawberry Festival**

by Carol Norton

Vashon Islanders, Marine Moms, and others from as far away as Scotland continue making quilts for wounded soldiers returning to Madigan Hospital from Iraq and Afghanistan. The project began in September 2004, producing more than 100 quilts, and we've made at least another 300.



The 2005 Quilt-a-thon is scheduled for September 9 and 10 at local churches. Details will be forthcoming in The Loop, and information will be available at the American Hero Quilts booth at Ober Park during Strawberry Festival. We have some special raffles going, so please stop by.

Supplies are urgently needed now, as we prepare kits for the Quilta-thon. Anyone willing to donate red, white, and blue fabric (plain or prints, even with other colors included), please visit the booth, call Jeannine Rampe at 206-463-3278, or website: check the www.americanheroquilts.com.

American Hero Quilts are heirlooms. They are designed to encourage in every adult recipient a knowledge that people care about what happened to them in Iraq and Afghanistan.



the gavel to newPresident Joyce Olson. Story on page 4, Craig Hanson photo



The Loop Takes a Vacation

by Marie Browne

Corporate Newspaper.

were laboring over this very

Once nice thing about being paper that you are reading, we Publisher, Editor and Paper Girl made the Executive Decision not is that you pretty much get to call to put out a paper over the shots on issues that would Strawberry Festival Weekend. require a staff meeting, several We are both very involved with memos, and some sort of Festival; Troy's band Loose triplicate form at a more Change is playing on three days, we are staffing the information Last weekend, as Troy and I booth at Ober Park, and I am

Continued on page 11

Gus Fink at Gallery 070



Where does art come from? Visions in the night? A beloved dead grandfather? Ebay? In the case of artist Gus Fink, it is all of the above. Gallery 070 found Gus Fink on Ebay, where he sells his drawings. Curiosity and an e-mail or two and owner Tara Snowden found herself bringing Fink from his hometown of Hazleton, Pennsylvania, to Vashon for his show "Fixing the Past," opening and reception, Friday,

By J. A. Reidel

July 1, 6 to 9 p.m.

Fink has created new work for his first Gallery 070 show, including paintings, mixed-medium drawings, and reworked antique photographs. Fink is a self-taught artist whose outsider art label has raised him to cult status in the art world. Also a talented comic book artist, Fink had his first solo show at Cartoon Network Studios in Burbank, California.

He is inspired by everything from people he sees to nightmares. With sketchy, scratchy lines he can transform a piece of

Continued on page 23



New **Festival Favorites**

by Lauri Hennessey

In some communities, 4th of July is a great holiday weekend, full of barbecues, fireworks, and time in the sun. On Vashon Island, 4th of July has always had an additional meaning: it means Strawberry Festival is just around the corner. Continued on page 10

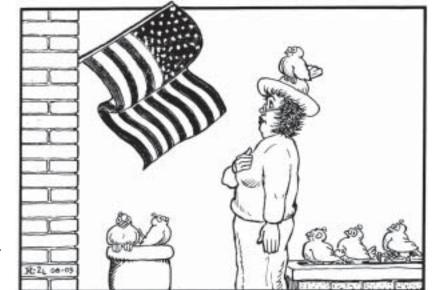
VMICC Says No to **Pledge**

by Mary Litchfield Tuel

The VMICC will not be opening its meetings with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. A motion to do so was introduced by Armen Yousoufian, and after much discussion, including recitation of military experience, snickers, passionate rhetoric on citizenship, unintended irony, cursing, and a general lack of respect between the two sides of the issue, the motion was defeated. This ate up about 40 minutes of our mortal existence.

Continued on page 13

I led the pigeons to the flag. Spiritual Smart Aleck page 6



The Vashon Loop, p. 2 June 29, 05

Get in The Loop

Some Lost Lassies **Never Get Home**

By Joan Becker

Last month, Vashon Island Pet Protectors helped ten frightened dogs return to their homes. This is a lot of lost doggies, too scared to remember where they lived. Apparently, May's thunderstorms were the trigger.

Panicked animals will run until they drop; the irregular rhythm of a thunderstorm keeps them going. The intermittent bangs of Independence Day celebrations have the same effect. To keep your dog safe and sane, keep him indoors during the whole Fourth of July weekend, from June 30 to July 5. A quiet room with the windows closed is good. A nice dark basement is even better. When Fido has to go out to his favorite brown spot on the lawn, keep him on the leash. If a barrage of cherry bombs goes off when he's off lead, he won't even hear you calling.

Should you find a trembling dog on (or under) your porch, call VIPP's Lost and Found hotline, 389-1085 or 567-5222. If it's your Lassie who has not come home, the same number may put you in touch with the kind soul who rescued her. Always be sure your dog is wearing identification tags; an ID chip is even better, since it can't come off.

VIPP Adopt-A-Cat Day

Vashon Island Pet Protectors will host an Adopt-A-Cat Day Saturday, July 2nd from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pandora's Box. Please stop by or call VIPP at 206-389-1085.

Toastmasters Elect Officers, **Invite New Members**

Vashon's Toastmasters Club, Peak Speakers, has elected the following members as officers for the new year which starts July 1: President — Marcy McCarthy; Secretary — Dan Auer; Treasurer and VP Publicity — Barbara Stratton; VP Membership — Ken Atkinson; and VP Education — Jill DuBois. If you would like to become more effective communicating, managing, and leading, consider joining Toastmasters. Through participation in Toastmasters, people from all backgrounds gain expertise in public speaking, conducting effective meetings, managing, leading, delegating, and motivating. Peak Speakers members are a diverse group of Vashonites, dedicated to supporting each other's growth. Meetings are held **Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** at the LDS Church, 9330 SW 204th Street, in the Family History Center on the west entrance of the building. For additional information, please call Barbara Stratton at 463-4004.

Fair and Honest Elections Forum

There will be a community forum with speakers, video and discussion on **Thursday, July 14,** 2005, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Southwest Community Center, 2801 S.W. Thistle (between Delridge Way SW and 35th Avenue SW) in West Seattle. The title of the program is Learn How Publicly Funded Elections Work. The featured speakers are Derek Stanford, Consultant with Seattle Statistical Research, volunteer lobbyist with FareStart and SEAMEC, and Board Member of Washington Public Campaigns; and Gail Jonas, citizen activist and California attorney who led a delegation of observers to Ohio in November 2004 to investigate the National Election. She was involved with the Election Protection Coalition. The video documents how public campaigns work in other states, and features Bill Moyers. This forum is sponsored by South End Neighbors for Peace and West Seattle Neighbors for Peace and Justice. For more information contact John Repp at: mrepp@comcast.net, or 206-932-9522.

YMCA Teen **Adventure Program!**

Teens are invited to embark on four days of fun, action-packed adventures on, above (!) and around Vashon. Two session are offered in July; Session One: July 11-14 and Session Two: July 25-28. See Vashon from the air on a plane ride, go biking, swimming beachcombing, as well as kayaking and hiking. Gain courage and team building skills on an off-island ropes course excursion. Last day of the session includes ice cream floats and a barbecue on the beach. For more information and to register come by the Vashon YMCA and pick up registration packet or call us at 206-463-0551.

Performance Art Workshop

the Community Art's Project is heavy panting or vomiting, take holding a workshop series *How to* these steps: Get him in the shade, Create Performance Art, and Survive to apply ice or cold towels to head, Tell About It. The workshops are neck and chest. Let him lick ice open to all and are free. They will be cubes, not a lot of cold water. Get run by Eli Steffen, a long time Island your pet to a veterinarian resident who directed *The Laramie* immediately. *Project* last summer. The workshops will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every everyone a safe and enjoyable Saturday, and participants will be welcome to showcase their creations at one of the Theater of Play performances. These performances happen every Sunday at Café Luna from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. To RSVP or for any question please contact Eli Steffen 463-2603 at or esteffen@slc.edu.



Heavy Metals Remediation Meeting

The next meeting of the Heavy Metals Remediation Committee (HMRC) will be Friday, July 1 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the Vashon library meeting room. Items on the agenda with the include working Department of Ecology and two local topsoil dealers to provide certifiably clean topsoil on the island; supporting the Fern Project; and working with other groups on the island that have an interest in growing healthy gardens. For more information, call Adam Rawson at 206-697-0159.

Junior VIPP Provides Water for Dogs at Festival

Junior Vashon Island Pet Protector volunteers will be passing out water and bowls for those who bring their canine companions to the Strawberry Festival.

Junior VIPP would also like to remind pet owners please not to leave your pet inside your car. According to the American Humane Association on a warm day the inside of your car can reach 160 degrees in only a few minutes even when the windows are partially open! Your pet can quickly suffer brain damage or die from heatstroke. If your pet has glazed Every Saturday starting June 2 eyes, a deep red or purple tongue,

Junior VIPP would like to wish

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Troy and Marie



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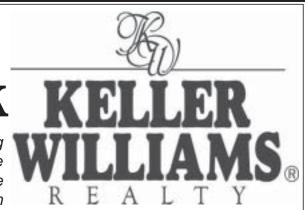
We do passport photos

June 29, 05 The Vashon Loop, p. 3



Troy and Marie Talk to the Bank KE

So what exactly does your bank look for when deciding whether to lend you money to buy a home? You may be surprised. Read on for an interview with two home mortgage experts: Gary Cain from Washington Mutual, and Karen Bratten from Wells Fargo.



Marie: Gary, what does WaMu look at when a prospective home buyer comes to you for a loan?

Gary: One thing we look at is the ratio of housing expense to gross income. A few years ago the bank liked to see a ratio of 33%. Now it's 40% and as high as 50% for someone with excellent credit. Most people like to keep it at a maximum of around 35%.

Marie: A lower ratio is definitely more prudent; even people with excellent credit scores are not immune to corporate layoffs, unexpected health problems, and unanticipated expenses. Karen, tell us what Wells Fargo looks at when making a home loan.

Karen: We look at ratios too, of course. They can vary depending on the stability of the borrower, the amount of funds available for down payment, and the borrower's FICO score.

Troy: Ah, yes. The FICO score, that top secret method credit bureaus use to condense a borrower's credit history into one single number. This number is more important than your IQ, but a little easier to improve.

Marie: Yes. In fact, we will devote a future column to FICO scores and credit reports. For now, just know that a low score means fewer loan options and higher interest rates.

Troy: Gary, the bank does not check to see whether a home has been fully permitted before making a loan, nor do you order an inspection, but you do bring in an appraiser to verify the value of

Gary: That's right. We don't order inspections of home or septic systems, unless called for by the appraiser. They'll always call for inspection on a post and beam house.

Karen: Or if there are issues with the property that might impact its structural soundness; issues like an old electrical system, an aging roof, cracks in the foundation, or bad siding, for example.

Gary: But basically, if the appraiser is happy with the condition of the property and the buyer is happy, then it's OK with us.

Marie: Karen and Gary, what is your advice to someone who is getting ready to apply for a loan to buy a house?

Karen: It is very important that the potential borrower maintains employment stability. It's OK to switch jobs, but it should be to move up, not to start a new business or change to a job where income is based on commissions. The borrower should not make any large deposits into his or her bank account, nor should he or she make any big purchases or transfer balances from one credit card to another.

Gary: Save up a down payment and keep your credit clean or get it repaired and home ownership can become a reality.

Troy: And the good news is that the down payment does not need to be the traditional 20%. Both your banks offer very attractive loan programs with smaller down payments; there are even some with no down payment and some with very small ones, like 3%. Readers can call Gary or Karen to learn more. Gary's number at the Washington Mutual branch on Vashon is (206) 463-9197. Karen is at Wells Fargo in Issaquah, but works all over the Puget Sound, and is happy to meet with clients in West Seattle or on Vashon Island. Reach Karen on her cell at (425) 765-6211.

Marie: Loans can be hard to compare, though. Not only do you have to compare down payments and interest rates, you also have to look at loan fees and discount points to make sure you are getting the very best deal you can. Our state has published a very helpful guide that fully explains home loans, and includes a worksheet that lets you compare your options. For a free copy, call us at (206) 463-LIST or email marie@kwvashon.com and let us know whether you want it electronically or in hard copy.

> Next issue: Maintaining a home maintains its value. We'll talk to plumber Daryl Green to get some ideas on how to maintain your home's plumbing system as well as how to use less water.

Your Home Team Realty

Vashon Library Program Calendar July 2005

Talk Time, Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19, 26, 7-8:30 p.m.

Practice speaking English in a relaxed setting. Parents are welcome to bring children childcare will be provided. All nationalities and skill levels are welcome. New Talk Time volunteer hosts are Susan Keatts, Patricia Koncsek, and Rosemarie Heard. No Barbara Gustafson registration required.

Family Storytime, Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20, 27, 10:30-11 a.m.

For ages 2-7, but younger children welcome with adult. Please join us for stories, songs and fun! No registration required.

Brown Storytime, Bag Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20, 27, 12:30-1:15 p.m.

Bring a sack lunch to eat while you enjoy great stories read aloud! For ages 5-10. No registration required. Sponsored by Friends of the Vashon Library.

Machine Madness: Catapults! Walk on the Wild Side with

Barbara Gustafson

Ages 5 to 7: Tuesday, July 12, 11 a.m.-Noon

Ages 7 to 11: Tuesday, July 12, 1-2:30 p.m.

Build a catapult and experiment Discover levers in our daily lives. Please call the library to register beginning Tuesday, June 28, 463-2069. Co-sponsored by the Vashon Park District.

Machine Madness: Cars!

Walk on the Wild Side with

a.m.-Noon

Ages 7 to 11: Tuesday, July 19, 1-2:30 p.m.

Build an air-powered car and experiment with the wheel and axle. Test your car on an inclined plane. Please call the library to register beginning **Tuesday**, **July 5**, 463-2069. Co-sponsored by the Vashon Park District.

KCLS Techlab Computer Classes: Thursdays, July 21, August 18, and Sept. 15

Pre-registration is required and begins **July 1st**; call 462-2069 to register.

Microsoft Windows (from 95 through XP), 9-10:15 a.m. This is the first in a series of three basic classes to help you learn how to navigate the popular Windows operating system.

Microsoft Publisher 2000, 10:30-

with levers — 1st, 2nd and 3rd class. **11:45 a.m.** This is the first in a series of three classes to help you learn the basics of using desktop publishing to create flyers, greeting cards, brochures and other documents.

> Newberry **Author Karen Cushman**

Sunday, July 24, 2 p.m.

Program will be held at the Ober Ages 5 to 7: Tuesday, July 19, 11 Park building next door to the 2:30 p.m. library. School-age children and teens. Come meet Karen Cushman, the popular author of books such as Catherine, called Birdy and The *Midwife's Apprentice*. Hear about in medieval times and get the "inside" story from the author's point of view! There will be an

opportunity to have books signed by the author following the program. No registration required.

Machine Madness: Windmills!

Walk on the Wild Side with Award-winning Barbara Gustafson

Ages 5 to 7: Tuesday, July 26, 11a.m.-Noon

Ages 7 to 11: Tuesday, July 26, 1-

Build a windmill and experiment with the screw and pulley. Test the strength of wind power. Please call the library to register beginning Tuesday, July 12, 463-2069. Co-

what life was like for young people sponsored by the Vashon Park



The Vashon Loop, p. 4 June 29, 05

Loop **Letters From the Edge**

Editor,

America – land of the free, home of the brave. Free to speak, voice our opinions, pledge our support or free to remain silent. Free.

We take so much for granted, we who call this great land home either by birthright or choice. We can speak openly and freely without fear of a great overseer taking names and being pursued by entities unknown.

A motion was presented to the VMICC, whose last meeting was held in a County courtroom with the American flag prominently displayed, to open each meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. We as free individuals are free to exercise this right or not. A friendly amendment to the motion was introduced when it became clear that the original motion was a source of contention for those present addressing the issue of participating in the pledge or not.

After the original motion was put forward a sub committee was established to discuss and forward their opinion on the motion, and their findings, when read before those in attendance at the June 20th meeting was responded to with snickers, twitters and giggles. It appeared the sub committee was mocking the spirit of what being a free citizen in a free country means and in presenting their proposed solutions addressing this motion, many in attendance, including myself, felt this to be an insult to America and what being an American means.

Many groups, associations and organizations begin their meeting with the Pledge; those in attendance are free to participate or not. At the Vashon Maury Island Community Council meetings those that wish to pledge support to our flag and

country are now prohibited from doing so. We are all entitled to a decent respect of our opinions as we are free members of a society who very shortly will be celebrating our Independence Day. Peoples from other nations risk life and freedom daily to enter our country, legally or not, to be able to realize the political, legal and civil freedom so many of us take for granted. If you have ever observed immigrants participating in citizenship ceremonies you will see faces beaming proudly and on some tears of happiness at being able to Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

I am a proud American and proud Teamster Union member; all of our membership meetings as well as other organized labor meetings open with the Pledge of Allegiance as do many civic and local group meetings. Working women and men understand the privilege of being an American and having the freedom to exercise their rights.

Unfortunately my schedule precludes me from participating in community meetings and gathering more than I do, but it appears there are some in this community who feel the need to prevail over others for what ever self satisfaction derived, and I for one can see why many Island residents do not attend or participate in these meetings and committees. I feel fairly confident that the June 20th meeting of VMICC may be the last meeting I will attend.

I realize and respect the rights of others to disagree with me on this matter and there will be those who will submit a written rebuttal and they are free to do so, but I stand by my words and ideals as to what it means to be an American.

R.B Foulkes

Editor, Loop:

will be familiar with the jam-ups which happen there every day when school is in session. Add the occasional construction project and the occasional accident, and sometimes it is just awful.

many people are delivering or picking up children at those times in addition all the school busses wanting to negotiate that stretch of highway at the same time. We can't expect to change peoples' habits or behavior, and the car problem will surely get worse over time. There might be something to be done about the busses, however.

Doesn't it seem to make sense to have a driveway for the busses

A Modest Proposal — Anyone between the two halves of the who has been obliged to negotiate campus? Wouldn't it save miles the Main Island Highway of driving for them, and dollars in between Center and Cemetery the pocket of the VISD? Has it Road at either at nine in the occurred to anyone that it would morning or three in the afternoon be safer and faster for every bus which has to go back and forth, several times a day, running the gauntlet of parent and ferry traffic through stop signs and left turns across moving lanes of traffic?

Naturally there is a pretty The problem is, of course, that good explanation for the present state of affairs. The hodge-podge development of the various elements of the campus has precluded a big-picture look at traffic management but is there any reason to neglect this piece in round new "improvements"? Of course there will be objections but doesn't it seem reasonable to do a cost/ benefit analysis on such an idea?

Stephen Wennstrom



SPECIAL

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BLOWOUT!

BERGIN CONSTRUCTION 463-6232

Service: It's a Good Thing

by Marie Browne

The end of June marked the changing of the guards at the Vashon Rotary Club. At the June 24th Rotary meeting, outgoing President Rex Stratton handed the gavel to new president Joyce Olson.

To many Islanders, Rotarians are best known as those folks who sell berries by the bucket and shortcake by the dozens around Strawberry Festival time.

In fact, the club did recently sell its berries in the parking lot of Vashon Village, across from Ober Park. Wendy's Weather'd Wear owner Wendy Rogers was not happy about that. "It's referring to the big FSA truck

parked in four spaces of the 60 plus space lot that all the Vashon Village businesses share (including Joyce Olson, whose accounting practice is in the Village). Rogers said that she did not know about the sale until she showed up for work and found the big truck there, blocking access to one of the walkways to her store. A customer of Wendy's Weather'd Wear parked her car next to the truck in protest, and then lost her keys and could not move the car for several hours. This reporter was on her way to take a picture of the berry sale, and instead stumbled into this inconsiderate," she told *The Loop*, unpleasant brouhaha shortly

Continued on page 5

Letter to the Editor:

My sons Arthur, Luke and I were excited about our first photo show and that we were going to be part of the First Friday Gallery tour on Vashon. We were going to be able to share our photos that we took when we went to N.Y.C. to experience The Gates project in Central park.

Opening night came and we were pleased with the complements that we received. We sold note cards and even one photograph. However this week our sprits were saddened when we received a call to say that one of Arthur's photographs was stolen right off the wall. I can understand desperate situations when one might steal food. But stealing art, really!

Who on Vashon would steal art from my son Art? The act also steals a bite out of one's sharing spirit! Linda Thwaite Peterson

Service: It's a Good Thing

Continued from page 4

after the police had left the scene. After talking to the owner of the car, I realized that she did not know much about the community service projects of Rotary, and apparently felt that blocking access to the berry sale would be poetic justice of sorts.

"Wendy does lots of things for the community," she said. "What does Rotary do?" Since I am a Rotarian myself, I know the answer to that question, though I'm probably leaving some things out.

This last year, under Rex Stratton's leadership, Rotary continued its ongoing support of the Vashon Food Bank through monthly food collections. The club also makes regular donations and attends work parties at Rotary First Harvest, an organization that provides food for food banks. Vashon Rotarians volunteer at the Wednesday night dinners at the Episcopal Church; they help maintain Point Robinson. Rotarians sponsor and host exchange students; they give scholarships to graduating seniors. Rotarians built five benches for JG Commons affordable housing; they

worked every Saturday for months to help build the Monastery in Dockton; they painted Camp Sealth. In short, Vashon Rotary is a vibrant, active group of community service minded business men and women whose motto is "Service Above Self," and who walk the talk.

Wendy Rogers does many good things for the community, too. At her consignment store, people can donate clothes in the name of a long list of organizations, including Vashon non-profits like the Creative Preschool. Rogers donates all the proceeds from the sale of those clothesincluding her percentage—to the named organization. She is an unofficial but popular source of information for people on low-cost insurance options, birth control, and other health issues. She donates all her unsold consignment clothing to the Northwest Center for the Retarded. And, of course, by running a consignment store she helps "recycle" usable clothing.

So there you have it: a service club and a Vashon business both doing good things for Vashon. Is this a great community, or what?



jwade@irfl.org rickf@irfl.org jlamb@irfl.org

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Spiritual Smart



by Mary Litchfield Tuel

I Led the Pigeons to the Flag

When I started school back in 1953 we had to learn the pledge of allegiance and recite it at the beginning of every day. One girl in my class, Doreen, was the child of Jehovah's Witnesses. When we said the pledge of allegiance every morning, Doreen stood and said nothing. Doreen also was kept from weekly Christian education classes that the rest of us attended. We all felt sorry for poor Doreen, because her parents' beliefs and assertion of their religious freedom made her an outsider.

Doreen's family had the right to have their daughter abstain from the pledge and from weekly Christian education classes, and people still have those rights as far as I know.

American, I have no problem with the pledge of allegiance, or the words "under God." In that sense I am fortunate in my comfort level. In the same sense I am belong to the ruling majority you can take things for granted and you don't have to question things like the pledge of allegiance, or a don't question, you don't see any perspective but your own.

I know that the pledge of allegiance and the words "under God" are fighting words for some people these days. They aren't for me. I don't care if you say the pledge or you don't, and I don't care if you say "under God" or not. Those are choices that you have the right to make. I think it is wrong to force anyone else to do as you do in a small thing like this, because I think that opens the door to forcing people to do a lot of things they would not choose to do.

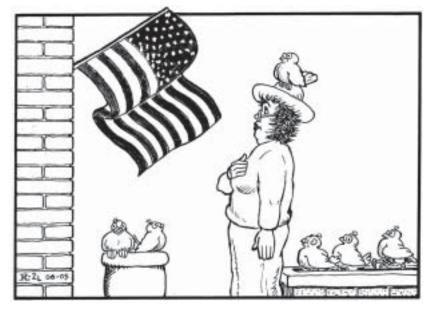
A Constitutional Amendment that bans the burning of the the House and is on its way to the Senate. I agree with Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., who said that this is valuing "the symbol more than the freedoms it represents." It is a bitter irony to fight and die for a flag so people have the right to burn that flag, but there it is. This is still America.

If you think people should be forced to believe as you believe and do as you do, stop and consider that you are one of the "people," and you are advocating the loss of your rights to your beliefs and actions. Is that really what you want?

I think that the current passionate disagreements people have about the flag and the pledge reflect the division in this country. We are divided now, deeply and histrionically. People really don't get that "united we stand" thing these days. We just don't get it.

I guess it's the same old sermon, the one I preach over and over: we are all in this together. We chew on each other's hind legs to our own willful and mutual As a Christian and an destruction. Divided as we are, we are still united by being Americans. When I look at the flag, when I say the pledge of allegiance, I remember that we are united, and I feel a little spark of unfortunate, because when you hope that it ain't over yet, and I smile as I remember the way one little boy began the pledge: "I led the pigeons to the flag...'

There is still a lot of room for Christian God, and when you different opinions and beliefs in America, and like it or not, that's



what a lot of us cherish about America.

Have a safe and sane Fourth of American flag has just passed in July, thank whatever God you do or don't believe in that you live here, and whatever you don't like about America, ask yourself what you can do, something beyond griping and whining, to make it better, because there is still hope, and we're all in this together.

> Now pull up your socks and have a glorious Fourth. You and those pigeons.

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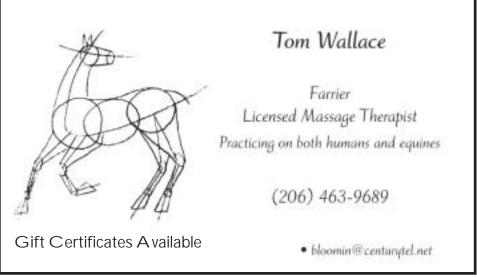
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Don't Forget the Birds

By Ed Swan

Summer Alcids

Feeling bored just sitting on the ferry this summer? Challenge yourself to find those little summer alcids. Several birders saw Marbled Murrelet, Rhinoceros Auklets and Common Murre in June from both the Tahlequah and Vashon ferry runs.

Alcids form the northern hemisphere's evolutionary equivalent to the penguins of the Alcids, unlike Antarctic. penguins, fly through the air as well as using their wings as fins underwater. When seen flying, they usually speed quickly with rapid wing beats just over the surface of the water.

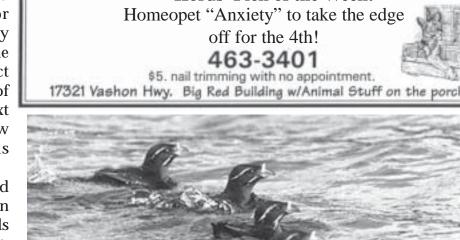
Marbled Murrelet nest high on a tree limb in old growth forest. They commute down to the water find food for their young and then fly back to the



woods. Old growth forest used to cover Vashon, so the murrelet undoubtedly nested here in the past. Now their trip to feed the young means going back and forth from the Cascades or Olympics. Accordingly, they make a rare sight now any time of year. Ornithologists expect their extinction in the waters of the Pacific Northwest in the next fifty years. Better find them now before a trip to Alaska is necessary.

Common Murres and Rhinoceros Auklets breed on bluffs and rocky cliffs of islands along Washington's outer coast. A big colony of auklets still holds on at Protection Island by Port Townsend. Their numbers vary according to how El Nino and other climate activity affect their prey population. Both get hit very hard by oil spills and luckily were not back from breeding in any numbers last October for the Dalco Passage spill. At this time of year, birds of these species around Vashon represent nonbreeders, early returning adults or this year's hatch.

From the ferry, alcids generally look like little dark blobs in the water. Common Murres appear the largest, approaching a small duck in size. They possess stark black and white plumage and a long, sharp bill, usually angled slightly upwards. Rhinoceros Auklets are a bit smaller, thick-billed and come across as little and gray.



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Sometimes in summer, with binoculars, one sees the namesake horn that grows in the breeding season along with a light colored plume on either side of the head. The Marbled Murrelet grow brown feathers in the breeding season and have short, slender bills. They seem quite small, about robin sized.

As usual with summer, other birding news remains rather slim. I saw four Double-crested Cormorants at the north end dock on June 21. They usually leave in May and come back in August. A cowbird was seen being fed by a Song Sparrow on the south end. I'm always interested in hearing about what birds the cowbirds

successfully plant an egg on. Several people reported an owl in a snag on Field Day at Chautauqua Elementary School but no one has seen it since. If you have an interesting sighting to report, call me at 463-7976 or email at edswan@centurytel.net.

Some upcoming bird related events include the July Audubon program on July 14 at the Land Trust Building at 7 p.m. Matt Mega, the Director of Urban Habitat with Seattle Audubon, will talk about "Gardening for Life," how to create a garden attractive for birds and other wildlife. The monthly on island field trip meets July 9 at 8 a.m. at the Ober Park Park and Ride and returns by about 10 a.m.

71. Capital of Western Samoa

68. Now

73. Chichi

76. "To:'s" partner

77. __ up (makes bigger)

78. Greek god of war

79. Italian boy's name

74. Love

75. Flex

Across

- 1. Scoot
- 5. Sky light
- 9. Car manufacturer
- 14. Costa ___
- 15. Field game 16. Character part
- 17. Teen hero
- 18. At sea
- 19. Jargon
- 20. Snake poison
- 22. Deep soup serving bowl
- 24. Before, poetically
- 25. Annuler
- 27. Cruel
- 31. Basic's opposite
- 32. Cell stuff

- 34. Expert
- 35. Royalty
- 38. Space
- 40. Calf 42. Make fun of
- 44. Unassertive
- 46. Intoxicated
- 47. Kitchen timepiece 48. Metric linear unit
- 50. Prays
- 51. Compass point
- 52. Business title ending
- 55. Chest bones
- 57. Has shoes on
- 59. Plainly
- 61. Mass transport
- 64. Annoying animals
- 66. Burst outward
- 60. Outcast
- 61. Donkey
- 62. "The Jungle" author
- Sinclair
- 63. Hinder
- 65. Potato sprouts
- 67. Flat boat
- 68. Charge
- 69. Poem
- 70. Buck's mate
- 72. Advertisements

- 10. Weighted fishnet Down 11. Vase
- 23. European sea eagle 4. Angel's head ring
- 5. Hotel

1. Use a car

3. Quick bread

2. Helper

- 6. Mexican dish
- 7. Aleutian
- 8. Made a menacing noise
- 9. Island

- 12. Zag's partner
- 13. Unidentified flying object
- 21. McDonald's "Big
- 26. Grande
- 28. Indefinite
- 29. Frosting
- 30. Onion like vegetables
- 31. Lotion ingredient

- 33. Total 35. Painter Richard
- 36. Imitative
- 37. Juliet's boyfriend 39. Doctoral degree
- 41. Globes
- 43. Day of the week (abbr.)
- 45. Halfway is 50
- 49. Cc
- 53. BB association
- 54. Yellow melon
- 56. Farewell
- 58. Very short person

Solution on Page 19

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The Vashon Loop, p. 8 Island Life

Text & photos by Peter Ray

Cat Etude

They had black and white fur was, after all, a devout follower of and so we called them the Holsteins even though, well, they were cats. It seems to be kind of a Vashon strain since I notice the distinctive markings all around the Island. Our gang of three have since all passed on, but every time a new one catches my eye I kind of wonder what part of the lineage it has followed. In this neck of the woods it was Erma that begat Kitties who brought forth the wacky duo of Click and Clack. It was Clack who was the clown and the alpha of sorts. Click really didn't seem to care. He would wander off and do his own thing while Clack was busy being somewhat self-important while trying to not look too much like a homebody. He was safe and warm and dry inside one night while the wild winds were whipping the nursery. And in our concern on the walk out through the nursery to find Click the Daring, we happened to notice a shape on the front edge of the roof of one of the greenhouses, riding the rippling poly like a surfer waiting for that big one to roll in. I think we just left him to his fun.

Besides the pinhole punctures in the greenhouse plastic, this side of Click's wild adventures was mostly unseen. A more obvious body of evidence pointed to Click's prowess as a hunter, with body being the key word in this sentence. One would walk the Kitties training program. There was that sound that would come from just inside the cat door railing of the shed I reached up

during Click and Clack's early days caused that everything to stop. It was an insistent meow, but with a mouth full something, and it always meant that a mouse or a bird was about to be set loose in the house and the boys had better do something about it. We called it the Call of the Wild; I'm sure what Click heard was: "Let the games begin!"

It had been some time since I'd thought about Click when the white moving shape through the garden

at the Community Care Center vaguely registered in the corner of my eye. I was already kneeling in to be on the ground once again, was a bit of finger fluttering at ground level to entice the new visitor to come a bit closer. There was no wary suspicion here and this version of feline Holstein

came right up to see what the motion was all about. The resemblance to Click wasn't

through the nursery on a given morning to find a veritable killing field of rodentia. There was no clockwork to his method. Days and weeks would pass with no visible signs of destruction and then wham, voles and moles and field mice would be strewn about with their legs in the air after an evening's worth of slaughter. He

striking, although the long and slender body shape did bring back some memories. It was about then a certain type of bent-paw batting at my fingers seemed a bit familiar, and in a flash my new buddy dashed off to another part of the garden. As I got back to weeding, the faux Click began making advances toward the edge

of the nearby garden shed. Not long after that he was up the side and working on getting onto the roof. Once he had managed the rock climber's up and over move and the roof was there for the enjoying there emerged a plaintive and insistent mewing that said it was indeed time to get back down. Standing on the porch

I was back up at Community Care the other day when Spot made another appearance. This time it was a rather hot day and he dug a small hole in the shade of a Shasta Daisy and contented himself with watching me work. It wasn't long though before he was back on full alert. I knew that look of focused attention; it was the hunter's stare which is usually



and hauled him off by the scruff of the neck mom-cat style. Happy the dirt and weeds, so all it took my new black and white buddy disappeared to somewhere and I got back to the weeds.

It didn't take long to find out that this particular member of the Holstein clan was named Spot, and was a house cat in the Care Center. It didn't seem too far fetched to believe that he (or she-I'm not sure which) could be a relative of Click and Clack. We are not more than a half mile or so apart, and the gene pool could have wandered that way without too much trouble. But what, one might ask, about the personality similarities? While engaged in the drudgery of weed extraction, one does have time to speculate about such things. What does happen to pets when they die? This does get into the realm of philosophic turnings about the soul and where it might reside, both in life and after death. It is something I think about whenever the topic of animal cloning comes up. Is the resulting being of a cloning exercise a vessel for any new animal soul that might come along, or are such cloned beings in some way like holograms, where each small bit of the original is capable of reproducing an exact replica of that "parent", right down to the depths of the cell donor's soul? You have to do something to occupy your mind

while weeding, right?

followed by a pounce of some sort. In this case, it was a small butterfly that didn't live to see another day. Not long after that, Spot struck up a pose in the late evening sun that caused me to reach for the camera. After I printed them out that evening, it was Wendy that mentioned that the shadows that looked more cat-like than the Spot poses themselves. This of course got me to thinking about darkness and light, life and death, the connections between dimensions and....you see the places that pulling weeds can take

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The Vashon Loop, p. 9 June 29, 05



Hero-Class Work

It did, after all, have the co-title in a roped off ring can be so "D.C. Postcard", so of course I had to read it—even if it was about Mike Tyson. I am speaking here the true life story of James J. about the bit in the latest New *Yorker's* 'Talk of the Town' section that recounts the latest news in the ongoing demise of a boxing phenomenon. The Tyson freak show has never been a focus of my attentions— the same could be said of that entire sport which tries occasionally to gain some sense of

inspirational.

Cinderella Man is based on Braddock and it follows his roller coaster boxing career from 1928 to the night of June 13, 1935 when Braddock fought reigning champion Max Baer for Boxing's heavyweight title. It would seem that Braddock's other press monikers, the Bulldog of Bergen or the Pride of New Jersey, might credibility by referring to itself as have been more fitting titles for a



pugilism. In my book, Tyson boxer and his movie, but there is could be in consideration for the title of walking metaphor for "What Has Gone Wrong With Sports in General," with all of his wretched excess, unbridled egotism and unsportsman-like conduct. But a poster boy role is actually more credibility than I'd be willing to grant him, and along with the entire sport of Boxing I'd have to say that, frankly, I just don't give a damn.

One could say at this point (so I will) that it's funny how life works. It was the fresh memory of this Tyson capsule that I took to the movie site to see which stretch of celluloid I'd have to go fifteen rounds with this time, and I was not amused to find that it would have to be Ron 'Opie' Howard's vision of a Depression Era boxer. In spite of my initial trepidation though, one could make the case that Cinderella Man is one of the best bits of evidence that the sport of Boxing has for its continued existence. One would have to include *When* We Were Kings, the 1996 Leon Gast documentary about the 1974 Foreman vs. Ali fight in Zaire, in this grouping as well. If nothing else, they both help to explain how anything that focuses on two men beating the crap out of each other

changes in his social skills. I found

a fairy tale quality to this entire story. Russell Crowe settles comfortably into the role of Jim Braddock, although recent reports of Crowe's off screen, bad boy antics seem to indicate that not much of his Cinderella experience has inspired any





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that this reputation for brawling led to some interesting sets of expectations for some of the onscreen situations which didn't always play out as one might have assumed they would. And of course, where there is a Cinderella there has to be a Prince Charming. The Prince here, without any moral values conflict, would have to be Joe Gould played admirably by Paul Giamatti, and their relationship is strictly as fighter and trainer. The glass slipper might be seen as Braddock's lost spirit which, once it has been found again, allows him to do some amazing steps back in the

One of the arguments in favor of boxing, and big box sports in general, is that they are a manifestation of the American Dream that anyone who wholeheartedly puts their mind, or body, to something can become a success at it. This is one of the messages of *Cinderella Man*. The other messages that resonate a bit louder for me are that money is not always a measure of that success, and that you don't have to be a jerk along the way in order to get there. One wonders about the truths that might be told in some docu-dramatic fashion about the strange world of Mike Tyson at some time down the

road. While this is something that has not occupied a great deal of my thinking, I have a very distinct and certain feeling that viewers and critics would be hard pressed to label it inspirational.

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Deadline to get in *The Loop* is Friday, July 15 (we're skipping a week). Email editor@vashonloop.com or drop off at Flash Photo.

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The Vashon Loop, p. 10 June 29, 05

New Festival Favorites

Continued from page 1

That's right. It's that time of year weekend for many islanders. It's the reason tourists come to the island. It's the reason some people decide to move here. It's the reason other people leave the island entirely for and hide in their houses. No matter how you feel about it, you can't

And this year, if organizers

at this year's Festival:

performances by island youth. The trailer. Youth Stage will have something for the very young, too, with a hula from 7-8 p.m. The band, featuring a following. Check it out!

#2 — Check out the cars! The (VDPC) Special Interest Vehicle Parade and Promenade is set for Sunday at 11 Misty Isle Farms, and is organized by the Chamber's own workaholic, Jim English. Not sure what kind of cars you'll see? Show up and never knew are here on this island...

#3 — Speaking of cars....know remote-controlled cars for a Prix" on Sunday in the Robinson's Furniture parking lot, next to Zoomies.

this year will be the wine garden. It's called "Wine & Jazz Fusion". The wine garden will be happening Saturday from 4 until 8, on the north side of The Hardware Store Restaurant, on Bank Road. It's just \$15 bucks and you get nine wines from around the state, the island, Spain and Italy. Look for more details elsewhere in this issue.

#5 — Check out the music! best island musicians this year, from Loose Change to Turner Down, and from Just Fiddlin' Around to the Portage Fill Big Band. The music is going on in the stage and at Ober Park, through the festival. Get a festival guide and check it out.

#6 — Get jiggly! Do you like the again. It's time for the most fantastic rides? Carnival bracelets are a good deal this year. The bracelets are available at Zoomies and Island Variety, and give a kid a weekend of rides for just \$14.00.

#7 — Make safety fun. The Fire the weekend, or store up on food Department is pulling out all the stops this year with a fun new feature. The entire parking lot of Vashon Physical Therapy will be used for children's fun, games, and have the way, it will be the best education. There will be a mammoth inflatable fire ladder With that in mind, here is a list truck with the ladder being a slide. of 10 things to take advantage of They will set up the same "obstacle course" they did at Chautauqua #1 — The Youth Stage will be School's game day that dresses an exciting addition for people. youngsters in fire bunker gear, Located in between Zoomies and moves them through simple the Vashon Theatre, the Youth obstacles and ends by squirting Stage is featuring everything from water from a fire hose. The Friday night karaoke night for kids Explorer group will, once again, and teens to singing and dancing have the educational smoke house The Firefighters' Association will offer souvenir photos of children in bunker gear hoop contest, a cookies and milk in front of a fire engine. Finally, story time, and more. Check out there will be a dunk tank offering a the complete listing in the Festival 3-for-a-dollar opportunity to dump Guide. One popular act is "The the Chief, commissioners, and any Sound", Stefan Wolczko's band, other participant into a tank of cold performing on Saturday night water. The booths will offer prevention information as well as some pretty cool and talented information on the Firefighters' young people, has developed quite Association, Explorer Group, Vashon Disaster Preparedness and Community fifth annual Veterans' Classic and Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

#8 – Join the parade! There are a.m. The event is sponsored by still spots in both the regular and the kids' parades. You can call parade coordinator J.R. Crawford if you are interested in taking part in the "real" parade. You can call her find out. It's amazing the cars you at 954-9959. J.R. is especially encouraging people to come up with floats this year, since they are such a big hit. If you want to be in someone who is into toy cars? Kids the kids' version of the parade, you have been asked to bring their don't even need to call! Just show up in the parking lot of the "Remote-Controlled Cars Grand Methodist Church at about 10:30 on Saturday morning.

#9 — Have your friends use transit. How many of us have #4 — Another popular item friends and family coming to visit for the parade? And how many of them take advantage of the bus and leave their cars on the other side? C'mon, help your friends avoid the ferry line on the way back and send them on the bus. You can get the schedule information for the buses at http://transit.metrokc.gov/

#10 - Enjoy it. Okay, some people don't like crowds or parades or festivals or food or music. I get Festival is bringing out some of the it. I don't understand it, but I get it. But for the rest of us, the Strawberry Festival is at good as it gets. The madness, the crowds, the noise, and Youth Stage, the rides and more. Just take a look at a kid's Beer Garden, at Pandora's Box face at the Festival this year. And after you take a look at that kid's face, consider this: that kid is going to remember this forever. **\omega**

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THE DORSAL SPIN: **Strawberry Festival Fins and Flukes**

By Orca Annie Stateler, VHP Coordinator

Fins, flukes, fur, and feathers! We plan to have something for everybody at our American Cetacean Society/Puget Sound Chapter (ACS/PS) Strawberry Festival booth. With any luck, we will be next to our friends from Wolftown this year.

Hone your cetacean ID skills and listen to whale calls. Get the latest news on our endangered Southern Resident orcas, an update on the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP), and other current whale issues.

Our booth will be resplendent with lovely whale images. Sales of marine life paintings by Tlingit artist Odin Lonning and whale photos by researcher Mark Sears benefit the VHP and ACS/PS educational outreach.

Visit with Wolftown animal ambassadors and Stogarita, our canine field assistant. Stogarita is a "mellow" Jack Russell terrier. I wonder how a Jack Russell terrier parade would compare with the poodle parade. It would probably be less orderly, but hilarious.

PLEASE REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS ASAP TO 463-9041. Our neon pink float to mark the hydrophone's location in Colvos Pass escaped some time early on Father's Day, June 19. It reads "VHP research. No moorage." If you find it, please call. We miss it.

On July 14, Odin and I return to the Whale Museum in Friday Harbor for the evening Summer Lecture Series. We will explore enduring connections between killer whales and First Nations in a variation of our Keet Shu-ka presentation that blends Alaska Native culture, science, and art to honor orcas.

Our talk includes a tribute to Keetla/Springer, as July 14 is the third anniversary of her family reunion in Blackfish Sound, BC. This extraordinary young orca inspired many First Nations to welcome her ceremonially. The lecture starts at 7 p.m. Visit the



News section www.whalemuseum.org to learn more. We look forward to seeing J, K, and L Pods again.

The annual International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting concluded in Ulsan, South Korea on June 24. By an uncomfortably close vote of 29 to 23 the ban on commercial whaling was upheld. Five of the 66 member nations abstained. The ban was initiated in 1986.

The IWC ban is hollow. Between 1550 and 2500 whales will be "legally" killed anyway. Japan and Iceland will continue their ersatz "scientific" whaling. Conservationists believe this is just commercial whaling in disguise.

The Japanese delegation thinks dead whales make great research subjects (and tasty burgers and sushi). Iceland's delegation thinks killing a whale is no different than killing a cow or a fish. Norway will continue its "objection" (what I call "f**k you" whaling) in defiance of the IWC moratorium. Read more in the June 20-24 ENN.com archives, and at BBC News in Science/Nature, "Reform likely on whaling process," from June 24.

ACS sends a representative to the IWC meeting. Check the whaling issues section of the ACS web site at www.acsonline.org to learn what you can do to help, because "They're Not Saved Yet," (the ACS motto).

Contact Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com or 463-9041. യയയ



Positively Speaking

By Deborah H. Anderson

Pretentiousness or Privilege Part II

kinda sorta like commuting? After twelve years of living and working on the Island, it's fun to be near downtown. I like the bustle and cosmopolitan aroma of it all. There's lots to choose from. I don't have to schedule a Target run. Everyone is on a mission. There's intensity and purpose in everyone's body language. Even the street people have a certain edginess to them we don't find on the Island.

And I like going home at night. This past week, I did a little presentation in staff meeting about what it's like to live on the Island. I explained how I'm on retreat every night. Every night when I return to my little cottage in the woods, the world slides off me. I've pretty much given up television except to use it for movies. I don't like the commercials reminding me of the outside when I'm all done with the day. I sit in the stillness and think, or walk in the stillness and putter, or play the piano, or now that my daughter is home, we read out loud.

No doubt about it. Working off Island and living on Island is a very civilized way to live. I tell people I live in paradise and work in heaven. I love my job, as I've said before. My life is about encouraging the best in children and then letting the woods speak to me at night. I have two other part-time experiences here on the Island that also involve caring for children and the woods. Those moments only enhance the larger picture.

It costs a fortune, of course, to live such an existence. Those ferry rides aren't free. The other day I got caught without a ticket. It cost twenty two dollars for my daughter and me to get back to the Island. Whew! That is definitely a chunk of change.

I didn't attend any of those meetings when they were taking the rate hike issue to task. Now, I'll speak inflammatory words. I don't feel that we deserve a rate break on the ferries. privileged place and whatever price we have to pay, well...it's our choice to live here. The Sound isn't our highway, it's our moat. It keeps noise out. It keeps cares away. Our

Am I speaking a heresy if I say I moat keeps us safe. Our moat keeps us quiet.

The other day I had to meet with a colleague at work for an early morning meeting. When I told him how early I had to leave to get there, he said, "I'm sorry." I responded, "It's OK. I choose to live on Vashon. The ferries and all they bring are the price I pay for that". I meant it.

A while back I did a lot of research on Manhattan. Since Vashon is the same size as that little piece of real estate, I wanted to see what we were getting for our money as we crossed the sound.

Well...we don't have five major universities on the Island. We don't have about forty theatres, hundreds of restaurants, dozens of art galleries, major department stores, solid blocks of high-rises obliterating the sun, murders, rapes, muggings, burglaries daily, or one million people searching for lunch at the

According to everything we've read, we don't want it either. We want to be able to control our growth, our experience and our children's experience. To do that, we have to pay a high price. Bottom line is we're taking up more than our fair share of space. We're enjoying more than our fair share of freedom and safety. That costs a pretty penny.

So, we'll keep paying those ferry fares. We can't whine about it. The world does not owe us anything. We are people of privilege and we need to accept the responsibility for it and pay the piper.

When I bent over to put the laundry into the dryer the other morning, the new buck that still has his velvet on his uneven antlers was standing by the back porch. That's why I live on Vashon. That deer, and the raccoon that thinks our house is the Hilton, and the birds I hear twittering, and the people waving and smiling as I drive up and down the highway, knowing and being known, caring and being cared for, We are a privileged class living in a are all the reasons I at long last choose to live here.

> Apparently it's going to cost me about five hundred a month for that. Next time you hear someone whining about the ferries, tell them the alternative is living like everyone else.

Come see us at the beer garden Friday and Saturday nights!!





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The Loop Takes a Vacation

Continued from page 1

volunteering at the Disaster Preparedness booth. And there is much Extreme Dancing to be done. So our next issue will be out on July 20. Deadline will be Friday, July 15. Plan accordingly. Thanks for your support of our little independent newsmagazine. If you enjoy reading, feel free to send us a subscription, and be sure to show our loyal advertisers how much you appreciate their financial support: buy your plants from Kathy's, your coffee from Minglement, your paint from True Value, your insurance from Trigg. Eat at Casa Bonita, The Mashiko's, and Homegrown. Use Island Escrow's service, and have Dr. Basile fix your back. You get the idea; ad dollars are what make the paper possible. And hey, did you see our shiny new red paper boxes at strategic locations on the Island and in West Seattle? Look out, William Randolph Hearst.

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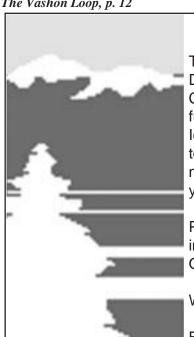


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The Vashon Loop, p. 12 June 29, 05



We want to hear from you.

The Vashon Island School District Board of Directors invites the Vashon-Maury Island Community to participate in shaping the future of our Island public schools. Your Ideas, input and questions are invaluable to this process so we have arranged a number of different ways for you to share your perspective and gain awareness.

Please join us for a campus tour, public input forum, or question and answer Opportunity.

We hope to see you in the weeks ahead.

Board of Directors, Dan Chasan, Jake Jacobovitch, Gene Lipitz, Lorin Reinelt, Susan Stackhouse

Vashon Island School District Creating an Education Future with Community Vision Community Awareness & Input Activities

Activity	Location	Date	Time	Leader*
Campus Tour	Meet at VHS Library	Wednesday, June 29	11:30 - 12:30 p.m.	Gene Lipitz
Public Q & A	Café Luna	Friday, July 1	9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Dan Chasan
Public Q & A	Vashon Green	Saturday, July 2	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Jake Jecobovitch
Community Input and Q & A	Community Co- Housing	Tuesday, July 12	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Susan Stackhouse & Lorin Reinelt
Campus Tour	Meet at VHS Library	Wednesday, July 13	9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Dan Chasan
Community Input	PO Boat	Thursday, July 14	4:45 5:20 p.m.	Jake Jacobovitch
Public Q & A	Vashon Green	Saturday, July 16	9:30- 10:30	Susan Stackhouse
Public Q & A	Ferry: 7:15 a.m. Vashon-Fauntleroy run	Tuesday, July 19	7:15 - 7:45 a.m.	Lorin Reinelt
Campus Tour	Meet at VHS Library	Tuesday. July 19	7:00 - 8:00 a.m.	Lorin Reinelt
Campus Tour	Meet at VHS Library	Wednesday, July 20	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Gene Lipitz

*Leaders are subject to change.

School Board: A Cafeteria Tray of Issues

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

(Editor: Mary has stoically been attending community meetings all week long—and there are plenty of them to choose from. As we approach the 229th anniversary of our independence, we might want to reflect on our civic responsibility to be part of an involved, informed citizenry. There are plenty of volunteer organizations who are working for the betterment of our community. We may not always agree with their plans and actions, and their Robert's Rules of Order can be mind-numbing torture, but that is a small price to pay for the right to be heard.)

3/4 Grade Split Class: Sixteen parents of third- and fourth-graders attended the last School Board meeting and waited patiently until late in the meeting to hear discussion, comment, and ask questions about a proposed combination 3/4 grade class. The decision to form this new class has not been made yet.

The split class is proposed as a remedy to keep class size down to 23 or fewer students. Superintendent Mimi Walker stated that hiring a new teacher would have a net cost of \$50,000. The Board is caught between needing to keep class size down, finding the money in next year's budget to pay for a new teacher, and not knowing until school starts how many students will actually be enrolled.

Walker said that in the event of the formation of a new class, affected families would receive personal phone calls from school administrators to discuss student placement and receive input.

Class Placement Policy: Board member Susan Stackhouse presented a proposed class placement policy. The policy as presented made its first priority class placement of the student for the student's best education through collaboration among teachers, staff, parents, and students. Once placements are made, funding would be the second priority.

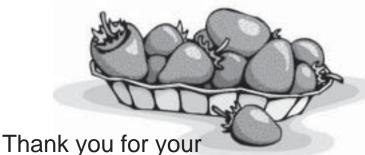
Board Chair Dan Chasan said that he was uncomfortable with this policy. "It is not realistic for money not to be an issue," he said. The Placement Policy was sent back to committee for discussion and debate.

Policy 5110: Recruitment and Selection of Staff. This policy provides information on a complete renovation that (1) if two teachers are applying for compared to new construction, and a a position and both are qualified but timetable for when projects should be one could also be an athletic coach, then the coach candidate may be given more consideration, with the approval of the District Superintendent; (2) current district employees would be given first consideration for co-curricular coaching positions; and (3) renewal of coach contracts take place as soon as possible after end of the sports season so that coaches can plan for the next year. Dan Chasan said he did not buy the hiring section because (1) "Academics are what we are about;" (2) "Hiring processes have been abused in the past;" and (3) "If a teacher decides to quit coaching, you're stuck with (that teacher)." The proposal passed in a split vote, 3-1, Chasan voting against.

Policy 8200, Food Services: This policy is based on new state and federal nutritional standards promoting access to healthful foods. Approved unanimously.



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SERVICE Above Self

2005-2006 Budget: The budget will be passed at the second meeting in July. Discussion at this meeting centered (as it usually does) on where the money is coming from and how we pay for all the things we need to do and have. The public is invited to attend a public budget hearing at the **July 14, 7 p.m**.

Campus Master Plan: The Board recognizes that the public wants more information before deciding whether to support a new levy, but the informational forums have been, so far, poorly attended. The Board hopes to be able to present cost comparison completed.

Linda Sowers, School District Groundskeeper, spoke passionately about the need for a new maintenance building, as the present one has, "serious health and safety problems. It cannot wait."

One audience member said that the School District does not invest in building maintenance, so that when we build new buildings, we don't maintain them, and then have to tear them down. Lipitz pointed out that the policy of the District now is no new construction without first figuring the ongoing maintenance costs.

McMurray Spanish Program: Parent Nancy Kappelman spoke in favor of retaining the Spanish program at McMurray, pointing out that students are doing well and there is interest by students, parents, and

teachers. The program may be cut because of low enrollment, but would have ten more students enrolled next year if students who took both Spanish and Band were allowed to waive Health and P.E.

Quarterly Capital Projects Report: Eric Gill reported that bids for the modifications to Room 106 at Chautauqua are coming in, and the project should be completed by the end of July.

Board Self-Evaluation: Gene Lipitz asked for a new survey with more understandable questions. This led to the question of, "What does the community believe we do?" Superintendent Walked pointed out that School Boards have certain legal responsibilities. Dan Chasan said, "Very few people know what we do, much less what we should do." Lipitz was asked to write up a new survey for the next meeting.

Principal Reports: High school Principal Susan Hanson thanked Superintendent Walker and Board Chair Dan Chasan for being part of the graduation ceremony and said that with the students and teachers gone, the high school is, "really dull." McMurray Principal Greg Allison reported that 134 McMurray students were recognized at Tributes and Treats, and expressed his thanks to students, staff, parents, and volunteers. Chautauqua Principal Amy MacFarland reported that Field Day was fun for all, and, contrary to student reports, the large inflatable slide did not give wedgies.

June 29, 05 The Vashon Loop, p. 13

VMICC Says No to Pledge

Continued from page 1

In New Business, Bill Ameling proposed the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to research the intent of all taxing districts and poll the public to see what issues are and lay them out for voters to understand that, "If I vote for this, I am also voting for..." As an example, he said that when we voted for \$30 license tabs, we did not realize we were also voting for cuts in ferry service.

He explained that by law property owners cannot be taxed more than \$10 per thousand dollars of assessed value, and we are getting to a point where our taxes will exceed the legal limit. In the next couple of years Islanders may be asked to vote to raise money for a new library, a Hospital District, a Public Utility District (PUD), a major School District construction/renovation bond or levy, and then there is the 45 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value that King County Roads wants. The idea was received positively by those present, and Ameling was appointed Interim Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee until it is officially formed and a chair

The meeting opened with the introduction of Burien-SeaTac Major Greg Dymerski, and Captain Brad Thompson, who is in charge of the entire South West precinct of King County.

The appointment of two new members to the VMICC Board was affirmed, after much discussion, name-calling, and parliamentary tapdancing by those in attendance, with about 66 percent of the audience voting in favor (13 percent against; 10% abstained) in both cases. The new members are Robin Hess and Jean Bosch.

Visiting speakers were State Senator Erik Poulsen, who recounted what he saw as successes in the recent legislative session. Among them, the session ended on time and on budget for the first time in 25 years. The transportation package which will append 9.5 cents per gallon tax on gas over the next four years will create revenue to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct, and to upgrade roads all over the state. Poulsen stated that the biggest threat to Washington's economy is the inability to move goods on I-5.

Poulsen reported that education money for smaller class sizes and better pay for teachers has been reinstated, and that Washington has adopted California emission standards in an effort to prevent and clean up pollution. The state also passed legislation requiring that buildings built with state tax money be efficient and conservative in energy use (green) in order to save money on utilities and maintenance.

State Representative Jim Murray as chair of the state Transportation Committee spoke about the transportation package. He said that Microsoft, Boeing, and farmers in Eastern Washington are all saying that their business is being hurt by the deteriorating road system in Washington. He foresees that the need for crosssound transportation will grow, and options will be discussed in the future, but at this point the triangle ferry route (Vashon, Southworth, Fauntleroy) is the most workable and cost effective solution, and will be in place for the next two years.

An audience member asked if there would be more ferry service to Tacoma, and more bus service on the island. Murray answered that the ferry service will be the same for the next two years, and bus service is controlled by King County, not the state. He added that lack of connectivity (connectivity means: you walk on the ferry and when you get to Fauntleroy you catch a bus within five or ten minutes—what a concept) is a region-wide problem.





equality for people regardless of their situation." Comcast. Murray said, "Education, education, education," investment in education in India and Ireland.

In Council committee reports: Vashon still needs a public bathroom. Bicycle lanes and racks are desired. The Sustainable Practices Committee is talking about forming a PUD for the island.

At the regular meeting of the Transportation Committee, King County Roads will be here to discuss requirements for roads, bicycle lanes, and equestrian trails.

Bill Ameling reported that the north end parking lot has not yet been declared surplus, so the Ferry System cannot at present try to purchase it. Islander Mike Sudduth is now the chairman of the State Ferry Advisory Committee.

Joe Ulatoski of the Disaster Preparedness Committee announced the need for every household to have emergency supplies for over

When asked by an audience member what a week in the event of the ferry system being out they saw as their single greatest responsibility of service, and that there will soon be a Vashon as legislators, Poulsen replied, "to ensure Channel, a project of Voice of Vashon, on

A motion was passed to continue and spoke of seeing the long-range effect of investigating the possibility and desirability of having a local PUD to regulate septic systems, with a deadline of January, 2006, for the VMICC to decide whether to put such an initiative on the ballot.

> Motions were introduced and given a first reading by Mark Goldman to (1) require all elected and appointed members to the VMICC Board to take an oath of office; (2) that VMICC formally endorse the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (3) that VMICC demand the impeachment of President George W. Bush and others in his administration. A motion was introduced and given a first reading by Armen Yousoufian asking VMICC to form a Property Rights Committee.

> The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m. and we gratefully went home to get on with our lives.

The Vashon Loop, p. 14



Island Earthfair 2005 Update All Cascadia Bioregional Conference

Submitted by Jack Barbash

Greetings, Fellow Cascadians! You're invited to come join us at Island Earthfair, **August 5-7**, for three days of great music, delicious food, fun, and discussions about how those of us here in the bioregion of Cascadia can help one another adopt a more ecologically, economically and socially sustainable way of life.

At this year's Island Earthfair we will be hosting an All-Cascadia Bioregional Conference entitled "Overcoming Barriers to Sustainability." We hope that members of communities throughout the Cascadia Bioregion will be able to join us for an extended series of discussions about how to promote a more sustainable way of life throughout our bioregion and beyond.

Are you especially excited about specific projects that are going on in

Greetings, Fellow Cascadians! your community to help promote sustainability in any of these ways? If so, we'd be delighted if you'd be willing to come to this conference to share your stories with us!

how those of us here in the bioregion of Cascadia can help one another adopt a more ecologically, economically and socially sustainable way of life.

At this year's Island Earthfair we will be hosting an All-Cascadia Bioregional Conference entitled "Overcoming Barriers to website home page.

To purchase tickets online for this year's Island Earthfair — and to learn more about the festival — please visit the festival website, at www.IslandEarthfair.org. For more details about the conference, simply click on "Cascadia Conference" on the left side of the Island Earthfair website home page.

If you are interested in attending the Cascadia Conference, please email AhimsaFirst@earthlink.net by July 29th that you will be coming, and how many people will be attending with you, so that we will know ahead of time how many handouts to produce for the conference.

Come join us!





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The Frog Story

For four years, I drummed every full moon with another man. Grandmother told us to do it but that's another long story.

With just the two of us drumming, it didn't exactly qualify as a "men's group" but that was how we thought of it — at least it was the seed of a men's group. Many fine stories come from that time but the first one that I must tell is the frog story.

About the time we started to get together in this way, I started to be pestered by tree frogs. If you are not familiar with them, they are indigenous here and ubiquitous. I to encounter them everywhere, all the time-all hours of the night and day, every season of the year from the hottest part of summer to snowiest winter, everywhere I went, I would hear the frog singing.

It sounded like a question.

Once, I got onto a ten-foot step ladder and I was pulling a tarp off of a piece of gutter I was going to repair on a house I was working on. The frog sang, inches from my face. I peeled back the corner of the plastic and there he was, startlingly bright green, looking me in the eye and singing.

It is quite loud at that range.

I mentioned this to my friend on one full

moon and, from then on, every time we got together, the frog would come and sing. They aren't supposed to do that. They are supposed to take part of the year off.

We used to joke about it. The frog would sing and he would say "Your buddy's here." We made offerings to that singer-in-the-trees quite often and I would say things along the line of; "I hear you singing and I know you are trying to tell me

Please keep singing so I can figure it

Around here, the month of February is called Frogs Return Moon because it is near the full moon of that month that the frogs begin singing again after taking the winter off (all except the ones who were pestering me. As usual we got together to drum on the full moon that month. We made mention of the fact that the frogs had not yet begun to sing and how it seemed odd. Then we began to drum. We drummed long and hard and, when we finally stopped, the frogs were singing all around us - for miles in every direction. They had all begun to sing while we were drumming.

After a year of considering this frog business to be some sort of spiritual mystery, I was reading The White Goddess again and I happened on my favorite poem from that book:

Under your Milky Way And slow-revolving Bear, Frogs from the alder-thicket pray, In terror of the judgment day, Loud with repentance there.

The log they crowned as king, Grew sodden, lurched and sank. Dark waters bubble from the spring, An owl floats by on silent wing, They evoke you from each bank.

At dawn you shall appear, A gaunt, red-waddled crane, She whom they know too well for fear, Lunging your beak down like a spear To fetch them home again. — Robert Graves

> It was a moment of epiphany as I realized that the message was that the frog was an ancient symbol for men who do the Goddess' work. He had been coming to the meetings. The next full moon we stood on the porch of the little cabin where we met about half the time and spoke to the

I thanked him for honoring the work we were doing and welcomed him to the meeting. He continued to something but I don't know what it come to the meetings but stopped is. Forgive me for my stupidity. bothering me everywhere else. oo

LIVING WELL WITH PLANTS

Text and drawings by Kathy Abascal (AHG)

Kathy Abascal is out of town!

She'll return to Minglement at the end of June, and will resume her column in July.



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Kathy Abascal is a professional member of the American Herbalists Guild and is certified by Michael Moore of the Southwest School of Botanical Medicine. She co-authored the book "Clinical Botanical Medicine."

If you have questions about herbs, come by Minglement on Mondays or Wednesdays to meet Kathy. If you are interested in a private herbal consultation, you can pick up a brochure at Minglement that explains her services & how to schedule an appointment

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The Vashon Loop, p. 16 June 29, 05





Aries (March 20-April 19) You may still have reservations about what is obviously an excellent opportunity to express yourself. You may be yearning for some kind of artistic indulgence, with the feeling that you're finally in a position to do something about it. If the situation involves an amorous involvement, you may want to cast your fears aside and take a chance. Things may not work out as you planned; they may work out better than you planned. I don't suggest you worry about the outcome, but rather, focus on what is truly a gift being offered to you. It's not a gift if you don't receive it.

Taurus (April 19-May 20) By this time, I trust that you're fully in touch with the benefits of the changes you're anticipating. It really is a situation where bigger is better, in terms of how daring you can be in aspects of your life involving finance, your geographic location and finding a new level of independence from your family. On this last matter, I don't suggest you underestimate the influences of parents or other relatives, even though you seem relatively old to be under anyone's thumb. But you won't know how it feels to be free until you're actually

GemIni (May 20-June 21) There are three ways to make money: with our labor, with our time and with our ideas. To some extent, you rely on all three, though your ideas are where your true economic treasure resides at the moment. It takes some bravery to sell a concept, to offer yourself as a problemsolving consultant, or even to pitch an article to an editor. But perhaps this will illustrate the point: whatever someone may pay you for your thoughts on a particular situation, they're worth ten times more to the one writing the check.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) By now it should be obvious how much benefit has come from what previously seemed like an endless challenge, or something too complicated to be bothered with. But you've yet to see the real results, or reach the most crucial point of decision. For now, I suggest you keep your mind involved in an exercise of accounting for what is most important to you, as well as making another list of what you have focused on in the past that really should be a reduced priority or no priority at all. You need to focus to succeed, and you need to free your energy for what really counts the

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23) You may be wondering when the bubble is going to burst, and from the look of your solar chart, it's not a bubble at all; it looks more like a 777. I understand that you may be feeling uneasy with Saturn approaching your birth sign in just a few weeks, but I daresay Saturn is an energy you can handle, precisely because you can handle responsibility. You just need to keep believing in yourself, which few people would ever guess is something that Leos struggle with. Don't get too lost in the details; you can't measure love, anyway.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22) Gradually, I see you making peace with an inner process that you cannot, in truth, share with another person. But you don't need to share the process you need to share yourself. But from the look of your solar chart, you're not quite there yet. There is still a great mystery brewing in your heart and you're not, for the most part, sure how you feel about it, or what the extent of it is. When you get the first calling that it's time to offer yourself, it's going to seem like something small and simple that you share; but this isn't true.

Happy Birthday, Cancer!

You're actually getting a sample of what is possible in your life, and seeing what you will have to offer the world in this next, rather adventurous stage of your experience. It's often said that to give and receive are one in truth. The reason is less often spoken — we don't know what we have until we share it. I suggest you experiment with this, assuming of course that it's not one of your most trusted ways of life at present. Even if it is, offering your gifts to the world in new and daring ways will be one of the most dependable ways to build your sense of independence, security and wellbeing.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23) You are making quite a splash in the world, which may feel a bit bewildering if you believe the old legend of how meek and mild you are. I don't claim to have the truth about you, but I don't think that you're actually the retreating type, and I don't think that Libra is all about finding inner balance. You are here, in part, to correct an imbalance in the world; to add something that nobody else can offer; to make the world a better place. You're doing a fine job of it, but you can have a lot more fun, and you

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22) Isn't it great what a little faith can do? Okay, so you had to struggle to get there, and you had to take some kind of risk that turned out to be no risk at all. You've learned some lessons about how to take authority in your own life, which always involves establishing some accentuated level of trust in yourself - and then trust in the people around you. Remember, they believe in you. They are committed to you. You have a calling. Everyone is going to make it real, together. But at the end of the day it will be your effort and initiative that moved the world.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22) Something is starting to shift in a situation that has some kind of international flavor. You may be summoned on a long trip, or you may find yourself involved with people who seem, at first, quite unlike yourself. You don't need to be like them and they don't need to be like you. Everyone just has to be who he or she is and everything is going to work out magnificently. You must not, however, be discouraged by delays in what seems like the most important aspect of the endeavor. And you must not rush what simply cannot be rushed. Hang loose. Not tight — loose.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) You're the longterm investment type, and there comes a time when those investments finally pay off. And that time is soon. I hate to speak of emotional reality in such businesslike terms, but the metaphor works well enough. Much of what you're going through is the experience of learning that you are equal to the world around you and that you are worthy of its love and attention. However, you're going to pick up a few more spectacular hints than that, as long as you pay attention. And while there are no guarantees of success, I can offer you something pretty darned close.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You are breaking free, finally and at long last. Um, free from what, though? That IS the question. And you might want to answer that question so you don't get yourself caught up in whatever held you down before. In actual fact, you have just as much responsibility on your shoulders. What you're doing differently is thinking of it differently. Correct? And if that alone is responsible for shifting your entire sense of burden and allowing you the feeling that this is your life, which you are free to live, then for the love of Venus — learn to think differently.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) What recently seemed like an insurmountable problem has finally been resolved, and there's a golden lining to go along with it. And while things are looking up, I want to add a word of caution about anxiety, which is very much the silent purview of Pisces. In both medical and spiritual terms, fear is a killer. Fear has its sources, but when all is said, and all is done, love is the only antidote. It is true that vou face certain adversities, but it's also true that you have every reason to have faith in the course of your existence. So have faith, and pass it on.

Eric Francis has more to say at PlanetWaves.net.



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Dear Madame Toujours,

adame?

or playboy sophisticated, so although I've had girlfriends, I've never really had a serious relationship. Finally, my friends introduced me to a beautiful, she really seemed to like me. She came to some of my garage-band performances where I play Jazz flute. Afterward, we talked about movies and books, and we liked a lot of the same ones. We have been dating for several months, and I think I would really like to spend my life with this woman.

The problem is that she makes a lot less money than I do. I mean a lot less. I mean, I make enough with my small, tech company to support a medium-sized, thirdtidy, little shack with a nice accelerate? This is the big chaos. garden, and she has fixed it up really only interested in my

first, I would like her to get a better job, maybe go to a trade school and get a degree in something more profitable than Art History so we can be equal partners in a relationship. However, I am afraid if I suggest this to her as a condition of our marriage, she will reject me.

Is there a way to tell her what I want without losing her?

Sincerely, Looking for a Partner *Cher M.* Looking,

Non. There is being no way to I'm not movie-star handsome be making this ridiculous suggestion to the woman for whom you are claiming to have the big love feelings. If she is the intelligent, sensible woman, she will be crushing you publicly the talented, intelligent woman, and moment you are saying the big, stupid words and getting for herself the sensible lover who is knowing what is meaning the word "partner."

If you are looking for the partner, why are you not looking for the person who is being good at all the things you are not liking to do such as gardening and decorating things? You cannot be running the successful businesses with everybody who is doing the same things. If everybody is being the electrical engineers or the world country, and she makes just nuclear physicists, then who is barely enough to feed herself and keeping the books and ordering her cat and keep a roof over their the particles without which heads. It's kind of a cute roof — a nobody is having anything to

As for the enormous, throbbing really nicely, but I'm afraid she is income, bien sur, of course she is being very aroused by the monies. She is the intelligent person after I want to propose to her, but all, but this is not the reason she fell in love with you. Any sensible person is seeing she fell in love when she heard you playing the flute. The flute is demanding the very strong, sensitive lips, but for the man to play it in the manly Jazz fashion, he must have the unusually large masculinity as well.

> Bon Chance, M. Looking. Propose the marriage and promise *Mlle.* that if she will grow the roses and decorate the house, you will play the flute for her every night so that she can be ravishing you.

June 29, 05
The Vashon Loop, p. 17

From North End to South End
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Financial Planning 101: Saving and Investing, Risk and Reward

by Mark A. Goldman

It's time we start talking about saving and investing money. But to make this discussion most useful, you really should understand a few concepts that could really make a difference in your life. This might take a few installments to do. Even armed with basic tools, making good decisions has its difficulties. We are bombarded with ads, come-ons, opinions, advice, choices and pitches from everywhere at once. Our limited ability to negotiate our way through this maze reflects on our education, formal and otherwise. Every citizen becomes a participant in our economy and yet our schools only scratch the surface in preparing us for the economic decisions we need to make. The political and practical implications of this are topics for another time or venue, but in my view, we really need to talk about it. Unfortunately, this isn't the place for that discussion.

One important economic concept you should be conscious of is "opportunity cost." Actually you already understand what this means although you might not consciously think about it much. It means that there is a cost to every decision you make, and this is true whether we are talking about financial decisions or any other kind. What it cost you to make any decision are the opportunities you give up when you execute your decision. You can't go 'right' and 'left' at the same time. As soon as you turn "right", you give up the view or experience you might have had, had you gone "left." When it comes to managing your money, it makes sense to know what your opportunities are, so you know what your decision is going to cost you. Often, the reason some people www.gpln.com make poor decisions is that the

person or institution that is offering them choices either doesn't know, or doesn't want them to know, what their other options are. You have to train yourself to look for them. So at least when it comes to the most important decisions in life, it pays not to take things at face value, but to look below the surface, do some research, some analysis, think things through, crunch some numbers.

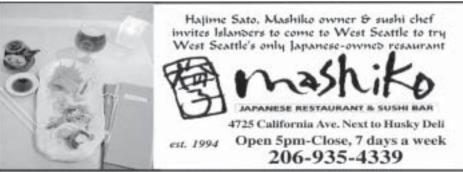
Risk and Reward: In a general sense most people understand that it's not easy to make a lot of money overnight. But they know that if they win the lottery they really can make a lot of money overnight. They figure, "Hey, look what I can win and all I have to risk is \$2." The problem is that the risk of losing that \$2 is extremely high and a lot of people take that risk over and over and over and over and over and over again.

Your investment advisor suggests that you buy fund A, your friend's advisor suggests fund B. You each take the advice your own advisor gives you. You compare results a year later and you find out your friend doubled his money. You lost 5%. Is his advisor better than yours? Not necessarily. You don't know how much risk he took to get Maybe with the that result. investments he made there was an even chance that he would either double his money or lose 80% of it, while you had an 80% chance of earning 10% and a 20% chance of losing 5%. You were "lucky" enough to experience a relatively low probability event, and you lost 5%. Your friend now has a lot of money, but does that make him smarter than you or his advisor more savvy than yours? Think about it.

mark@gpln.com... www.gpln.com **www**.







Wine and Jazz Garden of Delights at Festival

Look for the exciting new Wine and Jazz tasting Garden at Strawberry Festival this year. This event, in its second year, is gaining steam and promises to be lots of fun, with of course, great wines to sip or buy, along with cheese and crackers. An interesting feature this year is an exclusive collection of fine jazz that has been custom crafted by international jazz aficionado, Bill Wood, of Voice of Vashon. This collection is about summer time, fine wine, great jazz created and played especially for the Wine Garden, and celebrating the Festival.

The Garden will be open on **Saturday, July 9**, from 4 to 8 p.m., and will be located on the north side of The Hardware Store

Restaurant on Bank Road. \$15 gets you in the "door" and includes tickets to taste wines, buy wines and enjoy a cheese plate. Participating wineries from around the state, the island, Spain and Italy, are: Andrew Will Winery, Vashon Winery, Bob Mabry Collection of Spanish Wines, Vias Italian Wines, Patrick M. Paul Winery, Walla Walla Village Winery, Nota Bene, Cedargreen Cellars, and Zefina Winery.

A great time for all! Thank you to Windermere Realty for their sponsorship and volunteers to make this possible. Event Chairs are Heide Donner and Melinda Sontgerath, with expert help from Jane Tunnicliff.

Responses to Burton Town Hall Meeting Available

by Lea Gaskill, VIFR Public Information Officer

As promised at the May 19th meeting discussing options surrounding the replacement of the Burton Fire Station, responses to those public comments and questions are available to the public.

"On behalf of the Fire Commissioners and Administration at the Fire District, a special thank you to those community members who attended the meeting. Your questions and comments were pertinent, thought provoking and reasonable." Fire Chief Wilson said of the meeting "We look forward to continuing this process with involved community members to make the best decision possible for our island residents."

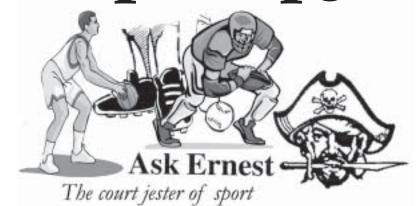
Responses to the public's comments and questions are contained in a 12-page document available at the King County Library (Vashon branch); in the foyer of the Main Fire Station on Bank Road; and on VIF&R's website at www.vifr.org. Fire Administration provided commentary and clarification on the following issues:

- Feasibility of rebuilding on the site of the current Burton Station
- Response zones for Station 56 (Burton) and Station 57 (Tahlequah)
- Funding requirements of a new station
- Resident Firefighter/EMT program in Burton
- Water and training space requirements of the Burton station
- County and building code regulations
- Training commitments by volunteers
- Consideration of Mitchell Tree Farm and VFW Hall properties
- Residential fire insurance impacts of moving the Burton station
- Needs assessment of all District fire station locations

For more information, contact Lea Gaskill, Vashon Island Fire and Rescue Public Information Officer at (206) 718-7662.

The Vashon Loop, p. 18 June 29, 05

Lop - Sports



Ernesto,

into a young man who played the geetar. He played it like he was a star in the Bueno Vista Social Club. That good. I suddenly felt as if I Talk Championships was on a beach, lying down, dancing with my mind and a mint spritzer. Something like that. But he turned me on to a new poet, one named Ernesto Sanchez. He's wise, concise, and brilliant in a sort of Cuban way — even though he wasn't born in Cuba. I thought of you when I read him, not that you're a poet or anything, but you know what I mean. Would you mind printing one of his finest works?

John Juan

John Juan,

I'll print it right here: Ernesto

Nights in like Cuba Every night I dreamed of Cuba. Dogs barking, downstairs. Horns, Guitar, the Sea, the

Sun-I heard it all in the night.

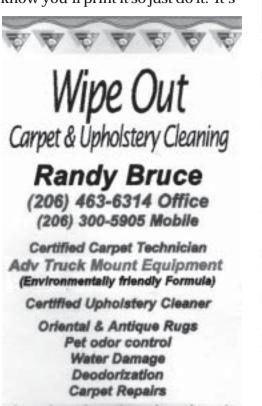
Neighbors arguing didn't matter-

I was in like Cuba Flannel sheets, winter nights, of dancing, longing for

by Ernesto Sanchez (the other Ernesto, not to be confused with **Ernesto of Ask Ernest)**

Hello Ernie,

I've a sports report for you. I know you'll print it so just do it. It's



I was in Cuba, mate, and ran about my husband and I'm f'ing proud of him. So there. So here it is:

Alex Stemer Reaches Final of

The talk off was under way and Alex Stemer (of Ellisport) knew that he'd have problems beating BJ Nelson after the first heat. And there's a reason why: BJ opened the final Talk Off with a bit of World History: The Fall of the Roman Empire and quotes from Edward Gibbons. Stemer tries a counter with some line from the Simpsons mixed with South Park quips. The judges handed the award to BJ after his next lecture on Photosynthesis and his memorization of the Lord Buckley's Gettysburg Address. Stemer didn't even have a chance

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Shigley. Nevertheless, we are proud of Stemer and his nice talk in the first heat. He is a future Talk Champion!

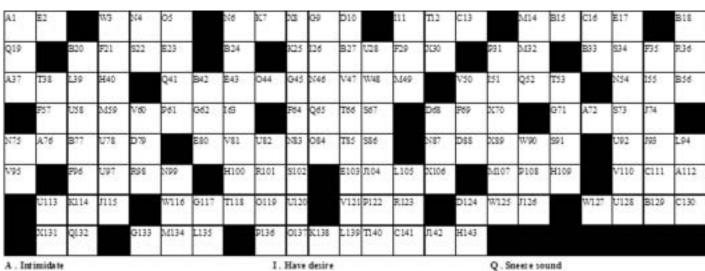
In the Next Issue of Ask Ernest: Washington Intensive Wrestling Camp Results and Wrestling Clinic Summaries; **Pictures** commentaries on Ryan Mattingly's

to finish. "Can't beat a perfect Car Eating Championship. "I love score," reported Judge Ace cars, so much I can eat them!" reports R. Mattingly; Acie Blomgren beats out Lile Z. Hoggins and Emilio O'Brien in the finals of the Facestand and Gymnastics Stretching Competition. "I knew I had them with my confidence, not necessarily with my ability," said Blomgren. "I think 9 out of 10 times one of them would beat me in the hurdle stretch, but not this time."

 $\omega\omega\omega$

Double Crostic by Richard Carson

Guess the answers to the clues, then transfer those letters to the corresponding numbered squares in the grid. Work back and forth between the clues and the grid until the quotation is revealed. The initial letters of the clue answers, reading down, form an acrostic revealing the source (author and title).



52 65 19 132 B . Good-boking R . Demine 15 77 18 27 24 33 20 42 129 56 74 104 126 93 142 115 123 98 101 36 C . Event location S. City in New York K . Become quiet 7 138 25 114 86 34 67 22 91 102 73 16 130 111 13 141 D Kind of alcohol T. Data -T. Onion relative 39 94 105 139 135 10 68 88 124 79 140 53 66 118 85 12 38 E . Preceding M . Garish 103 17 50 2 43 23 32 134 59 49 14 107 28 58 78 113 128 120 92 97 82 F. City in Massachusetts N . Mechanire V. Cole or Wood 47 110 95 121 60 81 50 21 35 69 29 96 57 64 46 75 6 54 99 83 87 4 W . Burrowing rodent G . Second cup O. Tevye portrayer 9 62 133 117 45 71 5 119 44 137 84 3 125 116 127 48 90 H . Frilled collar X . Be angry 61 31 108 122 136 40 109 100 143 30 70 89 131 106 8

> **Solution to Double** Crostic on Page 19

Lopy Laffs



ONE LINERS FOR WOMEN

What do you do if your boyfriend walks out? Shut the door.

You might as well go for younger men—they never mature anyway.

Women don't make fools of men—too many are the do-it-yourself types.

Bachelor: a man who has missed the opportunity to make some woman miserable

A Dummies' Guide...

Don't throw a brick straight up.

Don't take long naps while driving.

Walk around toxic waste dumps, not through them.

Don't microwave yourself too often.

Don't stick body parts into electrical outlets.

Time magazine is not suitable to wear on your wrist.

One + one = two. Try to remember that.

When sticking thumb tacks into bulletin boards, press on the flat end.

I think our number one problem is that nobody wants to take responsibility for anything—but don't quote me.

ONE LINERS for THE REST OF US

Change is good but dollars are better.

He's so dense, light bends around him.

Anarchy is better than no government at all.

Guys have feelings too—but like...who cares?

Buy one for the price of two and get another one free!

Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

I married my wife for her looks—just not the ones she's been giving me lately.

How come we choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America?

It seems a shame to spend money to educate kids who already think they know more than you do



This one's for you, Jan.

Why are single women thinner than married women?

Because single women come home, look in the fridge, and head for bed.

Married women come home, look in the bed, and head for the fridge.

Solution to Double Crostic

A. DAUNT Q. ACHOO I. YEARN J. TOUSLE B. ATTRACTIVE R. DOOM C. VENUE K. HUSH S. YONKERS D. ETHYL L. ENTRY T. SHALLOT E. BEFORE M. FLASHY U. IMITATION F. AMHERST N. AUTOMATE V. NATALIE O. TOPOL W. GOPHER G. REFILL H. RUFF P. LOONY X. SEETHE

To get there, you have to take a series of "commuter" airplanes, each one smaller than the last, until finally there isn't room for both you and the pilot, and you have to fly yourself. — Dave Barry, "The Fat Lady Sings"





A + B + C = Success if, A = Hard Work, B = Hard Play,C = Keeping your mouth shut.

We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them. || one gets for nothing.

Sometimes one pays most for the things

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't. —Henry Ward Beecher



—Henry Ward Beecher

OFFSHORE

Not everything that can be

counted counts, and not

everything that counts can

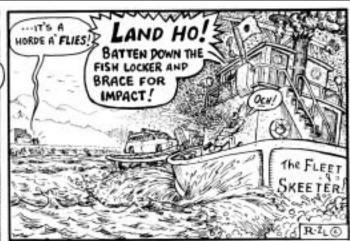
be counted.

The difference between perseverance and

obstinacy is that one comes from a strong

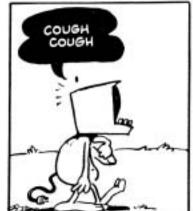
will, and the other from a strong won't.

















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Loop Arts



Chris Chandler

"This man is dangerous..."

— The Washington Post

Headlining the Backbone Campaign's First Annual Freedom Festival on **Saturday**, **July 2nd**, at the Blue Heron performance space, will be performance poet Chris Chandler. Chandler is a true man of the road who has worked with a who's who of the American political-folk scene, including Allen Ginsberg, Ani DiFranco, Dan Bern, Pete Seeger and

Mojo Nixon.

Don't expect a typical folkie. Born in Georgia, the son of a Baptist minister, Chris Chandler found his own way of spreading "The Word." He takes the pulse of America, and then with equal parts acidic irony and utopian idealism, casts his prognosis to audiences at the rate of up to 250 dates per year. Part preacher, poet, huckster, wandering minstrel and medicine show sideman, Chandler casts a spell over an audience with a slight southern drawl that conjures the profane and the profound. The historical past is mingled with the hysterical present, delivering a gritty Americana with grand oratorical style.

His wordy creations owe as much to the traditions of theater and slam poetry as to music. Chandler typically works with a musician, weaving his poetry with traditional songs in a way that give the songs new life. Long time collaborator Anne Feeney is one of the nation's foremost Labor Singers. Her beautiful and sincere style is juxtaposed Chris' sarcastic wit. After seeing one of their performances, Utah Phillips felt impressed enough to say, "He is the best performance poet I have ever seen."

On this trip he will also be joined by musicians David Roe on piano and Frankie Hernandez on trumpet and guitar.

Chandler worked as a roadie for bands as a teenager. After graduating from the North Carolina School of the Performing Arts in 1988, he set out as a street performer, living in his car and crossing the country, eventually joining a commune of traveling street musicians that led him into a world of college campuses, music festivals and activism.

His CD, *Collaborations*, is true to its title — a highly charged baker's dozen of tracks recorded with friends such as Catie Curtis, the

Austin Lounge Lizards, Dan Bern, Martin Sexton and Peter Yarrow. His CD *Welcome to the The Wholly Stolen Empire* is self-described as "A gritty road warrior barking outside the castle gates of Corporate America." His latest, just about to be released, CD *American Storyteller* promises to be one of his finest to date.

A Chris Chandler performance is as rare and pleasant as a two for one happy hour. "It hits you hard and leaves your head spinning." — Rich Warren for *Sing Out*). Spinning with the ghosts of Sandberg, Whitman and Kerouac. Weaving the rich tapestry of our American lives. Brandishing words more spectacular than the fireworks finale over Quartermaster Harbor.

The Freedom Festival kicks off at 4:00 p.m. in the area behind the Blue Heron, with reggae band Troll's Cottage, as well as speakers waxing eloquent on the true nature of liberty. Dinner will be part of the event as well. Chris Chandler's performance begins at 7:30 p.m. in the performance space, with island act United Sheep (Steffon Moody) warming up for him and doing a collaboration with Chandler as well. Tickets are available for sale at the Blue Heron Art Center and Books by the Way and are priced on a sliding scale of \$15 to \$25. Kid tickets are

You can learn more about Chandler's life and music and poetry at his Web site, www.chrischandler.org. **www**





gus fink

Artist's Reception Friday, July 1st, 6pm - 9pm on display July 1st - July 31st, 2005

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Geordie's Byre: Jasper Forrester, vocals, fiddle, mandolin; Wally Bell, vocals, cittern, mandola, bodhran; Larry Lawson, vocals, whistles, flute; Mark Wells, vocals, guitar; Dan Brown, vocal, bass; Jean Richstad, vocals, fiddle, mandolin. Catch their heartwarming, rousing Celtic music from Ireland, Scotland and the British Isles at this year's Strawberry Festival.

June 29, 05 The Vashon Loop, p. 22

Loop



Bob's Your Uncle Plays Ober Park

By Janice Randall

on Thursday, July 21, at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free!

With a name like "Bob's Your Uncle" you may guess correctly this group has a sense of humor and a good time when they play music together. A feisty band of musicians who happen to be educators as well, Bob's Your Uncle landed on the Island music scene for several years ago and has kept feet tapping and heads bobbing with their 'mixed bag' of acoustic, folk, bluegrass, unplugged rock, ballads ever since. They play mostly covers, but mix in a few original tunes written by members.

The band and its name were born at an Island pub one evening, when Ken Larsen was picking out a tune on his guitar entitled "Bob's Your Uncle." Five-string banjo player and vocalist Rochelle Wolfe joined in and people stopped to listen. "It was a spontaneous moment...Bob's Your Uncle, conceived and born," says

The group grew to include current members who coincidentally to Larsen and Wolfe, the band includes: Paul Colwell, mandolin, guitar and banjo; Bruce Haulman, bass; Wilson Abbott, dobro, guitar and vocals; and Randy Bruce, fiddle, keyboards and vocals. In addition, musical guests for the Ober Park performance will include: William Forrester, percussion, harmonica and vocals; Lance Morgan, Chautauqua office staff; Mari-Michale Collins, Chautauqua teacher; Greg McElroy, Vashon High School teacher; and possibly Chautauqua music teacher Strawberry Festival, EarthFair, Carolyn Candy.

Fingerstyle guitarist Larsen teaches fifth grade at Chautauqua Elementary. Originally from Oregon, he has played solo guitar for years and enjoys playing ballads by the likes of James Taylor, Lyle Lovett and

Island group Bob's Your Uncle others. Wolfe, Island native, learned will appear in concert at Ober Park to play banjo from her father, Barney Munger. She teaches physical education at Chautauqua and coaches many sports. She's as fast with a softball pitch as she is with a bluegrass lick. Both Larsen and Wolfe enjoy playing for their students every chance they get.

> Colwell, who works with special education students at Vashon High School moved to Vashon from Arizona four years ago and has been known to compose a song or two. He says his music "tends toward pop with a little country thrown in." He traveled the world with his brothers in the 50's and 60's and wrote the platinum tune, "Up with People."

> Haulman, a classically trained musician, found a new niche in BYU. History professor at Green River Community College, Haulman also teaches in Australia during winter. Aside from laying down an awesome bass groove on stand up or electric bass, he offers the group a great "rehearsal yacht" during summer

Abbott grew up in Wisconsin and has lent his amazing slide guitar are all educators of sorts. In addition sound to other Island bands including Tin Can Moon and Truck Stop Chili. Both haunting and lyrical, Abbot manages to find notes on slide guitar that don't seem to exist on the fretboard.

> Bruce's keyboard and fiddle playing is renowned on the Island. Also an excellent vocalist, he works with Vashon Youth Choir. Growing up on Vashon Island he was inspired by watching his father play Bluegrass.

> Bob's Your Uncle has played charitable events and more. Last year they traveled to Orcas Island for a weekend gig. One thing is certain, this is a group of musicians who take their music seriously, keep a sense of humor about themselves and engage their audiences with lively rapport. Check it out! യയയ



Celtic HoeDown Conscientious Objector Fundraiser

Will you help raise funds to renowned musicians Randal Bays on educate youth on how to apply for and receive Conscientious Objector (C.O.) status from the US Armed Services Selective Service Board? In vocals. Wanted to play more music recent years the criteria for acceptance as a C.O. have become more difficult and convoluted, making the process so arduous that many sincere youth will fail or throw up their arms and give up. They need band yet to be named. guidance and this.

So many good musicians on ferry dock. Vashon...so little time! So, I went ahead and invited many of those I Nyberg, have played with so joyfully over the last few years to join me at Cafe Luna to play all that good stuff. This event will be on **Saturday**, **July 2nd**, at 7:30 p.m., at Cafe Luna on Vashon Island Suggested donation (both players and audience) — \$5 or more!

All funds will be donated to the effort to educate and advise Conscientious Objector applicants.

Some of the musicians you will hear:

Steve Austin, fiddle. Steve leads the Vashon Island weekly Celtic session at Bishops every Sunday night. Wally Bell, citterns and vocals. Wally plays with the island institution of a Celtic band, Geordies Byre, but has played and sung for decades, starting in Scotland and England where he hosted and managed a popular venue for folk musicians from around the world.

Marilyn Kleyn, flutes and whistles. The amazing whistling physical therapist of Vashon! Julie Mainstone, vocals. Julie is a professional vocalist with many styles but proved she was a natural Celtic vocalist with her beautiful CD, Cross the Field, recorded with world guitar and fiddle, and John Williams on button accordions and concertina.

Martin Nyberg, guitars and so made all this happen. Plays with The Red Crow (David Hakala and Josie Solseng), The Gold Ring (Steve Austin and Marilyn Kleyn), and now with Julie Mainstone and Wally Bell,

All the above are Vashonites, organizations, even schools, offer except for Julie Mainstone, who lives a stones throw from the Fauntleroy

> For information, call Martin 206-790-385; martin@martinnyberg.com; or check his web page: martinnyberg.com

Concert Schedule:

7:30 to 8:00 p.m. — The Gold Ring - Steve Austin, Marilyn Kleyn, and Martin Nyberg play Irish Dance Tunes

8:00 to 8:30 p.m. -- Julie Mainstone, Wally Bell, and Martin Nyberg perform songs of really really old Scotland



Gus Fink at Gallery 070

Continued from page 1

cardstock or an antique photograph into a haunting piece of his soul or possibly a soul from the afterlife.

Fink's works are collected worldwide, thanks in part to the world wide web and the auction site Ebay. Oddly enough, Gus presents himself on Ebay as his grandfather. For a long time Gallery 070 thought the picture of the old man shown on his site was Gus, who is still in his 20s. It wasn't Fink's intention to deceive his audience; he thought it was a way to honor his grandfather who died in 1990. Fink drew with his grandfather as a child, and continues to ask for his guidance in making his artwork today.

"I began drawing with my eyes closed, asking him to guide me with my work, and then listed these creations on Ebay with a made up bio that would change every month or so," explained Fink. "It was a way to introduce my grandfather to the world. I felt he deserved more appreciation than he got while he was here. So I tried to do that with my artwork."

Regular Gallery 070 hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about Gallery 070 visit www.gallery070.com or call 463-9280.

Mr & Mrs Smith PG-13 Cinderella Man PG-13

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Lords of PG-13 **Dogtown** PG Sisterhood of **Traveling Pants**

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Charlie & the **Chocolate** Factory

Friday 7/15 - Tuesday 7/21

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Vashon Theatre 463-3232 for more



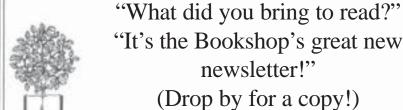
http://www.vashontheater.com

Theater of Play Performance

On June 3rd CAP is holding its second performance of Theater of Play at Café Luna from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$5. The show will include the amazing stylings of Katharina Hirsch; breakfast at the edge of the world; and a swordfight in 3-D. As always we are looking for more performers. If you are interested or have any questions please call Eli Steffen at 463-2603 or esteffen@slc.edu.

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overheard en route to the beach.....



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Islewilde, build it and they will come: Islewilde volunteers setting river rock on the back sides of the benches at Ober Park for the final part of their work trade with the Vashon Parks Department. The 2005 Islewilde Community Arts Festival is from August 17-28 at Agren Park. Come and build your own community. യയയ

Melinda Makes Mayoral Mandate

In one of her final acts as Vashon's Unofficial Mayor, Melinda Sontgerath changed the way funds will be distributed as new mayoral candidates vie for this political plum. This year's candidates are Hazel Thies, running for the Vashon Food Bank, Zachary Stackhouse for PTSA, and Michael Fitzpatrick for the Ferret Rescue Mission.

Mayor Melinda explained that this election, all candidates will keep the money they raise to give to the charity they are representing. This is a change from last year, when all the money was pooled and the "winning" charity got 60% of the pot, leaving the others to split the difference. A percentage of the money raised goes to the Chamber of Commerce; all good pols know they have to grease the skids to get anything done. God Bless America.



The Vashon Loop, p. 24 June 29, 05

Secluded and Serene \$175,000

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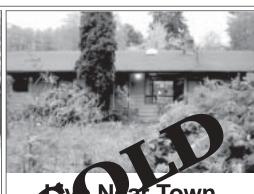
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